

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, 1860.

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WILL BALLINGER RESIGN?

His Presence in Cabinet Said to Embarrass Republicans.

Beverly, Mass., August 2.—There was increasing evidence here today that the recent bombardment of the President with letters from prominent Republican leaders in all parts of the country, protesting that Secretary of the Interior Ballinger was proving an embarrassment in the laying of plans for the coming Congressional campaign, is beginning to have an effect, if not upon the President himself, at least on the advisers who are closest to him.

No attempt was made today to deny the reports that Senator Crane, at the very outset of his political pilgrimage in the West, had probably suggested to Secretary Ballinger, at Minneapolis yesterday, his duty to the party might require that he sacrifice his place in the Cabinet. All Secretary Norton would say, after having considered the matter nearly all day, was that it would be necessary to ask Senator Crane.

The statement was reiterated, however, that President Taft would not so much as lift his little finger, if by so doing he could secure the retirement of Secretary Ballinger as head of the department of the Interior.

In addition to the letters he has received the President has heard verbally from a number of party leaders regarding the sentiment toward Secretary Ballinger. They have talked frankly with Mr. Taft on the subject, it is said, and while they have agreed with the President apparently in his position that nothing has been proved against Secretary Ballinger, they have put the matter purely on a party basis and have said that the campaign would be much easier with the Ballinger issue eliminated.

There was no disposition in Beverly today to treat the meeting of Senator Crane and Secretary Ballinger in Minneapolis yesterday as an "accidental." It was clearly intimated, however, that whatever move was being made against Secretary Ballinger had its inception and being with the active party leaders, and not with President Taft. The President, it can be positively stated, will never ask Mr. Ballinger to resign.

If the Secretary should feel called upon to resign, however, there is said to be little doubt that his resignation would be accepted.

"No Resignation," Says Ballinger.

Chicago, August 2.—Secretary Ballinger yesterday denied that his conference yesterday with Senator Crane, at Minneapolis, Minn., related to or would be followed by his resignation. He said the matter discussed was not even of direct interest to him. He denounced his foes in strong language, and said he intended to ignore them entirely. His denial was issued after reading the dispatches, from Beverly, which indicated that Senator Crane's mission to the West was to carry the hint that Mr. Ballinger would aid the party in forthcoming elections by withdrawing at this time.

"There is no resignation on the card, I can tell you," was Mr. Ballinger's reply to this. Continuing, he said:

"I am simply on my way to the coast for a little rest. Some want me to make my 'rest' permanent, but it will not be so as long as the President is satisfied. I met Crane yesterday morning through no arrangement of mine, and the matter we discussed—politics, of course—was nothing which interested me directly at all. Mr. Crane wished to consult me on the matter, and came to where I was, that's all. There's nothing mysterious about it. I guess he's gone back East now."

"All this vicious attack by unscrupulous men, backed by newspapers with even less scruples, goes off me like water off a duck's back. That never will induce me to resign."

The Secretary said he intended to leave for the West in the evening.

Without fact you can learn nothing.—Disraeli.

BRIBERY IN CONGRESS.

SENATOR GORE WILL TELL OF CONSPIRACY.

Attempt Made by Attorney to Bribe Senator and a Member of House to Withdraw Opposition to Scheme to Swindle Oklahoma Indians.

Muskogee, Okla., Aug. 3.—Investigation of charges made in the United States senate by L. H. Gore that he and a member of the house of representatives had been offered a bribe of \$25,000 each to foster a scheme whereby the Indians of Oklahoma were to be deprived of \$3,000,000 profits due them through the sale of asphalt lands in this State, is to be begun here tomorrow.

"I will tell the full details of the scheme hatched at Washington to mulct these Indians out of \$3,000,000 through the sale of their lands," said Senator Gore. "I will give names, dates and other circumstances relative to the bribe of \$25,000 offered to me and to a member of the house of representatives to remove our opposition to the scheme which would put that vast sum of money in the hands of public attorneys."

The committee was appointed by the house of representatives to investigate what are known as the McMurray contracts with the Chickasaw and Choctaw tribes of Indians. It is headed by Chairman Chas. H. Burke of South Dakota and will convene at 9 a. m., tomorrow. Senator Gore probably will be the first witness.

The Gore Charges.
The charges made by Senator Gore in the senate July 24, which are the basis of the present investigation, are:

That J. F. McMurray of McAlester, Okla., and his associates had obtained 10,000 contracts with Chickasaw and Choctaw Indians for the sale of 450,000 acres of lands, estimated to be worth \$3,000,000 to \$16,000,000.

That the profit of McMurray and his associates was to be 10 per cent. of a sum ranging from \$3,000,000 to \$16,000,000.

That a New York syndicate already was prepared to take over the land at \$3,000,000.

That when opposition to proving the contracts arose in congress he (Senator Gore) was approached and told that \$25,000 or perhaps \$50,000 would be available to him and that a like sum would be available to a member of the house of representatives, if all opposition was removed.

Would Defraud Indians.
That if the contracts had been approved the Indians would have been deprived of 10 per cent. of the profits guaranteed them by the government and the money would have gone to pay "attorneys' fees" for which no material service had been rendered. Senator Gore also charged that "an ex-senator from Nebraska and ex-senator from Kansas were interested in the contracts."

"In my charges before the senate, I did not give any names concerning the offers of bribery," said Senator Gore.

"That and other information, I am ready to impart before the investigating committee. When the government made its treaties with the Indians it agreed to sell the land and hand over the full profit to those Indians. It would be absurd for the government to sanction a reduction of 10 per cent. to be handed out in the shape of attorneys' fees. It is especially absurd since no attorneys' services are needed."

The Committee.

Besides Mr. Burke, other members of the investigating committee are Philip Campbell of Kansas, Clarence B. Miller of Minnesota, John H. Stephens of Texas and E. W. Saunders of Virginia. Chairman Burke said that the committee, after taking evidence here, would visit McAlester, Oklahoma City and other parts of the State to obtain from the Indians direct information as to how the contracts were obtained from them.

Dennis Flynn, counsel for J. F. McMurray, said he would contend that the contracts were valid since the Indians were members of what are known as the "Five Civilized Tribes" and as such had the right of citizenship to make the contracts. He said he would assert, however, that no offer of bribery had ever been made.

Cecil Lyon, chairman of the Republican State committee of Texas, who was charged by Congressman A. D. Murphy on the floor of the house with having assisted Mr. Murphy in asking for the approval of the contracts, is expected here tomorrow.

If there is a "bathtub" trust, as the Federal government alleges, it is to be hoped that Uncle Sam will make a thorough cleaning in the courts.—Tacoma Ledger.

NOTHING HAPPENED AT MARION.

STATE CAMPAIGN MEETING WAS TAME AFFAIR.

Most Interest Probably Manifested in Congressional Race — Ellerbe Continues to Have Crowds with Him, it Appears—Duncan Got to Marion, but that's All—Evans Talks About Schools—Lyon Speaks as if He Had no Opposition.

Marion, Aug. 3.—Those who expected sensations at the State campaign meeting here today were sadly disappointed. While it is true that Marion has been the scene of many hot political meetings in the past, and for many reasons such was looked for today, the meeting passed off as one of the tamest and the least sensational in the present campaign.

However, features of the day were the rousing ovation accorded Congressman James E. Ellerbe; the enthusiastic reception given Attorney-General J. Frazer Lyon; the evidence of prohibition sentiment revealed in the hearty applause awarded the Hon. C. C. Featherstone, and the distinct disappointment occasioned by John T. Duncan's failure to make good his promise, or threat, to pay his respects to the Supreme Court "when I go to Marion."

Nothing Sensational.

While Duncan did read a long and rambling discourse on a conglomeration of generalities, it was a noticeable fact that he religiously avoided any degree of directness that in the opinion of a great many, would have precipitated a lively scene and possibly trouble of a serious nature. Duncan had written out his speech and prepared three copies. He defied the newspaper reporters to print it. The newspaper men present did not appear to be much concerned. He was received in silence by the large audience. The presence of Mr. Lyon caused many to fear some exciting incident, in view of the later denial by Evans of the exact nature of the charge at the Dillon meeting yesterday. But there never was a more peaceable meeting between two opponents.

Select the Best Man.

Mr. Lyon, who was the first speaker did not once mention the fact that he had opposition. He did not refer to Mr. Evans even by indirection, but made a strong plea to the citizens to exercise a care in the selection of the representatives in the General Assembly. Men who will uphold the Constitution, said Mr. Lyon, are what we need and he referred to the recent enactments in favor of the Carolina, Clinchfield and Ohio Railroad, directly contrary to the Constitution.

Mr. Lyon took occasion to pay a high tribute to Justice Woods, declaring him a man of such integrity and ability as fit to grace the United States Supreme Court Bench, and that if the Democrats were ever in control that he was certain old Marion would have a son thus honored. These utterances were heartily applauded.

Champion of Schools.

With marked tact and forceful delivery, Bernard B. Evans declared that he was in this race to save to the common schools of the State the dispensary money justly due them and which had been tied up by the winding-up commission. He cited the news this morning that the Anderson County superintendent of education had brought mandamus proceedings, as he said, against the commission to get this money. This referred to the action against the State Treasurer; Mr. Evans made a strong plea in behalf of the schools and the little boys and girls. He said future generations would give him the credit for accomplishing this work for the State. He today claimed the credit for causing such action as brought by the Anderson County officer.

Messrs. Duvall and Richards were the favored ones today, in getting bouquets. Many of the candidates, though, handed out bouquets a plenty to the Marion people and this beautiful old town. These compliments, however, bore the earmarks of genuineness, or on every hand is heard only praise for the town. Indeed the women of Marion have worked wonders in the matter of beautifying the public square and the streets. Notably among those whose endeavors have wrought such good results is Mrs. C. A. Woods. Among the candidates for Governor, C. C. Featherstone was the favorite. He was often interrupted with loud applause; his anecdotes were also well received.

Some one from the audience interrupted Mr. Featherstone at one point when the speaker declared that there were now 36 dry counties in the State. This gentleman said, "but they are not dry." In a quick rejoinder, Mr. Featherstone said: "Yes I guess you

"THE SOUTHERN FIELD."

The Magazine Established By Southern Railway to Be Extensively Circulated.

Washington, Aug. 2.—A comprehensive picture of the advantages to be found in the fruit growing sections of the southeastern States is presented in the August issue of "The Southern Field," the official organ of the Land and Industrial Department of the Southern Railway and associated lines, the circulation of which will begin in a few days. The leading article of this issue is devoted to a discussion of fruit growing in Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee and Mississippi. The story of the development of the growing of apples, peaches, berries, and small fruits in this territory is fully told and the opportunities for future development pointed out.

The farmer interested in fruit growing who reads this issue can not fail to be impressed with the great opportunities which await him in the Southeast. In addition to the article on fruit growing which is splendidly illustrated there are other interesting articles. Editorials call attention to the opportunities for profit in stock raising in the South, the value of the cotton crop to the country, and the increase in value of southern lands. What can be done in East Tennessee county is shown in an article on pork raising, "A Spartanburg Farmer" tells of results on a farm in the Piedmont section, and the success of Canadians in North-east Georgia is told in an interesting manner.

Thousands of copies of this magazine will be put in the hands of farmers in the North and Northwest who are considered desirable settlers. Persons already in the South who have friends living in other sections of the country whom they wish to interest in this section can have copies of "The Southern Field," sent them by a request addressed to M. V. Richards, Land and Industrial Agent, Southern Railway, Washington, D. C.

WHY HE WORE THE CROSS.

Savannah Judge, Sentences Confederate Veteran, Condemns Obvious Appeal to Jury's Sympathies.

Savannah, Ga., Aug. 3.—S. S. Bessinger, a Confederate veteran, was found guilty of voluntary manslaughter in Chatham superior court today at the end of his trial for stabbing Game Payne to death on the evening of May last.

Bessinger wore a Confederate cross of honor in court during his trial. No objection was made to this and Judge Charlton, in sentencing Bessinger to two years in the penitentiary, in regard to it, said:

"I do not like to see a veteran wearing a cross of honor in court when he is on trial for a crime. You could have worn it for only one purpose, to work upon the prejudice of the jury. Practices of this nature would tend to make of the Confederate badge a common thing."

Bessinger and Payne formerly were partners in a grocery business. They quarreled over money and Bessinger killed Payne in the presence of the latter's wife.

GEORGIA'S FIRST COTTON BALE.

Brings 30 Cents—Sent to Savannah for Auction.

Albany, Ga., Aug. 3.—Georgia's first bale of cotton was brought to Albany last night, but not by Dean Jackson, the negro farmer of Dougherty county, who for years has been the "first bale man."

This year the bale was raised by M. A. Rainey, of Baker county, and was sold this morning for 30 cents per pound. The bale weighed 412 pounds, and was graded middling. It was rushed to Savannah, where it will be sold at auction.

are the very man that most needs prohibition, you have brought a serious accusation against your county, sir; you are declaring that your people are not lawabiding." The audience was plainly in sympathy with Mr. Featherstone.

Mr. Thomas G. McLeod today made a very forceful and effective local option speech. He devoted most of his time to the whiskey question. He declared that he had thrown down the gauntlet and that none of his prohibition opponents had taken it up, and offered any argument. Theirs were only "heavenly wines and pious mouthings." He called into Mr. Featherstone when he said that local option seemed good enough in lucid moments, and in an off year, but when election time rolled around then it must be State-wide prohibition.

WHAT IS THE LAW?

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYON DIFFERS FROM MEMMINGER.

If Supplies Come Under Interstate Clause Unless Intended for Illegal Sale, They Are Safe.

Columbia, Aug. 3.—Attorney General Lyon has given an opinion which he holds that whiskey for private or personal use can be seized by any officer. This is directly opposite to the opinion of Judge Memminger, given in charge to the jury in Sumter county, when he declared that whiskey for personal use was liable to be seized. The ruling by the attorney general was given on the request of J. L. Gillis, a magistrate of Rembert, in Sumter county, and several questions were asked concerning the seizure of whiskeys.

The Letter Received.

The following is the letter addressed to J. L. Gillis, magistrate at Rembert, by Attorney General Lyon:

"Your letter of the 1st inst. is at hand. You ask that you be advised upon the following question:

"1. Is it my duty under the law as magistrate to have whiskey seized from any and all persons as soon as same is delivered to them by the express company or other carrier, where I have no reason to believe that it is for any purpose other than personal use?"

"Assuming, though you have not so stated, that such whiskey is shipped under the protection of the interstate commerce law, I answer this question, No.

When to Seize.

"2. Where whiskey is delivered to one by an express company or other carrier, and I have reason or information to believe that it is to be sold, am I warranted under the law in seizing it as soon as delivered, and is it my duty to do so?"

"Assuming, though you have not so stated, that the liquor in question is not shipped to a county dispensary or to a druggist lawfully authorized to sell the same, I answer this question, Yes.

"In answering the above questions I assume that you have used the word whiskey as including pure alcohol and wine."

IOWA INSURGENTS WIN.

Progressive Demonstration Amounts Almost to Repudiation of President's Administration.

Des Moines, Ia., Aug. 3.—Republican Iowa wrote herself vigorously progressive today at a convention which was in uproar most of the time.

Senator Cummins and Dolliver and the insurgent delegation at Washington were enthusiastically indorsed.

The new tariff law was branded as a failure in the light of the party pledge of 1908.

President Taft received only a lukewarm indorsement.

A sop of harmony was flung out in the indorsement of Gov. Carroll.

An attempt to use the steam roller and make the State central committee overwhelmingly progressive was called off, presumably at the hint of Senator Cummins.

Senator Cummins was temporary chairman; Senator Dolliver, permanent chairman.

The progressive majority ranged close to 300 on every question. The resolutions committee was progressive, 6 to 5. The foregoing is a synopsis of the day's events.

To it may be added cheers and jeers, applause and hisses, music and howls of discord.

RAN AWAY, THOUGH LAME.

Suddenly Discards Cane and Crutch and Disappears in the Night.

New York, Aug. 3.—There is a mystery surrounding the disappearance of Mrs. John Burfit, of Irvington, who walked out of her home a week ago last night, and was last seen on Tuesday boarding a train at Tarrytown for New York. Mrs. Burfit for a long time had been suffering from rheumatism and was unable to walk. She had not left her home for years.

Without cane or crutch she hobbled out of the house. Her husband was surprised, but thought she was stepping out of doors to get a breath of fresh air.

Mrs. Burfit's husband is a gradener on Edwin H. Mairs' place, and Mr. Mairs is doing all he can to help him find his wife.

Having divided up a few big losers, Wall street wears a more contented expression.—Washington Post.

SIDETRACKS SPEAKING TOUR.

MORE PRESSING BUSINESS BEFORE PRESIDENT TAFT.

However, executive is inclined to accept invitation to address National Conservation Congress—Taft's Position on Subject.

Beverly, Mass., August 1.—President Taft followed up today the recent cancellation of his Western and Southern engagements by announcing that his speeches in the future will be few and far between. He politely but firmly told a committee of citizens from Providence, R. I., that he could not reconsider the cancellation of his engagement to speak before the Atlantic Deeper Waterway Association, in that city in September. Mr. Taft said he regretted having to say no, but that important matters of public business would claim his attention from now until the convening of Congress.

The President did not give a definite answer today to Governor Eberhard, of Minnesota, and a delegation of fifteen representative men of St. Paul, who came to urge him to accept the invitation to speak before the National Conservation Congress, in that city, September 5.

May Speak on Conservation.

Mr. Taft is inclined to accept this invitation. Conservation seems to be the theme of the hour, and the President is anxious that his position on the subject shall be fully understood. He contemplates devoting a large portion of his coming message to Congress to this subject. If he goes to St. Paul he will simply write the conservation feature of his message in advance and deliver it before the Conservation Congress.

FACES MORE TROUBLE.

Wilson, Head of United Wireless Company, Takes His Stenographer to Wife.

New York, Aug. 3.—Christopher Columbus Wilson, president of the United Wireless company, who was indicted this afternoon on two counts of conspiracy to defraud, appeared at city hall tonight, long after hours, and took out a marriage license. He gave his age at 64 and the bride gave hers as 19. She says she is Stella Lewis, a stenographer.

In reply to a question from the clerk, she smiled and answered: "I think we'll be married tonight."

The bride-elect was right, for she and Wilson were married from the home of her mother tonight. Mrs. Lewis, the mother, said Stella was Mr. Wilson's stenographer, but the marriage had nothing to do with his indictment today. They had been engaged for nearly three months and the wedding has been planned for today.

NEGRO HURT IN FLORIDA.

Bloody Passions of Raging Mob Not Sated by Lynching of Four Negro Suspects.

Boniface, Fla., Aug. 2.—The telephone lines to Dady, the scene of the murder and lynching, are up and reports have been confirmed that four negroes have thus far been lynched by the infuriated citizens of Dady, avenged the murder and assault of a little white girl.

Poses are out now hunting two more negroes who were thought to have had knowledge of the murder. It has developed that the negroes expected also to assault and murder the mother of the girl and kill all the children but their plans failed. Excitement is at fever, and further trouble is expected. A great throng was at the burial of the little girl.

STANDARDIZATION OF COTTON.

All Exchanges will Have Samples by September 1.

Washington, August 1.—The system of standardization of cotton, devised by the department of agriculture, probably will be in very general operation in all cotton exchanges by September 1. The bureau of plant industry of the department, which daily is sending out sets of samples of various grades of cotton that have been selected as standards, expects that before the end of the present month the exchanges will be supplied sufficiently to permit transactions to be made upon the basis of the proposed standards.

While there is no legal power for the enforcement of these new standards on the cotton exchanges, so many approving reports of the system have been received that it is believed there will be no opposition to making the system universal.