

Sam Leaphart Becomes United States Marshal Saturday at Noon

Samuel J. Leaphart, this morning received official notification from Washington that he had been appointed and confirmed United States marshal for the Eastern district of South Carolina, and also notice to proceed to Charleston to take the oath of office and assume the duties of marshal.

To Sam Leaphart, life-long Lexingtonian, prominent citizen and successful business man, comes a high honor; that he will discharge his duties with credit to himself and honor to the country is to say the least of it.

Mr. Leaphart is a son of the late Dr. C. E. Leaphart, long a commanding figure in the life of the town and county. His connections are wide and prominent. He takes his new office at the age of 42, and will

be able to draw on a rich field of experiences. Mr. Leaphart received his early training in the public schools of Lexington, and later entered the old South Carolina college, now the university, and graduated therefrom with honors in the class of 1893. He then returned to Lexington, and in 1902 was appointed postmaster to fill out the unexpired term of his father, who died in office. He was reappointed for the full term and held the office continuously until 1915.

Mr. Leaphart has always taken a keen interest in all things for the betterment of the community, and has been prominent in religious and fraternal circles. He is a past master of Lexington Lodge, A. F. M.; past chancellor of Lexington lodge, K. of P.; a member of the Odd Fellows, W. O. W., and the Royal Order of Moose.

The Dispatch-News congratulates Sam on receiving this appointment, and we wish him well in his new office—and we know he will make good.

Much Work Done In Circuit Court

Court of general sessions convened in Lexington Monday morning for a two weeks' term with Judge J. W. DeVore of Edgefield presiding, and with Clerk Harman and Stenographer O. B. Anderson and the other officials in their respective places. The docket for this term was filled with important cases, and up to the present the court has made much headway, and the indications are that the docket will be cleared of considerable matter.

At the convening of court Monday Judge DeVore stated that he was going to try all cases in which the solicitor was ready unless attorneys representing the defendants had ample excuses for continuance, that the times demanded dispatch and he was going to see that it was had.

One of the surprises of the opening day was the plea of guilty of manslaughter entered by Newt Kelly, charged with murder in the killing of David Shull in New Brookland a year and a half ago. When the case was called shortly after the dinner recess Monday, Kelly, when being arraigned, said he was guilty of manslaughter, and the plea was accepted by the solicitor and the court, and Kelly was sentenced to serve ten years at hard labor without the case having gone to a jury.

The case against Frank Goff, likewise charged with murder in connection with the same killing, was continued on account of the illness of J. B. Wingard. This case has attracted much attention in this and Richland county for some time, and it was a surprise to those in the court room when Kelly admitted that he was guilty of manslaughter.

Commencement Thursday Night

Commencement exercises of the Lexington schools will be tomorrow night with a play entitled "Much Ado About Betty," given by the pupils of the tenth grade, and exercises will be held each day through Monday, May 29. There are eight to graduate from the high school this year, three boys and five girls, as follows: Anna Lee Corley, Nola Price, Ola Warner, Wenona Corley, Neita Harman, Gary Harman, Herbert Hendrix and Raymond Hendrix.

The play by the tenth grade will be repeated Friday night. The baccalaureate sermon will be preached Sunday morning at 11:15 o'clock in the school auditorium by the Rev. P. D. Brown, pastor of Ebenezer Lutheran church, Columbia. A special musical program has been arranged for the occasion also.

The graduating exercises will be held Monday night, and one of the eight graduates will have part in the program. The baccalaureate address will be delivered by Prof. E. Marion Rucker of the University of South Carolina, who will also award the diplomas.

The following program will be carried out Monday night: Invocation, Rev. A. B. Obenshain; address, class president, Anna Lee Corley; salutary, Nola Price; class song, Gary Harman; vocal duet, Mrs. J. D. Lois Boozer and Mrs. J. D. M. J. class prophecy, Ola Warner; class prayer, Wenona Corley; class poem, Herbert Hendrix; quizzism, Raymond Hendrix; instrumental solo, Neita Harman; valedictory, Anna Lee Corley; baccalaureate address, Prof. E. Marion Rucker.

New Governor Is Now at Helm; Politics In Capital Warming Up

Columbia, May 23.—Wilson G. Harvey, the first Charlestonian since 1853 to occupy the governor's chair, was Saturday at noon sworn into the office of governor to fill out the unexpired term of Robert A. Cooper, who Monday morning was likewise sworn in as a member of the federal farm loan board, succeeding A. F. Laver, resigned.

The new governor comes into office with the good wishes of thousands of friends. Two years ago, though practically untried in politics, he was elected lieutenant governor. He has persisted over two sessions of the senate with dignity and fairness and has won the esteem of the members of the upper body of the legislature.

Soon after learning that he would be called upon to serve as governor, Mr. Harvey made the announcement that he would not be a candidate for lieutenant governor this summer, but would retire to private life upon completing his duties as governor. For lieutenant governor the first candidate to announce was Hon. Jennings K. Owings of Bennettsville, who has already filed his pledge. Mr. Owens is a native of Rock Hill, but early in life moved to Bennettsville, where he has established a large law practice, enjoying the confidence and esteem of a large circle. For the past four years he has been a member of the house, in the proceedings of which he has taken an active part. He served during the four years as a member of the judiciary committee. Mr. Owens has his membership in the house valedictory, Anna Lee Corley.

Another candidate for lieutenant governor is said to be Col. T. B. Spratt of Fort Mill, who was prominently identified with the Thirtieth division in the world war. Col. Spratt has not yet filed his pledge, but it seems pretty certain that he will make the race.

for a state office, Mrs. Bessie Rogers Drake of Bennettsville, having announced her candidacy for superintendent of education. Mrs. Drake is a graduate of Winthrop and has had considerable experience as a teacher. Her friends believe she is well qualified for the position.

Several candidates are said to be going to enter the lists for commissioner of agriculture.

For adjutant general the incumbent, General Rufus Grant will be opposed by Capt. Bob Craig of Columbia. Both of them are world war veterans. Capt. Craig, who commanded the Hartsville company in the Thirtieth division, was badly wounded and gassed and was on the invalid list for a long time after his return from France. He has now regained his health and has been in active for some time past.

If there are any candidates for any of the other positions in the state house they have not made it known. It will require at least half if not more of the first year's salary to make the campaign, and the positions pay hardly a living, so they are not likely to be much sought after.

South Carolina has a new bank examiner as well as a new governor, W. W. Bradley having been appointed by Governor Cooper just before his retirement to fill out the term of James H. Craig, who resigned to accept a position the cooperative tobacco growers. Mr. Bradley has been assistant bank examiner for several years, and his position has been well deserved by faithful service.

State Electrician Cannon will have something to do in June. Five white murderers are to have the "juice" put to them within two days.—Fox, Gappins and Kirby on the 16th, while Jeffords and Harrison, who killed Arnette in Columbia just two weeks ago, are to proceed the notorious trio on the 15th. Edmund Bingham, under sentence of death, but whose case is on appeal, is also in the death house and may soon have to face a similar fate. The Arnette murder rivalled the Brazell case in brutality. It shocked Columbia to the core, though there was never any talk of lynching indulged in.

FEW MORE DAYS FOR TAXPAYERS.

A few more days remain for South Carolinians to pay their state and county taxes for 1921 without executions being made up. Under the terms of the joint resolution passed at the last session of the legislature extending the time for paying 1921 taxes, executions are to be made up after June 1, but are to be held by the county treasurer until September 1, when they will be turned over to the sheriff.

An eight per cent. penalty goes into effect the morning of June 1. From June 1 until September 1 the taxpayer, who has not already paid his taxes, can meet his obligation by paying the eight per cent. penalty and thus escape a visit of the sheriff. A considerable amount of 1921 taxes is still due.

RURAL CARRIERS MEET.

The Lexington-Richland R. L. C. Association will hold its regular annual meeting at Lexington, S. C., on Tuesday, May 30th, at 11 a. m.

The families of the carriers are invited and a barbecue and picnic dinner will be served.

All rural carriers in the two counties and in adjoining counties not holding meetings on that date are invited whether members of the association or not. Come and bring your wife or sister or daughter or sweetheart as the case may be and let us enjoy the occasion together.

W. H. Hare, County Secretary.

TO SERVE DINNER.

The ladies of the Baptist church will serve dinner on the court house grounds Thursday for the convenience of those attending court, and the public generally is invited to dine with them.

PRESENTMENT GRAND JURY

The Grand Jury, under the leadership of Judge J. W. DeVore, has completed its term of office. The grand jury leave to submit the following report:

The jury having been properly organized at the beginning of its term of office, we went into the consideration of the cases of indictment handed us by the solicitor. We have carefully examined the witnesses presented, and have rendered upon all of these bills and have returned the same to this court with our findings endorsed thereon.

We are glad to see a considerable improvement in the activity of some of our peace officers in their efforts at law enforcement generally, and, in particular, the enforcement of the prohibition law. To those officers who are performing their duty, we desire to offer our hearty commendations.

Our various committees which have been previously appointed have made preliminary inspections and examinations and submit partial reports—fuller reports are to be made at the later sessions of this court. We have inspected the county jail and are pleased to report conditions there to be as good as is practical for a building of its kind. The jail needs some repairs, and we recommend that these be made at once, or as soon as they can be, by the proper officers.

We recommend that the proper officers furnish comfortable chairs and beds for the inmates of the County Alms House. There are also some needed repairs that should be made at once. We are informed that these repairs are being arranged for, but we must recommend that these arrangements be hastened. It is our opinion that the County Farm could be made more profitable by growing the vegetables and wheat for the county chain gang. This, in our opinion, could be done by giving the steward enough convict help to grow these necessary crops.

We find the county chain gang in good condition—the conditions generally are very much better than heretofore. In this connection, we recommend that the prisoners be given flour bread each and every morning. We have noted that there is much road-building machinery scattered in various portions of the county—standing out in the weather, and slowly going to ruin. We recommend that every part of this machinery be collected and protected from the weather, and if it is of no further use to the county, let it be sold for junk.

Our committee on officers will make a report to the court to get a correct audit of the affairs of the county.

We recommend to the Supervisor and the County Commissioners the adoption of the Aiken county plan for building public roads in Lexington county.

It has been repeatedly brought to the attention of the grand jury that Rural Policeman George W. Asbill is not performing his duties properly. We recommend that the county supervisor and county commissioners thoroughly investigate this matter, and if this officer is not doing his duty fully and completely, we urge the supervisor and commissioners to remove this officer from office in accordance with the law in this case made and provided.

We desire to thank Your Honor and all our officials, for the many courtesies shown the grand jury during the term.

Respectfully submitted, W. H. FALLAW, Foreman of the Grand Jury, May 24, 1922.

STATE CONVENTION TO HAVE BIG SPEAKERS.

Spartanburg, May 22.—Announcement has just been made here that a number of "big Men" of several denominations are to have a place on the program of the State Convention of the South Carolina Sunday School Convention which meets at the University of South Carolina, Columbia for a three day session, beginning June 20. Among those who are to be convention "head-liners" are Dr. D. W. Daniel of Clemson College, one of the leading Methodists of the State and Dr. W. J. McClothlin, president of Furman University, Greenville, who is also president of the general Board of the Baptist State Convention, Dr. McClothlin is also vice chairman of the Educational Committee of the South Carolina Sunday School Association. Among the other prominent religious leaders who will address the convention are: Bishop Kirkman G. Finlay of the Episcopal Church; Dr. W. H. Hudson, returned missionary from China and moderator of the Presbyterian Church Synod of South Carolina and Dr. S. J. Derrick, President of Newberry College (Lutheran) Newberry.

MRS. ROOF BETTER.

The many friends of Mrs. W. P. Roof will be glad to learn that she is somewhat improved in health. She has been in a hospital in Richmond, Va., for several months.

Just before Judge DeVore signed an order instructing the penitentiary authorities to deliver S. J. Kirby, C. O. Fox and Jesse Gappins to Sheriff E. Austin Roof of Lexington county Tuesday morning for the purpose of returning them to Lexington "to be dealt with according to law," and directing Sheriff Roof to have them in the court room "at 12 o'clock Tuesday, May 23, 1922, for the purpose of being resentenced."

These three men were convicted of murder here at the last term of court in the killing of William Brazell, the Columbia taxi driver, and were sentenced at that time to die last October, but on account of an appeal, the sentence of this court was stayed, and since the appeal has been dismissed it was the duty of the court here to resentence the trio to the electric chair. A full account of the resentencing appears elsewhere in this paper.

Among other cases disposed of Monday were those of Willie Wicker, Otis Wicker, Otis Smith, Broadus Corley and Melvin Davis, charged with house-breaking and larceny. All of the defendants entered a plea of guilty and were sentenced to serve 18 months in the penitentiary, with the exception of Melvin Davis, who is only a lad, who was sentenced to a like term in the state reformatory. The five entered a store at Chapin only a short time ago.

W. H. Burke, white, and Albert Moultrie, negro, both of Columbia, were found guilty of violating the prohibition law and each was sentenced to serve three months.

Just before the noon hour Monday, George Bell Timmerman, counsel for J. C. Swygert, charged with murder in the killing of Dr. J. C. Nicholson at Leesville several months ago, and in which case a mistrial was had at the last term of court, announced that he and his client were ready for trial, but on account of the state not being ready at that time, attorneys for the state being somewhat scattered over the country, the case was postponed for the present. It is likely that the case will be called next week.

Tuesday.

Willie Felder, negro, pleaded guilty to murder and asked the mercy of the court here this morning when he was brought to trial on the charge of murdering for killing a negro woman and a negro man near Swansea about five months ago. The plea was accepted and he was sentenced to serve a life term in the state penitentiary. This is the second guilty plea entered at this term on serious charges.

Henry Corley, negro, charged with murder for the killing of Frances Bickley, his mother-in-law, was con-

superintendent L. E. Whittle, delivery of diplomas, Prof. E. Maron Rucker; awarding of trustees medal, Julius E. Sharpe; awarding of Dispatch-News medal, Hon. T. C. Callison.

The Lexington schools have had a very successful session under the supervision of Prof. Whittle, with the largest enrollment in the history of the school, the one drawback being the crowded condition of the buildings. A movement is on foot to vote bonds to enlarge the school, which is badly needed, but nothing of a definite nature has yet been done.

PIPE ORGAN BEING INSTALLED.

At St. Stephen's Evangelical Lutheran church a new pipe organ is being installed. The same will be completed on Friday and will be played at the evening service this Sunday. It is a Moller Patent Tubular-Pneumatic Organ, and has two manuals, eleven stops, six pistons, eight couplers, and three hundred and ninety-eight pipes. This organ will be dedicated the last Sunday of June, the 25th, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

PICNIC AT RED BANK.

A church union picnic will be held at Red Bank Saturday, May 27, all the churches there participating. Both picnic and barbecue dinner will be served. The public invited.

DEATH OF CHILD.

The little infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Sharpe was born February 14, 1920 and died April 26, 1922.

Victim and recommended to mercy, and sentenced to life imprisonment.

Henry Norris, charged with murder in the killing of his wife March a year ago, was acquitted by a jury this afternoon.

Due to the fact that several of the attorneys will have to appear before the supreme court next week who are connected with some of the more important cases scheduled for trial here at that time, there will be no court held here. The special docket of the supreme court will be heard next week in Columbia, and Messrs. Timmerman & Graham and Efrid & Carroll have cases there to be argued, thereby making it impossible for them to attend court here, and these two firms represent both J. C. Swygert and Dr. Rice B. Harmon, therefore these cases have been continued. The Harmon case was continued on motion of the defense and the Swygert case on motion of the state.

Jurors drawn for the second week have been notified by Clerk of Court H. L. Harman not to appear.