

THE ASYLUM SCANDAL.

TILLMAN, BABCOCK AND BLEASE TESTIFY.

Net Result of First Days Proceedings Before Legislative Committee is Production of Proof That Asylum Management is Rotten With Politics.

Columbia, Feb. 8.—Hearsay evidence, interspersed at times by bitter and insinuating political and personal remarks, featured the first session of the legislative committee appointed to investigate certain charges made in connection with the affairs of the State Hospital for the Insane, which was held yesterday in the supreme court room.

Three witnesses—the governor of South Carolina, B. R. Tillman, United States senator, and J. W. Babcock, M. D., superintendent of the State Hospital for the Insane—gave testimony at the session, which lasted four hours. At 2 o'clock the committee adjourned, to meet again Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock, when the taking of testimony will be resumed.

Members of the committee are: T. J. Mauldin of Pickens, T. J. Srait of Lancaster and Macbeth Young of Union, for the senate; J. A. Hunter of Bamberg, W. F. Stevenson of Chesterfield and N. W. Hardin of Cherokee, for the house of representatives. Mr. Hardin was named as a member of the committee to take the place of C. C. Wyche of Spartanburg, who was excused because of the illness of his father.

The investigation was brought about as a result of a message sent to the general assembly by the governor, which contained a letter from Senator Tillman. In his letter the senator charged that the governor and his "underlings and satellites" were trying to manipulate the sale of the property of the State Hospital for the Insane in Columbia and that an effort was being made to oust Dr. Babcock and his assistant, Dr. L. B. Saunders, a young woman physician in charge of the white female patients at the hospital.

Testifying before the committee, Dr. Babcock said that he had heard of a scheme proposed by the governor whereby the new building at State Park was to be used for a tuberculosis hospital, the old asylum plant in the city to be used for white patients and the State penitentiary to be converted into an asylum for negro patients. The governor stated in this connection that he had such a plan in mind and that the penitentiary would be ready for occupancy by August of this year. He declared that he would heed the petition of members of the general assembly and of the county supervisors to place the convicts on the roads of the State. He said that more than 100 prisoners had been sent from the penitentiary to the county chaingangs during the past several weeks.

Senator Tillman in his testimony stated that he did not know anything definite as to the effort to sell the property of the asylum; that it was his private opinion; that he gained his information from general rumors and from reading the newspapers; that his statement was a kind of intuitive suggestion; that he had intended that a copy of his letter be sent to all members of the house and senate; that he had gained from Dr. Babcock all of his information as to the fight on Dr. Babcock and Dr. Saunders; and that he knew nothing definite concerning the entire matter.

Senator Tillman incorporated the following written statement in his testimony:

"Anticipating the question, 'What did you mean by Governor Blease's satellites and underlings?' I have written out my answer. These two are very plain English words, easily understood, and the dictionary will inform any ignoramus of their meaning.

"Satellite—A follower; particularly, a subservient or obsequious follower or attendant; a subordinate attendant."

"Underling—One who is subordinate to another, especially in some mean or servile capacity; hence, a mean, sorry fellow."

"I have always been credited with using striking phrases to convey my meaning, and this is an illustration of that faculty. I have designated no one, mentioned no names, and he can only justly be aggrieved who considers himself, and thus convicts himself of coming under the description above given. In other words, the cap fits him. So, let him wear it. The senator who gave my letter to Governor Blease is certainly one of them, and I hope he feels better, or will feel better, for this explanation. I will say right here (for it is a good place to say it) that had not one of my clerks misunderstood my orders, everyone of the senators in Columbia would have received a copy of this 'muchly marked personal letter.' It is the custom in my office to mark all such letters personal but, as was the case last summer, my confidence was betrayed, and the usage existing among gentlemen of keeping personal letters from the public was violated. This

letter must have fallen into the hands of one of the governor's 'satellites and underlings,' and his sense of obligation to his chief impelled him to betray it. Whoever he may be and I have no idea, he is welcome to any glory or honor he has received for his ungentlemanly behavior."

Dr. J. W. Babcock, taking the stand, reviewed the internal disturbances at the State Hospital for the Insane, declared that he was being hampered in his work because of a lack of authority, which had been taken over by the board of regents, claimed that he had no jurisdiction over the subordinate officials and paid a tribute to the work and character of Dr. Saunders.

There was a passage of words between the governor and Dr. Babcock following the introduction of two letters, written by the governor in which the resignation of Dr. Saunders was urged. In these letters it was stated by the governor that he had heard some talk while in Newberry concerning Dr. Saunders. The talk was said to have taken place in a room adjoining the governor's. One of the members of the committee pressed Dr. Babcock as to who made the statements. At first he refused to make a statement, but later he said that Col. E. H. Aull had told him that it was a relative of the governor. The governor denounced this statement as false and advanced to the front. There was a rapid fire conversation between Dr. Babcock and the governor. The governor told him that he could not bring in the name of a female relative. Dr. Babcock told the governor that the committee was pressing him for an answer. The subject was shifted by the committee and the governor walked back to his seat. On the way back he muttered something about "putting him where he could not talk."

LANDS AND MULES.

Comptroller General Furnishes Legislature With Interesting Statistics.

The following table, showing the assessed valuation of land per acre in the different counties and the average value of mules, as prepared by the comptroller general, is part of the statistical information which will be used by the senate in its debate on the county treasurers' and auditors' bill:

County	Mules	Lands Per Acre
Abbeville	959	\$5.49
Aiken	59	4.12
Anderson	50	7.94
Bamberg	53	3.76
Barnwell	84	3.61
Beaufort	80	3.47
Berkeley	56	1.55
Calhoun	56	3.75
Charleston	74	3.66
Cherokee	74	5.02
Chester	66	6.03
Chesterfield	59	2.60
Clarendon	75	3.62
Colleton	85	2.15
Darlington	64	5.27
Dillon	69	5.91
Dorchester	74	1.96
Edgefield	56	4.61
Fairfield	69	8.49
Florence	64	3.99
Georgetown	87	2.02
Greenville	37	5.48
Greenwood	53	5.26
Hampton	93	2.39
Horry	76	1.70
Jasper	98	2.44
Kershaw	84	3.04
Lancaster	52	3.89
Laurens	46	5.26
Lee	61	6.41
Lexington	66	2.94
Marion	68	2.02
Marlboro	44	5.72
Newberry	64	5.65
Oconee	49	2.99
Orangeburg	54	3.60
Pickens	32	3.32
Richland	68	4.44
Saluda	57	4.73
Spartanburg	49	6.18
Sumter	66	5.51
Union	51	4.61
Williamsburg	79	2.33
York	61	5.56

SLAYS WIFE; KILLS SELF.

Murderer, Dismayed by Woman's Refusal to Return to Him, Uses Deadly Weapon.

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 6.—A. J. Amozon, a traveling salesman residing here, late today committed suicide by sending a bullet through his heart. The tragedy occurred near the intersection of Trinity avenue and Whitehall street in the heart of the city, just at dusk. So far as known, the shooting was witnessed by few persons.

According to one man who claims to have seen the killing, Amozon and his wife, who was young and attractive, engaged in a brief conversation. Suddenly, said this witness, the man drew a revolver and fired three or four times, the woman falling to the sidewalk. Amozon then turned his weapon upon himself, firing two shots, one of which passed through his heart. Both Amozon and his wife were dead before medical aid could reach them.

Police officials tonight said that they

had found a note in the dead man's pocket, apparently written on board a New Orleans to Atlanta train in which he is said to have declared his intention of killing himself and his wife if she refused to return to him. It is said that the couple separated several weeks ago, and that since then Mrs. Amozon steadfastly refused to see her husband. She is supposed to have been on her way to her rooms on Trinity avenue when her husband met her and presumably endeavored to obtain an interview. The shooting immediately followed.

Mrs. Amozon was shot twice, one bullet passing through her head, and the other through her left shoulder.

The state university lands in Arizona are to be lumbered under a cooperative agreement between the government and the state land commission. Arizona is the first state in the southwest and one of few in the country to cut its timbered lands on forestry principles.

Of 606 fires last year on the national forests of Arizona, New Mexico, and Oklahoma, more than one-half were caused by lightning. Campers set about one-tenth, and railroads one-twentieth.

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Tickets on account of the above occasion will be on sale February 16, 17, 18, and for trains scheduled to arrive at Washington before noon February 19th; good to return to reach destination prior to midnight of February 26th, 1914. For schedule, reservations and other information, call on local Agent, or address:

W. J. CRAIG, Pass. Traffic Manager, T. C. WHITE, Gen. Pass. Agent, Wilmington, N. C.

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We have had this step in view for some time past—observations from our customers have taught us that it is a move on our part that will be met with appreciation and approval. THIS IS OUR FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

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