

RELIEF WORK ORGANIZED.

REPRESENTATIVE OF WAR DEPARTMENT SPENT THURSDAY IN TOWN.

Plans Being Formulated to Expend Government Funds on Public Highway Work to Give Employment to Those Rendered Destitute or Needy by Flood.

Mr. R. S. Howard, Wateree District Superintendent, representing Major Youngberg, District Engineer of the war department, of Charleston, official in charge of the distribution of the fund for relief of storm and flood sufferers for South Carolina, spent Thursday in this city investigating crop conditions.

Mr. Howard conferred for several hours with President R. B. Belsler and Secretary Reardon of the Sumter Chamber of Commerce, and was taken to Mr. Belsler's automobile for a ride over a portion of the county to see crop conditions and talk with the farmers in some sections.

He found the crop damage, particularly cotton and tobacco very serious, and corn hurt very much indeed.

After the trip through a section of the county another conference was held at Chamber of Commerce, and Supervisor Pitts was talked to over the phone at his house.

Mr. Howard agreed to adopt the suggestion previously made to the war department by Secretary Reardon, and fully concurred in by President Belsler and Supervisor Pitts, that the best method of distributing this fund is to furnish work for those who are destitute or in serious financial difficulties, building new highways or improving established highways, and in every instance digging ditches to drain the roads, new or improved so as to drain the roads and to permit of draining farm lands into the road ditches.

Of course, wherever there exists absolute distress on the part of any one who is physically unable to work and who needs food, medicines or other supplies the war department through Mr. Howard instructed the secretary of the Chamber of Commerce to notify Major Youngberg at Charleston of the names of the applicants, but it is not thought that there are any absolutely destitute or starving people in the county at present.

It is believed, however, that there is a greater need for help and more destitution sixty or ninety days from now.

As the cotton crop is cut off fully 75 per cent. on an average, and a great deal more in many instances the revenue from picking cotton will be greatly reduced, and with other unfortunate circumstances there are hundreds who will feel the evil effects of the disastrous storm later on more than they do now.

So that providing means of work will in a measure supply money to help out later on.

Of course the relief fund is primarily to provide emergency help, but those who have more directly interested themselves in obtaining the quickest possible methods of relief feel that furnishing immediate work that will be of a more or less permanent nature to the victims of the storm, by improving and draining highways, which, when properly drained, will serve a three fold purpose, that is to say will increase the value of farm lands by better roads and drained roads, will enable low lands to be properly drained into public highways, and at the same time improve the public health.

Mr. Howard issued written authority to President Belsler to have the Chamber of Commerce immediately organize a road improvement and drainage gang from among the storm sufferers who want work, and to have the work done under the supervision of the County Supervisor and Board of County Commissioners, and the war department will pay the bills. Messrs. C. M. Hurst, Clerk of the County Board, and Clerk of Court H. L. Scarborough were seen by Mr. Howard and agreed to serve on the relief committee with the Chamber of Commerce officials. More or less local interest and cooperation on the part of the farmers of the districts to be helped and on the part of the county authorities will be necessary.

The government fund makes no provision for paying any one to supervise the distribution of the fund or to buy road tools such as shovels, axes, picks, etc., or from foremen.

So that the county commissioners or farmers will have to lend tools and where necessary teams, etc.

The county authorities will have absolute direction of the work on highways in every respect, the Chamber of Commerce cooperating as to organization, finding out who needs help, notifying the district engineers representative, Mr. Howard, and other work, except road improvements. Mr. Howard will be back in ten days to take up the work here. Secretary Reardon has written the federal department of agriculture asking that Dr. W. W. Long, director of farm ex-

AGREE ON MEDIATION.

FEDERAL BOARD WORKING ON RAILWAY STRIKE PROPOSITION.

If Mediation Effort Fails, Wilson Will Probably be Called to Throw His Personal Strength into Scale for Settlement.

New York, Aug. 9.—If the United States board of mediation and conciliation, which was called in today, fails to adjust the differences between the railroads of the country and their 400,000 employes, President Wilson will be asked to use his personal effort to prevent a general strike. This statement was made today by a representative of the railroad managers who have been negotiating with the men since June 1.

The offer of the federal board, which is composed of G. W. W. Hangar, Martin A. Knapp and Judge W. L. Chambers, was accepted today by the representatives of the brotherhoods.

"The federal board of mediation and conciliation has notified us," read Mr. Garretson's statement, "that it has received the request of the managers' conference committee to exercise its friendly offices in an effort to bring about an amicable settlement of the questions that exist between the conference committee of the managers and ourselves. Our answer was to the effect that we would accept the mediators' proffer of their friendly offices provided it was promptly exercised."

Late tonight efforts of the federal mediators to bring the contending factions together were well under way. Six hours after the railroad managers had served notice on the men that they would not withdraw their formal rejection of the workers' demands and had proposed mediation, the mediators and the managers were closeted in secret session. Mediation was suggested in lieu of arbitration under the Newlands act or by the interstate commerce commission proposals which had been rejected by the brotherhood.

What was discussed at the conference could not be divulged under mediation rules, but it was understood that the railroad representatives indicated how far they were willing to go in meeting the demands of the men. It was reported that the railroads stood steadfastly for the main feature of their "contingent proposition," made at the June conference, which conceded the shorter day but eliminated double compensation for different classes of service during the same work day.

The railroad managers, in presenting their case to the mediators, were aided by three experts on rates and wages. J. W. Higgins, former secretary of the Association of Western Railroads; G. G. Walber, secretary of the bureau of information of the Eastern railroads, and St. Charles P. Nell, manager of the bureau of information of the Southeastern railroads. Tomorrow, it was announced by G. W. Hangar, a member of the board, the mediators will hear the railroad employes. Then the board will hold alternate conferences with the opposing forces, Mr. Hangar said. When a basis for an understanding has been reached, the railroads and men will be separately asked if they desire to place their case in the hands of the board for final adjudication. If the answer is in the affirmative the contending forces will have to abide by the decision of the board.

It was pointed out by Mr. Hagar, however, that acceptance of the board's proffer of services is not obligatory on either side.

A. B. Garretson, president of the railroad conductors, and official spokesman for the men, said that unless the railroads made satisfactory concessions the men would refuse to bind themselves to federal mediation, and unless something intervened the general strike order would be enforced.

Berne, Aug. 10.—Later dispatches say that Gen. von Hindenberg's powers on the east front have been curtailed after being in supreme command there for only a short time. The southern Gallician army of Austrians is now commanded by Archduke Franz Joseph.

London, Aug. 10.—A great wave of indignation sweeps over Vienna because Gorizia was lost, says an Amsterdam dispatch. The Austrian Socialists have started a separate peace movement and the government is secretly encouraging the movement.

tension work, at Clemson be placed in charge of the furnishing of free seed of whatever kind he deems best for flood sufferers of this county to afford the quickest relief by an extra large crop of grains of all kinds, vetch, clover, peas, winter garden truck, or other food and feed stuffs. Now is the time to organize the farmers by country meetings with business men and to talk peanuts, cream routes, tobacco, wheat, oats, hogs, truck, poultry, and all other farm diversification products.

THE BOOSTER TRIP.

Excursion of Business Men Was a Successful and Enjoyable Event.

From The Daily Item, Aug. 9.

The first 1916 community boosting tour of the Sumter Chamber of Commerce and Retail Dealers' Association was successfully and happily pulled off yesterday, when about twenty-two automobiles filled with Sumter business and professional men and Sumter ladies visited Trinity, Shiloh, Turbeville, New Zion, Sardinia and Mayesville in Sumter and Clarendon counties.

The attendance upon the booster meetings by the farmers and their families was below the normal of booster trip crowds, but the cordiality and friendliness of the welcome extended was splendid. The farmers are not in a boosting frame of mind at present, but their hospitality was all that one could wish, and they evidently appreciated the spirit of the visiting boosters, and desire to cooperate with the business and professional men of Sumter to overcome the misfortunes of the season and to prepare to fight the Mexican cotton boll weevil.

During the course of the day a number of short but splendid talks on timely topics were made by President Belsler of the Sumter Chamber of Commerce, J. Frank Williams, S. H. Edmunds, M. O'Riley, H. L. Scarborough, S. L. Krasnow, E. I. Reardon, of Sumter, and Messrs. R. W. Green and J. K. McElveen, of Shiloh, and J. W. Player of Trinity.

The dinner at Sardinia was a splendid treat and one of the most heartily enjoyed of any that the boosters ever had the pleasure of eating, and the ladies and gentlemen of Sardinia who furnished the delightful meal certainly had the gratitude of the more than one hundred and fifty guests who partook of the meal.

The Sardinia meeting was the largest attended and many went direct from Sumter to that point to be in time for dinner.

A baseball game at Manning pulled away a large number of the Sumter boosters just after dinner, and a great many more accepted an invitation from Superintendent Gable and visited the big plant of the Black River Lumber company near Sardinia. So that only a small crowd went into Mayesville, and it was so late that no meeting was held at that place.

One pleasant feature throughout the entire day was the democratic spirit of good mixing and a cheerful, jolly, good natured demeanor of the boosters and their hosts. Everybody was cordial, friendly, and in a good humor. The speeches were of an order calculated to put some ginger into the crowd, and it was a very happy day to all.

The roads were in good shape for the most part in both counties.

Cordial invitations to stop and eat melons and fruit were extended by hospitable farmers.

At Shiloh Mr. R. W. Green's children, and other little ones of that section had a large and pretty banner stretched across the road with the inscription "Boosters are Welcome—Stop Here" which was appreciated very much by the boosters. The kids were heartily cheered as the automobile party came up. Running behind time as the party was some of the invitations to eat melons were reluctantly declined.

A number of business men have requested the Chamber of Commerce to put on another booster trip this month to take in Mayesville, Pleasant Grove, Lynchburg, Elliott, St. Charles and Oswego.

Some very cordial invitations have been received from the hospitable people of those sections to have the Sumter boosters visit those places.

Several of the most public spirited and intelligent farmers and merchants of those sections say that the meetings and talks put on by the community boosting tours are a great source of pleasure, education, and inspiration to the farmers, and that now that the farmers are "down in the mouth" so to speak, is the appropriate time for Sumter's business men to go out and talk to the farmers and cooperate with them in every possible way, and establish as many cream routes as possible without any delay.

It might as well be admitted that crop conditions are poor, but just because they are is all the more reasons why the banker, merchant, farmer, and laborer should get together often and discuss methods for overcoming the difficulties. And practical talks like those on yesterday's booster trip are worth much to the farmers and the business men too. If sufficient interest is manifested among Sumter's business and professional men to have at least fifteen automobiles and 75 boosters guaranteed to go along the Chamber of Commerce will advertise the booster trip above suggested.

The First Baptist church has not suspended assembling of the entire Sunday school, only the primary and junior departments. The Baracca and Philatheas will meet as usual, 10:15 each Sunday morning. Bartow Walsh, Supt.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

MAYOR JENNINGS AND COUNCILMAN BOOTH TAKE OATH OF OFFICE—COUNCILMAN ELECTED MAYOR PRO TEM.

License Tax on Near Beer Saloons Fixed at \$200 a Year—Break in Salem Avenue Sewer Line Reported—Another Petition Protesting Against Permitting Railroad Side Track on Dingle Street—Mr. S. O'Quinn Elected Member of Board of Health.

City Council met Tuesday night in regular session with all members present.

The report of the managers of the regular municipal election was received and on the returns L. D. Jennings was declared elected Mayor for a term of four years and J. P. Booth was declared elected Councilman for a term of four years, each of them having received the unanimous vote cast in the election. Messrs. Jennings and Booth were sworn in, the oath being administered by City Clerk D. M. Blanding.

On motion of Councilman Booth, who had heretofore served as Mayor Pro Tem, Councilman Rowland was elected Mayor Pro Tem.

A letter from Mr. H. A. Moses complaining concerning the unnecessary blocking of traffic on streets by the paving contractors was received, City Engineer Lee was requested to investigate and take steps to prevent needless interruption of street traffic.

Chief of Police J. R. Sumter and Dr. S. H. Edmunds presented a petition requesting Council to construct an asphalt paved skating rink on a part of Monumental Square for the use of the children of the city. The matter was referred to City Engineer Lee to ascertain the cost of the proposed skating rink.

The riding of bicycles on Monumental Square was prohibited in future and Chief of Police Sumter was directed to enforce this rule.

The Police Department report for July showed fines collected \$539.25 and days served to the value of \$80.40, a total of \$619.65.

The library report for July showed a membership of 665.

Dr. S. H. Edmunds, chairman of the committee representing City Council and the City Board of Education on the Carnegie library, reported that the plans for the library had been approved by the Secretary of the Carnegie Foundation and that the funds for the erection of the library were now available. Work on the building will begin as soon as possession of the lot immediately adjacent to the old Ryttenberg residence can be obtained, which will be when the residence of Mr. A. C. Phelps is completed, Mr. Phelps now occupying the Ryttenberg house.

The license on conducting an automobile washing shop was fixed at \$5 per year and a license was granted to Davis D. Burgess.

A refund of the annual license tax of the Orient Fire Insurance Co., was asked by the Commercial Insurance Agency, on the ground that the Orient Insurance company had not done any business in this city this year. The application was refused, it being against the policy of the city to refund license taxes, as the tax is for the privilege of doing business in the city and the company paying the tax still has the privilege for which it made application and for which it paid at the beginning of the year.

The request of the Board of Health for the purchase of another scavenger wagon for use in the sanitary service was granted.

Mr. S. O'Quinn was elected a member of the Board of Health for a term of five years, Mr. J. A. McKnight, whose term expired June 27th, having declined re-election.

A second petition from citizens residing and owning property on Dingle street was filed protesting against granting rights of way through Dingle street for side tracks of the Atlantic Coast Line, Northwestern and Southern Railway. Mayor Jennings and Councilman Rowland stated that the railroad engineers and officials were still trying to find another route for the necessary side tracks so as to avoid using Dingle street if possible.

Second reading was given the following ordinances: An ordinance granting to the Atlantic Coast Line and the Northwestern Railroad the right to lay side tracks on Dingle street, and an ordinance granting to the Southern Railway the right to lay a side track on Dingle street.

A petition for an arc light at the corner of South Main street and Dingle street was considered. The request will be investigated.

It was decided to use the acre of land that the city owns at the old septic tank, adjacent to the cemetery, as a burying ground for paupers. Geo. H. Hurst offered to furnish coffins for paupers for \$4, provided the city furnishes burying ground, digs grave and provides for transportation.

Council was requested to fix maximum hack fare by the hour for public hackmen. Mayor Jennings will

STATE CAMPAIGN MEETING.

Little Enthusiasm at Marion Meeting.

Marion, Aug. 9.—About 500 voters of Marion county were here today for the State campaign meeting, which was marked by little show of enthusiasm. The meeting was featured by a small boy's tumbling into the park pool during the speaking.

Mr. Cooper was the first speaker and made his usual speech. He pledged an impartial enforcement of all laws, and that he would not abuse the pardon power by using it in his own interests "to punish his enemies" or "reward his friends."

The appeal of Mr. DesChamps is universal. He told the Marion county audience today that he could "plow as straight a row as any of you; my pen is as swift as that of any man; I am used to lecturing for \$50 and \$100 and \$200 an hour, and my books have been translated into 40 different dialects and foreign languages."

John T. Duncan also spoke.

Gov. Manning reminded the audience that he was not here to stir up political strife or to create prejudice against negroes. He only wanted to submit his administration for the people's indorsement, and asked the people if they didn't feel more secure when criminals were not being turned loose upon them by the wholesale, some pardoned before they got to the penitentiary. "The situation throughout South Carolina is different from what it was before I was elected," said the governor.

Immediately after he had been introduced ex-Gov. Bleasden denied that he was the instigator of the Adams-DesChamps fight at Manning last week.

Rome, Aug. 10.—The Italians are pushing steadily onward. Their objective now is Trieste. Twenty thousand Austrians were captured at Gorizia, also great stores of war supplies, guns and provisions. The Italians who are pursuing the Austrians are now several miles east of Gorizia, it is officially announced.

look into the legal phase of the matter and report to Council at the next meeting.

Complaint having been made concerning the low places on the park plots on paved streets holding water, Engineer Lee was requested to call the attention of paving contractors to the matter and have the low places filled, the contractors being responsible for the removal of earth from the streets.

Engineer Lee reported that the street paving work was making satisfactory progress now, although there had been some unavoidable delay in consequence of the interruption in railroad service and the operation of rock quarries by the storm, which prevented the contractors from obtaining material. He reported also that Simmons-Mayrant company had made a proposition to lay concrete paving with a bituminous covering, provided they are given a contract for as much as one thousand yards. The proposition was received as information. He reported that the paving brick tests had proved satisfactory, the abrasion test showing only 14 to 19 per cent. whereas the contract allowed as much as 22 per cent. Mr. P. P. Finn who is running the rattle in making the brick tests was allowed \$15 per month for this service. The use of local sand, in street paving work was discussed.

A break in the Salem Avenue sewer line was discussed and progress of the repair was reported. The cost of repairs on the broken section is estimated at about \$700, and the cost of replacing the entire line in this street that has given trouble heretofore was considered. No action was taken.

Councilman Booth reported that the Booth-Boyle Live Stock company need the pair of mules loaned the city sometime ago and that the city would have to rent a pair to take their place. It was decided to rent a pair of mules and the Clerk was directed to advertise for same.

Councilman Rowland stated that he had advertised the old water works boilers for sale and had received an offer for them. He was authorized to dispose of the boilers as seemed best.

The matter of fixing a license on near beer saloons was brought up, and with the information received from other towns in respect to the license charged before Council, it was decided to fix the license tax at \$200 per year on the first \$10,000 business done, and \$1.00 per \$1,000 business additional. This was fixed by the vote of Councilmen Rowland and Booth. Mayor Jennings favored making the tax \$25 for the first \$1,000 business and \$5 for each additional \$1,000.

The proposition to widen North Main street was discussed and it was decided that, in view of the opposition by some property owners on North Main street, to abandon the plan to widen the street. Engineer Lee was directed to prepare plans for paving this street, making the paving as wide as possible, after making allowance for parkway for the trees.

STANISLAU UNDER FIRE.

GREAT AUSTRIAN BASE ASSAULTED BY RUSSIAN ARMY.

Capture of Stronghold is Momentarily Expected—Its Fall Will be Hard Blow to Austrians and May Force Evacuation of Lemberg.

Petrograd, Aug. 10.—Stanislaw, the great Austrian base, is under heavy artillery fire and its capture is expected momentarily. The Russians were only five miles from the city at the last report. The capture of Stanislaw would be an overwhelming stroke against Lemberg.

BROKERAGE FEES NOT CHARGED.

Treasurer of Jefferson Standard Talks of Loans Made on the Realty of Policyholders.

Greensboro Daily News, Aug. 5. "How is the Jefferson getting along since your big agency meeting?" was asked Treasurer Charles W. Gold, of the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance company yesterday.

"Fine," he replied. "The agents are getting right down to work, and from the fine production of business, you could hardly tell that there had been a week of play. Collections are also good, and this necessitates our making mortgage loans right along, so as to lend the thousands of dollars which our policy-holders are paying us."

"Where do you lend most of your money?" Mr. Gold was asked. "Why, wherever we do business. We operate in 11 States, and in each one of these States we follow the policy of lending on real estate the money which we collect from our policy-holders in those States." Mr. Gold was then asked if there was any charge other than the legal rate of interest.

"No sir," he replied. "Every man to whom the Jefferson Standard lends money is especially warned that he is not expected to pay any brokerage fees, or any other expenses except for abstracting the title and inspecting the property. Just the other day we found that, in an adjoining State, an attorney was about to charge a brokerage on a loan from us, which he had led the prospective borrower to believe had been secured through his influence. Our regular procedure showed the prospective borrower that we were not cognizant of this brokerage arrangement; and it is needless to state that the brokerage was not paid. We only want the legal rate of interest. We make mortgage loans only to our policy-holders. They are not only entitled to borrow our money, but we feel that in getting it they should pay nothing but the cost of service."

Mr. Gold was very enthusiastic about the prospects for the remainder of the year. There seems to be no question in his mind but that 1916 will be the biggest year from every standpoint that the Jefferson has ever had. The company has recently increased its annual dividend to policy-holders by nearly 33 1-3 per cent. thus the policy-holder is reaping a direct gain from the splendid prosperity which is now existing in the South.

ENGINEER MEETS DEATH.

Freight Train Crashes Into Southern Passenger Train No. 11 Near Easley.

Greenville, Aug. 9.—Engineer John T. Harris, of Gainesville, Ga., is dead, and several are injured, but not seriously, as the result of a collision between a north-bound freight train with Southern Railway passenger train No. 11, at Crosswell, three miles east of Easley, this afternoon. The passenger train, in charge of Engineer Harris, had stopped in the yards at Crosswell waiting for the freight train to arrive. Instead of taking the siding, as intended, it is said that the freight, pulled by two engines, dashed down the main line and collided with the passenger train, whose engine was badly damaged.

RESCUE FLOOD VICTIMS.

Huntington, W. Va., Aug. 10.—Twenty-three bodies were taken out of Cabin Creek at the town of that name. Several other bodies were found at various points, totalling thirty. At Charleston the latest estimates fix the death list at fifty to sixty. A picnic excursion train reported marooned on Coal river is safe. The report of the train being at St. Albans was false. A detachment of National Guard, with rescue equipment, is expected to arrive on the scene this afternoon. They have food and tents for the flood victims.

Geo. H. Hurst,
Undertaker and Embalmer.
Prompt Attention to Day or Night Calls.
AT J. D. Craig Old Stand, N. Main
Phone 844