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WHAT THE PEOPLE PAY FOR.

Public Officials Waste People's Money. Fight Over Committee on Elections Report. Meaning of Lorimerizing the Legislation.

BY CLYDE H. TAVENNER.
[Washington Correspondent.]

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.—It cost the people \$2,012,374.52 to maintain the United States Senate during the fiscal year 1910. Some of the reasons why it cost that much are interesting.

Vice-President James S. Sherman drew on the people for \$7,000 to maintain a touring car. The "sunny" officer of the Senate kept track of every puncture during the year, and saw to it that the people stood the damage.

It might be inferred that after the government had presented a Peerless Limousine car of the latest model to the genial G. P., he at least would supply the driver. The vice-president, however, not only allowed the taxpayers to stand the expense of his chauffeur's salary, but permitted the people to re-imburse him for the chauffeur's railroad fare back and forth between Washington and Utica, N. Y., the vice-president's home. But this isn't all. The vice-president made the people pay for the chauffeur's coat and pants. (See page 702 of report of Senate Expenditures.)

Senator Simon Guggenheim, of Colorado, one hundred times a millionaire and then some over, had his daily newspapers and all the telegrams for the year charged up to the government.

Senator William Lorimer, of Illinois, apparently had urgent business with a man named Browne, of Ottawa, Ill., and charged the telegrams up to the people. Lee O'Neill Browne, who was charged with having a hand in bribing legislators to vote for Lorimer, lives at Ottawa, Ill., and it is more than barely possible that the two Browns are the same. Such is fate.

Senator Lorimer also did considerable telegraphing to the chief beef barons—at the expense of the people. The nature of the business is not revealed.

manicure scissors, two dozen cork screws, and bath brushes. Under another head come: 26 boxes of lemons, 2 barrels granulated sugar and 32 cases White Rock water splits. Then come 1,000 2-grain quinine pills, soda mint tablets, olive oil, castor oil, glycerine, Colgate extract rose, nail brushes, 2,000 more quinine pills, Seidlitz powders, vaseline, listerine and 1,000 calomel tablets.

As soon as the Senate convenes after the holiday recess the Senatorial decks will be cleared for a fight over the adoption of the report of the committee on privileges and elections which upholds the Lorimerizing of State legislatures.

I cannot be said that Senator Lorimer is certain of winning out. From one end of the country to the other the report of the committee in favor of Lorimer has been denounced by both Republican and Democratic newspapers. Some of the Senators who would have liked to support Lorimer are becoming frightened. The opposition to Lorimerism has become so pronounced that senators are afraid to go on record as voting for the adoption of the committee report.

Indications are that if the Senate affirms the committee, that body will come in for more denunciation at the hands of the public and the press than it has received in a decade.

Regardless of all arguments that can be made by the supporters of Lorimer to show that his election was untainted, the people generally have the opinion that bribery was resorted to and they will not abandon this view. So it is plain that if the Senate stands by the report which whitewashes Lorimer, it is bound to come in for a denunciation that will be nation-wide.

With the entire country looking on, each individual member of the United States senate will soon have to go on record either for or against Lorimerism.

Every senator who votes for Lorimerism will have that vote charged up to his record. When he comes up for re-election to the Senate, or if he ever runs for any other elective position, his opponent will be sure to point to the vote for Lorimer and to urge it as a good reason why the people should retire him to private life.

Every senator knows this as well as does the writer. Those members who are against Lorimerism and all that it stands for are glad to have the opportunity to go on record. But those senators who for any reasons feel bound to vote for Lorimer are squirming. The entire matter is very annoying to them. They hope some way may be found or invented so that a direct vote may be avoided.

Indications are, however, that the Lorimer senators will have to step out before the people of the nation and show where they stand. The fight against Lorimer will be forced by a motion declaring that Lorimer is not entitled to his seat, and, as such a motion is privileged, it can be disposed of only by a majority vote. The public should watch how their senators vote. It only happens now and then that senators are forced into a position where they must reveal their true colors, and the people ought to take advantage of such opportunities. The vote on the Lorimer report may be considered a thermometer registering every senator's temperature on the proposition of keeping politics in general, and the election of United States senators in particular, clean and wholesome.

GREEK RESTAURANT KEEPER SHOT.

Tragedy in Laurinburg Friday Night—Claims to Have Been in Self Defense—Greek Still Lives.

Last Friday night the quiet of an unusually peaceful Christmas week was broken and the town thrown into a commotion of excitement by a very serious occurrence in the Busy Bee restaurant on Main street, when Mr. Lonnie Hammond and the Greek proprietor, Peter Tsomas, became involved in a difficulty in which the Greek was shot and very seriously, if not fatally wounded.

As it is generally understood there were no eye-witnesses to the affair, outside of the parties involved, one of whom is in the hospital and the other under arrest, very little has been said in a public way as to how the affair occurred.

The Greek was immediately rushed to the James Sanatorium and given surgical attention. An examination of the man revealed a wound of a pistol bullet, which entered the body somewhere about the left side, penetrating into the back, from which he is now in such a condition that it is quite impossible to learn from his physicians what his chances of recovery may be.

The friends of Mr. Hammond declare that he shot from absolute necessity in defense of his own life. It is claimed by them that he went into the Greek's place of business to transact a matter of business connected with the collecting of a bill for the firm for whom he has been at work and that while so engaged the restaurant keeper made an assault upon him with a club, or some piece of wood, and immediately drew his pistol and that Mr. Hammond, being a little quicker, drew his pistol and fired to protect himself from what he considered eminent peril of his life. It seems that no one was in the restaurant at the time except the two men and the above statement of facts presents, in substance, what is claimed by the friends of Mr. Hammond to be the true facts of the case.

Mr. Hammond was immediately taken into custody by the officers but was allowed bail until Sunday morning, it was learned that the condition of the Greek was critical, and he was placed in jail.

There had arisen a difficulty between these two men several days earlier in which they came to blows but no serious damage was inflicted by either upon the other and it was generally understood that peace had been made between them and no further difficulty was feared.

The wounded man still lives at this writing but what his chances of recovery are cannot be ascertained.

Mr. Hammond, who is the son of Mr. N. Hammond, one of the old merchants of the town, has lived here all of his life with the exception of some time spent away at school and college and for other short periods of time when he has been at work elsewhere. For several months past he has been working for the Covington-Hammond Co., wholesale grocers of this place. He is a young man with as many friends in the town and community as can perhaps be claimed by any man of his age here. He has never been considered a man of bad habits or temperament, and none of his friends believe him capable of shooting any man except under absolute necessity, and they are confident that when the facts of this case are all made clear that he will be vindicated of any criminal act or intention.

New Special Tax District.

The trend of sentiment in the county for better public schools continues to rise. Spring Hill Township is especially alive on the question. It will be recalled that last year a special tax district was created, by the vote of the people within its bounds, in the old Spring Hill section. The people contemplated eventually establishing a high school there and it is still their intention. At a meeting of the Board of Education of the county held last Monday two petitions were filed from Spring Hill Township. One of these was a petition to annex additional territory to the district created last year. The proposed new territory is a section embracing the community in which Mr. J. M. McLean and others reside, bordering on the present district. The second petition was from the lower end of the Township, and its purpose is the creation of a new special tax district in that end of the Township.

Both these petitions were left over until next Monday, when the Board will re-convene for the purpose of acting upon the same.

Mr. W. H. Murphy Passes.

Mr. W. H. Murphy, of Laurinburg, one of the few old surviving Confederate soldiers and one of the oldest citizens of the town, passed away at his home last Monday night. He had been in a critical condition from a complication of diseases for several months and had been quite feeble for more than a year. The immediate cause of his death was kidney trouble.

Mr. Murphy was a native of this community and spent nearly all of his life in and about Laurinburg. He served throughout the late civil war and distinguished himself for his bravery and devotion to the cause. He was about seventy years of age at his death.

He leaves surviving him his widow and three children—Mr. W. H. Murphy, Jr. of Florida; Mrs. J. M. Bandy, of Greensboro, and Mr. J. R. Murphy, of Laurinburg.

Red Springs Votes a Bond Issue For Waterworks and Sewerage.

Charlotte Observer. Red Springs, Jan. 3.—The citizens of Red Springs voted today for a bond issue for waterworks and sewerage. The vote in favor of bonds was almost unanimous. The town already has a good system of electric lights, which is supplied by the Southern Presbyterian College. This is the first step of the new year for advanced prosperity, for which the outlook was never brighter.

A RELIABLE COUGH MEDICINE

Is a valuable family friend. Foley's Honey and Tar fulfills this condition exactly. Mrs. Charles Kline, 3th St., Easton, Pa., states: "Several members of my family have been cured of bad coughs and colds by the use of Foley's Honey and Tar and I am never without a bottle in the house. It soothes and relieves the irritation in the throat and loosens up the cold. I have always found it a reliable cough cure." Prince & Blue.

"The professor says that music owes a great deal to Rossini," said the young woman. "Who's Rossini?" "That," replied Mr. Cumrox, "is probably Italian for 'rosin.'"

W. C. DOWD THE SPEAKER.

Charlotte Publisher Nominated in Democratic Caucus—Other Officers Chosen.

Raleigh, Jan. 3.—Representative W. C. Dowd, of Mecklenburg, was chosen tonight by acclamation in the caucus of Democratic members as the Democratic nominee for Speaker, which means that he will receive the unanimous vote of the 103 Democratic members of the House tomorrow when the organization for the impending sixty days session of the Legislature takes place.

There had been a strenuous contest between Dowd and Koonce during the day in campaigning among members, but it became known before the caucus assembled that Koonce had withdrawn and Dowd would have no opposition.

KOONCE DOES NOMINATING.

After the convening of the caucus at 8 o'clock and the selection of Harry Stubbs, of Martin, as permanent chairman the selection of the Speaker was first in order. Koonce, of Onslow, was recognized amid applause. He said the speech he had prepared to deliver on this occasion was not appropriate, he having expected to accept the nomination himself. He had never been confronted, he said, with a greater opportunity to apply the golden rule. He was in the act of naming some one else for the high office to which he had aspired; about to do to another that which he most desired another should do to him. He proposed the name of Mr. Dowd as a "Gifted editor, loyal Democrat and gracious Churchman." Turlington, of Iredell, seconded the nomination and the motion for selection by acclamation was made by Representative Doughton, of Alleghany. This was quickly done and Doughton, Turlington and Koonce directed, as a special committee, to bring the newspaper man into the house, when presented to the members by Chairman Stubbs.

MR. DOWD ACCEPTS.

Mr. Dowd was visibly affected: "If I know my heart," said he, "it isn't the office of Speaker I desire. I care nothing for this except as it represents as I believe an expression of your confidence and esteem. And with that added I cannot find words to express my appreciation of this honor. I have no pleasure in triumph over my opponents, who are men as worthy and capable, and probably more so, than I am, and I regret that my triumph has meant the defeat of the aspiration of the other candidates for the speakership." Mr. Dowd appealed for co-operation in dispatching the work of the House and in making this session historic in its fostering care of the educational, industrial and agricultural interests. There will, he said, doubtless be acrimonious debate and rulings will have to be made, but remember that I had rather never have had this office than have any of you feel that I have been unfair as a presiding officer. "It would break my heart," he said, "if I don't, at the close of the session, have a greater degree of the love, esteem and confidence of you all."

The caucus proceeded with the selection of the other officers for the House.

T. G. Cobb, of Burke, was re-elected principal clerk; D. Scott Pool, editor of Facts and Figures, of Raeford, reading clerk; M. D. Kinsland, engraving clerk; Geo. L. Kirkpatrick, sergeant-at-arms; and D. H. James, of Halifax, assistant sergeant-at-arms. The caucus adjourned at 10:30 o'clock.

SPENCER B. ADAMS ATTEMPTS SUICIDE.

Former Republican State Chairman Cuts His Throat With Razor in Effort to End His Life.

Charlotte Chronicle. Greensboro, Jan. 2.—Judge Spencer B. Adams, former Republican State Chairman and prominent attorney of Greensboro, attempted suicide here last night at 9 o'clock by cutting his throat with a razor. He is in St. Leo's Hospital today and is reported to be getting along as well as could be expected and unless complications arise, he will recover.

Judge Adams' actions have been unusual for the last fortnight and he has been very despondent. Aside from indulgence in stimulants, no reason can be assigned for his rash deed. His personal and financial matters are said to be in good shape and it is not thought that any political reason would drive him to such a deed.

Some time ago he was in Florida on business and upon his return from there he came to Guilford Hotel and registered, sent for his wife and had her come to the hotel. Since then a number of acts have indicated an unbalanced mental condition.

Practically no one knew of the attempted suicide here until after midnight. Following the act, Judge Adams was rushed to the hospital, and it was not until this morning that news of the act became known.

Judge Adams is generally respected and esteemed in Greensboro and the news of the act was received with sadness. The wound is about three inches long and an inch deep. Judge Adams has so far made no statement and during the night was in a semi-conscious condition.

NEGRO SHOTS BROTHER-IN-LAW.

Colored Man Attempts to Protect Sister and Gets Shot.

Last Friday a rather ugly mix-up among some of the colored people on Mr. Jim Blue's farm, in Upper Stewartsville, occurred. Wisdom Wright was shot in the breast and is now in the James Sanatorium.

So far as can be learned, Rob Covington, whose wife is the sister of Wright, was beating his wife, and when Wright undertook to remonstrate with him for his treatment of his sister, Covington shot him with a shot-gun, inflicting painful but not fatal wounds in his breast.

It is also said that Wright shot Covington, but this is a rumor. Covington made his escape and has not yet been found.

Scotland Couple Wedded in Sanford.

McColl Special to Charlotte Observer.

McColl, S. C., Dec. 30.—Quite a romance culminated at Sanford, N. C., last Sunday when Mr. Sam Hasty and Miss Lula McColl were united in marriage. The young couple live a few miles from this town—just over the State line—and have grown up near-neighbors. Miss McColl went to Sanford on the 24th, ostensibly to play the "Wedding March" for a friend who was to marry in that town, on Christmas day. Mr. Hasty boarded the A. C. L. train on the 24th in his working clothes, his suitcase having been smuggled on board the train by a friend. The fair bride went to Sanford by way of the S. A. L. They were married at 10 a. m. Christmas day—a few hours after, the bride played the "Wedding March" for her friend. The marriage was a complete surprise to many friends of the parties.

THINGS THE PEOPLE PAY FOR.

The report of the Secretary of the Senate covers 736 closely printed pages. It shows that during the year some of the things the people paid for were: Eight dozen lady scissors, one dozen