

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.

The New York newspapers indicate the trend of popular political opinion—they are not moulders of sentiment—consequently the unanimity with which they have come out for Parker may be taken as a sign that they believe that Parker is the popular candidate and has a better chance of election than Roosevelt. It is certain that they believe he will carry New York.

We are prone to give the blessings we enjoy no consideration, taking them as a matter of course. But the trouble that Charleston, Columbia and Spartanburg and several other towns in South Carolina, not to mention hundreds of towns in other places throughout the country, are having with their water supply should cause the people of Sumter to be more thankful for the inexhaustible supply of absolutely pure water with which a beneficent Providence has blessed us. We know of no other town that possesses as pure or as abundant supply of water. We do not have to take our water from a sewerage contaminated river nor from some small stream of doubtful purity that is liable to fail in time of drought. But just beneath us, at a depth within easy reach, there is a stream of pure water flowing through a natural filter of white sand and gravel whose volume no one has or can estimate. We say it is inexhaustible for it has never failed or shown diminution in the severest droughts during the more than ten years the water works have been in operation. When surface wells have gone dry and ordinary pumps have failed the six-inch wells at the pumping station have never failed to yield a constant supply even when the pumps have been kept going day and night. The Sumter Water Company has no monopoly of this water supply and any manufactory that requires a large and unflinching supply of pure water ready filtered for immediate use can obtain it in Sumter by merely boring wells through the upper strata of clays to the water bearing stratum of sand. Sumter, though distant from any river or large stream, is better supplied with water for domestic and manufacturing uses than any other town in the State, and if we possessed no other advantage over other South Carolina towns our water supply alone would entitle this city to the consideration of those who seek a place of residence or a location for business.

The projected railroad from Southport, N. C., via Conway to Sumter means much to this city and to the section of country it will traverse. If the proposed road follows an air line from Conway it will cross the Northeastern Railroad near Lake City or Scranton, bisect the Puddin' Swamp section and cross Black River not far from the Brick Church. It will open up a region now almost entirely without railroads and will make this city the market for thousands of prosperous farmers whose trade now goes to other nearer towns, which, under existing conditions, are more convenient. The proposed railroad will alter conditions and Sumter will be put into close touch with a section that is now tributary to other towns. For these reasons the business men and property owners of Sumter should not only welcome but should do their utmost to lend encouragement and substantial aid to the enterprising citizens of Conway who are the promoters and financial sponsors of this undertaking. While it is true that Sumter now has excellent railroad facilities, better, probably, than any other town in the State, and Conway is isolated at the terminus of an unimportant branch of the Atlantic Coast Line, nevertheless, we are as confident, as it is possible to be, that the proposed road, when completed, as we are assured it will be at no distant day, will be of much more benefit to Sumter than it can be to Conway. Sumter should not only welcome the new road but our people should get together and work for it with all the energy and enthusiasm that they possess.

We wish the whole bunch of candidates for Railroad Commissioner and all the Atlantic Coast Line officials could have been landed at the Sumter A. C. L. passenger station at 6.30 o'clock Monday evening. After they had waded around awhile in the water and mud they would probably have concluded that an umbrella shed is a poor apology as a protection against rain, and that folks who alight from the trains in a pouring rain and land ankle deep in water are not in a frame of mind to admire its architectural beauty and symmetry.

Most people in this section of the State have forgotten that a State campaign is under way and that a few candidates for Railroad Commissioner

are playing one day stands to pitifully small audiences in the up country. No one cares to hear what the candidates are saying or doing and as the people are not interested the newspaper reporters are not setting down their words of eloquence, born of hunger for office. The candidates are having a lonesome time of it and doubtless reached the conclusion long ago that the county to county campaign is a delusion and a snare.

MAGNOLIA NEWS NOTES.

Magnolia, July 26.—The recent showers have greatly improved the appearance of the cotton crops around this place, and it may fully recover from the effects of the drought, but corn is off from 10 to 20 per cent. as applies to this immediate section.

Some of the farms about three miles southwest and west of this place have not suffered a day from lack of rain, and I guess this is the case all over the state. The showers have operated in a peculiar way, favoring certain spots, and passing invariably around others. This correspondent has observed that when the land underwent a sub-soiling process, broken up, say 12 inches deep, that the crop shows no signs of injury, but held its own, while adjoining fields, prepared in the usual manner, with same kind and quantity of fertilizers, shows unmistakable signs of deterioration. The proof in this section is clear.

Mr. Joe Joye of Sumter is visiting relatives in this place.

Mr. M. L. McIntosh has returned from a visit to Providence Springs, and speaks of the crops in that section in flattering terms, as also the springs.

Mr. T. Gordon Griffin's millinery store will soon be completed. Gordon is looking out for the fall trade and means to be ready.

Rev. T. M. Dent, is conducting a protracted meeting at Wells' Church near this place.

"Old uncle" Ellie Smith, the old colored man whose name we mentioned some time ago, will soon breathe his last, he being seriously ill. He was born and raised on Hon. E. D. Smith's great grandfather, Mr. Arthur Smith's place about four miles from this place in the year 1800. His younger brother, "Old Uncle, Nat" is 87 years old and gets around pretty lively.

Next Friday is campaign day at this place, and it will be a day of smiles. Lee county has 59 candidates for office—and all the best of men, but the pity is, we can elect such a small number of them. Friend Bill Tom McLeod reached home from a tour, on yesterday morning, quite indisposed, but hopes to be well enough to join Mr. T. N. Griffin, on next Saturday on a trip to Lynchburg, Va.

Occasional.

Weekly Crop Bulletin.

Columbia, July 26.—The week ending 8 a. m., July 25th, had a mean temperature of 80 degrees, which is nearly two below normal, due to excessive heat during the first half and abnormally low temperatures during the last half. The extremes were a minimum of 56 at Greenville on the 24th and a maximum of 104 at Blackville, and other places, on the 21st. There were numerous damaging high winds and hail storms accompanying thunder storms, but the resulting injury to crops was confined to small area. The sunshine was deficient, and the relative humidity below normal, causing corn and cotton to wilt, during the first half and was above normal during the latter half.

Numerous and well distributed showers occurred in all parts of the State, materially reducing the extent of the droughty areas, but there are still a number of widely scattered sections where crops are suffering for the want of moisture and where the need of rain is urgent. The week rainfall ranged from "trace" to 8.14 inches, the latter in eastern Chesterfield county, where lands were badly washed and lowlands flooded, destroying the fine crops on them; lowlands were so flooded in parts of Spartanburg county. Wells and streams continue very low in the central Savannah valley counties, but generally stock-water is more plentiful. There is need of more fresh water for flooding rice fields, as the lower reaches of the river are very low.

As a rule all crops have been laid by although excessive rain in a few localities delayed the work, and in some sections cotton is still small enough to be cultivated. Generally fields are clean, but there is an increasing number of exceptions especially in the northeastern counties where the fields are grassy.

The high temperature early in the week caused corn to wilt and fire, but the fall in temperature and the accompanying rains checked the damage before it had become serious. Old corn was too nearly ripe to be much benefited by the improved weather conditions, and in the driest sections is nearly a failure; young corn is generally promising.

Cotton continues to make satisfactory growth and is fruiting well. The middle crop gives indications of being a heavy one. There are numerous reports of cotton shedding leaves and squares, but as yet the injury is not serious. The crop as a whole continues very promising, with less complaint of insects and disease than last week. Sea-island cotton is small, of good color and blooming profusely.

Tobacco curing made only fair progress owing to the numerous showers that hindered the work. Early rice is heading well; late needs more fresh water for flooding than is avail-

able. Mellons are plentiful; peaches fairly plentiful, with shipments of both still heavy; apples are generally scarce; pear trees are bearing well. There is a general improvement in pastures, gardens, peas, sweet potatoes and other minor crops. Ground is being prepared for fall truck, in the coast districts.

Bishop Joseph S. Key, Southern M. E. Church, writes: "We gave Dr. Moffett's 'TEETHINA' (Teething Powders) to our little grandchild with the happiest results. The effects were almost magical, and certainly more satisfactory than from anything we ever used." "TEETHINA" (Teething Powders) Counteracts and Overcomes the Effects of the Summer's Heat. July 27—26

CANDIDATES' CARDS

The announcement cards of candidates will be published in these columns until the Democratic primary for five dollars, payable invariably in advance.

FOR CONGRESS.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the 59th Congress, from the Seventh Congressional District of South Carolina, and pledge myself to abide the result of the primary, and to support the nominees of the party.

A. F. LEVER.

FOR COUNTY AUDITOR.

Mr. Editor: Please announce that I am a candidate for reelection to the office of County Auditor, subject of course, to the rules and regulation, of the Democratic primary.

J. DIGGS WILDER.

FOR CLERK OF COURT.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for reelection to the office of Clerk of Court for Sumter County subject to the rules of the Democratic party.

L. I. PARROTT.

FOR CORONER.

I hereby announce that I am a candidate for reelection as Coroner of Sumter County, and pledge myself to abide by the result of the primary and support the nominees of the party.

S. F. FLOWERS.

FOR COUNTY TREASURER.

I announce myself a candidate for renomination for the office of County Treasurer and ask an endorsement by the Democratic voters of Sumter County in the coming primary.

Respectfully, T. W. LEE.

FOR COUNTY SUPERVISOR

I hereby announce myself a candidate for Supervisor of Sumter county, subject to the decision of the Democratic primary election.

WM. M. SANDERS.

Hereby tendering my thanks to the Citizens of Sumter County for their generous support in the past, I most respectfully announce myself as a Candidate for reelection to the office of County Supervisor, subject to the rules governing the Democratic primary election. My very best efforts are promised and pledged to the performance of my every duty.

WM. H. SEALE.

FOR SHERIFF.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for sheriff of Sumter County, subject to the decision of the Democratic primary election.

W. S. DINKINS.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the office of Sheriff of Sumter county, and pledge myself to abide the result of the primary and support the nominees of the party.

C. W. STANSILL.

FOR MAGISTRATE.

To the Voters of Judicial District No. 3: I am before you again for the office of Magistrate in the coming primary. If you see fit to elect me as in the past, I will appreciate your support. Should you decide otherwise, I will cheerfully support your choice. You all know me, and I am in your hands. Thanking you all for the liberal support you have always given me. I remain, Yours truly,

H. L. B. WELLS.

I hereby announce myself a Candidate for the office of Magistrate of the Third District of Sumter County—subject to the rules of the Democratic Primary.

H. HARBY, JR.

PREPARING FOR

THE FALL CAMPAIGN.

Our buyers are now busily engaged in getting up their memorandums preparatory to going to market, where the month of August will be spent in scouring the Northern and Eastern markets in search of their best offerings.

Our Farming Friends

Are to be congratulated upon the present outlook for an abundant harvest, and if the crop yields as it promises at present

Merchants Will Be Happy

For they can count upon the largest trade Sumter has ever enjoyed, and we can assure our patrons in advance that no house will be better prepared to handle their portion of it than we will.

We have recently made extensive additions to our warehouse facilities, which has enabled us to handle larger quantities of goods, and to better advantage than we have ever done.

It has always been our aim, and will continue to be, to keep up the various departments of our stock, and there has not been a week during the present season that we have not replenished our stock, and even now, late as it seems, we have a shipment of summer goods in transit, but this will be the last. We will devote the balance of the season to disposing of the remnant of our stock, and that

Without Consideration of Profit.

Among the recent additions to our stock is a case of

Men's Fine Gauze Undershirts

That were delayed in transit, and rejected by us on account of the late delivery. Every shirt is worth 75 cents, but rather than have them returned at his expense, the manufacturer made a price that justifies us in selling them at

Half Their Value, 75 Cents Per Pair.

It will pay you to buy your supply for next year at this price.

O'DONNELL & COMPANY.

The Welsh Neck High School

Has just closed a prosperous session, enrolling 194 boarding students. Its catalogues are now ready for distribution. Send us your address and we will take pleasure in mailing one to you. You will enjoy looking over it.

J. W. GAINES, Prin., Hartsville, S. C.

June 15—3m

J. D. Craig Furniture Co.

Funeral Directors

—AND—

Licensed Embalmers,

No. 202 North Main Street.

With a full and complete stock of supplies, larger than ever before, we are better prepared to render prompt and satisfactory service.

Calls attended promptly

DAY OR NIGHT

Day Phone, 14

Night Phone, 201.

May 25—3m

KEEP US IN MIND.

We buy and sell Real Estate and collect Rents, in city or country.

We sell all kinds of Insurance, including Fire, Life, Accident and Health, representing only the strongest companies.

We'll appreciate a share of your business.

WHITE & McCALLUM, The Real Estate and Insurance Men.

OFFICE NO. 188, MAIN STREET

PHONE NO. 143.

McH 9-1y

White Stone Lithia Springs HOTEL.

A. STANLEY STANFORD, Proprietor.

WHITE STONE LITHIA SPRINGS,

SPANTANBURG COUNTY, S. C.

It Is Open All the Year Round.

UNEXCELLED CUISINE—UNSUPPASSED COMFORTS.

The Hotel Has Accommodations for 500 Guests.

It is the only Lithia Springs in the country whose waters are forced by natural pressure twenty feet above the granite rock from which they flow. White Stone Lithia Springs have been known for fifty years for their remarkable curative properties. The hotel has the best appointments in the South. They are located two miles from White Stone Station, eight miles from Spartanburg, and are connected by private trolley line on the Savannah and Asheville Division of the Southern Railway.

Rates Made Known on Application to the Proprietor.

Send for Circulars and Other Information.