

# The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

Be Just and Fear not—Let all the Ends thou Aims t at be thy Country's thy God's and Truth's

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1834

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## The Watchman and Southron.

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### SOUTHERN COTTON GROWERS.

Membership is Increasing—Presidents  
to Meet in New Orleans Last of  
This Month.

Columbia, S. C., May 17.—Secretary Armstrong, of the Southern Cotton-Growers' association, was here today in conference with the officers of the South Carolina association, on a trip through the South perfecting and systematizing the statistics that are coming from the various state associations in order to secure a more thorough and reliable general organization. He says the figures he has gathered so far show a membership of 1,270,000 already filled, 800,000 of which are on record at the central office with postoffice addresses. He says that two-thirds of this membership represents farmers who have pledged a reduction of 25 per cent.

Mr. Armstrong told of plans which had been perfected for a meeting of state presidents to be held in New Orleans the 30th of this month, when these presidents would report to Harry Jordan as to the acreage in each state, and he said that the thorough manner in which these figures would be brought together would make the general report more reliable, self-evidently, than any government report had yet been. Step by step the report of acreage will come from precinct to township and thence to county and thence to state organization, three farmers and three others interested in manufacturing concerns making a report from each precinct.

This general report at New Orleans will be made three days ahead of the government report. The coming comparison of the two reports will be most interesting.

### CHINESE SUPPLY PROVISIONS.

One Hundred and Fifty Junks With  
Supplies for Baltic Fleet Off St.  
John's Island.

London, May 18.—The correspondent of the Star at Hong Kong reports that a fleet of one hundred and fifty Chinese junks, fully laden with provisions for the Baltic fleet, was sighted off Kwangchauwan (St. John Island) on May 16th. The junks are evidently under the direct control of the Russians.

### BEER DISPENSARY.

State Board Took No Action on the  
Question Today.

Sumter, May 18.—There was no action taken today in the beer dispensary matter, Director Towill being still absent. He will be at tomorrow's meeting, however, and something is expected to be done.

Somerville, N. J., May 17.—Charles Duffield, one of the jurors in the trial of George H. Wood, for the murder of George Williams, is suffering from lumbago and the opening of court was consequently delayed this morning for over an hour.

Hong Kong, May 17.—Admiral Rojestvensky's fleet left Hon Kōpe bay on the Annan coast on Sunday morning and it is said the Baltic fleet, numbering fifty vessels, was seen leaving the bay. The captain of the Wong Hoi gives exact details of the position of the different vessels constituting the fleet and says the flagship dipped her flag in salute to Wong Hoi.

Tokio, May 17.—The steamer Shuyhtmaru while on her way to New Chwang struck a mine near the Miao Islands in the Gulf of Pechili on May 14th. The vessel was beached on El-Hor Island.

New York, May 17.—With all the respect due the last veteran of the war of 1812 the remains of Hiram Cronk was received here today and they will lie in state in the governor's room of the city hall for twenty-four hours, when they will be escorted to Cypress Hill cemetery. The body was escorted from the Grand Central Station to the city hall by regulars of the United States army as well as several military and civic organizations.

## GRAND LODGE K. OF P.

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD IN  
SUMTER.

Steps Taken to Select a Permanent  
Meeting Place and to Erect Cas-  
tle Hall—Officers Elected.

Beaufort, May 17.—The Grand Lodge Knights of Pythias has transacted a great deal of business in spite of the continued round of pleasure that has been provided by the people of Beaufort.

The grand lodge has taken the first step toward locating a permanent meeting place and erecting a handsome castle hall.

The ways and means committee in a report recommended the appointment of a board to investigate the matter and report at the next session. The recommendation was adopted and the following were appointed:

Henry T. Thompson, Columbia;  
Carroll C. Sims, Barnwell; George S. Mower, Newberry.

There is a strong feeling among the most influential members of the grand lodge to erect a grand lodge castle hall and the chances are that the movement will be crowned with success.

The following officers were elected:  
Grand Chancellor—D. A. Morgan, Greenville.

Grand Vice-Chancellor, M. Rutledge Rivers, Charleston.

Grand Prelate—Mendall L. Smith, Camden.

Grand Keeper of Records and Seals—Rev. J. H. Thornwell, Fort Mill.

Grand Master of Exchequer, W. G. Harvey, Charleston.

Grand Master at Arms—W. R. Bristol, Beaufort.

Sumter was selected as the next place of meeting.

### "PREMISES ARE PREMISES."

The Opinion of Attorney-General  
Gunter Cannot Possibly Offend  
the Most Exacting Beer  
Dispenser.

Columbia, May 17.—Attorney General Gunter, in a lengthy opinion today answered the three questions propounded by the State board of dispensary directors with regard to beer dispensaries, but it is not thought that the board itself will make an announcement until tomorrow. The question whether the law allows pay by royalty, in lieu of salary, is answered in the affirmative, as the question as to whether beer dispensers may bottle their own beer.

The definition of premises is lengthy and somewhat complicated, but in brief it may be said that the opinion defines "premises" to be whatever the county board designates as premises. In other words, the opinion is all that the most fastidious beer dispenser could desire.

Regarding premises the opinion says: "When the county board has designated or provided a suitable place in which to sell liquors that suitable place become premises on which liquor cannot be opened nor malt liquors drunk. Were a provision of this nature directed to individuals, premises under such circumstances would be limited to some place over which such individual had the legal right to exercise authority or control. This rule applies to the governmental agency having the selection and control of the place where liquors are sold and of course cannot apply to places over which the county board has no authority. There is no law authorizing the county board or any other officer to provide a drinking place. If such be attempted it is without warrant of law. It follows then that premises is such a place as is provided by the county board for the sale of liquors and over which the state agencies have control. This trust is devolved upon that body to be performed according to the expressed meaning and purpose of the law.

The Wilmington Star is about right when it says: "A woman will generally acknowledge the corn or else give herself away by blurring into crying, but man, true to his instincts emphasized in the Garden of Eden when he turned state's evidence about the apple incident and put Eve in a hole, even unto this day always has an excuse, puts the blame on somebody else or tells a lie out of the whole cloth when anybody gets him in a corner."

Ira S. Pitts has been appointed postmaster at Westminster by President Roosevelt.

## LAURENS MILL FIGHT.

Milliken Faction Enjoined From  
Voting Stock and Mr. Lucas Re-  
elected President.

Laurens, S. C., May 20.—By a somewhat startling turn of affairs, W. E. Lucas was re-elected president of the Laurens cotton mills.

After having been enjoined from voting the stock which they owned, the Deering-Milliken forces left the annual meeting of the stockholders of that mill and the following directors were elected: W. E. Lucas, C. C. Featherstone and Alex Long, of Laurens; J. W. Norwood and J. E. Siranje of Greenville; F. J. Pelzer, William M. Bird and W. W. Ball, of Charleston. The directors met subsequently and elected Mr. Lucas president. Mr. N. B. Dial was to have been a member of this board, but he withdrew from the meeting.

The tactics of Mr. Lucas and associates caught the Milliken faction unawares. The latter had entered the meeting and had presented the proxies of absent stockholders. Mr. Augustine T. Smythe had nominated the Lucas ticket when G. H. Milliken arose to present the names of the opposing ticket. At this moment the order of Judge Kluch was served on him. After a recess of 15 minutes, Mr. John B. Cleveland announced that Mr. Milliken had been served with a restraining order and moved that an adjournment be taken for two weeks. This was opposed by Mr. Smythe, who called attention to the fact that this was the annual meeting of the stockholders which had been duly organized, that it was incumbent on this meeting to elect directors for this company for the ensuing year and under the by-laws if it failed to do so a very serious question would arise whether the present president and directors would hold over, that it was therefore essential to the proper management of the affairs of the company that the officers should be elected by the meeting, and that it was only proper to notify Mr. Cleveland and his friends that the meeting would proceed to discharge its duty in the premises. By a vote of 20 to 13 the meeting was not adjourned.

Mr. Ball suggested that in view of the litigation started, and probably to last for months, it would be a good idea to adjourn until the next annual meeting if Mr. Milliken insisted that this injunction is unfair. When the motion to adjourn was lost, Mr. Milliken through Col. Cleveland demanded the return of his proxies. This was refused by the chairman, Mr. C. C. Featherstone, on the ground that the proxies are in the custody of the meeting as a part of the records.

Mr. Carson then announced the withdrawal of Mr. Milliken and associates from the meeting. Mr. Meserve stated that in withdrawing the Milliken party claimed to take away a majority of the stock. However Mr. Hatch remained and interposed objection to the secretary casting the vote of the stockholders for the nominees proposed by Mr. Smythe. This forced a vote by stock represented. Mr. Lucas and the other nominees received each 1,293 votes. While this is not half of the entire stock of the mill, yet it was a majority of the stock present. And the meeting had already been opened in due legal form. This ended the meeting of the stockholders.—The State.

## ROOSEVELT'S POPULARITY.

Advocacy of Democratic Doctrines  
Strengthening His Hold With  
the Masses.

His Stand on Railroad Regulation Popular  
With People—Railroad Bosses and  
Party Leaders Worried.

Washington, May 19.—But one topic has been discussed in Washington this week and that is Theodore Roosevelt. His bold stand regarding the necessity of Federal control of the ironed highways of the country, his declaration that the Federal government must exercise a "supervisory and regulatory function over the great highways of the country," made to the Chamber of Commerce at Denver, revived the hopes of those Democrats who have rejoiced at seeing the day when a Republican president should espouse a policy so essentially Democratic hopes that had become faint the constantly repeated, although unwarranted, reports that the president would content himself with only such railway rate legislation as would prove acceptable to the railway managers.

Then came the news of the unbounded enthusiasm with which the president had been received at the Iroquois club of Chicago, that strong hold of the Western Democracy, the oldest Democratic club in Illinois, where Mayor Dunne and the staunchest Democrats in the organization, cheered to the echo the words, not a Republican president, but of the president of the United States. And at that banquet the president assured the Democratic mayor that in his efforts to preserve order and enforce the law he should have the hearty support of the president. Earlier in the day, speaking of a delegation of strikers which called on him, the president had said: "In every effort of Mayor Durne to prevent violence by mobs or individuals, to see that the laws are obeyed and that order is preserved, he has the hearty support of the president of the United States, and in my judgment he should have that of every good citizen of the United States." Speaking at the club, and to Mayor Dunne, he said, that in all contests with mob violence, "if ever the need arises, back of the cities stands the states, and back of the states stands the nation." When the president made this declaration the enthusiasm knew no bounds. It had the ring of pure Americanism and his Democratic auditors recognized that ring as quickly, perhaps more so, than would have a gathering of the president's own party.

Naturally the question arises in the minds of the Democratic politicians, what will be the outcome of this enthusiasm for a Republican president? Of course, opinions differ on that point but many of the Democrats in Washington, and among them some of the keenest observers of public affairs, declare that the immediate result will be the reversal of the present majority in the House of Representatives. And they reason in this way: "The president has won the confidence of the entire people. He is urging, and next fall will urge in stronger terms than ever, that legislation shall be enacted which shall control the railroads of the country as to make them serve first the interest of the people by whose authority they exist. But this was hardly an issue when the present house was elected, especially when it was

nominated. It was not an issue when most of the present senators were elected. Therefore the men who now sit in the national congress do not realize the grasp which this issue has taken upon the public mind, as they are, in many instances, beholden to the railroads for their elections, or at least for the campaign funds with which they were elected, they will not, dare not, vote against their patrons. The president will be defeated in his every effort to secure efficient railway legislation in the next congress, and then will come the cyclone which will send into oblivion those statesmen who have so long blocked the wheels of progress in congress and their places will be taken by a newer and younger generation. The railroads, still fighting for mastery, will nominate the Republican candidates and the people, aroused to an appreciation of their responsibilities by a Republican president, will send to Washington a Democratic majority which will be pledged to carry into effect the railway recommendations of Theodore Roosevelt." It is even predicted that the very railway men who this year are fighting with all their energy the legislation advocated by President Roosevelt will, two years hence, be begging congress to enact this legislation, rather than the more radical laws which the people will by that time demand.

One prominent Eastern railroad man, one who is now president of an Eastern road, after long services as a high official of a road in the Northwest, admitted to your correspondent this week that he regarded the legislation advocated by the president as inevitable. "It has got to come," he said "and we might as well face the inevitable gracefully." Unfortunately, however, the railroads seem about to repeat the mistake they made with regard to organized labor. They fought labor organizations to the death, their own death. Now they admit that the labor organizations are easier to deal with than were the disorganized elements which by their protracted fight they embittered the laboring men, and now the unions elect as their officers men who are bitter against the railroads. Suppose, however, that the railroads had foreseen the inevitable and yielded gracefully. Then, today, they might have had men to deal with as officers of the labor unions who were reasonable. The unions might even have been persuaded to elect officers who were mutually agreeable to themselves and to their employers and the gain to both would have been incalculable. It is a wise man who knows when to quit. The time for the railroads to quit is right now and although I am president of a great railway system I would gladly join my colleagues in saying to the president and to congress, 'enact such legislation as you deem necessary and we will do our best to live in accordance with its provisions. We bury the hatchet. Treat us tenderly as a conquered enemy which stands ready to swear allegiance.'"

John Ballinger, an Anderson photographer, cut Bud Warren a few days ago, inflicting serious wounds.

Walter Hill, an Edgefield negro, in a fit of jealousy brained his wife with the butt end of a gun a few nights ago, killing her instantly. He first tried to kill the woman by shooting her.

## A MATTER OF HEALTH



Weekly Crop Bulletin.

Columbia, S. C., May 23.—The first of the week ending Monday, May 22nd, was warm, the latter part very cool, especially the nights. There were local high winds accompanying thunderstorms on the 16th that did some damage to fruit trees. The latter part of the week was fair with sunshine in excess of the normal amount.

There were general rains on the 16th, heavy in places, and occasional showers in the eastern counties on the 17th, after which the ground dried rapidly. Cultivation of field and crops made rapid progress during the latter part of the week. There is still widespread complaint of grassy fields, and a probability that some land planted in cotton will have to be abandoned owing to a scarcity of farm laborers. Labor is scarce in all parts of the State.

Cotton planting has been finished, and more than two-thirds has been chopped, with chopping still in progress. Cultivation has been begun. Stands of cotton are generally good, though there are numerous reports of plants dying on gray lands in the western counties and on sandy lands in the eastern counties, owing to too much rain and the recent cool nights. In some of the southeastern counties, some fields have been plowed up and replanted. Excessive rains and lack of cultivation caused the plants to turn red or yellow in many places, and the recent cool nights have checked its hitherto rapid growth. The first squares were noted on the 19th in Colleton county. The general condition of the cotton crop is poor though promising in a few localities.

Corn is suffering from want of cultivation and is turning yellow, but where cultivation has been practicable it is in good condition. Stands are generally good except on bottom lands where worms continue destructive. There is yet much corn to be planted on bottom lands, in the western half of the State.

Tobacco is doing well. Rice planting is delayed in the Georgetown district by high tides. The week was favorable for truck and shipments of potatoes and beans were heavy. The strawberry season is over. Wheat is promising where not rusted or damaged by the Hessian fly. Fall oats are fine, and spring oats have improved rapidly. Oats are ripening in the eastern counties and some have been cut. Pastures are fine. Peaches are plentiful in the eastern counties, but are very scarce in the western ones. The first shipments of peaches was made this week. Apples are scarce and the trees continue to blight. Melons, gardens and other minor crops continue to do well.

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