

# 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, 1866.

Consolidated Aug. 3, 1881.

SUMTER, S. C., SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 1913.

Vol. XXXVI, No. 18.

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETING.

### Annual Meeting and Banquet Held on Wednesday Night Much Enjoyed.

INTERESTING TALKS MADE BY MESSRS. R. I. MANNING, NEILL O'DONNELL, MAYOR GIBBES OF COLUMBIA AND OTHERS—RETIRING AND INCOMING PRESIDENTS TELL OF WORK DONE IN PAST AND TO BE DONE IN FUTURE—REPORTS OF COMMITTEES—DELIGHTFUL BANQUET SERVED.

Their artistic senses pleased by beautiful flowers, the inner man comforted with a delightful supper and rendered complacent by the effect of good cigars, the membership of the Chamber of Commerce or at least the 150 who attended the annual banquet last night had their loyalty renewed and their patriotism fortified by the department heads on the work of the past year.

The supper was spread in the armory, and Mrs. Bogan and the ladies who assisted her were highly complimented on their mingling of artistic effect and culinary excellence.

The supper was served at half past eight, and by nine o'clock sufficient progress had been made to permit Mayor Gibbes of Columbia to be called on. He spoke briefly and interestingly on the relations between a city government and a commercial organization, pointing out steps by which they might cooperate and drawing deftly the lines which neither should cross into the other's proper field of action. He closed with an expression of hope that all the cities of South Carolina would work always in cooperation with the capital city, which was in a way the property of the whole state and which had, he was sure, the interest of the whole state at heart.

After Mayor Gibbes' address, the retiring president, Dr. S. C. Baker, called on the department directors.

Mr. D. D. Moise, for the department on membership, entertainment and conventions, reported the net result of the November mass meeting to have been the signing up of 138 three-year memberships representing \$3219 a year. There were more than that signed up, but removals from the city and other cancellations for sufficient cause had cut the figures down. In addition to this revenue of \$3219 a year, other memberships not as yet on the 2-year basis represents \$865-00 a year—a total of \$4084 a year indicated revenues counted as safe and sure, though the books include others which may or not add to the revenues counted on and reported as certain.

Mr. Moise's report included Sumter's work, by cooperation of the churches and Chamber of Commerce, in handling the recent Sunday School convention more satisfactorily to the convention itself than any other city had ever done; and basing his remarks in part on the two new hotels, he advocated special efforts to make Sumter a convention city.

Mr. R. B. Belser's report on the Rural Relations Department was especially interesting. It set forth the legislative results of the department's activities under the policy of "a more connected and permanent system of roads and an increase in the funds available." Under this policy the department secured the commutation road tax, adding \$8000 to the annual road fund of the county, and the improvement of all roads leading out of the city.

The report went into the cooperative steps of the Chamber, local banks and Farmers Union resulting in arrangements for farmers to borrow not exceeding an aggregate of half a million at 6 per cent to enable them to hold cotton and arrangements for warehousing other staple crops in standard packages, warehouses to issue certificates against the goods, and told of steps under way to arrange for modern marketing of melons and other perishables that could be very profitably produced in this immediate section.

Mr. Belser also reported on the farm improvement and diversification work, carried on under the Sumter spirit by cooperation of the Chamber, banks, and corn clubs and other agencies, private and public. He cited the newly established Parrott Milling Company, as a lever for the production of greater corn crops, advocated prizes for attractive home conditions on farms and urged the growing of alfalfa, which, it has been proved, can be successfully done in this section on properly prepared land. He exhibited in proof of this a beautiful sample of alfalfa more than

two feet high, grown on the White Siding farm west of Sumter.

Ho. L. D. Jennings' report on Civic and Public affairs consisted largely of sketching the steps whereby the Chamber of Commerce brought about the present system of city government. He told of the enormous favorable publicity that Sumter had received through its controlled-executive, or City Manager plan of government; and cited as proof of its merit a saving of nearly \$2,000 a year in the operation of the water department alone. He attributed this to the fact of having a man "on the job all the time" whose training enabled him to see such opportunities. Mr. Jennings also went into the matter of paving, telling of the steps taken successfully before the legislature to submit to the people an amendment permitting property owners to constitute streets and areas into paving districts for the purpose of providing funds for street paving, under a plan whereby the city will guarantee the costs and the property owners have 20 years to pay their share of the costs.

Mr. R. I. Manning made a very interesting report on the work of the transportation department. He advocated a union station, better conditions at the A. C. L. station in the way of shedding and concrete walks, and sketched the history of the Seaboard road into Sumter. He stated that his information indicated that it would be long before long be extended to Charleston, and at his suggestion the special committee in charge of Seaboard matters was continued.

Both Mr. Manning, and Mr. O'Donnell in speaking for the department of commerce, said that Sumter had done so much last year, so many things requiring capital, that the business men were now taking it a bit easy. It was "the swing of pendulum."

Mr. O'Donnell, discussing commerce said that the past two seasons had not been particularly good ones from the crop viewpoint, and that it would not be unnatural to look for a reflection in business conditions. The general business conditions, however, had been better than might have been expected from the basis of the cotton crop and cotton prices. The banks, for instance, showed but a small loss of aggregate deposits, and some of them showed an increase over a year ago. In the condition of wholesale and retail trade in general was much to congratulate ourselves on. He also spoke of the two new bank buildings and new quarters of a third bank as illustrative of the strength of the local banks.

Mr. J. W. McKeiver, the head of the department of industries, reported the new factories established during the past year, the Parrott Milling Co., the shoe factory, the broom and handle factory, the new 3-M magneto and the gas plant, and commented on the excellence of older industrial enterprises. He bespoke home support of home enterprises, both in the way of investment in stocks and purchasing of their outputs. Stating that in all likelihood the options on Telephone Manufacturing Company stock at 50 per cent premium would be taken up, throwing a large amount of outside capital into Sumter in addition to the local capital to be repaid to the investors, he urged intelligent investment of that money in home concerns, confident that Sumter afforded the best sort of opportunities for all legitimate enterprises.

The report on Publicity and Education, Mr. G. A. Lemmon, told of the uses to which the Sumter folder had been put and of the widespread requests for information about the Sumter plan of government. These requests come from all over the country, from Maine to Texas and from Oregon to Florida. Fifteen hundred copies of a new pamphlet on the City Manager plan have been sent to newspapers, and constant private demand is being made for them.

The report also told of the fine results of the exhibit of manufactures, pictures and agricultural products in the Arcade at Columbia during the Corn Exposition, and stated that one

## HIGH SCHOOL BOYS COMPETE.

### ORATORICAL CONTEST WILL BE HELD TONIGHT.

Twenty-two Institutions to be Represented at Meeting in Columbia—Track Meet Tomorrow.

Columbia, April 24.—The first oratorical contest to be held under the Inter-high School Athletic and Oratorical Association of South Carolina is an assured success. Twenty-two schools will be represented in the contest. The preliminary debate will be held at the University of South Carolina in the chapel this afternoon at 4 o'clock. The final debate will be held tonight at 8.30 o'clock.

At the preliminary debate this afternoon the speakers will be divided into four groups and from each one the two best will be selected to take part in the final contest.

Tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock the preliminaries will be held in the track meet at the university. The finals will be held on the athletic field at 3 o'clock tomorrow afternoon. There will be no charge for the oratorical contest, but a fee of 15 cents for students and 25 cents general admission will be charged for the track meet, one ticket admitting to the preliminaries and finals.

Gold medals are offered for the first and second places in the oratorical contest and gold medals with athletic figures for the first places in the track meet. Ribbons will be awarded for the second and third places in the athletics.

The students and faculty of the University of South Carolina have been busy for several days making arrangements for entertaining the visitors.

### Marriage License Record.

A license to marry was issued Tuesday to Mr. W. A. Shuler and Miss Ada E. Bradley of Rembert.

local manufacturer alone had booked orders because of this exhibit on which his profits exceeded the cost of the exhibit. The corn show, butter contest and tomato work proved of great publicity value as well as educational, and it is now beginning to look as if the Chamber will be able to place a fine exhibit in the A. C. L. station. For a while it looked as if such an exhibit could not be placed where the Chamber would want it, but the situation at present is more encouraging.

D. R. McCallum, the retiring treasurer, reported receipts: February 1, 1912 to April 1913, of \$6,465.42; disbursements \$6,340.38, balance April 19, \$125.04.

The Secretary's trial balance, covering the time he has been with the Chamber of Commerce, showed \$2,793.56 handled since December 1, 1912. The Secretary reported that Dr. Baker, Mr. Manning and Mr. Jennings had drawn one-year terms, and the board, as constituted after the election in March of this year, consisted of the following members, with terms as shown:

Retiring in 1914—D. D. Moise, president; R. B. Belser, first vice president; D. R. McCallum, Jr.

Retiring in 1915—J. W. McKeiver, second vice president; G. A. Lemmon, Neill O'Donnell.

Retiring in 1915 (New members)—J. Z. Hearon, treasurer; Dr. H. M. Stuckey, E. L. Witherspoon.

Following the secretary's report, Mr. L. I. Parrott at the invitation of the chair, discussed local patronage of new local enterprises, which he declared was less than the enterprises deserved at the hands of their home people.

Dr. Baker then delivered his address as retiring president. He congratulated Sumter on its past year, thanked his executive associates and the membership generally for their zeal in promoting Chamber of Commerce matters, congratulated the Chamber on its selection of new directors and the board on its selection of officers, and turned the gavel over to Mr. Moise, who assumed the chair. Mr. Moise made a ringing address. His theme was "the Sumter spirit." Sumter already had, he declared, excepting street cars and paved streets, all the things that made modern life comfortable, and possessed a quality of community life that delights visitors as much as home people. Sumter is what it is, he declared, because of the shoulder-to-shoulder, each-and-every-man-for—Sumter—all-the-time spirit. That spirit must be fostered and encouraged, and Sumter, with her many advantages, natural and acquired, will continue to grow in size without lessening in the quality of life that made the city the best place in the world to live in.

## EXPLOSION KILLS HUNDRED.

### TERRIBLE DISASTER OCCURS IN MINE AT PITTSBURG.

Seventy Bodies Recovered of the Hundred and Twenty Who Are Supposed to Have Lost Their Lives.

Pittsburg, April 23.—The lives of 100 miners, possibly 120, paid the toll shortly after noon today of a disastrous explosion in the Cincinnati mine of the Monongahela River Consolidated Coal and Coke company at Finleyville, Pa. Over three score of workmen in the mine made thrilling escapes, crawling most of the time on their hands and knees through deadly gas fumes and over debris.

Up to 11 o'clock tonight 70 bodies of victims had been recovered. The bodies were located by rescuing squads of the United States bureau of mines, the Monongahela River Consolidated Coal and Coke company, and of the Pittsburg Coal company.

As the rescuers found bodies they were carried to the entries. None of the bodies, however, was brought to the open.

Preparations are being made to handle the dead. Box cars have been ordered to a mine siding. The victims probably will be taken from the mine at daylight tomorrow and shipped at once to Monongahela City where they are to be prepared for burial.

Rescue work is hampered by after-damp. Fire, which followed the explosion, has been completely subdued, it is said.

Rescue work was carried on with difficulty owing to the fire and deadly fumes. The coal company maintains rescue corps patterned after the mine force of the United States government. Aid from the federal mining experts, it is said, was declined by the coal company.

Only a few of the miners who reached the surface could talk. Suffering from burns or fright the miners only knew that an explosion had occurred and that a large number of men are either killed by the explosion or asphyxiated by the after-damp.

Several hours after the explosion seven foreign miners crawled from one of the entrances. All were seriously burned. They could give no connected account of conditions in the mine. They all said the mine is full of dead.

Relatives and friends of the miners beneath the earth are frantic.

Many of them had to be restrained after a time a guard was placed completely around the entrances to the mine and all persons except rescuers and mine officials were held at a distance.

### CHARGED WITH MURDER.

#### Coroner's Verdict Says Allen Kirkley's Death Was Due to Shooting by O. T. Horton.

Camden, April 23.—Coroner Dixon returned to Camden today after holding an inquest over the body of Allen Kirkley, who was shot and killed about six miles from Camden Sunday night at 10 o'clock. The coroner's jury returned a verdict to the effect that Allen Kirkley came to his death from gunshot wounds at the hands of Sidney Horton. Horton surrendered to Sheriff Huckabee yesterday and is now in jail at Camden.

Allen Kirkley was the son of D. M. Kirkley, a prominent planter and owner of Kirkwood farms. Sidney Horton is the son of T. O. Horton, another prominent farmer, and neighbor of Mr. Kirkley, both residing about six miles from this place.

Allen Kirkley and Sidney Horton, brooding over a family affair, met on the public highway Sunday night and the shooting took place. Kirkley suffered injuries to which he succumbed while Horton was slightly injured.

Kirkley was shot in the hip and abdomen. A Rock Hill physician was summoned by telegraph, but his skill failed to save the wounded youth. He was buried today at Shiloh church, near his home. He was about 17 years of age and for a short time last year was a student at Clemson college. Horton is about 19 years of age.

### FIRE AT MAYESVILLE.

#### Residence of Mr. W. H. Hudson Destroyed Thursday Morning.

Mayesville, April 24.—The residence of W. H. Hudson of this place was destroyed by fire about 9 o'clock this morning, causing a loss of between \$3,000 and \$4,000. The insurance was \$3,500.

The fire caught in the ceiling from an unknown cause and the whole residence was destroyed.

## WILL BE NO PUBLIC HEARING.

### ALL CRITICISMS OF TARIFF BILL TO BE RECEIVED BY SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Policy Adopted by Upper House in Order to Hasten Passage of Underwood Bill—Opposition from The West.

Washington, April 22.—By a strict party vote the senate finance committee today decided finally that no public hearings would be given upon the tariff bill when it reaches the senate. Interested persons will be given a full opportunity, however, to file briefs or statements with the committee bearing on any of the tariff schedules.

The decision is expected to shorten materially the time that will be consumed in getting the tariff bill before the senate for consideration. Tariff debate opens in the house 11 o'clock tomorrow and in the senate at 10 o'clock. It is expected that general debate can be limited to five days. Democratic Leader Wood will attempt to hold the debate to 12 hours of continuous work. Another week of consideration under the rule permitting amendment will send the bill to the senate soon after May 5, it is believed.

The tariff bill came back to the house today from the ways and means committee with vigorous supporting report from the Democrats and the committee and an opposing report from the Republican members. The general debate that begins tomorrow will be followed by concerted efforts on the part of the Republicans to amend the bill in all its important schedules.

While the senate finance committee has decided that further hearings are unnecessary the Democratic members of the committee will confer tomorrow with Democratic senators from Pacific coast and Rocky Mountain States who are opposed to the free sugar and free wool provisions of the new bill.

A number of Western senators, including Senators Meyers of Montana and Ashurst of Arizona, will not participate in the conference as they have decided to support the free wool and sugar programme if it is approved by the house. The conference tomorrow will demonstrate the strength against these features of the bill. Those who will participate insist, however, that there has been no effort to form an offensive alliance against the measure, as proof of which they point to the fact that the Louisiana senators and others interested in a change of the free sugar and free wool provisions have not been included in the conference.

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### CHILDREN'S STRIKE CONTINUES.

#### Few Demonstrations Mark Third Day of Unique Walk-out in Pittsburg.

Pittsburg, Pa., April 23.—Although a majority of the school children of the city remained away from their studies today there were few demonstrations in the unique strike inaugurated Monday against the retention of S. L. Heeter as superintendent of public schools. Attempts of the children to gather in front of the various school buildings were discouraged by police reserves. In most instances the sight of the police was sufficient to frighten a majority of the children.

An answer is expected tomorrow from each of the seven prominent citizens who have been asked by the board of education to investigate charges against Heeter.

### DENIES IT IS THE BOY.

#### Alleged Kidnapper Declares He is Innocent of Crime Charged.

Columbus, Miss., April 23.—"Before God, you and me, I did not kidnap Robert Dunbar. Don't ask so many questions, but if you want to see justice done, help me get my witnesses to prove the boy taken from me is not the missing Dunbar child. You may string me up, but the wrong will be discovered later."

This statement was given here today by W. C. Walters, the man who is held on the charge of kidnaping the Dunbar child. Walters insists that the child is the son of an unmarried woman who lives at Barnesville, N. C., and that its father is his brother. He says he took the child one year ago when it was three years of age.

The frost of Monday is reported to have damaged the young crops to a considerable extent in sandy land. Tomato plants were killed, and cotton and other garden truck were nipped by the cold.

## FRAM MAY PASS CANAL.

### PANAMA DITCH MAY BE USED WITHIN YEAR.

Amundsen's Ship Can Go Through If Slides are Conquered and Lock Gates Finished.

Washington, April 22.—Col. Goethals, chief engineer of the Panama canal, in a report to the war department today reiterated the hope he expressed some time ago that he would pass a ship through the canal before the close of the present year. The statement came in response to an inquiry from Secretary Garrison as to whether it would be possible to grant a request of Capt. Amundsen, the explorer, that he be allowed to take ship Fram through the canal when starts for the Antarctic regions on the west coast of South America next winter. Col. Goethals said: "The opening of the Panama canal for the passage of vessels has always been predicated on the question of slides and the completion of the lock gates. The present schedule contemplates admitting the water into Culebra cut early in October and the completion of one flight of locks at either end of the canal by that same date. The passage of boats then depends upon the condition of the slides. It is hoped that we will be able to pass a ship before the close of the year, and if this can be accomplished the Fram will have no difficulty in making the transit of the canal and every faculty will be offered for its doing so. No assurance, however, can be given in the matter at this time."

Washington, April 22.—South Carolinians who are waiting for federal places and in whose behalf Senator Smith is working will be glad to know that the latter today started out immediately after breakfast, while the senate was not in session, and visited a number of the departments from which these appointments are expected to come.

When Senator Smith saw the secretary of the navy, the attorney general and other department heads, he said that just at this particular time he did not care to say anything about these matters for publication except that he was much encouraged and believed that at least one good South Carolina appointment might be announced when the senate meets again Thursday.

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