

The Watchman and Southern.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1903.

The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the True Southern in 1866. The Watchman and Southern now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

The City Council has postponed a decision on the telephone franchise question so many times that procrastination seems to have become a habit and whenever they are in doubt on any question they play "trumps"—postponement to the next regular meeting.

The State lost one of her strongest, truest and wisest sons when Chief Justice Henry McIver passed away on Monday. He was an able jurist, a clear and logical thinker, high-toned and fearless of consequences, who discharged his duty as he saw.

Our Pisgah correspondent makes a few observations on the value of advertising that the merchants and other business men of Sumter will do well to consider. The Watchman and Southern goes into almost every household in that section of country and an advertisement in this paper will reach hundreds of families who live nearer Camden than to Sumter, and who, until recent years, were accustomed to do the bulk of their trading in that place.

THE LEGISLATURE MEETS.

Mendel L. Smith, of Kershaw, Elected Speaker on First Ballot—The Senate Organized and Ready for Business.

Columbia, Jan. 13.—The house of representatives was called to order at noon by Col. Tom C. Hamer, clerk of the last house of representatives. Hon. Altamont Moses was chosen temporary chairman.

The members-elect presented themselves before the speaker's desk and were sworn in.

Nominations for speaker being in order, Mr. B. A. Morgan of Greenville, secured the floor and nominated Mendel L. Smith of Kershaw.

This was seconded by Mr. Whaley of Charleston, Mr. E. H. of Lexington, Lancaster of Spartanburg, Mr. Richards of Kershaw and others.

Mr. Gaston of Chester, put in nomination the name of Hon. T. M. Williams of Lancaster. This was seconded by Mr. Haile of York, Mr. Moss of Greenville, Mr. Moss of Orangeburg and several others.

There were 118 votes cast, of which Mr. Smith received 97 and Mr. Williams 21.

The following voted for Mr. Smith: Aull, Bailey, Baker, Banks, Bates, Black, Blackwood, Brooks, Brown, Bunch, Callison, Carwile, Clifton, Coggeshall, Culler, Davis, DeBruhl, DeVore, Doar, Donald, Doyle, Edwards, Eford, Fox, Gause, Glover, Gourdin, Harrellson, Haskell, Herbert, J. E., Herbert, D. Hill, Hinton, Holman, Hummer, Iby, James, Jarreagan, Johnson, Kibler, King, Kirby, Lester, Lanham, Leavert, Lee, Little, Lofton, Lyles, Mac, Magill, Mahaffey, Mims, Morgan, Moses, Nicholls, Parnell, Patterson, Pearman, Reinsford, Rankin, Rawlinson, Read, Richards, Richardson, Seabrook, Smith, J. Smith, Slackhouse, Stuckey, Tatam, Toole, Towill, Traylor, Tribb, Wade, Walker, Wall, Webb, Wingard, Wingo.

The following voted for Mr. Williams: Barron, Beangard, Colcock, DesChamps, Dowd, Ford, Gaston, Haile, McCain, Moss, Pearman, Penrify, Stalker, Strong, Wise, Wright, Youmans—21.

There were three nominees for speaker at arms, Mr. J. S. Wilson of Lancaster, Mr. W. K. Grant of Greenville, and Mr. Geo. W. Ashbill of Beesville. Mr. Wilson received 21 votes, Mr. Grant 21 and Mr. Ashbill 21. Mr. Wilson was declared elected and sworn in. This is his second year.

John S. Withers, of Chester, in opposition for the position of clerk, an office which he has held with great acceptability for many years. Mr. Withers is a very able member of the speaker's staff. The house adopted a resolution proposed by Mr. John P. Thomas, Jr., providing the use of the hall to the Bar association for its annual meeting Thursday night, Friday afternoon and Friday night.

The motion of Mr. Morgan a committee of three waited on the governor and informed him that the house was organized and ready for business. A message was sent to the senate. The governor submitted 14 messages, 12 messages, 12 messages, reports of State officers, etc., announcing the death of Hon. Henry McIver, chief justice.

The senate concurred in the senate resolution to appoint a committee to attend the funeral of Judge McIver. The committee consisted of Messrs. T. Y. Wilcox, of Lancaster, John P. Thomas, of Lancaster, J. O. Patterson, of Lancaster, L. Mauldin, of Greenville, and Whaley, of Charleston.

Mr. Withers was excused on account of illness and Mr. Altamont Moses was appointed.

The motion of Mr. John P. Thomas, Jr. was then adjourned until the next session of the senate.

only member absent. The new members having been sworn in officers were elected as follows: President Pro Tem—Senator John C. Sheppard. Clerk—Gen. Robert R. Hemphill. Reading Clerk—Mr. W. H. Stewart. Sergeant-at-Arms—Mr. J. F. Schumbert.

The following appointments made by Lieut. Gov. elect Sloan were then announced: Assistant Clerk—R. M. McCown. Journal Clerk—Tillman Bunch. Bill Clerk—Henry D. Butler. The appointment of the regular standing committees was announced. Senator Manning is chairman of the Claims Committee and a member of several others.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

Governor McSweeney's last annual message was read:

The Governor states that the general condition of the State is most satisfactory, and material prosperity is to be seen everywhere. He calls attention to the fact that the State is living beyond its means, and urges the assembly to make the income and the expense bill fit each other. He urges tax assessment on the actual value of property, as commanded by the constitution, that varying percentages in each county works injustice, and that the constitution providing basis, it would not be proper to make any percentage below that legal. He urges the adoption of his last year's recommendation of township boards of assessors.

He speaks at length on the matter of road improvement, in view of the extension of the rural mail service. We need both more education along the line of road building, and we need more cash to do the work necessary. If we depend on the commutation tax alone our roads will constantly be going backwards. We must also have a property tax for road building, which would make those who would derive benefit from good roads, all contribute to the road building, that is the towns and the railroads. The chain gangs ought to be used to make the more permanent parts of the roads, and they ought to be put to work building permanent roads out in every direction from the county seat, if only a few miles each year were built.

The chapter on education is long and earnest. He views this matter as of the utmost importance. By education the wage earning capacity of a community is increased. Where the idle and ignorant people can be supported by a given piece of land, thirty or forty thrifty and intelligent people can find support. All wealth has its basis in intelligence. Compulsory education is urged. We need not fear for the negro. He is getting all the education which is provided now, and could get no more under compulsory education. Such a law cannot interfere with the rights of the parents, because no parent has the right to make a slave of his child. Every boy and girl has a right to the opportunities afforded.

He favors a direct appropriation for the public schools of at least as much as is given the colleges. To meet the alarming exodus from the country to town, home schools for girls and farm schools for boys, as recommended by the superintendent of education, is suggested. Each county could devote 2 mills for the establishment and maintenance of such schools and the money would be richly invested. A new epoch would be inaugurated in the social and industrial life of the community. It is suggested that the school of pedagogy be given some financial advantage in the state. The proposition to devote \$1,000 to the establishment of post graduate scholarships in the South Carolina college for graduates of other colleges in the state and stimulus to higher learning.

The various state colleges are shown to be doing excellent work and recommendation is made that the appropriations asked for be granted.

The section on child labor is strong. The question must be met and better now than later. There is only one way to solve it and that is on the side of justice and humanity.

He does not favor the pardoning board, which cannot do more than recommend, which recommendation, at last, leaves the responsibility of the pardon with the chief executive. He makes no recommendation as to the new mansion but puts the legislature in possession of the facts and suggestions from time to time discussed in the press. He says that the need of a more convenient and modern mansion is apparent.

As to special courts it is shown that the privilege has been abused to the cost of the state; the special court being asked for as a necessity and the regular term following it being without business. The dilatoriness of the attorneys is most to blame for the delays of the courts. The same eight circuits, however, are expected to do the work now that the population of the state has doubled and the counties greatly increase from the time that the provision was made.

He endorses the recommendation of the comptroller general that each agent or representative of an insurance company in the State should have a license to do business, which would protect the people and the legitimate companies.

He calls attention to the pension grabbing and suggests that the county pension boards be composed of the executive members of the Confederate camps in the State. He speaks well of the militia and recommends the support of this arm of the government, in which, he says, at last rests the safety and security of our structure of civil government.

The section on the dispensary is shorter than it has been in any message for ten years. He suggests a special hospital for epileptics and idiotic people so as to relieve the pressure on the hospital for the insane. The preservation of the historical records is recommended. The necessity for a department of immigration is pointed out and it is suggested that these duties might be devolved on the secretary of state and geologist.

More tobacco will be planted in Sumter county than last year, but there is nothing like a tobacco craze in the county. There will be nothing like a general planting of tobacco until there is a market in this city, for it does not pay the farmers to grow a crop that they are forced to ship to a distant market. The effort to establish a warehouse here seems to have died still-born.

PARTISAN LEGISLATION.

Congress Under Republican Domination Makes Laws for Benefit of Party Not for Good of the Country.

Washington, D. C., January 12.—One of the sharpest debates recently witnessed in the United States Senate grew out of the effort of Senator Vest to have a bill removing the duty on anthracite coal, in accordance with the President's recommendation, reported from the finance committee. In terms made thrice eloquent by the feeble condition of the speaker, which would not permit him to stand without the support of his desk, the Senator, for the second time in one week, pleaded the cause of the poor and needy. He begged his opponents for the sake of humanity to abandon partisan considerations and pass a measure offered "by a poor democrat" but calculated to lighten the hardships of the old and feeble and of little children who wept because of the cold. In heartless but forceful terms Senator Aldrich taunted the Senator from Missouri with having consented to a 40 per cent. duty on coal when the democrats were in power and Mr. Vest replied that, as the Senator from Rhode Island well knew, that duty was admitted to the Wilson bill because four democratic Senators who held the balance of power were untrue to their party and made the 40-per cent. duty the price of their vote for the bill. He urged the republicans to rise above the sordid consideration of vested interests and partisan policy and act for once solely in the cause of humanity, but his words fell upon deaf ears.

In the debate between Senator Vest and his opponents the former quoted the late Nelson Dingley as having said that the rates of the Dingley bill had been made too high with the purpose of having a margin on which to trade, so that the United States might make reciprocity treaties without injury to American industries. Senator Hale took up the charge and repudiated the well authenticated evidence presented by the Senator from Missouri. He dodged the point at issue and pretended to regard the statement of Mr. Vest as a reflection on the personal character of Mr. Dingley which he ably defended from an attack which had never been made.

On Thursday the Senate, after learning that Senator Nelson believed he could conclude his speech on statehood in about three days, adjourned until today. The status of the Statehood measure, was not interfered with, however, and will be the regular order at 2 o'clock today. The impression is growing that the opposition will be eventually forced to yield and admit the three claimants to statehood, but at present the republicans are finding the contest a convenient barrier to legislation which they do not care to enact. This is especially true of anti-trust legislation which such men as Senators Hanna, Aldrich and others hope to avoid.

The anxiety of the President to please the people and secure the enactment of anti-trust legislation has resulted in strained relations between the Administration and the members of the sub-committee charged with the preparation of an anti-trust measure. When Congress met the House Judiciary committee appointed a sub-committee consisting of Messrs. Littlefield, Powers, Overstreet, De Armond and Clayton to draft a trust bill. This sub-committee asked the President for an administration measure and it was refused. Then they asked the Attorney General for his views on the subject. They were furnished and the committee immediately set to work to draft a bill embodying them. Then, to the amazement of Mr. Littlefield and his conferees, Mr. Knox sent to Representative Jenkins, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, two bills with a request that they be introduced. This was done and only when they appeared in print did the sub-committee, which had been burning the midnight oil over its measure, learn that it had been completely ignored and that bills had been introduced which were calculated to render obsolete the bill on which they had expended so much time and labor.

Under threat of an extra session the members of the Senate have consented to the passage of some "simple" and innocuous anti-trust measures. These bills, they say, must be so simple as to provoke no lengthy debate and must receive the unanimous support of the republicans which is tantamount to saying that they must be so drawn as to be incapable of thwarting the intentions or desires of the trusts. The lengthy and sweeping bill brought in with much spectacular advertising by Mr. Hoar has subjected the venerable Senator to nothing but ridicule,

and so upset has the gentleman become that on Thursday he moved the passage of a bill which was enacted nearly a year ago and the Senate, following his lead, passed it.

The President was subjected to what the French term a bad quarter of an hour at the Cabinet meeting on Friday, and a very bad quarter of an hour it was. Individually and collectively the members of his Cabinet reproached him with the blunders he has committed in attempting to carry into effect a wholly quixotic and spectacular Southern policy. The appointment of one, Dr. Crum, to be Collector of the Port at Charleston, S. C. and the suspension of the postoffice at Indianola, Miss., were made the texts for the certain lectures delivered behind the closed doors of the Cabinet room. Representative Bartlett of Georgia said to your correspondent, apropos of this subject, "President Roosevelt it what you might call a spectacular statesman fond of playing to the galleries. Like all other professional reformers he has but one object in view and that is to better his own personal chances at the expense and discomfiture of others. He is after a majority of the delegates to the next National Convention and he has been making a grand stand play for the negro votes in the South because he knows that they control the conventions that create the delegates." Representatives Johnson, Howard, Brantley, Cochran, Patterson, Lever, Senator-elect Latimer and others expressed similar views.

MORE TELEPHONE PROCRASTINATION.

City Council Holds a Called Meeting to Take Action on Long Distance and Postpones Everything.

A called meeting of the City Council was held at 2 o'clock Monday with Mayor Stuckey and Aldermen Boyle, Chandler, Dick, Hurst, Schwerin and W. H. Epperson present, and Alderman, Geo. F. Epperson, absent.

The Mayor stated that the meeting had been called to confer with Messrs. F. L. Beattys, Jr., and E. C. Haynsworth, attorney, representing the American Telephone and Telegraph Co., in reference to locating their poles in the streets, and also in reference to making a correction in their franchise ordinance as required by Council.

Mr. E. C. Haynsworth stated that the ordinance in question had been obtained for the purpose of constructing a long distance line. The American is a long distance company, and whether or not they would be authorized under the ordinance to establish a local exchange he was not prepared to say. He had no knowledge of the policy of the company and could not say whether or not they would consent to changing the ordinance to apply to a "long distance station only." But the company is here now with their construction force at large expense to put in their long distance station as demanded by Council, and yet the work is prohibited and prevented by authority of Council.

The Mayor explained that the one obstacle that confronts the company is the fact that they have an ordinance under which they might attempt to establish a local exchange; whereas they applied for the privilege of a long distance line only. Now Council asks them to so alter the ordinance as to restrict it to a long distance station—"will the company agree to this and put the matter right?" Mr. Beattys answered that the company would not consent to alter the ordinance in any manner, but they are not attempting to build a local exchange. He asked that Council permit them to proceed with their work.

Alderman Schwerin moved that the Street Committee be authorized to direct the location of poles in the streets, but there was no second to this motion.

Alderman Dick moved, "that the matter be postponed to the regular meeting on the 14th instant, during which time these gentlemen might hear from their company; and, that Council now adjourn. Alderman Boyle seconded the motion to adjourn and it was carried. Alderman Schwerin voting, No.

The pantry thief visited the Presbyterian parsonage last Friday night. The kitchen was entered, an axe being used to break open a window. No provisions had been left in the kitchen and the thief got only a cup of sugar. He did not break into the pantry.

The Mechanicsville and Pisgah people who were taken into Lee county against their wishes are already at work to have an election to vote themselves back into Sumter county, but as Lee county has but a few square miles to spare, these dissatisfied Lee county folks will have to be very careful how they run the lines marking off the territory to be annexed to Sumter county.

RYTTENBERG'S

Quantity 2,000 Yards

Material PERCALES

Width 36 INCHES

Sale starts Tomorrow

Actual values 8 to 10c

SPECIAL SALE PRICE 5c

A word to the wise, etc., etc.

Ryittenberg's

MONEY LOSING SALE....

Cost sales seem to be the order of the day and while we do not believe in them except as a matter of necessity as

They Lose Us Money

Still we feel it but just to our patrons to give them the same opportunities that are being offered elsewhere as it is but natural they should expect it. We have just finished stock-taking and find that we have a larger stock than usual at this season of the year, which is not due to our having sold less, but that we bought more, and a

COST SALE

Will doubtless assist us in disposing of some of the surplus. Until further notice we will sell every item in our

Dry Goods, Clothing and Shoe Department at Actual Cost.

No greater opportunity was ever offered in Sumter of getting Dress Goods, Silks, Domestics, Embroideries, Lace Curtains, Carpets, Mattings, Hosiery and Underwear.

Our loss will be your gain. Come early and get your share of the good things.

O'DONNELL & CO.

Stepping Stones to Prosperity THE SUCCESSFUL PLANTER FERTILIZES HIS LANDS.... The Virginia-Carolina Chemical Co. "Manufactures the best Fertilizers on Earth." Virginia-Carolina Chemical Co., CHARLESTON, S. C.