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SECRET ORGANIZATION AMONG THE PLANTERS

PERSISTENT RUMORS AFLOAT THAT THERE IS.

An Interview In Regard to Mistakes In Acts By the Recent Legislature.

(By John K. Aull.)
Special to The Herald and News.
Columbia, March 22.—For some several weeks there have been persistent rumors of a secret organization among the farmers of South Carolina. This correspondent was on a trip through Kershaw and Lee counties recently, and heard considerable talk along this line. On the same trip was Mr. O. E. Crowson, editor of the Winnsboro News and Herald. In writing of the matter he says:

"We ran across a singular condition of affairs in Lee county, during our visit there. We do not know how general it is in the State, but, from inquiries, we are disposed to think that the movement is more general than might be supposed. We regard it as the outcome of the unusual financial conditions which have obtained in this country, and of the agitation for the relief of the farmers. The meeting in Lee county was under the auspices of the Farmers' union, but we heard of a secret organization that is said to contain in that county at least 700 members, called the Farmers' association. The initiation fees and dues are very small, and, from the inquiries which we made, it seems to be not in opposition to the Farmers' union, but a closer organization for the purpose of getting the farmers to act together, not only financially, but politically.

"We could not get much information on the subject, as everybody seemed to be so close-mouthed, but that there is in process of formation such an organization as that in South Carolina can not be doubted, because we received the information direct from several who attended the meeting on Friday."

That there is some such movement on foot, there seems to be no doubt, but, as Mr. Crowson says, it is hard to get any definite information in regard to it.

Legislative Mistakes.

In reference to mistakes made in acts passed by the last general assembly, in regard to which there is much discussion, a gentleman familiar with legislative matters, had this to say:

"When a member of the general assembly desires to have a bill drawn, he outlines it to a solicitor. The solicitor draws it in the rough and hands it to a young lady in the engrossing department, who copies the bill. The solicitor then reads it and marks on it, 'correct,' and signs his name. The bill then goes into the house or senate, and takes its usual course, and if passed by both houses, with or without amendments, goes back into the engrossing department and is enrolled for ratification. The solicitor then takes it and reads it over with the clerk or some one else, and puts on the back of it the following: 'Read and found correct and properly enrolled for ratification.' The bill then goes back to the house in which it originated and is placed in the hands of the committee on enrolled acts. The members of that committee read it and compare it with the original, and report it correctly enrolled and ready for ratification. Then it is ratified, being signed by the speaker of the house and the president of the senate. Then it goes to the governor for signature, and the governor is supposed to read it. Now, when it has passed through all these channels, how can the blame for a mistake be laid upon a young lady clerk?"

"The following will be found on page 84, Journal of the Senate, February 20, 1915, under the head, 'Report of Committee on Enrolled Acts: 'The committee on enrolled acts submits the following as correctly enrolled and ready for ratification: S. 53 (H. 18), Mr. Patterson: An act to amend sections 3354, 3355 and 3356, Vol. 1, Code of Laws, 1912, relating to the State Hospital for the Insane and providing a government for the same. (Signed) R. D. Epps, for committee. Now, why should the blame upon the young lady clerks?" concluded the gentleman talking to your correspondent. Sheriff C. J. Lyon, of Abbeville, who has received his commission as mar-

WAR SUMMARY.

Operations of the allied fleet in the Dardanelles, interest in which has been intensified by the powerful resistance of the Turkish forts and the disaster to three of the allies' battleships, have been delayed by unfavorable weather conditions, but it is expected they will be developed in full force as soon as warships now on the way to replace those sunk join the fleet.

Sixty-four members of the crew of the French battleship Bouvet, one of the three that was sent to the bottom on March 18, were saved, thus probably about 600 men of that ship perished. The loss on the British ships Ocean and Irresistible is official, announced to have been small.

Land fighting is continuous, particularly in the east. In Poland the Russians claim to have forced the Germans back into their own territory after the Taurigen engagement, and they announce also the capture of Memel.

Elsewhere in the Carpathians and Eastern Galicia the Russians report successes, and declare a sortie by the Przemysl garrison was repulsed. Vienna's account of this sortie is to the effect that strong Russian forces were encountered in an easterly direction and that the Russians were forced to retire after an engagement. In France the Germans have gained over the British in the region of St. Eloi, and report also they have repulsed French attacks in Champagne, the Argonne forest and in the Vosges.

The French war office, on the other hand, describes briefly the capture of a German position in the Argonne after two days' struggle.

According to the secretary of the imperial German treasury the subscriptions to the second war loan are much greater than those to the first. The two war loans amount to \$3,000,000,000.

Both British and German naval arms are active in seizing neutral steamers. The Germans have seized two Scandinavian vessels in the Baltic and a Dutch steamer in the North sea. The British have detained a large number of steamers, and in addition have captured a Spanish ship proceeding for a German port with iron ore.

No definite news has been received regarding developments in the Italian situation with respect to the war, but all Italian reserve officers born between 1882 and 1887 have been recalled under the colors for a limited period.

Persia has called upon Russia to evacuate the province of Azerbaijan, Northwest Persia, according to an item given out by a news agency in Berlin.

Foreign trade of France suffered a decrease of \$126,400,000 a month during the first two months of this year, as compared with the same period in 1914, according to statistics prepared in Paris. The decrease was equally divided between imports and exports.

The March Debate.

"The annual March debate between the Excelsior and Phrenakosmian societies was held in the city opera house on Friday night before an audience that packed the house. The debate was very interesting and both societies are due credit for putting out men who can make such a creditable showing. The subject of the debate was: 'Resolved, That the States of the American Union should adopt the initiative, referendum and recall for all elective and municipal officers, excepting judges.' The affirmative was upheld by the Phrenakosmian society, while the negative was represented by the Excelsior society. The judges, after a short deliberation, announced their decision in favor of the negative.

Meant Well.

Regular Customer—I shall want a large quantity of flowers from you next week for my daughter's coming out.

Flower Woman—Yes, mum. You shall have the very best for 'em, pore dear. Wot were hse put in for?—Punch.

He—Are you superstitious when 13 persons sit down to the table at the same time?
She—Well, not superstitious, but I am sometimes worried, if I have cooked only enough for ten.—Woman's Home Companion.

THE GALLON-A-MONTH ACT MAY BE TESTED IN COURTS

Reported Three Columbia Lawyers Doubt the Constitutionality of New Law.

News and Courier.

Columbia, March 20.—The "gallon-a-month" act may be tested in the courts, according to reports around the capitol this morning. It was stated that three well-known Columbia lawyers had gone over the act and decided that it was unconstitutional in several of its provisions because the title did not conform to the act. However, the railroad companies are taking no chances, but are complying with the act, and several citizens have appealed to the governor to intercede to allow them to get liquor which they said was ordered before this act went into effect. However, Gov. Manning can do nothing and the recourse dissatisfied citizens can resort to is to have the law tested in the courts.

There seems to be a very general observance of the law, according to reports received in Columbia from every county in the State. The thirty ones can get their gallon a month or they can, of course, get more from the dispensaries, but any increase over the gallon is attended with grave dangers, for the officers of the law are keeping a sharp watch to nab violators of this particular act.

Traveling Around.

This news is traveling the rounds of the State: The thirty-eighth annual convention of the South Carolina Sunday School association will be held in the city of Newberry, April 20-22. This convention bids fair to be one of the most unique and helpful conventions ever held in the State. The theme of the convention is "Religious Education." The convention will be characterized by the gathering together of the best educational and religious talent of the State. Newberry is preparing to entertain in her usual hospitable manner four hundred delegates. A number of social functions in connection with the convention are being planned.

PARKER IS VERY ILL

Condition of Former Mill President is Critical.

The State.
Columbia friends of Lewis W. Parker learn with dismay that his condition, following operations performed recently at Johns Hopkins hospital, is such as to cause grave anxiety. Dr. Finney, the celebrated surgeon, is quoted as saying that the utmost which science can suggest has been done in Baltimore and the rest is on the knees of the gods. Mr. Parker was until recently president of the Parker Cotton Mills company, operating 16 cotton mills in South Carolina. Mrs. Parker, formerly Miss Maggie Smith, was once a teacher in Columbia. She and her husband have very many friends in the capital city.

Reassuring News as to Mr. Parker.

The State of Monday says: News of Lewis W. Parker's condition which was received in Columbia yesterday was reassuring to his friends after reports of the last few days. A message to a Columbian from Mrs. Parker, dated at Baltimore yesterday, says: "Lewis sitting up today, dressed; he home in ten days; doctor thinks cured."

Mr. Parker has undergone two operations recently at Johns Hopkins hospital in Baltimore at the hands of the celebrated surgeon, Dr. Finney.

A Grafton, W. Va., dispatch to the Philadelphia Record says: Ed Strange took no chances of being arrested for violating the Yost prohibition law when he arrived here yesterday. As he walked through the streets, Strange wore on his hat a placard printed in large letters which read: "I contain two pints of pure rye whiskey and six bottles of beer." An amendment to the law recently makes it a misdemeanor not to label in large letters containers of alcoholic liquors.

He—Are you superstitious when 13 persons sit down to the table at the same time?
She—Well, not superstitious, but I am sometimes worried, if I have cooked only enough for ten.—Woman's Home Companion.

MANY OVER HASTY IN ASKING FOR JOBS

DISAPPROVES DISRESPECT SHOWN BEFORE OFFICIAL IS DEAD

The Fact That a Man is an Applicant is Almost Surety He Will Not Get Place.

News and Courier.

Columbia, March 19.—"It is a fact that in some instances when an officer died some people make applications for the vacancy before the dead man is buried," said Governor Manning tonight, in commenting in terms of strong disapproval on what is called by some lack of proper respect which some office-seekers exhibit in their eagerness to obtain office. The governor's displeasure has been aroused over this in more than one instance, and he is shocked at those guilty of such conduct.

The flood of applicants for county offices which are vacant, or which there is ground to believe will become vacant, continues unabated. Several have applied for appointment as sheriff of Kershaw county, supposedly because of the publication of the order of the governor for Sheriff Huckabee to show cause why he should not be removed from office because of alleged failure to enforce the liquor laws. Fifteen applications have come in for the office of coroner of Greenville county, but upon inquiring into this matter it was found that the Greenville coroner is still hale and hearty. He is reported, however, to have gotten into some trouble, and possibly his fifteen fellow citizens thought there would be a vacancy in the office. A great many are applying for the office of sheriff of Abbeville county since Sheriff Lyon has been named United States marshal for the western district of South Carolina.

Let Office Seek Man.

It is very plain that when it comes to making appointments Gov. Richard I. Manning is following the rule of making the office hunt the man. In other words, there is no use to "apply" for a position, for the very fact that one is an applicant almost guarantees that he will not get the place.

The men named on the State tax commission, asylum regents, old soldiers' home, State house and grounds commission, the State board of charities and corrections and the fish commission were not applicants. They were tendered the appointment by the governor after he had satisfied himself they were worthy and efficient, and they accepted the places. On the State board of accountants two of the appointees were no applicants, while the third was, and with this single exception not a single applicant for appointment on these responsible boards landed. While there has been no official announcement, it is very clear that "there is no use to apply" when it is known that appointments of positions of State-wide importance are under consideration.

Of course, when it comes to county matters the governor varies somewhat from this rule and he relies in a majority of instances, probably, on the legislative delegation. However, he does not restrict himself to this, but frequently goes outside and picks a man whom he thinks will fill the position efficiently and then tenders him the place.

County Positions.

The appointments for magistrates and county positions take up much of the time of the governor, for it frequently happens that local divisions are so fierce that it is impossible to get at the true situation without prolonged presentations and conferences with opposing factions. This case is well illustrated in the matter of the county dispensary board for Barnwell county and the clerk of court for Greenville county. The governor is still being bombarded with telegrams and letters from Greenville, both pro and con, for Harry A. Dargan, whom he was about to name, but whose appointment has been held up indefinitely pending hearings to be awarded protesting and favoring delegations of his constituents.

Local politics are said to play an important part in many of the recommendations which are made for some county appointments by the county. Much more importance to the magistrate's office than anything else, and it frequently happens that telegrams

GOVERNOR NAMES MILITARY STAFF

Adger, Dick and Cooper Are the Colonels.

The State.

Gov. Manning has appointed his military staff. The members serve without pay.

The members of the governor's staff are:

Military secretary to the governor, C. H. Cabaniss.

Adjutant general, W. W. Moore.
Colonels—John B. Adger, Belton; George W. Dick, Sumter; R. M. Cooper, Wisacky.

Lieutenant Colonels—A. L. Gaston, Chester; M. P. McCalla, Lowndesville; T. W. Davies, Beach Island; W. J. Muldrow, Anderson; W. A. Klauber, Pamberg, W. R. Darlington, Jr., Allendale; W. K. Fishburne, Moncks Corner; J. D. Shirer, Lone Star; Arthur Young, Charleston; E. W. Duvall, Cheraw; J. W. Witsell, Walterboro; L. W. Giffall, Cheatham, Edgefield; Sam McCall, Florence; Hugh L. Oliver, Georgetown; Rion McKissick, Greenville; H. B. Ingraham, Greenville; H. T. Strange, Lee county; O. K. DaRogue, Marion; Donald McQueen, Jr., Marlboro; A. A. Manning, Walthalla; C. L. Cureton, Pickens; J. Stokes Salley, Orangeburg; O. R. Doyle, Calhoun; L. W. Perrin, Spartanburg; James McCutchen, Johnsonville; C. L. Cobb and John T. Roddy, Rock Hill; H. J. McLaurin, Sumter; E. E. Aycock, Wedgefield; J. A. McKnight, Sumter; W. R. Burgess, Clarendon; George Warren, Hampton; Allen Brabham, Manning.

A CORRECTION.

In the list of contestants printed in The Herald and News of March 19, the following contestants were unintentionally omitted:

First Grade Reading—Deadfall, Hattie Boozer. Second grade, James Blair. Third and fourth grades, Lillie Mae Werts. Fifth, sixth and seventh grades, George Stevens, Mt. Pilgrim, fourth grade, Bertha Lee Cook.

First and Second Grades, Composition—Deadfall, Walter Spearman. Third and fourth grades, Kittie Stevens, Excelsior, Lona Stone.

Third and Fourth Grades, Spelling—Deadfall, Maggie Boozer. Fifth, sixth and seventh, Ruby Boozer, Excelsior, Bernard Stone.

Fourth and Fifth Grades, Arithmetic—Deadfall, Rebecca Livingston. Sixth and seventh, Lucille Blair.

Elementary School Boys, Declamation—Hunter-DeWalt, Hugh Boinest, "Whipping the Teacher."

Death of a Child.

Augusta, Ga., March 11.—George Barnard, the 2-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Shackleford, died last night. The remains were taken today to Whitmore, S. C., and the funeral was from Duncan Creek Baptist church.

Death of Mrs. Caroline Chapman.

Mrs. Caroline Chapman died Wednesday night at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Jno. S. Nobles, in the St. Lukes section of the county. She was a member of the Cannon's Creek church and the interment was at the cemetery there on Thursday.

Pay Your Tax.

The time for paying State and county taxes without the penalty will expire on March 31, which is the last day. After that the penalty of five per cent will attach and the execution will be placed in the hands of the sheriff. Remember the time is not April 1, but March 31.

"The Only Girl"

Will be given at the Jolly Street school on Friday night of this week by local talent. It is a comedy drama in four acts and will furnish an evening of pleasant recreation. The proceeds go to the school and your presence will not only demonstrate your interest in the school, but will help materially in the good work which this school is doing in the community. Admission is 25 cents and 15 cents.

arrive at the governor's office asking him to hold up the naming of some certain magistrate until Mr. So and So can file his petition of protest.

DISPENSARIES IN BARNWELL CLOSED

ORDER GOES TO EVERY LEGAL LIQUOR SELLER IN COUNTY.

May Have Expert Report on Condition of Barnwell's Whiskey Business.

News and Courier.

Columbia, March 19.—All the dispensaries in Barnwell county were closed this afternoon by order of Governor Manning, and will remain closed indefinitely. This order was issued in a letter sent to each dispenser here tonight. The letter follows:

"Under authority of Section 856, Criminal Code of 1912, you are hereby, immediately on receipt of this order, required to close the dispensary at —, Barnwell county, and to keep said dispensary closed until further orders from me."

The letter was addressed to the following dispensers: B. A. Best, at Ulmer; C. D. McClendon, at Fairfax; W. P. Walsh, at Williston; D. E. Rice, at Allendale, R. M. Wise, at Blackville; M. C. Lee, at Kline; F. M. Cave, at Barnwell; S. J. Hutto, at Elko; F. H. Gault, at Baldoek, and E. G. Bolen, at Dunbarton.

Information was received today that the Barnwell county grand jury had been authorized by the court to employ an expert accountant to examine the books of the Barnwell county dispensary board which was recently removed from office by the governor. This audit will cover the dispensary from the time it was inaugurated until the present date. W. I. Johns, of Baldoek, is the foreman of the grand jury.

Says Bouvet Hit by Two Heavy Guns.

A Turkish official statement, from Constantinople, via London, under date of March 21, says:

"Observations made during the battle in the Dardanelles established that the French battleship Bouvet was struck by two heavy bombs. Five of our grenades reached the Queen Elizabeth and four the Inflexible."

"On our side only one long-range gun was damaged and about twenty soldiers killed. The enemy attempted no action today against the Dardanelles."

Women Seeking Men's Jobs.

London, March 21.—More than 7,000 women, representing all classes of society, have responded to the government's appeal for female workers to take the places of men in business and industry, that more recruits be provided for Lord Kitchener's great army. The central labor exchanges offices were besieged by women Saturday. Most of them were from the well-to-do middle class. They were considered by the officials to be best fitted.

One woman of good position offered to drive a delivery wagon. Another wrote:

"I am the mother of five soldiers and sailors and I want to do my little bit to release further men to go and fight."

A member of a prominent woman's club said she would drive a taxicab. Some volunteered to do milking in dairies, while others offered to do clerical and secretarial work.

An official of the labor exchange said it probably would be found advisable to shift women from one position to another to find the post for which they are best qualified. The labor press continues strongly to oppose war service for women.

Wilson Posted on Relief Work Abroad.

Washington, March 21.—Efforts of Col. E. M. House, President Wilson's personal friend, who is in Berlin, to learn facts which will facilitate the co-ordinating of relief work abroad, are said to be progressing favorably. The president, it was learned tonight, is being kept in constant touch with Col. House's work.

Several plans have been suggested for systematizing relief measures, and the president has indicated a willingness to lend his aid unofficially.

"A ready way to lose your friend is to lend him money," says the proverb. Yes, and a ready way to lose your money is to lend it to a friend.—Maccon News.