

News Article

Virginian-Pilot (Published as Virginian-Pilot AND THE NORFOLK LANDMARK) - May 26, 1922

Page: 13 Location: Norfolk, Virginia

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VIRGINIAN-PILOT A

LITTLE HOPE FOR OPENING CRADOCK SCHOOL IS SEEN

Situation Is Discussed at Meeting of Civic Association Last Night

RESOLUTION FOR RECALL OF COUNCIL IS TABLED

Joint Committee Reports Progress on Effort to Secure Congressional Action

Portsmouth Bureau. Things look dark for the children of Cradock, as far as an opportunity to attend school next September is concerned, according to a report submitted to the members of the Cradock Civic Association at a meeting last night by E. M. House, of the Education committee, who outlined the efforts of his committee and the Norfolk County Board of Supervisors and school superintendent to secure aid from the State for the support of the Cradock school.

C. C. Lentile was expected to speak on the school situation at the meeting last night, but before doing so asked information as to what has been done to have the schools re-open for the coming term. Mr. House outlined the deplorable situation which the people of Cradock find themselves as regards their school. In reply to Mr. Lentile's question, and showed in brief what had been attempted by his committee, the Board of Supervisors and by James Hurst, Norfolk County superintendent of schools.

According to Mr. House, a petition signed by over 200 Cradock residents was presented first to the Board of Supervisors and then to the Housing Corporation, accompanied by a resolution by Supervisors—the petition and the resolution requesting aid in allowing Norfolk County to take over the authority for the schools. The resolution, he stated, was merely "received and contents noted" by the Housing Corporation.

"I don't know of anything that looks even like a promise," Mr. House concluded. "Some means must be found for the collection of taxes, if the schools are to open next September."

Wants Recall of Council. C. C. Lentile then proceeded to speak on school conditions, and took the attitude that a solution of the problem can be found in the recall of the Citizens' Council. He stated that if the council were recalled, the people of Cradock might come to Norfolk County with a clean slate—without any officials who were being merely a settlement of people waiting for the county to take favorable action.

Mr. Lentile followed his talk up with an appeal addressed to the citizens of Portsmouth, but particularly to mothers, asking them to support a recall vote in order to get inside the Citizens' Council. The

communication he presented was signed by himself and Frank Williams, election commissioners, and provided for steps to hold the election for the recall of the council.

Tied Up With Council

When the matter came under discussion, however, it was found that the future of the people of Cradock is now in the balance and depends largely upon a joint effort by a committee endorsed by the Civic Association and the council. A report of the committee, appolated at a mass meeting and endorsed by the association, which conferred with the council on Monday and Wednesday of this week was made by J. L. Mills, of the committee, earlier in the evening. In accordance with his report, Mr. House strongly attacked the resolution for the recall of the council submitted by Mr. Lentile, stating that such action at this time would jeopardize all the efforts to save for the people of Cradock the homes they live in by reductions on the purchase price of the home, and on interest charges, and adding that without homes, the people have little need for the school.

"Nothing must be done at this time which would weaken the effort to have reductions made on the purchase price of the homes and on the interest charges," Mr. House declared. These efforts are made, he said, through an effort to line up the council and other citizens of the city on a definite program, which when presented to the congressional committee, would form the basis for a resolution to go before Congress, which might be expected to settle the town's difficulties. Any effort to discredit the council at this time, he declared, would tend to discredit this effort.

Table Recall Effort

After a long discussion, the civic association tabled the resolution, and will take it up at a later meeting. Earlier in the evening, in his report to the association on efforts of his committee to get together with the town council on the program to be laid before the congressional committee, Mr. Mills stated that at least a partial agreement had been reached, following the meetings of the two committees Monday and Wednesday, and that agreement on all points may be reached at the meeting next Saturday, or subsequently. The two committees, one appointed at a mass meeting, and the other consisting of the council members, have been at work jointly on details of a bill, which is expected to be satisfactory to the people of Cradock, and of considered favorably also by the Housing Corporation and the congressional committee, would have good chances of going through.

The measure is divided into two general sections, according to Mr. Mills' outline of it. The first paragraph asks for a 50 per cent reduction on the purchase price of the homes, and also for a reduction in the interest rates, in view of the fact that the Government gives only 4 1/2 per cent.

The second paragraph of the bill is to deal with the proposed dedication of the public utilities to the people of Cradock. The council is determined that such deduction shall be made to them as an incorporated town; the other committee holds that it should be made to Norfolk County, which for the protection of the town, might hold the improvements in trust, until such time as the town desires definitely incorporation, annexation to Portsmouth, or any other disposition when the improvements could be

turned over in accordance with the action taken.

Membership Campaign

The Civic Association, which was only recently formed, now has fifty-three members, receiving nine residents of the town into membership at last night's meeting. It was decided to hold a membership campaign, and to canvass the entire city, committees being appointed to canvass the various sections of the town thoroughly. F. M. Earle is president of the association.

SWANSON COMMITTEE AND FRIENDS MEET

Portsmouth Bureau. Swanson friends are expected to turn out in large numbers at a meeting to be held tonight by the Swanson Campaign Committee at the Hotel Monroe, at which plans will be discussed for the opening of the Swanson Campaign here. The meeting will be open at 8 o'clock.

Cradock

LAWN FETE A GREAT SUCCESS. The Wesleymen Brotherhood held a lawn fete in the square Tuesday night. Ice cream, cake and soft drinks were sold. Mr. Nathan Weaver and Mr. Zartman gave a negro dialogue which was a very attractive feature.

CLASS HOLDS CLASS MEETING. The Men's Bible Class met at the Baptist Church Tuesday night. Much business was transacted.

CHOIR WILL SING. The Baptist choir will sing at the Methodist Church Thursday night. The revival will start at that time and the different churches of the town will take part.

PERSONALS. Mrs. Arres, of Virginia Road, is sick at her home.

Little James Pentress who has been very ill of pneumonia, is able to be out.

The little son of Mr. and Mrs. Briggs, of Barney Place, was very badly cut about the hand when he stuck his hand in the lawn mower.

Willie Kennedy is back at work with his brother at the Kennedy Meat Market.

Mr. Johanson, who has been engaged in the automobile repair business has closed his business and moved from Cradock to the Suffolk Boulevard.

PERSONALS

Mrs. D. E. Brown arrived from Washington early in the week for a visit to her sister, Mrs. J. L. Butler.

Mrs. J. W. Barnes and Miss Zina Blankenbaker, of Culpeper, are the guests in the home of their cousin, Mrs. J. L. Butler.

Fredrick Butler, of Holland, Va., is visiting relatives in Pinners Point. S. Hill, of 214 Seaboard avenue has returned from a few days' visit to Richmond.

Rev. Y. D. Pool, pastor of the Pinners Point Methodist Church, will hold services in Whaleyville, Va., Sunday morning, and will return here in time to hold services Sunday night. George Freeman is home from Cape Henry to spend the weekend.

Pinners Point