

LEXINGTON FARMERS AGREE TO SIGN COTTON PLEDGE

At a rousing and enthusiastic meeting of the Lexington county branch of the American Cotton Association, which filled the court house to overflowing Monday, great enthusiasm was manifested and there was a general air of determination to carry into effect the program outlined by the parent organization in reducing the cotton acreage. As a matter of fact Lexington county farmers have already reduced their acreage. Secretary Ellis Efrid, after the meeting, said that he doubted if more than 10 per cent of the farmers of this county would have to curtail their acreage of 1920 in order to live up to the terms of the pledge. He said an erroneous idea had gained currency that the movement meant that regardless of what proportion of a man's crop was devoted to cotton and what to other crops he would, under the terms of the pledge, be forced to reduce his cotton crop one-half, whereas the pledge called only for the devotion of one-third of the land tended in cotton and the other two-thirds in food and feed crops. If a man was already doing this he need reduce no further to comply with the pledge.

The meeting was presided over by George C. Price, with Secretary Ellis Efrid taking notes.

Addresses were made by Dr. D. M. Crosson, who stressed the necessity of farmers standing solidly together and doing all they could to aid each other. Judge C. M. Efrid also spoke and lent a word of encouragement. He said many farmers were in a quandry, but he believed that in Lexington county at least they would go ahead pretty much as usual; that the banks would be inclined to deal very leniently with those who had shown a disposition to do right and that credit would be available to make another crop.

At the conclusion of the meeting pledges were passed around and were signed by about one-third of those present, many others taking them home who are expected to report later. So far as known there were only two refusals to sign the pledges.

In another column will be found the pledges which the association is asking farmers, land owners, merchants and bankers to sign. In case any person has not signed and desires to do so he can secure blanks by applying to D. Ellis Efrid, secretary, Lexington, S. C., and they will be promptly furnished.

Notwithstanding the rainy weather one of the largest crowds seen here in a long time attended the meeting. The court house was filled to overflowing.

SWANSEA MERCHANT MARRIED IN COLUMBIA

Citizens of Swansea and vicinity will be interested to learn of the marriage in Columbia last Sunday, January 2, of Mr. H. Peskin of Swansea and Miss Mary Rosen of New York. The ceremony was performed at the synagogue in Columbia by Rabbi Karesh, following which in the evening a dinner party at the Jefferson hotel was enjoyed by the young couple and their friends. Mr. Max Spotsky acted as best man.

Mr. Peskin is one of the progressive young merchants of Swansea, where he has been engaged in business for several years and where he has made a host of friends, who will wish him every joy. The bride is a young woman of many lovable traits and will be warmly welcomed to her new home.

After a honeymoon trip to Florida of about two weeks the young couple will be at home to their friends in Swansea.

AUDITOR W. D. DENT NOW ON ANNUAL ROUND

Auditor W. D. Dent started today on his annual round of the county taking tax returns. He will make the schedule advertised elsewhere in this issue. While away his office will be kept open for the convenience of those wishing to make returns here, Miss Julia Bickley being in charge of the office while Mr. Dent is absent.

VISITED BROOKLAND.

After spending a two week's vacation with the home folks near Brookland, Miss Olivia Kaiser has returned to Jamison, S. C., where she is engaged in teaching this session.

LAST MINUTE TAXPAYERS BREAK RECORD IN PAYING UP

While the State government has found it necessary to borrow largely to meet its obligations because the taxes have been so slow coming in, Lexington county has done her part remarkably well. Of the \$92,000 in round numbers due to the state from this county for 1920 taxes, County Treasurer Leaphart has already remitted \$48,000.

Of the total of \$373,000 in round numbers to be collected by Mr. Leaphart \$200,000 has already been paid, and the county's obligations are being promptly met.

Mr. Leaphart has already remitted \$40,000, the first payment on the \$100,000 borrowed last spring to run the county. Other payments will be due as follows: \$40,000 February 5, \$20,000 March 5 and \$20,000 March 20. This was money borrowed for current expenses. Of the \$100,000

borrowed for road improvement \$20,000 and interest will be due in April. This loan was for five years.

All Records Broken.

On December 30 and 31 all records at the treasurer's office were broken, when eleventh hour taxpayers, anxious to avoid the penalty, fairly swamped the force and passed through the window \$110,000 in round numbers. This is the largest amount ever taken in two days' time.

School Funds Shy.

While collections have been remarkably good considering the depression, taxpayers of some school districts have been slower than others to pay up and funds in such districts are not available for teachers' salaries.

Through the month of January a penalty of 1 per cent is added, after which the penalty increases.

CLERK OF COURT SELLS THREE PIECES OF PROPERTY

Three pieces of real estate were sold Monday by Holley L. Harmon, clerk of court, on orders of the court, none of them bringing very high prices. Following are sales with the purchasers and prices paid:

Ninety-two acres near Pellon were sold to W. H. Spires for \$375.00, sold under proceedings in the case of D. T. Barrs et al. vs. Eugenia King Barrs.

George Bell Timmerman, attorney, bought for \$2,450 what is known as the old Meetez home in the town of Lexington, sold in the case of the Home National Bank vs. Mrs. Blanche D. Parker.

A lot with buildings in the town of Chapin was bid in by D. C. Fulmer for \$1,525. This was sold under proceedings in the case of Carrie M. Slice vs. Claude K. Lindler et al.

HOME NATIONAL BANK PAYS OFF DIVIDEND.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Home National bank held last week a 5 per cent semi-annual dividend was declared on the capital stock of \$50,000.00, and checks have been mailed to stockholders for the amounts due. The bank has prospered during the past year under the capable management of the following officers: Samuel B. George, president; Karl F. Oswald, cashier; J. E. Kaminer, assistant cashier; T. R. Keisler, assistant cashier.

The annual meeting of the stockholders will be held on Tuesday, January 11, for the purpose of electing directors and officers for the year.

DISPATCH-NEWS NOW \$1.50 YEAR

From this date on the price of The Dispatch-News will be reduced to \$1.50 a year. This step is taken in order that we may do our part towards helping to a return to normal conditions and because we realize that the general depression resulting from low-priced cotton has made money very scarce, particularly among farmers.

At this price, however, all subscriptions must be paid strictly in advance. Your paper will be cut off when the time is out, Renew promptly in order not to miss an issue. Look at your label; it will tell you if your time is about out. Send p. o. money order for renewal.

It is impossible for a representative of the paper to accompany the auditor on his rounds, but Mr. Dent will receive and receipt for subscriptions.

SLIGH & WALKER, Proprietors, The Dispatch-News.

TIMMERMAN RESIGNS AS SOLICITOR

SUCCEEDED BY COL. T. C. CALLISON—WISHED TO GIVE SUCCESSOR CHANCE TO PREPARE FOR COURT.

After serving sixteen years, marked by many brilliant victories for the State, George Bell Timmerman on Saturday last handed in his resignation as solicitor of the eleventh judicial circuit. Mr. Timmerman took this step in order that his successor might not be handicapped in the conduct of his office, as his term of office would have expired in the midst of the next term of court.

First elected at the age of 23, when the circuit was comprised of the counties of Lexington, Richland, Kershaw, Edgefield and Saluda. Mr. Timmerman has succeeded himself at the close of each term, having been re-elected twice without opposition. Although one of the youngest lawyers in the State and inexperienced at the bar, Mr. Timmerman soon made his mark and his entire record has been one of the most notable of any prosecuting attorney in the State.

Besides the splendid record he has made as solicitor, Mr. Timmerman has been equally as successful in practice on the civil side of the court; and it was largely due to his extensive practice in the civil courts that he declined to offer for solicitor for another term in the primaries last summer.

Mr. Timmerman has announced that he will continue to practice law, with Lexington as his headquarters, he and Col. G. T. Graham having formed a co-partnership.

The New Solicitor.

Col. T. C. Callison, the new solicitor, comes into office well prepared for his arduous duties. Though comparatively a young man, he has been successful in his profession and has won a warm place in the confidence and esteem of the people of Lexington.

Col. Callison, who is a member of Governor Cooper's staff, brings to his work a splendid equipment. He is a graduate of the university of South Carolina, where he took a high stand. He has the unique distinction of never having lost a criminal case in which he has appeared alone. Col. Callison is well and favorably known in the other counties of the circuit. He was born in old Edgefield in what is now McCormick county and enjoys a wide acquaintance in Saluda county.

The new solicitor will have his hands full to begin with in the term of court which convenes Monday, January 17, at which seven homicide

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PAY SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE AUDITOR.

As it was impossible for a representative of The Dispatch-News to accompany the auditor on his rounds, Mr. Dent has kindly consented to act for the paper. All of our friends who desire to subscribe or those who wish to renew their subscription can hand the money to Mr. Dent, who will give them a receipt. As the price of the paper is again put at \$1.50 many of our subscribers should avail themselves of this opportunity.

E. AUSTIN ROOF IS HIGH SHERIFF

TRANSFER EFFECTED TUESDAY.—NEW OFFICER PROMISES IMPARTIAL ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS.

E. Austin Roof is now high sheriff of Lexington. Having filed his bond and received his commission the office was turned over to him by Sim J. Miller, the outgoing sheriff. At the time of the transfer there were 15 prisoners in the jail, of whom 9 were sent up from the federal courts.

Sheriff Miller, who yesterday retired from office has been sheriff for 10 years, having served out the un-



SIM J. MILLER, Redring Sheriff.

expired term of P. H. Corley and being twice elected. During his incumbency Sheriff Miller has earned quite a reputation as a vigilant and resourceful apprehender of lawbreakers. He retires to private life with the good wishes of a host of friends. Sheriff Miller will make his home in Lexington, having occupied his home on Depot street. He will look after his farming interests and his transfer business.

The New Sheriff.

E. Austin Roof, the new sheriff, takes office under favorable circumstances. He was elected by a most flattering vote, bespeaking the confi-



E. AUSTIN ROOF, New Sheriff

dence of the people in his character and ability. He comes in at a time when the suppression of crime is a vital subject. His friends are predicting that he will have a successful administration. Mr. Roof was for 13 years a rural mail carrier and was

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IMPORTANT TERM OF COURT WILL BEGIN ON JANUARY 17

Judge Frank B. Gary of Abbeville will preside at the next term of the court of general sessions, which commences here Monday, January 17 and may continue for two weeks. This is expected to be an important term of court, as there are many defendants awaiting trial. At least seven homicide cases are on the docket for trial, several of which were postponed from the last term of court. Four white men will be the defendants in one of these cases, resulting from the killing of Constable Brown in an alleged liquor raid in Brookland last spring while one other white man, Newt Kelly, who recently killed David H. Shull in Brookland, is the defendant in another. The other defendants are negroes. The roster of the homicide cases scheduled for trial at this term are as follows:

Hector Patterson, negro, of Swansea.

Sam Harris, negro, now living in Augusta, who is alleged to have killed another negro at Harbison college. The defence in this case claims accident, it is understood.

Russell Potez, negro, who ran over with an automobile and killed Mr. Turner, a white man in the town of Brookland.

Newt Kelly, white, who recently

shot and killed David H. Shull in the town of Brookland.

Jacob Lorick, negro. Cleve Pooser, negro.

First Week Jury.

Following is the jury for the first week of court:

J. Felder Smith, George W. Jefcoat, J. Quincy Shealy, Adolphus Hite, J. H. Arnold, John W. Younginger, W. D. Franklow, Lester L. Sharpe, Haskell Hall, Bart G. Mathias, Rufus L. Craps, Arthur R. Timmerman, Boyce J. Able, Weber L. Rawl, Lemon E. Jefcoat, Morgan T. Corder, J. Perry Rish, J. Hamp Long, Thobmas J. Risinger, Harvey F. Roof, Willie H. Weed, Curtis Derrick, E. Hendrix Roberts, Seber Y. Fulmer, H. M. Williams, Julian D. Cromer, Luther J. Busby, George V. Sharpe, Johnnie Dyches, Joseph W. Meetez, K. C. Gunnell, John W. Wessinger, D. Backman Amick, Lee Rabun, Shelton E. Corley, Morgan A. Sharpe.

Grand Jury for 1921.

The following have been drawn to serve on the grand jury for the coming year:

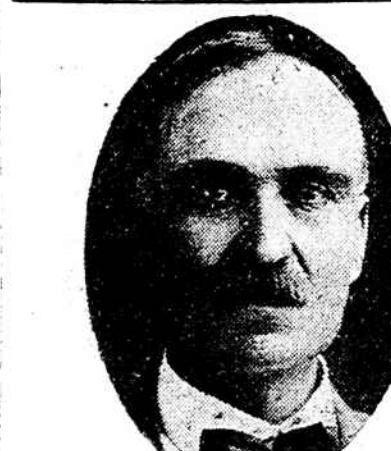
Jacob H. Roberts, Oscar C. Boatwright, H. Bennie Williams, W. H. Fallaw, Mat. L. Martin, T. Wade Long, J. M. Taylor, Cary A. Snelgrove, J. Frank Smith, Murray D. Rucker, C. E. Taylor, L. D. Hutto.

NEW YEAR BRINGS COURT HOUSE CHANGES

With the advent of the New Year there will take place several changes in the personnel of the officers who will serve the people.

On Thursday George C. Steele, the newly elected supervisor, will assume the reigns of office. Already Mr. Steele has been busy going over the county's affairs with the outgoing supervisor, Charles E. Corley. An unfounded rumor was going the rounds this week that Mr. Steele would decline to serve. The Dispatch-News is able to say, however, that there is absolutely no truth in the report. Mr. Steele will take office Thursday.

For the present there will be no change in the board of county commissioners, two of whom are to be appointed by the governor upon the recommendation of the legislature. These two members have not yet been selected. Two members of the board



GEO. C. STEELE, New Supervisor

will hold over for two more years.

The present members of the board are: W. W. Futrick, E. L. Derrick, George A. Shealy and B. Furman Brodie, the first two of whom hold over while the terms of the other two expire.

E. Austin Roof took charge of the Sheriff's office Tuesday.

Holly L. Harmon, who succeeds himself as clerk of court, will begin his new term of four years January 19.

C. E. Smith, nominated for county

"BOB" JONES HERE NEXT SUNDAY NIGHT.

An overflow crowd is expected to hear the famous evangelist, "Bob" Jones who is to speak at the high school auditorium Sunday night at 7:30. Mr. Jones is considered one of the greatest evangelists in America today and is president of the great Interdenominational Evangelistic association of America of which Billy Sunday is vice-president.

Lexington is one of the fifteen places in South Carolina to be visited by Mr. Jones in the interest of the Campaign of Sunday School Evangelism which is being conducted by the South Carolina Sunday School association under a Sunday School Evangelism committee of twenty-five of the leading laymen and ministers of the State. Dr. W. L. Ball, pastor of the First Baptist church of Spartanburg is chairman of this committee, Prof. William S. Morrison, vice-chairman and Rev. A. E. Driggers, pastor of the Methodist church of Clemson College, vice-chairman. The purpose of the campaign is said to be that of arousing, inspiring and enlisting each Sunday school worker in the State for personal evangelistic effort in his or her own Sunday school class, leading up to a Sunday School Decision Day or other equivalent evangelistic emphasis.

HARMON-SEAY.

A pretty home wedding of the past week was that of Miss Mildred Harmon of Lexington to T. C. Seay of Columbia, at the home of Mrs. L. C. Harmon in Lexington. The ceremony was performed Thursday afternoon at 1 o'clock by the Rev. Mr. Whitten of the Methodist church.

treasurer, will not take office until the beginning of a new fiscal year July 1 next.

Auditor Dent will succeed himself at the same date.

County Superintendent of Education Julius E. Sharpe will likewise begin his new work July 1.

Coroner Weed, who succeeds himself, will also take a new hold.

DYNAMITE EXPLOSION SERIOUSLY INJURES FOUR

The premature explosion of two boxes of dynamite caps caused the serious injury of four young men of Lexington last Friday night during a New Year's celebration. Frank Fields, Sim Fields, Furman Harmon and Shelby Harmon had gone just out of town near Fourteen creek to fire New Year guns, and for some cause a dynamite cap went off prematurely, exploding two full boxes, and the entire party suffered more or less serious injuries.

Frank Fields lost his left eye, parts

of three fingers on left hand, and numerous bruises and cuts over body.

Furman Harmon lost his right eye, and has many cuts and bruises.

Sim Fields and Shelby Harmon received several minor wounds. Frank Fields, Furman Harmon and Sim Fields were carried to the Baptist hospital in Columbia Saturday for operation, and the three young men are doing as well as could be expected. Shelby Harmon is recovering rapidly at the home of his father, Mr. V. U. Harmon.