

NEWS FROM THE STATE CAPITAL

(By M. L. Shipman)

FIRST WEEK

Raleigh, Jan. 14.—The General Assembly of 1925 went to bat promptly at noon on Wednesday of last week. The organization of both branches of the Assembly was without incident. All contests had been settled in caucus on the evening previous. The members simply "promised to be good," and went right to business. Chief Justice Hoke administered the oath in the Senate and Associate Justice Clarkson in the House.

Representative Edgar W. Pharr, of Mecklenburg, had it all his own way in the speakership contest, and no other name was presented to the Democratic caucus for that honor. Mecklenburgers were here in large numbers to see the high honor bestowed. The last time this distinction went to that great county was when Cary Dowd "put the fixin'" on the boys in 1911. Mr. Pharr, therefore, has a precedent to which he may "hark back" for the Mecklenburg brand of information.

Other officers of the House are: Alex Lassiter, of Bertie, principal clerk; Dr. C. M. Higgins, of Anson, sergeant-at-arms; E. M. Woodhouse, of Currituck, assistant sergeant-at-arms; Miss Rosa Mundt, of Cabarrus, engrossing clerk; Needham W. Mangum, of Wake, reading clerk, succeeding David P. Dellinger, one of the present representatives from Gaston, who has done the reading stant for the House during the last five consecutive sessions.

The Senate caucus Tuesday night made short work of the task before it. There was not a contest for anything after the withdrawal of Senator Paul Grady for President Protombora of that august body, and Senator W. H. S. Burgwn, of Northampton, is wielder of the capitol this winter. He has been to the legislature many times before and knows pretty well what is required to operate the "machinery" to the best advantage. Senator Grady becomes chairman of Judiciary committee No. 1 of that body.

The Senate re-elected Frank D. Hackett, of Wilkes, principal clerk; W. D. Gaster, of Cumberland, sergeant-at-arms; Rev. A. Corey, of Martin, engrossing clerk; Banks Arendell, of Wake, reading clerk; Mr. E. A. Hawes, of Pender, who was defeated for reading clerk by Mr. Arendell, will, it is understood, accept the clerkship to the Finance Committee of the Senate.

There is a pronounced tendency towards retrenchment in the ranks of both the senators and representatives which is a bit disconcerting to many faithful party workers who came down looking for positions in the legislature. It is proposed to reduce the number of clerks employed by the General Assembly on 1923 at least fifty per cent. During that session the clerks drew around \$25,000 more in salaries than did the members themselves and a lot of folks are wanting to know "how come." The answer is obvious. There will be a different story to relate on the subject of "overhead expenses" when the record of the present General Assembly shall be written unless somebody "takes back-water."

Both branches of the Assembly have already practically completed their organizations, the announcement of committees on Thursday being the "last act" of the drama.

Few measures of state wide significance have found their way into the legislative hopper. Senator Squires introduced a bill prepared by the legislative committee, selected by the special session, August, entitled an act to control bus traffic in the State. It would regulate, supervise and control persons, firms, corporations and associations, owning, controlling, operating, or managing motor vehicles used in the business of transporting persons or property for compensation on the improved public highways of the State, which are, or hereafter may be declared to be parts of the State Highway System, or any of the country highways, prescribing and imposing license fees, and providing for the disposition of the revenues raised by the same. The bill was referred to the committee on Public Roads, and ordered printed in pamphlet form for the convenience of the members.

Representative King, of Guilford, seeks to repeal the act passed by the last regular session of the General Assembly exempting from taxation stocks owned in foreign corporations. The 1923 session wrestled over this amendment to the Revenue Bill for days and the vote on its adoption was very close. The question of taxing foreign stocks was an issue in the primary cam-

aign for Governor and has been much discussed during recent months. The King bill is likely to provoke a lively fight before the finance committee, to which it was referred by the Speaker.

LAST WEEK NEWS

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 15.—Angus Wilton McLean, North Carolina's new Chief Executive, was duly installed into the high office, with ceremonies befitting the occasion, on Wednesday, the 14th. Raleigh put her best foot forward and the whole State joined in doing honor to a distinguished son who had fought his way from the plow handle to the highest honor within the gift of those now pledged to uphold his hands in the effort to keep the Old North State right in the forefront of American commonwealths.

It cannot be recorded as a brilliant inaugural day, but the weather man had been reasonably considerate in planning for the event, and a great crowd saw the capital city in her best attire and will long remember the joyous occasion which marked an epoch in the political life of the State, in witnessing the final act that made a Governor.

Tarheelia was here in force. The men, the women and the children came from the mountains and from the sea. The humble and the wealthy vied each other in making the day what every proud North Carolinian would have it be. The Legislators and those who sent them here were as one and love for this land of opportunity was the spirit of the day.

As the inaugural party passed from the Mansion to the City Auditorium doors and windows, sidewalks and balconies were vantage points from which to get a glimpse of the fifty-third person to take the oath as Governor of the commonwealth. Everywhere were flags of the State and flags of the Country. Troops were in evidence on every hand and played well their part of a great drama.

The oath of office was administered to Governor McLean before an epochal assemblage of North Carolinians in the City Auditorium shortly after noon. Members of the general Assembly occupied seats of honor in front of the "ninety and nine," and heard with marked attention one of the ablest state papers that had been presented in a generation. The address held the vast assemblage in rapt attention. It appeared to be precisely the kind of talk they wanted to hear and frequent outburst of applause greeted the striking utterances of the new Governor.

Following the inaugural ceremonies, a delightful luncheon was served to the new official family at the Governor's Mansion, and an even funnier day came to a close with a brilliant reception in the evening in which the public participated.

BETTER CORN YIELD BY GROWING CLOVER

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 18.—The organic matter secured from plowing under clover will not only increase the plant food in the soil but the clover also permits of better drainage during wet weather and of greater moisture-holding capacity during dry weather.

E. C. Blair, extension agronomist for State College, finds from one of his demonstrations this year that thirty bushels of corn per acre was made on wet land where clover was plowed under as against five bushels per acre on similar land that had no clover. Both fields were fertilized with 400 pounds of acid phosphate and the one with no clover plowed under received an additional application of 50 pounds of nitrate of soda per acre.

The great difference in yield was due to the land being very wet. The inorganic fertilizer was leached out while that supplied by the clover was retained in the soil. The clover also helped in giving air to the soil and in promoting better drainage. Mr. Blair says, "The demonstration was on the farm of E. L. Green in Powell had charge of the work. The Gladen County. County Agent J. R. clover was planted on two acres in 1923. In 1924, it was plowed under and corn planted. The corn on these two acres and over the remainder of the field received 400 pounds of 16 per cent acid phosphate per acre. Where no clover was plowed under an additional application of 50 pounds of nitrate soda per acre was used. The results were that 30 bushels of corn per acre was harvested from the clover land and only five bushels per acre from the land with no clover."

More hay has been harvested in Randolph County this year than ever before, reports Farm Agent E. S. Millsaps. It's a good time now to put in more cows and sell cream, he thinks.

JOHN C. SEAGLE

"There was a man sent from God, whose name was John," so said the Beloved Disciple.

"There was a man sent from God whose name was John" to be the rector of St. Phillips, Brevard, N. C., so many of us believe. He came in the Masters Name to minister, and he did minister for seven years, day by day, week by week, month by month, year by year.

The prayer of his heart was this in spirit, if not in words, I think: "Make use of me, dear God, in the way which Thou shall choose. Thou hast made all things for Thy Glory and the good of humanity. Thou hast mission for me, even me! Give me a heart ready for willing service, O My Father, and then appoint my work, for Jesus sake."

Who can doubt that God answered that prayer? who saw him go in and out among us in his ministry of mercy and his labor of love?

Sir Bartle Frere was coming to visit a Scotch home. The master of the household, sending a servant to meet him, sought for some description by which the visitor might be recognized, "When the train comes in," he said at last to the servant, "you will see a tall gentleman helping somebody."

That was John C. Seagle—when you saw a tall gentleman helping somebody you couldn't be far wrong if you concluded it was our John C.

His was the spirit of the "Good Samaritan." The Town knew it, the Red Cross workers knew it, the Boy Scouts knew it, the welfare workers knew it, the County knew it.

God puts within our reach the power of helpfulness, and the ministry of pity. He is ever ready to increase His grace in our hearts that as we live and act among all the sorrows of the world we may learn by slow degrees, the skill and mystery of consolation. "If ye know these things happy are ye to do them." There is no surer way of steadfast peace in this world than the active exercise of pity, no happier temper of mind and work than the lowly watching to see if we can lessen any misery that is about us, nor is there any better way of growth in faith and love.

John C. Seagle's was the neighborly heart and hand. He has gone now from our midst to another field of labor at Salisbury, N. C. Let us think of the overflow of brotherly acts to poor and needy folks, the ministry to sickness, the sharing of common needs because love was true in his heart, and must express itself.

May the prayer of our hearts be, "Lord, keep his memory green."

—C. D. C.

CHANGES IN BREVARD HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY AND SCHOOL BOARD

Mrs. Godfrey is filling the position of principal, temporarily left vacant by Miss Tyner's illness.

Mr. George Sprinkle is filling the place left vacant by Miss Mann, who did not return after the holidays.

Miss Harrison, former fourth-grade teacher, resigned her position before the holidays, and this vacancy is now filled by Miss Hedrick.

Miss Ruth Hoffman, who was compelled to leave her school work early in the fall on account of ill health, has resumed her duties as third-grade teacher. During Miss Hoffman's absence, this position was filled by Miss Helen Hill.

The position on the School Board left vacant by the resignation of Mr. Bert Sitten, is now being filled by Mr. W. M. Henry.

THE KING IS TALKING—BUNK!

When the king telephones, let all other instruments be dumb! That's the rule in Mecca, where King Hussein of Hedjaz has a telephone system installed, says a recent article in the New Zealand Herald.

As long as King Hussein's telephone is in use, no other telephone can be used in Mecca, save only the one with which the king is talking.

It's a good thing for King Hussein that he does not live in the United States.

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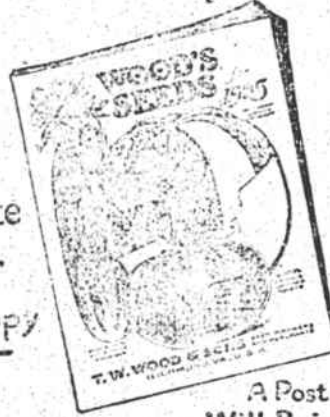
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