

DR. DICK BACK FROM COLUMBIA

SESSION MOST STRENUOUS IN TEN YEARS HE HAS BEEN IN LEGISLATURE.

Starting out with Only One Former Member of His Committee, He Had Much Hard Work to Do—Is on Way to Recovery after Recent Illness—Will Take Charge at Postoffice Next Week.

Dr. Geo. W. Dick, chairman of the ways and means committee for the past three years until his resignation on last Saturday night a short time before the general assembly adjourned, returned to the city on Monday afternoon and was back in his office Tuesday and Wednesday. When seen by a representative of The Item he expressed himself as well pleased with the work of the recent session of the general assembly, which, he stated, was the most strenuous in the ten years he had been in the house. Dr. Dick is now well on the road to full recovery after his recent illness caused by ptomaine poisoning, although he still shows in his face the effects of the attack.

An chairman of the ways and means committee one of the two most important committees in the house, Dr. Dick found this a hard session. To begin with he had only one of his last year members of his committee, Mr. J. T. Liles of Orangeburg. Mr. DeLaughter, another member, having died just after the general assembly convened, without having attended a single meeting of the committee. Other members of the committee had not returned to the legislature or have been removed to make efficient chairmen of other committees. However, he was given three members who had previously served on the committee, Messrs Tom P. Cothran of Greenville, and D. L. Smith and Ben Sellers. In referring to his committee Dr. Dick stated that all took hold with a will that showed their readiness for work. Those who had never been on committee before, as well as those who had and realized the hard work before them. Of Mr. Cothran, one of the authors of the Carey-Cothran law and the author of the present form of the appropriation bill, Dr. Dick stated that he was probably the oldest member of the house in point of service and was the strongest man in the legislature, his assistance being of great value in the determination of appropriations at this session. Mr. F. C. Robinson of Abbeville, who was taken off Dr. Dick's committee and placed at the head of the asylum committee, a committee, which, by the way was considered by Dr. Dick as the strongest in the legislature, came in also for a share of praise from his former committee chief. Mr. Robinson, Dr. Dick stated, was the most substantial man in the legislature, and although he did not say much, his works showed his ability. Dr. Dick mentioned several others as hard working, conscientious members.

Turning off from the mention of committee members, Dr. Dick told of what had been done by the ways and means committee in making appropriations. The State was practically running on less than four mills levy, he said. One mill levy was for Confederate pensions; one mill for the maintenance of the State Hospital for the Insane, one-half mill for the building and equipping of the State Hospital for Insane, and more than one-half mill was for the common schools. This left less than four mills for meeting the interest on the State debt, annual provision for the State sinking fund, the maintenance and support of State institutions of education, the judicial, executive, and in fact, every department of the State government. The ways and means committee this year had divided the levies so that the people could see what departments were calling for additional appropriations. All other departments were run on the most economic plans.

Dr. Dick went on to say that there was no extension work provided for this year except the appropriation of a small amount for the completion of buildings for the deaf and blind and a small amount at Winthrop college. "The State owns a plant at Winthrop which has cost \$1,250,000, for which the State has paid little over \$400,000," said Dr. Dick. "This is one State institution which never comes before the ways and means committee without being prepared to make a strictly business proposition. Whenever Dr. Johnson entered the committee room, we always knew that he was 'loaded.' For instance: three years ago when he asked for \$20,000 to buy a lot to build a training school, he stood ready to cover that amount with \$100,000 to put into the building. By giving \$15,000 this year and \$15,000 next year, he puts up \$30,000 for another building. In this way from year to year Winthrop college has become the most magnificently equipped school in the South. And as Dr. Johnson still remains in touch with men of means in all sections of the country, the com-

mittee felt that the policy which he has pursued for so many years in raising these amounts ought to be encouraged and therefore an exception was made in this case and a small amount was appropriated for extension at Winthrop."

"Everything moved smoothly at this session," said Dr. Dick. "The first part of the session was the most strenuous I have experienced in my ten years' service, but the latter part was decidedly more to the liking of us all, as we had not the annual obstructions thrown in the way of progress by various vetoes with an accompanying amount of 'blue sky' oratory and the subsequent passing over the veto of all measures of consequence."

Dr. Dick resigned from the chairmanship of the sinking fund commission after all matters had been attended to and a reorganization effected and an assistant secured to aid in carrying on the large amount of insurance now handled by the State on her own property. After his resignation he was employed for some time in turning over the affairs of the commission to his successor, Gov. R. I. Manning. He resigned as chairman of the ways and means committee after disposing of the general appropriation bill, in order that his successor might be appointed while the general assembly was in session. Dr. Dick remained over in Columbia on Monday to see to some of the work of the committee and he will return there Friday to settle up other matters, one of which is the turning over to Gov. Manning the executive mansion, which he has been unable to occupy previously on account of repairs being made. After the governor's mansion and its contents have been received for, Dr. Dick expects to hand in his resignation as a member of the house to Speaker of the House J. A. Hoyt. He has had his commission as postmaster at Sumter for several days and expects to have the charge of the office transferred to him during the next week.

FOSTER GETS ONE YEAR.

Darlington Business Man Pleads Guilty to Charge of Malicious Mischief.

Darlington, Feb. 23.—Court of general sessions adjourned here this morning. The business of the court was finished yesterday afternoon with the exception of the sentence imposed in one case. At 9:30 o'clock this morning Judge S. W. G. Shipp, who was presiding, passed this sentence, and adjourned the court sine die. The sentence, passed this morning was on M. M. Foster, who was arrested about ten days ago charged with attempting to burn his store house at 3 o'clock in the morning. He had been seen to enter his place of business about 10 o'clock at night, and a close watch was kept on the store by the police, so that when an attempt was made to start the fire the alarm was promptly given and very little loss occurred. The store was found covered by excelsior saturated in kerosene, and saving the building was due to the vigilance of the police and prompt response of the fire department.

When the plea of guilty was entered to the indictment yesterday Judge Shipp announced that he would take the matter under consideration, stating at the same time that he had been waited on by a committee of citizens on behalf of the defendant, and he thought it a matter which he should give due consideration. This morning he stated to Foster in imposing sentence that he sympathized with him greatly, and his sympathy would probably yesterday afternoon have led him to be lighter than he felt this morning his duty as a public officer demanded. A sentence of one year's imprisonment was passed on the defendant. After passage of the sentence, counsel for Foster made an earnest appeal to the court to suspend the sentence, but this the court declined to do.

Foster was not indicted for arson, as under the law Solicitor Spears did not believe that a conviction could be had. He was indicted for malicious mischief, and to this indictment pleaded guilty.

ROBBERS AT CONGAREE.

Thieves Enter Store of W. O. Burkett.

Columbia, Feb. 23.—Robbers broke into the store of W. O. Burkett at Congaree some time Sunday night and stole clothes, shoes and other wearing apparel. Guard Robbins went to the scene with his dogs and the trail led to a negro's house, but as yet no arrests have been made.

Presumably after midnight the thieves entered a blacksmith shop owned by Mr. Burkett and secured tools with which to break open the front door to the store. Mr. Burkett was up early yesterday morning and went to his store about 4 o'clock. He believes that he frightened them away. He missed several suits of clothes and several pair of shoes, but what further articles were stolen he is unable to say.

PLAN TEACHERS' CONVENTION.

EDUCATORS OF STATE TO MEET IN FLORENCE NEXT MONTH.

Sessions of Association March 25, 26 and 27—Several Prominent Speakers.

The annual convention of the State Teachers' Association will meet March 25, 26 and 27 in Florence. Last year about 1,200 teachers attended the meeting in Spartanburg and an equal number is expected to assemble this year. All preparations for the entertainment of the teachers have been completed by a special committee of the Chamber of Commerce of Florence. Superintendent A. B. Rhett of the city schools of Charleston, who is president of the association this year, has completed his programme, which will be issued during the coming week.

Mr. Rhett has engaged a number of speakers of national prominence, among them J. Y. Joyner, State superintendent of education for North Carolina; J. A. C. Chandler, superintendent of city schools, Richmond and W. S. Currell, president of the University of South Carolina. State Superintendent of Education Swearingin, Lueco Gunter, inspector of rural education, and W. H. Hand, State high school inspector, and other prominent South Carolina school men, have been selected to lead discussions on recent educational legislation.

Among the interesting features of the convention will be a special report of the committee on the status of the teaching profession in South Carolina, of which Frank Evans of Spartanburg is chairman.

Interesting programmes have also been prepared for the meetings of the Association of Town and City Superintendents; the Association of County superintendents; the Elementary Teacher's Association, and the School Improvement association, all of which hold sessions in connection with the general convention.

In addition to the usual exhibits by schools, book companies and supply houses, the Audubon society is preparing a handsome and instructive exhibit of bird life in South Carolina.

The officers of the association for this year are: A. B. Rhett, Charleston, president; E. C. McCants, Anderson, first vice president; Miss Will Lou Gray, Laurens, second vice president; A. B. Gasque, of Florence and E. S. Dreher of Columbia, member of the executive committee; C. V. Neuffer, Bennettsville, treasurer, and L. T. Baker, Columbia, secretary.

TROUBLE IN PORTUGAL.

Political Feeling in Republic Runs High.

Lisbon, Portugal, Feb. 24 (via Paris).—The Portuguese government has decided to postpone the general elections sine die and has ordered a revision of the present census.

This decision is considered here a hard blow for Dr. Afonso Costa and the Democratic party for the reason that under the existing census he undoubtedly would have obtained a majority vote because of the enforced or voluntary abstention from voting of the other parties.

The newspapers declare a revision of the census can be made only by Premier de Castro, acting as a dictator, which would be "unconstitutional and illegal." They say that the republic is facing a grave crisis. Party feeling has invaded the army. Posters and manifestoes against the government and Premier Castro have made their appearance upon the walls of Lisbon.

BUILD CLEMSON Y. M. C. A.

Greenwood Man Gets Contract—Building to Cost \$75,000.

Greenville, Feb. 22.—The contract for the Clemson College Y. M. C. A. was let here early this evening to Thomas P. Cothran, a contractor of Greenwood. The building, with furnishings, will cost \$75,000. Of this sum \$50,000 was donated by John D. Rockefeller, \$15,000 by the board of trustees and \$10,000 by students, former students and members of the faculty. The contractor, Mr. Cothran, built the Palmetto National bank building in Columbia, and also the Jefferson Hotel, of that city. He is a graduate of Clemson of the class of 1896. The architect, R. E. Lee, is a Clemson graduate also, and like Mr. Cothran, finished in 1896.

DENIES THE CHARGE.

Grey Nails Accusation Against Great Britain.

Washington, Feb. 22.—Sir Edward Grey has sent to the state department a statement characterizing as a falsehood a recent Berlin charge that Great Britain intends to destroy an American ship in the naval war zone and charge it to a German submarine in order to precipitate a crisis between the United States and Germany.

APPOINTMENTS CONSIDERED.

CHAIRMAN OF STATE TAX COMMISSION PROBABLY BEST POSITION OPEN.

Executive Will Look into Fitness of Candidates Before He Makes Any Appointments—Naming of Regents for State Hospital Awaited With Interest.

Columbia, Feb. 25.—The governor is considering appointments which he must make in the near future, and is weighing each one whom he has in mind carefully. The idea of the governor is to make all appointments solely on merit and efficiency and no one who is incapable of standing these tests need have any hope of landing under Gov. Manning. He fully realizes the necessity of making worthy appointments and fitness for the position weighs heavily with the chief executive.

The naming of the chairman of the State tax commission will have the attention of the governor in the near future. This is probably the "biggest" appointment which Gov. Manning will have at his disposal and just how important it is no one realizes any better than he. The governor is not going to be in any rush or hurry to fill these places but, as stated, will go over each possible one whom he has in mind carefully and weigh everything and have thorough knowledge of his fitness and ability before naming him. It is realized that there is not a great number of men in South Carolina who could fill the position of chairman of the tax commission, but still there are a good many, too, and whatever is done it is safe to predict that Gov. Manning will appoint the best man to the job.

There are two other members of the tax commission to be appointed by the governor and the seven members of the tax board of review also.

The governor will shortly name the regents of the State Hospital for the Insane and the members of the board of the Old Soldiers Home is to be elected by the board and it can be stated for the benefit of those who are applying for that job that the governor has nothing to do with selecting the commandant or superintendent. That will be done by the board.

The governor has also the naming of the members of the State Board of charities and corrections, and as they are very important positions he will give the personnel careful consideration before making any announcements.

It is believed that the governor will announce all of the most important "plums" at his disposal within the near future. He has been prevented by the rush work incident to the general assembly from giving any time to making up his appointments, but with the lawmakers gone home he can now turn his mind and attention to filling the lists, for which there is no lack of available material.

The governor is devoting much of his time to the matter of enforcement of the laws. He is earnest in his declarations to see that the local officials enforce the laws and already some good results have been apparent in some sections, according to unofficial reports in circulation in political circles here. It is said that "blind tigers" are being hard pressed in many quarters now, where formerly they ran at large, boldly, brazenly and unmolested, and the programme of Gov. Manning is to stamp out this gentry altogether.

BIDS HOUSE GOODBYE.

Underwood Says Farewell to Old Stamping Ground.

Washington, Feb. 24.—Representative Oscar W. Underwood today bade farewell to the house ways and means committee of which he is chairman, as he will represent Alabama as its junior senator after March 4. He presided over the committee at its final session of this congress today and was presented with a resolution of thanks and congratulation by his colleagues of the committee. There were speeches by various members. Speaker Clark later yielded the presiding officer's chair and Mr. Underwood presided over the house during part of its deliberations.

FIRE IN BIRMINGHAM.

Three Burned to Death and Nine Seriously Injured.

Birmingham, Feb. 23.—Three unidentified men lost their lives and nine seriously burned this morning in a fire which destroyed the Windsor hotel, Wheeler restaurant, Robertson hardware store and the Palace saloon. The loss was \$100,000.

SUMTER COTTON MARKET.

Corrected daily by Ernest Field Cotton Buyer.

Good Middling 7 3-4.
Strict Middling 7 5-8.
Middling 7 1-2.
Strict Low Middling 7.
Low Middling 6 1-2.
Staple Cotton, Nominal.

Your Neighbor's Bank, Why Not Yours?

Strong, active, accommodating, painstaking. Large capital and surplus, commodious home. None better prepared to serve, or more anxious to please.

The National Bank of South Carolina

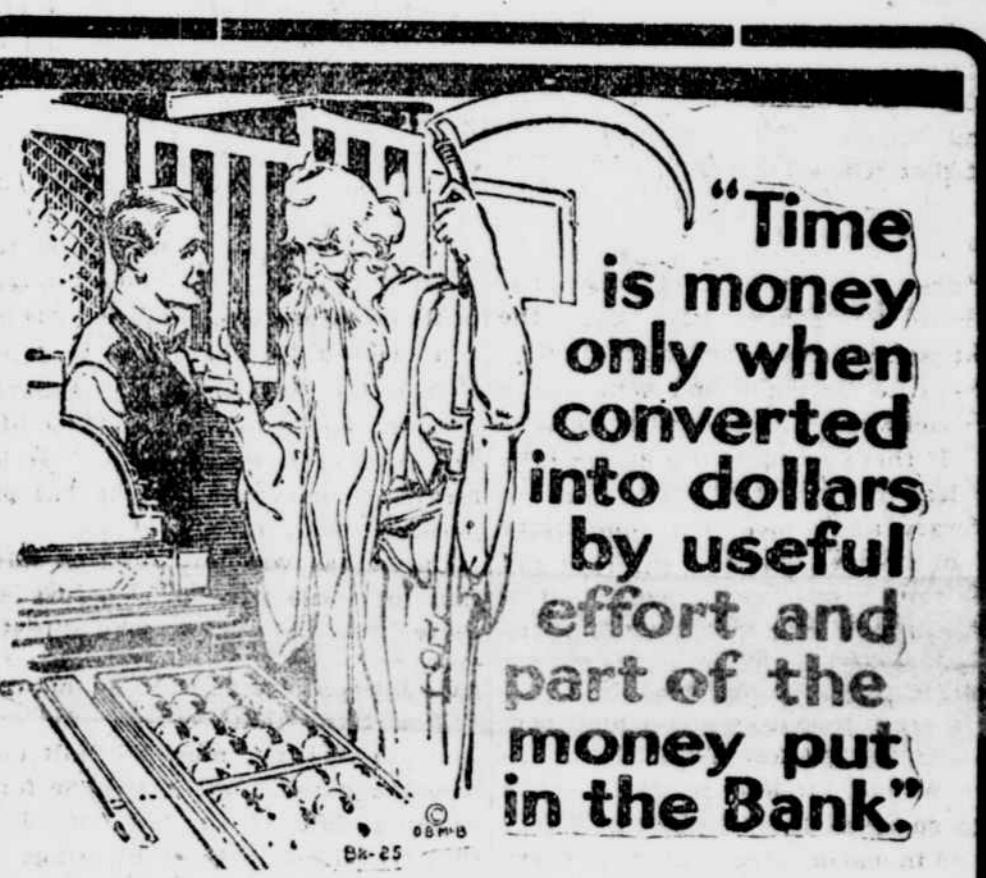
C. G. Rowland, Pres. G. I. Warren, Cashier

IT'S OLD, VERY OLD! THIS ADAGE

But it's such a good one, it will bear repeating—"It's not what you make, but what you save, that counts so much."

—Ours is a good bank to help you save. We pay interest from day of deposit.

THE PEOPLES BANK



¶ We extend a welcome to every man who works hard for his money to come in and learn the many advantages behind a banking connection.

¶ We want such men to make this Bank their Bank and you can easily do it if you will save just a little of what you earn. Don't be backward about coming in with a small beginning. \$1.00 starts you.

'4 PER CENT INTEREST ON SAVINGS'

The National Bank of Sumter

ESTABLISHED 1889

\$100,000.00

CAPITAL

\$125,000.00

EARNED PROFITS

The First National Bank

OF SUMTER, S. C.

Lumber, Lime, Cement,

BUILDING MATERIAL GENERALLY AND FEED OF ALL KINDS.

Booth-Shuler Lumber & Supply Co.

Successors to Booth-Harby Live Stock Co. and Central Lumber Co. Geo. Epperson's Old Stand Opp. Court House