

WORK OF THE LEGISLATURE.

Reform School Bill Passed the House Against Resisting Railroad Rates.

CIGARETTES TO MINERS.

To Amend the Lease of the North Carolina Road to the Southern Railway and the Lower House of the Legislature a Close Vote—Free Transportation for the Railroad Commission—Appropriation for the Insane Asylum After a Hot Debate.

MONDAY—35th DAY.

The Senate met at 10 o'clock p. m., and Governor Reynolds presided. Prayer by Rev. J. W. C. Pettit was read.

Mr. Swain, by request, from the Robeson County Agricultural Association, asking for a bill for free schools.

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Petitions were presented as follows: Mr. Alexander—a petition for the establishment of a school at Charlotte for the colored race.

Mr. Alexander—a petition that the appropriation to the firemen's association of \$2,500 be continued.

On motion of Mr. McCaskey the Senate Calendar was taken up. To establish a reform school for the white and colored youthful criminals of the State, to be located in the city that will make the best use of money, lands, etc.

Mr. McCaskey said he introduced the bill some time ago, it was one of the demands of the Populist Party, and that he was glad nearly all the newspapers were in favor of it.

It was an institution that North Carolina was not prepared to support.

Mr. Alexander said that this was one of the issues of the last campaign. That he favored it, but since coming here he thought it would be wise to postpone the matter until the State was not financially to establish such schools.

On motion of Mr. McCaskey it was made a special order for (Wednesday) at 12 o'clock m.

The time for the special order set for today having arrived, it was taken up to provide for the general supervision of railroad, steamboat, canal boat, express and telegraph companies.

The gist of the bill is to make the passenger rates 2 cents for first-class and 2 cents for second-class per mile, and to reduce the freight rates on all commodities.

It also forbids any issue of free passes to public officers.

Mr. Butler spoke at some length on the bill, saying that if rates were reduced the railroads and other companies would be benefited because they would have more business.

Mr. Anthony said that if the rates were reduced the corporations would be reduced the corporations would be reduced the corporations would be reduced.

Mr. Bates said there were several things in the bill he would be glad to support, but as it now stood the bill would reduce the rates on all local lines and in justice to the local roads he could not support the bill as it was, but if the Senator (Butler) would so fix his bill as not to injure the local roads he would support it.

Mr. Bates offered the following amendment:

Sec. 1. That the railroad commissioners shall after their present term expire, be elected by the qualified voters of the State as other State officers are elected.

Sec. 2. That in addition to the powers already granted and given to the railroad commissioners, they shall have the power to prevent any reduction in the wages of any employe of the railroad companies of this State, and when satisfactory proof is brought before the board of railroad commissioners that the wages of such employes are below the average of this State, the commissioners shall have the right to enter a fine of \$200 against such company for each offence, and said judgment shall be valid and binding against the property of such railroad company.

Mr. Bates said that the bill was originally drafted at the request of Rowan and Buncombe, but that a flood of amendments were sent in.

The House took up the bill at once to amend section 25 of the Code relating to the punishment for the offense of resisting the peace.

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bill, signed by six of the seven members of the special committee. The committee presented a substitute for the original bill as reported. Both the original bill and the substitute were witnessed by a large and deeply interested number of people in the lobby and galleries.

The majority report was first read; the minority report. The full text of the bill and the minority report was published in last issue of the CAUCASIAN.

Mr. Douglas said the discussion ought to be arranged before it began; that there was to be three hours discussion, and at the expiration of that time he would move the previous question. This was all decided upon.

The time allotted for debate having been consumed, Mr. Cook called the previous question. The Speaker ruled that it had been so decided, and that Mr. Cook should close the debate.

There was a protest against "slag law" by Mr. Blackburn and sharp words followed between him and Mr. Hancock.

Mr. Cook said that the question was sustained. The minority report was not adopted, yeas, 53, noes, 62.

As follows: The vote on the minority report was as follows:

Yeas—Adams, Aiken, Allen, Arledge, Bailey, Bingham, Blackburn, Brown, Bryan, Edgemoor, Egan, Galloway, Hester, Jones, Keith, McKenney, Melcher, McCalister, Mitchell, Nelson, Quinn, Ragsdale, Ransom, Starnes, Tamm, Telford, Thomas, Turner, Wake, Williams, Wright, Young.

Noes—Abernethy, Alexander, Arrington, Babbitt, Brown, Bryan, Calhoun, Chatham, Carter, Cathey, Chapman, Cook, Cox, Craven, Crumpler, Currie, Daniels, Dixon, Greene, Dockery, Drew, Duncan, Elliott, Fagan, Ferrell, Foster, Hancock, Harris of Halifax, Harris of Hyde, Hartness, Hauser, Hodges, Holmes, Johnson, King, Lawhorn, Lusk, Lyle, Mabrey, Mears, Merton, Parker of Perquimans, Parker of Wayne, Pease, Person of Wayne, Pease, Person of Wilson, Piott, Price, Purgason, Rawls Reynolds, Rounree, Schuklen, Sutton, Tamm, Telford, Thomas, Turner, Wake, Williams, Wright, Young.

Mr. Nelson was paired with Mr. McCallister, who was sick. Nelson would have voted no, McCallister yea.

In placing his vote, Mr. Dockery, of North Carolina, caused a great sensation. He said: "This very day Governor Russell, promoter of this bill, sent for me to come to his office and there in his dictatorial and tyrannical manner for I presume he is perhaps in the employ of the Seaboard."

Mr. Nelson said that the bill was a ratting volley of applause as the result of the vote was announced. The Speaker announced that the substitute would be voted on.

At 4-15 the House took a recess until 7:30.

At 7:30 the House met and at once took up the calendar.

The bill to provide for the taking charge of the penitentiary came up as unfinished business, but at the request of Dockery, it was introduced, it was informally passed over.

The bill providing for the payment of special venire in capital cases came up. It has caused a great deal of trouble, and has been back and forth between the House and Senate for three weeks, and in the meantime the penitentiary has been in the insane asylum that the Democratic law under which the penitentiary was so successful governed by Democrats for 25 years was a good one.

Mr. Dockey refused Mr. Dockery's charge that the Democracy was not dead and would never die. He added that Mr. Dockery himself confessed this was a revolutionary measure.

Mr. Schuklen said he knew of no such division of pie as Mr. Dockery alluded to, and that he was very angry when it was made. Mr. Dockery said it would be made after this bill passed. He said that after the bill passed he would have the same of the Populist Party it was high time the matter went into the asylum, seeing what fool it had made of itself.

Mr. Dockery (bolting Populist), said that Schuklen really knew nothing of this division of offices he must have been a Rip Van Winkle; that the Republicans had all the pie and the Democrats had none; that the Populists were more than they could consume; that if the majority Populists would rescind their resolution not to take pie, they would give pie.

The bill passed this reading.

The bill to get the control of the Agricultural Departments and Agricultural Machinery College was taken up, putting it under the control of 16 directors, 14 of whom shall be nominated by the Governor.

Mr. Person of Wayne said in this bill pie came to the Populists.

Mr. Crumpler asked Mr. Person who was the majority report favoring the

ROBERT M. DOUGLAS.

Hon. Robert M. Douglas, whose term as Associate Judge of the Supreme Court began on the first day of the month, is a native North Carolinian, having been born in Rokeingham county, January 28, 1849.

He graduated at Georgetown University (Washington, D. C.) in 1867, taking the degree of Bachelor of Arts with highest honors, and was Valedictorian of his class. Three years later he received the degree of Master of Arts. In 1868 he was appointed private secretary to the Governor of North Carolina and Colonel of the militia. In 1870, when only twenty years of age, he became private secretary to the President of the United States, General Grant. This position he retained until 1873, when he resigned to become U. S. Marshal for the Western District of North Carolina, remaining as such until 1883.

For the past six years he has been Standing Master in Chancery of the U. S. Circuit court, which he resigned to accept his present position.

Mr. Douglas is married the eldest daughter of Hon. Robert P. Dick, U. S. District Judge, who was a devoted friend of Senator Douglas, and the only delegate from North Carolina who did not secede from the National Democratic convention at Baltimore, in 1860.

Mr. Douglas is the son of the late Senator Stephen A. Douglas, of Illinois, the National Democratic candidate for President in 1860, who was himself elected Judge of the Supreme court of Illinois when only twenty-seven years of age. His wife is the daughter of Col. Robert Martin and the first cousin

of Governor David S. Reid and his late Judge Settle. Her father was a nephew of Governor Alexander Martin, the Revolutionary soldier, who was U. S. Senator and three times Governor of North Carolina.

Judge Douglas has been a life-long Republican, though never an extreme partisan. He inherits his devotion to the Union. Notwithstanding he was barely twelve years of age when the war began, the Confederate government brought suit to confiscate his property, he had inherited from his mother, declaring him an alien enemy of the Confederacy because he was at school in the District of Columbia. Upon his graduation in 1867, at eighteen years of age, he returned to his native State, which has ever since been his home. He has long been a warm admirer of Major McKimley, and was among the first to advocate his nomination, declaring him to be "the choice of the dinner-pail and the plow-line, as he was the choice of the great men of the South as well as the noblest patriots of American manhood." He went to the State Republican convention from his county at the head of a solid McKimley delegation, and took a prominent part in its proceedings.

After his nomination for the Supreme court, he retired from active participation in political affairs, in obedience to the established ethics of his profession.

In September, 1893, Judge Douglas delivered an address on "Trade Protection in America," before the Columbian Catholic Congress at Chicago, which was largely republished throughout the country, and attracted widespread attention. In it, while deprecating any indiscriminate attack upon corporations, which he declared absolutely necessary for the development of the country, he urged the strictest exercise of visitatorial powers by the respective sovereignties granting charters, together with the enactment and enforcement of laws legitimate limits. This address attracted the original Populist attention, and was known to be director or attorney in more than a dozen different private corporations; and from the further fact that he was asked to deliver the address upon this particular subject in place of Mr. Fowler, who was originally the nominee of the Knights of Labor, who could not attend.

Judge Douglas has always taken a deep interest in public affairs, and especially in every effort to promote the educational and material advancement of his country. He has long been the attorney of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce, and chairman of the insurance and executive committees of the Commercial and Industrial Association of North Carolina.

He represented Guilford county in the State Normal school, in 1884 and 1886, attending the University.

Although he did not get his license to practice law until he was thirty-six years of age, within eleven years

he has reached the Supreme court, and is now its youngest member. His fitness for the position seems to be universally conceded. Nominated by acclamation by the Republican State Convention in 1897, throughout a long and bitter campaign, nothing has been said against his personal character or professional standing. Although the strongest efforts were made to defeat him, they were based mainly upon his politics and his religious convictions, which he has never denied, and for which he has never offered an apology.

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"PIE-ONEER POPULISTS."

The Mis-Representatives of the Peoples Party Condemned by their Constituents.

FACTS FOR THE BOLTERS

Of Handicap to Fender Over a Brief Rescued of the Convention and Pledge Made—Pledged to Stand for a Silver Man for U. S. Senator—"Hope of Reward" Sw- 4 Them from the Fash-P Duty and Honesty—A Strong Letter from Mr. Coltrane.

For the Caucasian.

I am writing a private in the rear ranks of the Populist party, but I would like to be allowed space in your paper for a few words regarding the present question which has just been settled, and more especially in regard to the causes which led to the nomination and election of Senator Fender.

In the first place, I would say that the Populists in this section are proud of Senator Butler for his manly fight against Populist traitors, Pritchard and Mark Hanna. I feel confident that the rank and file of Populists in Randolph county, and the State at large, approve of the course of Senator Butler and the Populist majority in the legislature. All true Populists will find it hard to understand the course of Mr. Skinner, and would certainly have to lay aside Populist principle and enlist under the banner of Pritchard and Hanna.

The Populist convention in 1896 was not so much a betrayal as the Pritchard and Hanna party was. It was not a betrayal of their constituents that it was not the "fear of punishment" that they bolted the Populist caucus, but they "bolted" the caucus, and it was to convince them that it was not for the "hope of reward."

To the bolting Populist, or rather the Populist who bolted, it would not be deceived, your constituency is not mocked, verily, you shall have your reward. It seems that in your estimation the Populist party would run up hill and grass grow downwards. No, we don't think much of the Senator's mission, that all rational people knew was foredoomed to failure.

FOR MAGISTRATES.

A New Law Fixing the Time of Installation of Justices of the Peace.

The Legislature now in session has passed the following law:

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact: That the term of Justices of the Peace, elected under the authority of section four of chapter one hundred and fifty-seven (157) of the public laws of this State, shall be and do likewise. Yeas, brothers, we believe that you are "pie-oneer" Populists, for we believe "pie" is what you are.

As to Representative White and Senator Parker—the Populist convention which nominated these two men met in Asheboro on the same day that the Republican convention nominated Mr. Allen, the other Representative from their county.

The question naturally arose in the Populist convention whether we would support Mr. Pritchard. If elected, would support Mr. Pritchard. And it was stated in this convention by White, Parker and the other Populists that the conference committee appointed by the two parties previous to this date to arrange plans for co-operation had agreed that the Republicans would carry out their promise to nominate a man who would vote for a silver man for the United States Senate. Upon these statements and conditions the Populist convention agreed to support Mr. Pritchard.

John L. Sullivan.

He was private secretary to Col. L. L. Polk, president of the Farmington Association, at Washington, in 1891. He was also private secretary to Washington, and while there he decided that there was no difference between the Democratic and Republican parties. He was at the head of the Reform Press Bureau there and gave the Third party the name of "Cousin Joe" and Dr. Parker.

Later Mr. Ayer was secretary of the Agricultural Association of North Carolina and was at the head of the fair for three years. In March 1895 he became editor of THE CAUCASIAN, and was elected Auditor in the late campaign.

Mr. Ayer has the distinction of being the original Populist in this State. He is still single, young and good looking and deserves, and doubtless has a fighting chance in the matrimonial market. It has in other respects, we can safely say that the Populist party will be an all-round good citizen.

For the Caucasian.

PIKE, N. C. Feb. 10, 1897.

EDITOR CAUCASIAN: Dear Sir—The Senatorial fight is over and a gold standard man vested with the right to represent the people for six years in U. S. Senate. How can a man that has been laboring in every conceivable way for four or five years for silver unlimited receive this honor so suddenly and more than I can reason out. Our Pops are indignant at it. Our party can not of course be responsible for the corruption of individuals. We still hope that they are not as corrupt as the evidence indicates. "But surely blindness" is the only excuse for the thing that happened upon Israel.

The people will have right to speak at the polls two years hence, then it will be honor to whom honor is due only, but the right to speak at the polls is of political faith, and the due exercise of that faith. But when they abruptly reverse their political action and elect a gold standard man for six years, it leaves some reason for the people to believe there is corruption. All sane men have a cause for their acts, and this has not been easily and satisfactorily explained.

Can they that voted for Pritchard say why they did? That will satisfy the minds of those who have served their purpose; but they are to you as dead bodies chained to living men. Where you go they follow you, and they are becoming loathsome in their own eyes. Like Banquo's ghost, they will not down. They "ghostly" forms are ever in your midst, crying: "Give us a little more, pap; don't wear us out. We are so young we will surely perish. Remember what we did for you in your hour of sorrow. Now you in your hour of joy, you have betrayed the Populist cause which wanted to elect a silver man to the Senate, and

for your dear sake and the pap you could give us, so we set up a "pie-oneer" of our own. (which has later become to be the tail end of the Republican party) and I should like to see your man, goldbug Pritchard, for Senator.