

BIG BANQUET TO BE HELD.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DECIDE TO HAVE BOOSTER MEETING.

Progressive Citizens of Sumter to Get Together for A Larger and More Progressive City—Much Interest Taken.

At a meeting of the Executive Board of the Chamber of Commerce held Monday afternoon in the office of President Jennings, plans were launched for a big "get-together banquet" for the Chamber of Commerce to be held March 14th at which time the organization will be placed in a better position for the upbuilding of a bigger, busier and better Sumter. It is hoped that the "get-together banquet" will create a wide-spread interest, on the part of the progressive citizens of the city, in the Chamber of Commerce and the work which it is striving to accomplish.

In speaking of the banquet to a representative of the Item President Jennings stated that it was an effort on the part of the progressive and wide awake citizens of Sumter to get together and have a general boosting blow out in the interest of a greater Sumter.

Already a considerable amount of interest is being manifested in the banquet by the leading and representative business men of the city, and the indications are that it will be one of the largest banquets of its kind pulled off in the history of Sumter. It is hoped that at least three hundred of Sumter's progressive citizens will attend the "blow-out" and participate in the speech-making. While no announcements have been made by the committee on arrangements it is understood that out of town speakers will be present and that a number of local business men are scheduled for "boosting" speeches.

NO NEGRO NOTARIES WANTED.

County Clerk Asked to Hold up Commissions of All Negroes and Notify Governor.

County Clerk of Court L. I. Parrott Tuesday received a letter from Governor Cole L. Blease asking him to make sure that no colored person registered on his books as notary public. He said that in case a person of this color by some chance received a commission from his office please to hold it up and let him know immediately. As soon as he heard of it he would take steps to remove the official head of the colored party holding the commission.

This notice probably means that Governor Blease removed all notaries from office so that he could leave all negroes out of that office in his re-appointment of notaries. It being an office which the incumbent holds at the pleasure of his majesty, the governor and it being the governor's pleasure that no negro notaries be appointed, it seems a difficult proposition for any of them to get around. No negro has as yet applied to Mr. Parrott to register in his office as notary public.

In the past week fifteen more notaries have registered in the county clerk's office, two or three coming each day with their newly filled out commissions to sign up during the pleasure of the governor.

Sumter-Carolina Club Dance.

The Friday Evening Dance Club having recently changed its name to the Carolina Club held its third regular dance on Monday night at the Armory hall with Misses Mayo Reese and Edna Tobin as hostesses.

The spirit of the club is to make as much pleasure as possible, and on this occasion this motto was lived up to in excellent style. The delightful course of refreshments served by the hostesses and the charm of the music and dancing combine to make the occasion enjoyable. The chaperones absorbed themselves in the game of whist, whilst the dancers stepped to the rhythm of the music, as the hours glided by. The club disbanded at 1:30 a. m.

The chaperones were: Mr. and Mrs. John R. Sumter, Mr. and Mrs. R. Dozier Lee, Mrs. Thomas Childs, and Mrs. R. C. Richardson.

The dancers were: Misses Edna Tobin, Kate Tobin, Mayo Reese, Honor Lang, Milana Richardson, Lizzie Richardson, Nannie Richardson, Beatrice Sumter, Aimee Moore, Nancy Moore, Virginia Sanders, Alice Childs, Clara Childs and Malissa Boykin.

Messrs. Perry Brown, Allen Brown, L. C. Bryan, James Bryan, McKenzie P. Moore, Theodore D. Ravenel, Jr., Marion W. Seabrook, Bernard Manning, Irvine Richardson, Seaman Richardson, William Crowson, James Graham, Marion Scott, Murray Nelson, T. D. Brohan, Wilson Green, Henry Moses, Herbert Moses, George Warren, R. H. Allen, Kenneth Harby and Moultrie DeLorme.

It is easy to believe anything that is of no importance.

IN THE RECORDER'S COURT.

Many Cases Come up Before The Recorder for Adjustment.

There were several cases tried in the Recorder's court Tuesday but they were pushed through in a hurry by the Recorder.

The first case was one against Julius Edwards, Jr., for riding a bicycle on a forbidden sidewalk on Liberty street. He was given the choice between a fine of \$1.00 or two days.

Solomon Lewis was called up for discharging firearms in the city limits. He pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to pay a fine of \$15.00 or to serve 30 days.

Shaw Davis for being drunk and discharging firearms in the city limits was fined \$25.00 or made to serve 30 days on the county gang.

John Washington for public drunkenness and disorderly conduct, to the first of which charges he pleaded guilty, was fined \$5.00 or made to serve 10 days.

Harte Johnson for exceeding the speed limit in an automobile was forced to pay a fine of \$3.00.

Calvin Pringle, a young man of color, was charged with disorderly conduct and resisting an officer. It seems that he refused to move out of the gateway at the A. C. L. passenger station yard Sunday afternoon when he was asked to do so by Officer McKagen and then when Mr. McKagen put him out of the gateway, he made threats against Policeman McKagen. He was immediately arrested and Monday he was tried by the Mayor in his absence, found guilty and sentenced to lose his bond of \$10 or to serve 30 days on the county gang.

SHOOTING AT BENNETTSVILLE.

Gary Smith Kills LaFayette Rivers. "Double" Brothers-in-Law.

Bennettsville, Feb. 18.—C. LaFayette Rivers was shot and instantly killed here this evening by W. Gary Smith. The homicide occurred in a room in the rear of the Matheson building, on Broad street, near the Bennettsville and Cheraw depot. No one else was in the room at the time of the shooting. Rivers was shot in face, just below the eye, the ball entering the brain. Smith was shot in the neck, the ball entering from the front slightly to the right, and passing through the neck. The testimony and circumstances indicate that Rivers fired the first shot.

The homicide was a deplorable affair. Rivers married a sister of Smith and Smith married a sister of Rivers. The deceased was about 37 years old and leaves a widow and two children.

Smith is about 35 years old and his wife and three children are living. Smith was arrested and is in jail. The coroner's jury returned the formal verdict.

Smith's wound is not regarded as necessarily fatal. The two men, with other friends, had been in the room several times during the day and all had been drinking. A two-gallon jug, partly filled with corn whiskey, was found in the room.

MOONSHINING IN UNION COUNTY

Beer Still Captured Near Jonesville—Prosecution May Follow.

Union, Feb. 20.—On last Sunday morning Deputy United States Marshal H. H. Hicks, Constable R. D. Kitchens and John Whitlock left Union at 1 o'clock and went to the plantation of Mr. N. B. Elson, about three miles and a half east of Jonesville, and captured a still. They arrived about 5 o'clock and at 6 that morning made the raid. They captured 150 gallons of beer and probably 75 gallons of low wine and a still of about 100 gallons capacity.

They poured out the beer and low wine. Tracks led to a certain house nearby and it is probable that the guilty party or parties will be prosecuted.

UNUSUAL HOUR FOR COUNCIL.

Mayor and Aldermen of Gary, Ind., Have Session at 4:15 a. m.

Chicago, Feb. 18.—If there is anything in the adage about early rising, then health, wealth and wisdom are due the common council of Gary, Ind. Members of the council attended a special meeting at 4:15 o'clock this morning.

The setting of this ghostly hour by the Mayor was a development in a fight concerning the handling of a lawsuit in which the city is interested. The Mayor is said to desire the withdrawal of the suit and the early risers, chilled and sleepy, had their revenge when they defeated a resolution to that effect.

We think no greater bliss than such
To be as he we would,
When blessed none but such as be
The same as be they should.
—William Warner.

DON'T LIKE BLEASE METHODS.

GOV. BLEASE ORDERS WHISKEY CASES TO MAGISTRATE.

Ho Had Heard City Would Cut Water Off From Governor's Mansion If Veto Was Sustained.

Columbia, Feb. 21.—Gov. Blease has instructed his whiskey constables in Richland county not to bring any more cases before the recorder of the city of Columbia. He has instructed them to bring all violations of the dispensary law before a magistrate.

Gov. Blease said that the fines received from the cases of violation of the dispensary were considerable and that he would see that none of "his" went into the city treasury of Columbia. Gov. Blease takes the position because there was some talk of cutting the water off from the governor's mansion should the veto of the item of \$7,500 for water have been upheld. There is some question as to whether the governor's mansion is a public building or not.

The personnel of the constabulary for Richland county is as follows: E. L. Kibler, chief; J. W. Henderson, G. W. Coleman and W. S. Taylor, Mr. Kibler said yesterday that he had not received instructions from Gov. Blease.

The amount of revenue derived from the bringing of whiskey cases before the recorder can not be definitely estimated. The amount depends on the activity of the constables.

SWIFT INCREASES CAPITAL.

Additional \$15,000,000 Voted by Stockholders Brings Total to \$75,000,000.

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 15.—Net profits of Swift & Co., for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1910, were, according to the figures presented at the annual meeting yesterday, \$7,050,000. This is equal to 1.75 per cent on the outstanding capital of \$60,000,000. These profits compare with 13.66 per cent earned in 1909 and 12.60 in 1908. The company paid 7 per cent in dividends, leaving \$2,850,000 to be carried to surplus, which item now stands at \$24,850,000.

The stockholders voted to increase the capital to \$75,000,000. Shareholders of record January 16 will have the right to subscribe in proportion to their holdings one share of new stock for each four shares previously held.

The financial statement submitted at the meeting of stockholders showed an increase for the year of \$2,000,525 in cash and \$2,558,700 in accounts receivable. The inventory jumped \$6,749,471, being \$33,795,488, against \$27,046,017 the previous year.

Among the liabilities, bills payable increased \$10,622,550. This of course, is offset by the gain in quick assets.

L. F. Swift, president of the company, said among other things to the stockholders:

"Swift & Co.'s result sheets show less than 3 per cent profit on sales during 1910. A profit is made on products, which were wasted before we had learned how to utilize them by the aid of modern machinery and scientific handling.

"There is no industry in which the selling price follows the cost more closely and with so small a margin of profit.

"During periods of plenteous supply, and lower prices for live stock and finished product, the producer may be dissatisfied, and criticise the packer.

"During the periods of short supply, and consequently higher prices for live stock and finished product, the consumer may be dissatisfied and criticise the packer.

"Thus it is seen that the packer is indeed a "middleman," but the fact is lost sight of that with varying costs and selling prices the packer receives a uniformly small margin of profit on sales. While Swift & Co.'s profit is under 3 per cent on sales for the year, we believe, considering all conditions, that this result is satisfactory.

"The report shows that a record corn crop has been harvested in the United States, which should be gratifying to cattle raisers and packers as well as those interested in industries dependent upon the crops of the country, and I believe the prospects are reasonably good for satisfactory business for the year to come.

"We are obliged to pay higher prices for raw material than formerly, and it takes more money to do business now than in times past. It also takes more capital for construction of plants and buildings and the operation of facilities necessary to handle and keep our various products up to the high standard requirements, and your board of directors think it advisable that the capital stock be increased from \$60,000,000 to \$75,000,000."

It is announced that "last year we imported \$200,000,000 worth of embroideries." Please note how we blow in our money just to please some folks we like.—Wilmington Star.

WOMEN REBEL AGAINST BAN.

Female Employees of Russian Government Are Up in Arms Over Czar's Latest Edict.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 18.—The women employed by the Russian state as functionaries of posts and telegraphs are in rebellion. The government, having acknowledged their civil rights by making them functionaries of the telegraph and post department, has curtailed their natural rights by forbidding them to marry any but functionaries of the same department. They now complain that this edict condemns them to sempiternal spinsterhood, because the male officials are too poor to wed. Accordingly they have forwarded a petition to a member of the parliamentary opposition, who will publicly question the postmaster general respecting this view of matrimony.

LEGISLATIVE STANDING COMMITTEE.

Senators and Representatives Who Have Been Selected for Extra Work.

Columbia, Feb. 19.—The following standing committees for the recess have been announced by Lieut. Gov. C. A. Smith and Speaker M. L. Smith:

The committee to examine into expenses and appropriations for State educational institutions, Senator J. W. McCown and Messrs. J. F. McDow and S. T. McKeown.

Committee to examine into books and accounts of penal and charitable institutions, Senator G. K. Laney and Messrs. Olin Sawyer and O. L. Sanders.

Committee to investigate and check up books of certain State officers, Senator L. M. Lawson and Messrs. W. C. Vlavent and J. R. Harrison.

Committee to investigate progress of code commission, Senator Robert Lide and Messrs. L. M. Gasque and Geo. W. Mower.

As Gov. Blease has not yet signed the act to investigate the dispensary affairs, Speaker Smith has not appointed the members of the commission. He will make the announcements later. Lieut. Gov. Smith has appointed Senators G. W. Sullivan of Anderson, H. B. Carlisle of Spartanburg and John H. Clifton, of Sumter.

THE WASH HUNTER CASE.

Supreme Court Takes Action in Case of Man Paroled by Governor Blease.

Columbia, Feb. 21.—"Hold remittitur in Wash Hunter case until further order of Court," Associate Justice Eugene Gary has telegraphed Clerk Brothers of the Supreme Court. Hunter's appeal to the Federal Supreme Court was fruitless and the State Supreme Court has upheld the court below, which gave the defendant a sentence of eight years for manslaughter. The stay of the remittitur keeps the case within the purview of the Supreme Court.

Governor Blease yesterday paroled Hunter until July, when Hunter expected to make an application to the Circuit Judge for a new trial on the ground of after-discovered evidence. Such motion could not be made until the remittitur should be sent down, because until then the case would be in the hands of the Supreme Court.

ZACH MCGHEE GROWS WEAKER.

Condition Alarms Friends — Little Encouragement from Physicians.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Friends of Mr. Zach McGhee, for several years the Washington correspondent of the Columbia State, are considerably alarmed at the fact that his condition shows no improvement. About six weeks ago he was taken ill with stomach and blood troubles, and at first he believed that it was only a temporary character. Since that time, however, he has been growing gradually weaker and his friends are now very apprehensive.

Both of Mr. McGhee's sisters, Misses Helen and Mary McGhee, are with him, and Senators Tillman and Smith and several members of the South Carolina delegation in the House have been frequent visitors at his apartments at the Brunswick. While those who called to ask after Mr. McGhee today are hopeful that he may improve, attending physicians do not throw out much encouragement.

Town Being Washed Into Sea.

Hoquiam, Wash., Feb. 15.—The town of Mcclips is being washed away by the sea and the residents are panic stricken. Half of the summer hotel, containing 325 rooms, has toppled into the water, and the rest of the structure has been abandoned.

The sea wall has collapsed and 100 feet of land along the shore has been cut away. A strip five or ten feet wide is washed away with every tide. The public school building, Forward Brothers' jewelry store and several other buildings went today.

ROMANCE OF OWEN KILDARE.

East Side Orphan Newste and Prize Fighter Became an Author of Note, Through a Woman's Love.

Owen Kildare, who wrote "My Mamie Rose," and who was sometimes called the "Bowery Kipling," died last week at the Manhattan state hospital. Beyond question, he was one of the most remarkable of all the remarkable men who have come out of the tenements. "My Mamie Rose," the work which made his reputation, was an autobiography of his rise from illiteracy to the position of a man who earned his living by writing, and it may truly be said that the wildest flights of imagination could not have framed a more original story. At 30 Kildare could not read or write. He was a prizefighter, bar tender and "bouncer" by profession. His only friends were the men and women of the Bowery. Then, by a romantic meeting with a young school teacher, whom he saved from the insults of a gang of his own friends, the course of his life was entirely changed.

Of course, he was not to blame for his early life. He was born in 1864 on the top floor of a tenement in Catherine-st. His father was Irish and his mother was French. She died when he was born; his father had been dead three months. What would have become of the child is not pleasant to contemplate had it not been for a kindhearted Irish couple on the floor below. When Kildare was seven years old, he received his first pair of shoes and on that same December night, when snow covered Catherine-st. and the Bowery, his drunken foster father took the shoes from his feet and kicked him out into the street. Near midnight he crept back to the door and felt about in the darkness, because he knew the love of Mary McNulty, who, when his own mother was dying, had refused to allow him to be taken to an "institution." The shoes were there, although it had cost her a beating to recover them for him.

An hour later he was in Park Row warming himself in the steam which came up through the sidewalk gratings from the press rooms of the newspaper buildings. While he shivered in the dim light, a boy, little older than himself approached.

"Goin' to sell poppers?" the boy asked.

"Yes," was the reply.

It was his first night as a newsboy, and his new-found friend was "Little Tim" Sullivan.

In seven years, Owen Kildare was the champion of the Park Row, "newsies," and was rapidly developing into a pugilist of merit. Two years more added weight to his body and gave his figure time to knit and he graduated from the ranks of the "newsies" to become a full-fledged prize fighter.

One of the first places he worked in was "Steve" Brodie's dive, on the Bowery, and after that he became "bouncer" in the dance hall kept by "Fatty" Flynn, an ex-convict, at No. 34 Bond street. In those days one of Kildare's best friends was a youth known as "Skinny" McCarthy, who was no better and no worse than himself. They passed a good part of their time loafing just outside the saloons, and the principal diversion they had at such times was insulting any woman who happened to pass by. One day when Kildare and "Skinny" and a few more of their kind were standing in front of one of their favorite haunts, Kildare idly listening to the remarks of his companions, he suddenly heard a woman say: "And you are men!"

He looked around and saw a slender girl with a look of contempt on her face, staring back at "Skinny" McCarthy's flushed face. Why he did it, he did not know, but before "Skinny" had a chance to give voice to the words on his lips, Kildare knocked him down. Then, with a sweep of his arm, he cleared a space around the girl, and stepped to her side.

"I'd better walk with you a little way," he said gruffly.

He walked with her to her door, and on the way she drew from him his name and an account of his life. Her name she said was Marie Rose Deering, and she was a school teacher. Without her knowing it, he would follow her about the East Side to see that she did not come to harm. But finally one day he plucked up courage to station himself in her path when she was on her way home from school. To his vast astonishment she stopped and said:

"How do you do, Mr. Kildare?"

From that day he was her slave. He was willing to do anything she asked of him. And when one night she invited him to a church entertainment, and gave him a card for it, he consented to go.

"Where is it?" he asked.

"I don't remember," she replied, "but the card shows."

Last night her face was crimson. Whether he held the card upside

down, or just what happened, he never knew, but she had seen that, big man that he was, he was unable to read a line.

The next day he began to study under her direction, starting, like a child, with the alphabet. Kildare gave up his prizefighting and his job at "Fatty" Flynn's dance hall and became a baggage agent, earning \$8 a week. By working day and night he managed to obtain many increases in pay until by 1900 he was earning what he considered sufficient to justify his asking his "Mamie Rose" to marry him.

The wedding was all arranged, the day was set, but when it was one week off Miss Deering died. Kildare never fully recovered from the shock of that tragedy. He was sick for weeks, and when he was able to be up again, it did not seem worth while to continue the fight that he had begun for his "Mamie Rose." He partially drifted back to the old life, and met again the wrecks who hang about saloon doors and sit on the benches in Union Square. In 1901, however, his restless spirit made itself felt, and he went down to Venezuela with a foreign legion that fought on the side of the revolutionists who tried to oust President Castro. This venture must have had a good deal to do with his regeneration, for when he came back, although he was practically penniless, there was some hope in him.

He saw the printed newspaper offer of a prize for a love story and determined to write the story of his own life. He obtained a bundle of yellow wrapping paper and wrote out "My Mamie Rose" with a stub of pencil. Two days later he saw his name in print for the first time.

In the preparation of his story he had met a Miss Leita Russell Bogartus, who was a newspaper writer herself. In a short time they were married, and Kildare continued to write. His fiction was in general demand among the magazines. He even became an associate editor of Pearson's "My Mamie Rose" was followed by three other books, "The Good of the Wicked," "The Wisdom of the Simple," and "My old Bailwick." He was in demand as a lecturer, and had a paragraph in "Who's Who." He was head of the Kildare Publishing company, a trustee of the National Newsboys' association, a director of the Social Betterment movement and a member of the Reformed church.

Then trouble came afresh. Arnold Daly was looking for a play in 1908, and he got the idea that a dramatization of "My Mamie Rose" would take with the public. So Kildare received rush orders to prepare a stage version. It was offered early in the season at Wallack's theatre, under the title of "The Regeneration," and it was a failure. Kildare had written it in nineteen days, and he had worked desperately on it after the manuscript was finished. He suffered a second nervous breakdown such as had visited him when Miss Deering died. Financial troubles followed and a fall in the subway completely wrecked him.

His wife, who had stood by him sturdily hitherto, found it necessary to apply to have him sent to Bloomingdale. From that place he was removed to the Manhattan State hospital on Ward's Island. He never quite recovered, although he was able to take an interest in all around him and was a cheerful patient, the doctors said.

Late last year his wife went to the town in Massachusetts where they had been married and obtained an annulment, retaining the custody of their five-year-old daughter. She immediately married a retired lieutenant commander of the United States navy, but at the same time she made it clear that her interest in her first husband had not been abandoned. She frequently visited him at Ward's Island, sometimes taking their daughter to see him, and she had given orders that she was to be called whenever his condition became serious. Both she and her husband made it their duty to see that Kildare lacked for nothing. She last visited him to the day before he died.

Agricultural Society Meeting.

Editor Daily Item:

On behalf of the faculty of the General Sumter Memorial Academy, I extend a most cordial invitation to all persons interested in the effort to better country life to attend the regular annual meeting of the Sumter Agricultural Society at the General Sumter Memorial Academy on the 15th day of March, next. Matters of unusual interest will come up for discussion and we pledge ourselves to spare no effort to make the occasion of unusual pleasure and profit to all who attend.

Official notice of the meeting will appear in due season, and a call will be made by our local Farmers' Union Club to the County Union to unite with us and thereby greatly promote the success of the day.

John J. Dargan,
President Gen. Sumter Memorial Academy.

Yours may be a bed of roses—but beware of the thorns.