

The Herald and News.

Entered at the Postoffice at Newberry, S. C., as 2nd class matter.
E. H. AULL, EDITOR.

Friday, April 2, 1915.

State Superintendent of Education J. E. Swearingen has sent us a copy of the new compulsory school attendance law. The editor of The Herald and News has for a long time been an advocate of a compulsory attendance law, but we are not much inclined to the piece meal way provided in this law. We think if it is a good thing it should be State-wide. And then it provides for an election in each district and in one section says the election must be held on the "second Tuesday in June, one thousand nine hundred and fifteen, following the filing of the petition, or on the second Tuesday of June of any subsequent year." Then section 13 of the act provides: "This act shall be in full force and effect from and after the first day of July, one thousand nine hundred and fifteen." Can an election be held under an act before the act becomes law and if held would it be a legal election?

Our friend, Sam T. Reid, cashier of the Bank of Commerce, of Spartanburg, who also reads The Herald and News, sends us a statement of his bank and attaches a clipping from The Herald and News in which we referred to the statement of the People's bank of Anderson. We stated that the People's bank showed an increase in deposits on March 23, 1915, over same date last year of \$75,000. Sam, with that true Spartanburg spirit which we admire, says: "Anderson will have to come again if they get ahead of Spartanburg." And she will, for this little and young Bank of Commerce, according to the statement of March 23, 1915, shows an increase in deposits over the same date last year of \$103,644.71. And it has no bills payable—that is the bank owes no money and has about \$85,000 in cash. It should be able to take good care of its customers, but plenty of cash in the vaults and owing no money does not always mean that the bank will let out any money even on good collateral, and if it will not the cash does not do the community much good. Sam, we are coming to Spartanburg before long, and we want you to be on the job, so that we may get a new spring suit for the Press association.

WHAT IS THE LAW?

We published in The Herald and News Tuesday the full text of the opinion of the attorney general as to the meaning of the "gallon-a-month" act passed by the last legislature. We publish today an opinion on the same law by Solicitor Cooper.

On at least one very material point the two opinions are at variance to each other. As we read the opinion by the attorney general it would not be unlawful for an individual to purchase liquor from a dispensary in Columbia and bring it to Newberry if it were for his own use. In other words, if he came into the possession of the liquor in a legal way he could carry it to a dry county if he did not do so for illegal or illicit purposes. Mr. Cooper says, "It would be unlawful for any person to purchase whiskey at a dispensary in Columbia for his personal use and convey it into the county of Newberry." Mr. Cooper also holds that it would be lawful to have one gallon shipped from out the State to Columbia or any other county and convey it from the express office of Columbia or any other county to Newberry county. Mr. Cooper intimates very strongly that in his opinion the act is unconstitutional. But what is the law? That is the point the officers charged with its enforcement are trying to find out.

Gov. Manning says to Sheriff Bleas: "Mr. Cooper being the solicitor of your circuit, I think you have done well in seeking advice from him. As governor I can not pretend to construe the law, but hope that you and your magistrates will use your utmost endeavor to enforce it."

The question would arise, enforce what? The law as construed by the solicitor or by the attorney general?

Would the governor have the sheriff construe the law when he can not? Yet the governor calls upon the sheriffs to enforce it. We would suggest, if permitted, and we will do it anyhow, that it would be a good plan for the governor to call upon the attorney general to make a test case in the supreme court and have the law construed by the power authorized to construe the laws of the State, and then we will all know what it is. There is no use talking so much about enforcing the law when there are such divergent opinions by the law officers as to what is the law, and when the governor himself says he "can not pretend to construe" it. Let the supreme court settle it and then enforce it. But before we begin enforcing it, it seems to us that we should know what is to be enforced.

When is a room not a room and when is a room a room and why? These are some of the questions puzzling the officials in regard to the "gallon-a-month" law passed by the last legislature.

FOR SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION
Shall South Carolina move forward as a unit or shall progress be by townships, cities, villages and counties?

When the State Teachers' association resolves that a State tax should be had for the support of common schools, the proceeds to be used for the schools of the State regardless of the locality of collection of the tax, it takes ground for South Carolina's uniform progress.

Some of the counties of the State have comparatively dense and well-to-do populations. Others are thinly settled and the people are poor. One of the most populous "white" counties stands at or near the bottom of the list in literacy.

The imposition of a three mill tax for schools is of small assistance to the State as a whole so long as the money thereby raised is spent only in the county where the tax is paid.

The city of Greenville pays more than a proportionate part of the three mill tax used for the support of schools in a remote mountain township of the county. Why should not the county of Greenville, or Ridland, or Charleston, in like manner, help to place the schools of Berkeley and Horry on a better footing?

In short, it seems that South Carolina as a whole is worth rescuing from illiteracy.

State pride and State common sense should overcome county pride and selfishness.—The State.

If we are not mistaken, one of the candidates who made the race for governor last year had something in his platform about making the three mill school tax a State tax and not a county tax, as it is now. And give to each child in the State the same opportunity that is given to every other child, so far as the amount of money is concerned from the State, and then each locality could do as it pleased as to a local tax.

The rich counties, like Charleston and Ridland, where they have more money than they need for their schools, would then help the poor counties where the great majority of the white children are.

The three mills tax is now virtually a county tax. By making it a State tax every child would be given the same amount. But if the manner of its distribution and application were as now it would give the white children in the thickly populated negro counties the advantage of the white children in the largely white communities. These are matters that would adjust themselves, however.

We had so much attention given to the liquor question and the so-called law and order business during the campaign that there was very little time left to think about matters educational and constructive.

Before we can have the improvements that we need in the rural districts for the schools there must be more money from some source. The towns and corporations in the various counties now contribute very largely from the three mills tax to the support of the rural schools and why not the rich counties help the poorer?

Anderson voted pretty strongly against bonds for the building of roads. Well, we know of no better investment the county could have made than money put in permanent roads. The trouble is to convince the people that the roads will be built after the

bonds are issued. There is some risk about it, but in order to do anything you have to trust some one. The Intelligencer says they will go ahead and build roads without bonds. That is the spirit we like to see.

The article by Prof. Anderson in this issue of The Herald and News deserves the serious consideration of the people of Newberry, especially if they are interested in her material progress and development. He writes of a question that we have written about so much that we are almost afraid to mention it again. He puts the case very forcibly and if it does not bring forth at least a small noise then it is almost useless to agitate the matter any further. Read his article and then do as he suggests—act now—not tomorrow. It is of vital importance to this community.

GREAT DAY.

Yesterday was a great day in Newberry. Think of 2,000 children in line and all in happy spirit and joyful. If it does not make you forget the war and hard times cry, then there is not much hope for you. Then look at that dinner that was spread out over the campus at the college.

The bright and cheerful children in their uniforms was a sight worthy the gods. There was good cheer everywhere and every one will go away feeling better and happy that he lives in this age and that he could contribute his share to the joy of the children. To be sure, the display made meant a lot of hard work on the part of the too poorly paid teachers over the county, but they had their recompense in the happiness which their efforts made possible for these two thousand children. Miss Sadie Goggans, the supervising teacher, was the moving spirit in the success of the day. To be sure she had the hearty co-operation of the teachers, and everyone in fact who was able to do anything.

The parade reached from the court house to the college. The coming together of the people from all parts of the county in these annual gatherings surely does good. State Superintendent of Education Swearingen and State Supervisor of Rural Schools Gunter and Lieutenant Governor Bethea were present during the day and enjoyed the exercises and were high in their praise of the showing made.

POLICY OF THE PRESS.

We are somewhat surprised and not a little disappointed to see the attitude of certain newspapers in regard to the Manning administration. One or two, we have noticed, and one in particular, never lose an opportunity to criticize the acts of the chief executive and often, in our opinion, at times when no such criticism is necessary. We had hoped that this would not be the case because we are absolutely convinced that South Carolina has experienced as much factionalism as she can stand for awhile and it seems to us that at a united people would do more for this State during the next five years than any 10 or 12 factional parties could do.

We do not believe that we should commend Gov. Manning or any other State or county official every time he turns around. We do not see that the fact we supported him should make such a foolish thing necessary and we do not intend doing so. We have seen certain papers in this State rushing in to applaud the governor on occasions when such approbation was clearly unnecessary and in our opinion this is just about as bad as criticizing the administration when it is unjust.

The point we are striving to emphasize is that newspapers should try to be as fair and impartial as may be possible. If criticism is deserved, it may be very well and commendation in its place is certainly all right, but we should carry neither to an extreme.—York News.

This is well said, except that we have not noticed any captious criticism of the Manning administration by any of the papers. Some of them have criticized some of the things done by the administration, but so far as we have observed the criticism has been fair and courteous and free from any factional bitterness. The supporters of Gov. Manning, sometimes, we will be permitted to think, carry their admiration a little too far, as the News suggests, and it has seemed to us, they almost hold the doctrine that the "king can do no wrong." But so far as our observation goes the press has been

fair and impartial in dealing with the doings of the administration. We do not suppose the administration nor the governor expects or desires to be above fair and just criticism.

What we desire to commend in the above is the statement that we should let factionalism go and neither carry our commendation nor our criticism to the extreme. Let us have moderation in all things and the press to have influence must neither be blind to the virtues nor to the faults of any individual or official, but be able to see both sides of the shield and to deal fairly, courteously and impartially with all public questions and public men. When we reach that point the press will have influence.

But for the past four years the majority of the press has seen only one side and has found nothing good or kind to say about certain officials in high places. We hope that era has passed and we welcome this suggestion from the York News.

As stated in The Herald and News some issues back, we have wiped the slate clean and no factional bitterness rankles in our heart, if it ever did, which we do not admit. We have never been blind to the faults even of the men and measures that we have in many respect endorsed. We stand for a constructive development of our State and the betterment and uplift of our people, as we have always stood. And whatever tends to that end shall have our support. We shall commend or criticize as it may appear to us right so to do, always trying to be fair and impartial and courteous to those who may not agree with us. When the press does that as a whole then it will be a power. Until then not.

"THE ONLY GIRL" GREAT SUCCESS

A Box Party—Communion Services. Grain Crop Poor.

St. Paul, April 1.—Preparatory service will be held at St. Paul on Friday, the same being Good Friday, at 11 o'clock a. m. On the following Sunday there will be communion service in the forenoon, with Easter service by the children of the Sunday school in the afternoon. Everybody is invited to bring their dinner and spend the day and enjoy the Easter exercises.

There will be no meeting of the Luther league Sunday night, but will be postponed until Sunday one week—April 11—being at 8 o'clock at that time. There will be an entertaining program arranged.

Miss Anna Koon's sister, Miss Felton, of Pomaria, spent the week-end as the guest of Miss Willie Boines. Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Crompton, of the

St. Philip's section, spent Sunday with the family of Mr. Walter Wicker.

There will be given a box party at the St. Paul school, taught by Miss Eghel Counts, Friday night, April 9, beginning at 8:30 o'clock. If the public is invited. The proceeds will go to the benefit of the school.

In spite of the threatening weather and falling rain Friday night of last week, about 250 people attended the play, "The Only Girl," given at the Hunter-DeWalt school. All who attended seemed to be more than pleased with the results. The members of this play are to be congratulated upon getting up such a play, and the manly way in which they entertained the large audience for about two hours.

There has been and still is a great deal of sickness in this section. The following are confined to their beds: Mrs. D. W. Wicker, Mrs. A. C. Richardson, G. Talbert Werts, Miss Elise Richardson. All seem to be on the mend at present. We are glad to state.

The grain crop in this section of the county doesn't look much at present, and the outlook is that the grain crop will be very short in and about here, except at the parsonage, where you can see some beautiful grain, cultivated by Pastor Riser.

It looked Wednesday morning as if we would have a very heavy snow, but we were glad to know that behind the clouds the sun is still shining.

A Card From Prosperity Ice Man.

To My Friends and Customers:
I wish to thank you one and all for the nice business you have given me in the ice trade. I want to say to you that I will run the ice house at my same old stand this season. I want to be better prepared to serve you than I have ever been before, and the price will be the same as other years—except the credit part will not be recognized at all. I am now carrying tons of ice on my books for which I will never be able to collect. So don't send for ice on credit, or you will certainly be disappointed. If you haven't got the money ask me to give you a piece of ice and I will gladly do so, but I will not put any name on my books for ice. Please bear this in mind. Yours for business,
G. W. KINARD.
Prosperity, S. C.

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NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will make final settlement of the estate of J. W. Wicker, deceased, in the probate court for Newberry county, State of South Carolina, on Tuesday, April 13, 1915, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, and will immediately thereafter apply to the judge of probate of Newberry county for a final discharge. All persons indebted to the said estate will make immediate settlement with the undersigned, and all persons holding claims against the said estate will present the same duly attested.
G. A. C. WICKER,
Administrator.

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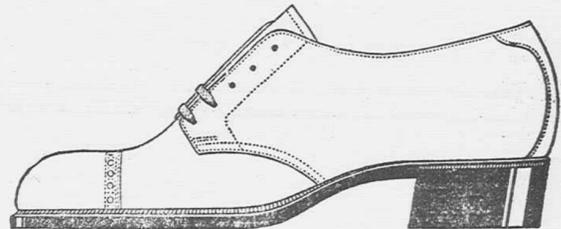
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