

The Watchman and Southron.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 28, 1904.

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.

TO THE PUBLIC.

As will be seen by referring to the notice published in this paper today the books of subscription to the capital stock of the Osteen Publishing Company will be opened at the office of Lee & Moore on Monday, October 3d. While our plans for the organization of the company have been practically completed and it was not necessary to postpone the opening of the books of subscription to the date named, we thought it advisable to do so in order that those who have heretofore expressed a desire to take stock in the proposed company, and the business men generally, might have an opportunity to do so. We have set aside a certain portion of the stock, which is offered to the people of Sumter, and we shall be glad to have all of this amount taken by them. It is our intention to call on as many of the business men as possible for the purpose of securing their subscriptions, but our time is limited and we realize that it will be impossible to see all of those we have in mind, therefore a general invitation is extended to the friends and patrons of the Daily Item and the Watchman and Southron to take stock in the Osteen Publishing Co. They can do so by notifying either of the proprietors or by attending the meeting on Monday next. The books of subscription will remain open for a few days following the formal opening on October 3d to give the public opportunity to subscribe, and the stock unsubscribed, if any remains of the block offered the public, will be taken by those now interested in this paper.

The subjoined news item from the Florence Times indicates that the people of the city of Florence have at last succeeded in securing a morning schedule to Columbia that will enable them to go to Columbia in the morning and return the same day. The schedule is undoubtedly a good thing for Florence people, but it does not make any improvement in the passenger facilities now enjoyed by the people between Florence and this city. What is needed is a morning train between Florence and Sumter.

By a recent change in the schedule the local freight running between here and Wadesboro will make connection in Darlington with local passenger train for Sumter. By the change there will be a morning passenger service for Columbia which will be welcomed by the traveling public. The freight from here to Wadesboro has been leaving just ahead of the passenger train, but now leaves shortly after 7 o'clock."

The New York Democrats are said to have nominated a strong ticket and that the men selected come as near being acceptable to all factions in the party as anything could have been nominated. It is predicted that all factional differences will be buried and that the party in New York will work as one man to elect both the State and National tickets. The outlook for a Democratic victory in November grows brighter each day.

The Charleston city authorities are having as much trouble over the water supply question as the dispensary officials have had with the Charleston blind tigers. Perhaps there is some connection between two questions and if Charleston could secure an abundant supply of pure water—not the Goose Creek kind—the blind tigers would be driven out of business.

The anti-trust people are after President Roosevelt with a sharp stick, and if the charges so positively made against him are accepted as true, it is undeniable that the President is placed in an unfavorable light before the public. How can his supporters and admirers reconcile the President's oft repeated claim to being the great and only trust-buster with the facts as presented by the Anti-Trust people?

Cotton may go higher later in the season, some cotton experts claim to think so at any rate, but ten to ten and a half cents for cotton just out of the fields is a good price and should satisfy the majority of the farmers. We know that the current price will be of more benefit to the average farmer and the South as a whole than twice that price after January 1st. A large percentage of the cotton producers must sell their crop as rapidly as it is ginned to meet obligations maturing in September and October, and if they realize ten cents for the bulk of the crop they will be in a position to hold a few bales for higher prices, if they care to speculate.

If it has come to pass that the United States army can hold an escaped convict in defiance of the State authorities, this country is getting to be just a little bit too military to suit the average citizen. If the position

the recruiting officer in Savannah has taken in reference to J. Ben Bennett, is maintained, every escaped murderer or other criminal in the country will make a bee line for the nearest recruiting office.

The Fall Festival is moving forward and everybody is pushing.

The general committee for the Fall Festival is a working committee and every man on it is enthusiastic, and each one will spare no effort to make the feature for which he has individual responsibility a success.

Judge Parker's letter of acceptance is praised without stint by enthusiastic Democrats, is highly commended by the lukewarm, and even the Republican leaders admit that it is a strong paper. Democratic chances are looking up.

The belief is gaining ground that the present cotton crop will prove to be the most valuable ever grown, although not the largest. The world is using more cotton than ever before and the crops of the past few years have not been equal to the needs of the world. The South has practically a monopoly of cotton production and is at last in a position to have a voice in fixing the price. The south should prosper as never before and will—provided our people do not go cotton crazy and neglect the food crops and other products that are the backbone of the South.

Gov. Heyward occupies a position that is above criticism in declining to assume the responsibility in advising a sheriff not to carry a prisoner to the Penitentiary to avoid the possibility of a lynching. The responsibility is the Sheriff's and he must use his own discretion. He alone is responsible for the safety of his prisoners and he cannot and should not attempt to shift his responsibility. If a Sheriff is afraid of a mob and does not dare face it and defend his prisoner with force and arms to the last extremity, if necessary, then he is at liberty to seek safety for himself and his charge in flight. But that is his business, not the Governor's.

"The county commissioners are puzzling over the advertising proposition and the appropriation made for that purpose. They are compelled to publish quarterly a statement of the claims paid, but the money given them is a small amount. They are now trying to arrange for a larger price to be paid the newspapers for this work."

The above paragraph appears in the Columbia correspondence of the News and Courier. Richland county must possess a remarkable and unusual board of county commissioners. Our observation and experience have been that county commissioners never worry about paying a larger price for advertising than the law provides, but lend their energies toward getting the work done for less.

Judge Parker has issued his formal letter of acceptance of the Democratic nomination for president. It is quite lengthy, as of necessity it must be to discuss the issues of the campaign of which he is the leader. It is, however, less than half as long as the acceptance of President Roosevelt. It discusses the important questions that this campaign brings before the people for settlement in a clear cut decided and concise manner. He states his personal opinion and his reasons therefor, on the money question, imperialism, tariff, reciprocity trusts, trust remedies the Philippines, American citizenship, civil service, national irrigation, the Panama Canal, American shipping interests, corruption in Government departments, the army and navy, pension, foreign relations and reform in government expenditures, and his position on each and every question is Democratic and in full accord with the principles as laid down by the greatest American statesmen who were democratic in faith and practice. In conclusion he says:

I have put aside a congenial work, to which I had expected to devote my life, in order to assume, as best I can, the responsibilities your convention put upon me. I solicit the cordial co-operation and generous assistance of every man who believes that a change of measures and of men at this time would be wise, and urge harmony of endeavor as well as vigorous action on the part of all so minded.

The issues are joined and the people must render the verdict.

Shall economy of administration be demanded or shall extravagance be encouraged?

Shall the wrongdoer be brought to bay by the people, or must justice wait upon political oligarchy?

Shall our Government stand for equal opportunity or for special privilege?

Shall it remain a Government of law or become one of individual caprice.

Shall we cling to the rule of the people, or shall we embrace beneficent despotism?

With calmness and confidence, we await the people's verdict.

If called to the office of President I shall consider myself the chief magis-

trate of all the people and not of any faction, and shall ever be mindful of the fact that on many questions of national policy there are honest differences of opinion. I believe in the patriotism, good sense and absolute sincerity of all the people. I shall strive to remember that he may serve his party best who serves his country best.

If it be the wish of the people that I undertake the duties of the Presidency, I pledge myself, with God's help, to devote all my power and energy to the duties of this exalted office.

It is reported from Columbia that an electric railroad is projected from that city to a point on the Wateree River opposite the State Farm in this county. The object of the proposed road is said to be to develop the extensive kaolin deposits of Richland county lying on the western bank of the Wateree river. If the plan materializes and the road is built to the State Farm, or "even further," as the report referred to has it, it should be extended to this city. Sumter needs, and we want, everything good that is going, and an electric road to Columbia would be a valuable acquisition to this city and would make our already strong position as a trade center even stronger. It would put us in touch with the boat line on the Congaree and place us in a position to obtain even better rates by establishing a boat line on the Wateree.

THE SUMTER SPIRIT.

The Game Cock Fall Festival is the liveliest and most enthusiastic proposition that ever happened. There is no longer any excuse for anyone thinking or suggesting that it can't be held or that it can fail to be the biggest success imaginable.

The mass meeting Friday night was a Fall Festival gathering from top to bottom, inside and out, and the wet blanket treatment was barely suggested and met with no approval whatever. Everybody in the meeting seemed to be in favor of a lot of ginger and hustle and hard work, and when the question was put, "Festival or no Festival," a rising vote was called for and not a man voted against the Festival. The meeting Friday night was pervaded and animated by the real, true old-time Sumter spirit, the enthusiasm spread throughout the town over night and today Sumter is for the Festival heart and soul.

Those who actively opposed the Festival and those who were only doubtful or lukewarm have thrown aside their personal feelings and have joined in with the majority and will work and spend their money for Sumter's good with as much cheerfulness and public spirit as displayed by Emmett Reardon, to whose never-say-die spirit the successful launching of the Festival, after a period of doubt and discouragement, is wholly due.

This is the right spirit, it is the spirit that, if it can be kept uppermost all the time, will make Sumter a big city, a rich city and a city of live, progressive, successful people. Like attracts like, and if we demonstrate to the world that we are a public spirited, energetic and progressive people others of that character will come to live amongst us, to share in our growth and prosperity and to help us build a city whose names will be synonymous with progress. The germ of that spirit is here and if we are careful to develop it, rather than to destroy it, the future of the city is assured.

The Fall Festival is assured and we know that it will be a success, for the people of Sumter have put their shoulders to the wheel and they will never give up an undertaking which they have pledged themselves to carry to a successful conclusion. But there is work to be done, a vast deal of work, and each citizen has his part to perform. Those who have no money to contribute can talk it up, help to keep it going. But every man who has the interests of Sumter at heart, every man, or business enterprise, or corporation that exists in Sumter, should join in and help the good work along. The business enterprises and corporations have no personality and cannot get out on the streets to work for the Festival, nor can they serve on committees, but they have pocket-books or bank accounts, and should do their share in furnishing the sinews of war. Anything that advertises the town or benefits Sumter, advertises and benefits business enterprises and the corporations—manufacturing and financial—as much or more than it benefits the individuals, therefore we hope to see the name of every business man, every professional man, every property owner, every manufactory and every corporation of every kind and description represented on the list of those who are glad to spend money to advertise the town that they call home.

A CALL TO DEMOCRATS.

Every Democrat in Sumter county should read and take to heart the letter of County Chairman E. W. Dabbs which we publish today. He states the case clearly and concisely and there is little to be added except by way of comment. The Democratic voters of Sumter county must disabuse their minds once and for all of

the idea that the party primary settles the election in South Carolina. While the primary has, for the past few years, settled the election in this State conditions are changing rapidly and unless the Democrats are vigilant they will awake some fine day to find that the Republican voters, although in a minority, have carried the general election. We do not apprehend such a result this year, but the conditions are such that unless the Democrats of the Seventh District poll a full vote for Congressman Lever he will be unseated by the Republicans in Congress. This is their hope and expectation, and counting on the apathy of the Democrats they will prepare a great list of negroes who would have voted for the Republican nominee save for the South Carolina election law.

They do not expect to poll a sufficient vote to elect their candidate, and the campaign they will make will be solely for the purpose of providing a basis for a contest. If the Democrats turn out to a man and vote for Mr. Lever, the Republicans will have no grounds for a contest and the showing that they will make will give the Republicans in Congress no excuse for unseating our representative. Democrats who voted in the primary but are still unregistered should register on Monday next. We want and need a full vote and every Democrat should do his duty on election day.

A Call to Democrats.

Mr. Editor: Sixteen hundred and sixty two persons voted for the candidates of their choice in the recent primary. Is it asking too much of the voters that they cast 1,662 votes for the entire Democratic ticket on Nov. 8th? To be able to do so, some of them will need to qualify. The registration books will be open next Monday, 3d of October for enrolling all qualified electors. Fellow democrats look up your certificates, and tax receipts, procure new registration certificates, and renewals; and on November 8th show to the world that the blood of '76 still courses through your veins. Give to Mr. Lever such a majority that the worst South hater of them all can find no excuse to question his election to the 5th Congress from the 7th district of South Carolina!

E. W. Dabbs, County Chairman.

Weekly Crop Bulletin.

Columbia, Sept. 27.—The week ending 8 a. m., September 26, had a mean temperature of 71 degrees, which is two degrees below the normal. The deficiency was greatest in the interior and was nearly normal along the coast. The first two days were warm, but the 22d, 23rd and 25th were considerably below normal. The extremes were a minimum of 44 degrees on the 24th at Greenville, and a maximum of 95 at Kingstree on the 21st and 22nd.

The precipitation occurred generally on the 21st and 23rd, and was light, except on the coast from Charleston southward, where it was moderately heavy. The week has been favorable for farm work, and all kinds were pushed as fast as possible.

Cotton is opening fast throughout the state and picking is general, but in many parts of the state pickers are scarce. The crop will not be as good as was expected earlier in the season. Rust is still doing some damage on light soils. Not much of the top crop of cotton will mature on account of the cool, dry weather. Sea Island cotton is in good condition and being picked.

Corn is reported to be in good condition generally. Fodder is about all pulled, and the harvesting of the crop has begun in Darlington county with good yield. Harvesting of corn will be begun in other sections next week. Late corn was slightly damaged by the cool, dry weather.

Rice is being harvested and threshed, but the yield is not as good as expected.

The weather has been favorable for mowing, and large amounts of hay and pea vines have been housed in good condition. Potatoes are generally good. Gardens and fall crops are doing well, but are badly in need of rain in some sections. No small grain has been sown yet.

Government Crop Report.

Washington, Sept. 27.—Cotton increased rapidly in sections prematurely in Georgia and Mississippi and picking being pushed, but was delayed somewhat by rains in Florida, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Texas. Scarcity of pickers reported from localities in central and eastern districts, reports indicate that a very light top crop may be expected. The salient points of statements from principal cotton producing states are summarized as follows: Georgia principal part of crop, Alabama continues to rust and shed but those adverse conditions are not so general as previously reported. Mississippi—open cotton injured in east by heavy rains and boll worms are causing damage in the southwest. Louisiana—worms, caterpillars damaging, bolls weevils locally numerous. In one parish and spreading in another, crop deteriorated. Arkansas—very little shedding but crop made only slight improvement. Texas—little injury to the staple by showers and crop too far advanced for further damage by boll weevils.

Attention Farmers.

W. B. Boyle respectfully invites you to see him before buying any kind of Farm Implement. He has a fine stock of Wagons, Buggies, Harness, Plows, Harrows, Osborne Mowers, Rakes, &c., &c. Sept. 28—31.

There's Dysentery—Colic, too, And Cramps; but this remember do Though enemies all babes must meet.

"TEETHINA" will them all defeat. "TEETHINA" Overcomes and Counteracts the Effects of the Summer Heat, Aids Digestion, Regulates the Bowels and makes teaching easy. Costs only 25 cents. Sept. 21—24

Our Carpet Department.

At this season of the year every housekeeper is interested in beautifying her home and making it comfortable for the approaching Fall and Winter. In this connection there is nothing more necessary than

Good Floor Coverings

And our carpet department offers unusual attractions in this line. If it's matting you are looking for we have an excellent line to select from.

Japanese at 15, 18 and 20 Cents. Chinas at 15, 18, 20, 25 and 35 Cents.

We picked up several rolls of China Matting in single pieces at

Very Much Under Price

And we are prepared to give unusual bargains in them. Grass wire matting in a large assortment of patterns

At 35 Cents.

In carpets, we have a large and complete assortment from

25 Cents to \$1.25 a Yard.

Floor oil cloths from

25 Cents to \$1 Per Yard.

Art squares from

\$3 to \$10.

Rugs in endless variety and the prettiest assortment of patterns we ever handled from

\$1 to \$6.

Window shades in all colors and at prices to suit. If interested in anything in the carpet line it will pay you to look through our stock before buying.

O'DONNELL & COMPANY.

BOOTH LIVE STOCK CO.

FALL ANNOUNCEMENT.

Our buyer has just returned from the Western markets. This means a choice car of horses and mules to arrive about Thursday, September 22nd. High class harness and saddle horses and good all round farm horses and mules.

We have recently received a car of

White Hickory Wagons,

Warranted to us—we guarantee them to our friends and customers. One car

Columbia Buggies,

This justly popular buggy is even better, if possible, than ever. Every buggy warranted.

The next time you are in town see our buggy and harness, the two for \$35.00.

A few one and two horse wagons at less than manufacturers' prices, fully warranted.

Line, cement, hair, terra cotta pipe, stove flues and building material generally.

One thousand bushels home raised South Carolina Rust Proof Seed Oats.

—AT—

Horace Harby's

OLD STAND.

The First of the Season.

A choice car load of horses and mules just received and need selling. Among them are some extra nice drivers, some good smooth, full made work horses and a few nice mules. All young and sound. I will appreciate a look from you whether you are ready to buy or not.

Respectfully,

A. D. HARBY.