

THE HOME STRETCH

The Race for the Goal Has Now Commenced.

LAST HALF OF RUN BEGUN.

The Compliments of the Hustings

Orators no Doubt Brought

Blushes to Lancaster's

White Rose.

The dividing line meeting at Lancaster Wednesday was quiet. The audience was thoroughly undemonstrative and attentive. There was little cheering, no noise. When the meeting was called to order Chairman Porter stated that if every candidate spoke according to schedule the meeting would continue from 10:30 until 4:30.

Mr. J. P. Deham was not present and sent excuses. He was absent on account of sickness and announced his platform and showed the work of his office. Mr. Brooker started out by saying he had already saved the State \$50,000 and was in position to save that much more. Gen. Floyd spoke but Rouse was absent.

Then came the candidates for railroad commissioner. Mr. J. H. Wharton spoke first. He said there was towns discriminated against in rates. Then he took up the matter of overcharge and wanted agents authorized to pay overcharges or make allowances for lost articles. He said there was no sense in the argument of long and shorts hauls when the rate on lumber is less from Augusta to Camden than from Augusta to Spartanburg.

Maj. Barnard B. Evans said freight rates were higher here than in any southern State. He said there was something rotten in Denmark and it was in the railroad commission. The commissioners were liable to arrest when riding over the State on free passes. The commission is doing nothing for the people.

Mr. T. M. Berry said he was running on his own merits and not on the demerits of anyone. He was a prohibitionist and always advocated temperance. He wanted to be measured as a man and stand on his merits. He saw nothing so bad in the present commission. Promises can be easily made and broken. If elected there would be comfortable stations.

Mr. T. E. Pettigrew always believed in the value of the railroad commissioners. Railroads are combining and the people must combine through their commissioners. He is and always has been a Simon-Pure farmer, but raised tobacco, cotton and truck. He promised to be faithful to the interests of the people as heretofore.

W. D. Mayfield spoke of the mill development and argued that the surplus cotton ought all be bought in this State and not from Georgia. The rates are prohibitory. Furniture factories prospered in North Carolina because of better rates. Then he took up the manufacture of tobacco goods and argued that the local rates were too high and the same applied to flour mills. Wholesaling must remain small because of the rates. He believed the commissioners should not be paid by the railroads or provided with passes.

Mr. W. D. Evans said the commission knew some of the rates were too high, but the thing has to be carefully done. The Texas commission cut all rates 50 per cent and has been tied up in the courts since. Then he showed wherein recently the rates have been reduced on fertilizer, shingles, wood, cotton, brick, etc. The only way to work was to act jointly and continuously.

The two Evanses disputed as to the North Carolina rate. The North Carolina rate as quoted is all wrong. W. D. Evans stated. He says elect him and have one honest man on the board, send Mr. W. D. Evans. "God save the mark, W. D. asked to have his character and reputation compared if need be."

B. B. Evans—I'd never compare my character with you.

W. D. Evans—I have never tried to pass off anything bogus on the people. If you will look in the attorney general's report you will find he insured 41 dispensaries in bogus companies and the companies were not worth a cent.

B. B. Evans said it would be well to look at the records in W. D. Evans's county.

W. D. Evans went on to say when he ran for the constitutional convention there was intense opposition to him and a warrant was sworn out against him for fast driving through the streets and drunkenness. He insisted on being tried and was acquitted.

B. B. Evans—Oh, that's not it. I mean where you cheated a man out of \$10,000 and a judgment is recorded against you.

Chairman—Time's up.

W. D. Evans—Let me explain.

B. B. Evans—That is a personal matter and he attacked me. Make him sit down.

The chairman then without further ado presented Mr. Capers and W. D. Evans went to his chair saying: "I paid that claim, every cent and a cent too."

Mr. Capers then went on to say if elected he would not employ Yankee soldiers to teach in the summer schools. McMaham is honest but wrong. His chief complaint was that McMaham ignored county superintendents and other Carolina educators. Capers objected to white teachers being over colored schools. McMaham wanted to explain, but the time was up.

Then came the governors. G. Watt Whitman insisted that from what others say the various departments are in bad shape and he wanted to remedy things. Disregard of law in South Carolina was amazing and disgraceful, not only as to the dispensary law but everything else if these speakers are to be believed. The best men at times, he feared, took just a little too much liquor. A little drunkenness does not affect a man as much as telling a lie. God never made a man and there is no use for liquor. The Bible does not condemn anyone for getting drunk.

Col. J. A. Hoyt and Mr. Whitman had been on every platform that has ever been erected. The people of Lancaster were already converted to prohibition. The dispensary is put forward

GOES FOR TILLMAN

About What He Said in His Bennettsville Speech.

HIS REPLY TO THE CHARGES.

The Senator States Over His Own

Signature What He Really

Did Mean in His

Speech.

In his Bennettsville speech Senator Tillman declared there is in South Carolina "an unholy alliance of preachers and barkeepers, led by Col. Hoyt to defeat the dispensary." The Senator is being savagely criticised for his speech and even the dignified Bishop Duncan is in arms against the Senator. In an interview with the Greenville News the Bishop said:

"It was manifestly false and an outrage," said the bishop, his small, penetrating eyes flashing as he shook a clenched fist. "I always make it a rule to nail a lie whenever it comes up, whether it comes from the president of the United States or a United States senator, or from anyone else. It is all the more shameful that the statement comes from a United States Senator. Suppose I were to say, for instance, that the merchants of this town were in league with the thieves, the chicken thieves, to rob the citizens, don't you suppose there would be a mighty protest? Well, there is just as much sense in the one statement as in the other."

In the Greenville Methodist conference held in Greenville last week the committee on temperance, to which was referred the Senator's charge, submitted a report to the conference, and the following is a part of that report:

Resolved 1st: That we reaffirm it to be the duty of the Church to enforce among its members the rule against drinking spirituous liquors except in case of necessity.

Resolved 2d: We conceive it to be the duty of a Christian citizen to protect the State against the demoralizing, home-bloating, crime-breeding, property destroying, drink abuse by using his influence to restrict its manufacture and sale to medicinal, sacramental and scientific purposes.

Resolved 3d: We denounce any invasion of the condition of the weather and crops of the State issued last week by Director Bauer of the South Carolina section of the United States weather bureau's weather and crop service:

The week ending 8 a.m., July 23, was nearly three degrees warmer than usual, and had a maximum of 102 degrees at Batesburg, and a minimum of 66 at Greenville.

R. E. Stackhouse,
P. F. Kilgo,
R. R. Dagnall.

Dr. Chas S. Gardner, Pastor of the First Baptist Church in Greenville preached a sermon Sunday night week on prohibition in which he denounced as false Senator Tillman's charge that the preachers and liquor men are in an unholy alliance led by Col. Hoyt.

He said: "Senator Tillman, who made the charge, knew it to be false when he uttered it. The charge cannot be interpreted as anything else but a mean and contemptible effort to break the force of the almost unanimous advocacy of prohibition by the preachers and served its author as a good occasion also to thwart contention upon a class of men for which he has in many other ways expressed his contempt."

SENATOR TILLMAN IN REPLY.

Dr. J. O. Wilson of the Southern Christian Advocate wrote to Senator Tillman asking if he were correctly reported and requesting a reply. The reply is contained in last week's issue of the Advocate. It reads as follows:

Trenton, S. C., July 23, 1900.

Rev. J. O. Wilson, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sir: I have your letter of July 22, asking if my speech at Bennettsville was correctly reported. I do not recollect the exact words I used at Bennettsville, but they are in effect true as quoted; and inasmuch as the district conference of the Methodist church, under the leadership of Bishop Duncan, has taken the matter up, and the bishop is reported to have "nailed" my utterance "as a lie," while the report of the committee on temperance "denounced any insinuation that the efforts of the Christian ministers and other citizens to rid the State of this gigantic evil as a sought or voluntary combination with the saloon element as a base slander that is itself an attempt to strengthen the power of this most damnable iniquity," I will take the occasion offered by your inquiry to make an announcement over my own signature of what I said and meant at Bennettsville. Of course the report gave only the barest outlines.

I have no quarrel with the ministers of any church or denomination and have no purpose to give offense to any of them. I have always borne testimony to the high character and purity of purpose characterizing the ministry, but I believe they are wrong in fighting the dispensary law as they do, and I claim the right to say so, acknowledging at the same time their right to freedom of speech and freedom of political action on this and every other subject. I mentioned the attitude of the ministers incidentally as an illustration of the anomalous political situation. The ministers attack the dispensary because it does not go far enough, and the high license people and the blind tigers, whom I designated as the "old barkeepers," attack the dispensary because it goes too far. They are thus found fighting side by side in the campaign. There is only one candidate in the field for governor opposed to the dispensary, Col. Hoyt, and all of those elements are allied in his support, and the proof is that in Charleston, in the last gubernatorial election, voted for Mr. Featherstone and prohibition when it is notorious that the whiskey element in that city is predominant and that the dispensary law is not enforced, mainly by reason of the lax morals of the grand jurors who have failed to discharge their duty under their oaths. Col. Hoyt last winter in his paper, The Mountaineer, urged coalition between the high license people and the prohibitionists in the general assembly in order to repeal the dispensary law. Col. Hoyt seeks the governor's office, and of course wants votes. I am op-

posed to his election solely on these grounds, and called attention to the elements supporting him. There may be no open "alliance," and technically I may have been in error in asserting it, but I think it permissible to declare all the supporters of any one candidate "allies" and if the Methodist ministers who have accused me of "slander" will show that they do not intend to work to the same end as the bar-keepers for the overthrow of the dispensary, I will then consider the propriety of an apology. Until such proof is given I shall stand by my guns.

If the Methodist bishop chooses to call me a liar, and the church temperance committee feels constrained to denounce my opinion of existing conditions as "slander," the people of South Carolina will judge between us. If they can stand it I can. I long ago learned—

"Evil is wrought from want of thought, As well as want of heart."

When good men find themselves in bad company, they usually pause to consider how they got there and whether they are not in fault to some extent.

There is no concealment about it and the editor of The State, who is the spokesman of the license element, has announced his position clearly and openly. The denial by the preachers that the combination is "sought" cuts no figure. It exists, and that is all I asserted, and to my mind it is "unholy" and must make every good man feel uncomfortable.

If the dispensary is overthrown every practical man knows that saloons will be re-established in less than five years. They would deplore such a result as a great loss to society and know many preachers of the same opinion. I shall yet hope to see all good men of all classes united to make the dispensary the success it can become. I believe prohibition is a Trojan horse by which the saloons seek to again enter the State. The whiskey men believe the same thing. I am against the saloons and all of their friends whether they be good men who are blind, fanatics, or scheming politicians.

Yours truly,
B. R. Tillman.

WEATHER AND CROPS.

Weekly Bulletin Issued by Section Director Bauer.

The following is the weekly bulletin of the condition of the weather and crops of the State issued last week by Director Bauer of the South Carolina section of the United States weather bureau's weather and crop service:

The week ending 8 a.m., July 23, was nearly three degrees warmer than usual, and had a maximum of 102 degrees at Batesburg, and a minimum of 66 at Greenville.

There were light, widely scattered showers during the entire week, heaviest in the central counties. By far the greater portion of the State had no rain, and severe drought conditions prevail in places.

The need of rain is general, and nearly all crops failed, or are beginning to suffer for lack of moisture, especially old corn that is maturing.

The dry weather was favorable for laying out, and ridding fields of grass and weeds, so that crops are being laid by in generally clean condition, although grassy fields are still common.

Old corn failed materially, except on moist lands, where it shows slight improvement. On sandy lands it is firing. Young corn continues to look well and retains its color, but is not growing, and will soon fail unless moisture is supplied. Bottom land corn has made little recovery since the June freshets.

Cotton improves slowly, except on sandy lands, where it is shedding leaves and squares and is turning yellow. Cotton is generally small and late, although fields are now clean and fruiting normally, but the crop is spotted and its average condition remains poor. Sea island cotton is doing poorly owing to drought, blight and shedding.

Tobacco is ripening fast, and curing made rapid progress, being now over half finished. The hot weather injured tobacco to some extent.

The prospect for a large forage crop is good, especially of field peas, which look very promising. Minor crops generally, as well as pastures and gardens, are failing rapidly, and stand in urgent need of rain. The apple and melon crops continue poor, but peaches and pears are plentiful, while the peaches are rotting badly. Grapes are ripening. A general rain would materially improve the crop prospects.

A Determined Mob.

Seldom has there been such grave determination on the part of the mob as that displayed at Huntsville, Ala., last week. A mob of one thousand men went to the jail to take a negro rapist and lynch him. The Sheriff and his deputies fired upon the lynchers, wounding some of them. This did not deter them. The sheriff appealed to the governor, and the military were ordered out, but too late. The mob received tax and feathers and oil, and having gotten into the lower corridor of the jail, piled them on the ceiling and fired them. The work of shooting out the inmates was begun.

The sheriff retreated with his prisoner to a point farthest removed from the odorous pile. He swore that he would die with his prisoner. The chief of police forced his way to where the sheriff was and exhorted him to leave the building. The mob took hold of the sheriff and carried him from the jail and hanged and shot him to death.

It was old and stale this thing about the liquor men and preachers being on the same line. He never said there was an agreement between the preachers and barkeepers.

I have no quarrel with the ministers of any church or denomination and have no purpose to give offense to any of them. I have always borne testimony to the high character and purity of purpose characterizing the ministry, but I believe they are wrong in fighting the dispensary law as they do, and I claim the right to say so, acknowledging at the same time their right to freedom of speech and freedom of political action on this and every other subject.

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Paid Him to Wait.

Hon. W. D. Evans, Lancaster, S. C.

Telegrams received. Accusation to defrauding Matheson false.

C. S. McCall.

Mr. Evans requests the publication.

Mr. McCall was the trustee of the fund loaned Col. W. D. Evans. A. K.

Missionaries Murdered.

Two English missionary ladies, Miss

Church and Miss Sealall, have been

murdered at Hsia Si by Chinese.

Massacres reported.

Tai Yuan and Pao

Ting Fu.

I am op-

SPEAKS AT CHESTER

Tillman Makes a Red Hot Dispensary Speech.

CRITICISES HIS CRITICS.

He Refers to the Recent Attacks of Bishop Duncan and Dr. Gardner on Him.

At the campaign meeting at Chester Thursday Senator Tillman made a red hot speech and put new gings in the fight. He was held until the very last, and when he talked, made it lively. Tillman was received with that old time whoop. To start at the end, Tillman said:

"This was his seventh meeting and he protested against always being put last. There were some who thought he ought to remain at home. It was not his fault some one else does not want to be senator. He never felt happy unless he had opposition, and he preferred it. He may be a fool, but he was never accused of it, and therefore, he did not try to be a dictator, but felt free to give advice. As long as he was senator he felt free to talk. All are agreed on national issues and there was no use to talk on such matters unless he wanted to sheer around or say some sweet things. He had seriously regarded his duty. He had thought it over, and feeling his obligations, he felt it carried with him some responsibility to assist in throwing light. Did you not teach me to use this tongue and to use it vigorously? Did you label that tongue 'for national use only?' if so, say so. If you say I will obey. If not otherwise advised he was going to talk right out on the liquor question. The people were free to do as they pleased and he wanted them to do so. It is charged that but for Tillman there would now be prohibition. He said he worked for the dispensary law.

Having received a telegram from Gov. Yuan (of Shan Tung) dated 23d day of this moon (July 19th), who having received from the privy council at Peking, a dispatch embodying an imperial letter to the president of the United States has instructed me to transmit it to your excellency. The United States has instructed me to return it to its original subscribers was finally brought to a vote, about \$8,000 worth of the stock voted for it, and the other \$10,000 voted against. Thus it was determined to continue the exchange, which has been suspended for about one