

THE WEATHER  
North Carolina - Fair and continued cold Saturday; Sunday cloudy and warmer.

# The News and Observer

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VOL. CXVII. NO. 55. TEN PAGES TODAY. RALEIGH, N. C., SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 24, 1923. TEN PAGES TODAY. PRICE: FIVE CENTS

## ABANDON HOPE OF ENACTING HARDING SHIPPING SUBSIDY

Funeral of President's Pet Measure Expected In The Senate Today

BITTER BATTLE OVER WILCOX NOMINATION  
Congressman Claude Kitchin Fires Broadside at Acting Postmaster at Halifax When Hearing Begins; Many Witnesses For and Against Wilcox

News and Observer Bureau, 406 District National Bank Bldg. By EDWARD E. BRITTON. (By special leased wire).  
Washington, Feb. 23.—"They are hanging Danny Deever in the morning" is the appropriate designation of the present status of the ship subsidy bill and the spirit of that doleful song hits the state of mind of the Republicans of the Senate, who have been earnest in an attempt to carry out the wishes, one might say the orders, of President Harding with regard to the enactment into law of his pet project, which he has been trying to force down the throat of Congress with the aid of the "time clocks." It is all up with the Harding affair, for now, with the funeral date of the ship subsidy bill not very far off, for its friends and backers confess that while it is still breathing, the physicians of the Old Guard have given up all hope and it is only the matter of a short time before the remains will be toted out of the Senate chamber.

## WOMAN POLLARD WAS CHARGED WITH KILLING



Mrs. Thelma Ham Richardson, whose death at Richmond, December 11, resulted in a murder charge being brought against Thomas Pollard, well-known young Richmond business man. Pollard, after a trial of nearly two weeks, was yesterday acquitted by a jury in Hastings court. Mrs. Richardson was Pollard's former stenographer.

## THOMAS POLLARD FREED BY JURORS

Found Not Guilty of Murder of Mrs. Thelma Richardson at Richmond

Richmond, Va., Feb. 23.—Thomas Pollard, prominent young business man, was found not guilty of the murder of Mrs. Thelma Ham Richardson by a jury here tonight. The verdict was reported at 7:10 o'clock, after the jury had deliberated the case less than two hours. A bench fell over the crowd which filled the court room as the jury filed in and reported to Judge David C. Richardson that they had agreed. The defendant sat with his counsel, his eyes fixed upon the 12 men in the jury box. Sobs shook his body as the clerk of the court read the words which meant liberty.

When the verdict was read and before the jury was discharged, Pollard's friends closed about him to shake his hand. His two brothers were among the first to congratulate him and a few minutes later, he left the Hastings court building a free man.

The acquittal of Pollard ended one of the most sensational trials in Virginia's criminal court history, rivaling even the famous trial of Henry Clay Beattie, who paid the death penalty for the murder of his wife. The sordid details of Pollard's relations with the dead woman, extending over a period of months, were brought out by various witnesses and admitted by the defendant himself.

History of Case.  
Mrs. Richardson, formerly Miss Thelma Ham, of Atlanta, was shot to death on the lawn of the Pollard home on the night of December 11, following a quarrel with Pollard. She had gone to the Pollard residence in company with J. Mosby West for the purpose, the prosecution alleged, of seeking an understanding with Pollard concerning his attentions to Mrs. Bertha Louise Beck. There was a quarrel, a struggle and the flash of a pistol and Mrs. Richardson was killed by a bullet which penetrated her heart.

Pollard was arrested and West was held as an accessory. A few hours after the killing Pollard was released under \$10,000 bond and a few days later the warrant against West was dismissed.

Jury Hard To Get.  
Near four days were required for the selection of the trial jury, approximately 300 veniremen being called. Numerous witnesses were called and told their versions of the killing and the events preceding it. A number of defense witnesses testified regarding threats Mrs. Richardson was said to have made against Pollard.

## SAMS DENOUNCES KU KLUX OPENING SENATE OFFENSIVE

Senate Passes Substitute for Usury Repeal Law Limiting It To Private Corp.

TAX EXEMPTION FIGHT PROMISES TO BE CLOSE

Giles Farm Loan Measure Is Special Order Today When Effort Will Be Made To Substitute For Its Provisions Appointment of Investigating Commission

Revival of the Long bill repealing the usury law in respect to private corporations and passage of a substitute limiting the provisions of the measure, passage of the Sams bill classifying automobile license tags and defeat of the Tapp-Hargett bill rendering members of the General Assembly ineligible for appointment to offices which they helped create and constitutional amendment increasing pay of legislators stood out as the most important of the definite actions of two long sessions that yesterday carried the Senate through its calendar.

A ringing denunciation of the Ku Klux Klan by Senator A. P. Sams, Forsyth, came at the night session, but the Ku Klux measure first set as a special order for yesterday morning and then deferred until last night were finally carried over until Wednesday at twelve o'clock.

The Senate last night stripped its decks for the last grand with the agreement to appoint today a calendar committee to fill the functions previously exercised by 43 standing committees and sessions are expected to be almost continuous from now on although public hearings before committees have been arranged for the solicitor's salary bill this afternoon and the Bowie railroad bill for Tuesday afternoon.

The Giles Farm Loan bill is the principal item for today, with the fight expected on the Sams substitute to defer action and appoint a legislative committee to investigate. The Senate will receive the Finance Act from the House today and it will go on its second reading Monday. A repetition of the bitter fight precipitated in the House by the Parker amendment exempting stocks of foreign corporations from taxation is expected, with those on both sides admitting that the vote will be close. The fight to strike amendment from the bill will be led by Senator Varse, chairman of the Finance Committee, and Senator Sams, who so far has been the outstanding floor leader of the Senate.

Senator W. L. Long, president pro tempore of the Senate, will lead the defense of the amendment and debate upon the measure is expected to be general.

The bill enacting substance of the Volstead Act into the State law is set for Tuesday at noon and the Bowie bill will come up Tuesday night.

## Appropriations Bill Will Exceed Budget Estimates

Bond Measure Will Be Introduced In Blank This Morning To Save Legislative Day; Senate Committee Orders Half Million For Fisheries

The general appropriations bill will be introduced in the House of Representatives this morning in blank and the items to be carried in the bill providing for bond issues will be thrashed out at a full meeting of the joint committee on appropriations Monday afternoon so that the measure can be placed on its second reading in the House Monday night. The companion bill providing appropriations for maintenance for the several institutions will follow shortly. Every indication is that the bond bill will probably carry a total in excess of the \$8,775,000 recommended by the Budget Commission.

At the suggestion of Representative Murphy, chairman of the House committee, the joint committee yesterday authorized introduction of the blank bill and authorized to save a legislative day and order the same sub-committee that has conducted the hearings upon the various appropriations to draft the

## Sanatorium Investigation Probably To Be Prolonged

Resolution Introduced Last Night Defines and Enlarges Powers PROVIDES FOR REPORT AFTER ADJOURNMENT

Hearing Brings Out More Testimony On Institution Conditions

Prolongation of the legislative investigation into Superintendent L. B. McBrayer's conduct of the State Sanatorium past the time for adjournment of the General Assembly was postponed yesterday by the introduction of a resolution in the House by Representative T. C. Wolfe, chairman of the investigating committee, extending the time for the committee's operation and providing for a report of its findings after the adjournment of the General Assembly to the governor and council of state.

The resolution as introduced defining and enlarging the powers of the committee represent the sentiment of the committee expressed yesterday morning following the proposal by Senator Ebbs at the hearing. With necessary routine legislation crowding every hour of available legislative working time, Senator Ebbs expressed some doubts as to whether the committee could devote such time to the investigation as justice to both sides of the matter would require. Other members of the committee expressed the same view.

While attorneys for N. I. Broughton, proponent of the investigation, stated that probably two more sittings of the committee would be sufficient to complete their case, Judge Walter Neal, for Dr. McBrayer, stated that he would probably introduce between 35 and 37 witnesses.

When the question came up as to the possible discontinuance of hearings until after the adjournment of the Legislature, John Hinesdale, attorney for Dr. McBrayer, reminded the committee that a number of witnesses had been subpoenaed from a distance to testify and suggested that these witnesses would be placed under a great hardship if required to go back to their homes now and return later, making two trips instead of one. Judge Neal wanted a list of these witnesses which, for the time being, Mr. Hinesdale refused to furnish.

The matter of cross-examination of witnesses who have been subpoenaed by counsel for Dr. McBrayer with privilege of recalling them came up sharply yesterday.

## HARDING TO TAKE HAND IN FRAMING CREDITS MEASURE

Undertakes To Mediate In Fight Between Republican House Leaders

COMPOSITE MEASURE NOW BEING DRAFTED

Lenroot-Anderson Measure, Opposed By Mellon and Approved By Hoover and Wallace, Center of Controversy; Harding Wants Relief For Farmers

Washington, Feb. 23.—President Harding has undertaken to straighten out the farm-credits legislative program, which has caused a bitter fight among Republican leaders in the House and a difference of opinion in his Cabinet.

The controversy in Congress has centered largely around the Lenroot-Anderson measure, provisions of which have been assailed by Secretary Mellon as "dangerous" and "unworkable," but which received public endorsement today by Secretaries Wallace and Hoover.

A White House spokesman, in making known that Mr. Harding had urged Republican House managers to effect a compromise, said the Lenroot-Anderson measure was included in the administration's program. At the same time Chairman McFadden, of the House banking committee, stated that the principal provisions of the original Lenroot-Anderson bill would be incorporated in the composite credits legislation which his committee is drafting.

The President, it was stated officially, was seeking to fulfill the administration program on rural credits, and felt confident that legislation providing effective relief for the farmer would be enacted before Congress adjourns March the fourth.

Want Adequate Bill.  
Chairman McFadden said his committee was endeavoring to draft a bill which would meet with general approval and one embracing the main features of the Capper bill, passed by the Senate, and the Strong bill, passed by the House, as well as the Lenroot-Anderson bill. Asserting that the Senate Lenroot-Anderson bill was quite different from the original Lenroot-Anderson bill approved by the joint commission on agricultural inquiry, Mr. McFadden said his committee, in dealing with this measure, would give attention to the criticisms of the Senate bill made by Secretary Mellon.

Approval of the Lenroot-Anderson bill by Secretaries Hoover and Wallace was given in letters sent today to Representative Anderson, Republican, Minnesota, chairman of the joint commission on agricultural inquiry. Secretary Hoover wrote that "we would feel that it would fall a great disservice if the bill should fall to become a law," while Secretary Wallace argued that to offer the Capper credits bill as a substitute "would give the farmers the best of reasons for feeling that in reply to their request for bread they had been offered a stone."

## Kohloss Transferred To National Capital



Washington, Feb. 23.—R. A. Kohloss, North Carolina State Prohibition Director, today was transferred to the general staff of the Prohibition Bureau here. He will be succeeded as State Director by Allan B. Coltrane, now assistant director.

In announcing the change, Commissioner Hayes said that Mr. Kohloss had made an "enviable record" as state director and that it was that fact which led to his assignment to headquarters here.

## BLACK TROOPS IN OCCUPIED REGION

So Declares Information From Berlin; Withdrawal Later Is Reported

Washington, Feb. 23.—New French colonial troops have entered the Ruhr, the German Embassy said today it had been informed in official information received from Berlin. The statement added that "colored troops of the Seventh French Colonial Regiment have entered Werdun, Veldert and Kupferdreh and have been billeted there in private homes."

## DISASTROUS FIRE AT NAVAL STORES PLANT

Pensacola, Fla., Feb. 23.—Loss from a fire which last night swept the yards of the Naval Stores and Warehouse company, at Gouling, a suburb of Pensacola, was estimated early today at \$300,000.

## VIOLATED STATE CHILD LABOR LAW

Manager Charlotte Theatre Convicted In Recorder's Court

Charlotte, Feb. 23.—Ralph D. Debruler, manager of the Broadway Theatre, was convicted of violating the State child labor law here today, and Claude Lee, manager of the Imperial Theatre, was acquitted of a similar charge when their cases were heard before Judge Wade H. Williams in recorder's court.

## FILIBUSTERERS IN SENATE WIN FIGHT TO BLOCK SUBSIDY

Measure Has Passed Into The State of Coma That Precedes Death

FRIENDS OF MEASURE DESPAIR OF PASSAGE

Bill Hangs On Single Thread, Motion Pending In Senate To Take It Up For Consideration; Harding Would Let Nation Judge The Filibusterers

Washington, Feb. 23.—The administration shipping bill tonight had passed into the state of coma that precedes death. Warn by the filibuster and attacks of its enemies in the Senate, the legislation for which President Harding called Congress in special session and which the Executive has urged with all the force at his command, hang to life by a single thread—the motion pending in the Senate to take it up for consideration.

Give Up Fight.  
Most of the measure's friends gave up the fight during the day, indicating their despair of doing more to save it by abandonment of the night sessions into which they had forced the Senate for four successive nights. Senator Jones, Republican, Washington, who as chairman of the commerce commission, has fathered the bill in the Senate, refused for the first time to say that he was hopeful, although declaring that he would fight on.

End Expected Today.  
The end may come tomorrow or it may be delayed until next week, possibly Monday, and will be brought about either by a motion to send the measure back to the committee or displace it with another piece of legislation. Some suggestions were heard about the Senate that it might be left pending with its death to occur coincident with the adjournment of Congress.

Indications of the end developed rapidly today in the Senate, although forecast yesterday. Senator Curtis, of Kansas, the assistant Republican leader, early in the day went to the White House and informed the President that the fight in behalf of the bill was hopeless. The President was understood to have asked that every possible effort be made in behalf of the legislation.

Gain Advantage.  
Returning to the Capitol just before the Senate met, Senator Curtis conferred with Senator Jones and other Republican leaders. Then in an executive session the Republican leaders proposed a unanimous consent agreement that the Senate adjourn at six p. m., until 11 a. m., tomorrow after which bills on the calendar would be considered for two hours. The opponents of the ship bill entered no objection, accepting the proposal as an indication of dissolution among the supporters of the legislation and immediately began preparation to press further the administration gains.

Conferees continued throughout the day among the ship bill's opponents, but when the Senate adjourned the plan of action had not been agreed upon except that a test vote probably would come tomorrow. There were some who urged recomittal, others advocated displacement of the measure in favor of other legislation and a third group wanted an arrangement whereby the measure would continue as the "unfinished business" of the Senate until adjournment.

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