

30c per Dozen.
ESTABLISHED IN 1895.

ENDING B. & C. R. R.

CONNECT WITH A. C. L. RAILROAD AT SELLERS

SEABOARD ENTERING MARION

Foundation For Rumor That B. & C. Railroad Has Been Sold North & South Carolina.

Bennettsville and Cheraw are to be extended from Sellers, a distance of 3 miles. At Sellers it will connect with the main line of the Coast Line. The rails support a bought and all arrangements to begin work on the road in a few weeks. The road is not yet definitely located. One of the proposed routes is to run from the Bennettville and for a public road, swerving a little to the eastward from a straight line. The other route bends in to the river where there are valuable timber interests. The route selected will depend largely on the property owners who give their consent.

The B. & C. road now runs from Sellers to Brownsville, via Bennettville and Blenheim and has a package of 34 miles, all in Marlboro county. In going to Sellers it crosses Dillon county as Sellers is on the edge of Dillon. The extension is completed and will be within a few months. Bennettville will be connected by the B. & C. with the main lines of the Seaboard and the Coast Line, besides connecting with Fayetteville, Sumter and Gibson branches of the Coast Line here.

The B. and C. is a Marlboro railroad, of which the county is proud. Its headquarters are in Bennettville, and its president, J. J. Heckart, and its auditor, G. P. Bourdeau, reside here. They extend every reasonable accommodation to the people of the county. They have stations at short intervals along the line, so as to be convenient for freight and passengers.

An Incorrect Report.

The following appeared in a recent issue of the Mullins Messenger:

"It seems that our road, the North and South Carolina, has acquired the road from Kollock to Bennettville and to Hodges and to Sellers, and likely the Marion Lumber company road to Marion. The right of way into Sellers has been obtained and possible control of the road to Marion. Does this mean that Mullins, with her \$10,000 bonds is to be bottled up and nothing further doing? This generation and the things thereof are mixed in such a cloud of mystery that nothing definite can be told of the railroad future whatever. The situation is not reassuring to Mullins as we see it for a through route to Charleston as has been expected and hoped. To say the least of the situation we do not admire the secretive methods pursued by the officials of the proposed railroad extensions from Mullins or not from Mullins. Has Mullins contributed \$10,000 for her burial expenses after cutting his own throat? The near future will answer this important question."

The Messenger seems "mixed in clouds of mystery" in its railroad information. Where it got the idea that the N. and S. C. had acquired the "road from Kollock to Bennettville and to Hodges and to Sellers" is indeed a mystery. The officials of the B. and C. say there is absolutely nothing in the report. The road has not been acquired by the N. and S. C., or any other road, and there is no probability that it will be. The road remains in the same hands that it has for years, and there is no change in its officers or stockholders. It is an independent road, and is not controlled or owned by the N. and S. C. or the Seaboard of any other road.

The Marion County Lumber Company road, which runs from Marion up into Dillon county, has been bought by Seaboard people. It is in no way connected with the B. and C., however, and the extension from Brownsville will not run to the terminus of the Marion Lumber road, but will go directly to Sellers.—Pee Dee Advocate.

Dr. L. R. Craig has purchased a handsome Maxwell automobile of the roadster type, and Mr. Truss Thompson has purchased a Maxwell runabout.

BOND ISSUE FOR \$100,000

BILL TO ABOLISH OFFICE OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER.

\$100,000 BONDS FOR ROADS

County Will be Put on Commission Form of Government and Eight Capable Business Men Will Administer Its Affairs.

A Bill To Abolish Offices of County Supervisor and County Commissioner in the County of Dillon, and provide a system of County Government for Said County.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

Section 1. That the offices of county supervisor and county commissioner of and for the county of Dillon be, and the same are hereby, abolished.

Sec. 2. That there shall be in and for said county of Dillon a county board of commissioners, composed of E. L. Moore and W. J. Adams, who shall serve for the term of two years, and A. S. Manning, Wade Stackhouse, L. A. Manning, and D. Arch McCollum, who shall serve for four years, and until their respective successors are appointed and qualify, as hereinafter provided; that upon the expiration of the term of office of said commissioners respectively, as fixed as aforesaid, their successors, apportioned between the several townships of the county as nearly equal as practicable, shall be appointed by the Governor, upon the recommendation of the delegation, or a majority thereof, of said county of Dillon in the General Assembly of this State to serve for the term of four years from the date of their appointment, and until their successors are appointed and qualify.

Sec. 3. That the said county board of commissioners shall, immediately after qualifying, meet and organize by electing one of their number as chairman, and also elect a clerk, who shall be designated as clerk of the County Board of Commissioners; he shall hold his office at the will and pleasure of said board, and receive an annual salary of four hundred (\$400.00) dollars, payable monthly upon the warrants of said board: Provided, however, That said board may, if it see proper, elect one of their members as clerk, in which case he shall perform all the duties and be entitled to receive the salary of said officer as herein provided.

Sec. 4. That said county board of commissioners shall perform all the duties, and have and exercise all the powers, authority and jurisdiction now devolved upon the supervisor and county board of commissioners under and by the laws of this State: Provided, That said board may designate and appoint a committee of three of their number, to be known as the finance committee, who shall have power and authority to audit and approve and pay by warrant drawn on the county treasurer, any claims or account against said county for ordinary expenses and salary of county officers with right of appeal to the whole board in case of rejection of any claim; and shall exercise and perform any other duty or duties which said board may impose upon them, not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of the State.

Section 5. That in addition to the other duties performed by them, said county board of commissioners may, if they see proper, readjust, reform and fix the lines and boundaries of township lines of the several townships and parts of townships into which said county of Dillon is now divided, so that said townships may be in as compact form as practical, and conform as near as possible in area and territory, and designate the same by name or by number, and in case of such readjustment and reformation, said board shall prepare and keep in their office a description showing and indicating clearly and distinctly the lines and boundaries of each such township, file a copy thereof in the office of clerk of the circuit court in and for said county, to be by him entered on the book of plats and locations, and publish the same once in each week for four successive weeks in a newspaper published in said county.

Sec. 6. That each of said commissioners shall receive as compensation (Continued on page eight.)

BATTLE WITH REVOLVERS

ROBERT McBEE KILLED AND LEE HOLLAND FATALLY SHOT.

SPREE ENDS IN TRAGEDY

Posse Headed By Mayor of Mauldin is Attacked by Men Whom They Sought to Arrest.

Greenville, Feb. 4.—In a pitched battle to-night on a public highway between a posse headed by Lee Holland, intendant of the village of Mauldin, and Robert McBee and his son, Will, of Enoree, Spartanburg county, Robert McBee was shot dead and Lee Holland probably fatally wounded.

According to the account of the killing told by the sheriff, J. Perry Poole, of this county, McBee and his son left Enoree Saturday morning to spend the night with Thompson Fowler, who lives near Mauldin. About a mile above the village the two met Thompson, a white man, in the road, and fired some five shots at him, none taking effect. The incident passed and father and son drove into Mauldin. In passing through the village McBee fired a pistol ball through both walls of a store conducted by Lee Holland and fled up the road with his son.

Met Posse.

Holland got a posse and started out to arrest McBee and his son. It seems that in fleeing McBee and his son took the wrong road and attempted to retrace their steps. It was while they were going back that they were met by Holland and his posse. Immediately Robert McBee drew his revolver and opened fire on the posse one shot passing through Holland's right breast. No sooner had McBee fired that a member of the posse returned the fire. The elder McBee fell to the ground his body pierced by one pistol ball and his head by another. He expired within an hour.

Despite the fact that Holland was shot through the breast he placed the younger McBee under arrest and conducted him to Mauldin, where he held him, until Sheriff Poole arrived about 11 o'clock. The Sheriff brought young McBee to Greenville and he now is in the county jail. The elder McBee lies a corpse in the public highway this side of the village of Mauldin, awaiting the coroner's inquest.

Had Whiskey and Pistol.

It is stated that McBee left his home near Enoree with a half-gallon of whiskey and a pistol in his buggy. He has a brother serving a sentence in the State penitentiary now for killing a man by the name of Fowler near the scene of this killing some years ago. It is said that McBee was going after a child of the brother who is in the penitentiary at the time he ran amok to-night.

Holland is the first Mayor of the town of Mauldin, which was incorporated only a few months ago. He is a good citizen and is well known in Greenville. He is also a big planter of this section.

Dining With a Lioness.

Miss Ellen Velvin, in the February McClure's, speaks of the excessive danger to the trainer that lies in many of the tricks performed with trained lions.

"Another trick was one in which the trainer took a long strip of meat, put one end of it in his mouth, and let the lioness take the other in hers. Hardly anyone in the audience realized the terrible danger of the act. To allow any wild animal to put its face in such close proximity to the face of a person is in itself dangerous; but to give it also the opportunity of snapping or biting at such close quarters is, in my opinion, foolhardy.

"This act generally passed off very quietly, and it was not particularly popular with the audience, but one evening when the lioness was in a bad humor she missed catching the other end of the meat and instantly sprang for the trainer. The table between them probably saved his life, and he had the presence of mind to throw the piece of meat away from him; but even then she tore his throat and nearly killed him. Few people in the audience realized that there had been any accident at all, so quick was the act ended and both the trainer and the lioness out of the arena."

DOCTOR KILLS FOR CASH

RUSSIAN DOCTOR ADMITS SENDING 40 TO THEIR GRAVES.

USED DIPHTHERIA GERMS

Letter Will Be Tried, as He is Accused of Offering \$250,000 to the Prisoner to Get Rid of Her Who Stood in Wife's Way.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 4.—Imagine a man of seventy—tall, dignified, benevolent, a practicing physician secure in the confidence of the fashionable world—testifying in cold blood that his business was and has been murder; that he inoculated his victims with deadly germs, and you have a faint idea of the sensation produced by Count Ivan Pantchenko now on trial here.

Already branded as the greatest criminal of a century, the "poison doctor," as he is known, has confessed to causing forty deaths by means of inoculation even with cholera bacilli, and he admits taking big fees. Every mysterious death of recent years is laid at his door. It is believed that he has killed many more persons than he has admitted, and even members of the royal family.

He killed heirs who were in the way of others, rivals in love, insistent creditors and any other undesirable person whose foe was willing to pay liberally to have him or her removed.

To insure his own safety it was needful to have an intended victim ill and to be called to attend him. He soon administered hypodermically the germ of the cholera, and the disease did the rest. He explained in court that he never sterilized his hypodermic syringe, because in that case the effectiveness of the sperm preparation would be diminished. In brief, it might fail in its fatal mission.

City is Horrified.

Even this city, inured to terrible crimes, shrinks from the words of this terrible man dealing with the fatal agents under the guise of healing.

For the specific case of killing Count Ivan Vassilli Boutourkin, Dr. Pantchenko now faces the death he dealt to others but he disclaims the burden of his (this latest) deed, and declares that he acted under the hypnotic influence of Count O'Brien de Lacey, so that the latter's wife, Boutourkin's sister, might inherit \$3,500,000. For his part the doctor received a fee of \$250,000.

On the stand while giving detail by detail the story of his infamy the doctor's kindly face never changed. He told that Count de Lacey had offered him first \$5,000 to poison Count Boutourkin, \$25,000 to poison General Boutourin and \$250,000 to poison General Boutourin's second wife.

It was first his purpose to infect Count Boutourin with cholera, but in the patient's physical condition he said he preferred to use diphtheria germs.

The widow of the murdered Count testified to the circumstances of his death. She and her husband had been spending Easter at the General's estate in Wilno Province. Her husband was then in perfect health. He departed from St Petersburg, and on May 22 she received an urgent telegram calling her to his bedside. When she arrived she found he had been subjected to spermic injections by Pantchenko, and that it was too late to save him. She had never hidden her suspicion that De Lacey and Pantchenko were responsible for her husband's death. The witness broke down and wept when Count Boutourin's letters were read.

The physician who had attended Count Boutourin after Pantchenko's injections said that he was informed of the widow's suspicions. He found evidences of blood poisoning, but was of the opinion that this was due to carelessness.

Twice Pantchenko set up the defense that he committed his last crime while under the hypnotic influence of De Lacey. He wavered in matters of detail and his lawyers were quick to strengthen his original defense by insisting that he was still under the influence of the Count, then in court.

Fear His Hypnotism.

The public prosecutor took cognizance of the situation and placed a soldier between Pantchenko and

RUNS CAR INTO DITCH

TO PREVENT COLLISION WITH ANOTHER MACHINE.

SAVED BY PRESENCE OF MIND

Mr. W. M. Hamer Meets With Auto Accident While Coming Out From Bennettsville Monday Morning.

Presence of mind saved Mr. W. M. Hamer from serious and probably fatal injury while he was leaving Bennettsville in his automobile morning. Mr. Hamer spends his Sundays in Bennettsville where his children are staying with their grandparents, Col. and Mrs. Livingston. Monday morning while a short distance out from Bennettsville on his way to Dillon Mr. Hamer rounded a sharp curve at a lively gait and there loomed up in front of him another machine going in the opposite direction. At this point the road is narrow with a deep ditch on both sides. The machines could not be stopped and a collision seemed inevitable. The only chance of escape was to plunge his machine into the ditch and acting on his first impulse Mr. Hamer quickly shifted the steering wheel of his machine and drove it into a ditch six feet deep. The car was pretty badly wrecked and Mr. Hamer received several painful bruises on the face and head. The wind shield was scattered and one of the front wheels was crushed like an egg shell. The other car was a light machine and if Mr. Hamer had not steered his heavy car into the ditch the smaller car would have been demolished.

We will give a free concert on Friday afternoon from 3. to 5. p. m. The music will be on Edison phonographs and the world renowned Lauter player piano which just arrived today. There has never been anything like it in this part of the State. We will use on the phonograph Grand Opera records, in German, French and Italian. These celebrated singers you can only hear in New York or some other large city, and then pay \$5.00 per ticket. We will reserve Friday afternoon strictly for the ladies only. Marchant Music Company.

De Lacey. He then made a motion that the cardinal question of his guilt or innocence be proposed again to Pantchenko. The court granted the motion and the formal question of the indictment was again read. Once more the old physician replied that he was guilty of Boutourin's death.

Meanwhile Gen. Boutourin, father of the slain Count, threw a bomb into court by declaring that he was furnishing money for the defense. He explained that he consented to do at the solicitation of his daughter, who is the wife of De Lacey.

Gen. Boutourin said that at first he distrusted De Lacey and warned his daughter against him, but afterwards he changed his opinion, owing to De Lacey's eloquence and magnetic influence. Nevertheless, he had warned his son not to go hunting with De Lacey nor walk with him in the forest.

The De Lacey's came from Ireland and won distinction in the Crimean war.

There is, of course, a woman in the case. She is Mme. Muravieff, with whom Pantchenko lodged, and to whom he says he trusted over his earnings. She is to be put on trial as an accomplice.

The count De Lacey has a cousin, Countess Marie Tarnowski, who recently was convicted in Venice of the murder of her husband, Count Komarowski.

In connection with the forthcoming trial of De Lacey and the charges of hypnotism against him, it is interesting to note that the Countess, his cousin, was accused likewise of exercising a hypnotic power over her victims. She had a mania for making men love her and then forgetting them. One of her sweethearts was Komarowski. He insured his life for \$100,000 in her favor.

She then met a Count Naumoff, and showed her affection for Komarowski to make the former jealous. After Komarowski, had insured his life she sent Naumoff a forged letter urging him to kill Komarowski, which he did.

MYSTERIOUS MURDER

ROBERT FLOYD IS SHOT TO DEATH BY WOMAN AT TABOR, N. C.

WELL KNOWN IN THIS SECTION

Alleging That He Insulted Her Mrs. N. M. Hayes Shoots Young Floyd to Death in Her Own Home.

Robert Floyd, the young medical student who was shot to death by Mrs. N. M. Hayes, a young married woman, at Tabor, N. C., last Saturday, was well known in this section. As colporter for the Waccamaw Association he had visited many homes in this section and was greatly liked and admired by all who knew him. He was an extremely modest man, gentlemanly in his deportment and there are many who look upon the sensational circumstances of his tragic ending with suspicion. His slayer alleges that he came to their home to spend the night. While the husband was unhitching the horse Mr. Floyd came into the house, made an improper proposal to her and laid violent hands upon her. She snatched a magazine pistol from under the pillow and fired six bullets into the young man's body, then she picked up another pistol and fired three more bullets into his body. Each shot, it seems taking effect, although the woman says she had to shoot under difficulties.

The affair seems to be shrouded in mystery. A formal inquest was held at which the woman was the only witness. There was no one to contradict her testimony. However, her husband and husband's brother have been placed in jail with her and will also face the charge of murder at the next term of criminal court.

Those who knew Mr. Floyd do not believe that he would have been the act alleged by the woman. The citizens of Mt. Tabor and Conway where he was best known ridicule the idea that young Floyd made improper proposals to Mrs. Hayes or laid violent hands upon her.

That there was a motive for the murder cannot be doubted. Why the Hayes home was equipped with so many pistols within easy reach just at this critical moment and why Mrs. Hayes shot with such unerring aim are questions asked by the citizens of Mt. Tabor and Conway.

Mr. Floyd went to Mt. Tabor in response to a letter from Mrs. Hayes and her husband asking him to treat some moles on Mrs. Hayes' face. Arriving at Mt. Tabor he went to Hayes' place of business and greeted him in a friendly manner. Hayes told him it would be some time before he could go home, but for him, (Floyd) to go to the house and make himself at home. Floyd did not go directly to the house. He lingered on the street greeting friends and arriving at the house only a few minutes before the alleged arrival of Hayes. It is at this moment the killing took place. Mrs. Hayes and Floyd formerly were sweethearts.

Floyd was a medical student at Charleston. Before entering college he was head bookkeeper at the National Bank in Conway. It was his purpose to open a drug business at Conway this summer and practically had completed the details of the organization. Mrs. Hayes is the daughter of J. J. Harrelson at Loris, formerly county superintendent of education and later a member of the general assembly. She and Hayes were married three years ago. Hayes runs a barber shop and a general merchandise store at Loris.

Rev. William Black, the evangelist and his singer are engaged in a meeting at Rowland this week, and the meeting is said to have started off with fine promise. Mr. Oliver and others went over Sunday and were present at the opening services. Mrs. Oliver went to join the workers early in the week. The evangelist has requested Dr. Buchner to meet him at Rowland one day this week to discuss plans for the meeting in Dillon in April. It is evident the work will be hampered in Rowland for want of an auditorium of sufficient seating capacity. This will not be the case in Dillon, but abundant provision will be made for all who come.