

**The Watchman and Southron.**  
 Published Wednesday and Saturday  
 BY  
**COHEN 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 sub-  
 serve private interests will be charged  
 for as advertisements.  
 Obituaries and tributes of respect  
 will be charged for.  
 The Sumter Watchman was found-  
 ed 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.



Herbert C. Hoover, former chair-  
 man of the Belgian relief committee  
 and now chairman of the American  
 Food Commission, has sent out an ap-  
 peal to the Boy Scouts of the United  
 States to plant beans. He wants each  
 one of the million Boy Scouts to plant  
 and cultivate a patch of beans, so  
 that the bean crop of America shall  
 be the greatest ever produced in this  
 country. Are the boys of the Sumter  
 Troop of Scouts going to enlist in Mr.  
 Hoover's brigade of bean growers?  
 The hope is expressed that Sumter  
 county will this year grow enough  
 food to feed the population of the  
 county for twelve months, but there is  
 no real foundation for the hope. Some  
 farms may be self-sustaining, but the  
 majority are not and the non-farm-  
 ing population will continue to be de-  
 pendent for food upon other sections  
 of the county. Sumter county has for  
 many years imported the bulk of meat  
 products consumed, practically all of  
 the flour, all of the rice, a large part  
 of the meal and grits, all of the can-  
 ned goods, the greater part of the  
 molasses, much of the butter, eggs  
 and poultry. Of rice alone 30,000  
 sacks were sold by Sumter merchants  
 last year, and other foodstuffs in pro-  
 portion. As the direct result of the  
 food preparedness campaign that is  
 now being conducted, the production  
 of food will be largely increased in  
 Sumter county, but there is no use to  
 be too optimistic, it is folly to deceive  
 ourselves into the belief that sufficient  
 food will be produced in Sumter county  
 this summer to feed the entire  
 population of the county for twelve  
 months. It may be possible to grow  
 on the acreage planted, or yet to be  
 planted in corn, sufficient corn to equal  
 the normal annual consumption of the  
 county, but there will not be enough  
 corn, wheat and rice raised in the  
 county to meet the needs of the coun-  
 ty. Sumter county will see some  
 hungry days within the next eighteen  
 months should the supply from the  
 West be entirely cut off—unless the  
 acreage of food crops is still further  
 increased.

**WEATHER AIDS FARMERS.**  
 Corn Acreage in South Carolina Will  
 be Largely Increased, Bureau Re-  
 ports.  
 Columbia, April 26.—Synopsis of  
 weather and crop conditions in South  
 Carolina for the week ending April  
 24:  
 The weather during the week has  
 been unusually favorable for plowing  
 and planting, which have progressed  
 rapidly; but unbroken land is getting  
 hard. Cotton and corn are coming  
 to good stands northward in the mid-  
 dle counties, and cultivation has be-  
 gun in the lower parts of the State.  
 There is still a very large acreage of  
 cotton to be planted, and the corn  
 acreage will be largely increased  
 though planting is delayed to some  
 extent, particularly in the northwest-  
 ern counties. Much abandoned out  
 land will be put to corn this season.  
 Gardens and field vegetables are im-  
 proving, but are still backward in  
 many parts; small gardens will be  
 much more numerous than in former  
 years. Wheat and oats are improving  
 in the central counties where the  
 bulk of the crop is growing. Some  
 oats will be harvested on the upper  
 coastal plain in about three weeks.  
 Tobacco setting continues, and plants  
 are plentiful. Much of the land of  
 winter killed truck has been put  
 to white potatoes, and sweet potatoes  
 are being planted in the lower counties.  
 Pastures are short, and warm rains  
 are needed to stimulate growth, to  
 germinate seed now in and to soften  
 land yet to be plowed. Strawberries  
 are excellent in the eastern counties.  
 Richard H. Sullivan,  
 Columbia, Meteorologist.

**JUDGE ABSOLVES SOTTILE.**

**HEARS EVIDENCE ON H. F. HO-  
 GAN'S CHARGES OF ATTEMPT  
 AT BRIBERY.**

Judge Bowman Says Mr. Stoney Pre-  
 sented the Matter in Excellent  
 Manner.

Charleston, April 26.—The rule to  
 show cause against James Sottile,  
 president of the Charleston-Isle of  
 Palms Traction Company, as to why  
 he should not be adjudged in con-  
 tempt of court, and punished, as a re-  
 sult of charges made by H. Frank  
 Hogan, a juror, that Mr. Sottile offer-  
 ed him a bribe to hang the jury  
 charged with a suit against the  
 traction company, if the accuser were  
 to be drawn on that jury, was dis-  
 missed by Judge I. W. Bowman yester-  
 day. Judge Bowman stopped the  
 case before the defense had complet-  
 ed putting on the stand all its witness-  
 es and said that he was not going to  
 hear any more of the testimony. He  
 then announced that the rule to show  
 cause was dismissed, which meant  
 that the defendant was absolved of  
 the charge.

The case had been set for 11  
 o'clock and when the hour arrived  
 every seat in the court room was oc-  
 cupied, practically all the members of  
 the local bar being present and many  
 of the leading business men of the  
 city. Both Mr. Sottile and Mr. Hogan  
 were vehement in their testimony at  
 times and frequently the court had to  
 rap for order. Questions and an-  
 swers at times caused laughter, so  
 much so that Judge Bowman in-  
 structed the sheriff to bring the next  
 offender up before him.

There was much interest in the  
 case and few words of the testimony  
 were missed by the large number of  
 spectators.  
 Mr. Hogan adhered to the state-  
 ments made in his affidavit concerning  
 the charge of bribery on the part of  
 Mr. Sottile. Thursday in open court  
 he accused the defendant of attempt-  
 ing to bribe him to hang the jury if  
 he were drawn on the case of Aaron  
 Fechter, an administrator of the  
 estate of Hyman Zerlin, deceased,  
 against the Charleston-Isle of Palms  
 Traction Company for \$30,000 dam-  
 ages.

Mr. Sottile denied that he had ever  
 mentioned to Mr. Hogan anything  
 about the case nor had he offered him  
 one cent of money, but on the other  
 hand charged Mr. Hogan with asking  
 him for a bribe, declaring that Mr.  
 Hogan said that he could get more  
 than \$100 from Mr. Louis M. Shmel,  
 counsel for the plaintiff in the case  
 but that as he was friendly with Mr.  
 Sottile he would rather work for him.  
 There were several character wit-  
 nesses for the defendant and it was  
 while presenting these that Judge  
 Bowman stopped the case and render-  
 ed his verdict. M. Rutledge Rivers,  
 Esq., was counsel for the traction  
 company in the case. He also repre-  
 sented Mr. Sottile yesterday and was  
 his principal witness.

Witnesses for the State were: H.  
 Frank Hogan, Mrs. H. Frank Hogan,  
 H. Frank Hogan, Jr., William H.  
 Dunkin, clerk of court; O. G. W. Mar-  
 jenhoff, Louis M. Shmel, John Sack,  
 Edward Escoffier, J. G. Voss and Pol-  
 ice man Fred Stender.

Witnesses for the defense were:  
 James Sottile, M. Rutledge Rivers, A.  
 Clifford Thompson, J. L. David, Wil-  
 liam M. Bird and Henry Schachte.

After dismissing the rule to show  
 cause Judge Bowman said that he  
 wished publicly to commend Solicitor  
 Thomas P. Stoney for his work in the  
 case, adding that he had done splen-  
 didly in preparing and presenting the  
 matter.

**SUSPICIOUS CHARACTERS HELD.**

**Two White Men and Negro Arrested  
 at Timmonsville With Notes of  
 Sumter Merchant Houses.**

Timmonsville, April 23.—A sensa-  
 tional arrest was made here at about  
 2 o'clock this afternoon, when three  
 suspicious characters were arrested  
 by the town authorities.

An examination of papers in the  
 baggage of the two white men reveal-  
 ed note books containing names and  
 locations of business stores and build-  
 ings in Pennsylvania, Florida, North  
 and South Carolina. The cities of  
 Columbia, Chester, Rock Hill, Sumter,  
 etc., were among those fully drawn off  
 with names of owners of all stores.

It is uncertain whether they are  
 spies or labor agitators. They were  
 arrested on the latter charge and  
 were taken to Florence, where they  
 are now in jail awaiting trial.

**WILSON ON THE CENSORSHIP.**

**Will Not Require any System Which  
 Will Prevent Criticism of Officials.**

Washington, April 26.—The presi-  
 dent in a letter to Arthur Brisbane of  
 New York, declared he opposed any  
 system of censorship that will deny  
 the people of the United States the  
 "indisputable right to criticize their  
 own public officials."

**McCULLY MOVES TO COLUMBIA**

**HEADQUARTERS WILL BE STATE  
 FAIR GROUNDS.**

Detachments for Guard Duty at Im-  
 portant Points Will be Posted Im-  
 mediately.

Columbia, April 25.—Headquarters  
 of the First South Carolina Infantry  
 will be moved from Styx to Columbia  
 immediately. This was definitely de-  
 cided yesterday afternoon after a con-  
 ference between Mayor L. A. Griffith  
 and personal representatives of Col. F.  
 K. McCully, Jr. The headquarters will  
 be on the State fair grounds.

Several days ago Mayor Griffith be-  
 gan efforts to have the First regi-  
 ment headquarters moved to Colum-  
 bia and he left no stone unturned to  
 bring it about. The Department of  
 the East wired Col. McCully to use his  
 judgment in the matter and Col. Mc-  
 Cully was much pleased with the  
 fair grounds as a location.

D. E. Efrid, secretary of the fair  
 society, told Mayor Griffith that the  
 fair society would be glad to cooper-  
 ate in any way possible and in the en-  
 tire transaction the secretary has  
 joined with the mayor heartily in  
 every effort.

The fair grounds offer commodious  
 quarters for the headquarters. In  
 addition to Col. McCully and staff,  
 the headquarters company, the medi-  
 cal detachment and probably two  
 line companies will be on duty at the  
 fair grounds.

Mayor Griffith has been very dili-  
 gent in getting the headquarters mov-  
 ed to Columbia.

Posting a guard detachment about  
 the State at points where the disaf-  
 fected might damage federal prop-  
 erty or interfere with facilities of  
 communication will probably begin  
 tomorrow. Newspapers under their  
 voluntary agreement with the federal  
 government are pledged not to make  
 public the places to which troops are  
 assigned for such duty or the per-  
 sonnel or strength of detachments.

Travelers on the railways can make  
 the necessarily onerous work of the  
 young guardsmen posted at lonely  
 bridges less trying if they will  
 thoughtfully throw off at guarded  
 points newspapers, magazines and  
 cigars or cigarettes.

Persons who have been accustomed  
 to walk the railway track will find it  
 prudent in war times to use the public  
 highways instead and it will be high-  
 ly inadvisable, especially after sun-  
 set, for civilians to hang about un-  
 controlled bridges. Already in States  
 where such structures have been pal-  
 lered military guard, civilians have  
 been shot by sentries.

**STATISTICS ON COTTON SEED.**

Washington, April 24.—Cotton seed  
 and cotton seed products statistics  
 for the eight month period, August  
 1 to March 31, announced today by  
 the census bureau show:

Cotton seed received 4,330,992 tons;  
 crushed 3,863,155; on hand March 31,  
 482,066.

Crude oil produced 1,186,609,174  
 pounds; on hand March 31, 144,122,  
 399.

Refined oil produced 955,348,973  
 pounds; on hand 320,930,168.

Linters produced 1,109,106,500  
 pound bales; on hand 136,907.

Imports 6,112,022 pounds; exports  
 96,480,617.

Linters exported: Unbleached 144,  
 001 running bales; bleached 96,011  
 bales.

**Hill-Venning.**

Hartsville Messenger.  
 On Wednesday afternoon, April 18,  
 at 5 o'clock, a beautiful wedding was  
 solemnized in the Hartsville Metho-  
 dist church, when Miss Martha Earle  
 Hill of Hartsville was united in mat-  
 rimony to Mr. Emmett Hahn Venning  
 of Charleston.

The church was tastefully decorat-  
 ed, the color scheme being green,  
 white and pink, while the beautiful  
 afternoon added much to the solemn-  
 ity and beauty of the ceremony.

The bride's sister, Mrs. Milton  
 Brown of Stuart, Ga., was damo-  
 sel of honor, and Miss Rosa McFall,  
 of Hartsville was maid of honor. Both  
 were attractively gowned in pink and  
 white, and carried pink killarney  
 roses. The ring was borne in a box  
 by little Miss Martha Hill of Bishop-  
 ville. The bride attired in a dark  
 blue traveling costume, and bearing  
 the bridal bouquet of bride's roses,  
 entered on the arm of her uncle, Mr.  
 Jake Hill, of Bishopville, by whom  
 she was given away. The best man  
 was Mr. Bentley Gibson of Hartsville,  
 and the ushers, Mr. Carey Murphy of  
 Charleston; Mr. Edwin Cannon, Mr.  
 Jack Hoover, and Mr. John T. Lucas.

The ceremony was performed by  
 Rev. T. G. Herbert of Florence, an  
 uncle of the bride. The wedding  
 march was played by Miss Estelle  
 Chambers, accompanied by Miss Cor-  
 byll. After the ceremony, the bride  
 and groom left on the evening train  
 for Charleston, Atlanta and other  
 points.

**UPHEAVAL BEHIND LINES.**

**SIGNS INDICATE THAT MOMEN-  
 TOUS EVENTS ARE ABOUT TO  
 OCCUR.**

Strike Agitation May Burst Forth in  
 Germany Any Day With Renewed  
 Violence — Great Demonstrations  
 Planned in Germany, Sweden and  
 Spain for May Day—No News from  
 Austria is Ominous—Turkey in the  
 Grip of Iron Handed Autocrats.

London, April 26.—Indications are  
 not lacking that momentous events  
 are about to occur behind the fighting  
 lines. The summary adjournment of  
 the Reichstag after barely opening  
 has been given added significance by  
 hints in German newspapers that the  
 strike agitation may burst forth with  
 renewed violence on May Day, the  
 great international Socialist holiday.

Nation-wide labor demonstrations  
 in Sweden are also planned and they  
 may have the counterpart in Spain.

No news of importance has come  
 from Austria in several days, and this  
 has given fresh vigor to the reports  
 that the dual monarchy is seeking a  
 separate peace.

Travelers from Turkey say that the  
 iron hand of Enver Bey and his Ger-  
 man colleagues is the only thing that  
 is keeping the Turkish people in  
 subjection.

**FIRST LOAN TO ENGLAND.**

Washington, April 25.—Secretary  
 McAdoo today handed to the British  
 ambassador a treasury warrant for  
 two hundred million dollars. This is  
 the first loan made to any entente  
 government by the United States, un-  
 der the seven billion dollar war  
 finance measure.

**DR. A. B. MORRILL,**  
**PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.**  
 Special attention given to Rheuma-  
 tism, Nerve, Stomach and Chronic Dis-  
 eases.  
 Residence: 112 N. Salem Avenue.  
 Office: Opposite Postoffice.  
 Hours: 10 to 1; 2:30 to 5:30.

**Geo. H. Hurst,**  
**Undertaker and Embalmer.**  
 Prompt Attention to Day and  
 Night Calls.  
 At D. J. CRAIG'S Old Stand, N. Main.  
 Phones: Day 539  
 Night 101

Everything in the Building Line  
 All Kinds of Feed  
**BOOTH & McLEOD, Inc.**  
 EVERYTHING AT ONE PLACE  
 Phones 10 — 631

**Have You Planted  
 That Garden Yet?**

Owing to the high price of all  
 foodstuffs everyone that can  
 should have a garden.  
 Looking after it will benefit  
 you physically and as all food  
 is going up rapidly, the finan-  
 cial end will be an important  
 consideration.  
 Not only that but you will be  
 doing your "bit" for your coun-  
 try. Everyone who raises  
 foodstuffs is fighting for his  
 country—a nation's strength  
 is reckoned by its ability to  
 live on its own resources.

**The National Bank  
 of Sumter.**

**BLUE SERGES**

Notwithstanding the fact that the  
 price of the raw materials have been  
 soaring for the past two years, and  
 that the cost of manufacturing is  
 constantly increasing, we are offering  
 an exceptionally nice line of Serges  
 at reasonable prices.

**\$15. to \$28.50**

No man's summer wardrobe is  
 complete without a blue serge suit  
 and straw hat.  
 Serges at the above prices in stand-  
 ard makes, as we have them, are a  
 good purchase.  
 Don't miss such an opportunity—Buy now

**The D. J. Chandler Clo. Co.**  
 Home of Hart Schaffner & Marx Clothes.