

THE CAMDEN CHRONICLE

VOLUME XXXVIII.

CAMDEN, SOUTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1926.

NUMBER 26

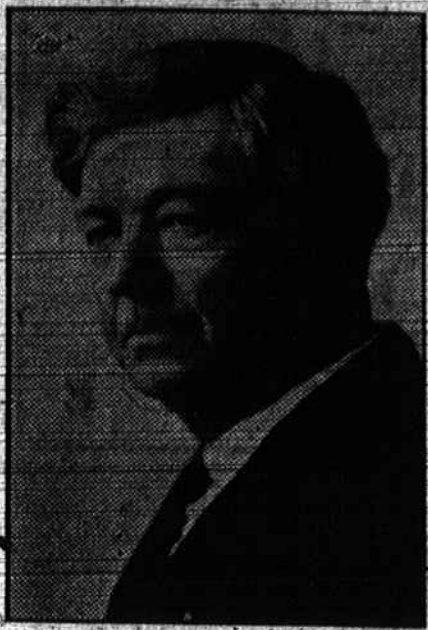
JOHN G. RICHARDS.

Interesting Pen Picture of South Carolina's Next Governor.

(By Jno. K. Aull.)

Columbia, Sept. 20.—Known to his friends and associates as "The Major" and to the people of South Carolina generally as Major Richards, he is nevertheless a full lieutenant colonel of South Carolina infantry, having been promoted to that grade in 1914, and still holding it on the retired list of the National Guard of the State.

The big majority which plied up for him on the face of the returns received on the night of the second primary early assured his nomination as governor, and he issued a card of thanks to his friends, and before midnight he had left for his home at Liberty Hill, to be with his family. He returned to Columbia for a day, but had to get back home to get out his cotton. For he is a farmer, and has been all his life. Almost continuously in public life since a couple years after he



reached his majority, he has held to farming as his main occupation and as the means of earning a livelihood for his family. He was born near where he now lives. His home stands on a commanding hill, and there is a large formation of granite there. And in his physical build, standing more than six feet tall, with bone and muscle during the 62 years of his life never hidden by any soft tissue, and in the strength of his character and his sincerity and honesty and integrity, one is reminded of the ruggedness of those granite Kershaw hills among which he has lived his life. He will go into office untrammelled by any promises save those made to the public as a whole, and standing upon the platform which he announced at the opening campaign meeting at Lexington and reiterated upon every stump from there on until including the final meeting in Columbia.

A service of twelve years in the South Carolina house of representatives, during ten years of which he was a member of the ways and means committee; of several years upon the railroad commission, by appointment of Governor Ansel, then by election by the people, and twice by election by the general assembly; of four years as a trustee of Clemson college, and a close touch with all the affairs of government during a long period of years, have prepared him for the duties of the high office which he will assume next January. And he will begin the discharge of those duties with hearty support from the people of the State. The big majority which he received was made up of strong support in every county, and it includes every political faction of the past since the days of the '90's. His promise is, with the help of God, to walk worthily and to be the governor of all the people. He has always kept his promises, and he will keep this one.

To be governor of South Carolina has been his life ambition. Those who have been in close touch with affairs political in this state believe that he might have attained this ambition 12 years ago had he trimmed his sails to the political winds. But he had taken his bearings and laid out his course, and there was no deviation from the point of the compass. In those days, as back in the '90's, passions were running high; nerves were taut and strained; self-control was hard, and it took a clear brain and a strong heart to be in the meliorism and not be blown away. But he was true to the principles for which he stood, and true then, as always before and since, to the friends who stood by him. On the night before last Tuesday's primary, he told his friends and his family that no matter how the battle of the ballots should go next day, the

CAR PLUNGED INTO CREEK.

Several Ladies and Children Narrowly Escaped Serious Injury.

Loaded with human freight, a Hudson car plunged into the Hermitage canal on the Camden-Bishopville highway last Thursday evening, but aside from a few bruises none of the six occupants were injured. The car belonged to Mrs. B. L. Inabinet of Bishopville and was being driven by her. Accompanying her was her child; Mrs. Follow and little baby, of Columbia; Mrs. Jack Shaw and Mrs. Audrey Reeves, of Bishopville. They were enroute from Columbia to Bishopville, and when on the bridge they were struck by a Ford car belonging to Joe Adams, colored, which the ladies claim was being driven at a rapid rate.

The cars met on the bridge and the Ford struck the left front wheel of the Hudson and caused the heavy car to head in the opposite direction and run into the waters of the canal. Luckily, the water was low or the whole party would very likely have been drowned. As it was the ladies had to hold the children's heads above water until help reached them.

Two Bishopville cars were just behind the wrecked car and carried the occupants on to Bishopville. The Hudson was pulled out later and found not to be badly damaged and was driven on to Bishopville. The Ford was considerably damaged and we learn that the negro paid all costs of the damages.

steadfastness and the loyalty of his friends were worth more to him personally than any office, and even should there be defeat at the polls, that steadfastness and loyalty would have given him a higher victory. And now he takes no credit to himself.

It is probable that he will continue in the position of railroad commissioner during the remainder of the year. There will be heavy calls upon his time as the governor-elect, but he feels that, if it be physically possible, he should not surrender the trust reposed in him by the legislature until he assumes the higher office.

In connection with his office as railroad commissioner, it might not be amiss, now that the campaign is over, to refer briefly to the opinions expressed by some during the campaign that Major Richards' position as to getting back to constitutional government was inconsistent with his being himself a member of a commission, and drawing a salary as such during the campaign. As a matter of fact, while it is called a "commission," the railroad commission is created by the constitution, and a member of the commission is a constitutional officer, and as a member of the commission, so far as the salary is concerned, Major Richards receives compensation only for the days he actually serves at the meetings of the board, and he was not drawing a salary from the State while he was out on the campaign. There was not time for him, at the campaign meetings, to refer to all these matters, but this is now stated in justice to him.

Major Richards' family consists of Mrs. Richards and nine daughters—and these daughters have been entering Winthrop college as they became of sufficient age.

Members of the new governor's family are: Mrs. Elizabeth Coates (Workman) Richards; Mrs. John Wells Todd, Jr.; Laurens; Mrs. Thomas McCrae, Denmark; Miss Betty Richards, teacher in Laurens City Schools; Laurens; Miss Rekah Richards, teacher in Laurens City Schools; Laurens; Miss Margaret Richards, teacher of music, Queens College, Charlotte, N. C.; Mrs. Morgan Sauls, Liberty Hill; Miss Mildred Richards, student Winthrop College, Rock Hill; Miss Jean Richards, student Winthrop College, Rock Hill; Miss Johnny Richards, student, Liberty Hill school, Liberty Hill.

His only son, Stephen M. Richards, died at a military camp in Iowa during the World War. In Mrs. Richards, the state will have a first lady who, with her charming family, will grace the governor's mansion.

As an index of Major Richards' life, his attention to the duties of the duties of the trusteeship of his local school at Liberty Hill stands out in bold relief. He regards the elementary schools as of prime importance, and in all the positions he has held he has not lost sight of the home school on one of Kershaw's hills.

With his unquestioned moral and physical courage, it is believed that Major Richards was badly scared

MISS THOMPSON DEAD.

Baltimore Lady Gave Catholic Church To Camden.

On Thursday last week word was received in Camden of the death of Miss Charlotte M. Thompson in Baltimore. The news was somewhat of a shock, since Miss Thompson, though ill for some time, had nevertheless not been considered as being in immediate danger of death. The end came quietly. At the bedside were her surviving brother, Mr. Oliver Thompson, her attending physician, Dr. Gillis, and her nurse, Mrs. Stemler. Previous to her death she had received the last rites of the church.

The remains arrived in Camden Monday morning at 10 o'clock and were immediately brought to St. Mary's church for funeral services and interment. It will be remembered that Miss Thompson built St. Mary's church in 1914 and at that time she superintended the construction of her own tomb in a little side mortuary chapel. In this tomb her mortal remains now rest.

The Requiem Mass was celebrated by the Rector Rev. Thomas J. Mackin, Assisting in the sanctuary were Rev. Nicholas A. Murphy, of St. Peter's church, Columbia; Rev. James D. Quinn, of St. Ann's church, Sumter; Rev. Martin Murphy, of St. Francis' church, Shandon, Columbia. Rt. Rev. William T. Russell, Bishop of Charleston, had expected to be present, but was not sufficiently recovered from a recent illness to be able to make the journey.

Following the Requiem Mass, the rector proceeded to the rite of the Absolution of the Dead, after which the clergy went in procession to the vault, the remains being borne along by the pallbearers, who were: Messrs. K. G. Whistler, Bennie DeLoache, Jr., W. L. DePass, E. M. Workman, Joseph Sheehan, L. T. Mills, Norman Huckabee and Abraham Sheehan.

Besides the mourners, Mr. Thompson, Dr. Gillis and Mrs. Stemler, there were in the church a large gathering of friends from Camden and surrounding country. A delegation of pupils of the Charlotte Thompson School attended, accompanied by Mr. Norman Huckabee, principal, and several members of the faculty and trustees. At the tomb the committal service was read, the grave blessed and the casket lowered into place. It was covered by an exquisite blanket of ferns and roses, a last gift of the brother of the deceased. The grave was sealed with a solid slab of Georgia marble and on top of the slab was placed a great wreath of lilies, the gift of Charlotte Thompson School.

Principal J. G. Richards, Miss Alberta Tean and Mrs. Laurens T. Mills were named to represent the teaching faculties of Camden schools and several pupils constituted a committee from the student bodies.

On the wall above Miss Thompson's grave was placed a beautiful bronze memorial tablet, which reads as follows: "Of your charity pray for the soul of Charlotte M. Thompson, who built this church in 1914. 'Jesus Christ is the Propitiation of our Sins, and not ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.' St. John I Epistle, 11-2."

In the little mortuary chapel at the head of Miss Thompson's grave stands the altar which formerly stood in the domestic chapel at "The Terraces", her country home a few miles out of town. The remains of a beloved citizen of Camden now rest in peace and quiet of the church she built. Her monument is the temple of good wherein her mortal remains are laid.

Mrs. Conway Morris, of Woodruff, age 28, was found lying on the floor with a bullet wound in the temple and another in her body, when her husband returned from preaching services Friday night. Mrs. Morris, who is in a Spartanburg hospital, says a man came to the door and shot her. The husband believes it was an attempt at suicide, as Mrs. Morris has been in ill health. The shooting was done with Morris' pistol, which he had hidden and thought was out of the wife's reach.

once in his life. That was during the year when his Presbytery elected him its Moderator. When he got to Columbia next day, he had not yet got over the fright. But they say he had a good one. His earthly trinity consists of his family, his church and his State—and in the last named is included his particular hobby of States' Rights and constitutional government.

STORM TAKES HEAVY TOLL.

Hundreds Dead and Millions in Property Damage in Florida.

(Wednesday's Associated Press.) Leaving a long trail of destruction and hundreds of dead, injured and homeless, the tropical hurricane which came out of the Bahamas Friday to rage across southern Florida and along the eastern gulf coast finally has blown itself out in southern Mississippi.

With direct communication restored with the last of the isolated cities—Pensacola—it appears that there was no loss of life along the gulf, although the wind at times reached a velocity of 120 miles an hour, even greater than that which leveled towns of the Southeastern Florida coast leaving at least 400 dead; 150 or more missing; 5,000 injured and 50,000 homeless.

Property damage in Pensacola was estimated at \$2,000,000, while that of Mobile was less than half that amount. Smaller towns in Alabama and Mississippi suffered some loss and crops in the southern portions of those states were badly damaged.

Identification of the dead was proceeding only slowly and many of those who perished in the worst storm Florida probably has ever felt, likely will go to the graves of the unknown.

Early last night the list of the known dead still stood at 388, but rescue workers believed the total would reach 700 in south Florida alone. More than 1,500 were more or less seriously injured and that the property damage was estimated at anywhere from \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000.

Government agencies, relief workers and railroad officials were bending their efforts to get into Pensacola for an assessment of the damage there to carry relief to the stricken population. There was no estimate either of the dead or of property damage, but the reports coming through told of the wrecking of the station and property of the Louisville & Nashville railroad and other damage.

Press dispatches from Mobile early last night said that Gulfport had escaped with a property damage of only \$700,000 and no loss of life. Property loss was caused by the high winds unroofing buildings and the rising water flooding buildings. The barometer there set a new low record in the fifty years' history of the weather bureau.

Other gulf towns escaped the full force of the blast which veered off into southern Alabama, where there were unconfirmed reports of some loss of life and property and into southern Mississippi, where it was dissipated after warnings had been issued at New Orleans that the blow was headed for that place.

Although only 48 hours had passed since the hurricane had swept Miami, Hollywood-by-the-sea, Coral Gables, Fort Lauderdale, Moore Haven, and many other Florida towns, the work of rescue and relief was well in hand. Hotels and other buildings, although roofless and windowless, were converted into temporary hospitals for treatment of the injured.

Many agencies, federal, state and fraternal, were pooling their efforts in relief work. The American Red Cross alone had raised nearly \$1,000,000 to succor the homeless and the injured and other agencies were supplying funds for rehabilitating the devastated regions.

Medical and food supplies were being rushed to the east coast from Chicago, Jacksonville and nearby cities. Food supplies were going in large quantities; but the West Palm Beach chapter of the Red Cross sent out an urgent appeal for tents, cots and bedding, oil stoves, baby foods, bottled water, blankets and other necessities.

Alplanes carrying anti-tetanus and anti-typhoid serums were rushing to the storm area in the hope that epidemics might be avoided. Through most of the district sanitary conditions were reported as bad, particularly in the inland towns which were leveled by the storm as it swept across Lake Okechobee and on to the west coast, where some lives were lost and property and crop damage estimated at \$16,000,000 was caused.

With the receding of the waters and the re-establishment of lines of communication, refugees began pouring out of the storm area into Jacksonville, where city officials made immediate arrangements to house those who were unable to continue their northward journey.

The outgoing stream was almost matched by an incoming deluge of relatives and residents of the storm-

FOOTBALL SEASON OPENS

Camden Eleven Meets St. Matthews Eleven Here This Afternoon.

With the longest string of candidates ever seen here, among whom are many veteran players, the prospects for Camden High school football are more favorable toward a completely successful season than has been represented in many a long day. Fifty men are daily lining up for the grueling practices as required by Coach Richards and Assistant Coaches Villepigue and Nettles.

Sowell, entering his third year of high school play and a stellar light in former contests, is captain of this year's team, and, close to him in the expectation of big things, local enthusiasts are pointing to Campbell, whose husky two-hundred pounds tied in sprinting with the fastest man of last year's squad. Goodale, Trapp, and Davidson will also likely prove first-line material of the choicest variety as their ability has received favorable recognition for two full years.

Ratliffe who was ruled ineligible last year is expected to again come into his own this season and Flowers, Jenkins, Mills, Burns, Watts and Fouts are also players of experience and ability and of whom much will be expected when the Camden Bull Dogs go into combat with the various high school teams of South Carolina.

The Camden high school football team in former years has ever held an enviable record and was the only state team to register a score against the invincible Columbians of last year and when the whistle marks the local opening of the 1926 season St. Matthews who plays here at the race track field Friday, as well as all the football world, will still realize that Coach Richards men are fighters real and withal natural lovers of the best of good clean sport.

Building Being Erected.
Contract has been let to Corbett Brothers, local contractors, to erect an exhibition building for the Kershaw County Fair Association on the fair grounds near the Seaboard freight depot. The building will be 100 feet long and 40 feet wide and will be of metal construction, costing around \$1,000.

The committee will materially increase the premiums this year, especially on general farm and swine exhibits.

The fair will be held the week of November 8th, and the county fair premium lists will be issued around the first of October.

Registration Board To Meet.
The Chronicle is in receipt of a communication signed by Newton Kelley, O. T. Gardner and G. R. Clements, members of the Board of Registration for Kershaw county, stating that the board will meet on Friday, October 1. This will be the last opportunity of securing a registration certificate before the general election in November.

swept district who were seeking direct word as to the fate of loved ones. As a result, roads down the east coast were congested.

Proportionately some of the inland towns suffered even greater damage than did those in the section facing the Atlantic, and the full fury of the hurricane's first blast, Moore Haven practically was wiped out, as was Fort Lauderdale.

The dead at Moore Haven was placed at 61, with the search for bodies still in progress, while the total at Fort Lauderdale was given as 11, with 100 injured. Parts of the town still were under water and rescue workers believed many bodies still were in wrecked homes or in nearby waters.

Some of the refugees from the stricken districts gave vivid pictures of conditions in Miami when the storm was at its height. One refugee declared streets were impassable and that houses and trees were everywhere.

Ambulances dashed about the city picking up wounded and rushing them to hospitals. During that time, according to this refugee, the air was literally full of debris borne before the 100 mile gale. Sometimes whole roofs of houses could be seen flying by.

A large construction barge was washed up directly in front of the Royal Palm hotel, from which the roof was torn by the wind. A large private yacht was lifted from its moorings and deposited almost on the steps of the McAllister hotel.

BUSINESS OUTLOOK GOOD

Good Crops and Building Operations Increases Activity.

With the recent political campaign now a thing of history, and the refreshing quietude that has followed in its wake, it would appear that Camden, and Kershaw county generally, is beginning to take stock of its actual holdings as well as the potential assets of a winter season surmounting the best record yet.

An afternoon's ride, or better yet, a full day's trip into the Lockhart section trailing, or toward Cassatt and into Eastern Kershaw or across the Wateree to the farthest Southern tip and again to the red hills and rock crevices of the north—or wherever one might travel within the county—there will unfold fields of cotton, liberally planted and rich in its harvest award, but more pleasing, perhaps, is the sight of pigs and porkers, peas and plenty of corn and everywhere sweet potatoes in ample measures.

In Camden the Schlosburg interests have made yet another store opening; a new candy kitchen comes to town, and W. P. Thomas last week consummated a trade for the magnificent Savage property near the Court Inn, where he likewise will operate during the coming winter season the very exclusive King Haigler Hotel.

The building trades are finding full time operation; at present are principally employed upon the erection of the Baptist Sunday school extension, the home of Mr. W. T. Stewart in Lake View and numerous other small residential properties.

Contractor W. G. Adams is busy with the erection of four bed rooms and eight bath rooms to the Court Inn in order to take care of more guests during the coming winter. He will also begin the erection of a modern bungalow in the northwest corner of the Court Inn grounds to be occupied by Captain and Mrs. Dwight Partridge.

Virtually every home occupied last season by visitors from the North will again be taken and even at this early date a number of families have established themselves amidst the pine and sunshine of Camden. The tourist hotels and the grounds surrounding each are being shaped for record bookings when they will open around the first of November.

Meanwhile the local market continues twenty-five to fifty points better than adjoining towns and winners hereabouts have turned out around 1200 bales of the new cotton crop, which is running 40 per cent later than last year, and Mr. Bruce is placing his official weight stamp at the rate of 1,900 times per every three days to the ultimate benefit of every local buyer and his brother's son and friend!

Parent-Teacher Association.
A meeting will be held at the school auditorium Friday evening, October 1st, at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of organizing a Parent-Teacher Association. The object of this Association is to bring into closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may co-operate intelligently in the training of the child. Any one interested in the welfare of this community is cordially invited to be present. After the meeting light refreshments will be served and an informal reception will be held in order that the parents may meet new teachers and renew the acquaintance of those returning again to Camden.

J. G. Richards, Principal.

Miss Emily Lang Injured in Fall.
Telephone advice reaching The Chronicle as it goes to press Thursday afternoon are to the effect that Miss Emily Lang, popular young society girl of Camden, now a student at Flora McDonald college, at Red Springs, N. C., sustained very painful injuries in a fall, at the college Thursday morning.

The injuries are said to consist of a broken ankle, a broken arm and bruises about the body, and while their extent of seriousness is not stated, it is said that Miss Lang is resting as comfortably as could be expected. The supposed cause of the accident, it is stated, is a case of fainting superinduced by a short but weakening illness.

Relatives were immediately advised and they are now with Miss Lang in the North Carolina city.

When no humans or animals are handy, the mosquito lives largely on plant juices.