

THE ANDERSON INTELLIGENCER

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ONLY 27 More Shopping Days Before X'mas.

The Weather. South Carolina: Fair and much colder Friday; Saturday fair.

Thought for the Day. The ideal which we arouse in the youth of today will become the actuality of tomorrow.

Have you got your persimmon beer in the making?

Go straight home and plant some grain.

Great in wisdom is the gobbler that roosteth high these nights.

"Illegal Traffic in Rotten Eggs" says a headline in an exchange, like there could be any such thing as legal traffic in ancient fruit of this type.

What has become of the old fashioned hunter who about this season of the year used to bring "his" editor a nice string of partridges as proof of his prowess.

While European nations are endeavoring to dethrone various kings the South can get in some good work unseating her feck-headed old king and enthroning King Grain.

The British admiralty probably wishes now that the ill-fated super-dreadnaught Audacious had not been so audacious in venturing out where one of those German submarines could get a crack at it.

"Make Washington Surgical Center," says a headline in an exchange. Good, we know a certain negro up there who needs "operating" on badly. Probably President Wilson will concur with us.

Brother Koester of the Greenville Piedmont certainly has a wide range in writing editorials. In a single edition of his paper he has an editorial headed "The Women Did It," and another entitled "Consistency."

"P. P. P." (Petrograd Prohibition Prohibits) would be an effective as well as a laconic reply which Czar Nick could make to inquiries about the success of "dry" measures in his empire.

The Punch and Judy show across the Rio Grande is on again. Villa and Carranza have once more unanimously agreed to disagree and it looks now like the fur will be flying thick, fast and far in a few days.

Germany is said to be offering 18 and 19 cents a pound for cotton and none is to be had. Distance and a few other things, such as hostile fleets, truly lends enchantment to it in this respect for the Southern farmer who is offered seven cents for his staple.

With the buy-a-bale movement, the pay-a-bill movement, the kill-a-hog movement and the plant-a-grain movement sweeping the country, we suppose the Darktown citizen with a tooth for some Thanksgiving fowl thinks it about time to start a raid-a-foot movement.

THE FRANCHISE MATTER AGAIN

The statements of President Z. V. Taylor, of the Southern Power Company, and of Captain H. H. Watkins, local counsel for the Southern Public Utilities Company, in reference to the recent agitation of the matter of the franchise granted to their company to do business in Anderson, will be read with a great deal of interest, we are sure. These articles are clear cut and dispassionate discussions of this vexed question, contain much information, and coming as they do, from so authentic sources, will be welcomed, by all reasonable and fair-minded persons. There cannot be too much said on this subject that will really inform the people as to the terms of the franchise, and the history of its passage by the City Council, and the City Counsel. Perhaps the answer to the questions asked by The Intelligencer will yet be forthcoming, if not from the source asked, from others. The Intelligencer does not believe that there is ever anything gained by attempted concealment of the public's business, as conducted by the public's servants, who are elected by the people—the public.

No one should judge a question till both sides be known, and we are, therefore, glad to give publicity to the articles setting forth the "other" side of this mooted question. If there are others on either side who wish to be heard, we shall be pleased to give space to reasonable and properly written articles.

ATTENTION, CITY ATTORNEY!

The editor of The Intelligencer has just returned from a trip to the low country, and has noted the reply to his reply to the City Attorney as published in Tuesday's Intelligencer. As the City Attorney has called "Hold, Enough," the editor will let him go, as he always believes in a fair fight with the foe standing. Then, there is really nothing in the article of the City Attorney worthy reply. We opine, also, that he will have his hands full with other controversies, whom he will doubtless consider better able to cope with his legal and ethical knowledge. The editor also has a baby to "laugh" with him, and "he laughs best who laughs last."

ANDERSON COUNTY DINNER

Folk over in Atlanta are preparing to serve a "Georgia Products Dinner" at the auditorium in the near future. A splendid idea and one that ought to be taught a good many people a few things. We recall an incident that occurred in Greenville county not so long ago. A thrifty farmer invited a dozen or more of his city friends out to dinner at his home one day. Those invited were mostly officials of the chamber of commerce, but there were others and altogether it was a representative gathering of Greenville's business interests. This farmer sat his guests down to a rather unque dinner—strictly a Greenville county and made-at-home dinner. The table fairly groined under the weight of the good things to eat that were literally piled upon it, and in the entire menu there was not one item, with the exception of salt, pepper, the soda and a few minor articles not possible to produce here, which was not produced by that farmer on his own farm. We have forgotten the menu, but recall that it was elaborate and enough to tempt the worst dyspeptic on earth. The incident attracted wide attention at the time, and doubtless others of that county were moved to raise more of their own foodstuffs. A meeting of the Boys' Corn Clubs of the county will be held at the chamber of commerce in the near future. Would it be too much trouble to have the boys bring lunch and serve it at the meeting that day and have them bring no article of food which was not produced on their own farms? It would be interesting anyway to see what Anderson county could do in this respect on short notice. And it would doubtless stimulate interest in a Live-at-Home movement.

Spartanburg has secured a landscape gardener and will wage a campaign to beautify that city by planting flowers, bulbs, etc., in public places. They ought to get some pointers from Anderson's Civic Association, which a decade ago or more instituted such a movement here and prosecuted their plans with such vigor that the "Electric City" is famed far and wide for the beauty of its plaza and public parks.

"Fail in Anderson, Must Come Here," says a headline in the Greenville News with reference to the combining of the office of referee in bankruptcy at Anderson with that of Greenville. Mighty, more mighty is our hope that there will be no more bankruptcies here; for which is the worse, "busting" of having to go to Greenville?

Two Turkeys are about to get themselves into hot water—viz. Gobbler and that one whose soldiers fired on the launch of the U. S. S. Tennessee.

Z. V. Taylor Discusses The Franchise Matter

Following the discussion of the opinion of City Attorney Sullivan, and the subsequent action of city council, the matter of the franchise granted the Southern Public Utilities Company which has been causing so much comment in the city recently, the following statement by Pres. Z. V. Taylor, will be of interest. Mr. Taylor impassionately discusses the franchise matter, and asks some pertinent questions. His communication is addressed to "The People of Anderson."

Charlotte, N. C., Nov. 16, 1914. TO THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF ANDERSON:

On the 11th day of November, A. D., 1914, I received through the United States mail from our local manager, Mr. H. A. Orr, in the city of Anderson, South Carolina, a copy of the following resolution purported to have been passed by the board of aldermen of your city:

"Resolved, That the mayor and city clerk and treasurer be and they are hereby instructed to make no further payments to the Southern Public Utilities Company on the alleged 'franchise-contract' and white way contract dated respectively February 10, 1914 and March 1, 1914."

I am addressing this to the people of Anderson who desire nothing more than fair play. Did the Southern Public Utilities Company render the service called for in this contract and if so, does not fair play dictate that it should be paid therefor?

Do the people of Anderson want the Southern Public Utilities Company to light their streets and furnish water for fire protection free of charge? If the franchise and contract are invalid would it not be the proper thing to pay the company for the service it rendered and bring an action in the courts to declare the contract of no force and effect rather than accept the service rendered in good faith and then refuse to pay for it?

We are perfectly willing that the courts shall pass upon the validity of this contract and this franchise and have urged time and again that this be done before we spent the last thirty thousand dollars in the improvement of your water works system and your street lighting system. This was not done and in all probability we must suffer by reason of its failure to be done. Let it be done now, but fair dealing demands that the company that is furnishing you service in the meantime be paid for it.

In this connection I desire to advise the people of Anderson that I have asked the following questions of your city council: "Do you expect us to light your streets and furnish water for your hydrants, free of charge until such time as you can make other arrangements or is it your desire that we discontinue the service?"

I wish further to say to the people of Anderson that we intend to continue this service and to rely upon the integrity of the courts of our country for more just treatment than has been accorded us by the city council of the city of Anderson. In the event we lose in this controversy we will take our losses like men, but your services will be continued until such time as your city council shall direct us to discontinue it, notwithstanding the fact that we run the risk of serious loss. As we view it, we do not regard the citizens of Anderson as a party to this controversy and in so far as we can prevent it they shall not be made to suffer on account of it.

My attention has been further called to an article appearing in The Daily Intelligencer under date of November 15, written by G. Cullen Sullivan, Esquire, city attorney, in which he says that he frankly admits that he was "duped." This is a very serious charge made by Mr. Sullivan, not only against the writer of this article, but against himself as well, for it not only implies lack of moral courage and mental inferiority on his part, but cunning chicanery and ulterior purposes on my part. So far as the implied charge against me is concerned I deny it emphatically.

During the time I came in contact with Mr. Sullivan I acted with all frankness and while I could not agree with him as to his economic views I nevertheless accorded him the honesty of his convictions and admired the zeal with which he supported them. He can not and will not bring to your attention a single promise I ever made to the city council or to the people of Anderson that I have not fulfilled. I did tell his council, while not making it as a promise, I hoped within 12 months to reduce the rate for electricity in the city of Anderson to ten cents per K. W. H. We did this within six months. We promised in the franchise to replace within 12 months all four inch with six inch mains. We did this in six months. As to my making the promise, or any one else connected with the company, that in consideration of being accorded the privilege of selling water and light in Anderson that we would build a railroad to Atlanta costing millions of dollars, it is so silly as to make the individual asserting or insinuating it really pitiable.

As to the Southern Power Company building its lines into Anderson I frankly stated to your city council that I was neither an official nor a stockholder in this company and that I had no power whatever to bind it and could make no representations whatever in regard to it. Mr. Sullivan's benefit, however, I will state that this franchise was granted on February 10, 1914, and the action of the city council was taken on November 9, 1914, a period of approximately nine months. For

the Southern Power Company to reach Anderson with its lines in the proper way it was necessary that the current should be delivered from two sources, both north and south. Since the date of granting the franchise I have been further informed that the Southern Power Company, at a cost of thousands of dollars, has built an additional station at Greenwood, enlarged its transformer capacity in Greenville, built a line connecting Greenville and Greenwood, and the week before the action by the city council was taken, had purchased the transformers required for delivering the current into Anderson from Belton, in order to give the city of Anderson the advantages of a double circuit feed both from the north and the south. How long this much needed improvement will be deferred on account of this action of city council, I can not and do not pretend to state.

As stated above, I had felt that Mr. Sullivan's activities in opposing this franchise were the results of his convictions on a well formed principle in his own mind, and I did not for one moment imagine that he would endeavor to belaud such an issue by a personal attack upon me. I regret exceedingly that he has seen fit to take this course which is so entirely contradictory of the opinion I had formed of him as a man and a lawyer.

In so far as Mr. Sullivan's insinuation as to any underhand methods on my part are concerned, I am confident that these can not hurt me among the people with whom I have been associated since my boyhood and when fully understood can but reflect on him.

I had thought that our differences in the city of Anderson were settled and that we could pull together for the rebuilding of the city in all of its different phases of growth, for after all, it was with this spirit when the white way contract was presented to me as drafted by Mr. Sullivan I signed it without dotting an I or crossing a T. I did not go to Anderson to urge it, for to be frank from a monetary or financial standpoint, I did not desire it. I felt, however, that it would be a great advertisement for your city and for that reason I was more than willing to aid you in its installation. As a reward, six months after it is completed I am met, without a word of explanation from the city council, with a direct refusal to pay for any services rendered in connection with it.

I have gone thus fully into these questions believing in my heart that the action of the city council does not represent the feeling of the people in Anderson and further believing that it is not the result of a well defined policy on the part of your people, but is the consequence of a policy outlined by some of your city officials.

Having thus stated my position, argument in the press, in so far as I am concerned has closed and further argument must be directed to another forum. Respectfully submitted, Z. V. TAYLOR, President.

Letter to Mayor and City Council. Charlotte, N. C., Nov. 16, 1914. To the Honorable Mayor and City Council, Anderson, S. C. Gentlemen: I have received what purports to be a certified copy of a resolution passed by your board at a meeting held on November 9, 1914. This is perfectly clear as to your intentions, but it is not clear as to your wishes in this matter. Do you expect us to light your streets and furnish water for your hydrants free of charge until such time as you can make other arrangements, or is it your desire that we discontinue the service? Kindly let me have a specific reply to this and greatly oblige, Yours truly, Z. V. TAYLOR, President.

CAPT. H. H. WATKINS WRITES ON THE FRANCHISE QUESTION (Continued from first page.)

on its own property, but the price is left to the board of arbitrators, one to be selected by the city, one by the company, and a third by these two, or in case of their disagreement and failure so to select a third, by any judge of the United States district court for any district of South Carolina. The lighting system can not be taken out of the hands of the Utilities Company at just any time as in the case of the water company, but the franchise provides that the contracts for lighting shall run for periods of five years, the first period beginning upon the date of the adoption of the ordinance and the signing of the contract. At the end of each five year period, the city is given the right to purchase the company's electric plant and appliances in use in the city for furnishing electric lights and small power in connection therewith, by paying the company a fair and reasonable value for the same, and this value is not to be determined by the company, but at the election of the city must be submitted to a board of arbitrators, as in the case of the water plant. The sale of the electric plant is not to include the Portman plant, but only the electric plant within the city for furnishing power to small consumers in units not exceeding one hundred horse power. This is all the city would ever wish to purchase, and the limitation is therefore to the benefit of the city. I shall not attempt to discuss the reductions provided in the contract, but there is one provision to which I would call attention, and that is the provision which gives the city the right to adopt in the city of Anderson the same schedule of lighting rates that is in force by the company and

The Turkey-- Despite his name, is an American bird. So are all our suits and overcoats, and every man ought to be thankful that such service-giving, comfortable garments, reared in our country, may be had at such reasonable prices at our shop. All-American suits and overcoats for men and young men—every detail made in the United States, from buttons to cloth. Good, reliable, all-wool fabrics, newest patterns and the last word in style. Sizes and models for all figures. \$10, \$12.50, \$15, \$18, \$20, \$22.50, \$25. B. O. Cranst Co. The Store with a Conscience

in effect in any town or city in which the company owns and controls the lighting plant. In other words, Anderson is guaranteed as low rate of charges as may prevail at any time during the continuation of the contract in Greenville, Charlotte, Winston-Salem, and other larger towns where the company furnishes the municipal lighting. Can we hope to do better? The contract leaves the way open for Anderson to have municipal ownership if the city should desire it. It does not prevent other companies from coming here to engage in similar business if we can induce them to enter into competition with the Utilities Company; other franchises may be granted freely to other companies, and we are guaranteed to share in the hands of this company the best rates it may furnish other and larger cities, though reductions at other places might be brought about by competition, legislation, or otherwise. Personally, I feel that the city council and the city attorneys did a splendid work for the city in procuring so favorable a contract. I am sure that they had considered the matter in every detail during the long months that elapsed while the franchise was under consideration, and I am sure that neither they nor any other council could have accomplished better results.

Before closing this communication, I would like to add a few words by way of review. When I first came to Anderson, the streets were unlighted except for a few kerosene lamps. Our railroad facilities were extremely poor, and the city, with a population of about 3,500 people, had been unable to keep pace with her sister cities of the State. A long step forward had been made in the preceding decade by the building of the Savannah Valley railroad. To accomplish that the people had, under the leadership of such men as W. W. Humphreys, E. B. Murray, G. F. Tolly, J. L. Tribble, Sylvester Bleckley, W. S. Ligon, J. D. Maxwell, Dr. W. H. Nardin and others who have since passed away, as well as several among us who are still living, voted bonds and given outright as a bonus a large sum of money. When I came here, merchants told me that this sum had been saved to the city many times over in the reduction of freights. Later on, led by such men as Dr. S. M. Orr, Col. James L. Orr, Major B. F. Whitner, R. S. Hill, J. M. Sullivan, and J. L. Mauldin, I operate to the last ditch if our people desired their presence and their investments. I am sure that a misapprehension has gone abroad in this city as to Mr. Taylor and his characteristics. He was born in our sister State, North Carolina, and has lived there all his life. I have never met

one freer from the characteristics of personal pride and self opinionated views than he. It may be that in his busy work of development he has not had time or opportunity to meet with the citizens, or even with the members of the city council, and talk over matters as could have been desired. It may be that in the argument of the question before the city council he was over blunt, and gave the impression of being arbitrary. Many men of large affairs in stating their ultimate propositions as I do. I am sure he meant no more than a clear statement of his position. I have found that any suggestion made to him was received by him with the modest spirit of a child, but that his work has been done with the strength of a man. He has given Anderson the same consideration that he gave his home town, Charlotte, and other cities of his native State. I am sure that the city attorney and members of the city council who have opposed Mr. Taylor have been sincere in their views, but I am equally certain that they have misunderstood him and his motives. I have had no communication with him, either personally or by letter, since this controversy arose, but knowing him and knowing W. S. Lee as I do, I am willing to pledge their good faith and their cooperation with the city of Anderson in carrying out to the letter and in the spirit their contracts with the city, and in cooperating to the extent of their ability with our people in making this a great, a clean, and beautiful city.

H. H. WATKINS, And Greenville had a poultry show shortly after Anderson pulled off the best exhibit of the kind ever held in the Piedmont. Go right ahead, Greenville, don't hesitate to "copy" a good thing from your neighbor; and we've got a lot more good things here you can imitate when you have finished with the poultry show. "Heads of County Schools Coming," says a headline over a story regarding a gathering of school teachers. We presume the other portions of the school teachers' bodies are to be brought to the meeting also, but we submit that the "heads" are the most appropriate organs of the anatomy to have at conventions of pedagogues. Another thing for Anderson to feel proud of—her fine poultry. The show Tuesday ought to be quadrupled in size next time.

Make Preparation Now For That Thanksgiving Hunt You can find in our stock just the GUN you want at a price that will certainly please you. New Club, Nublack, Nitro Club and Repeater Shells in all Standard Loads. Make your purchase now, and enjoy your Thanksgiving Hunt. SULLIVAN HARDWARE CO. Anderson, S. C., Belton, S. C., Greenville, S. C.