

WILD NIGHT AND MANY THRILLS IN STATE CONVENTION

Continued from page one this section.

adopt the plank in the platform endorsing the bonus bill.

The Prohibition Laws.
The plank in the platform calling for a stricter enforcement of the laws, particularly the prohibition laws, and asking that persons convicted of selling liquor be given chain-gang sentences without the privilege of paying a fine, was adopted without debate, although everybody in the convention understood the political play underlying it. At the suggestion of Delegate M. S. Whaley, of the Richland county court, an amendment was adopted asking the legislature for an amendment to the judicial code making it more difficult for lawyers to bring appeals upon trivial grounds in criminal cases and in civil cases in which the public welfare is affected.

The Platform Adopted
It was about 3:30 o'clock when the platform was finally adopted. The document had been pretty well shot to pieces, but it was still the Evans platform, as adopted by the Spartanburg county convention. Whether intentional or not, the platform as submitted was a direct attack upon certain political leaders and certain political factions, and they have resented it. Mr. Blease was not a member of the convention, but was in attendance and was an interested listener. He had a number of friends in the convention, some of whom had been his lieutenants

in previous campaigns, and they understood fully what it was all about. They were somewhat slow and awkward in getting into action but they were not backward about expressing themselves when they did get started. But the platform had antagonized others besides Mr. Blease and his followers. If it had been a straight fight with only Mr. Blease's friends lined up on one side, they would have lost, for they were in the minority, but the ire of a good many others had been aroused and they did not hesitate to tell how they felt and voted accordingly.

At one time the suggestion was made that the platform be received as information and the platform of 1920 reaffirmed instead, and at one time it looked as if this might be done. But a woman delegate saved the situation by remarking that she believed the convention had brains enough to frame a platform of its own without adopting one that was out of date. The delegates seemed to think a platform was necessary, and went to work to revamp the one that had been submitted. After the smoke had cleared away in the small, weary hours of the morning it was still the Spartanburg county platform, as written by John Gary Evans, and was still recognizable as such, but it had been badly battered.

Mr. Evans Keeps Cool

Mr. Evans did not have much to say while the child of his brain was being manhandled. At one time he took the floor and said that the plat-

form was a compromise, the work of the entire committee, and that he did not feel called upon to defend it any more than others, but he stated that he might have something to say later on in reply to some of the things that had been said. This was taken to mean that he intended to take the matter to the stump in the campaign for governor, but he did not at any time make the definite statement that he would be in the race.

The Race for Governor

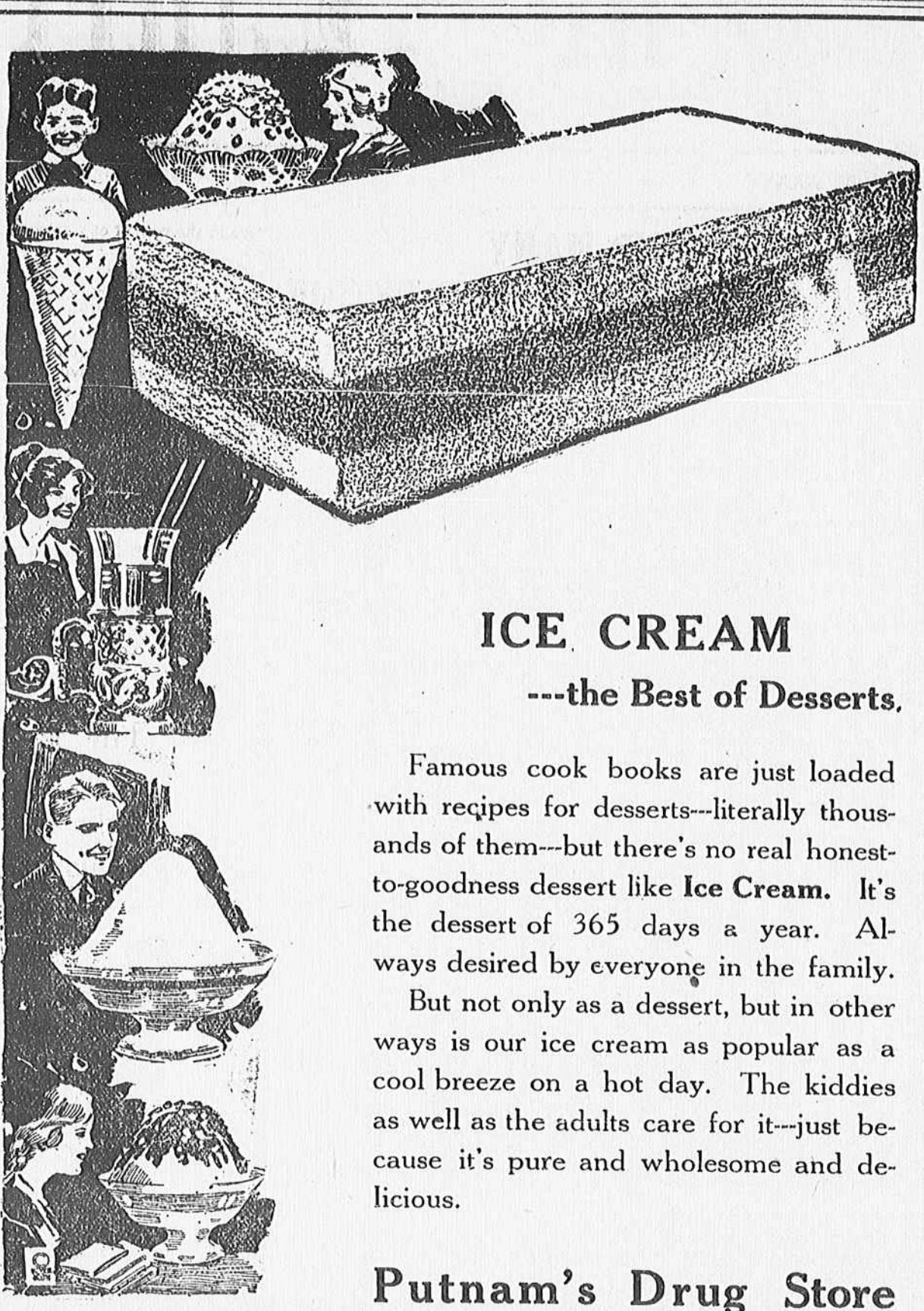
The announcement of J. E. Swearingen, state superintendent of education as a candidate for governor, did not put an end to speculation as to other possible entries. Former Judge Mendel L. Smith, of Cheraw; former Lieutenant Governor T. G. McLeod, of Bishopville; and former Railroad Commissioner John G. Richards, of Liberty Hill, were among the delegates to the convention. Each of these is thinking of entering the race. Each is well known throughout the state, each has strong friends and is an experienced campaigner. Senator Laney, of Chesterfield, is in the race, and his friends say he is to be reckoned with. He will have a constructive platform, being regarded as an expert on taxation. Former Governor Cole L. Blease is actively in the race, and he and his friends say he will win. But they always say that although Blease has been twice defeated for United States senator since he last ran for governor. Former Lieutenant Governor A. J. Bethea, of Columbia, and William Coleman, of Whitmire, are avowed candidates, and it is understood that both are confident of winning. There may be other candidates before the entries are closed, and all of these herein mentioned may not come to the scratch at the last.

The Politics of It

There will be a campaign for United States senator two years from now, Senator Dial's term expiring in 1925, and this fact was frequently mentioned in connection with talk of the race for governor. It may be unfair to some, or all, of the candidates to say it, but there is a widespread impression that an attempt may be made to use the governor's office as a stepping stone to the senate. In other words, many of the delegates to the state convention felt, and said, that certain candidates for governor were running for that office with a view to becoming a candidate for the senate against Senator Dial. There is a feeling that some of the candidates are more concerned over their own political fortunes in the future than about being of service to the state at the present time. Every prospective candidate for governor would, of course, deny such an implication, but this is the way a great many people feel about it. And that is why there has not been any general lining up behind any of the candidates so far as announced. There is a disposition to wait for developments. This was the feeling of many if not a majority of the delegates at the convention.

CROSS HILL NEWS

Cross Hill, May 22.—Frank Miller is a visitor to Charlotte, N. C.
Miss Ozella Harmon, who has been teaching at Lexington, is at home for the summer.
Rev. W. D. Ratchford and family spent a portion of last week with relatives at Sharon, S. C.
Miss Eliza Nance, a member of the graduating class of Converse College, is expected home in a few days.
Misses Helen and Grace Hitt are among the Winthrop graduates.
Some of our people attended the closing exercises of the Barksdale-Narnie school on Friday night.
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Major, of Ware Shoals, are guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Leaman.
Mr. J. J. Workman, who recently underwent treatment at the Greenwood hospital is at home. On account of his advanced age his friends are very anxious about his condition.
Mr. W. M. Spearman, who has had an extended illness, is thought to be improving.
The class consists of five members, three girls and two boys.
Mr. and Mrs. Clarke, of Gables, S. C., are guests of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Carter.
Miss Azile Austin leaves this week for an extended visit to relatives at Vidalia, Ga.
Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Leaman, of Laurens, were visitors here Sunday.
Miss Florida Rudd, who has been teaching in the Clinton graded school, is with homefolks.
Rev. W. D. Ratchford, J. L. Carter, J. H. Nance, J. A. Guthrie, Weldow Leaman, Frank Miller, J. C. McGowan and Charley Razor were among those who attended the Shriners' convention at Rock Hill.
Dr. J. H. Miller and C. D. Nance attended the state convention at Columbia, last week.
Dr. and Mrs. H. B. Senn spent Sunday at Greenwood with Mrs. Senn's father, who is quite ill.
Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Workman spent Monday at Spartanburg.



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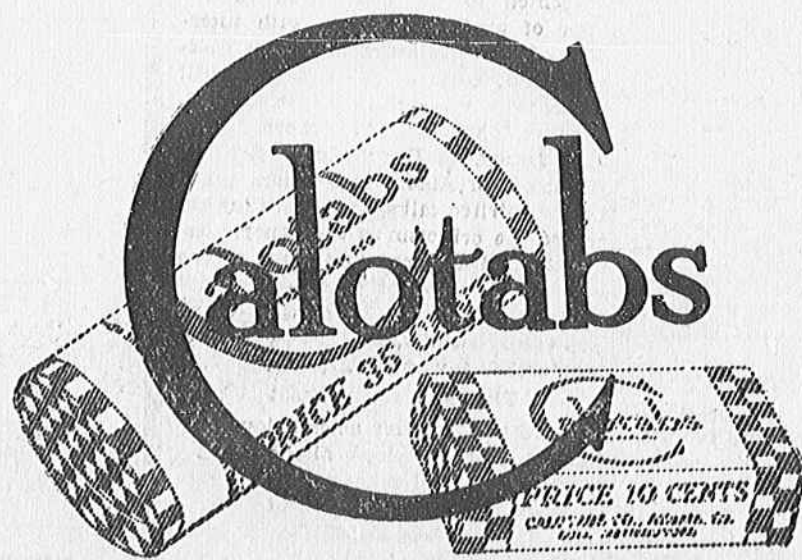
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