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BARNWELL PROUD OF ITS STANDING

FINANCIAL STATUS PLEASES TAX PAYERS.

Cooperation Is Secret of Success of County Administration Over Lengthy Period.

(Written for The People-Sentinel.)

A great majority of the Barnwell County citizens are well pleased—in fact, proud of—the record made by the county officials in the past 12 or 14 years, as evidenced by the fact that they are returned to office regularly.

Since 1924 there has been very little opposition to the present officeholders and, when there was opposition, the officers were swept in by a large majority.

In 1925 the Barnwell County board of commissioners was composed of R. R. Moore, of Red Oak; G. W. Greene, of Williston; L. S. Still, of George's Creek, and Idis Brabham, of Bennett Springs. J. W. Patterson was, and is, county supervisor. This board, with the changes necessitated by death and the election to the board a few years ago, of Dr. R. A. Gyles, of Blackville, has accomplished an almost amazing task since that time, notwithstanding the fact that the country has been through one of the worst depression in its history.

Captain W. D. Black succeeded G. W. Greene when the latter died several years ago; Captain Black being succeeded by T. P. Mitchell this year upon his death. C. G. Youngblood, of Four Mile, was recently appointed to fill the vacancy created on the board by the death of Idis Brabham a short time ago.

When the present board, of county managers as they are now termed under a recent act of the legislature, took charge of the county affairs the levy for ordinary county taxes was 14 mills; today, that levy is seven mills. The outstanding county debt at the beginning of their service was \$218,000, while today it stands at \$68,000, despite the fact a loss of over \$50,000 was suffered through a bank failure. The total county school indebtedness was \$277,900 and today stands at \$165,000. This last total includes a recent bond issue for new buildings at Barnwell and Blackville totaling a little more than \$60,000.

Cooperation Is Secret.

These men have been able to accomplish this only through the cooperation of the legislative delegation and the county officials. Not only have they put Barnwell County on a sound financial basis, but they did it during the depression. For a period of 18 months there was no levy for ordinary county purposes such as the chain gang, officers' salaries, court expenses, the jail and the poor yard.

The total collected in 1925 was \$223,536.13 as compared with \$165,689.56 in 1936. The total assessed value of taxable property in this county in 1925 was \$4,574,860, while today it is on the county auditor's books at \$3,648,120. Not only has the assessed valuation of property in this county been considerably cut, but the levy also has been cut in half.

Sheriff J. B. Morris has collected during the fiscal year closed June 30, 1937, a total of \$57,487.65 in back taxes. The present sheriff, since taking office in 1932, has made considerable progress toward the cleaning up of the back taxes on the books.

The men who have served Barnwell county in the past 12 years include W. H. Manning, county auditor; J. B. Armstrong, county treasurer, until his death in 1930, when he was succeeded by J. J. Bell, the present treasurer; John K. Snelling, judge of probate; R. L. Bronson, clerk of court; Horace J. Crouch, county superintendent of education, except for a four-year term from 1930 to 1934, when B. S. Moore, Jr., was in that office; G. M. Greene, master in equity; Boncil H. Dyches, sheriff until his death in 1932, and J. B. Morris, who succeeded him and still holds that position.

Considered Leaders.

These men, due largely to the fact that they have worked together year in and year out without a change at every election, have always worked with the idea of complete cooperation with the county commissioners and county legislative delegation. That they have succeeded in so easily determining by going over the records in the county auditor's office, when, in black and white, one can easily ascertain

A Subscriber for 48 Years.

W. H. Hartzog, of Blackville route 2, was a caller at The People-Sentinel office on last week's "busy day" and told the editor that he subscribed to The Barnwell People 48 years ago and has been a subscriber ever since. Mr. Hartzog always tries to keep his subscription paid in advance, but has given implicit instructions not to stop sending the paper if he should get a few weeks in arrears.

The editor would like to know if there is a subscriber who can equal or exceed Mr. Hartzog's record.

County's Cotton Crop Is in Critical Stage

Heavy and Excessive Rainfall of Past Ten Days Increases Boll Weevil Menace.

Barnwell County's cotton crop is passing through a very critical stage just at this time, due primarily to the heavy and excessive rainfall of the past ten days that has not only leached fertilizers from light lands, but has increased the boll weevil menace to an alarming extent. During the dry weather of the first part of June, a number of farmers used sweetened poison on their cotton plants and greatly reduced the infestation of weevils, but the cool, showery weather that has prevailed lately is almost sure to increase the damage from this source unless a period of hot, sunny weather prevails very shortly.

Not only has the wet weather damaged the cotton crop, but the cantaloupe and watermelon crops have suffered also.

Farmers Dissatisfied?

And speaking of truck crops, it is reported that the farmers of this section are very much dissatisfied with the auction market conducted here this spring and summer in an effort to enable growers to obtain better prices for their produce. In spite of a very short crop of cucumbers, many farmers claim that, with the strict method of grading, prices were lower than in past seasons, except in a few instances. On the other hand, they point out, Hilda, which did not adopt the auction plan, has enjoyed one of the biggest and most profitable seasons in its history.

According to information received by The People-Sentinel, an effort will be made to have the Barnwell town council repeal the ordinance creating the auction market and return next year to the old method of marketing. One objection to the auction block, it is claimed, is the requirement that buyers post a bond of \$25 before being allowed to bid on produce, which prevents truck operators who may not visit this section again this season from bidding on produce.

The People-Sentinel knows nothing of the merits or demerits of the auction marketing plan, but it does seem that some method could be worked out whereby the farmers would be assured of a larger share of the consumer's dollar.

Garber-Turteltaub.

A. N. Garber, of Williston, has announced the engagement of his daughter, Miss Dorothy Thelma Garber, to Max Turteltaub, of Charleston. The wedding will take place in the early fall.

Barnwell County's status today as against that of 1925.

The Barnwell County legislative delegation has long been considered one of the leading delegations in the State legislature. The present delegation, composed of Senator Edgar A. Brown, of Barnwell; Winchester C. Smith, of Williston, and Solomon Blatt, speaker of the house, has worked diligently to serve the people of the county and the State. They have given their time and money toward the betterment of Barnwell County, and the State, and were rewarded when, in the primaries last year, they were returned to office by an overwhelming majority against the first opposition they had encountered in several years.

Political observers over the State have credited Barnwell's success largely to the fact that the delegation was kept intact and that they were efficient workers and leaders.

GOVERNOR LIKES CAMPAIGN TOUR

OPPOSES HARLEY'S PLAN TO CURB MEETINGS.

Lieutenant-Governor Favor Limiting Meetings to Fourteen Instead of Forty-Six.

Lieut.-Gov. J. E. Harley, of Barnwell, in an interview Wednesday last week, told a representative of a Columbia newspaper that he thinks discontinuance of what he described as "a killing thing" in the long grind of touring the State might serve to encourage "good and able men" to run more often for public office. He suggested that one joint meeting of all candidates in each judicial circuit of the State would serve the purpose just as well. He cited the easier and quicker modes of transportation in support of his opposition to the county-to-county campaign tour.

Lieut.-Gov. Harley said the rigors of the long tour "make many a man shy away from seeking public office. And many of these men would make good public servants," he declared. A day or two later, Governor Olin D. Johnston voiced his opposition to the lieutenant-governor's suggestion, calling attention to the fact that he led a successful fight in the State Democratic Convention four years ago against discontinuance of county-to-county campaigns. The governor doesn't think it fair for voters to have to travel long distances to hear the office-seekers present their appeals for suffrage, saying that "it is so much simpler for the candidates to take themselves to the people."

The governor, under State law, cannot be a candidate to succeed himself, but the general belief is that he will be in the thick of the county-to-county campaign next summer as a candidate for the U. S. senate seat now held by Senator E. D. Smith.

Lieut.-Gov. Harley's suggestion has elicited the following editorial comment:

Our Campaign Methods.

Lieut.-Governor Harley makes a timely criticism of political campaigns as they are conducted in South Carolina when he says they tend to prevent many good men from offering for public office. He does not believe in the political caravans that travel the highways every year when a State election is held. He suggests a change of campaign methods by which the candidates would appear in joint meetings in each judicial district instead of each county. That would reduce the number of political meetings from 46 to 14.

Something also might be said about the system which requires candidates for county offices to join a parade through the county, often making speeches twice a day and many of them to mere handfuls of voters. In this county, because of the number of candidates, speeches often are limited to a few minutes. The speaker has little time to discuss public matters and the meetings often resolve themselves into mere exhibits of candidates. A change of campaign methods might be beneficial to the State and the counties.—Spartanburg Herald.

Should Be Abolished.

Lieutenant Governor J. E. Harley, of Barnwell, may be a little over optimistic in thinking that the abolition of the county-to-county campaign tour would bring more "good and able men" into State politics in South Carolina, but there is no denying his declaration that the county-to-county campaign is outdated.

The county-to-county campaign, the simple truth is, now defeats its own purpose. It discourages, some-

MANY LIVES LOST DURING WEEK-END

CELEBRATION OF AMERICA'S BIRTHDAY IS COSTLY.

At Least 314 Persons Were Killed, But No Deaths Attributed to Fireworks.

America's celebration Sunday of its 161st birthday cost the lives of at least 314 persons—but not one death was attributed to the use of fireworks.

The figure was the third largest since 1930, and only slightly smaller than the total of 346 posted last year. City and State officials pointed to their crusades for a safer and saner Fourth as the cause for the prevention of fireworks deaths. Also they said, a fireworks accident which had claimed six lives in Idaho last Friday, although tragic, had served as a warning to others throughout the nation.

Automobile accidents accounted for the greatest number of deaths—194 in 26 States. Seventy-two were drowned and 48 others killed in sundry accidents. New York led with eight traffic deaths, three drownings, three killed in an airplane crash, one shot to death and one fatally injured in a fall.

Three were killed in a grade crossing accident in Rhode Island. An explosion of a gasoline stove in Wisconsin took two lives. Two died of mine accident injuries in Indiana. One person in Kansas and another in Nebraska were burned to death.

Before a holiday crowd of 1,000 persons, Arch R. Nutter, 33, an airplane pilot, spun to his death at a Clarksburg (W. Va.) airport. At Keene, N. H., a mother saw her son crash to his death in a five-mile automobile race.

A Georgian, C. A. Brickenstaff, was killed by lightning while he played golf in a foursome. Other members of the party were stunned.

Motor clubs throughout the nation reported cities virtually moved to the country and the country to the cities for the holidays. Travel over the week-end was reported record-breaking at many places.

Quiet in Barnwell.

Observance of the Glorious Fourth was very quiet in Barnwell. Numerous parties motored to beaches near Charleston and Savannah to spend the holiday, but for the most part local people remained at home. Stores were closed Monday in observance of the nation's birthday. Rain late Sunday afternoon and intermittent showers throughout Monday put a damper on the holiday spirit.

FOUR NEGROES LYNCHED IN

FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1937

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute, there were four lynchings in the first six months of 1937. This is the same number as for the first six months of 1935 and 1936, and two less than for the first six months of 1934. All of the persons lynched were negroes, the offenses charged being: Murder, 3; rape, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Alabama, 1; Georgia, 1; Mississippi, 2.

Mr. and Mrs. Rob't. Keel and Mrs. M. A. Keel spent Sunday, in Wagner with Mr. and Mrs. Leon Rosier.

times prevents, the discussion of the real campaign issues, confuses rather than aids the voters in making a choice.

The Democratic party should abolish it.—Columbia Record.

70 Barnwell 4-H Club Boys Will Go to Camp

All Members Having Records Up to Date Entitled to Attend Annual Encampment.

Camp Long will be open to 4-H club members of Barnwell County July 26-30 when 70 Clubsters and cabin leaders will be in attendance. All members having their records up to date are entitled to attend the annual encampment.

An added feature of the camp this season is a class in Arts and Crafts. Classes in good manners, nature study and music appreciation, swimming and other outdoor sports will fill the morning hours. Daily assembly programs will be conducted by clubsters, with the assistance of home agents. The midday program will be one of the high-lights of each day.

Evening programs will represent the creative ability of clubsters who will present dramatic skits, one act plays, vocal duets, choruses, instrumental numbers, or folk dances as costume.

Members of 4-H Clubs of Williamsburg and Abbeville Counties with their respective agents will join the clubsters of Barnwell County on July 26 to 30 at Camp Long.

Health Department

Holds Two Clinic

Many Persons Attend First X-Ray Clinic Ever Held in Barnwell County.

The Barnwell County Health Department, with the assistance of Miss Eloise Miller, tuberculosis field nurse, sponsored an X-ray clinic Thursday and Friday of last week. For the clinic, Dr. John M. Preston, State X-ray chairman, was here and demonstrated the use of the "Mobile X-ray." This is a trailer completely outfitted with Fluoroscopi, X-ray and developing equipment. The use of such is for the purpose of discovering early stages of tuberculosis.

This was the first X-ray clinic ever held in Barnwell County and a large number of persons took advantage of the opportunity to have the check-over. Numbers of cases were brought in by the Barnwell County Health Department, whose workers, in the past several months, had located cases showing symptoms of the dread disease.

A picture was also shown on Friday at the Ritz Theatre free of charge, on tuberculosis. This was also well attended.

He's the Last.

There must be something tragic about being the last man in any particular group. Those of us who have even a small circle of friends are appalled at times by the thought that we are fast becoming the last member of the gang that frolicked together in our youth and struggled shoulder to shoulder in the business world in later years.

We wonder what are the thoughts of Captain Basil M. Jenkins, Sr., who at the age of 91 is the last survivor of the War Between the States in Barnwell County. Perhaps one of the remaining five in our county, who may soon be the last himself, could answer the question.

We dare say that Captain Jenkins, along with the five in this county, others in the small band in the South, are all thinking they fought a good fight, that they would not act differently if the same circumstances arose again, and that these thoughts are much consolation as the end nears. It is a privilege to think and to write of these grand old men, whose call to final duty will come so soon now.—The Augusta Herald.

Dr. Stevens Is Host.

The semi-monthly meeting of the central zone of the South Carolina Optometric Association was held in Barnwell Thursday night. Dr. P. W. Stevens, of this city, zone chairman, entertained the group with an old fashioned chicken supper, which was served at the Hotel Barnwell and heartily enjoyed by the guests.

After supper the group repaired to the office of Doctor Stevens for the meeting. Taking part in the program were Dr. G. G. Thomas and Dr. C. H. Westgate, both of Columbia. The meeting was well attended.

GIRL BADLY HURT IN AUTO SMASHUP

MISS MARTHA ATKINSON ALMOST SCALPED.

Three Others Injured Saturday Morning When Two Cars Collided in West Barnwell.

Miss Martha Atkinson, 16, was critically injured; her father, John Atkinson, 40, suffered a broken arm and a broken leg; Horace Randall, 38, suffered head and knee injuries, and a Mr. Daniels, a tire salesman, of Orangeburg, escaped with cuts and bruises in a head-on automobile collision in West Barnwell, on the Barnwell-Augusta highway, shortly before eight o'clock Saturday morning. The collision occurred when Randall attempted to pass several other cars and crashed head-on into Daniels' machine as the latter is said to have attempted to avoid an accident by swerving his car onto the shoulder of the paved road.

Miss Atkinson was almost completely scalped, presumably when her head came in contact with the windshield, and was the most seriously injured of the quartet. After being given first aid by a local physician, the young woman, her father and Randall were rushed to a Columbia hospital in the local OCC camp ambulance. Reports received here from the hospital late Saturday night were to the effect that Miss Atkinson had not regained consciousness and it was feared that her skull was fractured. Her father and Randall were also reported as being in a serious condition.

Daniels was en route from Orangeburg to Augusta in a new car to spend the Fourth, while Randall and his two companions were driving towards Barnwell from their home in the Corley's Mill section.

Home Demonstration Clubs Plan for Camp

Annual Encampment Will Be Held at Clemson College From July 19th to 22nd.

Home demonstration club members of Barnwell County are making plans for their annual encampment which will be held at Clemson College July 19-22.

Twenty-five women with their home agent from Barnwell County, together with over 300 club members from Bamberg, Abbeville, Hampton, Jasper, Lexington and Saluda Counties will enjoy a three day outing which has been planned to include recreational, educational and inspirational features.

The high light of the occasion will be a day spent in the mountains ending in games and songs in the evening. Tours over the campus, visiting the dairy, poultry plant, textile plant, talks of interest to homemakers, stunt programs, and inspirational talks will also add interest to the program.

Barnwell County club members who will attend camp are: Mrs. W. C. Bell, Mrs. Albert Ellis, Mrs. Leona Still, Miss Ehrliet Still, Mrs. D. I. Hartzog, Mrs. C. P. Morris, Mrs. Belton Holly, Mrs. Belle Morris, Mrs. H. L. O'Bannon, Mrs. W. J. Lemon, Mrs. J. B. Kirkland, Mrs. Zelma H. Stewart, Mrs. L. L. Birt, Mrs. W. M. Moore.

PRESIDENT PAYS VISIT TO CONGRESSMAN FULMER

Washington, June 29.—Entirely unannounced, a White House automobile rolled up to the Naval Hospital this afternoon, and President Franklin D. Roosevelt called upon Congressman H. P. Fulmer, where the latter has been a patient for several weeks. He spent ten minutes in a happy conversation with the Congressman and Mrs. Fulmer.

Mr. Fulmer, who is now able to walk about the Hospital, for a short time each day, was happy to see the President.

The Chief Executive told the Congressman to take good care of himself, mind the doctor's orders, and get well as soon as possible. This Mr. Fulmer promised to do, and with the right improvement he is now making, his friends are showing much real pleasure.

Mrs. T. C. Galt spent the week-end in Columbia with relatives.

ARREST THREE NEGROES ON BURGLARY CHARGE

Charlie Jones, Ben Brant and Willie Wade have been lodged in the Barnwell County jail on a charge of burglary, the trio having been arrested by Sheriff J. B. Morris and Deputy Sheriff Cimore S. Harley after Brant is alleged to have entered a residence at Dunbarton while his two companions stood guard. The alleged crime is said to have occurred early Sunday morning.

Brant, it is charged, entered the home through a window and, going into a bedroom, grabbed a daughter of the house, a young woman about 18 years old, by the arm. The young woman screamed and the intruder, becoming frightened, made his escape, but not before he had been recognized. Sheriff Morris was notified immediately and hurried to Dunbarton, where the arrest of the trio quickly followed.