

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.

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BUILDING BRANCH LINE.

NOTHWESTERN TO RUN TRACK FROM SEALE'S SIDING TO HERIOT.

Force of Hands now Employed in Grading Road Bed—New Branch Line will be Completed by First of December—Extension of Northwestern Enables that Line to Hold Its Traffic—Road May be Extended to Rose Hill.

That a new branch line of the Northwestern Railroad of South Carolina will be extended from Seale's Siding to Heriot's Cross Roads during the year is now a certainty unless some unforeseen circumstances should prevent the execution of plans which have been formulated and the completion of work already under way.

Col. Thomas Wilson, president of the Northwestern Railway, stated Monday to a reporter for the Daily Item that he now had a force of hands employed on the proposed branch line of the Northwestern between Seale's Siding and Heriot's Cross Roads and that he would endeavor to carry on the work steadily until the branch line was completed. He expected to complete the line by the first of December of this year, possibly a little before that time, if weather conditions and other circumstances were favorable.

The force of hands, had now been engaged in the grading of the road bed for nearly two weeks and were getting along nicely with the work. Cross ties and rails had been secured and at present so far as he could see there was nothing to prevent his carrying out his plans as they had been formed. The first survey of this line was made in the summer of 1911 and a number of surveys were made subsequent to that time before the final route was decided on.

The present plans contemplate the line running in a northeasterly direction from Seale's Siding, and extending out in a straight line most of the way to Heriot's Cross Roads. The line is six and a half miles long and extends through the Williamson plantation, now owned by Col. Wilson, the Burroughs Colclough place, the Law place, which is also owned by Col. Wilson; Maj. Burroughs's place, the plantations belonging to Mrs. Colclough and A. W. Kelly and Ashby Dick. The right of way has been secured and there seems no obstacle to the extension of the line.

Col. Wilson, in speaking of the building of the branch line, stated that he had been forced to build it because of the coming into this field of the South Carolina Western Railroad. In order to hold his traffic in this section he had to extend the branch line through it. Before the South Carolina Western was built and established its station, Seale's Siding had been the nearest station to the people of this section and they had secured their freight there. But with the establishment of a nearer station by the South Carolina Western Road he considered it necessary to meet competition, and in self-defense had constructed this line. He did not expect to haul much cotton on it, as this was generally hauled by wagon to Sumter, but he hoped to keep the freight traffic in fertilizer and other kinds of freight traffic which he had handled formerly on his road.

At Heriot's Cross Roads a station will be built and an agent will be kept there. Already the timber for the station is being prepared and the station will be erected as soon as the line reaches this place.

In talking of the matter Col. Wilson stated that he had noticed in one of the papers an article stating that the contract had been let to a well known railroad contractor. He had no idea who this contractor was, for he was building the road himself and expected to have his force of men do all the work. The line, he stated, would not extend further than Heriot's at present, but it might be extended to Rose Hill at some time in future, if he deemed the traffic sufficient. This would probably not be any time soon, however, he stated.

TAKEN TO FARM.

John J. Jones Suffering From Tuberculosis.

Orangeburg, June 3.—John J. Jones, the Branchville attorney, who was convicted of killing Abe Pearlman and sentenced to serve a term in the State penitentiary, has been brought to Orangeburg to go upon the county farm. He will be kept at the county poor house. The reason for the bringing of Jones to Orangeburg county is that he is suffering from tuberculosis.

LEVER HEADS COMMITTEE.

BECOMES CHAIRMAN OF AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE.

Appointments on Committees of South Carolina Congressman—D. S. Murph and Morris Lumpkin to Be Associated with Lever.

Washington, June 2.—The following are the committee assignments of the members of the South Carolina delegation in the house for the Sixty-third congress as given out here today:

Whaley—Merchant marine and fisheries, invalid pensions, industrial arts and exhibitions.

Byrnes—Roads, war claims, mines and mining.

Aiken—District of Columbia.

Johnson—Appropriations.

Lever—Agricultural (chairman).

Ragsdale—Banking and currency.

Finley—Postoffice and post roads.

Mr. Lever becomes chairman of the important committee on agriculture. His work in this position will have a very direct and important bearing not only on the agricultural activities of the South but also on the prosperity of the entire nation.

Mr. Whaley, as a member of the merchant marine and fisheries committee, should be in a position to look after the particular interests of his district.

Mr. Finley is ranking member of the postoffice committee, next to the chairman, and preferred that assignment to the chairmanship of the printing committee, which he held previous to the reorganization. Under the new rules of the caucus, a member of one of the more important committees is not allowed to serve on another.

Mr. Johnson holds his position on the appropriations committee, and Mr. Aiken remains on the District of Columbia committee.

Mr. Byrnes becomes a member of the new roads committee and also has war claims and mines and mining.

It will be seen that Mr. Byrnes goes off banking and currency, as noted some time ago, and Mr. Ragsdale goes on the latter committee.

Mr. Lever will at once move his headquarters from his present room in the capitol building over to the house office building, where the work of the committee on agriculture is carried on. With him will be associated D. S. Murph of St. Matthews as clerk of the committee, Mr. Lumpkin of Columbia as assistant clerk and J. Brooks Wingard as private secretary.

When the members of the South Carolina delegation who are now in Washington were seen they seemed to be well satisfied with their assignments.

Discussing the matter, Senator Tillman said: "I consider Mr. Ragsdale's appointment as a member of the committee on banking and currency as an especially fortunate one for him, as he has just come to Washington and had no influence except such as he has gained since he arrived here.

"As the tariff bill is already out of the way, the banking and currency committee will have the most important work that the house of representatives will have to deal with the remainder of this session, and, indeed, its importance will continue for several years. He can accomplish more for the country a hundredfold than he could have brought about had he obtained a place on the rivers and harbors committee.

MISSION TALK AT PINWOOD.

Sumter District Missionary Convention is Held at Pinwood.

Pinwood, June 3.—The combined convention of the foreign and home departments of missionary work held its annual district convention here, beginning May 29 and continuing through June 1.

Many visitors were present, and 21 auxiliaries sent delegates, who reported their societies very much interested in the mission work.

Miss Jessie Curtis of the foreign and Mrs. W. G. King of the home departments presided. They gave encouraging reports of their work.

Mrs. R. L. Kirkwood and D. N. Bourne and Misses Maria Capers and Bertha Attaway gave instructive addresses on the different phases of the mission work. Mission work is steadily advancing and gaining strength, and the women of the Southern Methodist church feel encouraged.

The people of Pinwood greatly enjoyed the presence of this convention and feel that they were blessed by its coming.

A MODERN SODOM.

CHARLESTON PEOPLE TELL STORY OF CITY'S SHAME.

Social Service League Protest to Mayor Grace and Specify Particular Cases of Vice and Degredation and Lawlessness.

The revelations of the vice condition in Charleston, made by the Social Service League of that city in its committee's letter to Mayor Grace, urging him to take the initiative by enforcing the laws, exceed anything we have seen or read of any other city, and would be incredible except for the responsibility of the gentlemen making them, and but for the mayor's admission of the substantial truths of the committee's statements.

In view of the two documents made public—the committee's letter and Mayor Grace's answer to it—it would seem that Charleston had sowed the wind and is reaping the whirlwind. The high water mark of vice appears to have been reached, and the necessity for house-cleaning, to be imperative. The committee appeals to the mayor "to lead in a movement which will at least give our young men and boys and young women and girls an even chance to be decent and to do right," declaring that if the city authorities "cannot remedy the situation, it will be but a short time before citizens do so in no uncertain manner."

In his answer, Mayor Grace practically throw up his hands, and confesses his helplessness to enforce the laws. Not only this, but he goes further and declares it to be his settled policy not to enforce the laws against violators of a certain class even if he could do so. He believes it to be his duty in fact, to nullify the law he is sworn to uphold.

The committee in its letter calls the mayor's attention "to the remarkable increase of blind tigers," that are with unprecedented "brazenness" have established themselves in the "quiet residence sections of the city; to the full-fledged gambling houses," which Charleston has the prestige of being among the few cities in the country to tolerate; to the presence of "slot machines" which even children are allowed to play, making them "the kindergarten for full fledged gambling;" to the "dice throwing" in cigar stores; to "the regular lottery drawing conducted at places by which the school children pass from day to day; to the social clubs where high class law breakers moralize on the viciousness of the commoner sort; to the existence in "supposedly respectable sections of the city of assignation houses * * * a real menace to the morals of the city and a feeder to the white slave of the tenderloin;" to "the fact that since the advent of racing Charleston enjoys the distinction of having street walkers and her tenderloin has expanded recently to its greatest degree of growth;" to "the brazen effrontery of this element," as instanced in the advertising of one lewd house among the high school students and other boys by the device of a match box, hundreds of which had been handed them; to the disgraceful uses to which the public parks are being put; to the fact that "ladies have not only been followed, but insulted on such prominent streets as King street by men who never saw them before or at last whom the ladies never saw before," that pool rooms have been opened and frequented by boys as well as men, constituting schools for vice of every sort, and that "literally scores of ordinarily honest young men and women are turning crooks through this agency."

GOES THROUGH BRIDGE.

Train Plunges Through Trestle With Fatal Results.

Sanford, N. C., June 3.—Mixed passenger and freight train No. 19 of the Raleigh, Charlotte & Southern railroad went through a trestle at Deep River bridge near Cumlock, N. C., this evening at 6 o'clock, killing Baggage-master Bonden Stuart of Hemp, N. C., and injuring eight others. The injured were brought here this evening on a special train over the Southern railway. The injured are: Fred Burns of Osgood, seriously hurt; Engineer Blalock, bruised and scalded; George Blalock, seriously scalded; Conductor Beacham of Biscoe, seriously hurt in back, legs and head; Gus Johnson and Milt Johnson, two passengers, hurt in back and on legs, not seriously; Fireman Arthur Leak, scalded on head; Spencer Tyson, arm broken and hurt in head, serious but not fatal; Fletcher LeGrand, leg hurt.

MEXICANS FIGHT FIERCELY.

MATAMORAS CAPTURED BY REBEL FORCES AFTER ALL DAY BATTLE.

Death List Large on Both Sides — United States Soldiers Hit by Stray Bullets—Mexican Official Killed.

Brownsville, Texas, June 3.—While a handful of men were still offering dogged resistance to the rebel troops of Gen. Lucio Blanco, constitutionalist commander-in-chief of the State of Tamaulipas, at 10 o'clock tonight, Matamoros, Mexico, is practically in the hands of the revolutionists after a battle waged without interruption since 10.30 this morning. Col. Eschasereta, with 100 volunteers, remnants of the federal garrison, is making the last stand from the roof of the cathedral and theatre in Hidalgo plaza, but their subjection before morning is regarded as certain. Early in the night flames from burning buildings in several sections of the battle scarred city lighted the sky for miles around and for a time it was feared that the town was doomed. At 10 o'clock, however, the fire zones had decreased.

The toll of death on both sides has been heavy. Maj. Estadan Ramos, federal commander, was wounded early in the engagement. He was brought to a Brownsville hospital. His condition is reported critical.

Private E. Davis of the United States cavalry was wounded by a stray shot while patrolling the border on the American side of the Rio Grande, and rumors are persistent that Miguel Barragan, mayor of Matamoros, was shot and killed late today. Authentic estimates of the dead and wounded will not be available before tomorrow. One report brought by refugees was that between 200 and 300 of the combatants had been killed and double that number wounded.

The United States consulate, where Consul J. H. Johnson and his staff remained during the fighting, was in the direct line of fire the greater part of the day, but it is stated that none of those in the building have been wounded.

One hundred and twelve of the federal troops crossed to Brownsville this afternoon and surrendered to the United States military authorities.

Shortly after 10 o'clock tonight firing decreased but the rebels continued to hurl dynamite at intervals in an effort to dislodge Escarreta and his force.

The rebels began a general advance towards the main part of Matamoros at 3.30 this afternoon. Within an hour they had taken the customs office at the terminus of the international bridge and almost simultaneously the customs house at the ferry connecting Brownsville and Santa Cruz, a suburb of Matamoros. After that the fight was gradually narrowed to Hidalgo plaza.

Among the buildings burned, set afire by rebel shells, were 12 dwelling houses on the plaza De Aramas, including the home of Mayor Barragan.

It was estimated that Blanco's army numbered about 1,800 men, while the federal garrison was composed of less than a third of that number.

Several thousand spectators viewed the battle from the United States side of the Rio Grande, but were kept at what was regarded a safe distance from the boundary by the soldiers of Troop M. Fourteenth cavalry, who patrolled the border for a distance of six miles. An automobile bearing a party of sightseers was struck by a bullet and put out of commission but none of the occupants were hurt.

GOVERNOR OF CANAL ZONE.

Richard Metcalfe Selected for Civil Governor.

Washington, June 3.—Richard L. Metcalfe of Lincoln, Neb., editor of The Commoner, was today selected by President Wilson to be civil governor of the Panama canal zone. This was announced by Secretary Garrison after he and Secretaries Bryan and Daniels had conferred with the president.

Although Mr. Metcalfe was first recommended by Secretary Bryan, Secretary Daniels and Secretary Garrison joined in urging the appointment. Mr. Metcalfe has been in newspaper work all his life and came into national prominence in the campaign of 1896 as spokesman for Mr. Bryan. Last year he ran in the primaries on the Democratic ticket for governor of Nebraska, but lost.

SOCIAL CLUB PROBLEM SOLVED.

CHESTER COUNCIL TRIES NEW PLAN FOR REGULATION.

Ordinance Imposing "Occupation Tax" on Managers of Clubs where Liquors are Kept—Heavy Bond Required, which is Forfeited Should Liquor Law be Violated — Opponents of Plan Declare Same Virtually License System, which Constitution Prohibits.

News and Courier.

Chester, June 3.—Chester seems to have hit on the problem of how to regulate the so-called "social clubs," by imposing an "occupation tax" on the managers, which has resulted in the closing of the three clubs said to be of this order which have been running and flourishing in this city. The ordinance, passed unanimously by the new city council, has resulted in putting on the lid tight and fast and if it works out successfully it will likely be tried by other cities and towns in South Carolina.

The distinctive feature of this new ordinance is the requirement for the manager of any club where intoxicating liquors are kept, to get a license from the city clerk, the amount being fixed at two per cent of the gross income of the said "manager" for the first twelve months. The manager is also required to file an approximate statement of the probable gross income for the twelve months and to file a bond of \$5,000 that he will not violate any city, county or State law, in reference to the sale, storage and handling of intoxicating beverages. Upon violation of any of the liquor laws the bond is forfeited to the city, three sureties being required on the bond.

No loophole is left in designating just who is the manager. Says the ordinance on this point: "For the purpose of this ordinance the term 'manager' of any such association shall be held to include any person or persons having or exercising any part in the management, direction or control of any such association, or receiving or expecting to receive any salary or compensation, or deriving or intending to derive any income or profit therefrom."

If the Chester ordinance stands the tests of the courts other places will more than likely write it in their ordinances, for the regulation of the "social" clubs has grown to be a vital issue all over South Carolina. With the voting out of the dispensaries in all but eight counties, locker clubs sprang up. It is generally understood that locker clubs—where individuals buy and keep their own intoxicating beverages in their private lockers—are not contrary to the dispensary laws. But it has long been found that just where the dividing line is drawn is hard to determine and as a result "social" clubs have sprung into existence in practically every county in the State, both in those officially "dry" and in those having dispensaries.

The constitution of the State forbids the licensing of liquor selling except by the State or county to the dispensary to sell in original packages, absolutely taking away from the individual the right to engage in the liquor traffic. Any attempt to license an individual or set of individuals to store and retail liquors is against the constitution and statute laws, according to the opinion of a high State official, and this same official expressed the opinion the other day that the Chester ordinance was in effect a system of licensing. "If any of the clubs affected would come forward and pay the tax imposed it would be paramount to a confession that they were engaging in the liquor traffic in violation of the State law and would immediately be subjected to its provisions," was his view. But the Chester people differ. In the opinion heard on the street the "occupation tax" is placed on the manager's income and is not a license measure. They are confident that it will stand the test of the courts.

"Is the ordinance imposing an occupation tax in effect a system of licensing liquor selling or not?" is the question at issue, and on its decision rests the result of whether this measure provides a solution of the vexed problem of the regulation of the "social" clubs or whether it will follow the fate of the dozens of other attempts to stamp out this problem which has become to be State-wide.

None of the three Chester clubs, so it was stated by a member of the city council, had complied with the ordinance and they had all closed tight and fast on Sunday last. No attempt has so far been made towards testing the legality or constitutionality of the ordinance in the State courts, and it is clearly up to the clubs as to

SAM DUKES FOUND GUILTY.

SLAYER OF POLICEMAN BARWICK SENTENCED TO DEATH.

Negro Will Be Executed on June 27th, if Stay of Sentence Is Not Granted—Charles Stoney Being Tried as Accessory.

Manning, June 3.—Sam Dukes was today convicted of the murder of Isadore Barwick at Pinewood last February and was sentenced to electrocution on June 27.

Mr. Barwick, policeman at Pinewood, walked up to Duke's place and asked him his name. Dukes opened fire on Mr. Barwick. The trial of the case opened but a couple of hours and was deliberated but a few minutes on the case. Mr. Wideman was appointed by the court to defend Dukes, and at the end of the charge judge spoke in a very complimentary manner of Mr. Wideman's conduct of the defense. Dukes is a young negro, not quite 22 years old.

Charles Stoney is now on trial as accessory after the fact, being charged with having assisted Dukes to escape after killing Mr. Barwick. Dukes at first escaped and was afterward caught in Charleston and sent back. He claimed to have been shot and robbed at the junction and was taken to the hospital, where he was recognized upon his request to have his mother telegraphed for. In the trial he went on the stand and made the defense that he shot Barwick because he thought Barwick was about to shoot him.

Le County will try to have an election to re-establish the dispensary, petitions having been filed Saturday.

Obscurity parted its tufted curtains the other day and reminded us that "Jim" Garfield was still in existence.—Houston Post.

whether or not this will be done.

Prohibitionists in Chester, and some who are no Prohibitionists, are satisfied that the ordinance will stand any court test. They are severe in their condemnation of what they say is the wide-open manner in which the "social" clubs conducted their affairs and the veritable streams of people which constantly poured through the club doors. They made no special charges, but they seemed to think that the passage of the ordinance would bring a needed relief to the community and check whiskey drinking.

The club sympathizers do not admit having violated any law and think they have a right to run as they did. They consider the ordinance an invasion of their personal privileges and clearly look on it as being unconstitutional. However, it shut them up for the time being, and whether they will remain tight or not is clearly up to the result of any action the clubs might take in the courts to prevent the carrying out of the ordinance.

The so-called social clubs have invaded practically every county in the State and only recently a great protest went up from Lexington county against the Secretary of State chartering any of the clubs. But that official is powerless for the clubs usually apply for charters giving as their purpose "To promote the social welfare of its members and the upbuilding of the community."

Involved in all this problem is the eternal question of the best method of the regulation of the liquor traffic. There are only eight counties out of the forty-four in South Carolina where dispensaries are located, the others being officially "dry." Many of these latter counties are now in the midst of the preliminaries to getting a vote on the return of the dispensaries in August of this coming year and the old battle of the liquor regulation will be fought anew in many places in the Palmetto State.

The decision of the State Supreme Court that there was no law on the statute books forbidding the importation of liquor for personal use, but that the Webb act passed by Congress gives the Legislature the right to pass a law forbidding such importation, promises a bitter struggle between the opponents of the old dispensary and its friends in the next General Assembly. The next State campaign will likely be pitched largely on this issue, whether such a law will be enacted or not, and the whole liquor fight, which has been kept in the background in the last two campaigns, will probably again take its place in the live "issues" of the day.

It is said that Chester got the idea of its "occupation" tax on club managers from Charlotte, N. C.