

# M'SWAIN ELECTED TO INSURANCE JOB

STATE ASSEMBLY ELECTS SOME OFFICERS AND ATTEND TO OTHER BUSINESS.

## DISPATCHES FROM COLUMBIA

Doings and Happenings That Mark the Progress of South Carolina People, Gathered Around the State Capital.

Columbia.

W. A. McSwain of Newberry was elected insurance commissioner of South Carolina to succeed F. H. McMaster, resigned. Only one ballot was taken, Mr. McSwain receiving 100 votes, H. G. Coker of Columbia 19, J. R. Fulmer of Columbia 12 and S. L. Miller of Columbia two. Mr. McSwain will enter upon his duties as soon as he can arrange his private business, as it is Mr. McMaster's desire to retire so soon as his successor may qualify.

The name of S. M. Grist was withdrawn by Mr. radford and that of W. A. Barton by Mr. Long.

The new official is a resident of Newberry and is 45 years old. He has had much experience with insurance and trust company management, being now vice president and manager of the Security Loan and Investment Company of Newberry. He is a native of Cross Hill, but has resided in Newberry 18 or 19 years. He holds a high place in the esteem of the residents of his community and is an active participant in all efforts for community upbuilding. He is a brother of Capt. John J. McSwain of Greenville, recently commissioned in the National Army.

August Kohn of Columbia and Dr. W. E. C. Bates of Columbia were elected members of the board of trustees of the University of South Carolina to succeed themselves. B. A. Hagood of Charleston was elected to succeed J. Q. Davis of Winnsboro, retiring voluntarily after rendering the institution faithful and distinguished service.

Dr. T. A. Crawford and W. J. Roddey of Rock Hill and D. S. Henderson of Aiken were elected trustees of Winthrop.

Senator J. G. Padgett of Walterboro was elected trustee of the Citadel. Two vacancies are to be filled and four names were placed before the joint assembly. Mr. Padgett was the only one to receive a majority on the first ballot, the result of which was: J. G. Padgett, Walterboro, 95; Col. E. M. Blythe, Greenville, 52; D. A. Spivey, Conway, 57; the Rev. A. N. Brunson, Columbia, 59.

Agitation to declare vacant the seat of Victor E. Rector in the lower house of the general assembly from Darlington county was effectively and possibly finally laid when the judiciary committee made an unfavorable report on the Kelly resolution, which report was accepted by a vote of 75 to 4. Those who voted against the committee's report justifying the retention of the seat by Rector were: Bailey of Beaufort, Bolnest of Newberry, J. O. Kelly of Darlington, the author of the resolution, and W. L. Pickens. Mr. Rector is also a member from Darlington county. The resolution was tabled immediately thereafter. A similar report was rejected by the house one week ago.

Members of the house passed to third reading the resolution to ratify the federal prohibition amendment by a vote of 66 to 23. Prior to taking this ballot the house refused by a vote of 29 to 62 to place the question in the primary next summer. The motion to strike out the enacting words of the resolution was lost by a vote of 31 to 68.

Several hours of continuous debate was indulged in again, during which time the martyred ghost of state rights was again widely stalking abroad, accompanied by its phantom rival, negro domination or equality. Champions of the violated "issues" exhausted their "munition" dumps against an invincible war machine. The hosts had come, not to praise, but to bury Caesar. The galleries were filled with enthusiastic spectators, who occasionally slipped the clutch, rapped the floors with their feet, yelled in response to sarcastic repartee and followed the arguments with resounding applause. Those voting against passage of the resolution to third reading were: Bailey, Barnwell, Bolnest, Clink scales, Crews, Davis, J. E. Duncan, Eaddy, J. J. Evans, H. H. Fromberg, Hall, A. Jr., Hammond, Hughes, Johnson, W. W. Keenan, Kelly, H. Kelly, J. O. Lesane, Long, Mason, McCants, Moore, Rivers, Scott, Seabrook, Season, Summers and Young.

The senate passed and ordered sent to the house a bill exempting strictly local building and loan associations, which are purely mutual and whose sole business is the lending of money for the building and repairing or improving of houses. The present tax laws bear so heavily on such institutions that many of them are going out of business. As there are no other financial agencies through which the poor man or the man on salary may secure loans on such advantageous terms the passage of the bill means much to that class of citizens.

Mr. Moore of Abbeville led the fight in opposition to the measure, which he characterized as a "shackle." It was regarding every man as a grand rascal. His observation was that men were "better when put on their honor than by circumscribing them." The ballot was a God given right and voters should not be held in duress.

Mr. Hughes of Oconee agreed that voters should not be held in duress, "but if the provisions of this bill are duress, God knows we need more of it." Its chief object was to protect the voters from "bootleggers" and others who voted those unable to make out their own ticket, "often lying to the voter and seeing that the wrong name is scratched. How often does the will of the bootlegger go into the ballot box and not that of the man who casts the vote."

Mr. Liles of Orangeburg made an earnest appeal for the passage of the bill. "We have heard much about the desire to protect the white man in the ballot. If this doesn't protect him, then he can't be protected."

Mr. Young of Charleston led the debate with an explanation of the successful working of the law in Charleston and of the small amount of money necessary to introduce the system.

The members of the senate unanimously joined the forces for conservation which are led by Herbert Hoover, United States food administrator. A resolution was adopted indorsing the work and the policies of Mr. Hoover. This means that the members favor wheatless days, meatless days, less consumption of sugar and pork products. The resolution was proposed by Senator Boatright of Kershaw.

The State senate in one hour passed and ordered ratified four bills, and passed and sent to the house nine bills, and then began the consideration of second reading bills. When it adjourned to meet with the house to elect certain State officers, it had under consideration a bill to put upon the honor roll all bona fide Confederate soldiers and sailors and widows of Confederate soldiers and sailors and compensate them for services rendered from 1861 to 1865.

Adjournment sine die when the county supply and appropriation bills are disposed of was proposed in a resolution introduced by Representative Moore of Abbeville. Immediate consideration was objected to.

Lieutenant Governor Betha announced the appointment of Senator D. Reese Williams of Lancaster, Alan Johnstone of Newberry and J. W. McCown of Florence as the committee authorized by the resolution passed to investigate the charges made by Governor Manning in his veto message on the game warden bill which was passed at the last session of the legislature.

A resolution was unanimously adopted in the house of representatives adopting the state tax commission to rescind its order relative to the assessment of all lands and personal property at 50 per cent of actual values. Such action, it was argued would be unwise and ill timed, with the present high prices obtaining for all commodities. Also that it was not within the province of the legislature to revise all tax levies to adjust the incidental demoralization. The resolution was introduced by Representatives Toole of Aiken, Vasson of Greenville, Roberts of Jasper and Crews of Richland.

### Service Flags for House.

Service flags of the army and the navy are to be placed in the legislative halls in honor of the men who are now in the service. The sergeant at arms of the house was instructed to procure such flags immediately. The resolution was offered by Representatives Daniels and Goodwin.

A bill was introduced by Representative Rector of Darlington designed to raise the standard of county superintendents of education. Provisors are that no man shall be elected to this office "who is not a graduate of a college approved by the state board of education, who has not taken a professional course of not less than 12 semester hours and who does not possess at least one year's actual class room experience as a teacher." It is further provided that the terms of the act shall not apply to the election or appointment of any person who has had three years' experience as a teacher, and that no incumbent shall be ineligible for re-election. A standard salary of \$1200 and traveling expenses are provided.

The Stafford bill was passed limiting the number of working hours in cotton and woolen mills and fixing payment of certain classes of laborers. Sixty hours was fixed as the labor limit or six days of 10 hours each. Mechanics, engineers, firemen, watchmen, teamsters, yard employees and clerical workers are to receive one and one-half pay for over time. The week in the cotton and woolen mills is limited to six days of 10 hours each. Violations are punishable by fines of not more than \$100 nor less than \$25 or imprisonment not to exceed 30 days. No drive is to be made upon the state legislature at the present session for the cause of equal suffrage. The resolution, pending in the lower house, was withdrawn by Representative Horton of Spartanburg, author of the measure. This action was taken in direct consequence of passage of the federal suffrage amendment by the lower house of the national congress and in anticipation of approval by the United States senate. When reminded that the upper house of the national congress had not yet concurred, Mr. Horton expressed his assurance of final approval.

## EVEN THE CHILDREN WEAR GAS MASKS IN REIMS



The clouds of asphyxiating gases with which the Teutons drench the allied lines are no respecters of persons, so even the little children in the districts close to the fighting lines must wear gas masks to protect themselves from Hun frightfulness. The tots in this group on their way to school in Reims are all provided with masks.

## AIR FEATS OF THE LAFAYETTE MEN

Walcott, Since Shot Down Over German Lines, Tells of Comrades Daring.

### MAKES DIVE OF 10,000 FEET

Aviator Reaches Ground Safely Although All the Wires on His Machine Are Loosened—Spend Holiday in Air.

Washington.—Word pictures of the work of the members of the Lafayette Squadron and other American aviators in France are given in letters which Dr. Charles D. Walcott, secretary of the Smithsonian institution, has received from his son, E. S. Walcott, whose airplane fell "somewhere behind the German lines" along the western front. The allusions to the work of the American aviators contained in these letters are all the more interesting at this time in view of the fact that the men about whom Walcott wrote have just been commissioned in the American air service on the recommendation of General Pershing.

Doctor Walcott has received a dispatch from Paris informing him that his son fell within the enemy lines December 12 while fighting three single-seaters, after having demolished an enemy two-seater, and that his fate is uncertain. Inquiries are being made to ascertain, if possible, from Germany whether young Walcott was seriously injured or not.

In a letter dated November 13, in response to an inquiry about Campbell, an aviator from Chicago, who was reported lost, young Walcott wrote as follows:

"Campbell was in the Lafayette Escadrille, and they are a member of the same group as Squadron 84, so I have asked them about him. He was on a patrol with another chap; they attacked some Boches, and when it was over the other chap was alone. Campbell was brought down in German territory and so reported missing. I believe the chap he was with has seen and talked to Campbell's father or some close relative since."

"Another chap named Bulkely was brought down in similar circumstances about the 1st of September. Ten days ago word was received from the American embassy that he had communicated with them, a prisoner in Germany."

"There are many similar cases where men brought down with crippled machines, or wounded, escaped destruction by a miracle. The only sure thing is when a machine goes down in flames or is seen to lose a wing or two."

"For instance, there are two officers in the group who are in the best of health and daily working. Several months ago they were on patrol together and collided in the air. One machine cut the tail rigging completely off the other plane, and then they separated, one plane without a tail and the other machine with various parts of a tail mixed among the cables and struts of one side of his machine. They both landed in France, one on his wheels, followed by a capotage, or somersault turnover, the other quite completely upside down. Then a term in the hospital, and back they are again."

"Kenneth Marr, an American and a friend of Pete's, had the commands of both his controls cut in a combat, the rudder and elevator, leaving him nothing but the aileron, the lateral balance control, and the motor. He landed with only a skinned nose for casualties, and got a decoration for it."

### Dives Vertically 10,000 Feet.

"Another chap, in an attack on captive balloons, dived for something like 10,000 feet vertically and with full motor on, thereby gaining considerable speed, as you can imagine. He came right on top of the balloon, shot and, to keep from hitting it, yanked as roughly as he could, flattening out his dive in the merest fraction of a second. Imagine the strain on the machine! When he got home all the wires had several inches sag in them; the metal connections of the cables in the struts and wood of the wings had hit into the wood enough to give the sag."

"Machines are built to stand im-

mense pressure on the under side of their wings. In some acrobatic maneuvers I was trying the other day I made mistakes and caused the machine to stall and then fall in such a way that the full weight was supported by the upper surface—by the wires which in most machines are supposed merely to support the weight of the wings when the machine is on the ground."

"Yes, the Spad is a well-built machine, the nearest thing to perfection in point of strength, speed, and climbing power I've seen yet. Of course, it's heavy, and that's why they put 150-230 horse power in them. The other school, that of a light machine with a light motor, depending for its success on lack of weight rather than excess of power, may supplant the heavier machine in time; I can't tell."

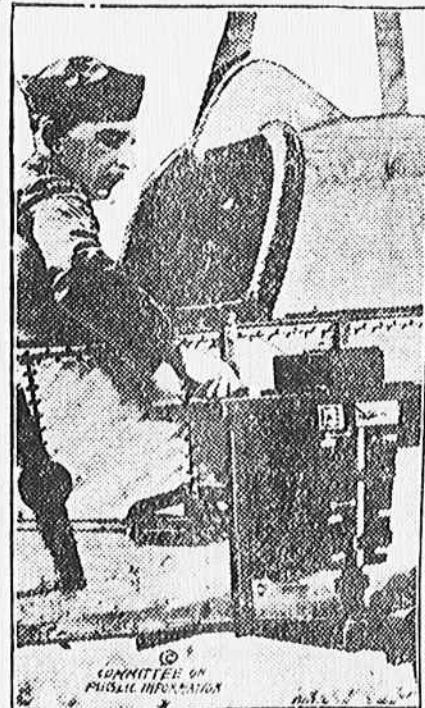
"Yesterday there was a review here in honor of Guynemer, and decorations for the pilots of the group who had won them. Three Alouettes received the Croix de Guerre—members of the Lafayette Escadrille. Lufbery, the American ace, carried the American flag presented to the escadrille by Mrs. McAdoo and the employees of the treasury department, besides the two aviation emblems of France. He was called to receive his decoration for having in the course of one day held seven combats, descended (six) one German plane in flames, and forced five others to land behind their lines, (which means that he is officially credited with one—his thirteenth—and that the other five, though probably brought down, do not count for him because there were not the necessary witnesses required by the French regulation.)"

"Aviators are not very military. The chief of one of the escadrilles was commissioned to command the mechanics, who are plain soldiers with rifles and steel helmets, for the occasion. He is a bit of a clown and amused the entire gathering, kidding with the officers. The pilots of each of the five escadrilles were in more or less formation, most of them with hands in their pockets, for it was chilly, and presenting a mixture of uniforms unparalleled in its heterogeneity. Every branch of the service represented endless personal ideas in dress."

### Spent Their Holiday in the Air.

"Because of the occasion, repose had been granted to the entire group for the afternoon, another group taking over our patrols. So that after the review every one had the afternoon to

### AN AIRPLANE CAMERA



This type of camera which no doubt will be used by American aviation corps men for reconnaissance work is attached to the airplane and is operated by the pulling of strings or the pressing of buttons. The camera is almost automatic, as everything can be set in advance and the entire operation of taking the picture is the pressing of the button or the pulling of the strings. The camera makes an almost perfect view of the terrain and will be invaluable in the reconnaissance work of the army. The camera is loaded with plates and a number of pictures can be taken successively without additional work. A British royal flying corps man is in the machine.

waste—a sunny day, which is quite unusual this month. Within a half hour every machine that was in working order was in the air, forming into groups and then off for the lines, just looking for trouble—voluntary patrol, they call it. Which opened my eyes a bit as to the spirit in the French aviation service after three years of war."

In another letter, written December 1, young Walcott says: "I tried to give you some idea of the strength of a Spad in a letter a while ago. At home people speak of a factor of safety, meaning the number of times stronger the machine is than is necessary for plain flying. The Spad is made so that a man can't 'bust' it, no matter what he does in the air—dive as far and as fast as he can and stop as suddenly as he can, it stands the racket. Of course, it doesn't stop, and if it happens over a mountain range—well, that's just hard luck."

"Have had a few patrols since last I wrote. One at a big height—4,000 to 4,500 meters, considerably above the clouds, which almost shut out the ground below; a wonderfully beautiful sight, but beastly cold—and a couple when the clouds were low and solid. The patrol stays at just the height of the clouds, hiding in them, slipping out again to look 'round. If it stays below the enemy antiaircraft guns pepper it whenever near the lines, and at a low altitude that is rather awkward, so the patrol shows itself as little as possible."

"It's lots of sport to try to keep with the patrol; be behind the chief of patrol, see him disappear, and then bump into a fog bank, a low-hanging cloud, and not see a darn thing. Then dive down out of the cloud, wondering whether the other guy is right underneath or not; dart out of the cloud and see him, maybe 500 yards away, going at right angles. Then back up and turn around fast and give her the gear—full speed to catch up—and so on. See a Boche regulating artillery fire, start to maneuver into range, and zip; he's out of sight in the clouds, and the next you see he is beating it far back of his lines. Not very dangerous this weather, but lots of fun."

In a letter from the front, dated November 30, the following passages occur:

Yesterday was Thanksgiving day, and, praises be! the Lafayette bunch invited me and my partner to dinner, or rather to the feast. They have the most remarkable chef. Soup and fish prepared the way for a most remarkably big bird called the turkey, barricaded by chestnuts. And then a plum pudding—a regular American one—and as good as I ever tasted. I sat at the table with Captain Thumalt, Lieutenants Thaw and Lufbery, and some Frenchmen."

"An early patrol this morning, despite low clouds. Lots of fun it was, ducking in and out of the clouds, keeping from hitting other machines in the clouds and from losing the patrol. Saw a few Boches, but all they had to do was to slip up out of sight when the patrol approached. Every now and then their antiaircraft guns would blaze away a bit, but there was lots of room for them to miss and for us to leave the place they were shooting at."

### USES OVERCOAT AS BANK

Negro Proves Ownership to Garment by Disclosing Location of Savings.

New York.—Monroe Smith, a negro, insisted in the court of special sessions that he had not stolen the overcoat of Leslie Davis while he entertained Davis in his home. Smith said the coat was his own property and he had a right to pawn it.

"I can prove I own the coat," said Davis. "There is nine dollars sewed in the lining."

Promptly the justice ordered the lining ripped open and the money was found.

### KILL DEER TO REDUCE COST

Chippewa Falls Park Board Forced to Slay Because of Cost of Keep.

Chippewa Falls, Wis.—An increase in the herd of deer at the public park in this city and an increase in the cost of food for the animals, has caused the park board to have five of the deer slain, and the venison placed on sale in one of the markets. Permission to kill the deer had to be obtained from the state conservation commission.

## NEWS OF THE WEEK FROM CAMP SEVIER

ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES AT CAMP ARE COMPULSORY DURING BAD WEATHER.

### SLUSH STOPS OUTDOOR WORK

Rev. Gribbin, Recently of Wilmington, Arrives as Extra Chaplain Under the War Commission.

Camp Sevier, Greenville.—The heavy slush and unmeted ice have done more than cold could in forcing a temporary suspension of the athletic activities conducted by the physical staff of the Army Y. M. C. A. and until the ground dries off very little athletics on any large scale can be attempted. At almost all of the seven association buildings, whole companies and in some cases battalions have been detailed by their commanders for compulsory athletics at certain hours and this, of course, makes the work of the physical directors there much easier and also insures far better and more widespread results with the men.

John L. Collins, master hospital sergeant medical department, attached to the division surgeon's office here, has been commissioned a first lieutenant, Sanitary Corps, N. A., and transferred to the Medical Supply Depot at Atlanta, Ga.

The Rev. Robert E. Gribbin, until recently rector of St. John's, Wilmington, N. C., has come here as an extra chaplain under the war commission of the Episcopal church. There are but two regular chaplains of the Episcopal faith in the division and one of these is soon to leave. Mr. Gribbin was for more than two years assistant rector of Grace Church, Charleston.

The Thirtieth Division passed through the recent period of unprecedented severe weather without a single death and so far as the authorities know, without any undue suffering. It is stated on good authority that a tent isn't the most pleasant place on earth when the mercury is flirting with zero, but few are the places that are comfortable on such occasions. There has been no noticeable increase in sickness due to the weather, the men being sufficiently clothed to resist King Winter.

Outdoor work has been practically suspended for the past few days at Camp Sevier, due to the ice covered ground. Indoor instruction, however, is being pushed as much as possible and all the schools are continuing their work. Trench occupation, rifle practice, drill bayonet practice and similar activities will not be resumed for several days probably.

A board to settle all claims for damages due to occupation of the original site of the camp, including damages to adjacent lands, has been appointed consisting of Maj. Alexander C. Doyle, constructing quartermaster; Capt. Edward R. Blanton and Second Lieut. H. V. Campbell, as recorder. Claims regarding the rifle and artillery ranges will not be considered by this board.

It is possible that the driver in the motor train of the Thirtieth Division will have the pleasure of driving the truck, which they are to have in France from their factories to the ports of embarkation, as this procedure is being generally resorted to. Plans are being considered for enlarging the Camp Sevier Trench and Camp from its present eight to 12 or 16 pages by the insertion of advertisements. The demand for this news weekly of the soldiers' doings has been constantly greater than the supply and it is hoped that the acceptance of advertising will provide funds for carrying more reading matter. The paper with similar papers at other camps, is published under the auspices of the National War Work Council of the Y. M. C. A. and is distributed free to the soldiers.

A local branch of the Jewish Board for Welfare Work in the United States army and navy has been organized here and committees to handle various divisions of the work appointed. There are less than a hundred persons of Jewish faith in the Thirtieth Division.

Construction of two of the three small wooden Y. M. C. A. buildings recently authorized here in addition to the five full sized units originally built, has been commenced, and lumber is being hauled for the third, as for the additional full sized building. Two of the small units will replace tents at the remount stations and at the field signal battalion, while the third will be located at the One Hundred and Thirtieth Field Artillery. The new large unit will be placed at the One Hundred and Twentieth Infantry.

### Kills Self in Jail Bath Tub.

Greenwood.—Sam Hughey, a negro arrested on the charge of stealing whiskey from the Southern Express Company's local office and selling it, committed suicide in a bath tub in the cell at the jail during the night. There was only about a foot of water in the tub. Three other negroes were arrested with him on the same charge and two of them said he tried to borrow a knife and made some threats of killing himself. One of the three arrested was required to give bond.