

The Watchman and Southern

The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the True Southern in 1886. The Watchman and Southern now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

RURAL SCHOOL PROGRESS.

Greatest Need for Rural Schools in South Carolina as Seen by State Supervisor, W. K. Tate.

I have been very much gratified by the interest in the rural schools which is being exhibited by the candidates for office in South Carolina. Every candidate for Governor has expressed himself in no uncertain terms as an advocate of the upbuilding of the common schools, and especially those of the rural districts. As the reports of the county campaign appear in the daily papers, these, too, are filled with the expressions of interest on the part of the candidates in the welfare of the rural schools. I believe that this interest is genuine. There has been exhibited, however, a greater tendency to generalize on the subject than to propose remedies for conditions that would be improved. With a view of directing this popular interest into definite channels of discussion, I wish, from time to time, to present to the press of the State a few elements of the situation to which, in my opinion, we might all profitably turn our attention.

As I have previously stated, my own conclusions are tentative and subject to revision. In order that my work may have the benefit of the best thought of the State on the subjects of discussion, I should like to receive copies of papers containing editorial expressions and the views of candidates for office, and should be pleased to hear from the educators and other citizens of the State who will be so kind as to give me the benefit of their opinions.

Better Supervision Needed.

I am fully convinced that the first requisite to substantial improvement in the rural schools of South Carolina is better supervision. The greatest difference between the city schools and the country school in this State lies in the better supervision of the former. Let us contrast the city of Columbia and her next door neighbor, the county of Lexington. In the city of Columbia, according to the last report issued by the superintendent, there are 75 teachers and 3,367 pupils. In the county of Lexington there are 152 teachers and 8,321 pupils. With the exception of two or three small towns, all of these are in country schools. The teachers of Columbia are most of them college graduates, and have had years of experience in a well organized system where the work of each is definitely arranged and limited in extent. In the rural schools of Lexington county there is, according to the county superintendent of education not a single college graduate. These teachers have obtained their preparation in the common schools and high schools of the county and State, and their sole professional training has been given in the short term summer schools. More than half of them change schools every year. Recent statistics, in fact, show that in the whole State 52 per cent. of the rural teachers teach one year in a place. These teachers must teach all grades of work, and with the most meager material equipment. The task of the rural teacher is infinitely more difficult than that of the grade teacher in the city school.

City Vs. County Supervision.

In the city of Columbia there is a superintendent of schools who receives a salary of \$2,000 per year. Each school has a principal who gives a part of his time to supervision. There is a supervising principal who gives especial attention to the teaching of the first three grades. There is a supervisor of manual training, a supervisor of music, and a supervisor of sewing. In common with other city schools of the United States, Columbia perhaps spends 8 to 10 per cent of its total school expenditures for supervision.

In any manufacturing or other business enterprise, it is a well established principle that the less the skill and experience of their employe the more supervision is necessary. In accordance with this principle, we should expect to find the schools of Lexington county spending at least 15 per cent. for supervision. On the contrary the total amount expended for supervision in Lexington county, exclusive of the two or three town schools, is \$600, the salary of the county superintendent. This is less than 2 per cent. of the county school expenditures. The payment of this meagre compensation assumes that the county superintendent is expected to devote only a part of his time to the duties of his office, and that he is going to make a living in some other occupation. This salary is about the average in South Carolina, as any one can ascertain by examination of the code.

Moreover, the teaching force in

Columbia is concentrated in a small area, and the physical effort involved in the supervision is reduced to a minimum, while the county superintendent of Lexington must travel over an entire county. The superintendent of schools of Columbia is elected for a term of years by a stable board of trustees. The county superintendent of Lexington must offer himself before the Democratic primary and, at considerable expense to himself, make the race for the office, and throughout his term of office, must continually trim his sails to the changing winds of popular opinion, which often prevents the adoption of a consistent educational policy. This county is typical of the entire State.

Is it any wonder, then, that the rural schools are backward? With all our interest and our protested declarations that the country and the country school are the bulwarks of democracy, we have not given them a chance.

Allow me to suggest for general discussion a scheme of county supervision. First—Let the people elect a county board of education composed of three members. At the first election let one man be elected for two years, another for four years and the other for six years, and thereafter let one be elected every two years. This will insure a stable board. If it is desired the board may be made to consist of five men rather than three, but elected in a similar manner.

Second—Let this county board of education select the county superintendent of schools, just as the city school board selects a city superintendent. They should be allowed to select the best man for the work to be done.

Third—This election should be for a term of four years.

Fourth—The county superintendent should be paid a salary which is sufficient to enable him to devote his entire time and attention to the supervision of the schools. No county in South Carolina can afford to pay a county superintendent of education less than \$1,500 per year.

Fifth—The county board of education should also be authorized to employ a county supervisor of instruction, whose duty it shall be to visit the country schools and to show the inexperienced teachers how to teach and organize their school. This official should work under the direction of the county board and the county superintendent, who would be left free to devote more of his time to the administrative duties of his office, such as the voting of special taxes, the consolidation of schools, and erection of proper school buildings. The numerous requests which have come from the county superintendents for the services of an experimental supervisor to be placed in one county of the State for the coming year, is an indication that such help would be appreciated.

Six—The county board of education should be empowered to levy a special county tax, not to exceed 1 mill, to be devoted to the supervision of the rural schools. Under the constitution the salaries of county school officers can not be paid from the 3-mill tax, and they are in consequence dependent on legislative caprice. The county board should be in a position to control the funds for supervision.

As I stated above, I should be pleased to have this scheme of supervision made the basis of general discussion by those interested in education.

W. K. Tate.

State Supervisor Elementary Schools Columbia, S. C.

Ellerbe and Lever.

The News and Courier has been appealed to by "a Williamsburg Voter" for its opinion respecting the charge brought against the Hon. J. E. Ellerbe, candidate for re-election to Congress in the 6th district, that by his vote against free lumber when the Payne tariff bill was under consideration by Congress some eighteen months ago, he read himself out of the Democratic party. If so, the Democratic party has also lost Congressman Ashby F. Lever, of the 7th Congressional district, who is under criticism on precisely the same grounds, and probably half of its members in Congress.

In our judgment, Messrs. Ellerbe and Lever should have voted for free lumber, because, as we stated at the time, a duty on lumber amounts in effect to putting a premium on the destruction of our own forests. Nevertheless, some thirty-five or forty Democrats in the House of Representatives voted for such a duty, and while they are properly answerable to their constituents as to whether or not they acted wisely, it cannot in justice and fairness be maintained that they thereby wrote themselves down as Republicans, any more than 50 or 60 Republicans who voted for free lumber could now be claimed as Democrats. Party fealty, as we conceive it, does not require the absolute surrender of one's own judgment, although of course he who takes issue with his party's platform must be prepared to defend his action in so doing to his own satisfaction and that of his constituents.

Had Mr. Ellerbe and Mr. Lever

voted for the Payne bill, as a whole as did four members of the Louisiana delegation, their case would have been different. As matters stand, the point really at issue is not the Democracy of either of these gentlemen, but whether or not each of them acted for the best interest of his constituents and the country, and if not, how seriously the breach should be regarded. We have already stated our own opinion that Mr. Ellerbe and Mr. Lever should have voted for free lumber. The effect which his failure to do so should have upon the candidacy of each of these gentlemen must be decided in relation to his record of service, viewed as a whole, and also with regard to the character of the candidate or candidates opposing him.

While, therefore, the discussion, which has been aroused over the lumber vote for these two Congressmen has doubtless been interesting and instructive to a percentage of the voters in the sixth and seventh districts, and will not be without benefit upon the South Carolina delegation in Congress, it is not likely to have a preponderating effect in shaping the choice of the next Congressman from either of these districts, nor should it have. The point at issue in each of these districts is which of the men seeking to represent the district at Washington is best fitted for that task in character and general ability. In the consideration of this problem the voters cannot afford to shut their eyes to everything except a single vote of a candidate on one clause of a bill against which in its entirety the candidate voted.

We are not of course, advising the voters of these two districts that they should vote for Mr. Ellerbe and Mr. Lever. We are merely indicating our view of the manner in which they should arrive at a determination in this matter.—News and Courier.

Death of a Former Charlestonian.

A telegram has been received from Toronto, Ont., announcing the death of Mr. James Dean Enslow, a former resident of Charleston, S. C. He was well known there, while engaged in business with his father, Mr. Joseph A. Enslow. Several years ago he went to Colorado, where he carried on his literary pursuits, writing for papers and magazines. He afterwards got up books of prominent cities, the first being a handsome book of his native city. His charming and genial manner endeared him to many. He is survived by his wife and three sisters, one of whom is Mrs. M. DeVeaux Moore, of Sumter.

Death.

Mrs. Heyman Williams died at her home in Marion on last Saturday morning. She formerly resided in Sumter and is pleasantly remembered in this city as Miss Aubrey Williams. Her personal beauty and attractive manners made her a general favorite with her friends who will mourn her untimely death at the tender age of eighteen years. She was married less than one year ago and removed to her native home in Marion.

The sympathy of the community goes out to the grief-stricken husband, brothers and sisters, in their peculiarly sad bereavement.

Rabbi Sessler To Leave.

Rabbi M. Sessler will leave about the end of the week for another field of labor. Before doing so he may take a vacation in the mountains.

When asked how he liked Sumter during his stay here, he expressed himself as follows: "I have lived in several cities, large and small, and I must say that I liked Sumter best of all. I found here an intelligent, generous and upright class of people. The city is one of the most progressive in the South. The city of Sumter has representative men of whom it can be justly proud. Law and order are strictly enforced. The social life of Sumter is not surpassed anywhere. I shall always recall my stay in Sumter with feelings of pleasure and delight. If I were asked where in the United States I would prefer to live, I would simply answer, Give me Sumter, and I know Mrs. Sessler would say likewise.

About The Union Brokerage Co.

Editor Watchman and Southern: I was surprised to read in last Tuesday's issue Watchman and Southern some very, very foolish charges against the Sumter merchants by one of our Union members.

I believe I am voicing the sentiment of a large majority of the members of the Farmers' Union in Sumter county, when I say that he not only does the merchants an injustice, but does the Union an unintentional injustice also by publishing such rumors.

We have no fight with the merchants and it will not help our cause by antagonizing them. We have nothing but the kindest of feelings towards the merchants and believe that they entertain the same feeling towards us.

J. B. Warren, Mayesville, S. C. August 22, 1910.

NOTES OF CITY SCHOOLS.

Names of Teachers for the Coming Term and Their Assignments.

The city schools will reopen on the 19th of September. There will be a meeting of the teachers on Saturday the 17th at 10 o'clock in the Hampton school. The Superintendent will be in his office in the Washington school, from the 13th to 16th (inclusive). The following is a list of the teachers and their assignments for 1910-1911:

WASHINGTON SCHOOL.

- Miss A. D. Richardson, first grade boys.
Miss A. M. Graham, first grade girls.
Miss Mary Lowry, advanced first grade, boys.
Miss H. Nelson, advanced first grade, girls.
Miss Katherine Clarke, second grade, boys.
Miss L. L. Jennings, second grade, girls.
Miss M. G. Randle, third grade, boys.
Miss Lydia Richardson, third grade, girls.
Miss E. W. McLean, principal and teacher of fourth grade, boys.
Miss Arrie Stuckey, fourth grade, girls.

HAMPTON SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

- Miss M. Satterwhite, fifth grade.
Miss M. Cromer, sixth grade.
Miss L. C. McLaurin, seventh grade.
Miss K. Moses, eighth grade.
Miss C. Welborn, ninth grade.
Miss M. S. Brunson, principal and teacher of tenth grade.

CALHOUN SCHOOL FOR BOYS.

- Miss Mayo Rees, fifth grade.
Miss E. Hepburn, sixth grade.
Miss E. Tobin, seventh grade.
Miss E. A. Wilson, eighth grade.
Mr. L. C. Moise, musical director in the Hampton and Calhoun schools and teacher of 9th and 10th grades.
Mr. W. M. Scott, principal and commandant, and teacher of the 9th and 10th grades.

MARRIED.

Miss Aline Lesene, of Oswego, and Mr. John Stephen Smith, of Mullins, were happily married Monday afternoon at the Washington Street Baptist church parsonage. Rev. F. M. Satterwhite performing the ceremony.

DEATH OF DR. A. W. CALHOUN.

Noted Atlanta Specialist Succumbs to Long Illness.

Atlanta, Aug. 21.—Dr. Albert Wellborn Calhoun, well known throughout the South as a physician and oculist, died at his home here this afternoon, after an illness of several months. After serving throughout the War Between the States in the ranks of the Confederacy Dr. Calhoun studied medicine in this country, and then spent three years in Vienna and Berlin, studying diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat.

For 40 years he practiced his profession in Atlanta and his patronage was drawn from every Southern State. Dr. Calhoun was born at Newman, Ga., April 16, 1845.

He leaves a widow and four children, Dr. Phinizy Calhoun, Mrs. Jas. Oglesby, Jr., and Andrew Calhoun, and Miss Harriet Calhoun, all of Atlanta.

By his practice Dr. Calhoun amassed a fortune of more than \$100,000, and was most liberal in his donations to charity. Notwithstanding his large practice, probably a third of Dr. Calhoun's patients were treated without remuneration. "Never in all my practice," he once remarked to a close friend, "have I failed to give attention to a patient because he did not have the dollar."

The funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon at 4 o'clock. Six brothers of Mrs. Calhoun will be the pallbearers.

MR. FEATHERSTONE REPLIES.

Says That He Was Not Disloyal Either by Word or by Act to Brunson.

To the Editor of The State: Please give me just a few words in reply to Mr. Brunson's card in today's State.

Please give me just a few words in reference and the fair week conference. I have made my statement, which is fully substantiated by Dr. Cromer and Mr. Grist and I shall therefore say nothing more.

Rev. Louis J. Bristow, an intimate friend of Mr. Brunson, will also have something to say about this, and I trust that you will publish his card.

The only other statement that I desire to notice is Mr. Brunson's statement as to the letter which he says a certain gentleman says I wrote. As to this I desire to say that no such letter was ever written and any statement to the contrary is absolutely without foundation.

In conclusion, I want to say to close the whole matter, that in no way, by word or act, was I disloyal to Mr. Brunson in connection with the withdrawal in 1898, nor in any other way.

C. C. Featherstone, Laurens, August 19.

PRESENCE OF MIND.

Wellington's Cool Interview With a Murderous Maniac.

One day as the Duke of Wellington sat writing at his library table quite alone his door was suddenly opened without a knock or announcement of any sort, and in stalked a gaunt man, who stood before the commander in chief with his hat on and a savage expression of countenance.

The duke was of course a little annoyed at such an unceremonious interruption, and, looking up, he asked, "Who are you?" "I am Dionysius," was the singular answer. "Well, what do you want?" "Your life," "My life?" "Yes; I am sent to kill you." "Very odd," said the duke, sitting back and calmly gazing at the intruder. "Not at all, for I am Dionysius," said the stranger, "and I must put you to death." "Are you obliged to perform this duty today?" asked the commander in chief. "I am very busy just now and have a large number of letters to write. It would be very inconvenient today." The visitor looked hard during a moment's pause. "Call again," continued the duke, "or write and make an appointment." "You'll be ready?" "Without fail," was the reply.

The maniac, awed doubtless by the stern old soldier, backed out of the room without further words and half an hour later was safe in bedlam.—London Graphic.

FULL OF GRATITUDE.

But the Little One Had a Queer Way of Expressing It.

Mr. Brown's business kept him so occupied during the daytime that he had little opportunity to enjoy the society of his own children. When some national holiday gave him a day of leisure his young son was usually his chosen companion. One day, however, Mr. Brown, reproached by the wistful eyes of his seven-year-old daughter, reversed the order of things and invited the little girl to go with him for a long walk.

She was a shy, silent, small person, and during the two hours' stroll not a single word could Mr. Brown induce the little maid to speak, but her shining eyes attested that she appreciated his efforts to amuse her.—Indeed, she fairly glowed with suppressed happiness.

Just before they reached home, however, the child managed, but only after a tremendous struggle with her inherent timidity, to find words to express her gratitude.

"Papa, what flower do you like best?" she asked.

"Why, I don't know, my dear—sun-flowers, I guess." "Then," cried the little girl, beaming with gratitude, "that's what I'll plant on your grave!"—Exchange.

Tennyson's Tactlessness.

Several stories are told of Tennyson's thoughtless speeches. "What fish is this?" he once asked his hostess where he was dining. "Whiting," she replied. "The meanest fish there is," he remarked, quite unconscious that he could have wounded any one's feelings.

Yet his kindness of heart was such that when his partridge was afterward given him almost raw he ate steadily through it for fear his hostess might be vexed.

On one occasion Tennyson was very rude to Mrs. Brotherton, a neighbor at Freshwater. The next day he came to her house with a great cabbage under each arm.

"I heard you like these, so I brought them," he said genially. It was his idea of a peace offering.

Women's Time Schedules.

Few women speak of a train starting slightly off the even hour, as the 3:02 train, for example, or the 3:12. "Three" will do. It bothers a man a heap to go hunting for a 3 o'clock train by feminine directions when it is a 3:12 train. For some women "3" will do for the 2:54 train; it's near enough. Then the man following feminine directions, unless he is on his guard against these pitfalls, is lost. Probably if it weren't for his business training, which teaches a man that 3:02 is not 3, not 3:01, not 3:01½, not 3:01¼, but 3:02, he'd be better named after women's time schedules.—Boston Post.

The Soft Answer.

Two men were occupying a double seat in a crowded car. One of them was a long distance whistler and the other was evidently annoyed. "You don't seem to like my whistling?" said the noisy one after a five minute continuous performance. "No, I don't," was the frank reply. "Well," continued the other, "maybe you think you are man enough to stop it?" "No, I don't think I am," rejoined the other, "but I hope you are." And the whistling was discontinued.—Argonaut.

Warmth Not Wanted.

"This would be a pleasant world if people put more warmth—genuine warmth—in their letters," said the man of sentiment.

"I don't agree with you," replied his worried friend, "there was a warmth about some of the business letters I got this morning that I didn't at all like."

Didn't Hide His Joy.

Janet—Viola says there was only one drawback to her wedding. Fanny.—What was that? Janet—She says her father looked too cheerful when he gave her away.—Boston Globe.

Title and ancestry render a good man more illustrious, but an ill one more contemptible.—Addison.

The way to get out of self-love is to love God.—Phillips Brooks.

Some Random Thoughts.

The Farmers' Institute at Shiloh last Friday was not so well attended on account of fodder-pulling and so many political meetings in that section during the week. Sumter, Clarendon, and Florence counties had campaign meetings and the voters were quite impartial in their treatment of the various campaign parties. The size of the meeting was no indication of the vote, for the voters were merely comparing the candidates by counties.

Well, to go back to the Institute. Mr. A. G. Smith talked about an hour and a-half on tile drainage and farm management to a very thoughtful bunch of some thirty or forty farmers. The entire institute being confined to these two subjects, it is very probable more good was done than if the program had been carried out in full.

In regard to the fight on the Union Brokerage Company: Where there is so much smoke, there is bound to be some fire. And, however foolish such a cause may be, somebody must be saying spiteful things against the farmers' business enterprises. Perhaps the fact that we get on to these schemes and know more of certain plans than we publish has done much to prevent an open fight. And Brer. Rabbit say, "trus" no mistake."

I want to commend to every youth in the land the article by Clarence Poe on the Alcohol question. I also commend the business courses, including this newspaper, which wants only sober men in their employ. It would be a great step toward practical prohibition when not a newspaper in this State would carry a whiskey "ad," and the papers that wish to be the leaders of the thought of the State cannot begin too soon to cut out this source of revenue. They may be leaders now, or think they are, but sooner or later no paper that carries a whiskey "ad" will stand any higher in the State than the poor fellows who succumb to their alluring advertisements; and who cannot get a job on the very papers that tell them where to buy their best or worst (just as you please) booze! When it is more generally recognized that all talk of revenue from whiskey is the worst kind of "Spigot economy" and "Bunghole waste" that people were ever called upon to swallow; the traffic will be wiped out. For it is the so-called revenue feature that prevented it from being wiped out long ago. Now then, as to the illicit traffic: It will continue and flourish just as long as the State permits certain counties to engage in the business for revenue. Let this be called "hot air," I had better close. But I would like to know who more interested in sobriety and peace than we farmers in the unpolluted rural districts? Just as I think the farmers and producers are vitally interested in peace, for the burden of war ultimately falls on us; and the middlemen, and speculators, still trusts and money trusts place burdens on us in a year or two of war that two generations cannot shake off. We are still bearing the burdens of the war of 1861-65 and our children's children will be bearing the burdens of the Spanish war and that unholy war for Philippine subjugation. If this is not good farmers union doctrine, then pray what is?

E. W. D.

Farmers Take Notice.

The vote should be taken this week on the ratification of the revised constitution. Next county meeting will be on September 2nd, with Trinity local. The watchword at Trinity is "A home grown Dinner. Watch Trinity.

E. W. Dabbs, Prest.

Hugh Witherspoon, Sec.

THE GUBERNATORIAL RACE.

How the Contest Looks to the Spartanburg Herald.

(From the Spartanburg Herald.) With the approach of the end of the State campaign, the idea that the race is between Messrs. Featherstone and McLeod seems to be gaining ground. The issue is, therefore, being squarely drawn between State-wide prohibition and local option. Mr. Featherstone is the advocate of State-wide prohibition, while Lieutenant Governor McLeod believes in leaving the liquor question to be settled by each county, according to present conditions.

If all the voters in Spartanburg who are prohibition in so far as Spartanburg county is concerned, would vote for Mr. Featherstone he would carry the county by a big majority, of course. But this will not be the case. There is a difference between a State-wide Prohibitionist and a local option Prohibitionist. Mr. McLeod will get many votes in this county from among those who may be called local option Prohibitionists, who believe in prohibition for their county and believe it the best thing for every other county in the State, but are willing to see the State-wide ties speak for themselves.