

The Watchman and Southern.

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The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the Truc 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.

PEACE CONFERENCE FRICTION.

Every little while there come from Paris alarming reports of differences developing in the Peace Conference. Recently it has been the dissatisfaction of the Italian delegation over the new boundaries prescribed for Italy and resentment of Japan over the race question. Before that there were disputes about the League of Nations, about war indemnities and many other things. France has been reported several times as highly indignant over something or other. The American delegation at one time protested against unfair treatment. Nearly every nation represented has seemed, at some time, in a mood to throw a monkey wrench into the peace machinery.

And in spite of all this, the work of the Conference has gone ahead steadily, continuously, and one might almost say, smoothly. During apparent deadlocks in special matters the other matters moved right along. Even these partial deadlocks, so far, have never lasted long.

It is possible that there has been more smoke than fire. Either the correspondents, at times, have exaggerated the friction, or else the delegates have had an unexampled gift for composing their differences. The latter is probably the truth.

Edouard de Billy, French high commissioner in this country, hit the nail on the head the other day when he warned Americans not to be unduly influenced by rumors of troubles in the Paris negotiations. Differences, he reminded us, are inevitable where so many nations and so many conflicting interests are represented. But he insisted that the differences appearing so far at Paris had been only the result of an honest effort to establish truth and justice.

Certainly the spirit of compromise and co-operation at Paris has been much more impressive than the spirit of quarrel and self-seeking. Those many-languaged representatives of fourteen different nations, seeking to settle the most complex of all wars and to establish the whole world's future, have got along, on the whole, more amicably and made more rapid progress than any United States congress of recent memory.

VICTORY LOAN AND BOLSHEVISM.

The Victory Loan will bring out all the Bolshevism in this country," says a war-loan worker. "And when it does, I hope we will do with the wavers of the red flag what is done with traitors in the war—shoot them."

This is an extreme utterance, and possibly an unwise one. There is no need of stirring up trouble by radical threats. It serves, however, as a timely warning. There is undoubtedly going to be a good deal of underground opposition to this loan, and a good deal of passive resistance. It does not follow, at all, that any person not actively helping to promote the loan or not subscribing to it is a Bolshevist and the enemy of his country. But it may help to clarify the situation if every citizen or alien resident will understand the suspicions he may incur if he fails to show the proper spirit on this occasion.

It will really be a blessing if the "V" loan separates the sheep from the goats, as it undoubtedly will in many cases. The sooner our Bolshevist goats are spotted and card-indexed, the better. Then we'll all know where we stand.

ANCIENT AND MODERN EDUCATION.

The predicted reaction has come in the academic halls. Princeton, long a strong-hold of the classics, requires no Greek either for getting in or out, and one year's study of Latin is all that is demanded for the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

Yale goes even further. No Latin is required for entrance to the university, nor any advanced algebra, trigonometry or solid geometry for Sheffield Scientific School. Even Oxford, the ancient English seat of education, sponsors the statement that "the classics, while all admit their inestimable services to learning in the past, are gradually receding into the background."

Of course this revolution is aimed

to meet the present demands for that sort of education which shall fit men to get rich the quickest, and to meet the condition arising from the high wages of unskilled labor; but it is a mistake to let it go too far.

There may be more money in modern languages than in ancient, yet some knowledge of ancient languages is of inestimable benefit in mastering the modern tongues and understanding the modern races that speak them. Undoubtedly much time has been wasted in old-fashioned, tortuous methods of calculation; but for all that, engineering is based on higher mathematics.

The past, in spite of all our modernity, cannot be ignored entirely, for it is straight to its "inestimable services" that we owe our present high development.

UNIONIZING THE MIDDLE CLASS.

A throb of sympathy stirs the salaried people of this country at the news that the English middle class has unionized in self-defence. Salaried people everywhere are tired of working at a dead level while labor, capital and prices all pass them, each waving its banner with the strange device, "Excelsior!"

Still, they really have only themselves to blame. Their condition arises from their failure to use for their own benefit and that of others a great power which they already possess—the power of clear, unbiased thought. For who are the middle classes—these salaried people? They are the thinkers of the world. The clerks, the doctors the lawyers, the teachers, the preachers, the great mass of educated people. They have been reared to read, to think, trained in faithfulness to duty and ideas. Having neither the selfish fears of capital nor the long bitterness of labor, they should be free from the prejudices and passions of either. And there are millions of them.

This great body trained to thought and speech is better equipped than any other to mold public opinion and direct public affairs, and always has been. But it has been asleep. In its sudden awakening to power is danger not only for itself, for all society. For this cool, clear-thinking middle class is the central balance which upholds the see-saw of the world. It must hold the world steady if it is to be held at all.

If instead of subverting their power to selfish personal ends, these middle-class folk will use it as it can be used, to force a proper adjustment of the affairs of all classes, all will be well. Otherwise we shall all go down together.

NEW VOLUNTEER ARMY.

With something like 1,500,000 troops still in Europe, the United States is planning to raise and send over a volunteer army.

It may look strange, but it is the natural and reasonable thing to do. The men now in the service nearly all enlisted or were drafted for the period of the war. Accordingly it is incumbent on the war department to muster them out when the war is over, or as soon thereafter as possible. Not only have they a technical right to return to civilian life, but most of them are tired of the war, and still more tired of the police duty that follows it, and want to get back to their families, friends and jobs.

It is evident that American troops are going to be needed in Europe for months, or even years, after the peace treaty is signed. There will have to be some garrisons left in the enemy countries to insure their compliance with the peace terms. It may be necessary to police Germany and Austria. It may be necessary even to do some more fighting before the big war is really finished. So a volunteer army is to be raised and shipped over.

A call is being issued now for 50,000 men. It is not expected that there will be any difficulty in getting that number, and as many more as may be needed. Thousands of young Americans will be glad of a chance to enlist for a three-year period for the sake of seeing Europe. This is especially true of adventurous lads from the training camps who were demobilized just as they were expecting sailing orders. A good many of the expeditionary force, too, will doubtless feel like re-enlisting after they have had a short vacation at home. Those who have never worn the khaki may have a hard time getting in, when once the enlistment rush has started.

RATIFYING CONSTITUTIONS.

If the Constitution of the League of Nations does have hard shodding when it comes to formal ratification, it will not be at all contrary to precedent. Most Americans, in their cheerful delusion that the early affection of the Republic were conducted with unanimous unanimity, quite overlook the rocky road the Constitution of the United States had to travel.

That document required about us

much time to draft as the present one is taking. It was finally signed and submitted to the thirteen states on September 17, 1787. The constitutional convention had agreed on it unanimously, after long debate, but there was no such agreement among the sovereign states they represented.

Only three states, Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, ratified the Constitution in that same year. In the following year it was ratified by eight more. Georgia, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, South Carolina, New Hampshire, Virginia and New York. North Carolina did not ratify it and come into the Union until November 21, 1789, eight months after George Washington had taken his office as President; and Rhode Island waited until May 29, 1790, two years and a-half after the Constitution had been submitted.

The conflict of opinion over the document was as marked as this long delay. Only three State conventions approved it unanimously. Massachusetts ratified it by the close vote of 187 to 168. New Hampshire by a vote of 57 to 46, Virginia—Washington's own State, and the mother of early presidents—by 89 to 79. New York by 30 to 28 and Rhode Island by 34 to 32.

The present Constitution will probably be ratified in this country far more promptly and willingly than its predecessor was, at least if it comes before the senate with the changes now contemplated. And it may easily be ratified by all the nations involved in a shorter time than the American Constitution required for ratification by the thirteen states then concerned.

BOLSHEVICKI SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The children in Russia are going to school just the way that children have thought they wanted to go since the first school was organized.

If the children do not like their teacher they dismiss him. If they are holding a "committee meeting" when he arrives he must not disturb them. When lunch time comes there is a stampede; for the first one in the lunch room is the first one served, and food is scarce. "Teacher" can say never a word, for he must not interfere with the rights of the individual.

There is no punishment. Attendance is not compulsory, and there are no marks. Oh joy!

But are these children really happy? Any one who knows anything about children knows that they are not. The child may hate rigidity, but he loves the comfortable background of law and order just the same. The undisciplined, insolent child is never the happy one.

And with this lawless present, what of their future, and of the future of our children who must contend with the results of that lawlessness in later years?

The problem of the Russian school children is the problem of the world.

GIVE EVERY BOY A CHANCE.

A beautiful summer camp near Hartford, Conn., was burned recently. The guilty parties proved to be two young boys, "Not old enough to hang" as the irate owner lamented. They said they did it "just to see it burn."

In direct contrast to this is the report in a Pennsylvania paper of the prompt action of some Boy Scouts in extinguishing a fire which started on the mountain side near a town and threatened dire consequences. The boys not only wanted to help, but they knew what to do. They recognized public danger and private responsibility.

There could be no better illustration of the value of that great movement which takes heed of the boy's love of action and directs it into proper channels without attempting to curb it otherwise.

The thing is to make the movement far-reaching enough to include all sorts and conditions of boys. The sorry urchin whose home influences are all bad needs kind and understanding leadership far more than the bright, dependable boy from the good family. If he doesn't get it while he is too young to hang he commits his minor crimes, and by the time he is old enough to hang he probably deserves it.

Every boy should have his chance at finding happiness in properly directed activity, for his own sake and for the public safety.

They say Foch wept when he signed the armistice. He was all broken up over the mildness and liberality of those terms. And the Germans wept, too—but not for the same reason.

It has not yet been discovered by wondering males how women succeed in getting into those new hobble skirts.

Hamburg, April 3.—An American ship bearing food supplies left Cuxhaven for Hamburg today. This is the fourth ship bearing foodstuffs for Germany that has arrived or is near the port.

HARBY & CO., Inc.

COTTON AND FERTILIZER MERCHANTS

If you have cotton to sell, see us, it will pay you.

If you have fertilizer or fertilizer materials to buy it will pay you to see us before you buy, Cash or approved collateral.

9 West Liberty Street

Cotton Market

LOCAL.
P. G. BOWMAN, Cotton Buyer.
(Corrected Daily at 12 o'clock Noon).
Good Middling 26.
Strict Middling 25 1-2.
Middling 25.
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NEW YORK COTTON MARKET.
Yes'd's Close
Open High Low Close
(New Style)
May . . . 25.88 25.97 25.85 25.88 25.63
July . . . 23.45 23.53 23.35 23.45 23.12
Oct . . . 21.25 21.54 21.25 21.33 21.08

Pension Board Meeting.

The new Pension Commissioners for Sumter County met on Saturday last and organized by the election of Capt. E. Scott Carson as chairman, and Dr. H. J. McLaurin, and Hon. W. O. Cain as vice chairman. All Confederate Veterans residing in Sumter county are invited to meet with the board on Saturday, April 5th immediately after the adjournment of Dick Anderson Camp, which meets on that day. And all Confederate widows and Veterans of this county not already on the Pension Roll are invited to meet with the new pension board at the Judge of Probate's office on Mondays, April 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th at 11 o'clock A. M. for the purpose of enrollment and perfecting the Roll of Honor.

Thos. E. Richardson,
Judge of Probate and Secretary Sumter County Pension Board.

If you have not paid your road and poll taxes for 1918, it might pay you to read the sheriff's card in this issue, whether you ever made a return or not.

\$50 REWARD FOR 150 BUSHELS OF CORN PER ACRE.

A reader noticing my offer of \$50 to the person who would first show me 150 bushels of corn grown on one acre of land says: "Do you mean it? If so, put aside that \$50 until next fall and I will take it for you."

I mean nothing less, and the \$50 is ready for the first person who shows me that acre. All that is just what was stated in the offer which has been made twice each year for the last several years.

Another reader asks, if we "put any limit on the amount of fertilizers to be used?" No, the limit is off. The grower may use as much fertilizer as he wishes. All I ask is to see 150 bushels of corn grown on one acre. When the corn is ready to harvest, I will measure the land and see the corn harvested. All I ask is that 150 bushels of mature corn—with the standard amount of moisture—be grown on one acre and that the grower show it to me.—Tait Butler in Progressive Farmer.

Road and Poll Tax Notice.

Road and Poll taxes due to the Sumter of Sumter for 1918, are now payable at my office in the Court House; or to the Rural Policemen. The Treasurer is required to issue warrants for the arrest of persons liable for these taxes, unless payment is made as above stated.

All men between 21 and 60 years old, are liable for Poll tax. All men between 21 and 50 years, unless exempt by law, are liable also for Road Tax; except those who live in towns, and pay Street Tax.

This applies to those who did not make returns, as well as those whose names are on the tax books. Prompt settlement will save trouble and expense.

C. M. HURST, Sheriff.
Sumter, S. C., April 25, 1919.

NOTICE

Of Application for Final Discharge, Estate of Edna Seymour, Minor.

On April 14th, 1919, I will apply to the Judge of Probate for Sumter County for a Final Discharge as Guardian of said estate.

LAWRENCE T. SEYMOUR,
Guardian.
Sumter, S. C., March 14, 1919.

Rome, Wednesday, April 2.—Secretary Daniels arrived here today to remain until Monday.

Paris, April 2.—The appeal for the independence of Korea will be submitted to the peace conference before the end of the week by a delegation representing the new Korean Young Men's Society.

Paris, April 3.—One happening in peace conference circles yesterday alluded to by the *Matin* and the *Journal* today as "a great event." The council of four actually issued a communique the newspapers point out, but it is added "it was only to tell us that General Smut is going to investigate Hungary." Smut's appointment is condemned by these two and other newspaper commentators, who see in the announcement of this Smut mission yet another procrastination by the peace conference.

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.

BEEWAX WANTED—Any quantity large or small Am paying best cash price. See me if you have any. N. G. Osteen.

SILK SHIRTS

Today the well dressed man wears a silk shirt, and the man who wears a nice shirt is naturally discriminating in his selection, of both pattern and fabrics.

Our line of silk shirts is complete embracing all the new color designs and materials. It is really a pleasure to see them. The prices vary according to the grade.

\$3.50 to \$5

Silk Mixed

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ALL SILK



BATES-STREET SHIRTS



for Well Dressed Men

The lines are being broken rapidly. Come in and buy your Easter supply now.

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