

OUR LEGISLATURE.

Doings of Those Who Are Making Our Law.

Against Kissing Bible.

In the Senate Wednesday the judiciary committee offered a substitute for Senator Godwin's bill to prohibit the kissing of the Bible. The substitute instead of prohibiting kissing the Bible simply abolished the necessity of kissing the book. Dr. Pollock objected to these innovations, people had been kissing the Book here for 200 years and if these microbes had now got into the Bible he thought that it was time to stop. People could get a new Bible. Mr. Henderson explained the bill and the substitute. He was not an expert on microbes, but he read that there were 10,000,000 in a pound of cherries and he was sure there were many more on a Bible cover handled by indiscriminate crowds. He did not think the change would detract from the solemnity of the matter. Mr. Godwin, patron of the bill, argued for it. The only thing stricken out by the bill from the Code was "and he shall kiss the Holy Gospel." Most people did not kiss the book now but ladies and children obeyed the judge when he says "kiss the Book." Mr. Wellborn opposed the bill. Mr. Hicks, of Greenville, said that the court house kiss was not the kiss of affection and the witness was not expected to take half the Book in his mouth. Mr. Granville said there was a "white supremacy" Bible. The judge having ordered one Bible for colored people and one for white. He appealed to the Senate not to destroy this old landmark but he wanted the landmarks clean. Now if a man really obeyed the judge he would have to violate the rule of personal cleanliness. He did not think it possible to keep a court house Bible clean. Mr. White said he would naturally be opposed to restricting kissing but he favored this bill because he thought it would promote health. Kissing was growing unpopular, observed Mr. Baldwin. Men formerly kissed each other and now some States wanted to license kissers. He thought the right way in which the oath was administered was often responsible for perjury. He pleaded for preserving the old custom. Mr. Marshall said that the men who would tell a willful lie would swear one. He sent an amendment to strike out "so help me God," and substitute "in the presence of the Almighty." Mr. Mitchell moved to lay on the table. This failed. The committee's substitute was adopted. Mr. Marshall withdrew his amendment. The bill then passed second reading and went over upon Mr. Mitchell objecting to its third reading.

In the House Wednesday the Watts temperance bill was favorably reported with amendments and made a special order for Tuesday next.

A number of petitions and bills were introduced, the most important being an act to prevent the spreading of contagious disease among domestic animals.

An act to prevent the seduction and abduction of married women.

An act to protect timber dealers.

NEW BILLS.
Among the new bills in the house Mr. Clifton, to amend the code in reference to demurrers.

Mr. Wade, to outlaw slot machines.

Mr. Sinkler, by request, to provide for a State bacteriologist; also a bill to require towns and cities to furnish mortuary statistics.

Mr. Gaston, relating to increase in salary of coroner of Chester.

Mr. Hill, to increase number of magistrates of Colton county.

Mr. Rainford, to provide for the sale of the State farms.

Mr. Kelly, relating to a new jail for Lee county.

Mr. Moore, to change and designate certain townships in Sumter county.

Mr. McMaster, to extend the rights and remedies of employees of railroad corporations as provided by the constitution to employees of cotton and textile mill corporations and telegraph companies.

There were a majority unfavorable reports on Mr. Lanham's bill to require railroads to allow each passenger 200 pounds of baggage without charge, and Mr. M. J. Johnson's bill to provide all railroads operating in this State to protect the rates of freight on freight, goods wares and merchandise, and to provide penalties for the violation thereof.

Mr. Maudlin's bill to provide for a school dispensary bill was referred to the joint committee on schools and the dispensary. This nor does radical changes in the law.

SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS, ETC.
Mr. Kirby's bill to regulate the giving of certificates to teach in the public schools came up as unfinished business and was killed.

Mr. D. O. Herbert opposed the bill. It is an abrupt and unnecessary tinkering trip for the State board of education. It also means that graduates of normal colleges must stand these examinations when the object of normal colleges is to prepare teachers for their work. He objected particularly to members of the State board of education traveling around over the State granting certificates. He objected to giving college graduates merely one-year certificates.

Mr. Kirby defended the bill on the same line of his speech Monday. Mr. Herbert had endeavored to find all the bad points in it, but had overlooked the good features.

Mr. Fraser opposed the bill. The advantages of a college education do not consist in the knowledge of a number of isolated facts, but in the training of the mind to fit itself to work. There is but one examination for doctors and in other professions, then why should

teachers be subjected to such harassing examinations every few years.

Mr. Barron, of York, opposed the bill. In behalf of the most legislated against class in the State, the common school teachers who get a miserable pittance for five days' hard work, he opposed the measure. Qualifications to teach do not consist in the knowledge of a few facts, but in common sense, patience and general intelligence. There is already a paucity of teachers in this State and such requirements as this will still further cripple the profession. This was Mr. Barron's first effort in the house, and he acquitted himself very well.

Mr. Richards declared that the bill had been reported unfavorably by all of the committee except the author of the bill.

The house killed the bill by an overwhelming vote.

There was considerable discussion over a concurrent resolution to provide offices in the State capitol for the State superintendent of education. The resolution was killed on motion of Mr. Moses.

Mr. Wingo contended that it was "side tracking" this official to have his offices on Main street. Mr. Moses replied that these offices are really more comfortable and as accessible as those in the State house.

Governor Heyward informed the house that Lieut.-Gov. John T. Sloan had resigned from the board of trustees of the South Carolina college. Received as information.

The house killed Mr. Wade's bill to provide for the office of commissioner of agriculture to receive \$1,800 per annum out of the privilege tax fund. The house did not seem to be much interested.

Mr. Wade declared that agricultural interests are lagging, and the only salvation is diversified farming. This is an agricultural State, but the agricultural interests are neglected. Clemson College has not come up to its expectations. Commissioner Stevens is worth a million dollars a year to Georgia. He cited instances in which farmers had made great success with innovations in farming. The average farmer is a "slow coach" and doesn't catch on to ideas quickly. They don't subscribe to agricultural papers. We need a bureau where outsiders can get information. This is a very serious question and a very important matter. The salary of the commissioner, \$1,800 was to come out of the privilege tax fund and he thought this a mere bagatelle in comparison with the good it would do.

Mr. Tatam supported the measure.

The bill was killed by an overwhelming vote.

Thursday's Session.
Thursday the compulsory school law was considered.

THE BILL.
The features of the bill which passed the third reading are as follows:

Section 1. That it shall be unlawful for any parent or guardian living in this State to neglect or refuse to cause or compel any person or persons who are or may be under their control as their children or wards, to attend and comply with the rules of some one or more public or private school or schools, for a term of eight weeks or more, during each successive year from the time said children or wards are eight years old until they are 12 years old, inclusive, unless they may be prevented by illness or reside more than two miles from a school house, or by reason of already being proficient from attending such public or private schools, and provided that in such case they shall be excused by the board of trustees of the school district in which said children or wards may live at the time of such failure to attend such public or private school or schools.

Sec. 2. That any person or persons violating this act shall be subject to a fine of not less than five dollars, nor more than twenty dollars for each and every offense. Said fine shall be imposed by any court of justice having jurisdiction on sufficient evidence of the same being furnished by two or more credible witnesses, and all fines so collected shall be placed in the school fund of the school district in which the fines are collected; Provided, That no prosecution shall be instituted under this act except upon the affidavit of one of the trustees of the school district in which the offending parent or guardian resides, and such affidavit may be made on information and belief.

BIENNIAL SESSIONS.
Mr. Rayson's bill providing for biennial sessions of the general assembly passed a third reading and was sent to the house.

Saturday's Session.
Saturday's session in the House was featureless, a great many members having gone home on leave of absence. The Senate took up a few third reading bills, and a number of enacted laws were ratified.

The Idea of Cold.
Maurice Grau tells a story about a sheriff from Dawson City, who crossed with him from Europe recently. A smoking cabin group was discussing the eccentricities of the American climate. This was resented by the Sheriff.

"I don't understand," he remarked, "why Americans persist in talking against their own country. It gives persons on the other side a very wrong impression. Why, everywhere I went I was asked about the intense cold in the Klondike. I contradicted it, of course. I have lived there nearly all my life, and I assure you that in winter it is seldom more than 71 degrees below."

The receiver is sometimes as bad as the transmitter.

Actions are crystallized thoughts.

FOUND DEAD BELOW CLIFF

The Wife of a Yale Professor Killed by a Fall.

SHE HAD BEEN IN ILL HEALTH

All the University turned out to search for Mrs. Peck—she was much affected by the recent suicide of a friend—A belief that she was temporarily deranged—she leaves two children.

New Haven, Conn.—After wandering for hours weighed down by a cloud of mental depression she could not shake off, Mrs. Tracy Peck, wife of the venerable head of Yale University's Latin department, lost her life by a fall of seventy-five feet from the palisades at Morris Cove. She long had been ill, and either took the plunge deliberately or in her dazed condition lost her footing. The melancholia into which she had lapsed for weeks lends color to the assumption that she sought her own life.

Her body lay undiscovered for hours, although hundreds of Yale students and many of the faculty joined in a search. It was found by Gilbert Van Sickle, an East Haven farmer, who drove past the palisades. For fifteen hours the search had been kept up for the unfortunate woman. It was begun by Professor Peck when his wife did not return from a shopping tour, continued during the afternoon by his intimates and neighbors, extended during the evening by two private detectives, and ended in the morning after a general alarm had been given and the entire police force of New Haven and a thousand Yale students had joined the hunt.

Mrs. Peck's body was identified by Charles Francis, President of the Yale Football Association, who came upon the East Haven farmer just after he had made his discovery. The body was taken to a New Haven undertaker's and Medical Examiner Bartlett said that Mrs. Peck's skull had been fractured by the fall and that one of her legs was broken.

Secretary Anson Phelps Stokes, Jr., and Professor W. L. Phelps, of Yale, organized the entire academic department in the morning into a searching party, assigning some sections of the city and its suburbs to squads of from three to twelve men. Reclamations were abandoned, and for a radius of twelve miles the country was scoured. All day long most of the students kept up their search, for it was impossible to reach them in the remote districts by telephone and inform them Mrs. Peck's body had been found. Nearly all the faculty either assisted in the search or in organizing the students.

Mrs. Peck had been in poor health for several months. Six weeks ago a close friend of the family, Captain Frank G. Beach committed suicide by shooting himself through the head, and this tragedy is said to have made a deep impression upon her.

Mrs. Peck was fifty-three years old. She was born in Hadleigh, England, and came to Brooklyn, N. Y., to live when a girl. She was married to Professor Peck there in 1871. He was then a professor at Cornell, but was appointed professor at Yale the next year, and has remained there since then with the exception of tours to Europe. He was formerly head of the American school in Rome.

She leaves one son, Tracy, Jr., who is in business in New York City, and one daughter, Miss Toresina, a South College graduate, who lives at home.

SHOT AS ROBBER BY MISTAKE.

A Station Agent in New Hampshire Shot Dead by a Policeman.

Plymouth, N. H.—Captain George H. Colby, station agent here, was shot by mistake and killed by Policeman Lewis C. Mills about midnight. About 11 o'clock p. m. the railroad station here was entered by two masked men, who held up Thomas McCaughy, who was in charge. They ransacked the money drawer and then made their escape, going up the railroad tracks toward Livermore Falls. Captain Colby was notified and heard a light locomotive, in charge of Fred Smith, to pursue them.

Meanwhile Policeman Mills had been notified, and, with Engineer Pike, of the "Cannon Ball" train, took a team and drove toward Livermore Falls along the highway. They reached the bridge at Livermore Falls and there alighted. Mills going down toward the railroad track, revolver in hand. His story of the shooting is that as he reached the track he saw a man holding a revolver. The man cried out, "Hands up!" and Mills, thinking it was one of the burglars, fired twice. It was immediately discovered that Mills had shot Captain Colby.

Captain Colby was one of the best-known men in this State. He twice represented this town in the Legislature. He leaves a widow and four children.

JEWS TAKE UP PRAIRIE LAND.

Fifty-six Families Quit the Ghetto in Chicago.

Chicago.—From the cramped life of Chicago's Ghetto to the prairies of North Dakota is the journey taken by fifty-six families within the last year. The Jewish Agricultural Aid Society, of which Adolph Loeb is President, accomplished the transition. The 302 persons who make up these families have taken up 5440 acres of land, representing with improvements a total value of \$40,000. The direct loans made by the society amounted to more than \$13,000.

MORMONISM IN POLITICS

Startling Admissions Made in a Debate in the Senate.

No Mormon Can Aspire to High Political Position Without the Consent of the First Presidency.

Washington, D. C.—Polygamy and Mormonism in politics occupied the attention of the Senate for nearly three hours a few days ago. The question arose in connection with the assertion that Mormonism has obtained a strong foothold in Arizona and New Mexico, and that there should be a prohibition of polygamy in the pending Statehood bill.

The discussion of the operations of the Mormon Church in Utah was especially interesting to a large number of Senators because of the recent election by the Legislature of that State of Apostle Reed Smoot as United States Senator. Many facts were brought out that may prove valuable if an effort is hereafter made to prevent Mr. Smoot from taking his seat. The interest was heightened by the recent introduction by Senator Hansbrough of an amendment to the Federal Constitution prohibiting polygamy.

Mr. Dubois, of Idaho, declared that in Utah no polygamist could occupy any high political place without the consent of the First Presidency of the Mormon Church. The same influence, he said, was exercised in New Mexico and Arizona. He said that Idaho could control the Mormon people in that State. If the Mormon people should openly, through their First Presidency, he said, interfere in the politics of Idaho, he would guarantee to take the stump and disfranchise every Mormon in one campaign.

Mr. Teller said the Mormon Church is all-powerful, and that whenever it speaks through its First Presidency the great body of the Church responds to the demand that is made.

GIRON LEAVES THE PRINCESS.

Relations Between the Pair Said to Have Been Broken Off.

Geneva, Switzerland.—The legal adviser of the former Crown Princess of Saxony has made the following announcement: "M. Giron will leave Geneva this evening for Brussels, where he will join his family. M. Giron has broken off all relations with the former Princess in order not to impede her reunion with her children."

The sudden end to the royal romance is said to be due to the refusal of the Saxon Court, influenced by the Emperor Francis Joseph, to consent to a divorce. It is reported that the former Princess sought her father's pardon in order to get permission to see her children, but was refused everything unless she quit M. Giron.

Her parting with M. Giron is said to have been very affecting.

ROOSEVELT REFUSES TO ARBITRATE

The Venezuelan Question to Be Referred to the Hague Court.

Washington, D. C.—President Roosevelt has declined the invitation of the allied powers to arbitrate the question as to whether they shall receive preferential treatment in the settlement of their claims against Venezuela over the other creditor nations. When he reached this decision he instructed Secretary Hay to dispatch a note to the British Ambassador to that effect. The matter, therefore, now will be referred to The Hague Tribunal. This will result in the immediate raising of the blockade.

The preliminaries with reference to the signing of the protocol, referring matters to The Hague for arbitration, will now be considered.

THE HILL OF TARA SOLD.

Seat of Ancient Irish Kings Brings \$18,500 at Auction.

Dublin, Ireland.—The historic Hill of Tara was sold at auction, and realized the sum of \$18,500. The purchaser was a woman, whose name was not announced.

Until the sixth century Tara was the chief seat of the Irish kings, and a pillar six feet high is still pointed out as the coronation stone. Then it was also the Druids' headquarters and the site of King Cormac's splendid court. The last important gathering on the Hill of Tara was in 1843, when a gigantic meeting was held there under the auspices of Daniel O'Connell, who urged the repeal of the Union.

CAPTAIN HOBSON OUT.

Secretary Moody Accepts the Naval Constructor's Resignation.

Washington, D. C.—Naval Constructor Richmond P. Hobson's resignation has been accepted by Secretary Moody, who has written Mr. Hobson as follows: "The Department acknowledges receipt of your resignation, tendered January 29, 1903; also your telegram, February 5, 1903, declining to reconsider the same. Your resignation from the United States Navy is accepted to take effect on February 6, 1903."

Pardon For Cole Younger.

Cole Younger, who was paroled from Stillwater (Minn.) Penitentiary two years ago with his brother "Jim," has received a conditional pardon from the State Pardon Board, which will admit of the former bandit returning to his old home in Missouri. Younger will probably be ordered never to return to Minnesota.

DOBLIN ALONE TO BLAME

House Naval Committees Report on Lessler Bribery Charges.

No Evidence Against Quigg or the Holland Boat Company—Won't Favor More Submarine Craft.

Washington, D. C.—A majority of the Committee on Naval Affairs of the House agreed upon a report on the Lessler bribery charges in relation to the Holland submarine boats. The following are the findings:

"1. That the charge made by Mr. Lessler that an attempt had been made to corruptly influence his action respecting proposed legislation is sustained by the evidence; such attempt, in the opinion of the committee, having been made by one Philip Doblin on his own initiative and responsibility, with the idea of making money for himself if he should find Mr. Lessler corruptly approachable.

"2. That there is no evidence to sustain the charge of an attempt by Lemuel E. Quigg to corruptly influence a member of the Committee on Naval Affairs respecting proposed legislation pending before said committee and the House.

"3. That there is no evidence to sustain the charge of an attempt by the Holland Submarine Boat Company or any of its agents to corruptly influence a member of the Committee on Naval Affairs respecting proposed legislation before said committee and the House.

"In view of the foregoing we recommend that the clerk of the committee be directed to certify to the Attorney-General of the United States a copy of the testimony taken at the hearing, with a request that he take such action as the law and the facts warrant."

A minority report also was made. It was signed by Representatives Kitchin, (Dem., N. C.) Vandiver, (Dem., Mo.) and Roberts, (Rep., Mass.) and differs from the majority report only in respect to the first conclusion. On this point it says: "The charge that an attempt was made to corruptly influence a member of the Committee on Naval Affairs respecting proposed legislation pending before the House is not sustained."

By a vote of nine to six the committee decided against the proposition to authorize additional submarine torpedo boats.

All sides united in the finding against Doblin. There was not the slightest opposition to that feature of the report. There was also substantial unanimity on the idea of vindicating Quigg. The theory advanced in the committee's report is that Doblin himself invented the idea of approaching Lessler and bribing him.

BANK CASHIER A DEFAULTER.

Shortage in a Baltimore Institution Discovered While Official Was Dying.

Baltimore, Md.—James Valentine Wagner, cashier of the National Marine Bank in this city, who died a few days ago, left his accounts much involved. While on his death bed the bank officials made the discovery that there was something wrong, and further investigation brought to light the fact that some of the collateral for loans is missing.

Experts were at once employed to make an examination and until they complete their work the amount of the shortage cannot be ascertained. President Littig, of the bank, said there were irregularities, but that he thought the cashier's bond was sufficient to indemnify the bank. The cashier was bonded in the sum of \$30,000. He was one of the best known bank officials in the city, having been with the Marine Bank thirty-seven years.

It is believed he must have speculated.

ALLIES' NEW DEMAND.

Two-thirds For Themselves; One-third For Venezuela's Other Creditors.

Washington, D. C.—At a conference of the Venezuelan negotiators the British Ambassador presented to Mr. Bowen a counter proposition from the allied powers providing that two-thirds of the thirty per cent. of the customs receipts of the two ports of La Guayra and Porto Cabello be turned over to the allies, and that the other claimant nations content themselves with the remaining one-third of the thirty per cent. until their claims are satisfied. Mr. Bowen promptly rejected the proposition and asked that the question of preferential treatment be referred to The Hague tribunal and the blockade of Venezuelan ports raised at once.

Godfrey Hunter, Jr., Acquired.

According to a telegram received at Louisville, Ky., from Guatemala City by William Hunter from his father, Dr. Godfrey Hunter, formerly United States Minister to Guatemala, Godfrey Hunter, Jr., was acquitted of the murder of William Fitzgerald, of Grand Rapids, Mich., in Guatemala City, several months ago. The message says thirty-eight witnesses swore there was a conspiracy against the life of young Hunter.

The Sundry Civil Bill Ready.

The Sundry Civil Appropriation bill, as reported to the House of Representatives, at Washington, by Representative Cannon, Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, carries an aggregate appropriation of \$78,007,929, which is \$8,888,432 more than the estimates and \$17,355,870 more than the current appropriation. The committee recommends an appropriation of \$3,000,000 for the relief of distress in the Philippines.

Murderer Hanged at Washington. For the murder of his sweetheart, John Sinclair, colored, a one-legged man, was hanged at Washington, D. C.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

WASHINGTON ITEMS.

The President and Secretary Hay are said to have abandoned hope of ratification of the Alaskan boundary treaty.

The Navy Department ordered warships to Honduras to protect American interests threatened by a revolutionary outbreak.

The State Department received word that Sierra, the hold-over President of Honduras, had turned over his office to a council of Ministers, and that Benilla had deposed himself President at Ampana.

The President sent to the Senate the nomination of John T. McDonough to be Associate Justice of the Supreme Court in the Philippines.

The Senate Judiciary Committee voted to recommend the rejection of the nomination of William M. Byrne, an Adickes man, for District Attorney of Delaware.

The United States Supreme Court took a recess for three weeks.

OUR ADOPTED ISLANDS.

The United States quarantine officials declared Manila to be free from cholera, thus ending the quarantine, which lasted nearly a year. The total of the reported cases since the outbreak was 120,393, with 82,955 deaths.

The Philippine Government extended the time for the payment of the land tax and remitted the penalties for failure to pay in seven impoverished provinces.

DOMESTIC.

It was 250 years ago that the first municipal government was inaugurated in New York City.

Boys and girls confined in the State Reform School at Ogden, Utah, tried to burn the institution, but failed.

For the murder of Rosie Higgins, colored, Charley Hurley, colored, was hanged at St. Louis, Mo.

Governor Cummins, of Iowa, decided not to call a special election to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Representative Rumpke.

Assassinated by two unknown Mexicans, Charles F. Joddart, a well-known ranchman, was found in his cabin at Goddard Station, Ariz.

Dropping a nitro glycerine can which she supposed was empty, Mrs. John Newell was killed and her two sons seriously hurt at Glass, Ohio.

Mrs. Ann Wait, a sister of the late Representative George West, was suffocated during a fire which destroyed her residence at Ballston, N. Y. She was seventy-five years old.

Former United States Senator Henry L. Dawes died at his home, in Pittsfield, Mass., aged eighty-six years.

J. Edward Adickes announced his withdrawal from the race for the United States Senate in Delaware provided both Republican factions meet in caucus and agree upon two candidates for the Senate.

In attempting to drive through a swollen stream, near Oxford, N. C., Miss Ethel Royster was drowned.

After a long debate in the New York Senate at Albany the nomination of Captain Joseph M. Dickey for State Railroad Commissioner was confirmed.

The Oregon Senate adopted a concurrent resolution inviting the President to visit that State in his trip to the coast this year.

Five thousand employes of the sugar refineries in Brooklyn, N. Y., were thrown out of employment by the shutting down of the plants, which officials deny is to be indefinite.

Franklin P. Roberge, a veterinary surgeon, brought suit at New York City against the estate of Robert Bonner for \$100,000, said to be due him for professional services.

At the meeting of the trustees of Columbia, at New York City, announcement was made of the receipt of \$120,000, including one of \$100,000 from the Duc de Loubat.

The commission appointed to choose a site for New York City's new post-office discovered that it had no power to act.

The Indianapolis (Ind.) grave-robbing cases were called in court. Dr. D. Joseph Alexander, being the first of thirty-nine men under indictment to be placed on trial.

The first snow advices over the ice arrived at Seattle, Wash., being more than three months on the way. The population of Nome was 1200 less than last winter.

FOREIGN.

Germany decided to readmit the Jesuits in return for the Centre party's support in passing the tariff bill.

The British Board of Agriculture revoked the prohibition against the entry into Great Britain of live cattle from Argentina and Uruguay.

The Turkish Ambassador at Paris, Saïd Munk Bey, was summoned to Constantinople to explain the attitude of France in regard to Macedonia.

A French company asked permission to establish a wireless station at St. Pierre, N. F., to connect with Cape La Hague, in France.

The disastrous effect of the prolonged drought in New South Wales was exemplified by the stock returns, which showed a shrinkage during 1902 of 16,000,000 sheep and 275,000 head of cattle.

Several thousand unemployed persons looted bread wagons and were charged by the gendarmes at Valladolid, Spain.

A deputation representing the London and Northwestern Railway will visit America soon to study American railway methods.