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The Meeting Yesterday.

Senator Tillman Discusses at Length the Dispensary Question--Other Speakers

Between 800 and 1000 persons, among them a number of ladies, assembled on the court house square yesterday to hear Senator Tillman and the candidates for the national house speak. The meeting was presided over by County Chairman D. R. Williams, who in appropriate words introduced the speakers, Senator Tillman being the first. The senator, who is looking remarkably well, spoke for more than an hour and a half in his characteristically forceful and impressive manner, the theme of his discourse being the dispensary. He said after his arduous labors in Washington it would have been pleasant to have gone to his home undrested, but he felt that he was under obligations to the people of South Carolina, and although without opposition for reelection, he therefore decided to make as many speeches as practicable in this campaign, recognizing as he does the fact that the people look upon him as a leader and are entitled to his advice and counsel. He explained why he inaugurated a "circus" of his own instead of following the regular state campaign speakers. Owing to the number of state candidates, about 25, it is impossible for one in the limited time allowed each speaker at a meeting, to give an intelligent idea as to who he is and what he stands for. He therefore determined not to accompany the state campaign party.

Mr. Tillman soon got down to the issue before the people—the dispensary. He gave a history of its establishment and reviewed its record up to the present. He said that there are only three ways of handling the liquor question, by prohibition, dispensary or license. He dwelt on the impracticability of prohibition and stated his objection to the license system. He contended that the dispensary is the best solution. He said that a legislature should be elected that will throw the proper safeguards and restrictions around the state dispensary, and in this connection pointed out his objections to a system of county dispensaries in lieu of the present system. If rottenness and corruption can not be kept out of the state dispensary, it will be impossible to prevent graft, stealing and rake-offs in a county dispensary, where the opportunities for rascality will be very much greater. He jumped on the last legislature with both feet. He said that the members elected 2 years ago were elected not on issues but on their good looks or good speeches. The dispensary was not then an issue. After repeated charges of corruption in the management of the dispensary the legislature neither killed the system nor passed a law to purify it.

The Senator reviewed the work of the dispensary investigating committee, which, he said, had failed to secure evidence upon which parties accused or suspected of stealing could be convicted in a court of law. He charged the committee with refusing to pursue its inquiries in certain cases, notably in the Newberry matter and the Lanahan affair.

Earthquakes in Texas

And New Mexico---Panic Along the Rio Grande---Earth Shook all Wednesday Night.

Sante Fe, N. M., July 18.—Two more earthquake shocks occurred at Socorro this morning. The shocks were felt distinctly as far South as El Paso, Tex., where, yesterday, a street car was thrown from the tracks by a shock. Refugees from Socorro and other towns in the Rio Grande valley are daily coming to Santa Fe and Albuquerque.

All night long one tremor after another passed over the lower Rio Grande valley, keeping the people at the highest tension. But few have slept in houses for the past few nights. Observers reported thin spirals of smoke in the lava fields in the direction of Alamo Gorda, probably from hot springs or other volcanic manifestations.

A drenching rain passed over the valley during the night, adding to the discomfort of campers.

[El Paso had its first shake last Monday, when buildings rocked and many persons fled to the streets.]

Death of Mrs. F. W. Eldridge.

Mrs. Eldridge, wife of Mr. F. W. Eldridge, proprietor of the Hobkirk Inn, Camden, died yesterday, in that city. The burial takes place this afternoon at 6 o'clock. Mrs. Eldridge was a native of Indiana and was a lady of marked nobility of character and most pleasing personality. Mr. Eldridge's many friends in Lancaster, as well as elsewhere, deeply sympathize with him in his great bereavement.

He said that anti-dispensaryism is largely founded on anti-Tillmanism and the old barroom sentiment. He looks upon the work of the last legislature and its investigating committee more in the light of an effort to ruin and discredit the dispensary than to purify it. He denied that the dispensary profit is in any sense "blood money." If it is blood money the United States government, in its system of liquor revenues, is getting millions of dollars of it.

The Senator also paid his respects to the newspapers, and especially to the Columbia State. He discussed the question of compulsory education, to which he said he is opposed, giving his reasons for his opposition, principally on account of the advantage that would accrue to the negro; also the increase in taxes that would be necessary. He said if the people are determined to have something like compulsory education, why not pass a law not to allow children under 12 or 14 years of age to work on cotton mills who are unable to read and write.

For lack of time and space we are able to give only an imperfect and incomplete summary of Senator Tillman's able and comprehensive speech. We hope to present a fuller report in our next issue.

As The News goes to press this, Friday, afternoon, the candidates for Congress—Messrs. Finley and Strait—are speaking.

The Colored Teachers'

District Summer School--Report of the Work by the Instructor---Advice to Colored Teachers.

The Summer Normal School for colored teachers was held at Rock Hill from June 8 to July 13. Lancaster, Chester, York, Kershaw and Cherokee counties, were well represented. The District School idea, after all, is good. The enrollment went to 109 teachers. The interest ran high. State Superintendent O. B. Martin was well satisfied with the character of the work done. We are glad to state to our teachers who attended that we have succeeded in getting their pay for having attended. You will call at the County Superintendent's office and he will pay each his or her part.

We hope to raise the standard so high that it will not be long till the inactive and non-progressive teachers must take a back seat. We want better results and can only get such by appealing to the powers that be to assist us in promoting and raising the standard of our rural and city schools. The negro race is in a helpless condition in many instances and without a change we can't be saved. The school room is the fountain head. It is not more schools needed but more qualified teachers. Less seeking after the pay and more earnestness in trying to elevate humanity to a high standard of citizenship. We need men and women who look upon gold and silver as contemptible dross when compared with human souls that must be polished and brought forth in heaven's light to shine forever. Such should be the motive actuating the negro teacher. A flood of moral evil is overshadowing us now. But little estimate, in many cases, is placed upon merit, success and moral worth. Educate your children if you must put your hands in your own pocket to do it. Encourage the building of better and more attractive school houses, dear teachers, and your work will bring its reward, and no set of trustees will be apt to change you for another when you have on your merit won their confidence.

M. D. Lee,

Instructor.

Lancaster, S. C., July 18, 1906

Florida Sheriff Shot.

Deland, Fla., July 19.—Sheriff J. R. Turner was shot in the left breast and perhaps fatally wounded by his deputy, C. M. Kurtz, while they were raiding a "blind tiger" at Lake Helen this morning. Kurtz fired at one of the negroes, who was trying to escape. The bullet struck the side of a door, glanced and penetrated Sheriff Turner's breast.

In the excitement that followed all the negroes escaped.

Marion's Meeting

Candidates Continue to Sing Same Old Songs with Slight Variations.

Condensed from Columbia Record: Railroad Commissioner Wharton took up the Sunday train complaint in this section, declaring that the commission is not responsible for its continuance, as they had issued copies of the law to every railroad official and it is now up to the grand jury to prevent the violators.

Mr. Causler said what he objected to is that the railroads carry Armour goods free.

This is the home of Candidate John C. Sellers and he cut his speech short.

Mr. Sullivan thought he could aid in correcting railroad discriminations.

Mr. Summersett was evidently born under a rhyming planet, as will be seen from the following couplet: "All the votes that Sellers does not get I hope you'll give to Summersett."

Mr. Manning answered the Blease criticism of his vote on the Jim Crow car bill by stating that when it was first introduced its provisions were glaringly defective and actually indecent, so that he and others felt that they had no course but to oppose it and it was defeated. Afterward, when these defects were remedied, he voted for it. He declared that the advocates of county dispensaries offer no plans to safeguard them from the very evils that exist in the state dispensary, while he did offer a well digested scheme for purifying the present state dispensary.

Mr. McMahan stood for a system of education that shall be complete from the university at Columbia to a school in the poorest districts supported by the state if necessary. He was emphatic in the declaration that he stood for progress to bring about that better state of affairs which is within our grasp if we but have the courage to reach it. The moralist had raised his howl against barroom license money, so the cry of tainted money for the schools from the dispensaries is far-fetched. The position of dispensers is not disgraceful, so good men will take it. The prohibitionists had made a fatal mistake inculcating the contrary idea.

Lieutenant Governor Sloan pictured Ansel as holding a glass of whiskey in one hand and a glass of water in the other, saying, "boys, have something." He did not care which they took if they would elect him governor.

Mr. Ansel said he had served for twelve years as the law and order representative of his district. He had no claims to present, but presented himself. The county officials manage other things and they ought to manage

The Chester Meeting.

Senator Tillman and Latimer and Candidates for Houses Speak.

Chester special in yesterday's Observer: About 2,500 people from Chester, Fairfield and York gathered two miles south of the city to day to hear the political addresses. Senator Tillman was the first and foremost speaker. Senator Tillman prefaced his remarks with a statement of the pleasure it afforded him to be present on this occasion. Then he plunged into a discussion of the liquor question. He paid his respects to the prohibitionists and touched upon the members of the last Legislature, whom he charged with having betrayed their constituents and the State.

After dinner the crowd listened to Senator Latimer. Mr. Latimer's speech was all along the usual lines, most of it bearing on rural free delivery and good roads. The people of Chester are fond of Senator Latimer and his speech was well received.

Congressman D. E. Finley and his opponent, Hon. T. J. Strait, urged their respective claims and the meeting adjourned at 4 o'clock.

New Mercantile Company Chartered.

Columbia Record: Today the secretary of state issued a commission for a charter to the Cash Buyers' union, of Lancaster, a concern capitalized at \$5,000, to do a general mercantile business, with T. A. Dabney as president and Mr. J. P. Davis as secretary and treasurer.

Atlanta Lawyer Drowned.

New York, July 19.—Walter Ormond, a lawyer of Atlanta, fell overboard and was drowned from the steamer Kansas City, while en route from Savannah, Ga., to this city. The drowning happened yesterday while the Kansas City was coming up the coast.

the whiskey. They are having county control in Virginia now and it is coming in Carolina.

Mr. Blease referred to Marion having voted out the dispensary and declared that to day there is no scarcity of liquor here. Go to the depot and watch the train and you will see liquor left here in jugs and you will also see that instead of you people getting the profits they are going to North Carolina and Georgia, while the people are drinking liquor just the same and some of these people that are hectoring the dispensary down are some of the first to get jugs when the dispensary is gone.

As Mr. Blease concluded Mr. Manning came forward and made the statement that he had never concealed his views from anyone. His position as a congressman was known of all men and he left it to those who knew him, being willing to abide by the result.