

The Laurens Advertiser

VOLUME XXIV.

LAURENS, SOUTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1908.

NUMBER 13

FINAL TEMPERANCE RALLY IS PLANNED

Church Services and Mass Meeting Sunday

TWO ABLE SPEAKERS

Drs. Cromer of Newberry and Burts of Edgefield to be Here for the Occasion.

The prohibitionists of the county have perfected plans for a final campaign in behalf of their cause in securing some noted speakers for the few remaining days before the election. Hon. Geo. B. Cromer of Newberry and Rev. C. E. Burts of Edgefield will be in the city next Sunday and address the people on the subject of temperance, appearing in two of the city churches in the morning and at the opera house on Sunday afternoon.

Sunday morning at the First Presbyterian church, Hon. Geo. B. Cromer will speak at the regular morning service hour; while at the First Methodist church, Rev. C. E. Burts, D. D., of Edgefield will preach, both speakers treating the subject of temperance and prohibition. Both these men are speakers of note and orators of marked ability. There will be no services at the First Baptist church in the morning, but the Baptist congregation is requested to attend the services at one of the other churches.

At 3:30 Sunday afternoon will be held the great mass meeting for men, at which both Messrs. Burts and Cromer will speak. An attractive musical program has been arranged under the direction of Mr. Childress, with the assistance of several ladies of the city. Every man in Laurens county whether dispensary advocate or prohibitionist, is invited to attend this meeting; there will be something worth hearing.

City Schools Have Holiday.

Prof. B. L. Jones announces that the city schools will be closed Thursday and Friday of this week in order that all the pupils who so desire, may attend the Fair at Columbia. The crowd will leave at 7:10 Thursday morning.

Rev. R. M. Dubose Preaches.

In the absence of the pastor, Rev. R. M. Dubose of the Gray Court Methodist church preached at the First Baptist church of the city, Sunday morning. W. E. Thayer spoke at Gray Court Sunday morning, and at Dial's church in the afternoon, on the subject of temperance, the appointments being part of the prohibition campaign now waging in the county.

Daughters of Confederacy to Meet.

Mrs. R. B. Bell, president of the John B. Kershaw chapter, U. D. C., requests announcement of the meeting of the chapter for Monday afternoon, November 2nd, at 4 o'clock, at the residence of Mrs. W. H. Dial, on West Main street.

PROHIBITION WINS BY 300 VOTES IN UNION

Following is an interesting dispatch to The Advertiser:

Union, S. C.,
Tuesday, Oct. 27th,
7 p. m.

Editor S. E. Boney,
Laurens, S. C.

Twelve out of fifteen boxes give prohibition 300 majority. Dispensary dead in Union. May God and righteousness win in Laurens.

The Union Times.
The three boxes yet to hear from in Union cannot change the result. Hence the efforts of the dispensary people to vote back the whiskey shop have failed. Hurrah for Union!

Ladies' Souvenir Night.

On Thursday night at the Electric Theatre, Manager Roman will give away a handsome brass urn to the lady holding the lucky number. These numbers are being given with each ticket this week, and the holder of the lucky number will be awarded this handsome souvenir.

MEDICAL SOCIETY WILL GIVE MEDALS

Laurens County Doctors Will Give Medals to School Children for Neatness and Cleanliness.

The Laurens County Medical Society held an interesting meeting at Gray's hotel Monday morning. A majority of the members were present and a number of important matters were discussed and referred to committees.

Probably the most important matter and certainly the one of most local interest was the resolution by the society to offer medals to each grade in the city schools, to be awarded to the child who should excel in neatness and cleanliness of person. This resolution was adopted in view of the concerted effort throughout the country in behalf of hygiene and general sanitation, the medical society considering the public schools the best possible place to begin such work. Drs. Hughes, Christopher and Ferguson were appointed a committee to act with the teachers of the schools in deciding the winners.

The medical society, through a committee consisting of Drs. Hughes, Blakely and Ferguson, will make endeavor for the improvement in general sanitary conditions in the county; and through a committee, Drs. Dial, Ferguson and Schayer, will endorse the movement to establish, in the next session of congress, a national Department of Health.

On the fourth Monday in November the society will have a banquet, the annual meeting being scheduled for that date.

King's Daughters Clear \$200.

As a result of the bazaar last Thursday the King's daughters have added \$200 to the hospital fund. In every regard the bazaar a glowing success, and the ladies are to be congratulated. The King's Daughters wish to extend their heartfelt thanks to all who assisted them or contributed to the success of the undertaking.

Negro Killed by Train.

Early Monday morning, Jim Wharton, a negro farmer residing near Gray Court was run over and instantly killed by the mixed train from Greenville. The accident occurred just as the train was leaving Barksdale, when Wharton, who was coming to Laurens, tried to board the swiftly moving train. He fell, and an extra car on the rear of the caboose, ran over him, cutting off both legs and crushing his head.

Socialist Leader to Speak.

Mr. J. L. Pitts, national organizer of the Socialist party, will speak in Laurens Thursday night, 7 o'clock, October 29th, on the "most prominent corner" of the city as he announces. It is noted that Mr. J. Lee Chandler of Clinton is one of the Socialist presidential electors from this State.

A PLEA FOR PROHIBITION.

Mr. Olive Correspondent Writes an Earnest Letter.

Mr. Olive, Oct. 26.—Editor The Advertiser: I wish to state that we have found on the part of so many that admirable disposition to put down and that great evil "whiskey". My prayer to God is that the people of Laurens county may take their stand like men and cast their ballots against such a ruinous and demoralizing institution as the dispensary.

"A young man of rare talent, but of inherited tendency to intemperance, who had been an earnest laborer for the temperance cause died of delirium tremens. He had striven to banish the traffic as a means of protection to himself and others like himself, easily subject to temptation. About a half hour before he died, reason returned and he was calm; to his pastor he said: 'You know how it has been with me. I have tried to be sober and lead a Christian life, but I have failed. My appetite was too strong; the temptation too great; there is no hope for me now. I am dying and going to hell, but I have one request to make of you: I want you to get a copy of the names of those members of our church who signed a petition for license to be given that traffic which has been my destroyer, and place it on my breast when I am put in my coffin, for I wish to offer it in the judgment seat of Christ as one reason why I am lost.'"
—Way of Faith.

SOME REAL ESTATE DEALS.

Trading not as Active as Formerly, But no Decrease in Values.

Reference to the public records shows that for September and October the real estate transfers have fallen off to some extent as compared with the records for same period two years and three years ago, though several large deals have been made recently and the range of prices indicates no appreciable decline in values. The low price of cotton has, of course, had its effect on trading.

One of the large transactions for October was the sale of the Motes place, containing 200 acres, sold by Mr. D. H. Counts through the real estate firm of Anderson & Blakely to Mr. W. F. Lawson, a farmer of the county, the consideration for the tract being \$9,000. This valuable farm is located a few miles east of the city on the Clinton road. Mr. Counts reserved in the sale an acre lot on which is located his ginny. Another deal by the same parties was the sale of the "Boyer place," adjoining the Motes place, to Mr. R. G. Franks for \$2,000, there being less than 100 acres in this tract.

Some other transactions by townships, follow:

Laurens—L. S. Madden to E. A. Hamilton, 103 acres for \$2,500. Geo. H. Bolt to L. S. Madden, tract for \$2,250. M. A. Knight to Mrs. Lula Mahaffey 39 acres for \$2,500.

Youngs—W. L. Gray to W. A. Anderson 229 acres for \$2,870. J. S. Bennett to T. C. McCauley 57 acres for \$1,700.

Dial's—R. Abercrombie to E. C. Stone 38 acres for \$900. Emily Woods to C. A. Babb 20 acres for \$200. W. H. Mahaffey to B. H. and E. J. Gray 30 acres for \$1,000.

Hunter—J. W. Madden to E. A. Huff 86 acres for \$1,600. Hettie Speake to Oliver Evans 65 acres for \$650. Thos. M. Hatton to Mamie S. Hatton 178 acres for \$3,000.

Scuffletown—Heien Hunter to J. W. Peterson 80 acres for \$1,200. M. J. Owings to T. P. Poole 80 acres for \$1,200.

City of Laurens—L. C. Sitgraves to J. H. Sprouse one lot for \$325. L. C. Sitgraves to J. C. and J. L. Wasson, one lot for \$675.

ORPHANS GIVEN FINE TRIP.

Thornwell Well Represented at the State Fair.

Clinton, Oct. 27.—The Columbia Newberry and Laurens Railway gave the Thornwell Orphanage the use of a special car yesterday to attend the State Fair. The older pupils, from the seventh grade up, went and it was one of the red letter days in their lives. A number of teachers and matrons accompanied them.

The Lyceum for this winter opened last Tuesday evening with an excellent entertainment by the Broomfield company. The large audience was an evidence of the popularity of this form of entertainment in Clinton.

Improvements continue to be the order of the day in Clinton. Mr. R. Z. Wright's handsome new store is almost completed now. Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Copeland have moved into their recently completed home on Centennial street. Mr. B. L. King's new house, built for rent, is nearly completed, and is already rented. Mr. John Young is building two houses for rent on Musgrove street.

Mrs. Susan Leake is desperately ill. Mrs. Moody of Jacksonville, Florida, and Mr. Ed. Leake of Savannah, Ga., have been summoned to her.

Rev. N. J. Holmes to Preach.

It is announced that the Rev. N. J. Holmes, formerly of this city but now of Altamont, will preach at Holmes' Methodist church next Sunday morning, at 11 o'clock. The subject of the discourse will be "Prohibition."

A DIRTY CIRCULAR DISTRIBUTED.

Dispensary Advocates Circulate Literature of False Nature.

Tuesday morning a circular containing a number of arguments favoring the dispensary was brought into The Advertiser office, too late for this paper to give much space or editorial consideration to it. However, we depart the usual custom and treat the matter, as much as space will allow, on this page.

Among the numerous paragraphs, the following is typical:

"The taking of the cotton mill boxes away from the mill voters, only goes to show with what methodical trickery and deception the prohibitionists would absolutely disfranchise them, if they could." The card by Mr. McGowan, ex-Senator, explains how the Legislature, through error, left these boxes out. The Legislature of 1907 did it. The Laurens delegation merely overlooked the omission; and while they are not greatly to be blamed still they are more responsible than any one else in Laurens county, who were they? Hon. John M. Cannon and Hon. R. D. Boyd, both of whom were supporters of the old State dispensary; and Hon. E. P. McGowan and Dr. Miller, local optionists, who voted for the abolition of the State dispensary.

Now, the charge in the circular referred to, that this leaving out of precincts was the "methodical trickery and deception" of the prohibitionists is absolutely and unqualifiedly a malicious falsehood. The prohibitionists had nothing to do with it. The circular, in utter disregard for truth, merely seeks to prejudice the mill vote against prohibition. We believe, however, that such unfounded accusations will result in a decided reaction.—Editor.

Entertainment at Friendship.

The Rural Improvement Association of Friendship school, Sullivan's township, will give an entertainment at the school house, Saturday, Oct. 31st, beginning at 4 o'clock, p. m.

There will be speeches by Supr. R. W. Nash, Prof. L. D. Ellidge and Miss Tessie Hudgens. The public are cordially invited.

Mrs. R. M. Wasson.

TO GIVE ELECTION RETURNS.

King's Daughters Will Have Opera House Tuesday.

Next Tuesday, the third of November is election day, not only in Laurens but in all the United States. The King's Daughters, for the benefit of the hospital fund, will give the election returns from the presidential election, and all others of general interest, at the opera house, using the stereopticon to draw the figures on canvases. An admission of 25 cents for adults and 10 cents for children will be charged.

The entertainment will prove of interest as several pictures are to be shown in addition to the returns.

Mr. Clarke has agreed to take the messages for the ladies, and that assures promptness and dispatch in the work. Let every body come out and get the news.

"Runaways" on November 14.

Manager Roman of the city opera house, has closed contract for an engagement with "The Runaways" to appear here on November 14, Wednesday. The Spartanburg Herald has the following about this company:

"On the night of November the 2nd, The Runaways, thirty-five strong, will be the attraction at Bart's Theatre. This company needs nothing of commendation here for their ability to please is well known by all theatrical patrons, and Spartans will be fortunate indeed to have the chance of enjoying this highly entertaining musical extravaganza."

TO MANAGERS OF ELECTION.

As a special favor, The Advertiser requests the managers of election to 'phone us at once the result of their precinct of the dispensary election. There will be thousands of people inquiring about the result; if some one at each box will get us the vote we can 'phone back the total results in a very short while. Everybody wants to know how the vote stands, so we earnestly request some one at each box to take it upon himself and help us give the news.

SMOKER IS GIVEN BY BUSINESS MEN.

Chamber of Commerce Holds Interesting Meeting Friday Night and Enjoys Banquet.

Quite a pleasant and enthusiastic meeting of the chamber of commerce was held Friday evening. The meeting was altogether informal, being in nature more social than business. About fifty members were present, together with a number of visitors among whom was Mr. J. D. Hammett, president of the Watts mills of this city and of the two mills at Anderson.

While not a regular business meeting, the opportunity was used for the discussion of several matters that have occupied the attention of the body. The subject of the street paving was considered. Sometime ago various committees, residents of the several streets of the city, were appointed to confer with the property holders on their respective streets, regarding the arrangement made with the city to pave the streets and have the city pay half the expense and the property holders pay the other. The reports of these committees were encouraging in the extreme, since the residents of most of the important streets have entered into the agreement heartily. Hence, the streets of Laurens will be paved, and the burden of expense will be well distributed.

For some time the people of Laurens have thought this city large enough to warrant free city delivery of mails; indeed it is—only there has not been the proper organized effort to secure it. The chamber of commerce has taken the matter in hand now, and if the present plans are carried out, the free delivery will be secured for next year. The postoffice receipts have lacked but little up to the present year. This year the first three quarters have come up to requirements, and the business men are now bent toward making the last equal the first three. In all likelihood Laurens will have this city delivery next year.

A number of other matters were briefly discussed, after which those present adjourned to the halls over the Palmetto drug store, where a delightful banquet was served by the King's daughters, a fitting climax to the evening's pleasure. In a very happy speech, Mr. W. L. Gray, in behalf of the chamber of commerce, thanked the ladies for the excellent spread, and for their kindly interest in the efforts of the Laurens commercial body.

Marriage at Waterloo.

Waterloo, Oct. 27.—Miss Janie Maud Smith of Waterloo, was today married to Mr. Eugene P. Walker of Atlanta, Rev. O. L. Durant performing the ceremony.

Mr. Watson Declines Call.

After considering for two weeks the call to the Second Baptist church of Laurens, Rev. E. C. Watson has declined not to accept. Upon the resignation of Pastor W. D. Hammett of the Second church, to take effect the first of next year, the call was extended to Mr. Watson. During the coming year, Mr. Watson will serve three pastorates, Rabun, Chestnut Ridge and Highland Home, giving up his work at Holly Grove.

Revival at Holly Grove.

Rev. E. C. Watson, pastor of the Holly Grove Baptist church, will begin a series of revival services at that church, Monday morning, 11 o'clock, November 2nd, to continue throughout the week. Services will be held twice each day, at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. The public are cordially invited.

PRINCETON IS KNOCKED OUT.

People of That Precinct Cannot Vote Next Tuesday.

It seems, from what can be learned of the situation, that through error, the managers of registration have enrolled the voters of the Princeton section into a precinct, which is not in accordance with the statutes. Consequently, all those who are registered on the Princeton roll cannot legally vote. This seems a hardship in view of the intense interest in the coming election; yet, the law is very plain on the subject and it seems that the people of Princeton will not be allowed to vote this time.

ERRORS REVEALED IN COUNTY BOOKS

Former Treasurer's Books Under Investigation

NO SHORTAGE LIKELY

The Investigation Has to do With Former Administrations—Origin of The Report.

Last Thursday a news article of considerable interest here appeared in the Columbia State, dealing as it did with an alleged shortage in the accounts of Ex-Treasurer J. H. Copeland. The article reads:

A gentleman from Laurens who was here yesterday states that experts from the office of the comptroller general have been at work there for some time and have found a discrepancy of several thousand dollars in the accounts of a former county treasurer, Mr. Copeland, now dead.

Comptroller general Jones declines to make any statement about the matter other than to admit that he has been checking the books in Laurens county and that he has had the assistance of Mr. D. H. Wise of Aiken as expert accountant. "He would not deny the rumors, but said the tax department is not yet convinced that there is a shortage and that every voucher in the office will be checked over very carefully.

The amount of the discrepancy is said to be something like \$8,000. The local correspondent for The State, being communicated with on the subject wired the following dispatch to the Columbia paper:

"So far as can be ascertained here, the true status of affairs in treasurer's office with reference to former Treasurer Copeland's administration has not been officially determined, the understanding being that the comptroller general is to return to Laurens and complete the investigation at an early date. While there is a discrepancy, as disclosed in the recent settlement, the investigation was not thorough, all parties agreeing to take the matter up and ferret it out later."

On Friday morning, another interesting item appears in The State, the purport of which is apparently to reaffirm the former statement that the report was not obtained from Comptroller General Jones as official or otherwise, thus clearing that State officer of any possible blame for giving out a report that had not been completed or agreed to by the county officers here; it further seeks to show a hostility that existed on the part of county officers and the county delegations toward Mr. Jones. Here is the item:

The dispatch in The State, published yesterday, in which it was stated that accounts in the county treasurer's office in Laurens were in a badly muddled condition, raised considerable comment. At the office of the comptroller general no official intimation was obtained as to the experts still at work on the books in Laurens county. It was rumored, however, that there were examinations being conducted in a number of other counties and reports would be made to the general assembly in time.

Because of the work of comptroller general Jones some of the county delegations have been extremely hostile to his investigation, because of local influences. The comptroller general has indicated in all of his reports that the officials elected should be competent and when bad bookkeeping and errors in accounts were discovered he has reported them promptly, but each county affected has had the delegations in the general assembly denouncing these officials. But the continued efforts of the comptroller general has raised the standard to some extent.

Relative to the above matter, the local correspondent for the News and Courier has the following dispatch:

Considerable interest is manifest here on account of a news article in the Columbia State this morning relating to an alleged shortage of \$8,000 in the accounts of county Treasurer J. H. Copeland, now dead. The origin of the news article seems to be a "gentleman from Laurens" who while in the city of Columbia gave out a statement to the effect that experts from the comptroller general's office had been at work on the county books and had found a discrepancy of several thousand dollars.

It is true that Mr. D. H. Wise, of the comptroller's office, who in the city several days of last week making his settlements with the county officers; it is also true that an examination of the former treasurer's accounts was made and an apparent discrepancy revealed. However, the officers here and Mr. Wise did not complete the work of checking and it was agreed that he should come back at an early date and settle the accounts, meanwhile giving out no report concerning the status of affairs; in consequence of this agreement, as

(Continued on eighth page.)