

**The Watchman and Southern**  
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The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the True Southern in 1864. The Watchman and Southern now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

**SENDS OUT NEW LIQUOR ACT.**

**Copies of Gallon-a-Month Law Sent Out to Sheriffs by Governor.**

Copies of the gallon-a-month law, recently passed by the legislature of South Carolina, were received by Sheriff Bradford Monday morning from Gov. Manning to be placed with each of the magistrates in the county. Gov. Manning stated in his letter which accompanied the copies of the law that he hoped the sheriff would see that the law was enforced.

Sheriff Bradford in his reply stated that he had sent out the copies to each magistrate in the county and he would see that the liquor law was enforced in this county.

The new law is as follows:

**AN ACT**  
**To Regulate the Shipment of Spirituous, Vinous Fermented or Malt Liquors or Beverages into the State; and to Provide Penalties for the Violation of This Act.**

Section 1. Be it enacted by the general assembly of the State of South Carolina: That it shall be unlawful for any person, firm, corporation or company to ship, transport or convey any intoxicating liquors from a point without this State into this State, for the purpose of delivery, or to deliver the same to any person, firm, corporation or company within this State, or for any person, firm, corporation or company to receive or be in possession of any spirituous, vinous, fermented or malt liquors or beverages containing more than one per cent of alcohol, for his, hers, its or their own use or for the use of any other person, firm or corporation, except as hereinafter provided.

Section 2. Any person may order and receive from any point without the State not exceeding one gallon within any calendar month, for his or her personal use, of spirituous, vinous, fermented or malted liquors or beverages.

Section 3. It shall be unlawful for any railroad company, express company, corporation or other common carrier to deliver any package containing intoxicating liquors or beverages containing more than one per cent of alcohol, to any person other than the consignee and in no case shall any railroad, express company, corporation or common carrier or person or agent of such railroad, express company, corporation or other common carrier or person be liable for damages for non-delivery of such liquor or package, until the consignee appears in person at the place of business of the common carrier and signs in person for the package.

Section 4. Any person obtaining any such package under false or fraudulent pretext of any kind or any agent of any common carrier delivering a package contrary to the provisions of this Act, shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not less than One Hundred Dollars, or more than Five Hundred Dollars, or be imprisoned in the county jail for not less than thirty days, or more than six months, or both in the discretion of the court.

Section 5. It shall be unlawful for any intoxicating liquors or beverages to be stored or kept in any place of business or club room or house in this State whether for personal use or otherwise, and the liquor or beverages herein allowed to be imported, if stored, must be stored in the home or private room of the person or persons so ordering.

Section 6. Nothing in this Act shall prevent the shipment or transportation of alcoholic liquors or beverages to or from any dispensary authorized by the laws of this State to sell same, in the county of such dispensary.

Section 7. Any person violating any of the provisions of this Act shall be subject to a fine of not less than three months, or both, in the discretion of the court.

Section 8. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the sale or transportation of alcohol under and in accordance with the Statutes of this State, as contained in Criminal Code of 1912, Sections 799, 809, 802 to 812 inclusive.

Approved February 20, 1915.

**INSURANCE BILL DISCUSSED.**

**Commissioner McMaster Says That It Will Bring Money into State.**

The State.  
The bill now in the hands of the governor "to regulate the writing of certain classes of insurance and to provide for the division of the commissions" having become a matter of newspaper controversy and my attitude towards the bill having been drawn into question, I ask for publication of this communication.

This bill was drawn and enacted at the instance of the South Carolina association of local insurance agents. It was intended to make perfect the resident fire insurance agents' law, applying only to fire insurance, passed in 1900 and to extend its provisions to all other forms of insurance except life.

When my attention was called to the bill by the legislative committees on banking and insurance I applied to it the test I try to apply to all legislation; how will it affect the interests of the people of South Carolina at large?

I found the bill, as drawn, would practically force every company doing business in South Carolina to do business through agents. So I asked for an amendment to correct this. The amendment was agreed to and the bill as enacted applies only to "any insurance company doing business through agents in the State of South Carolina."

So amended the bill if it becomes a law will bring annually to South Carolina some thousands of dollars which now go to agents in Atlanta, Baltimore, New York and other insurance centres. These thousands of dollars will go, first, to local agents here, and from them to other people in this State, instead of now going to local agents in other States and then to people in other States.

The bill will not add one cent to the cost of insurance to the people of the State.

It has nothing whatever to do with rates. Any company can make any rate it pleases without being affected by the bill.

It does not regulate the commissions paid to agents. Each company can fix its own scale of commissions to agents, but it does say that if a company does business through agents in South Carolina it must do its business through those agents and pay them the commissions and not do the business through its agents in other States and pay them the commissions on South Carolina business.

This is the sole purpose and practically the only effect of the bill.

The bill can not affect any reinsurance deal by the sinking fund or any company. Reinsurance has a definite, well determined meaning in the trade and in the law books and to all informed and exact persons.

Fire insurance companies are forbidden by the act of 1904 to make discrimination in rates between South Carolinians on risks identical in character. Life insurance companies were so forbidden by the act of 1908.

Incidentally the present act may prevent all other companies from so doing.

If it has this effect so much the more commendable the bill for it is against equity and fair dealing for any kind of an insurance company to treat individuals of the same class differently. A company can make as many classes, founded on reason, that it wishes and it can make what rates it pleases for each class and it can pay what commissions it pleases to agents or it can operate without agents. But when it does business through agents in South Carolina it should pay them the commissions and should treat those agents and the persons whom those agents insure of the same class identically alike.

The bill will not interfere with the trade mutual insurance companies which do not have agents. It will not interfere with citizens who place their insurance beyond the borders of the State. Its sole effect will be to bring thousands of dollars to South Carolina which now go elsewhere and provide for equitable treatment of the agents as well as the insured.

F. H. McMaster,  
Insurance Commissioner.

**FOR TOP DRESSING.**

**Director Long Advises Using Nitrate on Small Grains.**

W. W. Long, State demonstration agent, is urging in his plea that top dressing for oats and wheat be supplied with dispatch. Mr. Long thinks this especially advisable this spring in consequence of the excessive rainfall, which has depleted the soil of its nitrates. He advises that nitrate of soda be used, both because of its ready availability as a plant food and because the prices this spring are not unreasonable.

**Marriage License Record.**

A license to marry has been granted to Samuel Anderson, Wedgefield, and Aelia Bowen, Sumter.

**COTTON RATES NOT AFFECTED.**

**Objection of State Warehouse Manager to Resident Agents' Act Withdrawn.**

The State.  
John L. McLaurin, State warehouse commissioner, in a letter to Gov. Manning yesterday, reversed his position relative to the approval of the act relative to certain classes of insurance. The commissioner said that the bill will not affect the rates upon cotton in State warehouses. Several days ago the commissioner protested against the approval of the act.

Mr. McLaurin's letter follows: "Since writing you a letter on the 26th inst., in reference to the 'bill to regulate the writing of certain classes of insurance in the State of South Carolina and to provide for the division of commissions,' upon a more careful investigation and reading the letter of Mr. Buice in this morning's paper, I am of the opinion that his bill would not affect the rates upon cotton in State warehouses. It seems to be a fight between the agents over the division of the spoils, and no matter which way it is decided would be of no effect to the persons whose property is insured."

"I find an act passed in 1900 very similar in character to the present act, but confined to fire insurance. This act would govern so far as cotton is concerned anyway. The act under consideration simply adds the casualty lines. I desire to say that it is a matter of no concern to me whether same becomes a law or not."

**TO BUY ACCEPTANCES.**

**New York Banks Handle Such Documents Extensively.**

Bearing on the statement of John L. McLaurin, State warehouse commissioner, on his return last week from New York, that what are called in finance "acceptances" against cotton stored in State warehouses, could readily be marketed in New York, is the following from the market section of the New York Evening Post: "Acceptances are becoming popular with the banks. Of the national banks, the National City shows the largest amount of acceptances, the March 4 statement to the controller of the currency putting the item at \$7,226,858. Other banks showed: First National \$750,000, American Exchange National \$1,415,600, Mechanics and Metals National \$815,337, National Bank of Commerce \$2,599,726. This makes \$13,907,521 for five national banks. The Corn Exchange bank reports \$975,678. The First National Bank of Chicago has \$6,698,000, and the Continental and Commercial National \$359,748. The reserve banks have invested about \$7,000,000 in acceptances, and the movement is growing."

**A. D. MANNING IDENTIFIED.**

**Young Man Who Posed as Governor's Son.**

Charleston Post.  
Chief of Police Cantwell has received letters from Alabama in reply to his inquiries concerning A. D. Manning, the young white man who was sent to thirty days in jail for obtaining money under false pretenses. The letters bear out Manning's statements as to his identity made to the chief of police following the young man's arrest.

A letter from Chief of Police J. C. Stanford, Talladega, Ala., states that Manning is the son of Judge M. N. Manning, who was formerly a circuit judge, and who now practices law. The letter continues to the effect that Judge Manning has from time to time spent considerable money to get his son out of trouble similar to that in which he was caught here, and that the boy is believed to be mentally unbalanced on the one subject of cashing bogus checks.

Another letter is from the Alabama Medical Hospital at Tuscaloosa, and states that Manning was confined in that hospital in January, 1915, after his mental condition had been investigated by a jury of twelve men. His escape from the hospital on January 25 of this year is spoken of, and the statement made that no effort would be undertaken to have him returned. Manning will be released from jail here about the middle of April. For two days, he successfully posed as the son of Governor Richard I. Manning, and his duplicity enabled him to cash worthless checks. He was arrested at the union station after he had prepared to leave the city.

**Chautauqua Tickets.**

Tickets for Sumter's Chautauqua, April 21-28 are here and it will greatly assist the committee if those having ordered tickets will send money for same to the Y. M. C. A. building and get the tickets.

Only those who signed pledge cards last year can be accommodated now as we are limited to 1,000 tickets at the \$2.00 price and practically all of these are signed for.

R. J. Bland,  
Chairman Chautauqua Committee.

**JEWES OBSERVE PASSOVER WEEK**

**Celebrate Redemption of Children of Israel from Egyptian Bondage.**

From The Daily Item, March 30.  
The Jews of Sumter together with all orthodox Jews throughout the world are this week observing the week of Passover, one of the most sacred of the Jewish holidays. Passover week is different from other Jewish festivals in that symbols are largely used in its observance. The week begins today and lasts through next Monday, the first and seventh days of the Passover being solemnized by the regular services set aside for these occasions.

The week is ushered in by the observance of a domestic service, generally held in the homes of the members of the congregation. Last night, however, all of the families of the congregation of Temple Sinai, gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry D. Earnett on Warren street, and there observed the domestic service, as one large family. The symbols of the lamb and bitter herbs were observed at this time by a lamb bone and by parsley. Services were held at the synagogue this morning and will be held on next Monday morning, and the evening preceding it, these final services being in celebration of the passage over the Red Sea of the children of Israel, tokening their complete redemption.

**Chamber of Commerce Notes.**

The Roush Brokerage Company, of Macon, Ga., are in the market for two carloads or more of yellow sweet potatoes, and want the names of shippers of sweet potatoes in bulk. Any farmer who can supply sweet potatoes in any considerable quantities may get orders by writing the above mentioned firm or notifying the secretary of the Sumter Chamber of Commerce stating the kind of potatoes, the quantity to be furnished, and the price.

While it is rather doubtful that sweet potatoes can be secured in such great quantities at present around Sumter, nevertheless the fact that there is a demand for sweet potatoes for shipment in bulk to distant markets is an indication that it will probably pay to raise potatoes in sufficient quantities for shipment.

The business men of Sumter are sleeping over their business opportunities in not subscribing sufficient capital to put the Parrott Milling company plant into operation, and to enlarge the usefulness of this plant by the addition of a flour mill.

There are hundreds of men in Sumter, and at least seventy-five mercantile establishments who can afford to take some stock in this enterprise. But the business men of Sumter, with comparatively few exceptions appear to have given up the ghost, have "cold feet" and are doing practically nothing to help to readjust trade conditions. Most of them are crying and bemoaning the loss of business due to the European war, and most of them are sitting back waiting on and hoping that a few public spirited merchants and bankers, lawyers, and doctors will put up the money to furnish marketing and manufacturing facilities that will put money into the pockets of the masses. But it looks now like the few who have been putting up the money heretofore for the benefit of the overwhelming majority of "tight wads" either haven't the money or are very much "short" with the cash.

When thousands of bushels of wheat, corn, and oats, are marketed in other towns and thousands of dollars in cash trade go to other markets the Sumter business men will have none to blame but their own shortsightedness and penuriousness. Plain talk, but facts. The emergency and the exigencies of the occasion call for plain talk.

"Boosting" and optimism are all-right and help out wonderfully, but it requires cash, hard cash, to buy milling plants, and money has to be spent to make money, to induce trade, and to keep trade.

**WRECK ON SOUTHERN ROAD.**

**Two Slightly Injured in Collision Near Charlotte.**

Charlotte, N. C., March 30.—Southern Railway local passenger train No. 8 was in head-on collision with a freight train at Coddle Creek, twenty miles north of here, at 4 o'clock this morning. T. V. Williams, of Charlotte, and two negro trainmen were slightly injured. The train crews escaped by jumping. The collision occurred on a stretch of single track.

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