

MEETING IN COURT HOUSE.

Congressman Lever Will Make Address on Monday, October 9th, on Resolving Subject to Farmers.

His Honor Judge Prince, the presiding judge of the October term of the circuit court, which convenes in Sumter on Monday, October 9th, has very kindly agreed that he will adjourn court next Monday from 12:30 to 3 o'clock in order to allow the use of the court room for the big agricultural and commercial meeting which will be addressed by Hon. Asbury F. Lever, chairman of the committee on agriculture of the national house of representatives.

Major Abe Levi, a prominent attorney of Moultrie, at the request of the Sumter Chamber of Commerce secretary on yesterday interviewed Judge Prince and secured this concession.

Major Levi has said that he will do his best to interest the merchants, bankers, and farmers of Manning and Clarendon county in attending next Monday's meeting which will be a tri-county affair, embracing Sumter, Lee and Clarendon counties, and the meeting will be open to the citizens of all other Pee Dee section counties and towns.

Congressman Lever has not addressed a Sumter or Pee Dee county meeting in some time, and as he is very popular in this section of the State, and as he occupies one of the most important positions in congress as chairman of the most important committee of the legislative branch of the government, it is very probable that he will bring a drawing card for hundreds of his admirers and supporters from several counties. He is known far and wide as a brilliant and forceful speaker, and a fearless defender of his constituents, and he is perhaps the best posted man on agricultural legislation and needs in the southern States, and as a leader for agricultural legislation such as federal cooperation of marketing facilities, cotton grading, rural credits, home demonstration work, and the author of the Lever-Smith agricultural and cotton warehouse bill he is in a position to tell farmers, merchants, and bankers a great deal that will prove beneficial to them.

DROWNED IN COOSAW RIVER.

W. A. Beckham Was Engaged in Railroad Construction.

The Coosaw river some 30 miles from Beaufort reached Columbia late last night. Mr. Beckham was engaged on construction on the Seaboard Air Line and was drowned in the Coosaw river Friday. Mr. Beckham was 38 years of age and was born in Lancaster. He is survived by his second wife, who was Miss Bessie Crawford, of Darlington, and two small children, and by a daughter of the first marriage who lives at Heath Springs. Two sisters, Mrs. Douglas Lowrance and Mrs. J. D. Moorehead, live in Columbia; another sister, Mrs. M. P. Hutto in Charleston and another sister, Mrs. H. B. Collins, in Rock Hill. Surviving brothers are Paul Beckham and Harvey Beckham, both of Lancaster.

Relatives went from here to Beaufort county yesterday to search for the body.

HAVE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY.

Former Sumter County Couple Spend Fifty Years of Married Life.

The following excerpt from the Charleston Post of Saturday will be read with interest by many people of Sumter county, where Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Vinson made their home for many years and have numerous friends and relatives:

Fifty years of happy married life were completed on Wednesday when Mr. and Mrs. Andrew P. Vinson, of 71 Society street, reached their golden wedding day. No formal celebration of the anniversary was held, as most of their family live at a distance, the day being spent quietly at home with members of the household. Mr. Vinson is 74 years of age and Mrs. Vinson is eight years his junior. They reside at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry C. Laurey. Mrs. Laurey is their daughter. They have had seven children, of whom six are living, and 13 grandchildren. Mr. Vinson, a retired business man, spent his boyhood near Columbia. Mrs. Vinson is a native of Sumter county. Although distant cousins the two had known each other only three months at the time of their marriage. The wedding ceremony was performed at Stateburg by the Rev. Dr. Robert Wilson, of Charleston. Mr. and Mrs. Vinson are in excellent health, and a year ago they attended the Panama exposition, which they enjoyed hugely.

NEW JAPANESE PREMIER.

Leader of Militarists Selected to Head New Cabinet.

Tokio, Oct. 4.—Field Marshall Terauchi, governor general of Korea and former war minister, has been appointed premier, succeeding Count Okuma. The appointment is regarded as vastly significant, as Gen. Terauchi is favored by the militarists and believes in a more aggressive policy in China and in the California immigration problem.

MONDAY WAS THE BIG DAY.

Recorded Harby's office. Court lasted until 4 o'clock in the afternoon, there being more cases tried than on any other day since he has been recorder. Nine cases were disposed of.

BAIL GRANTED CRESWELL.

McCormick Lad's Application is Granted at Abbeville—Inquest Over Father's Body.

McCormick, Sept. 30.—Further developments in the shooting of J. S. Creswell by his son, Horace Creswell, were brought to light after the coroner's inquest.

It seems that one of the Creswell boys wanted to take a bale of cotton to Troy to have it ginned and the father wanted it brought to McCormick. After some words Mrs. Creswell, the mother, said that it would not make any difference where the cotton was taken so long as they got the money for it. This incensed the old man, who struck Mrs. Creswell with a light stick. She then walked away from him, he following her up, striking her with his fist again. At this juncture Clarence Creswell interceded in behalf of his mother, and grabbed a shotgun, which stood nearby, which later proved to be empty. The father then took the gun away from the boy, and it was while he had it in a striking position that the youngest son, Horace, fired the fatal shot. The shot was fired from the door of another room, a shotgun being the weapon used. The lead entered the face on the side and ranged upward, killing him almost instantly.

Mr. Creswell was about 54 years of age and lived in the Yountown section of this county practically all of his life. He farmed and conducted a blacksmith shop. His wife was Miss Fannie Talbert of this county. The young man who fired the fatal shot attended the funeral of his father which took place at Buffalo Baptist church, this county, Friday, after which he appeared before E. B. Gary, chief justice at Abbeville, and applied for bail. Bail was granted in the sum of \$1,000. The trial will come up at the first criminal court for McCormick county.

The affair has been a shock to the citizens of this community and the general sentiment is that the boy will merely go through legal proceedings as a mere matter of formality.

IN HUNT FOR WEEVIL.

Commission Will Visit Pest at Home in Fields in Louisiana Cotton.

Baton Rouge, La., Oct. 2.—After a day of conferences in New Orleans Gov. Manning and other members of the Louisiana Cotton Commission arrived in Baton Rouge tonight at 8 o'clock.

A conference was held with farmers and business men here tonight. Tomorrow the commission will invade the weevil fields for many miles about. The members of the commission were given much attention in New Orleans.

A conference of the South Carolinians and representatives of New Orleans commercial organizations was held early today when Gov. Manning stated he had just received reports that the boll weevil was within 45 miles of the South Carolina border.

Local speakers said Louisiana met the boll weevil situation principally by the farmers planting other crops than cotton and devoting more attention to raising live stock.

At noon the party visited the cotton exchange and later was given a luncheon by the dock board on the tug Sampson while inspecting New Orleans water front and the city's warehouse and dock facilities. Late today the visitors will go to Baton Rouge and will visit other Louisiana cities, plantations and stock farms during the remainder of this week.

Gov. Pleasant and several other Louisiana State officials assisted in entertaining and directing the South Carolina party on the tour of this State.

BIG STILL CAPTURED.

Cheeroke Officers Make Successful Raid.

Gaffney, Oct. 2.—Sheriff Thomas, accompanied by two of his deputies, H. H. Lockhart and J. E. Watkins, captured a distillery in Cherokee county yesterday near Skull Shoals church in the Gowdeyville neighborhood. Two negroes were operating the plant, one of them being Albert Harris, the other refusing to give his name. The still was of about 50 gallons capacity, and was in full operation. The officers destroyed about 300 gallons of beer and the still and worm. The captured negroes are in jail and will be given a preliminary examination during the week.

SUBMARINES VERY ACTIVE.

German Sank Thirty-one Vessels in Nine Days.

Berlin, Oct. 4.—German submarines sank 31 hostile vessels in the North Sea and English channel between September 20 and 29, not including eleven English fishing steamers and four Belgian lighters previously reported.

BIG FAIR AT TURBEVILLE.

First Community Event Develops Splendid Attractions and Draws Large Crowds.

Turbeville, Oct. 2.—On Thursday, September 28, Turbeville held its first community fair in Turbeville hall. The fair was promoted by the Ladies' Home Demonstration club, assisted by Miss Richardson, the county demonstration agent.

The fair, although the first this town has held and the third of its kind to be held in the county, was well arranged and in many respects reminded one of a regular county fair. There were a number of people and plenty of articles on exhibition. There was not a merry-go-round, etc., but there were plenty of music and speeches to add to the life of the occasion.

There was a great display of local commodities and articles of many kinds. These were arranged according to kind in separate booths. There were six booths in all.

The booth to be seen on first entering the hall was the one for chickens. There were Rhode Island Reds, White Minorcas, White Wyandottes and Bantams.

A large booth contained the fancy work and attracted attention. In this booth were over 200 beautiful articles of crochet, cut work, embroidery, tatting and battenberg.

The booth for cooking was popular. Occupying the place of honor was an enormous pound cake, flanked on either side by large coconut cakes. These were surrounded by fried chicken, biscuits, bread, roast beef, jelly rolls, corn muffins, chocolate cake, fudge and pies of several kinds.

Farm products shown were the best of their kind and very suitably arranged. There were velvet beans, grapes, onions, peppers, pimientos, cotton, corn, potatoes, peas, sugar cane, pears, pomegranates, home ground flour and eggs, butter and a huge pumpkin.

Adjoining this was a large and attractive booth of canned goods. They were temptingly displayed in the form of a pyramid with rows of pickles, preserves, jellies, grape juice, chow chow, dried figs, tomatoes, corn, butter beans, snap beans and tomato catsup.

Probably the most popular booth of all was the one containing curios, in which was an old spinning wheel. This wheel was fixed in running order. Hat cotton was provided and for the amusement of old and young, some of the old ladies spun the cotton into thread. There were several pieces of jewelry 100 and 200 years old. Also one hand woven wool counterpane and several pieces of crockery ware that was purchased over 75 years ago.

Many visitors enjoyed the fair. The school was dismissed at noon for the day.

About 12:30 o'clock the crowd paused for about 20 minutes while Mr. Clark, the county farm agent, gave some excellent advice to the farmers.

About 1 o'clock a picnic lunch with iced tea was served. About 2 o'clock the crowd returned to the hall.

Miss Connor, assisted by Miss Cook at the piano, sang "Somewhere a Voice is Calling." Immediately after this G. Y. Newton spoke on the "Educational Value of the Fair." Following Prof. Newton, Miss Richardson gave a talk on the growth of her work in the county. After these speeches Mrs. D. E. Turbeville, Misses Cook, Connor, Morris and Higgins rendered musical selections, both instrumental and vocal.

SHERIFFS HOLD SOCIAL MEETING.

No Business at Midyear Meeting of Officials in Anderson.

Anderson, Oct. 3.—Thirty sheriffs and about as many deputies, rural policemen and detectives attended the midyear meeting of the State Sheriffs' association here today. The midyear session is purely social and on business was dispatched at the brief meeting held here.

The visitors, including Mayor Griffith of Columbia, were given automobile rides over the city and surrounding country. They and the mayor and members of the city council, members of the police department and about 200 other guests, including many women, were Sheriff Ashley's guests at a barbecue served at McKinney's springs.

The visitors have been given a royal time and the visit to Anderson has been thoroughly enjoyed. A few of the visitors returned to their homes tonight, but a majority of them remained over to be entertained at dinners in various homes tonight.

COTTON EXPORTS HEAVY.

Washington, Oct. 4.—The department of commerce today announced nearly fifty per cent increase in cotton exports this year. Since August 1, exports have been 903,559 bales, compared to \$55,000 bales for the last entire cotton year.

BAYONNE, N. J., OCT. 4.—N. T. Peck,

an expert chemist, gave his life to science today. While superintending a test of nitrate, watched by a dozen high officials, an explosion occurred, killing him.

SUPPLYING NEW STANDARD SAMPLES.

Cotton Grading Samples Sent to South by Agricultural Department.

Washington, Oct. 2.—To assist in bringing about more extensive use of the official cotton standards of the United States by growers in their sales the office of markets and rural organization of the United States Department of agriculture is cooperating with the States relations service of the department in placing in the hands of county agents in the cotton producing sections sets of practical forms of the standards. The forms are furnished only after the agents have given satisfactory assurances that they will be kept in a place accessible to cotton growers, in the care of a competent custodian who does not profit directly from trading in cotton.

More than 60 sets of the practical forms of the standards already have been shipped to county agents. It is expected that more than 100 will soon be placed in this way. Each set of the practical forms consists of the nine grades of white cotton. The sets remain the property of the United States government.

In arranging for the keeping of the standards in the counties the office of markets and rural organization has approved such agencies as banks, chambers of commerce, boards of trade, stores whose proprietors do not trade in cotton, etc.

The official cotton standards of the United States are used by practically every important spot market and exchange in the South, and it is the desire of the cotton specialists of the department of agriculture that the sales and purchases of cotton from the time it leaves the farmer's hands until it reaches these larger markets also shall be conducted on the basis of the standards. It is believed that the presence of a set of the practical forms in each county, where farmers may examine and become familiar with them, will be a valuable educative force in grading and will tend to bring about the substitution of methods of more exact classification in place of the approximations to grades now often employed in gin, street and warehouse sales.

With the forms of the standards in easy reach for examination and comparison and the published reports of grade prices in the nearest important spot market available through the department, it should be possible for growers to arrive at a reasonably close valuation of a given grade of cotton. It is expected that some county agents will figure the local valuations from day to day for the different grades, taking into consideration the cost of handling cotton to the near-by spot market, and will bulletin the figures. The office of markets and rural organization will furnish such county agents from time to time quotations on the various official grades from the nearest important spot market, as well as from all the spot markets designated under the cotton futures act.

Second Week Jurors.

The following are the jurors drawn for the second week of court:

- W. F. Johnson, L. B. H. Darr, J. H. Warren, T. J. Kirven, T. J. Baker, E. Turner White, J. M. Kolb, F. A. Stuckey, G. L. Brown, J. R. Reville, P. S. Finn, J. R. Singleton, O. B. Nettles, John S. Kennedy, S. M. Coulter, W. W. James, D. L. Smith, George D. Betts, D. W. Cuttino, George G. Tweed, W. H. Reville, E. W. Dabbs, S. H. Goodman, W. H. Troublesfeld, S. M. Coker, J. W. Harper, D. T. DuBose, J. P. Commander, M. E. Trulluck, A. P. Surles, J. P. Gallagher, J. C. Trulluck, L. B. Rhame, R. C. Burress, C. E. Dunlap, J. L. Haynsworth.

CONFERENCE A FAILURE.

American and Mexican Commission Have Deliberated for a Month Without Result.

Washington, Oct. 4.—High officials predict the failure of the American and Mexican commissioners at Atlantic City to adjust the differences between the United States and Carranza. A month has passed in deliberation, but no progress has been made. Ambassador Arredondo's visit to Carranza brought no change in the situation.

MEMPHIS, OCT. 4.—One man was

killed and six injured when a show train leaving for Birmingham was wrecked in the yards here.

PETROGRAD, OCT. 4.—The Russian

center, in Galicia, under Gen. Stecherbatcheff, has crossed Zlota-Lipa river, threatening the important railway city, Brzezany, near Lemberg. Brzezany is already under a heavy bombardment.

MR. JAMES' RECOLLECTION.

Statement in Reference to Alleged Bolt in Constitutional Convention Election of 1895.

Editor of Sumter Daily Item.

You all are, to be sure, the "awfullest people ever"—just like you were in 1890 or a little more so.

The proposed Reformers' Convention, the call for which has so disturbed you, is for no other purpose than for us to get better acquainted and felicitate ourselves on the good fight which we put up in the last primary.

Concerning your extended notice of the doings in the 90's, your memory is not so good with reference to those things you said about me.

The two factions met on the same day. I did not know that the proposition for a division was coming up in our caucus, but I liked it and urged it as stoutly as I could, though without influence, for it was voted down. While some walked out, I felt bound to remain since I had participated in the test. A ticket was nominated to stand for election in the special election which was to be held for delegates to the Constitutional Convention, of course no negroes being nominated.

I can at this writing call to mind only three of those put out by us Tillamites, they being Capt. D. E. Keels, L. D. Jennings and myself.

During the interim before the election, which for our side was being managed entirely by Capt. Keels, who was also at the time chairman of the county executive committee, Mr. Jennings and I heard that some understandings had been arrived at whereby the negroes were to support our ticket. We went at once to Capt. Keels to inquire as to its truth or falsity, we having decided forthwith to have our names stricken from the ticket if the rumor were true. However, the captain assured us most positively that there was absolutely no truth in the report. This is all I ever heard of negroes being involved in that special election.

I well remember, and with a high degree of pleasure, the manly manner in which Mr. Jennings backed up the interviewer who put the questions to Capt. Keels.

I shall thank you for publishing this version of the circumstances you alluded to in Friday's issue—this being a true account of the whole of my experiences and knowledge of the occasion under discussion.

W. A. James, Bishopville, Sept. 30, 1916.

JOHN E. BEATTIE DIES.

One of Greenville's Most Prominent Business Men and Confederate Veterans.

Greenville, Oct. 3.—John Edgeworth Beattie, popularly known as "Ned" Beattie, died this afternoon at 5 o'clock at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, after an illness of several months. Mr. Beattie was one of the leading business men of Greenville and a member of a well known family of the State. At the time of his death he was president of the First National Bank of Greenville. He was born in Greenville in 1847. He was a brother of the late Hamlin Beattie and the late William Beattie.

At the age of 17 Mr. Beattie joined the Butler Guards, of Greenville, and served during the last year of the War of Secession. He attended Furman University and the University of Virginia. He was at one time a traveling salesman and later was a member of the dry goods firm of McAlister & Beattie, of Greenville. He succeeded to the presidency of the First National Bank, the oldest bank in Greenville, upon the death of his brother, Hamlin Beattie.

His widow and six children, as follows, survive: F. F. Beattie, Hamlin Beattie, Edgeworth Beattie, Mrs. N. C. Poe, Jr., Mrs. J. F. Matthews and Miss Emily Beattie.

The body will be brought back to Greenville from Baltimore for interment here.

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CROP SHORT OF ESTIMATE.

Fort Worth, Tex., Oct. 3.—The present cotton crop will fall short of the 11,637,000 bales estimate issued yesterday by the United States department of agriculture, according to Henry N. Pope, president of the Association of State Farmers' Union presidents. The government's first estimate was for a crop of more than 14,000,000 bales but this has been reduced 3,000,000 bales by revised figures and is said to be caused by climatic and pest damage but according to President Pope these two factors are going to be instrumental in further reducing the revised estimate.

"The top crop which is the smallest in history has also been generally over estimated," said Mr. Pope, "and the present cotton crop is one of the largest acreage, is the smallest yield per acre within 20 years and the indications are it will bring the highest aggregate price of any crop in the history of the cotton industry. It is an established fact that small production is usually followed the next year by a large acreage and a heavy yield. The cotton farmer will never get out of debt or the tenant become a home owner until we get a reasonable price for a reasonable crop. Ever since the South has been planting 30,000,000 acres in cotton each cotton farmer has been selling cotton at about three cents per pound less than cost of production. The only protection of a cotton farmer against a calamity of low prices is in a 12 cent loan minimum by government or some agency capable of protecting it.

Of the Ownership, Management, Circulation, Etc., Required by the Act of August 24, 1912.

Of Watchman and Southron, published at Sumter, S. C., semi-weekly, for October 1, 1916. STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, County of Sumter.

Before me, a notary public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared H. G. Osteen, who, being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the manager of the Watchman and Southron, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in Section 446, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, Osteen Publishing Co., Sumter, S. C. Editor, H. G. Osteen, Sumter, S. C. Managing Editor, H. G. Osteen, Sumter, S. C. Business Manager, H. G. Osteen, Sumter, S. C.

2. That the owners are: Osteen Publishing Company, Inc., C. F. Osteen, N. G. Osteen, H. G. Osteen, N. G. Osteen, Jr., Moneta Osteen, Lee & Moise, I. C. Strauss, R. L. Wright, Levi Bros, C. M. Hurst, Abe Ryttenberg, G. A. Lemmon, Neill O'Donnell, Levy & Moses, W. B. Boyle, R. L. Edmunds, H. L. Scarborough, R. I. Manning, Booth Live Stock Co. All of Sumter, S. C.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent. or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: People's Building & Loan Association of Sumter, S. C.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustees or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the six months preceding the date shown above is (This information is required from daily publications only.)

H. G. OSTEEEN, Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5th day of October, 1916.

C. W. HICKS, (Seal) Notary Public, S. C.

(My commission expires at pleasure of the Governor.)

Paris, Oct. 4.—The war office announces important successes north of Comblès. A German communicating trench at Morval was taken with 200 prisoners.