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 ABBEVILLE, S. C.

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Tuesday, Jan. 29, 1918.

"ABROAD."

Under the headline, "Abbeville People Abroad," The Abbeville Press and Banner publishes some items about Abbevillians in Columbia. This is the first time that the capital city has been located in "furrin parts", although it has always been more or less "outlandish."

The above is from The Greenville News. In some small communities, such as Greenville, to say of one that he is "abroad" has a provincial meaning as suggested above, but in every well regulated community like Antreville or Gilgal even the least informed persons know that a person may be "abroad" when he is away from home. The editor of The News "is all abroad in his guess" as Webster would say.

THE TAX COMMISSION.

Our sometime friend the Tax Commission is coming into its own. That there was, at the time of the creation of this commission, a demand for some more equitable basis for the assessment of property than had prevailed no one will deny. The corporations and city tax-payers had been paying all the taxes for so many years that the burden had grown unbearable. And even amongst these tax-payers the inequalities were so unjust as to be almost intolerable.

Therefore, we state again, the time has come when some more equitable basis for the assessment and collection of taxes was demanded. Necessarily, from the nature of the work to be performed the matter should have been gone at from a purely business standpoint, and purely business men should have been appointed on the commission.

Instead of this, the appointment was placed in the hands of Governor Manning. The Governor is a politician. He was in politics for office and he needed all the political help he could get. He had never learned that a man may build himself up politically, as well as in private affairs, by strict attention to the business he is about, on strictly business methods, by employing strictly business men to do the work at hand. It takes a big man in politics to see that, and a bigger one to tackle the job. Governor Manning is a good man as good men go in politics, but he did not prove to be a big man when it came to handling this business proposition for the commonwealth.

He did just what he should not have done. He appointed professional politicians to run the Tax Commission, and they commenced to talk politics and to do politics, as it has seemed to a great many, from the very start. At the head of the Commission he put A. W. Jones, of Abbeville, a man, so far as ability goes, in every way competent to do the work, but for the sake of the equal assessment of property the very worst man in the state as it now appears, because rightfully or wrongfully he did not have, and does not have, the full confidence of the people that he will treat everyone fairly and justly. He has that reputation because he has been a professional politician and wire-puller for his whole life. There has been no campaign in South Carolina in recent years in which he has

not been a figure. He has always been on hand to "advise" the faithful how to vote, sometimes as the representative of one candidate and sometimes as the representative of another. The result is that the Tax Commission is in bad odor. And we say that it is so because of the fact that A. W. Jones is its Chairman, and because of his autocratic acts. If he would resign today half the opposition to the system would be dead.

We warned Governor Manning that this was to be expected but he trotted his own political path, and now the Tax Commission must go unless its Chairman is willing to go. It may not be this session. If not this; then it will be the next. Big talk about corporation lawyers has about spent its force. The people have taken the measure of a professional politician.

But, it is to be regretted that the Tax Commission should go at the moment when it takes the first step in the right direction. Although the corporations,—the cotton mills, the banks and the railroads,—were already paying more than their part of the taxes of the state, the Tax Commission saw fit, first, to raise the taxes of these tax-payers. We warned them then that it was unfair and unjust, but the answer was of corporation lawyers and not of justice. Had the value of the property of all these corporations been ascertained without raising their taxes until the values of other property, including farm property, was ascertained, and had the Tax Commission then done the entirely proper and just thing of raising the assessment of all property at the same time, we would have heard no such talk as is now being indulged in the General Assembly. Instead of this, however, the corporations commenced to pay on their assessment some years ago, some corporations further back than others, and the dear farmer was left to the last. The result was that everybody else had already been raised, and when the order went out to raise the farmer, without a corresponding order for all other property, corporate and otherwise, those suspicions of the wives of a politically constructed Tax Commission thought and still think that farming property is alone being raised, whereas the truth is, that so far as the order of the Commission goes, it is only intended to bring the property of farmers up to the same basis as the property of other persons, natural and artificial, with regard to the payment of taxes.

Now taxes are hard to pay. They are the penalties we must pay for good government, however. We cannot imagine that the farmer, if he were correctly informed, and were treated entirely in a business way about tax matters, would object to paying his just part of the burdens of good government—certainly no rightfully disposed person would object to this. All that honest men want to know, when burdens are being assessed and distributed, is that they do not carry any other man's load. But they will not know this just now.

And the reason they will not know it, and will not believe it, is that they have no confidence that the present Tax Commission is treating with them fairly. And you may argue the question with the tax-payers and undertake to show them that the order is fair, but they will not hear you. Why? Because they do not trust the men in authority. Taxes continue to grow, the Tax Commission continues in the hands of the same politicians, big appropriations are asked for the Tax Commission, there is always fuss, but up to this day nothing tangible has been accomplished.

Whether the Tax Commission shall live or not depends entirely on whether or not the politicians now constituting its membership so remain. The people are sick and tired of the professional, ring politician. He must go. And if it is necessary to get rid of him, the Tax Commission will go, and the equitable assessment of property will have received another setback which will not be corrected soon.

And Governor Manning will be remembered for the politicians he appointed to office.

MR. BLAKELEY'S EFFORTS REWARDED

Congratulations are in order to Rev. H. B. Blakeley, superintendent of the Orphanage at Lethe, McCormick county. In its Columbia correspondence yesterday The Daily Journal carried a dispatch which stated that the Senate had voted to take over the Orphanage as a state institution and had appropriated \$30,000 for its maintenance, which we understand will mean improved buildings. There is every reason to believe that the Lower House will concur.

Mr. Blakeley has done a splendid work since he has been superintendent of the Orphanage at Lethe and he deserves everything the South Carolina General Assembly can give him.—Greenwood Journal.

THE FOURTH ESTATE

The President's Grandchildren
 With the starting of Mrs. Francis Bowes Sayre and her two children early in the week for their home in Cambridge, Mass., the President and Mrs. Wilson said farewell to the last of the guests at their Christmas party. Mr. Sayre had preceded his family by two weeks to Cambridge, where they are established this winter, as he is on the teaching staff at Harvard, and Mrs. Sayre would not remain in Washington longer, although asked to stay until after her boy's birthday.

Master Francis Sayre, who was three years old on last Thursday, is the only one of the President's grandchildren who was born in the White House, and his grandfather was most anxious that his birthday should be celebrated in the house of his birth with a cake with three candles—and "one to grow on."

Mrs. Sayre, by the way, says her small daughter, who was named for her aunt, Mrs. William G. McAdoo, and her grandmother, is called Eleanor and not Ellen. She explained that while her intention had been to call the girl after her mother, who was Ellen Axon Wilson, the late Mrs. Wilson always had considered the two names identical and that Eleanor had been her favorite form, moreover. This distinction served to avoid confusion, for the little daughter of the Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. McAdoo is called Ellen. She, too, was named for her grandmother, but was christened Ellen Wilson instead of Ellen Axon.—Washington Correspondence New York Herald.

STUDENTS INTERESTED IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Watch Proceedings of South Carolina Legislature—Some Hold Positions With Committees.

Students of the University of South Carolina have very generally availed themselves of the opportunity of witnessing the work of the general assembly since the beginning of the present session. The floors and galleries of both the house and the senate are frequented by students eager to witness the deliberations of the law makers and to acquire an insight into the operation of machinery of legislation.

The sessions of the general assembly are of interest to every citizen. But comparatively few are given the opportunity to see the legislators at work. Students realize the value of this opportunity, apparently, and attend the sessions whenever their university duties will permit.

Many students are adding to their resources by serving as clerks of the various committees of the house and the senate. The arduous duty of raising the flag over the State house is borne by two members of the university student body. A member of the junior law class is reporting for a newspaper during the session.

NEWS FROM HOME.

Mrs. Joseph W. Everett of Spartanburg, is visiting her aunt, Mrs. W. D. Wilson for a few days. She wants to keep up with the home news so she came in and subscribed to The Press and Banner, which is the best way to get all of the news. She says that she likes her new home and is quite happy.

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NEW HATS



NEW HATS

== NOTICE OUR WINDOW ==

LONG CANE

Long Cane, Jan. 28.—Snow, sleet and rain and freezes continued during the past week, and the roads are now almost impassable. So the farmers are now kept busy cutting wood and making fires.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert King spent the week-end of last week in Prosperity community with Mr. and Mrs. George Turner.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. McKellar of the city, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Beauford.

Mr. Walter Hughes of Cold Springs community, spent Sunday with Mr. John Stewart.

This community was shocked to learn of the death of Mr. Lewis Bosler, which occurred at Calhoun Falls at the home of his daughter, Mrs. W. J. Manning, Jan. 22, 1918, after an illness of three days. Mr. Bosler is the father of Mr. W. S. Bosler of this community, and having spent sometime in this community, he is well known by all, and his impressive talk any one could sit and listen to for hours. He came to this country from France when a young man in 1873, and was later married to Miss Barbara Burton, and settled near Lowndesville. The funeral services were held on Wednesday at Calhoun Falls by Rev. Mr. Harden, and the body was laid to rest by the side of his wife in the family burial grounds at Ridge church, in the presence of a host of sorrowful relatives and friends. Mr. Bosler leaves six children to mourn his departure but who consider their less Heavens gain, as his last words were consoling to his loved ones. The bereaved family have the sympathy of this community.

Mr. and Mrs. John Ellis and little one of near Lowndesville, spent a few days of last week with Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Ellis.

Mr. W. H. Beauford of Green-

wood, spent Sunday with his parents Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Beauford.

Misses Eppie Beauford and Mary Erwin and Allie Beauford spent Friday of last week with Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Bosler.

Mr. and Mrs. John Wright and children, of near Lowndesville, spent Friday of last week with Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Ellis.

Miss Nina Beauford spent Saturday in the city with Mr and Mrs. J. M. McKellar.

Misses Mary and Sara Wilson and Messrs. William and Robert Wilson have the sympathy of this community in the death of their mother, Mrs. Mattie Wilson. Mrs. Wilson is well known by her lovable disposition, and she has a few relatives and a host of friends in this community, who mourn her departure.

Mr. Julius King of McCormick, visited his parents last week, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. King.

Mr. R. H. Stevenson was a business visitor to the city Friday.

Mr. John Stone of Cold Spring community, spent Thursday with Mr and Mrs. Earl Stewart.

Born—Jan. 17, 1918, to Mr. and Mrs. Earl Stewart, a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Hagen, of Central, has moved into this community.

Mr. Walter Hughes and sister, Miss Lizzie, of Cold Springs spent Thursday with Mr. and Mrs. Earl Stewart.

A PARTIAL SOLUTION.

This is the retired farmer's war, just as it is every American's war. He is needed on the farm. He knows how to farm. That is the main thing. His shadow in the fields next year will mean much to his community and to his country. The nation is getting ready to call him back to his old place. He may be too old to carry a rifle or fight in a trench, but he can still help to preserve the nation he has helped to build.—Farm Progress.

QUESTIONNAIRES NOT RETURNED
 (Continued from Page 1.)

- Cleveland Wright, Abbeville, S. C.
- Urius Thomas, Abbeville, S. C.
- Jas. Davis, Due West, S. C.
- Jesse Moffatt Chiles
- Solomon McBride, Abbeville, S. C.
- Joseph Frazier, Abbeville, S. C.
- Wm. Horace Harkey
- Joe Smith, Abbeville, S. C.
- Walker P. Carwile, Donalds, S. C.
- Jesse Williams, Abbeville, S. C.
- Will Roul, Calhoun Falls, S. C.
- Bennie Hughey, Calhoun Falls, S. C.
- Andrew Roul, Calhoun Falls, S. C.
- Frank Jackson, Abbeville, S. C.
- Howard E. Cowan, Honea Path, S. C.
- Henry Weston, Hodges, S. C.
- Willie Freeman, Abbeville, S. C.
- Alford Campbell, Lowndesville, S. C.
- Jesse Allen, Calhoun Falls, S. C.
- John H. Whitehead, Abbeville, S. C.
- Zack Gaines, Abbeville, S. C.
- Feaster Hatten, Antreville, S. C.
- Sam Walter Pilgrim, Lowndesville, S. C.
- Thos. McAdams, Due West, S. C.
- John Edwards, Calhoun Falls, S. C.
- R. F. D.

NOTE OF EXPLANATION.

Registrants do not seem to understand the two notification cards sent them. If a registrant makes claim on account dependents, the Local Board acts on the case, and classifies him. If he makes only Agricultural or Industrial claim, the District Board acts on said case, classifies him. If registrant makes both dependent and Industrial or Agricultural claim, the Local Board acts on dependency claim, and holds papers for some days, and forwards them to District Board to act on other claim. The registrant will be finally classed in most deferred class. If Local Board classifies him in one and District Board in two, the two class is one he will be finally classed in. If Local Board classifies him in Class four, and District Board in two, the Local Board classification holds, and he will be finally classed in four.