

THE CAMDEN CHRONICLE

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Camden S.C., April 23 1920.

The wearing of overalls movement has not struck Camden yet, and we see no reason why it should. To our mind it is a nonsensical fad and will only result in boosting the price of overalls, and thereby make the men who use them daily with honest toil be the sufferers in the end.

Early returns from the primary held in Georgia Tuesday show that Attorney A. Mitchell Palmer, had a long lead over both Thos. E. Watson and Hoke Smith in the contest for the democratic presidential nomination in Georgia.

Resolutions protesting against an address in Jacksonville, Fla., this week of the provisional president of the first republic, was adopted by the Jacksonville, Fla., American Legion post last Friday.

The Record is not prepared to put its judgment ahead of those alienists who testified that A. M. Giles, the Rock Hill man who murdered his wife was insane at the time of the awful deed, but we doubt very much if his "insanity" covered anything else but a desire to murder that poor unfortunate woman.

In an address before the annual meeting of the members of the Associated Press held in New York on Tuesday, Vice President Thomas R. Marshall issued this sound and wholesome advice: "Let's get down from the theory that we must either make all the money that we can today, for tomorrow we die, or we must spend all the money we have today for fear there will be none tomorrow. Let us understand that American prosperity can not continue if the farms and factories of this country are to produce less and consume more."

The Charlotte Observer announced Sunday that beginning with Monday morning's issue it was compelled, by the shortage of newsprint paper, to curtail its daily edition to eight pages. The daily papers have been largely responsible for the scarcity of paper, as they have been issued anywhere from twenty to thirty six pages daily—more than anyone has time to read.

Governor Cooper has named Ben J. McInnes of Charleston, W. A. Barnhart of Greenwood, and M. R. B. Black of Spartanburg, to constitute the state board of veterinary examiners, created by the 1920 general assembly.

Speaker Cochran of Greenville, and Representatives Mowbray of Newberry, Meares of Fairfield, and Buckingham of Aiken, and Senators Johnstone of Newberry and McCall of Marlboro, have returned to the desks of the house and senate the books that were sent to them for the extra days' ser vice on account of the general assembly having lasted beyond the usual 40 days.

A CORRECTION.

In our last issue we stated that one of the first acts of the new city council was to revoke the former ordinance relating to allowing courts over eight feet to visit the poor rooms. Unfortunately the error made it read under eighteen and to cause some little criticism. We regret the error, but it was who a misstatement on our part. The ordinance as amended will conform to the state law governing such cases.

Two Big Touring Busses Pass Here.

Two large automobiles, one a White and the other a Packard, known as the "rubber neck" special, carrying 34 passengers, passed through Camden Tuesday and spent a short while viewing over the city. They were en route from St. Augustine, Fla., to Massachusetts. Winter tourists make up the passenger list, a charge of \$25 for conveyance on the 1500 mile trip, each tourist to purchase his own meals and lodging en route. These cars make the trip from the north to the south each year and are used as sight-seeing cars at the Florida resorts. The huge cars attracted a great deal of attention all along the route.

Letters From The People

THE RESPONSIBILITY

Editor Chronicle: Can any one doubt that if the Peace Treaty, including the League of Nations, had been promptly endorsed and ratified by America, it would have made a vast difference in the condition of the world today? The moral effect would have been incalculable—like pouring oil on the troubled waters. Even Russia might have lapsed into comparative quiet and weary, tortured hearts have been given a respite from their woes.

No one has really thought that American rights were threatened by the terms of the League of Nations. The vast majority of American patriots are not any way blind, nor have they been deceived for one minute, as to the ignoble motives behind the actions of those who have taken advantage of a little temporary authority to abuse the rights of mankind.

Are the wounds in France to count for nothing? The sacrifice and sufferings of all our boys to be ignored? What vindication is there for them if this thing falls?

The world has waited while some have picked and torn at the vitals of the Treaty, until even in those countries where it has been adopted much of its effectiveness and force have been destroyed. Are we going to allow such a crime to be perpetrated against the honest convictions of all right thinking people, merely that the unreasonable hatred and malice of some jealous, sore-headed people may be gratified? Egoism gone mad, aided by a supine and selfish indifference on the part of some who might have put up a better fight against this outrage.

A RATHER LOW VALUATION.

It has come to my attention that the Southern Power Company's return of their property for taxes in Wateree Township was for the amount of \$500,000 and that the township board raised their return to \$1,200,000, or an amount equal to 42 per cent of a value of \$10,000,000. The 42 per cent being the amount which it is legal to return, properly as related to its true value. Since the Township board met, this return has been passed on by the county board of equalization, who upon showing made to them by attorneys of the power company placed the assessment back to their original return of \$500,000. It was claimed by those representing the interests of the company that the plant cost an amount a little less than \$2,000,000, and that as they were losing now on the running of the plant, they would willingly sell it for that price.

Answering their statement that the plant was at that time losing money in its operation. It is within the bounds of possibility that they were, for if I am not mistaken at the time of their statement the river was at flood stage, and in all probability they were not able to use all of their different plants, producing power, and located above the one located in our county, on the Wateree, use those plants to their full capacity. If this condition actually existed, and they were able to use the power which was furnished at its maximum quantity, they would be able to contract for their output as produced at its extreme capacity. Just here we would make a comparison of a farmer who would plant a crop equal to the working possibilities of his help, not allowing for days of rain when it is impossible for his hands to get into the fields to plow in the cultivation of the crops.

Now as to the value of the plant, at the time that they first commenced work on the dam, it was commonly reported that the Hardaway company had the contract calling for a price of \$6,000,000. Add to this amount the cost of a piece of property at the time of its construction, rather than at the time of its being assessed for taxation.

I may add to this some thoughts on its revenue producing power. One of its water wheels, and there are five of them in all. The gross receipts from one of them calculated at a price of 3 1/2 cents per k w hour, and not at 15 cents which all of the small consumers of electricity are paying our city plant gross receipts for one of the five wheels, at the 3 1/2 cents equals an amount annually of more than \$2,000,000, calculated on a twelve hour day. Now it is known that the company is selling their power both for the running of manufacturing plants as well as for lighting purposes, and that these two of necessity do no conflict with each other in their plant making, not a 12 hour but a twenty four hour day.

Now as to whether this corporation is using their plant for the good of our county or naturally for their personal gain. A company who is using a resource which is the only one we have that is not our own other than that of the air and the ground. A company who when asked to make to the city a wholesale price of their current, to our city council that they might use it for lighting purposes, and for the purpose

of pumping water for the supply of our people, the company, through their representatives made council. What they considered a prohibitive offer, offering to purchase the city plant, and furnishing them power at 15 cents per k w hour to the small consumers, provided that they were given a sixty year franchise. With the further statement that the offer would have to be accepted almost immediately or the company would not be able to furnish it at all, their power being all practically sold.

Council has since that time employed an engineer at a cost of \$850 to go over our plant to ascertain its value. After making this investigation, they wrote to the company asking them to sell them the power at their published wholesale prices. But have not up to this time had a hearing from this letter. The natural supposition is that this company which is losing money on their investment has already sold their output. It is natural that it will be asked what is all this about? The answer is that if these people have a plant that is worth \$10,000,000, and are assessed at 42 per cent on its value, the same as the merchants, the banks, and at least some of the individual property owners of our county and city, they will pay a tax that is equal to 2/3 that of the balance of the county. Now if this contention advanced here is the correct one the matter is of entirely too great a magnitude to be passed over carelessly, one which every tax payer of our county is vitally interested in, and this is the reason that I am calling attention to the facts as I see them.

Tax Payer Camden, S. C., April 20, 1920.

Make It An "Old Clothes" Club.

What will the "Overall" Club accomplish? Everywhere they are organizing the "Overall" Clubs. This in all probability will only add to some little overall factory's fortune. Already the prices of overalls have advanced considerably, and every week there is another advance on overalls. When you organize the "Old Clothes" Club, you will within a short time reduce the price of clothes. Why not organize such a club? Each member to sign up not to buy any clothes of any nature, even to hat, shirt, underwear, socks, ties, shoes, for say a period of one year. And more honor to the member who wears his pants with patches on them. The overall club is working a hardship on the man who has to wear them. He is having to pay greatly increased prices on them, and he is the man who can least of all afford it. Let's have the "Old Clothes" Club, and wear out the suits that are hanging in the closet, already.

Economy.

York county has paid to Mary A. Sims, negro, widow of the late Rev. W. T. Sims, negro preacher, who was done to death by a mob, the sum of \$2,000—amount of a verdict directed against the county by Judge Sease at the fall term of the court of common pleas last year. The widow of the deceased negro brought suit against the county for \$2,000 under a statute which provides that where a person is lynched by a mob the state shall pay to that person's estate not less than that sum. York Enquirer.

AN EDITOR'S DREAM.

The home of my dream is that home where contentment dwells; where honor and good will abide—the home where each inmate has pictured on his or her face the greatest joy and where even the walls and deposits reflect the light and the strength of business and character. The home of my dream is the home of broad, well-arranged apartments; the painted home, the home where the gardens, orchards and fields yield forth abundant increase for the support of man and beast; and where the yards, the wood lot and the barnyard, made attractive with comfortable buildings and sheds for the housing of the stock, is kept in the highest possible state of sanitation and where the finest breeds of cattle, hogs, sheep and goats, mules and horses may be exhibited so as to elicit the admiration of the populace.

The home of my dream is the home supplied with all modern conveniences, electric lights, running water, fans, churns, washing machines for clothes and dishes, and many other labor saving devices, and where the farmer, formerly handicapped by the shortage of farm hands, cultivates his fields with modern machinery—where the farmer lives who belongs to the community organizations, attends and takes part in them; and where papers are read and new methods for greater agricultural achievements are adopted.

The home of my dream is that one located in a progressive community, in easy reach of a graded school house, a pretty comfortable church and among people who are law-abiding and who believe in the golden rule. "Do unto others as ye would have others do unto you." Walton (Ga.) Tribune.

NOTICE, DEMOCRATIC CLUBS

County Chairman Calls For Meetings on Saturday, April 24th.

The Democratic Party rules require, that each Club in the County shall meet on the fourth Saturday in April of each election year for reorganization. The Democratic Clubs of Kershaw County will therefore meet in each district on Saturday next, April 24th, 1920, at 12 o'clock M., at the usual place of voting in each District, or at such time and place on said day in the district as the Club may be called to meet by its officers. The President, Vice-President or Secretary of each club shall immediately notify the members of their clubs of this

SERVICE

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We believe that 98 per cent of these customers of ours will tell you that not only do we sell

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meeting. At this meeting there shall be chosen a President, one or more vice-presidents, a Secretary and treasurer and a member of the County Executive Committee. Each club shall also choose delegates to the county convention which is to meet at noon in the Court House at Camden on the first Monday in May, being May 3rd, 1920; one delegate for each 25 club members or majority fraction of twenty-five. In addition to the officers above

named each club may choose the following working committees of not less than three members each, a Committee on Registration, an Executive Committee, and such other committees as each club may deem expedient. The Camden Democratic Club will meet in the Court House at 12 M., April 24th, 1920. Laurens T. Mills, Chairman County Democratic Executive Committee, April 19th, 1920.

TEACHERS EXAMINATION The spring examination for teachers will be held in the Court room at Camden Saturday, May 1st, 1920. Applicants must have attained eighteen years of age to be eligible to teach or procure a certificate. Examination begins at 9:30 a. m. I. J. McKENZIE, Supt. of Education for Kershaw County. 2-3-4



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