

**FEDERAL AID FOR ROADS.**

**Will Request Legislatures to Pass Laws Requiring Convicts to Repair Public Roads.**

Spartanburg, March 29.—After hearing an address by Dr. D. H. Winslow of the United States office of public roads, the Southern Appalachian Good Roads association this afternoon in the final session of the spring convention, adopted resolutions urging more liberal appropriations to the federal office of public roads so that engineering assistance may be given more generally to the State in highway undertaking.

The association endorsed the measure introduced in congress looking to federal aid for the construction and maintenance of a system of national public highways under "the post road" clause of the constitution.

It was decided to request the various State legislatures to pass laws requiring all able-bodied convicts to be employed in constructing and repairing public roads.

Resolutions were adopted emphasizing the necessity for the enactment of speed laws and their strict enforcement.

The next meeting of the association is to be held in Atlanta in the fall.

**LARGE BUILDING IN THE CITY.**

**Model of One of New York City's Largest Buildings Seen at Parrott's.**

A model of the Metropolitan Life insurance company's big building, one of the largest buildings in New York city, and for many years the largest office building in the world, has been on exhibition in the show window of Parrott's Book store for several days. The building, in its miniature form, has attracted much attention, especially at night when it is lighted up with electricity and makes a good display.

**Would Fill the Place.**

Charlotte Observer.

Gen. Willie Jones, who has been chairman of the South Carolina State Democratic executive committee for the last twenty years, has announced his determination not to be a candidate for re-election to this important position. It has been suggested that Major Daniel L. Sinkler, member of the State committee from Charleston County, would make a most excellent successor to Gen. Jones, and this suggestion we would wholly approve, because of our intimate knowledge of the fine executive ability of Sinkler, his capacity for hard work and his conspicuous sense of fairness. He would fill the office with great advantage to the party, and would instate, we are sure, upon the square deal for all the candidates before the people.

What is needed in this office is a thorough-going Democrat, who would administer his trust without partisan bias. Sinkler proved his ability in political affairs by his administration of the office of county chairman in Charleston, which he held for six years, and which he administered to the satisfaction of all factions of the party. Should he be elected chairman of the State committee, he would later upon his duties with a thorough knowledge of political affairs in the State and with the ability to dispose of all questions that might be presented to him, within his prerogative, with excellent judgment, with fine regard to the rights of individuals, to the success of the party and to the good of the State.

**Pellagra and the Corn Pone.**

During 1911, according to a recent bulletin from the office of the State Commissioner of agriculture, commerce and industries, at Columbia, 4,957 bushels of corn, too badly spoiled to feed to mules, were brought into South Carolina from other States. That quantity was arrested by the food stuffs inspector, but no one knows how much escaped their vigilance.

The shippers in of this damaged corn were allowed to send out of the State 3,976 bushels, while 981 were, we presume destroyed.

Until within a year or so the Northern and Western corn brought into this State which was unfit for mule feed has been shipped to North Carolina and Georgia mills, ground into meal and brought back here to be eaten by people. This rotten stuff is said to be the cause of the increasing prevalence of that dread, incurable disease, pellagra, which has filled the asylums with its hopeless victims and the grave yards with loved ones lamented by some relatives.

Pellagra was never known in mountain and hill country, where it is now worst, until the railroads brought damaged corn meal and hominy from abroad.—Barnwell People.

**Be Warned.**

Many a good man, Colonel, has died trying to stretch a double into a three-acker.—Columbia State.

**VERDICT GIVEN ENGINEER.**

**Engineer on Atlantic Coast Line Run Over by His Own Train Awarded \$40,000 Damages.**

Barnwell, March 29.—The third largest verdict to be given by a South Carolina jury and the second largest by a Barnwell jury was returned today in the case of H. C. Huggins against the Atlantic Coast Line railway a verdict of \$40,000 was returned for the plaintiff. The amount asked for was \$75,000.

The plaintiff was an engineer of a freight train running between Sumter and Robbins. At Robbins, October 21, 1909, he was run over by his own train and rendered a cripple. It is claimed that he will be a cripple for life and today was brought into the court house on a cot and during his testimony stimulants were necessary.

It was alleged that the fireman of the train, Peter Wilson, was incompetent and that he took charge of the train at Robbins and the engineer was run over as he was climbing aboard his engine.

The case was begun here yesterday. The defendant's counsel announced an appeal from the verdict of the jury.

About one year ago a Barnwell jury awarded a verdict of \$50,000 to Engineer Menefee against the Southern railway.

**LYON WILL REPLY LATER.**

**Will Answer Blease's Letter About Lexington Bank's Affairs.**

Columbia, March 29.—Asked if he was ready to make any statement further as to the affairs connected with the Lexington Savings Bank, or to make a reply to the letter recently addressed to him by Governor Blease, Attorney General Lyon this afternoon replied that he had been engrossed in other official business and had not had time to prepare a statement; that the affairs of the Lexington bank were progressing regularly in the Federal Courts, and there is no special need for haste, but that as soon as he has the time he will prepare a letter touching on the matters mentioned by the Governor in his recent letters. This will be made public.

Attorney General Lyon today produced a copy of a letter which he wrote Governor Ansel in May, 1910, in re the Lexington Savings Bank matter, and at the bottom of the letter is this sentence: "Enclosed find returned herewith the papers in this matter." This letter was a reply to the one Governor Ansel had written asking for an opinion on the Lexington Savings Bank.

Governor Blease in his letter to Attorney Lyon on Tuesday, stated that he could not find the report which Giles L. Wilson made on the Lexington Savings Bank in 1910 and which was referred by Governor Ansel to Attorney General Lyon, in his office and asking the Attorney General to return the Wilson report to him. The copy of the letter the Attorney General wrote to Governor Ansel stating that the papers in the case were enclosed therewith follows:

"May 4, 1910. Governor M. F. Ansel, Columbia, S. C.—Dear Sir: It is my opinion that the Lexington Savings Bank, which is owned by a private individual, and not incorporated, is subject to the provision of an Act entitled 'An Act to provide for the appointment of a bank examiner, and to define the duties of his office,' approved the 23rd day of February, A. D. 1906. Section 1 of the Act above referred to describes the banking institutions which shall be subject to the authority of the bank examiner, and defines such institutions as 'all banks and banking institutions conducted by corporations or persons in this State.' The language, taken together with the references in the sections which follow, leaves no doubt in my mind that all banking institutions, whether conducted by corporations or natural persons, are within the terms of the Act. Yours very truly,

"J. Fraser Lyon, Attorney General.

"Enclosed find returned herewith the papers in this matter." From this letter it will be seen that the papers in the case in 1910 were returned by the Attorney General to the Governor's office, and Governor Blease stated in his letter to the Attorney General that he could not find them. Mr. Ansel was Governor in 1910, at the time this correspondence took place.

It has been learned that the reason that sand traps were not put in the pipe on South Main street, which has recently been taken out and cleaned and then put back in the ground so that the pond in that section could be drained off, is because the ground is so full of water in that part of the city at present that they cannot be put in now without considerable extra work and expense, whereas they will be put in at very little expense as soon as the water descends in the ground, when the work can be readily done.

**RATHER CONFUSED SITUATION.**

**Few Registration Supervisors Know Just Where they Stand.**

Columbia, March 29.—There is so much dispute and confusion and contest over the appointments for supervisors of registration that even in those counties where there is no contest the appointees do not exactly know whether they are the right ones or not, as is indicated in a letter received by Attorney General Lyon from one of the supervisors of registration in Sumter County. On account of the fact that there was no contest in that county between the Senate and the Governor the Attorney General advised the gentleman that he was the legal supervisor.

The letter of inquiry was written to the Attorney General by Mr. T. D. DuBose, of Oswego, and is as follows:

"In our county there seems to be some little trouble brewing in the registration department, viz. two of the old board have been re-appointed, one has been left off, so to speak. In fact, I have been informed by two members of the delegation, that they, (the delegation) not wishing or desiring to, in any way, antagonize the Governor, made no recommendation. Now suppose that the gentleman who was left off of the old board (not having been recommended to or for re-appointment) and the new gentleman who has been appointed instead, should both appear on the first Monday of April and each claim their seat. Which is the proper and legal member of the board of supervisors of registration for Sumter County?"

"I have been chairman of the board of supervisors of registration continually since 1896, notwithstanding I have once resigned, and at this late day (72 years) of natural life and 16 years of official life, I would most mortally hate to have a single word to say along the line, without the proper legal advice. Especially as both the gentlemen referred to are old Confederate comrades of mine. Now, General Lyon, will you be so kind as to let me hear from you, so that I will be prepared to act should things turn out as they might. While I hope everything will move along smoothly, hoping to hear from you at an early date, etc."

To this General Lyon replied as follows:

"By Section 176, Code of Laws, 1902, Volume 1, the Governor is given authority to appoint members of the board of registration by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, if in session, and if not in session, subject to approval at its next session. It seems that the appointments for your county were made subsequent to the adjournment of the Senate and prior to the 15th of March. This being the case, it is my opinion that the appointees of the Governor may hold the offices until the Senate acts upon them at its next session."

Miss Nellie Mood, of Charleston, is the guest of Mrs. S. W. Stubbs in this city.

**DANCES IN CHURCH.**

**Leading Social Workers Recommends That as a Corrective of the Dance Hall Evil.**

From the New York Sun.

Margaret C. Cummings, who is the principal of the public school vacation centre at Avenue A and Seventy-eighth street and who spends a good part of her time trying to induce the young men and women of that neighborhood to quit "turkey trotting" and "bunny hugging," made the members of the National League for the Civic Education of Women sit up yesterday afternoon when she said that one of the best ways to stop tough dancing in this city would be for churches to give frequent dances for young folks of all kinds in their particular communities. Miss Cummings, in relating her experience as a foe of the "turkey trot" and "grizzly bear," told several stories that seemed to surprise the clubwomen.

Mrs. Gilbert Jones, president of the league, which is distinctly not for woman suffrage, explained in introducing Miss Cummings that the teacher had done much to correct the "frightful dance hall conditions" in this city and that she deserved the active support of all women interested in the moral welfare of New York.

Miss Cummings agreed that dance hall conditions were a good deal worse than most people think. She had begun several years ago, she said, to lead the young men and women who live in the vicinity of the recreation centre over which she presides away from the kind of dancing that produces immorality. It was a difficult task and she had had many embarrassing experiences, but she thought the outcome had justified all the trouble. To begin with, she had got permission from the Board of Education to hold dances in school gymnasiums. She invited to these young men who work all day and must have amusement of some sort. They were told to bring their girls. "And some of these," said Miss

Cummings dryly, "were frankly impossible."

Her guests brought to the school hops a collection of wriggles and writhings, most of which came under the names of "turkey trot," "grizzly bear" or "bunny hug." Before Miss Cummings persuaded them that such dances weren't nice and that lots of fun was to be got out of a waltz or a two-step there were a few awkward episodes.

"At one of the first of these dances," said Miss Cummings, "nearly all of the girls wore big hats. Big hats were the fashion at that time. When the music started I noticed that boys' heads and girls' heads were invisible under these spreading hats. Young men and women were dancing cheek to cheek. I stopped the music and ordered the girls to take off their hats. Several refused and I made them leave the room.

"On another occasion I saw that the girls put their arms around the boys' necks as they danced. I went to the boys and said: 'Now, look here, you mustn't allow the girls to do that. Your necks are your own. Tell them not to do it.' Nearly all of the boys said: 'Miss Cummings, we can't tell them that. They would curse us.' I said: 'All right. Let them. Any boy who is brave enough to be worth his salt can stand a curse.'

"At another dance held in the early stages of the experiment some rather awful things happened. There was 'bunny hugging' with a vengeance. So I stopped the dance and told everybody to go home. I was curious to see what they would do when they got out and I followed a number of them. They went to the Queensboro Bridge, found a place to dance under the arch and there in the dark and without music they 'turkey trotted' and 'bunny hugged' until I got a policeman, who made them stop.

"It's strange what fascination these dances have, I've watched their course for three years. On almost any street corner you can see little children performing these queer steps. That certainly ought to be stopped and could

be stopped. As for the older boys and girls, the best way I know of to correct the evils is to open more public schools and municipal buildings for dancing schools. It's a sensible, rational civic course. Churches ought to be used. Why not? There's nothing evil in dancing and these young people who work all day must have some amusement. Let's make it innocent amusement."

Miss Cummings surprised her audience when she said that she found it harder to persuade girls to give up suggestive dances than she did boys. It was not that boys are more moral than girls, she added, but they are more responsive to good advice, particularly when the advice is given by a woman.

**Attention Veterans.**

The members of Camp Dick Anderson are requested to meet at the Court House in the office of the auditor for the purpose of electing officers and delegates, on Saturday, April 6th proximo.

We hope for a full meeting. Our membership is rapidly diminishing, and some of us can attend but a few more of these meetings. Come out comrades to what will be to some of us our last gathering.

By order of Commander,

W. F. Rhame, Adjutant.

We are not surprised that the senate has declined to unseat Senator Stevenson, this thing of inquiring too deeply into the ways and means used by senators to get their seats must be very embarrassing to the large number of senators who have won out in their fights, and we do not blame that honorable body for trying to put a brake on the wheels of that sort of a movement before it goes so far that somebody will be hurt. A notice to the public ought to be sufficient for anybody.—Florence Times.

Dr. T. M. McCutchen, of Mayesville, was in town on business Saturday.

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