

ACTS OF THE LEGISLATURE

A SUMMARY OF THE NEW LAWS

Thirty Counties Allowed to Improve Their Roads—The Important Resolutions—Many New Railroads Chartered—Insurance Legislation—A Mass of Miscellaneous Measures—What Was Done For Schools and Other State Institutions—Whiskey Eliminated From Fifteen Counties.

It has been the custom of The Observer correspondent for the past 30 years, that in for fifteen sessions of the Legislature, to look over the list of the acts in order to get the ones which are most important to the people of North Carolina, and he is able now to furnish them.

THE IMPORTANT RESOLUTIONS The following are the most important resolutions which were adopted: Requesting Congress to vote for the Appalachian Forest Reserve and asking the Governor to go to Washington in the interest of that measure.

Endorsing the second Hague Peace conference. Endorsing the Jamestown Exposition, appropriating \$20,000 more to it and allowing the North Carolina building to be included in the proceeds used by the commission.

Making a \$5,000 gift to the cruiser North Carolina. Urging Congress to improve the upper Cape Fear river.

Also urging it to prohibit polygamy. To secure a change in the constitution so Senators will be elected by a direct vote of the people.

Bills were passed eliminating whiskey from the following counties: Burke, Lincoln, Catawba, McDowell, Madison, Cherokee, Macon, Cabarrus, Cleveland, Rutherford, Northampton, Stanly, Scotland, Cumberland and Mecklenburg.

ROAD IMPROVEMENTS. Thirty counties were allowed to improve their roads and very large bond issues were allowed to be voted on for this purpose in the counties of Franklin, Forsyth, Durham, Rowan, Wake, Granville and Buncombe, ranging from \$100,000 to \$300,000.

At no session of the Legislature have charters been granted to so many railroads, the following is the list: North Carolina Union, Southport, Northern & Western, Raleigh & Winston-Salem, Northampton & Hertford; Western Carolina, Bladen & Northern; Rockingham & Caswell; Randolph & Cumberland; Graham County, Washington & Vandemere; Neshamela, Dover & Southbound; Tuckasee, Elkin & Alleghany; Virginia & Eastern Carolina, Virginia & Carolina Southern, Deep River & Farmers Creek, Alleghany & Piedmont Southern, Southwestern, Greensboro, Seaboard & Great Western, Mattamuskeet, Kinston & Carolina, Monro & Southern, Franklin & Smoky Mountain, etc.

FOR SCHOOLS. In the way of schools and school matters, bills passed: incorporating the Stonewall Jackson Training School or reformatory. To establish a manual training school in the mountains.

To establish a teachers training school in the East. A school of Technology at Spray. To aid the Eihannan Orphanage at Marion.

To allow elections to be held in townships or school districts upon the subject of compulsory education. To require deaf mutes to attend the State school at Morganton and to limit the attendance to North Carolina children.

To require 16 weeks attendance each year of children between ages of 8 and 14 years. To provide a safe and adequate water supply for all schools, public and private.

Creating a system of public high schools, the number for each county to be fixed by the State superintendent of public instruction to be not less than one or more than four.

RAILWAY MATTERS. A great deal of attention was given railway matters, and the following are the important bills which passed: To fix the maximum passenger rate at 2 1/2 cents per mile.

To regulate freight rates and prevent unjust discrimination. To prevent public drinking in passenger cars.

To require railroads to keep passenger cars clean. To allow conductors and station agents to arrest drunk, disorderly or boisterous persons.

To allow railroads to construct belt lines at towns. To require one director and one incorporator of all railroads to be a citizen and resident of this State.

To allow the corporation commission to require union depots in towns of 2,000 persons. To require street railroads to provide separate accommodations for negroes and whites.

To prevent stealing of goods in transit, and also to prevent stealing of brasses and other railway property. To greatly enlarge the powers of the corporation commission.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES. Other important bills of a miscellaneous character are as follows: To restore dentists to their former dignity as doctors.

To allow judges and magistrates to exclude all persons except those concerned in trials for felonious assault. To allow benevolent associations to receive, buy, hold or sell real or personal estate.

To regulate sales of leaf tobacco on warehouse floors and require reports to the agricultural department. To prevent usury and extortion. To extend for two years the time for settling the State debt.

To promote public decency by punishing people for using indecent signs, writings and pictures in public. To allow the Governor to appoint special police for water power, transportation and construction companies.

or unbranded food, drugs, medicines and liquors.

To increase the number of State judges in all cases less than capital.

To allow the Governor traveling expenses. To allow judges to send criminal boys under 16 to the reformatory or county home.

To extend the crime of vagrancy so as to include keepers or inmates of disorderly houses.

To prevent and punish trusts and combines. To authorize the State board of health to provide for preventive treatment of tuberculosis by means of a hospital in Moore county.

To regulate the writing of prescriptions by physicians.

To protect electrical power transmission lines. To require the penitentiary to pay its debt bonds of 1899, amounting to \$110,000 and to pay \$175,000 of its earnings into the treasury to go to the central fund.

To regulate tuberculosis prisoners. To require the commissioner of agriculture and the board of agriculture to be practical farmers.

To require registration of trained nurses. To protect makers and dealers in mineral waters.

To amend the law regarding removal of cloud on titles. To protect primary elections and conventions and punish frauds thereat.

To pay half fees to officers and witnesses where no true bill is found. To extend time for obtaining land grants.

To regulate osteopathy and create a State board of examiners. To protect hotel and boarding house keepers.

To prescribe the hours of service for railway employes operating trains. To establish a State board of equalization for the assessment of real estate.

To regulate the hours of the labor of children in factories. To amend the landlord and tenant law.

To so amend the general road law that county commissioners can let the working of roads by contracts by sections. To enable the State to make proof of the possession of whiskey licenses, issued by the government in prosecuting offenders.

To limit the poll tax to \$2 in cities and towns. To provide for the display of the State flag on all court houses, schools and other public buildings.

To exclude minors under 18 from pool rooms, bar rooms, etc. To prohibit corporations from preventing public improvements by other corporations by preventing occupancy of land for right-of-way.

To place all telephone lines under the corporation commission. To promote the oyster industry.

To punish fraud in giving worthless checks, drafts and orders. To create the office of fish commissioner.

To require express companies to pay claims for loss or damage to property. To amend the immigration law in North Carolina, appropriating \$10,000, half from the State, half from the agricultural department.

To secure a statue of Zeb Vance to be placed in statutory hall at the Capitol at Washington. To fix the salaries of State officers and to require fees to be turned into the State Treasury.

To make general election day a legal holiday. To make the pension appropriation \$400,000, an increase of \$125,000.

There were bills of course, carrying increased appropriations for all the State institutions, some forty in number.

INSURANCE LEGISLATION. A great many insurance bills were introduced but only a small percentage of these passed. Those which did pass are as follows:

To amend the Revised by allowing companies having over \$100,000 capital to invest the excess in such manner as the insurance commissioner approves.

To regulate the use of the reserve of life companies by allowing it to be used for re-insurance, to be available in case of the insolvency of the company.

To define fraternal orders. To prohibit the application of the iron safe clause to buildings and fixtures.

To prevent the diversion of funds in insurance companies for political purposes. To require fire insurance companies to furnish blank proofs of loans in case they demand such proof.

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GATE CITY POLITICS. Two Candidates in the Field For Mayor—Primaries to be Held Under New Act—Penalty Suits Against the Southern Work Begins on Street Car Extension. Special to The Observer. Greensboro, March 14.—While it is almost two months until the municipal election the solons in rear ends of grocery stores and on the street corners are beginning to discuss the good points of the candidates for the mayoralty and hand down their opinions as to the chances that each has for securing the nomination and election. It now looks as if Mayor Thomas J. Murphy and Alderman Leon J. Brandt will be the only candidates in the Democratic primaries for the nomination of mayor, and indications are that Mayor Murphy will be nominated and re-elected. There is a strong opposition in certain quarters to Mayor Murphy but the opposition is not thought to be sufficient to defeat him in the primary, and if he receives the nomination of the primary will no doubt receive the greater part of the Democratic vote in the city, and will, if this prediction come true, be elected by a safe majority. Of course some unexpected developments may appear later in the campaign. The city's political pot has scarcely more than begun to simmer as yet and one cannot tell what may arise before the election on May 7. It is understood that a strong citizens' ticket with a prominent man as candidate for mayor will again be in the field. Such a ticket was put up in opposition to the nominees of the Democratic primaries two years ago, but did not poll a very large vote. This year the conditions are changed and the ticket may receive a larger vote, though it is not generally believed that it will be large enough to overcome the big Democratic vote of the city. Many Democrats have cursed the present city administration, but when the time comes they will go to the polls and vote for the nominees of the party. The primaries in the city this year will be held under the act recently passed which gives the city and county a legalized primary system. This will not materially change the system that has been used in the campaigns in the city for a number of years, but will probably give many who have not participated heretofore an opportunity to vote in the primary by taking an oath to support the nominees of the primary. James N. Williamson & Sons, of Burlington, through their attorney, Col. J. A. Barringer, of this city, have instituted thirty-seven penalty suits against the Southern Railway Company on account of the failure of the company to deliver freight within the time prescribed by law. It is said that the amounts involved in the suits range from seventeen cents to sixty dollars, and in seven of the cases the amount sued for is less than one cent. The case will be tried at 10 o'clock on Saturday. Owing to the fact that there are many witnesses to be examined the case may consume several days in the justice's court. It is learned that the Messrs. Williamson will in a few days institute suit for sixty-five other penalties against the company. The freight service in this section of the country is demoralized and the manufacturers are at a loss to know what court to pursue. Work has been commenced on the West Lee street extension of the Greensboro Electric Company's street car line, at the earliest possible time. This new line will open up a fine residential section of the city and already lots are being rapidly sold along the electric company's track will go. Great delay has been caused on account of the inability of the company to secure ties poles and rails. The trouble has been with the railway company and not from any shortage of material.

PAVING SPARTANBURG STREETS. Will Have the Best Paved Streets of Any Southern Town its Size When the Work is Completed—\$200,000 Already Expended. Special to The Observer. Spartanburg, S. C., March 14.—The work of paving the principal residence streets of Spartanburg with bitulithic will be completed within the next few weeks. The work has been under way for several months, the Atlantic Bitulithic Company being the contractor, and only a short portion of South Church street remains to be paved. When completed Spartanburg will have the best paved streets of any city in South Carolina. Probably more money has been expended by the city council for street and sidewalk paving than any city of the same size in the South. The bitulithic paving is being laid at a cost of \$150,000. In addition to this sum \$50,000 has been expended for paving the sidewalks with concrete. A \$20,000 contract extending the sidewalk paving has just been awarded to Frank Barker and work will commence immediately. When this work is completed the city will have 80,000 yards of sidewalk laid in cement. The county authorities are paying considerable attention to building good roads throughout the county. The building of good roads was begun several years ago by paving six miles of road with macadam. The work has given such general satisfaction that the county commissioners have decided to spend \$200,000 in macadamizing all the public roads leading out of Spartanburg for a distance of six or eight miles. The fisheries in Alaska have paid the government more in revenues than Alaska cost the United States. This is where the Argo Red Salmon is caught and canned. With a few cans of Argo Red Salmon in the pantry and an Argo Red Salmon Cook Book the housewife is always prepared for unexpected company. It can be served in many different ways.

Muddy Creek Trestle Burns. Fire, Which is Thought to Have Originated from Sparks from a Freight Block Traffic on the North Carolina Midland Railroad. Special to The Observer. Winston-Salem, March 14.—Two spans about 30 feet of the long trestle across Muddy creek, on the North Carolina Midland Railroad were burned last night. The damage will not be repaired until the week before noon to-morrow. It is thought the fire originated from sparks which fell from a freight engine. Superintendent Newell, of the Mooreville division, carried a telegraph instrument and a line man with him to the Muddy creek trestle this morning where he instituted a temporary office. Being a first-class telegraph operator Superintendent Newell will give personal directions regarding the operations of trains on his division until the burned part of the trestle is repaired. A large force of carpenters and other workmen were sent out on a special train this afternoon. They will work all night and until the bridge is ready for trains to run over it. The Alaska Packers' Association furnishes the government hundreds of thousands of cases of Salmon a year. Out of 340,000 cans examined by the government at Camp Thomas, only four defective cans were found. This firm packs the Argo Red Salmon.

"Bring Me A Good Cigar" Recently a State Senator on a dining car asked the waiter to bring him "a cigar." The waiter brought two boxes—one was a Triangle A cigar, and the other an unknown brand. "Which is the better?" asked the Senator. The waiter recommended the unknown brand. "Why?" the Senator demanded. The waiter grinned. "Boss says that's the one to push," he said. You don't want to depend on what "the boss" wants to push—you'd rather choose for yourself. How do you know a good cigar? You can now buy cigars with the maker's guarantee on every box—a mark of merit that distinguishes scientific methods systematically applied to cigar production—a mark that stands for improved quality—better, riper tobacco, thoroughly matured and actually blended—smooth, even-smoking cigars, absolutely clean—without increased cost. Whatever you pay, whatever your taste, the "A" (Triangle A) mark is your guarantee of superior and reliable quality and unquestionable value. The New CREMO 5 cents affords you a fine opportunity to prove it by the smoking test. Every box is extra-wrapped in glassine paper, sealed to maintain perfect smoking condition and cleanliness until the box is opened. AMERICAN CIGAR COMPANY Manufacturers.

THE ELEVATOR BOY. "Do you know," said the elevator boy, "I didn't know till to-day that we built elevators." He was addressing the night watchman, who was coming in. "Let me tell you, my boy," said the watchman, "there's a whole lot we do here you haven't found out yet." "The elevator we shipped to-day was a regular dandy. The cage was shipped out of the wood shop and the running gear and apparatus out of the Dilworth shop. When I was surprised Billy laughed at me and said he used to sell elevators for the company when he was elevator boy on this elevator." "We make elevators all right," said the watchman, "but don't you listen too much to what Billy says. He's liable to tell you he's bought one of the Pyramids in Egypt. What else have you shipped to-day?" "Four yarn reels went out and a whole lot of hangers and pulleys. It stumps me what people do with so many pulleys. Every day it's pulleys and hangers, hangers and pulleys going out. Big pulleys, little pulleys, split pulleys, and then there's hangers, couplings and set collars. Gears is also a big item. All kinds of wheels, in fact." "Sounds like business is moving," said the watchman. "It's worse than moving—it's humming. People like to send us orders because we deliver the goods on time," said the boy. "We beat the railroads all to pieces on delivering machinery, and we make the machinery, too." "How's the roller covering shop getting along?" asked the watchman. "Covering roles galore," said the boy. "The mills used to scatter their roll covering some, so the folks in the department tell me, but it looks now like we get 'em all. I haul 'em up and down every day—lots of them, and here's your floor, now hike off." The D. A. Tompkins Co. MACHINE BUILDERS AND REPAIRERS, CHARLOTTE, N. C. FIRE INSURANCE THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES REPRESENTED AND AMPLIFIED PROTECTION GUARANTEED: AETNA HARTFORD PHOENIX NORTH BRITISH PHENIX NORTHERN PIEDMONT R. E. Cochrane Insurance and Real Estate Agent.

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49th Series Of the M. P. B. & L. Ass'n went into effect on Saturday, the 2nd inst. The subscriptions for this series are coming in freely, but to accommodate the public we will keep the books open during the whole month of March and prospective borrowers will do well to apply at once. S. WITKOWSKY R. E. COCHRANE President Sec. & Treas. THE CHARLOTTE SUPPLY CO. AGENTS FOR American All-Wrought Steel Split Pulleys and "Ghost" Stretched Rubber Belling. We carry in stock Yale and Torrey Holes up to six inch capacity; 220 & full line of Packing, Pipe, Valves and Mill Supplies.