

## PRIMARY BILL EXPECTED SOON

Page or Daughton Will Probably Be Chosen to Head Finance Committee—Bill to Protect Officers.

## TAX ON OWNERS OF PISTOLS IS PROPOSED

Measure Offered to Increase Property Holding Powers of Wake Forest College, by Senator Ward.

(By W. T. Bost).

Raleigh, Jan. 12.—The state-wide primary bill, forecast for this week has not been offered in either house of the general assembly today, but the rumors fly thick that the measure will make a start within the next three or four days.

A dull record was the fifth of the days. Local bills were offered generously for an hour or less and adjournment came until this morning. Speaker Wooten named a formidable list of committees but the all important one, the chairmanship of the finance organization, is yet in the speaker's creation.

Henry A. Page and R. A. Doughton are the only members seriously discussed for this position, but there are other members with large interests and varied experience upon whom the speaker might decide.

This issue looks now to be one of the sharpest before the general assembly. Doughton and his western colleagues are united in their demand that the state live up to its existing contracts and give to the western part of the state the same aid that it has given to other sections.

In the house today, Representative J. J. Laughinghouse of Pitt, offered a bill taxing the owners of pistols the same amount as the poll in their respective counties and fixing a minimum fine of \$50 or imprisonment of six months upon all persons guilty of carrying these weapons.

By an act of Representative Battle of Nash, logging roads in the state will be authorized to carry passengers for compensation if the measure goes through. Mr. Battle presented that matter today.

More than 70 bills have now been offered in the house, but they have been almost wholly local. The second week began today.

Senator Ward offered in the senate yesterday a bill to increase the property holding power of Wake Forest college from \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000. It is understood that the college now has nearly \$1,000,000 endowment and any bequest or other gift that might come in excess of \$1,000,000 could not be accepted if the extension of limit is not made.

## WORK IS DONE ON HIWASSEE

Large Force of Men at Work on New Railway Line of Standard Gauge, Andrews to Haysville.

## \$150,000 BOND ISSUES SOLD TO LOCAL FIRM

C. N. Malone & Co. Purchases Municipal Bonds for Construction of Road—Will Open Rich Section.

The Hiwassee Valley railroad, a standard gauge road from Andrews, in Cherokee county, to Haysville, in Clay county, is now under construction. This is to be a municipally owned railroad and will be 26 miles in length. It will be the first railway line to enter Clay county and will open up one of the finest sections of virgin timber forests in western North Carolina.

A large force of men is being worked and it is stated that the line will be completed and traffic opened within a year. It is one of the biggest projects undertaken in this section for several years, and it seems to indicate very clearly that there is little depression in the business of the section now being experienced. It likewise adds a touch of optimism of a rosecate hue to the outlook for the future.

This railway line is being constructed by the Clay county and Valleytown township of Cherokee county, each having voted bonds in the sum of \$75,000 for the purpose of constructing it.

of \$75,000 for the purpose of constructing it. These bonds have been bought by C. N. Malone and company of this city and the money has already been turned over to the county and township for use in construction work.

Both Clay county and Valleytown township have employed a large force of men, and work is progressing rapidly from each end of the line. The fund already raised is sufficient, it is stated, to grade and lay the track for the new line.

The new line will parallel the Southern from Andrews to Marble, and will then cross the rough mountain country into Clay. It is the plan at some future date to continue the road to Hiwassee, Ga., where it would connect with the Georgia Southern. It will have connection at this end with the Southern, and when future plans are carried out, a great section of western North Carolina's richest timber section will be opened to the outside world.

Expenditures of the house—Bryant, chairman; Newborne, Bell, Currier, Laughinghouse, Wall, Hoover, Kirtrell, Caraway, Smith of Wake, McKinnis, Grant, Dayton, Davis.

Courts and judicial districts—Vernon, chairman; Allred, Long of Halifax; Renfrow, Roberts of Rockingham, Witherspoon, Hendrix, Williams of Cabarrus, Deaver, Doughton, Bowie, Bynum, Page, Bennett, Winborne, Bailey.

## Great Armies Awaiting Spring For Renewal of Supreme Efforts

Meanwhile Great Britain Is Pouring Thousands of Men Into France Every Week; Germany Having Called Reserves Is Prepared to Direct Campaigns—Artillery Fight s and Sapping Operations Continue.

London, Jan. 12.—The Great armies battling in the east by means of artillery exchanges, sapping operations and trench attack seem to be in much the same situation as they were on January 1. Everywhere there seems a disposition to await the spring, when with fresh armies pouring into the various fields of battle, events are expected to move with more rapidity.

Germany still claims her troops are being called out, and Germany, it is declared, is prepared to assume the active directions of all the campaigns Austro-Hungarian against Serbia and Russia and Turkish against Russian and Great Britain. This in brief is the plan, British observers believe, will be followed subject to any changes which the entry of Roumania and Italy might necessitate.

German observers do not credit this idea, believing that General Von Hindenburg, the German commander, has further offensive strength, but at the same time attention is called to the fact that Russia evidently must feel very confident about the situation in Poland or she would not continue to pour her troops into Hungary through Bukovina.

## Servia Will Not Accept Port of Strip or Coast

Rome, Jan. 12.—Contrary to the statements in the newspapers of London, Paris and Berlin that an understanding had practically been reached by which Servia was to accept an outlet on the Adriatic sea, it is related in Servian official quarters that this concession will not be made.

Paris, Jan. 12.—The statement issued by the French war office concerning the progress of the war shows that at certain places there has been intermittent cannonading, but the action of the artillery has not had important results. In addition there has been some trench fighting which has resulted in gains for the French.

## ALABAMA HOUSES LED BY PROHIBITIONISTS

Montgomery, Ala., Jan. 12.—A. H. Carmichael, prohibitionist, was elected speaker of the house of the Alabama legislature today by a caucus in which the vote was 74 to 27.

## GERMAN CRUISER IS DAMAGED BY MINE

London, Jan. 12.—The German cruiser Bremen has arrived at Wilhelmshaven in a badly damaged condition, as a result of contact with a mine, according to dispatches to the Evening Star from Petrograd.

## DEATH OF GRAND DUKE DENIED IN PETROGRAD

Petrograd, Jan. 12.—Reports of the death of Grand Duke Alexander Michailovitch, brother of the Emperor of Russia, in the fighting in Persia are officially denied in Petrograd.

## Not Referring to Second Term, President Asserts

Washington, Jan. 12.—President Wilson declared today that he was not thinking of announcing his candidacy for the presidency in 1916, when in his address before the Indiana Democratic club at Indianapolis last week, he said that the people of the United States would have a chance to judge his acts in the future, which certain of his audience and others interpreted as a hint that he would be a candidate for re-nomination.

## TROUBLES OF THE DAY IN THE POLICE COURT

The following cases were called in Police court today: J. F. Hecker was fined \$25 and the costs on charges of keeping tubercular patients in violation of the city ordinance, with appeal bond fixed at \$100 for the present term of Superior court.

## Weaver Introduces Bill To Acquire Mt. Mitchell

Raleigh, Jan. 12.—Senator Weaver today introduced a bill to create a commission to acquire a portion of Mount Mitchell for a public park. The bill carries an appropriation of \$20,000. The assembly met at noon in joint session to canvass election returns.

## ALBANIAN INSURGENTS TO ATTACK DURAZZO

Athens, Jan. 12.—(By Way of London)—The Albanian insurgents, according to information received here, have occupied the heights of Rispoli and have placed guns there to be used against Durazzo, the Albania port which was recently occupied by the Italians, and where Ensal Pasha, his troops and representatives of the provisional government of Albania were stationed.

## ITALIANS ACQUITTED BY CROWN PROSECUTOR

Ancona, Italy, Jan. 11.—(Delayed)—Forty young Italians, arrested as they were about to cross the border to join the Garibaldian volunteers who are fighting in France, have been tried and acquitted. The crown prosecutor, in asking that they be released, stated that the mere fact that they were alleged to be attempting to cross the border did not constitute a crime forbidden in the penal code.

## MASS MEETING CALLED IS ISSUED

Asheville Citizens Are Called Together to Discuss Commission Form of Government for This City.

## MEETING TO BE HELD FRIDAY NIGHT, JAN. 15

Four of City's Leading Organizations Combine Efforts on Behalf of All Citizens and Issue the Call.

The preliminary step looking to the passage of a commission government charter for Asheville at the present session of the general assembly has been taken. This step is the call issued late yesterday afternoon by four of the city's leading organizations, the board of trade, the Merchants' association, Central Labor union and the University club, for a mass meeting of citizens at the county court house Friday night, January 15, at 8 o'clock.

The call for this mass meeting, in fact is the opening wedge by which Asheville people may secure a new form of government, a commission to replace the board of aldermen, if they want it. It is to be their mass meeting; and it is the desire of those who assumed the good office of calling it that everyone be present who possibly can.

Interest in a commission form of government has been increasing by leaps and bounds within the past few weeks, and since the general assembly convened little else has been talked on the streets. Practically everyone who expresses an opinion at all is apparently for commission form; but it is hoped that this feeling of unanimity will not interfere with the mass meeting attendance, because the attendance must be large and representative, and the demand for a change wholesome.

Some leading citizens will be selected to open the meeting Friday night, and then the gathering will be turned over completely to the citizens of Asheville, who may select officers and perfect the organization that is to decide whether or not Asheville wants commission government. It promises to be one of the largest and most representative gatherings held here in years.

The call for the meeting is signed by the following organizations: Asheville board of trade, by President W. Vance Brown; Asheville Merchants' association, by President M. Lipinsky; Central Labor union, by President J. H. Lindsey; and University club, by President James Taylor. Following is the draft of the call:

"A mass meeting of the citizens of Asheville is called by the undersigned organizations to meet in the court house next Friday evening, January 15, 1915, at 8 o'clock for the purpose of conferring together and taking such action as may be desired in regard to securing the passing of a bill by the general assembly allowing the citizens of Asheville to vote on the question of commission government for the city of Asheville and to take steps, if desired, towards preparing such amendments or change in the present city charter."

Several meetings were held at the board of trade rooms yesterday afternoon previous to the final issuing of the call. The legislative committee of the board of trade, which has been considering the question of commission government for some time, met and submitted the following report for consideration of the directors:

## ELECTION FRAUD CHARGED TO 114

Federal Authorities Prosecute Indictment for Conspiracy to Corrupt Election at Terre Haute, Ind.

## MAYOR, JUDGE, POLICE AND OTHERS INDICTED

Many Prominent Men of the City Named in Indictment—Confessions Were Made, It Is Said.

Indianapolis, Jan. 12.—Nine of the 114 men from Terre Haute who are under indictment in connection with the alleged election frauds pleaded guilty today in federal court when their cases were called.

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 12.—Charged under federal indictment with conspiracy to corrupt the election of November 3, 1914, in Terre Haute, 114 men, including Mayor Donn M. Roberts, are to be arraigned today before Federal Judge Anderson. According to Indianapolis lawyers, the Terre Haute investigation marks the first time the federal government has ever attempted jurisdiction in the election machinery. Frank C. Dailey, United States district attorney, who personally worked up the case before the grand jury, proceeded on the theory that since a United States senator and congressmen were elected in the election in question, any effort to manipulate the election by illegal means constituted fraud against the United States government.

Included in the 114 persons under indictment are 10 city and county officers, among them the mayor, a city judge, comptroller, chief of police, two members of the board of works, the sheriff, and a circuit judge. There are also 14 minor city employees facing the charge and others consist of attorneys, saloon men and so-called gamblers, but for the most part the defendants are persons of "occupations unknown."

Mr. Dailey declares he has confessions from several of the men and expects a number of the defendants to plead guilty; while others are expected to attempt to get around the indictment on demurrer pleas.

The indictments are in four counts. The first count charges violation of section 19 of the criminal code, the subject of which is conspiracy to injure persons in the exercise of their civil rights. The second count charges the defendants with conspiracy to defraud the United States. The third charges violation of the postal laws, in that the alleged conspiracy was furthered by the use of the mails, by soliciting for funds for a scheme to commit false registration.

## MRS. T. J. INGLE DIES AT AGE OF SEVENTY

Well Known Swannanoa Woman Passed Away Last Night.

Mrs. T. J. Ingle, aged 70, died at midnight last night at her home in Swannanoa, near Azalea, following a lingering illness. The deceased had been in failing health for some time and her death was not unexpected by her relatives and friends. She was well known in the county and had hosts of friends who will learn with deep regret of her passing.

Surviving are the husband and two sisters, Mrs. F. M. Stevens and Mrs. W. M. Sluder; and one brother, J. M. Brookshire, a member of the board of county commissioners. The funeral services will be held tomorrow at 11 o'clock at Gash's Creek Baptist church, of which the deceased was a consistent member. Rev. W. W. Marr, the pastor, will officiate at the services.

The board of deacons of the church will act as pallbearers, being as follows: W. J. Goldsmith, Fred Wilkerson, Virgil Sorrels, C. C. Koon, Luther Hart and J. R. Bryant.