

**The Watchman and Southron.**  
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The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the True Southron in 1866. The Watchman and Southron now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

## ROUMANIA HOLDS BALANCE.

**MOBILIZING ARMY—MAY PROCEED AGAINST BULGARIA IF SERVA IS BESTED IN CONFLICT.**

**Threatens to Invade Territory of Bulgaria in Case Servia is in Danger of Being Overwhelmed—Military News of Varying Import.**

London, July 9.—The invasion of Bulgaria by the Roumanian army, whose mobilization will be completed this week, will begin forthwith, according to Roumanian diplomats here, if in the meanwhile the reports of the hostilities appear to be going against Servia. It is asserted that the sole object of Roumania is to insure against any disturbance of the balance of the power in the Balkans being detrimental to her as it would be in the event of Bulgaria's becoming too powerful. Should the Servians be victorious in the war Roumania is prepared to intervene on the side of Bulgaria with the same object in view. At the same time Roumania is always shaping her course to secure her own future safety by the occupation of what she considers an adequate strategic frontier—namely, the line from Turtukai on the Danube to Balcik on the Black sea.

Out of the welter of conflicting stories from the Balkan battlefields it is almost impossible to sift the truth. This was markedly illustrated tonight, a dispatch from The Daily Telegraph's correspondent at Uskup, dated Tuesday night, reporting that there had hardly been any fighting in the last few days while Belgrade dispatches reported further Servian victories.

There seems to be little doubt that Gen. Ivanoff's army is steadily retreating before the victorious Greeks and it is reported that the Bulgarians have evacuated Kavala and Dedeagatch.

Whether there is any truth in Vienna reports that Bulgaria has applied to the powers to arrange peace is not known but it would appear unlikely, since clearly things are not going well with the Bulgarians and the outbreak of cholera at many points in the field, combined with the exhaustion of the armies by the fierceness of the struggle, is calculated to render some such solution welcome to the combatants. This is especially so because of the uncertainty of the policy of Roumania.

The problem of dealing with the dead and wounded is proving very serious. The nursing resources in Belgrade are woefully insufficient. It is stated that the Servians have permitted a pause in the operations to allow removal of wounded and interment of dead and carrying out of sanitary measures.

The Greek government has made urgent representations to the European governments against massacres and atrocities alleged to have been committed by the Bulgarian troops and irregulars, declaring that in the event of defenseless Greek populations being left to their fate, Greece will be obliged to take vigorous measures to put and end to Bulgarian atrocities.

A Greek official statement asserts that instead of 3,000 as alleged by Bulgaria, Gen. Ivanoff's army consisted of 120,000 men.

## GREEKS TAKE PASSES.

**Claim to Have Won Victory Over Bulgarians.**

Athens, July 9.—An official bulletin issued tonight says the Greeks on Tuesday attacked the mountain passes towards Strumitza. The Bulgarians, reinforced, perhaps from Istip, offered vigorous resistance but were steadily driven back.

The Greeks occupied some of the passes, but the fighting was stopped by darkness, with the expectation that it would be resumed Wednesday. Later bulletins declared the Bulgarians are in headlong flight through the defiles, the Greeks having made a night frontal attack on Strumitza, forcing

the Bulgarians to abandon their positions with heavy losses. Private dispatches report the evacuation of Kavata by the Bulgarians.

## BULGARIANS CLAIM GAINS.

**Semi-Official Reports Tell of Successes.**

Sofia, July 9.—Semi-official reports today represent the Bulgarians as successful throughout the fighting line. All the Servian attacks from Sultantepe to Pataritza, according to these reports, were repulsed, the Servians suffering enormous losses and being pursued by the Bulgarians.

A battle is in progress near Kotchana and the Servians are retreating. The Greek attacks north of Doiran have been repulsed with great loss and on the right bank of the river Struma the Greeks are operating weakly.

## TO SETTLE QUESTION.

**Bulgarian Delegate is Given Plenary Powers.**

Constantinople, July 9.—The reply of Bulgaria to the request of the sublime porte, agreeing to evacuate the Marmora coast, intimates that the Bulgarian delegate, M. Natchovitch, ex-foreign minister who arrived at Tchatalja today, is empowered to negotiate a settlement of the Marmora question. Meanwhile the porte has determined immediately to proceed with the military occupation of all the territory up to the Enos-Midia line, in accordance with the peace protocol signed at London. The military preparations forcibly reminded one of the state of affairs last autumn.

## TAKE TOWN OF SERES.

**Greeks Said to Have Driven Out Bulgarians.**

Belgrade, Servia, July 9.—The town of Seres, about 45 miles to the northeast of Saloniki, was captured today from the Bulgarians by the Greek army, according to official dispatches received here.

The Greek fleet is reported to be bombarding the seaport of Kavala on the Aegean sea, now in the hands of the Bulgarians.

## CRISIS WILL BE GRAVE.

**Events in Balkans Taking on New Aspect.**

Cologne, Germany, July 9.—Nobody acquainted with conditions in the Balkans can doubt that Europe will be confronted shortly with events of the utmost importance affecting the political and military relations of Austria-Hungary and Russia, according to the Sofia correspondent of the Cologne Gazette. He telegraphs that the quarrel between Bulgaria and Roumania has entered a new phase and that King Ferdinand of Bulgaria is to be punished for lack of subservience to the wishes of Russia.

## BULGARIA FOR PEACE.

**Said to Have Expressed Wish for End.**

Vienna, Austria, July 9.—The Bulgarian government is reported to have sent a circular to the European powers expressing its readiness to negotiate for peace.

The Bulgarian and Servian commanders-in-chief are stated here to be already negotiating an armistice, as the losses of both armies in killed and wounded are so immense and it is feared that the epidemic of cholera which has broken out among the troops may get beyond control.

## BLOCK IRISH HOME RULE.

**Lord Lansdowne will Ask that Bill Go to Court First.**

London, July 9.—A new Unionist attempt to place a further obstacle in the way of the enactment of the home rule bill for Ireland was announced in the house of lords this afternoon by the Marquis of Lansdowne, Unionist leader. When the bill is submitted to the Lords for second reading on Monday Lord Lansdowne will move "that this house declines to proceed until it has been submitted to the judgment of the Court."

The Unionists believe they have discovered a flaw in the Parliament Act, which provides for the passage of bills over the heads of the peers within a specified period. Their contention is that if the House of Lords postponed dealing with the Irish home rule bill by an adjournment to a date beyond the life of the present Parliament the Liberal Government will be powerless to force through its legislation because the Parliament Act overlooks the possibility of the upper House giving itself a prolonged vacation and going on a virtual strike against legislation. It seems probable that the Marquis of Lansdowne's motion is a preliminary to taking of some such step.

## The King of all Laxatives.

For constipation, headaches, indigestion and dyspepsia, use Dr. King's New Life Pills. Paul Mathulka, of Buffalo, N. Y., says they are the "King of all laxatives. They are a blessing to all my family and I always keep a box at home." Get a box and get well. Price 25c. Recommended by your druggist.—Adv.

# Sumter's City Manager Plan

**After a Year's Trial the South Carolina Municipality's "Controlled Executive" Operation is Pronounced a Success—Some of the Underlying Reasons.**

(By A. G. Waterman, Managing Secretary Chamber of Commerce.)

Editor's Note: Sumter, with about 10,000 population and ten railroad radiations, is an old community, full of Revolutionary stock. It is "a town without factions." It voted in 1912 on two commission forms. One was a commission of three with reasonable salaries and divided responsibility; the other a commission of three with only nominal pay to act as a unit at all times and to employ a city manager, who should be the working executive head of the city, the personal representative of the commission, responsible to the commission for acts of omission or commission by all subordinate employees. The latter plan was adopted overwhelmingly and Malcolm M. Worthington, a young construction engineer employed by a railroad, was selected as city manager. He took charge on January 7, of this year.

The "controlled executive" plan of city government is a success at Sumter. This is a broad statement, but it is justified by facts so unromantic that their strength is all net. The conclusion is reached by cold, business reasoning. Sumter is able to record as achievements in city government things that might be evidences of only commonplace efficiency in private business. But efficiency was the end sought, and must be the criterion. This being true, approximate efficiency is success.

A city administration with plenty of money might appeal to public optimism by glamour. Our city commission of three members, a unit with undivided powers and responsibility, was not so circumstanced. There was no surplus, and the revenues gave no promise of any.

From what might naturally be supposed to be the personal viewpoint of any of the commissioners at the time, the only "lucky" condition confronting them was Sumter's traditional lack of factionalism. The task ahead looked like a rather severe test of both the new system and the three strong proponents who had later been elected to the commission. It is a fact of some importance that one of them was mayor, another a councilman, and the third had been a councilman, under the form of government which all three helped by voice and vote to regulate.

Pending the selection of a city manager from among more than seven score applicants, the commission had to select a chief of police to succeed an excellent officer who had been elected sheriff. The first choice was a man of high social standing, a citizen of fine personal repute. He accepted at the cost of personal loss and inconvenience, because he had been a strong advocate of the system adopted by the voters.

Without disparagement to his predecessor, the force has shown an improvement in that combination of qualities known as morale. If it be attributed to the personality of the chief, the credit may still be rightly accorded the system under which Mr. Sumter accepted the office.

The commission realized the need of improvements at the municipal water plant. When Manager Worthington reported, they turned the problem over to him. Greater capacity was needed. It involved more power and enlargement. This meant expense. The manager found that transformation into an electric pumping plant of greater capacity would not cost more than enlargement and renovation of the steam power plant.

The city had been paying \$4,000 a year for coal for the plant. Negotiations resulted promptly in a five-year contract with the privately owned electric plant for water station power at 1 3/4 cents per k. w. h., maximum charge for any one year \$2,600.

The highest possible cost for power for increased capacity would therefore be \$1400 a year under the old cost of coal for less capacity, without at all considering the indeterminate value of better service and greater earning capacity.

The cart force of the works department was systematized. Drivers used to begin to hitch up at 7 a. m. The carts are now driven out at that hour. Both ends of the day have been similarly regulated. The result is \$15 more value per diem to the city without increasing the force or the hours. That means \$30 a week, or \$4,680 a year saved, if we allow nothing for holidays—added efficiency worth 187.2 per cent of the manager's salary.

One of Sumter's glories is her trees. Most of them were gloriously threatened by mistletoe. The Dacey tree experts, employed by the Civic League, composed of women, had done as much as the available funds permit-

ted, working thoroughly, but not covering many squares. City forces were put to work clearing out mistletoe and dead or dying limbs and branches, and trimming generally.

More than three miles of streets have thus been cared for. The last two miles have cost nothing. There is always someone who will clear the streets of the debris for the debris itself, and the large branches are sold for enough to pay the wages of the men who do the trimming.

Refuse grain feeds, scattered by the stock and trampled on, used to go in the trash. It is good as chicken feed. It doesn't bring much, but the crumbs from the mules' meals now help to pay for their shoes.

All bids for supplies are in whole and in part. Careful scrutiny of such bids when the last batch was opened permitted a saving, not of very many dollars, but enough to constitute a business interest on the total cost of the material bought.

The system of accounting and time keeping is being gradually revised, where desirable, to show distribution of expense and of results. This is particularly true of the works department, and already shows, with comparative accuracy, the relative cost of different sorts of work done in different sections of the city. One result is that every foreman does his best.

All these things might, could, and should be done under any form of municipal government. But, as a rule, they are not. The men who are "running" Sumter today are men who led among those who formerly handled her city affairs—same men; different system; better results.

These men say the improvement is due to the better system, the greater sense of responsibility, for one thing, that each feels for everything that is done or left undone, that his time is not more heavily drawn on than when he served under the old form. The citizens generally have added faith in the plan they voted for last year; the commission, additional enthusiasm in the cause in which they were leaders.

The Sumter plan is not to be confused with the Staunton plan. Under the Staunton plan, there is a mayor and the same old council, with widely scattered and only partial personal responsibility. It is true that they have delegated their executive authority to a city manager; but, they can not delegate their responsibility, nor is their accountability any more readily determined by the fact that they delegate their executive powers to an employee.

Under the Sumter plan, while the commissioners, as a matter of convenience, may and do divide the supervisory powers, they are legally an indivisible trinity in their responsibility both for the policies they make for the city manager and for his conduct of affairs. Every department head is directly under and directly responsible to the city manager. In his daily contact with department heads and foremen he represents the whole commission and all the power of the city charter. Commensurate with this concentrated authority is his personal responsibility to the Commissioner for the character of work done by every employee under him. He is independent of the individual citizen as human nature permits.

Whether the Sumter plan will work as well elsewhere as here depends upon the communities themselves. The quality of the citizenship of the average citizen is, in the final analysis, the determining factor. The Sumter plan is good business, but it is not necessarily a panacea for factionalism, demagoguery or plutocracy. Sumter has none of them, which is one of the main reasons why her plan of government is a success at home.—Town Development.

Calamity howler Willie Hearst endorses the new currency bill. It should be critically examined before being passed.—Orangeburg Times & Democrat.

## SUMMER SCHOOL FOR COLORED TEACHERS.

The Summer School for colored teachers in this county will be opened for a two weeks session in Sumter City at the Lincoln Graded school on Monday, July 23, continuing till Friday, August 8, 1913 9.15 A. M. Registration fee, two dollars in advance.

Diligence credits will be considered in all applications for renewal.

For further particulars, call on or write to

Dr. J. H. Haynsworth, Co. Supt. or Chas. A. Lawson, Principal.

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Tickets sold May 31st and on each Saturday to and including September 13th, 1913, limited to reach Sumter returning prior to midnight Monday next following date of sale.

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Lv Orangeburg	11.17 AM		Ar Spartanburg	1.40 PM	
Lv Columbia	1.00 PM		Ar Columbia	4.35 PM	
Lv Spartanburg	4.15 PM		Ar Orangeburg	6.15 PM	
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