

DOINGS OF CONGRESS

What Our National Lawmakers Are Doing From Day to Day

The Senate accepted the proposition of the House of Representatives to increase the salaries of Senators, Members and Territorial Delegates to \$7,500 annually, and those of the Vice President, the Speaker of the House and members of the President's cabinet to \$12,000. This action was taken by a vote of 53 to 21 and followed a discussion of nearly three hours. An amendment confining the increase to cabinet officers and the presiding officers of the Senate and House, was voted down, as was also a proposition to postpone the increase until 1913.

Senator Beveridge of Indiana, began an extended address setting forth the child labor conditions of the country, in support of his pending bill prohibiting inter-State commerce in articles which are the product of from 3 o'clock until 4:30 and gave notice that he would conclude his address Thursday.

President Roosevelt's message in support of the ship subsidy was received and read by both houses of Congress.

After the reading in the House, the message was referred to the committee on merchant marine and fisheries, from which a mail subsidy measure has just been reported, in the Senate the message was sent to the committee on commerce.

The President calls attention to the great desirability of enactment of legislation to help American shipping and American trade by encouraging the building and running of lines of large and swift steamers to South America and the Orient.

For An Increase of the Navy.

An appropriation of about \$95,000,000 is provided for in the naval appropriation bill agreed upon by the House committee on naval affairs. The bill provides for an additional battleship of the type agreed upon in the naval appropriation bill of last year. It also makes provision for two torpedo boat destroyers and appropriate \$2,000,000 for submarine. This \$2,000,000 is additional to the \$1,000,000 for submarines provided in the bill last year, which has not yet been expended. Provision is made for about 3,000 additional sailors and 900 additional marines.

The new battleship provided for in the bill is to be a sister ship of the monster authorized by Congress last year, which the bill requires should "be a first-class battleship, carrying as heavy armor and as powerful armament as any known vessel of its class, to have the highest practicable speed and greatest practicable radius of action." The cost of the new battleship is estimated at \$10,000,000.

Abolish Pension Agencies.

The House voted to abolish all pension agencies throughout the country, 18 in number, and centralize the payment of pensions in the city of Washington. This action was taken on the pension appropriation bill after spirited opposition on the part of those having pension agencies in their States.

By a vote of 58 to 114 an amendment offered by Mr. Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, restoring the number of agencies to 18 as at present, was defeated, and then an amendment offered by Mr. Gardner, of Michigan, consolidating all the agencies in one was adopted without division.

The pension appropriation bill carrying \$138,000,000 in round numbers was passed.

A message from the President was read relative to insurance, and at 2:30, out of respect to the memory of the late Senator Alger, of Michigan, the House adjourned.

A Brief Session.

The Senate was in session Saturday only for a little more than an hour, the early adjournment being taken to permit attendance on the funeral of the late Senator Alger. A few bills of minor importance were passed, but most of the time of the sitting was devoted to the further discussion of Senator Hale's resolution providing for an inquiry into the personal interest manifested by naval officers in the navy personnel bill. The resolution was ultimately referred to the committee on naval affairs.

The Child Labor Law.

Senator Beveridge occupied the attention of the Senate throughout the day with a continuation of his argument in behalf of his child labor bill. He had but reached the legal and constitutional phases of the question after speaking for more than four hours and arrangement was made whereby he will continue. In taking the position that as to power, Congress could exercise any power it saw fit on inter-State commerce, Mr. Beveridge met a fusillade of questions by his colleagues and his progress in argument was slow. While he said the power to regulate was absolute, he maintained that the question of policy would always restrain any hasty regulations.

Mr. Beveridge stated that three-fourths of the cotton factories of the South were opposing the bill, that the railroads of the South were opposing it and that the coal mine operators of the South were opposing it. He presented an illustrative map showing the location of the opposing industries, and said that in anticipation of this weighty opposition he should devote the major portion of his speech to setting forth evidence of the deplorable conditions he had pictured. This evidence, he said, was all sworn to and in the form of affidavits.

THE N. C. LEGISLATURE

What Our State Lawmakers are Doing Raleigh.

Railroad Hearing.

Intense interest was shown in the hearing on the railway regulation and rate bill by the Senate and House committee. The Senate chamber was packed with people. The following railway officials: President of the Southern Railway W. W. Finley; Vice Presidents A. B. Andrews and Culp, and General Manager Ackert, General Counsel Thomas, Passenger Traffic Manager Hardwick, Freight Claim Agent Hooper, and Comptroller Plant—all of the Southern, were present. Second Vice President Sevier, General Counsel Watts, General Superintendent Hix, of the Seaboard; General Passenger Agent Craig, General Superintendent Anderson, Assistant General Counsel Elliott, of the Atlantic Coast Line; Vice President Stagg, Traffic Manager Cheatham, Treasurer Duke, General Counsel Fuller, of the Durham & Southern; General Manager Nichols, General Passenger Agent Reid, of the Carolina & North Western; of the Aberdeen & Asheboro, President Henry Page, of the Norfolk & Western, William A. Guthrie, of the Raleigh & Southport, President Mills, were also there.

Senator Graham presided, Chairman Yount, of the House committee, sitting with him. Speaker Justice sat near Chairman Graham and acted as grand inquisitor. Chairman Graham said the question to be discussed this afternoon was whether the passenger rate should be reduced and to what extent.

Mr. Finley Speaks.

President Finley, of the Southern, was the first speaker, and made an excellent impression. Speaker Justice plied him with questions: He said that if the Legislature would make the passenger rate 3 cents straight, with no second-class fare, the Southern was willing to accept it. He declared he could see no reason for reducing the rate to 2 1/2 cents here. He did not oppose the regulation of railways by the Legislature, but he did not believe in Legislatures administering railway affairs. The present trouble, he said, is not of rates but of lack of facilities for the business man or the producer to reach his market. He said the Southern had no financial connection with the South & Western.

General Passenger Agent Ryan, of the Seaboard, was the next speaker. He was loaded with figures about the passenger rates in various States, to show that in States where reductions had been made the increase in travel was not so great as had been expected and that the loss to the companies was not made up.

House Committee Endorses Anti-Pass Bills.

This same committee held a hearing on two bills, Graham's and Justice's regarding newspaper passes. Graham says his bill is not intended to affect newspapers. Justice says his bill puts newspaper people on the same footing as other folks. His bill is the one mainly considered. Graham's bill is the inter-State commerce bill with the provision that this shall not conflict with the State law.

Speeches were made by Messrs. H. A. London, John M. Julian, W. C. Dowd, Rev. J. O. Atkinson, Archibald Johnson and Representative Jacobson in favor of the amendment offered by the Press Association. Speaker Justice was present, asked numerous questions and insisted upon the endorsement of his position by the committee. Several members of the House committee took a keen interest in propounding questions to Press Association representatives. At the conclusion of the argument the committees went into executive session. The result was that Justice was sustained by a vote of 6 to 5 by the House committee. The Senate committee unanimously decided not to interfere with the present law, thus allowing editors to retain their present rights in this regard.

Pass Third Reading.

Regarding the graded schools at Plymouth.

To separate prisoners with tuberculosis from other prisoners in county jails.

To take from magistrates jurisdiction of cruelty to animals and give it to the Superior Court.

To reduce fees and pay of county officers of Johnston.

To amend the law regarding land entries by requiring both parties to give bond when protest is filed.

To give flume companies the right of eminent domain over a strip over 16 feet wide and making them common carriers, subject to regulation by the corporation commission.

To prohibit non-residents from the State from gathering clams, oysters and tagapins in Brunswick county.

To regulate fees of jurors in Edgecombe.

To amend the law regarding the passage of fish in the Cape Fear and North rivers.

To appoint M. M. Bullard a magistrate in Grady township, Pender county.

"Dope Bill" Killed.

The House on Friday killed the soft-drink bill, popularly known as the "dope bill." In the Senate a number of bills were passed to second and third reading, and about the usual number of local measures were introduced in both houses. The committee agreed to solicitors' salaries at \$2,100.

Bills Ratified.

To give the United States exclusive jurisdiction over lands on which there are public buildings of the government.

To except Anson county from the law prohibiting the throwing of sawdust in streams.

Abolish the March term of Onslow court; also joint resolution giving the Senate committee on the railroads and the House committee on public service corporations power to send for persons and papers pertaining to passenger traffic and freight rates.

IN THE HOUSE.

Dillingham's Bill.

Dillingham's bill, introduced, is one of the most important before the Legislature, and 300 copies of it are ordered printed. It is understood that this bill is recommended by the Senate and House committees on education after a long and careful consideration, and it carries out the views of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction as expressed in his report; also the views of the State Labor Commissioner; the North Carolina Teachers' Assembly and other organizations. It provides that the qualified voters in any district, township or county may petition the county board of education asking that compulsory attendance be ordered from any school or schools and the board, if it finds the petition has been signed by a majority of such voters, may in its discretion, order compulsory attendance. The board may, upon such petition, hold an election submitting to the voters of such district, township or county the question of such compulsory attendance, designating the time, appointing election officers and advertising the fact 30 days before such election, which would be held mainly under the general law governing elections, the expense to be paid out of the school funds, and if the majority is in favor of compulsory the board shall order it upon the school or schools named found that the enrollment in any school of any district for the preceding year has been less than 60 per cent., or that the average daily attendance has been less than 85 per cent. of the school census, the board of educators in the county shall have the power in its discretion, without petition or election to order compulsory attendance upon such schools.

Shall Compel Attendance.

Every parent or person having control of the child over 8 and under 14 years of age, shall cause such child to attend the public schools in its district for 16 weeks in each school year, such year beginning July 1st and ending June 30th, unless the parent or person having control shows that the child has received elsewhere during the year regular instruction for 16 weeks in the studies taught in the public school. Children over 12 shall not be subject to this employment when lawfully employed at labor at home or elsewhere. Violation of this last section in a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not less than \$5 or more than \$25.

Winborne introduced a bill to amend the constitution by extending the operation of the "Grandfather Clause" to 1918. (The Republican State platform demanded an extension only to 1912.)

Pass Third Reading.

The following bills passed third reading:

To incorporate Mortimer, Caldwell county.

To restore the dogs of Franklin county their ancient immunity from taxation. (Buckett, introducer of this bill, making a humorous speech in advocacy of it.)

To amend the prohibition law of Johnson so owners of vineyards and orchards can make and sell in quantities not less than a quart, wine and cider of their own manufacture.

To provide for the election by vote of the people of the commissioners of Vance county.

To amend the charter of Roanoke Rapids.

To add Davidson county to the anti-jug law of 1905.

To amend the charter of Highlands, Catawba county, and extend its boundaries.

To prevent trespassing on the lands of another in Bertie, and to protect deer there.

To provide for the payment of jurors, allotting dower and widows' allowances.

To amend the acts of 1905 so as to pay special venemen in Columbus and Onslow \$1 per day.

Speaker Justice's bill to enlarge the powers of the corporation commission regarding public service railroads was ordered printed and made a special order for Saturday noon.

Liberal to Veterans.

The Legislature is going to be even more liberal than was expected to the Confederate veterans. The committee on pensions will, it is learned Saturday, recommend a bill carrying \$450,000 annually, this being an increase of \$175,000 over the present annual appropriation. The committee from the first manifested a very liberal spirit.

A favorable report is made on the Senate bill making 10 years' separation a cause for absolute divorce. Several lawyers appeared in favor of the bill, which covers only a few cases, one or two being perhaps notable. Many of this kind have been introduced in past years to cover a particular case, and only a few years ago there were some notable instances of this.

Pass Third Reading.

The following bills passed third reading:

To revise the charter of Lexington

To appropriate \$20,000 additional to the Jamestown Exposition, making the total \$50,000.

To amend the charter of the South & Western Railway, so as to give it the power to condemn land on the right of way of other railways which out necessary for the use of the latter.

Washington Theatre Burned.

Washington, Special.—The Academy of Music, at Ninth and D streets, northwest, was almost completely gutted by fire of unknown origin which broke out about 5 o'clock Thursday morning. A number of offices were located in the building, as was also the Spencerian Business College. None of these were damaged by fire, but were flooded by water, the fire being confined to the stage and auditorium of the theatre. The loss is estimated at \$30,000. The building was insured for \$75,000.

News Notes.

The French chamber of deputies adopted a bill providing for automatic divorces.

The assassin of William Whiteley, proprietor of the first department store in London, has been indentified as Horace George Hayner, a former school teacher.

Senator Hale introduced a resolution ordering an investigation of an alleged "lobby" of naval officers.

The delegates to the labor conference at Belfast, Ireland, rejected by an overwhelming majority a socialist declaration of principle.

Senor Maura has formed a conservative Spanish cabinet.

The naval appropriation bill was reported to the house without any provision for the proposed mammoth battleship.

The interstate commerce commission, reporting on its coal investigation, is severe on the Baltimore and Ohio and other roads.

LABOR WORLD.

Boilermakers at Norfolk, Va., are on strike for a wage increase of twenty-five cents a day.

The strike of the Toronto (Canada) piano workers is over, and the men returned to work unconditionally.

Factories in Japan do not stop work on Sundays, but usually the 1st and the 15th of each month are holidays.

Pindlay, Fosteris and Tiffin, three enterprising cities of the Buckeye State, have formed a tri-city labor congress.

The Youngstown (O.) cement workers are on strike. They are receiving \$2 for a nine-hour day and ask \$2.25.

At the end of the third quarter of 1906 the British Amalgamated Shipwrights' Society had total reserve funds of \$700,000.

Labor organizations of America have gained 1204 new unions this year, embracing a membership of 300,000 individuals.

The entire plant of the Chicopee Manufacturing Company, Chicopee, Mass., is closed by a strike of 700 Polish operatives, who want more pay.

The hours of labor in Belgium are very long. The laborer commences work at 6 a. m. and ceases work at 7 p. m., with the usual breaks for meals.

The National Association of Postal Clerks numbers over 12,000 members, and the Chicago (Ill.) branch alone has over 1200 names on its roster.

An advance of two and a half per cent. in wages of the men employed in the sheet and tin plate mills of the United States Steel Corporation has been announced at Pittsburgh.

International Steam Shovelmen's Union has formed a local of all steam shovel workers in Oakland, Cal.

HALLS OF CONGRESS.

The Fortifications Appropriation bill was passed.

The House passed a bill authorizing St. Louis to construct a bridge across the Mississippi River.

A bill authorizing the President to send the supply ship, Celtic with relief for the people of Jamaica was passed.

The Senate passed the La Follette bill forbidding railroads to work employes more than sixteen consecutive hours in twenty-four.

The House Committee on Appropriations reported the pension bill carrying an appropriation of \$138,138,500 for 1908.

A Senate committee hinted at impeachment when Secretary Hitchcock persisted that he had authority to ignore an act of Congress.

Congress has been asked by the Interstate Commerce Commission to authorize experiments by the Government with safety devices for railroads.

Senator Whyte spoke against encroachment by the Federal Government on the powers of the States, and Senator Kittredge attacked the Lumber Trust.

An amendment to the Legislative bill increasing the salary of the Vice-President, Speaker and Cabinet members to \$12,000 and of Congressmen to \$7500 a year was adopted.

Senator Dewey introduced a bill authorizing any national bank to be designated as a depository of public moneys. Under existing law no bank with less than \$50,000 capital can be so designated.

The Senate bills providing for a reorganization of the artillery corps, for an investigation of women and child workers, and prohibiting corporations from making money contributions in connection with political elections were passed.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT.



TWO DAYS OF SCHOOL.

Neddy went to school first day, Timmy yet gladly. At recess he watched the play of the others sadly. "School's a horrid place, indeed!" Neddy sighed, in sorrow. "I don't want to learn to read—I'll stay home to-morrow!" Neddy went to school next day, After much rebelling, Children asked him out to play, Teacher praised his spelling, "School's a pretty jolly spot, After all!" laughed Neddy. "My! but just think what a lot I have learned already!" —Young Evangelist.

CINDERELLA IN INDIA.

Once upon a time there was a Hindu rajah who had an only daughter. This girl was born with a beautiful golden necklace encircling her throat. This necklace, the priests and wise men declared, was the soul of the princess, and if it were taken off and worn by another the princess would die.

On the occasion of his daughter's birthday, the rajah presented her with a pair of slippers, studded with pearls and diamonds. The princess went into the mountain to gather flowers, and while stooping one of her slippers dropped off and fell into the forest below.

A prince, who was hunting in this forest, picked up the lost slipper. Noticing its smallness and rare beauty, he desired to make the owner his wife. This wish of the prince was made known throughout the empire, and although great wealth was promised to any one bringing information concerning the owner of the slipper, no one appeared to claim it.

The prince became very unhappy. He gave up all his pleasures and devoted his life to the search.

After many months had passed without success some people from the rajah's country heard of the princess's desire and told him where the princess who owned the slipper could be found. The prince visited her, and finding her lovely beyond his hopes, a royal wedding quickly followed.

Some time after another wife of the prince—in India a prince has many wives—being jealous of the new wife, stole her golden necklace and put it around her own neck. The rajah's daughter died, but her body did not change, nor her face lose its bloom and life-like beauty. She lay in state in the royal palace, where every day the prince went to see her. He loved her as ardently as when she was alive, and called the wise men from far and near to tell him why this was so, and why no change came over the face and form of his loved companion.

The wise men could not give any reason that satisfied the prince. He never would have known the truth had it not been for a little serving maid, who, dearly loving the princess while she lived, was found one day weeping by her bier when the prince arrived to mourn her loss.

This little maid told the prince of the theft of the golden necklace, and also the secret of its wonderful power. The result of her story was that the woman who stole the necklace was put to death. The necklace was placed around the neck of the dead princess. At its restoration her soul was reborn in her, she came to life, and, happy in the prince's love and devotion, lived a long life of happiness and usefulness.—Washington Star.

THE WISENESS OF LADY BELLE.

"I guess horses don't know much," Ellie said thoughtfully.

She was on the front seat with Uncle Colin. Aunt Faith and little Hop o' Thumb were on the back seat.

Suddenly Uncle Colin pulled on the reins and said, "Whoa, Lady," and there they were stopping right in the middle of Nowhere!—not a house anywhere near, not even a store or a schoolhouse.

"Why, what are you stopping here for, Uncle Colin?" cried astonished Ellie, and Hop o' Thumb echoed, "Toppin' her for?" from the back seat. Even Aunt Faith looked surprised.

"For you to get out," answered

Uncle Colin calmly. "We can't take her any further, can we, Lady Belle? Not a young person that says horses don't know much."

"Oh!" laughed Ellie, as if she understood. But she hopped out and ran up to the big gray nose, and reached up on tiptoes to rub it.

"I'm sorry I said it, honest I am, Lady," she said. "You know something. Now, will you let me ride the rest of the way to town? She's bowing her head, Uncle Colin! She says I may!" And Ellie came running gayly back and climbed up on the front seat again.

A little way ahead there was quite a steep hill—a "steepish" one, Ellie said. Lady Belle crept down it very cautiously, picking her steps with the greatest care. She would not trot even near the bottom.

"Mercy! what a slow coach—oh, I forgot! Excuse me, Lady Belle. But, honest, I could run down such a little hill as this, even if 'tis icy—an' I've only two legs 'stead of four!" Besides, Lady Belle's got 'creepers' on her boots, hasn't she, Uncle Colin?"

"Yes, but they need sharpening. We'll go to Shoemaker Ben's, Lady Belle. Then we'll see!"

"Ho!" laughed Ellie, "Lady Belle won't know they're sharp! That's what I meant by saying horses don't know—oh!" Ellie clapped both little red-tinted hands over her mouth and laughed again.

"Whoa, Lady!" began Uncle Colin solemnly. Then he relented. "No, you needn't this time. We'll go on and show this young person in another way that it isn't horses that don't know much."

In front of the blacksmith's shop there was a very slippery place in-



NORWEGIAN BABE AND ITS STEED.

After many months had passed without success some people from the rajah's country heard of the princess's desire and told him where the princess who owned the slipper could be found. The prince visited her, and finding her lovely beyond his hopes, a royal wedding quickly followed.

Some time after another wife of the prince—in India a prince has many wives—being jealous of the new wife, stole her golden necklace and put it around her own neck. The rajah's daughter died, but her body did not change, nor her face lose its bloom and life-like beauty. She lay in state in the royal palace, where every day the prince went to see her. He loved her as ardently as when she was alive, and called the wise men from far and near to tell him why this was so, and why no change came over the face and form of his loved companion.

The wise men could not give any reason that satisfied the prince. He never would have known the truth had it not been for a little serving maid, who, dearly loving the princess while she lived, was found one day weeping by her bier when the prince arrived to mourn her loss.

This little maid told the prince of the theft of the golden necklace, and also the secret of its wonderful power. The result of her story was that the woman who stole the necklace was put to death. The necklace was placed around the neck of the dead princess. At its restoration her soul was reborn in her, she came to life, and, happy in the prince's love and devotion, lived a long life of happiness and usefulness.—Washington Star.

A COYOTE ROUNDUP.

We have been requested to suggest to the country people a coyote roundup. These animals are becoming so numerous that many farmers are complaining of their depredations in their poultry flocks.

One coyote in a year's time will destroy many dollars' worth of poultry and the bounty should be kept up sufficiently high to justify men taking the time to kill them in the spring. We presume the best way to handle a roundup would be for several to get together and select a leader and appoint a place of meeting upon a certain day and then take in as much territory as the number of participants would justify.—Hill City Republican.

The Two Sides.

Old Brother Trembly—"Yassah, I's gwine to git mar'd. Yb' see, I's an old man now, and I kain't 'spect to linger yuh much longer, and when de end comes I wants to have some one to close muh eyes."

Brother Brownback—"Dat's all right, sah. I 'plauds yo' zeal, but I dunno so much about yo' judgment. Dis yuh lady will be yo' fifth wife, won't she? Well-uh, I isn't had but two, muhsef, but bofe o' dem done opened muh eyes—yassah, dey done opened 'em good and plenty!"—Puck.

Lord Radstock is one of the few members of the British peerage who not only takes an interest in religious work but who deliver sermons themselves.