

THE ANDERSON INTELLIGENCER

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ONLY 20 More Shopping Days Before Xmas.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY This is the best day the world has ever seen. Tomorrow will be better. -R. A. Campbell.

PROTECT YOUR COTTON. In Anderson county there are several thousand bales of cotton this very morning lying on the ground exposed to all kinds of weather, and being damaged. The loss already on many bales will equal a half cent a pound or more. The staple is rotting, the color of the sample will be off, and there will be a coating of damaged cotton on every bale so exposed. Why this carelessness on the part of the farmer? It would be an easy matter to place the cotton on burlap to keep it off the ground, and by many places it could be placed in a bin. Better than this would be to take it to the warehouse and get a warehouse receipt, where it could be insured and at least protected from the weather.

WE ARE THANKFUL That the Lord God of Hosts is pleased if we are but thankful.

That we live in the United States of America and not in warring Europe.

That the men of no more nations have been called upon to butcher their brethren.

That the music of the church bells fills our ears this morning, and not the roaring of cannon.

That the editor of The Intelligencer and City Attorney G. Cullen Sullivan both have families that can laugh.

That Charleston hasn't any more "points of historical interest" about it than it shouts over already.

That we live in Anderson and not Greenville or Spartanburg, to say nothing of Greenwood.

That the Blue Ridge railway is soon to have a new passenger station up town and discard the old one.

That the set of whiskers adorning the chin of Gen. Carranza is of his own sprouting and doesn't belong to us.

That we are today eating turkey and not endeavoring to shoot Turkey full of holes with our battleships and armies.

That the Mexican revolution hasn't been settled and thus dried up our only source of war news on this half of the sphere.

That styles in men's hats are so varied this season we can wear our last winter's hat without anybody detecting it is not of the new crop.

That Governor Bleess can't blame anybody else for his record, for he often boasted that it could never be said any man but Bleess was governor while Bleess was filling that office.

CAPT. WATKINS' REPLY

Captain H. H. Watkins has another broadside in this issue of The Intelligencer, in reply to the last communication of City Attorney Sullivan. In this communication he replies to some of the statements made by Mr. Sullivan in his communication published in The Intelligencer of last Sunday, November 22. Capt. Watkins is a logical writer, and makes some very plain statements as to the propriety of the city attorney's accepting the commission to investigate the legality of the franchise. He also takes him to task for the allusion to the fact that Capt. Watkins is no longer a resident of the city, but has removed to the suburbs. The principal issue between these gentlemen seems to be the preparation of the "White Way" contract, and their disagreement as to the few details in this transaction. Dismissing these details as of little importance in the main, Capt. Watkins makes this statement: "Whatever may have been the facts of the preparation of the contract, I was called upon to approve it, and did approve it, and having done so I would not suffer myself to be employed as an attorney to deny or contest its validity even though I did not in express terms, as I am informed he did, assure my client that it was a valid contract."

Capt. Watkins expresses the opinion that seems to be prevalent over the city, and accepted as correct by many of those who have discussed the matter, that even if "the city could avoid its agreement, I would hang my head in shame before even suggesting that 'My Town' is ready to repudiate its contract. It would shame me to think that any citizen would do so after he had sat quietly and allowed the company to spend immense sums of money on the faith of the contract, and knowing that these expenditures had been accepted by the city, and had added greatly to its upbuilding and convenience."

Capt. Watkins reverses the positions of the city and the company for the sake of argument, and makes a telling comparison. He argues that it is a moral question as well as one of law, and that the city should stand on as high ground as the company does. He concludes his article with a statement of his belief in the integrity and honesty of the people of Anderson, and that they would not stand for repudiation of their contract. The Intelligencer believes that the people really wish to know what is right in this matter, and further if the city really has a good franchise. With this in view The Intelligencer proposes to publish within the next few days the franchise contracts for the white way, and for the longer term. We trust that the people will read these articles and decide for themselves whether or not the city has been "duped" and made a bad bargain. Meanwhile the columns of this paper are open for a discussion of the matter from any standpoint, and we shall be pleased to give space to rational articles on any side of it. Let the people think of it and discuss it.

CONVICTS TURNED OUT.

Governor Bleess has again made a wholesale liberation of convicts. Today is Thanksgiving day, and he has turned out over one hundred of the "citizens in stripes." This will make more than fourteen hundred he has extended clemency to since he has been governor, and almost results in closing the doors of the State penitentiary. Of course there are those in every penal institution who should not be there, and when such cases are found, it is proper to extend clemency. But it is hardly conceivable that there are so many unjustly convicted in South Carolina, as that the Governor should interfere in so many cases. "Justice tempered with mercy" is what we need, and what should be the policy of the State's chief executive.

A BIG EDITION

The Tuesday's edition of the Charleston Evening Post consists of sixty-six pages, and is commemorative of the "new Charleston spirit." It is a splendid example of the energy of this afternoon paper, and shows that "The City by the Sea" is very much alive, and that she has a very much alive newspaper in the Post. Bound copies of this issue will be placed in the public libraries and reading room of the chambers of commerce in every state in the Union.

HE CAN'T BE BEAT

The report comes from Anderson that they will elect Will Lyons Sheriff in 1916. As we have often stated you cannot beat an Abbeville man, so if he runs he will be elected.—Abbeville Medium.

That the "dear people" will be deprived next summer of the bi-annual visitation of the state political campaign circus, with its elevating and profound discussion of great principles of government.

EXTRA! Sat. Nov. 28th All day long we will sell Flannelettes in short lengths 5 lb. bundle for 55c Limited None to children

THE LEADER IN THE HANDS OF LOW PRICE COTTON! GREATEST SALE EVER RECORDED NOW GOING ON!

EXTRA! Sat. Nov. 28th All day long we will sell Standard quality Apron Gingham 5 yards for 19c None to children

We are powerless to change present conditions, but we have the power to change the prices on our own merchandise—and that we have done as never before in the history of our bargain-giving career. There is no need to delay buying the necessities that you need for yourself and the entire family—because everything has been reduced to such an extent that you can purchase all your needs at practically half of the former prices. So come to the Leader that Leads them all as this sale will continue throughout this month.

Ladies' Best 25c Fleeced Ribbed Underwear. Sale Price Each 15c 60x76 Smooth Cotton Blankets in Tan and Gray. Sale Price Per Pair 95c Men's Best 50c Heavy Fleeced Underwear. Sale Price Each 33c

See the large Circular for complete List of Price Reductions THE LEADER ANDERSON, S. C.

Captain Watkins Replies to City Attorney Sullivan

TO THE EDITOR OF THE INTELLIGENCER:

I know that the people of Anderson and the readers of your paper are not concerned with controversies of a personal nature. They are entitled, however, to a knowledge of the personal conduct and motives of men who deal with public interests. In so far as these interests are affected, therefore, whether these be the conduct and motives of public officials or of private individuals, it is the duty of the public press to have for some time thought that much of the prejudice that at times prevails against corporations is due to the fact that the people are not informed of the corporate side of the question. The natural and proper reluctance of business men to discuss their affairs in the public press is responsible frequently for the public remaining in ignorance of matters upon which they should be informed. I have an abiding faith in the fairness of the people upon all matters about which they have full knowledge. This has been forcibly illustrated in the matter of the franchise of the Southern Public Utilities Company, which has been thought by many to be an exclusive forty year franchise. I hope you will publish this document for the information of the public, who are entitled to know its terms, as well as the terms of the white way contract.

In one way or another, directly or through enterprises in which I have held stock, I have contributed in some small degree to the city's revenues ever since I have "ceased to be a resident of the city." It had not occurred to me, therefore, that I was committing "lese majeste" when after my name had been repeatedly brought into print in connection with a great public issue, I addressed to you an article which the city attorney was kind enough to characterize as "dignified and moderate in tone," calling attention to certain facts which I thought that the public were entitled to know, and which were in danger of being obscured by partisan and personal discussion. I hope that on mature consideration the city attorney, to whose salary is contributed in a small degree by the taxes which I pay, and in a much larger measure by my client, the Southern Public Utilities Company, will not feel that I deserve to have my views discounted by calling attention to the fact that I am no longer a resident of the city. It is true that for some years, for reasons that I think would be approved by the city attorney, I have lived in the suburbs of the city in a modest home which has not the advantage of water works and has to be lighted with kerosene lamps, but this fact has not deprived me of the privilege of contributing as my means have permitted to the public enterprises of the city. I am certainly glad that neither the city attorney nor any one else draw the line of expatriation in order to deny me this privilege. I am glad to know that the city attorney has given this humble non-resident the privilege more than once of expressing sympathy for his efforts in behalf of good government without any suggestion that my admiration was the less acceptable because I did not live in the city. These expressions were in line with the friendship and admiration which I have always had, and still have, for the city attorney. They were sincere, and were without any suggestion that the efforts of the city attorney were the less commendable even though the very undesirable conditions had been allowed to develop under his long administration as such attorney. If I were to follow his example in this discussion, I might suggest that I regret that the public was so long deprived of the splendid work which he finally accomplished and that an earlier clean-up at the hands

of so efficient a prosecutor had not saved the city the disgrace and crime which ran riot so long. In this connection it might not be an unwarranted liberty to wonder at the absent-mindedness that led the city attorney, without criticism and with due complacency, to back in the editor of The Intelligencer's enthusiastic praises for the work of "reform" and equally to wonder at the promptness with which he exclaimed "Bah!" and cried, "Say, editor when did you hit the town anyway?" when this editor dared to express honest views differing from those of the city attorney on a great public issue and to ask pertinent questions to which it might seem the tax payers are entitled to answer. I do not know in what spirit Mr. Taylor was treated by the city attorney in the negotiations relative to the franchise, but it was met with the same spirit that characterized the city attorney's discussion with the editor of The Intelligencer. There may be found therein some justification of the impatient spirit with which Mr. Taylor is so grievously charged.

Now as to the preparation of the white way contract, I stated last I did not change a word of it so far as I remembered. I still do not remember making or suggesting any change. Mr. Sullivan states that I did and if his recollection is positive in the matter; I am willing to accept his statement as correct, and cheerfully apologize for any injustice which I may have done him through lack of memory or otherwise. I hope he will now be equally frank in saying that the preparation of the contract was first confided to him alone and not to us in conjunction with each other; that the representatives of the council and Mr. Orr went to his office and gave him all the data for drawing the contract, and that he took down the necessary data without my being present or without any suggestion that I be consulted or that I should suggest to the stockholders of the Southern Public Utilities Company that the city council of Anderson and its attorney were responsible for their "not voting" on the question. What is the difference? Mr. Sullivan knows that it was Mr. Taylor's duty and that of his attorney to see to it that he had authority to sign these contracts on behalf of his company, and that it was equally the duty of the city and its attorney to see to this on its behalf. If Mr. Taylor had acted in good faith, supposing he had such authority, but, as a matter of fact, did not have it, and his attorney acted in like good faith, it would seem to be their duty now to do all in their power to induce the company's stockholders to stand by this agreement. Will the city and its attorney permit themselves to stand on less high ground? And if Mr. Taylor's stockholders had stood by and allowed him to sign contracts with the city on their behalf, and in carrying out this agreement the city had incurred a great expense in consequence thereof, could these stockholders now with proper self respect, repudiate the contract? Suppose the position as to the white way had been reversed; suppose the city had spent ten thousand dollars in erecting it under a contract with the Utilities Company to furnish the electrical current for its illumination; and suppose there were no other source from which the current could be obtained, and that the investment were made worthless by a failure of the company to furnish the light;—What would be thought of Mr. Taylor or his attorney or any of his stockholders, who, having waited until the money was expended, should then take action to repudiate the contract on the ground that the company had exceeded the authority conferred by their by-laws? The Utilities Company has not only spent the money for the white way, but it has spent approximately \$30,000 in extending its water

contract. It would shame me to think that any citizen would do so after he had sat quietly and allowed the company to spend immense sums of money on the faith of the contract, and knowing that these expenditures had been accepted by the city and had added greatly to its upbuilding and convenience. I am informed that the city attorney spent much time in the study of the franchise question before its adoption. Indeed, I am told that so much time was consumed that the city council voted in addition to his regular salary an extra fee of \$500 for services rendered in connection with the franchise matter and other interests of the city. If this be true did not the council which paid the fee, and even the Utilities Company, whose taxes contributed thereto, both have the right to expect that the city attorney would both know and advise of any illegality in their action? I do not know whether extra compensation has been provided or will be provided for the weeks of labor which the city attorney has spent in arriving at his present opinion, but it would seem that if he is now giving a correct opinion he should certainly receive as large extra compensation as he received for supervising a work which he now declares to be illegal.

Another matter, and I will close this already long article. In the final paragraph of his communication he launches against Mr. Taylor and myself the people of Anderson to decide this matter by vote at an election, but intend to keep them from voting on it if in their power to prevent. Really, I had supposed that the question of submitting issues to a vote of the people was the prerogative of their representatives on the city council, and not of non-residents like myself who enjoy the distinction of "taxation without representation." The suggestion is more adroit than well founded; it is intended to suggest to the people that Mr. Taylor and I are denying them a substantial right. No one should be misled by such argument. It is as absurd as if one should suggest to the stockholders of the Southern Public Utilities Company that the city council of Anderson and its attorney were responsible for their "not voting" on the question. What is the difference? Mr. Sullivan knows that it was Mr. Taylor's duty and that of his attorney to see to it that he had authority to sign these contracts on behalf of his company, and that it was equally the duty of the city and its attorney to see to this on its behalf. If Mr. Taylor had acted in good faith, supposing he had such authority, but, as a matter of fact, did not have it, and his attorney acted in like good faith, it would seem to be their duty now to do all in their power to induce the company's stockholders to stand by this agreement. Will the city and its attorney permit themselves to stand on less high ground? And if Mr. Taylor's stockholders had stood by and allowed him to sign contracts with the city on their behalf, and in carrying out this agreement the city had incurred a great expense in consequence thereof, could these stockholders now with proper self respect, repudiate the contract? Suppose the position as to the white way had been reversed; suppose the city had spent ten thousand dollars in erecting it under a contract with the Utilities Company to furnish the electrical current for its illumination; and suppose there were no other source from which the current could be obtained, and that the investment were made worthless by a failure of the company to furnish the light;—What would be thought of Mr. Taylor or his attorney or any of his stockholders, who, having waited until the money was expended, should then take action to repudiate the contract on the ground that the company had exceeded the authority conferred by their by-laws? The Utilities Company has not only spent the money for the white way, but it has spent approximately \$30,000 in extending its water

mains and giving better fire protection; it has made reductions in rates that its written contract did not require,—and this was done without a thought or suggestion that Mr. Taylor's verbal promise to do so was invalid because not in writing. Would it not be unjust to the reputation of our city to suggest that we would fix for ourselves a less exalted standard than that demanded of this company? It may be that our people are in favor of repudiation, but I do not believe it and no one can make me believe it of "My Town" until it has been proved. I do not believe that upon mature consideration the city council would insist upon their recent repudiation because I do not believe that it would take such action on the city's side of the question. I do not believe that our people, who love the city, who have gloried in its past, and who look forward with confident hope in its future, will permit it to be said that Anderson stands for repudiation. I believe that the people wish the vexed question laid to rest, and wish to be permitted to join hands in the work of future progress. And I will not believe otherwise of the people whom I have known, and loved, and trusted, and worked with for the last quarter of a century, until they speak for themselves and say I am mistaken.

H. H. WATKINS. November 25, 1914.

I VA NOTES

I VA, Nov. 25.—On Sunday evening at seven o'clock a pretty marriage was solemnized at the home of Mr. S. E. Leverett, uncle of the bride, when Miss Mary Cook and Dr. C. D. Evans were met in the parlor by the Rev. S. J. Hood, pastor of the bride, who in a few well chosen words, pronounced them man and wife. The bride was becomingly attired in a dress of blue rep. Mrs. Evans is very attractive and popular, beloved among a wide circle of friends. Dr. Evans is the popular pharmacist in the Watson drug store, and is held in honor and esteem by all who know him. A number of friends of both bride and groom witnessed this popular marriage. Dr. and Mrs. Evans are at home

to their many friends at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Leverett. Dr. R. E. Thompson of Flat Rock was visiting his daughter, Mrs. J. A. McAllister, Monday.

Mr. Atticus Wiles of Honea Path was a business visitor here Monday.

Mr. Wade Thompson of Flat Rock spent a few hours in town Monday on business.

Dr. D. A. Burriss was a business visitor to the city Monday.

Miss Gertrude Welder, teacher of the Mofettsville school, spent the week end with her cousin, Mrs. Mac Beaty.

Mr. Reid Jackson of Anderson spent Sunday at the home of Mr. T. G. Jackson.

Miss Lila Ferwell, who has been spending a few days with her sister, Mrs. S. M. McAdams, has returned to her home in Lowndesville.

Mr. and Mrs. Rosamond Seawright of Anderson are spending the week here with relatives.

Mr. T. C. Jackson, Jr. and N. Polakoff spent a few hours in Anderson Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Anderson spent a few hours in Anderson yesterday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Y. C. Jones and Miss Anna Halford have returned from a short stay with relatives in Hartwell, Ga.

Mrs. Henry Wakefield was shopping in Anderson yesterday.

Rev. S. J. Hood will deliver a temperance lecture next Sunday afternoon at Varnes church at 3 o'clock. The public is cordially invited.

Miss Annie Brown, district nurse of Union, S. C., has returned to her work after spending several weeks with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Brown.

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Schumpert of Gregg Shoals were visiting here a few hours Monday.

Miss Una Pittgreav, a student of Anderson College, was in town a short while Monday in the interest of the college journal.

Mr. Alpha Neese of Honea Path has returned to his home after a day or so here with his friend, Mr. J. C. Jones.

Money Available. The money for the managers of the recent election can be obtained by seeing Mr. V. B. Cheshire, federal election commission for Anderson County.

Reach Foot Balls \$1.00 to \$6.00 Reach Punching Bags ANKLE AND WRIST SUPPORTERS Gifts that would please any boy. THE REACH trade-mark guarantees satisfaction and perfect goods. Sullivan Hardware Co. Anderson, S. C., Belton, S. C., Greenville, S. C.