

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the ends Thou Aimest at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1868

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FLINN HALL OPENED.

Social Center of South Carolina University is in Charge of Rhodes' Scholarship Man.

Columbia, Sept. 24.—The social season was formally inaugurated at the university last night in Flinn Hall, the general social center of the university. Mr. William Plummer Smith, a Rhodes scholar of Oxford, is in charge of the hall.

TOO MANY BOOKS.

The Gravest Fault of Public School System.

The writer is a devoted friend to the public schools, feeling sympathy with the teachers in their problems and undoubted faith in the merits of modern education. However, he is not blind to the faults of the schools or to the shortcomings of the teachers. Perhaps the gravest fault of the present-day school is its overloaded course of study. The school is overloading the pupils with subjects and with books. New subjects are constantly being introduced into the schools; almost every such subject is being from year to year subdivided, and each subdivision calls for a book and is given a place in the schedule of school studies. Not only the tendency but the actual practice is to give to the pupils a mere smattering of many things and a mastery of very few.

The child of today touches life at many more points than did the child of even 40 years ago. Even his elementary education must be broader than that demanded in the recent past. To meet this need the modern school child has been given more books and yet more books. There is a better way to supply this need, and thoughtful educators have already pointed out that way.

To see school children from 8 to 14 years of age struggling through each year with six, seven and eight school studies, exclusive of writing, drawing and music, ought to cause teachers, school boards and parents to consider the end of it all. The mentally strong and physically robust, and the mentally weak and physically weak, are all given practically the same tasks within the same time.

The law protects the child from overwork in the mill and the mine, the overloaded horse and the underfed mule have some protection at the hands of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Who is protecting the overloaded and underfed child in the schools? Recently much attention was very properly directed to the situation of school houses and the general health of school children. Is it not time to turn some attention to another phase of the children's welfare.

The conditions under discussion are not the fruits of a morbid imagination. To see them one has but to look about him. The schools throughout the State have just opened or are about to open. Look at the book lists of your children; look at the load of books the children lug to and from school each day. Can the normal child master and assimilate what he is given each year? Is it any wonder that examinations in all these books give children nightmares? Would it not be far better, more sane, to give four or five subjects at a time, and to master these, than to browse over seven or eight, or to overwork children in the vain endeavor to do the unreasonable?

As a rule, school teachers are people of training and of excellent good sense and judgment, but in our mad endeavor to surpass each other in school work some of us have lost our bearings. We need to stop to consider. Will not the teachers, the parents, school boards, and the press take up this subject, and discuss it dispassionately and solely on its merits? A discussion made up of wild charges and weak defenses will be of no benefit to anybody.

W. H. HAND,

Columbia, S. C.

JUSTICE FOR FARMERS.

SENATOR SMITH ISSUES STATEMENT EXPLAINING FORMER ONE.

He Advocates Any Measure That Will Enable Producers to Get Their Just Share.

Florence, Sept. 24.—On account of the misunderstanding on the part of some newspapers with reference to the statement concerning the cotton crop, issued by Senator E. D. Smith a few days ago, the senator today gave out the following statement with the view of clearing up the matter and putting himself in the proper light:

"It is rather remarkable how a carefully guarded, conservative statement can be misinterpreted into just the opposite. In my interview in regard to the cotton crop a few days ago, I used the following language:

"I shall not attempt to dictate to the farmers of the South what they shall do. But under the circumstances I should be delighted to see them combine and hold their cotton from the market wherever it is possible for them to do so, until it shall bring such price as shall measure up to the artificial price placed upon manufactured articles by virtue of the tariff."

"In reference to my own opinion I used the following language: "My honest conviction is that 20 cents for the present crop is none too high, in view of the supply, the cost of production, the comparative value of cotton with other textiles, and the artificial price that now obtains on manufactured goods."

"The headlines and newspaper comments have made it appear that I have advised the farmers to hold their cotton for 20 cents a pound. One newspaper, in an editorial comment, has said that the farmer should sell his cotton at present prices and pay his debts. That past experience has been to the effect that where the price looked enticing in the early fall, that farmers held and suffered a loss. This is true.

"I have never advised any farmer who had pledged his cotton to a merchant or to any one to withhold it from the market when it caused embarrassment or loss to the one that credited him. But I have always advocated the banks of the South and the financiers of the South doing all in their power to help these weak and unfortunate ones to withhold their stuff from the market until it should bring such a price as would remunerate those that helped and give a profit to the unfortunate ones who needed help.

"I have never advised any price on cotton, nor have I stood for any specific price on cotton until the farmers of the South, in convention assembled, determined what, in their judgment, was a righteous price for what they themselves produced, and then I became an uncompromising advocate, of what was deemed a fair and legitimate return for their labor.

"I have been criticised for standing for 15 cents cotton. I stood for 15 cents cotton when the farmers of the South demanded it, and had some of my critics been as loyal to the cause as I, the 15 cents mark might have been the sooner obtained.

"I sometimes marvel that we are as well off as we are, when I think of the fact that the advocates of protection with their newspaper organs, their lobbies, their powerful advocates on the floor of the house and senate shut out competition from abroad, combine their capital in America and force the price of articles beyond any reason, thus forcing the producer of the raw material, the salaried man and the wage-earner, to pay exorbitant prices for those manufactured articles which are a common necessity. It is a marvel; the seeming prosperity that the masses enjoy.

"I am not asking, nor have I ever asked, that there should be a legal enactment protecting any one, individual or corporation. But when the government is committed to the doctrine of protection by legal enactment, I think those who are the victims should resist this unnatural condition invoking the law of God—which is the law of supply and demand—and, by standing solidly together, force its operation.

"If the price of manufactured articles is forced to artificial heights, and the great body of wage-earners, laborers and producers of the raw material are forced to pay these exorbitant prices, reducing them to abject poverty, who shall gainsay their right to combine in every department of their life and demand such remuneration for their labor and their raw material as shall offset the

BANKERS OFF FOR COAST.

South Carolinians to Attend Annual Meeting of National Bankers' Association at Los Angeles.

Columbia, Sept. 26.—J. P. Matthews, cashier of the Palmetto National bank, left yesterday for New York, from where he will go to Los Angeles, Cal., to attend a meeting of the National Bankers' association, convening in the California city October 3. Other bankers who will attend are: Ira B. Dunlap of Rock Hill, W. D. Morgan of Georgetown and Rufus Brown, cashier of the Georgia Railway bank of Augusta, brother of F. L. and A. F. Brown of Columbia and a former Columbian.

The party of bankers will leave New York for the coast today, traveling in a special train that is said to be one of the most magnificent trains that has left New York.

The bankers will leave Los Angeles October 8 for a trip to Vancouver and Puget Sound.

A REAL D. A. R.

Was Daughter of Chaplain in George Washington's Army.

Spartanburg, Sept. 23.—Miss Fannie Leonard Wright Cleveland, mother of Mr. John B. Cleveland, of this city, died at her home in Marietta, Ga., this morning, after a brief illness.

Although ninety-four years old, Mrs. Cleveland, until a short time ago, enjoyed the best of health.

Mrs. Cleveland was one of the "real daughters" of the American Revolution and a descendant of John and Priscilla Alden. She was a native of Bristol, R. I., and her father, the Rev. Henry Wright, D. D., was a student at Harvard when the Revolutionary war was opened. Mrs. Cleveland, it is said, was the oldest communicant of the Episcopal church in America, having been confirmed in St. Andrew's Church, Philadelphia, by Bishop White, when she was sixteen years of age.

price that they have to pay to the robber barons of the manufacturing interests?

"Under the law, it is wrong for me to carry concealed weapons, but should some one threaten my life and I know not where nor when I may meet him, what jury would convict me for preparing myself to defend my life at any time or place where this threatening foe might meet me? Who shall criticize labor organizations for combining and demanding a higher wage? Who shall criticize the producer of the raw material for combining and demanding a higher price, and, by their numerical strength and their necessities to mankind forcing a recognition of their rights, when the law of the land is giving that opportunity to the manufacturers, who have impoverished and are impoverishing the masses and creating the colossal millionaire of America?

"I do not believe in class legislation or class discrimination, but I do believe in equal rights to all and special privilege to none under the law. And so long as the law gives special privilege to some, it is the manifest duty of those discriminated against to protect themselves against this unjust discrimination. And the best way to defeat the infamous doctrine of protection is by the farmers and laborers protecting themselves. The Republican party today is being defeated and driven from power because its doctrine, carried to its last analysis, has forced such prices that the wage-earner and the salaried man can not live.

"The farmers of the South would be willing to take a less price for their stuff if they might buy what they need under the same circumstances that they have to sell their produce. They have to sell under free trade and buy under protection. And it is their duty to themselves and to their country to do all in their power that is legitimate and honorable to offset this legalized robbery under the American system of protection.

"I had some vague conception of the enormity of the Republican protection system, but never did I dream of its unblushing effrontery and boldness until I became a member of the United States senate. And if the people of America could realize, rather than vaguely know, the blatant injustice being practiced by the law, they would a long time ago have swept the whole system out of existence.

"In conclusion, I invite the attention of my critics to the prices obtaining for wool, flax and silk under protection, as against cotton without it."

PERUVIAN FLIES OVER ALPS.

FEAT OF AGES ACCOMPLISHED IN SWITZERLAND.

On Wings of the Wind George Chavez Rides Over the Alpine Heights, Making the Napoleonic Route in Less than an Hour—Daring Aviator Meets With Accident in Sight of Goal and is Seriously Injured.

Domodossola, Italy, Sept. 23.—The great feat of crossing the snow-capped Alpine barrier between Switzerland and Italy, in a heavier-than-air machine, was accomplished today by George Chavez, the young Peruvian aviator.

The plucky hero of the exploit, however, lies tonight in a local hospital badly injured as the result of an accident that occurred just as he had completed the most arduous and nerve-racking portion of a task he had set out to accomplish—a flight from Brig, Switzerland across the Alps to Milan in Italy, in all a distance of about seventy-five miles.

Both his legs are broken, his left thigh is fractured and his body is badly contused; but the physicians in attendance are of the opinion that these hurts will not prove fatal and that unless unlooked for complications ensue Chavez will be about in two months.

The accident occurred as Chavez was endeavoring to make a landing here. The Alps had been crossed successfully and the aviator was descending with the power of his machine cut off.

When about thirty feet above the ground a sudden gust of wind seemed to catch the monoplane, which turned over and fell. When the crowds that had been watching the descent ran up they found Chavez lying bleeding and unconscious beneath the twisted wreckage.

Fifty miles away lay Milan, the goal Chavez was seeking in an endeavor to win a prize of \$20,000, offered by the Italian Aviation Society. Chavez had lost the race.

Circumstances Favorable.

The weather at Brig was clear and bright when Chavez made his start. Leaving the ground with his motor running at full speed he rose in swirling circles until he reached an altitude sufficient for him to clear the shoulder to the southeastward of Brig. This obstacle having been overcome, the aviator headed his monoplane straight for the snow-capped crags of the Fletchorn. Constantly ascending Chavez reached the Simplon Ktun, where at an altitude estimated at 7,200 feet he turned his machine south over the terrifying Simplon Pass, with the Kaltwasser Glacier at his left and the frozen peak of the Hubschhorn at his right.

After crossing the divide, Chavez turned to the towering white mountain head of Mt. Leone, which rises to a height of 16,644 feet, and passed down above the Gondo Gorge, until he reached the open valley of Verdo, and then descended easily toward Domodossola, which is 889 feet above sea level. It was here that the accident occurred.

Beat World's Record.

Some of the spectators of the flight say that Chavez, after crossing the Simplon Pass, followed the short cut route over the Monzer Pass, which is 8,600 feet above sea level. If this be so it is possible that the Peruvian beat his own world's record for height of 8,721 feet.

The twenty-five miles between Brig and Domodossola, which it took the armies of Napoleon a fortnight to negotiate, Chavez accomplished by the route of the eagle in exactly forty minutes. From the high point at Menzera he descended 7,000 feet in thirteen minutes, his machine gaining in power peaks, gullies and hills beyond until the speed was terrific as it approached the aerodrome here. This doubtless caused the accident which turned the cheers of admiration of the waiting crowd into cries of horror when the machine came hurtling to the ground just as it seemed that Chavez was about to alight in safety.

How Accident Happened.

After treatment in the hospital Chavez regained consciousness, but was unable to explain how the accident had occurred. The generally accepted opinion is that the accident was due to a slight shift in the rudder while the monoplane was being sent at a high rate of speed.

Thousands of the aviator's friends and admirers, arrived from Milan and other points to tender their services to Chavez.

Henry Weyman, the American aviator, who made two unsuccessful attempts in the Brig-Milan race, today sent a telegram of sympathy to Chavez, saying: "My sincere and enthusiastic con-

PROFITING THE SOUTH.

Administration Provides For Navy Yards There.

Washington, Sept. 23.—There are indications that during the balance of the Taft administration, and especially in the immediate future, the various navy yards at New Orleans, Key West, Pensacola and Charleston will fare rather better than in the closing days of the Roosevelt administration, when the question of closing these yards was decided against the establishments.

Various little occurrences in the past few months have indicated the drift of sentiment in the Navy Department, and it is believed that an entirely different policy has been adopted toward the Southern yards than that which former President Roosevelt tried to inaugurate at the fall of his administration.

With the assent of Col. Roosevelt orders were issued just before Secretary Newberry went out of office directing that the various Southern yards be closed on the ground that from a strategic point of view they were not needed, that money could be better spent on the larger yards at New York, Philadelphia, Boston and Norfolk, on the Atlantic coast, and at Mare Island and Puget Sound, on the Pacific.

Secretary Meyer, at the urgent request and complaint of Southern Congressman and residents of New Orleans and the other places that would have been affected by the closing of the yards, directed that the Newberry order be rescinded. Then came the last session of Congress, which ignored the action of Secretary Newberry and made appropriations for the various Southern yards. The sum of \$115,000 was granted on the one at New Orleans, and small amounts were allowed for other yards in the South to keep them in condition and provide certain minor improvements.

It is understood that these appropriations having been made, it is the intention of Secretary Meyer, with the approval of President Taft, to see that the sums appropriated are spent as directed by law. Several years ago President Roosevelt, believing that the New Orleans yard was not needed, refused to disburse money which had been appropriated for the building of a sawmill there. Not only will the money appropriated be used for the purpose specified, but Secretary Meyer, on his proposed tour of the navy yards of the country, will visit New Orleans and other Southern yards.

Naturally the change in policy also raises the question as to the motive underlying the gradual modification in sentiment in the Navy Department. The suggestion is thrown out here in several quarters today that the new attitude is part of a general scheme which has been adopted in connection with the plans for fortifying the Panama Canal.

On the other hand the idea is also advanced that politics has dictated the change. The politicians of the Navy Department realize, it is hinted, that the next House will be Democratic, and as the Administration intends to ask for two battleships the Southern members of Congress will have to be propitiated and convinced that the Southern yards will not be abandoned in order that the two-battleship program may not strike a serious snag.

The Police Department of San Francisco is reported to be so rotten with graft that it will have to be entirely reorganized. Even so, San Francisco is better off than some cities. She at least knows where she stands.—Denver Daily News.

gratulations on your victory. I am heart-broken over your accident, and you have my prayerful wishes for an early recovery."

May Get the Prize.

Much sympathy is expressed here for Weyman. Although his motor had repeatedly given demonstrations of its inability to reach high altitudes, Weyman made a last and desperate effort to win the race, hearing that Chavez had met with an accident. He managed to climb over the Rasti Shoulder, but, finding that the aeroplane was incapable of flying higher, he returned to Brig and alighted.

Although Chavez did not succeed in winning the prize of \$20,000, having failed to reach Milan, some of the members of the aviation committee are in favor of turning over the prize to him and erecting a monument in commemoration of man's first flight across the Alps.

Chavez, although a Peruvian, was born in Paris in 1887. He secured his license from the Aero Club as an air pilot February 15 of this year.

HARMON OPEN FIGHT.

THOUSANDS OF AIRTS SPEECH GOVERNOR'S CAMPAIGN.

Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 24.—In the middle of a steady, drizzling rain, which lasted the entire day, several thousand Democrats marched to the auditorium hall today to listen to Governor Judson Harmon deliver the first speech of the fall campaign.

The event marked the real opening of hostilities between the rival parties, as the Republicans, under the leadership of Warren G. Harding, gubernatorial nominee, fired their first guns a week ago at Kenton, Ohio.

Governor Harmon confined his address chiefly to a review of State issues, and especially to what he claimed had been the persistent efforts of the Republican Legislature to block popular measures, which he had endeavored to have enacted. In respect to national politics, he scored the Republican administration for what he termed its wasteful expenditures, and also attacked the Payne-Aldrich tariff bill as legislation inimical to the interest of the consumers, who would not be deceived by the fair talk in attempts to defend it.

He declared that the Republican party had not kept its campaign promise, and told his audience that the only hope for the people lies in the success of a national Democratic ticket.

Atlee Pomerene, candidate for Lieutenant Governor, followed Harmon. He made a bitter attack upon Geo. B. Cox, of Cincinnati, and incidentally scored President Taft for the alliance which, the speaker said, the President had made with the Cincinnati leader in 1908. Mr. Pomerene declared that the State of Ohio might be willing to trust Mr. Harding, but that they would never trust Harding and Cox.

GREAT STATE FAIR.

The Grounds Will be Open Day and Night.

Columbia, Sept. 26.—A feature of the State fair this year will be the entertainments at night. The management of the fair has agreed to keep the gates open until 11 o'clock, thereby affording much time for inspection of the exhibits to those who attend the fair for only one day. The buildings in which the exhibits are kept will be open until 9:30 o'clock on November 1, 2 and 3. The gates of the State fair will swing open on the morning of October 31. The admission in the evenings will be half-price.

"All indications point to a most successful State fair," said President Moble of the association, who was in Columbia looking after several details of the work in preparation for the annual event.

There will be special rates granted over all of the railway lines of the State and special trains for fair week visitors will be run to Columbia from many points in the State.

College and School Day.

All pupils and students from any college or school in the State will be admitted on Tuesday of fair week for 10 cents and any adult accompanying any student or school child will be granted half rates.

All colleges and schools in the State are earnestly requested to attend in a body and to secure information from the secretary of the State fair as soon as possible. By special arrangement school children will be admitted to any of the attractions on the ground on school day for five cents.

As has been stated special attention will be devoted to the agricultural exhibits this year and all farmers are urged to send in their exhibits. There will be several thousand dollars offered in prizes for the best exhibits.

GOV. BLEASE'S SECRETARY.

Mr. Alex. Rowland, of Columbia, Has Accepted Position.

Columbia, Sept. 26.—Coleman L. Blease, Democratic nominee for governor, who is certain of election, has tendered the position of private secretary to Alexander Rowland, auditor of disbursements for the Columbia, Newberry and Laurens railroad, with headquarters in Columbia, and Mr. Rowland has accepted.

Savannah, Ga., has a population of 65,064, an increase of 10,820, or 19.9 per cent in ten years.