

The Watchman and Southern

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PERSONAL.

Mr. A. H. Weeks, who has been an inmate of the Old Soldiers' Home at Columbia for the past two years, is in the city visiting his daughter. Mr. Weeks was for many years Chief of Police of Sumter, serving altogether more than thirty years, and when he retired on account of old age was granted a pension by the city.

First Lieut. Wilson McKay Spann, who is with the American Expeditionary force in France, regular infantry, was promoted to a captaincy on December 31st. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Spann, have just received a letter from Capt. Spann telling them of his promotion.

Mr. and Mrs. Ferd Levi and Mrs. Iseman have returned from Abbeville where they were called several days ago by the serious illness of Mr. Louis Levi.

Mr. Geo. D. Shore, Jr., left Saturday night for Charleston where he will join the Naval Reserve, he having enlisted sometime ago.

Mr. T. D. Gilland, of Kingstree, was in the city a short while this morning.

Miss Caroline Dick, who has been detained at home by illness, has returned to Winthrop.

INCOME TAX RETURNS.

Special Agent of Internal Revenue Department in City to Assist Individuals in Making Returns.

Mr. D. P. Drew, special agent of the Internal Revenue Department, is in the city and will remain here through Saturday, Jan. 26th, to assist individuals, who are required to make returns for income taxes, in making up their returns in legal form. Mr. Drew will have his office at the Court House during his stay in the city and can be there found every day this week during business hours. He has been assigned to this district to advise and assist individuals in making up the required returns, and those who need assistance should apply to him at the earliest day possible.

He will spend two days at Mayesville next week, 28th and 29th, and two days in Rembert, 30th and 31st.

Mr. Drew states that wherever he has been on similar duty he has found all the people liable to income taxes not only willing, but anxious, to comply with the law, and there seems to be no disposition to attempt to escape taxation.

Every man or woman who has an income of one thousand dollars is required to make income tax returns and to pay a tax on the amount of income in excess of one thousand dollars. Married men or women are required to make returns if their incomes are two thousand dollars.

FIRE IN COUNTRY.

Colored Farmer Suffers Heavy Loss Friday Night.

The barn and stables of J. A. Frierson, a prosperous negro farmer of the Concord section, were burned Friday night between 11 and 12 o'clock, the fire evidently being the work of incendiary. With the building were burned three mules, a horse, a cow, one wagon, two buggies, an automobile, all of his farm implements, one bale of cotton, more than a thousand bushels of corn, fourteen bushels of wheat, three or more tons of hay, forty-five bushels of peas, more than a ton of cotton seed, a lot of fodder, etc. The total amount of insurance on buildings and contents amounted to only \$1,500. Frierson walked past the barn only about a half hour before the fire was discovered, as he was returning from church, and at that time there was no sign of fire. Frierson does not smoke and the man who fed the stock in the evening does not smoke and there had been neither fire nor light anywhere near the barn during the afternoon or evening. When the fire was discovered the whole barn was a mass of flames and nothing could be done to save the animals. There is no clue to the incendiary and Frierson says he has no grounds to suspect anyone, as he does not know that he has enemy in the world, having always gotten along peaceably with all his neighbors.

J. A. Bulla, a Western Union Telegraph lineman, fell from a pole near the postoffice this morning. One leg was broken and he was otherwise injured. He was taken to the hospital for treatment and this afternoon he is reported to be doing as well as possible.

What people want to know is, if coal can be sold, has been sold and is being sold at \$8.50 a ton in Orangeburg, why can it not be sold in Sumter for the same price? That is the question for the Fuel Administrator to answer.

ADDRESS TO VOTERS.

Belser and O'Quinn Endorsed for House of Representatives.

We, the undersigned, realizing the supreme importance of having men in office at this time who are heartily in sympathy with the present State administration, and above all things, supporters of the National Administration, at this the most important time in our nation's history, beg to endorse the candidacy of Messrs. Belser and O'Quinn, and earnestly appeal to every patriotic citizen to turn out Wednesday, the 23rd, and see that they are elected. We do this because we know that both of these gentlemen are supporters of the present State administration, and in hearty accord and enthusiastic supporters of the National Administration in all of its war policies. Not only this, we know that both of these gentlemen have had a great deal of experience as legislators, and we need their services at this time.

Respectfully,

- J. P. Booth,
- H. J. McLaurin, Jr.,
- H. C. Haysworth,
- C. G. Rowland,
- Jno. S. Kennedy,
- H. D. Barnett,
- J. J. Whilden,
- D. F. Stoudenmeyer,
- W. C. Boyle,
- W. L. Boyle,
- E. E. Hodge,
- S. W. Rumph,
- J. F. Mathis,
- E. K. Friar,
- T. H. Clarke,
- Bartow Walsh,
- Jno. T. Green,
- Herbert A. Moses,
- F. M. Kortjohn,
- S. K. Rowland,
- H. A. Bultman,
- R. G. Scarborough,
- E. W. Witherspoon,
- L. D. Jennings,
- W. E. Mims,
- R. O. Purdy, Sr.,
- J. L. Haysworth,
- H. L. Tisdale,
- R. A. McCollum,
- C. E. Hurst,
- A. H. Wilder,
- J. D. Chandler,
- G. D. Hatchell,
- Geo. W. Hutcheson,
- P. S. Finn,
- A. R. Flowers,
- W. H. Yates,
- J. H. Darr,
- J. H. Dennis,
- M. Green,
- H. Green,
- A. W. Badford,
- Geo. L. Ricker,
- W. B. Upshur,
- G. E. McWhirter,
- R. L. Jackson,
- R. L. Edmunds,
- P. M. Parrott,
- Geo. C. Warren,
- Frank W. Chandler,
- S. L. Roddey,
- W. C. Johnson,
- J. E. King,
- Horace Emmerson,
- A. J. Bynum,
- S. R. Sprot,
- H. M. Crowson,
- C. A. Blanton,
- W. G. Bateman, Jr.,
- G. Bultman,
- C. P. Exum,
- J. C. Gainey,
- J. D. Bradford,
- W. R. Phillips,
- G. G. Tweed,
- C. A. Epps,
- W. Percy Smith,
- J. H. Hill,
- S. M. Mathis,
- G. C. Lamb,
- H. P. Scott,
- W. O. Bostick,
- R. L. Wright,
- W. T. Frierson,
- H. T. Joye.

The Winn School.

The Winn school reopened January 7 with a good attendance. All of the old pupils and a few new ones enrolled. The following is the roll of honor for the fourth month: Roy Baker, Car Baker, Annie May Baker, Cement Marshall, Marius Cooper, Gertrude Jackson, Ora Jackson, Harriet Sims, Minnie Lou Sims, Elsie Sims, Jim Ed Sims, W. C. Sims.

Mr. S. A. Harvin entertained the directors of the National Bank of Sumter at dinner Thursday evening at his home in Privateer. A hospitable board was spread with a sumptuous banquet, the menu comprising all that is most tempting to the appetite to be found in country and town and his associate financiers of the Bank of Sumter did full justice to the viands set before them. The party was most charmingly and hospitably entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Harvin.

CASTOR BEAN CROP.

T. S. Evans, of The Seaboard, Arranging With Farmers to Plant Ten Thousand Acres.

The government needs castor oil for lubricating the aeroplanes which are expected to play a big part in winning this war. The supply is short and this section can produce castor beans, and the government means to make it profitable for the farmers to plant castor beans.

Mr. Evans, in speaking of the matter, said, "Castor beans are an easy crop to produce in this section. Women and children can harvest the crop. It is a crop that is good for the land, and I am ready to give to the farmers in this section a contract for all the beans produced by them and to pay \$3.00 a bushel at their station.

I will furnish the seed for planting at exact cost to the government, plus the cost of transportation, to the farmer, and will give full directions for planting and caring for the crop and for the harvesting of it. Any farmer that wants to take advantage of this offer and prove his patriotism can write to me at Hamlet, N. C., and I will see that information and contracts are supplied."

MORE COAL ARRIVES.

Four Carloads Came in This Morning and the Local Fuel Board Seizes Three of Them.

Four cars of coal consigned to Sumter county firms arrived in this city this morning, and acting under the order of the National Fuel Administrator, the local fuel board promptly seized three of them for distribution among domestic consumers so as to relieve suffering. The four cars were consigned to the following firms: Two cars to the Southern Cotton Oil Co., one car to W. B. Boyle Co., and one car to J. D. Bradford. The car consigned to J. D. Bradford was not seized, as he is a retail dealer, and his coal will be distributed among domestic consumers under the regulation of the fuel board. The other three cars will be distributed under the direction of the fuel board. It will be sold at \$9.00 per ton, and no person will be allotted more than one-half ton. This should relieve the immediate necessities of those who have no coal, and it is hoped that additional cars will arrive within the next few days.

A Card.

Having been nominated to fill an unexpired term in the House of Representatives I have decided to offer myself as a candidate, because I feel that I can be of service to Sumter County by reason of my previous experience in the Legislature.

R. B. BELSER.

A Card.

At the solicitation of friends and by reason of my prior experience being of value to the county in the present emergency, I have decided to make the race for the House of Representatives and hereby announce myself a candidate for said office.

I elected I pledge myself to discharge the duties of the office to the best of my ability. I shall not be a candidate for the position next summer.

S. O'QUINN.

Announcement.

I hereby announce myself as a candidate for the legislature in the special election to be held on the 23rd inst. to fill the unexpired terms of Messrs. Sanders and McCutchen and, if elected, I pledge myself to devote my best energies and efforts to the service of the people of my county and State.

A. S. MERRIMON.

Basketball Friday.

The high school basketball team will meet the Junior Outlaws, a Columbia organization, in the first game of the season next Friday night at 8 o'clock, on the Y. M. C. A. floor. Several members of last year's football team will be seen in the lineup. A fast and interesting game is promised. Admission 15 and 25 cents.

But there is another side to the picture. If you think ten dollars a ton high for coal, what do you think of the prices demanded and received for wood during the late blizzard? Some of the two and three dollar loads of green wood were so small that ten to twelve of them would not make an honest cord. Talk about profiteering—some of our local wood sellers have Old Man Profiteer beat to a frazzle. The only way to reach these high-land pirates is quit buying wood and go cold. And there are other articles of country produce in the same class as to prices demanded.

They might induce Cole Bleasor to take the stump in South Carolina and warm up the State.—Greensboro News.

Home Guard Recruits.

The United States army is calling for recruits for the United States Guards, a branch of the service for home duty, in which men above the draft age will be accepted as volunteers. Corporal Morgan, in charge of the local recruiting station, has received the following telegram:

"Make special effort to secure recruits for United States Guards. Fourteen hundred required immediately. Original enlistments must be between ages of thirty-one and forty, inclusive. Request for waivers for desirable applicants with previous service over forty years of age last discharged as privates should be made to this office."

Death of a Veteran.

Mr. Manning D. Daugherty, Sr., one of the oldest and most highly esteemed citizens of the Providence section died at 6 o'clock Saturday morning in the seventy-seventh year of his age, after a brief illness. He was a Confederate veteran, having served his country with devotion and distinction throughout the war. Recently had talked to his son of his willingness to serve his country again in the present great war, if he were able. The funeral services will be held from his late residence at 12.30 o'clock Sunday, interment at the Sumter Cemetery at 2.30 p. m.

The deceased is survived by his wife, five sons and eight sisters.

Death.

Mr. T. A. Nettles died Friday night, aged 68, at the home of Mr. W. O. Cain, Privateer, where he was visiting. He had been in failing health for sometime, but was as well as usual when he retired. The end came suddenly during the night and he was found dead at 7.30 o'clock Saturday morning. Mr. Nettles was a native of the Privateer section of Sumter county but in recent years had made his home in this city. He is survived by his wife and the following children: Mrs. Mary Sparks, of Salters; Mrs. John Chandler, of Salters; Mrs. McFadden Spann, of Florence; Mrs. E. E. Hagler, of Orangeburg; Miss Irma Nettles, of Columbia; Mr. L. D. Nettles, of Alcolu and Mr. Charles Nettles, of Brooklyn, and two brothers and a sister.

Gopfert-Tallon.

Miss Annie Gopfert and Mr. P. K. Tallon were united in marriage at the Salem Baptist parsonage on Thursday night, January 17th, at 8 o'clock, Rev. E. W. Reynolds officiating.

Both contracting parties reside in Sumter and will continue to make this city their home, their residence will be on Broad street.

A truck loaded with cans of gas oil, several hundred gallons altogether, caught fire back of the D. C. Shaw Motor Co. building on the corner of Hampton Avenue and Sumter street Thursday evening about six o'clock and instantly there was a fierce blaze. The alarm was sent in and the truck turned out, also a big crowd whose curiosity was greater than their fear, for they all wanted to be on hand to see what would happen. By the use of the chemical extinguisher and blankets the blaze was smothered piecemeal and the cans were removed one by one from the truck until the fire was subdued. Nearly all the gasoline was saved as the truck was not seriously damaged. It may not have been as dangerous as it appeared, but to one of the curious onlookers it seemed that the firemen and volunteers were engaged in a very risky business. Chief Gene Wilder did not seem to be very much exercised over the risk he was running for he fought the blaze at close range with the chemical extinguisher and never once took his big pipe out of his mouth.

The local fuel administration will take immediate cognizance of the retail price of coal in Sumter and there will be more strict regulation and lower prices in the future. Ten dollars a ton is regarded as just a little bit too high for soft coal, despite the fuel famine and the imperative need of fuel that confronts a majority of the families of the city.

Mr. J. H. Myers, who runs a general merchandise store three miles out on the Stateburg road, telephoned the item that only sickness prevented his attendance on the meetings at the Chamber of Commerce Thursday and Friday nights, that he was in full sympathy and accord with the action taken in reference to the fuel order and that he would obey the order to the letter as the merchants of the city have pledged themselves to do. As a dealer in gasoline he would be governed by the resolution adopted by the Friday night meeting and would not sell gasoline on Monday. He has closed his mill and ginney and will not operate them during the period the order is in force.

Red Cross Notes.

On January 17, the Sumter Chapter sent to Atlanta a box containing: 23 pairs of pajamas, 10 hospital bed shirts, 11 hot water bag covers, 35 comfort pillows, 55 sweaters, 50 mufflers, 60 pairs of socks, 20 pairs of wristlets and 2 helmets.

Our chapter has sent to Atlanta 241 sweaters, 364 mufflers, 214 pairs of socks, and 109 pairs of wristlets. Before our quota of garments is reached we must make 359 sweaters, 236 mufflers, 391 pairs of wristlets and 386 pairs of socks.

Knitters are requested not to make helmets, as they are not included in our quota of knitted garments.

The Colored Auxiliary has requested that the following letter be published:

Sumter, S. C., Dec. 21, 1917.

Mrs. C. A. Lawson, Sumter, S. C. Dear Mrs. Lawson, I have been authorized at a meeting of our Executive Committee to express to you the chapter's appreciation and congratulations for the work which your auxiliary is doing. We wish to make special mention of the neatly made garments which have been made by your auxiliary.

Trusting that this good work may continue, and with the chapter's best wishes for your future success, I am, Very truly, Annie Purdy, Secretary.

Though there has been a splendid response to our appeal for making pajamas, there are still a number to be made.

Annie Purdy, Secretary.

"Cowardice."

Mr. Editor:

The article appearing in your news columns of the 18th, under the caption, "Sumter is Loyal," sets forth my name as an individual who refused to sign the agreement to close certain places of business on Monday.

I resent the cowardly insinuation attempted by the author of that article in The Item. I have enlisted in the navy, and even now have a call hat takes me away at once. My office will be closed for more than ten successive Mondays. If the author of that article and all others, who criticize those of us who declined to sign the agreement, thought enough of their country to close their businesses to enlist, and do less talking better military results would follow and better community feeling at home.

Geo. D. Shore, Jr.

(The report of the business men's meeting Friday night to which Mr. Shore refers in ill-tempered terminology contained not a single insinuation. I was, as any man, unless his judgment is unbalanced by unreasoning passion, must admit, a plain, unbiased story of the proceedings of the meeting. The setting forth of the names of those who refused to sign the agreement was a part, and a vital part, of the report of the chairman of the committee of ten—it was a statement of an undisputed fact, not an insinuation. We have no intention of attempting to argue or reason with Mr. Shore; a man who flies into a passion when a statement of fact is published is not amenable to reason but his attention is invited to the further fact that there was not one single word of criticism of the men who refused to sign the agreement in the report of the meeting. And, overlooking the ill-tempered and bragatoloic style of his communication, we sincerely wish him God-speed in his service in the navy and a safe return, along with the many other Sumter boys who have been wearing for many months their country's uniform, when the Germans have been put down and he world is once more safe for democracy and civilization.)

The South will be expected to produce its own food this year, and every farmer should do his utmost to make his own farm self-supporting. It is now a question of loyalty to make each farm produce all the food required for every living thing on that farm, and a surplus to supply some of the non-productive residents of the vicinity. The farm that grows all cotton or nearly all cotton and depends upon the west for corn and oats and hay for its work animals and meat and bread for the farmer and his laborers is not a loyal farm. That is the plain, unvarnished truth and all may as well recognize it. There may be more in growing thirty cent cotton than in producing corn and other needed supplies, but this is one line in the history of the world that money is not the thing to be most eagerly sought after.

It is probable that the basketball season will be opened next Friday, the high school team meeting the Junior Outlaws of Columbia. Final arrangements are yet to be made. The local team is being coached by Physical Director Duncan of the Y. M. C. A. and reports are that a fast team has been developed.

TAX RETURNS NOTICE FOR 1918

I will attend in person or by deputy at the following named places and on the dates given, for the purpose of receiving tax returns for the fiscal year beginning January 1st, 1918. Returns of Real Estate, Personal Property, Polls, Roads and Dogs should be made. The office will be open to receive returns from January 1st to February 20th:

- Tindals, Tuesday, Jan. 8.
- Privateer, Wednesday, Jan. 9.
- Levi Siding, Thursday, Jan. 10.
- Wedgfield, Friday, Jan. 11.
- Claremont, Tuesday, Jan. 15.
- Hagood, Wednesday, Jan. 16.
- Remberts, Thursday, Jan. 17.
- Dalzell, Friday, Jan. 18.
- Brogdon, Tuesday, Jan. 22.
- Mayesville, Wednesday, Jan. 23.
- Oswego, Thursday, Jan. 24.
- Pleasant Grove, Tuesday, Jan. 29.
- Shiloh, Wednesday, Jan. 30.
- Norwood Cross Roads, Thursday, Jan. 31.

R. E. WILDER, County Auditor.

Recorder Harby had Joe Ballard, Robert Williams and Amelia Jefferson before him Saturday morning for trial on the charge of malicious mischief. They were found guilty as charged and sentence was imposed as follows: Joe Ballard, \$20; Robert Williams, \$10; Amelia Jefferson, \$15. The offense committed was the unlawful taking of a truck belonging to Mr. J. M. Harby and going on a joy ride out into the country. In the course of the ride they ran the truck into a ditch and smashed it up considerably. Ballard was employed by Mr. Harby as the driver of the truck, and while he was visiting a friend the two other negroes took the truck and went driving. They claimed at the trial that Ballard gave them permission to use the truck, but he denied the statement, saying that they took the truck without his knowledge or consent while he was in a house. Other testimony seemed to establish the fact that Ballard consented to the joy ride and to that extent was responsible for the accident.

Red Cross Auxiliary Organized.

Friday afternoon, at Privateer, an Auxiliary to the Sumter Chapter of the Red Cross was organized. Mrs. Nina Solomons called the meeting to order, and addresses were made by Mr. C. M. Hurst, Mrs. Nina Solomons, and Dr. R. S. Truesdale. The following officers were elected: Rev. Wm. Haysworth, chairman; Mrs. S. A. Harvin, vice-chairman; Miss Eleanor Kolb, secretary and Mr. S. D. Sain, treasurer.

There was an enthusiastic meeting, and the new auxiliary promises to do good work.

Fuel Notice.

All saw mills and country stores should take notice of the fuel administration's regulations—only stores handling food can keep fires on the following days, January 18, 19, 21, 22 and every Monday for 10 weeks only until 12 noon. Saw mills and other manufactories must burn no fuel on such days to run. The penalty is heavy.

C. CUTTINO,

Chairman Sumter County Fuel Board.

FOR SALE—Horse, buggy and harness. Horse safe and sound. Apply Rev. J. W. Elkins, Oswego, S. C.

FINE TRACT—Short leaf pine timber for sale on railroad in South Carolina. Price reasonable; terms easy. Also long leaf tract and a farm of 500 acres in Sumter county. Calhoun Timber Company, 29 Broad St., Charleston, S. C.

FOR SALE—F. O. B. cars, Camp Jackson, stable manure; very little straw. Car load lots only. Chemical and Fertilizer value rated very high by Clemson college. A. A. Strauss, Sumter, S. C.

Geo. H. Hurst,
Undertaker and Embalmer
Prompt Attention to Day and Night Calls
At J. D. CRAIG Old Stand, N. W. in
Phones: Day 539 Night 201

Mrs. Rose Bennett
Skin and Scalp Specialist
BEAUTY PARLOR
Room No. 11
Nat'l Bank Of Sumter Bldg.
Sumter, S. C.