

**GRAFT IN CHARLESTON.**

**CITY COUNCIL ADOPTS REPORT CENSURING PARK BOARD.**

**Special Committee Uncovers a Whole Lot of Crooked Work—Will Make Further Investigation.**

Charleston, Aug. 11.—At the regular meeting of the city council today all minor matters were forgot by the large crowd of spectators in the reading of the reports from the board of park commissioners, from the committee on city affairs and the supplementary report of the committee on city affairs. City council moved that the report of the park board be received as information and published without the affidavits attached; that the statements of Chairman Lapham and Secretary Jeffords be published and that the report of the committee on city affairs be adopted and published. The supplementary report was received as information and ordered published.

In adopting the report of the special committee on city affairs the recommendations contained were given full force. They are, in brief, that city council require that the park board immediately disburse the secretary, Mr. W. G. Jeffords, and that the committee be authorized to employ an expert bookkeeper, if they require it, to ascertain the shortage in park board finances which the committee feels exists; that the park board be required to cooperate with the special committee in further investigation, and that all questions put be answered by the park board members, upon pain of a request by city council for their individual resignations.

There was little discussion of the various reports presented and read. Mayor Rhett presided. After the reading of the minutes of previous meeting in July, the report of the park board was read, in keeping with the regular order. It was moved and carried that the report be received and published without affidavits.

Alderman Pinckney, chairman of the special committee, then read the delayed report of the committee on city affairs. It was adopted and ordered published, after some discussion about publishing the testimony.

The supplementary report of the committee was then read by Alderman Pinckney. It was received as information and ordered published.

The statements of Messrs. Lapham and Jeffords were not read, but were ordered published.

At a special meeting of city council in July an attempt was made by the committee on city affairs to present a report which contained some 13 charges of irregularities in the management of the parks of Charleston. City council refused to receive the report, but had it filed and made accessible to the members of the park board commission in order that they might prepare a reply.

This afternoon the reports were made public. A summary of the report of the special committee on city affairs is as follows:

"The Honorable the Mayor and Aldermen of the City Council of Charleston, S. C.:

"The committee on city affairs, appointed by council to investigate the various city institutions, boards and commissions, commenced their work by investigating the board of park commissioners, there having been certain affidavits placed in the hands of the committee setting forth irregularities in the management of the parks. The irregularities set forth in these affidavits when summoned up are as follows:

"The padding of pay rolls.

"The use of employes paid by the city on private property.

"The purchasing of farm implements and hardware for private use, bills for same being paid by the city.

"Purchase of horse by the city, used exclusively for farm purposes on private farm.

"Large quantities of manure bought for use on private farm paid for by city.

"Lumber owned by city taken and resold to city, also to outside parties, city not receiving any money therefor.

"Lumber owned by city taken from auditorium, hauled to Hampton park, city paying for hauling, and lumber sold to outside parties, city never receiving any money therefor.

"Irregularities in sale of dirt at Chicora park, money due to city for dirt collected and deposited to private accounts, when ordinance requires all money shall be turned over to the city treasurer as soon as collected.

"Voucher made in name of laborer for painting benches, who is paid regular wages on pay roll each week as laborer.

"Laborer signs receipts on voucher, thinking he was acting as witness; does not endorse check and receives none of the money.

"Horse stabled, cared for and fed at city's expense.

"Hay planted at city's expense and stacked by laborers hired and paid for by city, afterward sold to the city and also to outside individuals, city not receiving money therefor.

"Land of city planted in truck for profit, without city receiving any revenue.

"Your committee has not been able to ascertain in dollars and cents the amount that the city has lost by these irregularities. . . . Your committee have seen instances themselves of checks that were paid the representative of the park board for dirt in 1907, amounting to \$700, which have not been paid to the city treasurer, of which the city treasurer has no record and which have been deposited to the credit of private accounts, and from the testimony given, your committee is forced to the belief that these irregularities seem to have existed with the knowledge, if not the approval, of the chairman of the park board.

"Your committee have reached the conclusion and beg to report, only after careful consideration, and with reluctance, that the park board has been negligent in its duty in committing to the chairman the entire management of Hampton and Chicora parks, where the irregularities chiefly exist, as it appears from the testimony that these matters have been going on for some time, and from the testimony of the secretary no member of the park board, with the exception of the chairman, either had knowledge of or approval of any of these irregularities.

"Your committee would recommend that city council require the board of park commissioners to immediately disburse the secretary of the board of park commissioners, and that the committee on city affairs be authorized to employ an expert bookkeeper, if they desire it, to assist them in ascertaining the amount of shortage which your committee feels exists.

"That the board of park commissioners be directed to respond to the invitation of the committee on city affairs to meet with them in further pursuance of this investigation and that upon failure of said board to do so, that the mayor be and hereby is directed to request the resignation of the said board of park commissioners upon report to him by this committee.

"Furthermore, should any member of the said board of park commissioners refuse to answer any questions relative to this examination put them by this committee, that the mayor be and is hereby directed to request the resignation of said member upon report to him by this committee.

"All of which is respectfully submitted:

"Lawrence M. Pinckney, Chairman;

"Richard J. Morris,

"Wilson G. Harvey."

In reply the park board commissioners only treated of the matters of padded pay rolls, of irregularity in handling dirt contracts and of the withholding of city funds by the secretary of the board from the city treasurer. Their conclusions were that the secretary was not censurable in the matter of dirt contracts, that they did not have sufficient testimony at hand to come to conclusions in regard to pay roll padding, and that the secretary acted improperly in not paying into the city treasury at once certain money received for the sale of dirt. Furthermore, the park board committee, appointed to investigate the charges of the special committee, declared that in the future they could do no more than give information to the special committee of city council, as the task of straightening out the charges preferred was too large for their accomplishment.

Statements from Messrs. Lapham, the chairman of the park board, and Jeffords, secretary, contain denials to the specific charges preferred against them, and many affidavits are introduced to sustain their denials.

The charges of irregularities against the park board and the secretary have created a lot of excitement in Charleston. Just what will be the outcome of the matter has not been settled as yet.

**Much Said in a Small Space.**

Mayor Rhett, of Charleston, is simply a shining mark for the perspiring malevolence of certain of his opponents in the senatorial race. And with this frantic and perspiring malevolence they make bold to entertain generous and intelligent people by the hour. Their frenzied attacks upon the democracy of Rhett; and upon his good faith to his own race, roll off of that gentleman as rain drops roll off of cabbage leaves. And this is pretty much all we choose to say about the senatorial, congressional and senatorship meeting in our town on Thursday of last week. It was a lively and highly entertaining meeting. There were brains in it, and education, and high mental cultivation, and oratory, and eloquence, and wisdom, and wit, and humor, and satire, and ginger, and red pepper, and Tabasco-sauce, and what we primitive Edgefield people call "hell-fire and puceon root." And still it was but a wretched and pitiful manifestation of human self-seeking.—Edgefield Chronicle.

\*Operation for piles will not be necessary if you use Manzan Pile Remedy, guaranteed. Price 50c. Sold by Sibert Drug Co. 7-1-2m

**JEFFORDS DISMISSED.**

**Park Board Expresses Confidence in Chairman Lapham.**

Charleston, Aug. 12.—At a meeting of the board of park commissioners, held at noon today in the city hall, W. G. Jeffords, secretary of the board, was formally dismissed, upon the request of city council, sent to the board by the acting clerk, and Dr. A. A. Kroeg was appointed acting secretary of the board.

A resolution of confidence in Chairman Lapham was passed by the board of commissioners and Mr. Lapham was urged to continue in charge and management of Hampton and Chicora parks.

The committee on city affairs, of which Alderman L. M. Pinckney is chairman, has not yet held a meeting to consider the question of procuring the services of an expert bookkeeper to examine the accounts of the park board, but it seems probable that an expert may be retained by the committee.

Active cooperation of the board of park commissioners with the investigations of the committee on city affairs was assured yesterday in the report of the park board to the city council, so that the only recommendation that remains to be taken up by the special committee is the question of hiring an expert to assist in further probing.

**MILEAGE BOOK RULES.**

**Will Not be Changed by Railroad Commission—The Commission, After Hearing Protests From Traveling Men, Decides Nothing Can Be Done.**

Columbia, Aug. 12.—The railroad commission has decided not to attempt to interfere with the new mileage books regulations, which will therefore continue indefinitely, unless the traveling men find some other means of blocking the roads, which is not likely.

It is understood that Mr. Caughman who a few months ago, when the traveling men first had the commission to review the situation, sided against the roads, will sign the majority report, although it is understood that he favors the Central Passenger Association's method of handling the situation, which is to sell mileage at the old rates and give a rebate equivalent to the difference when the book has been used up.

Messrs. Earle and Sullivan, constituting a majority of the commission, it is understood, are not inclined "in the first place to interfere with the present arrangement, which they consider necessary to protect the revenues of the roads, and in the second place they do not consider that the commission has the power to force a change back to the old system. As pointed out previously in the newspapers, it is felt that in case the commission did order a change the roads would be in position to either retaliate this . . . osheshieddeemhimmmmm by withdrawing the new rates from this State, which would be greatly against the interest of the traveling public generally, or they might contest the order in the courts with the almost certainty of securing a favorable outcome.

But all the members of the commission are agreed that the commission has the power to demand adequate facilities for handling the business under the new regulations and the roads will be ordered to provide these facilities. The traveling men have been complaining that they were frequently delayed on this account.

**Memorable Impressions.**

The French sailors in town didn't understand English, and the English didn't understand French. But there were times of tense emotion when both nationalities broke out into the universal language, the natural Esperanto signs, and then they all understood.

On the terrace the other day stood a group of French tars from the Gambetta in company with one or two English jacks from the Albermarle. All were looking glum.

Suddenly one of the Britishers lifted his hand to his mouth as though raising a glass, threw back his head and gurgled suggestively.

Then he brought it down, shook his head sadly to intimate that there was none to be had, and said expressively:

"Bloomin' town! Rotten dry!"

And the Frenchman nodded in sympathy.—Montreal Star.

**A Faithful Friend.**

"I have used Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy since it was first introduced to the public in 1872, and have never found one instance where a cure was speedily effected by its use. I have been a commercial traveler for 18 years, and never start on a trip without this faithful friend," says H. S. Nichols, of Oakland, Ind. Ter. When a man has used a remedy for 35 years he knows its value and is competent to speak of it. For sale by all druggists.

Send us your job work.

**BRYAN'S NOTIFICATION HELD.**

**Democratic Standard-Bearer Accepts Nomination.**

Lincoln, Neb., August 12.—Under the burning rays of an almost tropical sun, and in the presence of a vast assemblage, which cheered him to the echo, William J. Bryan today received from Henry D. Clayton, of Alabama, formal notification of his nomination for the Presidency of the United States.

Thrilled honored by the Democratic party as its standard-bearer, Mr. Bryan plainly exhibited the pleasure it gave him once again to proclaim the principles for which he stood. His nomination for a third time, he declared in his speech of acceptance, could only be explained by a substantial and undisputed growth in the principles and policies for which he, with a multitude of others, had contended. "As these principles and policies," he said, "have given me whatever political strength I possess, the action of the Convention not only renews my faith in them, but strengthens my attachment for them."

The ovation accorded Mr. Bryan as he rode through the streets of Lincoln on his way to the State House, where the exercises were held, were non-partisan. It was the homage of the citizens of the Western city of the plains to a distinguished neighbor. Almost the entire Republican Administration was represented, Governor Geo. L. Sheldon and many State officers lending their presence both in the parade and on the platform.

Before coming to Lincoln from Fairview—four miles distant—Mr. Bryan received 1,500 visitors. To all he extended a cordial greeting. His arrival shortly after noon at the Hotel Lincoln, where he and John W. Kern, the Vice Presidential candidate, were the guests of honor at a luncheon to the committee on notification was the signal for an outburst of cheers and applause. He was immediately surrounded by a great crowd, and was kept busy for some time shaking hands.

Never before had Lincoln's streets and buildings presented such a gala appearance. O street was a riot of color. Around the mutilated Taft banner a crowd of curious visitors was always clustered. With a national notoriety the banner was almost the first point of interest visited. The parade carried Mr. Bryan directly under the banner.

**Not an Untoward Incident.**

The State House grounds were a mass of humanity and Mr. Bryan's appearance on the platform was greeted with vociferous cheers and hand-clapping. The ceremony of notification was conducted on the north front of the Capitol. The balconies and every window were jammed to overflowing. Not a single incident occurred to mar the proceedings. The police arrangements were excellent. Realizing that the regular police force was not sufficient to cope with the great crowd, the Adjutant General of the State, at the request of Mayor Frank Brown, ordered out the 2d Nebraska regiment, and with their assistance, perfect order was maintained.

Before the notification and acceptance speeches were delivered, Norman E. Mack, chairman of the Democratic national committee, who acted as presiding officer, called on John W. Kern, the Vice Presidential nominee, to make a speech. Mr. Kern responded in a few felicitous remarks, in which he gave untinted praise to the non-partisan character of the exercises.

The speech of Mr. Bryan concluded the ceremonies and he and Mr. Kern retired to the Capitol, where they held a public reception.

**To Fit the Occasion.**

Senator Elkins was congratulated at a Washington dinner on his fine new yacht, the Marietta. From yachts to yachting clothes the transition was easy, and Senator Elkins told a story.

"An old fellow," he said, "sat in a seaside cafe. He had finished luncheon; he was now drinking champagne. The sun shone on the white sand, the sea sparkled, and every little while the old fellow ordered another cold half bottle. With the third order he said unasily to the waiter:

"Waiter, is my nose getting red?"

"Yes, sir," the waiter answered, "tis sir; I'm sorry to say, sir."

"That won't do," said the old fellow. "That won't do at all. Waiter, send out and get me a yachting cap."

—Exchange.

**Why James Lee Got Well.**

"Everybody in Zanesville, O., knows Mrs. Mary Lee, of rural route 8. She writes: 'My husband, James Lee, firmly believes he owes his life to the use of Dr. King's New Discovery. His lungs were so severely affected that consumption seemed inevitable, when a friend recommended New Discovery. We tried it and its use restored him to perfect health.' Dr. King's New Discovery is the king of throat and lung remedies. For coughs and colds it has no equal. The first does gives relief. Try it. Sold under guarantee at Sibert's Drug Store. 50c. and \$1. Trial bottle free.

**BUMPER CROPS PREDICTED.**

**Latest Government Report Very Optimistic.**

Washington, August 13.—Unless all signs fail the people of the United States will this year see the biggest crops in the country's history. The year has been free from prolonged droughts and the rainfall has been almost normal with few flood periods. In the great grain growing States of the West the crops have been made and housed, and in some parts of the South King Cotton is coming again into power.

The latest report of the department of agriculture is optimistic with regard to the year's productions and is as follows:

On August 1 crop conditions in the United States were in the aggregate somewhat better (2 per cent.) than a year ago, but slightly (1 per cent.) below a ten-year average condition on that date. Of the crops that are above the average may be mentioned winter wheat, hay, cotton and tobacco. Corn, barley, rye, buckwheat, apples and flax are slightly below the average; potatoes above 5 per cent. below and oats nearly 10 per cent. below the average.

The conditions vary, however, in the different sections of the United States.

In the North Atlantic States general conditions are slightly better (1 per cent.) than a year ago, and slightly below (2 per cent.) than the ten-year average condition on August 1. Corn, wheat and apples are slightly to moderately above the average condition, while hay, potatoes, oats, rye, buckwheat and barley are below; the deficiency in condition of potatoes is about 10 per cent, and of hay about 4 per cent.

In the North Central States, which are east of the Mississippi River, general crop conditions are above 4 per cent. below the average. Corn is about 7 per cent. below, oats 13 per cent. below, potatoes 4 per cent. below, apples 20 per cent. below and tobacco 6 per cent. below the average. Hay is good, being about 10 per cent. above the average, wheat, barley, rye and grapes are slightly above, and peaches are about 50 per cent. above the average.

In the North Central States, west of the Mississippi River crop conditions in the aggregate are practically the same as the ten-year average and nearly 3 per cent. better than a year ago. Hay alone of the important crops is materially above (14 per cent.) the average; rye is slightly better and peaches about 40 per cent. better than the average. Practically all the other important crops show a more or less lower condition than the average, corn being about 2 per cent, wheat 2 to 3 per cent, oats 5 per cent, flax 3 per cent, barley 3 per cent, and apples 20 per cent, respectively, below. The condition of potatoes is about the average.

In the South Atlantic States crop conditions are favorable, being about 4 per cent better than a year ago and nearly 5 per cent. above the average. Rice and potatoes are the only ones of the important crops which are below their ten-year averages. The relative betterment of the other important crops above their average is, cotton 5 per cent, corn 5 per cent, hay 10 per cent, wheat 4 per cent, tobacco 6 per cent, sweet potatoes nearly 1 per cent, apples 25 per cent, peaches 40 per cent, and oats 4 per cent.

In the South Central States, also, conditions are favorable, being about 8 per cent. better than a year ago, and 2 per cent better than the average. Cotton, the most important crop, has the same condition as the ten-year average. Corn is 3 per cent. above the average, hay 8 per cent, wheat 6 per cent, tobacco 5 per cent, sweet potatoes, oats and rice, each 4 per cent, and peaches 10 per cent, respectively, above their average condition. Apples are 12 per cent below, and potatoes, sorghum and sugar cane are each slightly below the average condition.

In the far Western States conditions are not as favorable, being about 5 per cent. below a year ago and nearly 5 per cent. below the ten-year average condition. Nearly all the important crops are below the average. Peaches, however, are about 15 per cent better and grapes slightly better. The approximate extent of deficiency in the condition of other crops is, hay 8 per cent, wheat 6 per cent, barley 8 per cent, oats 4 per cent, potatoes 5 per cent, and apples 1 per cent.

**TELEPHONE WAR IN OCOONEE.**

**County and Southern Bell Lines no Longer Connected.**

Anderson, Aug. 12.—On account of a business disagreement the Ocoonee County Telephone Company and the Southern Bell Company have severed connection. This will work a hardship upon the people in the territory of both the lines in this section. Anderson will have connection with Pendleton only, through a toll station. Communication with Clemson College, Walhalla, etc., has been cut off. It is said that the subscribers of the Ocoonee County will demand that the former service be restored immediately.

**METHODISTS AGAINST CANNON**

**CHURCH MEMBERS WILL FIGHT HIS REELECTION AS SPEAKER.**

**Denomination Declares That Its Attitude Toward Temperance Legislation Should Defeat Him.**

Baltimore, Aug. 12.—The Methodist Episcopal church has begun an active crusade for the election of a speaker "who will allow congress to vote on the interstate liquor shipment bill." The church, which has over 3,000,000 communicants, has created the Temperance Society of the Methodist Episcopal church, with authority to represent the denomination in all temperance matters. This society is managed by a board composed of about 615 members named by the bishop, and elected by the general conference. The board of managers has organized and directed its chairman to take steps to begin an active campaign. An official address has been issued to all members of the denomination, asking their cooperation. The "shipment bill," which has been pending in congress for at least five years, does not seek to impose prohibition upon any locality, but provides that liquor shipped from one State to another shall immediately upon the boundary become subject to the laws of the State into which it is consigned.

"The speaker of the national house of representatives," says the address, "absolutely controls its procedure. He is opposed to this legislation. He has used the power of his office to hold it in the judiciary committee appointed by him on the alleged ground that it is unconstitutional. Our church, by action of the recent general conference, insists that congressional doubt as to the constitutionality of such legislation be resolved in the interest of the people and the public morals and that the general conference unanimously accepted the report of Gov. Hanley's special committee appointed to wait upon Speaker Cannon, which closes with the following words: 'We submit to our people and to all good citizens the wisdom of electing men as members of congress who believe in its validity and who are willing to enact it.'

"At least one member of the house judiciary committee has been defeated for the nomination on his record on this question and we believe that the time has come when our people, who want to help secure this legislation must support for congress candidates who will not only vote for this measure if they get a chance, but will themselves support for speaker a man who will allow it to be voted upon, and that its passage is probable until Christian members recognize this situation and cast their ballots accordingly."

**STIRRED UP HORNETS' NEST.**

**Charleston Lime and Cement Company Has Cabinet Officers Enjoyed.**

Washington, Aug. 13.—A Charleston firm has stirred up a hornets' nest here, and never before, perhaps, have so many Cabinet officers and high Government officials been summoned to Court at one time as was done today.

On request of the Southeastern Lime and Cement Company, of Charleston, Justice Barnard, of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, today cited Secretary Cortelyou, of the treasury, Secretary McCall, of the navy, Treas. Treat, of the treasury, and the Rockwell Engineering Company, of New York, to appear before him on September 1, and show cause why an injunction should not be granted restraining the payment by the Government to the Rockwell Engineering Company of \$1,775.50 for work done for the treasury department.

It is declared by the Charleston firm that as sub-contractors on Government work at Charleston they furnished the materials used in some of the work have failed to receive payment. The further make the allegation that the engineering company above mentioned is insolvent and that such payment as is due them will not be made unless the Court interferes.

The filing of this case has caused a considerable amount of talk here. It sometimes happens that the Secretary of Treasury or the Treasurer of the United States are restrained from making payments because of the large amount of money handled by them, but it is most unusual for two Cabinet officers, a high treasury official and the defendant all to be enjoined at one time.

**Feud Settled With a Shotgun.**

Florence, August 13.—News reached the city last night of a shooting scrape, which occurred near the home of Mr. W. B. Gause, in the Coward's section, on Tuesday afternoon, in which it is reported that Lewis Lee, a well known resident of that section, had shot and probably wounded Rhett Matthews, of Coward's. The shooting was done with a double barreled shotgun.