

COUNTY CORRESPONDENCE.

NEWSY LETTERS FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.

Items of Interest From all Parts of Sumner and Adjoining Counties.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS. Mail your letters so that they will reach this office not later than Monday when intended for Wednesday's paper and not later than Thursday for Saturday's issue.

SMITHVILLE.

Smithville, Feb. 13.—The people, or at least many of them, of South Carolina are becoming thoroughly disgusted with the conduct and policy of Governor Blease.

It seems to me that it is high time for him to realize that the press, taken as a whole, does not have the influence it is supposed to have.

Just let a man advocate the rights of the common people, then the aristocrats begin to howl him down.

The legislature should pass a law making drunkenness a crime, then men's rights would not be taken away from them.

Mrs. W. J. Shiver entertained at her home on last Saturday by giving a working party. The young ladies were given a quilt to finish.

Miss Arrie Burkett visited at the "Pines" on last Sunday.

Supervisor Evans of Bishopville, visited this section last Thursday.

The Pisgah choir met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Hatfield on last Sunday evening.

Hayward the little son of Mr. and Mrs. John Barfield, is critically ill.

Mrs. S. E. Robertson is spending today with Mrs. H. H. Evans, at "Fairview."

NOTED MEN VISIT STATE.

Secretary of the Navy, Governor Morris, John D. Rockefeller, Among Them.

Columbia, Feb. 16.—Among the several distinguished visitors in South Carolina this week are Hon. Andrew D. White, ambassador to France; H. C. Frick, the Pittsburgh steel millionaire; Hon. Geo. L. von Meyer, secretary of the navy, all of whom are guests at Aiken.

If Joe Cannon had Mr. Carnegie's money, he wouldn't spend any of it for peace.—Anderson Mail.

Because of the private sales it is hard to keep track of the market price of votes.—Memphis Commercial-Appeal.

"CANAL MUST BE FORTIFIED."

United States Has no Choice, Says Judge Speer.

New York, Feb. 14.—The United States has no choice in deciding whether the Panama Canal shall be fortified. The canal must be fortified and heavily fortified at that, if this country is to preserve inviolate the neutrality of this gateway to the western ocean.

"The President is, of course, primarily entrusted with the national defence," Judge Speer said, "it is the right and duty of the United States to fortify and make capable of defence the work that will bear so vital a relation to its welfare."

"There are, however, persons who take the contrary view. Their objections to the fortification of the canal are: It would be safer without fortification; at one time the Government did not intend to fortify it, the Suez Canal is not fortified; the United States in all of its history has never been attacked; the Canadian border line is undefended; we should ask for complete arbitration before increasing our war measures; a guard of battleships at each end of the canal would make the fortification unnecessary, if not entirely useless; and it is expensive to fortify."

Judge Speer discussed the worldwide political changes since the day of President Taylor, when it was first announced that this country's intention was not to fortify the canal.

"Our title to the route of the canal is unchallenged, and is as clear as our title to the channel of the Hudson or of the Mississippi. Other nations than Great Britain and Panama are neither parties nor privies to the treaty. If other nations not parties to the treaty, because belligerent interest, we will be morally bound to keep the canal neutral as to them."

"No other nation, not even Great Britain guarantees neutrality for us. If then we are belligerent and helpless, a hostile fleet might blow up the locks and destroy the canal without violating any rule of international law."

"Is the commerce of the whole world, for the neutrality of which within the canal we now become guarantor, so free from difficulties and intricacies that we can rely upon the civil servants of the Government to enforce this obligation? Is not the honor of the nation pledged, is not its dignity, character and influence at stake? Will not the nerve centre of international strategy be located there, at the instant of the first successful passage through its locks and channels of a mighty battleship from either ocean to the other? Are we now so isolated that we may safely give no heed to the perfect militarism, and the gigantic steel clad squadrons of the grand old world beyond the deep? Can we afford to ignore the uncounted millions and the racial animosities of resurgent Asia? Do we appreciate the astounding mobility of modern fleets and armies?"

"Have Americans forgotten Sir Peter Parker's attack on Charleston, and how the stout Palmetto logs of Fort Moultrie and the stouter hearts of its defenders drove Sir Peter away?"

Should we fortify the Panama Canal?

Should a man put up a gate at the entrance of his garden path to keep out undesirables? If the man didn't put up the gate and his garden was filled with traps, would it do him any good to declare that his garden had been neutralized?—Exchange.

A warrant has been issued for L. B. Tuten, a prominent citizen of Brunson, Hampton county, charging him with the murder of J. R. Langford on November 29th last.

Harvey Goodson was shot and killed at Easley, Greenville county, Tuesday by Ode Fletcher.

DARK HORSE ENTERED.

BUT DEADLOCK IN LEGISLATURE UNBROKEN.

Cary, Brice, Sheppard and DeVore Received Votes in Today's Balloting—Memminger Lost More Votes than Watts or Fraser—Dark Horse Candidates Failed to Stampede Legislature.

Columbia, Feb. 14.—The deadlock in the election for the Fifth Associate Justice of the Supreme Court remains unbroken and the end is not in sight. Several dark horse candidates were sprung on the joint assembly today but the effort to stampede the supporters of the three original candidates failed.

The sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth ballots resulted as follows: Memminger 55 49 45 Watts 62 62 56 Fraser 46 43 42 J. P. Carey 0 6 13 Brice 0 2 0 C. C. Sheppard 0 1 0 DeVore 0 0 4

Columbia, Feb. 15.—Nineteenth and twentieth ballots for Associate Justice resulted as follows: DeVore being withdrawn: Memminger 52, 48; Watts, 57, 56; Fraser 43, 47; Carey 10, 12.

Third ballot today: Memminger 50; Watts 59; Fraser 47; Carey 8.

Columbia, Feb. 16.—The voting today for a Fifth Justice for the State Supreme Court resulted as follows: Carey withdraws on first ballot, Memminger 49, 43; Watts, 60, 61; Fraser 50, 57.

Third ballot: Memminger 45; Watts 61; Fraser 57; necessary to choice 82.

IT PAYS TO BE A BIG LEAGUE.

National Draws Down Bonus of \$500,000 and Free Balls for Twenty Years.

New York, Feb. 15.—For a bonus, it is said, on good authority to be \$500,000, the National League of Professional Baseball Clubs in session here today, made a 20-year contract with a prominent sporting goods firm to use a baseball of its manufacture for the official league ball.

Heretofore, it has been commonly supposed, even among the players, that the big leagues paid about 97 cents apiece for balls which sell at retail at \$1.25. But the developments of today show that they not only receive all the balls they use free but a very considerable sum of cash besides.

The ball in question is made in Chicago and the contract commences with the season of 1912.

The league schedule was adopted today without change and the schedule already prepared and sent out stands for the season. This shows that all of the clubs will travel a grand total of 89,733 miles during the season.

MILLS WILL REDUCE OUTPUT.

Number of Factories Which Have Held Aloof From Curtailment Wave to Cut Production.

Boston, Mass., Feb. 15.—A number of New England cotton mills which have not participated in the general curtailment movement recommended by the Arkwright club will go on a short time basis this week because of unfavorable market conditions.

The New Bedford fine goods mills have been reducing the output for several weeks. Tonight some of the Fall River mills will shut down until Monday and renew the four days a week schedule. Others will stop Saturday only.

Brandenburg Must Pay Fine.

Jefferson City, Mo., Feb. 15.—The fine of \$500 imposed on Broughton Brandenburg, the author, by a St. Louis court, for kidnapping his stepson, was affirmed by the supreme court of Missouri today.

They are never alone that are accompanied with noble thoughts.—Sir Philip Sidney.

John Keefe, a prosperous young farmer of Marlton county, killed himself Monday.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

LICENSE REMOVED FROM MANUFACTURERS, AND REDUCED TO \$25 ON AUTOMOBILE DEALERS.

In Short Session Several Matters Are Discussed and Some are Acted Upon—Committee on Lights to Report Later.

At the regular semi-monthly meeting of City Council held at 6 p. m. in the council chamber, with all members of council present except Aldermen McLaurin and Booth, Council went to work to revise the city ordinance so as to remove the license tax from manufacturers in the city and to reduce the license tax on automobile dealers down from \$100 to \$25.

The meeting was an uneventful one. After the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved the matter brought up by Mr. L. C. Dove at the last meeting of Council asking for a refund of part of the license paid last September, and which was inadvertently omitted at that time, was again brought up and after a short discussion was refused, council thinking it best to take the same action in this case as they had taken in previous similar cases.

Mr. Glenn reported for the Fire Committee that he was getting in shape a report to hand in stating the needs of the fire department and that the council would find those needs many.

The committee appointed to look into the light proposition reported that it was not yet ready to make its final report, so the matter was postponed until the next meeting of council.

Mr. Glenn reported that the present city electrician refused to keep his position at the present salary and that he was in favor of keeping him at the increase of salary asked for. Mr. McKeiver also thought it best to keep Mr. Lynam as electrician, as efficiency was what was needed and he had given efficient service in the past.

Dr. Mills, the city physician, was present, having been called upon to make his report. He stated that in the first five months that he was in office that his services had been called for very frequently, and that he had made on an average of 60 calls per month, after that he had made only an average of 15 calls per month. He stated that he had visited and inspected the pupils of the Washington street school and the Girls' High school but had not yet visited the Boys' High school.

There was some discussion on the part of council as to whom the City Physician should report and as to what exactly were the duties which should be required of him. It was decided to postpone action in the matter until the next meeting of council when Dr. Mills could make a full report of what he had done since he had been in office and until the minutes of the meeting at which he was elected could be looked up and the duties of the physician found.

A letter from Mayor Gibbs of Columbia was read. He stated that he was at that time going on a visit to Ohio, and that after his return from that place he would communicate with the City Clerk and let him know when it would be convenient for him to come. He later sent a verbal message in which he advised that no steps be taken in the matter until later on. Mr. Fraser, for the county delegation in the Legislature wrote that a bill providing a commission form of government for towns of 8,000 or less, had been already introduced into the legislature and that the Sumner county delegation would do all in its power to see that the bill passed.

A communication was received from Richard Bossard, a colored hack driver, asking that money for an unused license be returned to him. It was decided to look into the matter and act on it at the next meeting.

A letter from Mr. Robert Brand, on behalf of the A. C. L. railroad, was read. Mr. Brand stated that the matter of providing better lights for the station would be taken up with the proper head authorities with a view of having the lights put in where they were necessary.

Mr. Powell asked that he be given a lower rate of license for six months, the time that he expected to stay here. Mr. Hurst stated that Mr. Powell had been here two months and that he had not paid anything in that time. Mr. McKeiver moved that city accept \$10 from Mr. Powell and not require any further license for the remaining four months, this action to be subject to revocation of council at any time, provided that Mr. Powell made his shoeing gallery a nuisance. Mr. Rhame moved that Mr. Powell's request be refused. This motion was defeated and Mr. McKeiver's motion was carried.

A letter from Col. Thomas Wilson, president of the Northwestern railroad company, was read. Mr. Wilson

asked that his road be given a reduction in the license on railroads in the city as his road had no terminals here, but leased terminal facilities from the A. C. L. railroad. The request was refused.

A letter from Mr. T. B. Jenkins, as to license for automobile dealers was next read. Mr. Jenkins asked that license be reduced, showing that in other cities, license was much lower than it was here. Council discussed this matter for quite a while. The fact was brought out that the license was made high at the supposed request of the automobile association in order to keep persons from going into the business of selling automobiles for a short while in order to secure one in this way for themselves, after which they would drop out of the business.

Mr. Rhame wanted the license made the same as it was on other businesses, 50 cents per \$1,000 on sales, and Mr. Wright made a motion to this effect. This motion was afterwards changed by Mr. Wright to \$25. Mr. Glenn substituted a motion that the license be made \$50. Mr. Glenn's motion was defeated on a tie, the Mayor voting against it, and Mr. Wright's motion was passed, and the clerk was asked to change the City License Ordinance to read to that effect.

Mr. Cuttino brought up the fact that loose mules had been driven along the street. It was found that there was no ordinance to prevent this, and it was moved and carried that the clerk draw up an ordinance forbidding loose mules or horses being driven along the street.

Mr. Rowland asked that the license on old "hoss" sale be removed from the A. C. L. railroad as they brought much trade and money to the city. It was decided to grant his request as the company was already required to pay one license for operation in the city.

Mr. Rhame then brought up a matter which he had started to bring up several times previously during the evening. He wanted the license tax removed from manufactories, at least those which did the majority of their business outside of the city. Mr. McKeiver wanted the tax removed from all or to remain as it was, saying that he thought that those manufacturers that kept money from going out of the city needed to be exempt as much as those which brought money into the city. Mr. Wilder suggested that the license be removed from those who did half of their business outside of the city.

Mr. Jennings spoke in favor of taking the license from those who did as much as half of their business outside of the city. A motion was then made that the license be removed from all manufactories. This motion was carried and the clerk was asked to change the ordinance, removing all license tax from the factories.

Mr. Wright then made his report for the police and light committee. He asked that council confirm his action in having the light removed from the middle of the alley way known as "Wall street" to the rear of the alleyway so that it would light up the lot to the rear of the neighboring buildings. This was done. It was also decided to move the light from the side of the Academy of Music to the rear of that building so that it would light the lot to the rear of the Academy and city hall.

Mr. Wright reported for the committee appointed to look into the escape of Harper after his killing of Ed Bossard, that the committee had made out their report and would have handed it in, but for the fact that they had discovered evidence that afternoon more important than any they had yet learned, and that they had not had time to ferret it out. He said that the report would be ready by the next meeting of council.

He then made his report for the Police Committee as to the small pox scare. He said that he had been called upon to furnish wood, medicine and food for the guards and for those shut up in the house. He wanted to know if he had authority to do this and if he should continue to do it. He was told that he should, as the people were under the charge of the city and had to be supported by the city for the time being.

In this matter it was asked if it were not better to establish a pest house in the city for the cases of small pox, but in view of the fact that it would greatly increase the city expenses and would probably not do any more good than the steps being taken now, it was deemed advisable not to establish any pest house.

In this connection it was brought out that Mr. Towles, the city health officer, was vaccinating from fifty to one hundred persons per day and that he had asked that he be given a policeman to go the rounds with him at night to vaccinate those whom he could not find at home in the day time. It was deemed advisable to do this, and if Mr. Towles was not able to go around at night after attending to his work in the day time, it was thought best to get another man to do this night work.

A vote of thanks was given to Mr. J. H. Chan-Her for the work that he

had done in looking over the census returns at Washington.

Mr. R. J. Watts asked permission to throw packages of goods from the top of the Goodwin Bros. store. He said that the goods would be something that could be used and that it was done as an advertisement. His request was refused as it was thought that doing this would cause trouble.

Mr. Hurst asked that steps be taken to get some money into the city treasury as there was not enough on hand to meet current expenses. This matter was discussed for some time, after which it was decided to allow the Mayor and Finance committee make arrangements with the bands to get money.

The result of the election was then read and it was decided that steps be taken towards getting the bonds issued and the work started as soon as possible.

RESPONSIBILITY ON WILSON.

Resolution Debaring Removal of Furniture From Hall of House.

Columbia, Feb. 16.—Newspaper readers generally seem to misunderstand the effect that passage of the Daniel resolution by the house Wednesday afternoon will have on the State ball. The resolution provides that the furniture shall not be removed from the hall of the house, if in the opinion of the sergeant-at-arms such removal would damage the furniture. This merely puts the question up to the Sergeant-at-arms J. S. Wilson, of Lancaster. Apparently the author of the resolution feared to present the issue squarely. It is certain that on a record vote upon the plain question, "Shall the State ball be barred from the hall?" the resolution could not have been passed. There was a good deal of more or less silly talk about the visitors here between sessions having an inalienable right to view the hall, etc. As a matter of fact, the hall is locked up when not in use, which is the greatest part of the year. Representative Rembert's sudden opposition to the holding of the ball in the State house is ascribed to Blease influence. Mr. Rembert is himself a former member of the South Carolina club, the organization which gives the dances.

WILL BLEASE HAVE OPPOSITION?

Politicians Already Wandering Who Will Win in Primaries in 1912. Columbia, Feb. 16.—Politicians have already begun wondering if Governor Blease will have opposition in 1912, when he will undoubtedly ask the people of the State for another term. Should some man beat Mr. Blease to the nomination in the primaries, all precedents in South Carolina will have been broken. The present executive's opposition to Governor Ansel in the campaign two years ago sets a precedent for opposing the second term of governors, and it is most likely that future candidates for this office will have at least two precedents. Mr. Blease has not made many friends among his former enemies, it is declared, and there be those who declare that he has lost out to some extent among his own following. Much depends on his acts after the legislature adjourns whether or not there will be a lively campaign in the summer of 1912.

BILL AGAINST SCALPERS.

To Protect the Public as Well as Corporations.

Columbia, Feb. 16.—Those who have had to pay theatre ticket speculators large sums will hope that the bill which has just passed second reading in the house, imposing a penalty on scalpers, will become a law. Columbia's first bad experience with scalpers came last fall, when speculators got a corner on "Ben-Hur" tickets and made Columbians and other Carolinians pay heavily for the privilege of seeing the play. There was a good deal of protesting, but the theatrical management was powerless to help the public. The bill now before the house includes railroad ticket scalpers and imposes a penalty of \$100 for violation. Any advance over the original price of a ticket makes the person so selling liable to indictment.

GREENVILLE POLICEMAN SHOT.

Prisoner Hurried to Columbia by Officers for Safekeeping.

Greenville, Feb. 15.—While in the act of arresting a young white man named Stoneycypher, "Uncle Tommy" Cureton, the oldest member of the police force in the city of Greenville, was shot and seriously wounded. After shooting Mr. Cureton, Stoneycypher was arrested and officials hastened him to Columbia to prevent violence.

Mr. Cureton was hurriedly taken to a hospital in Greenville. Physicians who are attending him say that he is severely wounded, but that he will probably get well.

They're only truly great who are truly good.—Chapman.