

STATE T. P. A. CONVENTION.

CLOSE OF NOTABLE CONVENTION AT DARLINGTON.

Traveling Men of South Carolina Would Abolish State Railroad Commission, Oppose Parcels Post and Seek Better Sanitation in Hotels, Spartanburg Next Convention City; Delegates to National Convention. List of Delegates.

Darlington, May 3.—Today's business closed the annual convention of the South Carolina division of the Travelers' Protective Association which has been in session for the past two days. As was anticipated, the question of mileage was the one controlling idea in the minds of the delegates, and if the railroad officials of the system could have heard some of the speeches on the Convention floor, they would have at least come to the conclusion the traveling men knew their minds on the mileage book question. Not only were stringent resolutions passed, covering this question, but the recommendation that the present railroad commission be abolished and a corporation commission take its place, was carried and showed the estimate the delegates had of the powers at present in the hands of the railroad commission.

The traveling men are also demanding better sanitation and comforts in the hotels, and around the railroad station.

This Convention was in every way the best that has been held by the travelling men in the State. The men who travel are beginning to take a more serious view of public questions, and in the discussion on the floor showed plainly they realize that the Convention has ceased to be a mere pleasant place to spend a vacation.

The convention spent a busy day attending to routine business, and the election of officers and delegates to the National Convention, which meets in Peoria, Ill., this year. Reports were received and acted upon from all the committees and the subjects covered in these reports kept the delegates busy the better part of the day.

As was to be expected, the report of the special legislative committee was one the Convention was most interested in. This committee gave an outline of the work done before the

last Legislature and made the following recommendations, which were adopted by the Convention. First, "An appeal to the National Association in the effort to induce the Southeastern Passenger Association to change the contract of their interchangeable mileage book, so as to eliminate the exchange feature of same." Second, "By seeking the cooperation of the other States in the Southeastern Traffic Association territory in securing legislation along the same lines as we have." Third, "Upon the failure of either one of these, make an effort to secure a flat rate of two cents per mile for South Carolina."

Next in prominence to the mileage book bill was the discussion of the parcels post, after which the Convention went on record almost unanimously as being against this measure which is before the National Congress.

With the passing of the resolutions the Convention went into the election of officers.

For State president, J. H. Dudley, Columbia; first vice president, Walter I. Parrott, of Darlington. The following vice presidents were elected from the different posts: L. G. Kirby, of Spartanburg; W. W. Moore, of Columbia; John C. Gerrard, of Greenville; C. Van Allen, of Anderson; O. J. W. Marjenhoff, of Charleston; G. C. Hammond, of Greenwood; F. J. Henry, of Sumter; Jno. M. Jones, of Chester, and R. G. Smith, Jr. of Newberry.

Mr. John W. Lillard, of Columbia holds the office of secretary, as he was elected for 2 years at the Convention in Greenwood last year. The delegates to the National Convention are Messrs J. B. Fielder, of Spartanburg; T. H. Dick, of Columbia; J. N. Atkins, of Greenville; R. E. Burroughs, of Anderson; W. A. Livingston, of Charleston; Walter P. Jones, of Greenwood; G. C. Warren, of Sumter; R. L. Blackmon, of Darlington; J. K. Henry, of Chester, and R. D. Smith, Jr., of Newberry. Mr. M. A. Whisnant, of Florence, was elected delegate-at-large for the State.

The following directors were elected: Messrs. T. B. Pierce, J. T. Arnold, R. E. Burroughs, W. A. Livingston, J. W. Bradford, C. B. Yeardon and R. M. Strange.

Mrs. R. T. Gillispie, of Rock Hill, is visiting Mrs. Rose Jenkins.

BANK EXAMINER CASE.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS DISCUSSED YESTERDAY.

To Test Right of Governor When Power to Remove an Official is Not Given.

Columbia, May 4.—Several constitutional questions bearing on the right of the governor of the State to remove an official when the act creating the office does not provide specifically for removal were argued yesterday in the supreme court when the proceedings brought by Attorney General Lyon to oust B. J. Rhame as State bank examiner were called up for hearing. Mr. Rhame was represented by W. F. Stevenson of Cheraw, and H. W. Fraser of Georgetown, who was appointed by the governor to take the place of State bank examiner, represented by B. L. Abney and Geo. R. Rembert of Columbia.

Attorneys in the case filed their written arguments. In the oral argument there were many interesting points discussed. The argument developed into a constitutional sparring match between Mr. Stevenson and Mr. Abney, which was brought about by the questions of Associate Justice Woods.

It is expected that a decision in the matter will be given at an early date. Mr. Rhame refused to give up the office of State bank examiner when a proclamation ordering his dismissal was issued by the governor.

In his argument for Mr. Rhame Mr. Stevenson pointed out that the governor issued a proclamation purporting to dismiss Mr. Rhame as bank examiner because he had failed to have the statements required by law to be published according to law by the Lexington Savings bank. "His return shows that such were published," said Mr. Stevenson.

Mr. Stevenson contended that under the law the governor had no right to dismiss Mr. Rhame. "The statute," said Mr. Stevenson, "fixes his term for four years. It gives no power of removal to the governor." It was pointed out that the act repeals all former acts relating to the examiner's office, one of which gave the power of removal.

Other points made in the argument were, that the act creates an executive office and that this sweeps away the right of the governor to interfere in this case because the term "executive officer" covers expressly this officer and the mode of trial and removal is prescribed in the constitution, that the governor recognized Mr. Rhame as a judicial officer when he called upon him for information, that an executive officer may be created either by the constitution or the statute, that where the statute prescribes one mode of removal that alone can be followed, that the only constitutional provision invoked says it may be done in such manner "as may be provided by law," that under the present case there can be no removal except in pursuance of legislative procedure or enactment. The reasons given for denying the power of the governor to remove the bank examiner were, that he is an executive officer and his removal is provided for in the constitution, that if that is not correct and there is any statute providing for his removal in the code and the power is not lodged in the governor but by an action of the attorney general in the court. Mr. Stevenson stated that granting the bank examiner may be removed by the governor that he can be removed only after a hearing.

B. L. Abney, appearing for Mr. Fraser, contended that the supreme court can not go behind the grounds assigned by the governor "because they are reasonable and determine for themselves whether they are sufficient or not." It was further submitted that the statute conferring the power of appointment upon the governor, and not containing any restrictions or limitations upon the power of removal, which is incident to the appointment, except the mere limitation of the period of office, that the right to remove exists in the governor to remove the State bank examiner, whenever in his judgment he sees fit to do so, or if that be not the proper construction, then, that as the statute is silent as to removal, a removal for cause is necessarily implied.

Mr. Abney said that the bank examiner was in a sense an executive officer, but that it was clear under the law that no provision is made in the constitution for the trial and removal of such officer. He did not think the bank examiner to be liable to impeachment. Mr. Rembert discussed the constitutional rights of the governor in his argument for Mr. Fraser.

Associate Justice Fraser was disqualified from sitting in the case and Judge Sense was appointed by the governor to his place.

What's the matter with increasing the number of arches on the "Great White Way?"

HOT TIMES IN RICHLAND.

REMBERT QUITS OLD WARD CLUB.

Similar to Governor Blease's Action at Newberry, George R. Rembert, Recognized Blease Advocate, Being Defeated in Home Club, Joins Another — Big Fight in County Convention Expected—Charter Issued—Supreme Court Proceedings.

Columbia, May 2.—George R. Rembert, who was on last Saturday night left off the list of delegates to the Richland County Convention from Ward 1 in which he is a resident and in which club he was enrolled, is now enrolled in Ward 5 Club, his name having been put on that club roll since the action of Ward 1 Club in leaving him out of the list of delegates. While no statement has been issued along this line, it is presumed that Mr. Rembert will be in the County Convention as a delegate from Ward 5, and this action foreshadows a fight in the Richland County Convention between the friends and opponents of Governor Blease, or Mr. Rembert is the recognized Blease leader in this county, and the action of the Ward 1 Club in leaving him out of the list of delegates is conceded to have been the work of the opponents of the Governor.

The action of Mr. Rembert in moving his name to Ward 5, which is known as the mill ward, following the action of his home club in leaving out his name from the list of delegates to the County Convention is similar to the action of Governor Blease at Newberry, the Governor being chosen a delegate to the Newberry County Convention from another club following the action of his home club in turning him down as a delegate.

Everyone looks for Mr. Rembert in the county convention and also looks for a big fight between the Blease and Anti-Blease forces. They consider the action of Mr. Rembert to mean that he will carry the fight to the floor of the County Convention, and it has been rumored that Mr. Rembert is looking to one of the places on this district's delegation to Baltimore. That Mr. Rembert will lead the fight for a Blease delegation to the State Convention is what everyone expects, and the meeting of the Richland Convention for next Monday is looked forward to with much interest.

In our mind's eye we can see passengers on the electric cars craning their necks to catch a glimpse of Sumter's "Sky Line."

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