

The Watchman and Southron.
Published Wednesday and Saturday.
—BY—
OSTEEN PUBLISHING COMPANY,
SUMTER, S. C.
Terms:
\$1.50 per annum—in advance.
Advertisements:
One square first insertion... \$1.00
Every subsequent insertion... .50
Contracts for three months, or longer will be made at reduced rates.
All communications which subscribe private interests will be charged for as advertisements.
Obituaries and tributes of respect will be charged for.
The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the True Southron in 1866. The Watchman and Southron now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

The need of new sources of revenue to meet the increasing expenses of the Federal government has encouraged the newspaper and congressional representatives of the big corporations and the millionaires to renew the demand that the income tax be extended to cover all individuals who have incomes of \$1,000 or more. Some of the most rapacious demand that incomes of as little as \$500 per annum be taxed. In a time of dire necessity or great national danger the people would willingly pay whatever might be needed, but so long as the people of moderate means continue to pay more than their just share of taxes under the present indirect system of taxation they will never consent to paying an income tax on incomes that yield only a bare existence. The people of moderate means—those in the \$2,500 class and less—constitute a majority of the population of the United States and they pay by far the greater part of the tariff and internal revenue taxes levied for the support of the government, and to impose an additional burden upon them by taxing their meagre incomes would not be fair. The necessities of life should not be unduly taxed and to tax an income of \$1,000 would be an undue tax.

The administration's policy in dealing with Mexico is mystifying. If it was necessary for the protection of the United States, the United States would have sent Villa, who was at the head of only a few hundred scattered and poorly armed bandits, why is it not necessary to keep his army there now that Villa is in command of an army, variously estimated at five to ten thousand fairly well armed soldiers, composed largely of deserters from Carranza's army? If Villa and his bandit bands were a serious menace to the safety of life and property on the border, is he not now a greater menace, with his greater power to do damage?

A dog tax law, making it a misdemeanor to keep a dog on which the tax had not been paid, would do more towards saving the partridges and other ground nesting birds than the hunters' license law, or a closed season for a term of years, could be expected to accomplish. The half starved dogs that roam the country in the nesting season destroy the eggs and young birds by the thousand, and are as much responsible for the steady decrease in the number of partridges as the pot hunters.

The Chester County Mutual Fire Insurance Association enjoyed a year of growth and prosperity during 1916. The association now has \$1,192,517 insurance in force. Premiums collected during the year totaled \$4,804.57 and the fire losses paid amounted to \$3,355.45 and losses by wind \$358.70. At the annual meeting held this week the assessment for 1917 was reduced from 40 cents to 35 cents. The mutual association is the most economical means by which fire protection may be obtained and it is difficult to understand why there is not a prosperous association in every county, or why every property owner who is eligible does not become a member of existing associations.

Pea Seed to Be Scarce and High.
Owing to the unfavorable seasonal conditions last July and August there were not many peas made. In some sections there was a fairly good crop, but in many places the plants bore but few seed. This will necessarily make the seed scarce and high next spring. Farmers who desire to plant many peas next summer, will do well to buy their seed now, and put them away carefully, thus saving having to pay a high price for them next spring.

The largest single day's receipts of gold ever received at New York, arrived last Thursday, when \$33,000,000 was the total. Of this amount \$25,000,000 was the identical gold shipped to Paris in 1904 as part payment by this government of the \$40,000,000 purchase price of the old Panama canal.

NEGRO QUESTION A PROBLEM.

IS DIFFICULT MATTER FOR METHODISTS TO SETTLE.

Joint Commission on Unification Names Special Committee and Sets Date for Report.
Baltimore, Md., Jan. 2.—After adopting a resolution that leaves open the door for future negotiations and sets June 27 as the date for the next meeting, the joint commission on unification of the Methodist Episcopal church and the Methodist Episcopal church, South, adjourned today. It is understood the disposition of the negro Methodists was the one problem for which no solution was found. Bishop Earl Cranston of the Northern body was named chairman of a committee appointed to deal with this question and report at the next meeting.

The resolution says it was agreed that the fundamental and vital issues were the general conference and its powers; the Northern conference their number and powers, and the status of the negro membership of the Methodist Episcopal church in the re-organized church. "It was believed," the resolution continues, "that if agreement should be reached touching the three items mentioned above, with time and patience and with the help of the Holy Spirit, the details of a plan for the unification of Methodism could be worked out."

"We are happy to be able to report that we find ourselves in general agreement concerning many of the questions involved. However, in view of the magnitude of these questions, it was manifestly impossible for us to reach final conclusions. For further consideration, therefore, we have referred the subjects to strong committees with instructions to present a detailed report at a session of the joint commission to be held June 27 at a place to be designated."

Velvet Bean.
With the steady and rapid increase in the acreage planted in velvet beans in this State, there are many inquiries for information regarding this crop. The velvet bean has been grown in Florida for over 40 years, but first only as an ornamental plant. As soon as its value as a forage crop and improving crop became known, experiments were made to compare its value with the better known leguminous crops, peanuts and cowpeas. As a forage crop, for grazing hogs and cattle it will probably outrank the cowpea in the coastal areas of this State. The farmers at present are not as familiar with it as they are with cowpeas and peanuts, but no doubt once they have made a test with velvet beans the acreage will be increased. To improve our sandy soils the velvet bean has no equal.

With the advance of the boll weevil the farmer will necessarily be forced to turn to soil building and forage crops in order that he will be able to feed the additional stock which must necessarily take the place of much of the cotton now grown. After proper drainage, vegetable matter is the most important thing in building up our soils. The leguminous crops, owing to their nitrogen gathering properties are the most valuable for supplying humus to the soils. The velvet bean, owing to the enormous amount of growth will outrank all other legumes in supplying this needed vegetable matter. In addition to its value as a soil builder, it is an excellent forage crop. The seed can be ground into meal, grinding the seed in the pod, just as corn is ground on the cob. This makes an excellent feed for all kind of stock. Velvet bean seed will be high next spring. Buy your seed now while they are cheap, and hold them over until planting time.

Every able bodied male citizen of the United States between the ages of 18 and 45 years is held liable for service in the national guard in war time, without further act of congress, by war department regulations for the government of the guard, issued under the national defense act. In a circular prepared nearly two months ago, but made public only last Monday, the militia bureau directed that where a national guard regiment is called out for war service a reserve training battalion to fill vacancies at the front shall be organized out of the national guard reserve and by voluntary enlistment. "If for any reason," the order continues, "there shall not be enough reservists or enough voluntary enlistments to organize or to keep the reserve battalions at prescribed strength a sufficient number of the unorganized militia shall be drafted by the president to maintain such battalion or other lesser reserve unit at the prescribed strength."

Paris, Jan. 4 (Official)—Last night was calm along the western battle front.

ACTION IN WILSON'S HANDS.

PRESIDENT NOW HAS FULL INFORMATION ON WHICH TO DECIDE HIS COURSE.

American Members of Commission Report Their Failure to Formulate Plans to Adjust Situation with Mexico—Plans for Pershing's Withdrawal.

Washington, Jan. 3.—All the threads of the tangled situation between the United States and Mexico were held tonight by President Wilson. The American members of the Mexican-American joint commission made to him late today a personal report of their negotiations which have reached a deadlock and whether the conferences of the commission shall continue is a question the president has added to those already under consideration the determination of which will shape the administration's future policy towards the de facto government.

Although an authoritative admission to that effect was lacking, it became known that Secretary Lane, Dr. J. R. Mott and Judge George Gray, the American commissioners, considered useless more attempts to settle questions at issue through the joint commission. They submitted to the president a written report of their failure to have Carranza ratify the protocol providing for withdrawal of the American troops from Mexico and for a cooperative control of the border and asked him to decide whether they should continue to confer on other subjects as suggested by Carranza.

The president and the three commissioners discussed the report for about an hour. Afterward Secretary Lane referred inquiries to the president. The president said he did not wish to discuss the question in any of its phases.

At least one more conference with the Mexicans will be held. Some day this week the Mexican commissioners are expected to meet the American commissioners here and discuss their reply to Carranza's latest communication. It seemed certain tonight that some radical changes in policy would be adopted soon by the United States. The president continued his discussion of withdrawal of Gen. Pershing's force regardless of Carranza's attitude and of the sending of Henry P. Fletcher to Mexico City to represent the government as ambassador.

It is known that neither of these steps would be regarded as inconsistent by the American commissioners.

In anticipation that orders will be issued soon for recall of the troops the war department has prepared a tentative plan of withdrawal. Gen. Scott, chief of staff, and Gen. Bliss, assistant chief of staff, conferred at length with Secretary Baker late today and it was said they discussed a request by the president for a report on what effect, in the opinion of military men, withdrawal of the troops would have.

If the Pershing expedition is taken out of Mexico it will be with the understanding that the American government reserves the right to reenter in the pursuit of bandits at any time it may become necessary and that it will recognize no right of the Mexican government to impose restrictions. That was the effect of the message which accompanied the protocol when it was sent to Carranza from Atlantic City. The conditions imposed in the protocol are regarded by Secretary Lane as being as mild as possible. Such terms would be enforced by the United States regardless of agreement by Carranza.

MANN TO TAKE CHARGE.

Salley Resigns as Solicitor of Circuit.
Orangeburg, Jan. 2.—Solicitor J. Stokes Salley of the First judicial circuit today sent his resignation to Gov. Manning to take effect immediately. Solicitor Salley was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Solicitor P. T. Hildebrand, deceased. Ed C. Mann has been elected as the new solicitor for this circuit and as Solicitor Salley's term would expire in the midst of the January term of the court of general sessions for Orangeburg county, he has deemed it best to send in his resignation now and allow Solicitor Mann to take charge at once.

All of the preliminary work for the court has been done by Solicitor Salley and all that will be necessary for Solicitor Mann to do is to try the cases. Solicitor Salley has forwarded his final report to the attorney general, prepared a roster of the cases for trial and subpoenaed all witnesses for the court. Solicitor Mann will be assisted by Solicitor Salley in the court.

Columbia, Jan. 2.—Estimate of the expense of the State government will be made before the end of the week by Carlton W. Sawyer, comptroller general. The estimates are being filed with the comptroller general by the various departments. The estimates will be sent by Mr. Sawyer to the ways and means committee of the house.

HOUSE VISITS WILSON.

PRESIDENT'S EUROPEAN ADVISER GOES TO WASHINGTON.

United States Won't Determine Action Until Entente Reply Reaches State Department.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Coincident with the receipt here today of confidential advices giving the broad outlines of the entente reply to President Wilson's note proposing a discussion of peace terms, Col. E. M. House, the president's friend and adviser, arrived at the White House. The colonel's last visit was followed by the dispatch of the president's note.

At the same time press dispatches from London told of a speech by Count Julius Andrássy, former premier of Hungary, stating the central powers had given or would give President Wilson a statement of their peace terms and that the entente allies could get them from him.

Officials at the White House and state department would not discuss these developments other than to say definitely that no other move upon the part of the American government would be determined until the entente reply was received. It was said that the president still has his mind open on the question.

It was not disclosed whether the administration considers that the unfavorable action of the entente has left the way open for confidential exchange of terms.

Both in German and entente circles pessimism over the outlook was expressed. The president, however, was understood to think that the moves already made will be helpful ultimately regardless of the immediate consequences.

Preliminary information received here indicates that the entente note will pay more attention to the president's suggestion that means be found for preserving peace in the future than did the reply of the central powers, which suggested the postponement of this question until after the present war.

Col. House through his two visits to Europe since the war began is considered by the administration to have a complete knowledge of the many cross currents operating for and against peace in the several nations at war.

It generally is expected that after receipt of the reply of the entente allies, President Wilson will communicate again with both sides.

If the terms of the central powers have been made known to President Wilson, it is believed they came through Ambassador Gerard at Berlin. The German embassy here had no information on the subject late tonight.

Several days ago it was stated authoritatively that Germany was ready, should it be necessary to keep the road to peace open, to make known confidentially the terms of the central powers to the president. It was indicated that Germany also might permit the terms to be transmitted in confidence to the allies.

Protect the Stock From Cold.

The farm stock are often very poorly housed during the winter months. Most farmers seem to forget that stock have feelings just as they have and appreciate warm dry quarters during cold weather, just as much as the farmer appreciates a warm house. When the cold winds of winter are whistling around the house and a roaring fire is blazing in the chimney, few thoughts are given of these horses and mules on which the farm depends for a crop. Pneumonia and colds result, and too often through this carelessness, deaths result, and the farmer has lost a valuable animal. To have good stock and keep them in good condition, they must receive the proper care, both as to housing and feed. The farmer should see that the stables are warm and that there is plenty of bedding in the stalls. If some of the farmers had to spend the night out in the barn with the stock he would no doubt soon learn how necessary it is to have as comfortable a barn as possible. Mr. Farmer, the stock will appreciate this, why not see to it that they are made comfortable.

Miss Lillian Hall of Iowa arrived in the city Tuesday and is stopping at the Claremont Hotel. Miss Hall has come to put on a lady minstrel under the auspices of Dick Anderson chapter, U. D. C. at the Academy of Music January 11th.

Geo H. Hurst,
Undertaker and Embalmer.
Prompt Attention to Day or Night Calls
AT 1. O. Craig Old Stand, N. W. 1111
Phones Day 535 Night 201

REPORT OF THE CONDITION
No. 10670.
Of the National Bank of Sumter, at Sumter, in the State of South Carolina, at the Close of Business, on December 27, 1916.

RESOURCES.	
1. a Loans and discounts (except those shown on b and c)	\$515,900.38
Total loans	\$515,900.38
2. Overdrafts secured, none; unsecured \$463.02	463.02
6. Bonds, securities, etc:	
6. e. Securities other than U. S. bonds (not including stocks) owned unpledged	3,500.00
Total bonds, securities, etc	3,500.00
8. Stock of Federal Reserve Bank (50 per cent. of subscription)	7,500.00
9. a. Value of banking house (if unencumbered)	75,000.00
b. Equity in banking house	75,000.00
10. Furniture and fixtures	14,000.00
11. Real estate owned other than banking house	17,960.00
12. a. Net amount due from approved reserve agents in New York, Chicago, and St. Louis	2,019.93
b. Net amount due from approved reserve agents in other reserve cities	19,070.86
13. Net amount due from banks and bankers (other than included in 12 or 20)	11,861.10
14. Exchange for clearing house	7,818.50
16. a. Outside checks and other cash	3,435.56
b. Fractional currency, nickels and cents	315.72
17. Notes of other national banks	9,075.00
20. Lawful reserve in vault and net amount due from Federal Reserve Bank	33,919.90
Total	\$721,840.07
LIABILITIES.	
23. Capital stock paid in	\$200,000.00
24. Surplus fund	50,000.00
25. a. Undivided profits	\$40,337.91
b. Less current expenses, interest, and taxes paid	17,179.95
Demand deposits:	
33. Individual deposits subject to check	304,821.96
34. Certificates of deposits due in less than 30 days	8,350.67
35. Cashier's checks outstanding	31.66
Total demand deposits, Items 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, and 40	\$313,204.29
Time deposits (payable after 30 days, or subject to 30 days or more notice):	
41. Certificates of deposit	49,214.09
43. Other time deposits	56,263.73
Total of time deposits, Items 41, 42 and 43	105,477.82
48. Bills payable, with Federal Reserve bank	20,000.00
Total	\$721,840.07

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, County of Sumter, ss.
I, B. Manning Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
B. MANNING, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 3rd day of January, 1917.
L. I. Strauss, Notary Public. Correct Attest:
DAVIS D. MOISE,
R. B. BELSER,
D. R. MCCALLUM,
Directors.

Lumber, Lime, Cement,
BUILDING MATERIAL GENERALLY
AND FEED OF ALL KINDS.
BOOTH & McLEOD,
Successors to Booth, Shuler Lumber & Supply Co.
Geo. Epperson's Old Stand Opp. Court House
EVERYTHING AT ONE PLACE.

Dr. A. Allen,
EYE SPECIALIST.

I have leased one-half the Singer Sewing Machine Store,
35 Main Street.

You can now obtain the very best glasses from Dr. Allen, who has fitted up an Optical Parlor for testing Eyes. I stand behind each pair of glasses with a guarantee. Will put new glasses in your old frames. Prices reasonable, and no charge this month for testing eyes.

ALLEN'S EYE LOTION
FOR SORE EYES.
SUMTER, S. C.