

The Watchman and Southern

Entered at the Postoffice at Sumter, S. C., as Second-class Matter.

PERSONAL

A committee composed of Mrs. J. W. R. Sumter, Miss Edith DeLoane and Miss C. L. Stubbs left this morning for Columbia where they will attend the state meeting of the League of Women Voters, which is to be held there today.

Mr. White Shaw returned to the city this morning from a visit of some length in Charlotte, N. C.

Mr. Al Keels left for Manning this morning.

Miss Lucille Timmons is a visitor in the city today.

Mr. Roger Siddall left the city this morning on a business trip.

The S. H. S. basketball team left for Columbia this morning where they are to play the Hyatt Park school a game of ball this afternoon at 3:30. The following personnel compose the squad: Messrs. J. and R. Wright, G. Wray, J. Lums, F. Shelton, J. Chandler, E. Beck, Weinberg and Coach McKnight.

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Meadows of Savannah, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Williams of Columbia, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Shelly and children of Hartsville are visiting Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Shelly on Wright st.

Miss Ethel Harper left this morning on a visit to Bennettsville.

Miss Bessie Murry returned to the city this morning after a visit in Manning.

Mr. T. B. Sims leaves for his home in Columbia where he will spend the week-end.

Mr. Thomas Kirvin, Jr., is spending the day in Sumter.

Miss Coby Herold, of Stateburg, is spending the week-end with her aunt, Mrs. S. R. Abbott on N. Washington street.

Miss Frances Deasley is spending the week-end at her home in the city.

Mr. J. C. Orvin of this city who has been associated with Kings Cash and Carry store, leaves Monday for Newberry, S. C., where he will have charge of Mr. King's new store at that city.

Miss Ada Marvin of Charleston is the visitor of Miss Pauline Haynesworth on Warren st.

Mr. Willie C. Hough left for Columbia today on a short visit.

Mr. James Covington Parham returned to the city this morning after a delightful visit in Moncks Corner.

Mr. William Purdy returned to his home at Bennet after a week-end visit in Sumter.

Judge James H. Pennington of Wallerboro arrived in the city this morning to preside over the spring session of court.

Mr. W. A. Stack of Columbia, arrived in Sumter this morning to take up his duties in the court as court stenographer.

Mr. Al Keels returned to Manning this morning after a week-end visit in the city.

Mrs. O. L. Williams and daughters, Misses Martha and Louise are spending the day in Columbia.

Mr. Shepard K. Nunn left for a short business trip to Columbia today.

Misses Eleanor Kobb, May Haynesworth and Louise Herold spent the week-end in Sumter from Coler College.

Secretary E. I. Randon left for Columbia this morning.

Miss James Thompson and Miss Marie Hammett have returned to the city from an extended visit in Daytona, Fla.

Miss Lucie Dibble, of Orangeburg, is visiting in the city.

Mr. M. L. Heddingfield has gone on an extended business trip to Jackson and numerous other cities of Mississippi.

Mr. Walter Rowland has returned to the city from Poughkeepsie Business College of New York.

Miss Lucie Brucey of Georgetown spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Duffant on Wright street.

Misses Lida and Fannie Robinson, who have been teaching in the city schools for several years, have resigned to enter the government service and left yesterday for their home in Charlottesville, Va.

Mrs. J. M. Enzor of Little Rock, Ark., is the guest of Mrs. H. M. Stuckey.

Lawson-Stuckey

Miss Mabel Lawson of Spartanburg and Aida Stuckey of the Stables section were married Friday at 1:30 o'clock at the residence of the bridegroom's sister, Mrs. P. E. Andrews, 1610 Two Notch road, the Rev. W. H. Polk, pastor of the Methodist church, performing the ceremony. The bride has taught in the Spartanburg school during the past year and has many friends throughout the state. The bridegroom is a prosperous planter of that section and it is thought that the young couple will make their home there.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrews entertained at a dinner party immediately after the ceremony assembling the mutual friends and a few relatives of the bride and bridegroom. Mr. and Mrs. Stuckey received over four hundred and fifty congratulations from the friends and relatives. Mrs. Fannie Langford of Hartsville came up for the wedding and assisted Mrs. Andrews in receiving and entertaining the guests.

James-Branson

Miss Edith E. Jones and Loring G. Branson were married at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Jones, near Haslev. The ceremony was performed in the presence of relatives and a few friends. The bride is a graduate of the normal school in the normal section of the county.

Death

William Yates, formerly of the Legion, died in Charleston this morning after an illness of several days. The burial services were held at the residence of the late DuPont on the 14th inst. at 10 o'clock, after which the remains were interred in the cemetery.

COURT CONVENES TODAY FOR TERM

Routine of Court Conducted in Very Businesslike Manner By Presiding Judge James H. Pennington

The court of general sessions convened this morning for the spring session of the court with Judge James H. Pennington, of Wallerboro, presiding.

The thoroughly businesslike manner with which the routine proceedings were disposed of this morning makes this court session which is to be completed in a few days and go a long way towards the clearing up of the long docket of prisoners who are to come before the court during this session.

Judge Pennington in charging the grand jury, stated that this was the first time that he was to have the pleasure and privilege of presiding that he was looking forward to his work here with much pleasure. He said that he had heard a great deal of this county and its people. A county, he asserted, was the product of the people of which it is composed and in just as good or as bad as the people of the county living in it. The government of any county, state or country is no better than the virtues of the people make it. He informed the grand jury that they were now members of an organization which is of a very ancient origin among English speaking people and that this institution has been in existence for hundreds of years. All persons ought to be tried without first being presented before the grand jury. The grand jury is therefore the right arm of the court, and it is their duty to carefully investigate all cases which are to come before it and ascertain whether or not there is a true bill. He explained what constituted a true bill and stated to the jury that they had the right to examine as many witnesses as they deemed necessary to satisfy them. If the case was clear enough so that the testimony of one witness seemed sufficient, then that case in with its proper rating. If the jury was not satisfied with the testimony given they had the right to investigate any number of witnesses.

Judge Pennington told the jury that the more pressing on the cases was not a small portion of their work and duty. He showed them where their duties extended over a very wide territory and covered a number of different phases. The thorough investigation of all the institutions of the county must be conducted by the jury. The same houses, the office of the county officials, the poor of the county, the jail, county buildings, the schools must all come under their supervision. They must see to the enforcement of the law. He stated that there was little wrong with the law, which is as perfect as is possible in this age, but that the trouble arose with the non-enforcement of the law. The good treatment of prisoners was stressed by Judge Pennington, he stating that just because of their colorless there was an excuse for any cruelty. He stated that one of the blindest pages of our history is the early maltreatment of prisoners. The schools and school systems received their proper stress in the charge and Judge Pennington gave statistics which were surprising. He stated that the average pay received by the teachers of South Carolina is a little more than an average of \$400 per year. This is a surprising statement. He said that at this day and time there could not possibly be an excuse for ignorance. The most apt education are those who must need it.

He stressed to the jury the great importance of the enforcement of the law, noting that enforcement of the law makes the very root of our civilization.

After having been duly sworn and received their charge, the grand jury repaired to their room to pass upon a number of cases turned over to them by the court.

The first case which came before Judge Pennington was that of a young white man, Clarence Goodings, who has been in jail for some time on the charge of forgery. Goodings plead guilty of the charge and drew himself upon the mercy of the court. Judge held his sentence over until he could thoroughly investigate the case. This is one of the cases which was brought over from the last session.

The next jury was sworn and the trial of Earl Dalton for the murder of John Jones Williams, which took place somewhere about December 5, 1918, began. The showing in regard to a new trial of the case of Earl Dalton, which was now before the court, is being made by the defense, G. H. Beck, Frank McLeod, Jennings and Taylor.

To the members of the grand jury Pennington stated that the law is the product of the people and in just as good or as bad as the people of the county living in it. The government of any county, state or country is no better than the virtues of the people make it. He informed the grand jury that they were now members of an organization which is of a very ancient origin among English speaking people and that this institution has been in existence for hundreds of years. All persons ought to be tried without first being presented before the grand jury. The grand jury is therefore the right arm of the court, and it is their duty to carefully investigate all cases which are to come before it and ascertain whether or not there is a true bill. He explained what constituted a true bill and stated to the jury that they had the right to examine as many witnesses as they deemed necessary to satisfy them. If the case was clear enough so that the testimony of one witness seemed sufficient, then that case in with its proper rating. If the jury was not satisfied with the testimony given they had the right to investigate any number of witnesses.

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PINEWOOD CASE IN LEGISLATURE

Judiciary Committee Attempts to Over-ride Vote of People

RESULT WOULD BE ANNULMENT OF ELECTION

Effort Being Made By Opponents of Annexation of Pinewood Section to Sumter County to Retain Territory in Clarendon County

Notwithstanding the fact that one hundred and eight voters of ninety square miles of Fulton and Calvey townships in Clarendon county voted to join Sumter county, a more than two-thirds majority as required by the state constitution, while only 42 voted against the annexation proposition, the judiciary committee of the house of representatives has today decided that twenty-eight voters who voted against the annexation proposition shall now spend the will of an overwhelming majority, and that those twenty-eight voters shall be permitted to draw a different dividing line, and a line that has never been voted upon, and out out approximately thirty square miles of the ninety square miles voted in according to the constitution.

A delegation of Pinewood citizens of whom fifteen were for the retaining of the entire ninety square miles voted in, and a delegation of four or five of the twenty-eight malcontents appeared before the house judiciary committee on Wednesday about this matter. It was clearly shown to the committee that the twenty-eight voters now petitioning the legislature to nullify the constitution of provisions and the will of an overwhelming majority, that of the 23 petitioners at least 12 are negro sharecroppers and tenants who own no land in the thirty square miles sought to be cut out in violation of law and in violation of a democratic majority rule. It was charged and admitted that among the 23 who now seek to upset the results of the election that two or three signed the original petition to Governor Cooper requesting the election to vote upon ninety square miles and that within the thirty square miles proposed to be cut off that at least some of the influential voters who requested that they and their lands be taken to a sumter county through the due process of law in the special election held September 7, 1920, did ask that the original proposition to annex sixty square miles be increased to ninety square miles in order that those within the extra thirty square miles could possibly hold the balance of voting power, vote against annexation to Sumter county and possibly keep those within the sixty square miles originally desired to join Sumter county from getting a two-thirds majority. These leaders through their leaders asked to be taken in by increasing the area to 90 square miles. The constitutional provision as shown by Hon. L. B. Jennings and Senator John H. Clinton, requesting that the overwhelming majority voting to join Sumter county provide that there shall be a poll-tax to order the election, a survey, commission of election, a special election, etc., all of which was legally complied with in the election. No protest, no charges of irregularity in any sense whatever, just a kick after the election has been held and results certified and approved, and an effort of the leaders of the twenty-eight to change the lines in violation of the law and the constitution of this state. The twenty-eight could have remained in Clarendon as they were not included in the original 90 square miles. The constitution provides that the legislature has authority to fix county lines, but only after certain requirements have been complied with, these are as above stated and the people in the territory proposing joining another county or forming a new county have petitioned, surveyed, and voted on the proposed new lines. It was contended by Messrs. Jennings and Clinton that the legislature can not change the area from ninety square miles as voted upon, or change the lines as requested now because the people voted upon certain surveyed area and lines, and that the line proposed by twenty-eight voters has never been voted upon in an election petitioned for, surveyed, or certified, or ordered by the government as required by the constitution. It was decided by the judiciary committee is contained in the house and senate that there is no way to avoid the law and the constitution of this state. It was contended by Messrs. Jennings and Clinton that the legislature can not change the area from ninety square miles as voted upon, or change the lines as requested now because the people voted upon certain surveyed area and lines, and that the line proposed by twenty-eight voters has never been voted upon in an election petitioned for, surveyed, or certified, or ordered by the government as required by the constitution. It was decided by the judiciary committee is contained in the house and senate that there is no way to avoid the law and the constitution of this state.

The 198 voters who feel that they haven't been treated right still hope that the house and senate and Gov. Cooper will see that a two-thirds majority of voters can not be run over by twenty-eight voters. The judiciary committee has established a precedent by its decision, which if approved by the house and senate, will be something that no previous legislature has ever stood for, and opens the door for future complicated tangles in new county or changing county lines elections. The one hundred and eight voters who want the entire 90 square miles joined to Sumter county believe in the carrying out of a gentleman's agreement, and are indignant that a "double cross" has been put over on an overwhelming majority of voters. A fair and square election was held and participated in by the 23 who now seek to override 198 of their fellow citizens. Now that the 23 who went into the election ostensibly in good faith, but actually for the purpose, or at least with the purpose on the part of some of their leaders, to defeat the will of the majority, have been defeated they seek to change a county line in defiance of the constitution and over the expressed wishes of 198 voters. Is this democracy? Will the legislature allow a minority of 16 freeholders or even of the 23 voters to run over 198 voters who won the election by fair and square, open and above board methods?

Nullification of new county or annexation elections by the legislature has heretofore been merely approval or certification of such elections and for record. Where does the authority of the judiciary committee and about 15 freeholders come from in this case?

Mr. W. M. King, who started the original cash and carry grocery in this city some two months ago reports that he has plans under way to open stores of this kind at several other cities, and will add the second to his "chain" when he opens his store at Newberry, S. C., on Monday. The Sumter Cash and Carry store has been a success from the start with business still going in high gear.

Mr. J. C. Orvin of this city, who has been associated with King's Cash and Carry, leaves Monday for Newberry, where he will have charge of Mr. King's new store at that city.

The Junior's Valentine Social. Friday evening the Junior's department of Trinity M. E. church under the supervision of Mrs. Alex. Probst and her able assistants, Misses Eva Sires and Maud Beatty, gave a valentine party in the Sunday school room. Between eighty and ninety were present. The first was a song, which thrilled in sweetness by the many little folks; next was the play of the hearts, whose future was foretold by the piercing of the hearts of Saint Valentine.

At the close of the King and Queen, Miss Sires held the huge heart while each drew cards, and formed in line keeping in time to the march, played on the piano by Mrs. J. W. Cox.

Miss Maudie Chandler and Mrs. Pranson had the table arranged so each child could enjoy all the dainties in their hearts' center. The post-office was packed with valentines for all. At ten, the evening was over and very reluctantly they bade adieu to the evening with many thanks to the teachers for an evening of so much pleasure.

The "Ball" composed by Miss Beatty was given.

Death of Infant. The little eight month infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Jackson died Thursday morning at 7:30 after an illness of several weeks. This little girl, Miss Beatty, was preceded in death by her mother who died on last Sunday evening.

The funeral services were held on Friday from the residence, No. 31 1/2 Eastern street at 11 o'clock, and the little girl was buried in the cemetery. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. J. H. Clinton, pastor of the Lutheran church.

Funeral sympathies are extended to the parents of these little infants in this their double loss.

Traffic was stopped for a short time this morning on Church street, due to the falling of a light pole and many wires across the street. The pole was rotten at its base and a large transformer near the top of it rendered it top heavy, so that it was unable to withstand the strong gusts of wind. The current was cut off on this circuit and repairs were soon begun.

also overridden by a few who want the authority to rule. They see no use in a constitution—no use for elections if a handful of men can ride roughshod over a majority this way. The legislature can, according to Messrs. Jennings and Clinton, and according to the constitution refuse to allow the ninety square miles to be joined to Sumter county, but that would be an anti-democratic and unjust denial of democratic, constitutional rights. But it is contended that according to the constitution the legislature can not change any line that has been voted upon by the people, and allow a new line to be made which new line has never been voted upon by any election ordered by the government. Under the decision of the judiciary committee a few voters voting against a new county or changing county lines can usurp the prerogatives of the governor, can without any election change any new county line or annexation lines voted upon, and can do these things in defiance of the constitution of the state.

If the legislature allows the proposed new line and area which were never voted upon by any election then there has been no election to fix the legal status of the sixty square miles left, because the people didn't vote on the sixty square mile area, nor on the county line now proposed by the sixteen free holders against the 198 voters voting for the 90 square mile area. They voted on the county line and 90 square mile area ordered by Governor Cooper.

The 198 voters who feel that they haven't been treated right still hope that the house and senate and Gov. Cooper will see that a two-thirds majority of voters can not be run over by twenty-eight voters. The judiciary committee has established a precedent by its decision, which if approved by the house and senate, will be something that no previous legislature has ever stood for, and opens the door for future complicated tangles in new county or changing county lines elections. The one hundred and eight voters who want the entire 90 square miles joined to Sumter county believe in the carrying out of a gentleman's agreement, and are indignant that a "double cross" has been put over on an overwhelming majority of voters. A fair and square election was held and participated in by the 23 who now seek to override 198 of their fellow citizens. Now that the 23 who went into the election ostensibly in good faith, but actually for the purpose, or at least with the purpose on the part of some of their leaders, to defeat the will of the majority, have been defeated they seek to change a county line in defiance of the constitution and over the expressed wishes of 198 voters. Is this democracy? Will the legislature allow a minority of 16 freeholders or even of the 23 voters to run over 198 voters who won the election by fair and square, open and above board methods?

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BOOZE NOOZE

We learn with regret of the misfortune of Luke Ingins who lost twenty gallons of beer last week from still number 32 while he was away visiting his Uncle Jasper, who lives on Bear Hollow way. Luke had four visitors with him and they didn't leave anything but the location.

The Bill Finch of Mill Creek, one of the most respected and oldest members of the A. M. O. C. L. (Associated Manufacturers of Chain Lightning) has just made another large run. Bill says he is putting out a new brand under the name of 291 and that if he ever have another run, twenty gallons of his elixir will whip any European nation.

It is whispered among those in the trade that sugar is to take another slump. Market conditions of potash also look favorable.

Frog Mullins brought in a large load of junk yesterday which he disposed of at a nice profit.

A meeting of all members of the A. M. O. C. L. is called for next Wednesday night at 10 o'clock to consider the question of increased corn acreage for 1921. Everyone is expected to attend. Bring your friends. Refreshments will be served after the business meeting.

Rumors still floating of certain numbers who are cutting prices. If this is found to be true they will be expelled in disgrace from the association. We must maintain our prices regardless of quality.

Hang Gruggins has just installed a new fifty gallon still of the most modern make. Hank always was a most progressive fellow.

SERMONETTES ON SERIOUS SUBJECTS.

No. 4—Are You Right With God.

(By Jno. A. Brunson.)

Self-deception is a very common malady among mankind, and it is as dangerous as it is common. Through self-deception one is sometimes thrown into a state of false alarm, and is led to adopt an unwise course of procedure. On the other hand one may by self-deception be lulled into a sense of false security, and remain quiescent in the face of imminent peril. In either case harmful results may follow.

In nothing is one more liable to be self-deceived than in the matter of religion. Few people seem to understand what true religion is. About most things their ideas are clear-cut, and their judgments are intelligently formed; but in reference to religion their thoughts are often immature and their reasoning fallacious. Some seem to think that the essential part of religion is a system of doctrine upon which the faithful have written the label "orthodoxy" and that the chief duty of a religionist is to defend that system when it is assailed by another. Others seem to think that doctrines are of secondary importance. Their motto is, "Not creed, but character; not dogmas, but deeds; not profession, but fruit." And hence one often hears from such the remarks: "It makes no difference what one believes, if he is honest in his belief." Manifestly such conceptions of religion are superficial, and indicate not only a lack of clear thinking, but also the complete absence of experimental knowledge.

Of course true religion embraces both dogmas and deeds