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State Library

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

Senate Committee Has Reported Favorably Separate Coach Bill.

TO LIMIT TERM OF OFFICE

A Bill Introduced in the House to Limit the Eligibility to Elective Offices, State and County, to Three Successive Terms.

THIRTIETH DAY.—In the Senate petitions were presented from several towns asking for the repeal of the merchants' purchase tax. The committee reported favorably the bill to provide seperate coaches for the races. A resolution was passed that a committee, consisting of one Senator and two Representatives, wait upon the Governor and ascertain the vacancies on the penitentiary board and report the same. Under the head of unfinished business the bill to repeal section 3,113, of The Code again came up. This bill provides that a local option election shall be held once in two years on the petition of one-third of the qualified voters of a county, and in any month of the year, instead of June only, as formerly. The bill was withdrawn. The special order of business for the nomination and election of officers to fill vacancies in the penitentiary was taken up. Senator Cocke, the Senate member of the joint committee of three appointed to confer with Governor Russel in this matter, nominated M. L. Bryan, of Madison, and W. C. Newland, of Caldwell, as directors, and these upon a vote being taken were elected. A large number of bills passed third reading. By leave Brown introduced a bill to change the inscription of the new building of the institute for the blind. This bill provides that the corner stones shall be changed so as to show only the date of the founding of said institute and the date of the erection of the buildings; that a tablet of bronze or stone, with the names of the men upon whose places and motion said buildings were erected, shall be placed within the building.

THIRTY-FIRST DAY.—Among the bills introduced in the Senate were: Smith, to amend chapter 549, laws of 1891, incorporating the board of the Agricultural and Mechanical College, Greensboro; Hicks, to extend the time for the incorporation of the Southern Trust and Manufacturing Company; Skinner, to amend section 1,586, to protect the estate of infants; Skinner, to amend chapter 178, laws of 1897, in regard to the practice of dentistry; Brown (by request), to provide for utilizing swamplands: Also a number of local bills. The calendar was taken up, and the following bills passed third reading. To declare the Southeastern Railroad a duly incorporated company; to amend chapter 235, laws of 1897, relative to the government of the dispensary at Fayetteville; to validate the stock law elections [illegible] Indians providing that these be sent to the hospital at Raleigh; to incorporate the Inter-State Telegraph & Telephone Company; to prevent the sale of adulterated and branded food and to amend and make effective chap. 122, laws of 1895; to amend 3445 of The Code, in regard to keeping a record of the conduct of prisoners; to repeal chap. 65, of volume 2, of the Code, and provide for the better government of the wrecking interest in North Carolina; joint resolution to pay the election contest expenses of Dees and Paul—Dees to receive $187.50 and Paul, $98.55; to incorporate the Granville County Railroad Company. The bill to withdraw from the Board of Agriculture the power to erect new building was drawn at 10:45, passed both houses, was signed and ratified and in the hands of the Secretary of State by 10:25.

THIRTY-SECOND DAY.—In the Senate petitions as follows were filed with committees: From citizens of Guilford, asking for a dispensary; from the citizens of Alleghany, asking prohibition for certain church districts, and for extension of time to complete the Grassy Creek railroad; from the citizens of Winston, protesting against a dispensary, and from the board of aldermen of Wilmington also against the dispensary; from citizens of Kinston asking for a dispensary. Among the bills introduced were: Cocke, to regulate the use of meridian monuments and measures; Mason, to regulate the trial of criminal actions (this bill provides that no man who has formed or expressed an opinion in any criminal action shall be allowed to serve as a juror); Hairston, a resolution of request to our Representatives at Washington. The calendar was taken up, and bills passed as follows: To declare the Southeastern Railroad Company a duly incorporated organization; to provide for the free passage of fish in Mingo creek; to pay Suggs (election contest) $170; to prevent shooting of birds in Wake county without written permission; to amend the charter of the Emancipation Association; to amend chapter 449 laws of 1897, regulating the sale of liquor in Union county. Senator Brown announced that R. H. Ricks had declined to serve on the board of directors for the State's prison and put in nomination V. B. Ballard, of the third district, to serve in his stead. Upon a vote being taken Ballard's election was unanimous. By leave bills as follows were introduced: Speight, to make appropriations to the State Hospital; to amend the charter of Wadesboro; Lowe, to amend chapter 311, laws of 1893, in regard to justices of the peace; by leave, Daniels introduced a petition from traveling salesmen asking for the passage of the Alabama Jim Crow car law.

THIRTY-THIRD DAY.—In the Senate the following bills were introduced: Robinson, (by request) to establish a dispensary at Clinton; Jones, to protect bona fide creditors; Stanback, to incorporate the Troy Manufacturing Company; Lindsay, to establish a dispensary in Madison; Miller, for better protection of minors and to raise revenue; Wilson, (by request) to incorporate the Guilford Power Company; Fields, to protect foxes in Alleghany county; Hairston, to prohibit hunting on a man's land without permission; Skinner, to prevent fishing with nets one-half mile long in Neuse river; in relation to the probate of wills; Justice, concerning appeals to the Supreme Court (this bill provides that the Supreme Court shall pass upon all points raised in an appeal and shall not be barred by a technicality from rendering an opinion); The following third-reading bills passed: The bill calling on Governor Russell to submit reports of the penitentiary for 1897 and 1898; to correct land grant 4167, Buncombe county; to remove the State arsenal; to authorize the board of education to administer oaths in certain cases; to improve the roads in Anson county; to incorporate the Golden Rule Benevolent Association; to amend section 1815 of The Code, relating to marriage license by prefixing "race" before color. (The bill applies only to Robeson county.) to amend section 49 of The Code regarding telephone and telegraph companies; to regulate the drainage of lowlands; to incorporate the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company; to establish a dispensary in the town of Madison, Rockingham county. By leave, Senator McIntyre introduced a bill to appropriate $100,000 to the public schools in North Carolina, and Senator Skinnier a bill to amend an act of 1891, repealing laws of 1891, relating to fishing in Albemarle Sound. Upon motion, the latter bill passed first reading, as did the bill to incorporate the North and South Carolina Railroad Company; to incorporate the Coolemee Water-Works; to incorporate the Coolemee Cotton Mills; to establish a dispensary at Clayton; to incorporate the Great Council of North Carolina Order of Red Men.

THIRTY-FOURTH DAY.—Winston's bill regarding the penitentiary, which passed the House was held up in the Senate by W. H. Day's friends, who hope to effect some arrangement by which Day will retire as superintendent. The special joint legislative committee to investigate Governor Russell's removal of J. W. Wilson, as chairman of the railroad commission, have decided in favor of Wilson. It is understood that the decision is unanimous.

THIRTY-FIFTH DAY.—In the Senate Brown introduced a resolution that the time for the election of directors of the Deaf and Dumb School at Morganton be the 16th of February. The resolution was adopted. At 12:40 a message was announced from the House. It was borne by Representatives Craig, Allen and Foushee. As they came forward the Senate solemnly rose, and Lieutenant Governor Reynolds said: "All persons are commanded to keep silent under pain of imprisonment, while the House of Representatives presents articles of impeachment against Judge W. L. Norwood, for high crimes and misdemeanors in office." Craig then spoke. On motion the Senate delayed discussion or action in the case. A number of third reading bills were passed.

THE HOUSE.

THIRTIETH DAY.—A resolution from the Senate, raising a joint committee to ask the Governor as to the vacancies on the board of directors of the State's prison, was concurred in. Bills were introduced as follows: McNeill to reduce fees on crop liens; Lusk, to provide for the appointment of directors and State proxy of the North Carolina Railroad; Beasley, to repeal chapter 176 acts 1895, and repeal chapter 487, acts of 1891, regarding game keepers on Currituck Sound; also to prevent obstruction of navigation on North river and Currituck Sound by timber getters; Julian, to amend article 6 of the constitution by adding a new section which will limit eligibility to all elective State and county officers to three successive terms; Wall to repeal the act of 1897, which requires dentists to pass examination. The bill regarding directors of the North Carolina Railroad provides that they shall be elected by the State board of internal improvements and that that board shall also have power to remove them and fill the vacancies. The reply of the State Treasurer to the resolution of inquiry as to what sums of money he had paid out to the penitentiary, etc., was received and placed in the hands of the finance committee. Winston read the reply of the Governor to the inquiry as to what vacancies there are on the board of directors of the penitentiary. The reply said there were two—from the seventh and ninth districts. He then placed in nomination William C. Newland, from the seventh and Martin L. Bryan, from the ninth. Petree was nominated on the part of the fusionists. Charles Smith nominated W. L. Lawrence; Wrenn nominated James J. Jenkins; Hampton nominated John H. Wolf, of Surry. Newland and Bryan were elected. Winston by leave, introduced a bill, which, under a suspension of the rules, at once passed its readings, amending the act putting the penitentiary in Democratic hands, by providing that if the board of directors finds that for any cause it cannot meet at the penitentiary February 10th, then it shall have leave to meet at any place in the city of Raleigh it may select. By leave Carroll introduced a bill to repeal section 3131 of The Code and enact a substitute providing that local option elections may be held at any time in the year, but not oftener than once in two years, before petition of one-third of the qualified voters. The question of leaving the Cumberland dispensary matter to a vote of the people, after being adversely disposed of by the House, came up before the Senate judiciary committee in the form of a substitute bill introduced by Senator Williams. The committee decided by a vote of 6 to 1, in favor of the dispensary as it stands, without leaving the question to a vote. R. L. Cooper, J. E. Henderson, H. B. Hardy and Ellis Garner have been summoned to testify against Judge Norwood.

THIRTY-FIRST DAY.—In the House bills were introduced as follows: Boushall, for the promotion of the rearing of pheasants in North Carolina; Abbott, to incorporate Dismal Swamp; Boggs, to amend the act regarding drainage of low lands in Rowan, Davidson, Davie, and Catawba; Thompson, to establish graded schools at Lexington; Reinhardt, for better drainage of lowlands in Gaston and Catawba; Willard, to allow the officer in command of the naval brigade to appoint his staff; Justice, to provide self-couplers and automatic brakes on railroad trains; Reeves, to protect water supplies, in the interest of the public health. A bill came over from the Senate and was rushed through to withdraw from the State Board of Agriculture all authority to build or to authorize any of its agents to build any buildings and declaring any and all contracts made by such board null and void. The bill passed unanimously. The calendar was taken up. Bill passed to establish graded schools for both races at Kinston; to provide for the payment of witnesses; to amend chapter 157, acts of '97, by adding Madison county. By leave Reeves withdrew his bill requiring the ingredients of all patent medicines to be plainly printed in English on each bottle or package or box. Bills passed: To regulate the setting of large steel traps in Graham county; to punish trespassers upon the lands of another; to allow Mitchell county to levy $3,000 special tax, to compromise and settle its floating debt; to allow townships to vote road tax in Lincoln county. At noon the special order was taken up, this being Clarkson's bill to establish the Vance Textile School, as a department of the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Raleigh, with an advisory board of managers, 15 in number, all cotton mill men, this board to meet with the college trustees, but to have no vote save as to the textile department, which is to be in a special building. The courses of instruction are to be open to both sexes. The bill was a substitute, recommended by the committee. Winston offered an amendment, provided funds are available by the Department of Agriculture. This was accepted, as was also one by Alexander, providing that no work shall be done until it is assured that the building will be equipped without any cost to the State with the necessary machinery and appliances. The bill passed second reading.

THIRTY-SECOND DAY.—In the House a memorial from the people of the town of Dunn, asking for a dispensary, was presented. The calendar was taken up. Resolution was adopted to pay W. L. Norwood $582.15 for salary during June, July and August. Bills passed appropriating $40,000 annually as the regular appropriation for the deaf-mute school at Morganton, and $7,000 as a special appropriation, the latter for an addition to the industrial department, cold storage, heating and electric light and plumbing. Bills passed limiting the territory in Hyde county which is under the oyster law; taking from the board of education and putting in the hands of the board of internal improvements the power to elect the "agent for the swamp lands." A resolution was adopted fixing February 24th as the date of the first meeting of the State board of public improvements. (February 10 had been named as the date.) Justice submitted a report from the committee in the nature of a substitute for the bill giving the Democrats control of the Agricultural and Mechanical College. The substitute makes the number of directors 20, instead of 15, and provides for their election by the Legislature instead of their appointment by the Governor. R. H. Ricks, declining to serve as a directors of the penitentiary; V. B. Ballard, of Franklin, was unanimously elected to fill the vacancy. The House concurred in the Senate amendments to the bill taking from the Governor all power as regards the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad. By leave Brown, of Stanley, introduced a bill amending the act of 1891 regarding the sale of baled cotton. The act applies to Union, Anson and some other counties, and the bill gives buyers the right to certain deductions in case of frauds, or indictment for false pretences. Bills passed to amend chapter 127, acts 1897 in regard to non-suits, in the matter of waiver of exceptions, etc. (It is a Senate substitute for Allen's bill, which simply repeated the act of 1897.) At noon the special order, the bill to create the county of "Scotland" out of four southern townships of Richmond county, came up with a favorable report. Laurinburg is to be the county seat. The vote on the bill was 86 ayes, 13 nays.

THIRTY-THIRD DAY.—In the House the report of the judiciary committee in favor of the impeachment of W. L. Norwood as judge was presented by Foushee. Among the bills introduced was one to establish a department of agriculture and mechanical arts. Winston called up his bill requiring separate accommodations on the railroads for whites and negroes, and demanded immediate consideration. This bill has not been before a committee. His bill gives all the authority to the railroad commission, makes the penalty for failure to obey law $100 a day, to be recovered by any person who may sue therefor; gives the railroads full police power to eject persons who refuse to comply with the law and also those who refuse to aid the railroad officials in enforcing the law when called on to do so. A motion to refer the bill to the committee on railroads and railroad commission was made. The vote on referring the bill to committee was yeas 60, nays 18. The bill to establish the Vance Textile School as a department of the Agricultural and Mechanical College came up on third reading. The vote on the bill was ayes 52, noes 36. There was applause at this. The bill to create the county of Scotland out of the four southern townships of Richmond came up on third reading. The bill passed by a vote of 75 ayes to 9 noes. On motion of Mr. Moore, the "clincher" was put on the bill and it was ordered to the Senate at once. At noon the House took up as a special order Stevens anti-trust bill. The committee had amended the bill so that it did not apply to jobbers, canning fishing or cotton mill corporations, which are not the agents of any trust. Robinson said the bill was now aimed directly at the trusts and did not injure any of the mercantile or manufacturing industries of North Carolina. The bill passed its second reading without debate. It is entitled "An Act to Punish Pools, Trusts and Conspiracies." A bill passed to change from April 1 to Feb. 1st the date of expiration of "turpentine leases," not applying to the counties Montgomery, Richmond, Columbus, Brunswick, Robeson, Moore, Onslow, Cumberland and Hornet. Bill to make appropriation for the white institution for the blind and the one for negro deaf-mutes and blind at Raleigh came up. It carried an annual appropriation for $16,500 and also for $200 per annum for each pupil in excess of 200 received. A bill to establish a dispensary at Smithfield, Johnson county. A bill to provide for the government of the Agricultural and Mechanical College was taken up on Mr. Justice's motion.

THIRTY-FOURTH DAY. — The House passed a resolution recommending the impeachment of Judge W. L. Norwood, of the twelfth judicial district. The committee to which was referred the impeaching resolution after investigating the evidence, reported as follows:

First, that W. L. Norwood, judge of the Superior Court of North Carolina for the twelfth judicial district, as a matter of law, is subject for impeachment.

Second, that the said W. L. Norwood is an habitual drunkard, and has been publicly drunk while exercising the duties of his office.

Third, that the said W. L. Norwood should be impeached.

On this report the following resolution was framed and adopted by the House.

Resolved, That W. L. Norwood, a judge of the Superior Court of North Carolina be impeached of high crimes and misdemeanors in office.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to go to the Senate, and at the bar thereof, and in the name of the House of Representatives and of all the people of the State of North Carolina, to impeach W. L. Norwood, judge of the Superior Court of North Carolina, of high crimes and misdemeanors in office, and acquaint the Senate that the House of Representatives will in due time exhibit particular articles of impeachment against him and make good the same, and that the committee do demand that the Senate do take order for the appearance of said W. L. Norwood to answer said impeachment."

These resolutions were adopted after a debate of three hours, by a vote of 62 to 31, and a committee was appointed as recommended.

This is the second time in the history of North Carolina that a judge has ever been impeached. Judge Jones was impeached in 1873 for a similar charge.

THIRTY-FIFTH DAY.—In the House the attendance was very light. Representative Williams, of Iredell, introduced a resolution that no member be allowed to speak more than five minutes, save by consent. Among the bills introduced was one to prevent taking out timber from this State to manufacture it; Smith to require railroads to provide closets for each sex in all passenger cars. Messrs. Foushee, Craig and Allen, of the impeachment committee, appeared and Mr. Craig announced that they had, as directed in the resolution adopted Saturday, appeared before the bar of the Senate and impeached W. L. Norwood in the name of the people of the State. Bills passed to put control of the deaf-mute school at Morganton in Democratic hands. The resolution to pay W. L. Norwood salary for June, July and August ($588) was adopted. By leave Clarkson introduced a bill to establish a dispensary at Charlote. The bill was taken up to establish the bureau of labor and printing, which gives the labor commissioner control of the public printing. On motion the bill was ordered printed. By leave Council introduced a bill to prevent the spread of cattle distemper, tick fever and other contagious diseases of cattle. The Stevens anti-trust bill came up on third reading as a special order. Stevens demanded the yeas and nays. Winston offered an amendment providing that the bill shall not apply to any charitable or educational institution or corporation holding trust certificate or evidence of indebtedness. Lowery offered an amendment designed to prevent trusts from entering this State and pulling prices down so as to cripple State concerns. Boushall offered an amendment that nothing shall effect investments of charitable or educational institutions. Stevens said he was willing to except present investments. The bill then passed third reading, yes 69, noes 6. Foushee offered a resolution raising a committee of five to prepare articles of impeachment of Judge Norwood and under suspension of the rules it was immediately adopted.

Philippine War Notes.

The European Filipino junta in London has received a long telegram from Agoncillo, the agent of Aguinaldo, dated from Montreal and declaring that he left Washington in consequence of a telegram which he received February 4 from Aguinaldo, urging him to cable to Malolos the result of the vote of the United States Senate on the peace treaty. Agoncillo also says he was pursuaded that the treaty would not be ratified, and points out that the three votes by which it was passed were obtained at the last moment, as the result of the outbreak of hostilities. The agent of Aguinaldo again expressed his conviction that the outbreak was "provoked by the Americans for this very purpose.

A reconnoitering party of the Fourteenth Infantry, came upon a large body of the enemy in the jungle near camp Dewey. The rebels were attacked and fell back upon the main line of the insurgents. The Fourteenth Infantry, the North Dakota Regiment and the Fourth Cavalry, then engaged the enemy, and drove them toward the beach, where one of the gunboats received them with a fusilade from automatic Colt guns. The enemy's loss is severe and they scattered along the beach, seeking cover from the fire of the Americans. Two of our troopers were killed and five were wounded.

Dispatches to The Globe from Hong Kong say the Filipino junta has received by steamer from Manila, further news of the recent fighting. The Filipino agents say the Americans placed vessels along the shores of the bay and commenced hostilities "unexpectedly at midnight on Saturday, simultaneously bombarding the defenceless towns of Fondo, Malak and Malabon." The agents of the rebels also say "the slaughter of women and children was frightful, the Americans burning and devastating all before them, conducting a war of extermination and shooting every Filipino."

A special from Manila says: Early Saturday the monitor Monadnock and the cruiser Charleston began dropping shells into the rebel camp between Caloocan and Malabon. The enemy's sharpshooters in the jungle on the American left had been particularly annoying since daylight, so the Third Artillery drove the rebels out of the jungle at noon. Bass, an artist, representing Harper's Weekly, was shot in the arm. The loss of the enemy is estimated at fully 50 to 100 killed or wounded.

The capture of Caloocan by the American forces is regarded by the administration as being a very important victory. Canloocan is on the line of the railroad connecting Manila with Malolos, the insurgent capital, and it may be that this capture of the first named town will make it possible to advance rapidly by rail upon the insurgent headquarters if it shall be deemed necessary to force the fighting and undertake the capture of Aguinaldo.

The rebels seem to have selected Malabon as the base of operations for their next encounter with the Americans, as they are concentrating a considerable force there and at Caloocan. Many small bodies of scattered rebel troops are straggling in from the right and others are undoubtedly arriving from the north and interior provinces. Aguinaldo is reported to have established his headquarters at Malabon for the purpose of rallying his forces for a decisive blow.

In anticipation of a native uprising in Manila, unusual precautions were taken by the American military authorities. Fortunately, the steps taken proved unnecessary. The Filipinos are evidently convinced that an uprising would prove suicidal to them. The Visayan commissioners arrested on board the Uranus have sailed for Iloilo with the Tennessee regiment, on board the United State transport St. Paul.

The Filipino Junta at Hong Kong has issued a statement charging Gen. Otis with treachery. In the statement the Junta asserts that the recent hostilities were commenced simultaneously on land and sea by the Americans, and that the Filipinos were wholly unprepared, and that many of the officers were at the theatre.

Agoncillo, now in Montreal, stated positively, that he had authentic information to the effect that Aguinaldo did not want a cessation of hostilities and had not asked for it. When asked how he obtained this information, he refused to say.

Gen. Lawton, on board the U. S. transport Grant, en route for Manila, has cabled the War Department from Port Said that all on board are well.

Scouting parties of the Dakota Regiment surprised some Filipino scouts at the bridge across the Pananaque river. The enemy retired hurriedly, swimming the stream in order to reach the main body of the rebels, entrenched opposite Troop K, of the Fourth Cavalry.

A Manilla special says: Pursuing their customary tactics, the rebels on the extreme left of the line opened fire at long range on the American troops Monday night, making their fire for a few minutes quite brisk. None of their shots took effect, however, and the Americans did not reply.

Mrs. Gotrox—Mabel, dear, are you sure Mr. Woodby loves you for yourself alone? Mabel—Yes, I'm sure he does, mamma. He is always so restless when you are in the room.

WORK OF THE LEGISLATURE.

Bills and Resolutions That Have Been Ratified.

QUICK WORK OF OUR SOLONS.

Some Very Important Bills and Resolutions That Have Been Enacted Into Laws —The Local Laws.

The following bills and resolutions have been ratified and are now laws: Repealing the act of 1897 creating office of enrolling clerk; to reduce pay of clerks 20 per cent. as compared with that in 1897; to repeal chap. 140, private laws of 1897; to repeal the act of 1897 allowing stock to go at large during the winter in stock law districts in Halifax county; to repeal the act regiving dead bodies from asylums, etc., for medical purposes; to repeal the act of 1897 allowing stock to go at large in stock law territory in Edgecombe; resolution, to investigate the acts of 1897 and see which are of merit; resolution, in favor of election of United States Senators by the people; to repeal chapter 316, private laws of 1895; to repeal chapter 223, acts of 1895; resolution calling on Governor Russell for his evidence for removing J. W. and O. Wilson as railroad commissioners; to prevent fast riding and driving over bridges in Gaston county; to repeal chapter 128, acts of 1897; to allow Lowburg to issue bonds; to repeal chapter 316, acts of 1897; to increase county commissioners for Jones county; to repeal chapter 292, acts of 1895; to appoint a cotton weigher at Dunn; to amend the charter of St. Mary's school; to repeal chapter 464, acts of 1897; to allow Reidsville to issue bonds for waterworks; to repeal act of 1897 regarding protection of fish in Alleghany county; to incorporate St. Luke's Circle, King's Daughters, of Raleigh; to provide for working Washington county's roads by taxation; resolution relating committee to investigate the penitentiary; to amend charter of Pinehurst school; resolution permitting the erection of the Worth Bagley monument in the capital square; to give Hertford county white government; to allow Charlotte to issue water-works and sewerage bonds, and ratify action of the aldermen and electors in authorizing their issue; for relief of the clerk of the Superior Court of Craven; to amend chapter 163, private acts of 1895; to allow tax collector of Halifax to collect taxes; to investigate the suspension of the Railroad Commissioners Wilson; to repeal the act in regard to public printing and put it in charge of printing committee; resolution, asking the government to put a light house at the Cape channel in Pamlico Sound; to appoint commissioners of navigation for Old Topsail inlet, Beaufort harbor; to repeal chapter 5, private laws of 1895; to increase the number of Edgecomb's commissioners; to incorporate the Southern Consecratory of Music, at Durham; to change corporate limits of Kelford, Bertie county; to repeal act allowing Buncombe county to have an auditor; for relief of Clay's Superior Court clerk; to repeal the act establishing a free ferry at Barfield, on the Chowan river; to change the name of Chockominity creek to Choco; to amend chapter 253, acts of 1897; to abolish cotton and peanut weigher in Edgecombe; to protect wild turkeys in Camden; to pay for scalps of wolves, panthers and wild cats in Graham county; to repeal chapter 197, private laws of 1895; to increase the number of Bertie's commissioners; to repeal charter of Dudley, Wayne county; to amend chapter 154, acts of 1897; to protect game in Randolph; to repeal chapter 367, acts of 1897; to allow Bertie to borrow money, issue bonds and levy special tax; to repeal chapter 261, acts of 1897; to give the United States fish commission leave to establish a fish hatchery in this State; to amend chapter 340, private acts of 1895; to promote temperance in [illegible] county; to amend chapter [illegible] of 1895; to amend charter of [illegible] Savings Bank; to reduce price of Supreme Court reports to $1.50; to amend the charter of Jonesville, Martin county; to amend the charter of Fayetteville; to incorporate Roanoke Railway and Bridge Company; to amend charter of Salem; to regulate duties and powers of town constables and validate proceedings based on papers served by them; to amend section 1906 of The Code; to repeal chapter 159 acts of 1895, and chapter 185, acts of 1897; to repeal chapter 331, acts of 1897; to allow Morganton to buy and operate electric light and power plant; to improve Anson's public roads; to place the control of the penitentiary in Democratic hands; to amend section 2079 of The Code; to extend charter of Fairfield Canal and Turnpike Company; to amend chapter 484, acts of 1897; to incorporate the African Aid and Burial Society of North Carolina; to give Craven county white government; to authorize the publication of the sketches of the North Carolina regiments in the Confederate service; to repeal charter of the town of Redmond; to amend section 1285 of The Code; to give Caswell county additional commissioners; to give Washington county additional commissioners; resolution, to investigate Agricultural Department and State Treasury; to amend chapter 68, acts of 1897; resolution inquiring on what authority money was paid out to the penitentiary from the State Treasury; to repeal chapter 500, acts of 1897; to regulate quo warranto proceedings; to unite the Richmond & Petersburg and the Virginia & Carolina Railroad; to ratify the incorporation of the South Carolina & Georgia Extension Railroad Company; resolution in favor of the Elizabeth City and Camden Ferry Company; to repeal chapter 13, acts of 1895; to restore Mt. Airy township, Surry county; to amend chapter 108, acts of 1895; resolution to elect February 3rd, twelve directors of State's prison; to provide for filling vacancies in Craven county offices; to alter dividing line between White House and Britt's townships, Robeson county; to amend chapter 200, private laws of 1893; to take control of Atlantic & North Carolina road from the Governor; to repeal chap. 65, acts of 1895; to repeal chapter 491, acts of 1893, and amend chapter 106, acts of 1885; resolution to pay expenses of J. A. Franks, who lost seat in Senate; to change name of Harriston, Pitt county, to Ayden; to investigate the negro Agricultural and Mechanical College at Greensboro; to amend chapter 37, private laws of 1897; to allow the commissioners to revise New Hanover's jury lists.

Since February 1 the following resolutions and bills have been ratified and are now laws:

To amend chapter 329, private laws 1895; to protect fish in No. 11 township, Madison county; to appoint H. E. Marklam a justice of the peace; to repeal section 1333, chapter 31, volume 1, of The Code; to provide for election of justices of the peace in Beaver Dam township, Washington county; to create an additional justice of the peace in No. 1 township, Madison county; to appoint R. G. L. Taylor a justice of the peace; to repeal the act of 1897, to prevent the fishing of certain nets in Albemarle Sound and in the rivers emptying therein; to amend section 2941 of The Code and facilitate restoration to the rights of citizenship of certain persons in Alamance county who opened some graves and removed some bodies; to repeal the charter of Newbern; to incorporate the Citizens' Bank of Elizabeth City; to confer police powers on deputy sheriffs at Hare River; to authorize Fayetteville to resume one-fourth of the taxes listed in 1898 in full settlement and fixing the tax year for said city; to change the name of the South Atlantic Life and Endowment Company of North Carolina to the Atlantic Life and Annuity Company of North Carolina; to amend chapter 233 public laws of 1897; to amend chapter 276, public laws of 1897; to prohibit hunting on any lands in Gaston and Catawba counties except by consent of owners; to amend chapter 358, public laws of 1897; to amend chapter 18, public laws of 1897, which amended section 2502 of The Code; to repeal chapter 114 public laws of 1897, establishing Muddy Creek township, McDowell county; to prevent the spread of disease among hogs and fowls in Edgecombe and Gates counties; to increase the number of commissioners in Rowan; to incorporate the Carolina Bonding and Surety Company; for relief of Clerk W. M. Watson, of Craven Superior Court; to establish a dispensary at Jackson, Northampton county; to amend the charter of Southport; to appoint constable in Mt. Airy township, Surry county; to amend chapter 212, private laws of 1851 incorporating the Wilmington Gaslight Company; to incorporate the Greensboro Loan and Trust Company; to repeal chapter 210, public laws of 1895; to amend chapter 134, private laws of 1897; to incorporate the East Tennessee & Western North Carolina Railroad; to amend chapter 165, public laws of 1895; resolution instructing North Carolina's Senators and Representatives in Congress to procure an appropriation for the payment of claims arising out of the late war with Spain; to protect quail and other food birds in Madison county; to amend chapter 113, public laws of 1895; to repeal chapter 510, public laws of 1897; resolution providing for a joint ballot of both houses to fill vacancies in the board of directors of the State's prison; to change time of holding courts in Duplin county; to protect the bridge over the Perquimans river at Hertford; to protect game in Edgecombe; to prohibit fast driving over bridges in Pamlico county; to validate certain oaths made by holding up the hand; to allow the penitentiary directors to meet February 10, in case it is necessary to meet at any point in the city of Raleigh; to amend chapter 49 of The Code; to amend sections 581 and 582 of The Code; to validate certain probates and registrations; to amend section 114 of The Code; to amend chapter 161 public laws of 1895, conferring jurisdiction of the probate of deeds in certain cases; to correct a grant issued in 1782 to William Ferlbee, of Currituck; to take from the State Board of Agriculture the power to contract for the erection of public buildings.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT.

Change in Article Six of the Constitution.

The following is the text of the measure agreed upon by the Democratic legistive caucus, and to be submitted to the vote of the people.

Section 1. That article 6 of the constitution of North Carolina be, and the same, hereby repealed, and in lieu thereof shall be substituted the following article of said constitution:

ARTICLE VI.

Suffrage and Eligibility to Office—Qualifications of an Elector.

Section 1. Every male person born in the United States, and every male person who has been naturalized, 21 years of age and possessing the qualifications set out in this article, shall be entitled to vote at any election by the people in the State, except as herein otherwise provided.

Sec. 2. He shall have resided in the State of North Carolina for two years' in the county six months, and in the precinct, ward or other election district in which he offers to vote four months next preceding the election; provided, that removal from one precinct, ward or other elections district, to another in the same county, shall not operate to deprive any person of the right to vote in the precinct, ward or other election district, from which he has removed until four months after such removal. No person who has been convicted, or who has confessed his guilt in open court upon indictment, of any crime, the punishment of which is, or may hereafter be, imprisonment in the State prison, shall be permitted to vote unless the said person shall be first restored to citizenship in the manner prescribed by law.

Sec. 3. Every person offering to vote shall be at the time a legally registered voter as hereinafter prescribed by law, and the General Assembly of North Carolina shall enact general registration laws to carry into effect the provisons of this act.

Sec. 4. Every person presenting himself for registration shall be able to read and write any section of the constitution in the english language; and in addition thereto, shall have paid on or before the first day in March, of the year in which he proposes to vote, his poll tax, as prescribed by law, for the previous year, and he shall exhibit his receipt therefor when he offers to vote. Poll taxes shall be a lien only on assessed property, and no process shall issue to enforce the collection of the same except against assessed property.

Sec. 5. No male person, who was on January 1, 1867, or at any time prior thereto, entitled to vote under the laws of any State in the United States wherein he then resided, and no lineal descendant of any such person, shall be denied the right to register and vote at any election in this State by reason of his failure to possess the educational qualification prescribed in section 4 of this article; provided, he shall have registered in accordance with the terms of this article prior to December 1, 1908, and no person shall be entitled to register under this section after that date.

The General Assembly shall, at its first session after the adoption of this amendment, provide the manner in which the classes of persons provided for in this section shall register.

Sec. 6. All elections by the people shall be by ballot, and all elections by the General Assembly shall be viva voce.

Sec. 7. Every voter in North Carolina, except as in this article disqualified, shall be eligible to office, but before entering upon the duties of the office he shall take and subscribe the following oath: "I, ————, do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support and maintain the constitution and laws of the United States and the constitution and laws of North Carolina, not inconsistent therewith, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my office as ————. So help me God."

Sec. 8. The following classes of persons shall be disqualified for office: First, all persons who deny the being of Almighty God. Second, all persons who shall have been convicted, or confess their guilt on indictment pending, and whether sentenced or not, or under judgment suspended of any treason or felony, or any other crime for which the punishment may be imprisonment in the penitentiary, since becoming citizens of the United States, of corruption and malpractice in office, unless such persons shall be restored to the rights of citizenship in a manner prescribed by law.

Sec. 9. This act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

SPECIFICALLY STATED.

"I noticed an attractive advertisement in the paper this morning," said Mr. McBride to his wife.

"Was it a millinery opening?"

"No; it was a dentist's advertisement; and what particularly struck me was the announcement that under no circumstances would he furnish more than one set of teeth to a customer at the reduced figure."

THE NATION'S LAW-MAKERS.

Proceedings of the Senate and House Day by Day.

SENATE.

FORTY-SECOND DAY. — The Senate confined itself largely to the transaction of routine business. The Indian appropriation bill was finally completed and passed. The legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill was taken up, but after 24 pages of it had been disposed of, it was laid aside for the day. The bill carries $25,400,877, an increase of $171,040 over the amount as it passed the House. A few measures of minor importance were passed. Gallinger, of New Hampshire, chairman of the pensions committee, reported a bill to restore pensions to soldiers who forfeited them by enlisting in the war with Spain. The bill provides that the pensions be restored from the date of the applicant's discharge from the army. The bill was passed.

FORTY-THIRD DAY.—Throughout its open session the Senate had under consideration the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bills. At the opening of the session the following bills were passed: To restore to their original status as to promotion officers of the navy and marine corps, who lost numbers by reason of the advancement of other officers for exceptional and meritorious service during the war with Spain; authorizing the Atanasa Harbor Terminal Railway Company to construct a bridge across the Corpus Christi Channel, in Texas; for a light vessel at Tail of Horseshoe, Chesapeake Bay.

FORTY FOURTH DAY.—During the entire open session, the Senate had under consideration the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bills. Little progress was made, the time being occupied with debate on minor topics. Allen, of Nebraska, offered a joint resolution, providing for the submission to Legislatures of an amendment to the constitution providing for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people. The resolution was laid on the table. Allen offered a resolution declaring that the Senate re affirm the doctrines and principles of the Declaration of Independence. The resolution went over. A House bill to establish a national military park to commemorate the campaign, seige and defense of Vicksburg was called up by Mr. Money, of Mississippi, and passed. The bill appropriates $5,000 for the purposes stated. The message from the President recommending a Pacific cable was read and referred to the committee on appropriations.

FORTY FIFTH DAY.—After a spirited debate of more than two hours, a unanimous consent agreement was made by the Senate to vote upon the resolutions of McEnery, Democrat, declaratory of a policy of the United States as to the Philippine Islands. A bill to amend "an act to reimburse the Governors of States and Territories for expenses incurred by them in aiding the United States to raise and organize and supply and equip the volunteer army of the United States in the existing war with Spain" was passed.

FORTY SIXTH DAY.—At no time during the session of the Senate was a quorum of the body present, a majority of the members being snowbound at their homes. A Senate bill authorizing the exchange of the old custom house lot at St. Augustine, Fla., for the lands adjoining the powder house lot, was passed. Consideration of the agricultural appropriation bill was then begun. A joint resolution appropriating $20,000 for the removal of snow and ice from the streets of Washington City was adopted. The adoption for vegetable pathological investigations was increased from $22,500 to $32,500, provided that $5,000 should be used for the investigation of the disease known as "little peach." Tillman offered an amendment appropriating $7,500 for "investigation and experimentation with fertilizers and fungicides, on the causes of blight in sea island cotton and in watermelons and the remedies for the same." The amendment was agreed to. Tillman also offered the following amendment, which was agreed to: "To enable the Secretary of Agriculture to investigate and report on the cost of making tea and the best methods of cultivating and preparing the same for market, so as to demonstrate whether it is practicable to introduce the culture in the Southern States as a profitable industry, $5,000." The bill was then passed. Among the bills passed were the following: Amending the statutes concerning the drawing off, gauging, marking and removal of spirits, so that spirits may be drawn off in packages smaller than barrels and put in five-gallon kegs for export purposes.

THE HOUSE.

FORTY-THIRD DAY.—This day was set aside for the consideration of public buildings. The committee had reported 78 bills for buildings in 35 States, authorizing in the aggregate an expenditure of $14,060,910. Little or no opposition developed and bills were favorably acted upon. As a result forty bills carrying or authorizing appropriations aggregating $11,264,000 had been laid aside with favorable recommendations before adjournment was reached. Among the bills passed were the following: Neport News, Va., $75,000; Elizabeth City, N. C., $50,000; Bluefields, W. Va., $5,000; Brunswick, Ga., $50,000; Beaumont, Tex., $75,000.

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