

**SENATOR B. R. TILLMAN HAS TESTIFIED.**

Made a Speech to the Committee—Few Facts Brought Out.

Columbia, February 14.—There was not standing room in the aisles or galleries of the hall of the House of Representatives when Senator Tillman took the stand yesterday afternoon to testify before the dispensary investigating committee.

Senator Tillman was on the stand over two hours, and though he is not a man to waste words in coming to the point, his evidence disclosed nothing new; still what he had to say was received with much interest and frequently applauded. He often turned the tables on the attorney, questioning him, these incidents causing laughter in his favor. At times the hearing resembled a typical Tillman campaign meeting.

The Senator arranged a seat for himself on top of the Speaker's desk, so that he could see and be seen by the entire house. When he mounted the desk and sat down he was vigorously applauded.

"Have you any information in regard to any graft, rebate, improper dealing on the part of any dispensary official or any record about the dispensary, Senator Tillman?" was Mr. Lyon's first question.

Senator Tillman: "In order to have myself set aright and have the committee understand just what I know and what I don't know, and what I believe upon very strong evidence, I will have to answer that question in my own way.

"As to knowing specially of any instance of my own knowledge that any such thing occurred, I answer 'No,' and as for my reasons which have influenced me in interviews and in my speeches, in saying what I have said, I will give the foundation for my opinion."

Here Senator Tillman began to read a recent advertisement of the board for bids.

"I have one other question," interrupted Mr. Lyon: "While you were in charge of the dispensary did you receive any money in rebates, graft or in any improper way from the Mill Creek Distillery Company?"

"I did not."

"Did you receive it from any source?"

"No," the Senator answered. Senator Tillman went on to explain that he had twice volunteered to come before the committee, and though he was exceedingly busy in Washington, and as a United States Senator was not within the jurisdiction of the committee, he came because the committee was ready for him.

After reading the advertisement Senator Tillman said: "I have had no time to get up any papers to produce the necessary basis for a legal argument. I am not a lawyer, as you all know, but I will call your attention to this circular, and any man here who chooses to examine the facts under the dispensary law will see that it is required that purchases for the State dispensary shall be made by competitive bids, and I say emphatically that this method of purchasing has not one element of competition in it and the law, therefore, as I understand it, has been violated absolutely and without regard to the oath of office or other consequences by those responsible as servants of the people, or of the Legislature, I should say, and not the people, who have been placed in charge of this business involving a million and a half or two million dollars. Why do I say there is not competition in bidding? Let me say to you that 'One X Rye' is not to bid on for less than \$1.50. 'What is One X Rye?' There is no definition whatever under this specification that would establish the test of what One X Rye is. No man living can tell by this advertisement what kind of liquor he is bidding on except the price, and the price is fixed with the kind of brand in any barrel which he might choose to sell and send here as One X, Two X, or Four X, and no man living, chemist or anybody else, can detect the difference and be able to prevent fraud on the State."

Accusing the board of also violating the law in allowing discontinuance of request blanks and criticising it for the revelations about bottles and labels and whiskey, Senator Tillman shouted:

"This smoke has been getting very big and it seems to me stealing has

been going on here. I had the courage to say it, as I love it, and that is all there is to it. That is the basis of it. Now who gets it I do not know. I will say in the connection I want to see this committee probe this thing to the very root. Go back to the beginning and come down, or begin here and go back whichever you choose; just so you travel the road from end to end; investigate Governors Tillman, Evans, Eilberbe and McSweeney. I demand it so far as I am concerned. I have nothing to conceal or to be afraid of from an investigation by any mortal, either alive or dead, which could be brought out against me!" (Applause.)

"Ten or eleven years ago there were accusations, charges, insinuations, sneers, appearing in certain newspapers, and uttered by certain people that I lined my pockets with rebates and had gotten rich. When I left the Governor's office in '94 I returned to my home in Edgefield. I had some occasion to buy some land for the purpose of getting a home on the railroad. I was born and raised ten miles from a depot or a telegraph office. Having been elected to the Senate of the United States it was necessary that I should get in touch with the world more intimately, so I bought a plantation at Trenton, for which I paid cash. This buzzing in the air, these slanders and these lies I will say going about the country, notwithstanding the people had passed on them by electing me to the Senate, these things caused some people to go to Edgefield and search the records to see what I had. The probe of the enemies of Ben Tillman went into my individual business. My friend, W. A. Clark, president of the Carolina National Bank, came out and stated that he had loaned me from his bank the full amount of the purchase money, \$6,000, because I had entered public life poor, and if there is any credit to claim, I am poor yet. (Applause.) I want to say without presuming to criticize you gentlemen, you know your own business and you ought to be able to discharge it intelligently without suggestions from me. When I saw from the newspapers that your members had gone about trying to find out something about the present financial status of the present members of the board, it was understood that you could not go into such things as that. Why make this discrimination? I had to endure it. Are these men better than I? If public money has found its way into official's private pockets, it is your duty to investigate it and not honey-fugle, but go to the bottom in any way possible." (Applause.)

Chairman Hay: "Where is your authority for that, Senator Tillman?"

Senator Tillman: "I am giving circumstantial evidence, coupled with various statements that have been brought out in evidence, and conclusions are inevitable that no man would prostitute his office and disobey the law so brazenly and openly in making purchases for the State at these exorbitant, over and above prices people in other States are paying if there was not something in it for him. This is the logic of the situation. Circumstantial evidence is the strongest evidence when it will hold, and it is very weak when it will not hold. Why would any man object to his private affairs being investigated if his character is involved? I cannot see how any man can refuse to have the fullest investigation made in a financial way, or in any other way if his honor is involved. If he owns property he ought to be able to explain where he got it and where the money came from."

Senator Tillman then went into a minute description of the brands of whiskey that had been bought under his administration, his trips to different parts of the whiskey sections of the country, the manner of manufacturing the different brands, prices paid for same, and the manner in which purchased.

Mr. Lyon: "Did you ever request Governor McSweeney to make any purchase from the Mill Creek Distillery Company at a higher price than the Ross Company offered, and if so, what was paid for it?"

Senator Tillman: "I do not recollect that I ever did; probably I did. I thought the man who stood by the dispensary in its infancy ought not to be thrown overboard because some rectifier from Baltimore or elsewhere

would come down here and offer rotgut to us at lower prices."

Mr. Lyon: "So far as I am informed, the committee has no other question to ask, unless some individual member has, or the board of directors who stand under a censure as I understand it; they may possibly desire to be heard through their representatives?"

Duncan B. Ininger, who represented directors Boykin and Towill, proceeded to question Senator Tillman.

"Your intention in offering yourself to the committee was to testify as a witness?"

"I did not offer myself to the committee except under this condition. The newspapers were sneering and using every imaginable argument against the dispensary and suggested that Senator Tillman ought to come before the committee and tell what he knows. I had been making speeches and feeling then as now, was willing to give any light I could. I did not have as much information then as now, but I was ready to appear before the committee whenever they wanted me."

"Your idea in coming before the committee was to make a speech before the committee was it? or to testify to facts which you yourself were acquainted with?"

"I did not feel like making a speech; I have plenty of opportunities to make speeches."

"You will please answer my question, Senator. Your intention in coming before the committee was for that purpose?"

"To make a suggestion and that they might get at the truth."

"Did you not on several occasions, at various places in this State, and perhaps in Washington once or twice, state that there was collusion and fraud and you could prove it?"

"What I stated was in the papers."

"That you could prove it?"

"That I could prove it from circumstantial evidence which I have adduced."

"You wanted to come here to vindicate yourself?"

"I have nothing to vindicate; nobody has charged me with anything. What do you mean by vindicating my position?"

"When you charged the dispensary board, the present managers of that board, with fraud, and stated that the dispensary system was good and the only thing to do was to turn out the present thieves; that is the position you desire to come down here and sustain yourself on?"

"I did not desire to come here at all. If anybody had not asked that I should come, and you are the very man, I believe, who did it; but for that I would be in Washington now."

"Don't you think, representing as I did some of the members of the members of the board, when I asked this committee to bring you here, that you should try to prove what you said you could prove?"

"So far as I am concerned, I did not think anything about it. I stand on my record, stand on my character, stand on what I have done and what I am."

"You have said that you were charged by many people in this State with lining your pockets with rebates and commissions when you were managing the dispensary?"

"Yes, sir."

"And a great many people in the State believed that?"

"Yes, I believe they did. Do you want my reason?"

"No reason to give that now."

"Ah," said the Senator, "you do not want my opinion now?" and the crowd laughed.

"You can give it," said Mr. Belinger.

"I look at it from this standpoint," was the reply. "There is no doubt if I had been corrupt and wanted to make money out of my position as Governor in buying whiskey, I could have done it. There is no use to dispute that proposition. It is too self-evident. Those men who were my enemies saw I could do it if I so willed, and they reasoned, if he could, he has, and then the inevitable followed, that I had stolen because if they had been in my place they would have stolen." (Applause.)

"Senator, will you please give us now the evidence upon which you based your conclusion that those whom you charged with stealing had stolen? I want to test your circumstantial evidence. Have you given us the facts upon which you base

your conclusion as to this management, which you have placed before this committee? You say this is not a request for competitive bids. (Mr. Belinger exhibits the circular which the Senator had previously read.)

"I do. I would go to the government bonded warehouse and I would buy it out of the warehouse."

"If you did not do that when you had charge of dispensary, why do you say these men should do so now?"

"Because they have had the opportunity with cash to do it and I did not. I had to buy on credit."

"When you managed the dispensary the law did not require any competitive bid?"

"No, did not require any bidding at all."

"You had the entire management of it?"

"Yes, sir, with the Comptroller General and the Attorney General."

The examination continued along this line for some time, finally Senator Tillman telling the committee as they could not interfere with his returning he would not come back unless his presence was particularly desired. He was excused, and the meeting adjourned.

As Senator Tillman was walking out of the hall he met Chairman H. H. Evans. They shook hands, and Mr. Evans pleasantly suggested that folks had been lying on the senior Senator, as they had on him. Tillman laughingly said that folks will talk, whereupon the chairman of the State board said that any one who said he stole any money or was a thief was all sorts of something unprintable. Senator Tillman said that was right, and to "cuss 'em out," the fellows who said anything about him. It was all good natured and pleasant, but rather spicy language was used. It is a mistake to suggest that there was anything violent, as nothing but the best of feeling prevailed.

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by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the eustachian tube. When this tube gets inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever. Nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

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**"Jack the Stabber" is Caught in Act.**

St. Louis, February 12.—John Brady, 22 years old, was arrested to-day and confessed to being the man known as "Jack the Stabber," who has been creating so much excitement in the last few weeks by stabbing women with a pocket knife. A total of seventeen women and girls have been stabbed on the streets, fourteen having been stabbed during the early evening of January 22. None were seriously wounded. Brady insists he did not stab them all, but admits he does not know how many were victims of his knife. "I just took the knife and stuck it into them," said Brady in a high, effeminate voice, and with no show of emotion or excitement. "I don't know how the idea first came to me. When I first stabbed women I delighted in it; just one quick stroke and it was all over. I did not pick the women particularly. It did not make any difference to me so long as they were women."

Now is the time to guard the health and strength of the lungs. The best remedy to use for coughs and colds is Bee's Laxative Honey and Tar, the only cough syrup that does not constipate the bowels, but which, on the other hand, expels all cold from the system by acting as a pleasant laxative. Best for coughs, colds, croup, whooping cough, etc. Sold by Dr. J. W. Bell.

R. A. Child, of Spartanburg, financial agent of Wofford College, spent the early part of last week in the lower part of the State in the interest of the endowment of \$100,000 the Methodists of the State are trying to raise. He succeeded in getting a considerable number of subscriptions, and is hopeful that he will soon have the entire amount subscribed. He says he already has about \$55,000 and has not yet canvassed over half the strength of the church.

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The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of and has been made under his personal supervision since its infancy. Allow no one to deceive you in this. All Counterfeits, Imitations and "Just-as-good" are but Experiments that trifle with and endanger the health of Infants and Children—Experience against Experiment.

**What is CASTORIA**  
Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It is Pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. Its age is its guarantee. It destroys Worms and allays Feverishness. It cures Diarrhoea and Wind Colic. It relieves Teething Troubles, cures Constipation and Flatulency. It assimilates the Food, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep. The Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

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**Alleged Lynchers Given Freedom.**

Barnwell, February 8.—The seven men who were arrested last week and lodged in jail for the murder of Frank and John DeLoach, at Ulmer, just before Christmas, were given a preliminary hearing here yesterday before Magistrate C. W. Moody and have been released, the testimony not being considered sufficient to keep them in jail.

Long before the time of the hearing crowds began to come in and at the time appointed the Court House was packed till standing room was at a premium.

Solicitor Davis conducted the prosecution and examined the witnesses. Messrs. Aldrich and Best were attorneys for the defendants.

After the testimony had been given, the Solicitor made a clear statement of the State's case and urged that the defendants be bound over to the Circuit Court. Both Messrs. Aldrich and Best made a strong fight for their clients and were rewarded by the magistrate's decision. There was a great deal of excitement when the magistrate, addressing the prisoners, said: "Gentlemen, you are dismissed; the State has failed to make a case against you." Hats went up in the air and the court room rang with the cheers of the sympathetic audience. There were a few who jeered at the Sheriff and Solicitor, but no serious trouble was caused.

All of the State's witnesses were negroes except one, Dr. R. C. Kirkland, who examined the dead body.

It is a sin to suffer with backache and pains over the kidneys, when a single dose of Pine-ules will give relief in one night. Suffering women should heed these warnings ere it is too late. Female troubles may result. Pine-ules will strengthen the kidneys and bladder, cleanse the blood and relieve the aches and pains of neuralgia and rheumatism. Sold by Dr. J. W. Bell.

"Mamma, did you ever flirt when you were a girl?"

"Yes, my dear, I did once."

"And were you punished for it?"

"It led to my marriage with your father."



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We will convince you that you can "increase your yields per acre" and you won't have to keep it a secret, either. Read what Messrs. Wherry & Son, of the Magnolia Fruit Farm, Durant, Miss., write: "From two acres of strawberries on which 1,000 pounds of

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per acre were used, we cleared a profit of \$75.00 per acre more than the other 1/4 acres of strawberries which had only 500 pounds of this fertilizer." Thus double the quantity of these fertilizers on each acre of any crop, and more than doubly "increase your yields per acre." Be sure you buy only Virginia-Carolina Fertilizers.

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