

The Newberry Herald and News.

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TWICE A WEEK, \$1.50 A YEAR

MR. SLIGH'S STATEMENT.

He Makes a Statement in Reply to Mr. Keitt in Regard to the Alliance Warehouse.

Editor Herald and News: On the 8th ultimo I attended the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Alliance Warehouse Company. There were present at said meeting not more than four or five stockholders who were not directors of the board, and a quorum of stock was not represented. I did not raise the question of a quorum, but moved to elect the directors then serving.

I stated to the meeting that the reasons which made the Alliance Warehouse a necessity no longer existed, and that as I had been instrumental in getting many to subscribe to the stock of said company, that I felt it to be my duty while living to get back for them as much of their money as was possible under the circumstances, and that to this end that I had gone out and found a party who was willing to purchase this property at fifty cents on the dollar, but that said party did not want his name known for the present.

This, I stated, did not mean an absolute sale of this property, but that it was to put the ball in motion. I further stated that I would, through the county papers, ask stockholders to correspond with me on the subject.

R. T. C. Hunter was in the chair and suggested that before doing this it might be better to call another meeting of the stockholders. I agreed to this, with the distinct understanding that the notice should be published in the county papers, and that in the notice two special points should be mentioned, viz: that the proposition to sell was for cash, and that all stock should be represented either in person or by written proxy. Mr. Hunter asked me to write a resolution covering those points, and if adopted it should be published. This I did, and the resolution was adopted. Mr. Hunter handed the resolution to Mr. Keitt, with the request that he have the same published. Here is a certified copy of the resolutions:

Resolved, That a meeting of the stockholders of the Alliance Warehouse Company of Newberry County be called by the President of Stockholders' meeting to meet at Prosperity, S. C., on the 22nd of September, 1899, to consider proposition for sale of the warehouse, the same being a proposition to sell for cash.

Resolved, That all stockholders are earnestly urged to attend said meeting, either in person or by proxy, and if by proxy, the same shall be in writing, signed by the person or alliance holding the stock.

If the resolutions had had the small box the notice would not have caught it.

Not one word about cash, or how stock should be represented—no one urged to attend and nothing published that would lead the stockholders to believe that business was meant and a sale of the property would be offered.

The President, Mr. Hunter, announced to the meeting on the 22nd ultimo, that when he saw this notice in the paper he was astonished, as he looked for the resolution itself to be published.

Now why did Mr. Keitt act in this way? Was he afraid that a cash bid would bring out a large number of stockholders, and many proxies put in legal shape, so they could be voted? He said to the meeting that it was more carelessness on his part—that he really had not given the matter a thought. How very thin! Now bear in mind that this same secretary positively refused to furnish me a list of the names of the stockholders, evidently with a view to keep me from writing to them. Put the perversion of the resolution along by the side of this refusal and you will understand why Mr. Keitt acted as he did, and he should make no further denial of a fact so plainly to be seen. It is bad enough to do wrong, but worse perhaps to hunt up a shabby pretext for it. He took good care to have every share of stock that would go his way represented. While on this question, I wish to state that if Mr. Keitt had not been a member of the board, I would have laid the proposition of selling the warehouse before the board and asked them to work with me. But, knowing Mr. Keitt as I do, I foresaw that he being the only stockholder that is making anything out of the business and being fully conversant in having his own way that nothing whatever could be accomplished.

Of my own accord, I agreed if the resolutions offered by me were published I would entirely be governed by the action taken at the stockholders' meeting. Now, the very first thing I did was to call the attention of the meeting to this design on Mr. Keitt's part to tie my hands, declaring that as the agreement had not

been complied with, that every promise made by me at the previous meeting, was null and void, and that I should go on with my first intention, asking stockholders to sell their stock to me, with the proviso that if a better bid was obtained up to a certain date, that I would release them from every obligation to sell to me.

I think it will be generally conceded that I could have carried every point throughout the meeting, as I did during the time I remained, but when it came to a question of selling the property, it would have been inconsistent in me to have pressed the matter to a vote, and my idea was that the severest rebuke that could be given to the bossism of Mr. Keitt was to withdraw from the meeting, and as the result showed it did not take this long to bear fruit.

I gave notice that I would ask for the appointment of a committee of stockholders to examine the books of the secretary and treasurer. Mr. Keitt arose and declared with wrath that such a committee should never see his books. Why not see his books, the books of the company of which he is an officer and servant? Why not? He pretends now that I am working against the interests of the stockholders, and that he as their friend and protector is warding off the blow that I am trying to give them.

Has not any man a right to make a bid on property, which Mr. Keitt himself says, is for sale? Have I gone behind the door to conceal anything I have said or done? Am I trying to fool the stockholders and make money out of them? Such accusations are absolutely false. Have I not made the effort to have stockholders and directors to get up a better bid than mine?

Mr. Keitt says that my bid is at a value of about 30 per cent. of the money expended for the property. Let us see how this is. He has counted up from his sealed book and told us that there were four hundred and fifty-six shares of stock issued and nearly one hundred dollars paid in by stockholders on the assessment made on stock. Four hundred and fifty-six shares at \$2.50 per share gives \$1,140.00, and this, with one half of the amount raised by assessment, would make the whole amount about \$1,200.00. And then \$1,200.00 is only 30 per cent. of the amount expended for the property, which would make the cost of the property about \$4,000.00. Who, I ask, believes this wonderful story? I do not, because I know it is not true. Is there another director or stockholder that would give out such an absurd statement. But Mr. Keitt's books are sealed from the stockholders and maybe he has down the \$4,000.00.

In conclusion for this week, I pronounce it as being absolutely false that I am to make money out of this transaction. At both of the stockholders' meetings Mr. Keitt tried to put words in my mouth concerning this matter, and he went so far with it that Mr. Hunter stopped him and told him that he was misrepresenting me.

No promise, no offer has ever been made to me to pay me for my trouble and I will not accept one cent as pay or as a present if it should be offered me. It has taken me an half a century to establish a reputation for honesty and fair dealing. I have served as pastor a congregation of christian men and women for thirty-four years, and the people of the county have honored and trusted me time and again and it would be a very silly act on my part to sell my good name at any price. I know that the majority of the people can never be made to believe any such an unreasonable story and my enemies I think will give me credit for having more sense than to permit such a silly act.

J. A. SLIGH.

CASTORIA.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of *Wm. D. Druggist*

Through the medium of the State Fair all branches of industry, including live stock, have been greatly improved.

CASTORIA.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of *Wm. D. Druggist*

The premiums offered this year at the State Fair have been greatly increased, and competition will be sharp. Be sure to get a premium list at once.

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children.
The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of *Wm. D. Druggist*

CHRONICLE OF COUSINS.

OUZTS CONTINUES HIS REVELATIONS OF THE DISPENSARY.

Way to Sell Liquor—Get a Cousin of Some Body to Drink—A Chairman Who Cancelled a \$20,000 Debt in Brief Time

(Special to Greenville News.)

Columbia, S. C., October 13.—D. A. G. Ouzts has given out chapter two of his statement. It deals with Chairman Haselden almost entirely, and Ouzts says there will be other chapters to follow for several days. He starts out by saying:

"D. Sachs & Sons, of Louisville, Ky., first had John T. Gaston, exacting State commissioner, as State striker, striking the board for orders for them. He was paid for one or two purposes, and their regular drummer, Mickle, discharged Gaston during the meeting of the board. Gaston told me that he immediately left Mickle's room in the Jerome hotel and went to the board room and called Mr. Cooper, member of the State board, out, and told him of his treatment. Cooper went back into the board room and had the board to countermand the order for twenty-five barrels of whiskey which had been given to D. Sachs & Sons.

The next deal Sachs & Sons and their drummer made with local strikers was with young Evans, a cousin of J. Dudley Haselden, then chairman of the board. This young man was scarcely 21 years old and had never sold whiskey before and knows just about as much about traveling for a wholesale house as the average country youth, and they know nothing about trade and commerce. He could never have gotten a job if he had not been related to the chairman. The strength of his pull may be judged by the amount of his and Gaston's orders which amount to \$16,580.98. The amount may be larger than this because all the invoices may not have been posted when this amount was taken from the books."

Ouzts says liquors were ordered from Sachs as needed. Then he takes up Friedman, Keller & Co., who fought the dispensary law and had an opposition store and shows how they worked through Matthias, of Charleston, and then employed W. E. Blue, another cousin of Haselden. Mr. Blue succeeded in getting some good orders and the amount of his pull and that of Matthias with J. Dudley Haselden, chairman, advocating orders for him, amounts to \$19,419 in orders given.

After the board passed resolutions excluding local strikers, Blue was turned down by Friedman, Keller & Co., and J. Dudley Haselden decided that the liquor was not as good as it was while Blue was with them. At least he gave up purchasing from Friedman, Keller & Co. and they have gotten no more orders since.

"Just after the death of Governor Ellerbe and about the time Boyd Evans was leaving his office a drummer came to Columbia to a meeting of the board. Sprinkler represented the Reidville, N. C., Liquor company and was called at the first meeting he attended by W. Boyd Evans, who got a job with him, and upon Sprinkler's going before the board with Evans and telling them he had employed Evans to travel North and South Carolina an order was given the Reidville Liquor company. They got such a large order that they had some difficulty in filling it—did not fill it in time to get another at the next board meeting—but have been given orders at every meeting since. If Evans ever traveled further for them than from Marion here to Columbia it has never been heard of. Boyd Evans's pull amounts to \$3,866.08 in orders given, besides the September purchases. So much for taking care of cousins.

"Now, what about yourself? J. Dudley Haselden, did you ever make this remark, that you had liquidated \$10,000 in debts since you had been a member of the board? Your salary, according to the published report of the board, was not \$1,500. Besides these three cousin liquor drummers, and before them, J. Dudley Hasel-

den has his brother-in-law elected one of the inspectors, who held his job several months, resigned and went back to college. After this J. C. Moody, another cousin from Marion county, was given the inspection job. He is still connected with the dispensary. It has been asserted that Stelling was given a job as dispenser in Charleston because M. H. Cooper needed his influence in the city to help him in his race for Secretary of State. J. D. Percival was also given a dispenser's job in Charleston about the same time. Stelling was finally allowed to run a dispensary against the vote of Mr. Douthit and Mr. Williams and they had him held up for thirty days and tried to prevent Stelling from running a wholesale dispensary.

Ouzts says Haselden bought a case of liquor for the legislators and paid for it at wholesale prices. He says Haselden charged up for services not earned; that he plays double in the beer privilege matter.

Friedman, Keller & Co. offered silver flasks for orders of five cases of case goods and got the orders.

Ouzts asks Haselden: "At the same time were you not buying contraband yourself? viz: I. W. Harper whiskey at a dollar and eight cents per quart, the same price charged to county dispensers and thus the town and county losing their profits, and not paying cash but having it charged to your account? When you would draw your pay for attendance here as chairman at the end of the week, you would have a bill made out for it and receipted, paying for the same. Not only this; did you not have full cases of champagne opened in the State dispensary, take out what you wanted and pay for it, at prices charged at county dispensary? Here you did while Victor Blue was here, and you and he drank it in the board room."

COOPER, VANCE AND WEBB—MORE DISPENSARY OFFICIALS STUDIED BY OUZTS—MAKING DRUMMERS.

FRIENDS OFFICIALS FAVORED.

(Special to Greenville News.)

Columbia, S. C., Oct. 14.—The following is the third chapter of the dispensary revelations of D. A. G. Ouzts:

"Just after Mr. R. Cooper's election to the office of Secretary of State, he rented his farm to one Mr. Gibson who blossomed out as a whiskey drummer, representing the Yadkin Valley company, of North Carolina. He came, he saw, and through Mr. Cooper's influence he conquered the board and got an order which was shipped after so long a time. Don't see why the board should buy from them, when the constants in Charleston and other parts of the State were seizing a lot of the Yadkin Valley Liquor Co.'s whiskey; besides, the sample bottle was so dreggy that it was unfit to sell. Mr. Cooper's attention was called to this, but he hesitated not and the purchase was made. The next meeting Mr. Gibson was back again and got an order for 100 barrels of corn for them. It was ordered shipped, but the Yadkin Valley Liquor Co., must have been doing such a rushing business with the blind tigers that they did not have time to attend to the dispensary order, or they could not supply the demand, for they never shipped the 100 barrels. The board canceled this order after waiting about sixty days for the shipment. By the whiskey not being shipped the dispensary ran short of corn whiskey for a few days. When the Yadkin Valley Liquor company could not or would not longer fill orders, Mr. Gibson, Mr. M. R. Cooper's tenant liquor drummer, besought another house, and found one in about the same category as the Yadkin Valley Liquor company. I refer to Bernheim Bros., of Louisville, Ky. He represented them and got an order for 25 barrels of rye whiskey. Soon after this order was given Mr. Cooper went into the Secretary of State's office and left the board, and Mr. Gibson went 'down on the farm.' The purchases of the Yadkin Valley Liquor company amount to \$2,483.40; purchased from Bern-

heim Bros., \$1,781.84; total, \$4,265.24.

"During the campaign last year and just before the primary election Mr. Cooper had Col. Vance to deliver to John T. Gaston some whiskey which he paid for after his nomination and for which he was given a receipted bill; some was shipped by express just before the primary election to one of Mr. Cooper's friends, and it was paid for afterward and a receipted bill given to him from the State dispensary; these purchases were billed out less the county profits. The dispensers in Charleston were given instructions by Mr. Cooper, while he was a member of the board, to ship back any whiskey they received which they did not order. When the State board would buy a new brand, they would have a case sent out to various dispensers for trial to see how it would take. Mr. A. L. Dunn, representing S. Grandfeller & Co., wanting to increase the demand for American Malt, wanted some sent to Charleston, and on hearing of Mr. Cooper's instructions to the Charleston dispensaries applied to him in my presence, in room 14 in the Columbia hotel, to have several cases shipped to the Charleston dispensaries. Mr. Cooper granted his request, and told me to have some sent to several dispensaries, naming them, and remarking afterward that the Charleston people were a set of damned cowards and they would sell it if told he had sent it to them; for me to tell Col. Vance to write to them he had it sent and for them to sell it. That the Charleston dispensaries knew better than not to try and sell after he told them to. All one would have to do was to enuro them and they would cringe to them. The whiskey was shipped and they never complained.

"Capt. B. C. Webb last May, while at the Confederate reunion in Charleston, wilfully violated a positive order of the board of control in not making Costello, the operator of J. St. Julien Yates's beer privilege, close up on the first of the month as directed by the board, but graciously extended the time to the 20th, thus giving him, Costello, time and opportunity to get deeper in debt to the State in his royalty than he was already. His indebtedness then was \$17.50. Captain Webb is clerk of the board and keeps minutes and there was no excuse for his not knowing the board's wishes, yet he can override them and defy them and show favoritism to a beer privilege holder who was already behind in his accounts to the State. The State loses and Captain Webb is not even censured much less suspended.

"Mr. Douthit and Chairman Miles were here in Columbia at the time Captain Webb was in Charleston giving Costello, J. St. Julien Yates' tenant, beer privilege holder and operator, permission to run on the 20th and Mr. Douthit and Chairman Miles telegraphing him (Costello) to close up on the first as the board had passed resolutions closing him up. Costello paid no attention to the commissioner or chairman, but took Webb's permission as his authority and ran on to the 20th. Chairman Miles did not suspend Webb for disobedience of the board's orders. Why didn't he? Webb not only violated the orders of the board, but acted in open defiance of the rules and Chairman Miles' instructions. Costello was behind on the first of May \$175.50, and by running to May 20th he got further behind \$112.50, making in all a total loss of \$288. Webb defied the board and the State lost \$112.50 more by his defiance and he is not suspended. I, without any intent to violate a doubtful rule the State was \$1 better off, and I am suspended. Why should there be such a discrimination made?"

Here the writer tells of two transactions in one of which he recovered for the State part of some money advanced to a distiller named Hampton, near Landrum's, to pay revenue taxes and which the board had neglected to press for. Hampton, he

says, yet owes the State \$200 and besides held on to sacks sent him for corn which he promised to ship in part payment. In the latter case Mr. Ouzts says he got \$300 due the State by the Georgia Brewing Co. since Commissioner Mixon's time for empty beer bottles.

He then goes on to recite the methods of Captain Webb, clerk of the board, who, he says, works five hours a day for \$125 a month, takes a week off in every month to visit Charleston and steadily drinks about the dispensary building in violation of the printed rule forbidding any drinking there posted over his own signature. He adds that Captain Webb lobbies for shipments by the S. C. & G. R. R. because it gives him a pass.

He next turns his attention to Col. S. W. Vance. Colonel Vance, he says, has given J. C. Dorn for nothing dispensary stable manure for which W. A. Clark had offered \$10, Dorn having sent the colonel little presents of milk, butter, etc. He further accuses Colonel Vance of taking dispensary packing boxes and coal to his own house in dispensary wagons without paying anything and of later keeping himself supplied with coal from the dispensary stock, paying for it at the price the State buys it for in 100 ton lots and having it hauled in dispensary wagons free. Colonel Vance, according to Ouzts, has been frequently guilty of selling liquor to himself and other employees at the dispensary, sometimes on credit, and has made it a habit to give away quantities of dispensary liquor on festival occasions.

"While I was shipping clerk and Colonel Vance Commissioner, when dispensers would order goods we did not have in stock, I would always ask Colonel Vance what to send them instead. He would almost invariably reply, send them 'Hunter.' Hunter was a good substitute for every kind of goods we happened to be out of. It got so common that Blackely and I used to laugh about the Hunter business. Some times the dispensers would order Hunter and other goods, the other goods we would not have, I would ask him what to send and he would not know that Hunter was ordered would say 'send them Hunter,' and when I would tell him they had ordered Hunter, he would say 'just any thing about the same grade.' All substitutes sent in place of what was ordered by dispensers were selected by Colonel Vance and a note of it made on the bottom of the order by me. He would write to the dispensers and tell them, we were out of the kind ordered, but had sent them other goods. I remember that Dispenser S. E. Whiten, at Pendleton, ordered one case of case goods, and wrote over the name case goods 'Hunter,' and Hunter we shipped him. In ordering goods out after the monthly purchases Messrs. Lannan & Son would invariably get their order shipped first by Col. Vance, commissioner; and when the board would meet again Lannan's goods would have been received and nearly all bottled and the most of them shipped out, and having not much on hand would be a good excuse to get it ordered again. If Lannan's goods were not all bottled they would be in the tanks, or as much of them as could be gotten in there, to be drawn out. About the last dumping Col. Vance had done before he went out of office was Hunter rye, when there was plenty in stock already bottled and enough of it to last six months; of course, as it was in the tanks it had to be bottled and stacked up in the way, taking up space which was needed for more saleable goods, thus reducing the floor space for other goods for which there was constant demand. The floor space being limited, not a large stock of these saleable goods could be kept, causing dispensers to wait until they could be bottled before filling orders.

"Whenever Black was absent from the dispensary Colonel Vance would put his son in Black's place and pay him out of the dispensary funds on the pay roll book, also put young Vance in Dixon's place when Dixon

was off a few days. He always put Earhardt in charge until Young lost his job as bottle receiving clerk, then it was his son Young. Colonel Vance also had Young in Black's place without pay part of the time the legislature was in session while Black was turned loose among the members to work for the election of certain candidates for membership on the State board of control. When Dixon resigned he lacked one month of serving his time out and the board ordered Vance and Haselden to take charge of the superintendent's work and have it done without extra cost to the State; this they did not do and yet they were not suspended, but they appointed Earhardt to look after it and increased his pay from six to twelve dollars per week. This ran about five weeks and there is a loss of \$30 by their action in refusing to carry out the board's instructions. Even after the board elected Mr. Bryant superintendent Colonel Vance paid Earhardt for one week \$12 after Bryant had taken charge; he consulted Mr. Miles, who was then chairman, about this week's pay and paid the \$12 without Mr. Miles authorizing him to do so!

"Before the primary election last year Mobley and Black were given a week's holiday and they both put in their time working for Cooper's election to the office of Secretary of State. Between the two primaries and the day of the last primary election, Mobley went up to Fairfield to leg for Cooper again and he made such a good showing that Cooper promised to give him Dave Means, place, but fortunately for Means Cooper didn't have all the say as to who would hold the job.

"M. H. Mobley, one of the book-keepers to the board of control, was sold a contraband white horse by Colonel Vance for just a few dollars more than other parties had bid. These bids were sealed ones and after all had been opened by Colonel Vance and by the terms of the sale the highest bidder should have had the horse. Mr. Mobley, knowing what others had bidden, was allowed to raise it just enough to get the horse. Mobley in a few days sold the horse and made a nice little speck out of the transaction.

"Colonel Vance sold one gallon of corn whiskey to W. Boyd Evans on primary election day when all country dispensaries were closed, and sold it on credit. The whiskey was paid for afterwards and W. W. Harris helped to pay for it. Or Harris said he must have helped pay for it as he was out over \$8 for his part of the election expenses. This was in Ellerbe's last election.

"Colonel Vance wanted Douthit to promise to vote for him for State commissioner and when Douthit would not sell his manhood to Vance, Vance and the local strikers for whiskey drummers fought Douthit's reelection on the State board of control before the last legislature.

"Colonel Vance loaned the State's coal belonging to the State dispensary to W. McB. Sloan, accepted Sloan's weights in both loaning and returning. Sloan could not return the last lot he borrowed and it had to be deducted from the bill, which bill of coal Sloan had sold to the dispensary. The deduction was made at the same price he had charged the dispensary in 100 ton lots, although he had frequently said that coal had advanced in price since the dispensary had placed the order with him.

"The last session of the legislature was besought so much by local strikers for whiskey drummers in working for members of the State board of control that the legislature was completely disgusted with their methods. Some of the members were so strongly besought by would be drummers from their counties, that they were induced to try to get the board to buy from houses represented by these local strikers and would be drummers. One member of the Senate being so strongly in accord with their desires through that fellow feeling which makes local strikers wondrous kind, because he had bought orders and did not

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