

The People

W. A. SCHROCK, PUBLISHER.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY.

SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.50 PER ANNUM.

Camden, S. C., February 4, 1904

TO THE PEOPLE.

With this issue we begin the publication of "The People," and we feel much gratified to note that its appearance is looked forward to with interest by the community at large. We begin operations with a bona fide subscription list embracing more than fifty post offices, which list we expect to increase in the near future to seventy-five, or more. This list comprises in membership representatives from not only Kershaw county, but of surrounding counties and States which the prospective fame of "The People" has already reached.

In the conduct of this newspaper we will naturally be guided by public opinion, as we find it, but we believe that in many matters a newspaper should not only direct public opinion, but should form it, and to this end we want to say at the outset, we intend to direct our efforts.

In every matter that affects the public interests, State, county and municipal, "The People" will be found battling for what it believes to be the right, and our opinion on all subjects and matters in which we think the interests of the people may be imperiled by silence, or advanced by speaking, will be freely and impartially handled in our columns.

We hope to have the hearty co-operation of every citizen in our endeavors to make "The People" an ideal county paper, and we congratulate ourselves that we will have it. Naturally, considering the more or less prominent part the editor has taken for some years in general politics, he has made some enemies, but as factional feeling has to a large extent subsided, we feel assured that any bitterness of feeling that may in the past have existed against the individual will not be continued against the paper, as it is a public institution that, if properly conducted, cannot fail to be of benefit to the community at large.

With best wishes for a prosperous year to all the people, and hoping that they will join us in the same for long life and prosperity to "The People," we respectfully subscribe ourselves,
W. A. SCHROCK,
Editor.

BIENNIAL SESSIONS OF THE LEGISLATURE.

It is more than possible that before we go to press our Legislature will have passed a resolution submitting to the people a proposition for the holding of biennial sessions of that body, instead of annual sessions, as now. This, we are free to say, is a move squarely to the right.

We venture the assertion that there is not one lawyer in South Carolina who knows the status of a number of important laws on our statute books for six months after our solons of the Legislature have been tampering with them. Every little one-horse lawyer in that body who has run against a snag in a law, carries his amendment to it to the Legislature, and, in nine cases out of ten, has it put through, and no one is the wiser until the code is printed.

If this resolution goes through, let every voter run in tissue ballots, if necessary, to secure favorable consideration of it. In this way, the lawyers, at least, will know what they are doing for a year and a half.

We, of course, cannot expect to secure all of the job work of the city or county, but we certainly hope to get our share of it.

TAXATION OF BUILDING AND LOAN STOCK

Why should the stock of building and loan associations be exempted from taxation? We note that the House of Representatives has passed the bill to that effect, and it may be that the Senate will concur in the measure. We cannot see the justice of the measure, but as it is a well known fact among our friends that we do not know it all, we are open to conviction on the matter. It strikes us that every borrower of money out of the different building and loan associations throughout the State is entitled to such benefits as may be derived from the taxation of the stock of the non-borrower. In other words, let the non-borrower bear his proportion of the taxation that is imposed upon the borrower.

For instance, we borrow a thousand dollars on five shares of stock. We are taxed so much monthly in interest on this loan. The next stockholder does not borrow anything on his stock, which costs him nothing but the use of his five dollars a month for, say ten years, we, all the time contributing monthly largely to his benefit \$6.67 in interest alone.

In addition to this disadvantage, the borrower is paying taxes annually on property improved through the loan effected, while the non-borrower sits quietly back in his chair and coolly says: "Let A., B. or C. make my money for me. They are paying me an average of about \$3.00 per month on my investment of \$5.00. But that is all right. The Legislature has taken off what little taxes I formerly paid on this modest investment." Hurrah for the Legislature. Give us a session every ten years instead of two, or they may change the law back to its old basis.

We Will Do Our Best.

The old expression is that "we live to learn," but the Editor as an editor doesn't believe all of it, since he has announced his intention of starting a newspaper here, he has found at least a hundred people who know all about how to run a paper. This is a matter of congratulation to us, as among the number we can always have someone on hand to run "The People" in case of our sickness or absence. We rather think, however, that we will be compelled to change editors pretty constantly if the experience of our appointees corresponds with ours this week. Good friends, saw wood, dig ditches, run for office, do anything honorable to make money or a living, but don't get the idea in your heads that you can run a paper unless you want gray hairs, baldness or palsy.

Japan Means War.

Japan seems to mean business in the matter of that little difficulty with Russia. Advice from London state that she has determined to levy a war tax of 44,000,000 yen, or \$22,000,000. Go it, Japan. No one has a stronger feeling of admiration for that progressive nation than we have, and we hope that with our assistance she will give the Russian bear a sharp lesson to keep his paws off of other people's property.

A Constructive Recess.

Senator Tillman's idea of a constructive recess is causing the admirers and adherents of President Roosevelt several anxious hours. What worries them chiefly is the fact that our Senator is right, having the Constitution to back him. The United States Constitution is rather a worm-eaten old piece of parchment, which in our day and time does not cut much of a figure with our representatives, but occasionally a piece of it is found that will hold together. Mr. Tillman does not look for the worm-eaten parts, but looks for those he can read, and generally finds enough to suit the case in hand.

Sample Copies.

As is usual with new papers, we are sending out a number of sample copies. We hope that all who receive these sample copies will be pleased with the paper and subscribe.

Society Notes.

In spite of the fact that the ice king reigned supreme the past week, the past week has undoubtedly proven one of the gayest and pleasantest of the season, in social circles, and the "strangers within our gates" can truthfully certify that the coldness without only increased the warmth of hospitality within. The knowledge that Lent is fast drawing near seems to have acted as an incentive to those hospitably inclined and entertainments of all kinds are the result.

Last Friday afternoon, at 5:30 p. m., twenty-one of Camden's theatre-loving folks braved the elements and enjoyed seeing "The Tonnaways," in Columbia which proved one of the best plays offered this season. Among those who attended were: Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Barstrow, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Shannon, Jr., Misses King, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. De Pass and Mr. Jno. Singleton.

The meeting of the "Married Ladies Club" was postponed, on account of the inclemency of the weather, from Wednesday until Saturday afternoon, when Mrs. John Whitaker, Jr., acted as hostess at her cozy cottage on Laurens street and the cheer within more than compensated for the cold without. Several of the members of "The Acorn Club" (which allows no married members) were honored with invitations, as the occasion was also to entertain Miss Coit, of Washington, D. C., visiting Miss Mary Burnet; Miss Gladys Fleming, of Spartansburg, the guest of Miss Emma Shannon; and Miss Janie Childs, of Columbia, the guest of Mrs. F. L. Zemp. Six-handed euchre was the game indulged in and after much merriment and excitement Mrs. Reid Whitford, of Georgetown, was declared the winner of an exquisite centerpiece, embroidered in red carnations, while Miss Emma Shannon gained the consolation prize, a unique poster in burnt wood. Delicious refreshments were served by the deft Misses Lenoir and Corbett, and all voted the afternoon one of the happiest spent this year. Those present were Mrs. Lenoir, Mrs. D. A. Boykin, Mrs. Caleb Whitaker, Mrs. Whitford, Mrs. Harvey Witherspoon, Misses Coit, Fleming, Childs, Burnet, Johnson, Jordan, Carrison, Brailsford, Shannon and Kennedy.

Saturday evening, Miss Maida Deas invited a few friends to meet Misses Fleming, Coit and Childs, and this chat "over the teacups," ever dear to the feminine heart, proved most enjoyable to all.

On Monday afternoon, Miss Emma Shannon entertained "The Acorn Club" at her hospitable home on Hub-kirk Hill, in honor of Miss Gladys Fleming, and added another most successful card party to the lot the club has already accumulated. As King Sol had deigned to show the light of his countenance again, by four o'clock quite a number of guests had arrived and progressive euchre soon engrossed every one's attention. The score cards were most attractive yellow roses and buds with green leaves, and the color scheme was accentuated by the tan and green costumes worn by the fair hostesses. After an hour's playing refreshments, consisting of the most delicious tutti-frutti ice cream, delicate sweet wafers, coffee and bonbons, were served and with congratulations to Miss Margaret Carrison, who was successful in cutting with Miss Moss for the prize, the merry crowd wended its way homeward exclaiming that each meeting of the club was more enjoyable than the last. Those present were: Misses Coit, Childs, Moss, Charlotte Shannon, Leila Shannon, Florie De Pass, Bessie Jordan, Margaret Carrison, Maida Deas, Margaret Johnson, Sallie Davis, Sadie Kennedy, Sallie Anerum, Henriette Brailsford, Mea Villepique, Mary Burnet, Jim Eldredge, and Mesdames Barstow, Jno. Whitaker, Jr., Caleb Whitaker, Wm. Burnet and Chas. Du Bose.

Miss Henriette Brailsford will entertain the "Acorn Club" next week.

Quite a number of the young people gave a dinner party at the Kirkwood, on Camden Heights, on Tuesday evening and whiled away many pleasant hours listening to the choice selections rendered by the hotel orchestra, and partaking of the ready, genial hospitality for which the host of this popular hostelry is noted.

On account of the unfavorable weather and the absence of Mr. Barstow and Mr. Whistler (business having called them north) no game of polo was played on Tuesday afternoon, as scheduled, much to the disappointment of the visitors, who come to Camden hoping to see this our chief winter attraction.

The ladies of Grace Episcopal Church gave their usual wafer tea at the handsome colonial residence of Mrs. Mannes Baum on Tuesday afternoon at four o'clock. This truly southern delicacy, the sweet or plain wafer, is much relished by the northern guests and each week a pleasant social gathering is brought about by these teas, besides realizing a goodly sum for the interior improvement of the church.

The John D. Kennedy Chapter of the U. D. C.'s met at the home of Mrs. V. S. Jordan, Monday afternoon, and combined business with pleasure.

Quite a large party visited "Cuba on Wheels" on Monday night, and all de-

clared the exhibition as instructive and interesting as ornamental.

Mr. Wm. Boykin, of Charleston, paid a brief visit to friends in Camden, and spent Sunday with Mr. Edgar Vaux.

The many friends of Mrs. Reid Whitford, of Georgetown, the guest of Mrs. V. S. Jordan, are grieved to hear of her little daughter's sickness and hope the little one will soon be herself again.

It is pleasant to learn that Capt. Moultrie Brailsford and his daughter, Miss Henriette, have "cast in their lots" with us by purchasing for a home the cottage in Kirkwood formerly owned by Miss Minnette Boykin, and that Camden not Clarendon can claim them from now on.

Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Lang hope to move into their attractive new home, opposite the graded school, at an early date.

Miss Cora Carrison is expected home this week from her visit to Columbus, Ga.

Judge Ernest Gary is presiding at this session of court. Solicitor Thurmond being absent, Mr. Timmerman conducts the prosecution.

The Kershaw Guards had their weekly drill on Monday night.

It was with much sorrow that her teachers in the Laurens street school and her schoolmates learned on Monday of the serious illness of little Iverson Brown, the young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Scott Brown, of La Fayette Hall, and the sympathy of the entire community goes out to them. We hope she may soon recover.

The Roman Catholic Church, on Lytleton street, will be dedicated on Sunday, Feb. 14. Rt. Rev. H. P. Northrop, of Charleston, officiating, the sermon being preached by Rev. A. K. Grogyn, of Greenville, S. C.

The large crowd present at the Baptist Church on Tuesday night and the interest shown attested to the truth of the assertion that Mrs. Ada Wallace Unruh is one of the most eloquent and successful lecturers on the American platform.

Large congregations attended the churches last Sunday, cold as it was, and those fortunate enough to hear Rev. Mr. Gordon enjoyed a most eloquent plea for the cause of foreign and domestic missions.

Last week one of the maids at The Court Inn narrowly escaped a serious accident. The horse she was riding got beyond her control and threw her just in front of the Inn, where she was carried on a stretcher but with proper medical attention has since recovered.

A METEOROLOGICAL STATION FOR SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Site Not Yet Selected.—Why Not at Camden?

It is announced that the general government will build a meteorological observatory in some portion of South Carolina in the near future. The site has not yet been selected, so why shouldn't Camden get it?

Ideal sites for the building can be secured here at a moderate cost, and prompt action on the part of our people may secure us the only meteorological observatory in the State. What is to be done must be done quickly, or we will lose the opportunity. We suggest that the mayor appoint a committee from the council which, co-operating with a citizen's committee, will wait on Commissioner Bauer to urge our claims and advantages.

Crum's Position as Shaw Sees It.

Washington, Jan. 28.—In response to Senator Tillman's resolution adopted by the senate, calling for the record of William D. Crum's appointment and service as collector of the port of Charleston, S. C., Secretary of the Treasury Shaw today sent to President Pro-tem Frye the following letter:

"William D. Crum was appointed collector at the port of Charleston, S. C., March 20, 1903, and a temporary commission issued. Crum qualified by executing bond for \$50,000, and took oath of office March 30, 1903. Crum was again appointed December 7, 1903, and has given bond in the sum of \$50,000, and took the oath of office January 9, 1904. There has been no third appointment, and no fourth appointment." The same information is contained in a letter to Hon. B. R. Tillman, under date of January 8, 1904, and which appears in the Congressional record of January 25, 1904.

"The resolution also asks: 'Is Crum now in office, and if so, under what authority of law?' William D. Crum is de facto collector at the port of Charleston, S. C. Whether he holds his position under authority of law is determinable, not by the executive department of the government, but by the judiciary, and by that only. He is not receiving pay because of the provisions of section 1761."

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"THE PEOPLE'S" Club Premium Offer.

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"The People," Camden, S. C.