

**RALEIGH LETTER.**

**Legislative Doings—A New Anti-Trust Law—Legalized Primary—A State Administration Bill.**

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 7.—For the first time this session the Senate committee on the judiciary this week finds itself in possession of a general bill designed to strengthen the anti-trust law which has lain practically dormant on the statute books for the last four years, to-wit, the bill presented last Saturday afternoon by Senator Baggett, of Harnett.

Whether this is the measure which the real and earnest advocates of an "effective" anti-trust law will adopt as their main reliance to accomplish something this session does not yet fully appear. It may be added, however, that there is a report current that at least one other bill of like character will be introduced in a few days.

One thing may be said of the Baggett bill in defense of its apparent earnestness, there is at least one "tooth" visible of the much mooted set of dentistry which has been promised for the bruted new law—that which empowers the Governor to draw a warrant on the State Treasury for as much as one thousand dollars to be used by solicitors in paying the expenses of prosecutions which one or more of them may undertake in the effort to suppress the operations of the trusts in their districts.

It is too early, however, to attempt to accurately point out the exact text which will comprise the new law or the additional amendments to the existing acts on the subject as it or they will read when formally reported back to the Senate by the committee. For the chances seem to be that final action will not be taken this session before the closing week of the General Assembly, just as was the case at the two last sessions.

**The Co-Operative Bar Rooms and Beer Joints.**

While the House last week with practical unanimity did its part in outlawing the further licensing of near-beer joints, the Senate has not yet acted on the subject, but is expected to do so in a few days. But there is closely allied with this matter another question which is enlightening much discussion and promises to create serious division among the Senators and the members of the House as well, for the real working advocates of true and honest prohibition laws are demanding in no uncertain tones the enactment of an amendment or a separate effective statute that will put a stop to the open violation of the spirit of the prohibition law of the State by the so-called "social" and "fraternal" and other species of "clubs" which "handle" not only beer and "high-beer," but all sorts of vinegars, malt and spirituous liquors—and that, too, for the last few months with a recent decision of the highest court of the State which that in doing so they are not "violating" the State Prohibition Law as it reads at present, thus putting the brand of "class legislation" on that instrument, something which the people of North Carolina were never yet known to willingly stand for.

**Contest Between Simmons and Kitchin and Probably Others.**

The friends of Simmons (who won his first election through a primary over Gen. Jule Carr) and Gov. Kitchin (whose aspirations to succeed Simmons are well known) claim that both these gentlemen are favorably inclined to a State primary for Senator next year. Whether either or both favor the "whole hog" and all-parties primary plan, this depends on the subject, being in blissful ignorance on that detail of the proposition.

But whether there is a legalized State primary law enacted or not and whether there is a senatorial State primary or not, there are more or less defined and persistent assertions to the effect that Messrs. Simmons and Kitchin may as well prepare themselves to face a three-cornered encounter when the battle for the senatorship is fought out. And the statement is certainly nothing to be surprised over, when one stops a moment and thinks of the splendid timber in North Carolina for making Uncle Sam's legislature. It would be a great thing for Uncle Sam if he would draw on North Carolina much oftener when seats are needed to be filled in the Senate of the United States.

**New State Administration Building and Other Matters.**

It begins to appear very probable, despite much of the more or less overdrawn "anxiety" concerning the "dangers precedent" of bond issues for such purposes, that the State is this time going to get started on the ground floor, at least, of that long and much needed State building for the accommodation of many of the State executive and judicial department of government, and at the same time make room for the legislative branch to stretch out its legs under the table while at work. Also to allow the law-makers enough salary to at least pay their board bills at some decent abode during the sixty days they devote to the State's work.

Senator Boyden, who presented the bill calling for one million dollars (bonds to that amount to be issued if necessary to obtain the requisite funds) for the purchase of the square northwest of the present capitol building (part of which is already owned by the State) is pushing it along and is very sanguine of success, he tells me.

**Harshaw Succeeds Coble**

Moses N. Harshaw has been appointed Assistant District Attorney to succeed Ex-Judge A. L. Coble in the Western district in North Carolina.

**Trolley Line**

Many citizens of the Uwharrie section are enthusiastic over an electric line connecting them with the railroads at Asheboro and such a venture could be perfected and would prove no doubt to be a paying proposition, in hauling freight and passengers.

**Town Good Roads Meeting**

A fairly good crowd of Asheboro citizens met at the court house on last Saturday night to discuss the question of good roads.

Representative O. R. Cox, Messrs. J. M. Allen, Daniel Sharpe and others addressed the meeting.

A vote was taken on motion of Col. McAlister, and every one present voted for a county bond issue as against direct taxation for good roads.

Mr. Cox read to the meeting the bill of Representative Spainhour, whereby State aid is proposed to aid in building good roads connecting county seats.

Considerable interest is being manifested in the Spainhour bill to establish a State convict system of highway construction by judicial districts, beginning with the construction of roads connecting the county seats. He would use all the State convicts for this work except enough to operate the State farm and would maintain a State chain gang in each judicial district half the expense to be provided by the counties in the respective districts, and all the county convicts to be concentrated with the State convicts who shall be distributed in the districts in which they are sentenced. The bill is entitled an act to establish a system of State highways in North Carolina.

**Opposition to New Counties**

The Statesville Landmark writes most sensibly on new counties. We copy the article in full:

It is said there is considerable opposition in the Legislature to the manufacture of new counties. Thus far bills have been introduced for the erection of three or four new counties, the County of Piedmont which it is proposed to erect out of portions of Guilford, Randolph and Davidson and the County of Hoke, which it is proposed to manufacture out of the portions of Cumberland and Robeson, being the most prominent. The Landmark has no special interest in the proposed new counties no way or other, but this paper is opposed on general principles to the making of new counties. Much argument and very good argument can be advanced in many instances for a new county, but aside from the sentiment the argument usually has little foundation in fact. To come down to common sense and practical matters, it is possible—and unwise if it were possible—to make every live and growing town a county seat. Moreover, the addition of a court house and jail does not make a town. If a town has the right sort of material and environment it will get on just as well, if not better, without these public buildings. The plea of convenience to citizens in transacting business which must be transacted at the county seat, would be a strong one but for the fact that it is impracticable to have a court house within easy reach of the door of every citizen, as desirable as that may be. But the strongest reason is, that when the territory is cut up into small counties the cost of erecting and maintaining public buildings, the salaries of officers, etc., in addition to the necessary public improvements, becomes a heavy burden, not alone on the new county but on the counties from which territory is taken, and which are thus weakened. There is great complaint in the State now and just complaint, that more than half the counties in the State get out of the State Treasury more than they pay into it, a minority of the counties having to bear the burden of the State government and help the "pauper counties," as these delinquents are called. The Landmark is heartily ashamed of the fact that Iredell is one of these "pauper counties," we may remark in passing; and it may be regarded as a certain fact that the increase of new counties will not reduce the number of "pauper counties." In consideration of these matters, without any personal interest in the cases under consideration, The Landmark is pleased to learn that the sentiment in the Legislature is against new counties and we believe it will be best if none are made.

**Work of the Legislature.**

Three bills of state interest were introduced in the Senate last Saturday, one of them by Senator Baggett of Harnett to define and prohibit monopolies or trusts in restraint of trade. The bill authorizes the Governor to draw a warrant on the State Treasurer for \$1,000 to be used by solicitors and the attorney general in conducting prosecutions.

Another is by Senator Holgood of Guilford relating to taxation of corporations and is designed to relieve corporations owning stock in other corporations.

Among the most notable bills received from the House were those relating to divorce, relating to investment of capital of insurance companies, protect the public from contracting diseases in barber shops, repealing the law making it a misdemeanor for a railroad employee to work over 16 hours a day, also the bill taxing dogs, bachelors and justices of the peace in Henderson county, which was placed upon the calendar and passed second reading and was warmly debated, being finally referred to the committee on propositions and grievances.

Unfavorable reports were made on the bills to protect defendants in state courts and prevent exposure of evidence taken before coroners, and to incorporate the North Carolina Detective Association and action was deferred or a number of bills of general interest.

Representative Kent introduced in the House and Senator Boyden in the Senate bills to take Union county from the seventh congressional district and put in the eighth and change Alexander county from the eighth to the ninth district.

A bill prohibiting the sale of near beer and all drinks containing alcoholic and derivatives of opium passed the House by a vote with only six against.

The Quick-Ell bill to repeal that part of the law of 1907, making it a misdemeanor for any employee of any railroad to work over sixteen hours a day, was repealed by the House last week, and the measure will no doubt, pass the Senate.

Another important bill is one of Senator Joseph A. Brown which prevents the sweeping provisions with reference to the social clubs of the State.

"That any corporation, club, association or person who shall directly or indirectly keep or maintain by itself or himself or by association with others, or who shall in any manner aid, assist or abet in keeping or maintaining a club room or other place where intoxicating liquors are received or kept to be drunk or for barter of sale or distribution or for division or use among the members of any club or association by any means what ever, or where the members are allowed to keep intoxicating liquors in lockers or in storage devices of any kind, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. That this act shall be in force from and after July 1, 1911."

Representative E. M. Cain, of Onslow county, introduced early in the session of the present General Assembly, a bill to investigate the condition of insurance companies in North Carolina. This bill was reported unfavorably by the house of committees last week.

**A Negro Desperado Shoots Deputy Sheriff and Chief Police**

On Friday night of last week Deputy Sheriff George Winford and Chief of Police A. F. Glover were both shot, Winford being killed instantly and Glover being fatally wounded. The crime was a most atrocious one it having occurred at a near beer joint near the Norfolk and Southern Railroad yards in the town of Wilson. The event cast a spell of gloom over the town. Hundreds of men assembled and went in search of the desperado. Gov. Kitchin promptly called out a militia to prevent the probability of a lynching.

**Died**

Mr. Martin B. Cranford, one of Randolph's best known citizens, living at Bombay, New Hope township died suddenly on February 1st, falling suddenly from his chair while sitting in front of the fire place in his home. His death was caused by heart disease. His age was 63 years.

The deceased was the father of Lon Cranford, a prominent citizen of New Hope township, and N. L. Cranford one of the leading business men of Winston-Salem.

**NEWS BRIEFS.**

The Southern Railway's new shops at Spencer are nearing completion.

James R. Gray, a merchant of Lenoirville, was adjudged bankrupt in Judge Boyd's court last week.

Mrs. Elizabeth Stuart Phelps Ward, died at her home in Newton Center, Mass., Saturday night at the age of 67. She was widely known as an author and lecturer.

Governor Kitchin declines to commute the death sentence of Phillip Mills, the negro wife murderer of Transylvania and he will be electrocuted tomorrow.

A terrific blizzard in the North, East and Middle West, followed by sleet and snow tied up traffic and caused untold suffering among the poor the first of the week. It came as far south as Norfolk, Va.

Mr. C. N. Smith, who was formerly one of the receivers of the Whitney Co., is now in charge of Whitney and has moved to Whitney where he will take charge of the business of the new Company under the new management.

Mr. William Beaver, of Landis, was held at the point of a revolver by two men near China Grove last week and relieved of his overcoat. Later he identified the men to an officer and recovered his coat.

Greensboro voted Tuesday on a commission for a government, which won by a majority of 300. There was considerable opposition to the bill as passed by the Legislature by citizens in Greensboro.

Lewis West, who shot and killed deputy Sheriff Mumford and probably wounded chief of police in Wilson last week is hiding in swamps in Greene county surrounded by a large posse of men and his capture is expected hourly dead or alive.

The western central division of North Carolina school superintendents and high school principals convened in Statesville last Friday and an interesting meeting was held. The program was informal. Many helpful suggestions were advanced and the meeting was enthusiastic.

It looks now as if Virginia and North Carolina will both lose a congressman and if so it will result in the redistricting of the states. Congressmen Page and Hay of Virginia are bestirring themselves in the hope of increasing the House membership to 433 instead of reducing to 391.

The Coggins mine in the upper part of Montgomery county is being operated by Lewis Donker. Good news came from the development of this well known mining property Thomas Moyle, who has had twenty five years, or more, experience in mining is in charge of the work. Two new shafts have been sunk 200 feet deep through a vein 32 feet wide, 8 feet of which is said to be rich gold bearing ore.

Recently Messrs. J. W. Lambeth, of Thomasville, and C. C. Shaw, of Denton, went to Clarkton, Bladen county, and while there bought the timber off 800 acres of land, which is estimated to cut between 4,000,000 and 5,000,000 feet of long-leaf pine. The lumber was bought from Mr. F. V. Archer. They intend locating at once a saw and planing mill on the property and cutting the timber for the market.

**W. B. Ingram Dead**

William Braxton Ingram died last week at Mt. Gilead in Montgomery County.

For many years he had been a prominent figure in the county and his death will be the source of regret throughout that section. At the time of his death he was 90 years, 6 months and 20 days old, a long life of usefulness and one which was exemplary in every way. He ceased was well known in High Point, where he has visited many years in times gone by. He leaves a wife and three sons, Mr. L. J. Ingram, of High Point; T. C. Ingram, of Norwood, and Dr. Chas. Ingram, of Mt. Gilead, and daughter, Mrs. Chas. Stanback, of Mt. Gilead. There was a strong affection between father and children and grandfather and grandchildren, and his death brings to each one much sorrow.

The funeral services were held at Mt. Gilead yesterday at 10 o'clock attended by a large concourse of sorrowing friends.

**Mr. C. E. Stuart Dead.**

Mr. C. E. Stuart, of Franklinville, died at his home Tuesday and will be buried today. The deceased for many years was book-keeper for the Franklinville Mfg. Co., until declining health made it necessary for him to give up the close confinement. Mr. Stuart lived in Asheboro for a while, and made many friends while here. His death was not unexpected, he having been in poor health for sometime.

**Good Roads**

From all over the state comes the news of the awakening of the people to the importance of building roads. An enthusiastic meeting of citizens in Iredell decided for a bond issue of \$400,000 while at Smithfield in Johnson county this week at a big mass meeting it was decided it was decided to ask the legislature for a bill of one half million dollars for roads. A committee from the Chamber of Commerce in Greensboro asked the county commissioners Monday to have a bill passed the General Assembly providing for \$150,000 more for roads.

Fully three fourths of the counties in the state are having bills for the building of permanent road passed. It will be seen that the movement is a general one and the county that fails to interest itself along the line of road improvement will in a short time take a seat away back and not be in it at all with others more progressive.

**To Boost Asheboro.**

A plan is on foot to attract more trade to Asheboro. Asheboro is the best of all the progressive towns in this rapidly growing section of the state.

An effort will be made to get a wholesale dry goods and notions house established here in the next few months.

A retail shoe and hat store carrying gents furnishing goods would be a good investment. A clothing store would pay well if a live up to date manager would take the matter in hand and push it.

A Merchant's Association is being arranged for the purpose of increasing and attracting trade to Asheboro. Efforts will be made to reach out in every direction for more customers for Asheboro merchants.

**More Factories for Asheboro.**

There are to be several new industries in Asheboro, if the town is to grow as it should.

With proper efforts one or more silk mills could be established. The new town of Southmont on the Southbound railroad has two silk mills in course of erection. Mr. Patrick, who is the leading spirit in the building of the new town of Southmont has guaranteed two hundred and fifty hands for the silk mill.

It would be an easy matter to get a silk mill located at Asheboro if we would go about it right.

Then we ought to have a cotton mill and other factories. A wholesale dry goods and notions house would do a thriving business in Asheboro.

**Dr. W. O. Jones Dead**

Dr. W. O. Jones died at his home in High Point on last Sunday.

In 1868 he was married to Elizabeth Lunday, who died a few years ago. Four children survive this union, Mrs. Chas. Lee Smith, of Raleigh; Mrs. W. O. Beavans, W. C. Jones and R. F. Jones, of High Point, all of whom were with their father when he died.

Dr. Jones was born at Abbots Creek, Davidson county, and was 77 years old at the time of his death. He had been a resident of High Point for 50 years.

**New Series in the B. & L.**

Recently the Courier published a brief statement of the People's Building and Loan Association of Asheboro showing the number of houses that had been built through aid from the Association. The B. & L. has done much for Asheboro, and it is to be hoped that every citizen of the town, and especially the laboring men will subscribe liberally to the new series of stock. You can build you a home with rent money.

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