

LAW-MAKERS AT RALEIGH.

Bills General, Local, But All of Some Importance.

REID AND RANSON UNSEATED.

To Punish Train-Wreckers--Resolutions for a Code Commissioner--Protection of Wives.

SENATE.

MONDAY.--Senate met at 4 o'clock. Alexander presented a petition from citizens of Mecklenburg to regulate hours of labor in the State and to protect women and children.

Walker--For the benefit of the public schools in the State, provides that all voters shall show their tax receipts before they can vote, and by this means increase the school fund.

Hardison--Prohibiting the sale or manufacture of liquor and sale of cigars in the State.

Hardison--To regulate the hours of labor in factories.

Rollins--To regulate the sale of concealed weapons.

Ramsay--To amend section 2150 of the Code, relating to probating wills; to amend the Code in relation to tenants; also to amend the Code in relation to persons bringing suits who are not able to give bond.

Moye--To define public schools and increase their terms.

Mardison--To carry into effect the educational provisions of the constitution; provides that the commissioners of each county shall levy 10 cents and the on the property and polls of the county to maintain a public school in each school district four months.

Bill to extend the time for the collection of taxes in Asheville passed; also bill to amend the charter of the Carolina Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

There was discussion of a bill to regulate the probate of fees on crop liens. The original bill applied to Cleveland, but amendments were offered including Union, Franklin, Chatham and Mecklenburg. These were adopted and the bill passed. It allows the clerk of the court or probate judge 10 cents and the register of deeds 20 cents for probating and registering crop liens.

TUESDAY.--Senate was called to order by Lieutenant-Governor Reynolds. Among the bills and resolutions introduced were:

By unanimous consent resolution No. 313 was placed on the calendar. This resolution is to elicit information for the better information of railroad charges in the State; gives the Governor the right to call on all railroad, express, steamboat and telegraph companies so as to ascertain all those officers who receive over \$2,500 per annum as salary.

Moye--Bill to amend section 2823 of the Code in relation to the pay of clerks and employees of the General Assembly. Provides that the auditor make a certificate from the proper officers that the work has been faithfully performed by said employees.

Hardison--Bill to prohibit the sale of immoral and obscene literature in the State.

Hardison--Bill to protect the people of the State from fevers, etc., in second-hand clothing; also to prohibit the sale of liquor unless under police supervision.

Clark--Bill to authorize mayors of towns and cities to solemnize the marriage ceremony.

Person--Bill to increase the public school fund from fees in Secretary of State's office.

Hardison--Bill to increase the public school fund in the State.

The morning hour having expired, the special order set for today was taken up, the bill to repeal chapter 305, laws of 1895, locating the lines between Alamance and Chatham counties. The bill provides for the running of new lines beginning at the Nettie Newlin place running west to Randolph county and east to Haw river, which would give back to Chatham the land taken from her and given to Alamance in 1895. After considerable discussion for and against the bill a substitute was offered and passed second reading.

WEDNESDAY.--Senate met at 10 o'clock, Lieutenant-Governor Reynolds presiding. The following petition was presented:

Mr. Alexander (by request) a petition from the employees of the Victor Cotton Mills, of Charlotte, for regulating the hours of labor. This provides 11 hours as a day's work.

Among the bills introduced were: Alexander (by request)--Bill to provide for the erection of a building for the deaf and dumb at Morganton.

Mr. Haultersbach (by request) the relief of David W. Powell, treasurer of Columbus county, and his sureties.

Mr. Person--Bill to prevent discrimination in passenger accommodations.

Maxwell--Bill to provide for the release of certain persons under 18 years of age; also to amend chapter 45, private laws of 1894.

The bill to repeal chapter 303, laws of 1895 (the Alamance and Chatham boundary line) passed a third reading.

To fix the time for the qualification of justices of the peace; provides that the term of office shall begin as soon as they qualify. Passed second and third readings.

To authorize the commissioners of Robeson county to levy a special tax to pay the present floating debt of the county. Passed second and third readings.

To pay registers of deed of the several counties 10 cents for each copy sheet of 100 words for recording election returns. Passed second and third readings.

To solicit information for the better regulation of railroad charges. This resolution requests the Governor to call on all railroad, steamboat, express and telegraph companies and ascertain all the officers that are paid more than \$2,500 per annum. The object is to reduce passenger and freight rates. This bill was re-referred.

To provide that any note, bond, bill, mortgage, or any private obligation may be paid and discharged in any kind of money at its face value at the time of maturity; reported adversely by committee. Several Senators took grounds in favor of the bill and several against it, but it was finally passed.

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Among the new measures were: Schoen--To establish and incorporate the North Carolina Veterinary Association and to regulate the practice of medicine; also to regulate the sale of fertilizers in the State.

Whitbee--To amend section 1285 of the Code, relating to divorce. This bill provides that the party who desires a divorce must be a resident of the State for seven years before applying for a divorce.

Shaw--To extend the time for organizing banks in Maxton.

Alexander (by request)--Bill in regard to bicycles and baggage on railroads.

Following bills passed third reading: To allow the commissioners of Robeson to levy a special tax; to extend the stock law in Wayne county.

Bills on record reading: To exempt undertakers who are funeral directors from jury duty; passed second and third readings. To protect iron bridges in Macon county; passed second and third readings.

To pay special venies in capital cases \$1 per day and no mileage; to amend the Code in relation to the following counties were exempted from the bill: Rockingham, Durham, Franklin, Cleveland, Ashe, Alleghany, Watauga, Duplin, Clay, Cherokee, Graham and Richmond.

To amend section 2,093 of the code, which prohibits any person, persons or corporation being non-residents of the State, from catching fish by nets or otherwise, in any waters of the State without first obtaining a license from the Treasurer of the State, said license to be \$2,500 per annum. The violation of this act is a misdemeanor and punishable by a fine of \$100 or six months imprisonment, or both, in the discretion of the court, the fine and license fees to go to the public school fund.

Resolution for the appointment of a special committee to prepare a bill fixing salaries and fees.

HOUSE.

MONDAY.--House met at 9:30. Among the bills introduced were the following: To amend section 2,093 of the code, which prohibits any person, persons or corporation being non-residents of the State, from catching fish by nets or otherwise, in any waters of the State without first obtaining a license from the Treasurer of the State, said license to be \$2,500 per annum. The violation of this act is a misdemeanor and punishable by a fine of \$100 or six months imprisonment, or both, in the discretion of the court, the fine and license fees to go to the public school fund.

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Enslay--To promote marriage in the State. Declaring all unmarried men aged 24 bachelors, who shall be taxed \$15 for the first year of bachelorhood and the tax to be doubled each succeeding year of bachelorhood, the tax to go to the school fund.

Cox--To give the Governor and not the Legislature the appointment of State Librarian.

Cox--To fine defeated candidates for office who fail to file statement of election expenses \$50.

Crews (Rep.)--Instructing Senators and Representatives in Congress to secure the repeal of the service law declaring the latter unnecessary and contrary to the spirit of our institutions.

Arbuthnot--To appropriate \$100,000 annually from the public fund for the common schools, to be divided pro rata among the counties so as to equalize as far as possible the school terms of the respective counties.

Lital--To give all marines public justice of the peace, clerks of Superior and Inferior Courts power to take acknowledgments and take the privy examination of married women.

Alexander--To make the misdemeanor of an intoxicated person and others to interrupt school entertainments or political meetings.

Alexander--To repeal section 5 of the county government law and construe the bill to mean that a majority of any of the present boards of county commissioners shall have full power to act on all matters coming before these boards without the concurrence of the one member who has been appointed by the resident or presiding judge.

TUESDAY.--House met at 12 o'clock. Among the bills introduced were: Sutton--To provide that the existence of a life estate in any land shall not be a bar to a sale for partition of such land.

Dockery--To allow Richmond county to issue bonds to pay the floating debt.

Dockery--To amend the charter of Laurinburg so the commissioners and officers shall be elected by the people the first Monday in May.

Bill to allow Marion county to levy a special tax for the improvement of its public roads passed; also one to allow Montgomery county to levy a special tax, and one to allow Cherokee to levy a special tax.

Bill passed amending the act creating the colored normal school at Fayetteville and naming new trustees and managers.

Bill to amend the law as to registration of pharmacists was taken up. It provides that the word "registered" be stricken out and the word "licensed" take its place. But the House refused to consider the bill on health, and it passed second and third readings.

Bill to amend the charter of Edenton was taken up and after discussion passed second and third readings.

Hanser asked leave to have the Senate's free silver instruction resolutions placed on the calendar. There was instant protest. He made a motion to suspend the rules. The Democrats voted aye and the Republicans no. The motion to suspend was lost.

McCrory's assignment act bill was tabled.

Bill passed to change the corporate limits of Thomasville.

McCrory lodged a motion to reconsider the vote by which the assignment bill was tabled.

At the night session the following bills were passed: To incorporate Wingate High School, in Union county; to allow Swain county to levy a special tax; to incorporate Whittier, Swain county; to change the date of the apportionment of school funds in Stokes to October 1; to put M. L. Tuttle, of Stokes, on the pension roll; to amend the charter of Mocksville.

WEDNESDAY.--The House met at 10 o'clock. Bills were introduced as follows: Price--To amend the law as to election of county superintendents of education, so as to restore the same.

Price--To allow Monroe's commissioners to elect a tax collector; to establish graded schools at Monroe.

Among the many new bills introduced was one by Hardison to protect and encourage sheep-raising in the State.

The Edgecombe county road law was taken up and discussed. This bill provides that no person living in towns shall pay a road tax, but to be taxed for the improvement of streets in the corporate limits of a town. Person spoke to his bill; Moye opposed the bill as did also Alexander, saying that his county--Mecklenburg--had the best roads of any county in the State, and they were improved by taxation; that he would vote against any measure opposing good roads. Finally it was seen that the opposition was so great the bill failed to pass by the following vote: Ayes 1, noes 23.

The calendar was then taken up and the following passed second and third readings: To incorporate the People's Benevolent and Relief Association of North Carolina.

For the relief of the sheriffs and tax-collectors in the State. This bill gives the sheriffs and tax-collectors of each county in the State the right to collect back taxes from 1889 up to and including 1896, excepting a few counties which were exempted.

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Lital--To give all marines public justice of the peace, clerks of Superior and Inferior Courts power to take acknowledgments and take the privy examination of married women.

Alexander--To make the misdemeanor of an intoxicated person and others to interrupt school entertainments or political meetings.

Alexander--To repeal section 5 of the county government law and construe the bill to mean that a majority of any of the present boards of county commissioners shall have full power to act on all matters coming before these boards without the concurrence of the one member who has been appointed by the resident or presiding judge.

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WEDNESDAY.--The House met at 10 o'clock. Bills were introduced as follows: Price--To amend the law as to election of county superintendents of education, so as to restore the same.

Price--To allow Monroe's commissioners to elect a tax collector; to establish graded schools at Monroe.

Have--To prevent the destruction of live trees by lumbermen.

Renn--To protect wild animals in Chatham.

Arledge--To incorporate Central In-

dustrial Institute at Columbus, Polk county.

Dixon, of Cleveland--To repeal the \$10 special tax on physicians.

These measures were taken up and re-committed and the judiciary committee will consider the bill and if it is not in accord with the Supreme Court's decision to make it so.

A few bills passed second readings to allow different counties to build bridges, levy special tax, issue bonds, etc.

Sutton's bill to prevent lynching by empowering the Governor to convene special courts instanter in extraordinary cases was taken up and explained, but the hour of special order having arrived the debate ceased.

The bill to allow female notaries public was voted against by the House.

At the night session a resolution was adopted urging Senators and Representatives in Congress to repeal the civil service law.

Bills passed to allow Essex county to sell the county home in order to buy another site near Asheboro; to make the fee for impounding stock in the Wake county district 10 cents instead of 50 cents in Buncombe, Haywood, Surry, Davie, Wilkes and Madison.

By a vote of 46 to 44 the House refused to reduce the salary of the State Librarian.

THURSDAY.--House met at 10 o'clock. Majority and minority reports of the committee on privileges and elections were submitted on the Mecklenburg election contest case, the majority favoring Clanton and Williamson, the contestants, and the minority favoring Reid and Ranson, the sitting members. Bill's and resolutions introduced:

Blanchard--To forbid minors from entering or loitering in bar-rooms.

Lawton--To assist tax-collectors to collect poll tax.

Hancock--To provide for and promote the prosperity of North Carolina. (Ordered printed.)

At the night session bills passed making it a misdemeanor for any person, intoxicated or otherwise, to interrupt or disturb any school entertainment, picnic, political meeting or any lawful assembly; to change the name of Grifflinville, in Union county, to Marshville and make it a dry town.

Cox--To fine cotton weighers \$5 who make errors in weighing cotton.

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chartered by the Legislature to take an official oath, the State Treasurer to prescribe the form of oath and send the blank forms to the office on or before January 1st of each year; to regulate the liability of stockholders in banks chartered by the State; to make chapter 494, acts of 1893, discretionary with the State in the case of a mandatory.

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FIFTY-FOURTH CONGRESS. The Proceedings Briefly Told From Day to Day.

SENATE.

MONDAY.--Immediately after the Senate convened at noon Mr. Sherman moved an executive session, stating that it would require but a short time. When the doors were closed he reported the general treaty of arbitration, as amended Saturday by the committee.

The first of these amendments at the end of the first article in clause one is: "But no question which affects the foreign or domestic policy of either of the high contracting parties, or the relations of either with any other State or power, by treaty or otherwise, shall be subject to arbitration under this treaty, except