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Advertisements

REMOVAL OF KELLY RAISES QUESTION AS TO JAIL CONDITION

Newton Kelly, charged with killing David Shull in New Brookland several months ago is still in the Lexington county jail, despite the fact that his attorneys Monday secured from Governor Cooper an order directing the penitentiary authorities to receive Kelly.

The plea was made that conditions in the Lexington county jail were such as to jeopardize the health of the prisoner.

Sheriff Roof has so far, however, not taken Kelly to Columbia. He does not understand the letter of the governor to require him to do so, and he may or may not take Kelly to the penitentiary. The sheriff was somewhat disconcerted by the reports published in the daily papers and invited the local board of health to make an inspection of the jail, agreeing to abide by their findings.

Complying with the request of the sheriff, the board Tuesday afternoon inspected the jail and reported the condition as being fair. While they found some things that could be much improved, the board did not believe conditions to be as bad as they had been pictured. They made some recommendations as to improvements, particularly as to the water supply and sewerage disposal.

Last Thursday the local committee of the State Board of Public Welfare visited the jail, and their report, made to the state board, while commending some points, pointed out that "the filthy condition of the entire inside of the jail, the floor, walls, cells, bedding and dishes, to the extent of being dangerous." This committee is composed of John S. Schneider, Miss Ethel Dreher and Dr. G. F. Roberts.

Mr. Brearley Inspects. Mr. H. C. Brearley, assistant secretary of the State Board of Public Welfare, ran over from Columbia today and made an inspection of the jail. Mr. Brearley, at the conclusion of his inspection, gave The Dispatch-News the following interview in regard to conditions as he found them:

"The condition of the Lexington county jail is not much worse than it has been for some years but that is bad enough. The building, erected in 1886, is not now satisfactory for the use of prisoners. No provisions for the care of either white or colored women have been made and even the white and colored men are only partially separated. The windows are unscrubbed and many of the panes of glass have been broken out. At present the prisoners are protecting themselves against the cold wind by hanging up clothes and bedding in front of the windows. The heat is supplied by two stoves.

"The cells are very dark and hard to keep in a sanitary condition. They could be partially improved by painting them white and by repairing the banks where the prisoners sleep.

"The water supply is far from satisfactory. The tank from which comes the water for the baths and toilets is covered only by a wire netting so that the water is not suitable for drinking purposes. Consequently, a pail of water is brought into the prisoners' quarters and they dip their cups into the common supply. This practice is just as liable to spread disease as if only one cup were used by all prisoners, both white and black.

"The food supplied is a little above the average for the jails in the state. The three meals served just previous to this visit were as follows: Breakfast—hominy, 2 biscuits, fried bacon, coffee; dinner—collard greens, corn bread, soup; supper—collard greens, light bread, soup. Syrup can be gotten when the prisoners desire it. The preparation of the food seems to be fair, although some complaint of it has been made.

"The plumbing of the jail is in a very unsanitary state. A drain pipe leading to the septic tank has become plugged and a pool of dirty water has been caused just outside one of the windows. The drain pipe to the shower bath and to one of the sinks are stopped up also and are causing conditions that are unhealthy.

"Two of the cells are not being used for prisoners. One of them is filled with old stoves and the other has been unoccupied since prisoners were allowed to let some of their chickens roost in it about a month ago. The

latter cell, however, has now been cleaned up by the orders of the sheriff and can be used when necessary.

"The physical condition of at least two of the prisoners is a constant menace to their fellows. One prisoner is badly in need of treatment for a contagious form of venereal disease and another is believed to have the same infection. These prisoners drink from the same pail, use the same bedding and bed covering, and associate during the day with the other prisoners who are supposed to be well. This is a grave menace to the health of the inmates. According to a recent opinion by the Attorney General of South Carolina, a prisoner who becomes infected with a disease under such conditions might be able to obtain damages against the county.

"The quality of the bedding supplied is good but none of the blankets have been washed in over three months. The newly committed prisoners are given bedding that has been used by previous inmates, possibly by persons having contagious diseases.

"When a new prisoner comes to the jail he is not given a bath and examination for vermin. He should be cleaned up at once, given clothes if his own are unsanitary, assigned a bed that has been disinfected since it has been occupied, and supplied with clean blankets.

"In order that the jail should be put into sanitary condition the following recommendations should be carried out: The windows should be screened and broken panes of glass replaced, the cells should be painted and thoroughly cleaned up, the metal wall bunks repaired, a cooler with a spigot should be provided for the drinking water, the drain pipes should be cleaned out, a hot water tank should be added to the kitchen range so that the prisoners can have warm water for bathing and for washing their clothes, spittoons filled with sand or carbolic acid and water should be placed in each cell, the mattresses should be provided with washable covers, these covers and the blankets should be washed once a month, and each newly committed prisoner should be given a bath, be treated for vermin and supplied with clean bedding.

"The carrying out of these recommendations will not cost the county much money or the authorities much time, but it will add greatly to the health and comfort of the prisoners."

Sheriff E. Austin Roof, when seen by The Dispatch-News man, said that he was anxious to make the jail as sanitary and comfortable as possible. He was handicapped by lack of funds, but expected to put the matter squarely before the board of county commissioners at the first opportunity and endeavor to secure an appropriation of sufficient funds to put the jail in good condition.

BROOKLAND MAN HEIR TO FORTUNE

Dick Batton, of Brookland, well known in Columbia, has just come into a fortune. He has inherited from his father the half interest in an estate valued at \$260,000. The property is largely in mill stocks. Mr. Batton is a farmer living across the Congaree.

Mr. Batton has received a letter yesterday from his brother, Arthur Batton, of Norfolk, telling the sad news of the death of his father, Louis Batton. In some unaccountable way the news of the father's death at Fayetteville, N. C., did not reach Mr. Batton here until today, though the father died two weeks ago. The brother advises that the father left a fortune to the two men, by which each of them will get approximately \$130,000.

The fortune is largely in stock in the Cumberland Cotton Mills, of Fayetteville and Hope Mill, N. C. Mr. Batton is forty years old.—Columbia Record.

BURIED AT ST. STEPHENS.

The body of Thelma Euliece Richardson, seven year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Richardson of Columbia, was laid to rest Tuesday in the churchyard of St. Stephen's Lutheran church in the presence of a large congregation of sorrowing friends. The bereaved parents have the sympathy of many friends in Lexington county.

FOR YOUR HEALTH'S SAKE

The South Carolina Tuberculosis Association, an organization which has done great good in alleviation of suffering due to the white plague, as well as to protect those who are well from infection, is "up against it" for funds.

The general depression which has hit the country has so affected the revenues of the association that unless aid is forthcoming immediately the work must stop. It is unthinkable that the good people of the state will allow this. The sum asked is not large and contributions of any size will be gladly accepted.

Here is a good work for Sunday schools, Bible Classes, Aid Societies and all benevolent organizations to do some real work for a worthy cause. Who will be first to take it up?

The Dispatch-News will be glad to receive and forward any contributions from this county. Proper credit will be given through the columns of the paper for all donations.

AIKEN FARMERS SHIPPING POTATOES

Aiken, March 23.—The first car of Aiken county sweet potatoes for the Northern market was shipped from Aiken last week from the Farmers Storage and Fertilizer company's potato warehouse. The car contained 400 crates, and goes to Burlington, Iowa. It was marketed through the South Carolina Sweet Potato association.

While this is the first car of potatoes to go from Aiken county, it is the fifth from South Carolina so far. The shipment was cooperative, 12 Aiken county farmers being interested in the Farmer's Storage and Fertilizer company's potato house; there are about four more cars to be shipped later.

While the price the car brings is not stated, it may be said that the potatoes sold at a price that beat cotton all to pieces.

The North and East are only just now becoming acquainted with the sweet potato or "sugar spuds," as they are labeled. But the brethren across the Mason and Dixon line are fast coming to like them, and the potato industry bids fair to grow rapidly with a ready market for all that may be raised.

The potatoes in the Farmers' Storage and Fertilizer Co.'s house have been inspected by Clemson college experts who have unhesitatingly told Mr. McCaslan, manager, that they are the finest lot and the most splendid specimens yet seen in South Carolina. It is understood that farmers hereabouts are planning to plant many more sweet potatoes hereafter than ever before.—Special to The State.

CLAY SPRING DOTS.

The farmers are very busy planting their crops nowadays.

Mrs. Prater Cooper spent Sunday with Mrs. W. M. Laird.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Slice and also Mr. Austin and Mrs. Carrie Barrs motored down to Neece Sunday.

Mrs. M. J. Jefcoat and children spent Saturday afternoon with her mother, Mrs. Carrie Barrs.

Miss Marie Spire spent a few days last week with her cousin in Columbia.

Miss Annie Mae Laird has returned home after spending a few days in Columbia with her cousin, Dr. L. L. Toole and family.

Prof. H. C. Bookman spent a few days last week in the Clay Springs district.

Misses Iva and Linder Craft spent Saturday afternoon with Miss Annie Mae and Nealie Belle Laird.

Mr. Daniel Sturkie is all smiles; it's a bouncing big boy.

Mrs. Victorie Ellisor spent a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. M. Jefcoat, last week.

BROWN EYES.

PALMAFFESTA ADMISSION
PRICE 50 AND 25 CENTS

A rumor somehow gained currency in Lexington that admission to Palmafesta had been placed at \$2.50. There is absolutely no truth in it. The price of admission is 50c for adults and 25c for children.

SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT.

Commencement exercises of Clay Springs school will be held Friday evening, April 1, beginning at 7:30 o'clock promptly. The public generally is invited and an enjoyable time is looked forward to.

COUNTY LOAN AWARDED FRIDAY

The National Bank of Leesville and The First National Bank of Batesburg were awarded the contract for a loan to the county of \$95,000, their joint bid 7.473 per cent. discount being the best presented. Only one other bid was put in—that of the Home National Bank of Lexington of 7.50 per cent. discount.

The bids were opened Friday last, the 25th, by County Treasurer C. E. Leapheart and Supervisor George C. Steele and the loan awarded to the banks above stated. The rate to be paid is considered very good under present conditions of the money market.

Messrs. Leapheart and Steele were gratified that the loan was to be handled by banks in the county. The fact that they received two bids from county banks is an evidence that notwithstanding the great stringency in the money market Lexington county's financial institutions are in sound condition and able to take care of the county's needs.

There are a great many claims against the county which are past due, and it will be good news to many people that funds will soon be available to settle these claims.

However, these funds will not be ready by the first Monday. It is understood that the new board of county commissioners will likely be sworn in next Monday, which is the first Monday, and they will hardly be able to pass upon all outstanding claims on that day, even if funds should be in hand with which to pay off. It will not be long, however, until all who have duly approved claims will be able to receive their pay.

PENSION ROLL SENT TO COMPTROLLER GENERAL.

There are 353 names on the pension roll for Lexington county, according to a statement given out yesterday. The work of compiling the roll has been completed and it has been sent to the office of Walter E. Duncan, comptroller general, at Columbia, who, under the new law is charged with the disbursement of the funds.

Until the complete rolls from all the counties are in hand and the total number of pensioners in the state is ascertained it will not be possible to know what each pensioner will receive.

A complete copy of the roll will be printed in The Dispatch-News at an early date.

PLAY AT SAND MOUNTAIN

There will be a play at Sand Mountain school house on Saturday night, April 9th, entitled: "A Hoodooed Coon." If you want to spend an enjoyable evening be sure to see this play.

Characters.
Misery Moon—A Hoodooed Coon.
Gideon Blair—A Millionaire.
Tom Riddle—As Slick as a Whistle.
Hiram Tutt—An awful Nut.
Patrick Keller—A Ticket Seller.
Samantha Slade—A Poor old Maid.
Rosebud Reese—Her Charming Niece.
Paula Maleek—A Bolsheviek.
Lula Pearl—A Jazz-time Girl.
A small admission will be charged. Refreshments will be served during the evening.

COURT FINISHED WEDNESDAY AFT.

Court having adjourned sine die, jurors called for the second week will not be required and are being so notified by Holley L. Harmon, clerk of court.

Court of common pleas adjourned Wednesday afternoon shortly after 5 o'clock after being in session three days and trying three cases. At the conclusion of the trials equity matters were considered by Judge Frank B. Gary, who presided at this term.

An interesting case was disposed of which has been on the docket for some time when the jury rendered a verdict in favor of defendants in the case of John W. Hutto et al., against Ann Hutto et al. This case involved the transfer of title to a tract of 330 acres of valuable land. The case will likely be appealed to the supreme court.

In the case of Maggie Kyzer against Walter Kyzer, a suit for a nurse's bill, the jury rendered a verdict for plaintiff of \$400, which was reduced by Judge Gary to \$250.00, with the understanding that if this was not acceptable to the plaintiff's attorneys he would grant a new trial.

A verdict of \$1,000 for plaintiff was rendered in the case of E. A. Owen against R. L. Shuler.

RUNAWAY HORSE CAUSES EXCITEMENT

Some excitement was furnished the usual afternoon crowd late Monday when a runaway horse pulling a buggy came down Main street, at full speed. The animal turned into Depot street from Main at the Home National bank, and left the buggy, almost a complete wreck, hanging onto Karl F. Oswald's automobile. The horse did not stop. He next encountered the ice delivery truck, tearing off the lights, and continued on his way, later being caught without doing further damage. Mr. Oswald's car was not damaged. The horse and buggy belonged to W. E. Rorer.

REV. MR. FUNDERBURK RESIGNS PASTORATE HERE

Rev. F. H. Funderburk, for several years pastor of the Lexington Baptist church, has tendered his resignation to the congregation and the resignation was accepted. Mr. Funderburk has been pastor of the church for several years and has made many friends in Lexington, who will be glad to know that he will not leave Lexington, but will continue to make his home here. No steps have yet been taken to call a successor to Mr. Funderburk.

SIREMBA HENDRIX BURIED IN HIS NATIVE COUNTRY

The body of Siremba Hendrix, who died in France in 1918, arrived in Lexington Sunday and was buried at Leesville Monday. Mr. Hendrix was the son of the late Dr. Hendrix of Lexington. He went overseas with the American army in 1917, and died in a hospital there some months later. He was a nephew of Mrs. Quincey Caughman of Lexington.

RETURN FROM FLORIDA

Col. M. D. Harman, chairman of the Lexington county pension board, accompanied by Mrs. Harman, returned last week from Florida, where he and Mrs. Harman spent the winter with their daughters. They report an unusually pleasant stay in the "Land of Flowers," where everything possible was done for their pleasure and comfort. The Colonel is looking well and was greatly benefited by his trip.

DEATH OF AN INFANT.

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Shealy died March 23, 1921, and was buried the next day at Providence church, near Lexington. S. C. These parents have the sincere sympathy of their relatives and friends. "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

AMERICAN LEGION TO MEET.

The monthly meeting of the American Legion will be held in the offices of Efrid & Carroll Thursday night, beginning at 8 o'clock.

POTATO WAREHOUSE IS NOW ASSURED

At the meeting held in the court house Thursday night last sufficient stock was subscribed to insure the erection of a potato house in Lexington. The following temporary officers were elected: B. H. Barre, president; George Corley, Jr., vice president; J. D. Carroll, secretary and treasurer. Plans are now being worked out to perfect the organization and secure the remainder of the stock subscriptions. As soon as it is deemed necessary a charter will be applied for and all the legal formalities complied for to start the corporation off under the laws of the State.

It is proposed to erect at some suitable point, preferably where railroad transportation will be convenient, a potato drying house having a capacity of 5,000 bushels, which it is believed will be ample to begin with, and which can be expanded from time to time in the event that the venture proves a success.

Those responsible for the movement ask The Dispatch-News to state positively that for shipping purposes only Porto Rico potatoes will be accepted, as it has been demonstrated that this brand proves more acceptable in the Northern markets. This is a very important point, which farmers who contemplate planting with the expectation of selling through the warehouse here would do well to bear in mind. Of course where a farmer desires to store his own potatoes and do his own marketing any kind of potatoes will be accepted, but where the potatoes are to be shipped by the local warehouse on its responsibility nothing but Porto Rico potatoes which grade to a certain standard will be taken. This is necessary in order to build up a successful trade in the Southern vegetable which is just beginning to come into its own in the North through the efforts of the South Carolina Development Board, which has been at great pains to advertise and push the potato in other markets.

Work on the warehouse will not begin for a while yet, as it will not be needed for the present, until the new crop is ready to be harvested, but it will be ready in ample time to provide facilities for handling the crop as soon as it is ready to gather.

LEXINGTON CIRCUIT.

Appointments for Sunday, April 3d: Mt. Hebron—Sunday school at 10 a. m. R. N. Senn, Superintendent. Preaching at eleven o'clock, followed by the communion service. Special music.

Shiloh—Organization of Sunday school at 3:30 p. m. Preaching at 4 o'clock.

Red Bank—Sunday school at 10 a. m. J. F. Sharpe, superintendent. Preaching at 8 p. m. Public most cordially invited to worship with us.

H. A. WHITTEN, Pastor.

FINE SPECIMEN OF EARLY OATS.

Mr. J. J. Lucas and Dr. W. B. Hutto of Swansea, who were in town yesterday attending court, brought to The Dispatch-News office a sheaf of oats from the farm of Mr. S. E. Smith, the popular cashier of the People's Bank of Swansea, which are certainly well developed for the time of year. The sheaf measures 40 inches in length and the stalks are well headed, the heads being well along towards maturity. Mr. Smith, they say, has several acres of these fine oats on his farm near Swansea.

SECURES FEDERAL AID FOR LEXINGTON ROADS

Dr. D. M. Croson, state senator from Lexington county, has secured from the state highway department a further sum of \$15,000 of federal aid, to be applied to road work in the county.

MCCARTHA-ANDERSON.

Mr. Fred Anderson of Gilbert and Miss Margaret May McCartha of St. Matthew's section of Lexington county, were quietly married Sunday afternoon, March 27th, at the parsonage of St. Stephen's Evangelical Lutheran church by Rev. Arthur B. Obenschain. Miss McCartha is the attractive daughter of Mr. J. D. McCartha.