

MOST MAGNIFICENT PATRIOTIC DEMONSTRATION STAGED HERE

MORE THAN 3,000 PEOPLE PARTICIPATE IN PARADE WHICH PRECEDED TWO ENTHUSIASTIC MEETINGS.

The most pretentious patriotic demonstration ever witnessed in Columbus was staged here Tuesday afternoon to mark the coming of the band from the Great Lakes Naval Training station which is touring this section to boost the sale of bonds for the third Liberty loan and which led a monster parade through the streets of Columbus. This parade was participated in by both white and colored people and at its conclusion two separate mass meetings were held, white citizens having assembled at the First Baptist church, where they listened to a magnificent oration by Judge Percy M. Bell, of Greenville, while the negroes went to the Lowndes county court house, where they were addressed by two of the leading local members of their race, Prof. T. P. Harris, principal of Union Academy, and Rev. E. R. Miller, pastor of St. James Methodist church.

There were fully 3,000 people in the parade, and the marchers included men and women from every walk of life, the banks, business houses, industrial enterprises, schools, patriotic and fraternal organizations and the city and county administrations having all been represented.

The band, which is one of several that have been trained by John Philip Sousa, the world-famous composer and conductor, arrived over the Southern Railway at 2 o'clock p. m. and went immediately to the city hall, where the musicians took their allotted place in the parade, which had already been formed under the direction of Grand Marshal T. H. Sharp and his assistants, Dr. F. M. Vaughan, Messrs. C. W. Evans, C. Y. Banks, T. G. Blewett and A. J. Ervin.

The first section of the parade was led by a platoon of mounted police, who were followed by the local Boy Scouts under the command of Assistant Scoutmaster Kaufman, and then came the Great Lakes Naval Training Station band, followed by carries containing Judge Percy M. Bell, the principal orator of the occasion, Mayor McClannahan, officials of the third Liberty Loan campaign and other prominent gentlemen. Following these carries came a group of marchers including city and county officials, ministers of the city and county, members of the Columbus Bar Association, local physicians and the members of the Columbus Red Cross chapter in full uniform.

The second section was led by students and teachers of the Mississippi Industrial Institute and College, nearly one thousand strong, and following them came pupils of the public schools, in charge of their instructors.

Local industrial, financial and commercial interests were represented in the third section, which was led by the prominent bankers of the city, including Hon. J. T. Wood, vice-president of the Columbus National Bank, Hon. W. N. Puckett, vice-president of the National Bank of Commerce, Mr. Ira L. Gaston, cashier of the First State Bank, Mr. Parker Reeves, cashier of the Merchants' and Farmers' Bank, and others. Next came the local merchants, nearly all of the prominent firms of the city having been represented and these were followed by representatives of local industries, the Columbus Lumber Company, the Tombigbee Cotton Mills and other leading manufacturing concerns having had officials and employes in line. Next came employes of the Southern Railway and Mobile and Ohio railroad led by Messrs. Irby Leech, Claud Neyman and Tom Pullen, and carrying banners showing that they had not only been liberal purchasers of Liberty Bonds but had furnished Uncle Sam a large number of recruits for his army and navy.

The fourth section was given over to the fraternal organizations of the city, and included Columbus Lodge No. 5, F. and A. M., led by Worshipful Master R. N. Gibson; Union Lodge No. 35, I. O. O. F., led by Noble Grand H. E. Hoffmeister; Tombigbee Lodge No. 12, Knights of Pythias, led by Chancellor Commander W. A. Deale; Queen City Camp, No. 23, Woodmen of the World, led by Council Commander J. T. Stephenson, and Columbus Tent No. 2, Knights of the Macca-

Stucky. In addition to members of the local lodges, a number of fraternal men from nearby towns participated in the parade, Artesia and other towns in different portions of the county having had representatives present.

Section five was in charge of the negroes and was headed by a file and drum corps. It embraced the colored school children of the city, led by their teachers, the colored ministers, colored fraternal and patriotic organizations and other attractive features. Local negroes have been active in patriotic work of various kinds ever since the United States entered the fight against Germany, and the showing which they made in the parade was most creditable.

After having marched through the business district of the city, the parade, upon reaching the intersection of Main and Market streets, divided into two sections, the white citizens having proceeded to the First Baptist church, where they were addressed by Judge Bell, and the negroes having marched to the court house, where they listened to speeches by Prof. Harris and Rev. Miller.

Judge Bell, who was introduced by Hon. B. A. Lincoln, chairman of the local speakers' bureau, is recognized as one of Mississippi's most brilliant orators, and his address was a forceful and convincing appeal to the patriotism of his hearers. He said that Mississippi had been slow in awakening to the seriousness of the war but had at last begun to realize its grim nature and that her people were responding liberally to every call of the government for aid. He asked all those who had purchased or would purchase Liberty Bonds to rise and nearly every one in the audience stood up.

The program for the celebration was arranged by a committee consisting of Messrs. P. W. Maer, J. P. Woodyard, Irvin Kaufman and R. E. Johnston, and these gentlemen, as well as Mr. E. C. Chapman, director of the local drive, and Mr. F. P. Phillips, sales manager, are to be congratulated upon the success which attended the occasion.

Mr. W. I. McKellar is spending a few days in Aberdeen on business.

ARRANGING FOR BIG CHAUTAUQUA

MANAGEMENT OF REDPATH ANNOUNCES AN EXCELLENT PROGRAM THIS YEAR.

Only a few more weeks remain before the Redpath Chautauqua Company will again present its annual program in this city, and the management states that many excellent features will be offered.

This season the program will include: The Montague Light Opera Singers an address on "Loyalty to the Home Town," by Charles Howard Platenburg, a recognized authority on community problems; The Liberty Belles, presenting a grand patriotic program; "Adam Going to School," by William Forkell, a wonderful speaker; the Fairchild Ladies Quartet, consisting of talented vocalists and skilled instrumentalists; Ralph Bingham, America's foremost platform humorist; The Christine Gyles Company, a trio of skilled musicians; music and drama by the Paramount Entertainers; "Crime and Its Prevention," by Detective Harry J. Loose, an active member of the Chicago Police Department, on a furlough only long enough to cover the Chautauqua circuit. The children of the city will also take a part in the Chautauqua as they did last season, and will be directed by a capable young lady. On the fourth night they will present a grand patriotic rally.

Sergeant Bernard S. Wolff, formerly of the 13th Regiment of Engineers, U. S. A., is also on the program and will tell of experiences that he has had in the great war. It was largely through the efforts of Mrs. L. H. Shapira, of this city, that the Chautauqua will again be open in Columbus.

AFTER A SHORT TERM, CIRCUIT COURT CLOSES

SPRING SESSION CAME TO A CLOSE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON.

DOCKET WAS LIGHT

Contained No Cases of More Than Passing Interest to the Public.

After having been in session nine days, the spring term of circuit court for Lowndes county, which was presided over by Hon. T. B. Carroll, of Starkville, judge of the Sixteenth circuit court district, adjourned Wednesday afternoon.

The most important case adjudicated this week was that of Mrs. H. P. Funderburk vs. the City of Columbus for alleged damages in the sum of \$4,000 for losses claimed to have been sustained when the city several years ago closed West Main street, on which thoroughfare a store she operated at that time fronted, in order to lay a cement pavement. She was given \$400, the jury having awarded this sum as compensation for losses actually sustained, and not as punitive damages.

The case originally was tried in the local court more than a year ago before Judge Rogers, who was sitting as special judge and who gave peremptory instructions for the defendant. It was reversed and remanded by the supreme court, and the recent trial resulted in a verdict for Mrs. Funderburk. The City of Columbus was represented by Gen. E. T. Sykes, while Mrs. Funderburk was represented by Hon. J. F. Frierson.

John Brown, negro, who willed a colored woman named Ophelia Gray in the western section of the county several months ago was acquitted. The state failed to make out its case, and Judge Carroll gave peremptory instructions for the defense.

On Tuesday afternoon the case of Mr. Henry Funderburk, who several months ago shot and seriously wounded Mr. Will Cox as the result of a difficulty which took place near the Green T. Hill bridge, was taken up and the hearing of evidence speedily completed. The case was given to the jury late the same evening, and after having been out all night that body failed to reach a verdict. The jurors reported that they could not agree, and were discharged, an order declaring a mistrial in the case having been entered upon the minutes of the court.

Lieut. Hector Welch and wife, of Texas, have been spending several days with relatives in Columbus and Macon.

PROF. NASH ENTERS COUNCILMANIC RACE

IS SEEKING RE-ELECTION AS COUNCILMAN FROM THE SIXTH WARD.

Elsewhere in this issue of the Commercial will be found the official announcement of Prof. S. M. Nash, who seeks re-election as councilman from the sixth ward.

Prof. Nash has been in public life nearly three decades, having served for twenty years as county superintendent of education before being elected to the council, and not once during that long period has his ability or his integrity been questioned. His record is, indeed, a most enviable one, as it shows that he is entitled to the fullest confidence of the people and is worthy to hold any office which he may see fit to seek.

Prof. Nash, if re-elected, will devote the same sedulous attention to his duties in the future that he has devoted to them in the past, and this, as every one who is familiar with his public career realizes, means that he will continue to be a faithful and efficient public servant.

The regular semi-monthly meeting of the W. C. T. U. will be held this afternoon at 4 o'clock with Mrs. John R. Laws, at her home on South Seventh street.



PROF. NASH NOW LIBERTY LOAN SECRETARY OF SUBSCRIPTIONS LOCAL BOARD GROWING FAST

NAMED BY MAJ. HARISTON TO SUCCEED MR. J. R. RANDLE.

NEW QUARTERS TOTAL IS \$189,200

Board Will Hereafter Have Its Office at the Court House.

Prof. S. M. Nash has been named secretary of the Lowndes county exemption board to succeed Mr. J. R. Randle, who has served in that capacity ever since the board was organized last year. Mr. Randle was removed by order of Maj. J. M. Hairston, inspector of exemption boards on the staff of Adjutant-General Eric Scales, and no specific charge was brought against him. Maj. Hairston having merely become convinced after an exhaustive inquiry into local conditions that the interests of both the War Department and the public could be better served by placing another man in the position.

It seems that one cause of dissatisfaction with the work of Mr. Randle was that he did not place the same construction upon orders issued by Provost Marshal General Crowder as did Adjutant-General Scales and declined, so it is claimed, to yield to the desires of the latter officials in the execution of these orders.

Other things objected to by the adjutant-general was that the board did not maintain headquarters in the court house and that its administration was too expensive. Under the new regime the board will give up its present quarters in the Columbus National Bank building and open an office in the court house, thus saving the government ten dollars per month, which formerly was paid for rent.

Mr. Randle states that some time ago he filed his resignation with the Adjutant-General, and had long waited for action to be taken, as he was willing and anxious to give up the position on the board.

Hardy—Chapman. Mr. Robert O. Hardy and Miss Mary Paine Chapman were married at the First Methodist church at 9:30 o'clock yesterday morning. The groom, who until recently was a prosperous young planter of the prairie section west of Columbus, graduated a short time ago from the officers' training school at Camp Pike, Ark., while the bride is the attractive daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Chapman, former Columbians who now reside in Oklahoma.

Miss Ina Ray Kilpatrick, who has been teaching school in Pickenaville this season, has returned home for the summer, to the delight of her many friends.

Mr. G. T. Heard was among the Brooksville citizens who spent Monday in the city.

Mr. and Mrs. John M. Moody have named their son John Mason, Jr.

DEMONSTRATION HELD ON TUESDAY GIVES IMPETUS TO THE CAMPAIGN.

Southern Railway Employees Purchase Large Block of the Securities.

The patriotic rally which was held here Tuesday naturally had the effect of boosting the third Liberty loan in Columbus and the contiguous territory and several substantial subscriptions have been received since that time. Total subscriptions up to Wednesday night were \$189,200, and this is very close to Lowndes county's allotment, which is \$218,000.

The woman's auxiliary is still doing fine work, and many subscriptions have been secured as the result of the efforts of Mrs. H. F. Simrall, the efficient chairman, and her enthusiastic co-workers.

Local negroes are also evincing a commendable interest in the campaign. More than 40 members of the race have already purchased bonds, and the committee which has the work in charge is still pushing the sale of the securities.

The response to the patriotic call in smaller towns and rural neighborhoods throughout the county has been most generous. Both Artesia and Crawford, the only towns in the county outside of Columbus in which banks are located, have already completed their quotas, while a goodly number of subscriptions have been received from planters in various rural communities.

Among late purchasers of bonds are local employes of the Southern Railway. Their purchases amounted to \$8,050, were made through executive officials of the company in Washington, but the sum will be credited to Lowndes county's quota.

Entertainment Tonight.

"The District Skule," a play well known by practically every grown person, will be given tonight at 8:30 o'clock at Myrrah's chapel in the Old Zion neighborhood, several miles southeast of the city. Those who are to take part have been capably directed by Miss Audie Simms, teacher of the Old Zion school, and are made up of local talent. The money taken in will go as a benefit to the Red-Cross. There will no doubt be a large crowd in attendance.

Bishop Bratton Com'g. Rt. Rev. T. D. Bratton, D. D., bishop of Mississippi, will be in Columbus next Sunday evening and will administer the Apostolic Right of Confirmation to the class of St. Paul's Episcopal church just prepared by the rector, Rev. E. Lucien Malone. The public is invited to be present.

Mr. E. E. Callaway has many friends who regret to learn of his illness at his home in North Columbus.

MEMORIAL DAY TO BE OBSERVED HERE ON FRIDAY

GRAVES OF UNION AND CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS WILL BE DECORATED.

PROGRAM COMPLETE

Local Confederate Veterans And Daughters Will Participate in Ceremonies.

Columbus, like many other Southern cities, will celebrate Confederate Memorial Day tomorrow, and members of the Stephen D. Lee Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, under whose auspices the exercises will take place, have arranged an interesting program for the occasion.

The custom of decorating the graves of soldiers originated in this city, having been begun soon after the close of the civil war, and ever since then has been an annual custom. Many Union soldiers lie buried in Friendship cemetery, and their graves, as well as the graves of the men who gave up their lives in defense of the South, are always strown with flowers.

Members of the Stephen D. Lee Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, and of Isham Harrison Camp No. 27, United Confederate Veterans, as well as local citizens, will assemble at the city hall at 4:30 o'clock Friday afternoon and will proceed to Friendship cemetery, where the exercises will take place.

The following program has been arranged for the occasion: Song, "Tenting Tonight," Choir. Recitation, selected, Miss Julia Gardner. Vocal solo, "The Blue and the Gray," Miss Anna T. Hamilton. Chorus, "America," Choir and congregation.

The music will be under the direction of Mrs. B. K. Sessums, with Miss Anglique Higgins as violinist, and the choir will be composed of the following ladies and gentlemen: Mesdames J. L. Walker, J. P. Woodward, B. A. Lincoln, J. T. Champey, L. D. Patterson, Misses Nell Sanders, Olive Sanders, Anna T. Hamilton, Messrs. E. C. Chapman, Earl Burris, I. L. Gaston, John Frierson and Prof. Lee.

MR. WEAVER WILL SEEK RE-ELECTION

POPULAR COUNCILMAN FROM FIRST WARD MAKES OFFICIAL ENTRY INTO THE RACE.

Hon. B. A. Weaver is officially announced in this issue as a candidate for re-election as councilman from the first ward, and the announcement having been authorized by friends of this exceedingly popular official, who is now absent from the city.

Mr. Weaver is the dean of the council, having been a member of that body for more than twenty years, and the prosperous condition of the city is largely due to his presence on the board. He is generally recognized as one of the most astute financiers not only in Columbus but in the entire state, and his advice has been of immeasurable value to his associates on the board in shaping the financial policy of the city.

Mr. Weaver is a native of Columbus, and all his interests are centered here. For more than three decades he has been prominent not only in political but in financial, mercantile and fraternal circles and during all this period has devoted both his money and his time to promoting the interests of the city and contiguous territory.

The people of Columbus are to be congratulated upon the fact that such an able man is willing to serve them as councilman, and his election is a foregone conclusion.

Major and Mrs. Battle Bell received a telegram the past week stating that their son, Lieut. James B. Bell, had arrived safely in France. Lieut. Bell is a member of the Coast Artillery and was stationed at Fort Morgan, near Mobile.

BRITISH AGAIN EXTEND LINES NEAR FLANDERS

FIGHTING, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN OF A LOCAL NATURE.

ARTILLERY DUELS

Big Guns Are Again Actively Bombarding Along the Picardy Front.

London, April 24.—The British have again extended their lines on the Flanders battle front although the fighting has been of a local nature.

On the Picardy front the activities have consisted chiefly of artillery duels.

East of Rebecq the British attacked and improved their position in addition to capturing some prisoners and machine guns.

On the Picardy front the Germans have continued to bombard in the sector of Villers-Brettenoux (Somme region) and near Hangard-en-Santerre, which is immediately east of Amiens. There were no infantry operations above raiding activities.

The operations on both the Picardy and Flanders fronts have taken on the nature of a prize fight after its initial phase. Both sides have been shifting troops and feinting in an effort to find the weakest spot in the opposing lines and to lead the opponents astray as to the real spot of the next blow.

Advances by the British north of Albert have materially strengthened their lines as it has been predicted by both French and British military experts that the Germans would deliver their next stroke in that sector in an effort to extend the northern end of the Somme salient and at the same time menace Arras.

Pretty Flag Disappears.

Either a pro-German, a slacker, a drunkard or someone not in his right mind, or may be one meaning nothing by the act, walked to the porch of the pretty cottage of Mr. J. W. Slaughter, on College street Tuesday night and took away a beautiful American flag which had been placed there by Mr. Slaughter. The party if found will no doubt be dealt with severely.

Should be Vaccinated.

On account of the prevalence of small pox in Columbus, officials of the public schools have ordered all students to be vaccinated, and it would be wise for all adults to follow the same course. Vaccination is a sure preventive of small pox, and it is much better to bear the slight pain which results therefrom than to run the risk of contracting the disease.

CANDLER IS OUT FOR RE-ELECTION

FIRST DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN DESIRES TO CONTINUE IN SERVICE OF PEOPLE.

Hon. E. S. Candler, of Corinth, is officially announced this morning as a candidate for re-election to Congress from this, the First district, and his candidacy will undoubtedly receive due consideration at the hands of his constituents.

Mr. Candler has represented the First district in Congress for more than twenty years, and during that long period has been uniformly faithful to the interests of his constituents and to those of the Democratic party. When the question as to whether or not the United States should enter the war first came up for discussion in Congress he aligned himself with the administration forces and since that time has been a faithful and consistent supporter of President Wilson and his policies.

Mr. Candler, as his long service in Congress convincingly demonstrates, is exceedingly popular throughout the First district and in no other county is his popularity greater than in Lowndes. He has hundreds of loyal friends in this county, and they will be glad to rally to his support in the pending race.