

Denbow Warehouse Burned; No Insurance in Force

The Denbow tobacco warehouse, one of the two tobacco selling houses of this city, was completely destroyed by fire Saturday at 12:30 o'clock, entailing a loss of approximately \$20,000, without a dollar of insurance, either on the contents or the building itself.

The fire was discovered soon after noon by some laborers who were working in the warehouse at the time grading tobacco. The cause of the fire has not been ascertained. The laborers were engaged in the front part of the building, it is stated, when they saw smoke issuing from the rear of the storage room. They gave the alarm, but the entire building was enveloped in flames even before the fire department could get on the scene.

Splendid work was done by the department, however, in preventing a spread of the flames. Just across the street, not over twenty-five or thirty feet distant, is located the Farmers warehouse, one of the largest frame buildings in this part of the state, and only a few feet distant on the other side is located the residence of J. A. Mitchell, both of which were saved, the only damage being the scorching of the walls of both buildings and the breaking of some window glasses.

The building was owned by the Denbow Tobacco Warehouse company, a local corporation, of which Mayor LaVerne Thomas is president; A. M. Denbow vice president, and J. Frank Folk secretary and treasurer. The building was the first tobacco warehouse erected in this section of the state, and cost, it is said, approximately \$15,000 to build. It had a large floor capacity, and was built of wood and corrugated iron.

The warehouse was rented this season to Ernest Lewis, a local tobacco man, who was operating it as an independent warehouse. The Farmers warehouse, across the street, has been taken over by the Tobacco Growers Cooperative association. Mr. Lewis says that he had stored in the warehouse between \$5,000 and \$6,000 worth of tobacco, and did not have a cent of insurance. It was his intention, he said, to have taken out insurance Saturday.

The building was insured for \$8,000, but Monday the policies were allowed to either lapse or were cancelled. Therefore the entire warehouse and contents were a complete loss. A majority of the stock, it is stated, was owned by A. M. Denbow, former president of the Peoples Bank, of this city, more recently connected with a bank in Barnwell, and Mrs. Denbow. A number of Bamberg citizens, however, owned stock in the corporation.

Deplores Big Fire Loss.

Mrs. A. M. Denbow requests publication of the following:

"On Saturday about one o'clock one of the most disastrous fires that have occurred in Bamberg was when the large Denbow tobacco warehouse was completely destroyed. The fire is supposed to have originated from an oil stove which was placed there by Ernest Lewis, who was curing tobacco. It was generally known that insurance had been carried on this building since its completion until a few days ago. The insurance having expired the agent having the insurance in charge states he went with the policy to the secretary and treasurer, J. Frank Folk, and implored him not to allow this to lapse, his response being that there were no funds in the treasury, as rents, etc., from last year had never been collected. Had the stockholders, or some of them, been consulted, they would gladly have paid same rather than run such an awful risk. It seems that there was gross negligence somewhere, and times like these people can ill afford to lose so much money.

"Mr. Denbow was the largest stockowner and it was through his efforts and hard work that this warehouse was constructed, it being the first ever built in Bamberg county. In fact, he was largely instrumental in there being a tobacco market here two years ago. The first year of its existence he solely financed the tobacco market while president of the Peoples Bank. About a year ago, while with the Federal Bank in Columbia, he had B. D. Carter, Esq., represent his interests and they later had a meeting at which LaVerne Thomas

was elected president, and J. Frank Folk secretary and treasurer. Mr. Denbow is now near Washington at a sanitarium, and, of course, the fire was a shock to him when it became known that he and the other stockholders had lost all."

FLAPPERS INVADE REFUGE.

Greenwood Girls Rush in to Have Hair Cut.

Greenwood, July 25.—Greenwood men can no longer revel in barber shops or strictly masculine privacy. With a phenomenal increase in the number of girls and women wearing bobbed hair during the past few months, Greenwood barber shops are now freely patronized by women, and men who a few months ago stared aghast at the sight of a girl in a barber's chair now only stare nonchalantly and wait for "Next!"

So great has been the increase in the fashion of wearing bobbed hair that some barbers are even predicting the time when women and girls will wear their hair as short as men. They are ardent propagandists in favor of the movement, asserting that their business has already been increased noticeably by the short hair fad.

Girls are not the only ones who have adopted the bobbed hair fashion, many grown women coming to the barber shops to have their hair trimmed, the barbers say.

Most of them at first are sentimental over the loss of their locks and keep the tresses to lay up against the time when they will need a switch or merely in memory of their unshorn selves. After a few visits to the barber shop, Greenwood barbers, assert they await their turn with as much sangfroid as men, discussing politics and the last dance with the girl in the next chair.

Greenwood men regard the outlook for strictly masculine barber shops as gloomy and maintain that their last haven of refuge is gone.

Large Cantaloupe Crop.

States that produce a cantaloupe crop at a time intermediate between the early and late crops will have a commercial crop of 13,996 cars of 350 standard crates, according to a forecast by the United States department of agriculture. The harvested crop of cantaloupes in these states in 1921 was 12,739 cars. Acreage this year is 41,600 acres and a per acre yield of 111 crates.

The leading region in the intermediate list this year is the central district of California, Arizona, North Carolina, Maryland, Delaware, Arkansas, Indiana, Nevada, South Carolina, Missouri, Illinois, Oklahoma and Alabama.

Early cantaloupe states had a commercial crop forecast at 20,591 cars. The total early and intermediate commercial cantaloupe crop this year is forecast at 34,587 cars, compared with 25,665 cars last year. The estimated acreage is 79,900 acres this year compared with 66,500 in 1921; and the indicated yield per acre is 151 crates compared with 135 crates.

Portland Cement Output.

The United States geological survey reports the production, shipments, and stocks of finished portland cement at the end of June, 1922, and the same month last year, as follows:

Production: June, 1921, 9,296,000 barrels. June, 1922, 11,245,000 barrels.

Shipments: June, 1921, 10,577,000 barrels. June, 1922, 13,470,000 barrels.

Stocks at end of month: June, 1921, 11,150,000. June, 1922, 10,668,000 barrels.

"Seal Plush."

The Federal Trade Commission has issued an order to cease and desist against Bellas, Hess & Company, of New York city.

The order requires the respondent to entirely stop using the term "Seal Plush," in its catalogues, advertising matter, or in its trade-marks, trade names, labels, devices, in connection with the sale of coats manufactured from cotton plush fabrics with a cotton nap or pile.

The modern Chinese woman is becoming a confirmed cigarette smoker. Seven billion cigarettes were imported into China last year.

Berry Benson Tells of March in Richmond

"T. D. M." in his column, "Talking It Over," in the Augusta Chronicle, had an article the other day about Sergt. Berry Benson. Sergt. Benson was a hero of heroes. He was a member of Company H, first regiment of South Carolina volunteers (Gregg's), which was first commanded by the knightly Capt. William T. Haskell. When a battalion of sharpshooters was formed in McGowan's brigade he volunteered for service in that famous command. His career was probably more remarkable and romantic than that of any man in the brigade, and for gallant and daring deeds it has not been surpassed by anyone in the Confederate army. Berry Benson was a fearless scout, and on one of his adventures into the lines of the Federal army of the Potomac he was captured and sent to a northern prison. A thrilling account of his escape and return to duty has been published. On another occasion he went into the enemy's lines and captured a splendid horse which had been tied near a tent, in which the owner of the steed lay sleeping. The colonel, no doubt, thought it a case of horse stealing, as well as hostility. Berry and his brother, Blackwood Benson, were particularly popular with their comrades. The latter has written several clever books, among the number "Who Goes There?" and "Friend With the Countersign." Berry Benson is a man of fine scholarly attainments. Some years ago he corrected a number of errors in a leading dictionary. One of his admiring comrades of the first regiment of South Carolina volunteers jokingly said this was to be expected, for Irishmen and their descendants are prone to find errors in the English. The figure of the Confederate soldier which surmounts the handsome monument in Augusta was designed from pictures of Berry Benson, a merited tribute to the chivalrous young soldier who served for four years in the splendid brigade of South Carolinians, first commanded by Gen. Maxey Gregg, and after his lamentable death by Gen. Samuel McGowan. But here is the Chronicle's article:

The True Story.

Sergt. Berry Benson is rapping me on the knuckles because, he says, I did not tell the story of his march in Richmond quite right.

"You tell it to me, then," I said, "and I will print it just as you say." So here is the story, as he told it to me:

To begin with, said he, you must know that Gen. Twigg had asked Mrs. Leroy Hankinson to go as sponsor for the brigade, but she had regretfully to decline.

We were standing on a side street waiting to file in behind the Florida division, when I heard a voice at my side.

"Won't you come ride with us in our automobile?"

I turned and saw, as I thought, Mrs. Hankinson, and I was on the point of saying, "I am so glad you came," when I saw that it was not she, but a lovely young woman whom I did not know, wearing the sash of the maids of honor.

"Won't you ride with us?" she asked, pointing to the car just behind the general's.

"Why, no," I said. "I am ordered to march alone, in advance of the brigade, in this old war rig, as you see, with my rifle. I can't ride with you," and adding, in a spirit of mischief, "You'd better march with me." Instantly she answered, "I will."

At that I was taken aback; I had not anticipated that answer. I had expected her to say that she would have to ride with the maids of honor. I had no right to change the programme of the march, but, flustered though I was, I was not to be beaten, so I said "You may march with me one block." Her face fell a little at that, but just then the drums beat and our march began. And she at my side.

Well, by the time we had marched the one block, I was so charmed with her loveliness and had found her so genial and chummy. I said:

"Here, slip your hand in my arm; we are going to march together the whole way." And her face lit up.

And the cheering! You should have heard it. For blocks it was one continuous scream, like locomotives letting off steam. It wasn't just cheering either—it was the old rebel yell. Just as it used to sound

Blease Rejoiced at Harding's Election

In regard to the proposed drive of the Republican party in the south to register Republican voters, the following taken from a Washington dispatch to the Columbia Record, written by the Record's Washington correspondent, is of particular interest:

In this connection it may be said that some of the Republicans here contend that Tolbert does not lack endorsement even by South Carolina Democrats. In support of this contention, the Republicans point to a letter written last year by Former Governor Cole L. Blease, in which Mr. Blease is quoted as telling Tolbert he had been "tried and true," and in which Mr. Blease rejoiced at the defeat of Woodrow Wilson and the election of Warren G. Harding. The letter, written to Tolbert in May, 1921, and published in Charleston, scoffed at the leadership of a reorganized Republican party in South Carolina, either by C. C. Campbell or John L. McLaurin, and continued:

"I certainly can state that you have been a life-long Republican; that you have gone through strenuous times and that your life has often been at stake, and that through it all you have been tried and true, and if, after all these years of service and devotion to your party, the Republicans would kick you out, I can hardly think that they would have much of an opportunity to get anyone here to follow them, because the people here would realize that no matter how devoted the service they might render, their labors would not be appreciated. I can hardly see how, after a thorough investigation, it would be possible for you to be turned down as the leader of the Republican party in this state, and as for the forming of a new party with Campbell or McLaurin, or both, such talk is a myth, a farce and plain foolishness.

"You are at liberty to read this letter to whom you please, or publish it if you wish, as I presume everybody knows that I speak what I think, regardless of the consequences. I have written you freely as you requested me to do. I am a Democrat, not a Wilson so-called Democrat, but a Jeffersonian Democrat, who rejoiced at Harding's election and the downfall of idealism, which gave us nothing but fresh-made graves, widows, orphans and billions of dollars taxes, under the guise of liberty. We have less liberty now than we ever had and fewer privileges, as a result of Wilson and his henchmen."

when the musketry suddenly hushed and the charge was on and the air was rent with the long victorious yell.

She turned to me: "You are getting all the cheering."

"No, it is you!"

But I knew—it was both. It was the combination. It was the contrast between age and youth; between the faded, tattered gray of the old war rig and the bright pink shimmer of my lady's drapery; between the grime and dust of the field and fresh, clean sweetness of home.

And it was Richmond! And Richmond is Richmond, and none other is—she is the heart and soul of the Confederacy yet—there is none other to match her in the hearts of our old defenders of our beloved city. She was our sweetheart.

Washington five years ago gave us the hand of welcome, greeting us wholeheartedly, but Richmond threw her arms around us and drew us to her bosom, crying through her smiles and her tears: "You are ours! We love you."

Once my comrade turned to me and said: "There was never anything to equal this in Richmond before; even Marshal Foch, when he came from France, did not get near the cheering you are getting."

"That you are getting," I said.

And all along the line the cameras were shooting us, and the women and children running out to seize me by the hand, or to pat me on the shoulder, or just even to touch me—oh, it was Richmond!

Another Day Recalled.

And I remembered a day. A day when Jackson's corps, not yet rested from the seven days of battle, marched through Richmond, not on parade as now, but in the deadest of earnest, the short way to Cedar Mountain, where we were to do stern battle again. And, like today, the women and the girls (only here and there a

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County Candidates Visited Camp Branch Last Friday

The second meeting of the 1922 county campaign was held Friday morning at Camp Branch school house. The meeting was well attended, there being perhaps 100 voters present. The interest in the speeches was keen, and it was apparent that the people came together with a genuine desire to judge accurately of the merits of the various candidates. Close attention was given to each speaker, and the entire crowd stayed until the last speaker had concluded. The crowd was good natured and a number of questions was asked of several candidates, some serious and most of them jocular, but in the best of humor.

Probably half of those present came from the new section of Bamberg county. Camp Branch school house is located about one mile from the old line of Bamberg county, and is the polling precinct for the people of that section which elected two years ago to attach themselves to the good county of Bamberg. They are mighty fine people; they were anxious to get into Bamberg county; Bamberg was glad to welcome them, and they are glad they are Bamberg citizens.

Fine Crop Prospect.

The Lord has blessed these good folks this year. Little Swamp section has fine crops. They have not had too much rain, or rather had not last Friday. The seasons have been most favorable, and The Herald representative was told that there had not been enough rain any time this season to hold up crop work for any considerable length of time, and that even with the heavy rains of the week previous, there had not been too much in that section. There appears to be a very fine crop of corn, and it is already made; peas and beans are healthy, vigorous and very promising. Some tobacco is planted in that section, and it looks like it is good. And cotton has a wonderfully healthy and vigorous appearance. It also has something more than appearance; it has a lot of full grown bolls, and the fields are white and red with blossoms. This is a condition that was absent this time last year. It will be recalled that blossoms were seen very rarely in the last of July, 1921. The boll weevils are not numerous. In fact the people are optimistic. Of course the seasons may yet ruin the cotton crop; there is plenty of time for that to occur, but that is something in the future and it is not seriously worrying the Little Swamp and Camp Branch farmers.

Good Road Being Built.

About roads. Little Swamp people say they can't talk about roads, because there are none, and that is literally true; or rather it was true. Things are changing now. Supervisor Smoak has had the gang in the Little Swamp section for some weeks past and will keep it there for some weeks to come. He is now building from the Salkehatchie river to Hunter's Chapel. The people have given him a free hand; was told to build the road as he sees fit and anywhere he pleased. And he is doing it; making a straight boulevard highway. If Supervisor Smoak has received any criticism for building this road, it is not deserved. If there were ever a living people on the face of the globe that needed roads, it is these same Little Swamp people. The oldest inhabitants can hardly remember the time when Colleton county did any road work there and the roads bear ample evidence that this is true. This same road that is now being built is well nigh impassible, where it has not been worked.

Camp Branch is about five miles from the county line, and some five or six miles from Smoaks cross roads.

The Meeting.

The campaign meeting was presided over in a masterly manner by J. M. Strickland, who introduced the various candidates in a most appropriate manner. He called upon Rev. C. E. Walker to open the meeting with prayer, after which candidates for magistrate were asked to address the audience.

Magistrates Come First.

The first candidate was J. M. Carter, running for magistrate of Fish Pond. He thanked the people for the nice vote given him previously. Good naturedly he referred to his opponents: One of them is too old, and the other two are too young, while he is just about right. He promised to give the business of the

office close personal attention. He has been successful in a small way in his own business. He discussed the labor problem, and thinks he can help the people if they will elect him. He believes in a square deal for negro workers, but thinks the manner of handling labor problems can be improved on. Also thinks he can handle the bogus check problem. Has no hard feelings if anyone does not vote for him.

R. H. Jolly, candidate for the same office, said if elected he will fill the office to the best of his ability. He will hold court wherever it is most convenient. Feels he is capable of handling labor questions. Is not much of a speaker, he says, and has no political record, but hopes to have one two years from now.

A. G. W. Hill, present magistrate of Fish Pond, said he had held that office four years, and that he is now better equipped than ever to give the people service. Feels that he has performed his duty in every respect. About bogus checks, Mr. Hill said that unless the party to whom a check is given has absolutely good reason to believe that the giver of the check has funds in the bank, there is no criminal action possible against the giver. Said it was not his place to go around over the country hunting up loafers, and that if there are loafers it is the duty of the people to appear before the magistrate and have warrants sworn out for them. His record is clean, he says, and he will appreciate the votes of the people. His age is no drawback to him, he added.

The chairman introduced F. E. Steedley as a seeker after the votes of men and women, but of the women especially. Mr. Steedley is a candidate for magistrate in Fish Pond also. Told a good joke about the man who had his brains and the brains of his dog knocked out, and the doctor putting them in wrong, the dog's gray matter going into the man's head. "The only trouble with the man was that he would go off hunting rabbits sometimes." The county needs good leadership now. Is a strong believer in the workings of the Lord. If chosen magistrate he will appreciate it, and do his duty. Somebody asked his opinion of Ford's Muscle Shoals offer; he came back by saying that he believed in everything righteous and holy.

Candidates for County Commissioner For Lower District Next.

The next speaker was Joe W. Zeigler, for county commissioner of the lower district. "Uncle Joe" was unable, physically, to ascend the rostrum and the chairman allowed him to speak from the ground. Has served four years, and he thinks he has done his duty; his supervisors have been satisfied with him. He says he is not fit for anything else; his health is bad, and he can hardly get to the stable to feed his horse. Says he does as much in the office as anybody else; had promised if elected he would go to the court house every first Monday and draw his pay, and he has done this faithfully, and this is about all anybody would do.

G. W. Hunter, an opponent of Mr. Zeigler, next fired his political gun. He says he is no stranger in these parts; in fact in his younger days he spent about six days out of every week among the people there, and he profoundly believes he is going to get as many votes there as the next one. He has had experience in road work, having been overseer for years and years; and has also been sub-commissioner. He is 54 years old and has lived fifty of these years in Bamberg county. He wants the votes, and will serve to the best of his ability if elected.

J. B. McCormack, another candidate for the commissioner's job in the lower district, was the next speaker. He made his speech short and sweet. He promised to give the best service he possibly can if elected, and he gave thanks in advance for the votes he is going to get on August 29th.

Upper Commissioners Next to Speak.

J. H. Tant, at present county commissioner for the upper district, was next introduced. He said his first campaign speech was made at Camp Branch two years ago; was scared then and is scared now; not much of a speaker. However he limbered up and proved himself to be a very vigorous orator. He said that if a

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