

GOVERNOR'S ROAD PROPOSAL MEETS DEFEAT IN HOUSE

Lower Body Recommends Investigation of Passenger Rates

OPPOSITION TO SALARY INCREASES HOLDING FIRM

Members Are Against Appointment of Commission To Draft Suitable Road Legislation For Enactment By Regular Session; Pharr Opposed To Kirkpatrick Plan

Flat rejection of the Governor's proposal that the General Assembly create at this session a commission to prepare a suitable road bill for enactment at the regular session in January and the passage of a resolution asking the Corporation Commission to maintain the present intrastate passenger rates marked the morning session of the House yesterday.

With the revenue and school bills, the salient increase pay bill and the bulk of the local legislation out of the way, the House adjourned at 1:30 until 8 o'clock.

It was rather queer action the House took on the resolution to appoint a commission to draft a suitable road law. There were several amendments adopted changing the phraseology of the resolution and striking out the provision for the expense of the commission which apparently left the bill in satisfactory shape. On a vote a moment later it was overwhelmingly defeated and even more of those voting against were surprised.

Col. Benham Cameron loomed as the foremost champion of the resolution, which was introduced as the direct consequence of the Governor's special message a few days ago urging the appointment of such a commission consisting of members of the present General Assembly and members of the present Highway Commission.

One of the first things the House proceeded to do was to strike out of the resolution a clause reading: "Whereas, the present laws are inadequate." That is developed later, was the chief bone of contention. It was the House opinion on road legislation that prevailed at the last regular session. The members of the lower body are not without pride in their work and they accepted the language of the resolution as some reflection of their law making capabilities.

Edgar W. Pharr, of Charlotte, wanted the resolution adopted. A strong reason he urged was the opposition of Col. F. L. Roy Kirkpatrick, of Charlotte, to the passage of the resolution. Col. Kirkpatrick, after reading the Governor's message, wrote Mr. Pharr that the Road Roads Association of North Carolina, at a convention here on the eve of the session, commissioned him to draft the future road legislation of North Carolina.

Brown, of Pitt, excoriated the Governor's recommendations as a whole but in doing so he won neither applause from members or votes for the opposition. The House rather gave him the horse laugh for objecting to the Governor's proposal regarding the appointment of a Commission to look into the road relations in North Carolina.

Colonel Cameron was willing to strike out of the resolution the provision for the per diem and mileage of the proposed commission and the House let this amendment in before it slaughtered the whole resolution.

The matter is a compromise.

The House yesterday passed the Shepherd bill to fix interstate passenger rates after the committee had declined to take any part in the freight rate question. Representative Shepherd wanted the General Assembly to instruct the Corporation Commission not to raise intrastate freight or passenger rates until an investigation can be made and a report submitted to the regular session dealing with transportation problems in North Carolina.

The pending Virginia cities case, which the railroads are seeking to reopen, furnished the base of the argument for the original bill. The petition of the railroads for an increase in passenger fares in North Carolina furnished the argument for the substitute bill. Following is the resolution as passed:

"The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

"Section 1. That the rate to be charged for interstate transportation of passengers by common carriers by rail shall not exceed three cents per mile for the transportation of each passenger for each mile traveled between points in North Carolina; provided, however, that independently owned and operated railroad companies in North Carolina whose mileage of road in said State is one hundred miles or less may charge a rate twenty per cent higher than the rate above specified; but this proviso shall not extend to branch lines of railroad companies controlling over one hundred miles of road, whether chartered in or out of the State.

"Sec. 2. The Corporation Commission of the State of North Carolina is hereby authorized and directed to make a full and complete investigation of the conditions of passenger transportation by rail and by water in North Carolina and make a report to the next General Assembly of North Carolina; and the Governor of the State of North Carolina is authorized and empowered to employ such additional expert aid as he may think necessary or advisable to assist the Corporation Commission in making such investigation and report.

"Sec. 3. That such report when made shall be filed with the Governor and be by him transmitted to the next General Assembly."

Rate Raleigh Justice's Salary.

The House passed on final reading yesterday the Senate bill providing a \$800 increase in salary for Judge W. C. Harris, police court justice of Raleigh. The bill increases his compensation from \$2,900 to \$3,700.

An aftermath from the McNeill-Breece scrap in the Senate Monday evening was an amendment offered yesterday to the substitute previously agreed upon by which the books of Cumberland county are to be audited, beginning with the year 1916, and continuing to date.

Farmers Begin Eighteenth Annual State Convention

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is known as a pardoning governor, and then added:

"Hereafter, if you hear anyone poisoning the minds of the farmers about this great and just reform, you can kiss him, and I'll pardon you."

Dr. Clarence Post, in his presidential address, which closed the morning program, insisted that the supreme duty of North Carolina farmers is to work out "in North Carolina a superb rural civilization, a rural civilization which will excel that of other States to as great an extent as our crop values already excel those of other States."

The Hear and Brain.

"Too often the idea has seemed to be that the farmer exists merely to supply food and raiment for urban civilization. The farmer has been long enough called 'the backbone of the nation.' It is time to realize that he is also, to a great extent, its heart and brain. The aim of society and government must be to develop a civilization, equally rich, beautifully varied and vital in both town and country."

This development, Dr. Post maintained, can be secured by more efficient public school system by a revolutionary development of real community spirit in rural North Carolina, and by an enrichment of country life.

"What we ought to do first of all is to get rid of the miserable, makeshift one-teacher schools in North Carolina and set out, instead, to put school advantages within reach of every country boy and girl in the State."

Strong as may be our prejudices against the word 'consolidated,' he added, "we had better sacrifice our prejudices than our children."

Discuss Pastures and Fences.

The men's meeting yesterday afternoon was devoted to a discussion of pastures and fences.

Although the statement was made that grazing has been the most neglected phase of agriculture, the interest taken in the subject in North Carolina was manifested by the close attention paid the speakers by the 200 members of the convention.

The diversion of more land to grazing purposes was declared to be the only way in which North Carolina farmers can combat the labor shortage and raise the level of production in the State from 50 per cent to 100 per cent by C. V. Piper of the United States Department of Agriculture and Dan T. Gray of the North Carolina Experiment Station.

Mr. Piper declared that practically all the land in North Carolina is available for grazing purposes except those portions of Eastern North Carolina that have a dry, sandy soil. He stated that the Department of Agriculture has recently imported a new kind of grass from China that it is hoped it will thrive in such soil. Mr. Piper emphasized the fact that all of the grasses that have been most successfully used for grazing in this country, including the blue grass that is commonly supposed to be a native variety, have been imported. Eastern North Carolina farmers were urged to make a wider use of the "carpet grass," a variety that has not yet been extensively used in this State, but which has been found eminently satisfactory in the coastal plains of other Southern States.

"It is impossible to over graze pastures to the extent that the usual varieties of grass will be injured," declared Mr. Piper in urging the fallacy of grazing pastures too lightly. He stated that exhaustive experiments conducted by the Department of Agriculture at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and other places had shown conclusively that pastures are improved by heavy grazing and that there is no merit in the system of alternate grazing.

J. L. Holliday of Williamston and J. E. Latham, of Greensboro, spoke upon the methods they had employed in getting good pastures in Eastern North Carolina and Piedmont North Carolina, respectively. Mr. Latham made the constructive suggestion that teachers in public schools in rural communities be encouraged to teach the names of common varieties of plants and weeds. Numerous questions were asked all of the speakers by members of the convention.

After the meeting adjourned, members of the convention witnessed demonstrations in use of tractors, silage making, tile laying, ditching, terracing and dynamiting stumps at the State College farm.

Adjournment of House Scheduled Early Thursday

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ton, D. C., on the 9th day of December, A. D. 1919.

No. 5438.

Corporation Commission of the State of North Carolina

Southern Railway Company, et al.

"It appearing, that on January 11, 1919, complainant herein filed a complaint alleging that the rates and charges exacted and collected by defendants for the transportation by them between eastern points and points within the State of North Carolina of various kinds and classes of property are unreasonable and unjustly discriminatory in violation of sections 1 and 3 of the Act to regulate commerce and that certain through rates were in violation of section 4 of said act;

"It further appearing, that the matter has been held in abeyance, in accordance with complainant's request, and that complainant has been notified that the case would be dismissed unless it should, on or before November 1, 1919, notify the Commission of its desire to prosecute the same;

And it further appearing, that complainant has failed to so notify the Commission or to further prosecute the complaint;

It is ordered, that the complaint in this proceeding, and it is hereby dismissed.

By the Commission:

GEORGE B. MCGINTY, Secretary.

"Now therefore be it resolved, that a committee of two from the Senate and three from the House of Representatives be appointed whose duty it shall be to investigate the conduct of the Corporation Commission relative to any complaints brought to its attention concerning the removal of the unjust discrimination of freight rates so long practiced against the shippers of this State and especially as to the charges above referred to and make report to the Governor within forty days, which report shall be open for inspection by any citizen of the State, and the Gov-

error shall transmit the same to the next General Assembly.

Section 2. That said committee shall have power to summon and compel attendance of witnesses and to compel production of books, records and papers.

Section 3. That the members of said committee shall be paid the per diem of the members of the General Assembly and actual expense while conducting said investigation, to be approved by the chairman of the committee and paid out of the general funds of the State.

"Section 4. This resolution shall be in force from and after its ratification."

House Holds Down Salary Bills.

The House, at the night session, literally howled down the four bills to raise the salaries of constitutional officers, State officers, justices of the peace and superior courts and clerks in the several departments.

The outstanding objection to raising anybody's salary was "this is not the opportune time." Representatives Redwine of Union, Winborne of Hertford, and Darden of Greensboro, spoke as exponents of the proposed measures.

Representative Grice was willing for the salaries of the clerks to be raised but objected to any amendment authorizing department heads to employ such additional temporary or permanent clerical assistance as they thought necessary. This was struck from the bill but in no way helped it on third reading. The vote was overwhelmingly against it.

Louder and larger was the vote against raising the salaries of the constitutional officers, although Representative Pharr explained that there is considerable doubt as to whether a regular session can legally do this. As a result of the heavy vote against raising the constitutional officers, the other bills were tabled on the motion of the authors.

Ray's Dog Law Changed.

Having gone through fifteen days of the session without being awakened, the famous Ray dog bill came to life last night as a bill to amend it went through the House on all readings. It takes away from the Commissioner of Agriculture the duty of purchasing the tags for distribution to counties and places this job upon the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Another slight amendment to the same bill was adopted to avoid conflict of the State law with municipal laws which are working alright.

Primary Repeal By Referendum Passes Senate

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ing and goes over to the House for concurrence. The bill provides a sliding scale of fees to collectors ranging downward from the \$40 given for conviction in capital cases to \$10 a lesser offense. The maximum in the old schedule was \$25 for murder cases.

Senator Carr offered a bill requiring that every automobile driver on approaching a railroad crossing shall stop his car within 50 feet of the nearest rail of such crossing and observe if any trains are approaching. The penalty attached is 90 days imprisonment or \$50 fine or both. The bill went to the calendar committee for consideration.

Senate Night Session

Last night the Senate passed the final reading of the Revenue bill, without further amendment, and disposed of a mass of minor legislation, tabling some of it and passing some of it, and ended with a partisan flare-up when the committee reported without prejudice a bill to repeal the Absentee voter's law. Three Republican Senators undertook to convict the majority party of using the law unlawfully, and Senators Stacy and Thompson retaliated.

When the Revenue bill came up for a final reading, Senator Glidewell offered an amendment taxing dealers in patent medicines \$50 per year. Whereupon the farmer vote gave place to the keeper-of-the-small-store vote in the cry of the opponents of the amendment. It was voted down, and Senator Glidewell offered another that taxed only the wholesale dealers in proprietary remedies. That died likewise, and he offered a series of others, beginning with a \$25 tax on retailers and coming down by \$5 stages as each amendment was killed. The bill then came on its final reading.

The Humphrey Divorce bill got called back, and there was a listless discussion over its provisions for a quarter of an hour before the Senate voted 23 to 21 to let it lie on the table for the remainder of the session. The bill for reciprocity in the matter of licenses to practice law was the recipient of favorable action, and the various measures for the relief of clerks, pages, janitors, laborers, etc., providing them with extra compensation, came up and passed without dissent.

The Senate declined to concur in the House resolution to adjourn tomorrow morning at 1 o'clock, but will consider it further today after it examines the calendar at greater length. There yet remains a mass of legislation on the calendar to be looked after and some Senators do not believe that an orderly completion of business can be effected so early.

Senator Long, of Montgomery, began a political speech, the first of the season, when he arose to declare that he would vote for a party that left an absentee voter's law on the books. He denounced the administration of the law by the Democrats. Senator Thompson declared that the law was right in spirit and deserving of the support of both Republican and Democrat.

Senator Sisk, the firebrand from Macon, took the cudgels from Long and declared that he hoped that the Democrats would not repeal it, since it was one of the best pieces of campaign thunder in the possession of the Republican party. He clared that soldiers in France had been defrauded out of their vote because the Democrats controlled the elections machinery and voted the absentees as they wished.

Senator Carr got up and asked:

"Who was the commander in chief of the army?"

"I am not smart enough to tell," replied the irate gentleman from Macon.

"Wasn't Gen. Pershing?" persisted the Duplin Senator.

"I have heard it was, but I don't know."

Whatever was on the mind of Senator Carr was lost when Stacy claimed the floor and challenged the good faith of the Republicans in offering the bill. He commented them for the spirit that they had shown in drafting for the revocation act, and for voting with it in the special session. He hoped that the Democrats would kill the bill and take up the challenge issued by the Republicans. Senator Fibur, of Sampson, arose and in a loud voice denounced

ROUND AND ABOUT NORTH CAROLINA

Waco Business Men Coming.

Charlotte, Aug. 24.—Delegation composed of 25 prominent business and professional men from Waco, Texas, touring the south to inspect the textile industry, will arrive in Charlotte today. They will spend the day in Gastonia coming to Charlotte this afternoon.

Wants to Look Over Candidates.

Asheville, Aug. 24.—Following the action of the city commissioners yesterday in accepting the resignation tendered by M. K. Weber, superintendent of city schools, on August 7, telegrams were sent by the board to several applicants for the place, to appear here in person, so that their claims could be reviewed and the board get better acquainted with them.

Mrs. T. C. Carter Dies.

Mebane, Aug. 24.—Mrs. Thomas C. Carter, wife of Mebane's prominent attorney at law, died Sunday morning in Rex hospital after an illness of several months. Mrs. Carter had been reported the day before as better and her death came as a shock. She was before her marriage, Miss Lucy Dixon, of Snow Camp. She leaves two little girls, Mary Dixon and Rebecca, and a host of sorrowing friends and relatives in Mebane and over the country. Funeral services were held at her home on Holt street in Mebane and the interment took place at Snow Camp Monday afternoon.

SCHOOLS OPEN NEXT MONTH

Students Buy Printing for Opening of Schools.

Every school child and college student should have a good Fountain Pen. The "M. T. Parker Special" is the ideal pen for the student as well as for the grown folks. It is a medium size, safety, self-filler, the latest improved style—writes smoothly always, never leaks, and is guaranteed to give three years' satisfactory service.

In order to introduce this wonderful new pen into every locality we make this wonderful offer: Simply send us your name and address—no money—and we will send the pen by parcel post, prepaid. When it comes, merely deposit 90 cents with the postman to help pay for advertising, boxing, etc. If you are not satisfied we will return it to us within 5 days and we will back you deposit, but if you decide to keep it, it's yours—there's nothing more to pay. This offer applies to every one, both students and grown folks, but there will only be a limited number given away on this plan.

Send your name today (a postal will do) so as to be sure and get one. Address The M. T. Parker Co., Dept. B, 201 Haywood St., Asheville, N. C. (Adv.)

Give Crosses of Honor.

Asheville, Aug. 24.—Before what was probably the largest gathering of Civil War Veterans in Buncombe county within the past three years, eight crosses of honor were yesterday bestowed on those who by their merit won them. The presentation took place in the courthouse at a joint meeting of the Fanny Patton chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Reb Vance Camp of the Confederate Veterans.

Negro Killed in Tarboro.

Tarboro, Aug. 24.—Sunday morning when the 4 o'clock train reached Tarboro from a Norfolk Eddie "oka, a negro from Rocky Mount, was hit on the head by an unknown negro and his skull crushed in such a way that he lived only about an hour after he was taken to a hospital nearby. A negro was seen running down the track and several negroes followed until he slipped off into the woods. They were afraid to go further. No reason for the crime has been found.

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THE most refreshing thirst-quencher you have ever tasted. Served with either charged or plain water. Also delicious in ice cream sodas and as a topping for sundaes.

For six year olds or sixty—ask the man at the fountain.

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