

The Watchman and Southerner.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Estab. Wed April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear Not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's"

THE TRUE SOUTHERNER, Established June, 1868.

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LEGISLATURE IN SESSION.

BONE DRY LAW FIRST BIG MEASURE TO RECEIVE NOTICE.

Incorporation of State Council of Defense to Be First War Legislation to Be Taken Up.

Columbia, Jan. 8.—The legislature convened in regular session today.

Efforts will be made during the session to pass a "bone dry" law as a substitute for the present law permitting individuals to receive a quart of liquor a month.

One of the first steps toward war legislation will be the consideration of the bill prepared by the State Council of Defense incorporating the council, and providing for investigations in emergencies.

Thomas P. Cothran, of Greenville, was elected speaker of the house.

PEACE WITH BULGARIA.

Russia and Balkan State Conclude Separate Agreement.

Berne, Switzerland, Jan. 9.—A separate peace agreement between Russia and Bulgaria has been signed, the newspaper Bund reports.

The Bulgarian correspondent of the Bund says that Premier Radolevoff read the following dispatch from Brest-Litovsk in parliament: "War between Russia and Bulgaria ceases and diplomatic and economic relations between the two countries will be resumed. Russia recognizes Bulgaria's right to name a delegate to the international Danube commission. The first peace is thus concluded with the consent of Bulgaria's allies."

WEEKS SUBMARINE TOLL.

Twenty-one British Ships Sunk Last Week.

London, Jan. 9.—The British admiralty reports the sinking in the past week of 18 merchantmen of 1,600 tons or over by mine or submarine, as well as three merchantmen under that tonnage. Four fishing vessels also were sunk.

The admiralty statement follows: Arrivals 2,085, sailings 2,244.

British merchantmen of over 1,600 tons sunk by mine or submarine including two previously, 18; under 1,600 tons, including one previously, three.

British merchantmen unsuccessfully attacked including two previously, 11.

British fishing vessels sunk, four."

The admiralty report of January 2 gave the sinkings of British merchantmen for the current week as 21. 18 vessels of 1,600 tons or over. This was a material increase over the previous week when the sinkings numbered 12. 11 of the vessels more than 1,600 tons. Thus the increase in the submarine sinkings has been more than maintained in the past week, as they comprised 21 merchantmen and 4 fishing vessels.

Private News Notes.

Privateer, Jan. 7.—Although the weather has been unusually cold there has been the usual amount of moving about. Mr. P. B. Harvin has sold his place near Cain's Mill to Mr. J. H. Myers and Mr. Harvin has moved to the old Lynam place. Mr. R. L. Geddings has moved from near Toumey to his farm in Clarendon county near Calvary church.

About the same amount of oats and wheat were planted as was last year, but it looks now as if all oats on light land is killed and the severe cold has the wheat looking badly, too, but I do not think the stand is injured. Labor is somewhat scarce in this section.

Misses Rena and Gussie Johnson, of Sumter, spent the week-end at Mr. J. E. Osteen's.

Mrs. E. W. Rivers is visiting in St. George.

Mrs. T. L. Wimberley, who has been spending sometime at Mr. E. W. Rivers' returned to her home in Alachua, Fla., Saturday.

Mr. E. W. Tisdale, of Rock Hill, has been spending some time in the neighborhood visiting friends and relatives.

Mrs. Bryant, of Hendersonville, N. C., has been visiting her sister, Mrs. R. B. Furman.

Miss Kate Genter, of Pendleton, is visiting at Mr. J. M. Jackson's.

Mr. Florence Nesbitt, who has been quite ill for some time is not improving.

Mrs. J. B. Osteen, who has been quite sick for the past two weeks is still in a critical condition.

Washington, Jan. 10.—Another cold wave is predicted to sweep the South this week.

WORK OF THE LEGISLATURE.

STRONG SENTIMENT IN FAVOR OF SHORT SESSION.

Elections Ordered to Fill Vacancies in the House—Attempt to Abolish State Scholarships Renewed.

Columbia, Jan. 10.—One week from tomorrow has been designated by the legislature as the date to fill the two vacancies in the Richland county delegation. The election will be held to choose successors to Jas. A. Hoyt and Morris C. Lumpkin, resigned. Mr. Hoyt has transferred his residence to Detroit, Mich., and Mr. Lumpkin holds a commission in the National Army.

Two vacancies are also to be filled in the Sumter delegation. One of these is to be a successor to Col. A. K. Sanders, now superintendent of the State penitentiary, and the other to fill the place vacated by Representative McCutchen, now holding a commission also in the National Army.

Hard sledding for ratification of the federal prohibition amendment was indicated last night by the narrow margin in the majority report of this amendment from the judiciary committee. The vote was seven to six, there being much sentiment in favor of leaving the issue to the States. The majority report was made by Representative Hamblin and the minority by Representative Young.

Resolutions were introduced in both houses yesterday calling for submission of the amendment to the voters of South Carolina.

Representative Dominick's bill calling for prevention of dogs running at large was killed by a vote of 43 to 26.

The enacting words of the bill, calling for two cents passenger rates were stricken out by a vote of 59 to 26. It was regarded as a more than useless task to vote a reduction of rates since the government has taken over the roads.

Two veto messages were sent up by Gov. Manning last night, applying to certain modification of the same laws, as to Greenville and Horry counties. The acts were passed last session.

The bill by Hall of Anderson to give trial in cases relating to ejectment of tenants at will and domestic servants was passed to third reading.

By a vote of 42 to 38 the house struck out the enacting words of the Hall bill to make it a misdemeanor to smoke in certain public places.

The bill to prohibit white nurses from attending negroes in hospitals was similarly disposed of.

A resolution introduced by Representative Ellis of Greenwood, was adopted, granting leave of absence to all members in the military service of the nation.

The Senate.

At the night session of the senate a bill was passed providing that it shall be a misdemeanor for anyone under the age of fourteen years to drive or operate an automobile on any street or highway. The original bill of Senator Friday, of Orangeburg, made it a misdemeanor for anyone under 16 years to drive a car, but by consent the age was changed to 14 years.

The resignation of Mr. J. Rion McKissick, as code commissioner, was presented through Gov. Manning. A duplicate act relative to the fiscal year for railroad accounting was vetoed and the veto was sustained. The game warden veto is pending.

Senator Bonham's bill to amend the constitution relative to the pardoning power of the governor was then taken up. The suggestion is that there be a pardon board and that pardons and reprieves be contingent upon the findings of this board rather than on the decision of the governor alone. Upon an explanation by Mr. Bonham the measure was unanimously passed to submit the proposed amendment to the voters.

Senator McCown of Florence had a bill which sought to transfer the colored reformatory, together with that for white boys, to one central board. There was no opposition to this measure.

Senator Ridgell of Lexington wanted to abolish scholarships at the State colleges. The bill had an unfavorable report. Tonight he proposed that all scholarships be in lieu of notes to be paid within five years. The fund paid for these scholarships shall be kept as a loan fund for deserving students. Senator Ridgell insisted that the present system was unsatisfactory and that his plan of creating a loan fund would be better. Senator Ridgell argued at length on

the scholarship system and stated that 22 per cent of the students at State colleges were fed and clothed by these scholarships. Senator Bonham asked if the board of charities and corrections had not weeded out all the undeserving cases. Senator Ridgell wanted the present plan continued, but with the proviso that those getting scholarships must in time repay the loan fund. Senator Laney thought it best to let matters stand and saw no reason to further deny school boys and girls education. He thought only deserving boys and girls competed for the scholarships.

Senator Shelor of Oconee argued in favor of Mr. Ridgell's amended bill and had many facts in support of his views. The bill was killed by a vote of 21 to 10.

Senator Laney had the senate agree to meet in the morning at 10 o'clock.

The senate has certainly put on its working clothes. It worked from 10 o'clock until the dinner bell rang, and then took a recess until night; and the committees are all to hold meetings in the afternoons. It looked very much as if it were the last days of the legislature rather than the beginning of the session. Some have suggested that so much discussion is probably not conducive to an early adjournment.

The senate passed two resolutions today indicative of a desire to do what is to be done and go home.

First, it passed the Kelly resolution expressing the legislative sense that the session be restricted to 20 days, and then it adopted Senator Wharton's resolution fixing Feb. 2 as the day of final adjournment. Of course, either resolution can be effective if the legislators so elect, or they can be inoperative by simply paying no attention to the expression.

Most of the legislative day was taken up in the discussion of a bill suggested by the committee which permits the investment of trust funds in farm loan bonds. After considerable discussion the bill was passed and ordered ratified, and will become a statute of the State.

Another, and most interesting discussion, was on the proposition of Senator Padgett to require partnerships to file the names of the individuals comprising such partnerships. There was very much interest in this suggestion, and the bill was finally passed by the senate, with three amendments, that were more or less vital: First, that the bill should not apply to contracts made relative to agricultural operations. Second, that the certificate of partnership should be filed with the clerk of court and not the secretary of State. Third, that if, upon suit, the information as to the membership of partnerships be given within ten days, that there need be no record with the clerk of court, and, fourth, that the partnership declaration need not apply where the agreement is for not more than 60 days.

Senator Laney of Chesterfield in the discussion of the bill looking to the licensing of fire insurance agents, took occasion to romp on the Southeastern Tariff Association. He argued that this rate-making association had acted very badly towards the people of South Carolina and that it had fooled the people and the legislature; that it was depriving the State of insurance independence and that it was altogether a "bad egg." He heartily approved the pending bill; first, because it would insure more care on the part of agents in not over-writing insurance, but principally because it had a clause that he suggested, that would allow non-resident brokers to write insurance in South Carolina. He insisted that if non-resident brokers were not allowed to write insurance in South Carolina that some sort of club ought to be provided to hold the Southeastern Tariff Association in control; the present legislation was not sufficient, and ineffective. No action was taken on the bill during the morning.

The senate killed the suggestion of Senator Evans that a steering committee be provided to expedite the work of the senate.

BOLSHEVIKI CLAIM VICTORY.

Petrograd, Wednesday, Jan. 8.—Generals Kaledines and Dutoff, the Cossack leaders, the official news agency announced today, have been defeated. Gen. Dutoff is in flight, pursued by revolutionary soldiers of the Red Guard. Gen. Kaledines is retreating. The workmen's and soldier's council at Rostov have been liberated.

Amsterdam, Jan. 5.—Hamburg Germany's second largest city, is now entirely without street illumination at night, in consequence of the shortage of coal which has curtailed the output of gas and electricity.

ALLIES NEED FOOD.

NINETY MILLION BUSHELS OF WHEAT TO BE SENT AT ONCE.

Situation is so Critical in Europe That Wheat Must be Sent and Americans are Asked to Save Enough to Supply Needs.

Washington, Jan. 10.—The food situation in Europe is regarded here as so critical that the food administration is planning to release an additional ninety million bushels of wheat. Americans will be asked to save to make up the deficiency.

FIRE AT WEDGEFIELD.

Five Stores, One Dwelling and Two Warehouses Burned.

Fire made a clean sweep of the row of stores north of the railroad at Wedgefield Thursday night about 9 o'clock. Five stores—J. B. Ryan, S. Weinberg, E. L. Burress, Walker's and Hair's—Ryan's and Weinberg's warehouses and the old DuPont residence were destroyed before the fire could be checked.

The Sumter fire department was called on for help and the truck, with chemical extinguisher, was sent over, but when it arrived the fire had almost burnt itself out.

No reliable estimate of the amount of the damage is obtainable, but it is quite heavy. There was insurance that partially covers the loss but the net loss over and above the insurance is considerable.

LEGISLATIVE ELECTION ORDERED.

Successors of Representatives A. K. Sanders and W. L. McCutchen to Be Elected January 23rd.

The Speaker of the House of Representatives has issued a writ of election directed to the Election Commissioners of Sumter directing them to hold an election Wednesday, January 23rd, for the purpose of electing two members of the House of Representatives to fill out the unexpired terms of Representatives A. K. Sanders and W. L. McCutchen, whose resignations created vacancies in the Sumter county delegation. The Commissioners of State Elections for Sumter county were F. A. McLeod, L. S. Vinson and T. E. Hodge, but Mr. McLeod having been appointed solicitor and Mr. Vinson having been elected magistrate of the 7th District since the last general election they cannot serve as election commissioners. Mr. A. S. Harby and Mr. S. L. Roddey have been appointed to fill the vacancies and they, with Mr. T. E. Hodge, will conduct the special election on the 23rd inst.

STATE WAREHOUSE REPORT.

Two Hundred and Four Warehouses in System Helping Small Farmer.

Columbia, Jan. 10.—In the annual report prepared by W. G. Smith, State warehouse commissioner, it is shown that the department was operated during the year just closed at a total cost of \$9,922.51, which leaves a balance from the appropriation of \$7.49. The warehouse system now has cash and accrued storage more than \$10,000.

There are 204 warehouses in the system and Mr. Smith makes a number of recommendations for the development of the plan to its highest stage of usefulness. Grading and stapling has been one of the chief efforts of Mr. Smith and no part he had in the war last year meant more to the success of the system than the public grading feature. Growing of big boll cotton generally is recommended and the organization of marketing associations among the farmers is suggested.

Duck Hunting Costs Life of Three Men.

Georgetown, Jan. 5.—Thursday night the community was shocked by the news of the death of the three young men, Harry McNaron, J. T. Schroder and Dozier Misbrow, while duck hunting.

These young men had been out hunting all day. Nothing was known of the accident or at what time of day it took place until another hunting party returning home saw the boat with one lifeless body stretched across it. The supposition is that the other two were drowned, the third one reaching the boat but afterwards succumbing to exposure and the intense cold. Searching parties have not yet succeeded in finding the other two bodies.

SUFFRAGE FIGHT WON.

PRESIDENT WILSON THROWS HIS INFLUENCE IN FAVOR OF AMENDMENT.

Advises Congressmen to Vote for Constitutional Amendment Granting Suffrage to Women—Believed That This Will Insure Passage.

Washington, Jan. 9.—President Wilson tonight threw his support to the federal amendment for woman suffrage. On the eve of a vote on suffrage in the house 12 Democratic members called at the White House with word that many of their colleagues wanted advice from the head of their party as to the position they should take. There was a conference of 40 minutes, the result of which was described in this statement, dictated by the president himself and made public by the delegation:

"The committee found that the president had not felt at liberty to volunteer his advice to members of congress in this important matter but when we sought his advice he very frankly and earnestly advised us to vote for the amendment as an act of right and justice for the women of the country and of the world."

In these few lines suffrage champions saw certain victory where a few days ago most of them privately were conceding defeat. A large majority of the Republicans in the house have been counted upon to support the amendment and enough Democrats are committed to insure a close vote. With the weight of the president's influence to line up doubtful Democrats, Representative Parker, chairman of the suffrage committee, jubilantly predicted tonight that the necessary two-thirds would be exceeded by 15 or 20 votes.

Opponents of suffrage were claiming a safe margin against the amendment during the day in spite of intimations from the suffragists that a trump card yet was to be played. There were no formal predictions from the opponents tonight but a tremendous fight is promised.

The news of the president's action came as a complete surprise to nearly everybody in the capital. Until now in all public utterances the president has held to the view that suffrage was a question to be determined by the individual States and not by federal action.

No statement was forthcoming from the White House tonight to explain his present stand. Members of congress who participated in the conference, however, said the president told them he still believed that the proper and orderly way of dealing with the question was to permit each State to take its own action but in view of conditions now existing in the United States and the world generally he felt free to advise submission of a federal amendment to the States.

In emphasizing this point he is said to declare that the United States as a leader in the great family of nations can not disassociate itself from the family and can not be reactionary on any great world question. When his callers talked of the State rights issue the president is said to have told them he did not feel that this complicated the situation at all; that suffrage was a policy and not a principle. He pointed out that the federal constitution now deals with the qualifications of electors and prescribes the qualification of those entitled to vote for members of congress.

All of the members who went to the White House were Democrats and most of them supporters of the amendment, but there were several uncommitted. In the delegation were Representatives Baker, Taylor, Barkley and Cantrill, Hayden, Gregg and Jones (Texas), Ayers, Caraway, Mayes, Linticum and Brumbaugh.

After Mr. Baker had explained the object of the call each told the president of the situation in his State. One said the president's advice would aid him in determining the question and that many others were similarly situated.

The president is said to have replied that while he had felt it was not proper to send for members or to volunteer his advice he was glad of the opportunity that the visit of the delegation gave him. He indicated that he had not felt at liberty to go beyond the party platform which had declared woman suffrage to be a State issue, until changed conditions made it necessary.

Patterson, N. J., Jan. 10.—The closing of the Dupont Powder plants at Pompton Lake and Haskell, engaged exclusively in war work, is declared to be imminent, unless fuel is received promptly.

THE ANNUAL MESSAGE.

GOV. MANNING REVIEWS YEARS WORK AND RECOMMENDS LEGISLATION.

He Urges Every Citizen to Give Patriotic Service to Their Country—Needs of State Institutions Outlined.

Gentlemen of the General Assembly: As Chief Executive of the State, I deliver my annual message to you as an obligation imposed upon me by the constitution, and in conformity with an unbroken custom. I also desire to discuss with you measures immediately affecting our State government, the welfare of our people and the development of our nation, of which our State is an integral part.

I extend to you a warm greeting. This year you come from homes and from duties that need you and your services more than ever before. But as the effective operations of the State and its officials depend upon you and me, together we must see that the business of the State is carried on efficiently and economically and that the part we should perform in this crisis of the nation is viewed with a broad vision.

Let us fervently thank God for our blessings and pray to Him for strength and guidance to realize our responsibilities and for courage to meet them. The opportunity for great service to the State and to the nation now urgently presents itself, and in the work that lies before us I desire to assure you of my earnest and hearty cooperation.

Since the general assembly adjourned last February our country has been drawn into the world war, but of this and the tasks imposed upon us thereby I shall speak later with definiteness. Just now, however, let me recall that some of your number are now following the flag. With me you honor their patriotism and consecration to a national duty which prompted them to go into the service of their country, whose paramount business is war: They are Senator Christensen of Beaufort and Representatives Lloyd B. Harrison and A. W. Horton of Spartanburg, Morris C. Lumpkin of Richland, Elmer M. Tripp of Beaufort, Oscar K. Mauldin of Greenville, F. Marion Whaley and Edward P. Passaluniga of Charleston, W. R. Ritchie, Jr., of Laurens, W. L. McCutchen of Sumter and Herbert L. Smith, Jr., of Georgetown. These chosen representatives of our people from various sections of the State are participants in the fight for democracy, freedom and liberty against irresponsible governments, who, in mad lust for world domination, regard not the sanctity of treaties, who destroy our ships and mercilessly murder innocent, non-combatant men, women and children. These members of our general assembly deserve and have our honor and our gratitude.

In order that our State may play its full part in cooperating with the national government, it is imperative that we enact laws covering these objects. There are, however, other matters directly affecting our State, to which I invite your attention. I shall speak of some of these measures here, and in a subsequent message I will deal with education, State institutions, finance, taxation, enforcement of law and other State matters.

Among the many urgent calls and the opportunities for war service during the present emergency, there is grave danger that the yearly internal needs of South Carolina be lost to view. This must be prevented at all cost. Never has there been larger necessity for increased vigor and energy in pushing forward the constructive elements of State progress. The severe strain of shaping a great democracy for war, the presence of three large army camps and two naval stations in South Carolina, the rapidly mounting cost of living, the disorganization of transportation and uncertainty of labor, the ever-closing grip of a war-ruled scheme of life—all combine to blind our eyes and close our ears to the appeals of educational, sanitary, charity and penal conditions in South Carolina.

The world war is a conflict of intelligence and skill, for which the schools are the recruiting ground. These works are internal, and unless they are pushed forward our State can not progress. The necessity for them is greater by reason of war conditions than ever before.

Australian Ballot.

In a democratic form of government it is essential that the untrammelled, independent will of the electors be expressed at the ballot box. Every safeguard should be thrown around our elections, so that each