

Report of D. L. Lewis on the Rural Schools of Bamberg Co.

Hon. J. E. Swearingen, Dear Sir: I give below summary of conditions as seen in the country schools of Bamberg county during a three-days' visit ending with Friday, Feb. 18:

On Wednesday I visited Midway, Hydigger, Embree, Edisto, Hunter's Chapel and Pine Grove, all one-teacher schools except Hunter's Chapel. I found all the one-teacher buildings constructed without regard to lighting, ventilation, cloak-rooms, and general equipment, several of the school-rooms having immense rostra or platforms taking up one-fourth or one-third of the room. Midway, with a few changes, such as placing the lighting on one side and removing the platform, can easily be converted into a good school-room. The other one-teacher buildings could hardly be converted into good classrooms with respect to lighting, cloak-rooms, etc., as the principles of construction were faulty, and not in accordance with modern school architecture. The only remedy would be new school houses. Hunter's Chapel was found to be a splendid building and reflects great credit on the community.

In the one-teacher schools we found as good teaching being done as we could expect to find in a one-teacher school. It is high time, however, that people everywhere begin to realize that our children cannot be educated in the one and two-teacher schools. The one-teacher school can teach only seven grades, and the two-teacher schools can teach only eight grades.

What is to become of the education of the country children after they complete the course of study in the one and two-teacher schools? No country community should be satisfied with a school having fewer than three teachers, and just as soon as possible, every country community should have schools of four teachers. A good county system of schools will place every country child in reach of a high school or a good consolidated country school. The country children deserve just as good education as do the town and city children, and only by giving them the opportunity to attend such schools as those named above will they get the training they deserve.

At Hunter's Chapel we found three teachers. Such a school can teach nine grades, and some tenth grade subjects, and can go far towards giving the country children adequate training.

On Thursday Hampton, Clear Pond, Heyward, St. Johns and Three-Mile schools were visited. All of these schools except St. Johns are one-teacher schools, and the remarks made above apply to these schools also. Several of the one-teacher schools had in attendance only five or six pupils, indicating either a very scattered population, or very poor attendance. We did not have time to see the compulsory attendance officer to discuss with him the poor attendance in some of the schools.

On Friday Govan and Salem, both one-teacher schools, were visited. Govan has a good building, and it seems that such a community would

have a school of three or four teachers. The general impression gained, is that Bamberg county has an unusual proportion of one-teacher schools, and very poor country school buildings very poorly equipped. Of the thirteen schools visited, only two, Hunter's Chapel and Govan, were at all in accordance with modern school architecture.

With such country schools, it is not surprising that many of Bamberg's country people are moving to town to educate their children. It is easy to criticize. And criticism is destructive unless just, and unless accompanied with practical and practicable suggestions as to improving conditions criticised.

My reason for criticising conditions found in the country schools of Bamberg is, not an effort to reflect on the country people for not doing their duty by their children, for I have always found country people thoroughly responsive to suggestions as to school improvement when the necessity for such improvement is made clear to them. My reason for criticising the country schools is because of my interest in the country children, who, if educated, will prove the bulwark of future civilization. Country children have been taught to work and to know responsibility. If we educate such children, their possibilities are unlimited.

What does Bamberg county need worst of all? A leader in education. It is a great mistake for Bamberg county not to have a county superintendent, a man of successful teaching experience, a leader, who can give his whole time to supervising the country schools. If the four high schools in Bamberg county, each with from ten to twenty teachers, these being teachers of successful experience in most cases, need the supervision of a good principal or superintendent, how about the country schools, most of them of the one and two-teacher type, the teachers oftentimes being without any experience? Such a superintendent could see to it that school houses of the most modern type were erected, that consolidations were made where feasible, that good teachers were employed, that these teachers did the best work of which they were capable, and could be a safe and sane leader in all matters educational. Of course, such a system will cost something, but which is better, to save money at the expense of the country children, or spend money to make them the men and women they should be made? The unfortunate thing is, that the people living in town, knowing only the town schools, think that Bamberg county is doing just as well as other counties for its country children. Such is not the case.

If Bamberg county cannot arrange for a county superintendent, then certainly it should have an expert school supervisor, who will spend his entire time in the country schools. Bamberg county is a fine county, with good lands and good people. Let us no longer neglect its best asset—its children, especially its country children.

D. L. LEWIS.

BARNWELL JAIL DELIVERY.

Five Negroes Gain Freedom Through Back Window.

Much excitement was created in Barnwell about seven-thirty o'clock Wednesday evening when it became known that five of the prisoners, all negroes, had made their escape from the county jail.

Jailer Main was at supper on the first floor of the jail when a negro janitor who had been upstairs with the prisoners' supper returned and reported the delivery. This was about ten minutes after the escape had been made.

The negroes effected their escape through a window on the second floor by unscrewing a tap that held a bar in place.

At the time of going to press Wednesday night the escaped prisoners were being pursued by the county officers, and a large number of citizens with the assistance of the county bloodhounds, and it is thought that they will be captured.

Those making their escape were: Mary O'Neal, of Williston, in jail for giving bad checks; Sam Jefferson, of Williston, grand larceny; John Davis, of Blackville, store breaking and larceny; John Ashley, of Williston, housebreaking and larceny; and George Pruett, of Blackville, for false dealing.—Barnwell Sentinel.

Kansas was visited by an army of Spaniards in 1541, but was not settled by whites until 1806.

WOMAN FOR SENATOR.

Miss Kearney Would Succeed John Sharp Williams.

A woman has entered the race in Mississippi for the United States senate, relates a Jackson, Miss., dispatch.

Miss Belle Kearney, of Madison, county, has announced her candidacy for the seat of Senator John Sharp Williams, who has declined to run for reelection. She will be opposed by ex-Gov. Theodore G. Bilbo and ex-Senator James K. Vardaman.

Miss Kearney will make the fight on a platform indorsing a league of nations, clearly safeguarding American interests, education, law enforcement restriction of immigration, child welfare, protective legislation for women in industry, ownership of homes, public health, social morality, economy in government, reduction in taxation, federal aid for farmers, industrial courts and labor legislation.

It Could Not be Worn.

Everett, aged six, had been left with a neighbor while mama and papa attended an amateur theatrical show.

When they were alone together the neighbor remarked: "Your mother certainly looked nice. She was certainly dressed up."

"Yes'm," Everett responded, "she had on everything new she got for Christmas 'cepting her percolater."

Carter Leads All Opponents in Balloting For Associate Justice

Carter Leads on 18th Ballot.

Special to The Herald: Columbia, Feb. 23, 1 p. m.—The thirteenth ballot for associate justice this morning gave:

	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th
Carter	40	41	46	47	48	50
Marion	25	27	30	31	30	40
Bonham	32	30	36	38	43	38
Shipp	26	23	27	27	27	30

Rucker, Sease, Moore and McIver have withdrawn. The balloting will be again resumed tomorrow.

R. P. BELLINGER.

Although many ballots have been taken by the house and senate in joint session, the balloting so far has failed to elect an associate justice to the supreme court to succeed the late Justice George W. Gage. Hon. J. F. Carter, of Bamberg, took the lead in the balloting last Thursday, and has steadily maintained the lead with slight gains through the balloting. On the first ballot Thursday Mr. Carter received 32 votes, and in the twelfth ballot Tuesday he received 37 votes. Eighty-one votes are necessary to choose. His nearest opponent on the first ballot was Gen. M. L. Bonham, of Anderson, who received 27 votes. Gen Bonham increased his vote to 33 Friday, but fell on Tuesday to 28. He has maintained second place throughout the balloting. Senator J. H. Marion, of Chester, has held the third place in the balloting throughout, with 18 votes on the first ballot and 20 on the last ballot Tuesday.

Ten names were presented to the joint assembly Thursday for successor to Justice Gage. These ten were: J. H. Marion, of Chester; Judge S. W. G. Shipp, of Florence; J. F. Carter, of Bamberg, M. L. Bonham, of Anderson; Judge W. H. Townsend, of Columbia; E. M. Rucker, of Columbia; Judge Thomas S. Sease, of Spartanburg; Judge Edward McIver, of Chester; Judge Ernest Moore, of Lancaster; and Judge H. F. Rice, of Aiken.

The names of Judge Townsend and Judge Rice were withdrawn Friday morning. Scattering votes were given during the balloting to various lawyers as a compliment to them. The first day's balloting resulted as follows:

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th
Marion	18	19	19	20	20	21	21	20	20
Shipp	13	14	14	15	15	16	16	15	15
Carter	32	31	34	34	34	34	34	34	34
Bonham	27	31	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
Townsend	6	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Rucker	22	21	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Sease	15	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
McIver	11	12	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Moore	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Rice	8	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	6

The balloting Friday was as follows:

Carter	33	35	36	36	36	33
Bonham	30	31	33	32	32	31
Townsend	3	0	0	0	0	0
Rucker	17	20	18	16	14	17
Sease	18	18	16	16	13	18
McIver	14	14	15	12	12	12
Moore	7	7	6	6	5	5

Below is given the results of the three ballots Tuesday:

	10th	11th	12th
Marion	16	18	20
Shipp	14	15	15
Carter	34	33	37
Bonham	28	30	28
Rucker	13	14	12
Sease	16	17	14
McIver	15	13	13
Moore	3	5	5

Following is given the personal of the twelfth ballot Tuesday morning: Marion (20): Senators Bailes, Basikin, Beasley, Bethea, Butler, Christensen, Clifton, Hart, Robinson and Young, and Representatives R. O. Atkinson, Barnett, Moise, W. F. Brown, Buckingham, Carey, Glenn, Mitchell, Parsley and Wolling.

Shipp (15): Senators Baker, Harrelson, Jeremiah Smith and H. L. Smith, Jr., and Representatives Anderson, Camlin, Hilliard, Hughes, Lewis, McCutchen, McElveen, Prince, Season, West and A. H. Williams.

Carter (37): Senators Black, Duncan, Gross, Hubbard, Johnson, Kennedy, Lightsey, Padgett, Stabler, and Wightman, and Representatives Allen, Bailey, Binnicker, Bodie, E. A. Brown, Busbee, Coney, Connor, M. R. Cooper, Cunningham, Folk, Gerald, Horton, Hydrick, Kearse, Keller, Killingsworth, Martin, Merchant, McMillan, O'Rouke, Riley, Toole, Wade, Hunter and Whaley.

Bonham (28): Senators Bonham, Mason, Moore, Watkins, Wells and Wideman, and Representatives Babb, Ballard, Beachman, Bramlett, Clinkscales, R. M. Cooper, Jr., Dalton, Dickson, Gresham, Hall, W. R. Harris, Hendricks, Leopard, McDavid, Moon, Moore, Mower, Nance, Putman, Shepherd, Sherard and Willis.

Rucker (12): Senators Hutson and Pearce, and Representatives Barr, Bryson, P. A. Cooper, Cox, Curtis, Ford, Goodwin, Scarborough, Smith, J. O. Williams.

Sease (14): Senators Crosson, Johnstone and Rogers, and Representatives J. B. Atkinson, Amick, Counts, Foster, Gibson, F. G. Harris, Hendrix, Kennedy, Lancaster, Lybrand and Mabry.

McIver (13): Senators Goodwin, Laney, McColl and Miller, and Representatives Alexander, Pegues, Ellerbe, Evans, McInnes, McKay, Sellers, Wannamaker and Windham.

County Tax Levy Reduced From Nine to Seven and One-Half Mills

Hon. J. Carl Kearse favors The Herald with a copy of the county appropriation bill, which is given below. It will be noted that the county levy has been fixed at seven and one-half mills, which is a reduction of one and one-half mills from the levy of last year.

Appropriations are provided for continuing the home and farm demonstration work; the jailer is allowed forty cents a day for dieting prisoners, instead of thirty cents, and the other usual appropriations are made in the bill, which follows in full:

A bill to provide for the levy of taxes in Bamberg county, for county and school purposes, for the year 1921, and for expenditure thereof.

Be it enacted by the general assembly of the state of South Carolina:

Section 1. That a tax of seven and one-half (7½) mills is hereby levied upon all the taxable property of the county of Bamberg, for ordinary county and school purposes for the fiscal year commencing January 1st, 1921, for the amounts and purposes herein stated respectively.

Sec. 2. That the amounts herein set out under the various items below shall be the amount to be expended for the purposes therein named, and any unexpended balance at the end of the fiscal year of any item shall revert to the general funds of the county.

SECTION 3.

Item 1. Chaingang, roads and bridges.....	\$12,000.00
Item 2. Salaries: Clerk of Court	300.00
Sheriff	1,300.00
Treasurer	600.00
Auditor	600.00
Superintendent of education	150.00
County attorney	75.00
County physician	250.00
Coroner	150.00
Janitor of court house..	200.00
Jailer	250.00
Supervisor	1,500.00
Two county commissioners at \$200 each ..	400.00
Constables	320.00
Magistrates	1,075.00
Board of education	60.00
Board of equalization	200.00
Item 3. Court, jurors and witnesses	3,500.00
Item 4. Poor	1,300.00
Item 5. Post mortems, inquests and lunacy	600.00
Item 6. Public buildings, including water, fuel, lights and insurance..	800.00
Item 7. Printing, postage, stationery and looks ..	1,000.00
Item 8. Miscellaneous contingent fund, to make up for any deficiency in the appropriation for all other items herein	2,000.00
Item 9. Jail expenses, in-	

AIKEN COUNTY KILLING.

Thomas Craigs Slays Raymond Bryant Tuesday.

Aiken, Feb. 16.—Tuesday night Tom H. Craig, a white man, of Aiken, surrendered himself to Sheriff H. H. Howard and was placed in jail charged with the murder of Raymond Bryant, also a white man of Aiken. The shooting occurred at the home of S. E. Holley, a brother-in-law of Craig. At the coroner's inquest the jury presented the verdict that Bryant came to his death by gunshot wounds at the hands of Thos. Craig. Mrs. S. E. Holley, sister of Craig, seems to have been the only eye-witness to the tragedy. She claims that Bryant, after some words with her brother, cursed and was advancing on him with an open knife. Craig told his sister to get out of the way and stepped into the hall, picked up a gun and fired two shots which killed Bryant instantly. Bryant and Craig were related.

Hard on the Ducks.

A country housewife of good intentions but with little culinary knowledge decided to try her hand at cake making. The result was somewhat on the heavy side, and, after offering it to the various members of the household, she threw it to the ducks in disgust.

A short time afterward two boys tapped at her door. "Say, missus," they shouted, "your ducks have sunk!"

cluding dieting of prisoners.....	800.00
Item 10. Miscellaneous: Home demonstration work	900.00
Farm demonstration work	800.00
Vital statistics for 1921	260.00
Premiums on officers' bonds.....	300.00
For erecting shed for county trucks	450.00
Item 11. Expenses per diem of sheriff for work in criminal cases outside the county, \$2.00 per day, if so much be necessary.....	150.00
Conveying prisoners to jail and chain gang..	150.00
Item 12. Incidentals.....	300.00

Grant total.....\$33,240.00

Item 13. That money derived from the commutation tax shall be expended on the repair of the roads in the county, and for no other purpose, having due regard for the law now in force requiring the said money to be used on the roads of the community in which it was paid.

Sec. 4. That in addition to the levy of seven and one-half (7½) mills, above provided, for ordinary county expenses, there shall be levied and collected within the county an additional two (2) mills for the purpose of building and constructing public highways in conjunction with any federal aid that might be obtained.

Sec. 5. That hereafter the sheriff or jailer shall be allowed forty cents per day for dieting each prisoner, instead of thirty cents as allowed heretofore, which is to be out of Item 9 of this appropriation.

Sec. 6. That the county supervisor or shall act as clerk to the county board of commissioners, but in the event of the said board desiring a clerk then the supervisor shall pay for the said services out of the amount allowed him as salary in Item 2.

Sec. 7. That after the application of all funds derived from the state and county special taxes for good roads, and the ten thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars surplus fund appropriated by an act known as Act No. 718 of the Acts of 1920, should there be a deficiency with which to supplement the amount of Federal aid in the county of Bamberg, then the county board of commissioners of Bamberg county is hereby authorized and empowered to borrow, in the name of the county, such sum of money on the best terms possible, as may be necessary to acquire the total amount available from the federal government which shall be used for the purpose of supplementing said federal aid fund.

Sec. 8. This act shall go into effect immediately upon its approval by the governor.

SAVED IN SENATE.

State Tax Commission Continues its Autocratic Service.

Columbia, Feb. 17.—By a vote of 30 to 14 the senate yesterday postponed indefinitely the bill by Senator Wightman to abolish the South Carolina tax commission. The action of the senate in postponing the bill of the Saluda senator is a mild way of killing the measure.

The vote came after many hours of hard fighting, which began several weeks ago and broke out anew Tuesday. Senators Marion, Pearce and Crosson all spoke for the tax commission and Senators Black and Wightman for the bill to abolish.

On the motion of Senator Young to postpone the measure indefinitely the following yeas and nays were recorded: Yeas, Alexander, Bailes, Baker, Bethea, Butler, Christensen, Clifton, Crosson, Gross, Hart, Hutson, Johnstone, Johnson, Kennedy, Laney, Lightsey, Marion, Mason, Massé, McGhee, Miller, Padgett, Pearce, Robinson, Rogers, Jeremiah Smith, H. L. Smith, Jr., Watkins, Williams, and Young; nays, Baskin, Beasley, Black, Bonham, Dennis, Duncan, Goodwin, Hubbard, McColl, Moore, Ragsdale, Wells, Wideman, and Wightman.

High and Steep.

Glady: "Madge has a high color, hasn't she?" Gwen: "Yes, the dear girl. That kind costs ten dollars a box."

NEGRO WOMEN TO APPEAL.

Colored Females Protest Against Alleged Disfranchisement.

Negro women of 20 states, meeting in Washington at the call of the national association for the advancement of colored people today presented to the national woman's party a request that it urge congress to investigate the alleged disfranchisement of negro women in the south at the last general election.

"Violations of the intent and purposes of the Susan B. Anthony amendment," a statement prepared by the negro women declared "occurred in the elections of 1920 in the southern states that it has not been made secret that wherever white women were not allowed the ballot, it was counted worth while to relinquish it in order that it might be denied colored women."

Stork Defies Cold.

Boston.—Zero weather has no terrors for the stork. Mrs. Rose Masons gave birth to a daughter in an open vehicle while on her way to a hospital in Lynn.

ROBBED AND MURDERED.

Reported Prominent Branchville Citizen Killed Tuesday Night.

It was reported in Bamberg yesterday morning that Henry Smoak, a well known citizen of Branchville, had been robbed and murdered some time Tuesday night. Very little of the details of the reported tragedy could be learned here yesterday, but trainmen on a passing freight stated that the body of Mr. Smoak had been found near the coal chute in Branchville Tuesday night.

It was first supposed, the trainmen said, that Mr. Smoak had dropped dead of natural causes, but when he was closely examined he was found to have had his skull crushed in the back, according to the information reaching here. It appeared that he had been dealt a terrific blow with some blunt instrument.

The report also was that his watch and perhaps other personal effects had been taken, although it was stated that a \$2.00 bill was found in one of his pockets, overlooked by the robber or robbers.

Mr. Smoak was a man of about thirty-five years, and was well known in Bamberg county.