

VOL. XLI

MANNING, S. C., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 1921

JUDGE OVERRULES PLEA FOR BINGHAM

Refuses to Grant Continuance of Case

TRIAL TO START THURSDAY

History of Case of Great Interest to People of South Carolina

Florence, March 22.—Judge Mem-minger in General Sessions Court this afternoon overruled the motion of Attorney A. L. King for a continuance of the case of Edmund D. Bigham. Bigham is charged with the murder of his mother, Mrs. M. M. Bigham, his sister, Mrs. Margie Black, his brother, L. S. Bigham and Leo and John McCracken, adopted children of Mrs. Black

John McCracken, adopted children of Mrs. Black. Mr. King's motion was based upon reports of the case in the newspapers, which he claimed tended to influence opinion against his client, and also upon what he termed the present op-position to Bigham as shown by the community at large. He also presented his own affidavit that he has not been able to secure the attendance of one person, who he

the attendance of one person, who he claimed, is a material witness to the defense, having knowledge of insane attacks by L. S. Bigmam on other members of his family. Judge Memminger in refusing the continuence characterized the contan

continuance characterized the conten-tion of Mr. King as irrelevant and not calculated to show that the interests of Bigham would suffer through be-ing tried at this time. Witnesses were then called to appear for the trial of the case on Thursday.

It was this circumstantial story that started the authorities of Florence county on a search for L. Smiley Big-ham. In fact, the first news that came

county on a search for *L*. Smiley Bigham. In fact, the first news that came to the Times was a request from Columbia that the editor give information about the crime for which L. Smiley Bigham was a fugitive and for which all police officers of the State had been requested to look for him. On Sunday Edmund Bigham demanded that search be made for his brother's body in the woods toward which he had seen him going. The search was made and Smiley's body was found. The man had fallen upon his face and in his hand was clasped the revolver which Edmund said was his. Previous to the search Edmund had gone to the woods and remained there for a few minutes. The discovery of Smiley Bigham's body seemed to point to a quadruple murder followed by suicide, and that was the impression under which the Coroner with a most sensational affidavit, and it is on this atement that the whole case has since turned. There had been some rumors to the effect that there were family differ-

There had been some rumors to the effect that there were family differ-ences regarding the interests in the estate left by former Senator Bigham. The general shares of this estate had been pledged to make good the bond of Dr. Cleveland Bigham, another son of the former Senator who had field from justice after conviction of man-slaughter under an accusation of hav. from justice after conviction of man-slaughter under an accusation of hav-ing killed his wife in Georgetown county while a visitor was being en-tertained in their home. This friend, a man named Avant, was a re-spected citizen and on conviction served a sentence.

Mr. Arrowsmith was the attorney who represented Bigham and Mrs. Black in the settlement of the bond of Dr. Bigham after it had been forthe case on Thursday. The case of Edmund Bigham fur-nishes one of those rare instances where the finger of circumstance has pointed directly at one man, and then after one little waevring turned sud-denly and indicated another in such a way as to impress a community and a State with the justice of its accusa-tion. So unusual was the crime, so brutal the manner of its carrying out, so contradictory the first and last as-sumptions of the public as to the blame that the cause will be one that will be remembered for many years and cited wherever crime and crim-inals are discussed. It is of first interest to Florence county, because of the fact that the principals have from time to time fig-ured in the history of the county and State and more than once in the

will be remembered for many years and cited wherever crime and crim-inals are discussed. It is of first interest to Florence county, because of the fact that the principals have from time to time fig-tured in the history of the county and State and more than once in the criminal records of South Carolina. The victims of the wholesale homi-cide that shocked the section when it became known on Saturday, Janu-ary 15, were Mrs. M. M. Bigham, widow of L. Smiley Bigham, a for-mer Senator from Florence county; Mrs. Marjorie A. Black, Mrs. Bighams daughter and Leo and John Mc-Gracken, adopted children of Mrs. Black. A day after the community surrounding Pamplico, in Florence county, had been shocked by the news of the murder of these four, sensa-tion was piled upon sensation by the discovery of the dead body of L. Smiley Bigham, a son of the older woman, and the man who, up to that time, had been suspected of the crime. And it was just there that the whole aspect of the case changed and that until that time had no feature that until that time had no feature that cvershadowed its wanton brutality. <u>Story of Crime</u> The first story of the crime to get

Edmund Bigham Arrested The next turn in the case, follow-ing the Arrowsmith anidavit, was the

CIVIC LEAGUE HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

The Manning Civic League met Monday afternoon March 21st with a splendid attendance. The minutes of the last meeting were read and ap-proved and the reports of the com-mittees given. The court house, school house and depot committees re-ported excellent work accomplished and the results speak for their great efforts. The League decided to add two thirds of its gross receipts to the paving fund already put aside and it two thirds of its gross receipts to the paving fund already put aside and it is hope that this paving on school grounds can be done as was planned, at an early date. The League passed a resolution to continue the support of the two French Orphans. It was announced that the Wofford Glee club will be here March 31st and general admission fees will be thirty-five and fifty cents.

fifty cents. A motion was passed that the Sec-retary notify by mail each new mem-ber and officer of the League of their

ber and officer of the League of their election. The following ladies were unani-mously elected members of the League: Mesdames H. C. Curtis, Ralph Ward, Clyde Ward, W. M. Brockington, Seaman Richardson, Leslie Bagnal, James Dickson S. L. Davis, R. D. Cothran and J. M. Shaw. The roll for the fiscal year has been increased by fifty-two members. The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows.

The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows. President, Mrs. W. E. Reardon. 1st. vice- pres—Mrs. J. H. Orvin. 2nd. vice-pres—Mrs. I. I. Appelt. 3rd. vice-pres—Mrs. J. H. Rigby. 4th. vice-pres—Mrs. C. B. Geiger. Secretary and Treasurer—Miss Mattie Appelt. Miss Irma Weinberg, was elected

Mattie Appelt. Miss Irma Weinberg was elected delegate to accompany the president to the State Federation of Woman's Clubs to be held in Camden, April 5th to 8th. The following is the complete fin-ancial report of the League from Jan. 1st, 1920 to March 22nd 1921. Benort from Jan 1420 to March

Report from Jan. 1, 1920 to March 22, 1921.

	Receipts	
d	Receipts Jan. 1, 1920, amount in bank	\$93.73
d		
h	Teas, for 1920 and 1921	268.83
5.	Tag Day Flower Sale Wofford Glee Club	45.00
d	Flower Sale	106.61
e	Wofford Glee Club	117.10
	Paving Assessment	65.00
e d	Paving Assessment Paving donation from school	
k	enildren	52.05
e	Paving donation from Weinberg	
	Company Ice cream stand at Chatauqua	265.55
o d	Ice cream stand at Chatauqua_	19.30
e	Chatauqua	200.00
d	Ball games	175.90
	Sandwiches and punch sold at	
n k	baseball	6.00
-	Play Refund of magazine subscrip-	142.05
d	Refund of magazine subscrip-	
0	tion	2.00
i.,	TOTAL \$1	631.12
r	Expenditures1	002.35

	Balance	628.77
	Expenditures Play ground fixtures repaired	63.86
	Work and fertilizer for school	03.80
	grounds !	70.45
	Plumbing and piping material	
	for school grounds	67.27
	Stamps	2.00
	Seed for court house	5.38
	Work and fertilizer for court	
	house	33.00
•	Maintonance of post moon	15 95

1.00

2.20

1.40

Stage Set In Columbia For The Big Gala Week, March 28 April 2-Amusement Features to Be Style Show, Auto Show, Baby Show, Fireworks, Parades and Crowning of State Beauty Queen.

PALMAFESTA TO BE

Columbia, March 21.—With only a week intervening before the opening of Palmafesta, March 28 to April 2, all Columbia is busy dressing up for the big week of social gaiety at which time she will be host of thousands of people from every section of the State.

State. For weeks the decorators, float builders, social organizations and busi-ness interests of the capital city have been preparing for the celebration which, it is said, will eclipse anything of its kind ever held in the South, not excepting the famous New Orleans Mardi Gras. More than \$35,000 is be-ing spent in various amusement fea-tures planned for the week. \$10,000 has been spent in fitting up the Steel Building at the State Fair grounds, where the Auto Show, Style Review, Trades Display and the crowning of the Palmafesta Queen will be held. With the primary elections for Queen Candidates closed, and the most popular young women chosen to rep-present each of the 45 eneuties int

popular young women chosen to rep-resent each of the 45 counties, interest now centers on the selection of the Queen of all the state beauties, the most attractive and popular young woman in the State. This selection most attractive and popular young woman in the State. This selection will be made in Columbia during Pal-mafesta, each admissio. ticket to the fair grounds entitling the holder to one vote for Queen. The 45 candidates will be introduced to the audience daily from the stage of the fashion review auditorium, so that a personal selection may be made. Voting for the queen will close on Thursday, March 31st, at noon and the crown-ing ceremony will take place that evening. The Queen's Grand Ball will take place at the Jefferson Hotel ball room, Friday evenin, April 1st. During the week three mammoth parades will pass through the streets of Columbia, led by the world famous Scotte "Kilties" band; the baby par-ade on March 30th; the Floral parade on March 31st; and the Trades Dis-play parade on April 1st. With the entries for these parades already signed up and many of the floats already completed ther will be by far the lar cert pageants . er sech in this section of the country. Many floats

the largest pageants eller seen in thi section of the country. Many floats have cost more than \$500 to build. Fifty mounted marshalls and scores of bicycle boy scouts will guide the line of march.

Every preparation is being made for the comfort and convenience of visitors. A room registry is being conducted by the Columbia Chamber of Commerce and there will be ample accommodation for all in the many



Miss Lucie Barron, state librarian pent last Thursday in Manning.

Miss Bessie Gerald of Camden, is visiting her brother's family, Mr. J. D. Gerald.

Mrs. Sarah J. Tobias, the grand-mother of Mrs. T. H. Timmons, is ex-tremely ill.

Miss Lillian Harvin of the Colum-bia Presbyterian College for Women, came home last Monday night.

Mrs. H. S. Briggs of Silver, has entirely recovered from her recent ill-ness and was in Manning Monday.

Rev. S. A. Nettles has had an at-tack of grippe and is in Manning visiting his sister, Mrs. E. C. Alls-bunch brook

Married near Lake City on the 20th inst., by Elder J. D. Kendrick of the Second Advent Church, at the home of the bride's father, Mr. J. M. Cobia of Watertown, Fla., formerly of Claren-don, and Miss Estelle Strange of Payne, Fla.

On the 17th inst., the Clarendon sec-tion was thrown into the throes of the sensational by an elopement which re-sulted in a marriage. Mr. Dempsey Kolb and Miss Anna Rodgers skipped by the light of the moon, as other lovers had done before, and they were made man and wife, but on returning to the parented roof, report has it that a warm reception was given the groom by his manna groom by his manna.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Baker Haynesworth of Florence, are in Manning on a vis-it to Mrs. Haynesworth mother, Mrs. L. E. Huggins.

The name of "Packsville" was changed to "Paxville" in order to avoid the annoyance of mind and freight being sent to "Parksville."

Mr. Clarence Breedin has bought from Mrs. L. E. Huggins the corner lot opposite Bradham's Mill, where he intends to erect residence.

Little Edna Brockinton has return-ed home from Charleston very much improved and we hope soon to see her pretty bright face on our streets.

The county dispensary profits for the quarter ending December 31, 1900, was \$3,319.97.

Mr. D. R. Reaves is hauling the lumber for the erection of a home on Railroad Avenue.

LOCAL NEWS ITEMS

Mr. G. Henry Curtis compliment-ed a few of his gentlemen friends on hast Thursday evening with a delight-ful fish stew and fry, at his beautiful DEALTONE mill place near town.

SHOWS UP WELL District Supervisor of Public Health

MISS MOORE'S WORK

Nursing Pleased With Progress of Clarendon's County

Nurse.

Miss Helen Fenton, District Supervisor of Public Health Nursing, spent last Wednesday and Thursday here and expressed herself as being much pleased with the work done by Miss Moore in the examination of school children this winter. On Wednesday Miss Fenton accompanied Miss Moore to the Home Branch School and there gave a talk on care of the teeth. This lecture was most unusual in that Miss Fenton illustrated it with origi-nal drawings as she spoke. On the 8th and 9th of this month Miss Moore examined the children of the Jordan school. The teachers there are deeply interested in the chil-dren's welfare, and this interest is shared by the patrons of the school. In spite of a driving rain, a large number of parents attended the par-ent-teachers' meeting. At the Big Branch and Home Branch schools Miss Moore taught the children a number of games which will encourage them to take exercise dur-ing their play time. Because the time given over to and expressed herself as being much

ing their play time.

ing their play time. Because the time given over to school examination is almost over, the nurse will not be able to get to eight schools this year much to her regret. However, she hopes to put these schools first on her list next year. The next three or four weeks will be devoted to personal inspection of every child for whom medical atten-tion was recommended during school every child for whom medical atten-tion was recommended during school inspection. This follow up work is the really vital part of the inspection, as it enables the nurse to see just what results have been obtained. In cases where advice has not followed, she will urge upon parents the neces-sity of making corrections recom-mended by her.

mended by her. On Thursday Miss Fenton and Miss Moore visited Camp Alice, the tuber-culosis camp maintained by Sumter county. They found a model camp splendidly conducted. The staff con-sists of two white nurses and a col-ored nurse, who is most efficient. Be-cause they have natives of Sumter county on their waiting list, there is a strong poscibility that Camp Alice will not be able in the future to take patients from surrounding counties, as they have so kindly done in the past. For this reason we wish that every one in Clarendon interested in public health and in the cure and pre-vention of tuberculosis particularly, would visit Camp Alice, with a view to starting a similar camp in this county. county.

BEAUTIFYING TOWN

in general.

"Smiley has shot me" was the old woman's cry to her son as he left his automobile to meet her.

Two neighbors, according to the son, came up. These were T. D. Gar-rison and Hoyt Rostick. Accompa-nied by them, Bigham said he went to the back piazza where they found the mother's cap on the floor and near it the body of the youngest child, John McCrackan. Two heaves later the back it the body of the you.gest child, John McCracken. Two hours later the body of Mrs. Black was found in the up-stairs room she had occupied. On a pile of straw behind a potato bank in the backyard the searchers, directed by Edmund Bigham, found the body of Leo McCracken, the other adopted son of Mrs. Black. The child at the time was not dead and a messenger was burried to Dr. Poston Us died was hurried to Dr. Poston. He died

at 5 o'clock Sunday morning. According to Edmund Bigham's story, he had seen his brother Smiley going toward the woods near the house just at the time he saw his mother, wounded, running toward the road. Smiley, he said, carried his right hand up toward his breast so that ,if he had carried a pistol in it it could

he had carried a pistor in it is could not have been seen. Appeared Depressed Smiley, Edmund satd, had been in financial difficulties and had often spoken of them. That Saturday morn-ing his brother had appeared to be very much depressed. He did not know that his brother had a pistol. In fact, the pistol with which he did the killing, according to Edmund, had belonged to Edmund. He had left it in a bureau drawer when he went away to Foxworth's with his wife and daughters in their automobile.

Edmund Bigham's 'story was cor-roborated in every detail by his wife and daughters, who had recently come back with him from Georgia, where they had been living for several years.

Story of Crime The first story of the crime to get publicity was that Edmund Bigham a brother of Smiley, had left the Bigham homestead on the afternoon of Saturday to see a neighbor, Bob Forwarth Edmund said he had had most circumstantial testimony some Bigham homestead on the afternoon of Saturday to see a neighbor, Bob Foxworth, Edmund said he had had dinner with the family and that there had been nothing to indicate any trouble in the family. He had been absent from the house only a few minutes when he returned to see his aged mother staggering down the wound that caused her death a few minutes later. in the valuable estate of the father and as the objector to the ways his sister had chosen to dispose of her property.

Edmund Bigham was arrested the same day the affidavit was made and was put in juil. The same day search was made of the Bigham home for the deeds of which Mrs. Black and Smiley Bigham had spoken, but no trace of them was found.

Following his arrest Edmund Big-ham remained silent and though rumors associated this an dthat attor ney with his interests it was not until quite recently that he made a choice of counsel and the statement was made that the attorney chosen Mr. King, had decided to ask a change of venue, alleging that his client could not secure a fair trail in Flbrence county.

Meantime the coroner's inquest added to the accumulation of testiwith the killing, or rather establishing a motive for it. Wesley Hyman, a ne-gro woodchopper said he had seen Ed-mud and his for it. mud and his family moving house

hold goods into an unoccupied house on the Bighem estate on the afternoon of the day when Mrs. Black had gone to Florence to consult Mr. Arrow-smith. Other witnesses testified that there had been a violent quarrel that same day between Edmund Bigham and his brother and sister. The ne-The negroes withdrew from the house. They had been there to settle with Edmund Bigham for the work they ha ddone as woodchoppers. The quarrel had been so violent that Mrs. Bigham had asked a neighbor, William Burch, to go to Pamplico and ask Officer Rose

to come and protect them from Ed-mund. Edmund had, intercepted Burch and threatened him with death if he

(Continued on page four)

Dues to S. C. F. W. C 8.50 Winthrop scholarship fund Expense of tag day Flowers for flower sale Painting of signs for Wofford 57.85 Glee Club Support of two French Orphans Advertising and distributing of 73.00 rosters as per contract of Weinberg Co. 63.20 Provisions for stand at Chautau-14.00 qua Prize of \$5.00 gold piece for essay Subscription to general Federa-Subscription to general Federa-tion Magazine Printing for play and electric bulbs for play Baseballs, per contract B. B. association Donations to Endowment Fund S. C. F. W. C. Book on citizenship Distribution by charity com 15.70 2.50 50.00 Expense of delegates to Sum-ter, district meeting, of S. C. F. W. C. 20.00 Western Union Expenses memorial exercises, Transfer charge \$5.00 and pay-ment of Mrs. Dillard 40.68 25.00

Landscape Gardener Plants for public squares Expense charge on Plants Work and fertilizer at depot 30.00 293.3550.166.00

> TOTAL \$1,002.35 Respectfully submitted, Irma H. Weinberg, Secretary and Treasurer.

MISSIONARY MEETING

The Young People's Missionary So-ciety will meet Sunday afternoon, March 27th, at four o'clock at the Methodist church.

Program:

Music. Bible lesson

SOME STIFF SENTENCES

5.00 The following cases were tried and sentenced last week after we went to 2.10 press on Wednesday: In passing sentence the Judge suspended several months for good behavior and that 1.50they never engage in the liquor busi-ness again, but if they should be caught, then the suspended time goes into effect, and without trial, but on affidavit they must serve the suspend-

JUDGE HANDS OUT

ed time. The liquor cases are: Remus White, one year

Remus White, one year, nine months suspended. Louist Scott, one year, six months 5.00 ispended.

2.00 Henry Wilson, one year, ten months

suspended. Ben Holiday, one year, six months suspended—appealed.

suspended—appealed. Jim Way, one year, six months suspended—appealed. Pinkney Felder, sealed sentence. B. K. Drakeford, one year, six months suspended—appealed. Laurence Griffin disposing property under lien, two years or \$300.00 twenty-one months suspended. Neta Plowden, simple assault and battery, \$100.00 or thirty days in jail. William Dingle, grand larceny, not guilty. guilty.

guilty. Ellis and July Felder, disposing of property under lien, Ellis one year or \$500.00, July six months or \$250.00. Civil Cases R. D. Timmons vs. A. P. Howie jury returned a verdict for plaintiff in the sum of \$220.00, to be restored the present and dimension of \$50.00. the property and damages of \$50.00, Edward Brunson vs. W. D. Willie and Mrs. W. D. Young. The jury reand Mrs. W. D. Young. The jury re-turned a verdict for plaintiff in the sum of \$80.00. But the law is where

property is taken by force of arms the verdict is automatically trebled. Therefore the plaintiff will receive \$240.00.

-0----COUGHS UP BULLET

M.:. Charlie Sprott of Marning spent last week with his brother, Mr. Jesse R. Sprett.

Miss Vivian Eadon has recently ro signed her position as primary teach-er in the graded school. The trute is and patrons regret to give her up, ener as to the best means of b autify. but the position is being receptably filled by Miss Eva Bane of Summer-

Mrs. S. I. D. Wise of Hyman, re-cently visited her sisters, Mrs. T. R. Owen and Mrs. Jeff Martin.

By request of the local Woman's Christian Temperance Union "W. C. T. U. Recognition Day" was recog-nized at the Methodist Church on last Sunday morning. The pastor, Rev. G. W. Dukes, made a strong prohibi-tion appeal, stressing the fact that it is the duty of every citizen to assist the officers of the law in enforcing these laws. He stated that the W. C. T. U. as one of the organizations that has borne the heavy end of the bur-den in the long fight for Constitution al Prohibition and is still one that will continue the fight to save prohi bition by building up public sentiment for adequate law enforcement. In conclusion, he laid emphasis upon Judge Peurifoy's ("Purifier") as one has called him) strong charge to the grand jury in last week's court. Sun-day afternoon, Mrs. Emma Geares District spoke to an assemble on an

Dietrick spoke to an assemblage an-nouncing the membership campaign beginning on March 10th and continu-ing until May 10th. She enumerated ing until May 10th. She enumerated some ways by which to make this undertaking a success, one was es-pecially stressed, that of the mem-bers always wearing the little knot of white ribbon. Mrs. Joseph Sprott of Manning presided, and was assist-ed in the devotional by the Rev. C. B. Smith of Manning Methodist church. Mrs. J. O. Barwick and children of Sumter, returned home Monday after

Mrs. J. O. Barwick and children of Sumter, returned home Monday after a short visit with Mrs. J. R. Ardis, Mrs. W. L. Adams, of Sumter, is spending awhile with her parents Mr, and Mrs. M. B. Corbett, Mr, and Mrs. Edgar Scott of Bishop-ville, accompanied by Mrs.

With the coming of spring the Civic League has been unusually active this year. For some time they have been making plans to do some landscape gardening and with this in view con-sulted a professional landscape garding the court house square the school grounds and the street around the station. During the past few weeks the ladies of these committees have been hard at work and the results thereof have already caused much favorable comment.

At the court house, where Mrs. Mouzon is chairman, small ornamental cedars have been set at intervals, on the lawn, while quantities of dwarf pirea abellie, lombardy poplars and leciduous shrubs have been planted in the beds around the building. The space between the payement and the rect has been sowed in grass. Mrs. E. S. Ervin is chairman of the school grounds committee and has done plendid work there. The lawn has been enriched and the same varieties of plants and shrubs planted beds. At the station Mrs. (O'Bryan beds. At the station Mrs. O Bryan has had the space inside of the curb levelled and planted in quantities of dwarf spirea and shrubs. This will make a benuty spot around the sta-tion, which will add greatly to the impression made upon strangers.

So sturdy were the plants and so well were they set out that they are dready beginning to leaf out and before the summer is over will great-If the summer is over will great before the summer is over will great. These plants will grew more lovely each year, and the Civic League de-serves the thanks of the entire com-munity for its untiring efforts to head the average discussion. beautify our surroundings.

WILSON W. MUNNERLYN PASSES AWAY SUDDENLY

Bible lesson. "A Sabbath Day in the Country," Matt. 12 1-8, by Lula Rigby. Prayer. Business meeting. A Day with the Deaconess in her Auto, by Mary Sue Wilson. Music. Social conditions of the people at home, at work and at play, by Hattie Breedin. The agencies at work and the need for the Gospel, by Mary Rigby.