

DISPENSARY INVESTIGATION.

CANTEY'S SALARY WAS \$300 PER MONTH FOR "ADVERTISING."

J. M. Cantey Makes Statement to Committee—His Connection With Fleischman & Co., Was During Time L. W. Boykin Was on the Board.

Columbia, June 13.—At the dispensary investigating committee's session yesterday afternoon two witnesses were put on the stand. These were Mr. J. M. Cantey, a brother-in-law of Mr. L. W. Boykin, a former member of the board and Mr. Chas. Cohen beer dispenser at Deaufort. Mr. Cantey's name was brought into the investigation a few days ago in the evidence of Mr. L. W. Parker. Yesterday Mr. Cantey admitted in a very frank manner that he had represented Fleischman & Co., of Cincinnati the makers of the Congress Hall liquor which has been showed up on former occasions during the investigation to be inferior in quality and in other ways.

Mr. Cantey testified that his duties were merely to see that advertising matter was kept fresh on bill boards, and for this he received a salary of \$300 a month, at a rate higher than the salary of the governor of the State and nearly twice as large as the average state officer.

Mr. Cohen's testimony was produced to show that the dispensary, while buying Anheuser Busch beer from J. S. Farnum, required Cohen to order it from Columbia, although it cost him \$2.12 per cask more and did not save the State anything. He is not now required to order from the State dispensary direct, but from the agency at Savannah and he saves the additional cost.

At the conclusion of this testimony Mr. Lyon moved to adjourn, as a material witness had not showed up and there were some witnesses with whom he wished to confer. Mr. T. P. Cottrhan of Greenville, Mr. B. A. Morgan and Mr. L. J. Browning, all members of the house of representatives, had been summoned here, but for what purpose was not brought out yesterday. The sub-committee examined these witnesses yesterday afternoon.

The committee meets again at 10 a. m. today and will hear statements from members of the former State board if they care to go on the stand.

The work of the investigating committee was delayed yesterday because of the fact that there was no official stenographer. Mr. Deal, who had been the stenographer for several months, had resigned, and as there are but a few more days of the session it has been impossible to find a free lance stenographer who could undertake the work. The court stenographers are all busy. Yesterday afternoon Mr. W. H. Macfeate filled the breach.

Mr. R. S. Welch of Bellinger & Welch, asked to make a statement to the committee. He represented members of the old board who had been invited to be present at the meeting and make a statement if they wished to do so. He wished to say that he had not yet been able to reach a final conclusion with the members he represented, but would let the committee know definitely in the morning whether his clients, former members of the board, would accept the invitation or not or whether they would appear in court at the proper time. He said that he would reach a conclusion just as soon as possible.

Chairman Hay said he wished it understood that the members of the former board had been invited to be present and make such statement as they cared to, but they would not be required to appear in view of the recent turn. It was entirely discretionary whether they appeared or not.

The committee was unable to take any testimony at the morning session, although there were a number of witnesses present and the sub-committee seemed cocked and primed for work.

Columbia, June 13.—The members of the old board of control will not accept the invitation of the investigating committee and appear. They prefer to wait an inquiry by the courts, if one is ever had. Messrs. John Bell Towill and L. W. Boykin are represented by Bellinger & Welch. This afternoon this letter was presented on the part of Mr. L. W. Boykin and Mr. Towill. The language of the two letters is identical:

June 13, 1906.

Hon. J. T. Hay, Chairman and other members of the committee appointed to investigate the affairs of the State dispensary—Gentlemen: In response to your invitation, if so chose, to appear before your committee today for the purpose of making any statement that I desire to make concerning my former connection with the State dispensary, I beg to say that I prefer your investigation should proceed uninfluenced by any statement that I might make. The more thorough and searching the investigation is made, the more will the correctness of my conduct be demonstrated. I am not only anxious to see the investigation proceed in the most rigid manner, but I should be much disappointed if it did not do so, humiliating as it might be. I challenge the closest scrutiny

of my conduct before any tribunal before which it can be made.

I have no fear that those who know me will believe that I have done anything that has been either illegal or immoral. Instances in which honorable men might differ with me in judgment may, and perhaps will, be discovered, wrong cannot be for it does not exist.

While I have keenly felt the injustice and the cruelty of some of the suggestions which have been made in relation to my former connection with the dispensary, I am confident that when the scrutiny has been made complete even those who do not know me will reach a like conclusion with those who do.

At a future day, and when it can have no influence upon the action of your committee, it is my purpose to send you a written statement covering the matters that I deem of consequence, which I shall ask you to regard as part of this communication, and which I shall ask you to file as part of your report.

Very respectfully,
(Signed) L. W. Boykin.

The committee has heard nothing directly from Mr. Evans and he, too, evidently does not expect to accept the invitation of the committee.

The sub-committee did a good day's work today in the investigation of the dispensary, but the sub-committee is evidently getting weary and worn, and the end if the fine work appears near at hand, for the present at least. Today was full of matters of interest. There was a great deal more testimony today than has usually been taken on one day, and it was very interesting. It told of how the whiskey drummers kept open house here, how they had whiskey and champagne, and even money in plenty, for the members of the board of control, and how open rooms were kept for the friends of the dispensary, which included members of the General Assembly.

A former chief constable, Mr. Bahr, told of how he saw rolls of money left around for members of the board of control to gather in. His eye-sight failed him when it came to identifying exactly which member got the money, but he seemed positive that this was the purpose of the money.

An affidavit was presented from Mr. Brevard Miller, who was interested in the Carolina Glass Company, in its preliminary stages. He insists that it was the purpose of the organizers of this company to give as a gift a block of stock to Mr. H. H. Evans and to Mr. L. J. Williams, both at that time members of the board, and that in consideration the Carolina Glass Company was not to have competition to amount to anything. Mr. Miller says he became disgusted and retired from the company, and if the purpose of carrying out the plan of giving gratuitous stock to members of the board was carried out, it was after he had left the company and he has no positive knowledge on this score.

Mr. J. B. Douthitt, who was on the board of control and at one time was commissioner, showed from the records that the dispensary has been selling some of its goods at less than actual cost, including the outgoing freight. It was plain from the evidence of Mr. Douthitt, that his idea was that the goods of Lanahan, the Ricland Distillery and Blumenthal & Bickert were sold to the county dispensaries by the State dispensary at less than actual cost, and then by the county dispensaries at less than competitive goods. This, he indicated, gave such firms the advantage in the sale of their goods, and meanwhile the State and the school fund was actually losing money by the sales.

Mr. Douthitt also indicated that a liquor drummer told him that a former member of the board had directly suggested to him that he had better get a representative on the board, and suggested an appointment at his room that afternoon, and after that the firm of Rosskam, Gerstler & Co. did get good business.

Mr. Lyon took a few turns out of the new board of control today, and to say the least, brought out that the new board is a bit lax. This does not mean wrong-doing, or that anything criminally wrong was suggested or developed. He brought out or indicated that the new board was buying from what he thought were "dummy" houses or firms, representing firms that had been placed on the black list.

Mr. Rawlinson, who spoke for the board, stated that the board bought on samples and bids, and that as bonds were required the board has not been inquiring into the houses, but that now it has arranged to do so.

Mr. Lyon suggested that one of the firms from which the board was buying has gone into bankruptcy, and that others were gotten up to avoid the embargo against buying from certain houses while they were on the "blacklist."

Mr. Lyon insisted that the new board did not pay proper regard to

*If your stomach troubles you do not conclude that there is no cure, for a great many have been permanently cured by Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. Try them, they are certain to prove beneficial. They only cost a quarter. Sold by all druggists.

the Legislative instructions relative to getting bids for the glassware, and Mr. Rawlinson insisted that the board bought from where it thought it could get the best and cheapest contracts, and that it did not worry about the back contracts or past arrangements, although Mr. Lyon thought some of the old contracts were for less than the new prices. Mr. Rawlinson said that the board did not, as far as he knew, make any actual comparison between the samples by which liquors were bought, and the goods after their arrival. He said that the idea seemed to be to wait for complaints.

There was considerable controversy with regard to the declination of the new board to give the Christensen-Lyon committee copies of the lists of purchases. Mr. Rawlinson urged that the board was ready and anxious to supply all possible information, but that the board preferred to know exactly what was wanted.

Mr. Lyon presented Mr. Jesse Vance, who conducts a brokerage business in Newberry, to show what he knew about the claim of Mr. H. H. Evans that he made a lot of money in cotton futures. Mr. Vance declined to know or say anything. He did say that he could tell something if he had his books, but he declined to produce his books, and with the usual good luck the majority of the committee declined to order that he present his books to show whether Mr. Evans had made or lost money on cotton futures in his place.

Mr. Lyon said he thought in this way he could show what merit there was in the claim of Mr. Evans that he had grown rich on cotton futures. The committee thought it ought first to be shown that Mr. Evans has the money, and that the cotton future phase would simply be a defence.

Mr. W. W. Starr, the general manager of the Savannah Brewery, testified that the dispensary has been paying more for No. 2 beer than it had been offered at. Analysis were presented by the committee, without the knowledge of Mr. Starr, to show that the Savannah beer was better than that for which the dispensary paid more money.

Dispensary Corey, of Fort Fremont, complained of the price of Acme beer, and the result of his correspondence was that he was advised that he must have been buying it cheaper from the dispensary than it had been priced at.

At the very round-off of the testimony this afternoon Mr. Lyon presented an affidavit from S. Grabfelder & Co., large dealers, bought labels from Nivission & Weiskopf, the very firm from which the famous label order was got, at \$1.50 per thousand, that were thought to be fully as handsome embossed and all, as those bought by the dispensary at \$3.50. These labels bought from Nivission & Weiskopf were used on Glen Lily whiskey and are considered as handsome as any bought by the dispensary, and were bought by Grabfelder for less than half. Some pretty labels were presented that were bought from the Louisville Courier Journal people, at 40 cents per thousand. These were body labels and had no neck piece.

Mr. Lyon thinks that this shows very conclusively that the State paid more than twice too much for its big lot of labels as it ought to have paid.—News and Courier.

Deadly Serpent Bites

*Are as common in India as are stomach and liver disorders with us. For the latter, however, there is a sure remedy: Electric Bitters, the great restorative medicine, of which S. A. Brown, of Bennettsville, S. C., says: "They restored my wife to perfect health after years of suffering with dyspepsia and a chronically torpid liver." Electric Bitters cure chills and fever, malaria, biliousness, lame back, kidney troubles and bladder disorders. Sold on guarantee by Sibert's Drug Store. Price 50c.

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As Many a Sumter Reader Knows Too Well,

When the kidneys are sick, Nature tells you all about it. The urine is nature's calendar. Infrequent or too frequent action; Any urinary trouble, tells of kidney ills.

Doan's Kidney Pills cure all kidney ills.

J. L. Hollis, residing at 221 Cheever street, Florence, S. C., says: "Doan's Kidney Pills which I used for kidney and bladder troubles have greatly benefited me. I was very badly hurt on the railroad a number of years ago had my back injured and I think my kidneys were badly hurt at the same time. My back got well enough for me to get around, but being paralyzed from my hips down I am unable to walk. I have suffered greatly with backache during the past eight or ten years. The secretions from the kidneys were in a bad condition, very dark colored, full of sediment and accompanied with burning pain. I used numberless remedies, but none of them did me any good until I read about Doan's Kidney Pills and sent to a drug store for them. They gave me relief. The kidney secretions cleared up, the burning sensation left and I do not suffer from the terrible backaches. I attribute these satisfactory results entirely to the use of Doan's Kidney Pills. You are welcome to use my name as an endorser of the claims made for them."

For more proof like this from Sumter people, call at Dr. A. J. China's drug store and ask what his customers report. For sale by all dealers; price 50 cents. Foster-McBarn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

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Go to whatever section of our country you please and you will find plenty of hustle and progress. Our people are wide awake, quick to understand and ready to take hold of whatever looks to increased efficiency and better welfare. Nowhere in the whole country has there been more progress or greater development, improvement than in the Pudding Swamp country contiguous to Shiloh, where a few years ago the land, much of which was in ponds, bays and flats could have been bought for from \$1 to \$5 per acre, but none of which can now be purchased for several times the last named amount.

About the year of 1894 Robert R and "Lige" Tomlinson, two brothers, introduced into that country the culture of tobacco, which for the next decade, was to play an important part in redeeming the country from debt and setting it upon its feet. At that time even the roads were few and inferior, the lands, much of them, poor and neglected, the churches in keeping with their surroundings and the schools very ordinary, little attention being paid to education. But the introduction of tobacco, little of which is planted today in the same territory, was the beginning of a new era, the dawn of a new day. Go there now and how changed are the surroundings—on every hand are the evidences of wealth, ease and comfort, and still the end is not yet. As in Sumter, it is the people; they make the place; clever almost to a fault, wide awake, full of energy, they have not hesitated to take hold and push matters, anything that looked to the advancement of their fine country, to build good roads, some undertakings sufficient to stagger stout hearts, splendid churches, good and well equipped academies, where the best talent in the land was employed in the instruction of the youth, so that in a few short years Pudding Swamp finds itself almost, if not fully, abreast from every point of view with any other rural district of our great commonwealth. Hagood.

June 11, '06.

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" 2:30	" 8:05	" 7:35	" 7:35	Durant
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" 3:00	" 8:45	" 6:55	" 6:55	Beard
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