

OPENING SESSION OF STATE LEGISLATURE

General Assembly of North Carolina for 1923 Convenes in the State Capitol at Raleigh.

OFFICERS CHOSEN TUESDAY NIGHT

Much Legislation is Expected to Be Presented at Present Session.—The Officials are Sworn In.

Raleigh, Jan. 3. (By the Associated Press.)—Electing John G. Dawson, of Lenoir county, speaker of the House; W. L. Long, of Halifax county, President pro tempore of the Senate; and the staffs of minor officials for both branches, the 67th biennial session of the North Carolina General Assembly convened today.

All of the officials are Democrats, and were nominated at a party caucus held last night.

One of the most important measures being discussed by legislators today was the bill of a committee named last year to formulate equitable means of apportioning the million dollar educational appropriation among the smaller and less wealthy counties of the state. The committee in its report recommended a complete reversal of the present method of distributing the equalizing fund.

Under the present system the counties are required to levy a tax rate of not less than 30 cents in order to come within the distribution. The committee's measure would have the State Board of Education make full provision to determine which counties are entitled to receive aid.

The opening session in both houses convened at noon. Permanent organizations was the first order of business.

The Rev. R. L. Hoffman led the prayer in the house. Ninety-two counties then responded to roll call. Chief Justice Walter Clark of the state Supreme Court administered the oath. The representatives for the first time in history were sworn in en masse.

Following the election of Mr. Dawson to the speakership, he was presented to the body. Visibly weak from his recent illness, he took his oath. After other house officers had been elected a message was received from the Senate which notified the body of the completion of that organization, and that it was ready for business.

One committee was appointed by the House—the rules committee, of which W. H. S. Burgwyn, of Northampton county is chairman. The House then adjourned out of respect for the memory of the late Robert M. Oates, of Henderson county. Announcement on this matter also was taken by the senate.

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 3. (By the Associated Press.)—A mass of legislation affecting the state's tax, highway and administration laws in addition to local bills and measures directed against the Ku Klux Klan confronted the North Carolina general assembly, which opened in biennial session here today.

A brief summary of the measures being sponsored is as follows: Unmasking of the Ku Klux Klan in North Carolina and forcing officials to state publicly whether they are members of the organization.

Increase in the number of superior court judges in the state from 20 to 30.

Placing of solicitors of superior courts on salaries instead of fees.

Revising method of proceeding in civil cases so as to reduce congestion of docket.

Uniform game law applicable to the entire state.

Appropriations to various state institutions, aggregating \$10,000,000 for support and an equal amount in new construction. Under this head, the University of North Carolina is seeking funds to construct five new buildings and establish a permanent water supply system.

Re-enactment of the revenue and machinery act and the municipal act. Usual legislation providing for a constitutional convention to revise the fundamental laws of the state.

State-owned shipping line corporation commission to operate ships from North Carolina port cities.

Continuation of the present program of highway construction and an additional \$15,000,000 bond issue for the work.

GEORGE HARVEY IS GUEST OF PRESIDENT

Ambassador to Great Britain is Guest at White House.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Ambassador Harvey was the guest of President Harding at the White House today, on his first visit to Washington since going to his London post. Since his arrival last night from New York when he was taken directly to the White House, Col. Harvey had made no statement on the purpose connected with his visit. Broadly speaking, he comes to lay before the President and his advisers in personal conference the results of his close observation of the economic and other problems of Europe.

His visit perhaps significantly coincides with the adjourned meeting of the allied premiers now being held in Paris, after the London conference, in an effort to reach an accord on the vexing problem of German reparations.

NEW YEAR GIFTS GIVEN TO ELON TOTAL \$35,000

J. W. Carlton family, of Richmond, lead list of donations of \$25,000. Elon College, Jan. 2.—Announcement was made through the president's office here yesterday of New Year gifts to the college as follows: The J. W. Carlton family, of Richmond, Va., through P. J. Carlton, \$25,000; from the Jesse Winborne estate through Dr. J. O. Atkinson, Dr. W. W. Staley and Dr. W. P. Lawrence, administrators, \$5,000; and through collections for Christmas and New Year and the Standardization fund of the college, \$5,000. It was stated that all these funds would be added to the permanent endowment asset of the college.

Flies 216 Miles an Hour.

Marsdenville, Jan. 1.—Sailor Lawson, the aviator, yesterday made four circuits of a kilometre course at an average speed of about 216 miles an hour.

Miss Nell Herring is visiting in Winston and Greensboro.

Mr. A. F. McCurdy, of Clairton, Pa., is spending some time in the city and No. 30 township with relatives.

Serial bonds.

A more rigid child labor law. State control of bus and freight lines operating on highways. Workmen's compensation law. Statutory eight hour day law. Board of mediation and conciliation for industrial disputes. Adequate boiler inspection.

Raising of age of consent from 14 to 16 years of age. Revision of state dry laws to conform with federal prohibition laws.

Establishing women's rights, to serve on juries and providing for certain exemptions not to be allowed men.

Removal of disqualification of woman to testify in her own behalf in cases involving seduction.

Revision of election laws to guarantee privacy in voting and to prevent irregularities.

Provision equal guardianship between parents for children.

Rehabilitate office of tax commissioner.

Safeguard state's credit. Reduce volume of taxation.

Reform state primary and election law machinery. (The last four "plans" are from the "Bulley Program.")

Amendment to constitution to give municipalities control over lines and penalties imposed in municipal courts.

Amend state road law to enable municipalities to participate in proceeds of motor license taxes.

Remove thirty alleged discriminations against municipalities in revenue and machinery act.

The State welfare board is advocating a broad program of reforms, among which are the following: Separate juvenile courts in all cities over 10,000.

Whole-time superintendents of welfare in every county.

Increase capacity of Caswell Training School to 1,000 and to provide for epileptic colony of 600 at State hospital.

Mother's aid law to prevent separation of mother and children on account of poverty.

The following prison legislation is advocated: Establishment of prison industries and an amendment to laws so as to allow directors to sell products of institutions in open market.

New barracks for prisoners at Methodist farm.

A revolving board of prison directors.

Abolishment of corporal punishment.

Institution of grading system of prisoners and modern methods of identification and of keeping records.

Abolish criminal insane department at state prison and remove inmates of this ward to some state hospital.

Place the state prison system under support of governmental funds and return proceeds from institution to state treasury.

Establishment of a tubercular colony at state prison farm.

Establishment of the state prison farm of a colony for women offenders.

Thomas to Ask Court For Change of Venue

That G. G. (Red) Thomas, Charlotte auto salesman, will ask for a change of venue when his case is called for trial here next week, is the report that comes from Charlotte. The Charlotte News of Tuesday afternoon said: "Motion for removal of the trial of G. G. (Red) Thomas, charged with the murder of Arthur C. Allen, of Kannapolis, will be made before Judge Wells in Concord Monday."

"The place of removal will rest with the court." "Thomas' case has been reviewed by the Supreme Court of North Carolina and the defendant has been given a new trial. Machinery for the new trial will be set in motion Monday and the first proposition to be put before the court will be the motion for removal of another county."

"A formidable array of legal talent will appear in defense of Thomas, who at the conclusion of the first trial, was given 18 years in the State penitentiary by Judge His Ray. Appearing in the cast will be J. J. Parker and E. T. Chandler, of Charlotte; Manness and Anfield, J. Lee Crowell and John M. Oglethorpe, of Concord."

"Thomas' defense at the first trial based on his contention that Allen approached his car on a lonely road near Kannapolis in August, 1921, with the command 'Throw up your hands.' Thomas contended that he thought the man was a highwayman and that he shot to protect himself."

"This statement was backed up by the testimony of Mrs. Robert Lowe, who was in the automobile at the time of the shooting."

The Charlotte Observer of today has the following relative to the request for a change of venue: "Motion for the removal of the trial of G. G. (Red) Thomas on the charge of murder is to be made before Judge James L. Webb at Concord Monday, according to statements here yesterday, his attorney simply asking that the trial be removed from Cabarrus county on the ground that there is too much antagonistic feeling that the trial be removed from Cabarrus to obtain a fair and impartial trial."

"The case has been reviewed by the Supreme Court and Thomas has been granted a new trial. The defendant was sentenced to 18 years by Judge J. Hisa Ray at the conclusion of the first trial several months ago. Attorneys for Thomas are: J. J. Parker and E. T. Chandler, of Charlotte; Manness and Anfield, J. Lee Crowell and John M. Oglethorpe, of Concord."

When the State Supreme Court several weeks ago granted Thomas a new trial, the report became general here that a request for change of venue would be made, but local attorneys for the Charlotte auto salesman have never given official sanction to the report. Mr. Manness, who is chief counsel here for Thomas has had nothing to say about the case, but from other sources it has been learned that a change probably will be asked. One Concord man stated this morning that he had been asked to sign an affidavit which declares that Thomas could not get a fair trial in Cabarrus county, but attorneys have nothing to say in regard to such an affidavit.

Sheriff W. P. Multry has been handling the list of persons wanted subpoenaed by both the State and the defense, and he has been busy this week serving the papers, according to reports here.

"Premier Poincaré, after the meeting continued to receive important members of the government, among them Louis Barthou, president of the reparations commission, in preparation for his declaration to be made to the conference at the 3 o'clock meeting."

In this announcement the French Premier is expected to declare that the British plan demands of France that she give up every guarantee she has that any arrangements adopted will be carried out by Germany."

M. Poincaré, it was forecast, will add that the British scheme for supervising the legislation of the new arrangement practically makes Germany the arbitrator in questions that may come up concerning the payment of her own debts."

Premier Poincaré, after the meeting said the British plan displeased everybody, not only the French, but the Italians and the Belgians, and the proposal that the Bank of England put its hands on the gold left there by the allies as security for loans was alarming.

The Premier reiterated that the French plan was the minimum acceptable to France, and represented the maximum concessions France would make.

Laying Chirkens Have the Shortest Toe Nails. This and other interesting facts have been established by experts.

Raleigh, Jan. 3.—(By the Associated Press.)—"How long does a hen's toe nails grow in 243 days?" This momentous question had the capital inhabitants all up in excitement today and shared almost equal interest with the convening of the general assembly as officials and legislators endeavored to give a correct answer.

But the delay was not long, for in the annual report of Dr. R. E. Kaupp, poultry investigator of the North Carolina Experiment Station, was found the following: "This question was answered by measuring the toe nails of 200 Barred Plymouth Rocks when the end of 365 days. They had grown 1.9 centimeters."

And, on the heels of this disclosure to the world came the following: "The Fate of Grit in the Gizzard: It was found that a fowl may grow 345 days without replenishing its supply of grit. At the end of this time, there was enough grit in the gizzard of the two hens to grind the food as shown by the fact that hens were in perfect health and in good flesh."

These facts were revealed in a series of experiments conducted at the station during the past year, said Dr. Kaupp, to solve various problems in connection with the raising of poultry. The two hens were kept in a fourteen inch coop to prevent them from taking exercise. It was learned that heavy layers of eggs wear their toe nails rapidly, while the poor layers do little scratching for food and grit, he asserted.

Some wag offered the opinion that in the course of its important experiments can solve such problems as these, an answer to this question should be given: "How long is a rooster's crow?"

WARRANT ISSUED FOR POLLARD'S ASSOCIATE

A. G. Quarles, Jr., Charged With Influencing Witness for Commonwealth in Pollard Case.

Richmond, Va., Jan. 3.—A warrant charging A. G. Quarles, Jr., with unlawfully influencing and attempting to impede a witness for commonwealth in the case of Thos. Pollard, charged with the murder of Mrs. Thelma Hamm Richardson, his former stenographer, was sworn out today by Commonwealth Attorney Dave Satterfield. Quarles is an associate of Pollard's in the real estate and insurance business here.

Want Federal Building For Asheville. (By the Associated Press.)—Washington, Jan. 3.—A need for larger federal buildings in one hundred and forty cities, costing upwards of \$40,000,000, was reported to Congress today by Secretary Mellon and Postmaster General Work.

A \$700,000 building for Asheville, N. C., was among those recommended.

Want to Investigate Upshaw Charge.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Investigation of the Upshaw charges that some governors and many other high officials "do not practice the prohibition enforcement which they preach," was called for in a resolution introduced today by representative Hill, Republican, of Maryland.

Mr. Craig Ross, of Knoxville, was in the city Wednesday on his way home from New London, where he was called Sunday to attend the funeral of his father, the late Mr. W. J. Ross.

Among many of the Eastern nations the removal of the beard is a degradation.

Germany have to work fourteen days each year to pay their taxes; in France the taxes call for twenty-eight days work.

Telephone Manager Dead at Elizabeth

(By the Associated Press.)—Elizabeth City, N. C., Jan. 3.—C. W. Grice, 68, manager of the local telephone company, died here today.

Germany have to work fourteen days each year to pay their taxes; in France the taxes call for twenty-eight days work.

FRENCH REPARATIONS PROPOSAL ACCEPTED

British Will Accept French Plans as Basis for Discussion, of British Plans Are Discussed Also.

BONAR LAW IS TO BE SPEAKER

At a Meeting at Which Something Definite in Regard to This Difficult Question Will Be Done.

Paris, Jan. 3. (By the Associated Press.)—The British delegates to the allied conference at an informal meeting this morning practically decided to accept the French reparations plan as a basis for discussion provided Premier Poincaré agreed to discuss the British plan. In this way Prime Minister Bonar Law would seek to place the burden of responsibility for a breakdown of the conference on the shoulders of Premier Poincaré.

The British Premier planned to speak at the allied meeting at three o'clock this afternoon and tell Premier Poincaré that the British are willing to discuss the French plan if the British and other plans are discussed at the same time.

If Mr. Poincaré should refuse to examine the British plan further, Mr. Bonar Law, according to the present decision, will announce that the British see no need for further conference.

Premier Poincaré, after the meeting continued to receive important members of the government, among them Louis Barthou, president of the reparations commission, in preparation for his declaration to be made to the conference at the 3 o'clock meeting."

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The Premier reiterated that the French plan was the minimum acceptable to France, and represented the maximum concessions France would make.

THE COTTON MARKET

Opened at a Decline and Sold About 10 to 30 Points Lower During First Trading.

New York, Jan. 3.—The cotton market opened barely steady at a decline of 2 to 2 1/2 points and sold about 10 to 30 points not lower during the first few minutes on a renewal of liquidation and scattered selling for a reaction which was encouraged by the relatively easy showing of Liverpool Trade interests were buyers on the decline, however, while there appeared to be some covering by January shorts and after selling off to 26.30 for March the market steadied with prices showing rallies of some 10 to 12 points before the end of the first half hour.

Crusader is Arrested.

Oakland, Calif., Jan. 1.—John Scott Barker, proprietor of a sanitarium and self-styled crusader against the narcotic evil was arrested today by a representative of the state pharmacy board. Officers said they found in his possession one hundred dollars in marked money which had been paid by a purported drug addict sent to the sanitarium by the pharmacy board to purchase a supply of narcotics.

No Increase in Pensions.

Washington, Jan. 3.—The Burhmam bill providing for an increase in the pensions of civil and Mexican War veterans was vetoed today by President Harding.

In his veto message the President declared the increase in governmental expenditures involved would amount to "needlessness" and objected also to the bill's "loose provision for pensioning widows."

Dr. Miller Hutchison is to Lead Boll Weevil Fight

(By the Associated Press.)—New York, Jan. 3.—Dr. Miller Reese Hutchison, for many years chief entomologist of the Thomas A. Edison Laboratories, has been selected to lead a new crusade against the boll weevil in the cotton fields of the South. The post was tendered Dr. Hutchison by the American Cotton Association, which, in connection with an Atlanta, Ga., organization, has undertaken to raise \$2,500,000 to fight the weevil.

Dr. Hutchison said the ammunition to be used this year would be chiefly calcium arsenate, sprayed on the cotton blossoms in time to sterilize the eggs and kill the weevils. He expects also to make a thorough tryout of his theory that the violet ray apparatus may be made an effective agency for exterminating the pest.

Bergdoll Not on the Aquarius. Cleveland (Bergdoll), Philadelphia draft dodger, who has been reported ready to return to this country, was not aboard the American steamer, Aquarius, it was said after a search of the vessel had been made by government agents here today.



John G. Dawson, of Lenoir.

Speaker of the House of Representatives of the 67th Biennial Session of the North Carolina General Assembly.

NEW DORMITORIES ARE NEEDED AT UNIVERSITY

Program of Expansion, Including Five New Structures, is Announced.

Chapel Hill, Jan. 3.—That the number of students attending the University of North Carolina will amount to 2,500 within two more years is predicted by Dr. H. W. Chase, president of the institution, in connection with the application to the general assembly to proceed with building expansion.

The dormitories erected since the last legislature met are billed, it was stated, and the institution is "threatened with congestion equal to that of 1919," unless more accommodations are provided.

"Not only young men," it was stated, "but also women have to have more living space. Women's building is one of the big features of the construction program for this year and next. It will be the first unit of what is expected to develop into a woman's group."

"Attendance at the University is 230 students greater than a year ago and 427 than two years ago. Dr. E. C. Brooks, state superintendent of public instruction, told the executive committee of the University trustees no long ago that he estimated the number of high school graduates next June at 4,000. Those seeking higher education will, of course, go to several colleges, but the University naturally takes a greater share than any other institution, and the most conservative calculation, based on Dr. Brooks' figures, puts the attendance next year here at 2,500."

"The executive committee went over the estimate carefully before deciding what to ask the legislature for, and President Chase is acting a spokesman for the committee in presenting the request. The chief features of the two-year expansion program are: Three men's dormitories, a women's building, a chemistry building, a geology building, a general classroom building and a permanent water supply," it was stated.

The New and Observer says: "The best Democrat in years has come from that county, presented the name of Miss Rosa Munn, of Concord. There was a considerable scramble for the hand wagon, with Lindsay Warren, who defeated suffrage in 1920, leading the way and acknowledging the right of women to participate in the rewards of service."

Sandy Graham, of Orange, who was chairman of the committee on engrossing bills in the House of 1922, and Van H. Martin, Townsend, of Davidson, and others seconded Miss Munn's nomination. It began to appear unannounced. The vote was called and Miss Munn had 65 to the 29 count out of the hat for Mr. Shell. Her nomination was greeted with a burst of cheering from the floor. Mr. Townsend moved to make it unanimous.

John G. Dawson, of Lenoir county, was the choice for speaker of the House, and the other election were: Alex Lussiter, Bertie county, chief clerk; D. P. Dellinger, of Gaston county, read clerk, and J. L. Burlett, of Randolph county, sergeant at arms.

In the senate caucus W. L. Long, of Halifax county, was nominated president pro tempore. Their officers were: Principal clerk, Frank W. Hackett, North Wilkesboro; reading clerk, Thomas P. Cooke, Buncombe, and sergeant at arms, W. D. Gaster, Cumberland county.

Cecil Broughton withdrew his name as a candidate for reading clerk during the day.

Edits His Paper Chiefly by Ears and Memory. Poplar Bluff, Mo., Jan. 3.—Dwight H. Brown, president of the Missouri Press Association, edits a local daily newspaper chiefly with his ears and memory.

At eight years of age, Mr. Brown's eyesight failed, and he received his principal education from his stepmother, who read to him.

His sight never returned sufficiently to permit him to read anything except large newspaper headlines, and he cannot distinguish features more than six feet away. Having an unusual memory and a secretary who reads items from various newspaper to him, editing out the page and column of the article, it is not infrequent for Mr. Brown to ask for items six months later, specifying the papers, page and column.

Mr. Brown is now 35, and also is president of the Southeast Missouri Press Association, and the Southeast Missouri Democrat Press Association.

Brown writes his articles on a typewriter, although he cannot read typewritten type. His printers say he seldom, if ever, strikes a wrong key.

Bergdoll Not on the Aquarius. Cleveland (Bergdoll), Philadelphia draft dodger, who has been reported ready to return to this country, was not aboard the American steamer, Aquarius, it was said after a search of the vessel had been made by government agents here today.

CHOOSE ENGRASSING CLERK

Concord Woman Defeats O. P. Shell for Office.—Selection Made at Democratic Caucus Tuesday Night.

SPIRITED FIGHT MADE BY SHELL

Fight for Miss Munn Was Led by J. B. Sherrill, Walter Hurphy, Bill Neal and Lindsay Warren.

At the Democratic caucus held in Raleigh Tuesday night Miss Rosa Munn, of this city, was given the support of the members of the House of Representatives for the position of engrossing clerk of the House for the 1923 session of the General Assembly of the State. The actual election of Miss Munn today was but a formality.

For the position Miss Munn was opposed by O. P. Shell, who held the job for a number of years. Miss Munn's name was proposed by J. B. Sherrill, and other leaders who supported her were Walter Hurphy, of Salisbury, Lindsay C. Warren, Rufe Doughton and "Ambassador Bill" Neal.

The vote was 65 to 29 for Miss Munn. W. T. Bost in The Greensboro News, says of the contest between Miss Munn and Mr. Shell:

"Miss Rosa Munn, of Cabarrus, and O. P. Shell, of Hartnett, contested for house engrossing clerk. This was a little rural Congressman Homer Lyon, ex-Congressman H. L. Godwin, Alf M. McLean and Nat Townsend put in terrific bids for Mr. Shell. Major Walter Hurphy, Ambassador Bill Neal, Nindsay C. Warren, Grand Old Man Rufe Doughton, and John H. Sherrill led the fight for Miss Munn. Most of the voters in attendance were for Miss Munn and many of the liberals of those unhappy times were Shell partisans."

Miss Munn defeated Shell by the overwhelming vote of 65 to 29 and Representative Nat Townsend rose to make the count unanimous in the first big cheering of the first session.

The News and Observer says: "The best Democrat in years has come from that county, presented the name of Miss Rosa Munn, of Concord. There was a considerable scramble for the hand wagon, with Lindsay Warren, who defeated suffrage in 1920, leading the way and acknowledging the right of women to participate in the rewards of service."

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