

The Laurens Advertiser.

VOLUME XXXV.

LAURENS, SOUTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 1920.

NUMBER 47

REPUBLICANS SPLIT OVER NOMINATION

Free for All Fight in Chicago

DARK HORSE NOW LIKELY

Wood, Lowden and Johnson Being Driven Into Deadlock Which Only a Dark Horse is Likely to Break. Candidates Make Little Headway Against Odds.

Chicago, June 7.—Its old time leaders unhorsed and its favorites for the presidency deadlocked, the Republican party will begin its national convention here tomorrow under conditions of uncertainty unparalleled in recent political history.

Unbanned and largely unorganized, the delegates were asking one another tonight in what direction they were straying and when a master would arise to lead them out of the wilderness of their own indecision.

In the noisy turmoil of convention eve the only definable trend seemed to be driving Wood, Lowden and Johnson into a deadlock fight which, it was recognized everywhere, might destroy them all. The old timers reflected that it is but a step from a deadlocked convention to a stampeded convention, and wondered what might happen next unless some tried and trusted leader settled himself securely in the saddle.

Many were recalling the Chicago convention of 1880 when the favorites all were deserted after a deadlock of 35 ballots and James A. Garfield, who had won the convention by a non-nominating speech was named.

Talk of a dark horse in which some of the more experienced practical politicians joined tonight for the first time began to revolve with an increasing frankness about the disclosures of the senate's investigation of campaign expenditures. At many scattering conferences those who advocate a dark horse nomination predicted that in the end no man whose name was involved at all in the evidence of the investigating committee could be put before the country as the party's choice.

In the main, however, the leaders and near leaders caucused and conferred and brought forth nothing. Even those who held the whip hand over a few delegates here and there seemed unable to get together with the other greater and lesser potential dictators of party policy. The result is a foggy picture of the possibilities of the next few days.

It became apparent that unless there came a dramatic and unexpected change the first ballot to be taken Wednesday or Thursday will record votes for between fifteen and twenty candidates for the presidency, with scarcely more than half enough to nominate in the Wood, Lowden or Johnson column.

To what extent the managers for the leading three can hold their delegates in line after an unsuccessful test of strength is subject of controversy. There are those who contradict the claims of the Wood, Lowden and Johnson whips that their organizations are cohesive enough to stand the strain of a failure to nominate on an early ballot.

In any case no one any longer pretends to be sure just what will happen after a roll call or two has passed into history. The guess of some of the veterans is that votes will swirl and bunch and scatter again like the sands of the sea. And those who hope for a stampede are counted on to turn loose every variety of spellbinding, emotional whirlwind.

It is a situation which gave the bosses of other days many a good laugh in their sleeves as today's developments moved in feverish circles. Those of the old time, out of date school, who are here at all, remained largely to themselves, however, hoping for the best, but shaking their heads sadly at the memory of steam rollers used and wires pulled in the times when a leader could be sure of his ground.

The new leaders of the party, however, including Will H. Hays, the national chairman, declared their entire satisfaction with the absence of the old methods.

REVIVAL SERVICE OPENED SUNDAY

Large Attendance at First Meeting of Gypsy Smith, Jr., Revival Service.

With the tent filled to its capacity the Gypsy Smith, Jr., revival service opened Sunday night and the evangelist delivered a stirring appeal to professing Christians to live up to their professions and set an example which would reflect credit and honor on the church. The tent is not as large as the local committee had hoped it would be, but arrangements may be made later to take care of the crowds if they grow to be beyond the capacity of the tent.

The singing of the choir is expected to prove an important feature of the meeting. The choir is composed of about a hundred voices and is under the direction of a trained leader. Mrs. C. H. Hicks is acting as accompanist.

Special services are to be held in adjoining towns each Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. Next Sunday services will be held at Gray Court. The following Sunday services will be held at Cross Hill and the next Sunday at Ora.

Evening services are opened here at 8 o'clock and are held every evening in the week except Monday, on which the evangelist and choir director take a rest.

WARREN M. STEPHENS.

Well Known Citizen of Warrior Creek Settlement Passed Away Sunday.

Warren M. Stephens, a well known and respected citizen of the Warrior Creek settlement, died at his home Sunday night after an illness of several weeks and was laid to rest at Warrior Creek church Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock. He was a consistent member of the Baptist church, his membership being at Gray Court where he resided for several years.

The deceased is survived by his widow, who was Miss Sophie Riddle, and the following sons and daughters: Arthur and Wofford, who resided in Greenville; T. Rufus, a merchant at Gray Court; Mrs. Walter Ball, of Gray Court, and Miss Maggie, who lived with her parents.

Death of Mrs. Kellett.

Mrs. Rhoda Kellett, an aged woman of the Friendship section, died last Tuesday morning as the result of a broken hip caused by a fall about two weeks ago. The burial services were held at Friendship church Wednesday, being largely attended by sorrowing friends and relatives. Mrs. Kellett was 88 years of age and twice married. Her first husband was Mr. Tom Wilson, who died in the army during the Civil War. Of this union two daughters survive, Mrs. J. H. Traynham and Miss Lizzie Wilson. Her second marriage was to the late J. A. Kellett, who died in 1876. Of this union one child survives, Mr. John W. Kellett, who is now in the government service. She was for many years a member of Friendship church and was greatly beloved in her community.

Fined in Mayor's Court.

C. Eugene Roland, former street superintendent of the city, was fined \$100 by Mayor Richey Saturday, for flourishing a pistol and creating a disturbance in the city Friday. Roland headed a small party which attempted to take a white man by the name of Wells from Chief of Police Crews, after Wells had been arrested for an alleged insult to a relative of the former. Officers Sullivan and Bobo came to the assistance of the chief, who had seized Roland and the whole party was carried to the station house. Eugene Roland alone was placed under arrest, however. Wells has been turned over to the county for prosecution. The incident created considerable excitement for awhile, but this blew over when it appeared that the whole affair may have been the result of a misunderstanding.

Base Ball at Watts.

Watts Mills and Enoree will play on the Watts Mills grounds Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock, the Watts Mills band furnishing music for the occasion. These two teams played at Enoree last Saturday, Watts losing to Enoree by a score of 8 to 0. The locals have signed Bobo, a southpaw formerly of Greenwood, and are determined to even up the score. Enoree will pitch Cothran, formerly with the Pacific Coast league. A big game is promised.

GENERAL PERSHING WILL RETIRE SOON

Announces Intention to Retire from Active Service in Letter to Baker. Did not Announce His Plans for the Future.

Washington, June 7.—General John J. Pershing will retire from active service within a few months. He announced his intention today in a letter to Secretary Baker.

The commander of the American Expeditionary Forces declared that he felt he could give up his military duties without impairment of the service and "thus be free to engage in something more active." The general did not indicate the nature of his future activities.

General Pershing assured Secretary Baker that he would remain in the service until work involved in the carrying out of the army reorganization act was completed. He gave the added assurance that in any future crisis he would be at the call of the nation.

The general's letter to Secretary Baker was made public by Colonel J. G. Quekemyer, his aide. It follows: "Dear Mr. Secretary:

"Referring to our conversation of a few days ago, I wish to say that it has long been my desire to return to civil life. Throughout my military career, I have been very much occupied, and the assignments that have fallen to my lot during recent years have been more or less important.

"It now appears that my duties are not likely to be of a character that will require more than a portion of my time. Under the circumstances I feel that after the completion of the work contemplated by the army reorganization act, I could relinquish military duty without impairment to the service and thus be free to engage in something more active.

"Therefore, as a situation should develop to justify my remaining, I contemplate taking the step indicated within the next few months.

"Should the necessity arise in a time of crisis or otherwise, I assure you, Mr. Secretary, that I shall stand ready to serve my country in the future as I have in the past.

"With great respect and high esteem, I remain very sincerely,

"John J. Pershing."

Decision of General Pershing to retire came as a surprise in army as well as in non-military official circles in Washington. The prospective future detail of the A. E. F. commander had never been announced, but several times he had been mentioned in connection with office of chief of staff.

The name of General Pershing as a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination had been put forward in the Nebraska and Michigan preferential primaries but delegates from those states pledged to other candidates were elected. Political observers at Chicago within the past few days, however, have mentioned General Pershing among the dark horses.

The expeditionary commander will retire with the rank of full general, that title for life having been conferred on him by congress after his return from France. General Pershing will be 60 years old next September and would not reach the retirement age until 1921.

Another Still Destroyed.

A crude outfit for distilling whiskey was captured by Sheriff Reid and Officers Abrams and Claude Owings near Mountville last week. The still and considerable mash were destroyed. The mash was in a large barrel sunk in the ground, which a hog had found and fallen into, going to a "mashy" grave.

Cutting the Melons.

County Auditor J. W. Thompson is spending several weeks in Apopka, Fla., with his brother, J. M. Thompson, where the two brothers have a large watermelon farm. Writing from there a few days ago, he said that the crop this year is fine and that they have already begun to make shipments.

Legion to Meet.

A meeting of the Thos. D. Lake, Jr., Post, American Legion, has been called by Post Commander Barksdale for Thursday night at eight o'clock. Important business, such as the bonus matter, secession from the national organization and other matters are to come up. A full attendance is desired.

WATERLOO ROAD AGAIN BOBS UP

Greenwood Chamber of Commerce Asks for Conference Between Laurens and Greenwood Commissions.

Supervisor Watts is in receipt of a letter from E. W. Stalnaker, president of the Greenwood chamber of commerce, enclosing a copy of a letter sent by him to the state highway commission proposing another conference between the state commission and the two county commissions relative to the top-soil road connecting the two counties. The renewed agitation of this question came following a petition of Corona people to the Greenwood chamber of commerce asking that the road from Greenwood to this county's line be built through that town to either the Ivy Bluff site near the old Cunningham place or to the Puckett's Ferry site about a mile and a half below, instead of to the Boyd's Mill bridge now being used. It is understood that the Greenwood commission has already had the survey made to the Boyd's Mill bridge and let the contract for work on that route. The Laurens commission is understood to favor the Ivy Bluff route, but definite action has not been taken because of the lack of funds at present to prosecute the work. The action of the Greenwood commercial body is taken to indicate that means might be found to change the plans on the Greenwood side or that the Greenwood commission will try to prevail upon the Laurens commission to build to the Boyd's Mill bridge also.

Supervisor Watts, who is chairman of the Laurens commission, said yesterday that his commission would be glad to meet with the Greenwood commission, but that he saw little chance of altering the plans on this side. Taking out of consideration the matter of the most desirable route, he said, the legislative delegations from Greenwood and Laurens counties had put through an act of the legislature last year requiring a bridge to be erected in the vicinity of the Puckett's Ferry site and that there was no visible way of avoiding the building of a bridge in that vicinity. As a bridge at the Ivy Bluff site would meet the requirements of the act and is a more desirable site, the commission would favor crossing the river at this point, thus saving the counties the expense of building two bridges, as the present bridge at the Boyd's Mill site would have to be practically rebuilt. It is the present intention of the commissioners, he said, to meet the requirements of the act in the best and most economical manner and at the same time place the bridge at the most logical point between the two counties.

The letter of Mr. Stalnaker to the state highway commission follows: State Highway Commission, Columbia, S. C.

Dear Sirs:

At a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of Greenwood, a delegation of citizens from Coronaca and surrounding community presented a matter which, in the judgment of the Chamber of Commerce, needs the attention of the State Highway Commission, and the Highway Commissions of both Greenwood and Laurens counties.

The purpose of the Coronaca delegation was to have the Chamber of Commerce use its influence with the Greenwood county highway commission to the end that the Greenwood-Laurens highway pass through Coronaca and cross Saluda at Ivy Bluff or Puckett's Ferry instead of Boyd's bridge.

In the course of discussion it developed that the Greenwood and Laurens Commissions were divided as to the routes to be adopted—the one desiring to build the Boyd's bridge route—and the other the Puckett's Ferry or Ivy Bluff route, and they have never been able to get together.

It also developed that the General Assembly has already passed an Act requiring the building of a bridge at Puckett's Ferry.

Leaving out of consideration the claims of the Coronaca citizens—because those are purely local—and can, of course, only be dealt with by the Greenwood highway commission, there remains a condition of State importance—to wit: Shall the highway from Greenwood to Saluda river be unimproved on the Greenwood side; and likewise the highway from Laurens to the Saluda be unimproved

J. H. SPROUSE A SUICIDE.

Former Laurens Man Cuts His Throat While Temporarily Demented.

News was received in the city Saturday of the death in Texarkana, Ark., of J. Henry Sprouse, a native of Greenville county near Fountain Inn and a one-time resident of this city. His death followed a self-inflicted wound Tuesday night of the same week while he was alone in a Texarkana hotel where he had stopped for the night. While temporarily bereft of his mental faculties he slashed his throat with a razor and created a sensation as he staggered down the hotel steps into the lobby. Entirely recovering his mind following the shock of the wound, he expressed deep regret at the deed and placed himself entirely in the care of his attendants. He was looked after by members of the Masonic fraternity, of which he was a member, and every attention given him by physicians and nurses. Rev. Mr. Brewer, Grand Chaplain of the order in Arkansas, accompanied the remains to Fountain Inn and assisted in the funeral services held at Fairview church yesterday afternoon. The body was interred with Masonic honors.

The deceased was about forty years of age and unmarried. At one time he lived here, but for the last several years has been living in Texas. His father died when he was but a youth and he was raised by an uncle, J. L. Sprouse, of Fountain Inn. He is survived by his stepmother, Mrs. W. J. Sprouse, two half sisters, Mrs. S. L. Colman and Mrs. A. H. Stewart, and a half brother, Rev. W. W. Sprouse, of Virginia.

Music Recital.

The pupils of Miss Hattie D. Gray's piano class closed their term work with a most creditable recital Monday afternoon at five o'clock. The numbers were played with a pleasing finish and technique. Those taking part were: Misses Margaret Wasson, Laura Vance Jones, Janie Harris, Rose Rosenthal, Lucille Hawkins, Caroline Hudgens, Mariene Gray, Mary Sue Bolt, Lois Fuller, Eva Taylor, Sara Eliza Swygert and Miss Gray.

Services at Ora.

Special memorial services and furling of the service flag are announced for the Warrior Creek Baptist church next Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. The public is cordially invited.

on the Laurens side? In other words, ought the two commissions break the course of travel and traffic between the counties, because of a mere difference of opinion as to which is the most feasible place to cross the river?

We believe that if your commission will call a joint meeting of the two commissions that some plan of adjustment of this important phase of the question between them will be reached. We respectfully suggest for your consideration the advisability of such meeting before any expenditures have been made, and we further suggest to the two county highway commissions the advisability of having the State highway commission, or certain of its members, act as a board of arbitration between them, in the event they cannot agree.

It is of the utmost importance to both counties that they be connected in trade and traffic—for isolation is the strongest enemy of progress. The people want good roads for the benefits which accrue therefrom, and do not want them to stop at county lines. The very purpose of creating the state highway commission and the only excuse for its existence—is the creation and maintenance of through roads—as against local and broken lines of roads.

We sincerely hope your commission will take hold of this matter and bring about an adjustment satisfactory to both counties. We feel that the commissions of both counties will be free to make some sacrifice of purely local conveniences to serve the general good.

We are sending a copy of this letter to both county commissions—in the hope of opening up the matter for further consideration.

Yours very truly,
Greenwood Chamber of Commerce,
By E. W. Stalnaker,
President.

Greenwood, S. C.,
June 3, 1920.

PROHIBITION LAW UPHELD BY COURTS

Death Knell of Wets Is Sounded

SUPREME COURT RENDERS DECISION

Amendment and Enforcement Act Upheld in Unanimous Decision of United States Supreme Court. Invalidates Acts of States Allowing Light Beverages.

Washington, June 7.—The prohibition amendment and the enforcement act were held constitutional by the supreme court today in a unanimous decision.

While attorneys for the interests attacking the two measures, were granted permission to file motions for re-hearings, the decision was regarded generally as striking a death blow to the hopes of the wets.

The court's opinion, rendered by Justice Van Devanter, was sweeping. It held that the amendment not only came within the amending power conferred by the federal constitution, but was lawfully proposed and now was the law of the land. While recognizing that congress has limitations in respect to the enforcement of laws regarding beverages, the court held those limits were not transcended in the enactment of the enforcement act restricting alcoholic content of intoxicants to one-half of one per cent.

While New York, New Jersey and Wisconsin acts permitting manufacture and sale of beverages of more than one-half of one per cent alcoholic content were not directly involved, the decision was interpreted as invalidating them. The court said the last section of the amendments of its own force "invalidates any legislative act—whether by congress, by a state legislature or by a territorial assembly—which authorized or sanctions what the section prohibits."

Concurrent power granted by the amendment to federal and state governments to enforce prohibition, the court further held, "does not enable congress or the several states to defeat or thwart prohibition but only to enforce it by appropriate means."

The decision of the court was set forth in eleven conclusions covering seven separate proceedings. These proceedings included original suits brought by the state of Rhode Island directly attacking the constitutionality of the amendment.

Announcements.

The Advertiser carries several additional announcements in this issue of the paper. J. Howard Moore, of Abbeville, announces himself as a candidate for solicitor of this circuit in opposition to Homer S. Blackwell, of this city, incumbent. Mr. Moore is a graduate of Clemson college and has been a representative of Abbeville county in the legislature for eight consecutive years. He is now state senator from that county. R. R. Owings announces for re-election as coroner and W. H. Whitlock throws his hat into the ring for the same office. A. Homer Moore, for the past two years county commissioner, announces himself for re-election.

Governor Loses His Tonsils.

Governor Robert A. Cooper underwent a successful operation in a Columbia hospital Friday morning when his tonsils were removed. The Governor has suffered a great deal lately from sore throat and hoarseness and his doctors advised him to submit to an operation. Gov. Cooper was resting easy at last reports and will be up and about within a few days.

Off For Commencement.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Roper, Mrs. R. S. Dunlap, Misses Margaret and Sara Dunlap, Mary Roper; Messrs. Farris Martin, Harry Wilkes, Charlie Dial and Waldo Martin left yesterday to attend the commencement exercises of Clemson College.

All-Day Singing.

An "All-Day Singing" will be given at Bellview church Sunday, June 20th. The public is cordially invited to attend and are asked to bring well-filled baskets.