

Commission Okehs Branchville Road

At a meeting of the state highway commission Tuesday, the official okeh was placed on the Branchville highway from Bamberg to the Edisto river. This means that the contract will be let at once, it is understood, for the construction of this much wanted and long needed piece of county roadway.

The building of this link of the Charleston and Augusta highway has been before the state highway commission for several months past. The road was approved for federal aid by the commission last fall, and the county authorities made the necessary arrangements to finance Bamberg's half of the expenses, but the failure of the commission to advertise for bids for the work was due to the fact that the commission insisted upon Bamberg building the bridge over the Salkehatchie river before going into the Branchville road project. The legislative delegation, the supervisor and the commissioners of this county, however, felt that the Branchville road could not afford to wait, and that the Salkehatchie bridge could, and therefore insisted on going ahead with the road as originally planned, as the county did not have the available money to go into both projects at the present time. The county authorities have been trying for some time to get the commission to see the matter in this light, and again put it up to the commission Tuesday, with the result that the commission has waived the Salkehatchie bridge project for the time, with the understanding that it must be gone into at the earliest possible date.

It is a matter of intense satisfaction to the residents of the county who traverse the Branchville road to know that the work will now be proceeded with, as this is one of the county's most important highways, and the road is in a terrible condition, it being frequently necessary to make a wide detour in going to Branchville from Bamberg by vehicle.

At the same time it is a matter of satisfaction to know that the Salkehatchie bridge will soon be constructed. The bridge over that river will complete the Columbia to Savannah highway through Bamberg county, the balance of the highway either having been completed or under construction. It is understood that a concrete bridge, reinforced with steel, is planned at this point. Allendale has completed the installation of concrete bridges and culverts in its portion of the Salkehatchie river swamp road, and also about completed the road from the river to Sycamore, giving a continuous road from that place almost through to Columbia, the entire distance of which has been or will be built with federal aid. It is estimated that it will cost Bamberg county \$5,000 to finance its portion of the bridge project.

INJUNCTION FOR TELEPHONE CO.

Judge Smith Grants Temporary Order Pending Final Hearing.

Charleston, April 5.—United States District Judge Henry A. M. Smith Tuesday afternoon granted a temporary interlocutory injunction against the state railroad commission and the attorney general of South Carolina on the petition of the Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph company, which charges that the law signed by Gov. Robert A. Cooper is confiscatory.

Judge Smith requires the company to give bond in the sum of \$100,000 pending the result of the hearing on Friday, April 14, when it will also be decided whether "the matter shall be heard by the three judges" as provided in the judicial code. Should the telephone company lose the case it will be required to reimburse any subscribers who overpay to maximum amounts allowed by the new South Carolina statute. The law signed yesterday in Columbia by Governor Cooper overrules the state railroad commission's order allowing the present maximum telephone rates and prescribes that the maximum rates be those which were in force after the period of government control.

Spring suits for men and young men. Right styles; right prices, at W. D. Rhoad's.—adv.

SERIES OF FIRES IN BEAUFORT.

Incendiary Origin Suspected by Some. War on Bootleggers.

Beaufort, April 6.—At 9 o'clock last night fire was discovered at the grocery store of Mayor Kinghorn. At 9:30 two United States marines were arrested for having liquor in their possession. At 10 o'clock the rooms of J. M. Wargo were raided, liquor found and Wargo arrested. The marines reported him as having sold it to them. At 11:45 o'clock the alarm was sent in for a fire that totally destroyed the Beaufort Gazette printing plant.

At midnight Mrs. Van Smith, wife of Dr. Van Smith, died at her home as result of shock caused by The Gazette fire a block away. At 12:30 o'clock another fire was discovered at the Kinghorn store.

The tragedy of Mrs. Van Smith's death saddens the community. She is survived by her husband, who is a prominent Mason; son, Capt. Claude C. Smith, a daughter, Mrs. W. H. Sligh, of Birmingham, and a sister, Mrs. Mollie Boozer, of Newberry. She lived with her family for many years in Newberry, moving to Beaufort a little over a year ago.

The estimate of the loss of The Gazette plant is \$12,000, with approximately \$6,000 insurance. No cause for the fire is known, though incendiarism is suspected. The plant will be rebuilt at once. The principal owner is Niels Christensen.

The damage to Mayor Kinghorn's store was slight. No reason for this attack on his property is known, though his vigorous efforts to suppress bootleggers have been resented by some, in which effort the Gazette has joined.

NOT AMONG ELIGIBLES.

Blackville Postmaster Not Included in First Three.

Washington, April 6.—The certified list from the examination held some time ago for the postmastership at Blackville, S. C., shows that the present acting postmaster, George L. Magruder, appointed acting postmaster on the recommendation of Republican National Committeeman Tolbert, did not get among the eligibles, the first three being Harry A. Rich, Gerald L. Weissinger, and Milledge Hankinson. When the late Postmaster B. J. Hammett died, his widow was made acting postmaster by the inspector from the department, but she was superseded by Magruder, who was formerly a resident of Savannah. Magruder cannot be appointed as postmaster under the presidential "civil service" order, but he will draw the salary as long as he remains in his present "acting" status.

FORMER SOLDIER SLAIN.

Richard Peay Dies at Hands of Comrade—Had Room Together.

Chester, April 10.—Richard Peay, a well known young man of this city and a veteran of the World war, was shot and instantly killed by Joseph P. Queen, also a veteran of the World war, about 2:20 o'clock this morning at the Gladden apartments on Hudson street, conducted by Mrs. Maggie Adams, a sister of the dead man. One shot, which was evidently the first, struck Peay in the nose, and penetrated the brain; another went through the heart; a third pierced the abdomen. Another went wild.

Coroner J. Henry Gladden was notified at once of the homicide and empanelled a jury, which viewed the remains, and will meet tomorrow morning at the court house at 9:30 o'clock to hold the inquest. Dr. George A. Hennies performed the autopsy.

Queen was a member of company F, One Hundred and Eighteenth infantry, Thirtieth division. He was sent to the Pryor hospital here for treatment, and had undergone an operation for appendicitis. Recently he had injured his side and had been forced to return to the hospital. He is learning the shoemaker's trade, and was employed in the shoe repair shop.

The young men were both lodgers at Mrs. Adams's and were roommates.

"Shelmore," nature's great egg maker. Get it at W. D. Rhoad's.—adv.

Urges the Women to Attend Club Meetings

To the women of Bamberg county: Please allow me to call your attention to the fact that the various Democratic clubs are to meet the fourth Saturday of this month for re-organization and to elect delegates to the county conventions, which will be held on Monday, May the 1st. Since the average voter comes into direct contact with the management of her party only at the club meetings, it is urged that every woman who has attained her majority, or who will become twenty-one years of age before the general election in November, attend the meeting which will be held in her precinct on April 22nd.

Of course, it is taken for granted that each club in electing delegates to the county convention will provide for a fair representation of women, but, since time immemorial, it has been the custom to select men only, this provision may be overlooked unless women are present as a reminder that they, also, are citizens. Then, too, the delegation chosen by the county convention to the state convention should be composed of both men and women; and a woman as well as a man, should be selected to represent the county on the State Democratic Executive committee. The Democratic party now requires that the National Executive committee shall comprise two members, a man and a woman, from each state, Mrs. Julian B. Calley, of Aiken, being our representative.

In conclusion, let me say that the nineteenth amendment gives the vote alike to the women who wanted it and to the woman who thought she did not want it, neither has a right to neglect it. It now becomes just as much the duty of every woman in South Carolina to use her ballot for the public welfare as it has for generations been the duty of our men to employ the franchise for the best interests of the state. Shall we prove less mindful and worthy of the trust than they?

(MRS. RICHARD) ANNIE DANIELS WILLIAMS,
Chairman South Carolina League of Women Voters.

CONDITION STATE BANKS.

Bank Examiner Makes Figures Public as of March 10.

Columbia, April 7.—The new gas of James H. Craig, state bank examiner, of the condition of state banks as of business March 10, shows that the total surplus for the state is \$7,680,828.45; undivided profits, \$2,779,665.21; individual deposits subject to check, \$45,354,612.65; savings deposits, \$34,386,048.54; demand and time certificates of deposits, \$15,836,815.32; loans and discounts amount to \$116,369,983.89; overdrafts to \$982,960.42; liberty bonds owned by banks, \$4,740,659.08, and bonds and stock owned by banks, \$4,920,194.34.

The statement is the consolidation of the condition of 372 state banks, fifteen branch banks and one private bank.

DESTROY AGED STILL.

Negro Claims Outfit Above Hundred Years Old.

Anderson, April 7.—When Ward Huckabee was questioned as to making whiskey after having been found with a still in the fireplace he told the officers that "I was just making a little liquor for grandma." Then he said that his copper still, which exactly fitted into an old fashioned log fireplace, had been in the family for more than 100 years, and that they had always made a little whiskey when they needed it. The "grandma" spoken of is an old woman 84 years of age, and needed a little whiskey for medicine. The age of the outfit did not keep the officers from destroying it, although they stated that it looked every bit as old as the man claimed.

Infected With Leprosy.

Richmond, April 7.—William M. Skipper, 27, who was brought here from Marion, S. C., for examination, has been found infected with leprosy, according to the city bureau of health today. He has a wife and one child living at East Marion, S. C. Aid of the federal government will be sought to have him removed from this city.

Cope Citizens Vote Bonds for School

Cope, April 7.—By a vote of 62 for bonds and 46 against bonds, the election to decide whether or not this school district would issue bonds to the amount of \$30,000 for the erection of a new and more modern school building in Cope was carried Thursday. Much interest was shown, both sides leaving no stone unturned in an effort to carry out their wishes.

The poll list was considerably increased by the women having registered a month ago but in consideration of the requirements of the law regarding voting there were many ineligible on account of them not having paid their taxes by December 31, 1921, that the election was practically decided by a handful of women.

The managers of election were: G. E. Griffith, J. D. Cleckley and J. B. Ashe. Everything passed off quietly and in an orderly manner. The board of school trustees of this district consists of S. B. Cope, E. E. Ritter and J. I. Valentine.

WEEVILS LIVING IN TREES.

Cotton Pest Found Hibernating in New and Original Quarters.

The following clipping taken from the Timmonsville Enterprise, was handed to the Herald by S. S. Carroll:

"The berry of the chinaberry tree has been discovered to be the winter hibernating and propagating quarters of the boll weevil, according to a number of farmers who have come to the Enterprise office during the past few days.

"H. E. Parnelle, of Oates, came in on Saturday of last week and stated that he had discovered them in the berries on his trees in large quantities, practically all of the berries being punctured and on the inside weevils in all stages of growth, from the tiniest grub to fully developed weevils. As soon as I discovered that the weevil was using the berries for winter quarters while they raised their families, I immediately cut down every tree, gathered up the berries and boiled them in a big wash pot," stated Mr. Parnelle.

"J. Ivy Hill was in town Tuesday and stated that at least 75 per cent. of the berries on his umbrella china trees were punctured, and in them were weevils at all stages of life. He brought with him a handful of berries he had gathered at the home of A. H. Askins. Upon opening them it was found that practically every one of them contained a small grub, which is believed to be a boll weevil. "The editor of the Enterprise sent a number of these berries to Clemson college for expert opinion."

PLUCKING THE RUBES.

Havana Sharpers Play Visitors for Suckers.

"Every American in Havana has a scheme to make your fortune and his, too," said a recently returned American, according to the New York Sun "It makes no difference whether your capital is \$2 or a million times that sum, you can find a proposition that will need just the amount you can raise.

"For \$2 or \$3 you can buy a hive of bees; the bees will swarm the next day and you will have two hives. Keep this process up a few weeks and you will have a thousand hives, and as bees can work the year round in Cuba, flowers being continuously in bloom, each hive will make you \$25 and a thousand hives mean \$25,000 a year. A neat income even in an expensive resort like Havana.

"If you have a few hundred dollars you will be advised to go into the chicken business and your adviser will tell you how eggs sell at 6 or 8 cents a piece—they don't sell them by the dozen in Havana—and each hen will therefore earn \$12 to \$15 yearly, while her board will be \$3.80 or some such sum.

If your fortune is up in the thousands you are advised to go into the lumber business and you will be told of the tremendous demand for poles on which to hang tobacco while it is being cured. The American who is explaining the huge profits from these enterprises usually does his talking in a cafe and does his figuring on top of the marble topped tables. The table tops are covered with figures on a busy day until a waiter comes around with a damp towel and wipes off the tables and obliterates the fortunes."

Diogenes in Town.

Diogenes was peering about the byways of New York. In his hand he bore an electric flashlight.

"What are you looking for now, old fellow?" some one asked. "An honest man?"

"No," replied the old gentleman hopelessly, "I've lost a prescription."

Alleged Highwaymen Are Bested in Fight

Orangeburg, April 6.—J. S. Bardin, magistrate at Elloree, and W. L. Ballard, his constable, lodged two alleged highwaymen in the county jail today. Last night about 9 o'clock two men appeared at the home of E. L. Bull, who lives about five miles from Elloree, and asked Mr. Bull to carry them to Parlers to catch a train, saying that their ear had broken down. This, Mr. Bull consented to do, and when they reached the Vance Mill dam, which is dark and secluded spot, the two started to beat Mr. Bull with their hands, it is alleged. Then they tried to choke him. Mr. Bull got his knife out and cut both severely on their wrists. Mr. Bull then got out his revolver and shot one man in the ear and the other in the foot. They were badly cut in other places. Mr. Bull was badly beaten up and cut up. The alleged highwaymen also had guns, but did not use them. The men gave their names as Stuart Coy, of Harrisburg, Penn., and John A. Robinson, of Blackstone, N. D. The men were given medical attention at the jail here today. It is thought they will remain in jail until the May term of criminal court. They would make no statements.

OFFICERS SHOOT BAD NEGRO.

Dead Man Fired Recently Upon Two Sumter Policemen.

Sumter, April 6.—Willie Durant, negro, at whose hands Sumter police Officers J. M. Lawrence and J. H. Durant narrowly escaped death when they were wounded by him on March 18, forfeited his life this morning when he resisted arrest by Sumter county officials.

Word was received here about 8:30 o'clock that Durant had been seen about four miles from town and immediately a party consisting of Police Chief Barwick, Officers A. D. Owens, J. P. Shockley, W. H. Strange, J. D. Chandler and Trial Justice Deputy R. S. Griffin, set out to the place. A house was searched first on the farm of F. L. Boudon and then the party went through swamps to another negro house situated on the land of H. C. Haynesworth. The house was surrounded by the officers armed with rifles and a negro sent in to tell Durant that if he came out with his hands up he would be protected and lodged safely in jail.

Durant did not come out immediately, but after a short interval appeared at a back door with a pistol in his right hand. He was immediately shot down, eight bullets taking effect in his body and death coming instantly. His pistol was fully loaded and 34 extra bullets were found in his pocket.

Durant had a record for lawlessness besides his attempt on the different officers here. He had escaped from the Florence county chaingang, where he was serving a five year sentence for having wrecked a train of the Atlantic Coast Line road. The Seaboard Air Line had since then offered a reward for him for the alleged wrecking of a train. He wore at the time of his death a diamond ring which his been identified.

SERIOUS CHARGE AT INQUEST.

Case of an Alleged Criminal Practice Considered.

Charleston, April 8.—At a coroner's inquest held yesterday afternoon at McAdister's undertaking establishment, the jury found that the death of a young woman on Wednesday was from "acute fibrino-purulent peritonitis, said peritonitis being caused by the operation of a criminal abortion with instruments in the hand of William William B. Ackerman." "We also find," the jury said, "that Mrs. Margaret G. Ferbee is an accessory to the fact."

It was testified that the deceased had come to Charleston to visit relatives, at whose residence the alleged criminal operation was performed. Her death occurred after she had been removed to a hospital. At the inquest, Dr. Ackerman, whose home is in Walterboro, testified as to the services that he had performed in the case, contending that he had caused nothing in the nature of an abortion.

It was stated after the inquest that he would be released on bond of \$1,000.

English government issued first postage stamp in 1840.

Father Uses Axe To Kill Children

Charlotte, N. C., April 9.—Ruby Lee Helms, thirteen years old, today saw her father, John Helms, forty, slay three of her little brothers and sisters in succession, with a wood axe, and then saw him deliberately blow off the top of his own head with a shotgun, according to the story she, the only witness, told Coroner Frank Hovis.

The quadruple tragedy occurred at the home of Helms, who occupied a tenant house on the farm of Robert Rice, eleven miles east of Charlotte, about 6:30 this morning.

Coroner Hovis said the evidence indicated that Helms had become suddenly insane, probably as a result of continued ill health, as he had been suffering from a chronic stomach disease and had appeared deeply depressed when talking with a brother a day or two ago about his "hopeless condition."

According to Ruby Lee Helms, she was walking about in the yard with the nine months old baby, Hazeline, while her mother prepared breakfast, when her father approached with an axe and with the handle knocked the baby from her arms; then he went into the house and, with the axe, brained two children in bed, while she looked on through a window, the two being Broncho, aged six and Bleeker, aged 4. He then grabbed a shotgun, went out into the yard, placed the muzzle against his cheek, the gun standing on the ground, reached down and pressed the trigger, with his thumb, the load blowing off the top of his head.

Mrs. Helms and another child in addition to Ruby Lee escaped, without injury and gave the alarm. The baby was taken to a hospital in Charlotte where it died about two hours later.

LAURENS FARMER SLAIN.

Thomas Duncan Kills Riley Hammond Thursday Morning.

Laurens, April 6.—Riley Hammond, a merchant of the Laurens Cotton Mills village, was shot and killed this morning by Thomas P. Duncan, a farmer residing near Madden station, about six miles southwest of Laurens, the homicide occurring at the home of Duncan. A single barreled shot gun was used and it is said three shots were fired by Duncan two of which took effect. Hammond lived about 15 minutes after being shot, but so far as known he made no statement.

Coroner R. R. Owings held the inquest this afternoon.

Lucius Burns, a transfer driver of Laurens, who was at the Duncan home when the shooting occurred, was the only witness examined. Burns testified that Hammond called the witness on the telephone early this morning and asked him to drive out to Duncan's home and bring Mrs. Duncan to the city to visit her people. When the witness arrived at the Duncan home, Hammond was standing in the yard. Hammond told the witness Mrs. Duncan would be ready in a few minutes. Burns heard loud talking in the house and a woman crying. He drove his car out toward the barn and then a gun shot was heard, followed by a second shot. Hammond came to Burns and said he had been shot and asked Burns to drive him to town. The witness saw the third shot as Duncan pushed his gun through a broken window pane and fired upon Hammond, this proving the fatal shot as Hammond fell in the yard with a wound in the head. The witness said Hammond had a pistol and one time during the enactment of the tragedy he had it in his hand.

Burns and a negro notified Rural Officer Boyd, who later brought Duncan to jail. Duncan had very little to say about the tragedy, the main statement being to the effect that Hammond had ruined his home. Duncan and Hammond were partners in operating the farm on which the former lived. Hammond was a native of Cross Anchor, Spartanburg county, and is survived by his widow and six children. He lived near Watts Mills.

Such a Closeness.

"Hear the new guy in charge of the canteen is pretty close," remarked the first gob.

"Close!" ejaculated the second, who had just come out of the S. R. O. line. "Say, that guy could swim across the Atlantic with an armful of eels and never lose one."