

THE Legislature is making as rapid progress with its work as any Legislature can. Very few bills, and certainly not any of much importance, are passed during the first days of any session of a Legislature. Indeed for the first half of every session most of the work of a Legislature is done by its committees. As most of our readers are aware, in each branch of the Legislature are a number of committees, and no bill is rarely ever passed without being referred to and duly considered by both the Senate and House committees. And after a bill is duly considered by a committee it is reported to the Senate or House, with recommendation that it do or do not pass. The committee's recommendation usually decides the fate of the bill. If a bill has been duly considered and fully discussed by the committee, to which it was referred, it saves a long discussion in the Senate or House, and thus valuable time is saved.

A great many bills have already been introduced—thus far about 350 having been introduced in the House. The committees must have time to consider these bills so as not to act too hastily.

A bill has been introduced to reduce the fees of the register of deeds and some other public officers. There is no doubt that there will be a reduction in some of the present fees paid our officers, some of whom are now paid more than they received when farm products were twice as high as they are now. A reduction will also be made in the pay of the clerks and other employees of the Legislature. The number of the employees has already been reduced, as was most eminently right and proper.

An important bill has been introduced to regulate the working of convicts and to establish county farms. It provides for a farm in each county, upon which convicts are to work to feed themselves and the poor of the county, and they are also to work the public roads. The bill also provides for the discontinuance after 1900 of the present penitentiary farms.

The House has passed the bill to repeal the act of the last Legislature, which orders a special school tax election every two years. The Senate will also pass it, and thus save the needless expense of this election.

There will be unconditional superior court judges.

Gov. Russell has sent to the Legislature a statement as required by law giving his reasons for suspending the two Wilsons as railroad commissioners. His chief reason is their reported connection with the Round Knob Hotel, which is a dining house on the Southern railroad.

Bills have been introduced to give good government to several of the negro-ridden counties of the State. These bills appoint additional equity commissioners in those counties. In this way the Democrats can at once redeem their campaign pledges to restore white supremacy to every negro-ridden section of the State.

A bill has been passed repealing the election laws that were passed by the last two Legislatures. It has not yet been decided what new election law will be passed, but one thing is certain, and that is, no white man who can now vote will be disfranchised. Whenever any Fusionist alleges that poor white men will be disfranchised he utters an untruth, as time will prove.

The Republicans and Populists in the House were much perplexed when the yeas and nays were called on the passage of the bill to remove Jim Young's name from the corner stone at the asylum for the white blind children. They were ashamed to vote against the bill and were afraid to vote for it, but most of them were more afraid than ashamed and voted against the bill, which was passed by a vote of 97 to 19. Even two colored members voted for the bill. The names of those white men, who voted against it, ought to be published. We hear that Mr. Wrenn, from this county, voted for it and that Mr. Giles voted against it.

NORTH Carolinians when they now visit their State Capitol have no cause to be ashamed. This is more than could have been said during the session of either of the last two Legislatures. The present Legislature (as has been frequently said) is an unusually able one—probably the ablest since the Legislature of 1876-72. It is certainly in most striking and pleasing contrast with the last two. This is quickly perceived by anyone who saw the last two and now sees this one.

It was our pleasure to take a peep at the Legislature a few days ago, and it was indeed a pleasure to see so many able and patriotic representatives of the best white men of North Carolina assembled together for the purpose of restoring good government to our good old State. And the lobbies of the Senate and the House also now present a striking and pleasing contrast to the lobbies during the sessions of our last two Legislatures. Then the lobbies were crowded with loafing negroes and office-seeking white men just as worthless. Now you will see in the lobbies a very different set of visitors—men of intelligence and character.

Penitentiary in Debt.

The experts appointed by Capt. Day to ascertain the financial condition of the penitentiary have made their report. As we expected, the condition of the books, the method of book-keeping, and the loose management makes it impossible for them to render a report disclosing the indebtedness of the institution. They have done their work as well as it could be done with the conditions that confronted them. They find an accumulated debt of \$110,000 in formal figures. How much more it will be nobody can guess.

The Legislative committee will be aided by their statement. In order to ascertain the total indebtedness the committee should instruct an advertising in the papers requesting all parties holding claims against the penitentiary to present them so they can be audited. Neither Capt. Day nor the experts pretend to know the amount of the indebtedness. The affairs are in such shape that nobody need wonder why John R. Smith was glad to accept a smaller salary at the Agricultural Department or Mevilleone was willing to throw up the job that he couldn't manage.

During the months before and during the campaign that this paper was exposing the rottenness of the penitentiary there were those who doubted that things were as rotten as we stated. The result of the partial investigations under Capt. Day, confined to the books and papers to be found at the penitentiary, shows that things are in an even worse condition than we had declared. When the claims are all in, taxpayers may count themselves happy if the pair that has been in charge has not squandered more than \$100,000. The people will remember the glowing reports of the good management of the penitentiary that the Pension orators gave out during the campaign. The facts show either that they were deceived by the management or were trying to deceive the people. In either event, the result proves that the people were wise not to believe them.

Rev. Thomas Dixon Resigns.

New York, Jan. 25.—Rev. Thomas Dixon Jr., who for four years past has been preaching to the People's church, a Christian Union denominational church, whose Sunday meetings have been held at the Assembly of Music and the Grand Opera House, read to his congregation today his resignation. Dr. Dixon will continue to preach during this month and February. His resignation will take place on March 1.

In his letter of resignation Dr. Dixon said that the result of his work had been disappointing; that he had not been able to raise sufficient money to meet expenses, and that he had been disillusioned as to the idea of organic Christian Union.

He has determined, therefore, to resume his position in the regular Baptist ministry. "During the past four years," Dr. Dixon's letter reads, "everything I have said as pastor of the People's Church, I could have said in a Baptist pulpit with equal propriety and greater force."

Winston Journal: The two-year old child of Henrietta Lee, colored, was choked to death yesterday morning about 10 o'clock. It happens that the woman went out and left the child in the room eating some bread and when she returned it was dead, as a result of being choked to death on a piece of the bread.

Washington Letter.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 13, 1899.

Signs are plentiful that Mr. McKinley is alarmed by the extent of the Senatorial sentiment against our permanent ownership of the Philippines that has been brought out this week. Senator Foraker tried to answer the Constitutional argument made by Senator Hoar against our right to own the islands, and Senator Mason's speech in favor of his resolution declaring that the U. S. will not attempt to control any other people without their consent, but the administration would doubtless have preferred another and abler champion. Other disturbing elements to the expansion-or-bust men were a resolution for the recognition of Filipino independence, offered by Senator Bacon, and another that any aggressive action against the Philippines on the part of the administration would be an exercise of Constitutional power vested exclusively in Congress, offered by Senator Allen. In addition to these, a number of Senators, by questions interjected in the debate, made it plain that they are opposed to our retaining the Philippines. That things are getting warm in the vicinity of the White House was shown by the giving out of a semi-official statement that Mr. McKinley had never expressed himself in favor of permanent ownership of the Philippines, and that his intentions had gone no further than to give the islands a military government similar to that in Cuba. The statement intimates, without saying, that if the Filipinos show themselves capable of maintaining a stable government Mr. McKinley would doubtless favor their independence in time. Such statements are not binding on Mr. McKinley, even if they were explicit. He had an opportunity to say just what his intentions are, when he sent the treaty to the Senate, but he didn't do it.

The Democrats on the Committee on Foreign Relations interposed no objections and the treaty of peace was reported to the Senate this week. The treaty will be ratified, but how soon will depend upon whether its opponents, who are more numerous than they were at first supposed to be, will be satisfied merely to go on record against it with their votes.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie is in Washington, openly working against the ratification of the Treaty of Peace. He thinks that if Col. Bryan would revise his advice and try to get democratic Senators to vote against the treaty, instead of voting for the treaty and afterwards against expansion, its rejection would follow. He said: "All that I hear indicates the increase of opposition, and I am quite encouraged to believe that the ratification of the treaty can be defeated. According to my opinion, this is the opportune time for those who oppose expansion to do their work. Only a one-third vote is required to defeat the treaty, whereas with the treaty ratified, we will have to secure a majority to make our views effective. Hence, I say that this is the time for Mr. Bryan and other anti-expansionists to make the fight. Hereafter we will not enjoy the advantage over our opponents that we now do, having then to meet them in the open field."

Senator Morgan secured the consent of the Senate to vote upon his Nicaragua Canal bill, next Tuesday, and he is confident that it will pass, with amendments acceptable to him. The House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce is unanimously in favor of the canal, but divided on how it shall be built.

The sword that Congress had made for Dewey is on exhibition in Washington; also the sword which the Royal Arcanum had made at a cost of \$1,500 for Schley, but nobody is exhibiting a sword that anybody intends for Sampson, who not being able to pull a presentation sword will have to be content with having pulled more promotion than he was entitled to from the Navy Department.

Mr. McKinley did not consult any of the leaders of his party before promoting Charlesagne Tower, of Pa., from the Austrian Minister to be Ambassador to Russia, and appointing Addison C. Harris, of Ind., who isn't personally known by hardly anybody in Washington, outside of the Indiana delegation in Congress, Minister to Austria. Both are regarded as personal appointments. The nomination of Joseph H. Choate, of N. Y., to be Ambassador to England was a Platt deal.

The democratic and populist Senators are preparing to make a warm fight against the Hull army bill, which has been delayed in the House by the illness of Representative Hull, when it reaches the Senate after being jammed through the House by administration influence, and it begins to look as though the bill would fail at this session of Congress, adding another to the numerous things that will increase the probabilities of a spring extra session of the next Congress.

Gen. Leonard Wood, the fortunate gentleman who jumped from an army surgeon with the rank of Captain, detailed to act as the McKinley family physician, to be

a Major General, during the scrap with Spain, and who is now military commander of the Santiago district in Cuba, is in Washington, under orders. It is believed that Gen. Wood was sent for by Mr. McKinley in connection with some of the troubles that have already cropped out among the army officers who form the military government of Cuba. He is going right back.

Names of Congressmen.

Washington, Jan. 14.—The names of some members of the House of Representatives are suggestive of their personal characteristics, but others are misleading. Representatives Baker, Bishop and Brewer are lawyers, Barber a school teacher, Bell never rings his oratory over the House, Berry is always ripe for a fight, Bland is calm and serene, Booze rarely tastes liquor, Cannon never fires except at big game, Castle lives in a brick house and Cooper does not work at the trade.

Cousins has a number of them, Joy is always gleeful, King is a prince of good-fellows, Hay is not a product of the soil, Hitt can strike hard, Hill is very rugged, Foote cannot be walked upon, Bull is easily enraged, Fox is sly and cunning, Campbell is human, Lamb is very meek and timid, Groene knows a thing or two, Handy is quite useful, Little is a big man, Loud is boisterous, Low can stop a high ball, Mann is a gentleman, and Mills grinds very slowly. Minor should be played in a low key, Moon is rarely out at night, Mudd is often thick with Reed, Prince is no Count, Saurboring has a taste for Bismarck herring, Steele is true to his friends, Stone is a heavy-weight, Strait is narrow-minded, Sulzer must be taken with lemon, Walker is not a pedestrian, Brown is white, and White is black, Wise has book-learning and Young is past middle age.

Bad Beef for Soldiers.

Pittsburg, Jan. 14.—Members of Battery B, Pennsylvania Volunteers, say the beef sent to Porto Rico was so bad that even dogs would not eat it.

J. Harvey Scott, who was connected with the Battery commissary, said today: "I only ate the beef for three days, as it turned my stomach, but from what I saw of it I don't think it was very good. I saw the cook throw a piece to his dog one day and the dog took one whiff of it and then threw up its head and ran away."

One-day I was detailed to help bury a mule which we had to shoot, and at the same time we buried a lot of beef, and I must say that the beef smell was more offensive than that of the dead mule."

Largest Ship Ever Built.

Belfast, Jan. 14.—The new White Star line steamship Oceanic, the largest vessel of that company's fleet, was successfully launched here at 12:30 o'clock today. The launching of a monster steamship was accomplished with complete success. The Oceanic exceeds in length by 65 feet every vessel either afloat or in course of construction; but her claim to distinction does not stop at this point, as she breaks the world's record for length, which has hitherto been held by the Great Eastern. The Oceanic is 704 feet long.

Confederate Cemeteries.

Washington, Jan. 14.—Senator Pritchard has prepared an amendment which he will offer to the Sundry Civil Appropriation bill providing that the general government give the same care and attention to Confederate cemeteries as are now given Federal cemeteries. In offering this amendment, Senator Pritchard is putting into practical legislation the suggestion made by President McKinley in his Atlanta speech.

Beaufort Dispatch: Mr. Thos. Lewis, of Beaufort, has the distinction of having caught the largest number of speckle trout this season. Thursday at one haul he caught 3,300 pounds and realized \$155.

Women Vote in New Orleans.

The women tax-payers of New Orleans are soon to cast their first ballots. This privilege is authorized by the State constitution, which is as follows: "Upon all questions submitted to the tax-payers, as such, of any municipal or other political subdivision of this State the qualifications of such tax-payers as voters shall be those of age and residence, prescribed by this article, and women tax-payers shall have the right to vote at all such elections without registration, in person or by their agents, authorized in writing."

To avoid the unpleasant scenes at the polls it has been provided, as will be seen from this section, that the ladies may stay in their homes and vote by proxy. It is thought the plan will work well, in which event other States will probably be heard from.

Don't Neglect Your Liver. Liver troubles quickly result in serious complications, and the man who neglects his liver has little regard for health. A bottle of Brown's Iron Bitters taken now and then will keep the liver in perfect order. If the disease has developed, Brown's Iron Bitters will cure it permanently. Strength and vitality will always follow its use. Brown's Iron Bitters is sold by all dealers.

A Man Electrocutted.

James Coffin, a negro employee of the Southern Bell Telephone Company, was killed while at his work this morning.

The accident happened about ten minutes to 11 o'clock this morning. Inspector Lewis and Lineman John Sheald, assisted by Coffin, were trying to arrange the wire, which had been deranged by the sleet. The weather was un-suitable for the work and it was raining hard. Lineman Sheald was on the pole on Edenton street, where Blount intersects, and Coffin was standing on the ground, on the east sidewalk of Blount street, just north of Newbern avenue. He had a coil of wire on his arm, and had wrapped the wire he was drawing around his hands. The wire was being drawn over the wire of the Raleigh Electric Company, when the wire either cut the insulator or insulation was impossible on account of the weather. The wire received the full charge and Coffin fell to the ground with a scream. Mr. Sheald descended from the pole on which he was working and ran up town for assistance. Mr. Lewis went to the negro, but he says that the wire was wrapped around his hand, and to pull it loose would have meant death to the one who attempted it. Mr. Lewis says Coffin was dead in two minutes.

Cleaning Havana.

Havana, Jan. 16.—The colossal task of putting into proper sanitary condition every dwelling in Havana began today. Major Davis hiring one hundred resident physicians for a house to house inspection, to compel obedience to the new regulations. All cess-pools under houses are to be closed and sealed. Garbage is to be removed daily. It is said that the city will be in a good sanitary condition within three months, without underground sewerage. The old residents regard the new health regulations as unnecessary and meddling, and even some well-to-do and well-informed persons when making their objections describe themselves as healthy enough. Today the work began of cleaning the streets and public buildings. There was so little sickness among the United States troops that 20 female nurses out of the 100 originally employed, have been dismissed.

Senior Edouardo Zayas and his son, while journeying from Las Tunas to Puerto Principe, with \$7,000 to buy cattle, was murdered by bandits.

The ensemble in the artillery barracks, chosen for Major General Ludlow's office near the palace proved so foul that the air-extinguished candles and suffocated dogs and cats which ran it.

Storm in Europe.

London, Jan. 13.—Not for many years has the United Kingdom witnessed such a devastating storm as has just swept over it. From the Continent also come reports telling of widespread floods and windstorms. The destruction on land sea has been terrific, and in the aggregate the property loss is immense.

London has been cut off from the outside world today. Everywhere the telegraph wires are down, and the isolation is complete.

All of the parks and many buildings of the city have suffered severely. Trees have been blown down and shrubbery swept away, while wrecked chimneys and roofs here and there in every direction testify to the strength of the wind.

Torrents of water have fallen along the upper reaches. Dwellers along its banks have suffered serious losses.

This evening reports are gradually filtering through from the provinces, telling of dismantled houses, overflowing rivers, inundated streets and fields, buildings flooded, cattle and sheep drowned, railroads disorganized, and people killed or injured by falling debris.

Most of the coast town have suffered severely. Promenades have been swept by the sea, and harbors and piers damaged.

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Situation at Manila Improve.

Washington, Jan. 15.—Adj.-Gen. Corbin said tonight he had received a despatch from Gen. Otis reporting that the situation was rapidly improving.

No mention was made of the outcome of Gen. Miller's expedition to Iloilo.

The censorship, according to the War Department officials, is still in force at Manila.

The reports of Germany interfering in the Philippines is denied most emphatically by a high official of the State Department. The department, as heretofore stated in the World, has received numerous communications from Ambassador White at Berlin and the German Embassy in that city denying the reports and affirming that Germany has no ulterior motive in the Philippines.

From the same source it is learned that no proposal has either been received or made to England looking to the exchange of the Philippines for the English possessions in the West Indies. It is stated authoritatively that the President would not entertain such a proposition. No decision with reference to these islands will be reached for a year.



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Table with 4 columns: Station, No. 402, No. 41, No. 42. Rows include New York, Richmond, Lynchburg, etc.

Northbound.

Table with 4 columns: Station, No. 402, No. 41, No. 42. Rows include Atlanta, Savannah, Jacksonville, etc.

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