

THE DEMOCRAT.

HERE SHALL THE PRESS THE PEOPLE'S RIGHTS MAINTAIN, UNAW'D BY INFLUENCE AND UNBRI'D BY GAIN.

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RUTHERFORDTON, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 1895.

\$1.00 A YEAR.

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THE ELECTION LAW.

THE RADICALS' RADICAL MEASURE.

A. Most Unfair and Revolutionary Law Enacted.

The Fusion Legislature has at last reached the real work of the session—a new Election Law—and the measure, as agreed upon in caucus and outlined in Sunday's News and Observer has been introduced by Virgil S. Lusk, of Buncombe. It is a bill to be entitled an act to revise, amend and consolidate the Election Law of North Carolina, and it makes thirty-four closely printed pages.

It provides for the repeal of chapter 10, title "Elections Regulated," of The Code, and all laws and clauses of laws relating to elections enacted subsequent to The Code, and re-enact them in a revised and amended form.

The first ten sections of the bill prescribe the time, place and manner of holding elections, and provides for the appointment of Registrars and Judges of Elections. As to the time, place and manner of holding the election there is no change from the old law except that a provision is made for railing off the polling place, and no challenging will be allowed on the day of election.

To Registrars and Judges of Election the bill provides:

Sec. 5. That on or before the first Monday of September next preceding every election the Clerks in their several counties shall appoint, upon the written recommendation or approval of the Chairman of the State Executive Committee of each political party of the State (a political party, within the meaning of this act, is a political organization whose candidate for Governor at the general election in the year 1892 received as many as thirty thousand votes) one citizen and qualified voter from each of said political parties of and for each election precinct who shall be able to read and write the English language, and who shall be known for the duties required of them under this act as Registrars of Election in their respective precincts.

And on or before the first Monday of the month next preceding any election the clerk shall appoint, upon the recommendation of the respective chairman aforesaid, one citizen and qualified voter of each party, as aforesaid, of and for each election precinct, able to read as aforesaid, who shall be known for the duties required of them under this act as Judge of Election in their respective precincts; and the registrars and judges of election, when so appointed and qualified, shall constitute the precinct board of election.

It is further provided that the clerk shall make immediate publication of the names of the persons so appointed at the court house door and cause notice to be served upon them within ten days by the sheriff of the county. Provision is also made, in case any registrar or judge of election dies or declines to serve, for the appointment of another of the same political party and having all the requisite qualifications. Any two registrars appointed and qualified for any one precinct shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of the registration, and a majority of the election judges shall be a quorum for conducting the election.

Perhaps the most radical change made by this proposed measure is in regard to the registration and challenging of voters. Sections 9, 10, 11 and 12 provide:

"Sec. 9. The registrars shall be furnished with one registration book for each precinct, and it shall be their duty to revise the existing registration books of their precinct in such manner that said book shall show an accurate list of electors previously registered in such precinct and still residing therein without requiring such electors to be registered anew; and such registrars shall also, between the hours of 9 o'clock a. m. and 4 o'clock p. m., for four consecutive Saturdays preceding the day for closing the registration as hereinbefore provided, at the voting place of said precinct, keep open said book for the registration of any elector residing in such precinct and entitled to registration therein whose names have never before been registered in such precinct or do not appear in the revised list. Said book shall be closed after registration, and the result thereof declared. Any ballot found in the wrong box shall be presumed to have been deposited there by mistake of the officers of election, and unless such presumption shall be rebutted the ballot box shall be counted. The ballots which were at said election deposited in the different ballot boxes, as they are counted, be forthwith deposited in duplicate ballot-boxes for that purpose to be provided, and the ballot boxes to which they have been so returned shall be securely fastened and sealed."

The precinct board shall then make out triplicate abstracts of the votes cast for the different candidates, sign the same and deliver one of said abstracts in an envelope sealed and addressed to one of their number, who shall deliver the same within twenty-four hours thereafter to the clerk. They shall also deliver to the same person the ballot boxes containing the ballots cast and counted at said election, and he shall deliver them to the clerk at the same time he delivers to him the abstract, and the clerk shall give the messenger a receipt for the same.

The Board shall appoint another of their number to whom they shall deliver one other of the said triplicate abstracts in an envelope sealed and addressed, and he shall deliver the same within twenty-four hours thereafter to the register of deeds of the county, and take his receipt therefore, and both the register and clerk shall each without delay, at least within twenty-four hours after it has been delivered to him, record the abstract at his office in a book to be kept for such purpose entitled "Record of Elections." The third and last of said triplicate abstracts shall be posted up by the Board of Elections in some safe and conspicuous place at the voting precinct.

The precinct board has no judicial powers and is required to count the ballot as they find it. All errors in the spelling or initials of a candidate's name shall be disregarded.

On the Thursday next after every election, at noon of that day, at the court house, and in the presence of such can-

sidates as may choose to attend, the clerk shall add up the number of votes received by the different candidates for the different offices as shown by the various precinct returns. In case no returns have been received by him he shall use those of the register or count the ballots in the box, and such count shall be as effectual as if made upon the returns and abstract. When the addition has been completed and properly signed by the clerk, he shall proclaim the result at the court house door with the number of votes received by each candidate.

The sheriffs of the counties compose the canvassing board for the Senatorial returns as in the present law.

The Secretary of State shall cause proper forms of return to be prepared and send copies thereof, with plain directions as to the manner of indorsing, certifying and transmitting the same to the seat of government, to all the clerks and sheriffs of the State, at least thirty days before the time of holding the election, if he shall furnish to the clerk of each county a such printed blanks as may be necessary for making the county returns, and in the case of State officers these returns shall be opened by the Speaker of the House in the presence of a majority of both Houses as at present. The person having the highest number of votes for each office, respectively, shall be elected thereto, but if two or more be equal and higher in votes for the same office, then one of them shall be chosen by joint ballot of both Houses of the General Assembly. Contested elections shall be determined by a joint vote of both Houses of the General Assembly, in the same manner and under the same rules and regulations as prescribed in case of contested elections of members of the General Assembly.

The abstracts of the returns made out by the General Assembly shall be signed by the presiding officers of the two Houses and delivered to the Secretary of State, who shall record it in the election book kept in his office, and then file it. Said abstract shall also be printed in the journals of the two Houses and in the legislative documents.

Severe fines and penalties are prescribed for all forms of bribing intimidation and fraud, as in the present law.

Do You Advertise?

Advertising is the champagne sparkle of business.

If you have a good thing, you owe it to the public to advertise it.

How are people going to know why you're a trader? It's you if you don't tell them.

People will read the news about your goods and store just as readily as the news about anything else, if you make it fresh, crisp, and interesting.

Beauts you never have advertised your store is a good argument why you should advertise it now. The more fact of your departing from your usual custom will prove an attractive ad, itself.

There used to be a saying, "One might as well be dead as out of fashion." Paraphrased, "One might as well be dead as unknown," it is equally true and embodies much of the philosophy of advertising.

The value of continuous advertising lies in the fact that people get to believe in the merits of an article whose name is familiar, even if they forget what its merits really are.

The articles exhibited in the show windows of a store should be of such a character as to attract, not a crowd of curiosities, but prospective purchasers of the good sold. So, with ad advertising.

McDOWELL COUNTY

Marion Record.

W. T. D. Bargain has bought

Capt. John Carson's farm on the Catawba River and has moved to the place. Capt. Carson has moved to town.

Wesley Marsh, the one-armed ex-Coffey, a tanner, who is a storekeeper and gauger, was arraigned

before Commissioner Eaves on Tues-

day on the charge of having allowed

whiskey to be taken out of the ware-

house, & sold. He was bound over to

the grand jury at Statesville.

The Action relief committee has

received \$422.89, beside some sup-

pplies and clothing for the sufferers

from the late configuration in our town.

Information has been received

that Alex Rowe, who married in

Mario, left his wife and went to

Kentucky and married again, has

been sentenced to seven years im-

prisonment in the Kentucky peni-

tentiary.

You Are Too Late.

"I wish," said a Populist laborer

in the House yesterday, "that the

negro who introduced the Douglas

resolution had been as dead as Doug-

las before he ever brought this trou-

ble on us."—Raleigh Observer.

Why Desalt the State?

It is suggested that the Populist

Republican combination at Raleigh

now adjourn in honor of Dave Bur-

nett's name, which died at Cinston

N. C., recently, aged 46 years.—

Richmond Dispatch.

Mr. Jno. W. Wadsworth, a promi-

nent citizen of Charlotte, died in a

hospital in Philadelphia Saturday

night.

His amendment would give the Republicans and Populists from three to five magistrates in every township and that was enough. He said it was a shame that the State would have to be taxed \$100,000 that the fusionists should have the satisfaction of having a few additional useless magistrates. The Paddison amendment was adopted. Mitchell's amendment was lost; so was Dowd's. The ayes and nays were demanded. The bill as amended by Paddison passed third reading—21 to 20. Starbuck moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill passed. The motion was adopted—29 to 10.

McWhorne moved that the Senate adjourn. Lost. Rice moved to refer the bill. Lost. McClaskey offered an amendment to strike out the word six and insert three in lieu thereof as to the number of magistrates. Starbuck moved to table the amendment. Lost. Adams offered an amendment to strike out section one. Lost. White, of Alexander, offered an amendment to strike out the Paddison amendment, which had been adopted on first consideration of the bill, not to furnish books to new magistrates. Carried. McClaskey's amendment, reducing the number of magistrates to be appointed from six to three, was read. Rice again moved to refer the bill to the committee. Lost. Candler demanded the previous question. The amendment was adopted—23 to 6. Hoover moved to table the bill. Adams demanded the ayes and nays. The motion to table was lost—23 to 10. The vote then recurred upon the bill, which passed third reading.

The House spent most of the session discussing the revenue bill.

Under the revenue act the poll tax is \$1.24. The State tax \$21.23 cents; pensions, 3, 2-3 cents; schools, 16 cents; tax on income and gross profit from property not taxed, 5 per cent., and on gross incomes derived from salaries and fees, one-half of one per cent., on excess over \$1,000, and one-fourth of one per cent., on excess over \$1,000 to \$5,000; one-half of one per cent., between \$5,000 and \$10,000. The tax on cigars is 5 cents per thousand, and cigarettes 10 cents per thousand. The sewing machine tax is \$50; piano or organ dealers tax, \$25; tax on druggists \$100, which shall give exemption from all other license tax. The license for insurance companies is \$100 and the tax 2 per cent. on gross receipts in this State. State banks are to pay \$50 on \$25,000 of capital and \$2 for each \$1,000 over that amount. The building and loan associations' tax is according to the paid in capital. The tax on railroads is 1 per cent. on gross receipts; telegraph and telephone companies 2 per cent.

At the senate night session bills passed to work Rockingham's roads by taxation; to provide for working Stokes roads; to amend the charter of Morgan. The bill was tabled to provide for the inspection of petroleum oil.

At the senate night session bills passed to enlarge the stock law territory in Wayne; to amend the charters of Kingman, Greenville and Beaufort; to amend the Code to provide for a special levy of tax to supplement the public school fund and requiring the proposition to be voted for at every general election until carried. Perquimans, Bertie, Currituck, Camden, Pasquotank, Chowan, Gates, Cumberland, New Hanover, Bertie, Catawba, Halifax, Caswell, Alleghany, Person, Union, Anson, Wake, Granville, Edgecombe, Rockingham, Lenoir, Onslow, Craven, Carteret, Jones, Moore, Franklin, Nash and Wilson counties were excepted.

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