

THE WEATHER.

Generally fair Friday and Saturday; light to moderate south winds.

THE MORNING STAR

FOUNDED 1867

OPPORTUNITY

Don't let Opportunity catch you "napping"—read the "want" ads regularly.

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WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 27, 1911.

WHOLE NUMBER 18,516.

SPEAKER RESENTS HOUSE CRITICISM

Hitchcock's Demand for Probe of "Irregular Proceeding" Sensation

RESOLUTION FINALLY WON

Delay in Reports of Ballinger-Pinchot Committee Declared Unnecessary—Caused Acrimonious Debate.

Washington, Jan. 26.—Representative Hitchcock, of Nebraska, sprang a sensation in the House today by demanding an investigation of the "irregular proceeding" which has resulted in a delay of 49 days in getting the reports of the Ballinger-Pinchot Investigating Committee printed and in the hands of members of the House.

An acrimonious debate followed in which Speaker Cannon took an active part, his resentment what he termed an implied criticism of the chair.

The House, after listening to various explanations as to the probable cause of delay, voted almost unanimously in support of a resolution ordering an investigation by the Committee on Rules.

The resolution was introduced by Hitchcock. It requested an investigation and report within one week.

A former resolution by Mr. Hitchcock stated that three reports were received from the committee on investigation on December last and sharply criticized the "unexplained delay, doubt and mystery in referring said reports to the Committee on Agriculture."

The resolution set forth that the reference was not made until December 19th. The Committee on Agriculture did not receive the printed reports until yesterday.

"During last period," continued the resolution, "the reports were neither upon the Speaker's table, nor in the hands of the Committee on Agriculture."

"Therefore, resolved, That these irregular proceedings and this misleading and improper treatment of these reports, rendering them for six weeks unavailable and inaccessible, constitute a violation of the proper procedure of the House, and the Committee on Rules be and it is hereby directed, to investigate and report to the House within one week the reason for the delay and irregular treatment of the reports."

Speaker Cannon said he knew nothing of why the delay should have occurred. Mr. Cannon intimated that if Mr. Hitchcock had been present in the House often in the past few weeks and had earlier called attention to the matter they might not have been so much delay.

It was then that the substitute resolution was offered. Representative Scott, of Kansas, chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, declared that the delay, according to a report from the government printing office, had been due to the necessity of preparing a lithograph map of Alaska.

"That shows another reason for this investigation," shouted Mr. Hitchcock. "Your explanation is entirely different from the Speaker's."

"I said the delay might have been due to extra copies," said the Speaker with a bang of the gavel. "Matters of this kind pass beyond the view of the Speaker after reference is made. As far as the Speaker or his force is concerned, this matter has been handled according to the law, the rules, and the practice of the House. If the gentleman from Nebraska is as anxious to have the facts as the chair is, without sensational statements, the chair is entirely satisfied."

The resolution was then adopted.

MRS. HENEY PASSES AWAY.

Wife of Famous Prosecuting Attorney Dies in New York

New York, Jan. 26.—Mrs. Frances J. Heney, of San Francisco, whose husband gained fame as a fighting prosecutor, died tonight of tuberculosis meningitis at the New York residence of Charles R. Crane. She had been ill about ten days.

Mr. and Mrs. Heney came here on January 6th to attend the dinner of the Periodical Publishers' Association, and were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Crane. Shortly afterwards Mrs. Heney fell ill and her decline since has been unchecked.

The body will be taken to San Francisco tomorrow, but no plans for the funeral were given out tonight.

Mrs. Heney was 50 years old and born Rebecca McMullin, a daughter of John McMullin, a pioneer Texan who figured in the Texan revolution and before the gold rush to California emigrated to that State.

McMullin died when the daughter was a child and she was educated with her mother's relatives in Kentucky. Returning to California she met Mr. Heney in 1906 and married him in the midst of the graft prosecution.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 26.—Prince Tchinn-Pemil, who was formerly Korean minister to Russia, hanged himself during the night in his lodgings in a suburb of St. Petersburg. He left letters addressed to the Korean and Russian Emperors, and sufficient money to pay for his funeral.

EAST CAROLINA B. B. LEAGUE

Directors in Session at Goldsboro Until Early Hour This Morning—Dr. Whitaker Re-Elected President—Notes.

(By Long Distance Telephone.) Goldsboro, N. C., Jan. 26.—The directors of the Eastern Carolina Baseball League met here at 10 o'clock tonight in the office of Dr. J. N. Johnson, Dr. Joel Whitaker, of Raleigh, president, and Mr. J. L. Horne, Jr., of Rocky Mount, acting as secretary.

It was decided to maintain the league for the coming season by all the directors present as follows: Dr. Whitaker representing Raleigh; W. E. Fenner, representing Rocky Mount; William Struthers, representing Wilmington; George Dewey representing Goldsboro, Mr. Dewey being authorized to vote Wilson's proxy and Mr. Fenner voting the proxy of Capt. G. H. Napier, of Fayetteville, who missed train connection.

Dr. Whitaker was re-elected president of the League and affairs of the approaching season were at once taken up. A resolution was adopted that in future all notices of meetings be by registered letter, or, if the time be short, notification be by telegram, every team being required to be represented at such meetings either in person or by written proxy. The length of the playing season was made 92 games, the same as last year, the opening and closing dates to be determined by the schedule committee. Arrangements were made for carrying in the treasury a sufficient surplus to meet umpire's expenses, etc.

The rain guarantee and the game guarantee was made the same as last year, Goldsboro, and Rocky Mount, Fayetteville and Wilson insisting that any team which would work a hardship upon the smaller towns.

It was ordered that each club post its forfeit of \$500 with the treasurer of the league on or before February 25th, this being an amendment to the by-laws. It was also ordered that each club deposit \$100 to arrearsages with umpires and that on the first and 15th of each month the clubs be required to respond to drafts to cover their proportionate part of the expenses of the league. Any club failing to meet the requirements will forfeit its franchise.

LORIMER BRIBERY AGAIN.

Senate Committee on Privileges and Election Scored.

Washington, Jan. 26.—The Senate Committee on Privileges and Election today scored the Senate today by Senator Cummins, of Iowa, for a failure to pursue further the inquiry as to whether Senator William Lorimer was cognizant of the corrupt methods which the Iowa Senator alleged had been employed in advancing the election of Mr. Lorimer to the Senate.

Mr. Cummins took the position that the investigators had not been justified in suspending their inquiry in the direction simply because the attorney for the Chicago Tribune had said that he would not make any effort to connect Mr. Lorimer with the bribery in his behalf which the attorney was charging. Mr. Cummins' contention was that as the Tribune was not a plaintiff in the case, the committee should have proceeded independently of the concessions of counsel.

The committee also was censured by Mr. Cummins because as he asserted, it had failed to supply the information as to whether corrupt influences had been used in promoting the election of the Illinoisan. There had been bribery or there had not been and Mr. Cummins contended that the committee had failed to respond to the Senate resolution in not covering the point.

Analyzing the testimony Mr. Cummins reached the conclusion that Mr. Lorimer owed his seat to the corrupt use of money. He therefore opposed the adoption of the committee's exonerating report.

MOORING GIVEN 30 YEARS.

Slayer of Step-Mother Submitted to Second Degree Murder.

(Special Star Telegram.) Goldsboro, N. C., Jan. 26.—A jury was selected today for the trial of Herbert Mooring, who shot and killed his step-mother on Christmas eve, last but on advice of his counsel this afternoon, Mooring submitted to murder in the second degree, which was accepted by the solicitor. Judge Wheeler then sentenced the prisoner to 30 years in the penitentiary at hard labor.

Mooring went to Mrs. Mooring's home drunk and some words were exchanged between him and his step-mother, when he secured a shot gun and without warning or apparent provocation, shot her through the heart, the whole load entering under the left arm, killing her instantly. After the killing Mooring attempted to escape and doubtless would have done so, but for the pluck of Mrs. Mooring's little 14-year-old son, who witnessed the tragedy, and securing another gun which was in the house, the young fellow pursued the murderer and brought him down with a load of shot, preventing him from traveling and he was captured and brought to this city and lodged in jail. Mrs. Mooring was the widow of the late John Mooring and leaves five children, three sons and two daughters.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 26.—The steamship Cottage City from Seattle for Southeastern Alaskan ports, went ashore at Cape Mudge, British Columbia last night. Passengers are being landed. The vessel is owned by the Pacific Coast Company.

TERMS OF CANADA TRADE AGREEMENT

Reciprocity Treaty With United States Explained by President Taft

SENT MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

Conditions Announced at Washington and Ottawa Yesterday—President Urges Its Confirmation—Features.

Washington, Jan. 26.—The terms of the new reciprocity agreement between the United States and Canada, were announced simultaneously here and at Ottawa today.

The agreement provides reciprocal lists on leading food products and places on the free list certain commodities, such as cotton seed oil by Canada and rough lumber by the United States and some raw materials. Printing paper is to become free on the removal by Canada of all restrictions on the exportation of pulp wood. With an extended message urging confirmation, the agreement was sent to Congress this afternoon by President Taft.

Urging the prompt passage of a reciprocity treaty between the United States and Canada, President Taft today sent to Congress a special message accompanied by the agreement looking to such treaty, reached by representatives of the Canadian government and of the State Department at a recent conference in this city.

"Identity of interest of two peoples linked together by race, language, political institutions and geographical proximity," the President gives as the chief reasons for such reciprocity as he recommends. The President says that he feels it is "the wish of the American people," "that this country enter into a more intimate and cordial relationship with Canada."

Liberality of view in dealing with the proposed treaty is recommended by President Taft.

After speaking of efforts made previous to the conference this month to bring about a trade agreement between the two countries, President Taft says:

"The path having been thus opened, for the improvement of commercial relations, a reciprocal agreement is the logical sequence of all that has been accomplished in disposing of matters of a diplomatic and controversial character."

"The guiding motive in seeking adjustment of trade relations between two countries so situated geographically should be to give place to productive forces as far as practicable, regardless of political boundaries. No yard stick can measure the benefits to the two peoples of this freer commercial intercourse and no trade agreement should be judged wholly by Custom House statistics."

"We have reached a stage in our development that calls for a statesmanlike and broad view of our future economic status and its requirements. We have drawn upon our natural resources in such a way as to invite attention to their necessary limit. This has properly aroused effort to conserve them, to avoid waste, and to restrict their use to our necessities. We have so increased in population, and in our consumption of food products and the other necessities of life, hitherto supplied largely from our own country that unless we materially incur production we can see before us a change in our economic position, from that of a country selling to the world food and natural products of the farm and forests, to one consuming and importing them."

"Excluding cotton, which is exceptional, a radical change is already shown in our exports in the falling off in the amount of our agricultural products sold abroad and a corresponding marked increase in our manufactures exported. A far-sighted policy requires that if we can enlarge our supply of natural resources, and especially of food products and the necessities of life, without substantial injury to any of our producing and manufacturing classes, we should take steps to do so now."

"President Taft holds that a commercial agreement with Canada by which we shall have direct access to her great supply of natural products without an obstructing or prohibitory tariff, is not a violation of the protective principle as that has been authoritatively announced by those who uphold it because that principle does not call for a tariff between this country and one whose conditions as to production, population and wages are so like ours, and when our common boundary line of three thousand miles in itself must make a radical distinction between our commercial treatment of Canada and of any other country."

The President says that the Canadians "soon must decide whether they are to regard themselves isolated permanently from our markets by a perpetual wall or whether we are to be commercial friends. If we give them reason to take the former view," he adds, "can we complain if they adopt methods denying access to certain of their natural resources except under conditions quite unfavorable to us?"

Don't fail to hear that Barber Shop Chord," by Happy Morgan and the Grand orchestra.

PLAGUE IN CHINA IS SERIOUS

Traffic in Northern Section of Country Practically Ceased—Government Sends More Troops to Affected Districts.

Pekin, Jan. 26.—Owing to the prevalence of the plague, railway traffic in North China has ceased practically, excepting from Tien Tsin to Peking and between this city and Hankow. A special train will bring down a dozen trans-Siberian passengers now quarantined at Shan-Hai-Kwan, which will end the service on the Che Line above Tien Tsin for the present. The Japanese roads are conveying no Chinese and only medically certified foreigners.

The service on the German line from Tien Tsin to Pukow has been suspended and the prospect that further suspensions will be announced is causing many foreigners in Peking to arrange for a hasty departure from the city.

Those leaving include Louis Einstein, secretary of the American legation, and other diplomats, and their wives.

A modified plan for the general quarantine legislation has been agreed upon and become effective, when the conditions in the city require it. All the legations have taken in a three months' supply of rations and fuel. Most of the westerners, including the missionaries, are sending their scholars from the country home, but otherwise are continuing their American Minister W. L. Calhoun offered missionaries a refuge at the American legation, but this was declined by both the American and the British workers, who did not wish to have their activities limited. Mr. Calhoun has received several cablegrams from relatives in the United States urging him to leave this city, but he intends to remain realizing that while the disease is deadly it is not contagious, and that the infection which is practically impossible within the legation area.

The physicians believe that the germ will be exterminated with the approach of warm weather as it is evident that it is of the type that flourishes in the winter.

News is received of the death from the plague of another physician at Mukden. The victim was Dr. Jackson, a Presbyterian missionary, aged 26 years. The fact of his death in spite of inoculation has increased the anxiety of women here, whose husbands have gone to the front.

Reports from Harbin state that the Chinese authorities have given the medical men permission to burn three sections of the Chinese city.

The government is sending more troops to raise the morale of the affected districts more efficient.

FRANCE SENDS AID.

Paris, Jan. 26.—Dr. Yersin, who discovered the microbe of the Chinese plague, and Dr. Broquet, formerly assistant director of the Pasteur Institute at Saigon, both of whom are now in Paris, have been hastily ordered to China to fight the pest on behalf of France.

ASK HIGH RATES ON R. F. & P.

Partition Agreed Before State Corporation Commission.

Richmond, Va., Jan. 26.—Before the State Corporation Commission today there was argument on the partition from the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac Railroad for a maximum of three cent intrastate passenger rate, the road's contention being that its purpose is not to get more money from the traveling public but to insure for the continuance of its proportion of three cents a mile on intrastate business.

The case is similar to that of the Washington Southern Railway, which, with the R. F. & P. forms part of what is known as the Richmond-Washington Line, which asked for a three cent rate and was awarded a rate of 2 1/2 cents. The Washington Southern appealed and its case is set for a hearing before the Supreme Court in March.

OUTLINES.

The terms of the new reciprocity treaty between the United States and Canada were announced yesterday, both at Washington and Ottawa. President Taft sent a special message to Congress with the agreement, urging its confirmation. Railroad traffic has been practically suspended in the northern portion of China on account of the spread of bubonic plague. More troops have been sent to the affected districts. Following an acrimonious debate in the House yesterday in which Speaker Cannon resented criticism of Congressman Hitchcock, a resolution was passed demanding an investigation of the delay in the reports of the Ballinger-Pinchot Committee.

It is reported that the steamer Cottage went down after her passengers and crew had been landed off the coast of British Columbia yesterday. New York markets: Money on call steady 2 to 2 1/2, ruling rate 2 3/8, closing bid 2 1/2, offered at 2 3/8. Spot cotton closed quiet, middling uplands 14.90, middling gulf 15.15. Flour was steady and without quotable change. Wheat irregular, No. 2 red 99 elevator and 99 1/2 f.o.b. afloat. Corn spot steady, No. 2, 53 1/2 nominal f.o.b. afloat. Oats quiet, futures closed 1 1/4 to 3 1/2 cent lower. Turpentine steady.

Grand Theatre. Don't fail to hear that Barber Shop Chord," by Happy Morgan and the Grand orchestra.

THE SCHENK JURY UNABLE TO AGREE

Mistrial Resulted After Struggling Many Hours Over Famous Case

ACCUSED SENT BACK TO JAIL

Attorney Will Ask that Mrs. Schenk be Freed on Own Recognizance. Jury Stood Eleven to One for Acquittal.

Wheeling, W. Va., Jan. 26.—After struggling for more than a day or 24 hours with the mass of technical and sensational testimony, the jury in the case of Mrs. Laura Farnsworth Schenk, charged with poisoning her husband, John O. Schenk, announced late today they were hopelessly divided and could not reach a verdict. Judge L. S. Jordan immediately imported to further effort, but at 5:04 P. M. discharged them from the case and the long drawn out trial resulted in a disagreement.

Tonight Mrs. Schenk is again in jail despite her hopes that she would be a free woman upon the verdict of the jury.

The final vote taken by the jury after their long session stood eleven for acquittal and one for conviction. On the first ballot, taken within five minutes after the jury retired at 3:58 Wednesday, eight voted for acquittal, three for conviction and one jurymen refused to vote.

On the second ballot there were nine for acquittal and three for conviction. From this status the number of those standing by an acquittal verdict was gradually worked up to eleven, one of the jurors, it is reported, coming over at the night session Wednesday, while another changed his opinion today. The juror who held up hopes of a verdict was Isaac Heyman, salesman for a local provision company.

From the start he held out for an accused was guilty of the crime with which she was charged, and it was finally recognized that there was absolutely no chance for changing the result.

When the jury was brought into court at 5 o'clock Judge Jordan asked: "Have you arrived at a verdict?" "We have not," replied Foreman Philip Burke.

"Is there any possibility of arriving at an agreement?" the judge asked. "There is not," was the emphatic answer.

The jurymen were polled separately, each giving as their opinion that a conclusion could not be arrived at, and they were discharged.

The failure to arrive at a verdict opens up a world of possibilities. While a new trial will be necessary, it is generally conceded that the task of selecting a jury will be most difficult. Virtually all of the evidence in the possession of either side has been brought out, and there are few who have not formed an opinion.

Mrs. Schenk was remanded, following the disagreement. The amount of bond required to secure her liberty pending a second trial has not been determined, but will be fixed at once by the court.

J. J. P. O'Brien, chief counsel for Mrs. Schenk, said tonight: "Tomorrow, before Judge Jordan, we will ask that Mrs. Schenk be freed on her own recognizance. Failing in this, we will ask for a reduction in the bond from \$10,000 to \$5,000, and we shall invite the citizens to go on the bond, each for \$500. The first ten applying will be allowed to go on the bond."

BENNETT MAKES CHARGE.

Commissioners Made Low Assessment of Wealthy People's Property.

Washington, Jan. 26.—Charges that the two civilian commissioners of the District of Columbia were violating the law by making a low assessment of the property of wealthy people, who take up residences in Washington, were made in the House today by Representative Bennett, of New York.

The civilian commissioners are Cune H. Rudolph and John A. Johnston.

Representative Gardner, of Michigan, in charge of the District Appropriation bill demanded the authority upon which Mr. Bennett made the charge.

"I make it on my own responsibility as a member of this House," said Mr. Bennett.

"The charge is true, the two commissioners ought to be impeached before the House adjourns today," said Mr. Gardner.

Mr. Bennett declared that life engineer commissioner of the district favored an equitable assessment, but that the two civilian commissioners believed in levying a lower rate against the wealthy newcomers into Washington.

Representative Burke, of Pennsylvania, later in the day asserted that he had talked with the three commissioners over the telephone and that they denied absolutely the charge made by Mr. Bennett and also denied that there was any difference of opinion in the board.

The only action taken by the House was to defeat on a point of order a proposed increase in the commissioners' salaries from \$5,000 to \$6,000.

DDODSWORTH STORY IS DENIED

Former Correspondent of New York Paper Says No Offer Was Made to Buy Editorial Influence for Ship Subsidy.

Washington, Jan. 26.—A flat denial of statements made by Alfred W. Dodsworth, business manager of the New York Journal of Commerce, who said an offer to buy the editorial influence of his paper had been communicated by its then correspondent, Charles A. Conant, was made in a telegram to the House Ship Subsidy Investigating committee today from Mr. Conant, now a New York financier.

Mr. Conant says Mr. Dodsworth was "laboring under a misapprehension," and that he, Conant, "was never interested in any manner in shipping legislation" and "never submitted an offer from the Spanish government, or from any other source, to bribe the Journal of Commerce or to influence its editorial opinion on any subject."

Mr. Conant was subpoenaed to appear before the committee next Monday with John W. Dodsworth, editor of the Journal of Commerce, and F. C. Donald, of Chicago, manager of the Central Passenger Association.

Still another attempt to buy the influence of the New York Journal of Commerce, in addition to the four propositions admitted yesterday was disclosed to the committee today by Business Manager Alfred Warren Dodsworth, of that paper, all the propositions were declined. The latest disclosed attempt was an offer of \$36,000 to support editorially the plan for the sale of the Delaware Panama Canal property to the United States. This made a total of \$176,000 offered the paper, according to Dodsworth, in definite amounts of three offers, besides an unnamed amount from the Spanish government, and a check which John Roach is alleged to have told the elder Dodsworth that he could fill out with any figure he chose.

Incidentally the committee is indignant at the failure of Alfred W. and John W. Dodsworth to disclose these facts at previous hearings, and when John W. Dodsworth re-appears before the committee a lively colloquy is expected.

The working methods of the "conference" steamship lines, handling what is claimed to be 85 per cent of the trans-Atlantic passenger traffic were told before the committee by Herman Winter, manufacturer of Oelrichs Company, the general representative of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company.

Mr. Winter testified that the whole point of the passenger traffic pool was that each line must maintain its share of the business and when one line gets too many passengers it would be authorized to raise the rate. He contended that the bonus of the reduction of rates on sailing dates of the independent Uranium lines was on that company; that his own line never took the initiative in cutting rate. For fifteen years he said his line had sailings on Thursdays and then the Uranium line began advertising a sailing on that date with a reduced rate and in order to get any business at all he had to reduce his rate.

CAROLINA Y. M. C. A.'S

Interesting Reports at Opening Session Last Night at Raleigh.

(Special Star Correspondence.) Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 26.—For the opening session of the House of Representatives, presided in the eighth annual Inter-State Convention of the Carolina Y. M. C. A. tonight.

Morgan S. Speir, of Charlotte, chairman, in presenting the annual report of the executive committee showed 58 associations with a membership of over 9,000 and property and building funds pledged aggregating over a million dollars, the building funds including Greensboro, Columbia, Sumter and Greenville, S. C.

Treating the foreign work the report showed that Charlotte raised \$1,100 in support of Chas. L. Boynton, and Charleston \$500 for W. L. Hotchkiss. The association has 38 employed officers. The Atlantic Coast Line has made appropriations for buildings and sites at Rocky Mount and Florence. He appeals for an endorsement for inter-State work and recommends that \$11,000 be raised to take care of the expenses for the coming year.

WASHINGTON LAD SHOT.

Accidental Discharge of Companion's Gun Results Seriously.

(Special Star Telegram.) Washington, N. C., Jan. 26.—Lee Hanford, Jr., eight-year-old son of Mr. Lee Hanford of this city, was accidentally shot in the left leg this afternoon, by one of his playmates, Howard Bowen, Jr., while hunting on the outskirts of the city about 5:30 o'clock. The two boys with several others had been hunting and were returning to their homes in the city when young Bowen tripped, and in falling, his gun was discharged, the entire load fouling the leg of Hanford, and causing an ugly and serious wound. He was brought to the city soon after the accident and taken to Washington hospital where Drs. David T. and Joshua Tayloe dressed the wound. His physicians fear that it will be necessary to amputate the leg.

Washington, Jan. 26.—In addition to the four torpedo boat destroyers which have been ordered to Mobile, Ala., for the Mardi Gras there in February, the scout cruiser Birmingham also will represent the navy.

THE DIVORCE LAW BEING AMENDED

House Would Put Husband on Same Footing in Suits for Divorce

KENT BILL AGAINST NEAR BEER

Special Order for Next Thursday in House—Other Important Measures—Bankers Given Hearing—Proceedings.

(Special Star Telegram.) Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 26.—The lower branch of the North Carolina General Assembly passed, after lengthy and spirited discussion, today, the Devin bill to put the husband on the same footing as the wife now in suing for divorce on Biblical grounds, or, rather, it passed second reading and was forced over until Friday for final reading on failure of a motion to suspend the rules when objection was lodged to a final reading.

The test vote as to the standing of the bill was 70 to 27. The bill had come from Judiciary Committee No. 1, with an unfavorable report, a vote in committee having been broken by the vote of Chairman R. H. Battle against the bill. Mr. Battle led the fight against the bill on the floor, contending that while the principle of morals embodied in the bill is right, sociological conditions do not admit of its application.

The House made the Kent bill to prohibit near-beer in North Carolina and a minority unfavorable report by Representative Kellum, of New Hanover, the special order for Thursday night, February 2nd. Mr. Kellum is fighting to defeat the bill or force an exemption for Wilmington. A report of the hearing before the committee is carried elsewhere in the correspondence.

A favorable report came from the Internal Improvement Committee for the resolution for a legislative investigation of the affairs of the Mattamuskeet, Elkin and Alleghany railroads, Wilkesboro, Jefferson Turnpike, and other corporations in which the State has interests mentioned as needing investigation by the State Board of Internal Improvements.

Grier offered a bill to establish a State Highway Commission. Roberts a bill to provide better enforcement of the stockholders' liability clause of the State banking laws; Carr, of Durham, a bill to extend State aid to the care of the Confederate room in Richmond.

The special order of the bill to ratify an income tax amendment to the Federal constitution was announced and postponed to Tuesday, January 31st.

The Senate refused today to impose a State tax on dogs, after spending over an hour debating Senator Cotton's bill taxing dogs in North Carolina, the final tax.

Senator Bellamy introduced a bill prohibiting the shipping of coots and rice birds out of the State. A bill prohibiting the manufacture and sale of matches other than "safety matches" was offered by Senator Cotton.

The unfavorable reports came in from the Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns on the bill establishing North Robeson and Rowland counties out of Robeson; also a favorable report on establishing Hoke county out of parts of Cumberland and Robeson and it was made a special order for next Tuesday at noon.

Bankers Given Hearing. A delegation of North Carolina bankers, headed by Col. Bruton, of Wilson, was given a hearing tonight by the Joint Finance Committee as to a change in the Revenue Act as to the tax on State banks they desire, the overshadowing feature being a change in Section 33, by which the manner of arriving at the tax assessment against banks be that banks list during each June the names of all shareholders in and out of the State at the true value ascertained by deducting from the capital stock the amount of real estate and personal property owned by the bank on which it pays taxes, and adding thereto the net amount of surplus and undivided profits and dividing the resulting amount by the number of shares.

Net amount of surplus and undivided profits shall be determined by deducting from gross amount of surplus and undivided profits all debts owed on account of taxes, accrued and unearned interest, also an amount equal to 25 per cent of bills receivable to cover bad or insolvent debts, and also an amount equal to true value of any shares of capital stock owned in other North Carolina corporations upon which tax is paid by the corporations issuing the same.

Railroad Men and Bankers. Counsel and prominent officials of a number of the principal railroads in the State had a hearing before House Judiciary Committee No. 2, tonight in which they were pitted against the bankers of the State as to the merits of the Connor bill for providing "Uniform bills of lading" in North Carolina for cotton shipments, the railroad officials opposing and the bankers favoring this measure which is now operative in only two States of the Union, Maryland and Massachusetts, the effect being to make these bills of lading completely nego-