

**The Watchman and Southron.**  
Published Wednesday and Saturday.

—BY—  
**GUTHRIE PUBLISHING COMPANY,**  
HUNTER, S. C.  
Terms:  
\$1.50 per annum—in advance.

**Advertisements:**  
One square first insertion... \$1.00  
Every subsequent insertion... .50  
Quotations for three months, or longer will be made at reduced rates. All communications which subvert 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 1860. 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.

**A REJECTED OPPORTUNITY.**

In our opinion the Board of County Commissioners made the greatest possible mistake in refusing to accept the proposition of State Health Officer Hayne to have a complete health survey of Sumter county made under the supervision of the State Board of Health, on condition that Sumter county appropriate \$2,000 to supplement the \$4,000 that the State Board of Health is in position to appropriate for this work.

We believe that the majority of the taxpayers of the county, as much as they object to the steady increase in taxation, would have urged the acceptance of the proposition, had they been made acquainted with the facts. Two thousand dollars could be spent to no better purpose than in improving the health conditions of the county and in educating the people how to safeguard their health by the observance of sanitary laws that all people should know. Two thousand dollars would be small valuation to place on the life of a single resident of the county, and it is no exaggeration to assert that a health survey could reasonably be expected to result in so decided improvement in sanitary conditions that not one, but a number of lives would be saved annually by teaching the people how to guard themselves from preventable diseases.

There is such a thing as being penny wise and pound foolish, and with all the respect to the County Commissioners they appear to have adopted the penny-wise policy in this instance. They are evidently not afraid of higher taxes or of spending money in large sums, for they endorsed the suggestion that the several townships be empowered to vote bonds for building permanent highways; which suggestion, if enacted into law and then put into effect by the taxpayers of the townships, would entail the expenditure of several millions of dollars.

Good roads are certainly desirable and greatly needed, but good health and sanitary conditions throughout the length and breadth of the county are equally as desirable and more necessary to the people than paved highways. A healthy people can manage to get along with poor roads, if they must, but the best of highways cannot compensate an unhealthy people for sufferings that could have been prevented by the observance of simple sanitary measures, which they would have observed, had they but been taught what to do and how to keep their premises in sanitary condition.

Of course the average run of taxpayers knew nothing about the proposition that State Health Officer Hayne would make the county commissioners, and they, therefore, could not express an opinion on the matter for the guidance of the board, but we feel confident that a majority would be in favor of spending \$2,000 this year for this purpose, even though it were necessary to curtail expenses in some other department of the county government. We would like to hear what the people of Sumter county really think of the matter of a county health survey by experts of the United States department of health, for which the county is asked to pay only one-third of the cost. If the people are willing to pay for it, they should not be bashful about expressing themselves. We will publish all communications from those who have opinions on the subject—whether for or against the proposition. The only condition is, that all communications must be signed.

All of the State colleges and practically all other State institutions and departments are asking for increased appropriations this year. If their requests are granted the total appropriations will exceed the appropriations of last year by more than three-quarters of a million dollars. A tax levy of ten mills for State purposes will be required to provide the necessary funds. The representative in the legislature of the people must decide whether taxes are to be increased or the State institutions and administration de-

partments denied the increased support that they need to enable them to render more efficient service.

The world may as well resign itself to another year of war. Neither side is whipped and the rulers who made the war are still able to make the people fight. If the men who started the war and could end it if they honestly wished to do so, had to go into the trenches and stay there, the war would be called off within a fortnight. In these days it is the divine right of kings to lead their subjects from behind the firing lines and to keep out of danger.

Instead of continually patching the State constitution with amendments, why not frame an entirely new document?

The peace note leak charges have developed a large batch of candidates for the Ananias club.

Peanut hay is selling in Texas for more than alfalfa. This is another recommendation of peanuts as a substitute for cotton.

The Torrens land registration law that was enacted last year is declared to be crude and not a practical measure—perhaps it was made impractical intentionally—and an effort should be made to remedy its defects. The system has proved itself to be practical and large of benefit in a number of other States, despite opposition of lawyers who objected to any change in the long established procedure in transferring and recording titles to real estate. The fault is not with the Torrens system, but with the law enacted by the South Carolina legislature.

John L. McLaurin has gotten from under the State warehouse system. He excuses his resignation on the ground of his having lined up on the losing side in partisan politics last summer, but this explanation does not seem to cover the ground. When he sought and occupied this position he was not more popular politically than he is now. He was elected in spite of his politics and he has been supported loyally by men who take no stock in his politics.

**Butler Williford.**

Lexington, Jan. 6.—The wedding of Miss Lily Scurry Butler to Quay Williford on Thursday evening came as a surprise to their many friends throughout the State. The marriage was solemnized at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. Asbury F. Lever. No invitations were issued and the ceremony was witnessed only by the immediate families and a few intimate friends of the bride and bridegroom. The home of Representative and Mrs. Lever was decorated in palms and Killarney roses.

Miss Butler was attended by her college friend, Miss Margaret Reese of Florence and was met at the improvised altar by the bridegroom with his best man, Wade H. Williford of Hartsville. During the ceremony Barcarolle was played by Miss Mary Susan Roof.

The bride wore a traveling gown of champagne georgette crepe with accessories to match and carried a bouquet of lilies of the valley. Miss Margaret Reese was gowned in pink taffeta and gold and wore an evening hat of gold.

The ring ceremony was performed by the Rev. L. A. Thomas, pastor of St. Stephen's Lutheran church. Immediately after the ceremony a salad course was served by Mesdames E. Kellers Mitchell and Edwin G. Dreher.

Mr. and Mrs. Williford left immediately after the ceremony and will make their home in Darlington.

The out-of-town guests were: Maj. J. W. Butler of Spartanburg, Miss Margaret Reese of Florence, J. F. Glenn of Sumter and Wade H. Williford of Hartsville.

**SUMTER COTTON MARKET.**

Corrected Daily by  
**HARBY & CO., Cotton Buyers.**  
Good Middling 18 1-4.  
Strict Middling 18 1-3.  
Middling 18.  
Strict Low Middling 17 3-4.  
Low Middling 17 1-4.

Corrected Daily by  
**ERNEST FIELD, Cotton Buyer.**  
Good Middling 17 7-8.  
Strict Middling 17 3-4.  
Middling 17 5-8.  
Strict Low Middling 17 3-8.  
Low Middling 16 7-8.  
Staple cotton 20 to 23c.

**NEW YORK COTTON MARKET.**

	Open	High	Low	Close	Yes/dys
Mch	.18.45	.61	.39	.61	.35
May	.18.72	.89	.63	.88	.60
July	.18.78	.90	.67	.90	.64
Oct	.17.53	.53	.32	.42	.39
New York spots, 18.55.					

Mrs. Row W. Crouser, who has been ill for the past five weeks, is able to be out again.

**MILITIA NEEDS INCREASE.**

ESTIMATES ARE COMPILED BY  
ADJUTANT GENERAL.

Third Regiment Contemplated by Defense Act to Meet Federal Terms—Improvements at Camp Moore.

Columbia, Jan. 6.—Estimate of expenses for the National Guard of South Carolina was completed yesterday by W. W. Moore, adjutant general. A large increase will be required for this State to meet the terms of the national defense act, passed June 3.

The following items are included:  
Maintenance of two regiments and auxiliary units, \$40,000.

Maintenance of one new regiment, to be formed this year, \$15,000.  
Improvements of State mobilization ground, \$14,000, including \$3,500 for new warehouses, \$3,000 for additional kitchens, \$2,500 for spur track from Southern railway and \$5,000 for improvement of roads.

The adjutant general will also ask an increase in salary from \$1,500 to \$1,800 for the assistant adjutant general. An increase of \$180 a year will be asked for the stenographer. A filing clerk at \$900 per year will be recommended.

"The National Guard of the State of Wisconsin," said Gen. Moore, "which is no larger than South Carolina's will this year receive about \$300,000 from the State. Our guard has been receiving only \$15,000. He pointed out that Gov. Whitman had recommended an appropriation of \$2,000,000 for the support of the New York guard.

**REARDON CORRECTS STATEMENT.**

It seems that the Sumter county legislative delegation had nothing to do with refusing the appropriation of \$2,000 for a complete county health survey as the legislative delegation did not vote on this measure at the joint meeting between the county commissioners and the delegation last Thursday.

Secretary E. I. Reardon, of the Sumter Chamber of Commerce, who made the statement in an interview in yesterday's Daily Item that the legislative delegation and county commissioners refused the appropriation, requests the statement made that he is informed by a member of the delegation that the delegation had no say so in this matter, but that the county commissioners were the parties who decided not to appropriate any money for a county health survey. The vote was not taken as a committee of the whole, as Mr. Reardon thought would be the case in a joint meeting between the legislative delegation and the board of county commissioners.

The secretary of the Chamber of Commerce further says that he thinks the legislative delegation favors the appropriation, in fact he knows that Representatives D. D. Moise and W. L. McCutchen are in favor of it, and that Representative A. K. Sanders and Senator R. D. Epps are not opposed to this appropriation, as far as he knows, but thinks that they might under certain conditions favor the complete county health survey appropriation.

Representative W. L. McCutchen authorizes the secretary to say that he is very much in favor of a county health survey, and would like very much to see this matter taken up again under reconsideration by the county commissioners, and the secretary says he knows that Representative D. D. Moise was heartily in favor of the appropriation of two thousand dollars for the complete county health survey, in fact Mr. Moise himself suggested at the meeting that this health survey would be a very good thing, and especially coupled up with the proposed campaign of education for twelve months or more in order to show the people of the rural districts the value of rural sanitary work before establishing the office of whole time county health officer.

Representative McCutchen says he is heartily in favor of that which is the greatest good to the greatest number and is for anything that will benefit the public health or otherwise benefit the general public.

Mr. Reardon merely desires to correct a wrong impression made about the attitude of the legislative delegation because of his erroneous statement, made because he was not familiar with the parliamentary conduct of a joint meeting between the legislative delegation and county commissioners.

**Dogs Trilled Alleged Robber.**

Mr. Ed Gamble took his bloodhounds to Woodrow, Lee county, last Saturday to investigate the robbery of Mr. J. V. Boykin's store, which occurred the night before. The dogs took the trail and went to the house of Willie Williams, colored, who had on some of the clothing he had stolen from the store. Williams was arrested and lodged in the jail at Blainville.—Manning Times.

**GREECE REJECTS DEMAND.**

DECLINES REPARATION FOR  
ATHENS FIGHTING.

Will Not Declare War on Entente but Will Submit Hopefully to Blockade.

London, Jan. 5.—The Greek government, acting in harmony with the king, has decided to reject certain clauses of the entente note demanding reparation in consequence of the recent fighting at Athens, Reuter's correspondent at Athens telegraphs. The Greek government is ready to discuss the other demands. It has been determined not to declare war on the entente but to submit passively to all coercion, relying upon ultimate recognition by the powers that the blockade is an unmerited punishment.

King Constantine yesterday conferred with former premiers, who agreed that the note was not acceptable, in as much as compliance would be equivalent to admission that Greece contemplated attacking the entente forces from the rear and also that there was foundation for charges of unjust treatment of Venizelos' supporters.

In regard to the imprisoned Venizelists it is stated the king is ready to pardon some or all convicted but under the constitution is unable to interfere with the judicial procedure before trial.

The Athens dispatch says that judging from the attitude of the entente diplomats the situation is not reassuring. The effect of the blockade is becoming more severe daily. Rigid control is being exerted over the distribution of foodstuffs. The bare necessities of life now are being sold at prices which are prohibitive to the poorer classes.

The demands of the entente, presented late last month, require an apology and other measures of reparation for the attack on entente forces in Athens, reestablishment of control by the allies of Greek railways, telegraph lines and posts and a large reduction in the number of Greek troops under arms.

**DECLINE TO PRINT LIQUOR ADS.**

An increase of approximately 60 per cent. in the number of newspapers in the United States which do not accept liquor advertisements is reported by the Methodist Temperance society as the result of an investigation just completed as compared with a similar investigation made in 1915; that is, a total of 840 American daily newspapers, published in the English language, are at present declining to accept liquor advertising. The 1915 inquiry resulted in a list of 520 "abstaining" newspapers. The temperance board sent its query to the 2,123 daily newspapers listed in the American Newspaper Directory. The exact question asked was, "Do you decline to accept advertising of alcoholic liquors?"

Many of the newspapers replied that they were contemplating a change in advertising policy which will exclude liquor advertisements, while others asserted that they have no rule against liquor advertising, but because they advocate prohibition they are never offered liquor advertisements. A number claimed to be only waiting until present contracts expire, and some of them declared that they would not even accept anti-prohibition advertisements. Some papers accept no advertisements from retailers but accept them from wholesalers, while others do not take them from wholesalers but accept them from retailers.—The State.

**Aman-Wyman.**

Aiken, Jan. 6.—The friends of Miss Harriet Aman of Oswego and Dr. Ben Wyman of Aiken were pleasantly surprised by the announcement of their marriage in Augusta, Ga., on January 5, by the Rev. J. R. Sevier pastor of the First Presbyterian church.

**WOOD'S**

**Seed Catalog**  
for 1917, tells about the best

**Farm and Garden Seeds**

and gives special information as to the best crops to grow, both for profit and home use.

The large increase in our business which we have again experienced during the past year is the best of evidence as to the high quality of

**WOOD'S SEEDS.**

Write for catalog and prices of **Grass and Clover Seeds, Seed Potatoes, Seed Oats or any Farm Seeds required.** Catalog mailed free on request.

**T. W. WOOD & SONS, SEEDSMEN, - Richmond, Va.**

**THIS BANK**

Gives a dollar's worth of real service for every dollar deposited here.

**THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF SUMTER.**

The Oldest Banking Institution in the County

WE WANT  
**YOU**

TO JOIN OUR 1917

**Christmas Savings Club.**

Easiest and Best way to Save.  
Open until January 15th in order that all may join. You may save as much or as little as you wish.

The Important Thing, Though, is to Save---  
WHETHER BIG OR LITTLE.

**The National Bank of Sumter,**

"Where Your Savings Grow."

**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.