

The Watchman and Southron.
Published Wednesday and Saturday.
—BY—
OSTEEN PUBLISHING COMPANY,
SUMTER, S. C.

Terms:
\$1.50 per annum—in advance.
Advertisements:
One Square first insertion . . . \$1.00
Every subsequent insertion50
Contracts for three months, or longer will be made at reduced rates. All communications which subscribe private interests will be charged for as advertisements.
Obituaries and tributes of respect will be charged for.
The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the True Southron in 1866. The Watchman and Southron now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

A naval holiday would undoubtedly prove a step toward the world peace that the dreamers long for and it would, also, lighten the burden of taxation that is now grinding into the dust the producing classes of the great world powers. The first cost of the dreadnaughts and super-dreadnaughts is but a small item in the ultimate bill of expenses that the taxpayers must foot. Every great battleship or cruise: that is turned out of the navy yards, at a cost of ten to fifteen million dollars each, calls for the annual expenditure of hundreds of thousands of dollars for maintenance. In the mad scramble of the great powers to achieve naval supremacy, or to retain a relative position in naval circles, cost is not counted, or if counted is disregarded, and the producing classes of the world are called upon each year to pay heavier and heavier taxes to build more ships and support a constantly increasing naval force. From all of this great expenditure of money that is wrung from the people they receive no direct benefit, therefore the mere talk of a cessation of warship building for a year is hailed with delight by those who pay the taxes. The naval holiday idea is not popular with the naval officers, the ship builders, the gun makers, and the powder mills, and those special classes that are growing fat on the labor of the people, advance a hundred arguments in advocacy of greater battleships and more of them. Of course there are strong arguments in support of an efficient navy, but there should be some end to the constantly increasing expense, for,

if there is not, the burden will soon be too great to be borne. Both England and Germany are staggering under the burden that their naval rivalry has imposed upon them and although the sources of taxes have been almost exhausted, the naval authorities are demanding more money each year for bigger ships and a larger force. The conditions have not yet reached this pass in the United States, but the naval appropriations grow larger year by year and the end is not in sight. If the experience of the past held out any hope that the navy would at some time reach a state of efficiency and preparedness that would permit of a halt in the program of construction the taxpayers would not complain of the present burden, but a battleship costing ten million dollars is scarcely completed before it is on the way to the junk heap, and two larger and more costly vessels must be built to take its place. It is this prospect of indefinitely increasing naval expenditures that make taxpayers restive and resentful.

If Villa, Zapata and Huerta keep on the way they are going there will be no rich men left in Mexico, except themselves and their immediate followers. All the big estates are being confiscated and the rich men who do not flee the country are being executed as traitors.

The annual report of Prof. W. K. Tate, State Supervisor of Rural Schools, should be read with care and understanding by every man and woman who is at all interested in the public schools and desirous of the educational system of the State being made an efficient and an effective instrument for the doing of the great and needed work that is now not half done. Prof. Tate does not deal in vague generalities. He has definite and decided opinions as to what is needful to be done to prevent the waste that is the outstanding characteristic of the present administration of school affairs throughout the State. He makes in his report suggestions that are soundly and broadly constructive. He would wipe out the slipshod and inefficient administrative system that now obtains and build anew. The administrative system that he suggests would, to a large extent, divorce the schools from politics, both State and local, but would at the same time bring them into close touch with the people and make the school a real, effective force for the betterment of the community. The makeshift school and the misfit teacher would become less common,

and, in the course of time, as the people realize the difference between a school that wastes the money of the people and the time of the children and a school that accomplishes results, ignorance and illiteracy would become a disgrace and there would be little opposition to school taxes or a compulsory education law.

The House committee on elections dismissed the charges filed by Mayor Grace against Congressman Whaley, but nowhere is it recorded that the committee expressed the opinion that the primary election in the First district was a fair and honest expression of the democratic voters. At this distance it appears that the committee concluded that it would be a hopeless task to attempt to unravel the tangle of fraud, bribery and all manner of corruption that enmeshed the primary, and that, as Mr. Whaley was no worse than the defeated candidates, save in that he was successful, no good would be accomplished by unseating him.

The use of the recall in Orangeburg to attempt to unseat Mayor Bryant and Commissioner Von Oshen is declared to be a partisan effort to discredit these officials, without rhyme or reason. The petition is said to have been circulated and signed by the minority element that opposed the election of these gentlemen in the first place, and that no act of these officials since taking office justifies a resort to this drastic process to oust them from office. If this statement of the case be correct, the majority that elected them will find it easy to rebuke the effort of their enemies to undo the work of the election of a few months ago. The recall is valuable to a people who find their city governed by corrupt or incompetent officials, but it should not be used by a disgruntled minority to discredit public servants who are doing their duty. If this is what is back of the Orangeburg election, the friends of commission government should re-elect Mayor Bryant and Alderman Von Oshen by a larger majority than before.

The arrest at Georgetown of Bromo Seltzer Emerson and several of his millionaire guests for hunting, near Capt. Emerson's winter home at Arcadia, without having first procured the required hunters' license, will be noised among the four hundred as an outrage inspired by the prejudice of the lower classes against gentlemen of wealth and leisure. It is the lawless conduct of men of the



PLANTERS FERTILIZER

Properly used, with careful preparation of land and thorough cultivation will produce—

90 to 95 Bushels of Corn or—1 to 2 Bales of Cotton to the Acre

Planters Fertilizers contain Phosphoric Acid, Ammonia and Potash in right proportions to supply the plants with necessary nourishment from start to maturity.

- Planters "Cotton and Truck Fertilizer"7-5-5
- Planters "Soluble Guano"8-3-3
- Planters "Standard Fertilizer"9-2-2

Planters Fertilizer & Phosphate Co.
Manufacturers
Charleston, S. C.



Ask our agents about our brands. Write us for prices and information. Trade-Mark on every bag your protection.

We use only the best S. C. Phosphate, Fish Scrap, Blood, Tankage, German Potash, etc.

Emerson stripe, who imagine that their dollars elevate them above the law made for the rank and file of people, that creates whatever feeling of prejudice against the inordinately rich exists in this country. Capt. Emerson could easily have obtained the necessary license and enjoyed his hunt unmolested, but electing to disregard the law he should be man enough to take the consequences. But he was not a good sport. He got mad, loaded his guests on a special train and sped away North. There are multimillionaires who are good citizens, good sports and gentlemen, but they obey the laws and in all other respects conduct themselves so unobtrusively that they never furnish sensations in the divorce courts or elsewhere.

Col. Roosevelt, having made a failure of his bull moose chase in North America will now try his luck with the wild boars of South America.

Gov. Blease says he is dead against commission form of government. Just another good thing added to the list of his constitutional antipathies, which already includes ministers of the gospel, education, impartial enforcement of law, Woodrow Wilson and a free and unmuzzled press.

The several savings funds conduct-

ed by the local banks will distribute between now and January 1st approximately \$22,900. This annual savings funds idea which originated and was first put into practice among the employees of the firm of Ryttenberg & Sons about twenty years ago, has grown year by year to the present proportions. Next to the local building and loan associations the savings funds have done more to encourage thrift among the salaried men of Sumter than any other thing, and the prosperity and growth of Sumter are due largely to the successful operation of the building and loan associations and savings funds.

"The Best Medicine I Ever Used." "Chamberlain's Tablets is the best medicine I ever used for constipation, biliousness and headache," writes Mrs. A. W. Milne, St. George, Utah. These tablets are very effectual, easy and pleasant to take. For sale by all dealers.—Advt.

The gathering and selling of acorns is a new industry, in Arkansas, to supply eastern nursery firms with material for forest planting.

A Danger Signal. Hoarseness in a child that is subject to croup is a sure sign of an approaching attack. Give Chamberlain's Cough Remedy as soon as the child becomes hoarse and the attack may be warded off. For sale by all dealers.—Advt.

Bumped up Against the Real Thing. "I think I have bumped up against the real thing in Chamberlain's Tablets," writes D. R. Thomas, of Tidouite, Pa. "They do the work and cause no unpleasant reaction." In cases of constipation when pills and saline cathartics are used, their use is often followed by constipation, as they take so much water out of the system. On the other hand the effect of Chamberlain's Tablets is so agreeable and so natural that you do not realize that it has been produced by a medicine, and no reaction follows their use. For sale by all dealers.—Advt.

REBELS ON THE RAMPAGE.

"Come Back" After Yesterday's Defeat and Loot and Burn Two Towns. Mexico City, Dec. 17.—Zapata Rebels rallied their forces today and attacked the government forces and inflicted heavy losses. They surprised the Federals "celebrating" yesterday's victory at Milpa Alta, seventeen miles from the capital, captured the town and killed over one hundred Federals. San Lorenzo and San Diego were captured and looted by the Rebels. The Rebels closing in on the capital.

Cure Your Cold While You Can. More real danger lurks in a cold than in any other of the minor ailments. The safe way is to take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and rid yourself of the cold as quickly as possible. For sale by all dealers.—Advt.

SOME GIFTS THAT "HE" WILL APPRECIATE

Gifts Selected Here will be Sure to

Please any Man---We Sell the Things Men Like--- Things They Wear

- ☐ A Suit, Overcoat, or Raincoat would make any Man or Boy an IDEAL CHRISTMAS GIFT.
- ☐ Then in smaller wares, we show House Coats, Bath Robes, Pajamas, Shirts, Beautiful Exclusive Neckwear, Handkerchiefs, Gloves, Silk Umbrellas, Pullman Slippers, Suit Cases, Hand Bags and Trunks,

➡ Everything Reasonably Priced ←

Still Selling all Suits, Overcoats, Raincoats and Extra Pants at 1-3 Off.

The D. J. Chandler Clothing Co.,

PHONE 166 :: :: :: SUMTER, S. C.