

THE HOTEL SITUATION.

COL. THOMAS WILSON, CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE, GIVES FACTS.

The Committee Has Made An Honest Effort to Interest Business Men in an Enterprise That Means So Much to the City, But With Indifferent Success—List of Those Who Subscribed.

Sumter, S. C., Jan. 19, 1911.

To the Editor of the Sumter Item: A few days ago an article appeared in your paper criticising the Committee appointed by the Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of soliciting subscriptions from the citizens of Sumter to the capital stock of a modern hotel to be built in this city.

While it may appear to you and to the citizens generally that the Hotel Committee has been somewhat negligent, you will remember that the committee called a meeting of the citizens, which meeting was held in the Council Chamber. Several gentlemen addressed the meeting and urged the necessity of the construction of a modern hotel, but the committee had poor success in the way of obtaining subscriptions. This committee is composed of Messrs. R. I. Manning, Dr. J. A. Wood, Neill O'Donnell, C. G. Rowland, J. W. McKeiver and myself. You will note from the list of subscribers, which I am enclosing herewith, that the gentlemen of the committee have subscribed \$11,500. I have called personally to see a number of our merchants, who are doing a successful business and who I believe have made their money in Sumter, but I was in most cases told by them that they could not afford to subscribe.

The Hotel Committee now desire to have a joint meeting with the Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of seeing what can be accomplished at this time, and if the citizens and merchants will contribute liberally to the capital stock of the hotel, there is no reason why we cannot have a modern and up-to-date hotel within a short space of time. I am of the opinion that if we can obtain subscriptions to the capital stock to the amount of \$50,000, we could then issue bonds for a sufficient amount of money to construct it. We need a hotel with at least 100 sleeping rooms and not less than 50 of these should be bath rooms with steam heat and running water in each room, well ventilated and properly constructed. In addition to the sleeping rooms there are a great many other rooms required in connection with a properly constructed hotel. For instance, an attractive lobby, writing room, reception room, pool room, barber shop, parlor and dining room, as well as private dining rooms and various other quarters that I might mention. I have spoken to several architects and contractors and am of the opinion that the ground and building will cost at least \$100,000.

For my part, while a resident of Sumter, I have never made a dollar in the city and am not engaged directly in any business in the city, but I realize that Sumter is suffering on account of not having a good hotel and I am particularly anxious that she should have as good, if not a better hotel than any city or town in the State, and if the citizens will show a liberal spirit and contribute to the capital stock of the proposed hotel, I will advance my personal subscription from \$3,000 to \$5,000 and in addition to this will subscribe liberally to the bonds, on condition that we are to have a first class hotel, as I would not care to invest a dollar unless the hotel is to be modern in every particular.

I feel that there is nothing the citizens of Sumter could do at this time that would be calculated to be a greater benefit to Sumter than to assist in the construction of such a hotel. As stated, I hand you herewith a list of the names of the present subscribers showing the amount subscribed by each one.

Yours truly,
Thomas Wilson.

The following are the names of the subscribers to the capital stock of the proposed new hotel to be built at Sumter, S. C.

Thomas Wilson	\$3,000
Richard I Manning	3,000
Neill O'Donnell	3,000
H. D. Barnett	3,000
H. J. Harby	Am't Later
L. D. Jennings	1,000
The D. J. Chandler Clo. Co.	1,000
J. A. Wood	500
Marion Moise	2,000
E. L. Witherspoon	2,000
C. G. Rowland	2,000
Col. R. D. Lee	1,000
I. A. Ryttenburg	\$1 per M for every M. brick in the building.
W. M. Graham	Will report later
Mark Reynolds	500
H. J. McLaurin, Jr.	2,000
J. K. Crosswell	2,000
(In case hotel is on Main St.)	
Geo. D. Shore	1,000
G. A. Lemmon	500
W. B. Upshur	Am't later

A new gutter has been put around the shed at the passenger station.

NEGRO KILLED THURSDAY.

Old Negro Falls Striking His Head Against a Rock and Dies From Concussion of The Brain.

That the head of a negro is not so hard as it is cracked up to be is proved by the fact that Thursday afternoon an old negro, Bill Williams by name, fell and striking his head on a rock died a few hours later from concussion of the brain.

It seems, from the evidence that was accumulated by Coroner Flowers Thursday afternoon and next morning, when he was seeking the cause of the death to see if an inquest was necessary, that the negro, who was working where the house of Mr. J. R. Ligon is being moved back from the corner of Main street and Oakland avenue, fell while moving backwards in getting out of the way of the horses which were turning the capstain and struck his head against a rock.

He was at once taken home and treated by Dr. C. W. Birnie, but in spite of all that could be done for him he died that night.

As this was not the first time the old man had stumbled and fallen, and as there were several eye-witnesses to state how the accident occurred, Coroner Flowers did not deem it necessary to hold an inquest, as death was purely accidental.

Runaway on Main Street.

On Thursday afternoon as they were being driven from the city, two young mules, which had just been purchased from the stables by Mr. John Bradley, who lives several miles out of town, decided to runaway and started off from some reason unknown up Main street at a pretty fast clip. They did not go far, however, before they decided to try the sidewalk for a change in spite of the efforts of the young man who was driving them.

As they got to the edge of the sidewalk one mule took one side of a tree and one the other side, bringing them to a very sudden stop. In stopping so short and quick the wagon tongue popped off short, being broken in two by the blow against the tree. One of the mules was somewhat scratched up on the neck and leg and the wagon tongue was broken, but otherwise no damage was done save to the tree which was considerably bruised.

Small Sale of Lots.

Owing to bad weather the auction sale of lots of the Boyle property on Broad street was not as successful as had been expected. Only a few lots were sold, and, as there was a very small crowd out to attend the sale, the bidding was not up to the usual standard.

The prizes offered were given away nevertheless, Master Harold Bennett being the fortunate winner of the prize lot and Mr. Patrick Kennedy, the umbrella man, was presented with the bag of silver.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh That Contain Mercury.

As mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free.

Sold by Druggists. Price 75¢ per bottle.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation. 5-4-1m.

The United States circuit and district court convened in Columbia on Tuesday, with Judge Brawley presiding. There are a great many cases to be heard at this session of the court.

HERE IS A REMEDY THAT WILL CURE ECZEMA.

"We Prove It"

Why waste time and money experimenting with greasy salves and lotions, trying to drive the eczema germ from underneath the skin when DeLorme's Pharmacy guarantees Zemo a clean liquid preparation for external use to rid the skin of the germ life that causes the trouble? One application will relieve the itching and often times one bottle is sufficient to cure a minor case of eczema. In over 2,000 towns and cities in America the leading druggist has the agency for Zemo and he will tell you of the marvelous cures made by this clean, simple treatment. Zemo is recognized as the cleanest and most popular treatment for eczema, pimples, dandruff and all other forms of skin or scalp affections whether on infant or grown person. Will you try a bottle on our recommendation? DeLorme's Pharmacy. No. 1.

CAUCUS CHOSE CHAMP CLARK

MISSOURIAN HAILED AS NEXT SPEAKER OF HOUSE.

Representative Underwood, of Alabama Selected as Chairman of Ways and Means Committee—In Fact, Entire Slate, as Formerly Agreed Upon, Goes Through—Discussion of Method of Selecting Standing Committees of the House.

Washington, Jan. 19.—Champ Clark, of Missouri, chosen Speaker of the next House of Representatives, and given a rousing ovation on mention of his name for the Presidency; ways and means committee previously agreed upon, chosen to name the standing committees, and frame tariff legislation for early action of the next Congress; a New York member read out of the party, a barrel of resolutions and a host of speakers—these were features of tonight's caucus of Democratic members of the coming House. Mr. Wilson, of Pennsylvania, proposed Mr. Clark for the Presidency.

There were only eight absentees among the old and new Democrats of the 62d Congress.

Mr. Underwood, of Alabama, long the lieutenant of Mr. Clark, heads the new ways and means committee.

The caucus developed considerable difference of views as to the methods of selecting committees, but when the time came for voting alignment various resolutions were voted down, the Fitzgerald resolution to leave the committees to the Speaker's selection being beaten 29 to 166, and the Foster resolution placing that power in the ways and means committee carrying by 166 to 7.

Representative Champ Clark, of Missouri, the Democratic leader of the House and candidate for the Speakership, was nominated by acclamation for Speaker of the House in the 62d Congress.

About 210 Democrats were present. Mr. Hay, of Virginia, presided, and Mr. Ashbrook, of Ohio, was secretary. Francis Burton Harrison, of New York, called the attention of the caucus to the fact that the name of Theron Akin, Representative-elect from New York, had been called twice in the opening roll call. Mr. Harrison announced that he had information that Akin had declared that he would not enter the caucus tonight and that Akin had said he would vote with the Republicans.

Mr. Harrison then asked that Mr. Akin's name be stricken from the roll of Democrats.

BLEASE IMITATES TILLMAN.

Revokes Commissions of All Notaries Public.

Columbia, Jan. 20.—Governor Coleman Livingston Blease cast a bombshell into the legislature this afternoon by a message declaring void every commission as notary public in the State issued prior to January 18, 1911 and urging that an act be passed prescribing the qualifications and fixing the terms of notaries public, the Governor saying he would make no appointments until the General Assembly had time to act on this recommendation. The Governor's action would have paralyzed the wheels of business to a considerable extent in communities, where no appointments had been made recently, but a subsequent message made date when the commissions fall vacant February 10, instead of January 10.

Saves Two Lives.

"Neither my sister nor myself might be living today, if it had not been for Dr. King's New Discovery" writes A. D. McDonald of Fayetteville, N. C. R. F. D. No. 8, "for we both had frightful coughs that no other remedy could help. We were told my sister had consumption. She was very weak and had night sweats but your wonderful medicine completely cured us both. It's the best I ever used of heard of." For sore lungs, coughs, colds, hemorrhage, lagrippe, asthma, hay fever, croup, whooping coughs,—all bronchial troubles,—its supreme. Trial bottle free. 50c and \$1.00. Guaranteed by Sibert's Drug Store.

An enthusiastic meeting of the South Carolina Good Roads association was held on Tuesday in Columbia. Mayor Gibbs welcomed the visitors to the city in an address, in which he spoke enthusiastically of the work done by the association. Mr. F. H. Hyatt was reelected president of the association and Mr. Fingal C. Black was reelected secretary of the association.

Solve a Deep Mystery.

"I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart," wrote C. B. Rader, of Lewisburg, W. Va., "for the wonderful double benefit I got from Electric Bitters, in curing me of both a severe case of stomach trouble and of rheumatism, from which I had been an almost helpless sufferer for ten years. It suited my case as though made just for me." For dyspepsia, indigestion, jaundice and to rid the system of kidney poisons that cause rheumatism, Electric Bitters has no equal. Try them. Every bottle is guaranteed to satisfy. Only 50c at Sibert's Drug Store.

DYNAMITE SCATTERS REBELS.

Explosion Helps Mexicans to Defeat Revolutionists.

Mexico City, Jan. 19.—A quantity of dynamite stored in a church in Dagueriac, in Southern Chihuahua, exploded during the progress of Tuesday's battle between rebels and Federal cavalry, spreading death and confusion among the rebels and giving the Government force a victory after four hours of hard fighting. Information regarding the fight given the Associated Press lacked the detail.

War department reports made public today indicated that the rebels had fortified the church in question and had made a desperate defence when attacked. The dynamite was exploded by the detonations of heavy firing. The church and several houses near it was completely demolished. The rebels fled in confusion and were pursued by a portion of the Federal cavalry. Upon investigation it was found that thirteen of the revolutionists were killed.

SPIRITED DEBATE IN HOUSE.

Hobson and Keifer Lock Horns Over Canal Fortification.

Washington, Jan. 19.—The opening guns in the fight for the fortification of the Panama Canal were fired and war talk held full sway during the first hour of the session of the House today, although the postoffice appropriation bill ostensibly was under consideration.

Representative Keifer, of Ohio, spoke in favor of the neutralization of the canal. He was replied to by Representative Hobson, of Alabama.

Gen. Keifer declared that the fortification of the canal would be an act of war and a violation of all the treaties affecting the waterway.

Mr. Hobson said that in the stress of war, the stronger power always sets treaties and international law at naught.

Gen. Keifer declared that there could be no peace footing on the isthmus if the canal were fortified. It would be necessary to keep a war force there at all times. Mr. Hobson said he could not understand how any American was willing to say that this nation was too weak to protect a waterway which was wholly an American proposition and which, if neutralized, would lay the west coast of both North and South America at the mercy of European nations.

Mr. Keifer declared that the late estimate of \$12,000,000 for the fortification of the canal would not be sufficient. He asserted that it would cost at least \$100,000,000 to so fortify the canal so that it could be held against the attack of one of the first class powers of the world.

Gen. Keifer asserted that the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, which still is in effect, specifically provides for the neutralization of the Isthmian waterway.

DENIES NEWSPAPER STORY.

James H. Tillman Says He's Being Well Cared For.

Asheville, N. C., Jan. 17.—James H. Tillman tonight vigorously denied reports sent to the New York Herald, from Edgefield, S. C., that he was dying in poverty. He says he is comfortably located in a cottage here and is attended by his sister, Mrs. Bunch, of Spartanburg, and a negro woman from Edgefield, a family servant.

He has been attended by a trained nurse since he came to Asheville, but he terminated her service with him a few days ago, and Mrs. Bunch was wired for. Dr. C. V. Reynolds, who is attending Tillman, says he is getting along nicely.

BALLINGER UNFIT FOR OFFICE.

SENATOR FLETCHER ARRAIGNS SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

Florida Man Says He Holds Cabinet Officer as Untrue to Public and President.

Washington, Jan. 19.—"That the present secretary of the interior is not the man best fitted for the office he holds," was one of the indictments made by Senator Fletcher of Florida against R. A. Ballinger, secretary of the interior, in an address in the senate today in support of the Purcell resolution declaring that the secretary should no longer be retained in office. The senator prefaced his remarks with an admission that no question of criminal guilt has been involved in the charges against Secretary Ballinger. In further indictment of Mr. Ballinger, Senator Fletcher declared:

"That his conduct and associations and influences justly aroused suspicion; that he has been and is inclined to favor private interests rather than care for those of public.

"That while no actual corruption is shown, it can scarcely be said that he is guiltless of official wrongdoing of a nature warranting criticism.

"That he was not in sympathy with the advocates of conservation as defined by the president and his predecessor, and by indirection and more

or less deception, he set about doing the cause injury.

"That he has been unfaithful, both to the public, whose property he has endangered, and to the president, whom he has deceived.

"His administration we can not indorse—it is the form of administration well recognized as of the 'machine stamp.'

"His standards of official conduct and public duty we must condemn—they are the ideals of the 'professional politician' which lead to traffic in public office."

A Reliable Cough Medicine.

*Is a valuable family friend. Foley's Honey and Tar fulfills this condition exactly. Mrs. Charles Kline, N. 8th St., Easton, Pa., states: "Several members of my family have been cured of bad coughs and colds by the use of Foley's Honey and Tar and I am never without a bottle in the house. It soothes and relieves the irritation in the throat and loosens up the cold. I have always found it a reliable cough cure." W. W. Sibert.

Sumter could have a first class hotel if the business men would get together and everyone do his part according to his means and in proportion to the stake he has in the growth and prosperity of this town.

*When given as soon as the croupy cough appears Chamberlain's Cough Remedy will ward off an attack of croup and prevent all danger and cause of anxiety. Thousands of mothers use it successfully. Sold by all dealers.

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Your Satisfaction; Our Pleasure
Your Need; Ours to Supply

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LIME, CEMENT, ACME PLASTER, SHINGLES
LATHS, FIRE BRICK, DRAIN PIPE, ETC.

Hay, Grain, Rice Flour, Ship Stuff, Bran, Mixed Cow and Chicken Feed.
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No Order Too Large Or Too Small.

Booth-Harby Live Stock Co.
SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA.

GARDEN SEEDS

We have just received a large stock of Fresh Seeds for your garden, and would be pleased for you to come in and supply your needs. Now is the time for planting

**CABBAGE, SPINACH, PARSLEY,
LETTUCE, MUSTARD, RADISH
AND GARDEN PEAS.**

We also have a complete selection of Onion Sets, Mail Orders Solicited.

Sibert's Drug Store,
W. W. SIBERT.

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One of your New Year resolutions should have been a resolve to replace the shabby old furniture with the artistic, up-to-date styles and designs we are showing in

Fine Furniture.

You would be surprised at the remarkable variety offered you in our stocks—at the reasonableness of our prices.

Furniture to fit every pocketbook—to fit you idea of correctness.

Shop here and be posted.

Witherspoon Bros. Furniture Co.

SUMTER REAL ESTATE & INSURANCE CO.,
Farmers' Bank & Trust Co. Bldg. Sumter, S. C.

Stop putting your funds in stocks and bonds, banks etc. where they are at the mercy practically of the management of the company or institution. Put your funds where they will earn a substantial return with absolute safety, viz:

No. 209 South Main St., Lot 50 by 208, eight room dwelling, all modern conveniences, good barn and stable.
No. 211 S Main St., Lot 50 by 208, 8 room dwelling, all modern conveniences. This is Main Street Property and very close in.
No. 331 W. Hampton Ave., nice six room dwelling.
No. 9 North Salem Ave., nice six room cottage.
We have some very choice country property for sale, that is worth investigating, would be pleased to show you any or all.
For prices and terms, apply to