

The Watchman and Southron.
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—BY—
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SUMTER, S. C.

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The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the True Southron in 1866. The Watchman and Southron now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

BLEASE vs. FELDER.

When Col. Felder let go his first broadside against Gov. Blease, we asserted that he had laid himself liable to prosecution for criminal libel, and his more recent publications have strengthened the case against him, unless he can prove the damaging charges he makes against Blease.

Unless Blease takes Felder into court and proves him guilty of libel and slander, the impression will be fixed in the minds of all decent citizens that the man who holds the office of governor is guilty, as charged.

The prosecution of Felder on the criminal charge of having attempted to bribe H. H. Evans will deceive no one and will not serve to distract attention from the charges against Blease.

"Hub" Evans is already under indictment for grafting, and, although he has not been tried and convicted in a court of law, he has been tried at the bar of public opinion.

What matters it if Felder did try to bribe "Hub" Evans as alleged? The only novelty about the charge is that it was Felder who was the agent of corruption and that the effort to pull off the corrupt deal was abortive.

This counter attack on Felder may be good tactics and according to the rules of the game, but the people of South Carolina have been so surfeited on the mess of graft and corruption that they have been fed with ever since the investigation of the dispensary was started that they have no stomach for additional revelations respecting the operations of Evans, Towill, Boykin, Black, Wylie, Rawlinson et al. And if Blease and his personally conducted wind-up commission imagine that they can create a furor and raise a dust, sufficient to obscure the charges against Blease, by prosecuting Felder for the improbable crime of attempting and failing to bribe "Hub" Evans, they underestimate the intelligence of the people they are attempting to bamboozle with this sort of chaff.

Blease is confronted by the most serious problem of his career, and if he fails to face it, like an honest man would, and prove that his hands are clean, he will forever bear the stigma of having used public office dishonorably.

Felder has charged him with having accepted bribes, with having been guilty of political corruption and with various other dishonorable practices. Felder claims to be able to prove all that he has charged and more, and defies Blease to put the matter to the test in the State or United States Courts.

The issue is clearly drawn and it rests with Blease to use the means ready to his hand to establish his own innocence and integrity and prove Felder guilty of slander; or he can lie down under the charges, claiming that he has vindicated himself by having a warrant issued for Felder, the man who makes the charges and offers to prove them, on the allegation that the said Felder, did, some seven years ago, attempt to bribe and corrupt one "Hub" Evans, then a State official, to wit, a director of the State dispensary, drawing a salary of \$400 per annum, and growing rich therefrom.

If Blease is satisfied with this sort of vindication he will obtain from the prosecution of Felder for attempting to bribe "Hub" Evans, as is too easily satisfied, and the legislature should impeach him on the general charge of being a fool and vainly imagining that all the people of the State are likewise afflicted.

Either Felder is a liar and a slanderer, or Blease is both and something much worse besides.

It is up to Blease to clear the matter up and prove where he stands.

The city schools require a larger income than the present tax yields to maintain the present standard of efficiency and pay additional teachers that are needed to carry on the work. That is the whole story. To provide the additional revenue a one-mill special levy for school purposes

LIBEL SUIT DISMISSED.

JUDGE COPEL HOLDS CRITICISMS WERE LEGITIMATE.

Defense Sustained at Every Point. Case Heard at Last Term of Court.

Columbia, June 9.—Holding that the publications complained of were legitimate criticisms in a matter of public concern, R. E. Copes, circuit judge, has signed an order dismissing the three libel suits of \$50,000 each against The State. The plaintiffs were: F. C. Black, E. O. Black and J. E. Black of Columbia. The demurrer interposed by the defense was sustained by Judge Copes at every point. The order was signed by Judge Copes at Orangeburg and was sent to J. Frost Walker, the clerk of court of Richland county, yesterday. The plaintiffs were represented by G. R. Rembert of this city. The action was brought in May, 1910. The demurrer of the defense set forth that on its face complaint did not state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action. The demurrer was interposed at the last term of civil court.

The following is the order issued in the three cases:

"The demurrer to the complaint in the above stated action and argument of counsel pro et con, were heard by me at the second session of the spring term, A. D. 1911, of said court. Upon consideration of the same, and it appearing that the publications attributed to the defendant are criticisms and expressions of opinion on the acts and conduct of the plaintiff in a matter of public concern, and are not defamatory or libellous, and do not tend to impeach the honesty, integrity or reputation of the plaintiff, or to injure his character, or to expose him to public hatred, contempt, ridicule or obloquy, or to injure him in his business or occupation or otherwise, it is ordered that the demurrer be sustained and the complaint dismissed."

These libel suits were brought because of editorial and local articles alleged to have reflected on the plaintiffs during the election of members of present city council, Chas. C. Wilson, one of the candidates for election, being opposed by one of the plaintiffs.

In union there is strength—in the union also.

Send us your job work.

is necessary. The city of Sumter has more than \$75,000 worth of school property and to utilize to the greatest advantage this valuable plant for the development of an educational citizenship an increase of \$2,500 a year in the operating expenses is recommended by the school board. Of course the schools will not be closed if the people refuse to vote the additional school tax, but the growth will be retarded and the efficiency will be decreased. The voters and property owners of Sumter have the opportunity and the power to decide whether or not we are to have better schools in the future than in the past.

The most sensational news recently emanating from Columbia was sent out over the wires yesterday—Gov. Blease declined to pardon Dr. G. C. Bigham, who is a fugitive in foreign lands from a sentence of three and a half years in the penitentiary for the murder of his wife.

When Charleston has a system of modern docks and warehouses, owned by the city, lining its water front in place of the dilapidated and rotten wharves, the rejuvenation of the city will be well started.

It may not be necessary for the Penitentiary directors to formally abrogate the hosiery mill contract, for if they will give Gov. Blease a little more time he will pardon or parole so many of the convicts that there will not be a sufficient number left to operate the mill. This will leave Capt. Graham without redress, as an action for damages would not lie in the event the penitentiary directors could not supply the agreed number of convicts because there were no convicts available.

The Columbia Record advocates a primary election to determine the choice of the Democrats of South Carolina for the Presidential nomination, and among other arguments in support of this plan gives prominence to the contention that the primary will put a quietus to the Blease-Gonzales feud. The Record's suggestion has much to recommend it to the favorable consideration of the Democrats of the State, but we fail to see how transferring the election of the delegates to the national convention from the State convention to a primary will reconcile or eradicate the antagonism existing between Mr. Gonzales and Governor Blease. If there is a Gonzales-Bleaze feud it would probably be carried into the primary and the present bitterness would be intensified.

Candidates are Hustling.

They Realize Just What the 25,000 Extra Vote Offer Means and but Few Will Let it Pass—Get After All Promises.

25,000 bonus votes over and above the regular schedule will be given each candidate for a club of 5 yearly subscriptions to the Item or 10 yearly subscriptions to the Watchman and Southron, if turned in before 8:30 p. m. Monday, June 12.

"Sawing wood and saying nothing," very correctly expresses the status of the contest at present. The contestants are all busy gathering up subscriptions. They are working hard for the 25,000 extra votes which will be awarded for every club of 5 yearly subscriptions to the Item or 10 to the Watchman and Southron during the competition which ends Monday, June 12, at 8:30 o'clock, the full details of which are explained elsewhere.

Is it too late for those candidates who have not devoted much energy to the work of the contest this week to take advantage of this proposition? No, a thousand times no! If they were to start out at once to make a complete circuit of their friends and acquaintances they would be able to accomplish wonderful results. In the short time remaining an energetic, American girl, possessing good old inherent, solid-to-the-core, South Carolina grit, can secure not only one club but can secure several if she makes up her mind to go after them.

There is glory won in making a beautiful race in a contest of this sort. The friends, the good loyal friends of the candidates who are ever

willing to help them be a successful contestant are proud to see their favorite among the leaders, proud to know their favorite is made of the same kind of stuff that characterized their fore fathers, that never submit to an imaginary defeat, that impels them to work even harder with the same determination, the same persistency, the same strength of will, the same charming disregard of obstacles that is attributed to the "Fathers of this Nation."

A Word to Contestants.
Now a word to contestants. Sit right down and make a list of persons who have "promised" to help you with their subscriptions. After this is done make an appointment with them over the phone. Then keep the appointment and see that they keep their "promise." You need their help now more than any other time. Do not let others put you off till later for you have the other "promise" to call on and cannot spare the time.

What others have done you can do. Don't let everybody but yourself keep moving. Let this be like the children's game of "How do you like our neighborhood?" when the most popular decision was always for a "general move." Fix your eyes upon the candidate ahead of you and make up your mind that tomorrow you will pass her in the race. If you succeed in this, look higher still he next day and so step by step you will reach the front rank. Keeping everlastingly at it is what brings success.

HOPE TO SETTLE DISPUTE.

Conference in Wage Controversy Seem More Cheerful After Day's Discussion of Demands.

Washington, June 8.—Two long sessions representatives of the firemen of the Southern railway ad the board of mediators under the Ardman act marked the day's developments of bringing to a settlement the controversy between the Southern railway and its firemen over the wages and better working conditions. The conferees went over the entire situation today, and it was said after the conference this afternoon that they now hope to reach a settlement of the difficulty. The railway's officials will confer with the mediators tomorrow.

MAY HAVE EXCEEDED POWER.

Attorney General Questions Right to Name Attorney.

Columbia, June 9.—Attorney General Lyon will very probably ask the supreme court to decide on the right of the new dispensary commission to employ counsel without his consent.

The commission has addressed a letter to the attorney general, in which it is stated that the commission will stand by its decision to employ the firm of Holman & Holman of Charleston as attorneys.

The attorney general requested the dispensary commission to submit the issue to the supreme court. This request was ignored by the commission. The act governing the work of the dispensary commission requires that counsel shall be employed with the consent of the attorney general. Mr. Lyon refused to consent to the naming of the Charleston firm, because he did not think that the commission needed an attorney. He characterized the action of the dispensary board as being an extravagant expenditure of the State's money.

Following the halt by the State treasurer in refusing to countersign the checks for removing the fund of \$25,000 held by the National Loan and Exchange bank to five banks, located in the home towns of the members of the commission, the commission has made another arrangement. The treasurer refused to sign the checks because four of the banks had not been approved by the financial board of the State as depositories for State funds. The commission will place \$5,000 in the Newberry Saving bank and \$5,000 in the Bank of Bishopville. The last named bank has recently been approved as a depository. The remaining \$15,000 will be placed in the Palmetto National bank of this city.

D. A. R. Election.

At a recent meeting of Sumter's Home Chapter, D. A. R. the following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year:

- Mrs. S. C. Baker, regent.
- Mrs. C. W. Kingman, vice-regent.
- Mrs. Perry Moses, Jr., treasurer.
- Mrs. R. D. Epps, secretary.
- Miss Alice Moses, registrar.
- Mrs. W. S. Dinkins, historian.

NO ENCAMPMENT THIS YEAR.

Lack of Funds Given as Reason by Adjutant General Moore for Calling Off.

Charleston, June 8.—Adjutant General W. W. Moore, who is here today to see about the preliminary target shooting for making up the Camp Perry rifle team, says that there will not likely be any militia encampment this year because of lack of funds. He will go to Fort Moultrie tomorrow to arrange details for the encampment of the Aiken and Lancaster artillery companies in July.

EDITORS HAVING GOOD TIME.

Taking in All That is to be Seen in Little Old New York This Week.

New York, June 8.—The members of the South Carolina Press association, their families and friends, who arrived in New York aboard the Clyde liner Apacoe on Wednesday, are indeed having a gallant time.

The party consists of over 100 persons, who have come to the metropolis on a ten days' pleasure visit after the annual meeting, held in Columbia, last week. The Southerners are certainly taking in all that is to be seen in New York. A large party of them visited Coney Island last evening, and others were preparing for the same trip tonight. The theatres are also receiving their share of patronage, as several of the editors and their families have been liberal in their visits so far to see the summer shows that are now playing. One of them today expressed regret that the Hippodrome was closed, for he said every member of the party had intended visiting this noted theatre.

The editors have been invited to the banquet to be held tomorrow evening by the Cottonseed Crushers' association, which is in convention here. Most of the party are stopping at the Hotel Woodward at Broadway and Fifty-fifth street, in the heart of theatrical district.

DEATH AT PINEWOOD.

Son of Rev. David Hucks Dies of Fever.

Pinewood, June 9.—Eddie Huck, the eleven-year-old son of Rev. David Hucks died of fever at 11:52 last night after an illness of five weeks. The body will be taken to Heath Springs for burial Saturday morning.

Rev. David Hucks is seriously sick with fever himself and Mrs. Hucks is also confined to bed with the same disease. Mr. Hucks and family have the sympathy of the entire community in this sad time of trouble and affliction. All the family sick in bed—the father in an adjoining room does not know his son is dead, the mother ill herself, but still conscious, giving instructions from her sick bed for the burial of her only son; and the little two-year-old girl, the only child now, being cared for by neighbors.

Farmers' Union News
—AND—
Practical Thoughts for Practical Farmers
(Conducted by E. W. Dabbs, President Farmers' Union of Sumter County.)

Poultry Notes.

If you are just starting in to keep poultry have the house good and clean. It doesn't pay to put a good clean lot of fowls into filthy quarters.

Feed only clean, sound, wholesome food. Damaged food of any kind is the dearest in the end. Regularity in feeding is very important. Ordinarily a fowl becomes hungry after going about so long without food, and if not fed again at the allotted time the owner will have to pay for the delay in a shortage of eggs.

Have all fixtures in the house portable, as far as possible—nests, perches, etc., then they can be taken down and outside and cleaned, while if nailed fast, insects soon get in and there will be trouble all the time.

Lice and mites cause a good deal more trouble with poultry than a great many people are aware of, and every care should be exercised to keep them out.—Successful Farming.

Feather Tips.

See to it that every hen on the farm is a good one. No soldiering.

Watch all your hens and see how they lay. One or two poor layers will take the profit right out of the business.

Give your hens something to do every day. Too many rosters give you empty nest boxes at egg gathering time.

Clean up the litter on the floors often. Anything but rigging round in a lot of wet, foul and filthy straw. Give them something better. You wouldn't like it yourself; they don't either.

Snap your finger at the man who tells you that you are wasting money on better stock. You will live to snap your finger at him, not because you are mad but because you are glad.

Leave the door down in front of the laying boxes through the day. Hens like to think they are doing something great off there in the dark. They are, too. Look at the egg figures for the past year!

Dry mashes are the favorite just now with the big egg men. Just why it would be hard to tell. For the most of us believe fairly moist mash is best.

Save money and grit by getting some galvanized iron hoppers. They don't cost much and save a lot. Brood as well as hatch. No use getting a lot of chicks into the world to die for lack of care.

The farther apart you can put roosters that fight, the better. They not only injure themselves but they keep the hens all stirred up. Anything that does that works disadvantageously to your success.

Hustle the eggs out of the boxes Go down several times a day. The closer you can keep up to the hens, the better.

Take more pride in your business. The man who doesn't think much of his business will never have much of a business to think of.—Successful Farming.

COUNTRY VS. TOWN.

President Barrett Discusses Wiles of the Petty Politician.

To the Officers and Members of the Farmers' Union:
Upon my several visits to Washington during the sessions of congress, I have more than ever been impressed with the demagoguery that keeps country and city apart in sentiment and that is a foe to true progress.

I could call by name several congressmen who rode into office by arraying country against city.

The procedure is simple and is one of the oldest tricks in the bag of the politician.

He will go into the country districts during a campaign, and lash sentiment against the city to frenzy.

When the returns are all in you will find that he has been elected by a country majority.

When he gets to Washington, what does he do? Continue to flay the residents of the city, and to take the farmer to his loving breast?

Not so.

He starts upon one of the most cunning straddles he can devise.

For instance, take the parcels post. He probably went through the district before election, promising all the farmers that one of the first things he would do when he reached office would be to get them a general parcels post.

Does he fulfill that promise to the letter?

Not so you could notice it.

He studies the election returns faithfully.

He finds that a large part of the

vote against him came from the cities.

His object, therefore, is to rub the city man's back, and at the same time not to make an enemy of the farmer.

So he frames up a parcels post that lets the farmer ship into the city, but that protects the little city merchant from far-off competition by making no provision for return shipments.

Thus he has given the man in the country a shadow of a redemption of his promise. And he has made a grand-stand play to the man in the city.

This is only given for an illustration. There are many others.

I have seen congressman after congressman get into office by appealing to the class prejudice of the farmer, and then turn straight around and work might and main to get things for the city that he might melt the opposition against him.

It is this sort of thing, the constant lining up of country against city, that is one of the greatest bars to progress.

The city man is often led to believe that the country man regards him with suspicion and hostility and vice versa.

What is the result? They both suffer in the long run.

They hesitate upon uniting in measures in which they are both interested.

When good government is at stake in the State, the county, or nation, they are sometimes as far apart as the poles, when they should be fighting under the same banner.

I cannot too frequently warn you against this hypocritical type of politicians who get your votes under false pretenses, and who incites you to prejudice against people in the cities, when, as a matter of fact, the city and the country have a great deal in common.

I caution you to watch him in action, and to mark him for close attention when he next offers for office.

Men who use these sort of wiles to keep in power are worthy of the support neither of the city nor the country. Where they should be representing both, they really represent neither. They only represent themselves.

Chas. S. Barrett.

THE CLEMSON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

Enrollment Over 700—Value of Property Over a Million and a Quarter—Ninety Teachers and Officers.

Seven full four years courses, in Agriculture, Engineering, etc.

Cost per session of nine months, including all fees, board, heat, light, laundry, and necessary uniforms—\$121.87.

Students who are financially able pay \$40.00 tuition additional.

Scholarships and Entrance Examinations.

The college maintains 124 Agricultural scholarships, and 43 Textile scholarships, worth each \$100.00 and free tuition.

(Students who have attended Clemson College or any other College or University, are not eligible for the scholarships unless there are no other eligible applicants.)

Scholarships and entrance examinations will be held at the County Seats July 14th, 9 A. M.

Next Session Opens Sept. 13, 1911.

Write at once to W. M. Riggs, President Clemson College, S. C., for catalogue, scholarship blanks, etc. If you delay, you may be crowded out.

6-8-11aw-7-13

Mr. James Norton, of Mullins, former congressman from the 6th District, and Mr. E. P. Ellis, of the same place, spent Wednesday in the city as the guests of Capt. E. Scott Carson. Both of these gentlemen are Confederate veterans and Mr. Ellis was a member of Capt. Carson's company. Capt. Carson and Mr. Ellis have not met since the war, although living in the same section of the State.

Governor Blease has started a Wilson Presidential boom. He has just announced in favor of Harmon.—Charlotte News.

There are other things going on about the commencement of the girl graduates. Let the city manufacturers explain.

White Comb Honey.

In one pound sections, now ready. Price 20 cents per section. Also extracted honey at 40 cents per quart. All this season's make, fresh from the hive. Send to my residence, 216 W. Hampton Avenue. I do not deliver. N. G. Osteen.