

The Watchman and Southern.
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The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1880 and the True Southern in 1886. 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.

Weekly Weather Forecast.
Issued by the U. S. Weather Bureau, Washington, D. C., for the week beginning Wednesday, July 7.
For South Atlantic and East Gulf States: Fair weather, with normal temperatures, will prevail during the next four days, except that showers are probable on the south Atlantic coast. The weather will become unsettled, with probably showers after the tenth and continue until the close of the week.

WATCH McLAURIN.
Warehouse Commissioner John L. McLaurin may not consciously entertain political ambitions, but he is nevertheless one of the liveliest political figures in the State at the present time. We have never been a follower or admirer of Mr. McLaurin and cannot be accused of partiality or prejudice in his favor, but it is evident that he is coming back as a leader as the result of his efforts and achievements as the father of the cotton warehouse system. The warehouse system is something tangible that has attracted public attention to a marked degree and the practical results obtained are building up for Mr. McLaurin a reputation as a constructive statesman. He is growing into the confidence of the rank and file of the people. Whether or not he has earned the credit he is receiving is neither here nor there, but the facts are as stated. If the drift toward McLaurin continues and if his always numerous friends put him in the race for the United States senate to succeed Senator Tillman he will be a strong factor in the campaign. McLaurin is the man that others with budding senatorial aspirations have to fear. Watch McLaurin.

THE HEALTH SITUATION.
Four Cases of Fever in Town But Conditions Not as Bad as Rumored.

There has been one death from typhoid fever in this city this week, the disease having been contracted in another town, where the victim went several weeks ago to nurse a brother who was ill and subsequently died of typhoid fever. But in addition to this case, there are now four known cases of typhoid fever in the city and four other cases classed as suspicious. For the past four or five years Sumter has been remarkably free from fever and this immunity may have given rise to a feeling of false security that has led to a slackening of the strict sanitary precautions that are absolutely necessary to prevent disease. This is, however, a purely speculative opinion and is of no importance; but what is of importance is that there are several centers of infection in the city and the Board of Health and Health Officer should make every possible effort to locate the origin of the disease and to take precautions to prevent the spread of the infection. It is impossible to exercise too great vigilance or to enforce too rigidly approved sanitary rules. It is stated on the best authority that there are still in use several old cesspools, antedating the installation of the sewerage system, and while there is no proof that these cesspools are the cause of the fever they add nothing to the healthfulness of the town and they should be abolished without delay. There is no excuse for cesspools in Sumter and they should not be permitted to exist, since it is known that they are prolific breeders of disease.

Easy Game for Lamar.
Lamar, July 7.—Lamar defeated Mayesville here this afternoon, 12 to 0. It was a pretty game until the seventh inning, when Lamar landed on Hill of the Columbia Athletics for seven hits. The feature of the game was the pitching of Flowers and the Work of Powell behind the bat for Lamar.
Lamar... 12 12 5
Mayesville... 0 2 5
Flowers and Powell; Hill and Reeves. Umpires Osborne and Huggins. Time 1.50.

FIRST DRAFT UNSATISFACTORY

GERMANS DEMANDED TOO MUCH AND THIS COUNTRY WILL NOT ACCEPT.

Negotiations by No Means at an End, Though Not Advanced as Much as Has Been Hoped in View of Forecasts of German Answer to United States Submarine Note.

Washington, July 6.—Germany has submitted informally to the United States through Ambassador Gerard at Berlin a tentative draft of its reply to the note of June 9, which asked for assurances that American rights on the high seas would not be further violated by German submarines.

After careful examination of the contents of the proposed note as outlined by Ambassador Gerard, which coincide with Berlin press dispatches of the last few days, high officials are practically agreed that the United States can not without sacrificing important neutral rights express its approval of the German proposals in their present form.

The draft was shown to Ambassador Gerard with the idea of eliciting from him an expression of opinion, and he promptly asked for instructions from Washington as to whether the United States could make concessions.

President Wilson has been advised of the situation in several long messages sent to his summer residence at Cornish, N. H., and the impression obtained tonight from reliable quarters was that the American government very probably would instruct its ambassador within a day or two to decline to express any view until after the formal reply is delivered to him.

Just what Germany proposed has not been officially divulged. Secretary Lansing today took the position that it would not be proper for him to disclose Germany's position as informally reported by Mr. Gerard without authorization from the Berlin government. He stated merely that there had been no exchange of views or informal negotiations between Germany and the United States and declined to predict whether there would be.

From Berlin dispatches and authoritative sources here it is learned, however, that the note as drafted by the German foreign office with Emperor William's subsequent approval would give assurances that Americans might travel with safety on the high seas on certain conditions imposed by Germany, such as the marking of belligerent vessels carrying Americans, notification by the United States to Germany of the date of departure and character of such vessels, and an inspection insuring that they carried no munitions of war.

President Wilson has before him the views of several cabinet officers, some of whom believe it is essential to have Ambassador Gerard make clear to the German foreign office that the United States can make no concessions from its position as based on the accepted rules of international law and the naval prize codes of civilized nations. Whether the president does or does not finally decide to have Ambassador Gerard tell the German government informally the views of the United States on the rough draft submitted, it was clearly apparent today that important changes would be necessary in Germany's attitude before it could be reasonably hoped that the formal reply would remove from the negotiations the critical aspect they have assumed.

One of the messages from Ambassador Gerard was somewhat garbled in transmission and its meaning was not clear. At first early in the day it was believed by some officials that the suggestions made might offer a basis for negotiations, since it appeared that Germany was endeavoring to ascertain in advance what the opinion of the United States would be so that the final draft would be certain of acceptance.

This caused a feeling of some optimism to be spread, but the arrival of additional messages from the ambassador indicated Germany was not prepared to yield to the insistence of the United States on its rights under international law but was disposed to ask for compromises and concessions involving a surrender of some important neutral rights.

The situation was not regarded by any means as hopeless because it was believed in well informed quarters that the mere fact of submitting to Ambassador Gerard a tentative draft of the German reply could be construed as meaning that Germany might make further changes if the position of the United States was found to be unalterable.

tacks on American vessels have produced a good impression in official quarters here.

The American government has no intention of discussing with Germany the attacks on such cargo-ships as the Armenian and the Anglo-Calfornian which were shelled by German submarines after making repeated attempts to escape. Although a number of Americans perished as a consequence of these attacks, the United States recognizes that the German commanders in the circumstances were justified in their action. It is generally understood, too, that there will be no effort to obtain immunity from attack for ships primarily engaged in contraband traffic if the latter follow a general policy of resisting capture. But what the American government has been unable to obtain thus far is an explicit agreement that Germany would visit and search unarmed merchant ships, primarily engaged in passenger trade, which, although carrying contraband would heed the warnings of submarines and subject themselves to visit and search, enabling non-combatants to be transferred to a place of safety in case destruction of vessel as a prize is deemed necessary.

Such information as has leaked out concerning Germany's proposals indicates that the Berlin government is prepared to recede to some extent from its position with reference to passenger vessels, but is inclined to place many restrictions upon their sailings.

The United States has contended that Americans engaged in "lawful errands" may travel on the high seas on unarmed and unresisting merchant ships. To enter into arrangements whereby certain passenger vessels would be given immunity while others were denied the same privilege would in the opinion of many officials, permit the German government to interpret the measure of neutral rights which American citizens could enjoy on the high seas and doubtless involve the United States sooner or later in difficulties with other belligerents who, to forward the conduct of their own operations, might insist on an abandonment of other neutral rights.

Cornish, N. H., July 6.—President Wilson had dispatches from Secretary Lansing today transmitting information received from American Ambassador Gerard at Berlin, outlining informally suggestions which Germany is anxious to incorporate in her next note on submarine warfare, but about which she first wants to sound out the United States.

Final instructions as to what answer Ambassador Gerard shall make to the Berlin foreign office have not yet been sent to Secretary Lansing by the president, but he is giving serious consideration to the question, realizing that the success of the entire negotiations with Germany probably hangs in the balance.

It was understood tonight that the president was hopeful that a solution would come out of the present situation, but is unwilling to deviate from the broad principles laid down in the notes already forwarded to Berlin.

When the formal German note is received the president will return to Washington and will prepare the American reply in collaboration with Secretary Lansing.

Little Change in West.

Paris, July 8.—While the Germans continue their efforts to pierce the French lines in the Argennes the Allies have resumed the offensive north of Arras. According to the official statement the French have captured a line of German trenches north of Sauchese, killing all but a few of the occupants. They also captured a German gun.

SUMTER COTTON MARKET.

Corrected Daily by Ernest Field, Cotton Buyer.

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

County Summer School Notice.

Notice is hereby given of the Sumter County Summer school to be held in the Hampton School building in the city of Sumter, commencing Monday, July 26th, and running four weeks. Prof. L. C. Moise and Miss Elizabeth McLean will have charge of the school.

The following branches will be taught:
Professor Moise—Arithmetic, Algebra, Agriculture, Physiology and Sanitation.
Miss McLean—Primary Methods and Writing.
For any further information write or see the County Superintendent of Education.
By order Sumter County Board of Education.
J. H. HAYNSWORTH,
Secretary.

FURMAN FITTING SCHOOL GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA.
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Next Session Begins September 15, 1915.
L. W. COURTNEY, M. A., Headmaster, Greenville, South Carolina.

Notice School Election.

Notice is hereby given of a school election to be held in Providence school District No. 7, at the residence of A. C. Thompson, between the hours of 7 o'clock A. M. and 4 o'clock P. M., on Tuesday, July 27th, 1915, for the purpose of voting a 3 mill extra levy for school purposes. Only qualified electors, showing registration certificates and tax receipts, and who pay either real estate or personal property tax should be allowed to vote by law.

By order Sumter County Board of Education.

JNO. F. JENKINS,
Chairman Trustees, District No. 7.

Pisgah News and Views.

Pisgah, July 5.—Saturday and today seems to be divided among the people in idleness. That is all of the 4th of July in this section.

We had a fine rain here Saturday and crops are doing very well. Old corn is laid by and cotton is receiving the finishing touches. I hear at the Dalzell meeting Saturday Watson predicted that we would not get anything for cotton this year. If that be so the people here will have bread and meat to live on. As soon as Germany cleans up that crowd around her, we will get a fancy price for cotton. There is one thing sure the people here have used all the economy they could in making this crop. It has been quite an expensive one owing to so much rain in the spring which got everybody in the grass.

Pisgah church has secured the services of Rev. J. Dean Crain, the noted mountain preacher, to aid in a meeting next fall. Due notice will be given as to time.

Rev. J. N. Tolar will aid Rev. Cole in a meeting at Mizpah church soon. Mr. Cole will be in protracted meeting for many weeks.

Rev. J. W. Kenney is expected home today from North Carolina where he went to attend the burial of one of his brothers.

Miss Ila Mae Evans will teach the Pisgah public school next fall. She is a fine teacher and has a high conception of a teacher's duty, and she will perform that duty.

Mr. Sam Boykin of Smithville has been elected a deacon of Pisgah church. His ordination will take place soon.

The writer had the pleasure of hearing Mr. Attaway preach yesterday. He is pastor of St. John's church, Smithville. He preached a fine sermon.

Mrs. T. M. Rogers who has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. Leon Stuckey returned home yesterday.

Pellagra is getting quite common through here. It seems to be a woman's disease as I never heard of a man having it.

RUSSIANS ON OFFENSIVE.

Austro-German Army Driven Back Twelve Miles.

Petrograd, July 8.—Maintaining their offensive the Russians have driven the Austro-Germans back twelve miles from Wilkolaz heights, according to the latest reports from the front. Experts state that repetition of the disaster which the Austrians suffered last fall is imminent and that the Austro-German moves against Ivangorod and Warsaw will terminate in complete failure.

Candidate's Cards.

I am a candidate for the House of Representatives in the election to be held Tuesday, July 13, 1915, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Dr. Geo. W. Dick.
R. B. BELSER.

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SEND YOUR WHEAT TO ME.
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