

MRS. THAW AGAIN WITNESS

CROSS-EXAMINATION BEGINS

Over Delmas' Strong Objection Jerome Secures Ruling Which Apparently Opens Way for All Manner of Evidence Tending to Discredit Defendant's Wife—District Attorney Assistant to Begin Cross-Examination, but Proceeds After Being Instructed by Delmas and Declaring 'I Promise Nothing'—Some Colorful Rumors That Prosecution Still Contemplates Move for Appointment of Commission in Lunacy to Test Thaw's State of Mind at the Present Time.

New York, Feb. 19.—Evelyn Nesbit Thaw today entered upon the ordeal of her cross-examination and before District Attorney Jerome had the witness in charge for half an hour he had secured from the court a ruling which apparently opens the way for bringing into the trial of Harry K. Thaw all manner of evidence which may tend to discredit the defendant's wife. Heretofore it had been held that the rules of evidence protected Mrs. Thaw and that regardless of whether her story was true or false, the fact that she had told it to her husband was the one essential point. Mrs. Thaw had been allowed to tell the story to the jury and the judge as to its effect in unbalancing the mind of the man on trial for the murder of Stanford White.

Mr. Jerome, by a simple question, opened the way for the introduction of testimony tending to show the truth or falsity of Mrs. Thaw's story. He asked the witness:

"Was the story you told Mr. Thaw true?"

"It was," she replied firmly.

Mr. Delmas, Thaw's leading counsel, objected strongly to the question, but Justice Fitzgerald held it to be the credibility of the witness.

Whether Mr. Jerome intends to take advantage of the ruling in an attempt to throw doubt upon the truth of the story or whether Justice Fitzgerald intended his ruling to cover the whole subject of Mrs. Thaw's evidence, the result of the case alone can determine.

WILL FIGHT WITH OBJECTIONS. Mr. Delmas will continue to fight with constant objections the introduction of any testimony as to events in the young woman's life, but the subject of the credibility of a witness is a wide one and Justice Fitzgerald early to-day indicated that he would be liberal in his interpretation of the rules in that respect.

Mr. Jerome allowed Mrs. Thaw to bring from Mrs. J. Caine, of Boston, a friend of Mrs. Thaw, who took the witness stand during the morning session, many material points as to the movements of Harry Thaw and Evelyn Nesbit following their return from Europe in 1904, including the publication of a letter in which she had been ejected from the Hotel Cumberland in this city—the proprietor insisting that they should register as man and wife or leave their suites which adjoined. In bringing out these facts Mr. Jerome denied that he was attacking Mrs. Thaw and said he was simply testing the credibility of Mrs. Caine.

TALKED OPEN TO THAW. Mrs. Thaw looked pale and serious as she took her place on the stand to finish the story of her relations with Stanford White. She appeared in the simple girlish costume that she has worn every day since the trial began. She smiled slightly as she caught her husband's eye. Thaw returned the smile and then turned to Attorney O'Reilly, with whom he talked for a minute excitedly. Then he returned to his conversation with Dr. Evans, but for the most part kept his eyes on his wife, only turning occasionally to whisper in the doctor's ear.

Did Mr. Thaw at the time of your marriage and subsequently thereto, talk very much about the incident in your life connected with Stanford White?" asked Mr. Delmas.

"Yes. He always talked about it. He would waken me often at night, sobbing. Then he would constantly ask me questions about the details of this terrible thing."

Did you visit Mr. MacKenzie at her apartment in 1904?"

"Yes, she was ill and sent me a letter to come to see her."

"While you were there did Stanford White come in?"

"Yes."

"Did you tell Mr. Thaw of anything that occurred?"

"Yes, Stanford White spoke to me several times and I always answered yes or no. Then he came over and started to straighten a bow on my hair. My hair was short, having been cut off at the time of my first operation. Then Stanford White tried to put his arms around me, and wanted me to sit beside him on the bed. I told him a girl had a lone."

Mrs. Thaw said that Harry Thaw always attributed her ill-health, the necessity of the second operation, etc., to Stanford White. Mrs. Thaw also testified that Thaw had told her he was going to take up Stanford White's affairs with Anthony Comstock.

WOULD DO NO GOOD. "I told him it would do no good, that Stanford White had many influential friends and that he could stop it. I told him that lots of people would not believe the things about Stanford White on account of his personality."

"Did you and Mr. Thaw discuss the fate of other young women at the hands of Stanford White, and did you tell him certain names?"

Mrs. Thaw said she and her husband had discussed a number of young women.

"Are they the same as named in the codicil to Mr. Thaw's will?"

Mrs. Thaw said the names were the same.

"Did you and Mr. Thaw discuss the fate of the 'Pie Girl'?"

"Yes, sir. It was in Paris, in 1902. He asked me what other girls I knew of who had suffered at the hands of Stanford White. I told him I had heard of the 'Pie Girl,' whose name was known to both of us. A girl at the theatre had told me about it. He asked me where I had heard the story."

"There was a stag dinner, he said, and this girl was put in a big pie with a lot of birds. She was very young—about 15 years old, I think he said. He also told me that the girl had a beautiful figure and wore only a gauze dress. He helped put her in the pie and fix it, and said it was the best stunt he ever saw at a dinner. When the girl jumped out of the

SENATORS' DIGNITY UPSET

CHARLOTTE NEGRO ON STAND

Harriet Negro Soldier Turns Tables on Senator Warren, of Brownsville Investigation Committee, in a Cross-Examination—The Negro's Testimony—Senator Simmons Working for the Cape Fear Project—Big Funds for Mrs. Stonewall Jackson—Help from Congressman Longworth—Congressman Gunder Sings His Swan Song.

W. A. HILDEBRAND, Observer Bureau, 1417 G Street, N. W., Washington, Feb. 19.

One witness who endeavored to throw some light on what has been termed the battle of Brownsville was William Hardin, not of Atlanta, but of Charlotte. Hardin said he had lived at Charlotte for five years, during one period of his life and had worked both as plumber for private parties and at the Charlotte water-works. This interested Senator Overman, who pressed the witness to tell something more about his Tar Heel raising. He said he worked for John Smith at Charlotte.

Hardin named members of the committee much amusement. He is a young negro, very black, with hoarse voice and stutters. He was a patient in the hospital and had gone to the canteen to get a piece of apple pie. He had been sick, was convalescing and wanted apple pie. Coming out of the canteen with his pie Hardin encountered Major Penrose, the mayor of Brownsville, and a stranger, who was using forceful language and telling Major Penrose that his wife had been assaulted by negro soldiers. The stranger then drew a pistol and made by 10 o'clock every "D-nigger" soldier would be killed. Hardin told of hearing shots fired north and east of the hospital. They continued as those firing moved west until they reached the opposite barracks. Those doing the firing were on horseback, and he heard the sound of the horses' hoofs. Bullets went over the hospital and the sergeant ordered them to stand behind brick pillars to keep from getting hurt. The firing lasted about five minutes after the call to arms was sounded.

Senator Warner tried to cross-examine the witness, and was asking him about the sound of galloping horses, when the witness suddenly interrupted the Senator by saying "Jes' yo' wait right there one minute, Senator, until I ax you a question, will yo'?"

"Well, go ahead then. I'll submit," said Senator Warner, good-naturedly.

"Now jes' yo' sposin' a case," the went on, "sposin' yose hear a man choppin' wood 'bout three, fo' blocks from hyar an' ober hyar hears a dawg a-barkin', don't yo' 'spose yo' kin tell de diffrance between de man a-choppin' wood and dat dawg a-barkin'?"

The dignity of the committee was upset and the Senators shouted. Senator Warner admitted his ability to distinguish between such sounds, but the cross-examination after that did not amount to much. The committee was in no mood to be serious.

Senator Simmons devoted some time to-day to river and harbor matters. He discussed with Chairman Burton the matter of some larger projects in which North Carolina is deeply concerned, and toward which Mr. Burton has shown some hostility. Mr. Burton has looked with particular disfavor on the upper Cape Fear project, but promised Senator Simmons to-day that he would go into all these North Carolina matters again before concluding to oppose any of them. Senator Simmons has written to members of the Legislature from Cumberland and they secure passage of a bill giving the government the right to erect certain locks and dams in the event this project should run the gauntlet of the conference committee.

The sub-committee of the pension bill introduced by the pension committee to-day reported favorably the bill introduced by Congressman Webb giving a pension of \$20 a month to Mrs. Stonewall Jackson, of Charlotte. As previously stated in these dispatches, Congressman Nick Longworth, the son-in-law of the President, has good enough to give Mr. Webb some assistance in this undertaking. Mr. Webb now feels confident that the bill will pass the latter part of the week. The fate of the bill seemed in doubt for some time.

Congressman Gunder has sung his swan song, as they say of members who make their last speech before retiring from the House or the Senate. Mr. Gunder spoke on the subject of immigration, saying he approved of the more restrictive features of the bill which have been passed, but deprecated the increased powers which have been conferred upon the President in giving him right to exclude Japanese coolies from California.

WILL VISIT WEST INDIES. Members of Commercial Clubs of Chicago, St. Louis and Cincinnati Leave for Charleston, S. C., Where They Will Board Steamer.

Cincinnati, O., Feb. 19.—Members of the commercial clubs of Chicago, St. Louis and Cincinnati left here on a special train to-day over the Cincinnati Southern Railway en route for Charleston, S. C., where they will board the steamer Pinta Joachim for Panama. Yesterday the steamer left New York with the Boston Commercial Club and the tourists will visit various West Indian ports, reaching Colon March 1. The trip was suggested at the anniversary meeting of the Cincinnati Commercial Club last May when the other clubs were guests, and was given immediate endorsement by Secretary of War Taft, who was present. The commercial travelers expect to visit and carefully examine the present and prospective work on the Panama canal. The Chicago and St. Louis members of the party reached here early to-day and the three sections of the tourists were at once combined into a single special train which is due at Charleston at noon to-morrow.

Atlanta News Publishing Company Formally Adjudged Bankrupt.

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 19.—The Atlanta News Publishing Company was today formally adjudged bankrupt on the petition in bankruptcy filed January 31. The liabilities of the company were placed at \$74,797 and the assets at \$62,321. The company published the Atlanta News, which was suspended publication about three weeks

SMOOT DEFENDS POSITION

STRONGLY CONDEMNS POLYGAMY

Utah Senator Delivers Long-Expected Address, Being Supported by Senator Dillingham in an Analytical Speech of Evidence Submitted in the Case—Smoot Expresses Himself Briefly, but with Candor, on His Own Personal Attitude Upon the Subject of Polygamy and of Loyalty to the Government—Polygamy Permissible in Character, but Regarded by Church as Part of Religious Faith, When Law Was Passed Denouncing Practice.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Senator Reed Smoot's long expected address to the Senate to-day in defense of his position as Senator from Utah, was supported by Senator Dillingham, of Vermont, in an analytical speech of the evidence, which had been submitted in the case. Mr. Smoot condemned polygamy in the strongest terms and declared emphatically that he had taken no oath inconsistent with that which he had taken as a Senator. "The Senate is entitled to know my personal attitude upon the subject of polygamy," said Mr. Smoot, "and upon these two matters I shall express myself briefly, but with entire candor."

First, I desire to state, as I have repeatedly heretofore stated, to the Senate and to the country, that I am not and never have been a polygamist. I never have had but one wife, and she is my present wife.

"There has been a more or less prevalent opinion that the doctrine of polygamy was obligatory upon the members of the Mormon Church, whereas, in truth and fact no such obligatory doctrine has ever existed. The revelation concerning polygamy, as originally made and as always interpreted, is permissible and not mandatory. As a matter of fact, only a small percentage of the members of that faith have ever been polygamists. The vast majority of the adult members of the Church from its foundation to the present time have been monogamists."

PART OF RELIGIOUS FAITH. "The Mormon people, however, regarded this doctrine, although permissible in character, as part of their religious faith, and when the law was passed denouncing its practice, the execution of the law was rested on the ground that it was unconstitutional as being an interference with their religious liberty. Appeals were taken to the highest courts of the land, every phase of the subject was tested in the courts, and the law was upheld. Then the Church adopted the manifesto against polygamy, which was ratified by the general conference of the people, and thereupon the practice of polygamy for the future was abandoned."

"There were in 1890 about 2,451 male members of the Mormon Church who had polygamist families. That these were placed in a position of difficulty was recognized and was met by a family law which provided for the pleasure of each year. When the boy was 15 years of age it was agreed that he should decide whether he would go with his father or his mother. The father agreed to pay his wife a certain sum of money during the month the child was with her and a lesser sum during the months when the child was with his father."

The husband then came to Richmond, while Mrs. Moreland remained in the city. In the meantime, entered suit against his absent wife for divorce, and a degree of temporary separation was allotted to him. The child was at that time in his custody and the court allowed him to retain possession of the little one.

Mrs. Moreland, however, has recently availed herself of a decision of the United States Court which allows her to file her answer to the bill and reopen the case. She is endeavoring to have the divorce made final, and to regain the custody of the child.

Moreland is at present assistant cashier of the American National Bank and stands high in financial circles. Nothing in the papers reveals the nature of the trouble between father and son, and whether he does the deed of infidelity throw any light on the phase of the case.

LATEST UPISHING SUBVED. General Parades And 47 Other Landings From West Indies. Short Government Troops Near Baranacas, State of Bermudez, Venezuela.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The State Department has been informed by a cablegram from the American consul at Port of Spain, Trinidad, of the complete interruption of the latest attempted rebellion in Venezuela. The news is contained in the following dispatch: "On the 17th of February, 1907, 47 other were shot after being captured by government troops near Baranacas, in the State of Bermudez, about the 17th instant."

Parades landed on the coast of Venezuela from one of the vessels taken last week ago. His party consisted of about 30 men, but it was stated that he had ample funds and that he would secure a large supply of weapons with which to arm the natives whom he expected to flock to his banner.

A BALL PLAYER VICTIMIZED. Man With Whom He Shared Room Steals \$500 and Diamond Ring, But Is Later Arrested.

Chicago, Feb. 19.—Michael Donlin, member of the New York National League baseball team, was robbed last night of \$500 in cash and a diamond ring by a stranger, who gave the name of T. P. Smith, and his residence as New York, told Donlin that he had just arrived from New York and was without money or friends. His story aroused the sympathy of Donlin, and he invited Smith to share his room for the night. This morning when Donlin awoke he found that Smith, the money and the ring had disappeared. He reported the matter to the police, and Smith was later arrested.

COURT IMPOSES \$1,000 FINE. Conviction Results From First Test in Courts of the Boykin Anti-Bucket Shop Law.

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 19.—The first test in the courts of the Boykin anti-bucket shop law resulted today in a conviction. The defendant, J. M. Anderson, was found guilty by the jury after 15 minutes' deliberation, of a violation of the law passed by the last Legislature and also of keeping a gaming house. Judge Ross, of the Superior Court, imposed a fine of \$1,000. The attorney for the defense announced that an appeal will be taken to the Supreme Court of the State, and pending the decision of the higher court, the case against other defendants will be postponed.

FOR A LINE OF STEAMERS

TO BRING FOREIGNERS SOUTH

Governor Terrell Before Convention at Macon, Urges Establishment of Direct Line—Ex-Governor Heyward, of South Carolina, Delivers Strong Speech in Favor of Immigration Movement—Work of National Department Reviewed by Commissioners General Sargent, Who Suggested Methods by Which Tide Could Be Diverted From Western and Eastern States to Southern Farms, Factories and Workshops—Governor Glenn One of Speakers at Smoker.

Macon, Ga., Feb. 19.—The Georgia Immigration Association assembled in convention in this city this morning, holding three sessions. Hon. G. Gunby Jordan, president of the association, presided. Addresses of welcome and responses were made. Gov. Jos. M. Terrell, of Georgia, addressed the convention and urged the association to establish lines of steamers to bring foreigners direct to Southern ports.

Ex-Governor Heyward, of South Carolina, delivered a strong speech in favor of the immigration movement, and referred to the fact that recently a ship-load of foreigners were landed at the port of Charleston and all had secured employment at remunerative wages. "There could be perfect harmony between these foreigners and their Southern employers."

Hon. F. P. Sargent, Commissioner General of Immigration, reviewed the work of this Department of the national government and suggested methods by which the tide of immigration could be diverted from Western and Eastern States to the Southern farms, factories and workshops. He treated the subject of immigration in a most impartial manner, declaring that the national government was doing all possible to have the large influx of foreigners scattered over the various States in order that they would assimilate "or become Americanized in customs and business methods. Out of 1,100,000 foreigners coming to the hospitable shores of this country last year, only a small percentage had come to the Southern States."

MORE VARIED ADVANTAGES. He declared that the South offered more varied advantages to the home-seeker than any other section of the country, where one could labor every day in the year because of equitable climate.

Commissioner Sargent's speech was the event of the convention and every sentence was received with closest attention.

Hon. M. V. Richards, commissioner of immigration for the Southern Railway, heartily indorsed the suggestions of Mr. Sargent, and urged the event of the convention to be the agreement of the South to co-operate with steamship lines and the immigration association in every way possible to bring foreigners to Southern ports.

At a smoker to-night a climax of the convention was reached when the event included Governor R. B. Glenn, of North Carolina, Hon. James M. Smith, Robert F. Maddox, banker of Atlanta, and F. J. Hansen, of Sweden.

The speeches were in line with the thought and suggestion of Commissioner Sargent, and the convention adopted resolutions outlining plans and purposes for future action and the commissioner pledged his hearty support to the State organization in furthering the immigration movement. The convention adjourned subject to the call of the president.

NIGHT SESSIONS OF HOUSE. Ship Subsidy Measure May Be Considered Under Rule Limiting the Debate to Ten Minutes.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Ship subsidy probably will be considered by the House at night sessions late this week. Speaker Cannon and Representative Watson, the Republican whip, were at the White House in conference with the President concerning the matter to-day, and it is thought that the President has positively agreed that it now seems likely that the Littauer bill will be considered on the floor.

In case the subsidy measure is taken up by the House it will probably be under a rule limiting the debate to ten minutes, and the bill will be subject to amendment.

After the postoffice appropriation bill, which the House will probably dispose of to-morrow, the measure limiting the hours of railway employees to 14 out of 24 hours will be taken at the day sessions of the House. The sundry civil bill will then be brought forward, and as there has been a general refusal to grant ship subsidy at any time during the remaining days of the session, its friends asked for consideration at night. They seem now to be about win their point, although the general impression is that the subsidy bill will be bitterly attacked on the floor and amended in many ways, if not defeated entirely.

A Favorable Report on the Williams Resolution. The House committee on inter-State and foreign commerce decided to-day to make a favorable report on the Williams resolution providing that the Secretary of Commerce and Labor shall send to the House such information as he may have showing the effect of the coastwise steamships or steamboat lines protected from foreign competition by the coastwise laws of the United States.

DECISION BEFORE MARCH 1ST. President Makes Statement to Several Contractors Associated With Oliver in Canal Construction Bid.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The President told a number of the contractors who are associated with W. J. Oliver in his bid for the construction of the Panama canal that a decision in the matter would be reached before the first of March. What will probably be the final conference preliminary to the decision was held with a number of contractors associated with Mr. Oliver to-day. Secretary Taft said that no conclusion has been reached to-day.

Those at the conference included in addition to the President, Secretary Taft, Chairman Shonts and Counsel Rogers, of the Isthmian canal commission, and the following contractors and others associated with Mr. Oliver: Patrick F. Walsh, of Davenport; P. J. Brennan, of this city; Robert Russell, of Lynchburg; R. A. Chester, of the Commercial National Bank, of this city, and L. C. Gunter, of Knoxville, Tenn.

All of them were questioned by the President and his advisers as to their experience and as to other qualifications to do the work which they contracted to do.

ACCL. MAY ENTER RALEIGH

INTERESTING RAILROAD HUMOR

Talked That Atlantic Coast Line May Build Line From Springhok to the Capital—Deal Between the Seaboard and the Raleigh & Pamlico Sound—Seaboard Fined \$500 for Failure to Post Arrival of Train as Prescribed—Court Announces Divisive Character of Great Ligation Over License of the Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Observer Bureau, The Holloman Building, Raleigh, Feb. 19.

There are persistent rumors that the Atlantic Coast Line Railway is going to build into Raleigh, from Springhok in Nash county, which is only 28 miles from here. This extension has been looked for a score of years. It is said the road would build an office in Raleigh and Pamlico Sound road. The latter is on very friendly terms with the Seaboard Air Line and the Seaboard and the Raleigh & Pamlico Sound will jointly use tracks into the Union station here. It will be a great convenience to the Seaboard Air Line to use the Raleigh & Pamlico track from Pamlico Junction, two miles north of the Union station, as it will save all the time and trouble of coming through the extensive yards of the Seaboard Air Line immediately north of the city.

There is a rumor that the Norfolk & Western road is coming from Durham here but of this nothing definite can be ascertained. There is more interest expressed in railway matters than for a long time.

The Supreme Court this evening filed the opinion in all the eastern cases as follows:

State vs. Davis, from Hyde, no error; State vs. Hunter, from Gates, no error; Newsome vs. Bunch, from Rowan, no error; Doughton vs. State, from Tyrrell, affirmed; Hughes vs. Crocker, from Beaufort, affirmed; Kelley vs. Lefalver, from Beaufort, affirmed; Railroad vs. Railroad, from Beaufort, affirmed; Garret vs. Bear, from Halifax, affirmed; Snipes vs. Railroad, from Halifax, affirmed; Railroad vs. Railroad, from Halifax, affirmed; Coggins vs. Insurance Company, from Jackson, affirmed; Capps vs. Seaboard Air Line Railway, from Warren, affirmed per curiam; Parker will case from Hertford, petition for certiorari denied; Moore will case, from Halifax, dismissed under rule 7; State vs. Moye, from Pitt, per curiam, affirmed; United States vs. Union Telegraph Company, from Craven, settled by the parties; Vivian vs. Mitchell, from Vance, dismissed under rule 17.

The corporation commission to-day obtained judgment for a \$500 penalty against the Seaboard Air Line in the Superior Court for failure to file a charter to properly bulletin a train.

A charter is granted the Nelson Cooper Lumber & Furniture Company, at Mebane, capital stock \$20,000, and another to the Granville Telephone Company, at quarters at Oxford, capital stock \$50,000. The insurance department will take to the Superior Court to-day the case of the Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company, in which Judge Jones, in the Superior Court, has decided adversely to the department. The former general agent of the company was at Kinston and after he had ceased to hold that position he was appointed to give the company in Superior Court. This the company transferred to the Federal Court and thereupon, under the law, the insurance commissioner revoked the license of the company's lawyers came here and sought to have him rescind this action, but he refused to do so, and a mandamus proceeding was brought in the Federal Court here by the company. The judge decides that only when a case so removed from the State to the Federal Court grows out of a policy which the company has issued to a citizen of this State, and the law apply, and not to other litigation in which the contract of a foreign corporation may have become involved.

Attorney Glenn spoke this evening, under the auspices of the Raleigh chamber of commerce on the subject of Raleigh, and had some very plain things to say against the proposed extension of the city limits. The Governor said very plainly that the city's limits ought to be extended and that the fact that they are now so narrow is due to a reflection, not only upon Raleigh, but upon the State.

"THE CLANSMAN" RETURNS. Played to Record-Breaking House Last Night at Norfolk, Its Birthplace. Special to The Observer.

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 19.—"The Clansman" returned to its birthplace to-night. The play first saw the light in the Academy of Music, Norfolk, Sept. 22, 1905. There was a tremendous display of enthusiasm on that memorable occasion but not any more than was witnessed this evening. To-night the theatre was packed with the largest audience in its history, hundreds being turned away, unable to gain admittance.

Protests for political reasons had been made against the appearance of the play. Mayor Riddick attended the performance to judge for himself and said he saw nothing objectionable and in fact was much pleased. The play of the play will last three days and already every seat is sold for the balance of the engagement. Negotiations are on foot looking to the presentation of "The Clansman" for a longer season at the Jamestown exposition during the present summer.

SUITS AGAINST RAILROAD. Will Be Instituted at Direction of Attorney General For Violation of Safety Appliance Law.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Attorney General Bonaparte has directed that suits be instituted against a number of railroad companies to recover penalties for violation of the safety appliance law. Information upon which these prosecutions will be based were reported to the inter-State commerce commission by its safety appliance inspectors.

Seventy-eight violations in all are alleged and the railroads made defendants include the Alabama Great Southern; the Chesapeake and Ohio; the Southern Railway; the Denver & Rio Grande; the Erie; the International & Great Northern; the Missouri, Kansas & Nebraska; the Mobile & Ohio; the Pennsylvania and the Washington Southern; the St. Louis & San Francisco; the Southern Railway; the Southern; the Texas and Pacific; the Texas and New Orleans; and the Washast.

Schooner Struck by Jetty. Ferriandini, Fla., Feb. 19.—The British schooner Evadne, Captain Collins, from St. Paulinas in making port here, last night struck the jetty at South Jetty and was towed in this morning. A survey will be held.

Wayland and Killed Near Home. Valdosta, Ga., Feb. 19.—W. R. Lanier, a prominent naval stores man of St. Paul, was waylaid and killed near his home there, there is no suspicion as to the identity of the assassin.

HOUSE PASSES RATE BILL

MAY VOTE ON LIQUOR QUESTION

The Committee Railway Rate Bill, Providing for a Flat Rate of 2 Cents a Mile Passes the House, 71 to 28—All Amendments and Substitutes Voted Down—House Passes Bill Allowing Scotland Neck People to Decide Whether or Not They Will Have a Dispensary—Some Spices—Bill Introduced in the Two Branches.

Observer Bureau, The Holloman Building, Raleigh, Feb. 19.

The House railroad committee reported unfavorably Turner's Senate bill to make running of freight trains on Sunday prima facie evidence of violating the Sunday law.

The House committee on cities and towns reported unfavorably the bill incorporating Mechanicville, a suburb of High Point. Contending delegations for and against the bill made arguments.

The House met to-night to consider the bill reducing passenger fares. Manning gave notice that he would call the previous question at 9 o'clock. The bill was up on its third reading. Bickett offers a substitute placing the rate at 2 1/2 cents for first-class and 2 1/2 for second-class fares, and giving the corporation commission authority to fix rates on independent lines, not exceeding 100 miles in length. Doughton offered an amendment providing that rates on the Coast Line, Seaboard, Norfolk & Southern and the Southern Railway should not exceed 2 1/2 cents a mile and on all other roads it should not exceed 3 cents.

DOUGHTON'S AMENDMENT. Doughton made an earnest speech for his amendment, strongly presenting the great need of more railroad development and that rates on the State and declaring that it was a drastic legislation as that proposed by the bill reducing rates to 2 cents was enacted, not only would future development be prevented, but the roads already operating would be badly crippled. It was safe to leave to the corporation commission the fixing of rates after careful and deliberate investigation. Bickett followed, saying he was willing to vote for Doughton's amendment and withdraw his substitute. He said that, since making his amendment, he had been in opposition to the 2-cent rate, but had been home and his people not only did not demand that much cut, but were opposed to it because they believed it would prevent a sufficient reduction of freight rates.

Winborn offered and spoke to an amendment reducing rates to 2 cents on roads with income of \$1,500 per mile, 2 1/2 cents instead of 2 1/2 for roads under this amount and 3 cents for those earning less than \$1,000 per mile. He said this put the Seaboard in the same class with the Southern and the Norfolk & Southern, but he promised. He criticized Doughton's amendment, saying he doubted the constitutionality of his bill, naming individual roads, citing decisions of courts to show that restrictions and taxes could be placed on all coming in a certain class, but not on individuals or individual corporations was simply named.

MANNING ROASTS RAILROADS. After arguments for the committee bill by Stephens and Laughlin, and read the United States Supreme Court decision in the case of Iowa, ninety-six Report. "The railroads had not more than six months ago that this Legislature would take up this question, and instead of going to work and procuring figures and information for our enlightenment, they have been sitting with their hands on their hips, and in place of figures they have presented to us the great values of railroads. In reply to our specific questions for information they tell us it would take three months to obtain it when they have had six months' notice to get this ready. Tell me the reasons for passing this bill, and nothing to the people! Look at what information we have got, that in one year over 600,000 passenger fares are paid by North Carolinians, and quit talking about reduction of passenger rates being of no concern."

Manning concluded with a strong appeal to the House to pass the bill and to vote down all amendments and substitutes.

McRae of Robeson, made a hot speech for the committee bill, declaring he represented 85 per cent of the farmers of the State. Did he belong to the class who traveled free or at reduced rates, or private cars like those who were crying out that the people did not demand reduction of passenger rates, he would no doubt favor the bills. Manning declared that he had received resolutions of thanks from the railroads since voting for the 3-cent rate, and it was the proudest vote he ever cast.

PASSES FINAL READING. Voting began at 9:20 first on the amendments. Mr. Harris opposed an amendment substituting 2 1/2 cents for the rate. The first roll call vote was on this amendment, it being lost by a vote of 45 to 59, the result being received by loud hand-clappings on the floor and in the crowded galleries and lobbies. Winborn's amendment was then taken up, it being lost by a vote of 41 to 61. The Doughton substitute failed, the vote being 50 to 54, this result bringing applause. Bickett's substitute was lost, 46 to 58. The bill passed its third and final reading—aye, 71, nay, 28. The House immediately, at 10:20, adjourned.

THE HOUSE. The House met at 10:30 and Rev. Dr. DuBois, of Raleigh, offered prayer. Gilliam presented a resolution of the chamber of commerce from Elizabeth City for a State Normal school.

BILLS INTRODUCED. Bills were introduced as follows: Jacobson: To allow Belhaven to issue bonds. Lockhart: To protect persons whose property is insured against fire loss. Pitt: To amend the law incorporating the board of health in Edgecombe.

Boyd: To amend the law regarding the issue of Haywood county bonds. Douglas: To regulate the employment of fugitives by railways; also, by request, to regulate the sale of liquor in Haywood county. Yount: To allow Hickory to establish and operate an electric light plant and to improve its streets.

There was a bill introduced by an legislator from the State who had been in the United States dispensary commissioners. Sharp: To grant the use of the president's house at the State