

The Watchman and Southern.

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The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the True Southern in 1865. The Watchman and Southern now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

The Charleston American has finally been denied second class mail privileges on account of its pro-German sympathies and un-American attitude. The only surprising thing is that The American was not called to account long ago.

The Garner's Ferry road to Columbia, which the State Highway Commission has not recommended, seems to be the obstacle that threatens to prevent the cooperation of Sumter county in the bridging of the Santee and opening a State highway to Charleston and the western part of the State. Without the financial assistance of the State Highway Commission the Garner's Ferry crossing is an impossibility and it would be folly for Sumter county to undertake to build and maintain a road through the swamp to the ferry. A bridge at Garner's Ferry would be desirable, but it is not necessary, and the bridge at Pinckney's landing would be worth a great deal more to this section of the State than the Garner's Ferry crossing.

The annual report of Misses Mary Lemmon and Annie Keels, Home Demonstration Agents for Sumter County shows what they have done in the line of educational and economical work during the past year. Every woman, every taxpayer and citizen of Sumter county should read this report and then, after carefully considering it, decide whether or not the work of these two zealous workers for the betterment of educational and industrial conditions in the rural districts of Sumter county is worth \$1,500 a year. The work will cost \$2,500 next year, but the Federal government will pay \$1,040 of that amount.

PROPOSED FOR JUDGESHIP.

Col. Edward McIver's Friends Urge Him to Run.

Cheraw, Dec. 24.—In view of Judge Thomas H. Spain's continued illness and in view of the further fact that other attorneys of the Fourth Judicial Circuit are announcing their candidacies for the judgeship, the friends of Col. Edward McIver, of Cheraw, are urging him to allow his name to be used as a candidate to succeed Judge Spain before the next session of the general assembly.

Col. McIver has been a member of the bar for a number of years, and during the past several years has served as special judge in different sections of the State under appointment of the chief justice. His services as special judge have been most satisfactory and the people in the counties where he has served and the public generally throughout the State will be interested to learn that Col. McIver has taken the matter under serious consideration. He expects to reach a decision as to whether or not he will allow his name to be presented to the general assembly within the next few days.

SEIZE LIQUOR STILL.

Outfit Taken and Man Arrested in Chesterfield County.

Pageland, Dec. 26.—Monday evening J. Q. Grant, deputy sheriff, and T. W. Gregory, constable, seized a 30 gallon still and about a gallon and a half of whiskey on Lynches River (in the upper part of Chesterfield county, and arrested W. M. Rushing. The still is said to have been in operation the day before and it is thought that the output was sold largely to citizens of North Carolina. Rushing furnished \$500 cash bond.

COAL FOR SOUTH CAROLINA.

Washington, Dec. 24.—Formal orders to coal operators in several nearby States were issued by the fuel administration today to provide immediate shipments to meet the acute conditions in several towns in South Carolina. The operators were recently requested to care for the South Carolina situation, but shipments have not been of sufficient volume to relieve the shortage in certain sections of the State.

Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Pope, of Columbia spent Xmas day with Miss Nell McKagon.

HUNS WANT PEACE.

AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SAYS THEY ARE RESOLVED TO END WAR.

Desire Peace on Terms Equally Just to All Belligerents, Without Annexation or Indemnities—Want Guarantees From Allies of Russia.

Petrograd, Wednesday, Dec. 26.—The central powers solemnly declare it to be their resolve to immediately sign terms which will terminate the war on conditions equally just to all belligerents, Count Czernin, the Austro-German foreign minister, told the peace conference at Brest-Litovsk yesterday. The central powers also favor a general peace without forcible annexations or indemnities. They could not bind themselves to such terms without a guarantee that Russia's allies would recognize them and carry them out honestly toward the central powers. Count Czernin declared that the central powers believed the basic principles uttered by the Russian delegates could be used as the basis for such peace.

Hagood News and Views.

Don't you like to get out and visit around. It is profitable as well as pleasant to see what the other fellow is doing and how he does it. Don't be such a slave to your business as to be in bondage every day, and above all never allow your business to run you but you run it. What a whole lot of folks need is to get away from the affairs and cares of life for a time leave these behind and take a rest.

That is not exactly what the writer did last Wednesday, December 26 when he ran down to Latta. At Florence I saw a thing it seems I could be looking at yet. You know it is not unpleasant to look at a pretty woman and when that pretty woman is busy, actually busy doing lovely things, it is so much easier. Well that is what I saw at Florence, only it was not one but a score or more, knitting, knitting, quietly, steadily, almost without pause or break. Knitting sweaters for our soldier boys. A great big lump got in my throat and I felt proud I was an American because that made me akin to them.

Down at Latta I met a farmer, a little, old dried up fellow that made fifty bushels of wheat per acre. Had heard of it before I went there over in Columbia. When I met him I inquired about it and this is the way it was done. Four hundred pounds of meal and acid, half and half was broadcast on good strong upland, then ploughed in. Then one bushel and one peck of wheat, the best seed obtainable from the mountains of Virginia was disked and harrowed in all done early in October of last year. In March an application of three hundred pounds of soda. All this on one acre, and he had several acres. They did not always do things that way. Far back so 'tis said there was a mill in that country that ground very slow. A customer complained that he could eat the meal as fast as it came. "Yes but how long could you do that?" asked the miller. "Until I starved."

Say, you know that fellow down there about Sumter who is fretting about who will attend his funeral? His brother lives in Dillon county. The busiest man in all the country is there too; at least I left him there. What is he so busy about? Trying to do things different from the rest. Small grain has suffered much from the recent severe cold.

The flour mill at Dinkins is busy all the time these days. Right now there are four hundred bushels on hand to be ground and more constantly coming in.

Mrs. Sam Shirer is slowly recovering.

Mrs. H. C. Bethea is suffering with severe cold.

Miss Courtney Atkinson is at home for the holidays.

There is quite a lot of sickness in our community, resultant from the recent hard weather.

"Hagood."

Rembert, Dec. 24.

HUN AIRFLEET DEFEATED.

Eleven Enemy Machines Brought to the Ground.

Rome, Dec. 27.—Eleven Austro-German airplanes were brought down by the British and Italian flyers in an aerial battle which was developed when the Teutons made an unsuccessful attempt to bomb Treviso, sixteen miles north of Venice, according to the war office.

A Suggestion.

If you contemplate giving your kid a toy bank for a Christmas present don't do it. But instead start him off with thrift stamps. Then he can see his money grow and there will be no temptation to be robbing the bank for a few pennies to spend now and then.—Wilmington Dispatch.

Home Demonstration Work

MARY LEMMON, Demonstrator
ANNIE KEELS, Assistant

Report of Home Demonstration Work in Sumter County.

Nineteen Hundred and Seventeen was the most successful year in the history of Home Demonstration Work in Sumter county. The work began here five years ago. At first an agent was employed for nine months to carry on Tomato Club work for girls and to supervise rural schools. At the end of the first year it was seen that the Tomato club work alone would require the entire time of the agent. The second and third years, the agent was employed for ten months. In 1916, an assistant agent was found necessary to carry on the work. Sumter county was the second county in the State to put on an assistant county home demonstration agent. The work had grown to such an extent that one agent could not meet the demands of the people. It would have taken three or four agents this year to give demonstrations and instructions requested. However, the two agents met the demands as well as time would permit.

The home demonstration work is carried on through home demonstration clubs for women, domestic science classes and girls' canning clubs. In the home demonstration clubs a definite programme is carried out each month. These programmes are prepared by experts from Winthrop College and the United States Department of Agriculture.

During the past year, we have taken up at monthly meetings the following subjects: Curing of meats, cookery of fruits and vegetables, home and community sanitation, home nursing, canning and preserving of fruits and vegetables, conservation of grape products, breads using wheat flour substitutes, and planning three meals a day.

There are 332 women enrolled in home demonstration clubs. These clubs are in the following communities: Wedgefield, Bethel, Concord, Providence, Shiloh, Trinity, Hagood, Rumber, Salem, Oswego, Dalzell and Sumter. Graham, General Sumter school and Mayesville have asked for clubs. Demonstrations have been given in the Graham and Stafeburg communities. There are 115 girls enrolled in canning clubs: 34 first year, 25 second, 20 third, and 36 fourth year. These clubs are in the following communities: Oswego, Paker school, Trinity, Pleasant Grove, Olanta, Route No. 1, Rember, Hagood, Wedgefield, Bethel, Concord and Dalzell. These clubs not only can tomatoes and beans from their own plots, but also conserve the surplus fruits and vegetables from the home garden and orchards. Domestic science equipments have been installed in nine schools. Two hundred and six girls from Bethel, Wedgefield, Concord, Providence, Rember, Dalzell, Oswego, Shiloh and Trinity have been taught bread making.

Sumter county has been very fortunate in having every specialist that came to the State to visit the county. Dr. Lund from Washington gave to a crowded audience of city women a demonstration in drying fruits and vegetables. Miss Wessling, from the Bureau of Chemistry, Washington, gave demonstration bread making, using wheat flour substitutes, before an audience of eighty-two country girls and as many city women as the domestic science room of the Girl's High school building could accommodate. Miss Gladys Smith, of Winthrop College also gave a demonstration using wheat flour substitutes. Mrs. Dora Dee Walker, of Winthrop College, gave to five hundred women of Sumter a practical talk on gardening. The agent had Dr. L. A. Risser, State director of rural sanitation, to come to the county last spring, and give twelve illustrated lectures on home and community sanitation and personal hygiene.

The county home demonstration agents worked with the county council of defense in their campaigns and meetings for extraordinary production and conservation of food last spring. We distributed 7,000 papers of garden seed; 2,550 bulletins of canning, preserving and pickling; 975 on bread making, using wheat substitutes; 755 on bread making in the home; 1,780 on home gardening and 500 on how to select food.

One of the most enjoyable features of the work for girls is the annual county short course. Eighty-two girls attending this course last summer were entertained in Sumter city homes. Instructions were given them in gardening, canning and bread making. After the girls' course, the city women were given three days instruction in canning.

Three members of the girls' clubs were given scholarships to the State

short course for girls at Winthrop College last summer. Two women club members were given scholarships to State short course for women at Winthrop College.

Ten of the home demonstration clubs had exhibits at county fair, Wedgefield winning the first prize, \$50.00; Bethel, the second, \$30.00; Sumter, the third, \$20.00; Dalzell, the fourth, \$10.00. In the Wedgefield booth, 25 varieties of vegetables from winter gardens, 26 varieties of corn meal products, 12 home made conveniences and 10 meat substitutes were exhibited. Bethel showed 35 varieties of fresh vegetables, 21 corn products and 15 meat substitutes. All booths brought out the conservation of perishables, and many the conservation of meat and wheat.

Among the labor saving devices installed in the homes were thirty fireless cookers, fifteen iceless refrigerators, twelve ironing boards, six wheel trays and two kitchen cabinets.

Number of meetings held 682
Estimated attendance \$100

In 1912 Winthrop college and the United States Department of Agriculture put \$75.00 in the work in the county. In that year, the first year of the work in Sumter county, ninety-six girls in the tomato clubs, valued their canned tomatoes, vegetables and fruits at \$1,985.00. In 1917, seven hundred and fifty-three girls and women in our clubs reported 103,500 quarts of fruits and vegetables, valued at \$34,050.00.

Next year the government and Winthrop College have planned to give one thousand and forty (\$1,040.00) dollars.

Respectfully submitted,
ANNIE O. KEELS,
Assistant County Agent, Home Demonstration Work.

MARY A. LEMMON,
County Home Demonstration Agent,
Sumter, S. C., Dec. 24.

The Rember Home Demonstration Club met at the school house on Thursday, December 6, at 4 o'clock, with 18 members present.

The subject of meeting was "Planning Three Meals a Day." On the blackboard the various common foods were divided into five classes, viz: foods rich in mineral, protein, fat, starch, and sugar. The foods (beef, mutton, pork, veal, sugar, and wheat) which the people are requested to use economically, were written in red chalk.

The agent gave a talk on meal-planning with the view of insuring

the proper diet, and effecting economy; and showed a display of 100 calorie portions of some common foods.

The club will meet the first Thursday in February; no meeting will be held in January as the agents will spend that month at Winthrop College.

Rember, Dec. 20.

The Dalzell Home Demonstration Club met at the school house on Thursday, November 22.

The demonstration was given by the assistant agent, Miss Keels, and was enjoyed by all present.

Mrs. Doby resigned as president of the club and Mrs. H. W. Hood was elected in her place. The names of two new members were added to the roll, increasing the membership to 29.

This club won \$10 on its booth at the county fair. One of the most attractive displays in this booth was an exhibit of tomatoes, beans and peaches in tin cans. These were put up by Miss Ethel Ardis, a tomato club girl who canned 840 quarts last summer.

Miss Camilla Parker won a bracelet watch which was offered by Sumter Loan Co., for the best exhibit of breads.

The club will meet hereafter on Thursday before the 4th Sunday of the month at 3 p. m.

ITALIANS REGAIN GROUND.

Desperate Battle Lasted All Day Monday.

Rome, Dec. 25.—In a desperate battle which lasted all day yesterday the Italians fought their way back to the positions from which they were forced the previous day on the Asiago plateau under a Austro-German attack, according to today's war office statement. Some guns and numerous machine guns which had been abandoned by the Italians in their retirement were recaptured when the old positions were reoccupied.

GERMANS PROTRACTING NEGOTIATIONS.

Their Sincerity Again Questioned by Their Opponents.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Conditions surrounding Czernin's proposals for a basis of peace has caused officials here to feel apprehension for their sincerity and there is a disposition to feel that the object of German representatives to simply protracting negotiations as long as possible.

FORD TO VISIT CHARLESTON.

Likely to Urge Charleston as a Logistical Port for War Uses.

Washington, Dec. 24.—It is being brought out more clearly at Washington every day that a mistake has been made by the government in not having proceeded more promptly to the utilization of Charleston and other South Atlantic ports for the shipment of war supplies and provisions as well as for manufacture and storage. The congestion which now exists at New York and other Northeastern ports was long ago predicted.

Henry Ford, the great automobile builder whose specialty is standardization and rapid output, is signaling his connection with the shipping board by emphasizing the possibilities of the Southeastern seaboard as the section for launching standardized steel merchant ships to overcome the submarine obstacle to peace. Mr. Ford will start next week on a tour of the Southeastern ports, including Charleston, whose advantages for the purpose in mind have not escaped his attention.

Mr. Ford believes that if his ideas are followed, the United States can turn out several merchant ships a day. After his tour he will lay his plans definitely before the shipping board. There is no intention, of course, to interfere with the progress of work already underway, most of which is now understood to be proceeding satisfactorily.

PLANS FOR FOOD SURVEY.

Schedules Have Been Mailed to Every Food Dealer.

Washington, Dec. 25.—Plans for making the nation-wide war emergency food survey are well under way, the bureau of markets announced today, schedules having been mailed to every food dealer, manufacturer and holder of supplies in more than family lots.

The survey will cover more than 100 different foods and returns must show the stocks on hand next December 31, and the same day last year, with estimates of quantities in transit outward by freight and express on the last day of the month.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The wooden shipbuilding program is pictured as almost a complete failure by Rear Admiral Powles, assistant general manager of the emergency fleet corporation, testifying before the senate committee today.

FERTILIZERS FOR 1918

The New Year is approaching and a great many of our friends are considering their fertilizer requirements for the next year's crops.

It is our pleasure to announce that we are fully prepared to meet their requirements with anything in the fertilizer line except Potash, of which we have only a limited quantity.

Fertilizers are high, but not in proportion to cotton and other farm products. They are cheaper in comparison with the price of cotton than when it sold at 10 cents.

Order Your Goods Early

Whether you buy from us or not, our advice is to get your orders in early, for it is our candid opinion that those who delay may be unable to get their goods in time for the planting season. Everyone who reads the papers, knows the railroad situation now and the difficulty in getting goods, and we might be permitted to ask, what do you think it will be when the fertilizer movement starts?

If you have room in which to house your fertilizers, get them in before the first of the year.

But Be Sure And Get Our Prices Before Buying

O'Donnell & Company