

The Legislature has passed a bill to establish sixteen Judicial districts and to abolish the two criminal court districts.

There are now, and have been since 1885, twelve superior court districts. There are also two criminal court districts, so that there are now fourteen judges and districts.

This bill takes effect next July. The districts have not yet been arranged and it will be very difficult to arrange them to suit everybody. It is uncertain in what district this (Chatham) county will be placed.

The Senator from Chatham offered an amendment to the bill so as to have fifteen districts and judges instead of sixteen, but this amendment was defeated.

The Senate has passed, and the House will pass, a bill making a new apportionment of the Representatives in the Legislature, which is required to be done immediately after every census.

Until 1868 Chatham had three Representatives in the House, when the number was reduced to two, and hereafter it will be only one.

The Legislature will abate one nuisance at least. The sub-committee on the revenue and machinery act have incorporated in that act a tax of \$150 on strolling bands of gypsies or horse-traders who live in wagons and tents, and travel from one court-house to another and ply their trade during court-week.

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THE STATE ADOPTION school book bill, which passed the Senate by an almost unanimous vote, also passed the House by a large majority, only ten Democrats voting with the Republicans against it.

Race Prejudice at Washington. A Washington dispatch of the 9th instant says: Race prejudice has caused the recall of invitations sent out by Congressman Charles F. Sprague, of Massachusetts, to members of the House District of Columbia Committee to dine with him.

Representative Otey, of Virginia, who is a Southern gentleman of the old school, suspected that White had been invited to the dinner and he refused to accept Sprague's hospitality.

The incident has excited much comment in the House. Northern as well as Southern members refused to eat with the negro member.

Postoffice Robbers Shot. Asheville, N. C., Feb. 9.—Four masked men attempted to rob the postoffice and store at Emma, the first station out from Asheville on the Southern railway, last night, with the result that two white men and one negro are dangerously shot and one white man and a negro escaped temporarily.

Successful Female Swindler. Baltimore, Feb. 7.—Miss Frances Caspari, the principal in one of the public schools of Baltimore and a leading church worker, was convicted in the criminal court to-day of obtaining money under false pretences, and pending an appeal, was released on \$4,000 bail.

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A COURT HOUSE BURNED. Jeffersonville, Ga., Feb. 7.—Twigs county court house was burned this morning at 2 o'clock destroying all records. It was built in 1825. Several thousand dollars worth of Confederate pension checks were burned.

Washington Letter.

Washington, Feb. 8, 1901.—The latest scheme of the Republican leaders is to take advantage of the Nicaragua Canal project to push the Ship Subsidy bill through the Senate—they have only to issue orders to have anything put through the House at short notice.

The bill, as shown in the estimate, will bring into the public treasury somewhere from \$1,300,000 to \$1,400,000 annually as against \$1,012,000 under the old Revenue Act.

Another new departure in the new act is the levy of a tax on Corporate Loans, under which the treasurer of each corporation, county or city having bonds outstanding is required to collect and pay to the State Treasurer the State tax on the bonded indebtedness of the corporation.

Building and loan associations are required to pay the same tax as formerly. A new method of assessing corporations is devised by requiring the treasurer of each corporation to make a report to the State Auditor giving certain information from which the value of the stock in the corporation may be ascertained.

An inheritance tax, similar to that now in force in Pennsylvania, is another new feature of the bill. This section is in no way similar to that contained in the Revenue Act of 1897, being levied only on personal property.

The theatre tax is slightly changed so as to apply to smaller towns. The horse dealer section is changed so as to levy a tax of \$150 on every company of gypsies living in tents or wagons and trading horses or telling fortunes.

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The New Revenue Act.

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required to pay 75 per cent. of the profits to the county and 25 per cent. to the State.

A tax is levied on pistol dealers, and a tax will be levied on either the dealer or the manufacturer of cigarettes—probably the latter.

On dogs a tax of \$1 each is levied, and 50 cents on each additional dog owned by the same person. Instead of the Merchant's Purchase Tax a Merchant's License Tax on sales has been adopted.

On other similar corporations (express companies, electric lighting and power companies, gas companies, street railways, ferries, steamboat, canal and bridge companies, telegraph and telephone companies, bridge companies) 2 per cent. on their gross receipts.

There is no change in the tax on lawyers, doctors and dentists. A license tax of \$300 a year is levied on routine investment companies.

Wilmington Star. Mr. J. E. Smith, 607 S. Fifth street, owns a curiosity in the shape of a three-legged dog, which was born Saturday night. The puppy has a miniature foot about a fourth of an inch long in the place of the right fore leg.

Sixty-three miles of railroad were added to the railroad mileage of North Carolina during the year. There is not a railroad in the State in the hands of a receiver.

A Strong Fortification. Fortify the body against disease by Tutt's Liver Pills, an absolute cure for sick headache, dyspepsia, sour stomach, malaria, constipation, jaundice, biliousness and all kindred troubles.

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Here is a rare chance for a BARGAIN IN LAND!

The first tract contains about 120 acres, adjoining the lands of P. N. Foushee and others.

The second tract contains about 24 acres, adjoining the lands of the late Wesley Griffin and others.

The fourth tract contains about 702 acres, adjoining the lands of the late James Harmon and others.

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Colored Hospital advertisement.

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Table with Southbound and Northbound train schedules.

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