

High Taxes Main Topic at the County Convention

The part that the women of South Carolina will play in the politics of the future, and the influence they will exert on the affairs of state, was probably forecasted Monday at the county Democratic convention, when the one woman present as a delegate, Miss Lillie Cooper, of Denmark, introduced and had passed a resolution condemning the practice of the legislature of this state in holding sessions of that body on the Sabbath day. The predominant question before the convention was that of the alleged extravagance of the state government and the discussion of a resolution calling on the State Democratic convention to stand for the lowest possible appropriations of public funds to operate the state government. It seemed to be the unanimous opinion of those present that there must be material reductions and that the strictest economy must be practiced.

The convention was held at the court house in Bamberg Monday, meeting at 11 o'clock in the forenoon. Several clubs were not represented at the meeting, and it was plainly evident that politics are not bothering the people of Bamberg county to any very large extent now. What they were mostly interested in was a reduction of the tax burden and a protest against the continued making of new offices and the paying out of large sums of money to maintain departments that they considered, judging from the remarks of a number of delegates, as entirely useless.

The county chairman, Hon. J. F. Carter, called the meeting to order, and in brief remarks opening the convention, he said that the purpose of democracy is to uphold the right, protect the weak, and to secure the best men possible to uphold the interests of the state. He took occasion to commend the county executive committee, and complimented the committee on its purpose to uphold the purity of the county democracy. Mr. Carter, in welcoming into the convention the first woman delegate, said that he was proud and pleased that women have now taken their place in the ranks of voters and citizens, to perform the same functions and bear the same responsibilities of government as the men.

The chairman stated that the first business before the convention would be the selection of temporary officers. J. F. Carter was nominated for temporary chairman, and was elected without opposition. R. M. Hitt was elected temporary secretary, upon which Mr. Carter declared the convention was in readiness to enroll the delegates.

Delegates.
The following delegates were enrolled from the various clubs:

Bamberg—J. F. Carter, W. E. Free, Dr. J. B. Black, H. C. Folk, B. W. Miley, LaVerne Thomas, G. E. Bamberg, J. A. J. Rice, E. H. Henderson, Capt. W. S. Bamberg, G. W. Rantz, Jr., and S. S. Carroll. Messrs. Folk and Rice were absent, and J. Carl Kearse and J. A. Williams were enrolled in their stead.

Denmark—W. L. Riley, C. W. Garris, S. G. Mayfield, J. W. Crum, Jr., T. P. McCrae, Capt. J. B. Guess, Mrs. J. W. Crum, J. Arthur Wiggins, Capt. Guess and Mrs. Crum were absent and Miss Lillie Cooper was enrolled as an alternate.

Lees—
Hightower's—L. W. Abstance.
Govan—S. S. Williams, M. B. Kennedy, W. H. Collins. Mr. Kennedy was absent and J. E. Kennedy enrolled in his stead.

Olar—H. H. Kearse, Dr. L. A. Hartzog, B. P. Hartzog, C. H. Brabham, U. G. Milhous, C. F. Rizer, and J. G. Barker. Messrs. Kearse and Barker were absent, and S. E. Neeley was enrolled as an alternate.

Colston—R. D. Bishop, P. M. Varn, and G. A. McMillan.
Ehrhardt—Dr. J. L. Copeland, J. E. McMillan, J. C. Hiers, Dr. H. M. Brabham, G. J. Herndon, J. M. Kirkland, L. G. Yarley, J. J. Hiers, J. H. A. Carter. Dr. Brabham and Mr. Herndon were absent, and H. W. Chitty and W. D. Bennett were enrolled as alternates.

Hunter's Chapel—D. O. Hunter, J. W. Zeigler, and F. E. Steedly. Mr. Zeigler was absent and G. W. Hunter was enrolled in his stead.

Farrell's—
Kearse—J. A. Peters, Sr., J. O.

Ritter, and B. V. Kearse.
Midway—
Clear Pond—
Embree—R. F. Carter.
Springtown—G. M. McMillan and J. E. Free. Mr. McMillan was absent and W. P. McMillan was enrolled in his stead.

The chairman explained that the last named was a new club which applied for membership in the convention, duly organized with the election of officers and committees. On motion of W. E. Free the delegates from this club were seated in the convention.

On motion of J. B. Black that the names of the delegates as read constitute the county convention, the organization was completed, and the chairman declared the convention ready to transact business.

C. W. Garris, of Denmark, moved that the temporary officers be made permanent; the motion was carried. The county executive committee was enrolled as follows:

Executive Committee.
Bamberg—Capt. W. S. Bamberg.
Denmark—S. G. Mayfield.
Lees—
Hightower's—L. W. Abstance.
Govan—McP. Eubanks.
Olar—S. E. Neeley.
Colston—G. A. McMillan.
Ehrhardt—Dr. J. L. Copeland.
Hunter's Chapel—G. W. Hunter.
Farrell's—
Kearse—J. A. Peters.
Midway—
Little Swamp—
Clear Pond—
Embree—L. C. Kissam.
Springtown—W. C. Kearse.

The following resolutions were offered by Capt. W. S. Bamberg:

"Whereas, our state government for the past years has been increasing the taxes of this state until they have become almost unendurable, and

"Whereas, the coastal counties of the state have been ravaged by the boll weevil, and we expect little better crops of cotton than heretofore because of the appearance of the boll weevil and the consequent destruction of our agricultural interest. The people in the lower portion of the state have been unable to meet the taxes levied by the general assembly for 1921, and

"Whereas, the general assembly at its last session did not materially decrease its appropriations and refused to harken to the voice of the people;

"Therefore be it resolved that we, the democracy of Bamberg county, protest against the state levying such high taxes and reckless expenditures of public funds, and demand of our representatives to present our views to the Democratic convention soon to assemble in Columbia, and to urge upon that body to stand for the lowest appropriation of public funds, and the cutting of expenditures down to the lowest possible dollar."

An amendment was offered by J. H. A. Carter, and was accepted by Capt. Bamberg, this amendment being:

"Provided that no reduction be made in the appropriation for the public school system of the state."

Extravagance Scored.

In seconding the resolutions, S. G. Mayfield, of Denmark, made a vigorous defense of the sentiments contained in the paper. He said that in former years there was a sinking fund commission and that a sum of money was set aside each year to retire the state's debt; this commission reduced the bonded indebtedness about one million dollars, but the plan had been abandoned. The governor, said Mr. Mayfield, advocates a bond issue of ten millions; this added to the present bonded indebtedness will carry the sum to about fifteen millions. In addition there is a "floating" indebtedness of about four millions, carrying the total indebtedness to about nineteen and one-half millions. In Columbia, said he, there is an organized plan to develop Columbia, and they are trying to get a bond issue of 3 1/2 millions for the canal, all of which, if not stopped, will carry the state's debt to twenty-odd millions, or approximately one million dollars per year interest. Owing to the present condition of the government, there must either be another bond issue or a big decrease in state expenditures.

In 1904, Mr. Mayfield said, the

Cope Girls Allege Bricks Were Thrown

Cope, April 28.—The girls' basketball team of the Cope graded school went to Orangeburg Friday afternoon of last week to play the team that was over there the week before and although the game was not finished the score stood 9 to 7 in favor of Cope.

It is said that as the team was leaving some rude boys threw pieces of brick bats at them and that two of the girls were hit, one on the head and another on the hand. The bruises were said to be painful but not serious, although they could have proved serious. It is the sentiment of the Cope team that they cannot afford to play ball off from home with receptions like this.

It was stated here that this game came to an end when the Cope team refused to allow the Orangeburg team to substitute players which the latter team considered eligible to play. No reports of throwing of pieces of brickbats at the visiting team have been made here.—Orangeburg Times and Democrat.

state appropriations reached one million dollars; in 1920 they had increased to \$6,091,000; and that expenditures had doubled since 1918. The people cannot meet their taxes this year, he said, and the legislature had graciously extended the time for payment to September, but in September there will be the 1921 taxes and at almost the same time 1922 taxes will be due, and he saw no means by which the people will ever be able to catch up. The cry has gone up, he said, that we must not stop our public improvements, "but I say stop them until the people can get able to pay their taxes."

Mr. Mayfield said, "Since 1915 there has been an increase in salaries alone in this state of \$285,000." The University of South Carolina, he said, has on its payroll 130 employees, one for every 5 students in the college. The cost of educating one student in the university is about \$500 a year. "Is this an honest and economical administration of your affairs?"

At this point Mr. Carter offered the amendment that there should be no reduction in the appropriation for public schools, and C. W. Garris volunteered the statement that he thought even this item could be more economically administered. "There is such a thing as paying too much in salaries and administration expenses," he said.

Commends Bamberg Delegation.

Dr. L. A. Hartzog said that the county delegation to the general assembly should be commended for their efforts to reduce the appropriations. He made mention of the numerous commissions and boards that have been in recent years added to the state government, and said that he understood the state was paying rent for thirty-odd offices in one building in Columbia to house these various boards; these offices being filled with bookkeepers and stenographers who draw pay to "smoke cigarettes and chat pleasantly together."

Senator Black said that he had always sought to hold expenses down. There is a great army of employees all demanding salaries and expense accounts, he said. He made mention of one officer without mentioning the name who drew a salary of \$3,500 and had an expense account of \$1,900. There is a vast lobby in Columbia to keep these offices going, but the expense can be cut down and must be cut down. He favors everything coming down in accordance with the condition of the people.

J. Wesley Crum, Jr., did not think the big increases were due to corruption. He deplored the apathy of the people in regard to these matters.

The State Pays More.

J. Arthur Wiggins inquired why it is necessary for the state to spend \$600 to \$700 per capita to educate young people at state institutions while the denominational institutions are educating them for far less; Wofford spending \$177 per capita and Furman \$178. He would like a concise statement of this condition from some one who knows.

Representative Kearse did not defend the big appropriations; in fact, he said, the delegation favored reductions all along the line. He explained, though, that the appropriations were reduced last session by

Carlos Corbett Faces an Orangeburg Jury

Orangeburg, May 2.—Carlos Corbett was called to trial here today on a charge of murder in the second case of three murder indictments; this case being that for the killing of Julian Cooper. In September, 1920, Carlos Corbett was tried and acquitted for the killing of Bryan Salley. The case was called at 3:30 o'clock and the entire afternoon was taken in drawing the jury. The venire was exhausted and the jury was not completed until 7 o'clock. The counsel in the case are for the prosecution: Solicitor A. J. Hydrick, Thomas M. Raysor and Adam H. Moss; while Corbett is represented by Wolfe & Berry and J. Leroy Dukes, of Orangeburg; Cole L. Bleasie, and B. J. Wingard, of Columbia, and Mendel L. Smith, of Camden.

It will be recalled that about two years ago at about midnight on a Saturday, Carlos Corbett shot and instantly killed Bryant Salley, Jule Cooper and Hugh Fanning and blinded Jones Salley; that Corbett was at home and had been awakened by a fire in the road in front of his house that was set when Cooper, Fanning and the Salleys passed in an auto, and that upon the return by Corbett's house the fatal shooting took place. Corbett stated that he was acting in self defense and in defense of his castle and that he was attacked by Fanning, Salley and Cooper, while the prosecution states that Corbett was the aggressor in the affray.

During the past thirty years divoces in the United States have increased more than 500 per cent.

three-quarters of a million dollars. Of the appropriations the schools draw one and a half millions and the people would not hear to any further reduction in this item. In explaining the difficulty of getting reductions he gave an instance in the state welfare board, which, personally, he advocated abolishing. The board presented figures to show that it had saved the state \$10,000 in eliminating applicants for scholarships who were able to pay their way; this statement may or may not be correct, but it had weight with most of the legislators. He is satisfied appropriations are too high and that taxes are too high, but said that Bamberg has one of the smallest levies in the state.

Representative Riley also favors lowering of appropriations, but told of some of the difficulties in the way of getting reductions. It was made plain, however, in all the talks that Bamberg's delegation had worked consistently and voted likewise to keep down expenses, and there was no word of criticism against them. On being put to a vote, the resolutions were adopted.

Want State Candidates to Help.

The following resolution was offered by S. G. Mayfield and adopted: The state convention be called to the increased expenses of our primary and to urge a proper adjustment between the county and the state candidates.

"Resolved, that the attention of Hon. J. F. Carter was reelected county chairman without opposition, and J. A. Wiggins was reelected state executive committeeman, and also named as a member of the credentials committee.

The following delegates were elected to the state convention: S. G. Mayfield, J. F. Carter, C. W. Garris, J. H. A. Carter, J. Arthur Wiggins, and E. H. Henderson. It was moved and carried that if any delegate finds that he cannot attend the state convention he shall notify the delegation to the convention and suggest an alternate to take his place. Under the rules it is not necessary that the county convention shall name alternates.

The last business of the convention was the adoption of the resolution offered by Miss Cooper as follows:

"Resolved, that this convention ask the state convention to insist that the general assembly of South Carolina shall not hold any sessions on the Sabbath day."

Miss Cooper addressed the convention in favoring the passage of this resolution, stating that the county convention should go on record as standing for the right at all times, and that the law makers should set a good example by observing the law to the letter. The resolution was unanimously adopted. There being no further business, the convention adjourned.

Dismiss Appeal of Gappins Because of Lack of Merit

SUGGESTS AGRICULTURAL AID.

War Finance Head Proposes Remedies—Sent to President.

Washington, April 30.—Legislation to provide six remedies for defects in the agricultural credit system of the country was recommended to President Harding today by Eugene Meyer, Jr., managing director of the war finance corporation in a report based upon his recent survey of conditions in the west.

Pending enactment of the proposed legislation and the erection of required machinery for its administration, Mr. Meyer recommended that the period during which the corporation might make loans be extended to January 1, 1923. As remedial measures he commended:

Enactment of legislation specifically organizing the organization of institutions of rediscount the paper of live stock loan companies, and the establishment of a system for the more adequate supervision and inspection of live stock which furnishes security for the paper.

Frank recognition of the need for the orderly marketing of agricultural products in a more gradual way and over a longer period, and the adjustment of existing banking laws and regulations with this end in view.

Establishment of a rediscount facility to make it possible at all times for cooperative marketing organizations to obtain adequate funds for their operations.

Extension of the powers of the federal reserve banks to include the purchase in the open market of eligible paper secured by non-perishable agricultural commodities properly warehoused.

Encouragement of state non-member banks to enter the federal reserve system and reduction of the minimum capital required for admission to the system, admission in such cases to be conditional upon an undertaking to increase the capital to the present minimum of \$25,000 within a definite time.

Amendment of the national banking act to permit a limited amount of branch banking within a limited radius of the parent institution.

COLEMAN WINS FIGHT.

One of Bitterest Municipal Campaigns in History of Columbia.

Columbia, May 2.—After one of the bitterest municipal campaigns ever waged in the history of this city, Commissioner William A. Coleman, president of the Bank of Columbia, was today nominated mayor of this city by a majority of 511 votes over his opponent, John W. Richardson, former chief of police. Moffatt B. Dupree and S. L. Sweeney, were nominated commissioners over L. N. Drake and Richard L. Person. The vote was Coleman 2,540, Richardson 2,029, Drake 2,012, Dupree 3,084, Person 1,466, and Sweeney 2,549. Coleman carried four out of the eight wards.

Following the announcement of the returns a band headed a parade to the residence of Mr. Coleman, where an enthusiastic demonstration was given him. He told the five hundred or more people that regardless of the vilification to which he had been subjected he intended to give a clean, conscientious administration, and live up to his pre-election promises, of law enforcement, otherwise he wished to be recalled; however, he would only reward his friends when it came to the honors and emoluments of office. The two successful commissioners were likewise vociferously cheered when they addressed the crowd.

Something in This.

Sailor: "The navy's got it all over the army when it comes to speed."
Soldier: "The devil it has! How do you make that out?"

Sailor: "The navy is always ready to move at a moment's notice."
Soldier: "Well what of that? Isn't—"

Sailor: "And it takes Waaks to set the army in motion."

The Pip of the Morning.

From what we gather from the press, Lloyd George gets out of bed every morning, shaves combs his hair and comes down stairs to face the daily crisis.—Life.

Columbia, May 3.—The supreme court today dismissed the appeal of Jesse Gappins, one of the Brazell murder trio, following the motion in the morning by Solicitor Callison in open court for a dismissal. The court dismissed the appeal for want of merit and Judge Gary heavily scored lawyers for what he termed as apparent trifling with the courts.

Under Rule 30 the court can dismiss appeals where no merit exists, and it was under this rule that Solicitor Callison made his motion in the morning. The order dismissing the appeal says that everything that an officer should do is presumed to have been done unless proved otherwise. This was in regard to the sole plea of Gappins for a new trial on the grounds that the grand jury which indicted him was not sworn, so far as the minutes of the court showed.

A motion to quash the indictment would have been in order on these grounds, the court says, but no grounds for an appeal are contained on such a plea. In dismissing the appeal the court orders the remittitur sent to the clerk of court of Lexington in order that a new day may be set for the carrying out of the death sentence of the lower court.

Others May Lose.

The appeals of S. J. Kirby and C. O. Fox, the other members of the Brazell murder trio, have never been completed and it is understood that Solicitor Callison will move for a dismissal of these alleged appeals before the May term of the court of general sessions court at Lexington.

During the hearing on the motion of Solicitor Callison, Chief Justice Gary strongly scored attorneys for apparent trifling with the courts and declared that if the process of law becomes trifled with the lawyers will be brought before the bar of the court and disbarred from practice.

Chief Justice Gary spoke of the number of murders, thefts and other crimes over the state and reiterated his statement of some days ago that the court would fix the maximum limit for bail on criminals.

The chief justice made it plain that the court is becoming impatient with so many apparent trifling appeals. "The fight is on and this court is going to maintain its dignity if we have to disbar the lawyers from practice," Chief Justice Gary declared. Chief Justice Gary said Rule 30, the rule whereby appeals of no apparent merit can be dismissed, had been adopted by the court in an effort to bring about justice. He added that the court thought the attorneys would appreciate this rule and not try to evade the ends of justice. The chief justice said he was not referring to any particular case.

Associate Justice Watts then spoke of the appeal of C. O. Fox, another one of the Brazell murder trio, and declared if this was not trifling with the courts he did not know what was.

Callison in Charge.

Solicitor Callison presented the motion to dismiss the Gappins appeal, claiming that the appeal was without merit. He said he was anxious for the court to decide the case prior to the middle of May when the next term of the general sessions court begins at Lexington. Mr. Callison pointed out that the appeal is based solely on the grounds that the minutes of the court do not show that the grand jury was sworn, it being claimed that this made the trial of Gappins illegal. Mr. Callison said the grand jury had been sworn, and that the matter of the minutes not showing this was the smallest irregularity possible. Mr. Callison said the appeal should be dismissed in his opinion.

T. C. Sturkie, attorney for Gappins, resisted the motion, declaring that the appeal was made in good faith. He declared the matter of swearing the grand jury was vital. At this point Justice Watts declared that he thought the court would be multiplying itself if it said that the circuit judge had held an entire term of court without swearing the grand jury, one of the first things he is concerned with in opening the court.

History From the Balcony.

Teacher—Who was the great liberator?
Tommy—Houdini!—Life.