

PROGRESSIVE PAXVILLE.

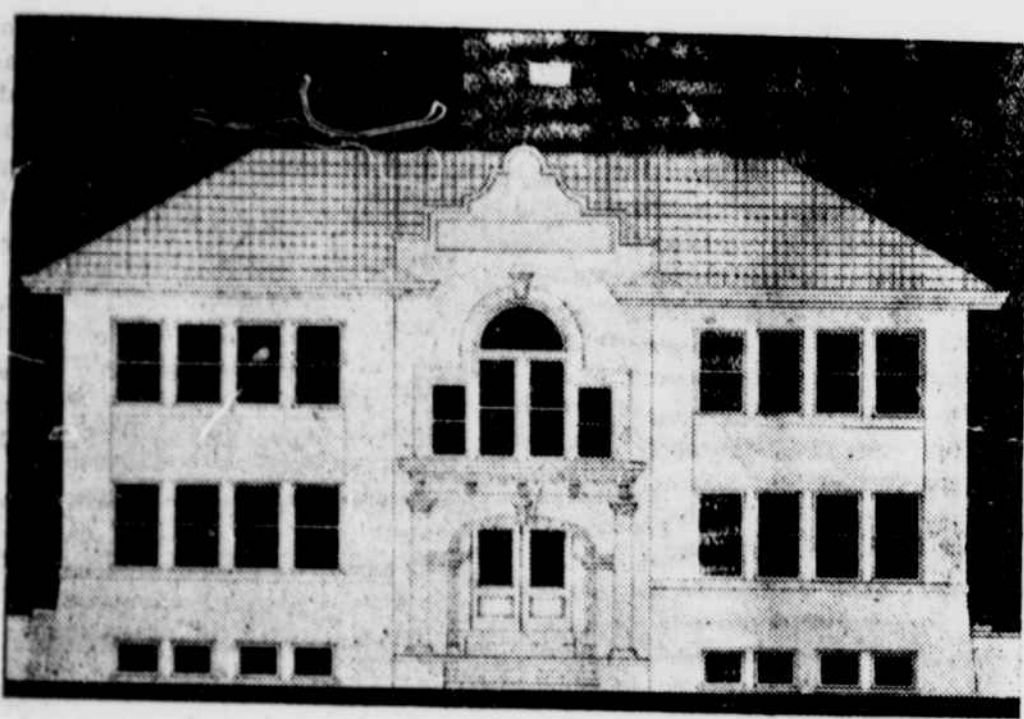
Growing Clarendon Town Erects Handsome School Building.

Paxville, S. C., Aug. 3.—For several years this little town, which is situated in one of the richest and most progressive farming sections of Clarendon, has enjoyed a steady growth and today the outlook for the future is brighter than ever before. The people here have every confidence in the town and, believing that self help is the secret of substantial growth and the basis of permanent prosperity, have gone quietly ahead with public improvements that the town and community needed, until today there are few better equipped towns of the size in the State.

For several years an excellent school has been maintained, but the attendance has grown so large that the old school building was inadequate. Seeing the need for a larger school building, modern in design and equipment, the people of the

community decided to erect such a building and agreed that while they were about it they would build for the future as well as for present needs. They therefore held an election and by a practically unanimous vote authorized a bond issue to provide the money needed for the building. The election was held several months ago, the bonds sold and the material for the building is now being placed on the ground. Work will be commenced within a few days and the construction will be pushed as rapidly as possible.

The building is to be a handsome two story and basement brick structure with red tile roof. It will contain a sufficient number of class rooms for the present and future needs of the school, a large assembly hall, cloak rooms and all other conveniences. The building complete, which will cost \$12,000, is shown in the accompanying cut. The plans and specifications for the building were prepared by E. J. and W. K. Dunne, architects, of Sumter, S. C.



Paxville School Building.

FACTS ABOUT THE PEE-DEE.

Mr. W. F. Clayton Writes Interestingly of the Confederate Gunboat.

To the Editor of The News and Courier: In your issue of yesterday you have a short article on the raising of the C. S. gunboat Pee-Dee. In that article it is stated that the Pee-Dee was a very formidable boat, and intended to break the blockade at Georgetown. That no guns were found upon her and no reason is known why she was burned. Also that she never had an opportunity to get to sea. Now, as I was passed midshipman, doing lieutenant's duty aboard of her, at the time of her destruction, I can answer all of these inquiries.

The Pee-Dee navy yard furnished the most of the material that went into the Confederate boats at Charleston and Wilmington, being about half way between the two cities and independent of that duty; the Pee-Dee was built and put into commission, a side wheel river boat and also a steam launch were likewise launched, but not completed.

The Pee-Dee was built for a cruiser. What her length and breadth of beam were I have forgotten. She drew nine feet forward and nine and one-half feet aft as she lay in the river, without ballast, and was intended to be brought down to twelve feet draft. While she was perhaps one of the best boats built by the Confederacy, she was by no means a formidable craft, but a fair model of naval architecture of that day.

She carried three guns mounted on pivot, a six-inch banded and ribbed Brook gun forward, a nine-inch Dahlgren shell gun amidship, and an even-inch rifle Brook astern—a formidable battery. She was schooner rigged, two-masted and double propeller and fairly fast. Her officers, as I remember, were Lieut. Oscar F. Johnson, commander; Lieut. Haskell, executive officer; Lieuts. Price and Telfar with Passed Midshipman W. F. Clayton and Master's Mates Golden and Congdon. Her pilot was a Georgetown man, Gilbert by name, and her engineers were Drevry and Hanks, with another whose name is lost. Her surgeon was Dr. Tucker. At that time Lieut. Means, of Fairfield County, commanded the navy yard. If there were other officers I have forgotten them.

Just prior to the Sherman freshet we received orders to put to sea on the first high water, and in obedience to that order I was sent to Augusta to purchase such supplies as we needed for a sea voyage. Having made my purchase, I found it difficult to get transportation, but upon making a proper showing to Gen. Rains, he ordered a car placed at my disposal, and for it to be attached to the passenger train that came out of that city over the South Carolina Railroad, and during the night (we left in the evening) we could hear the firing between Sherman's army and the few Confederate cavalry opposing him. The next day he cut the road. On my return I found our sea orders cancelled. We never knew why, but after the war I heard it rumored that the ship was reserved for President Davis and his Cabinet to escape in. This rumor, however, I never could trace to any authority. We

to cut him off. We received orders to proceed to Cheraw and protect Hardee. It had been continuously raining and the waters had just commenced to rise when we started for Cheraw. At Cashua Ferry we grounded, and remained all night. The next day we were afloat, and reached Cheraw that evening. We remained there several days and until Hardee had crossed, and the bridge had been burned, when we returned to the navy yard.

With all communication cut off, Johnson and Means held a council of war, in which we junior officers participated, and it was deemed best to destroy the navy yard and the ship and save the men if possible. We threw the guns overboard at the place the shop was then lying, also the shot and shell, leaving the powder, scuttled the side wheel steamer and the launch, and proceeding with the Pee-Dee through the draw bridge, about three-quarters of a mile, the freshet, then begin at its height, we bored auger holes through the bottom of the ship and set fire to her. When could have gone to sea on the Sherman freshet.

Shortly afterwards Charleston was evacuated, and Gen. Hardee was racing with his small army to reach Cheraw ahead of Sherman, and Sherman, equally alert, was on the run the fire reached the magazines, she blew up and sank on the right side of the river going down stream. She never interfered with navigation to any great extent afterwards, and at extremely low water her remains were visible and her irons were stripped off by farmers, as near as they could, for blacksmith farm work. We proceeded by rail to Sumter thence by wagon to Camden. At Camden, Lieut. Price and myself were detached and ordered to carry dispatches to Augusta. The balance of the command joined Johnson's army, and I have seen none of that crew since the day we parted at Camden, except Capt. Johnson and Surgeon Steward Curtis, now a Baptist minister. We were surrendered at Augusta, May 5, 1865.

W. F. Clayton.
Florence, S. C., August 2, 1910.

She Must Have Been Trained as Well as Pretty.

Police commissioner Bingham of New York was praising the police work on the ten Belgian watchdogs that were recently imported at a cost of but \$10 apiece, have reduced the burglaries in the neighborhoods they patrol from ten to two a month.

"They work well," said the commissioner, "because they are well trained. Training, you know, is everything."

He paused and smiled.

"Two physicians were discussing," he said, "a certain pretty nurse."

"Was she a trained nurse?" said the first physician.

"She must have been," replied the other. "She hadn't been in the hospital a week before she was engaged to the richest patient."

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ANOTHER VICTORY FOR SUMTER

The Fast Boardman Team Sent Down To Defeat in Decisive Manner. A Fine Game Full of Features. Some of the Details.

Thursday the Sumter Collegians went up against the fast team from Boardman, N. C., reputed to be one of the strongest amateur organizations now playing in this section, and administered a defeat to the visitors by a score of 5 to 2. It was a good, snappy game, abounding in plenty of live and sensational fielding, and those who witnessed it went away highly pleased.

Sumter clinched the game in the second and third innings by bunching hits, and fast base running. Three times during the two innings, a runner scored from second on a hit to left field. Phelps, Chandler, DuBose and Jones did the swatting in the second round that netted three runs. DuBose, who pitched a magnificent game for the locals, smashed out a drive that brought two of the runs across the pan. Moore, Duffie and Chandler's stick work brought in the two runs of the next inning, Moore smashing out one to deep center that counted for a pair of bags.

The visitors scored one in each the fourth and sixth innings. DuBose fell down in trying to handle an in-field hit, and the first tally counted. The other run came as the result of a single by Fox and a corking three base hit by Smith. It was the longest hit of the game.

The pitching of DuBose, who yielded but four scattered hits during the nine sessions, was the feature for the locals. Phelps played a brilliant game at second, and Moore received in fine style. For the visitors the work of Perritt and Tucker, T. featured. The game was a corking good one.

The score:
R. H. E.
Sumter, 032 000 00x 5 7 3
Boardman, 000 100 000 2 4 2
Batteries: DuBose and Moore; McCall and Fox. Umpire Miller. Scorer, Levy. Time of game: 1:20.

JUDGMENT FOR FULL AMOUNT.

John T. Duncan Loses Case in Magistrate's Court.

Columbia, August 2.—The case of S. L. Fedder against John T. Duncan was heard today. Duncan did not file an answer nor did he appear. The plaintiff testified that he came from Old City, Penn., to manage Duncan's paper, upon representations of Duncan that he was worth \$100,000, and that he would pay him a salary of \$35 per week. After hearing the testimony, Magistrate Easterling rendered judgment against Duncan in the sum of \$99.50, the full amount sued.

ILLINOIS BRIBERY PROBE.

Investigation Resumed by Sagamon County Grand Jury.

Springfield, Ill., August 1.—The Senatorial legislative investigation will be resumed tomorrow morning by the Sagamon County Grand Jury. Twelve witnesses have been summoned.

It is understood testimony will be heard relative to three bills which were introduced in the 46th General Assembly, and which were defeated. These are the slot machine bill, the "lean shark" bill and the measure permitting children to be employed in theatres.

SWANSON SUCCEEDS DANIEL.

Former Virginia Governor Appointed to United States Senate.

Richmond, Va., August 1.—Former Governor Claude A. Swanson, of Chatham, will occupy the seat in the United States Senate made vacant by the death recently of Senator John W. Daniel. Governor Mann today signed the formal commission appointing Mr. Swanson for the unexpired term, which ends March 3 next.

Chain Gang Camps Moved.

The chain gang has completed the work on the Manning road and was moved Friday to the Pocatalligo road, where the camps will be pitched.

Supervisor Pitts states that the hill on the side of Pocatalligo going towards Sumter, as well as the causeway over the stream, will be clayed.

The mileage of the two clay roads south of Pocatalligo swamp will be increased, also.

The Sumter Ice, Light and Power Company are installing a new boiler at their plant on South Main street, which will increase its capacity 250 horse power.

*When the digestion is all right, the action of the bowels regular, there is a natural craving and relish for food. When this is lacking you may know that you need a dose of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. They strengthen the digestive organs, improve the appetite and regulate the bowels. Sold by W. W. Sibert.

THE BRIBERY SCANDAL.

HAMON CONTRADICTS SENATOR GORE'S TESTIMONY.

He Answers Every Charge With Flat Denial, His Evidence Consuming Whole of Committee's Session.

Muskogee, Okla., Aug. 5.—With United States Senator Thomas P. Gore reasserting his charge that he had been offered a bribe of \$25,000 or \$50,000 to influence his action in congress and with Jake L. Hamon, accused by the senator of having offered the bribe, denying he had ever done any such thing, the investigation of the Oklahoma Indian land deals by a committee of the national house of representatives today simmered down to a mass of denials.

For four hours Hamon, former chairman of the Oklahoma State committee entered a continuous series of denials relative to his alleged relations with what are known as the McMurray contracts, by which, according to Senator Gore, \$3,000,000, or 10 per cent. of \$30,000,000 to be realized from the sale of Indian lands to a New York syndicate was to be diverted from the Indians in the shape of "attorney's fees."

Answers Creager's Denial. Hamon also answered Congressman C. E. Creager with a denial. Replying to the congressman's charge, that Hamon had suggested that an "interest" in the contracts might be available to the congressman if the latter helped remove opposition to congressional approval. Hamon testified:

"It was just this way: I was down here in Oklahoma attending to my business when a friend told me Creager had said I had approached him improperly in regard to the McMurray contracts. So I hopped on a train and went to Washington. I got hold of Creager and said: 'Look here, you know I never said any such thing.'

"Then Creager said: 'Now, Jake, that certainly was the impression I got—that you suggested I might get an interest in the contracts.'

"I replied: 'You are certainly mistaken.'

Promised Not to Go. "Then Creager said: 'Well, if you say I should not go, I won't go before that investigation committee down at Muskogee and testify that you approached me.'

Among Hamon's denials were the following:

He denied that at any time had he been closeted with Senator Gore in the senate at Washington to urge the approval of the contracts. He denied that he had ever mentioned Vice President Sherman, Senator Charles Curtis of Kansas or Congressman B. S. McGuire of Oklahoma as being "interested" in the contracts, as charged by Senator Gore.

He denied that he had ever spoken of a bribe to anybody about any legislation or that he ever was interested in the McMurray contracts. Denies Creager's Charge. He had not called up Congressman Creager at Washington asking for an appointment, but said Mr. Creager had called him up. Mr. Creager previously had testified that Hamon had asked an appointment, at which the "interest" in the contract was spoken of.

Hamon denied that he had ever said: "Dick, the senator is becoming mighty hard on his friends," in the presence of D. F. Gore, brother of Senator Groe.

He denied that he had ever said: "I want to make a lot of money and don't care much how I make it," in the presence of J. LeRoy Thompson, Senator Gore's stenographer. Thompson previously had testified Hamon made the remark.

A Hard Question.

Interrogating the witness, Congressman E. W. Saunders of Virginia, a member of the committee, said: "Now, Mr. Hamon, you have denied the testimony of all of the witnesses who have preceded you. You have branded the assertions of the senator, his

brother, his clerk, and the congressman as being absolutely false. It would appear from your denials that a conspiracy had been entered into grossly to misrepresent you. How do you account for that?"

"That's beyond my power of conjecture," replied Hamon. "I never had one penny's interest in the McMurray contracts and never offered the bribe to any one."

"It is barely possible that I did see Senator Gore on May 6, last, when he says the offer of a bribe was made. I saw him frequently, but at this time I believe he took me up into the library of the senate and closed the doors. He wanted to talk over with me his coming campaign and see how I could help him out. Although I am a Republican and he is a Democrat I was in the habit of helping him up."

Were Good Friends.

"You and Senator Gore had been good friends, had you not?" asked Chairman Burke.

"Yes, I had known him as a friend for about nine years and had business dealings with him."

Asked to explain some of his business dealings, Hamon said several years ago at Lawton, Okla., when the government decided to sell at public auction some lands belonging to the Indians, he, Senator Gore, and others entered a combination not to bid against each other so that the property might be obtained cheaper.

All of them secured some of the land, he said.

Chairman Burke—"Don't you know there is a federal statute against a combination to prevent competitive bidding?"

Hamon—I didn't know of that law then, but I have since thought of it. It was just a desire on the part of all of us to get the land as cheaply as possible. It was understood among us that we would not bid against each other."

Congressman Miller—"You knew that the proceeds from that sale were to go to the Indians, do you think that was honorable towards the Indians?"

A Different Outlook.

Hamon—"We did not look at it that way. In fact we don't do things out West just in the same way you do in the East." In some of his business transactions with Senator Gore, Hamon testified, money loans were involved.

"Just before congress adjourned," said Hamon, "the senator came to me and said that he had to pay \$6,000 which he said he owed to Senator Owen. He said he had \$1,000 of the cash and wanted me to raise the other \$5,000 for him from a client of mine."

More evidence from Senator Gore probably will be heard. The senator announced he intended to accompany the committee to McAlester, where sessions will be held Monday. Senator Curtis and Congressman McGuire will probably testify tomorrow.

THE MISSISSIPPI IS VERY LOW.

Steamboats Can't Run, But Pearl Hunters Are Happy.

Kansas City Times. It is only within the memory of the oldest of river men that the rivers forming the great Mississippi system have been so low in the summer as they have this year. The old timers say the low stages this year can be compared only with those of 1864, when the catfish had to climb out into the fields to moisten their parched throats with the dew.

North of St. Louis steamboat traffic is almost at a standstill on account of the low water in the upper Mississippi. The Diamond Jo Line has been forced to take off its through boats to St. Paul and has great difficulty in getting its local packet

through to Burlington, Ia. Many excursion boats are tied up. Several of the boats have been damaged in an effort to navigate. The river can be waded in many places, and it is a common sight to see wagons fording the stream to save bridge tolls.

But while the steamboat interests are suffering the pearl button factories and the pearl hunters are reaping a harvest. Hundreds of men, women and children can be seen along the water front of every town hunting clams. The shells are sold to the button factories after being searched for pearls. Many fine pearls have been found. One found by a Du-buque man was sold for \$400.

Conditions along the Ohio river are getting serious too, though the situation there is not as bad as it was last year, when practically every one of the hundreds of steamboats along that stream were either stranded in the river or tied up at the bank.

It were not for the water that comes out of the Missouri steamboat traffic would be suspended between here and Carlo. While the Missouri has not risen this year to within fifteen feet of the flood stage it has maintained a steady flow of water, enough to keep the steamboats going on the Mississippi and enough for the boats running on that stream. Still unless there are rains soon in the north the Missouri is likely to go very low this fall, although not as low as it has been in some years. It has been many years since the Missouri has fallen below the zero stage. It is now eight feet above that stage, which is about the usual flow in the fall.

NOTICE.

The following dates for the County Campaign meetings have been made: Privateer—Aug. 9th. Shiloh—Aug. 16. Mayesville—Aug. 17. Dalzell—Aug. 26. Sumter—Aug. 26 at night in the Court House. Sumter—Aug. 27 in the Court House. Day meetings will begin at 11 o'clock a. m.

The assessments are as follows: Senate, \$25.00. House, \$12.50. Auditor, \$20.00. Treasurer, \$20.00. County Supt. Education, \$10.00. Supervisor \$20.00. Probats Judge, \$10.00. Magistrates, Districts Nos. 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, \$2.50. District No. 3, \$5.00. District, No. 5, \$3.50. Pledges must be filed by 12 o'clock M. Aug. 8th, with County Chairman or L. I. Parrott, Clerk of Court. All Candidates are also required by an Act of the General Assembly to file with the Clerk of the Court a pledge that an itemized, account under oath, of all campaign expenses and expenditures will be filed up to the day of election and a similar account after the election.

The Executive Committee will please send to the County Chairman at once the names of the managers for their respective Clubs. JOHN H. CLIFTON, County Chairman, Sumter County. 7-25-11aw-4t.

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