

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN. Established April, 1850.

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

THE TRUE SOUTHRON. Established June, 1860.

Consolidated Aug. 3, 1881.

SUMTER, S. C., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1912.

Vol. XXXIV. No. 1.

ROOSEVELT A CANDIDATE.

PUTS IT UP TO REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

Offers Himself for a Third Term in Defense of Precedent Although He Repudiates His Own Solemn Pledge Not to Be a Candidate Again in Any Circumstances.

New York, Feb. 24.—"I will accept the nomination for president if it is tendered me, and I will adhere to this decision until the convention has expressed its preference," is Col. Theodore Roosevelt's reply to the letter of seven Republican governors asking him to stand for nomination.

The eagerly awaited reply was given out tonight at Col. Roosevelt's office here during his absence on a trip to Boston. It was unexpectedly brief, but definite.

It follows:

The Announcement.

"New York, Feb. 24, 1912.

"Gentlemen: I deeply appreciate your letter, and I realize the full and heavy responsibility it puts upon me, expressing as it does the carefully considered convictions of the men elected by popular vote to stand as the heads of government in their several States.

"I absolutely agree with you that this matter is not one to be decided with any reference to the personal preference for interests of any man, but purely from the standpoint of the interests of the people as a whole.

"I will accept the nomination for president if it is tendered to me, and I will adhere to this decision until the convention has expressed its preference.

"One of the chief principles for which I have stood and which I now stand, and which I have always endeavored and always shall endeavor to reduce to action is the genuine rule of the people, and therefore, I hope that so far as possible the people may be given the chance through direct primaries to express their preference in a direct election, the principle of the Republican presidential convention.

"Very truly yours,

"Theodore Roosevelt."

"The Hon. William E. Glasscock, governor of the State of West Virginia, Charleston, W. Virginia.

"The Hon. Chester H. Aldrich, governor of the State of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb.

"The Hon. Robert P. Bass, governor of the State of New Hampshire, Concord, N. H.

"The Hon. Joseph M. Carey, governor of the State of Wyoming, Cheyenne, Wyo.

"The Hon. Chas. S. Osborn, governor of the State of Michigan, Lansing, Mich.

"The Hon. W. R. Stubbs, governor of the State of Kansas, Topeka, Kan.

"The Hon. Herbert S. Handley, governor of the State of Missouri, Jefferson City, Mo."

The above named governors assembled at Chicago two weeks ago and drafted a letter to Col. Roosevelt, asserting that there was a popular demand for him to be president again, and urging him to declare himself as to whether he would accept the Republican nomination "if it came unsolicited and unsought."

For two weeks Col. Roosevelt considered the letter, indicating plainly that he had no intention of making a hasty reply.

The Governors' Letter.

The governors' letter follows:

"Chicago, Feb. 10, 1912.

"We, the undersigned Republican governors, assembled for the purpose of considering what will best insure the continuation of the Republican party as a useful agency of good government, declare it our belief, after a careful investigation of facts, that a large majority of the Republican voters of the country favor your nomination, and a large majority of the people favor your election, as the next president of the United States.

"We believe that your candidacy will insure success in the next campaign. We believe that you represent, as no other man represents, these principles and policies upon which we must appeal for a majority of the votes of the American people, and which in our opinion are necessary for the happiness and prosperity of the country.

"We believe that in view of this public demand, you should soon declare whether, if the nomination for the presidency come to you unsolicited, and unsought, you will accept it.

"In submitting this request, we are not considering your personal inter-

COMMISSION BILL PASSED.

SENATE DECIDES FOR IMPROVE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

Measure Will Allow Towns of Between 4,000 and 10,000 to Vote. President of Senate Reversed.

Columbia, Feb. 24.—The bill providing for a commission form of government for towns of between 4,000 and 10,000 inhabitants, that passed the general assembly last session and was vetoed by the governor, was passed over his objections yesterday morning in the senate by a vote of 24 to 9.

This act had already passed the house and has been held up in the senate for consideration since the first of the session.

Senator Carlisle called this bill up, saying that it has been in the senate for consideration for some time and he thought that it should be acted upon.

The bill was then brought to a vote. The senators balloting to overrule the governor were:

Black, Carlisle, Christensen, Clifton, Crosson, Epps, Green, Alan Johnstone, Laney, Lavson, Mars, W. L. Mauldin, T. J. Mauldin, McCown, Montgomery, Muckenfuss, Rainsford, Stuckey, Summers, Walker, Waller, Weston, Wharton and Young.

Those who would sustain the governor were:

Ackerman, Appelt, Bates, Dennis, Earle, Forrest, W. J. Johnson, Stewart, Strait.

The president of the senate announced that the senate sustained the governor in his objections and that the bill was killed.

At this point Senator Clifton moved for a reconsideration of the vote. He said that the senator from Chester was absent but that he had informed him that it is absolutely necessary for the town of Chester to have a commission form of government, and he thought that this measure should pass, the governor's veto to the contrary notwithstanding.

Senators Clifton, Carlisle and others had some discussion with Lieut. Gov. Smith, president of the senate, as to his ruling that the governor's objections had been sustained. President Smith claimed that to overrule a veto two-thirds of the members elected must so vote. Senator Carlisle read from the constitution and contended that two-thirds of the elected members of the senate were necessary to pass on a constitutional amendment, but on the veto of the governor only two-thirds of the members present were necessary. Upon hearing the arguments, Gov. Smith reversed his ruling, called Senator Clifton's motion out of order and announced that the act had been passed over the governor's veto and was now a law of the State.

The act provides that towns of between 4,000 and 10,000 will vote on what is known as the commission form of government. The act provides for a mayor and two aldermen, whose terms of office shall be for four years. The election provisions, as to registration, are governed by the Youman's amendment, specifying the time that qualified electors can register.

Fred Springs to Chester.

Chester, Feb. 23.—The Chester Drug Company, which recently purchased the Star cafe, and will put it in an up-to-date condition, comparing with any in the State, has closed a contract with Fred Springs of Charlotte, N. C., to manage it. Mr. Springs is well known all over the State. His excellent playing on the Sumter baseball team during the State league season of 1908 gave him great publicity. At present he is night manager of the Gem Cafe in Charlotte.

ests. We don't regard it as proper to consider either the interests or the preference of any man as regards the nomination for the presidency. We are expressing our sincere belief and best judgment as to what is demanded of you in the interest of the people as a whole. And, we feel that you would be unresponsive to a plain public duty, if you should decline to accept the nomination of the wishes of a majority of the Republican voters of the United States, through the action of their delegates in the next national convention.

"Yours truly,

"William E. Glasscock, Chester H. Aldrich, Robert P. Bass, Joseph M. Carey, Chas. S. Osborn, W. R. Stubbs, Herbert S. Handley.

"The Hon. Theodore Roosevelt,

"New York City."

CRITICISED WORK OF GREEN.

PAYMENT OF \$1,000 OUT OF CONTINGENT FUND IS TALKED ON.

Members Hold That Money Spent Was Not Earned—Passed Over Veto.

Columbia, Feb. 24.—The payment of \$1,000 of the State's money to Col. L. M. Green, appointed special factory inspector by Gov. Blease, was branded as a farce yesterday morning in the house.

When the two sections of the appropriation bill, especially designed to prevent a recurrence of the "Factory Inspector" incident, were taken up in the house yesterday morning for passage over to the veto of Gov. Blease they precipitated a warm debate.

The governor used \$1,000 of his contingent fund for paying Col. Green for five month's service as special factory inspector last year, after he had vetoed the appropriation for the two regular inspectors. Sections 43 and 44 were accordingly added to the appropriation bill this year with a view to preventing the recurrence of the incident. Both sections were, of course, vetoed by Gov. Blease.

Section 43 reads: "That no executive officer shall use any of the contingent or special funds appropriated to the department of which he is the head for paying for services in discharging whose compensation was not provided for by this appropriation act."

Section 44 reads: "That the appropriations made herein for the officers and employes shall be paid as salaries to the persons holding the positions designated."

After the purport of the sections was explained by Mr. Browning and Mr. Stevenson, and an expose had been made of the farce of paying Col. Leon M. Green, "special factory inspector," \$1,000 of the State's money, when he got the statistics in his report to the general assembly from the records in the office of the commissioner of agriculture, commerce and industries, the house passed section 43 over the governor's veto by a vote of 80 to 14, and then passed section 44 by a vote of 86 to 4.

Of the two vetoed sections the governor's veto message says:

"I disapprove of sections 43 and 44 of your act, because I do not believe that any section or proviso should appear in any act after that which designates when the said act shall take effect upon its approval."

Mr. Rembert defended the action of Gov. Blease in expending \$1,000 of his contingent fund for paying Col. L. M. Green. Mr. Browning and Mr. Stevenson branded the appointment of the special factory inspector as a farce and a waste of the State's money.

When the vetoes of sections 43 and 44 were taken up, Mr. Browning said that in 1911 Gov. Blease had vetoed the appropriation of \$3,200 for two factory inspectors as useless, and his veto had been sustained by the house. Then, in the face of his action, he had appointed "one Leon Green" as factory inspector and paid him \$1,000 out of the contingent fund of his office.

"I want to show you how Gov. Blease's factory inspector spent his time," said Mr. Browning. He then read a letter from Col. Green to Commissioner Watson requesting statistics on the cotton mill industry in Lexington county.

At this juncture, the speaker informed Mr. Browning that his time had expired under the rule limiting speeches to one minute.

Mr. Vander Horst moved to reconsider the vote on which the house adopted the one minute rule, as Mr. Browning, the chairman of the ways and means committee, certainly ought to be allowed time to explain.

Mr. Sawyer said that even if Mr. Browning were allowed time to explain not a single vote would be changed.

Mr. Stevenson declared that now that the governor's veto of the appropriation for chief game warden had been sustained, there was nothing to prevent him from appointing Col. L. M. Green a special game warden and paying him out of the contingent fund of the executive office.

Since the house had been charged by the governor with playing politics in appointing the dispensary investigating committee, this body owes it to itself to hear what the so-called "political press agent" of his excellency has done in the way of factory inspection," concluded Mr. Stevenson.

The house then voted to rescind its action in adopting the one minute

COTTON PRICES ADVANCED.

BAD WEATHER IN SOUTH HELPED RISE TO SOME EXTENT.

Good Demand from Mills Has Served to Counteract Fears of Disastrous Effects of Apprehended Coal Strike.

New York, Feb. 23.—Cotton has advanced owing partly to bad weather at the South and a belief that crop preparations are some two to three weeks late over a large portion of the cotton belt. The destruction of about 100,000 bales at Houston and Bombay had some effect for a time. The persistent trade demand from European and domestic mills, however, has counterbalanced to a very great extent even the danger of a colossal coal strike in Great Britain, involving some 80,000 men. For the time being, about the only effect is to cut down the spot sales in Liverpool and to cause some restriction of trading in futures on this side. The dry goods market is gradually improving. Prices are firm for all classes of goods and in some cases have advanced. Exports of raw cotton reach a very high total.

It is a remarkable fact that this year European mills have in some cases bought cotton far ahead in the fear that something may happen to the next crop that would send prices back to the dreaded 15-cent level.

The fact that there have been swings in the crop in recent years of 1,000,000 to 3,000,000 makes the weather news and news about crop preparations at this time of special interest. Some Georgia reports are to the effect that the season is remarkably backward and similar reports come from other parts of the belt. It goes without saying that if the start is actually much delayed and really bad, it will, as usual, be exaggerated for speculative effect. On the other hand, the visible supply of American cotton is the largest ever known and with prices at better price-levels, it is not believed that any serious or widespread effort will be made to cut down the acreage materially.

rule on speeches, and Mr. Browning continued.

Mr. Browning then read a letter from Commissioner Watson transmitting the statistics on the Lexington county cotton mills to Col. Green. He also read a letter from Gov. Blease's factory inspector to the commissioner of agriculture, commerce and industries, requesting mill statistics in Richland, Newberry, Union, Orangeburg and other counties, and the reply of Commissioner Watson transmitting to Col. Green the information asked.

Only once did the governor's factory inspector have any trouble in getting second-hand information from the commissioner's office it appeared from the correspondence read by Mr. Browning. This was when Col. Green asked for child labor statistics in certain mills, which the law does not allow Commissioner Watson to make public.

Mr. Browning said that the statistics contained in Col. Green's report were identical with those in Commissioner Watson's report.

"This report from Col. L. M. Green, appointed special factory inspector by Gov. Blease, cost the State of South Carolina the sum of \$1,000," concluded Mr. Browning.

Mr. Rembert defended Gov. Blease. He said, though, that he knew none of the details of the affair nor did he know how Col. Green had gotten his statistics.

"But, be this as it may," said Mr. Rembert, "even if the governor did throw away \$1,000 for Green, it is a fact that his excellency turned back the larger part of his contingent fund into the State treasury."

Mr. Rembert characterized the expose of the "governor's political press agent" as a "petty political trick."

Mr. Stevenson said that at the last session of the general assembly Gov. Blease had vetoed the appropriation for two factory inspectors on the grounds that they were useless. "But his excellency went ahead and created a factory inspector just the same whom he paid out of his contingent fund" added Mr. Stevenson.

"He paid one of his political press agents \$1,000 for reports which the individual got from the commissioner of agriculture, commerce and industries," declared Mr. Stevenson.

"Now, these two sections of the appropriation bill, which the governor has vetoed, prohibit his excellency from putting his political friends in office and paying them with the

WAREHOUSE BOARD ELECTED.

J. W. McCOWN, SENATOR FROM FLORENCE IS CHAIRMAN.

Other Members Are John S. Horibeck of Charleston and T. L. Clinkscals of Anderson.

Columbia, Feb. 24.—J. W. McCown, State senator from Florence, was elected by the general assembly yesterday chairman of the board of commissioners which is to have charge of the State cotton warehouse system, should the act which recently passed stand the test of the courts as to its constitutionality. The other two commissioners elected by the general assembly were Maj. John S. Horibeck of Charleston county and T. L. Clinkscals of Anderson county. All three of the commissioners chosen are farmers.

Senator McCown was chosen chairman of the commission without opposition.

Two ballots had to be taken before the other two members of the commission were chosen. The six nominees were: E. W. Dabbs, Sumter; T. L. Clinkscals, Honea Path; J. Arthur Sparks, St. Matthews; J. T. Harris, Spartanburg; J. M. Polatty, Warrenville.

The first ballot resulted as follows: Clinkscals, 66; Banks, 64; Dabbs, 64; Horibeck, 58; Harris, 22; Polatty, 6. Total number votes cast, 140. Necessary to a choice, 71.

After the first ballot the names of Mr. Harris and Mr. Polatty were withdrawn.

The second ballot resulted as follows: Clinkscals, 86; Horibeck, 74; Dabbs, 58; Banks, 55; McQueen, 1; Belser 1; Polatty, 1. Total number of votes, 138. Necessary to a choice, 70.

President Smith accordingly declared Mr. Clinkscals and Maj. Horibeck elected.

The warehouse commission will consist of three members, one of which will be its chairman at a salary of \$2,100 a year. The terms, two, four and six years, are chosen by lot. He will appoint a manager, whose salary will be determined by the commission and there are to be cotton weighers, cotton graders and other necessary help for conducting such a warehouse.

The chairman of the commission will have other duties looking toward the agricultural welfare of the State, and to help him in this he is allowed to hire a clerk at \$1,000 per annum.

For the acquisition of property, the erection of buildings and the maintenance of the system a bond issue of \$250,000 is allowed, to be taken up in 30 years, and this is to be on the visible property acquired by the commission and in no sense will be regarded as a debt of the State. The commission is allowed a contingent fee of \$5,000.

YOUNG EDGEFIELD FARMER SHOT.

C. H. Cobia Wounded by W. M. Reardon in Store at Edgfield—Wounds May be Serious.

Edgfield, Feb. 23.—C. H. Cobia was shot twice in the store of May & Prescott this afternoon at one o'clock, by W. M. Reardon. Both of the men are young farmers of the Pleasant Lane section who reside within half a mile of each other, they had a difficulty several days ago at Mr. Cobia's home which resulted in the shooting of Mr. Reardon by Mr. Cobia, the wound being only slight.

The two men came to town today and on meeting face to face in May & Prescott's store, Mr. Reardon drew a revolver from his pocket and began firing on Mr. Cobia without a word being passed by either. The first shot took effect in the chest and the second in the abdomen, a third shot went wild, his hand being raised by one of their witnesses who stepped between the men. Mr. Reardon surrendered to the sheriff and is now in jail. The wounded man is in a precarious condition and will probably be carried to Augusta for a surgical operation. The unfortunate affair is greatly deplored by their friends.

State's money," continued Mr. Stevenson.

As to the large contingent fund which the governor had turned into the State treasury, in spite of the \$1,000 out of it he paid to Col. Green, Mr. Stevenson said that one reason for this was that Gov. Blease had refused to pay the rewards which his predecessors had offered for the capture of criminals.

APPROPRIATIONS VETOED.

LOWER BRANCH PASSES ON A LARGE NUMBER OF ITEMS IN THE BILL.

Governor Blease Disapproved Thirty Items—He Was Sustained on Two of Seventeen Last Night While Thirteen are to be Considered.

Columbia, Feb. 24.—Gov. Blease sent to the house last night a special message vetoing 30 items in the appropriation bill. The house sustained him on two items and voted to override his veto on 15 items.

Roll call followed roll call. The house worked until 12.10 a. m. but 13 of the vetoed items were left unconsidered.

The veto in which the governor was successful reduce the total of the appropriation bill by \$3,900. One of the items upon which the house sustained his veto cuts off the appropriation for the salary of the chief game warden, James Henry Rice, although there is a statute which provides for his compensation.

At 11:55 p. m. the house took a recess for six minutes in order that the legislative day might not be unduly extended. At 12:01 a. m. it reconvened and began a new legislative day, but at 12:10 a. m. the house took a recess until 10 o'clock this morning.

The vetoed items which have not yet been considered follow:

For improvements and repairs State Hospital for the Insane, \$1,500

Salary board of pardons, \$400.

Interest likely to accrue on bonded debt, \$10,000.

For tabulating election returns, \$600.

Tax stamps and blanks for board of fisheries \$400.

Carolina National bank, \$22.50.

Preparing and printing code, if so much be necessary, \$12,000.

Deficit for public printing, \$6,606.41.

Item 18, section 34.

For expenses of dispensary investigating committee if so much be necessary, \$5,000.

Contingent fund for engraving department, \$323.72.

Item 8, section 37.

Sections 43 and 44 of act in entirety.

Vetoes Sustained.

Inspector for railroad commission, \$1,800, vote of 47 to 47.

Salary and traveling expenses chief game warden, \$2,400, vote of 59 to 41.

Vetoes Overridden.

Binding records office of secretary of State, \$1,200, vote of 88 to 9.

Extra clerical services office of comptroller general, \$1,400, vote of 92 to 7.

Stationery and stamps office of comptroller general, \$700, vote of 92 to 4.

Stamps, stationery and printing office of insurance commissioner, \$1,200, vote of 89 to 6.

Actuary for insurance department, \$1,500, vote of 80 to 12.

Office of attorney general, \$7,845, vote of 90 to 6.

Janitor for State house, \$120, vote of 92 to 4.

Interest to sinking fund commission, \$1,800, vote of 84 to 9.

Paving Sumter and Gervais streets, \$1,917.25, vote of 66 to 22.

Special Judge Yancey Williams, \$4185, vote of 82 to 6.

Expenses State board of health, \$2,000, vote of 79 to 7.

Deficit State board of health in 1911, \$4,133.60, vote of 68 to 22.

Teachers' scholarships at University of South Carolina, \$4,300, vote of 84 to 3.

New heating plant State negro college, \$7,000, vote of 77 to 15.

Repairing old heating plant negro college, \$1,000, vote of 66 to 12.

ANOTHER CAVE-IN ON HAUSER STREET.

A cave-in occurred in the city Thursday on Hauser street, making the third which had occurred in the city in the past two days. The hole left in the street is about two feet across and about six feet deep, while the ground is sunk around it for a radius of about six feet.

The hole was first noticed Thursday afternoon by Mr. R. B. DuRant, who came near falling in it while riding by on horse back. Luckily, however, the horse saw the hole and leaped over it. The hole is said to be over the sewer line on that street and supposed to be caused by the same seeping away of the earth through the sewer pipe as caused the other cave-ins on Salem avenue.