

COUNCIL MEETING.

City Council met last Wednesday night at 7.30 o'clock in regular session. Present, Mayor Protem E. W. Hurst, Aldermen Boyle, Charles G. F. Epperson, W. H. Epperson, Finn and Purdy. Absent, Mayor Stuckey and Alderman Rowland.

Mr. Purdy submitted his opinion of the law in the case of the City vs. Geo. D. Shore for refusal to pay bicycle license tax. He held that defendant's contention was based upon correct interpretation of law; that in absence of legislative authority Council had no power to impose the tax.

Mr. W. H. McCoo, representing the Interstate and West Indian Exposition Co., requested City Council to take one thousand copies of the May number of the Exposition Magazine, with a write up of Sumter county and city covering 10 or 12 pages and illustrated; price \$100.

Mr. H. J. Grover presented a request signed by many business men of the city that privilege be granted Peter Blaw and others to install a new telephone system in Sumter. He stated that the signatures had been secured in order to show that there is a considerable demand for another exchange.

The Finance Committee reported approval of bills referred, and of Clerk and Treasurer's monthly reports from October to March.

Mr. Purdy for the Fire Department Committee reported purchase of 400 feet of new hose, which was confirmed. He also reported that request had been made for purchase of rubber coats and boots, spencers and nozzles. The committee was authorized to purchase what was necessary.

Mr. Bloom, Chief of the Fire Department stated that the hook and ladder truck could be put in good condition for \$300.00, and council authorized that the work be done.

The present service is reasonably good, constantly improving and the old company should be protected in the franchise which had been given and accepted in good faith; and without which the enterprise would not have been started.

Mr. Geo. F. Epperson, who was a member of the Council of 1893, said he could not repudiate what he did years ago and felt himself bound to protect the Sumter Telephone Co. now.

Mr. H. J. Grover who was present stated that such a grant would not be acceptable as the persons represented must act at once or abandon their intention entirely.

On motion of Mr. Chaudler the company will be required: (1) to begin the said metallic system within 30 days; (2) to be completed within six months. This motion was adopted unanimously.

The Telephone Question.

In all progressive cities the general welfare and business interests of its citizens in general should not be made subservient to the interest of the individual or individuals.

Mr. Editor: I am not interested in the existing Telephone Exchange Company nor had I any interest in the one seeking a franchise from the City Council.

Now take the adverse side. We would be obliged to have two phones, when now we require only one, but if the two cost only what we now pay for one, and if we have the most efficient service, where is the disadvantage? What do we lose? In time should there be any difference in the service there will be necessary but for one, it would be "the survival of the fittest."

Let us arouse ourselves and determine that we will build good pavements, good streets, and when opportunity offers improve everything, even the Telephone system, in our city.

Mr. Chaudler opposed the petition because he thought it would not be of advantage to the public, as it would require two phones where one now answers the purpose.

THE SUMTER RIFLES.

A New Military Organization in This City.

Special to The Daily Item. Unknown to the public at large there has been perfected an organization in this city which adds materially to the protection and safety of the citizens.

MAYOR'S COURT.

The following cases were before the Mayor's court last Thursday: Sam Reid and Hiram Wright, fighting. Guilty as to Sam Reid, \$10 or 20 days. Not guilty as to Hiram Wright.

In Honor of Bishop Monaghan.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Warren Gould entertained Thursday evening in honor of Bishop John J. Monaghan, of Wilmington, Del. The house was beautifully decorated with palms and ferns in the dining room.

Meteorological Record.

The following is a report of observations of the weather taken at Stateburg, by Dr. W. W. Anderson, for the 59 days ending March 31, 1901:

Table with columns: Date, Temperature (Max, Min, Mean), Wind, Rainfall, Condition. Rows for days 1 through 31.

*Partly cloudy. There were but few nights during February on which ice formed. Heavy fall of snow on the 23d, beginning about 4.00 a. m. and ending 2.40 p. m., depth of snow 6.5.

Feast of Passover.

Passover, the feast of unleavened bread, one of the most important religious celebrations of the Jews, will begin April 4 and continue for seven days, though only the first two and the last two days are observed with religious services.

Bethlehem, Pa., March 30.—After undergoing an operation for peritonitis, William Wirt Lyons, aged 17 years, class of 1904, Lehigh University, died this afternoon. He was the only son of Judge James Lyons, of Richmond, Va.; grandson of William Henry Wirt, late Chief Justice of Virginia, and the late great-grandchild of Patrick Henry.

The Black River Union.

Packville, S. C., April 2.—The Union Meeting held at Dudley Baptist Church last Friday and Saturday was well attended by both clergy and laity. The sessions of the body were entertaining and instructive and were attended by good crowds.

Prize Offered for Souvenir Design.

The Women's Department of the South Carolina Interstate and West Indian Exposition will give a prize of \$10 for the best original design for Souvenirs to be sold in the Woman's Building during the Exposition.

Where Taxes Go.

Washington, April 1.—The monthly comparative statement of the receipts and expenditures of the government, issued today, shows that the total receipts for March, 1901, were \$49,891,125, an increase as compared with March, 1900, of \$1,165,000.

Tom L. Johnson Elected in Cleveland Yesterday.

Cincinnati, April 1.—Fair weather prevailed in Ohio today for municipal and township elections. The large vote for April indicated more interest than usual in these local contests.

General Greene's Discipline.

General Francis Vinton Greene was one of the strictest disciplinarians in all the army that went out to fight Spain. He was in command of the Seventy-first regiment, N. G. N. Y., at Camp Black, near Hempstead, N. Y.

Missed His Chance.

During his lecture to children at the Society of Arts Mr. E. Walter Maunder told his audience an instructive story. A certain lecturer on astronomy observed that some of the students were not paying due attention.

Juvenile Logic.

Norman's mamma was something of a stickler for propriety, and she was not a little annoyed that it seemed impossible to make the boy give his uncle's name the customary handle.

More In Sorrow Than Anger.

"Judge," said the lady who was accused of battering her husband, "it is true that I struck him, but the weapon I used proves that I did so more in sorrow than in anger."

That Throbbing Headache.

Would quickly leave you, if you used Dr. King's New Life Pills. Thousands of sufferers have proved their matchless worth for Sick and Nervous Headaches.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.

Poison Proof People.

There are entire communities of poison proof people who partake of doses of white arsenic with as much zest as the average person partakes of a meal.

The Missing Turk.

Sarah Bernhardt was once playing at Marseilles in a spectacular play in which she made her entrance accompanied by six Turkish slaves.

SHOT AT THE CZAR.

London, April 1.—A dispatch to The Morning Leader from Keiff says that an officer of the household tried to assassinate the czar. He fired at his majesty but missed and then shot himself.

Officer Missed and Then Killed Himself.

St. Petersburg, April 1.—It was rumored several days ago, but generally disbelieved, that Count Leo Tolstoi had been banished from Russia because of the attempted assassination of Privy Councillor Robiedonoff.

\$100,000 Waiting on Two Men.

The returns from all of the county superintendents in the State have been received and approved with the exception of those from Marion and Spartanburg counties.

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Senator Proctor's Cuban Impressions.

Declares That Many Leaders in Cuba Willing to Accept Platt Amendment.

Washington, April 1.—Senator Proctor of Vermont has just returned from Cuba, where he has been making observations concerning conditions in the islands.

There are some few eaters, the senator says, who assert that rather than accept any interferences by the United States they will "take to the woods." This is Cuban for going to war.

According to Senator Proctor these are not making very much headway, especially, he says, as the delegates to the convention are now hearing from their constituents, the large proportion of whom are anxious for a settlement of all political relations with the United States.

Senator Proctor, speaking generally of the conditions in Cuba, says that the business situation is much improved. American capital is now being invested, and this has been especially marked during the past three months.

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