

The Watchman and Southron.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1903.

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

SCHOLARSHIP AT ANNAPOLIS.

Congressman Lever Will Nominate Cadet to the Naval Academy.

Under a recent Act of Congress, I am authorized to nominate by the 4th day of April next, a cadet to the Naval Academy at Annapolis from the Seventh Congressional District.

All young men are eligible, who are bona fide residents of the District, and who are free from physical defect, and who will be, in June next, between the ages of 15 and 20 years.

I will make this nomination by competitive examination, to be held in the Supreme Court Room at Columbia, S. C., on March the 28th, 1903, beginning at 9.30 o'clock, a. m.

Those desiring to enter this examination, will be furnished all necessary information by applying to me at Peak, S. C.

Very truly,  
A. F. Lever, M. C.  
7th S. C. District.

National Aid in Road Building.

Representative Walter P. Brownlow, of Tennessee, who introduced a bill in Congress last December providing for national aid to the building of public roads, doubtless has had his eye on the movement which culminated in the Government undertaking the irrigation of the lands of the West. A few years ago the suggestion of such a piece of paternalism would have been laughed at, yet the legislation is now on the Federal statute books, and, moreover, if it has not met with general approval, it has not caused general complaint. That ultimately the National Government may go into the road building business as it has gone into the making and improving of waterways and the reclamation of arid lands, cannot be regarded as an impossibility.

The bill offered by Mr. Brownlow is, at the very least, one of the evidences of awakening interest in the great subject of transportation over country roads. Mr. Brownlow supported his proposition in a speech made in the House on February 7 last, in which he showed an intelligent familiarity with what has been done by this Government in the past and by other Governments in the matter of road building. He finds plenty of precedents in the appropriations for rivers and harbors, and in the appropriations of \$1,000,000 each for the purpose of building roads in Porto Rico and the Philippines. If Congress can appropriate such large sum for the benefit of our new territories, Mr. Brownlow reasons that there would be equal propriety and constitutionality in helping to build roads in the United States. The field for such work is tremendously larger here, but those who would be benefited by it are the taxpayers, not the "new caught sullen peoples" of our colonies.

Mr. Brownlow's bill is likely to receive a great deal of popular support. It has been widely commented upon already, and usually with favor by people who have not taken up the question of the bill's constitutionality or who have not considered the immensity of the work thus pointed out to be entered upon. The Government has already engaged in the task of educating the people to the necessity and profit of constructing highways, but the question of conflict between State and Federal authority long ago caused an abandonment of the early plans. The "Old National Road," which was started from Cumberland, Md., in 1811, and built due West, through Maryland, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois to St. Louis, was the longest straight road ever built by any Government in the world. It was never completed, but after 700 miles had been constructed work was dropped because of trouble over tolls and the question of whether the Federal Government or the State had control.

The work of road building has been usually regarded as a matter of local concern, but in the past few years a number of States have taken it up with good results. The States have the power and the jurisdiction, and so have the counties and townships; but it is exceedingly difficult to get good roads in the country when the burden for that most desirable work falls upon thinly settled agricultural communities. For this reason State aid is more practicable than national, but Mr. Brownlow may get up a movement that will succeed as the Irrigation Bill succeeded.

There are many vagrants hanging around Sumter who could be made to do good work on the chain gang. Supervisor Seale could utilize about fifty of them to good advantage for the next 90 days.

CONFERENCE FOR EDUCATION IN THE SOUTH.

Sixth Session Meets April 22 to 24, 1903, at Richmond, Va.

Richmond, Va., March 17.—The Sixth Session of the Conference for Education in the South will be opened in Richmond on the afternoon of Wednesday, April 22d, and will close on the evening of the 24th.

This body was formerly known as the Capon-Springs Conference. Its annual meeting was held last year at Athens, Ga., and in the preceding year the Conference gathered at Winston-Salem, N. C. The presiding officer is Mr. Robert C. Ogden, of New York City, and among the men most closely connected with its origin was the late Dr. J. L. M. Curry, agent of the Peabody and Slater Boards, member of the General Education Board, and supervising director of the Southern Education Board. Indeed, both the Southern and General Boards may be said to owe their existence and inspiration to the Conference for Education in the South, just as this Conference so largely owed its own inception to the work of Dr. Curry.

The decision to hold the Conference this year in Richmond was reached only after the Executive Committee had given careful and respectful consideration to the invitations from a number of representative Southern cities. The invitation to Richmond was cordially and earnestly presented by the Richmond Education Association, the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, the Governor of Virginia, the Legislature, the State Department of Education, the University of Virginia, Washington and Lee University, and many other representative institutions of the commonwealth.

The Conference will open for organization in Richmond on the afternoon of April 22d, in the Academy of Music, on Eighth street, between Grace and Franklin streets. The formal opening will occur on the evening of the 22d, at which time the Hon. A. J. Montague, Governor of Virginia, will deliver the address of welcome, and Mr. Robert C. Ogden will present the annual address of the president.

The interest of the program will continue until its close on the evening of the 24th. Representative educators, statesmen, men of letters and men of affairs will be present from every section of the country. Much importance will be given to such subjects as agricultural and technical education, and there will be opportunity for informal discussion of such topics as the consolidation of schools and the improvement of public schoolhouses and school surroundings. The Conference has always been especially interested in the problems connected with the rural school.

The local arrangements as to the meeting are in the hands of the Executive Committee of the Richmond Education Association, P. O. Box 688, Richmond, Va. The program, in full, will be published at an early date. The plans for the week will include a public service in memory of Dr. Curry.

Arrangements as to reduced fares over the railroads, and as to hotel and boarding-house accommodations, will be announced within few days.

A Riot in Monck's Corner.

Monck's Corner, March 16.—On last Saturday the marshal of our town in making an arrest clubbed a white man, who resisted arrest. Several of our most prominent men were witnesses to the scene and they immediately interfered, threatening to lynch the marshal, but quiet was soon established. But to our surprise, this morning quite a crowd gathered in the town and threatened to lynch the marshal and the intendat if he interfered, thereby making it necessary for a call upon the sheriff and Governor for protection. The Governor ordered Capt. W. T. Owens to report with his company to the sheriff, which he did immediately. But through the good judgment of the intendat, J. W. Orvin, Sheriff Morrison and R. W. Haynes the unfortunate affair was settled and everything is now quiet and no further trouble is apprehended.

The Confederate Rolls.

Raleigh, N. C., March 17.—In response to a letter sent out by Secretary of War, Root, concerning the proposed compilation of the rosters of the Union and Confederate armies during the war between the States, Governor Aycock to-day appointed Major B. F. Dixon, State auditor, to collect the material asked of North Carolina.

Meetings will be held in each county of the State May 10 to assist in securing the information requested.

In speaking of Secretary Root's letter Governor Aycock said that it was one of the most graceful and courteous communications ever sent out from the North in relation to the Union and Confederate armies.

CROSSES OF HONOR.

The Crosses of Honor will be distributed on May 10th to the Veterans who have filed their applications.

Dr. Thornwell's Lecture on Pythianism.

There was a large audience at the Opera House last night to hear a lecture on "Pythianism" by Dr. J. H. Thornwell, Grand Keeper of Records and Seals for South Carolina. Many ladies attended and seemed to be highly pleased.

Some delay was caused by failure of the Electric Light Co. to turn on the lights at the proper time. It was about 8.45 before the exercises began. Three selections by the 2nd Regiment Band were greatly enjoyed and generously applauded.

Mr. J. L. McCallum, C. C., of Game Cock Lodge extended a hearty welcome to the audience. Past Grand Chancellor H. F. Wilson introduced the orator of the evening.

Mr. Thornwell made an appeal on behalf of the order; and dwelt upon its high ideals and sound principles, its beautiful ritual and cardinal virtues of Friendship, Charity and Benevolence. He told briefly the story of the devotion of Pythias to Damon when the latter was condemned to death by Dionysius the Tyrant of Syracuse, and of the subsequent reconciliation and friendship of Dionysius. This historical incident and the virtues therein displayed form the foundation of modern Pythianism as evolved by Justus Rathbone the founder of the order.

The speaker dwelt upon the benefits to be derived from association with such an order, and gave several touching incidents of Pythian fidelity and unselfish devotion.

A vein of quiet humor ran through parts of the lecture provoking frequent laughter and adding much to the entertainment of the audience.

Altogether the lecture was a success and those who attended were pleased and instructed. The practical good to the local lodge is already apparent from the fact that four applications for membership had been received to-day before noon.

SHAMROCK III LAUNCHED.

A Boat of Entirely New and Original Design.

Glasgow, March 17.—The Shamrock III was launched today under the most successful conditions. Lady Shaftesbury, wife of the commodore of the Royal Ulster Yacht Club, christened the yacht in the presence of a number of distinguished guests. Shamrocks and hopefulness were much in evidence. Sir Thomas Lipton distributed 2,000 bunches of the former in honor of St. Patrick and the new boat and voiced the general sentiment of hopefulness by saying:

"With just a little slice of luck the battered old mug will find a resting place on this side of the water."

The auction sale of lots on Salem and Hampton avenues this morning was a success in all respects. The attendance was larger than expected and the bidding for the lots was brisk. All of the lots offered were sold at good and satisfactory prices and there will be a building boom in that section of the city at an early day. The lots sold so well that the land brought an average price of more than \$800 an acre.

Local Weather Report.

For 24 hours ending 9 a. m., March 18, 1903:

Temperature: Maximum, 73; Minimum, 56; Mean, 64.1. Precipitation, 0.00. Character of day: Partly cloudy. Direction of wind, East.

Sun rises, 6.06; sun sets, 6.10.

Forecast for 36 hours ending 8 p. m., Thursday, issued from Washington, D. C.:

For Sumter and vicinity—Fair tonight and Thursday.

WEATHER CONDITIONS.

A slight storm is located off the east coast of Florida causing general rains over that State and along the Atlantic Coast as far Northward as Maryland. It is also raining in the lake regions and lower Missouri valley. Clear weather prevails over the central and western portions of the cotton belt. The temperatures remain about stationary. The highest was 80 at Key West, the lowest 20 at Bismark.

F. Prescott-Bullock.

Local Observer,

U. S. Weather Bureau.

The automobile fever has broken out in Sumter and it bids fair to be as serious an epidemic as the bicycle fever produced about eight or ten years ago.

Gov. D. C. Heyward will deliver the annual address, and State Superintendent of Education O. B. Martin will deliver the literary address during the coming commencement of Sumter Military Academy and Sumter Female Seminary.

The A. C. L. passenger train from Charleston Friday morning was about a half hour late, the delay being caused by a freight wreck near Brogdon's Station. The road was blocked for a time by several box cars being derailed, but no serious damage was done.

There is great activity in real estate at present and the prices asked for desirable building lots is steadily advancing. Real estate is now worth more than ever before in the history of the town, and there is no prospect of a deterioration in values, as few if any of the sales are being made for speculative purposes.

NEWS FROM WEDGEFIELD.

Farmers Are Busy—Personal Items of Local Interest.

Wedgefield, March 18.—The good weather of the past ten days has enabled our farming friends to prepare corn land, and planting is now becoming general.

Our town has been unusually quiet of late, but no doubt speaks well for the behaviour and energy of our people.

Mr. G. G. Watson of Darlington District, Deputy W. of W., spent yesterday in town in the interest of the W. of W. but our town has been overrun with insurance agents the past few months.

Mrs. S. R. Cain of Chicora, is on a visit to her father, Mrs. S. H. Ramsey at Stateburg.

Cards are out announcing the coming marriage of Miss Cassie E. Lynam of Ramsey, to Mr. S. H. Ramsey of Stateburg on the 25th inst.

Mr. George T. Whilden who has been employed since fall by Messrs. J. H. Aycock & Sons left for Sumter on Sunday, where he has accepted a position with the A. C. L.

Mrs. J. H. DuPont has decided, much to the regrets of her friends here, to give up her boarding house and return to Sumter.

Mrs. R. L. Goff of Gastonia, N. C., wife of our efficient principal of the Graded School, Prof. R. L. Goff, has arrived and they have rented the DuPont house and expect to continue it as a hotel.

Through a little late, finch has reached us and is the only game now.

County Treasurer Lee.

Mr. T. W. Lee who was elected County Treasurer last fall, received his commission about two weeks ago, and, having filed his bond, will take charge of the office as soon as the retiring treasurer, Mr. H. L. Scarborough, makes his final settlement with the Comptroller General. This settlement will be made within the next ten days or two weeks. Mr. Lee's bond is signed by R. D. Lee and Mrs. Pauline L. Lee and is for \$20,000.

Atlanta, Ga., March 16.—Advices received here today from Dalton, Ga., ninety miles north of this city, state that five distinct earthquake shocks were felt by the people of that vicinity on Sunday morning. The shocks were accompanied with a dull roar. The first shock was the most severe, causing the windows in the houses to rattle. Several shocks were reported north and south of Dalton.

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING.

Report of Proceedings of Recent Meeting.

The City Board of Health held a regular meeting Wednesday evening at 6 o'clock at the office of the health officer. Present, Dr. J. C. Spann; president, and Drs. S. C. Baker and Vantelberg-Hofman; and Mr. W. M. Graham. Absent, Mr. D. W. Cuttino. Minutes of meetings of Jan. 8, Jan. 23 and Feb. 9 were read and confirmed. Reports of Secretary and Health Officer for January and February were read, and received as information. The Health Officer stated that the small pox cases were all well and discharged several weeks since; and nearly seven hundred people had been vaccinated. Also, that he was still vaccinating and would keep on vaccinating until every house in Sumter was visited as per order of Board of Health.

The Health Officer was instructed to make a full report of the recent outbreak of small pox in city, together with a statement as to the manner in which it was handled, and the actual time required to suppress the disease for future information. On motion of Dr. Hofman a vote of thanks was extended to the Health Officer in appreciation of the promptness and efficiency with which he handled and stamped out the recent cases of small pox in Sumter. Also to Dr. J. C. Spann, the president for his able management as president of the board of health.

Dr. Baker expressed the opinion that the board of health should make another effort to induce city council to employ a competent sanitary engineer to survey the city and make profile maps, detailed drawings, plans and specification, and an estimate of cost of a sewerage system. After a general discussion of the matter in which Dr. C. C. Brown, who was present, participated, it was moved and carried, that Drs. S. C. Baker and Vantelberg-Hofman of board of health, with Dr. C. C. Brown, appear before city council to urge the necessity of said survey. Dr. Hofman, chairman of committee on enlarging Turkey creek canal made statement as to progress of negotiations between city council, county of Sumter and land owners adjacent to said canal. Secretary read letters from Mr. J. L. Ludlow containing proposition to make survey and profile maps for sewerage system, etc., and containing also valuable information, was received as information and turned over to committee on sewerage survey.

The preliminary hearing of the case of the State vs. John R. Keels has been transferred on motion of the defendant from Magistrate Wells court to that of Magistrate Nettles, of Privateer.

Rev. J. A. Clifton, D. D., of Orangeburg was greeted by a large and appreciative audience at the First Baptist Church on Tuesday night, the 10th inst. He was at his best and that is saying a great deal, for at his best Dr. Clifton has few if any equals as a public speaker. He was eloquent and humorous, at times reaching the heights of the sublime and again descending to the ridiculous. The audience was entertained and instructed and made to laugh heartily as well as to carry home with them many serious thoughts.

Lee County Commissioners.

The following commissioners have been appointed to adjust financial, and other matters between the counties of Lee and Darlington, owing to the formation of the former. For Darlington County: Robert Macfarlane, C. W. Mulling; for Lee, T. C. Perrin, G. F. Parrott.

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