

Chamber of Commerce

Big County Mass Meeting For Monday Evening To Plan Welcome to Returning Heroes

Ladies and Gentlemen Urged to Attend.

The citizens of Sumter and Sumter County seem not to have sensed the opportunity presented to them in the County Court room last Monday evening at the meeting called by the Sumter County Chamber of Commerce to plan to entertain and to welcome the returned and returning heroes from the County of Sumter who helped to "bust the Hindenburg line," and to make the world safe for democracy, civilization, and decency.

While the citizens of the county seat, Sumter, turned out about seventy-five, strong, as we love to say, nevertheless this number was a very poor indication of our appreciation of heroic work judged by numbers at least, although individuals present were representative men and women, and the not more than four or five from the country districts, equally as patriotic and representative, all put together did not represent one tenth of one per cent of Sumter County's white citizenship who should have been present. Judged by the attendance at this meeting, if attendance is a criterion of the interest, then more than ninety-nine per cent of Sumter County's white citizenship do not care a rap whether our boys come home or stay in the encampments of Europe or in the cantonments of America. Neither are they interested in the heroes who have come home.

What is or rather, what was the matter with Sumter and Sumter County any how, that is judged by the poor attendance at last Monday night's meeting? By reference to another column of this issue of this paper it will be seen that President E. S. Booth of the Sumter County Chamber of Commerce, by orders received from the patriotic and grateful, comparatively few men and women attending the meeting last Monday evening, has appointed a very strong committee of arrangements of ladies and gentlemen representing city and rural districts to formulate suitable arrangements for a proper welcoming of our gallant boys who served in every branch of the service, at home or abroad, including those who have already arrived in their homes. And in order to retrieve if possible the spirit of loyalty, love, gratitude, and county pride which, judging again from the poor attendance at the first meeting, was for the moment lacking last Monday evening, President Booth has called, by order of the first meeting, another meeting for next Monday evening, March 31st at the Court room at 8:15 o'clock "new time" to give every one the full opportunity to show his and her, and Sumter County's gratitude, patriotism, and county pride by being there ready for business.

This is a Sumter County affair in every sense of the meaning. The ladies and gentlemen of the rural districts can well afford to ride in at a reasonably early hour of the evening under "set the clock up" time beginning next Sunday morning, in order to co-operate with their fellow citizens in honoring the city, town, and rural boys who deserve more honor and thanks at Sumter county's hands than we will ever be able to bestow upon them.

The ministers of every white church in this county have been written to by the secretary of the Chamber of Commerce requesting them to devote a few minutes of their Sunday service time on next Sunday to announcing next Monday evening's meeting, and urging their congregations to attend this important meeting. Even now it looks as though "our boys" will get home, or most of them any how before we can get ready to give them the glad hand in proper style.

So let us all appoint ourselves a committee of one to see that the "other fellow" attends next Monday evening's meeting. Sumter County ought to be out "in full force", the ladies and gentlemen, and then the entire county should "be on the jump" until "the boys come home" and until Sumter County has appropriately, as an entire county, honored the great heroes of the greatest war in history.

War Material Sold

Many Other Countries, Including Czecho-Slovakia, Get Supplies From Americans

Washington, March 26.—Sales to foreign governments of more than \$200,000,000 worth of surplus war supplies were announced today by the war department. Most of the material went to France, whose purchases included smokeless powder, acids, copper, cannon and steel plates, for which \$155,000,000 was paid.

Italy bought \$41,000,000 worth of machine guns and ammunition, acids and other supplies. The Netherlands bought \$685,000 worth of nitrate of soda. About \$1,000,000 worth of airplanes and supplies, \$496,000 worth of soldiers' personal equipment, \$294,000 worth of machine guns and \$171,000 worth of hand grenades went to Czecho-Slovakia.

Supplies were sold to other countries in the following amounts: Great Britain, \$2,300,000; Cuba, \$108,000; Liberia, \$14,500; Switzerland, \$9,500.

War on Poland

Russian Bolsheviki Will Open a Great Military Campaign in Spring.

Paris, March 27.—A great military campaign against Poland will be opened by the Russian soviet government in the spring, Joffe, the former Bolshevik ambassador to Berlin, declared at a recent meeting in Vilna, according to word received here.

Annual Auto Meeting

Sumter Association Launches Good Roads Movement for Sumter Township

Annual meeting of the Sumter Automobile Association which was held Tuesday evening was essentially a good roads meeting, as it was emphasized on all hands that the ultimate accomplishment of good roads for South Carolina was the great aim of the association, and the reason of its existence. At the meeting was launched a movement that has been in the minds of many for a long time, and that is making an effort to have Sumter township issue bonds for the building of asphalt, cement, or some other kind of hard surfaced roads.

The meeting was presided over by J. H. Myers, vice president of the association, who later in the meeting having to leave called Dr. Geo. Dick to the chair, who handled the latter part of the evening. After the usual minutes and reports were read Hon. R. B. Belser told the members of the course of the legislation attempted at the last session, of the various fights made upon the bills that were offered, and gave as his opinion that many members after getting back home and having heard from the people had changed their opposition and were now for the bill. He had with him and displayed a map of the proposed routes as planned by the State Highway Commission.

Dr. E. S. Booth and Messrs. R. B. Belser and H. A. Moses were appointed a committee to appear before the county commissioners and discuss with them the possibility of inaugurating in this county a system of section working and maintenance of roads. Messrs. W. P. Smith, S. K. Rowland and T. D. Forbes were appointed a committee to look after traffic legislation in the city. It was suggested that they again take up with Council the light-dimming question, and other particulars brought up.

The meeting suggested to the directors that they arrange an out-of-doors gathering of the members for some time not later than April 15th. The election of officers resulted: President—R. B. Belser. Vice Presidents—J. H. Myers and E. S. Booth. Secretary and Treasurer—H. A. Moses. Directors—E. S. Booth, J. C. Cooper, T. D. Forbes, S. A. Harvin, L. D. Jennings, S. L. Krasnoff, S. K. Rowland, A. Ryttenberg and W. P. Smith.

Talks were made by State Secretary Hawkins and State Treasurer Mills who were present. These gentlemen also made good roads their theme and voiced the opinion that there must be no let-up in the work until the roads were here.

Orders Issued

Gen. Moore Makes Announcements as to Annual Inspection.

Columbia, March 26.—As the annual inspection of the companies of the State militia approaches, the following order has been issued to company commanders by Brig. Gen. W. W. Moore, the Adjutant General:

"The annual inspection of your organization is near at hand, and I write this in order that you may be advised of what is necessary in order for your company to share in the State's annual appropriation.

"It is absolutely necessary for your company to send in the quarterly drill reports, blanks for which are furnished you by this office, properly filled out, showing the names of all members and their attendance at drills; also the recapitulation on the back of the report. These reports to be promptly mailed at the expiration of each quarter, July 1, October 1, April 1 and January 1. The property in your custody should be carefully gone over and made ready for inspection. The period of reconstruction after the war is now at hand, and this time of all others, should show your organization to be in a healthy condition, ready to cope with any emergency, and until a reorganization of the National Guard is effected, the patriotism and loyalty of the personnel of your organization should now be exhibited.

"With regard to the quarterly drill reports, which are so necessary for the files in this office, I might say that we have been much hampered in furnishing records due soldiers, who are now and have been connected with the United States army in the world war, on account of the failure of some of their company commanders to mail, properly prepared reports to this office. In the future a company will not share in the State's appropriation which does not furnish its quarterly drill reports. You are advised that a 60 per cent attendance at drills will have to be had and shown in your drill reports in order to share in the State's appropriation.

"I call the above matters to your attention in order that you may be advised of what is necessary in the way of drills and reports for the present year, and hope that no organization will be denied the privilege of sharing in the appropriation made and provided by the State.

"I would request that this communication be read to your organization at its first meeting and this office advised."

Riot in Virginia

Killing of Blind Tiger Followed by Mob Violence.

Winchester, Va., March 27.—Winchester spent a quiet day today after a night that threatened mob violence on account of the killing of one alleged bootlegger and the wounding of another by State prohibition agents. The mob, which assembled before the hotel last night where officers were sheltered dispersed after midnight.

Welcome for Thirtieth

Mayor Proclaims a Half Holiday in Honor of the Home Coming Soldiers.

When it became known positively that several detachments of the Thirtieth Division would pass through the city this afternoon en route from Charleston to Camp Jackson, Messrs. P. G. Bowman, E. I. Reardon and E. J. Brennan called on Mayor Jennings with the suggestion that a half holiday be proclaimed so that the people of Sumter might assemble at the A. C. L. station to greet and welcome back home the soldiers of the gallant Thirtieth Division that won imperishable renown in France by breaking the Hindenburg line. Mayor Jennings immediately accepted the suggestion and directed that business be suspended at 2 o'clock and asked the committee to call on all merchants and other business houses with the request that they close their stores and offices. This was done and all stores and offices agreed to close. The city hall bell was rung to notify the public that something big was in the wind and to bring all the people out to welcome the soldiers. Long before the trains were due to arrive at the station there was a great crowd waiting to greet the soldiers and when the troop trains pull in they will be given a real welcome home.

The Y. M. C. A. Campaign

The Amount Raised for Support of Association was \$6,490.31

The local Y. M. C. A. has just closed a most successful campaign—the most successful in its history. The committees have raised the sum of \$6390.31, which shows not only the very effective work that was done; but also the high esteem in which the association is held.

Mr. W. A. Bryan was selected by the board of directors as the general chairman of the campaign. The results justify in every way the wisdom of the selection. Mr. Bryan appointed as his two captains Mr. David Cuttino and Mr. L. C. Bryan and as captain of the High School team, Henry Edmunds.

The committee from the Board that worked in the interest of the sustaining memberships was composed of Messrs. C. E. Hurst, H. L. Scarborough, H. C. Haynsworth, W. B. Upshur, R. D. Epps, J. A. McKnight, Mr. L. D. Jennings rendered invaluable assistance at the mass meeting that was held in the interest of the association.

The following is the list of those that subscribed the largest amounts: L. D. Jennings... \$250 J. P. Booth... 200 R. B. Belser... 200 John H. Clifton... 200 J. Singleton Moore... 200 D. Jas. Winn... 190 Dr. H. M. Stuckey... 100 J. C. Cooper... 100 J. K. Crosswell... 100 E. L. Witherspoon... 100 W. Percy Smith... 75 H. L. Scarborough... 60 There was a large number who subscribed \$50 each.

The success of the campaign was largely enhanced by the delicious suppers that the young ladies served in the interest of the work. Everyone connected with the association appreciates very highly this attention on the part of the ladies.

Old Glory at Omsk.

American Flag Prominently Displayed in Siberian Capital of Russian Government

Omsk, Siberia, Feb. 2 (Correspondence of The Associated Press)—An American flag floating above the sidewalk and a picture of President Wilson in a window beside the flag is one of the first sights the American sees as, after a long, tedious and even dangerous trip from Vladivostok, he is driven at lightning speed in a tiny sleigh or sled down the principal street of Omsk.

The correspondent found that the flag hung over the door of the American Committee on Public Information. The Omsk branch of this organization was founded and is conducted by Robert E. Winters, of Washington, D. C. Like the correspondent of The Associated Press he labors by candlelight. When a visitor comes, the existing courtesy is to light a second candle. Cigarettes and cigars are lighted by candles and not by matches for matches are very expensive and are becoming scarce. Life in Omsk teaches respect for the little comforts of life one has previously disdained.

On an average 500 Russians come every day to the office of the Committee on Public Information. They come for the pamphlets and other literature, printed in Russian, which the committee distributes for the purpose of enlightening the people of Russia as to the aims and objects of the American people in the war and the general attitude of the United States on great world problems. Letters requesting copies of pamphlets are received from all parts of Siberia. Some of them enclose a bank note which is promptly returned. Literature is distributed to thousands of people and to newspapers and institutions of learning and various organizations.

The Siberian Creamery Association which has its headquarters at Barnoul, near the city of Tomsk, recently asked for 5,000 copies of the committee's weekly bulletin for distribution among its members.

In this way the ideals of America are being spread broadcast among the people of Russia.

London, Wednesday, March 26.—Italian troops have occupied Pressburg, 35 miles southeast of Vienna, on the Hungarian side of the border, according to a Budapest dispatch.

Special Sale

The Greatest SACRIFICE Sale of Used Cars

Ever Offered in Sumter

13 Cars IN EXCELLENT CONDITION 13 Cars

We have had our repair department overhaul each and every one of these Cars, and we believe that if you are looking for a bargain in a second hand Car we can please you.

One Chalmers, five passenger touring car, fully equipped, value \$1100
Special sale price \$950

One Chalmers, seven passenger touring car, fully equipped with new tires, value \$1500
Special sale price \$1400

One Dodge Bros., roadster fully equipped, value \$850
Special sale price \$775

One Dodge Bros., touring car fully equipped with new tires, top, and seat covers, value \$850
Special sale price \$750

One Chalmers five passenger touring car fully equipped, value \$1450
Special sale price \$1375

One Ford touring car, 1917 model, value \$500
Special sale price \$475

One Ford touring car, 1917 model, value \$450
Special sale price \$390

One Chalmers roadster, fully equipped (a real bargain, value \$1375
Special sale price \$1225

One Dodge touring car, value \$600
Special sale price \$550

One Maxwell, one ton truck, value \$800
Special sale price \$600

One "490" Chevrolet Passenger touring car, value \$600
Special sale price \$555

One Ford touring car, value \$250
Special sale price \$200

One Dodge Bros. touring car, value \$800
Special sale price \$700

We have one new one ton Maxwell truck delivered price \$1185 but on account of discontinuing the agency on this line, we are offering same at special sale price \$1100

New Chalmers, Dodges and Elcars in Stock.

SUMTER MOTOR CO.

SOUTH MAIN STREET

SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA