

PEE DEE TAKING STOCK.

GREAT LOSS RESULTS FROM STORM.

Flooding Swept Away and One Can Drive Only a Few Miles From Florence in Any Direction.

Florence, July 17.—Florence and Florence county and the entire Pee Dee section are just beginning to come under cover after the great storm of Thursday and Friday and the tremendous rainfall accompanying it on those two days.

Despite the fact that thousands of people who have read the story of the storm and rain of Friday and Saturday are thinking that the reports as sent from the different towns and sections of eastern Carolina have been exaggerated, the condition exists and thousands and thousands of dollars in property and millions of dollars in crops will be lost to the people of the Pee Dee country as a result of this.

The various counties of the Pee Dee are going to be almost bankrupt when they get through repairing roads and crossing bridges, for it will take thousands of dollars to do so, and in many instances the roads will probably be rebuilt or the bridges replaced.

An instance in this county and within a few miles of Florence is a circle in other direction of the compass can get but three miles to the north, five miles to the east, two miles to the south and four miles to the west of the city because all bridges on the Pee Dee both large and small are gone.

The State's correspondent made a hurried automobile drive yesterday afternoon and this morning and as far as he could go within this radius the following bridges swept away:

North of Florence on High Hill road, the bridges at the Cheraw & Catoosa railroad near Palmetto, the bridge at Nuffles, the one at Haynes, and the one at the old Lewis.

South of Florence, the bridge at the Murre bridge and the one at the Mass bridge are gone. To the east of Florence on Fork sweep, the bridge at the Mary Cross creek, the one at the Murre creek and the Dr. Robert's bridge.

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Eight of these bridges were mostly of log and plank and were mostly from 50 to 100 feet and these streams can not be forded even in dry weather. Besides this they are on the very main arteries of roads that lead from the sections of the county from which Florence merchants draw large trade.

While this area this correspondent found the crops as they are and it is not only the opinion of every farmer who speaks to that the tobacco is practically ruined, the corn crop is almost as bad, but hopes are that 40 per cent can be saved, provided the rain draws it up from the beds on which it now lies. The cotton crop will be less injured excepting in bottom lands where it is out of sight, covered in water. The peanut crop is badly damaged, as are also the potato and truck crops.

At the W. N. tower at the south end of the Great Pee Dee trestle on the main line of the Atlantic Coast line while the waters were rushing down between two great embankments three to 15 feet high, the towerman phoned his superintendent that the tower was moving. The superintendent phoned him to stick to the job. He answered him "The tower is going and I am too." At that moment the embankment around the tower went down together with the southbound double tracks, and the towermen leaped to safety on the northbound track. After the rush of water three washouts within 200 feet were the result and a gulch washed out big enough to drop six Pullman cars in was found.

The Seaboard Air Line railway has been hit hard from Florence to Charleston. The Jeffreys creek, Willow creek, Lynches river and numerous other trestles and bridges have been swept away and there is no telling just when traffic will be resumed over that line.

Hartwell M. Ayer, with a party from Florence, was en route to Pawley's Island Thursday morning and was caught at Rome. They had to wade in water waist deep to reach the Seaboard tracks and walked to Poston. As they passed over Lynches river at Johnsonville they saw the railroad and county bridge, both near together, go down. They reached Florence via Mullins and McColl. Mr. Ayer has heard nothing from his family on Pawley's Island, but has gone to Conway to catch a boat down the Waccamaw.

Revival Services.

The pictures here shown are the evangelists who are to begin the tent meeting Tuesday evening of this week. Evangelist Shaw has been called.



Evangelist Roud Shaw.

"Kentucky's Whirlwind" Evangelist.

It will be a great "Training School" for those who are interested in developing their musical talents, to be in Evangelist Harbison's choir, for he is



J. Frank Harbison.

a fine instructor as well as singer, and the church will appreciate your help. The tent has recently been paraffined, thus making it absolutely waterproof, and is 42 feet by 30 feet, and with the sides down will comfortably seat and keep dry about 300 people. Don't be afraid if it rains, come and enjoy the services. If the tent should be delayed by the flood, services will begin in the church.

FATALITIES ON SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

Only Four Casualties on Road During 1915 to Passengers and Fewer to Employees.

Washington, July 16.—Fairfax Harrison, president Southern Railway company, said today:

"During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1916, Southern Railway company carried nearly seventeen million passengers, among whom there were four fatal injuries; two in a rear end collision at Salisbury, N. C., on November 24, 1915, due to a human failure, the disgrace of which the management feels keenly; one at Jamestown, N. C., on March 19, 1916, when a truck failed under a freight car passing a passenger train on double track, causing damage to the passenger train and one at Citico, Tenn., on May 3, 1916, when a passenger, in violation of the rules made for his safety was leaning out from the steps of a passenger car and was struck by the truss of a bridge.

"It may be reported also that, despite the greatly increased volume of business done this past year as compared with the previous year, there was a decrease of fifteen fatal injuries to employees. While this record is far from perfection, the management is encouraged to believe that its earnest and organized effort to promote the safety of railway travel and to reduce the risk of casualty in railroad employment is showing results."

BIG RAT CLEARS SCHOOLROOM.

Fair Co-Eds in Panic When Rodent Escapes From Paper Bag.

(Redland, Cal., Dispatch.)

One lonely rat caused a stampede in the halls of learning of the University of Redlands. Charles Gillett, football and baseball player, had taken the rat all done up in a paper sack to the university for an ulterior motive, namely, to study the interior.

Gillett placed the rat on the floor of the library, and he swears that some one got curious and opened the bag, letting the rat out. Fair co-eds climbed tables, chairs, bookcases and went out of doors and windows, and the building was cleared in less time than it can be done in fire practice.

FLOODS SWEEP EASTWARD.

Water from Piedmont now Hurrying Down to Inundate Coastal Plains.

Pee Dee and Santee Systems Expected to Reach Flood Stage Never Before Seen and Warnings are Sent out to People All Along Rivers—Loss in Piedmont, Especially Along Catawba River, Heavy and Lowlands May Suffer Even More.

Columbia, July 18.—The lower half of South Carolina today is facing the prospect of the most disastrous flood in recent years, according to the weather bureau officials, as a result of the rapid rise in the rivers caused by heavy rains in the Piedmont and in the mountains of North Carolina. The crest of the flood has already passed the Piedmont section, leaving destruction in its wake, and is now sweeping on toward the sea, gaining in size as the smaller streams converge in the bigger rivers.

The damage to the South Carolina up-country and to western North Carolina can only be estimated, as communication is still much handicapped by destruction of bridges and prostration of wire service. The loss, however, is certain to be severe, as the streams in many sections have gone far above flood stage.

The most important damage reported is from the Catawba section, where three big railroad bridges and many smaller structures have gone down. Cotton mills also have suffered heavily, while the crop loss is expected to be large.

Train service from Columbia to Spartanburg has been eliminated for the present and only by extensive detour can trains be run from Atlanta to Washington. The Columbia-Charlotte line was cut by the destruction of the Catawba trestle. The Atlantic Coast Line has maintained its through service in the Pee Dee, though local schedules have been badly disarranged.

Widespread warnings have been sent to all territory covered by the Great Pee Dee, Little Pee Dee, Lynches, Black and Waccamaw rivers by the Charleston weather bureau officials. It is declared that the most disastrous flood of years may be expected in the section drained by these rivers. The Black river at Kingstree has already reached record stage, water registering the highest ever experienced and is still rising. The Great Pee Dee at Cheraw attained a stage of 35.1 feet yesterday morning and may not go much higher at that point, but further down stream will be of most serious flood proportions. On Lynches river the record established in 1908 of 20 feet is being rapidly approached. Great volumes of water are forcing these rivers over their banks fast. Railroads have been warned to use the utmost caution in this territory.

That the Wateree river at Camden will reach a height of from 40 to 45 feet, an unprecedented flood, within the next 36 hours was the warning sent out last night by the United States weather bureau at Columbia. Long distance telephone messages to the mayor, the chief of police, and others at Camden begged that the news be spread, and accordingly warnings are being sent to Eastover, Kingwood, Boykin, Lugoff, Wateree, Kingville and all towns and settlements near the confluence of Wateree and the Congaree. The prediction was based on a report from the observer at Catawba, York county, who went to Rock Hill to tell the Columbia office that the water at Catawba last night was 9 feet higher than any previous known stage. The gauge had been washed away and the river was still rising, the crest having not passed Catawba.

"I do not wish to be an alarmist," said Mr. Sullivan last night, "but now is the time for the people to take warning and prepare for the worst flood that section of the Catawba river has ever experienced, and I ask that every one cooperate in letting those in that district know of the approaching high waters."

The previous high stage at Camden was 39.7 feet reached in the flood of 1908, and last night the stream had reached a stage of 38 feet and was 3,000 feet wide. The stream is rising and within 36 hours, it is predicted, records will be broken. The Catawba, whose waters join in making the Wateree, was raging last night as never before with 37.4 feet at Catawba, and the water on a continuous rise. The river at Catawba last night was 3,000 feet wide. The bridge of the Southern railway was washed away yesterday morning, and the United States weather bureau gauge has been lost with it. The observer at Catawba, James C. Farris, has been making the reports for about 15 years, and in Mr. Sullivan's words "knows what he is doing." Last night Mr. Farris went

to Rock Hill and communicating with Mr. Sullivan reported that the water was nine feet higher than any previous record. The former high figure was 28.4 reached in 1908. Indications are that Kingville and other communities near the confluence of the Wateree and the Congaree can look for floods such as they have never seen before.

The Southern Bell Telephone company, through its district manager, Fred G. Marshall, placed its lines at the disposal of the weather bureau in disseminating the news and Mr. Sullivan took advantage of the very fine offer. In addition to long distance messages, other precautions were taken. The train dispatchers' offices in Columbia were notified, and in every way possible Mr. Sullivan endeavored to put the news before the people.

BOOSTER TRIP ADVOCATED.

Chamber of Commerce Trying to Arouse Interest in Campaign to Help Tobacco Market.

A meeting of the directors of the Sumter Chamber of Commerce yesterday ordered Secretary Reardon to advertise and pull off the first 1916 tobacco and trade extension trip of the business establishments of Sumter on Thursday, July 27th, provided sufficient interest is shown by the banks and mercantile houses, real estate dealers, manufacturers, jobbers, and professional men of Sumter to guarantee a creditable showing in the shape of a good crowd of men with automobiles.

Mr. W. W. Clean, the tobacco warehouse lessee and manager has called upon the Chamber of Commerce to ask Sumter's business men to back him up with a rousing advertising booster trip a few days before the tobacco market opens up.

Secretary Reardon will have to know within a few days, by Saturday next, at least, how many business establishments will take part, furnish cars, and advertise their establishments on this booster trip. So the Sumter business houses had better get busy phoning the Chamber of Commerce. This will prove a fine opportunity for business men to see the country districts, get a very intelligent idea of crop conditions after the storm of last week, see just what the condition of crops is, meet hundreds of the customers and their customer's families, make new acquaintances, do a lot of judicious advertising, and have a good time of a get-together and social nature, combining business with pleasure.

The places to be visited will be announced in a couple of days.

It requires several days hard work to properly advertise a booster trip so that the country people will turn out to greet the city visitors. So next Saturday is the very latest date the secretary can wait to decide whether to put on this booster trip before the warehouse opens on August 1st, or wait until later, and after other tobacco markets have invaded the tobacco growing territory. Phone in your names right away and get things going for a great get-together booster excursion.

Storm Damage at Privateer.

Privateer, July 17.—Crops were badly torn up by the storm which started Thursday night and lasted all day Friday. A considerable amount of damage was done to corn and cotton, but this writer don't know how to estimate the loss. If the fodder is counted it is practically all lost, or torn up so that it is not worth the pulling. I do not think the damage to cotton as great as to corn.

Dr. R. B. Furman and family are spending some time in Chattanooga. Mrs. T. L. Wimberly of Gainville, Fla., is visiting friends and relatives in the neighborhood.

We have been informed that Mr. Harry Pritchard, of Manning, has accepted a position with Mr. S. A. Harvin, and Mr. Pritchard and family will move in the community about August 1st.

The Last Chance, July 25th.

The Democratic enrollment books close July 25th for this week offers the last chance for enrollment. Those not enrolled cannot vote in the primary.

BONUS TO CREAM ROUTE.

Chamber of Commerce Will Give \$20 to First Route Established.

In order to get a cream route guaranteed by August 1st the Chamber of Commerce has decided to pay \$20 towards defraying the expenses of the cream collector on the first route established in this county. About forty-five cows, as a minimum, will be accepted for the first route although at least sixty-five ought to be in each route.

Owing to the lack of interest on the part of Sumter county farmers in the cream route business, and the scarcity of pasture grasses due to dry weather, the Chamber of Commerce decided, after consulting with the farmers who wish to go into the cream routes, to postpone putting on the routes until forage crops and pastures could be guaranteed.

This was deemed advisable by Farm Demonstrator J. Frank Williams and Dairy Expert Fitzpatrick, of Clemson College after several visits over this county.

Mr. Williams, Mr. Fitzpatrick, and the commercial organization, however, think that by August 1st conditions should be auspicious all around for cream routes.

The first route reporting for business will get ten dollars a month, for two months as part of the salary of the cream or butter fat collector to encourage the farmers.

Public Health Hints.

The United States Public Health Service asks do you—

Clean your teeth and then expectorate in the washbowl?

Omit lunch to reduce weight and then overeat at dinner?

Go to the country for health and then sleep with your windows shut tight?

Wonder why you have earache and then blow your nose with your mouth shut??

Intelligent motherhood conserves the nation's best crop?

Heavy eating like heavy drinking shortens life?

The registration of sickness is even more important than the registration of deaths?

The United States Public Health Service cooperates with the State and local authorities to improve rural sanitation?

Many a severe cold ends in tuberculosis?

Sedentary habits shorten life?

Neglected adenoids and defective teeth in childhood menace adult health?

A low infant mortality rate indicates high community intelligence?

Do Not Disfranchise Yourself.

The man who neglects to enter his name on the enrollment book of his precinct Democratic Club disfranchises himself and can have no voice in the election of State and county officers. The unenrolled man cannot vote in the primary. Have you enrolled? Remember the books close July 25th.

Why a Second Term for Manning.

Some of the newspapers in the State which are opposed to Governor Manning are calling upon him to say whether he has always supported Governors who were candidates for reelection.

But what difference does that make?

Governor Manning should not be given a second term simply because that has been the upbroken custom in South Carolina for forty years.

He should be given a second term because he has earned it.

He should be given a second term because his endorsement at the primaries this summer will stand also as an endorsement of the constructive efforts with which his administration has been identified.

He should be given a second term because in no other way can the voters testify so convincingly that this State wants a strict and impartial enforcement of the laws.

So far as Mr. Manning is concerned it makes little difference whether he is governor for two years or for four. It makes a very great difference indeed whether the people of South Carolina will support a governor who does his best under exceptionally difficult circumstances and whose administration has made for the progress of the State and the allayment of political strife.—Charleston News and Courier.

HEAVY LOSS IN GEORGETOWN.

Scene of Devastation After Storm—Damage Estimated at \$100,000.

Georgetown, July 17.—The hurricane that struck Georgetown Thursday night beginning at 10 o'clock and lasting until Friday afternoon has left in its wake a scene of devastation attesting the violence of the wind which is said by mariners to have reached a velocity of from 35 to 100 miles an hour at 4 a. m. Friday. No loss of life has yet been reported, but destruction to property in the city is estimated to be no less than \$100,000. A half million dollars will hardly cover the loss to timber, houses and crops in the county.

Great anxiety was felt for summer residents and visitors on Pawley's Island and it was long before definite tidings could be had, but all are reported safe. A number of yachting and fishing parties in exposed situations gave additional uneasiness. Some got back in the nick of time and others have been rescued and heard from.

The news of the coming storm was received only a few hours before it actually arrived and there was little time to prepare and warn those on the sea islands.

The Pawley's Island colony aggregated 400, nearly all of whom took refuge in houses on the mainland. Having only a few moments to get across the causeway, there was a general stampede to places of safety. However, late reports are to the effect that no considerable damage occurred there and many have returned to the beach.

All property owners here have suffered to a greater or less extent, the principal damage being to the Atlantic Coast Lumber corporation plant amounting to about \$25,000. Thousands of trees have gone down, those standing bearing evidence to the cruel lashing of the tempest. Numbers of buildings were crushed by falling trees. At White's bridge the loss has been serious from this cause. The town of Andrews is also reported badly damaged. One-half the crops are said to be destroyed.

All means of communication with the outside world has been cut off since Thursday night when the wires went down and the railroad trestles were washed away in several places. The city electric light service was broken Thursday night and can not be resumed for several days. The city telephones are working generally due to the lately installed underground system. The work of clearing away the debris for repairs and rehabilitation has begun with a will and every one is busy.

KISSED 971 OF THE REGIMENT.

Pennsylvania Girl's Patriotic Endeavor Not Wholly Successful.

As the third section of the troop train carrying the Sixth Pennsylvania to the concentration camp pulled out of this little town this morning, says a dispatch to The New York World from Clearfield, Pa., 60 sturdy soldier boys, massed in the rear car and on the platform, gave vent to deep groans of disappointment and gazed enviously at 273 of their comrades, each of whom wore a smile.

Down the track ahead were the first and second sections, each bearing a full load of boys in khaki, and each boy bearing a similar smile. In all there were 971 smiles.

Why? Ask Miss Mary Hainsey, aged 19, the prettiest girl in Clearfield. Miss Mary herself wore a look of happy exaltation, for she had just demonstrated her patriotism by kissing 971—count 'em, 971—of Uncle Sam's boys squarely on the mouth in the period of two hours, thirty minutes. This is at the rate of slightly less than 6.43 kisses per minute, and is believed in Clearfield to be a record.

Miss Hainsey began only a few minutes after the first section of the train stopped at Clearfield depot. She was still going when the third section pulled out, but had to jump off the rear platform with threescore un-kissed.

Four Brothers Have Unique Experience.

Four brothers—William J. Archer, George L. Archer, Howard S. Archer and Walter L. Archer—had a unique experience Sunday. They are all salesmen, with headquarters in other cities and parts of the country, except Walter L. Archer, who lives in Columbia, and each yesterday walked into the dining room of the Jerome hotel for dinner, none of them knowing that the others were in town. They had an impromptu family gathering, which was unpremeditated and an unique coincidence.—Columbia Record.

Don't fail to plant a fall crop of Irish potatoes. The Lookout Mountain is the best variety for the late crop.