

The Watchman and Southron.

The SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1860.

Consolidated Aug. 2, 1881.

SUMTER, S. C., SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1911.

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CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

FIRE DEPARTMENT IN RUN DOWN CONDITION AND SUMTER LOW DOWN IN INSURANCE RATES.

Where the Lights Will be Put—Discussion of Church Street Paving—Opening Up of Council Street—Turkey Creek Matter to be Pushed—Another Election for Bonds Necessary.

"Heap much talk" would well describe the meeting of the city fathers for the meeting lasted well on towards midnight and the work done was not commensurate with the time consumed in the doing. However, Council did do some things in the meeting that were of great importance.

Among the things that Council did at the meeting was the decision to secure \$500 from the interested property owners for the Turkey Creek work and to go ahead with the work, getting what assistance they could from the county.

Mr. Glenn stated that Mr. Wilder had a few facts about the fire department that he wanted to lay before Council and Mr. Wilder stated that he had a few comparative figures to give, showing what few things the fire department needed and what it would cost to get an up-to-date fire department for the city. The up-shot of all his figures was that Sumter had a fire department that was in equipment next to none. Wagons were needed, new horses were necessary, the present hose was worn out, the department house was not well kept and various little matters that could be attended to at an approximate cost of something over \$5,000, while the cost of one new wagon and horse and a new up-to-date combination automobile and fire engine could be secured for something over \$9,000. The maintenance of the wagons and horses was estimated to be something over \$1,000 more annually than that of the single wagon and combination engine and automobile. Mr. Glenn had Mr. Fraser James, chief of the fire department of Darlington, who has for sometime been securing information about the fire departments in all of the cities in the Carolinas and Georgia for the firemen's association, stop over for the purpose of telling what he thought of Sumter's fire department and its equipment. He said that he had some information along the line of fire departments and that in his opinion Sumter had an old equipment that was actually dangerous to the firemen when brought into use. He said that the wagons were worn out, the hose was dirty and not kept properly, that the department was not a nice place for anyone to stay in as it is, and a great many other things that were not nice about Sumter's fire department, but all of which were true. He stated further, in answer to questions as to the insurance, that Sumter was rated as a town with second class fire department with a deficiency, the deficiency being due to lack of water pressure and insufficient equipment. He then stated that he thought that the best thing for Sumter to do was to get a combination automobile and fire engine, which carried with it 1,500 feet of hose, forty feet of ladders—something which Sumter's department absolutely lacked now—which, in conjunction with a single horse wagon, was quite sufficient for Sumter's need. He said that he thought that one well paid man should be put in charge of the fire engine and house and that he should be made to keep it in a spick and span condition. He talked for sometime along this line and answered the many questions that were asked him about the insurance rates when the combination automobile and engine was used.

The matter was referred to the fire committee for them to find out the exact cost of the combination automobile and fire engine and upon what terms it could be secured and at the same time to see if they could dispose of the steamer now in the city and at what terms, a report to be made at the next meeting of Council. One of the points stressed in the discussion was that the wagons now in use were unsafe and that the firemen were unwilling to ride upon them, which was the surest way of killing out the enthusiasm of the volunteer firemen in the department.

Frank Edwards appeared before Council to ask that a street be opened up so that the persons living in the part of the city where he lived could secure easier access to the city. This is about the third or fourth time that he had been up before Council with his request and it was decided

that Council would take an automobile ride to the place Thursday afternoon to see what they should decide to be the best thing to do.

Mr. Booth reported for the street committee that work had practically stopped on the streets for the past few weeks as all of his laborers had left him and gone to the county gang where they were paid better wages. He said that various parts of the city had been cleaned up while efforts were being made to get more hands, and that work had been resumed on Calhoun street, but that the force of hands were very small, although the work was being done on the contract plan. He reported that the pipe for the storm sewer on Main and Kendrick streets was now being made, but that he had not been able as yet to get information about Main street so that bids could be called for. He was instructed to get information from the city engineer for the special street committee so that bids could be secured from contractors at once.

The matter of connecting a sewer line with the wholesale house of Crosswell & Company was brought up and Mr. Crosswell was given permission to put in the line under the direction of the city engineer, who was directed to furnish all information needed for the line.

Mr. McLaurin, for the finance committee, reported the books of the city clerk to be in good shape.

Mr. R. L. Wright, as chairman of the police and light committees, made his report of the number of arrests and fines during the past month. He also made a report as to the lights needed at various places in the city. He was instructed with his committee to arrange the additional lights at the places that they were most needed.

The matter of placing the arches on Main and Liberty Streets as promised by the Sumter Lighting Company, was next brought up and the light committee was instructed to let the company know where the arches were to be placed and the committee was also to look into the matter of the electric sign for Sumter and find out the cost of erecting it and what was the best kind of display to be secured and report this information at the next meeting of council.

The next matter brought up was the paving on Church street and it was this matter that took up a great part of the three and three-quarter hours that Council was in session, for it was discussed pro and con by every member of Council, except Mr. Glenn who had left previous to the bringing up of the matter, and Mr. Rhame who was not present. Mr. Beatty wanted to settle for the work at some price, even if he was not paid the full price for it. He had been to the street committee, who at two different meetings had failed to come to an agreement with him. The street committee was not ready to make any recommendation as to the acceptance or rejection of the work. It was stated by them that they had not seen fit to settle for the work on any terms as they did not think that they had the authority to do so when the city engineer had condemned the work as not up to specifications.

It seems that the part of the work condemned is that between Broad and Calhoun street on the east side of Church street. Mr. Lee examined the work by drilling holes in it every fifty feet and reported it not to come up to specifications in the thickness of the upper layer of cement and as to the stone used in the foundation. Mr. Beatty contended that the work was good in some places as was seen by the "O. K." marks made at about half of the holes and that all ought not to be condemned because some of it was defective. He did not seem to think that Maj. Lee could furnish a thorough inspection by means of the holes drilled at regular intervals. He was ready to allow 10 per cent off to the property owners and the same to the city, provided that the claim was paid, and at the same time he would cover the work with a \$500 bond for five years.

The matter was discussed fully, but no satisfactory conclusion was reached. It was finally settled for the evening by Council passing a resolution to the effect that the matter be referred back to the street committee with power to act, if they settle the matter as they saw fit or to refuse to pay for the work, if they saw that by so doing, all parties would secure justice.

Judge T. E. Richardson asked that Council allow him to pay for a stenographer for taking evidence in the Weaver case which had come to him for a hearing. Council declined to do so as they deemed that they did not have authority to do so.

The matter of Turkey Creek canal was brought up and discussed. A report was made to Council that nothing

had been achieved by the meeting with the county board. Mr. W. M. Graham, who had brought the matter up at the first part of the meeting, was asked as a committee of one to see the property owners interested and to get them to subscribe as much as \$500, when the city would get to work to reopen the canal with what assistance they could get from the county, the work to be done under the supervision of the city engineer and county supervisor.

Mr. Hurst stated that the Main street bonds were found to be correct except for one minor detail which had been unknown to him prior to the time at which the election for the bonds had been ordered and which called for a new election. He said that the State law required that books of registration be opened for ten days prior to any special election and that this law had not been complied with in the election. He said that the first notice that he had received of the fact that the election was void, was when he was asked by the attorney for the Boston house which had purchased the bonds, if this law had been complied with. He was obliged to say that it had not been complied with and it was now necessary to have a second election before the bonds would be valid. The matter was looked into and it was found that the election was necessary. Immediate steps were taken to order a new election so that no delay would be caused in the laying of the pavement of the street. The following resolutions were drawn up and adopted:

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

County of Sumter.

WHEREAS, a petition from the majority of the free holders of the City of Sumter, was filed praying that an election be held for the purpose of issuing bonds not exceeding Twenty-five Thousand Dollars in amount for the improvement of Main Street; and

WHEREAS, an election was ordered held in pursuance thereof on February 14, 1911; and

WHEREAS, said election was held, and the said election was void by reason of failure to provide for registration of voters.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That an election be, and is hereby ordered to be held in the City of Sumter, S. C. on June 1st, 1911, whereat the qualified voters of Sumter shall determine by ballot, as provided by laws of South Carolina, whether or not the said bonds shall be issued.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Mayor and Clerk and Treasurer of said City of Sumter be and they are hereby authorized to cause said election to be held, to publish notice of said election, appoint managers and to do all other things necessary to be done, according to the laws governing such elections.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Supervisor of Registration of the City of Sumter is hereby directed to open books of registration on May 11th, 1911 for the registration of the names of qualified electors, and to keep said books open for a period of ten days, and that in opening said books and conducting said registration, the said Supervisor shall comply with all the requirements of the Statutes of said State with respect to registration of voters, etc.

The recommendation of a county public cotton weigher was postponed until the first meeting in June.

The claim of the Atlantic Coast Line railroad for expenses incurred during the placing of the sewer line under their track was postponed until the next meeting.

The request of the Building and Loan associations of the city was also postponed.

The Postal Telegraph company was granted permission to settle on terms of \$50 for last year and \$50 for this year, this being a rebate of \$25 on this year's license, and asked for by them.

The request of the Pullman company for an extension of time in which to pay their license was granted on condition that they be ready to pay the license or to make some satisfactory arrangement by the next meeting of Council.

Mr. J. Fred Wise was granted permission to send out two ice cream wagons on the streets, subject to restriction of City Council. The license on these two carts was fixed at \$10.

Wesley Bossard was granted a rebate of \$3.00 on the hack license given his son Abram, who had used it for only a few weeks.

The fact that some of those who had subscribed to get the tank of street oil to be used on Liberty street between Magnolia and Harvin streets were objecting to paying what they had subscribed for the oil because it had been put down on other parts

DECIDES TO INVESTIGATE.

POSTOFFICE AND SUGAR TRUST THE TARGET OF PROBE.

One of Resolutions Adopted by House Would Find Object of Postoffice Department.

Washington, May 9.—Two resolutions for important investigations were agreed to by the house today. A complete investigation of the postoffice department, proposed by Representative Saunders of Virginia, to determine whether political influences are operating in the department, whether it is used for political purposes, whether the employees are discharged for political reasons, and covering other features of postal operation, was authorized by the adoption of one resolution.

The other, that of Mr. Hardwick of Georgia, provides for a sweeping investigation of the American Sugar Refining company, to determine what influence it has had or is having upon the prices of sugar or the control of competition.

CAMDEN HOLDS EXERCISES.

Two Memorial Fountains Unveiled at Camden—Col. Dargan and Mr. McLeod Speak.

Camden, May 10.—Six Confederate generals, all of whom entered the service from Camden, are commemorated by a fountain, the gift to the town of school children, who raised the funds for its purchase under the direction of Superintendent R. M. Kennedy of the Camden public schools. The generals commemorated are John B. Kennedy, Jas. B. Kershaw, James Cantey, Zach Cantey Deas, J. B. Villepigue and James Chestnut. Another feature of Memorial Day in Camden was the unveiling of a fountain, presented by the Humane Alliance through Mr. Kennedy, in honor of Richard Kirkland, a Confederate soldier from Camden, who at Fredericksburg crossed the battle front under heavy fire to give water to a wounded Union private.

At the exercises in the opera house Col. J. J. Dargan of Stateburg, president of the South Carolina Peace society, delivered an oration, and a silver goblet was presented to Mr. Kennedy on behalf of citizens of Kershaw county, in recognition of his services in preserving the history of the community. The graves of Confederate veterans will be decorated this afternoon, and an address will be delivered by Hon. T. G. McLeod of Bishopville.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT COTTON.

Congressman Introduces Resolution Calling on Department of Agriculture to Extend Scope.

Washington, May 9.—Congressman Edwards of Georgia today introduced the following bill affecting the handling of cotton:

"That the department of commerce and labor, through the bureau of statistics, shall be required to collect and issue accurate monthly statistical reports giving true statements of the amount and value of raw cotton and manufactured cotton goods in possession or control of all persons or corporations in the United States, and, as far as is possible, of other countries engaged in the manufacture of cotton goods of any kind, as well as the amount and value of manufactured cotton articles sold each month by such manufacturers; such reports to be published monthly with what is commonly known as the ginners' reports, so that the producers may have information regarding the consumption of the speculator has of the production of cotton."

Palmer Cantey was given a preliminary in the Magistrate's court Wednesday and returned to jail to await the next term of the upper court. The case was one in which he is charged with stealing timber from Mr. H. J. McLaurin's land and selling it for cross-ties.

No further arrests have been made yet for the stealing of the fertilizer from Mr. R. E. Belser's storehouse on the old Calvin Chandler place.

of the street was brought up. It was shown in the discussion that these parties had no grounds upon which to kick as they had got the oil at a cheaper price than was expected and that it had been put down first where it was secured to be put down and the balance was put down on the street as a test to see how the oil would do for clayed streets.

MAIL CARRIERS GET TOGETHER

WILL IMPROVE SERVICE BY CO-OPERATION.

An Enthusiastic Letter—Thos. E. Wicker, President of Association, Issues Call to Workers in South Carolina.

Thos. E. Wicker, president of the Rural Free Delivery Carriers' association of South Carolina, has issued an address to the carriers of this State, urging increased interest in the organization. Mr. Wicker, in his address, says:

"Brother Rural Carriers of South Carolina: Below you will find a list of rural carriers whom I have appointed special organizers for their respective counties. See if your name is on the list, and if it is, then go to work with a vim for your county association; if it is not, then write your county organizer at once and tell him your services are at his command."

"In several counties I have no appointments because I don't know who would be willing and interested enough to undertake the work. I should be glad to have the names of hustlers from those counties, so that the list of organizers could be made complete. The appointment of special organizers doesn't mean that State and county officers may become less active in their efforts to secure members."

"The State convention at Newberry last July was the largest and best in the history of the association. The question now is, Will it be excelled by the convention at Florence next July? What does Florence say about it? What does Burch say about it? What do we all say about it? Our presence in goodly numbers will make it a success; our absence will make it a failure."

"Now let us all get busy in the interest of our county conventions on the 30th of May. Remember the national dues, as fixed at Little Rock last year, are 75 cents and State dues 25 cents. Your county dues, if any, are what you choose to make them."

"Let us all join the association for the good of the service and for our own good. If by getting together in conventions and exchanging ideas, we are benefited, then, of course, the service will be benefited to the same extent. The carrier who refuses or neglects to join the association, isolates himself and pockets his salary at the end of the month. This is the sum total of his interest in the rural mail service. The carrier who joins the association manifest by that very act, a desire to learn, through the association as a medium, the wishes of the department officials in the conduct of the service. He is wide-awake and more efficient than his isolated brother, because he is in touch with the department and in sympathy with those who are trying to improve the service."

Eliminate Imperfections.

"There may be some among us who think that the recent salary increase was not as large as it should have been. From our viewpoint perhaps it was not; but from the viewpoint of the government it was solely a question of economy. We must not forget that our branch of the service is young and, in some respects, imperfect, therefore, looking at it in this light, let us who are in the field cooperate with our superiors at headquarters, to the end that the imperfections in the service may be eliminated and that we may become more efficient and deserving. When these things have been accomplished there need be no doubt that our compensation will be as generous as we could wish. Uncle Sam is not stingy, but, as every good business man should be, he is conservative."

"In closing, let me again urge upon you the importance of your presence at Florence, July 3, 4, and 5—three days. Come, whether a member of the association or not."

"Fraternally yours,
Thos. E. Wicker,
State President."

Special Organizers,

The special organizers are as follows:
Abbeville County—Milton E. Martin, Donalds.
Aiken County—George T. McCain, Hawthorne.
Anderson County—J. J. Truesell, Honon Path.
Barnwell County—E. E. Pickling, Blacksville.
Chester County—J. C. Moore, Chester.
Chesterfield County—D. M. McNair, Patrick.
Clarendon County—Silas B. Cobb, Pinewood.
Colleton County—Thos. P. Black, Ruffin.

YOUNG MINISTERS GRADUATE.

DIPLOMAS AWARDED TO SEVEN YOUNG MEN LAST NIGHT.

Board of Directors Met and Formally Elected Dr. Whaling President of Seminary.

Columbia, May 10.—The closing exercises of the 83rd year of the Columbia Theological Seminary were held last evening at the chapel of the seminary. Diplomas were awarded to seven young men and the address of the evening was made by Rev. J. T. Plunkett, D. D., of Birmingham, Ala. He is a member of the board of directors and his remarks were well fitting of the occasion.

Those who received diplomas: Palmer Almers, Charlotte, N. C.; Erskine College; Thomas Walker G. Ph. D., Mansfield, Louisiana, western Presbyterian university; John MacEachern, Savannah, Ga., Davidson college; Wiley Rankin, Pritchett, A. B., Greensboro, N. C., Guilford college; William J. Roach, B. S., Rock Hill, Clemson college; Albert Emmons Wallace, St. Elmo, Tennessee, Soddy high school; Louis Trezevant Wilds, Jr., A. B., Columbia, Davidson college.

The order of exercises for the evening was as follows:

Devotional service.
Address by Dr. W. J. McKay of Sumter, and awarding of diplomas and certificates.

Address by Dr. J. T. Plunkett of Birmingham, Ala., member of the board of directors of the seminary. Benediction.

The board of directors met yesterday morning and formally elected T. C. Whaling, president of the Columbia Theological seminary, the first president the historic institution has ever had. Dr. Whaling is pastor of the Second Presbyterian church of Norfolk and married Miss Muller of this city. Outside of this, only routine business was dispensed with. A meeting will be held this morning to finish up the matters before them.

The members of the board, their addresses and the synod they represent are:

South Carolina Synod—Rev. B. P. Reid, Reidville; John McSween, Timmonsville; Rev. J. G. Richards, D. D., Blenheim; J. Allen Smith, Abbeville; Rev. W. J. McKay, D. D., Sumter; W. H. Townsend, Columbia.

Georgia Synod—T. J. Brantley, Blackshear, Ga.; Rev. E. L. Hill, Athens, Ga.; Rev. A. A. Little, D. D., Atlanta, Ga.; Rev. F. K. Sims, Dalton, Ga.

Alabama Synod—Rev. T. J. Plunkett, D. D., Birmingham, Ala.; Hon. J. A. Planck, D. D., Mobile, Ala.
Florida Synod—Rev. T. P. Hay, D. D., Gainesville, Fla.; Rev. J. F. McKinnon, Sanford, Fla.

All of these were present except J. T. Brantley, Rev. A. A. Little, D. D., J. N. Miller and Rev. D. A. Planck, D. D.

The year coming to a close has been one of the most successful in the history of the school. There were 22 students registered and the work has been highly creditable.

Darlington County—J. M. Gray, Darlington.

Florence County—J. M. Gray, Darlington.

Williamsburg County—J. M. Gray, Darlington.

Dorchester County—J. A. Murray, Summerville.

Edgefield County—Sam D. Mays, Edgefield.

Fairfield County—Clark Langford, Blythewood.

Greenville County—P. M. Huff, Piedmont.

Greenwood County—L. B. Aull, Dyson.

Kershaw County—J. E. Rosh, Camden.

Lancaster County—C. J. Sistare, Riverside.

Laurens County—A. C. Owings, Gray Court.

Lee County—J. E. Campbell, Camden.

Lexington County—L. B. Addy, Lexington.

Marion County—McD. Metts, Whitman.

Orangeburg County—L. B. Lide, North.

Pickens County—C. G. Masters, Central.

Richland County—Jno. A. Jennings, Columbia.

Saluda County—James Herbert, Saluda.

Spartanburg County—B. Bryant, Spartanburg.

Sumter County—A. J. Ard, Sumter.

Union County—H. J. Thomas, Carlisle.

York County—W. T. Sims, Sharon.