

REDUCING SALARIES

The House Cutting Down Salaries of State and Fees of County Officers.

TWO SUCH BILLS CONSIDERED.

The Bill as to the Former Passed-Also the Wilmington Bond Funding Bill-The Fight Over the Guilford Dispensary-Directors of Morganton Deaf-Mute Asylum Elected-Ratification of the Scotland County Bill-A Communication From the Governor Announcing the Resignation of Judge Norwood.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., February 20.-Bills were introduced as follows: To appropriate \$1,800 to clearing out Abokse swamp. To incorporate the Carolina Mutual Life Association. To prescribe certain books to be used in the university and other colleges. To incorporate the State Order of Junior Mechanics.

Bills were passed as follows: To amend the charter of Goldsboro. To authorize Fayetteville to establish and operate an electric light and power plant. To establish graded schools at New Bern. To provide a short form of agricultural lien and chattel mortgage. Allowing clerks 10 cents for probating, and the register of deeds 30 cents for registering bonds. (It applies to Cumberland, Nash, Edgecombe, Greene, Duplin, Wayne, Lenoir, Onslow, Pender, Wilson, Robeson, Bladen, Brunswick, New Hanover, Moore, Sampson, Beaufort, Carteret, Craven, Jones and Richmond.)

The election of directors for the deaf and dumb school at Morganton was held. The president interrupted the discussion to state that the Scotland county bill would be signed and ratified. He signed it with a gold pen which had been given Senator Glenn for his brilliant speech.

Senator James then nominated the men put forward by the committee, namely: M. L. Reid, of Vance; M. H. Holt, of Guilford; V. B. Richardson, of Columbus; N. B. Broughton, of Wake and K. A. Grier, of Mecklenburg. Senator Smith put in nomination Dr. H. C. Herring, of Concord. Upon the vote being taken the nominees of the committee were elected, Dr. Herring receiving thirteen votes.

Senator Cooley asked that the Guilford dispensary bill, which had been submitted with favorable committee report, be referred to the Judiciary committee. He believed the dispensary is a private corporation and thought it best the committee should decide as to whether sufficient notice had been given under the constitution.

Senator Wilson, of Guilford, asked if the senator's real purpose was not to side track the bill. Senator Cooley answered "No."

Senator Wilson spoke for the bill and said it was purely a local measure, and should be passed upon at once. Senator Bryan said the democratic party ought not to go into local matters where members of the party were so much at variance. He opposed the bill and considered its enactment a dangerous precedent.

Senator Glenn moved that the bill be referred to the Judiciary committee, reported to the senate in the morning and made a special order for 1 o'clock. This motion prevailed.

The bill relating to the establishment of a geological survey, providing for investigation of the oyster and fish interests of the state, passed final reading. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Ray, of Macon, after three weeks sickness, was in his seat. Mr. Winston introduced a resolution to raise a joint committee to recommend trustees of the Agricultural and Mechanical college.

The speaker announced Messrs. Bunch and Patterson of Caldwell, a committee to ask the governor for the names of the trustees of that college whose terms have expired. As the house branch of the joint committee on ventilation of the two houses Currie, of Moore, Trotman and Henderson were appointed.

Bills were introduced as follows: To allow school districts to pay for making out school tax lists. The governor to appoint three commissioners to the Paris exposition. To regulate fire insurance rates in North Carolina. To amend the charter of Warsaw.

Bills passed as follows: To allow Greene to levy a special tax. To allow Wilmington to refund its bonds. To incorporate the town of Gibson.

The house took up as special order the election of trustees of the deaf-mute school at Morganton. The joint committee nominated M. L. Reid, of Buncombe; M. H. Holt, of Guilford; V. B. Richardson, of Columbus; N. B. Broughton, of Wake; R. A. Grier, of Mecklenburg. They refused to surrender to the fusion rule and have conducted the affairs of the school in an able manner.

Mr. Hartwell nominated Dr. H. C. Herring, saying he was the best prepared man in the state outside of Professor E. McK. Goodwin.

Mr. Allen, of Columbus, said the whole fight was made against Mr. Richardson. He said he thought they were going to fight Mr. Richardson with a whole, but instead they brought forth "Herring."

of account. The house rejected this section. The next section reduced from 60 to 50 cents the fee for bond of justification and it was adopted, while the next, which reduced from \$1 to 70 cents clerks' fees for capias was stricken out. The fee for execution and return, including docketing, was reduced from 50 to 25 cents.

The question of exempting any county came up again. Mr. Justice sent an amendment to strike out the entire third section of the bill and then moved to table his amendment and thus of course bill also.

Mr. Winston again demanded the yeas and nays on the motion. The vote was yeas, 45; nays, 43. The speaker broke the tie by voting no, and was applauded.

Mr. Holman moved the house adjourn until tomorrow. This was adopted, but before it was announced the following document from the executive office was read:

"Raleigh, February 20, 1899. The following letter was received at this office February 16th, dated Waynesville, February 13th: 'I hereby resign the office of judge of the Twelfth Judicial district. W. L. NORWOOD.'

"To this the following reply was sent, dated February 16th: 'Your letter purporting to resign the office of judge of the Twelfth district has been received, and if you are holding office or acting as judge your resignation is accepted. The speaker asked what disposition the house desired to make of this matter.

Mr. Winston made a motion that the committee having in charge the matter of impeachment of Norwood go to the senate tomorrow and request leave to withdraw the impeachment.

The matter goes over until tomorrow. Before the discovery of One Minute Cough Cure, ministers were greatly disturbed by coughing congregations. No excuse for it now. R. R. Bellamy.

RAILWAY COMMISSION BILL To be Presented to the House Today-New Board in Charge of the Penitentiary-Case of Smallpox at Selma (Special to The Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., February 20.-The railway commission bill, which Mr. Allen, of Wayne, will tomorrow submit to the house for the committee, will provide for the election of three commissioners by the legislature, to hold until the next regular election, when their successors are to be elected by the people. The bill retains all the features of the railway commission act and enlarges the powers as to railways.

It also adds supervision of insurance, banks and banking, and building and loan associations. The salaries will be at least \$2,000. All fees which go to the secretary of state, treasurer and auditor are to be turned into the state treasury.

The Guilford dispensary bill will be favorably reported by the senate Judiciary committee, which decided today that the supporters of the bill had given sufficient notice under the statute as to its introduction.

This afternoon Day surrendered control of the penitentiary and the executive committee assumed formal charge. W. H. Osborne, of the committee, says no changes will be made in employees until March 1st, and that probably on that day a manager or supervisor of the state's prison will be elected.

The Stevens anti-trust bill will be argued before the senate committee Wednesday. The Charlotte dispensary bill comes before the senate committee on propositions and grievances at 3:30 o'clock Thursday.

A case of smallpox has developed at Selma. The victim is a negro and is quarantined, as are seven others who came in contact with him. Richard E. Lee, of Clinton, is commissioned by Governor Russell assistant surgeon of the First regiment of volunteers in Cuba, vice L. M. Arcey, resigned.

Not one child dies where ten formerly died from croup. Pease has invented the value of One Minute Cough Cure and use it for severe lung and throat troubles. It immediately stops coughing. It never fails. R. R. Bellamy.

THE NEW ELECTION LAW Adopted by the Democratic Legislative Caucus-Its Chief Points (Special to The Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., February 20.-The election law was adopted by the joint caucus tonight. The important clauses of difference from the old law provide for state officers to be elected August 1, 1900, and also the election of county officers, which includes county commissioners, in such counties as elect by a vote of the people. The state board of election is to be composed of five persons chosen by this general assembly. County boards of election are composed of three persons from each county, appointed by the state board, to meet in Raleigh, and whose pay shall be \$4 per day and expenses.

The state board has the power to remove county boards and the county boards to remove election officers. County boards are to fix voting places and call upon the secretary of state for blanks. There shall be a new registration, governed by the old law of Tennessee. The registrar must be able to locate the voters by full and accurate description. Indians will have separate places of registration. Ballots for officers are to be of the same size. Sheriffs are not to be members of canvassing boards. The state board of canvassers is to be composed of the five men from the state board of elections and the governor and secretary of state, and all provisions relative to such board are the same as formerly. Mr. Connor stated to the caucus that he had Otto Wilson's resignation in his pocket, but no solution was offered as to its disposition.

The report of the committee in the Wilson matter will not be taken up in the house tomorrow, but is postponed until tomorrow night for consideration at the joint caucus.

"Give me a liver regulator and I can regulate the world," said a general druggist handed him a bottle of DeWitt's Little Early Risers, the famous Little Pills.-R. R. Bellamy.

The house then adjourned.

When the postoffice appropriation bill was called for, Senator Butler proposed an amendment reducing the amount paid to the railroads for the transportation of mail from \$3,200,000 to \$2,000,000, and that the postmaster general be directed to reduce the amounts thus paid to railroad by 10 per cent after July 1, 1899. The amendment was not acted upon.

Senator Holman offered an amendment providing that star route contractors be required to collect from and deposit with the postoffice the boxes to be maintained by the people along the route. The amendment was agreed to.

A senate bill passed providing for the purchase of a site and the erection of a public building at Raleigh, N. C., at a cost not to exceed \$100,000. At 6:15 o'clock, p. m., the senate adjourned for a special session at 6:30 p. m. adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. This was suspension day in the house. Some minor business was transacted by unanimous consent.

The senate amendments to a number of private pension bills were adopted. At least \$2,000. All fees which go to the secretary of state, treasurer and auditor are to be turned into the state treasury.

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PAY FOR THE PHILIPPINES

House Passes Spanish Appropriation.

HOUSE SUSPENSION DAY

The Bill for Payment of War Expenses Incurred by States Passed-House Refuses to Legalize the Return Postal Card and Envelope System-The Senate Discusses the Postoffice Bill-The Army Reorganization Bill Made Unfinished Business

Washington, February 20.-During almost six hours this afternoon the post-office appropriation bill was under discussion in the senate, the time being largely consumed by Senator Butler, populist of North Carolina, and Senator Pettigrew in an amendment providing that the postoffice commission should present its final report to congress by March 1, 1900. Failing after many trials to obtain unanimous consent for the insertion of the amendment in the bill, Senator Butler permitted it to come to a vote. It was defeated 27 to 19.

At 2 o'clock Senator Hawley, chairman of the military affairs committee, moved to take up the army reorganization bill, unanimous consent having been refused to take up the measure providing for the anti-scalping business-the anti-scalping bill. Senator Hawley's motion prevailed, this making the army bill the unfinished business. It is agreed that this action disposes finally of the anti-scalping bill for the present session.

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MILES BEFORE THE COURT

His Charges About the Army Beef.

HIS LANGUAGE GUARDED

Closely Accompanied by a Silent Man in Citizens' Clothes-Evades Direct Answer as to Authenticity of the Two Famous Newspaper Interviews-Says His Term "Pretext of Experiment" Was Unfortunate-He Goes Into Long Explanation

Washington, February 20.-The Miles court of inquiry today made a good start in its work. The court was comfortably quartered in the old meeting room of the war investigation commission in the Lemon building with accommodations for representatives of the press associations and the local papers. Calls of ceremony on the president and the general commanding the army occupied a large part of the forenoon and immediately thereafter General Nelson A. Miles appeared as the first witness. He and three other officers summoned as witnesses were examined and disposed of before the court closed its session at 3 o'clock.

General Miles' testimony, of course, was the feature of the day's proceedings. Colonel Frank Michler, his chief of staff, and a gentleman in citizens' clothes who took a seat by the fire place and gravely watched the course of proceedings, retiring with the general as silently as he had come, accompanied the general to the court room.

General Miles appeared in fatigue uniform, rather striking in its contrast with the display of scarfs, bullion and buttons of the full dress uniforms of the court. He submitted to the questioning of Colonel Davis, recorder of the court, with equanimity except for a flash of mingled indignation and irony when he informed the recorder that he was not compelled to "report" to the commissary general of the army. This was in reply to a question as to whether or not he had reported to the commissary general of the army the fact that complaints had been made to him as to the quality of meat being issued to the troops. An instant later General Miles was seen cool and carefully consider replies to the inquiries of the court.

As indicated by a letter of the adjutant general to the recorder for the information of the court, the scope of the inquiry was limited to the allegations of General Miles before the war commission as to the quality of the army beef and the matter purporting to have been furnished to the press by the same official. Only two interviews were called up by the court-the first, as carried up by a New York Journal reporter early in the beef controversy, in which General Miles was quoted as charging that certain chemicals were used in the preservation of the army meat, and another of the New York Herald, dated February 17, 1899, in which General Miles swore that he had refused to be interviewed and that the whole story was made up in the office from the written statements of the witnesses. Notwithstanding the fact that his final answer was asked as to the authenticity of the interview General Miles did not specifically deny it, but merely refused to apply for the responsibility for the newspaper statements but tacitly admitting that there was a good deal in them with which he agreed.

The trend of questions put to the other witnesses of troops, he felt confident that so long as they agreed with General Miles as to the quality of the meat furnished the troops in the field the only criticism of his position on the court had to make was why they had not taken some official steps to have the matter remedied at the time. In every instance the reply was that the witnesses in which the army was placed in a sticky foreign country with a large amount of fighting and a great scarcity of transportation on hand, precluded the possibility of any such action. In each case the question was pushed no further on this line.

Colonel Davis, recurring to the statement of General Miles before the war commission asked him what his idea as to the quality of the army beef was when war broke out.

Replying, General Miles said that while his attention was occupied with the weightier matters of mobilization and equipment of troops, he felt confident that the issue of an hundred years would be followed and cattle herds would be shipped to the army in the tropics and killed there just as they had been through the south during the civil war, in Arizona, Texas and in Mexico, where it was so hot that a soldier could not sit upon the rocks. He understood Cuba and Porto Rico were excellent grass countries and cattle could be shipped and kept in prime condition. He reviewed his action in calling the department to send no more refrigerated beef to Porto Rico while he was there, finding it possible to use beef on the hoof.

General Miles said the first complaint on the canned roast beef he heard of came from the Rough Riders and then aboard the Yale when the men declared they could not eat it. Again he heard complaints of it in the trenches at Santiago.

What finally drew his attention seriously to the matter was the report of officers that the whole Fifth corps was weak and prostrated. This was in August when the question of parade through New York was broached. General Bates at that time reported that only one-third of the men at Manila Point were in condition to march through New York. General Miles said this seemed to him remarkable, as there was no yellow fever at the point and he thought the men certainly ought to be over their malaria. He, therefore, ordered an inquiry into the beef about which there had been so much complaint.

"Did you report this matter at the time to the commissary general's office?" asked Colonel Davis.

General Miles leaned forward, drawing his brows to a furrow, and replied forcefully: "I am not required, sir, to report to the commissary general."

"Well did you report to the secretary of war?" asked Colonel Davis pleasantly.

General Miles leaned forward, drawing his brows to a furrow, and replied forcefully: "I am not required, sir, to report to the commissary general."

General Miles in reply went at some length into an explanation of the routine of army headquarters, showing why he preferred to conclude his inquiry so that he might have something tangible to present to the secretary. Finally he issued his orders to officers to report upon the quality of beef furnished. He did not report directly to the secretary of war, because under a rule of 1890 the order should go from the adjutant general to the secretary.

His attacks upon the canned and refrigerated beef before the war commission were then taken up specifically. Colonel Davis reading testimony of the commanding general in which he reported that he had been sent as "a pretext of experiment."

General Miles was asked if he knew when war began that canned roast beef was a part of the regular ration. This question brought out a partial explanation of his using the phrase "pretext of experiment." He said he did not know that canned roast beef was a part of the regular ration, and he declared that "it was being issued as an experiment," since it was not understood by him that canned roast beef was a part of the regular ration.

Continuing this explanation in answer to a question of Colonel Davis, General Miles said he thought his use of "pretext of experiment" was unfortunate and he disclaimed any intention to impute fraud to any one. "So far as indicating fraud," he said "I wish to state that no such inference was intended. It was perhaps an unfortunate expression, but my attention being called to it I might have amended it to say 'on the theory of an experiment.' As a matter of fact it was an experiment and a very costly one."

Replying to a question, General Miles said he first heard complaint against refrigerated beef at Ponce. The first direct attack and my attention being treated chemically came, he believed, from Dr. Daly, who presented it late in September, and appeared subsequently before the war commission.

General Miles then read a long summary of 100 letters received by him at army headquarters, giving the various terms in which the army meat was characterized. General Miles was characterized as "decomposed," "spoiled," "poisoned," "spiced," and the like. In addition he showed a summary of reports on refrigerated beef from transports. C. C. Yeaman, from the Yosemite reported the condemnation of 8,000 pounds; Lieutenant Colonel O'Neil, of the steamship Chesapeake, 4,000 pounds; Colonel James Hamilton Lewis, 10,000 pounds.

Colonel Gillespie took a hand in the inquiry when General Miles finished describing the nauseating qualities of the canned and refrigerated beef.

"Did you general ever eat any of this beef?" Colonel Gillespie asked.

"I presume I did, although I am sure I never ate any of it," General Miles, with some hesitation, "Yes I presume I did."

"Then," said Colonel Gillespie, "it has not such a character and quality as would permit you to detect it off hand?"

"No, sir."

General Miles then left the witness chair.

For frost bites, burns, indolent sores, eczema, skin diseases, and especially Piles, DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve stands first and best. Look out for other worthless people who try to imitate and counterfeit it. It's their endorsement of a good article. Warranted goods are not imitated. Get DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve. R. R. Bellamy.

PHILIPPINES AGGRESSIVE They Anticipate to Burn the Quarters of American Soldiers

Manila, February 21, 9:35 a. m.-The natives of the village of Paco made a bold attempt last night to burn the quarters of the first Washington volunteers by setting fire to the huts adjoining the quarters in the rear. Fortunately the wind changed at the moment the fire was discovered and, fanned by a stiff breeze, the flames spread in the opposite direction, destroying fully twenty shacks and houses opposite the ruins of the church. The incendiaries escaped.

Mysterious signals were frequently made along the enemy's lines during the night and this led to the belief that an attack had been arranged, but nothing happened.

The rebels are leaving the vicinity of San Pedro Macati in small parties and are reported to be moving toward Singalong.

As the season of the year when pneumonia, jaundice, grippe, sore throat, coughs, cold catarrhs, bronchitis and lung troubles are to be guarded against, nothing "is a fine substitute," will "answer the purpose," or "is just what you need" as one of our "Cure" is "the one infallible remedy for all lung, throat or bronchial troubles. Inadvisably using anything else, if "something else" is offered you. R. R. Bellamy.

200 pieces of New Mattin to select from Ribbons! Ribbons! All the narrow for trimming in Black and White Satin. We have the largest stock in the city to select from. Satin, Moire, Taffeta for ties and sashes.

Write for Samples of New Spring Goods.

THE C. W. POLVOGT CO. Sole agents for the W. B. Corsets and the Standard Paper Patterns.

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THE DISSOLUTION SALE

OF JOHNSON & FORE,

MONDAY, the 20th inst.

THE ENTIRE STOCK, WITHOUT RESERVE, WILL BE SOLD AT COST FOR CASH.

A NEW ARRIVAL OF HANDSOME NECKWEAR. AN ELEGANT STOCK OF English Suitings and Trouserings. OUR USUAL DISPLAY OF Spring Underwear, Collars, Cuffs, Umbrellas, AND A FULL LINE OF Show-Case-Articles TODAY. COME AND LOOK.

MUNSON & CO. When the Cold and Damp Penetrate

LOOK TO YOUR HEALTH! FOOTWEAR IS VERY IMPORTANT! FOR GENTS-We have elegant goods in great variety of style. FOR LADIES-Lovely Shoes in new styles of toe-in every width and beautiful fitting. FOR BOYS-The most stylish line in the city-both in Black and Tan. FOR MISSES' AND CHILDREN-The best makes of School or Dress Shoes.

ALL AT LOW PRICES. Will keep your feet dry and warm and preserve your health. Call and inspect stock at Geo. R. French & Sons, 108 1/2 North Front Street.

SLOCUM'S Assignment Stock MUST BE SOLD WITHIN THIRTY DAYS REGARDLESS OF COST.

10,000 Pairs Gents', Ladies', Misses' and Childrens' Fine and Cheap Shoes, All New and Fresh.

Having purchased from the assignee the above large and elegant assortment of Shoes, at a great sacrifice, I will sell same in lots to suit at Wholesale or Retail, regardless of the original cost, for CASH ONLY. Must be disposed of inside of the next thirty days.

Open on and after Thursday morning at 10 o'clock FRANK HAFFNER, Manager, 120 MARKET STREET, SLOCUM'S OLD STAND

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S SIMPLE BREAKFAST was often a dish of hasty pudding. The "Father of his Country" never had the pleasure of eating such delicious breakfast foods as Hecker's Buckwheat and Shattuck's both in packages and bulk, at prices that beat all competition, or Fairin's and Topococa, such our patrons enjoy in attempting and high grade from our superior stock of cereals. If you haven't tried our plumb pudding or cocoa, it will be a morsel or drink to make you remember Washington's Birthday.

THE KING GROCERY CO. B. F. KING, Manager, Fourth Street Bridge, Phone 387.

THE C. W. POLVOGT CO. No. 9 North Front Street. Spring Goods Arriving

New Silks. Plain Taffeta in all new shades, suitable for Waists, Shirts and Hosiery at 20c a yard. Extra heavy quality in two-fold effect, beautiful, at 85c. Heavy corded Bengaline Silk in all new shades at \$1.25 value, but we bought to sell at \$1.00. Fifty pieces new silk Velvet and in all new shades, at \$1.00. Silk Taffeta, 50, 55c \$1.00 and \$1.25. Full stock of Black Satins, Teau de Soie, Faille and Gros Grain Silks.

Linen News. Always interesting news to the patrons of this linen stock. Interesting, because it tells of substantial linens at substantial savings. Several under-price items for this week. Turkey Red Damask 36c. Turkey Red Warranted 50c. 72-inch Bleached Damask 75c. 52c. Heavy Damask 90c.

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