

HALF of the session of the legislature has expired, but by no means has half of its work been done. During every session of any legislature most of the work is apparently done in its closing days. We say "apparently" done, because much of the work is really done earlier by the various committees and their work does not appear until later in the session.

Thus far there have not been any long speeches made, nor indeed very much discussion had, in either the Senate or the House. There has, however, been much discussion on several important questions before the committees. These discussions before the committees save much time in the regular sessions of the legislature. And just here we are pleased to note that there are not as many members of this legislature wasting as much time in too much speaking as there were in the last. This is especially true of the Senate.

There seems little doubt about the passage of some general law to restrict the manufacture and sale of liquor. On Wednesday and Thursday afternoons of last week this matter was fully discussed at joint meetings of the Senate and House Committees on Propositions and Grievances. Those two meetings were held in the Senate chamber, which was crowded to its utmost capacity by deeply interested persons from all parts of the State. The only speeches made against the temperance bills were made by lawyers who stated that they were paid to do so. All the speeches for the bills were made by preachers, lawyers, farmers and others without any other compensation whatever than the consciousness and satisfaction of knowing that they were pleading for the best interests of their State and the welfare of their fellow men. Very many ladies were present and encouraged the advocates of the proposed legislation.

The Senate has passed a bill allowing the marriage of the offending party in divorces for abandonment, but repealing after next January, the laws allowing divorces for abandonment. If the House passes this bill there will be fewer divorces to disgrace our courts after this year.

A bill has been reported favorably by the committee to which it was referred, for the establishment of a reformatory for youthful criminals. The committee's meeting was attended by a large number of ladies and stout speeches were made by some of them.

The bill in regard to much opium (introduced by request by Senator Spencer, has been very generally misunderstood. Nearly every newspaper that has referred to it has said that it was against the inn-keepers and that they were opposing it. Just the reverse is true for it was prepared by them and introduced at their request. Indeed it was considered too favorable to them and a substitute has been offered in its place, which will probably be passed.

The "agony" is over; the Senatorial deadlock is broken, and Lee S. Overman is the winner. He was nominated by the Democratic Senatorial caucus on last Thursday night on the first ballot by a vote of 73 for him, 28 for Watson and 11 for Craig. Next day he was elected at the joint meeting of the Senate and House, as required by law, by a vote of 418 for him and 21 for Pritchard.

This was the most protracted contest for Senatorial election has been known in this State since 1852, when the Legislature finally adjourned without being able to make a choice among the candidates. Although this contest was so protracted—continuing three weeks—yet it was one of the most friendly ever known. As was well said by one of the defeated candidates it was a contest among "friends and democrats." None of the candidates made any charge against any of the others, and while the friends of each most zealously supported their respective favorites they said nothing, nor could say anything against the other candidates. No intimation has been made that any improper influences or means were used in behalf of any one of the candidates. The result of such a clean and creditable contest has left no sting or bitterness, and as soon as the transaction was made the victor was as cordially congratulated by the friends of the vanquished as by his own adherents.

There was a wild scene of enthusiasm when the result of the balloting was announced in the Senate. While the friends of the defeated candidates regretted their disappointment, yet all were glad that the contest had ended. A committee was appointed to meet in the Hall of the Legislature and investigate the conduct of the contest. The committee will be composed of members of both parties and will report to the Senate on the 15th inst.

The formation and election of Senator Overman will not give peculiar pleasure to his personal friends, but will give general satisfaction to all true citizens, and we confidently predict that he will be a Senator of whom our good old State will have just cause to be proud. He seemed an eminently proper man to succeed the late Senator, and his election is a fitting tribute to his memory. Not only this, but he is a man of high character, of proven ability and tried ability, and a man of high character, of proven ability and tried ability, and a man of high character, of proven ability and tried ability.

They Swapped Wives. During the trial of Mrs. Morgan, for the murder of her husband, it was proved that she had swapped her husband with a man named John. After having been married to her husband for several years, she swapped him with a man named John. The two men swapped wives without any other compensation than the consciousness and satisfaction of knowing that they were pleading for the best interests of their State and the welfare of their fellow men.

The Boston in New Orleans. Non-residents in the General Assembly, including the United Confederate Veterans, announced that they were going to the annual convention in New Orleans. The convention was held in the city of New Orleans, and was attended by a large number of delegates from all parts of the State. The convention was a success, and the delegates returned home with a great deal of good will and friendship.

Forgets Boat Out in Texas. Capt. J. J. The British vessel "The British" was reported to have been lost in the Gulf of Mexico. The vessel was carrying a large amount of cargo, and the loss was a great one. The search for the vessel has been unsuccessful to date.

Two men in the building. Two men were found in a building in the city of New Orleans. The men were found in a room that had been recently vacated. The men were both dressed in civilian clothes, and were both of the same age. The police are investigating the case.

Washington Letter. President Roosevelt is estranging the leaders of his party by his effort to force negro suffrage bills on Southern cities. Already one republican senator who had been elected from New England but will not permit the use of his name, has told your correspondent that he is opposed to the appointment of W. H. Cresswell to the Post and Telegraph Commission. Cresswell is a man of high character, and his appointment to the Commission is a great honor.

Seaman Accused of Mutiny. Liverpool, Jan. 26. The British steamship "The British" was reported to have been mutinied by its crew. The ship was carrying a large amount of cargo, and the mutiny was a great one. The ship was captured by the British navy, and the mutineers were taken to court.

A Man Bog in a Church. Baltimore, Feb. 1. A supposed mad dog dashed into Wesleyan Protestant church today, causing great excitement among the members and the congregation. The dog was shot by the police, and the church was closed for some time.

Starved Himself to Death. New York, Jan. 31. Joseph Shepley, a man of high character, was reported to have starved himself to death. The man was found dead in his room, and the cause of his death was determined to be starvation.

Exclusive Account. The exclusive account of the trial of Mrs. Morgan, for the murder of her husband, was reported in the newspapers. The trial was a great one, and the jury returned a verdict of guilty.

Safe-Breakers' Lullaby. The safe-breakers' lullaby was reported in the newspapers. The safe-breakers were reported to have been successful in breaking into several safes, and the loss was a great one.

Noted Barred to Bank. Elizabeth N. J. The noted barred to bank was reported in the newspapers. The bank was reported to have been closed, and the cause of the closure was determined to be financial difficulties.

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