

**The Watchman and Southern.**

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The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the True Southern in 1866. 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.

**SHIRKERS AND SLACKERS.**

**Men Who Refuse to Bear Share of Burden of Defending Country Should be Forced to Do So.**

Editor The Item:  
There is a prevalent idea that contributions to the Red Cross and the buying of Liberty Bonds and Savings stamps is a voluntary matter with the individual. There never was a more egregious error. The man who refuses to pay a just and honest debt defrauds and wrongs the individual. He who refuses to come to the aid of his country in her time of need is a shirker and a slacker in the face of this whole broad land of ours.

The soldiers who are fighting for us and who are to fight for us must be fed and found, and it is we who must feed and find them. If I fail to do my part in this you will have to do it for me, and you are not going to look with favorable and lenient eyes on me when you perceive that I am adding my burden to your already overburdened shoulders.

The men who are called to the front have their choice of serving or of being sent to a federal prison and suffering disgrace for the balance of their lives. Shall we who are staying at home be allowed to shirk our duty with impunity? I say no. Let us disabuse our minds of the idea that we can have the burden of this war or not as we please.

It is not a pleasant thing to go over the country begging for money; and to be refused, perhaps with scant courtesy, comes near to be galling, especially when you consider that the money is not for ourselves, but for every man, woman and child in the land. We have our committees to go over the country soliciting funds. But this is not enough. There are people in every community well able to do so who have never contributed one voluntary cent towards the protection of the country to which they owe everything that they have. We need another committee. And this committee shall not say "Will you?" but "You will!" This committee should be given the names of those refusing to contribute to one or more of the three causes. It should visit the defaulter and ascertain the reason why and convince him that it is not a matter of his individual choice. In case of persistence he should be warned that his presence is no longer desirable in a community which he dishonors.

This is no longer a free country. It ceased to be so on April 6, 1917. It is a country at war. Disabuse your mind of the idea that you or I can contribute or not as we please to the support of this war. If we do not give our dollars and tens today, the time will come and that soon when we shall be forced by the iron hand of necessity to give our hundreds and thousands.

Richard B. Furman.

**Election of Teachers.**

At a recent meeting of the Board of Education the teachers of the public schools were re-elected for the session of 1918-1919. The teachers were granted the increase in salary asked for in their petition to the Board of Education.

Mr. Moise was re-elected and it is the sincere wish of the Board that he should return. He will do so, unless he feels the call to service imperative. Splendid results have been obtained in the music of the schools and the Board hopes that Mr. Moise will feel that it is his duty to continue this work.

The following teachers did not apply for re-election: Miss Olive Williams, Miss Lydia Richardson, Miss Celeste Hughson, Miss Julia Obenshain, Miss Eudora Kirk, Miss Katherine McKiever, E. D. Whisonant, J. B. Duffie. The Board prizes very highly the very effective services of these efficient teachers and regrets to lose them. Respectfully submitted,  
S. H. Edmunds,  
Superintendent City Schools

Washington, June 7.—Sinking of the Norwegian steamer Vinland by a German submarine 65 miles off the Virginia capes at 6 p. m. Wednesday, June 5, was announced tonight by the navy department. The crew was rescued and landed today at Cape May, N. J.

**COTTON MARKETING ASSOCIATION.**

**Farmers Organizing to Protect Price of Cotton.**

The farmers and business men of Sumter county met in the Court House at noon today for the purpose of forming an organization to co-operate with the South Carolina Cotton Marketing Association, formed in Columbia on May 14th. The Sumter County Cotton Marketing Association by vote decided to join with the State organization in the handling, grading, and sale of the cotton and cotton seed grown in Sumter county. After considerable discussion of the cotton situation at the present time the following resolutions were offered by Hon. L. D. Jennings and unanimously adopted:

Resolved that the Sumter County Cotton Marketing Association in meeting assembled, do hereby request the president of the South Carolina Cotton Marketing Association to call a meeting in the city of Columbia at the earliest possible date, of the members of the various county marketing associations for the purpose of sending delegates from South Carolina to any meeting that may be held by the representatives of the government for the purpose of fixing cotton prices, should said meeting decide it advisable to do so, and for such other business as may properly come before said meeting.

Resolved that every member of the Sumter County Cotton Marketing Association, here present, pledges himself not to allow a bale of cotton raised upon his place during the year 1918 to be sold for less than the minimum price that may hereafter be fixed by the government; should said government fix no price, then not to be sold for less than the price fixed by any price fixing association representing all of the cotton growing States. That should any cotton be raised on such place by any one who will not hold the same for such minimum price, then the said member agrees to purchase and hold said cotton himself for the price fixed.

Hon. L. D. Jennings and Mr. W. A. Bowman were unanimously elected as special representatives of the Sumter County Cotton Marketing Association to attend all meetings that may be held relative to the fixing of prices of cotton and cotton seed by the government or by any organization of the farmers of the Southern States.

By order of:  
J. M. KOLB, President.  
J. FRANK WILLIAMS, Secty.  
Sumter, June 10, 1918.

**STATEBURG COLORED AUXILIARY.**

**Liberal Subscriptions Made for Red Cross War Work.**

The colored Red Cross Auxiliary met on Sunday afternoon, May 19th, at Wayman chapel and was favored by the presence of Messrs. P. G. Bowman, C. M. Hurst, W. L. Saunders, J. F. Williams, C. J. Jackson and Rev. C. W. Boyd; also Mesdames Bowman and Saunders. The time being limited only Messrs. Bowman and Hurst had opportunity to speak, but these addresses were of the greatest importance.

Pledge cards were signed at Wayman chapel to the amount of \$200 and at St. Paul \$634. This is from the lower part of the township.

For membership during the month of May, Rev. Robinson at St. Luke raised \$50.11. Membership fees, Rev. Spivey at Wayman Chapel \$37.25 for membership fee.

(Mrs.) Hattie D. Taylor.  
John Spann, \$1; Elizabeth Brown, \$1; Elizabeth Keith, \$1; E. R. Robinson, \$1; Alice Robinson, \$1; Annie Bell Alston, 25c; J. A. Alston, 25c; D. B. Brown, \$1; Sam Gary, \$1; Wade Singleton, \$1; S. W. Wright, 25c; John Murray, \$1; Collection by M. J. Pinckney, \$5.25; John Sumter, \$1; G. P. Taylor, \$1; L. A. Crowson, \$1; Mansie Bradford, \$1; Mansie Bradley, 50c; Henry Gady, \$1; Rev. G. W. Spivey, \$1; Mack Saunders, \$1; Hattie D. Taylor, \$1; J. A. Gayle, \$1; Florence Lewis, 50c; Marion Buckner, 25c; Dave Dixon, \$1; Sarah Spann, \$1; W. M. Dease, Sr., \$1; Caesar Thompson, \$1; Walton Pinckney, \$1; Henry Moody, \$1; Katie Gadsden, \$1; Joe Keith, Jr., \$1; L. S. Ivory, \$1; B. Roach, \$1; Rachel Roache, \$1; Willie Roache, \$1. Total \$37.25.

**Boys' Working Reserve.**

Under the Boys' Working Reserve two boys, Emory Brown and Jesse Mims, will leave for Summerville on Wednesday morning to engage in farm work at the Agricultural Experiment Station located there.

Under the same organization six or eight boys left early this morning to assist in gathering wheat and oats on the farm of Mr. H. J. McLaurin. This job will keep the boys employed for ten days. The farmers are having an excellent opportunity to make use of a source of labor hitherto unavailable.

**GERMAN PLOT DISCOVERED.**

**DECLARED MOST SENSATIONAL UNDERTAKEN SINCE WAR BEGAN.**

**Five American Citizens and Two German Subjects, Including Woman Indicted.**

New York, June 7.—Five American citizens and two subjects of the German Empire, one of them a woman, are named as fellow conspirators in two indictments returned by a federal grand jury here today. Investigators declared their operations the most sensational undertaken by German intelligence agents since the war began.

The indictments allege conspiracy to commit treason and conspiracy to commit espionage. The assembling and transmission of information relative to America's prosecution of the war; the destruction of American piers, docks and troop transports, with fire bombs, destruction of quicksilver mines in this country to hamper the manufacture of munitions; assisting Germany in taking an armed expedition into Ireland; fomentation of a revolt against British rule in Ireland, raising of funds in this country with which to finance these operations, and destruction of munitions factories and mines in Great Britain are charged as ramifications of the intrigue.

The wording of the indictments, comprising thirty pages, intimates that the conspiracy may be of even broader scope. This is suggested by a paragraph in the treason indictment which alleges that in July last year one of the defendants sent a cablegram to Olten, Switzerland.

The principals named in the alleged plots are:

Jeremiah A. O'Leary, prominent American Sinn Feiner, now a fugitive from justice on charges of espionage violations for distribution of alleged anti-draft literature in the magazine, Bull.

Madame Marie K. DeVictoria, alias Baroness von Kretschman, a blonde-haired German woman, of striking appearance and about forty years of age.

Carl Rodiguer, who claims Swiss citizenship, but who is alleged to have come to this country from Germany under a fraudulent passport.

William J. Robinson, of New York, aged thirty, and under suspended sentence for seditious "soap box" oratory here in behalf of Sinn Fein interests.

John T. Ryan, a Buffalo, N. Y., attorney, alleged to have been active in spreading Sinn Fein propaganda in this country.

Albert Paul Fricke, a Mount Vernon, N. Y., toy manufacturer, whose affairs are now being administered by Allen Property Custodian Palmer.

Elmer E. Kipper, prominently identified with Sinn Fein activity in New York.

Rudolph Binder and Hugo Schweitzer, both of whom died last year, are the other two "citizen defendants" named in the indictments.

The seven individuals listed are charged with complicity in both conspiracies.

"Madame" DeVictoria, Rodiguer, Robinson, Fricke and Kipper pleaded "not guilty" to both indictments before Judge Augustus N. Hand, and were remanded to the Tombs to await trial late today.

O'Leary, now wanted on three charges, and Ryan, have not been apprehended.

**FATAL AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT.**

**Son of A. J. Baker, of Turbeville, Killed at Mayesville in Collision of Automobile With Passenger Train.**

Last night about 7.30 o'clock an automobile, in which Mr. A. J. Baker of Turbeville and his eight or nine-year old son were riding, was struck by the Augusta-Florence passenger train on the crossing in the town of Mayesville. Mr. Baker attempted to cross the track ahead of the train and his car was struck by the pilot of the locomotive just as the front wheels of the car got upon the crossing. The car was almost completely demolished and was thrown a distance of twenty or more feet. Mr. Baker was severely cut and bruised, but will recover. The little boy was fatally injured. He received immediate attention and after everything possible had been done for him by local physicians, he was placed on the Florence-Sumter train, due here at 9.35, to be brought to the Toumey Hospital, but died on the way. Mr. Baker was taken to the home of relatives in Mayesville and it is reported that he is getting on as well as could be expected.

Coroner Seale went to Mayesville this morning to hold an inquest, but had not returned up to the time this was written.

Men who use profanity always remind me of the fly that has the impudence to light on the swatter.

No man is great in the esteem of his younger sister.

**LEE COUNTY NEWS NOTES.**

Bishopville, June 5.—After a hot dry spell this section got a fine rain which was greatly needed, especially the gardens, which were suffering for moisture. We fortunately escaped the flooding rains and wind storms which visited other sections to the south and west of us, where the crops were much injured, especially oats and wheat, which were blown down badly. They were ready to be gathered, consequently many will be lost. The crops of oats and wheat all through this county were the best I ever saw. The farmers will feel this disaster very seriously as they were depending heavily upon these crops for grain and forage. The crops about this place are very good, and in fine condition. Some of the oat and wheat crops were already housed before the rain came.

The rains around Wisacky were very heavy, but not much damage was done to the crops.

The chaingang is at work on the Lynchburg road, doing very effective work. Lee county roads are among the best in the State, and still being improved. Work on our sewerage system is progressing slowly, all of the main pipes will soon be in place. Our streets have been greatly improved by the operation.

The day of fasting and prayer proclaimed by our president, was observed fairly well here. All business was suspended from 10.30 a. m. until 2 p. m. Religious services were held at each of the churches, which were well attended, but I don't think there was much fasting. Had the day been observed in the right manner and in the proper spirit, I believe rich results would have come to our country and success to our armies in this great struggle for universal freedom.

The machinery is being placed in the new creamery at Wisacky, after which it will be ready for business.

Fuel is very scarce and difficult to get. Our town was in darkness part of last week for want of coal and we had to fall back on our kerosene lamps for light.

The ice factory has been having trouble in getting enough fuel, but these wants have been supplied for the present.

A recent change in schedule of the Seaboard Air Line deprives us of the news from 8 a. m. to 11 a. m. when the train from Elliotts arrives.

Our town is very quiet and orderly, seldom anything occurs to disturb the peace. There is very little sickness in town or country.

**FIX COTTON GOODS PRICE.**

**Hearing Granted Representatives of Manufacturers—Byrnes Speaks for Growers of Staple.**

Washington, June 8.—The price fixing committee of the war industries board today held a meeting with a committee of the American Manufacturers' Association to discuss the question of fixing a price on cotton goods. Before this meeting Representative Byrnes of South Carolina had a conference with Chairman Baruch of the war industries board and later with the chairman of the price fixing committee, urging that no final action be taken which would in any way affect the price of raw cotton until representatives of the farmers had an opportunity to be heard.

Mr. Byrnes called the attention of the chairman of the price fixing committee to the fact that the price of raw cotton had decreased and was therefore in no way responsible for the increased prices now being demanded for cotton goods. The chairman advised Mr. Byrnes that at the meeting today he would not permit a discussion of the question of fixing a price for raw cotton and that no action affecting even indirectly the price of raw cotton would be taken without advising him and affording an opportunity for representatives of

the farmers to be heard. Mr. Byrnes stated that he is satisfied the price fixing committee is keenly alive to the true situation in the cotton market.

The County Democratic Executive Committee met Saturday with practically a full attendance. The most important business was fixing of assessments that candidates will have to pay to enter the campaign, and fix the dates for the county campaign meetings. The county campaign will open on August 9th at Wedgefield and meetings will be held at Rembert, August 13th, Dalzell, August 16th, Shiloh August 20th, Sumter August 23rd at night and 24th in the day. The assessments were fixed as follows: Senator \$60, Representatives \$30, Judge of Probate \$25, Superintendent of Education \$50, Magistrate at Sumter \$25, Wedgefield \$20, Dalzell \$15, and \$10 for all other magistrates.

**THREE U-BOATS DESTROYED.**

**British Submarine Hunters Score Success Against Sea Wolves.**

London, June 9.—Accounts of the destruction of three enemy submarines by British aircraft were published yesterday. It is explained that the longer hours of daylight enable seaplanes, airships and kite balloons to assist materially in hunting down u-boats. Summer conditions favor the submarine hunters.

**Let Me Put ELECTRIC LIGHT**

**On Your Farm ASK ME HOW!**

**FORSHÉE & CO.,**  
Sales Agents Sumter, S. C.

**How Many War Savings Stamps Have You Bought?**

- ☞ How many more will you buy?
- ☞ The government asks its people to show their loyalty and to show their spirit of co-operation through the purchase of War Savings Stamps.
- ☞ This month is War Savings month.
- ☞ The whole nation must work together if we hope to win this war.
- ☞ Each one of us must come in to our utmost—no one can afford to stay out.
- ☞ America is fighting a war for America—America is fighting a war for you. How much are you going to help America?

**N. B. — The Great Mass Meeting For War Savings Will Be Held June 16th. You Be There!**

This Space is Contributed to the War Savings Committee by  
**BOOTH-BOYLE LIVE STOCK CO.**