

The Watchman and Southron.
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 —BY—
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 SUMTER, S. C.
 Terms:
 \$1.50 per annum—in advance.
 Advertisements:
 One Square first insertion... \$1.00
 Every subsequent insertion... .50
 Contracts for three months, or longer will be made at reduced rates.
 All communications which subserv private interests will be charged for as advertisements.
 Obituaries and tributes of respect will be charged for.
 The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1889 and the True Southron in 1894. 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.

If the constructive programme of President Wilson is defeated and the Democrats thereby lose the confidence and support of the country and the control of the government the responsibility for this result will rest upon recalcitrant Democrats in and out of congress who wear the collar of the tariff and trust robber barons. The world-wide industrial and financial upheaval incidental to the great war in Europe is being used to discredit the policies of the Wilson administration, and the special interests that ran the finances of the country, controlled the business and dictated the policy of the government under Republican administrations are conducting a clever, shrewd and unscrupulous publicity campaign against the Wilson administration. The ad-libbed little demagogues, the political freebooters and the disappointed office seeking soreheads, big and little, are joining in the cry of the pack of wolves that is trying to pull down President Wilson and with him the Democratic party. Wilson is standing between the predatory classes and the great producing masses of the people, whom he is protecting and whom he is laboring to emancipate from the industrial and financial serfdom that renders the people so helpless in times of stress and disaster. He stands between the people and gun makers, powder mills and warship builders who are trying to convert this nation into an armed camp and finally precipitate war so that they may grow rich on army and navy contracts while the common people pay the bills in their blood and treasure. The money sharks, the gun making wolves and the other beasts of prey who profit from war hate Wilson, and there are thousands of the unthinking who have no better sense than to do the dirty work of the plotters by joining in the clamor against the one man who has stood between the United States and disaster during the past two years. These little fellows think they are showing independence and smartness when they blackguard a man who is too great for them to understand or appreciate. Twenty odd years ago these same people were abusing Cleveland until they were black in the face. Today since time has vindicated Cleveland and his policies and it is written in history that Grover Cleveland was one of the truly great men that America has produced, we find the detractors of Woodrow Wilson, a greater man than Cleveland, lauding Cleveland and trying to belittle Wilson by far fetched comparisons, that a superficial knowledge of history and a small understanding of present conditions would make them see to be ridiculous.

Gov. Blease caps the climax of his lawless and ridiculous pardon record by pardoning a negro woman who has been dead two years. The woman killed her husband and was sentenced to the penitentiary for life, but died in Spartanburg soon after her trial.

What is the matter with the few remaining convicts that they have not proved acceptable grist for the pardon mill?

Why was George W. Murray pardoned? South Carolina was better off by his absence.

Charleston takes little stock in the starving Belgians—only four persons attended a mass meeting called to raise funds for their relief.

The legislature convenes Tuesday next for the regular forty-day session. We wish it well, but do not expect it to revolutionize financial, industrial and agricultural conditions by the enactment of a law. There are more laws now than the people respect and obey, and there is a growing disrespect for law among all classes. The lawyers are not altogether responsible for the widespread disregard of the law but they contribute largely to this growth of the general sentiment that a man need respect only such laws as do not conflict with his personal interests and habits. A case in point is the cotton acreage reduction

law. Dozens of men have stated to the writer that they did not propose to pay any attention to it, that they expect to plant all the cotton that they feel like planting, as they had been told by lawyers that they could do so with impunity—that the law was worthless and unenforceable. This may be true, but the constitutionality of the law should first be determined in the regular manner, before the people are advised to disregard it by wholesale. The same sort of advice in respect to the State dispensary law, when it was first enacted, resulted in a wave of lawlessness that engulfed the State and led to murder, riot and almost a civil war. The only safe way is to obey the law at all times and those who advise to the contrary are no friends to the people.

German sympathizers are making much of recent reports by newspaper correspondents that some of the German soldiers stationed in Belgium are dividing their rations with the starving Belgian women and children. The German soldiers are not responsible for conditions in Belgium and the fact that some of them are sufficiently humane to divide their food with starving children shows that they are better than their rulers who do nothing to succor the people whose all they have destroyed. Men who could see starving children all around them and not give them a mouthful out of their abundant rations would be fiends, not human beings.

There will be a fine, large crop of prohibition candidates for all the offices in sight in 1916, if the State-wide campaign terminates successfully. Watch the boys who are now getting in line to claim rewards for valiant service for the cause.

Instead of petitioning the legislature to order an election on the question of State-wide prohibition why not make the issue now and be done with it. Let the advocates of State-wide prohibition make a thorough canvass of the qualified electors of the entire State, securing signatures to a petition asking the legislature to enact a State-wide prohibition law at the approaching session. Those who favor prohibition will sign the petition as readily now as they will vote for prohibition in a special election held next summer. It is feasible to ascertain the sentiment of a majority of the qualified electors by means of a petition, and if a majority demand the enactment of a State-wide law the legislature is not likely to ignore the demand. If this is done we shall escape the expense and harassment of a campaign and an election in an off year. We believe prohibition will win if submitted to people either by petition or by an election and we see no use of going to the trouble of a special election when the issue can be decided in a quicker and easier way. Put the issue squarely up to the legislature and let's have done with the liquor question for a time at least. The local option method of dealing with the liquor question, although the most democratic, and apparently the most reasonable and satisfactory, has proven to be a failure, insofar as giving us a rest from the interminable strife over liquor, for the reason that the prohibitionists—political and professional prohibitionists principally—refuse to abide by the local option decision in favor of the legalized sale of liquor of certain counties. We would much prefer State-wide prohibition in name to the continual turmoil and strife over the liquor question from which there is no hope of relief until the prohibitionists have had the opportunity to make the State sober by act of the legislature. The communities that want liquor will continue to have it as they do now under the dispensary law and by means of social clubs, and conditions cannot be worse than at present. It is within the realms of possibility for State-wide prohibition to be followed by an improvement in conditions in some communities, and on that chance and in the hope of obtaining a rest from the liquor agitation we are prepared to sign a petition asking the legislature to enact a State-wide law at once without waiting to have a special election.

THIRTEEN MORE RELEASED.

Gov. Blease Again Shows Clemency to Convicts.

Columbia, Jan. 5.—Executive clemency was granted by Gov. Blease today to several more convicts of the State, making the total during the four years of his administration 1,627. Three were convicted of manslaughter and two of criminal assault. This number included eight paroles, two pardons and two commutations of sentence. None of them had extra State reputations.

Atlanta, Jan. 6.—Walter Burdett, a white youth of twenty years committed suicide on the roof of a building on West Eaker street early today. He fled from officers wanting to arrest him on the charge of automobile stealing. He fired twice at officers.

PRICE OF WHEAT SOARS.

Call of Europe for Bread Sends Cost of Grain to Highest Point.

Chicago, Jan. 4.—Europe's need of bread resulted today in spectacular buying of wheat and caused new war prices here. It was pointed out, however, that the highest quotation today, \$1.34 3-4, for May delivery was still roundly 50 cents a bushel under the price forced here in 1898 by Joseph Leiter, during a period of worldwide peace—\$1.85.

The upturn apparently had little, if any, effect on farmers. Country offerings were decidedly meagre, as they have been for some time.

Although the prime impetus for high prices today came from seemingly unlimited export demand, there was no doubt that the public bought wheat heavily, especially in the first hour of the session. Millers, too, were said to be anxious buyers, fearing that the tremendous export call would leave them short of supplies. Roughly the total sales to Europe today in the United States were estimated at 3,000,000 bushels. Of this, 750,000 bushels was known to be for the relief of the Belgians.

Experienced observers failed to notice any unusual excitement on the exchange. The one striking fact was the steady absorption of every bushel of wheat offered.

Talk among brokers centred almost wholly on the idea that for the present the United States was virtually the only big exporting nation. Nobody seemed to look for an immediate opening of the Dardanelles, and it seemed to be taken as a certainty with prohibitive vessel rates Argentina would be unable to take care even of contracts already made, especially with Italy, where embarrassment will be serious if large amounts expected prior to March 1 from Argentina are not received as bargained for.

Highest Since War Began.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 4.—May wheat reached \$1.31 7-8 on the Merchants' exchange here today, the highest price recorded for wheat since war began. The increase was attributed to heavy export demand and to the elimination of Argentine competition as a result of high ocean freight rates.

Begin the New Year Right.

This newspaper, like all others in the South, has been filled each week for months with news and comment on the disastrous effect the war in Europe has had upon the finances of the farmers and merchants of the cotton States, but we have not made personal application of the hard luck stories. It is, nevertheless, a fact that the financial stringency prevalent these past few months has hit the newspapers harder than any other class of business—harder even than the farmers or the merchants. Everything that is used in the production of a newspaper has advanced in price as a result of the war and the cost of issuing the newspaper is greater now than ever before. This is bad enough, but what is worse is the falling off in income from advertising and the almost complete failure of the income from subscriptions. In October we sent out approximately two thousand bills for subscriptions to regular subscribers, the total amount aggregating several thousand dollars. The response was and continues to be disappointing—very few of those indebted to us for subscription having remitted or called at the office to settle their accounts. The amount that each subscriber owes us is small, but the total is large and we need the money to run our business. We are not underestimating the scarcity of money in the country but we feel sure that a large majority of our subscribers could, without serious inconvenience, pay us the small amounts they owe for subscription. If they will look at the matter from a business-like point of view they will see that while the subscription bill is a small matter to them, the total of all the subscriptions, is a large matter to us. We could very well afford to wait until next fall for \$1.50, but we cannot afford to wait until next fall for eight hundred times \$1.50. Do you see the point?

We ask each subscriber to examine the label on his or her paper, which shows the date of the expiration of the subscription, and ascertain the amount due us. Then send us the amount due by check or money order, or call at this office at an early date, pay the amount and receive a receipt.

Geo. H. Hurst,
 Undertaker and Embalmer.
 Prompt Attention to Day or Night Calls;
 AT J. D. Craig Old Stand, N. Main
 Phones Day 539 Night 201

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

Office of Comptroller of the Currency. NO. 10670.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 23, 1914. Whereas, by satisfactory evidence presented to the undersigned, it has been made to appear that "The National Bank of Sumter" in the City of Sumter, in the county of Sumter and State of South Carolina, has complied with all the provisions of the Statutes of the United States, required to be complied with before an association shall be authorized to commence the business of banking;

Now Therefore, I, John Skelton Williams, Comptroller of the Currency, do hereby certify that "The National Bank of Sumter" in the City of Sumter, in the County of Sumter and State of South Carolina, is authorized to commence business of banking as provided in Section Fifty-one Hundred and Sixty-nine of the Revised Statutes of the United States. Conversion of The Bank of Sumter, South Carolina.

In Testimony Whereof witness my hand and seal of office this twenty-third day of December, 1914.

(Signed) Jno. Skelton Williams,
 Comptroller of the Currency.

NO. 10660.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.
 OFFICE OF COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 5, 1914.

Whereas, by satisfactory evidence presented to the undersigned, it has been made to appear that "The National Bank of South Carolina, of Sumter" in the city of Sumter in the County of Sumter and State of South Carolina has complied with all the provisions of the Statutes of the United States, required to be complied with before an association shall be authorized to commence the business of banking;

Now Therefore, I, John Skelton Williams, Comptroller of the Currency, do hereby certify that "The National Bank of South Carolina of Sumter," in the city of Sumter, in the County of Sumter and State of South Carolina is authorized to commence the business of banking as provided in Section Fifty-one hundred and sixty-nine of the Revised Statutes of the United States. Conversion of The Bank of South Carolina, Sumter, S. C.

In testimony whereof witness my hand and seal of office this fifth day of December, 1914.

JOHN SKELTON WILLIAMS,
 Comptroller of the Currency.

(Seal.)

NOTICE—To tobacco growers: You can get your tobacco cloth and tobacco fertilizers for the seed bed at Ducker & Bultman.

FOR SALE—Duroc-Jersey pigs, registered stock, four months old, \$15 each; \$25 per pair. Also limited quantity iron peas. T. S. DuBose, Jr., Oswego, S. C., R. F. D. No. 1, Box 58.

RUB-MY-TISM

Will cure Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Headaches, Cramps, Colic Sprains, Bruises, Cuts, Burns, Old Sores, Tetter, Ring-Worm, Eczema, etc. Antiseptic Anodyne, used internally or externally. 25c

MEN

Cured Forever

By a true specialist who possesses the experience of years. The right kind of experience—doing the same thing hundreds and perhaps thousands of times with unfailing permanent results. Don't you think it time to get the right treatment? If you desire to consult a reliable long-established specialist of vast experience, come to me and learn what can be accomplished with skillful, scientific treatment. I hold two medical diplomas and certificates by examination and other requirements from the boards of medical examiners of 14 States in the Union, together with over 20 years' experience in specialty practice. I successfully treat Blood Poison, Varicose Veins, Ulcers, Kidney and Bladder Diseases, Rheumatism, Gall Stones, Paralysis, Discharges, Piles, and Rectal Trouble, Stricture and all Nervous, Chronic and private Diseases of Men and Women. Examination free and strictly confidential. Hours: 9 a. m. to 7 p. m. Sundays, 9 to 5.

Call or Write
DR. REGISTER,
 Specialist,
 506 UNION NATIONAL BANK BUILDING,
 COR. MAIN AND GERVAIS STS.,
 Columbia, S. C.

ATLANTIC COAST PLANT CO.,
 Wholesale Cabbage, Beets and Lettuce Plants
 MAINE GROWN SEED POTATOES, IN 54 COBBLETS, HOULTON ROSE VARIETIES A SPECIALTY SELECTED BY AN EXPERT—SWEET POTATO PLANTS, ALL VARIETIES.
SOMETHING FOR NOTHING.
 Youngs Island, S. C., Nov. 23, 1914.
 To get started with you we make you the following offer: Send us \$1.50 for 1,000 Frost Proof Cabbage Plants, grown in the open air and will stand freezing; grown from the Celebrated seed of Bolzina & Son and Thorburn & Co., and I will send you 1,000 Cabbage Plants additional FREE, and you can repeat the order as many times as you like. I will give you special prices on Potato Seed and Potato Plants later. We want the accounts of close buyers, large and small. We can supply all.
 ATLANTIC COAST PLANT CO.

ROOFING-ROOFING-ROOFING
\$3.00 PER SQUARE
 First-class Galvanized Corrugated and V-Crimped Roofing in 6, 7, 8 and 10 foot lengths.
 Sticks 10 cents per square extra. Only required with V-Crimped Roofing.
 COLUMBIA SUPPLY COMPANY, 823 Gervais St., Columbia, S. C.

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 For 25 Years
The
Bank of Sumter
 Has operated successfully as a State bank. On December 24th, 1914, acting under authority of the Comptroller of Currency, this bank was converted into a National Banking Association with the title of
The National Bank of Sumter
 We solicit the accounts of firms, corporations and individuals, promising the same prompt and courteous treatment we have always endeavored to extend to our patrons and friends.
The National Bank of Sumter

DECEMBER 7, 1914
The National Bank of South Carolina
 RESOURCES \$800,000.00
 4% compounded quarterly in our Savings Dept.
 5% on Time Certificates of Deposit.
 Strong, conservative, progressive.
 We appreciate our old friends, and are continually seeking new ones. We want your account.
 C. G. Rowland, Pres. G. L. Warren, Cashier

ALWAYS
 AT YOUR SERVICE
THE PEOPLES BANK

THIS BANK
 Is a Member of the Federal Reserve Banking System of the United States.
 THE soundness and ability of the bank and the CHARACTER OF THE MEN behind that bank are investigated before the United States Government will allow a bank to become a member of the Federal Reserve System. Once a member of the Federal Reserve System a bank is one of the VAST ARMY of responsible banks which STAND TOGETHER for each other's protection; and the U. S. Government at Washington, D. C., through its representatives on each Federal Reserve Bank Board supervises and assists all member banks. Your money is absolutely safe in our bank and YOU CAN GET IT WHEN YOU WANT IT.
The First National Bank
 OF SUMTER.
 Capital, Surplus and Profits Nearly - - \$230,000.00