

# 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, 1866

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## The Watchman and Southron.

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### FEVER AT UNIVERSITY.

**Situation Not Serious and Under Control—Well Water Caused Trouble—Board of Trustees and Board of Health Physicians Make an Examination.**

Columbia, Nov. 17.—There has for some little time been considerable anxiety with regard to typhoid fever at the University of South Carolina. The situation, while serious, has been very much exaggerated and the board of trustees yesterday, through its executive committee, decided that it would be better to make a plain and frank statement of the conditions.

The board finds that there have been 11 cases of typhoid fever at the university among the more than 300 students. While some of the cases were brought to the institution, most of the number originated from the use of infected well water while there were breaks in the regular city supply. Maj. Sloan, president of the university, has been working day and night to do everything possible for the relief of the situation and to stop the cause. Dr. Wannamaker, the physician in charge, and Dr. William Weston, the assistants, have been constant in their attentions. The city board of health, through its efficient health physician, Dr. C. F. Williams, has been hard at work on the situation and all now agree that they have located the trouble and that there is no longer ground to fear trouble.

Yesterday there was a conference between President Sloan, Dr. T. Grange Simons, chairman of the State board of health; Dr. C. F. Williams of the city board of health, Dr. E. J. Wannamaker, Dr. William Weston and Dr. James W. Babcock of the State Hospital for the insane, who was called in on account of his experience in such matters and they assured the committee that there was no just reason to feel further apprehension.

The executive committee, which consists of Governor Heyward, Superintendent O. B. Martin, Mr. R. P. Hamer, Jr., and August Kohn, after a consultation with President Sloan and the physicians decided that it would be best to publish the history of the trouble, to ask the consent of the city board of health to publish the detailed report of Dr. Williams and to advise the parents of all young men and women at the university that the situation is very satisfactory and that there is no occasion for further worry.

The following is the official report of Dr. C. F. Williams, which has the full endorsement of Dr. T. Grange Simons, Dr. T. W. Babcock and Drs. Wannamaker and Weston, after a full investigation of the situation: To the Chairman and Members of the Board of Health, Columbia, S. C. Gentlemen: In compliance with the resolution passed by the executive committee of your body directing me to make a full report upon the typhoid fever situation at the University of South Carolina, I have the honor to submit the following:

On Oct. 27, I was notified by Dr. E. J. Wannamaker, physician at the university, that he had admitted to the infirmary since the 16th of October, five cases of fever—two of which were unmistakably typhoid, and that the other three presented symptoms so strongly suggestive of the malady that he felt warranted in making such a diagnosis. I was asked to consult with him, which I did, and fully concurred in the diagnosis made. I was informed by him that in trying to locate the cause it was learned that the five young men stricken all of them had been taking their meals at the mess hall. This had aroused his suspicion as to the local cause existing there, and we, in company with the president of the institution, proceeded to the mess hall, where a most thorough inspection was made, and even though no unsanitary condition was found, the physician at the university had the refrigerators thoroughly cleansed and disinfected and the whole hall, which was already in excellent condition, gone over.

The milk supply was looked into, and it as a possible source of infection was eliminated, for the dairy, supplying the mess with milk is owned and operated by the university and everything connected therewith is conducted in a most sanitary manner. The food stuffs consumed at the mess hall are bought in open market, and as there is practically no typhoid fever in the city this possible source of infection can also be eliminated. Upon inquiry as to the drinking water I was informed that on two occasions when the city water was cut off the mess was furnished with water obtained from a well on Divine street. Pursuing this trail further I found that the preponderance of evidence, of which I will speak later, pointed almost conclusively to the well, but inasmuch as the physician of the university had issued orders that no more well water be drunk, I set about to eliminate every other possible cause. I had Mr. Edens inspect the sewerage and plumbing of the hall, make the pressure test, and he reports that everything was found in first class condition. Cases of fever adjacent to the mess hall was sought for, so that the possibility of contamination of food by flies could be eliminated. This source was negative. To come back to the well water, and the evidence pointing to it as the source of infection, it is necessary for me to ask your indulgence while I explain how the disease is contracted and the length of time it takes to develop. The cause and the sole cause of the disease is a specific organism known as the typhoid bacillus, which in order to produce typhoid fever must be taken into the stomach and intestinal track in which we eat or drink. Of course a run down condition is a predisposing cause. The period of incubation (that is the length of time from the time the germ is swallowed until the disease develops) is from eight to twenty three days—on an average of about fourteen to sixteen days. Now you will see the significance of the above explanation. On October 2, the city water was cut off, and on account of it being muddy on the 3rd and 4th, well water was used at the mess hall. On the 16th, fourteen days from the first drinking of the well water, a case was admitted to the hospital, another on the 19th, another on the 20th and another on the 22nd. On the 15th of October, the water main supplying the mess hall was broken by the workmen digging the canal for the telephone company and it requiring some time to repair it, the well was again restored to. On the 17th the break in the water main conveying water to the reservoir caused the whole city to be without water for two days and the water being so muddy on the 19th, well water was drunk on that day. Thus it will be seen that well water was drunk from the 15th to the 19th. On October 26th two cases were admitted to the hospital. One on the 27th, one on the 30th, one on the 31st, one on November 2, and the last case which has so far developed, on November 6th. It will be seen from the above figures that the average time from the time well water was drunk until the development of the disease was 14 1-4 days. This, gentlemen, should be convincing, and especially so, since not a single case has developed in about 200 boys outside of the mess as against eleven cases in 130 taking meals at the mess. The first series of cases would justify us in laying the blame to the well water, and since the development of the second series of cases no doubt should exist in the minds of the most skeptical. Bacteriological examinations of water to show the presence of the typhoid bacillus are very unsatisfactory and only in a few instances has the organism been isolated. However, upon consulting your chairman, I was instructed to leave no stone unturned and to have an examination of the water made, not for the presence of the typhoid bacillus, for the reason stated above, but to its probability in general. The water is now in the hands of an expert and his report is expected daily. In view of the fact that more or less apprehension exists in the minds of the student body, and their loved ones throughout the State, I would suggest to the board that you immediately take such steps as you may deem advisable to allay this apprehension. Respectfully,  
(Signed) C. F. Williams, M. D.,  
Board of Health Physician,  
Columbia, S. C., Nov. 16, 1906. At a meeting held at the university this date, the undersigned committee made a thorough inspection of the situation and concur in the above re-

### A BLOODY NEGRO.

WILL HARRIS KILLED FOUR MEN IN ASHEVILLE.

He Made His Escape and is Being Pursued in the Woods of Vanderbilt's Estate—There has Been a Price on His Head for Months.

Asheville, N. C., Nov. 14.—Will Harris, a negro desperado, with a big reward on his head for many months, early this morning shot and killed two policemen and wounded a police captain. He first shot and killed a negro restaurant keeper and fatally wounded another negro.

He escaped to the woods of Geo. Vanderbilt's Biltmore estate, which is now being secured by a posse and bloodhounds. There is no doubt that Harris will be lynched a few minutes after his capture.

The negro had a rifle and a revolver with plenty of ammunition. He came here from Charlotte, N. C.

### ANOTHER GREAT STORM.

Havoc Wrought By Storm Centering in the Mississippi Delta—At Least Five Lives Known to Be Lost.

Memphis, Tenn., Nov. 18.—Telegraphic and telephone communications received today from points in Mississippi, Arkansas and Tennessee for a distance of several miles report that territory to have suffered last night and early today from one of the most destructive rain and wind storms experienced in years.

Only meagre details are as yet obtainable, but five lives are known to have been lost and great damage done to property and crops. Railroad traffic from this point is completely demoralized by numerous washouts and many trains have necessarily been annulled.

From the reports so far received the greatest damage occurred in the central and delta regions of Mississippi.

At Winona, Miss., the Catholic, Christian and negro Methodist churches and the Hesty brickyard were demolished and numerous buildings unroofed and badly damaged. Among the largest buildings damaged at this place are the postoffice, opera house, the oil mill, the compress, warehouse of the Jackson Mercantile Company and the residence of E. J. Dunkston. Besides these, about 25 smaller buildings were almost completely destroyed.

Telegraphic communication is completely prostrated.

Of those buildings not totally destroyed, the compress was probably the most badly damaged. The roof of this building was torn off by the wind, which at times reached almost tornado-like velocity, falling on the home of E. J. Dunkston, 250 yards away. The wind storm was preceded and followed by heavy rains causing serious washouts along the route of the Illinois Central railroad and badly damaging crops.

The Ball Paint Company, of Charleston, was burned out Monday night.

Governor Heyward has offered a reward of \$100 for the capture of Wilson Howard, colored, who made a deadly assault on Mr. O. H. Rickenbacker, of Orangeburg county.

port, and beg to state to the public that in so far as no new cases have developed in the past ten days, and the period of incubation of the disease has now passed, that there is no further ground for apprehension.

Pending a recovery of those cases now ill arrangements have been made by the authorities of the university to treat all illness of whatsoever nature at the Columbia hospital, thereby relieving the students of any fear of coming in contact with those sick at the university infirmary.

T. Grange Simons, M. D.,  
Chairman State Board of Health.  
J. W. Babcock, M. D.,  
Supt. State Hospital for Insane.  
E. J. Wannamaker, M. D.,  
Physician of the University of South Carolina.

W. M. Weston, M. D.,  
Assistant Physician of the University of South Carolina.

There are three trained nurses in attendance at the infirmary and the young men who remained at the infirmary are receiving the best attention—nothing more could be done.

To be on the safe side all young men who are now taken sick are promptly sent to the Columbia hospital, but no new cases have developed within the past ten days. There is no occasion for parents to fear the further spread of typhoid and the situation besides being closely in hand is being very closely watched.

### LEE COUNTY EXCITED.

REPORT OF OUTRAGE REACHED BISHOPVILLE FRIDAY NIGHT.

A Girl Fifteen Years Old Attacked By Negro As She Was Going From Sister's to Father's Home a Short Distance Away.

Bishopville, Nov. 17.—Yesterday afternoon just about sunset while Miss Georgiana Watts, the fifteen year old daughter of Mr. George Watts, of the Stokes Bridge neighborhood of Lee county, was returning home from a call at the home of her brother-in-law a short quarter of a mile distant from her father's, a big, burly black negro sprang suddenly from the wayside and seized her. She is of fragile form and was helpless in the clutches of the fiend, although she made a desperate resistance. An hour later she managed to drag herself home and horrified and enraged her family by gasping out the story of her wrongs.

The neighborhood was aroused, and as usual intense excitement ensued, a posse was immediately formed to scour the country for the negro.

As soon as the news reached this town fifteen or twenty men left here to assist in the search. The posse has bloodhounds and the search will not be abandoned until the negro is captured.

### THE GIRL ESCAPED.

Bishopville, S. C., Nov. 17.—Men, Sheriff and dog have returned from the Stokes Bridge Section. The rumored outrage unverified. The girl was chased a hundred yards. On trace or her assailant was found.

### CRITICISM BY TOM MILLER.

War Department Called on For Statement Concerning Disbanding of Negro Troops in Texas.

Columbia, Nov. 16.—Thos. E. Miller, the president of the State Colored college, has protested against the recent order of President Roosevelt, disbanding the negro battalion of the Twenty-fifth infantry of the United States army because of riotous conduct at Brownsville, Tex., some time ago. Miller, who was in the city yesterday, said that he felt that the actor of the president, according to the press dispatches, was an injustice to the race and he wished a statement from the department about it. The letter is as follows:

President Theodore Roosevelt,

White House, Washington, D. C.  
Sir: I write to most respectfully ask your excellency if it is possible for a negro, such as I, to secure a copy of the facts upon which Gen. Garlington based his findings calling upon you to dismiss in disgrace the negro soldiers who were at Brownsville, Tex.

Knowing the antecedents of you and Gen. Garlington thoroughly, I do not wish to pass judgment upon the acts of you both without reading the entire record of this very unfortunate case which has brought such great humiliation upon the entire negro race of which I am a part. If the facts are in print for the use of the public I humbly request your secretary to mail me a copy.

Very respectfully,

Thos. E. Miller.

### Reply of Department.

The following reply was received from the war department:

Respectfully returned to Hon. Thos. E. Miller, President Colored Normal, Industrial, Agricultural and Mechanical College, Orangeburg, S. C.

A statement of the facts on which the president based his orders for the discharge of enlisted men of the Twenty-fifth infantry who were present at Port Brown, Tex., at the time of the recent riotous disturbance there was given to the press and was published generally throughout the country on the 5th inst. No further statement has been furnished at the present time. However, it is probable that a full report of the investigations that have been made with regard to the occurrence will be printed in the near future, and if you will renew your request at a somewhat later date the department will be glad to furnish you with a copy of that report if it has been published at that time. By order of the Acting Secretary of War.

Miller said yesterday that he would again apply to the department for the facts in Gen. Garlington's report, and if necessary would take it up with members of congress.—The State, Nov. 16th.

Sam Green shot Walter Ruffin through the arm at Darlington Monday afternoon.

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stomach disorders—Its continued use means permanent injury to health.

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### RURAL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

A Call For Teachers to Meet for Purpose of Organization.

Stateburg, S. C.,  
November 12, 1906.

To the Rural School Teachers of Sumter County:

As a member of the Executive Committee of "The Woman's Association for the Improvement of Schools in South Carolina," it is my duty and privilege to call together the rural school teachers of Sumter county for the purpose of effecting an organization of a county association to cooperate with the State Association, and this county association will in turn effect an organization of "local associations" within the respective school districts of the county.

This work has been earnestly entered upon by the women of the State, after mature deliberation, because they believe it is a work which they can do probably more successfully than the "busy men of this period."

It certainly is a work that can be second to none in importance. The rural school is at the basis of all other schools and of civilization itself. In proportion as the basic work is well done will the superstructure be of excellent and enduring form. The County Superintendent of Education will close the white schools on the day for this meeting, in order that the teachers may attend and get their full pay for their time. He has set apart Friday, the 23rd day of this month for the meeting in Sumter city, at the Court House; meeting to be called to order at 11 a. m. While this work is done with women as the leaders, under this organization, male teachers can likewise become members, and I most earnestly request the attendance of all the white male teachers in rural schools in this county, as there are branches of the work which they are much better fitted to perform, under all the conditions of rural life in South Carolina at this time, than the women.

I am fully persuaded that the meetings of a county association will result in very great profit to every teacher connected with rural school work and that by proper management of the meetings, pleasure, as well as profit, can be derived from them. Hoping to see in the meeting every rural school white teacher in the county, and that the attendance will be prompt, and that all will come to me and give me the pleasure of their personal acquaintance before their names are enrolled as members, so I may be better advised as to who are to become members that I could possibly be without such acquaintance, and hoping for a meeting which will abound in good results for the proud county whose interests are so largely in our care, I am,  
Very respectfully,  
Theodosia Dargan,  
Member of Executive Committee of the W. A. I. R. S. of South Carolina.

### MURDER IN HAMPTON.

Brunson, Nov. 16.—Mr. L. B. Padgett, a prosperous tenant farmer living alone about two miles from this town was called to his door about 9 o'clock last night and shot to death. The murder was found out early this morning by a near neighbor. The load from a shot gun was fired into the head of the murdered man. The object of the murder was evidently robbery, as Padgett was known to have several hundred dollars in cash. The clothes of the dead man showed they had been searched by bloody hands and the money taken. The neighborhood is aroused and diligent search is being made. Mr. Padgett was a Confederate Veteran and served in Virginia in Hampton's cavalry.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 17.—Vice-President Fairbanks is here for the first time since the close of the campaign tour. He will leave Monday for Tampa, Fla., accompanied by Mrs. Fairbanks to make an address at the opening of the Midwinter Fair.