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WORK OF LEGISLATURE

Happenings of Interest in General Assembly—Senate Kills Audubon Bill.

Raleigh.—The following are among the features of general interest marking a week's work of the North Carolina General Assembly:

The Senate.

Feb. 21.—Senator Sisk, member from Macon, put in a bill to amend materially the absentee election statute, making it obligatory for the registrars to turn over to the county boards of elections all ballots cast by absent electors. These are to be kept for six months and together with the registration books shall be open to inspection to anyone desiring to do so.

Passage of bill providing for uniform system of recorders' courts for cities of 5,000 population and over and all counties of the State and defeat of Senator Ferebee's proposed State-wide stock law featured a busy session of the Senate yesterday.

The House.

Committee reports included favorable action on the bill introduced by Mr. Matthews to divide the State into five judicial circuits and restrict the resident judge to each district in the twelve months at a time. The house judiciary committee, number one, reported unfavorably the senate bill introduced by Senator Price to set aside November 11 as a legal holiday in North Carolina.

Confirming a forecast some time ago, Representative Neal, of McDowell county, introduced a bill to abolish the State-wide primary act insofar as it relates to State, Congressional and District offices. The last class would include judges, solicitors and State senators representing more than one county.

The Senate.

Feb. 22.—The Warren bill for the election of school boards by vote of the people in the respective counties came from the committee on education with unfavorable report and Senator Warren procured, under Rule 51, the placing of the bill on the calendar so that the issue can be fought out on the floor of the senate.

New bills were introduced as follows:

Adoption of the conference committee report of the committee on the State-wide dog law. Senator Stevens thought the leaving of the question of requiring tax tag and collar to the discretion of the county commissioners was undesirable but considered this the best that could be obtained at this time. The conference report was adopted.

The House.

The house passed on final reading and ordered engrossed and sent to the senate Saturday the revenue bill, an amendment being accepted to allow blind men and Confederate veterans to sell pianos and organs without a license.

Bills passed: Extend the period of compulsory education in Charlotte. Amend the law as to licensing embalmer.

Require all State officers making collections of fees and taxes to make return to the State treasurer.

The Senate.

Feb. 24.—Senator Warren procured the passage of his bill for the popular election of county school boards by the people, through the senate on second reading, with the understanding that opposition to the bill and to features of the measure can be fought out on the final reading.

The senate cleared from the calendar some local bills and adjourned.

The House.

The house was convened at 3 o'clock by Speaker Brummitt. No bills were introduced as follows: Gold—Amend the North Carolina lien law. Amend the 1917 vital statistics law.

In the last hour of the late afternoon session the house first amended the Everett bill to regulate the conferring of degrees by colleges and then tabled the measure. The amendment was by Williams, of Cabarrus, to cut out the endowment feature, Williams making the plea that the bill would create something of an aris-

Congressman Weaver Unseated by House After Bitter Debate.

Washington, March 1.—Following a day of heated debate and many roll calls, at 11:30 o'clock tonight the house of representatives unseated Representative Zebulon Weaver, of the 10th North Carolina district and swore in James J. Britt, of Asheville, as a Republican member of the 10th district.

Britt was actually seated by a vote of 184 to 180 on the third roll call adopting the minority resolution from the elections committee. The final vote, however, on the sixth roll call, was in Britt's favor, 182 to 173 in that the house sustained an appeal of Minority Leader Mann against a ruling of Speaker Clark.

When Democrats sought for the second time to get reconsideration of the resolutions which had already been voted on several times through parliamentary maneuvers, Speaker Clark overruled a point of order by Mann protesting against reconsideration. Mann appealed. A motion to table the appeal was lost by the Democrats and then Mann's appeal was upheld.

This had the effect of adopting the amended committee resolution approved two hours before by a vote of 185 to 182.

Mr. Britt took the oath of office immediately. He will draw back salary for two years, including mileage and clerk hire and the expenses of his contest against Representative Weaver.

The votes and the entire struggle in the house today were along partisan lines and constituted an unusually spirited contest. For a time it seemed the vote would be delayed far beyond midnight because of the repeated attempts of the Democrats to bring about reconsideration of the earlier votes which had been in Britt's favor from the outset.

Representative Weaver will be out of Congress three days. He comes a member of the 66th Congress on March 4.

President Decides to Hold Railways

Washington, Feb. 28.—Uncertainty over the status of the railroads in the immediate future was largely removed to-day by Director General Hines's announcement, after conferring with President Wilson, that the Government would not turn the roads back to private management until Congress had more opportunity to consider a permanent programme of legislation.

This was generally interpreted as meaning that the railroads would be under Government management for at least another year, and probably longer. If a special session of Congress is called early in the summer, railroad legislation might be taken up, but most officials believe this could not be completed within four or five months. If there is no special session, Congress could not start on legislation much within a year.

Cash subscriptions to the Armenian-Syrian relief fund amount to about \$550, according to reports made to Mr. R. F. Burton, treasurer. Many townships have not reported yet, however, and an earnest effort is being made to secure the entire allotment for McDowell—\$1400.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

Brief Mention of Some of the Happenings in McDowell County—Items About Home People.

GREENLEE

Greenlee, March 2.—Edgar McCall of Asheville spent a part of last week here with his brothers.

Miss Margaret Dobson spent Saturday and Sunday with homefolks here.

We are glad to see Mason Ledbetter out again after being ill with the "flu" for some time.

A. K. Allison was called to Greenlee today by the illness of his wife.

Misses Mary and Rebecca Greenlee, of Nebo High School, spent the weekend with homefolks here.

W. J. Snipes is recovering from an illness of several weeks.

A. B. Wright was a visitor here the latter part of the week.

Ben Stacy, Watson Wilson and Ralph Tate of Nebo were visitors here Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Towe and two children are visiting relatives in Florida.

Woodfin McCurry was a visitor here last week.

We welcome the return of Erwin Mason from camp and Charles Cuthbertson, who has been in France.

Miss Mabel Tate has returned to her school in the eastern part of the state after a visit to her parents.

WOODLAWN

Woodlawn, March 3.—March came in like a lion at Woodlawn, so let us hope for the exit of a lamb.

Harve Huskins and family are very ill with influenza.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Forgie of Asheville are visiting Mrs. Will Bristol.

Horace Flin is quite sick with pneumonia.

J. B. Adams is again at Sevier to superintend the reopening of the band mill.

M. L. Good has resumed the operation of his saw mill which has been shut down for several weeks.

Robert Brinkley is home from a business trip.

March flowers are blooming and the robins have come, so the farmers are preparing for spring work.

NEBO

Nebo, March 4.—Hon. J. F. Spainhour of Morganton will deliver an address to men and boys at the Baptist church next Sunday, March 9. All men and boys invited.

Notwithstanding the rain last Friday night, there was a good audience out to witness the "Lovers of All Ages" given by the N. H. N. Society. This was pronounced the best program the society has given this year.

Mrs. Claud Laughridge of Bostic spent the week-end with her sister, Miss Louise Brown.

Miss Mary Greenlee and sister spent the week-end at Greenlee.

Miss Hattie Haney, who went home last week on account of sickness in her home, returned to school Monday.

GLENWOOD SCHOOL

Nealsville, March 4.—The teachers meeting here last Saturday was very well attended.

The Literary Society will give a debate Thursday afternoon.

The box supper here Saturday evening was very much enjoyed by both young and old. A sum of about eighty dollars was realized.

We expect to start a series of ball games very soon.

Supt. N. F. Steppie visited the school last week.

Deficiency Bill Fails to Pass.

Washington, March 4.—Congress adjourned at noon today in the midst of the republican filibuster in the senate that killed a long list of important measures, including the one appropriating \$750,000,000 for the railroad administration, without which some administration leaders say the railroads must return to their owners before the middle of April.

Board of Education Meets—Orders Special Tax Election.

County Board of Education met in special session on Monday for the purpose of considering several petitions and requests, one of which was the consolidation of considerable territory in upper Crooked Creek township into a special school district and calling an election for the purpose of voting special tax in the district. A number of interested citizens from this community were on hand to urge that the board lose no time in going forward in the matter. The district known as Jackson's Creek, the major part of New Hope and a part of old Belfont district were incorporated into a district designated as district No. 1. A special tax election was ordered, that the voters may express their wishes as to whether they shall pay additional tax to supplement the State and county funds in the new district. Garland Noblitt was appointed as registrar and J. T. Davis and J. P. Walker, judges.

Considerable interest is being taken by the people of the community and it is expected that the proposition will carry by a good majority.

The board decided to go forward with the construction of certain school buildings as soon as possible. Glenwood High School building will very probably be begun in a short time, that the new building may be in readiness for the fall opening. The new building at Nebo will be erected as soon as possible. There is already in course of construction the building at Cross Mill, which will probably be finished within sixty days.

The Board of Education has been given additional room in the court house. The room occupied by the late R. L. C. Gibson, Auditor, has been thoroughly renovated and furnished, adjoining the old office of the Board of Education. The two rooms connect and will greatly facilitate the carrying on of the County's educational business.

Road Commissioners Appointed.

The county commissioners at their regular meeting last Monday appointed road commissioners for four townships as follows:

Dysartsville: A. L. Cowan, R. F. Sisk and J. D. Patton.

Crooked Creek: T. W. Noblitt, I. L. Pyatt and J. W. Ross.

Broad River: L. M. Elliott, T. B. Ledbetter and U. J. Searcy.

Old Fort: P. H. Mashburn, F. M. Bradley and J. B. Johnson.

S. F. Moody, bridge contractor, was instructed to build a steel bridge across Jarrett's creek, in Old Fort township.

The commissioners authorized that Ed. Bowman, keeper of the county home, buy a sufficient amount of grass and clover seed to sow four acres of land at the county home. The board also ordered that some repairs be made on the buildings at the county home.

Other matters transacted during the session were of a routine nature.

Failure of congress before final adjournment to take any action on pending bills providing for repeal of the daylight saving act made certain that the nation's clocks again would be advanced an hour during the period between the last Sunday in March and the last Sunday in October.

STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

March 24-29 will be Spring clean-up week for North Carolina, designated by the State insurance commissioner.

According to a statement of Senator Lee S. Overman, he will conduct an investigation as regards the manufacture of graphite in Western North Carolina and the effect of imported graphite upon the market.

Early Thursday morning, at Lenoir, a \$30,000 fire occurred, destroying the finishing and packing building and the office of the Lenoir Chair Manufacturing Company. Fifteen cars of chairs and \$8,000 worth of leather were entirely destroyed.

According to a statement given out by the treasury department, North Carolina has invested \$21,085,388 in war savings stamps in the year 1918. In the month of December the sales amounted to \$3,095,239.72. North Carolina's per capita percentage was \$8.66 for the year.

Wilson's Burke county liquor law has gone into effect and during the last few days three illegal blockaders have been jailed. Under this law the expense of being caught and tried comes from the moonshiner instead of the government. The moonshiner has to pay a fee \$50 to the officer, which is a great inducement to the officers.

An Act to Regulate Motor Vehicles.

An act of the legislature to regulate motor vehicles and public service cars in Marion becomes effective March 20. The act provides that it shall be unlawful for any person or persons, corporation or firm to operate a motor vehicle of any description within the corporate limits of Marion, or within a zone around the town extending three miles in each direction from the corporate limits, without first having obtained a license as chauffeur from the mayor of the town; that no license shall be issued to any person who is not of good character; and before license are issued the applicant must satisfy the mayor that he, or she, understands the mechanism of such motor vehicle and shall demonstrate ability to operate such vehicle in a safe and scientific manner. A fee of two dollars will be collected for the issuance of such license.

The act further provides that license must be obtained from the mayor or secretary to operate any motor vehicle, car or truck for hire or transportation of passengers or freight within the above named limits, the annual license charge being \$25 for each vehicle, with a fee of one dollar for issuance of license. A schedule of fees which are proposed to be charged for transportation must also be filed by applicant for approval by the board of aldermen.

For violation of either of the above provisions mentioned the penalty is twenty dollars for the first offense; forty dollars for the second offense, with forfeit and surrender of license.

The act in full will probably be published next week.