

WITH THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION OF TEXT BOOKS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMES UP.

Efforts to Prevent Any Change Are Met With Repulse—Senate Disposes of Many Bills—Dog Licensing Receives Much Attention.

Columbia, Feb. 15.—Uniform text books in the public schools of South Carolina as provided in a bill offered by Mr. Stafford of Greenville took up considerable of the house's time today and was finally passed to a third reading with a comfortable majority.

The text book bill carries a section which reads: "Any school employing six or more teachers doing work in at least ten regularly organized grades during the annual term of no less than eight months shall be entitled to use a dual, or supplementary, series of text books to be adopted and prescribed by the State board of education at the same time as a basal series of textbooks is prescribed and adopted." An effort was made by committee amendment to strike out this section which the house refused to do.

Representatives Atkinson and Horton spoke in behalf of the Spartanburg schools and Representative Boyd introduced an amendment, which was killed, to exempt Spartanburg from the "text book" law. They thought the law would work a great hardship on the people of Spartanburg causing extra expense and a tearing down of the school system. The refusal of the house, however, to strike out the section relating to schools of six or more teachers, relieves the situation, it is believed.

The house passed a resolution to go to the train at 8 o'clock this afternoon and greet the three South Carolina National Guard units passing through on their way from duty on the border. The resolution was offered by Representative Deboah and Fromberg.

The senate this morning checked perceptibly the extreme pressure under which it has been driving this week and once more shambled along in the customary pace. Numerous local and uncontested measures were cleared from the calendar. Another of the seven sister insurance bills from the house was passed, this the one relating to the insurance commission. The bill was amended by Senator Nicholson. Under the present provisions, the insurance commission is to examine the applicant, but the applicant is honest and has an intelligent understanding of insurance matters.

Another bill which created considerable discussion was the agricultural committee bill, to conserve the birds of the State by licensing all dogs and preventing them from running at large from April 1 to October 1, during the bird nesting season. The license tag fee was \$1 annually, and these were to be distributed by the game warden or the county clerks of court. Amendment was offered to exclude puppies until they had reached the immauculate age of four months. The section to prevent the dogs from running at large was eliminated by amendment, which amendment emasculated the bill of its chief purpose. It was then tabled by the narrow margin of 18 to 17. Considerable mercurial was engaged in during the debate of "kikin my houn' dog aruin," which supplanted in a measure the traditional debate on the short nosed sturgeon, which terminates the annual session of the general assembly.

The bill by Senator Banks, to empower the administrators of Thelma and Minnie Sandel to sue the State. The children's death, it was alleged, had been induced by the injection of anti-typhoid serum, sent out by the State board of health. Debate was continued until the night session.

APPROPRIATION BILL IN SENATE

Columbia, Feb. 15.—The appropriation bill came from the finance committee of the senate tonight. It has meant very hard and very efficient work on the part of the committee of which Senator Christensen is chairman. The finance committee has worked unceasingly on the bill and has presented a plan that it regards safe and conservative.

The finance committee has carefully revised the bill, making several important changes in its as passed by the house. The bill came from the house providing aggregate appropriations of \$2,661,870 and the senate aggregates \$2,595,494. The most essential change is in providing \$100,000 for permanent improvements at the State Hospital for the Insane, and \$50,000 for law enforcement.

These and other changes involve an increase in the total State levy of one-half mill, or 8 1-2 mills in all. The uses being as follows: Ordinary expenses of the State government, 3 mills; maintenance and rebuilding State Hospital for the Insane, 1 3-4 mills; common schools, 1 1-3 mills; State educational institutions, 1 1-2 mills; pensions 1 mill. Total 8 1-2 mills.

The law enforcement section added by the finance committee, the house having no provision whatever, reads: "Should the exigencies of any municipality or county in this State justify or require extraordinary measures to enforce the prohibition laws now in force, and recently enacted, that the governor of the State may expend, in his discretion, \$50,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary to enforce said laws.

Repairs for DeSaussure College, at the University of South Carolina, are provided for to the extent of \$14,000.

The appropriation for the assistance of the militia was increased from fifteen thousand to thirty thousand dollars.

The University of South Carolina is allowed a new law school building to cost \$40,000, payable in two annual installments.

INSISTS ON RICHARDSON.

Columbia, Feb. 15.—The State law provides that the State game warden shall be appointed by the governor upon the recommendation of the Audubon Society of South Carolina. At a meeting of the members of the society, held in December, Dr. E. C. L. Adams was elected president and the present game warden, A. A. Richardson, was endorsed for reappointment. Dr. Adams notified Gov. Manning in writing and Wednesday received the following letter:

"I am in receipt of yours transmitting the indorsement of the society, recommending A. A. Richardson for reappointment as chief game warden. I hereby return you his name, as the recommendation is not suitable to me.

"As the time is short, I ask that you send me several names which you can recommend."

Dr. Adams declined to withdraw the name of Col. Richardson and made the following reply to Gov. Manning:

"Your letter delivered to me by your personal messenger was received late yesterday afternoon. Inasmuch as you call on me for a prompt answer I am sending you a reply by special messenger, and beg to call your attention to these facts. My letter sending up the indorsement of the Audubon society was addressed to you under date of December 23, 1916.

"This gave you full opportunity to present the name of Col. A. A. Richardson to the senate for confirmation, or, if his name was not acceptable to you, to send the same back to the Audubon Society. You failed to do this. Now you ask that I send up several names immediately from which you may choose one that is suitable to you. I beg to call your attention to the by-laws of the society, which provide that before a meeting can be called ten days' notice is necessary. "It will, as you see, be impossible for me to present you with another name or names which you can send to the senate for confirmation at the present session of the general assembly, and I am, therefore, returning to you the name of Col. A. A. Richardson."

Columbia, Feb. 17.—The railroad commission has adopted a resolution to prevent "the mingling of the races, when boarding or leaving passenger trains at stations."

The resolution follows: "Be it resolved that all railroads operating in South Carolina be required, when stopping passenger trains at stations, in order to prevent the congestion of white and colored passengers not to load or unload white and colored passengers at the adjoining ends of their respective coaches."

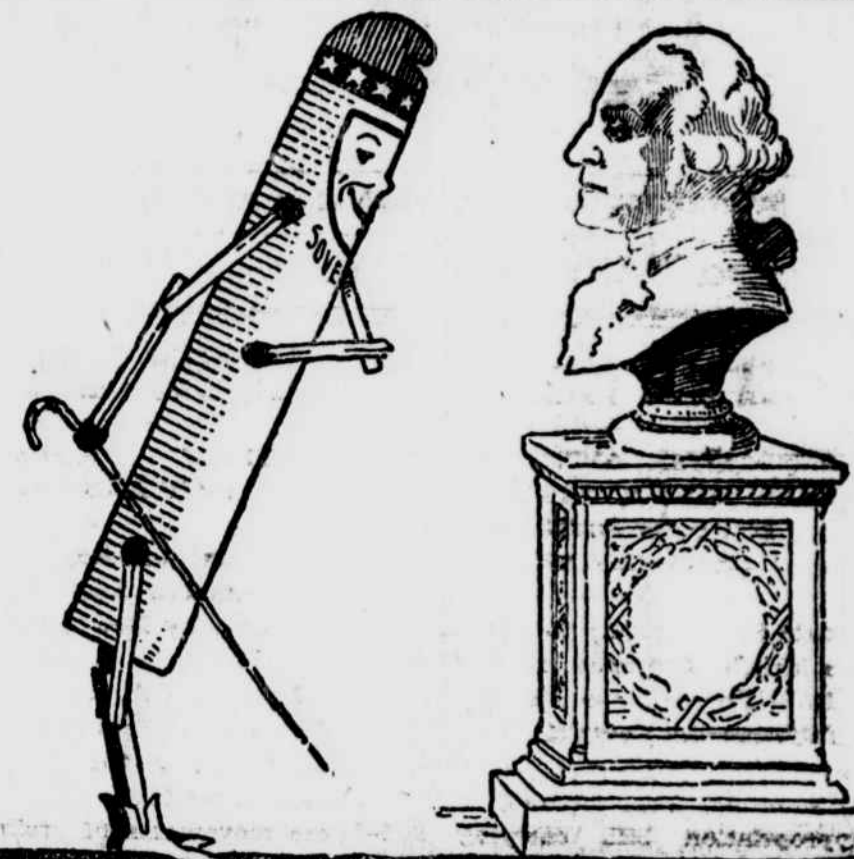
SUICIDE, ACCIDENT OR MURDER?

Rosa Wactor, Respected Colored School Teacher, Found Dead in Field Near Her Home.

Rosa Wactor, a highly respected colored school teacher living in the Tidwell settlement near Gaillard's Cross Roads, was found dead in a cotton field about a hundred yards from her home on Saturday afternoon, death having been caused by a discharge from a shot gun which tore nearly all of the woman's head from her body. While it is supposed that she killed herself, there is no cause known by relatives or friends, to strengthen this belief. At the same time there is no reason to suspect that she was murdered and indications are that the shooting was not accidental.

The woman was about twenty-three years of age and was well thought of by both the white people of the community and the colored people among whom she lived. She had been teaching school in the community for three years and Friday she had been seen by a number of people going home from school. Saturday afternoon sometime after about 4:30 o'clock several negro women stopped by her house, but failed to find her at home. They took a path from the house to the railroad track, a short distance away, and while passing through a cotton patch about a hundred yards from the house they saw the body lying on the ground. Upon

A Southerner Says It— It's True



He Speaks It—

Writes It—

and Thinks It—

It seems somehow that the love of truth is inborn—in every Southerner and it sticks right close to him for all his days—just like a life-long friend.

That's why, friends, when I hear people praising me all over the South—saying "SOVEREIGN is King of Them All",—well, it is true—that's all.

For example, I heard one gentleman say the other day:—"Here is the finest ciga-

rette I ever smoked. I never buy any other. The finest product of Virginia and Carolina tobacco, in all its mildness, and sweetness and mellowness."

Yes—It's great to be a SOVEREIGN. It's fine to have real breeding back of you, to be brought up in a fine, white, healthy home,—and to hear so many nice things from so many friends down South here among you all. And the reason is just this—it's because—

You Folks of the South KNOW good blood! You Folks of the South KNOW good tobacco!

No doubt of it all. Good breeding does count. Quality does tell. So, let's you and me be the real friends that we ought to be. And, here is something more for you to think about—

I am guaranteed by *The American Tobacco Co.* —Buy me. If you don't like me return me to your dealer and get your money back. I have said it. A Southern gentleman is known the world over for keeping his word, and I have given you mine.

Sovereign Cigarettes
FOR THE GENTLEMAN OF THE SOUTH
"King of Them All"

closer inspection they saw a gun lying beside the body and that the top of the woman's head had been shot away. They became frightened and ran away to give the alarm.

Coroner Seale was among those notified soon afterwards and he left for the scene late Saturday evening. In the meantime some of the white men of the neighborhood had been notified and had examined the body and grounds. They failed to find any track going away from the place where the woman's body was lying, which indicated that death was by suicide and not murder. It was also noticed that a stick about the length and size of a yard stick was lying by the gun and that the print of the butt of the gun was on the ground a little in front of and nearly between the woman's footprints. This led the men to think that the woman had killed herself by putting the muzzle of the weapon to her forehead and pushing the trigger with the stick. There was a round spot on the forehead burnt by the powder from the explosion. The bones of the head were not crushed, but were dislocated and blown off from the rest of the body, a wad of the gun being found lying on a part of the brains.

Coroner Seale upon his arrival empanelled a jury, but no witnesses were heard except the physician, who upon request of the jury, performed an autopsy on the body to see, if by this means he could secure any evidence which would be thought a sufficient

cause for the woman committing suicide. However, the autopsy revealed nothing that could have been taken as cause for suicide.

As it was late at night and no one seemed to know anything about the case, the jury was allowed to bring in a verdict on the doctor's statement. Their verdict was that Rosa Wactor came to her death from a gunshot wound in the head received from the hands of some party or parties unknown to the jury.

It is said that the woman had money in the bank, owned her own home, which was left her by her grandparents, who had raised her, and that she had always been well thought of in the community. Relatives and officers will continue their investigations in trying to find out the cause of suicide, or if it was a case of murder.

GOV. HANLEY TO SPEAK HERE.

Former Executive of Indiana to Make Prohibition Address in Opera House February 27th at 8:30.

A civic mass meeting will be held in Sumter on Tuesday, February 27, at 8:30 p. m. in the Opera House in the interest of State and nation-wide prohibition and will be addressed by Hon. J. Frank Hanley, former governor of Indiana. The meeting is to be held under the auspices of the Flying Squadron Foundation, which has its headquarters in Indianapolis and

which was organized under the laws of the State of Indiana to perpetuate the work of the great Flying Squadron of America campaign which,



J. FRANK HANLEY.

under the direction of Gov. Hanley, was fought from the Atlantic to the

Pacific and from Canada to the Gulf. Born in a log cabin in Champaign county, Illinois, not many miles from the old home of Abraham Lincoln, he received most of his early education at his mother's knee under her tutelage, attending school but a few weeks for several years, and then at the age of thirteen, started out to find his way in the world, which led to the governorship of Indiana at the age of forty-one, together with other high honors. Upon all of these, he turned his back when the plan to aid mankind in the fight for the suppression of liquor traffic presented itself to his mind.

Gov. Hanley is conceded to be the peer of temperance orators in the country. He is eloquent, forceful and convincing and, one of the most able speakers on the Chautauqua platform. His lecture in Sumter will be free of charge and the public is cordially invited.

A license to marry has been granted to Willie Sanders and Aurelia Sanders, Dalzell.

Washington, Feb. 16.—A British ship inspection station similar to that at Kirkwall may be established in the South Atlantic Bahamas, it is suggested.

A farmer in Saluda county sold his wheat straw for enough to pay the cost of raising the crop. It paid him to grow wheat.