

THE WEATHER.

Fair Friday and Saturday; moderate west winds.

THE MORNING STAR

FOUNDED 1837 WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 24, 1911.

OPPORTUNITY

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WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 24, 1911.

WHOLE NUMBER 13,540.

HOUSE IN UPROAR, CLASH IS AVERTED

Alaskan Attempted to Strike Wyoming Congressman During Warm Debate

SHORT AND UGLY WORD USED

Wickersham Made Two Passes at Mondell—No "Hot Southern Blood" Involved—Another Bloodless Battle.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Another bloodless battle was fought on the floor of the House of Representatives late today. It came during a somewhat heated debate on a bill for the leasing of coal lands in Alaska. The bill was passed and as the short and ugly word rang out Delegate James Wickersham, of Alaska, made a rush for Representative Frank M. Mondell, of Wyoming, who was seated at a nearby desk.

The big Alaskan's right arm shot out twice in the direction of the gentleman from Wyoming, but members who surrounded the disputants at the time say that both blows fell just short. The House was in an uproar in an instant. Several members hurled themselves on Mr. Wickersham; others were struggling with Mr. Mondell, who had gained his feet and was making for his assailant. Representative Foster, of Vermont, had taken Mr. Wickersham by the throat. This added to the uncontrolled anger of the delegate and for a moment diverted his attack toward the members of the peace maker. Representative Sisson, of Mississippi, was first to reach Mr. Mondell, who was endeavoring to raise the chair in which he had been sitting to hurl it at his antagonist. Members rushed towards the group from every part of the chamber and soon there were nearly a hundred men in the crowd about to still struggling legislators.

Meantime, Representative Olmstead of Pennsylvania, who was acting as speaker, was maddly berating his desk with the gavel and calling upon his sergeant-at-arms to preserve order. The historic mace of the House, the emblem of authority, was lifted from its marble pedestal and carried to the floor by the House officials. Members, however, had taken the matter in hand and had succeeded in bringing both Mr. Wickersham and Mr. Mondell to a cessation of hostilities.

When the House was fairly quiet Mr. Wickersham clamored for recognition.

"I want the record to show that I apologize to the House but"—his voice rose to a shout—"I also want to show that I was called a liar."

Representative Tawney, of Minnesota, demanded that the entire colony be reported by the stenographer at the speaker's desk. The stenographer stated that he overheard Mr. Mondell, who was seated at the time say: "He is a liar."

Mr. Wickersham also had heard. "If you say that, you are a liar," he had shouted, and in another instant had rushed at Mr. Mondell. A chair between the two members had obstructed their collision. Wickersham's shout of "liar" to Mondell was the first the House had heard. Mr. Mondell's utterance had been made in an undertone.

Representative Tawney called attention to the fact that the language used by the disputants was clearly unparliamentary and that there should be an apology.

"I do apologize," said Mr. Wickersham. "I lost my temper." He sat down.

"I think the apology should be broader," interjected Representative Keifer, of Ohio.

"I make my apology as broad as any gentleman in the House wants it," said Mr. Wickersham, and that is all I have to say.

Mr. Mondell then arose.

"I uttered no such statement as has been reported in debate," he said. "I turned to the gentleman from South Dakota, who was standing at my desk, and said: 'Then he must be a liar.'"

Mr. Mondell said his reference was to the fact that nothing in the record showed any coal claims in Alaska outside of the Cunningham group to have some to final entry.

Mr. Wickersham had disputed this statement.

"My remark was not directed toward the gentleman from Alaska," Mr. Mondell went on, "and it was not uttered in debate, but to a gentleman who stood beside me. I realize, however, that I should not have used the word here or anywhere, for that matter, and I apologize to the House."

During the applause which followed Mr. Mondell's statement, Mr. Tawney moved that the House adjourn. On a standing vote, the motion apparently was carried, but the opponents of Alaska Leasing bill demanded a roll call. Under this call the motion to adjourn was lost, and the Leasing Bill was then defeated 151 to 23. The bill had been called up under a suspension of the rules and would have required a two-thirds vote for adoption.

The bill provided for the leasing of

HEARINGS ON TREATY ENDED

Senate Committee May Report Canadian Agreement "Without Recommendation"—Amendments May Be Offered.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Hearings on the Canadian reciprocity agreement were concluded this afternoon by the Senate Committee on Finance and at 10:30 o'clock tomorrow the committee will meet to determine the form in which the McCall bill to carry the agreement into effect, will be reported. There is so much opposition in the Finance Committee to the agreement that it is generally believed that the pledge to President Taft not to "smother" the agreement will be kept by returning the McCall bill to the Senate "without recommendation."

In some quarters a report without recommendation will be regarded as more detrimental to the chances of success for the measure than would an adverse report. Such a report, it is said, would be equivalent to an invitation to all senators opposed to the Canadian agreement to offer amendments.

Unless the Finance Committee or a majority thereof gives its approval to the President's program it is not believed possible that a vote can be reached upon it at the present session.

At the afternoon session of the committee today several witnesses appeared in opposition to the McCall bill. They included Edwin A. Merritt, a member of the New York Legislature, who said the farmers of the country were incensed at the thought that the Republican party should desire to withdraw the benefits of protection just as they were becoming able to take advantage of protection. He declared that the Republican senators should submit now to the request from the White House that they abandon the protective principles it would be a confession that they had been perpetrating a fraud upon the country for the past 25 or 30 years.

"Of course, we hear something of the big stick," exclaimed Mr. Merritt, "but we are not so much afraid of it now as we used to be, at least not in New York."

S. Fawcett, of Orange, Texas, who is interested in the only Southern paper mill, told of making paper from the Southern Long Leaf Pine and declared that the infant industry is beginning to pay, but could not compete with free pulp wood or free paper from Canada. John H. Malin, of Watertown, N. Y., president of the International Brotherhood of Paper Makers protested against the withdrawal of the protection given the paper industry.

SURE THEY ARE ROBBERS.

Suspects Identified by Southern Railroad Express Messenger.

Gainesville, Ga., Feb. 23.—James Anderson, one of the men under arrest charged with being a member of the gang which held up and robbed the Southern Railway fast mail at White Sulphur Springs last Saturday, today was identified by W. B. Miller, the express messenger in charge of the rife car, as the man who directed the work of the bandits. The two members of the gang captured yesterday above Dahloonga were brought here today and placed in jail. These men have confessed to participation in the robbery, and part of the loot was found on them when captured. The three men will be given a preliminary hearing tomorrow.

Reports received here today stated that two more alleged members of the bandit gang were arrested this morning at Bad Ground, Ga., and would be sent to Gainesville.

FRENCH OFFICIAL PASSES.

Minister of War Died Suddenly From Paralytic Stroke.

Paris, Feb. 23.—General Brun, minister of war in the cabinet of President Briand, dropped dead from a paralytic stroke at the offices of the ministry today. Parliament passed a resolution that General Brun's funeral should be held at the expense of the State. The funeral will take place Monday and full military honors will be observed. The Paris garrison will take part and it is expected about 20,000 men will be in line.

coal lands not to exceed 2,560 acres on a royalty basis of from 3 to 10 cents a ton. The debate had been surcharged with acrimony. Mr. Madison declared that as a conservation measure, the bill was a mockery.

"God save us from this sort of conservation if this is the best the government can do," he cried. The Congressman, Mr. Madison declared, had entered into an agreement with the Cunningham claimants to pay them a royalty of 50 cents a ton.

Mr. Wickersham pleaded with members not to support the bill. He turned to Mr. Mondell, who favored the measure and said: "If you should make a bill like this apply to Wyoming, you wouldn't dare go home. If you made it apply to the United States at large, you would soon turn up your political toes."

It was soon after this colloquy that the scuffle occurred. The excitement was over and a member of the Kentucky delegation made the informal remark that this was one occasion where "hot Southern blood" was not involved. Alaska, he declared was the coldest place on earth, and Wyoming "about next best."

RATE FIGHT LOST BY THE RAILROADS

Commerce Commission Decides Against Proposed Increase of Trunk Lines

DECISION A GREAT SURPRISE

Outcome Has Been Awaited With Great Interest by Railroads for Months—Give Reasons for Opposing Advance.

Washington, Feb. 23.—The Interstate Commerce Commission decides against the railroads in both the "Eastern" and the "Western" rate cases. The decision, eagerly awaited by roads and shippers alike, was handed down late this afternoon.

Proposed advances in class freight rates in official classification territory, aggregating among all the railways in the territory approximately \$27,000,000 a year, were disapproved by the commission.

In the case involving the increases by the railroads in Western trunk line territory, the commission also declined to approve the proposed advances in commodity rates.

The carriers in both cases are required to cancel on or before March 10th their advanced tariffs and restore their former rates, which are the rates now in effect. If this requirement is not complied with, the commission will issue a formal order suspending the proposed advances and putting into effect the existing rates for at least two years.

In the cases of the Railroad Commission of Texas, against the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway, and other carriers, known popularly as the Southwestern rate case, the commission declines to disturb the commodity rates or the first-class rates complained of. The defendants are ordered, however, to reduce the second class rates, which were increased from \$1.21 to \$1.29 to \$1.25. On the remaining classes the defendants are required to restore the rates in effect before the increased rates were published.

In brief, this is the disposition made by the Interstate Commission of the most important cases ever brought to its attention. In a sense, the decisions were in the nature of a surprise to railroad officials and other experts, who had followed closely the proceedings, a majority of whom believed the Commission would grant some increase to the Western lines if not to the Eastern.

After considering exhaustively the whole subject, however, from every viewpoint, the commission could not see its way clear to grant any advanced rates, although it conceded that, in the case of some of the roads, an increased revenue is needed. In what is known as the Eastern case, the Commission was embarrassed by the admitted fact that several of the lines in the territory were paying good dividends upon existing rates, while other carriers in the same territory were barely able to make both ends meet.

Important Phase of Case.

In the Western case the carriers entered a powerful plea for increased revenue in order that they might have additional money to put into improvements and betterments, which would enable them to handle with the greater facility the constantly increasing traffic of the country. In withholding its approval of the proposed increases, the Commission holds—and its decision in both the Eastern and Western cases was unanimous—that the carriers did not in the proceedings sustain what the law imposes upon them, i. e., the burden of proof that absolute necessity existed for the advance proposed.

After considering fully the question of just how far freight rates properly can be increased on account of the extremely expensive improvements required by the passenger service of the lines and analyzing thoroughly the financial and operating methods of several important Eastern roads, including the Pennsylvania, the New York Central, the Baltimore & Ohio, the Lake Shore and the Michigan Central, the opinion concludes:

"It seems plain that they have not sustained the burden which the statute casts upon them of justifying the proposed advanced rates insofar as that justification depends upon the necessity for greater net revenue."

"There is no evidence before us which establishes the necessity for higher rates."

Must Show Proper Economy.

"Before any general advance can be permitted it must appear with reasonable certainty that carriers have exercised proper economy in the purchase of their supplies, in the payment of their wages and in the general conduct of their business. There is no testimony tending to show the cost of reproducing these properties."

In his preparation of the opinion in the Western case, Commissioner Kramlin K. Lane made an optimistic review of the situation of American railroads. In beginning he shows that through the regulatory law and its enforcement "the railroads have been protected against each other and as a result the revenues of the carriers have increased under regulation and their dividends and their surplus have increased as in no other period of our history. In the last ten years the railroads of the United States have

(Continued on Page 8.)

STILL UNDECIDED ON LORIMER

Senator Beveridge Again Spoke in Opposition to Illinois Senator—Senate is Growing Impatient With the Case.

Washington, Feb. 23.—No vote was taken on the Lorimer case in the United States Senate today, nor could a date for such a vote be fixed. Senator Beveridge, of Indiana, spoke for four hours, but did not conclude. The announced that he would resume tomorrow.

Just before the Senate went into executive session Senator Burrows attempted for the second time today to have a time for a vote fixed, suggesting that it be before adjournment tomorrow. Senator Stone objected because he desired time in which to be heard on the case.

With Congress within eight days of adjournment and with its calendar crowded with important measures including numerous appropriation bills the Senate adjourned in anything but agreeable state of mind.

Ordinarily there would have been no objection to Mr. Beveridge's course in announcing he would resume his speech tomorrow, but under the circumstances there were many manifestations of impatience.

Some senators who support Senator Lorimer, went so far as to charge a filibuster to prevent a vote on the Lorimer case, but Mr. Beveridge and his friends resented this charge. "I don't care a hang when we vote after I get through," he said to Senator Gallinger on the floor of the Senate just before adjournment.

Senator Burrows duplicated the request of Mr. Burrows for a vote tomorrow on the Lorimer case with a request for a vote on the election of senators, and Senator Penrose stated his great desire to get up the post-office appropriation bill. All were brushed aside, and when Mr. Beveridge yielded the floor there was a general understanding that he would resume it again tomorrow.

In his remarks Mr. Beveridge made somewhat extended reference to Senator Lorimer's speech of yesterday, warning Senators against being carried away by sympathy. He continued his analysis of the testimony in the case with a view of convincing the Senate that the senator from Illinois had prepared his election through bribery. He also charged the Committee on Privileges and Elections with acting with undue haste and without proper deliberation upon the evidence in reaching his verdict. This allegation was made in connection with a sharp colloquy with Senator Depey, of New York. He taxed the New York senator with having failed to read the testimony and in addition intimated that the report which originally was agreed to by the committee was not the same document that ultimately was presented to the Senate in the Lorimer case.

VERDICT AGAINST A. C. L.

Hope Mills Man Awarded \$2,000 in Cumberland Court.

Fayetteville, N. C., Feb. 23.—The Observer this afternoon says: The case of Mrs. E. V. Autry, administratrix of L. B. Autry, against the A. C. L., was given to the jury at noon today, and within an hour a verdict was rendered in favor of the plaintiff for \$2,000. The railroad took an appeal. The plaintiff was suing for \$25,000 for the loss of her husband, which she attributed to the carelessness of the A. C. L. in not filling up a hole near its cause of her husband's death, as one of the wheels of a wagon, loaded with machinery, which he was transporting from the depot for the Hope Mills Mfg. Co., sank in the hole, precipitating a heavy piece of machinery upon him, resulting in his death.

Durham, N. C., Feb. 23.—Basketball tonight. Trinity, 18; University of Virginia, 24; score first half: Trinity, 13; University of Virginia, 6. It was the most exciting and hard-fought of the season. C. E. Brinn, one of Trinity's best players, was sick with grippe. Virginia showed a wonderful rally in the second half.

OUTLINES.

The Interstate Commerce Commission yesterday decided against an increase in freight rates as proposed by Eastern and Western trunk lines. The decision came as a surprise. A personal encounter between Delegate Wickersham, of Alaska, and Congressman Mondell, of Wyoming, on the floor of the House yesterday was narrowly averted. He came during a warm debate on Alaskan coal lands, in which Mr. Mondell is said to have called Mr. Wickersham a liar. Resolutions were introduced in the House yesterday with reference to a recently formed coffee trust in which American interests are involved, calling for an investigation. The Senate failed again yesterday to ratify the treaty with Japan sent to that body last Tuesday by the President. The hearings of the Senate Committee on the Canadian agreement ended yesterday. No vote was taken by the Senate on the Lorimer case yesterday, as expected.

New York markets: Money on call steady 2 1/4 to 2 3/8 per cent., falling rate 2 1/4, closing bid 2 1/4, offered 2 3/8. Spot cotton closed quiet 10 points higher, middling uplands 14.10, middling gulf 14.35. Flour quiet and lower to effect sales. Wheat weak. No. 2 red 92 5/8 elevator and 93 5/8 f.o.b. afloat. Corn easy, No. 2 new 51 3/4 f.o.b. afloat. Oats steady, futures closed nominal. Turpentine steady.

TRUST IN COFFEE MAY BE THE PLAN

Resolutions in House Asks Investigation of the Alleged Big Combine

WOULD CONTROL THE MARKET

Was Introduced by Representative Norris—Foreign Interests Also Involved—Action Caused Decline in Market.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Two resolutions asserting the existence of monopolistic control of the coffee market by Brazilian producing interests and Americans and Europeans interested with them, and calling respectively upon the President and the Attorney General of the United States to report whether investigation of the matter has been instituted by the government, were dropped into the "hobler" of the House of Representatives this afternoon by Representative Norris, of Nebraska. It was done without remark and the resolutions went automatically to committee.

The resolutions attracted no attention in the House, and Washington heard tonight with considerable surprise the rumors that their introduction had in some degree affected the New York coffee market. It is hardly likely that either committee will report the resolutions at this late day in the session, but Mr. Norris tonight expressed some confidence that the House would take up and pass the resolutions.

Mr. Norris said he had the names of those who he said entered into arrangement with Brazil for the coffee control. J. P. Morgan & Co., and the City National Bank, of New York City, he said, constituted the American end of the great scheme that has been named "the deal."

This interest, Mr. Norris said, involved \$75,000,000 of capital of which \$25,000,000 each was subscribed in London and France, \$10,000,000 each in America and Germany, and \$5,000,000 in Holland.

The scheme as Mr. Norris outlined it was that the State of Sao Paulo issued \$75,000,000 of five per cent. bonds, which this foreign syndicate took up. Brazil guaranteed these bonds and provided a surtax of five francs a bag, which the agreement provided was to be remitted to these interests in the bond syndicate and provided for a committee of seven men, six of whom were to be selected by the financiers in the syndicate and one by the Brazilian government itself, the committee to control the sale and disposition of the coffee from Brazil.

New York, Feb. 23.—There was heavy general selling in the coffee market today with prices closing at a decline of from 20 to 40 points following reports that a resolution had been introduced into Congress asking for an investigation of an alleged coffee trust. This was supposed to refer to the valorization scheme of the Brazilian government, which accumulated during 1907 and whose remaining surplus amounting to over six million bags is said to be controlled by a marketing committee of bankers and merchants, whose headquarters are abroad.

While reports of possible Federal action undoubtedly caused considerable pressure against the market today, the weakness seemed to originate with lower cables from Havre, and somewhat cheaper offerings from Brazil.

CRIPPLED HER FOR LIFE.

Woman From Poland Had Terrible Experience—Fear.

New York, Feb. 23.—Teresa Sabot's determination to reach America crippled her for life. She lies in a Hoboken hospital with both of her feet amputated, in almost hysterical fear that the immigration authorities are going to send her back to her home in Poland. In order to leave it, she walked eighteen miles through the ice and snow to Warsaw, to get a boat for Bremen, whence she came to America. A few days out she discovered that her feet had been frost bitten and the case was so serious before she arrived here that the surgeons decided that amputation was the only way to save her life. She will recover, and hopes that friends and relatives, which she claims live in a Pennsylvania town, may persuade the immigration officials to let her stay in this country.

EXPULSION OF THE JEWS.

Wide-Spread Movement in Province in Russia.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 23.—Governor Makalokoff has begun a widespread expulsion of the Jews from the province of Tchernigov, a government in Little Russia. Two hundred and ninety families in one district, including wealthy land owners and manufacturers were marched through the heavy snow drifts. Notwithstanding the intense cold, the police opened the doors and windows of their houses and drove them into the streets, and thence to the outskirts of the district to be conducted out of the province.

WHITE WOMAN SHOT TO DEATH

Camille Pruitt Killed at Goldsboro by Roscoe Rivenbark Upon Eve of Her Departure—Insanely Infatuated With Woman.

(Special Star Telegram.)

Goldsboro, N. C., Feb. 23.—A sensational shooting occurred in this city this afternoon, a little after 1 o'clock, when following a few hasty words of short duration Camille Pruitt, a white woman of questionable character, was shot to death by Roscoe Rivenbark, who fired at her five times with a revolver, two of the bullets entering her body, one passing through the shoulder and the other through her arm.

The shooting occurred at the home of the woman in the southern part of the city better known as "Little Washington." She lived alone but five other persons were in the room where the shooting took place, four of them women and the other a man, all of whom had arrived at the woman's home to tell her good-bye. She was dressed and preparing to leave for Raleigh on the 2 o'clock train when at this juncture young Rivenbark, who was infatuated with her, appeared on the scene and asked her where she was going.

The woman told him she was going out of the city to spend a few days, whereupon a few hasty words were exchanged and snatching a revolver from his hip pocket, Rivenbark proceeded to shoot at her five times, every bullet taking effect in different parts of her body. Rivenbark made no attempt whatever to escape and assisted in lifting the body of the prostrate woman upon the bed. Officer "Jack" Fulghum arrested the prisoner, who begged him to grant permission to kiss the woman before placing him behind prison bars, but the officer informed him that he had kissed her his last time.

The dead woman's parents are living but are unknown in this city, but a friend of the deceased will arrive tonight and have the remains shipped home.

The affair created considerable excitement for a few hours as all sorts of wild rumors were circulated, mainly due to the fact that young Rivenbark is from a prominent family of this city. Many are of the opinion that he was not in his right mind when he committed the rash act as he has always borne a good reputation and seemed to have a gentle disposition and has never before been in trouble. In an interview with the prisoner tonight, which it seems, he has been despondent and in poor health for some time past, he gave as his reason for committing the deed that he believed he was going to die in a few days and did not want to die and leave the woman he loved behind. He does not seem to regret the crime whatever and stated to an officer this afternoon that he was satisfied of one fact, and that was that he would never hang for his crime, and was quite sure he would be dead before his trial was called.

While talking to his lawyer this afternoon Rivenbark held up his arm and displayed a cigarette between his fingers and at the same time remarked "that's the dam thing which is mainly responsible for the whole affair; I know I'm going to die for I plainly saw my days on this old earth were but a very few more in a dream I had a few nights ago, and I just could not bear the idea of dying and leaving Camille behind."

Outside of newspaper reporters, his lawyers and members of his family, no one has been allowed to interview the prisoner as it is feared some one would let him have a knife and it is feared he would take his own life, but this afternoon the prisoner seemed to be in a quiet mood and showed no signs of rashness whatever, the only thing seeming to trouble him being that he is under the impression that he is soon going to die and at periods while he is carrying on a conversation he will place his hand on his breast and state that there is a strain on his throat when he tries to breathe and feels like some one is choking him. A jury held an inquest over the dead woman's remains and the defendant will be given a hearing tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

PRACTICE GAMES BEGUN.

Teams Composed of Major League Players at Hot Springs.

Hot Springs, Ark., Feb. 23.—Teams composed of major league ball players engaged in the first pretentious exhibition game of the year this afternoon when the all-Americans defeated the all-Nationals 4 to 2. No complete team has arrived here for Spring practice, the line-up today being from many clubs. The score: All-Nationals . . . 010 000 010—2 7 4 All-Americans . . . 000 120 010—4 9 3 Clark, Hughes, Walker and Elliott; Summers, Donovan, Willett and Land.

Laredo, Texas, Feb. 23.—In today's bull fight in Nuevo Laredo Gaono, a world-famous matador, had a narrow escape from death. While goading the bull to madness with a red flag the animal made a sudden lunge and caught Gaono with the edge of his horns, ripping the skin on the left side of the beast. Gaono is in the hospital tonight, where his painful but not serious wound is being treated.

Augmented Orchestra.

To play for "Il Trovatore"—Grand today.

MANY NEW BILLS IN LAST MOMENTS

Both the House and Senate Were Busy as Bees Yesterday

REVENUE BILL HALF WAY BY

Salary of Judges Increased—Increase Area of Hoke County—Reformatory for Colored Youths, Other Proceedings.

(Special Star Telegram.)

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 23.—After spending from 1 o'clock to 3 o'clock this afternoon in committee of the whole, the House passed the Revenue bill on final reading and it was sent to the Senate. The House also today received favorable reports on bills to make the pay of Supreme Court reporter \$1,500 and the Supreme Court justices \$4,500; also the bill to safeguard the interest of the State in turpikes and railroads through convict labor, the bill carrying an appropriation of \$3,500.

As many or more new bills were introduced in both branches of the Assembly as during any day of the session. The Senate voted to increase the expense allowance of Superior Court judges from \$250 to \$750 in addition to the \$3,500 salaries and less and to increase the salaries of the Supreme Court justices to \$4,000 instead of \$3,500 as now.

Many new bills were introduced including one by Senator Brown to increase the area of Hoke county by taking additional territory from Robeson. Senator Ivey introduced a bill to prevent insurance companies from expending extravagant sums in competition for new business. The bill creating a new county, as the 10th county for the State, was ratified today.

The House in considering the Revenue Bill struck out Sec. 65, imposing a tax of \$10 on photograph enlargement agencies, as imperative. Sections 66 and 67 as obsolete. Section 68 as to insurance companies, and 69 as to dealers in pistols, etc., imposing a tax of \$20 on pistols and cartridges; on knucks and the like \$100, and on fireworks \$25, were adopted without change. Representative Williams, of Buncombe, procured a reduction of the tax on pianos and organs from \$100 to \$50 with a provision that will prevent duplicate licenses for agents.

Judge Ewart tried to bet through amendments to Section 71, as to cigarettes, increasing the license tax of dealers graduate so that the increase will be from \$250 to \$500 minimum up to \$2,500. Carr, of Durham, Connor and others, opposed this and the amendment was lost. The retail license tax is left at \$5 and the section adopted. An amendment to increase the tax on cigarette manufacturers was adopted making the tax \$2,000 instead of \$1,000. The vote being 36 to 25. Sections 72, 74, 77, 78, 79, 80 and 84 and on to 93 were adopted without change. Section 75 was amended as to except Confederate soldiers from license taxes for peddling eyeglasses. An amendment by Battle to Section 84 allows cities and towns to collect telephone tax.

The House Committee on Penal Institutions decided to report favorably the bill to appropriate \$5,000 for the establishment of a reformatory and training school for negroes to be located near Charlotte.

Congressional District.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 23.—Democrats of the joint committees on Congressional apportionment tonight decided to transfer Catawba county from the ninth to the eighth district and Wilkes from the eighth to the seventh. Hoke county was placed in the seventh and Avery county in the ninth. There was a heated discussion over the changes, Senator Lemmond, of Union, objecting to Wilkes being transferred to the seventh, but the committees concluded that this was the best solution of the problem in order to make all districts safely Democratic. Senator Martin, of Buncombe, and Representative Rose, of Cumberland, were appointed a sub-committee to draft the bill and the Democrats of both Houses will be asked to hold a caucus Friday night to ratify the action.

Senate Clears Calendar.

The Senate cleared its calendar of local bills tonight with some fast work, passing on second and third readings 180 bills in exactly 100 minutes. Among bills passed and ordered enrolled were relative to starting the badge of the Order of Elks, and amend the charter of the Winston-Salem Southbound railway. Among those passed and sent to the House to permit executors and other fiduciaries to resign their trust; establish free ferry across the Cape Fear at Wilmington and regulate catching clams in Brunswick, New Hanover and Pender counties.

House—Night Session.

After discussion and balloting that continued to 1 A. M., the House voted down the Battle bill for the 14-year age limit factory inspection and 60 hour week, and passed on both readings the substitute Wall bill for 60 hours work per week and making it effective January 1st, 1912, instead of May 1st, 1911. The Battle bill lost 53 to 28, and the passage of the Wall bill on the final reading was 53 to 14, under suspension of the rules.