

THE ALAMANCE GLEANER.

VOL. XLVII

GRAHAM, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1921

NO. 44

Extra Session Convened Tuesday

Met to Cure Defect in Municipal Finance Act and to Provide for Operation of Public Schools—Constitutional Amendment for Board of Pardons and State Australian Ballot May be Considered.

STATE BONDS BRING GOOD PREMIUM.

Largest Cooperative Association in America Organized—Negro Wild-cat Insurance Lodges Raided—Other News.

(By Maxwell Gorman.)

Raleigh, Dec. 6.—The extra session of the Legislature is assembling in Raleigh today, in pursuance to the call of the Governor for two specific purposes, namely, supplemental legislation relating to the operation of the public schools of the state (including the making of provision for the pay of teachers) and the curing of a defect in the municipal finance act.

The school deficit of \$700,000 will be taken care of through the simple process of a resolution empowering the State Treasurer to sell bonds for the purpose. The municipal finance bill is already in shape and actually passed by both branches, but the failure of the Senate journal clerk to properly record its passage in that body in its final reading (after being reconsidered and amended) rendered it worthless and the investment brokers would not buy bonds issued by any city under its authority. The defect can be cured by simply passing the bill over again, but it will take from six to eight days to do it, on its "several readings," etc.

The lawmakers are in no humor to stay here a day longer than necessary. But during the, say, ten days or two weeks the session is likely to last, a few matters of general public interest may be taken up.

One of these is a proposed amendment to the Constitution (which, of course, would be submitted to the people for ratification, if adopted by the Legislature), providing for a board of pardons. But it is certain to be rejected, just as several previous attempts have failed. Besides, the Governor is opposed to it.

Another measure proposed is for a state Australian (or "short ballot") law. But it will hardly get by. There is opposition to it, and if it is attempted to force its passage the debate it would entail would probably leave it stranded on the rocks when the two bodies adjourn sine die. That is the opinion expressed today by legislators of experience.

As to the much-mooted measure looking to the abolition of capital punishment—it hasn't a chance. One of the most effective arguments used against the proposition may be summed up in these few words, advanced by an influential believer in the necessity of the death penalty for all four offenses now listed as capital crimes, when there is conviction in the first degree—rape, murder, burglary, and arson. Said he: "Remove the electric chair or noose from the consideration of the 'Gorilla niggers' who assault defenceless white women, especially in the country, and two of the worst results would follow. There would be a great increase in this most brutal of crimes (some negroes of that class would not mind going to the prison farms for life or a term of years), and there would assuredly follow a statewide carnival of lynchings in North Carolina."

Of course a few minor bills, some of them local, will be passed

"between times," while the session lasts, but it can be said without doubt that any attempt to precipitate a line of general legislation would be killed without benefit of clergy. At most the "extra" can last but twenty days (without pay), and the time would be too short to consider and properly carry out a program of that character.

N. C. Bonds Sell Well.

State Treasurer B. R. Lacy announces that he closed negotiations with a New York syndicate for the sale of \$2,872,000 five percent forty-year North Carolina bonds at a premium of \$2.50 per hundred dollars. This syndicate was the same that recently purchased another large block of North Carolina bonds. State Treasurer Lacy expressed considerable satisfaction at the favorable return on the sale. The bonds are part of the batch authorized for buildings and institutions of the 1921 General Assembly. The syndicate purchasing was composed of First National Bank, No. 2 Wall Street; Stacy & Braun, Bankers Trust, and others. Big Tobacco Association Incorporated.

The Burley Tobacco Growers' Cooperative Association, controlling some 200,000,000 pounds of burley tobacco and with 50,000 members, the largest co-operative association ever organized in America, has been incorporated in the state of North Carolina. Charter was filed with the Secretary of State, and as soon as it is made legal to do so the association will be reincorporated in Kentucky. Aaron Sapiro, who drew the marketing contract, will return to Kentucky December 9, to advise in other matters of details in connection with the permanent organization and the elections, which will be held December 12, and which will be followed by the district meetings of delegates, which will choose directors for the twenty-two districts. These directors will handle the affairs of the 50,000 members of the association and the sale of their tobacco.

Negro Wild-Cat Insurance "Lodges" Raided.

The war which the State Insurance Department has started against some of the negro wild-cat "lodges" with insurance features whereby they have been fleecing thousands of innocent negro "members" for years, is bearing fruit. One fruitful source of operations the past week was Wilmington, and a report from that place states that Recorder Harris, of the New Hanover county court, found Andrew McKoy, Sargent Larkins and John C. Davis guilty of violating the insurance laws and fined them \$100 each and costs.

McKoy is president of the Sons and Daughters of the Tribe of Benjamin, and Larkins is an officer in it. The order has been in existence in Wilmington for 35 years and owns much property, including houses and building and loan stock.

John C. Davis is president of the Sons and Daughters of Pilgrims, an organization that has been operating under a charter for about one year, but which has been in existence about 30 years.

McKoy, Larkins and Davis are typical lodge leaders. They are sleek and well-fed in appearance, dress well and are great handshakers. There are hundreds of them in the state who "toil not, neither do they spin," but having had the wisdom and foresight to pick the easy-money route that lies through the negro lodge field, with its attractive insurance features and its great mystic appeal to the negro people, they are able to array themselves almost as gloriously as Solomon did.

Judge Harris' verdict was a great shock to the principals and the big crowd of lodge brethren and sisters who crowded the big county courtroom and heard it. Other prosecutions will follow in Wilmington and elsewhere.

State Folk Lore Society.

After a successful state meeting in Raleigh the Folk Lore Society elected W. J. Andrews of Raleigh president for the following year, succeeding Dr. James Sprunt of Wilmington. Mrs. S. Westray Battle of Asheville was named vice-president; Miss Maude Minnich

of Lenior second vice-president; Mrs. W. N. Reynolds of Winston-Salem third vice-president, and Dr. F. C. Brown of Trinity College was re-elected to succeed himself as secretary and treasurer. The retiring president, Dr. Sprunt, was detained at his home in Wilmington, but telegraphed his greetings to the society. His address was read to the assemblage by Dr. Brown.

Historical Association Officers.

After adopting resolutions directed to the State Text Book Commission asking that sectionalism be written out of the histories taught in the public schools of the state, declining to make any award of the Patterson cup this year, and electing Dr. W. R. Boyd, professor of History at Trinity College, to succeed Dr. D. H. Hill as president, the twenty-first annual meeting of the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association adjourned. Other officers chosen for the ensuing year were: Capt. S. A. Ashe, first vice-president; Mrs. D. H. Blair, Greensboro, second vice-president; Rev. John Jordan Douglass, Wadesboro, third vice-president; B. R. House, Raleigh, secretary and treasurer. The resolution condemning sectionalism in school text-books dealing with the Civil War had its beginnings at the morning session of the association, when Mrs. H. M. London of Pittsboro urged the immediate attention of the session to the necessity for history untainted with sectional unfairness. The matter was deferred and given into the hands of the committee on resolutions. Its report was formally adopted at the evening session.

Foch's Tribute To Lee.

Charlotte Observer.

The Macon News makes remark to the effect that while the Frenchmen and the Englishmen may be vague on some phases of American history, "we may always rely upon the fact that they know the names and characters of Lee and Jackson." The papers of the South have been making felicitous comment on the incident of Marshal Foch laying a wreath on the statue of General Lee and of making appreciative remarks on the life and character of the great Confederate chief. The Chattanooga News regards it as "a generous act and a fine tribute of one great soldier to another—a testimonial of appreciation fittingly bestowed." That paper makes the truthful statement that "millions of people who carry the memory of the immortal Lee enshrined in their hearts will laud the chivalrous thoughtfulness of the famous Frenchman."

And the Chattanooga paper proceeds in giving voice to Southern sentiment that there is no finer character in American history—no one whose every action proceeded from a more compelling conception of duty than Lee. He was a great soldier, one of the greatest. Yet he was probably greater in defeat than in victory. The lofty righteousness of his personal character and the unsullied purity of his private life shown with peculiar effulgence in the days after his military glory had passed. For one thing, General Lee accepted the fortune of battle in ungrudging spirit. No one ever heard him murmur. He set an example to his vanquished people, the effect of which has not been lost to this good day. He wanted to heal the breach in all good faith. So unselfish was he in the pursuit of his purpose that those he fought were glad to seek his advice and counsel. Robert E. Lee left his great name as a heritage of his people. He bluntly refused to barter it for personal advantage. What he did, he did with wholeness of heart and singleness of purpose. He could not be persuaded to diverge from this line of action. His place in impartial history is secure. Marshal Foch has done nothing more graceful during his visit to America than the homage he paid to the greatness of Robert E. Lee.

The Macon paper which supplied us with the opening quotation, makes remark that "we felt kindly toward our friends across the sea, air-ady, but this graceful gesture on part of Marshal Foch, will make the ties stronger than ever"—and that represents the sentiment of the South in general.

Sign Posts Confuse Traveler.

Mileage sign posts along the State highways, once a great aid to motorists, have become to some extent a source of annoyance and confusion. The early mileage signs erected for the motorist's use were built by the State authorities, and accurately denoted the distances from town to town. Entering advertisers now are employing the mileage posts to a great extent, but frequently with little regard for accuracy.

In a nearby State, for example, within the space of less than a city block are to be found three posts. The official State sign gives the distance to the nearest city as fourteen miles. Two hundred feet away is an oil company's advertisement showing the town is fifteen miles off. Adjoining the gasoline advertisement is the third post erected by the leading hotel of the town, and showing the city to be twelve miles up the road.

On a New Jersey road were noted three signs giving the distance to New York city: as sixty-three, forty and seventy-two miles, all three posts standing within a mile of each other.

Eastport, Me., is the most easterly city in the United States.

Christmas Seals Will Help

Fight White Plague.

Beginning December 1st Tuberculosis Christmas seals went on sale. The fight against tuberculosis is probably the most important phase of the great National Health crusade in which North Carolina is doing such a creditable part, and the proceeds of the sale of seals help to carry it forward. This work is being directed by Dr. L. B. McBrayer.

The tuberculosis slogan is: "Every person in North Carolina who has tuberculosis has a right to know it, and to be properly treated for it, and to be so supervised that he will not communicate it to others."

The population of the state is 2,559,123; 1,783,779 white and 775,344 colored. The number of deaths in 1920 from tuberculosis was 2,808; 1,449 white against 1,459 colored.

An economic loss of over \$200,000 annually is suffered by North Carolina as a result of tuberculosis while the counties do not average spending \$500 each in combating the spread of the disease.

One death in every eleven is caused by tuberculosis. North Carolina has maintained a steady decline in number of deaths each

year, in spite of the numerous patients from other states, while the rate has been rising in other states.

Gaston and Guilford counties have called elections for December to decide whether or not these counties shall erect tuberculosis hospitals. It is believed that both counties will not fail to carry a favorable majority.

Tanlac has made life worth living for millions of people who had almost given up hope. It will do the same for you. Sold by Farrell Drug Co., Graham, N. C.

Nova Scotia has salt beds covering an area of 47 square miles.

Most Chinese women can neither read nor write.

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven Catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address: F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by Druggists; 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Old University Inn

Burned At Chapel Hill.

The University inn, a celebrated resort that has spoiled the campus view for many years, was destroyed in a spectacular fire on the afternoon of Dec. 30th. It was purchased by the university a few years ago, with its ultimate destruction in view, and was used as a dormitory.

A blaze was discovered issuing from under the eaves just as the students had sat down to dinner. About sixty students were housed in the building. Everything was thrown out of the windows as fast as the occupants and their friends could do it—iron and wooden beds, mattresses, sheets, blankets, clothing, trunks, bureaus, books.

The damage is estimated at \$30,000, and is fully covered by insurance.

This was the first test the Chapel Hill fire company has had since it bought its splendid red LaFrance engine, and Captain Foster and men did excellent work. To save the main part of the inn was out of the question, but the annex, stretching south toward the alumni building, was saved.

The one-story section of brick, which once served as quarters for James K. Polk, President of the United States, was gutted, but the metal plate reciting the fact of the President's visit to his alma mater was taken down before the flames came near.

Nobody knows the origin of the fire. It began in a second or third story room.

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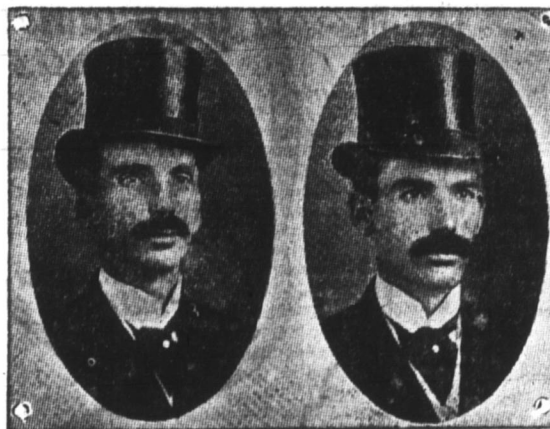
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On December 10th, we will sell for H. M. Ray, 30 Lots located 3 blocks southeast of Graham Court House. These lots are 100 x 200 feet and will be sold regardless of price on easy terms. Also 19 lots on electric car line near White Mills, and 6 acres adjoining the 19 lots. Sale will start promptly at 2 o'clock on lots southeast of Court House.

Saturday, Dec. 10, 2 p. m.

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