

PROBING PRIMARY FRAUDS.

COMMITTEE BEGINS REAL WORK OF INVESTIGATION IN SPARTANBURG.

Court House Was Packed and Spectators Attempted Howling Down Tactics at One Stage of Proceeding—Bleese Members of Committee and Bleese Attorneys Show Disposition to Obstruct a Searching Inquiry That Will Reveal the Fraud.

Spartanburg, Sept. 24.—Although not quite sensational, the two opening sessions of the investigation of the subcommittee of the State Democratic executive committee to conduct an inquiry into charges of fraud in the primary election of August 27 here today proved far from quiet. The noise of the two sessions was furnished by the crowd that practically filled the court house in the early afternoon and at the later session packed the place considerably beyond its seating capacity. The majority of the "fuss" came from the spectators. In a more dignified manner continual objections from attorneys for the governor kept the proceedings from being monotonous.

Despite the constant interruptions of practically all the first session and over half of the second the committee made a good start in the investigation it set out to make. The subcommittee was organized; a plan of procedure was reached and put in execution; reports were received and admitted from J. B. Park's division of the State, including the counties from which he has received information; the routine work of the committee was disposed of and when the committee meets tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock W. B. Wilson, Jr., will make his report of the counties investigated in his division.

At the opening of the first meeting called to order in the court house at 1 p. m., attorneys for the governor, chiefly through F. H. Dominick, explained at some length to the committee the position taken by them. At the afternoon session S. J. Nicholls had much to say. At one time in the first session cheers and yells of applause for J. M. Greer by the spectators consumed considerable time and at the afternoon session the crowd cheered lustily in approbation of remarks by Mr. Greer and R. M. Jeffries. In the crowd that filled the court room were many supporters of the governor and some of the Bleese leaders of the Piedmont as well as Spartanburg county. Visitors from several nearby counties were in evidence, including Cherokee, Union and Greenville.

The most exciting incident of the day came shortly after the committee met at 3.30 o'clock after the dinner recess. Just after the committee had endorsed the action of W. F. Stevenson, chairman, in mapping out the work of the committee from Charlotte, J. M. Greer demanded in a loud tone "your" authority for meeting members of the committee in Charlotte. This created a demonstration that deepened in a moment into an uproar. Cries of "Give it to 'em, Greer," and "Go to Charlotte," came from various parts of the room and men in all parts of the hall rose in their seats and pushed toward the inclosure around the judges' stand.

Sheriff's Sales.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, Sumter County.

By virtue of sundary executions to me directed, I will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, for cash, during the usual hours of sale, at the Court House door, Sumter, South Carolina, on Monday, October 7th, 1912, the same being Salesday, the following described parcels of land, to wit:

C. P. Eaglin—39 acres, more or less, bounded on north by land of E. M. Singleton; south-east and West by Bloom Hill in Manchester township, levied upon and to be sold in the suit of State and County for taxes.

Titus Reese—39 acres, more or less bounded North by land of J. H. Aycock and Sons; South by Estate of W. M. Murray; East by land of Silas Burgess; West by land of J. H. Aycock and Sons. In Middleton township, levied upon and to be sold in the suit of the State and County for taxes.

Elizabeth Davis—That lot of land, situated just outside the corporate limits of the city of Sumter, and designated as lot No. 32, Block "B," on plat recorded in office of clerk of court for Sumter county in Book V, V, V, at page 738, and bounded on the North by lot No. 26, East by lot No. 31, South by lot No. 34, and West by Branch street. Said lot measures 50 feet on its East and West lines, and 150 feet on its North and South lines, levied upon and to be sold in the suit of the State, County and City for taxes.

W. H. EPPERSON, Sheriff Sumter County.

where the chairman sat with the members of the committee grouped just outside the railing.

Mr. Stevenson announced that unless there was order the committee would adjourn to a room where the audience would be so small it would have to be orderly. Mr. Greer shouted "You can't do it." The cry was taken up by many in the crowd. S. J. Nicholls made an appeal for order.

Mr. Stevenson reminded the crowd that if any man is declared the nominee for governor it will be on the report of this committee and if the committee could not proceed in the court room the work would be continued elsewhere.

In the midst of the uproar J. T. Duncan, appearing as a contestant, spoke at some length, and the yells of the crowd turned to cheers for Duncan.

"We are glad to have an audience, but I will ask that members of the audience will not participate in the procedure of the committee and will refrain from voting on motions," cautioned Mr. Stevenson after order was restored.

Not long after the demonstration the roll of counties was called, and with the reading of more or less lengthy reports from subcommittees in the various counties the ardor of the crowd waned and a large majority of the 600 persons left the court room.

Just after the convening of the committee for the second session on motion of Mr. Park, the work of the chairman in apportioning the work of the subcommittee was "approved and confirmed."

Convening at 1 o'clock, the committee, with every member present and attorneys on hand representing both Judge Jones and the governor, began the work. R. M. Jeffries and T. B. Butler were nominated for secretary, but Col. Butler declined the honor and Mr. Jeffries was elected by acclamation.

Mr. Stevenson in a statement explained the position of the subcommittee. He reviewed the three sources of evidence—information in the hands of the contestants and the contestees; reports from people throughout the State who had information which this committee would not be able to get unless furnished by the people who had the information, "as it is not gifted with the art of mind reading and could not possibly interview 140,000 voters," and last the records to which the committee has access.

To get the evidence from the public, therefore, notice and time was required to be given to the public and to get the records required time.

"Some criticism has grown out of the postponement, which, I think, was made without considering the situation as it existed," said Mr. Stevenson. "As the report which this committee makes must be used in justification and must show an endeavor to get the evidence from reliable sources who were desirous of furnishing it, and if it then reported that everything was all right then the public would not have the right thereafter to rise and condemn us for not getting information which it itself failed to furnish upon invitation and sufficient time given. That is the reason for the organization of the work as it was done, and for the postponement of this meeting until that organization could have the opportunity to do this work."

"Criticism of the probable outcome of the investigation has been made by our distinguished senator," said Mr. Stevenson, "whose advice will always be duly considered by me and whose wisdom I will always respect, whether I follow his advice or not. Because I differed politely from the governor, I am not responsible for being on the committee, was not present when it was ordered, and for one or two days declined to serve but finally did reconsider and decide to serve."

The chairman then reviewed the appointment of the two subcommittees and the division of the State. He pointed out that the chairman of these subcommittees are two young vigorous methodical attorneys who have never been connected with politics, and he had separated himself absolutely from such evidence in order to avoid "the implied inference that our senior senator said would be drawn." He reminded his hearers also that the public mind is now in a condition to accept evidence that may be brought out without unnecessary heat. "The cooling time has been beneficial to the body politic," he said.

Mr. Stevenson suggested that a motion was in order to adopt a set of rules and suggested a plan previously outlined by the chairman through the South Carolina daily press. "I don't make it," exclaimed Mr. Greer, and this stirred the first outburst of the day from the crowd. When the noise subsided Col. Butler moved the adoption of the rules of procedure previously suggested by Mr. Stevenson. This was done.

The chairman in response to a query from Mr. Dominick held that neither party to the contest waives any legal rights they may have in

appearing before the committee.

The rules as adopted are as follows:

"1. That the burden of proving irregularities or fraud sufficient to annul the election or reverse the face of the returns rests upon those charging the same.

"2. That since the entire public is as deeply interested and have been invited to furnish evidence of crookedness if known, the public will have the right to be heard in support of charges made and those making charges whether the public generally or the contestants should produce their proof in opening.

"3. That the contestee has then the right to offer proof in rebuttal and the contestants in reply.

"4. That where no proof is produced as to county, either by the contestants or by the public as heretofore requested, and the records as furnished the committee show nothing wrong, such county shall be passed as correct, proof of crookedness not having been forthcoming to overthrow the presumption of correctness which always prevails.

"5. That applying such rules, only those counties will be investigated where tangible specifications are in hand, either produced by contestants, the public or appearing from the records collected by the subcommittee appointed heretofore, and it will be the endeavor of the committee to take up the counties and complete them, one at a time, beginning at Spartanburg, this course to be varied as justice may require, of course.

"6. The character of evidence and the method of production will have to be determined by the committee from time to time as the questions arise."

At the second session of the day much discussion was had by the attorneys for the governor as to the procedure of the committee and the method of inquiry adopted. Appearing for Judge Jones at the hearing are R. W. Shand and W. H. Townsend. The governor is in the city, but did not attend the hearings. He is represented by F. H. Dominick, E. S. Bleese, J. M. Cannon and S. J. Nicholls.

A roll call of the counties in the district apportioned to Mr. Parks was made and reports from the counties entered in the record when available.

Spartanburg was first considered. I. A. Phifer, for the subcommittee of the county Democratic executive committee, presented the report. Mr. Phifer presented specifications of alleged frauds. The subcommittee has not completed the work of making the probe of the county, but presented numerous alleged irregularities. Instances are given of persons voting twice, negroes voting who are not eligible to cast a ballot and of persons voting who did not have their names on the club rolls. The partial report admitted today gives a large number of names arranged as to precincts as voting where their names did not appear on the club rolls. A further investigation must be made by the county subcommittee to ascertain whether or not certain votes cast more than once under the same name are repeaters or persons of the same name.

Abbeville county was called. A contest there was recognized by the county committee and two boxes—Cold Springs and Antreville—were thrown out because the managers and voters were not sworn.

In Aiken the subcommittee has not reported but specifications as to alleged fraud are made.

The report of the subcommittee of the county committee in Anderson was put in evidence. After reading only a portion, further reading was dispensed with and the document was entered in the record.

The subcommittee of the Bamberg county executive committee has not filed its report. No report has been received from Barnwell. In Beaufort there is no evidence of fraud.

A report from Cherokee stated the existence of irregularities but no proof of intent to commit fraud. The primary was conducted in a slipshod manner, according to the report.

In Edgefield no irregularities were noticed.

A report from the subcommittee of the county executive committee in Greenville says: "There were numerous irregularities appearing of one kind and another but in the main we can not find evidence that these irregularities were with fraudulent intent or accomplished a fraudulent purpose." The committee is inclined to believe many names enrolled are fictitious. Central box at Greenville was freely considered. "Many names on the club rolls there can not be identified. At each of the clubs examined ten per cent to 15 per cent of those who voted can not be identified. Numerous incidents were discovered where persons who are dead or removed from the county are recorded as having voted."

Greenwood's report was not ready when that county was called.

In Hampton the subcommittee reports the primary conducted loosely, but no more so than in previous years. Mr. Jeffries announced that in Jas-

per the county chairman said that he was not advised of an investigation.

When Laurens was called Mr. Park announced that his request for the appointment of a subcommittee was not regarded. J. M. Cannon announced that under a telegram received from John Gary Evans, State chairman, a recount was made and a resolution passed calling on the State committee to exonerate that county from the charge of fraud. Mr. Park announced that his request for the appointment of a subcommittee in Newberry was not heeded and F. H. Dominick told of the correspondence between himself and Mr. Park already familiar to the public. No report was on hand from Pickens and Oconee. It was announced that Saluda had refused to appoint a subcommittee, as did Union. Mr. Greer said the Union county chairman had reported to the State executive committee.

Tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock W. B. Wilson, Jr., will present his reports.

Mr. Stevenson announced that he had taken up the question of the number of male whites of voting age in South Carolina and from Director Durand had secured the following figures for 1910: Native whites, 159,000; foreign and mixed parentage but native born, 3,405; unnaturalized foreign born, 3,355; naturalized, 1,602; first papers taken, 184; aliens and unknown, 239; unknown, 830. The chairman announced that he hoped to get the figures for each county in a few days.

It is expected that the inquiry here will be concluded tomorrow. Although no announcement has been made by members of committee, it is believed that the scene of investigation will be shifted to a nearby county, possibly Greenville or Anderson.

Rub-My-Tism will cure you.

Neither Got a Bite.

Washington Star.

"Lady," said Meandering Mike, "will dat dog bite strangers?"

"I don't know," was the reply.

"We've been wanting to find out for sure for a long time. If you'll stand in the yard while we unchain him I'll give you a sandwich if you care to wait for it."

Rub-My-Tism will cure you.

People who are crippled in the head get less sympathy than any other cripples.—Wilmington Star.

The New York Herald says a Philadelphia judge holds that kissing is no crime and that at worst it is only a violation of the anti-noise ordinance, or a mis-demeanor.—Columbia Record.

The Joyful—The men who got the most votes.—Columbia Record.

5 or 6 doses 666 will break any case of chills and fever; and if taken then as a tonic the fever will not return. Price 25c.

DR. CARL B. EPPS,

Physician and Surgeon.

Office over DeLorme's Drug Store. Residence 397 N. Main Street. Office hours 11 A. M. to 2 P. M. Office phone 419, residence, 371.

Geo. H. Hurst,

UNDEERTAKER AND EMBALMER.

Prompt attention to day or night calls.

AT OLD J. D. CRAIG STAND, 202 N. Main Street.

Day Phone 539, Night Phone 291.



If you are thinking of buying A DIAMOND, we beg to have the honor of your attention to our gems of purest ray.

We are always in a position to show you diamonds of the most exquisite character. Quality gems only is our way. We have them at right prices and will give a guarantee with each stone as to quality and size.

W. A. Thompson, JEWELER AND OPTICIAN.

MARINES TO SAN DOMINGO.

TO COMPEL REOPENING OF CUSTOM HOUSES.

President Taft Signs Order for 750 Marines, Under Col. F. J. Moses, to Proceed to Haytian Border and Undo Work of Revolutionists.

Washington, Sept. 24.—Seven hundred and fifty American marines, under Col. F. J. Moses, will sail from Philadelphia Friday on the transport Prairie for San Domingo to compel the reopening of Dominican custom houses along the border of Hayti closed by revolutionists.

Authority for this step was given by President Taft today after a conference with Acting Secretary of the Navy Beckman Winthrop between Washington and New York in the private car on which the President was returning to Beverly. Acting Secretary of State Huntington Wilson and William T. S. Doyle, chief of the Latin-American division of the State department, had advised the President yesterday of the necessity for immediate action in San Domingo.

Arrested for Storing Liquor.

Something of a sensation was sprung on the town Wednesday morning when it became generally known that Eugene Hogan, a well known farmer, trucker and dealer in beef and vegetables, had been arrested for storing liquor for unlawful purposes. The arrest was made Wednesday morning about 7 o'clock by Officer H. G. McKagen, who made a raid on Mr. Hogan's place in the Curtis block and seized a large amount of whiskey packed in half pint packages.

Mr. Hogan at once put up bond for \$100 and was released. The case was set for trial Wednesday afternoon by the recorder.

Mrs. "Gyp, The Blood" has had her pictures in the New York Journal and the wife of "Lefty Louie" has been interviewed by a woman reporter. What more could their distinguished husbands ask?—Baltimore Sun.

"A Chicago policeman," says the Savannah Press, "who accepted a bribe of fifty cents was stripped of his uniform and called a disgrace to the force. Sure he was; he had no right to take less than a dollar."—Columbia Record.

A Thing of Beauty—The Hobbie Skirt.—Columbia Record.

A Dream—An honest primary.—Columbia Record.

ART CLUB ENTERTAINED.

Miss Estelle Crowson Hostess at First of Fall Meetings Monday Afternoon.

The Art Club was entertained for the first time this season by Miss Estelle Crowson on Monday afternoon. The veranda had been transformed into an out-door living room by the cozy arrangement of rugs, rockers, tables and potted plants. Here a social hour passed quickly in "summer girl" reminiscences of various mountain and seashore outings, while busy needles plied the latest embroidery stitch.

Then the guests were asked into the dining room where the table appointments suggested a "Farewell to Summer." A flat mirror centerpiece representing water, was outlined in sea shells and sea weed, on its surface proudly "rode" a miniature boat, "The Art Club Yacht." Ices in the club colors of pink and white, were served in large pink sea shells and a number of unique souvenirs of the seashore were given as favors.

The club members and guests included Misses Natalie Norman, Holly Brown, Jennie Walsh, Marie DeLorme, Eleanor Mason, Lucile DeLorme, and Estelle Crowson; Mesdames Clare McKnight, Stewart Mason, S. C. McKeown, Wilbur Dowling, Jno. Jackson, A. J. Bynum and Leon Scott.

DIED IN HUSBAND'S ARMS.

Capt. R. F. Alexander, Aged 80, was Rescuing Wife from Flames.

San Antonio, Texas, Sept. 23.—Mrs. Minerva Alexander, 76 years of age, wife of Capt. Robert F. Alexander, 80, died in the arms of her husband, early today while he was carrying her from their burning home. Heart failure superinduced by excitement was given as the cause of death.

Capt. Alexander was seriously burned in rescuing his wife.

George W. Perkins says his campaign subscription for the election of Colonel Roosevelt is an investment for his children. The Colonel must think all the Perkins children are grand children.—Wilmington Star.

Chin Man is the name of a Chinese opium smuggler arrested in New York a few days ago. His name sounds like he could have passed himself off as a political splicer engaged in the distribution of campaign dope.—Wilmington Star.

An Erratic Animal—The Bull Moose.—Columbia Record.

Some People Think Differently

Naturally you don't find everyone agreeing that a savings account in a good bank is the sure road to prosperity. BUT YOU THINK of what it means:

WHEN YOU ARE SICK, WHEN YOU NEED A VACATION, WHEN YOU NEED CAPITAL and other "wheres," THE TIME, NOW, THE PLACE

The Peoples' Bank.
4 per cent on Savings From Day of Deposit.

A Gage of Your Progress

of your achievement in getting ahead in the world, a stimulus to greater effort and larger accumulation—a growing bank account.

A cordial invitation is extended to you to come in and open an account with this bank. A capital and surplus of \$207,000.00 backed by a record of 25 years consistent, safe banking, a gradual accumulation of \$300,000.00 deposits, together with the service and facilities afforded our customers for the transacting of their financial affairs make this invitation worthy of your very careful consideration.

The First National Bank

A Steadily Growing Institution A Satisfied Clientage—

ARGUMENT ENOUGH.

THE FARMERS BANK & TRUST CO.