



DON'T ELECT COLE BLEASE

ADVICE OF EX-SENATOR JOHN L. McLaurin, ONCE SUPPORTER.

Bleas is Hostile to President; Tillman is Willing But Worn Out, Says Marlboro Man.

Bennettsville, Jan. 28.—Some time ago in response to the action of the grand jury of Anderson county and others, Senator McLaurin promised to state some time this month whether or not he would run for governor. The following is the statement made in response to this promise:

Mr. McLaurin's Letter.

Bennettsville, S. C., Jan 27, 1918.
Mr. Editor: I take this method of reaching the various people who by petition and letters have requested me to become a candidate for governor. I promised them an answer during the present month. At this time I feel that I can perform a better service by announcing clearly my political views than by becoming a candidate for governor. It is probable after I do that many who would have supported me will not do so and that conditions will make it best that I should not run for office. It is evident that factional lines are drawn in the senatorial race and while I believe that I could be elected by avoiding this issue I do not want office on these terms. I have given the matter careful thought and I want everybody to know before-hand just how I stand. In order to get the warehouse bill made a law I had to reckon with the veto power of the governor, and without the assistance of the faction then in power I could not have moved a step. I have always recognized this obligation and do not intend to forget it. I would like to be in a position while I yet have the mental and physical strength to further develop the State warehouse system by establishing direct sales. I would also like to organize the machinery for State insurance, not only for cotton, but for other property. I would like to see a budget system for appropriations, so as to fix individual responsibility for the waste of tax money, such as is now going on in South Carolina. I have made up my mind, however, that I am not going to keep my mouth shut nor compromise my convictions for the sake of any office on earth. Should I go on the stump this summer I shall unhesitatingly say that I regard the election of either ex-Governor Bleas or Senator Tillman as a stupendous blunder. So far as the State is concerned it will establish more firmly than ever the present factional lines and whoever is elected governor will necessarily have to line up on one side or the other. This I absolutely refuse to do. Outside of the local issue the consequences are more far-reaching. The attitude of Governor Bleas before the war has been bitterly hostile to the present federal administration. Everybody who knows him understands his attitude toward the questions relating to the war and that he will go any length once he has the power to obstruct the policies of Woodrow Wilson. He is bold and has great ability in certain lines, his advent into the senate would greatly strengthen La Follette and a "little group of willful senators" who are doing all in their power to hamper the conduct of a war upon whose results depends the future not only of America, but mankind everywhere. I could not make campaign speeches and dodge this issue. I cannot by silence make myself a party to a national calamity of this character. Senator Tillman is incapacitated by physical weakness for the strenuous work now required. I am glad to be able to say that I am sincerely sorry for this, and in spite of the unjust treatment that I have received at his hands, were he physically fit to perform the duties, I would rise above personal resentment and say that he should be left where he is. This talk about "dying in harness" is all rot. A broken down horse "dying in harness" is cruelty to animals; it is more merciful to loose the traces, knock off the shoes and turn him out in the pasture to ruminate on things that have been and are to be. It takes a strong horse to "tote" his side of the singletree in these perilous days. It is unfair to the balance of the team when the load is heavy and the pace so fast to be handicapped by bog spavin and heaves in an old horse which won't work at all unless he is in the lead. The work is too heavy now for a spike team, though that is better

WHY SUBS WERE LET LOOSE.

Dutch Paper Publishes Illuminative Secret Document.

Amsterdam, Feb. 1.—The Handelsblad today published a series of documents obtained secretly from German archives, showing the steps which led to the adoption by Germany of her unrestricted submarine campaign a year ago. The following is a summary of the documents: "At the close of 1915 the German admiralty prepared a memorandum to show that unrestricted U-boat warfare would compel Great Britain to sue for peace within six months." The wording of the memorandum indicates that the admiralty had already decided to adopt this intensified warfare, but desired to convince the emperor, the imperial chancellor and the foreign office of the certainty of the good results on economic and general grounds rather than merely on military grounds. Accordingly, the memorandum based its arguments on statistics of food prices, freight and insurance rates in Great Britain. It pointed out the effect which even the restricted submarine warfare had shown on prices of the essential commodities on the balance of trade and on the morale of the English people. The memorandum first was submitted to Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, the imperial chancellor; and then to Dr. Karl Helfferich, vice chancellor. The latter rejected it on the ground that it was impossible to set a limit on England's staying power and the absence of authentic estimates of her stock on hand, also because he feared the action, which would result from neutrals, especially the United States.

Internal Situation.

The authors of the memorandum then sent a reply in which they pointed out the gravity of the internal situation in Germany and assured Dr. Helfferich that a desperate remedy was necessary. They reinforced their argument as to the seriousness of the internal state of affairs by calling in nine experts, representing German finance, commerce, mining and agriculture.

These experts included Waldemar Müller, president of the Dresden bank; Dr. Salomonsoh, director of the Discontent Gesellschaft; Paul Reusch, Prussian councillor of commerce; Dr. Springoru, iron and railway magnate; Max Schinkel, president of the Hamburg Norddeutsche bank, and Herr Zuckschwardt, counsellor of commerce of Magdeburg.

As experts, these men were invited to reply to three questions:

First, what would the effect on England be of an unrestricted submarine warfare; second, what be the effect on Germany's relations with the United States and other neutrals, and, third, to what extent did the internal situation of Germany demand the use of this drastic weapon. All the experts agreed on the first point that England would have to sue for peace in almost six months.

than a horse that won't even try to pull, bites his mate and kicks at everything in sight. I am not going to help harness either team. What is the use? One horse is not able and the other will not pull a load with Woodrow Wilson as a driver, and we can't get a new driver (even if we wanted to) for the next two years. It is a bad plan, anyway, when you have to change drivers to suit a horse. My experience is that a horse more interested in kicking the driver off the seat than in pulling the load won't work with any driver and will make every horse in the team balky before he is through. Then, too, we now need Gatling guns instead of old rusty worn-out pitchforks. I know this letter will offend many of my friends and I regret it from the bottom of my heart, but if they live long enough they will see that I am right as they have found out before when they differed with me. I am saying what I feel to be my duty, and if every political friend I have turns against me it will not be the first time that a sense of duty has left me alone without a party or political faction. I feel that I am capable of rendering good service to the people of South Carolina, but I am not going to dodge an important issue in order to obtain political support. I am in the middle of the road unfettered by factional alignments of any kind. Those who desire to be of real service to South Carolina must be courageous and unselfish or our petty factional squabbles will continue to make us the laughing stock of the nation. Respectfully, JOHN L. McLaurin.

IN THE PALMETTO STATE

SOME OCCURRENCES OF VARIOUS KINDS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

State News Boiled Down for Quick Reading.—Paragraphs About Men and Happenings.

The house last week passed and sent to the senate an ironclad prohibition bill, the only exception being that the manufacture of five gallons of home made wine annually is permitted.

A. G. Thompson, of Charleston, president of the State Federation of Labor, has sent to the State senate a protest against suspension of labor laws during the war, as was advocated by Governor Manning.

J. G. Harrell, an Atlantic Coast Line roadmaster, was run down by a passenger train Monday afternoon, and instantly killed. Harrell was traveling on his motor car during a dense fog and the train was on him before he saw it.

AUSTRIANS CAUGHT ASLEEP.

First Rush Against the Huns Made at 3 O'clock A. M.

Italian Headquarters in Northern Italy, Jan. 30.—Eye-witnesses of the Italian attack of the past few days on the Asiago plateau tell a story of thrilling interest. From their account it appears that the first Italian rush was in the darkness at 9 o'clock Monday morning. The sleeping enemy forces were taken completely by surprise. The Alpini were in the thick of this fighting and by daylight they had swept the first line trenches and taken an old church which formed a strategic point in the enemy line of defense. They were vigorously supporting the heroic Sassari brigade, which took and retook the height of Col Del Rosso three times against the stubborn, desperate resistance of the enemy.

To Screen Main Movement.

Those early movements were a diversion to screen the main movement on the right where a stroke was delivered for the dominating height of Monte Di Val Bella. It was here that the most severe fighting occurred through Monday night and in the early hours of Tuesday. Italian storming troops took the eastern and western slopes and by 7 o'clock Tuesday morning had cut their way to the summit and were establishing themselves firmly in definite control of the key position.

It was hard to hand fighting up the slopes, with heavy losses on the Austrian side and the enemy clearly at a disadvantage.

Singular Feature.

A singular feature of the struggle was supplied by a considerable Italian force which fought its way far beyond the first day's objective and was such a distance within the enemy's lines that the troops were given up for lost. When the final charge was made up Monte Di Val Bella, this Italian force disengaged itself from the enemy encirclement and took an important part in the final capture of the summit. Throughout the day yesterday the enemy sought to redeem the situation by bringing forward large reinforcements and it is estimated that fifty new batteries were added to his fighting line. But his efforts to move the infantry led to such confusion that all his counter-attacks were rendered abortive. Austrian prisoners declared that the reserves hurrying forward were met by steady streams of beaten troops moving backward until all orderly formations were broken up. Attempts to merge the fresh troops with the decimated front line units only added to the confusion.

Virtually Destroyed.

According to prisoners the twenty-first Schutzen division of Austrians and the 101st Austrian landstrum division were practically destroyed, while the 90th and 52nd mountain brigades were similarly decimated.

The large percentage of officers among the prisoners is a noticeable feature, and the casualties show a similar heavy proportion of officers.

No exact information is available as to the number of casualties, but the total mounts high for the enemy. Besides yielding a considerable number of prisoners and war materials, the engagement resulted in restoring the Italian lines to the dominating position they occupied before the enemy made his forward movement in this sector just before Christmas.

Read The Herald, \$1.50 a year.

CRUM FOR DEFENSE COUNCIL.

Speaks Very Plainly in Advocating Measure in the House.

Columbia, Feb. 1.—There were several tense moments in the house of representatives this afternoon when some of the members objected to what they believed were disparaging remarks made against some of the personnel of that body by Mr. Crum, of Bamberg, in the course of his discussion of the measure legalizing the State council of defense. Mr. Crum satisfactorily explained his criticisms.

The Bamberg member said, in his opinion, opposition to the measure sprang from three sources: Those unfamiliar with the objects and the aims of the council, those opposed to it from political reasons, and those who are against the government in this war. Mr. Crum said that those who were against the bill through lack of knowledge and who, when their doubts had been cleared away and they were fully cognizant of the work and the aims of the council, if they still opposed the measure they were leagued against this government.

Mr. Long, of Greenville, Mr. McLaurin, of Marlboro, and others wanted the speaker to explain just what he meant. Mr. Crum said that he desired to cast no aspersion on any individual; what he desired to impart was that, after the bill had been amended in whatsoever manner the house desired, then if a member was opposed to it because he did not desire a State council of defense, that member was not wholeheartedly behind the government in the prosecution of the war.

The measure was still under debate when the house adjourned at 2 o'clock to reconvene next Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Apparently, judging from the conversation of the members in the hall and the lobby of the house of representatives, opposition to the bill creating the State council of defense is gradually dying down. Some of the members object to legislating the present personnel into office and the amount of appropriation asked, but opposition to the council as such has not made its appearance. There is no political significance in the fight on the original bill, as members of both the Bleas and the anti-Bleas factions are lined up against the present personnel and the amount of appropriation, and the partisans of each side are for the passage of the measure as prepared by the legislative committee of the State council. It is thought that the ways and means committee amendments providing for the selection of one member of the council from each county and the reduction of the appropriation from \$50,000 to \$25,000 will not be acceded to by the general assembly.

When the bill legalizing the State council of defense was reached today J. Howard Moore, of Abbeville, moved to adjourn debate until 3:25 p. m. Tuesday. Mr. Moore said he did not know whether he was in favor of the measure or not, but several members of the house who are interested in the bill were absent and they should be considered before the measure was voted upon.

The house, by a vote of 37 to 39, refused to postpone debate on the measure.

Mr. Crum, of Bamberg, said that the bill should be passed, particularly as Secretary of War Baker had urged the State council of defense as a war necessity. Objections to the bill can be grouped under three heads said Mr. Crum: First, that it is not doing any good; second, dislike to the personnel of the council; and third, objection to the appropriation.

The Bamberg member said that the publicity given the State by the State council of defense and its efforts to counteract German propaganda justified that body's existence. He told of the splendid work done in the second liberty loan and the Y. M. C. A. campaigns and the achievements accomplished by the body. The first liberty loan canvass was a failure; the second campaign was taken in charge by the State council of defense and the loan was over-subscribed 55 per cent. In South Carolina, said Mr. Crum, who claimed that sufficient funds should be given the council. He said that poor men are connected with the council, men who are leaders in intellect and patriotism, but who have not the money to spare for their expenses when they attend meetings.

The personnel of the present council, to which there is so much objection, consists of some of the leading men of the State, asserted the

AMERICAN GUNS THUNDER

ANSWER GERMANS SHELL FOR SHELL.

Two Americans Killed and Nine are Wounded.—Germans Used Barrage Fire.

With the American Army in France February 3.—A German barrage fire at sundown last night opened the heaviest bombardment of many days along the American sector, the American artillery replying shell for shell as the firing of heavy guns spread along several kilometres of the front.

Two Americans Killed.

Two Americans were killed and nine wounded during the bombardment and one suffered shell shock.

It was ascertained today that the American gunners had wrecked several of the enemy dugouts and so badly damaged the first line positions that at one point the Germans were unable to occupy them Sunday.

Concentrated Fire.

When the bombardment had reached its greatest intensity, the Germans suddenly concentrated their fire at two points throwing about 250 shells into a town in which the headquarters of a certain regiment are located.

After the bombardment a wounded soldier was discovered in a position where it was necessary to carry him over a trench to a field dressing station. A medical corps man displayed the Red Cross and the Germans ceased firing until the man was removed.

Early in the day an American was wounded by a sniper.

On the Lorraine Front.

With American Army in France, Saturday, Feb. 2.—American troops are now occupying a sector of the Lorraine front. The military censor has permitted publication of this announcement.

The correspondents permanently accredited to the American army have been informed they may proceed to virtually any point within the zone of fire, except the trenches, without escort, and without special permission. Arrangements were made today whereby newspaper men may proceed to any brigade headquarters a few kilometres behind the trenches after first reporting their presence within the zone to the headquarters of the division of which the brigade is a part. Unless there is some occurrence which makes it advisable in the opinion of the brigade commander for correspondents to move nearer the front they may walk from his headquarters to regimental headquarters behind the lines.

Since all roads immediately behind the front are within easy German gun range and under German observation, not more than two correspondents may move forward together. They must wear gas masks, in alert positions, and helmets. Newspaper men must obtain special permission to visit the trenches and must be accompanied by an escorting officer.

The fact that American troops were in the trenches in Lorraine was revealed by the German war officer three months ago, according to an official German announcement, the Americans were on the front at the Rhine-Marne canal which intersects the battle line near the German border, due east of Nancy. This announcement was made in the official report from Berlin of the first German raid on the American positions, in which three Americans were killed, five wounded and twelve captured.

The eastern end of the battle line in France and Belgium runs through French and German Lorraine. French Lorraine, in which is the American sector, is included in the departments of Meuse, the capital of which is Verdun; Meurthe-et-Moselle, whose capital is Nancy, and Vosges, with the capital at Epinal. The length of the front in French Lorraine is about 150 miles. This section of the battle line extends into the Meuse from the Marne near St. Menould, and runs eastward to the north of Verdun.

They are leaders in every walk of life and are giving unstinted service to the State. The council is non-partisan, harmonious in its deliberations and unpolitical in its work. He claimed that the adoption of the committee amendment requiring one man from each county would rid the council of some of its strongest men, as several of them come from the same counties. It was brought out that the council spent \$3,718.41 since its inception.

FARMER KILLS ANOTHER.

M. C. Kirkland Says He Shot L. N. Jefcoat to Defend His Home.

Lexington, Feb. 3.—L. N. Jefcoat, a well-known farmer of the Edisto section of Lexington county, was shot and mortally wounded by M. Cordie Kirkland, a large and successful planter, the shooting having taken place within thirty yards of the home of Kirkland on Friday night about 7 o'clock. Jefcoat, with five buckshot wounds in the arm and back, was rushed to the Baptist hospital in Columbia, at 3 o'clock Saturday morning.

Everything possible was done for the wounded man, but death came at about 8 o'clock Saturday night. Kirkland was brought to the county jail by Sheriff Miller on Saturday afternoon, where he will remain until bond is arranged, in the event that bond is secured.

It seems that Jefcoat had been going to the Kirkland premises two nights in a week for a year or longer, without the knowledge of Kirkland, and that two or three weeks ago Kirkland became acquainted with the alleged arrangement carried out on Tuesday and Friday nights. Kirkland, enraged, it appears, at what he thought was going on around his premises, planned for the coming of Jefcoat on Friday night. Kirkland, it is said, lay in wait for Jefcoat, who soon appeared in the darkness, at or near a hay stack some thirty yards from the home of Kirkland. Seeing Kirkland coming, according to the information received, Jefcoat began to move in the darkness and Kirkland raised his gun and fired. Both barrels of the gun were emptied, only the second, however, taking effect. Jefcoat screamed in agony, but went to the home of a negro some 200 yards distant, where he remained until the arrival of relatives and friends.

When seen at the county jail today ad asked for a statement, Kirkland declared that he had nothing to give out at this time; that he had not employed counsel and until he had done so he would not give out anything. He expressed much regret, though, over the necessity, as he said, of protecting his home, and especially did he regret the cause which led up to the tragedy. Mr. Kirkland is forty-nine years of age, is one of the largest and most successful planters in the county and has a wife and eight children, five sons and three daughters. He stands well in the community where he resides.

The dead man was about fifty-five years of age and also has a wife and several children. He also had a great many friends. Since Jefcoat died in Richland county it is presumed that the inquest will be conducted by the coroner of Richland county. Sheriff Miller was immediately notified of Jefcoat's death and left for Columbia to be present at the inquest.

This is the first homicide to occur in Lexington county in several years where all the parties connected are prominent.

south to St. Mihel and east to the German border. Then it turns to the southeast and almost parallels the border to the vicinity of Leinty. Below Leinty it cuts across a section of French soil, past Badonville and Senones and to the east of St. Die, and again crosses the German border at a point west of Colmar. The remainder of the line to the Swiss boundary is in Germany.

Since the battle of Verdun there has been no fighting of great importance along this front. For the most part it runs through high and broken country.

Whole Sector Resounds With Guns.

With the American Army in France, Feb. 2.—The whole American sector is resounding with the boom of guns. Airmen became exceedingly active along the American front on Saturday. Enemy snipers wounded two Americans slightly early this morning.

A shift of the wind today cleared away the mist which has hindered aerial operations and other activities for several days. A number of battles in the air were fought by patrolling planes early this evening. In one instance the French aviators defeated an attempt of German fliers to cross behind the American trenches.

The artillery and snipers have become increasingly active. American 75's are harassing traffic behind the enemy trenches. The Germans are confining their fire largely to American trenches. Throughout Friday night machine guns rattled ceaselessly from German positions.