

**The Watchman and Southron.**

Entered at the Postoffice at Sumter, S. C., as Second Class Matter.

**PERSONAL MENTION.**

Mr. W. D. Carson, of Summerton, was a visitor to the city today.  
 Mr. Hugh Belsar, of Silver, spent Wednesday in the city.  
 Mr. D. C. Shaw of the Shaw Motor Company has just returned from a trip to Detroit, Cleveland and other points in the central States in the interest of his automobile business.  
 Dr. F. M. Dwight, of Wedgefield, was a visitor to the city today.

**M'CREIGHT IS CHIEF CLERK.**

Commissioner Watson Announces Retirement of M. J. Miller From Staff of Department.

Columbia, Dec. 9.—H. W. McCreight of Columbia has been appointed as chief clerk in the department of agriculture, to succeed M. J. Miller, resigned. Mr. McCreight is a native of Kershaw county.

In announcing the change in the personnel of the department of agriculture yesterday, Commissioner Watson said:

"M. J. Miller having tendered his resignation during the month of November as clerk of this department, for the purpose of entering commercial business at the first of the year, and having accepted it, effective December 1, I have appointed H. W. McCreight, formerly of Kershaw county, but resident for some years in Columbia, as his successor. While losing one of the best equipped office men in the service of the State, I feel that I have been fortunate in securing one who, by training, experience and record, will maintain the high standard of efficiency that is our constant aim in this department."

**AT WORK IN GAILLARD CUT.**

Army Engineers Report Excellent Progress in Removing Slide.

Panama, Dec. 8.—Such excellent progress has been made in dredging in the Gaillard cut of the Panama canal that only 50 feet of earth separates the waters of the channel. This can be removed in a few days unless the bulging up of the bottom proceeds too rapidly for the dredgers.

Since the huge dipper dredge Cascade began operations, the monthly dredging has been increased 1,250,000 cubic yards, the most that has ever been taken from the canal in wet excavation work. Col. Goethals, however, still declines to predict when the canal will be reopened. He says the slides have not yet stopped, and that they might close the canal again before the present operations can be completed.

A more cheerful spirit over the probability of definitely overcoming the twin slides in the Culebra cut at an early date is manifested by the canal engineers, including Col. Goethals.

Although the prospects are that the waters of the two sections of the canal will speedily join each other, there is no expectation that the channel will be ready for the passage of ships for many weeks.

**TO CONTINUE EMERGENCY TAXES.**

Leaders Prepare to Act Before Recess.

Washington, Dec. 8.—After a conference with Secretary McAdoo, Chairman Kitchin of the house ways and means committee announced that the Democrats would put in congress before the holiday recess a bill to continue the emergency war revenue law which would expire by limitation December 31. This is estimated to raise more than \$80,000,000 annually. Mr. Kitchin said repeal of the free sugar clause of the Underwood tariff law might be considered at the same time, although it has been understood that the administration's general revenue measures might not be taken up until after the holidays.

The emergency tax law probably will be extended for a year. The legislation was suggested by Secretary McAdoo as one of the things congress should do to provide for present and expected financial burdens.

There is no necessity for immediate action to keep the duty on raw sugar, as under the Underwood law sugar does not go on the free list until next summer.

**Mexican Ambassador Named.**

Washington, Dec. 9.—Secretary Lansing announced today that Eliso Arrendondo has been appointed ambassador to the United States by Carranza. Senor Arrendondo has been the Carranza representative here for several months.

A civil service examination was held yesterday by the local civil service board. There was one applicant for the position of stenography and typewriting for which the examination was given.

**COUNTY BOARD MEETING.**

Will Close Radical Road Despite Opposition—To Condemn Land for Right of Way for Proposed New Road.

The County Board of Commissioners held their regular monthly meeting at the County Supervisor's office Tuesday. The decision to close the Radical road despite the opposition of citizens; and to condemn land of Mrs. E. F. Sanders in order to open a road between the Stateburg and Wedgefield roads were the two chief matters acted on.

At a previous meeting citizens had presented a petition asking the County Board to rescind their former action authorizing the Supervisor to close the Radical Road for a short distance in order to allow the expansion of the China dairy and to have the Graham boulevard prepared for use as a public highway instead. This matter was held in abeyance until the opinion of the county attorneys could be obtained as to the law in the case and the rights of the County Board to close the road. Mr. Jennings, county attorney, stated in his opinion to the board that it could not close a road unless the road had become useless. Upon this opinion, and after full discussion, the board decided that the Radical Road was not necessary at the place where it was desired to close it and the Supervisor was authorized to close it. The Graham boulevard will be used as a road in place of the Radical road at this point.

Supervisor Pitts reported that Mrs. E. F. Sanders would not consent either to give or sell land to open a road from the Stateburg to the Wedgefield road. He was authorized to start condemnation proceedings to secure the necessary "right of way" through Mrs. Sanders' place and to suggest to her that the value of the land be fixed by arbitration.

Mr. R. D. Epps was present to discuss the county finances with the board, but as other members of the general assembly were absent the matter was deferred until another meeting.

Mr. Epps was granted permission to have a sidewalk opening to the cellar of a building which he expects to erect on law range.

A large number of claims were audited and ordered paid.

**ERECTS CHIMING CLOCK.**

National Bank of South Carolina Has Handsome New Sign.

The National Bank of South Carolina has erected a handsome new sign in the form of a chiming clock, which has been placed over the street at the entrance to their place of business. Above the face of the clock is the name of the bank. The new sign was first put up Saturday, but was taken down later in order to put on longer arms so that it would show off better up and down the street. It is in fact only an indicator, for the real clock is placed inside of the bank and is operated by electricity, the Westminster chimes being placed on the outside. At the quarter hour the clock chimes four times, eight times for the half hour, twelve times for three-quarters and sixteen times for the hour, the hour being struck immediately after the chimes cease. This is one of the first chiming clocks put up in this section of the State and has attracted a great deal of attention both from Sumter people and people visiting here.

**Glad of Pastors Return.**

The people of Sumter generally are very much gratified at the return here of the pastors by the Methodist Conference at its recent meeting in Charleston. Mr. Truesdale has served Trinity only one year and his congregation has become very much attached to him and is delighted to have him another year. Mr. Rogers has served at Broad Street church for three years and is returned for his fourth and last year here. Dr. Bays, the eminent presiding elder of the Sumter District, was one of the few presiding elders who was not changed by the conference appointments.

**The News From Privateer.**

Privateer, Dec. 7.—All crops in this section have been gathered. Cotton was very short, but corn, peas and hay were very good. The farmers have more peas and hay gathered than they have had in years. There's a good average of oats planted and some wheat, but not as much of either as there was last fall.

A little negro on Mr. E. M. Rivers' place was bitten by a mad dog last Tuesday and is being treated by Dr. R. B. Furman.

If reports are true there will be a lot of changing places this fall and spring among the whites and colored residents.

Miss Tabula Ramsey is visiting in Chadburn, N. C.

Mrs. Ida Medlin is visiting in Columbia.

Some of the farmers seem to be very much interested in the proposed creamery route.

Mrs. D. W. Ostey is critically ill.

**OIL PASSED THROUGH FIRE.**

Oil-filled Kerosene Tank of O'Donnell & Company Suffers Little Damage From Fire.

The oil-filled kerosene tank of the O'Donnell & Company store passed through the fire which totally destroyed the store last week with little injury from the heat, although it was damaged to some extent later by a heavy iron beam falling on it and breaking the steel plate on one side. The only injury from the fire heat was the melting of the filling pipe so that it doubled over. The steel tank and the inside were intact.

It was reported the day after the fire and since that the firemen were driven out of the store by the explosion of the kerosene oil tank. This report was proved unfounded yesterday when the workmen in clearing up the debris removed a heavy steel beam off the kerosene tank and found it to be nearly intact with the kerosene still remaining in the vessel and undamaged by the fire or heat. Where the steel beam had fallen, the plate had been cracked, and the heat had melted the filling pipe, but otherwise the tank was whole. Inside it looked as good as new. This speaks well for the builders, who evidently put good material in the construction of the vessel. The tank was one of the automatic registering tanks built by S. F. Fowler Company, builders of devices for handling oil, Fort Wayne, Ind. Mr. C. H. DuRant, the agent of the company in this territory, had a photograph taken of the tank amid the debris of the burned building to send to the company.

This same company is the one which has supplied the numerous filling station devices used here and recently Mr. DuRant has sold to the Shaw Motor Company of this city what will be the largest and best equipped automobile filling station in the State for supplying cars with gasoline and lubricating oils.

The work of clearing up the debris from the burned building is steadily going ahead. Today workmen were removing big piles of parched and burnt grain which was in the store at the time of the fire. Some of the grain was in fairly good condition for chicken feed, but the most of it was burnt black. The toppling walls of the building left by the fire have been thrown down, in order to remove all danger to the workmen and nothing remains but the debris of what was once a handsome building.

**RED CROSS SEALS.**

How the Proceeds of The Sale of Seals are Divided.

A number of people have asked for information relative to the disposition of the proceeds from the sale of Red Cross Christmas Seals.

Under date of December 4th the executive Secretary of the Red Cross Seal Commission of South Carolina writing the local chairman, Mrs. A. C. Phelps, states that in towns where there are local tuberculosis leagues, the local league receives 75 per cent. of the proceeds from the sale of seals, and the other 25 per cent. goes to the Red Cross Seal Commission to be used throughout the State, so that 75 cents of each dollar received from the sale of Red Cross Christmas seals in Sumter remains in Sumter for the use of the local Tuberculosis League.

This is a work entirely for the benefit of humanity and should appeal to the warm hearts of every man, woman and child in our community. The local committee are devoting considerable of their time to this work and they will appreciate any and all assistance given them by the citizens of the community.

**Death of Robert M. Mack.**

Florence, Dec. 6.—Robert M. Mack, the veteran engineer, one of the best and most beloved men in the railroad service in Florence, died today. He had not been sick long. He was regarded as in the best of health and had never missed a day from his duties until about ten days ago when his physician ordered him to rest for a week. He tried resting for a few days, but resting did not suit him and he went back on his engine, but two trips exhausted him so that he was obliged to succumb, and in a short while he entered into the rest that will not be broken. In January Mr. Mack would have been running an engine on the Atlantic Coast Line for 50 years. He grew up with the road. He leaves one son, Ernest U. Mack, a business man of the city. Robert Mack was one of the most highly esteemed and honored members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, of which order he was an enthusiastic member. Not long ago the local division of the B. of L. E. testified its affection for Mr. Mack by presenting him with a handsome birthday present.

Mr. Mack is remembered by the older citizens of Sumter as a former resident. He was a brother of Mrs. M. A. Flowers and Mrs. A. G. Warren of this city.

**LITTLE GIRL BURNED TO DEATH.**

Three-Year-old Daughter of Veston Eli Catches Clothes on Fire.

Yesterday afternoon while the members of the family were in the field picking cotton, the three-year-old daughter of Veston Eli, who lives on Supervisor P. M. Pitts' place a few miles west of the city, was burned so badly that she died from the effects of the burns last night. The cotton pickers had a fire in the field to warm by and the little girl went too near the fire. Her dress caught and before anyone could reach her all of her clothes were burned off. Her sufferings were very painful, and despite efforts to have her, she died from the burns.

**PREPARE FOR CURB MARKET.**

Wilson Lot on North Main Street to Be Used for Purpose.

Col. Thomas Wilson has kindly granted permission for the farmers of Sumter county to use his vacant lot on North Main street, next to the offices of Lee and Moise for curb market purposes.

North Main street business establishments appear to appreciate the value of the curb market as a number of those firms very readily subscribed money, as shown below, to have this lot cleared of debris from the recent fire, and fixed up for curb market purposes.

Mr. Furman D. Knight, of the Sumter Herald, circulated and secured yesterday signatures to the following subscription list, and the subscription has not yet been closed:

"We the undersigned citizens and merchants of North Main Street agree to give amounts opposite our names to clean up and put hitching posts on the vacant lot owned by Col. Thomas Wilson to be used as a curb market and hitching lot for the people of this and adjoining counties, under the supervision of Mr. J. Frank Williams, the president of the Sumter County Farmers' Union:"

- Knight Bros. . . . . \$2.50
- Mitchell's Drug Store. . . . . 2.50
- Boston Furnishing Goods Co. . . . . 1.00
- W. B. Burns and Son. . . . . 2.00
- Ducker and Bultman. . . . . 2.00
- The DuRant Hardware Co. . . . . 2.00
- L. Alpert. . . . . 2.00
- D. J. Chandler Clothing Co. . . . . 2.00
- Schwartz Bros. . . . . 2.00
- L. W. Poison. . . . . 2.00
- Bultman Shoe Co. . . . . 1.00
- Levi Bros. . . . . 1.00
- Poston Candy Kitchen. . . . . 2.00

Mr. Knight will gladly receive any further contributions to this fund to fix up a sanitary and convenient curb market lot.

The curb market will be right on Main street abutting on the inner curb of the sidewalk.

The object is to have for the farmer producers a lot under their control and for the use of producers only.

The business men of Sumter believe in diversification on the farm, they believe in the furnishing of the best possible and convenient marketing facilities in Sumter for the farmers.

The Sumter business men may be always depended upon to put up money to help the farmers of Sumter and adjoining counties who do their trading and their banking business in Sumter.

The first week of the curb market beginning next Thursday, December 9th, the vacant lot on the south side of the Court House park will be used. It is hoped to have the North Main Street curb market lot ready for business next week.

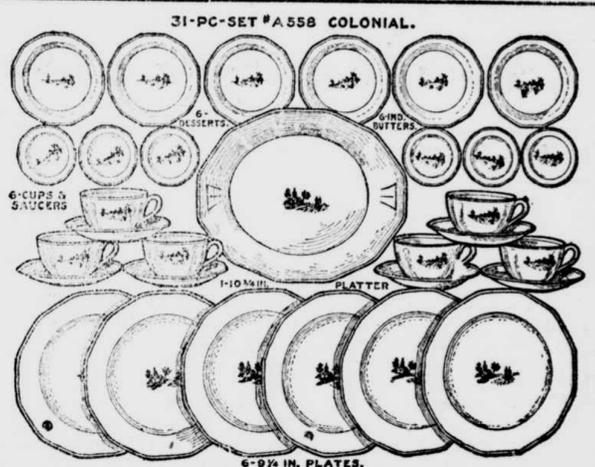
**STATE IS THE HOST.**

Governor Welcomes Southern Commercial Congress.

Gov. Manning recently issued the following proclamation:

"Now, therefore, I, Richard I. Manning, governor of South Carolina, proclaim to the citizens of South Carolina the convention of the Southern Commercial congress and call upon the people of the State to regard themselves as the host, and through every organized entity to be represented in the convention and participate in the deliberations. Official announcement is hereby made to the State included in the territory of the Southern Commercial congress as well as to all parts of the United States included in the territory of and a cordial invitation is extended to the chief executives and to the citizens of these States to visit South Carolina during the sessions of the congress, with the assurance that a genuine welcome awaits all who will come within the borders of the State.

Among the out-of-town guests at the Chandler-McLeod wedding Wednesday night were Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McLeod, Miss Adelle McLeod, Mrs. W. C. Harlee, Rembert; Rev. and Mrs. John C. Chandler of Lowndesville; Mrs. R. M. Jenkins, St. Charles; Dr. and Mrs. R. O. McCutchen, Bishopville; Miss Margaret Bryan, Columbia.



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**\$2.18**

This Set is a fine grade of American China, and is sold in Crockery Stores everywhere for \$4.75 to \$6.00 the set.

By agreement with the factory, newspaper publishers, who annually use many car loads of these sets as premiums, have been able to obtain a special low cost price, and we have made arrangements to secure the same price to give this China Set a try-out as a subscription premium.

Subscribers to this paper can obtain one of these sets for its exact cost, \$2.18, by paying this amount when they pay their subscription account. Those who are not now subscribers can obtain a set by subscribing for the paper and paying one year's subscription and \$2.18, the exact factory cost of this fine 31-Piece Set of China.

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BOTH FOR **\$3.68**

**Osteen Publishing Company**

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**Battleship Day**

—AT—

**Charleston**

Special Trains Wed. Dec. 15.

VIA THE

**Atlantic Coast Line**

The Standard Railroad of the South

Leave Sumter 7.05 A. M., Arrive Charleston 10.35 A. M. Returning Leave Charleston 8.00 P. M., Arrive Sumter 11.35 P. M.

Round Trip Fare \$3.05

Children Half Fare

For the above event of the Southern Commercial Congress, the following attractions are promised:

GREAT NAVAL DISPLAY—Nine largest dreadnaughts, 15 torpedo boats and destroyers; Cruise on battleships in Charleston harbor.

ARMY AND NAVY PARADE—Over 5,000 men in line; Addresses on "National Defense" by Secretaries Garrison and Daniels.

For Further Details Inquire of

O. V. Player, Agent, :: Sumter, S. C.