

THOMPSON'S REPORT

Recommendations Made by Secretary of State

THE CORPORATION LAWS

Improvements to be Made in Present System is Imperfect Patchwork—Storage Room Not Engrossed and Enrolled Clerical Force in Secretary's Office

Report of Secretary of State Thompson came from the press yesterday and will be read once among the members of the assembly.

Statement of the number of companies which have been organized since the passage of the law is given. The following recommendations, however, are especially noteworthy in this connection.

CORPORATION LAWS

Law for the formation of corporations in North Carolina is imperfect, and it is suggested that in force in other States. As it now exists, it is a patchwork of laws, and it is suggested that a revision of the law be made by the General Assembly. When so the Secretary of State should have the law printed in a form for general distribution. A week passes without requests from parties in or out of the State for copies of the law, and it is suggested that the Secretary of State be authorized to supply the same. It is suggested that the State be authorized to issue certificates of incorporation in the State.

State desires to obtain revenue. It is suggested that some revenue may be derived from the corporation business by the introduction of a tax on the capital stock of the corporation.

As the law now stands, the capital stock of the corporation is \$500 or \$500,000. It is suggested that the law be amended so that the capital stock of the corporation may be \$500 or \$500,000.

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office of Secretary of State has not been as well provided for in this particular as the other departments.

COUNTY SURVEYORS.

There is one other objection to which other incumbents of this office believe, all arrive, namely: that the office of county surveyor as it is commonly filled in North Carolina is very imperfectly filled, and may be a source of untold annoyance to the Secretary of State, and of litigation among land owners hereafter. A large part of the time of one man in this office is consumed on account of the imperfections in the work of county surveyors.

A HAPPY BOY

Arthur Bernard Secures Commutation for a State Prisoner

Perhaps the proudest and happiest little boy in Raleigh yesterday was Arthur Bernard, when, through Mr. McPheeters, he was handed the commutation of Jack Powell from life imprisonment to twenty years, signed by Governor Russell yesterday. Joe Powell was raised in Greenville, and Arthur became interested in his case through sympathy for his old father and mother before he moved to Raleigh, and promised he would beg Governor Russell to pardon Joe, and he has been working up matter, writing to the solicitor, Judge and securing the necessary papers with the result of yesterday. Joe Powell was convicted at Tarboro, in 1885, for burglary, sentenced to life imprisonment, and has served out sixteen years of his life sentence, when it was commuted yesterday, through the efforts of little Arthur Bernard, who is only nine years old, to twenty years, leaving only four more years to serve out.

Arthur Bernard took the commutation papers out to the State prison himself yesterday and placed them in the hands of the warden.

HEARD AT THE CAPITOL

Congressman Richmond Pearson has been throwing out lines for the Republican Senatorial nomination, so it is reported. The indications are that the Duke of Richmond will have to satisfy himself with the fraudulent seat which he now occupies. A Republican of standing is authority for the statement that both Butler and Pearson are out of it in the race for the Republican vote for Senator, which is only complimentary at most.

Ex-Speaker H. G. Connor went home yesterday. Mr. Connor introduced a bill in the House yesterday for the appointment of a stenographer to the Supreme Court. The salary is to be \$80 a month, according to a provision of the bill. The judges of the court are forced to do much clerical work and it is right that the court should have a stenographer.

General T. F. Toon left for Raleigh yesterday afternoon to be sworn in and enter upon his duties as State Superintendent of Public Instruction. His family will not leave until some time in February.

Professor John Duckett and son left for Raleigh yesterday, where they will make their future home. Professor Duckett's family leaves in a few days.

Mr. C. E. Blount, who has been attending the sessions of the Grand Lodge, returned to his home in Wilson yesterday. He is one of the leading merchants of that thriving town, but always finds time to devote to the cause of Democracy. To The Post man he said: "Keep your eyes on John Woodard. He is one of the ablest men in the country, and we are expecting big things from him."

Senators Thos. D. Warren of Jones, is the youngest member of the dignified body. Though a young man, he will rapidly forge to the front in the Senate. Besides being an able speaker, the force of Mr. Warren's pen will be remembered by the excellent articles contributed to the constitutional amendment.

No Arrangements for the Proposed S. S. Rally Next Wednesday

Being asked to state what arrangements had been made for the Sunday school rally upon the occasion of the visit of Field Secretary Bryan to this city next Wednesday, the president of Wake County Sunday School Association said yesterday that no arrangements had been made, and so far as he knew, none would be made. A note was printed in both the morning papers yesterday requesting the Sunday school executive committee and city pastors and superintendents to meet for the purpose of making arrangements for the rally, but not one of the score or more persons included in the invitation was present at the time and a place appointed, and would have placed himself into a meeting for the purpose indicated, but having no authority to offer the use of a church for the occasion and not being disposed to incur the expense of hiring a hall on his own account, he could do nothing but let the matter drop. Of course he regrets that not one pastor or Sunday school superintendent felt any interest in the proposed rally, but regrets are vain at the best, and that is all there is about it.

Man Shot to Death

Mr. S. L. Rogers, a private letter Commission, received from Macon county, stating yesterday that on Monday George Ledbetter was shot and instantly killed at Franklin by a sewing-machine agent by the name of Sumnerell. Ledbetter was shot six times, and any one of the wounds would have proven fatal. Sumnerell is in jail here, and it is not known what brought about the difficulty.

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Opposition to Increase Governor's Salary

SOME NEW COMMITTEES

The Committee on Elections Decides to Begin Work Next Thursday—Constant McNeill Was on Hand—A Meeting of the Joint Inauguration Committee Was Held Yesterday—Action Taken

The special committee of five which was appointed by the House yesterday to consider the bill increasing the salary of the governor from \$3,000 to \$4,000, met yesterday in the Supreme Court Library.

The committee spent some time discussing the matter, but reached no conclusion, action being postponed until this morning. Opposition developed to the proposed increase in the salary of the governor. Major W. A. Guthrie opposes the measure as a matter of policy and he further holds that the bill is unconstitutional. Major Graham says the constitution declares that the term of the governor's office begins January 1st, and he is of the opinion that it would be a violation of the constitution to increase Governor Aycock's salary. Mr. Rountree of New Hanover, and Mr. Hayes of Chatham, both members of the committee, are of the opinion that the bill is not unconstitutional. They contend that Governor Aycock is not the Governor of the State and cannot be until the result of the vote for State officers is officially declared and canvassed.

When the bill comes up in the House today an amendment will be offered to make the salary \$5,000 per annum. The amendment is assured of strong support and the bill may be sent back to the Senate in amended form.

The committee on Rules met yesterday afternoon in the Speaker's office. No changes were made in the old rules. The committee agreed that it would be necessary to create new committees. Among the new committees will be those on Judicial Districts and Reapportionment of the State.

The committee on Elections and Privileges, met yesterday afternoon at the Supreme Court building, Chairman F. D. Winston presiding.

It was decided that the next meeting should be held Thursday when positions will be opened in the four contested election cases. At that time questions of evidence may be raised and the time will be set for hearing the contested cases.

Mr. J. W. McNeill, who is contesting the seat of Representative Green from Wilkes, was present at the meeting yesterday with his attorney, Mr. J. N. Holding of this city. The attorneys for Mr. Green are Mr. C. M. Busbee of this city, and Mr. R. N. Hackett, of Wilkes. They were also present.

The joint committee on inauguration met yesterday afternoon at the Supreme Court building. Arrangements were made for an early canvass of the vote, so that there will be no delay with the inauguration ceremony. Tellers on the part of the House and Senate were appointed to add the vote. The members of this committee from the Senate are Senators Warren and Webb, and those from the House are Messrs. Yarborough and Hood.

The members of the Inauguration Committee are: Francis D. Winston, chairman, Senate—E. Y. Webb, Cleveland county; W. P. Wood, Randolph county; T. D. Warren, Jones county. House—George E. Hood, Wayne county; W. H. Yarborough, Jr., Franklin county; J. B. Whitaker, Jr., Forsythe county; H. L. Green, Wilkes county.

MANGUM CASE CONTINUED

Wake County Court Will Probably Adjourn Today

The present criminal term of the Superior Court will probably adjourn some time today. Very few cases were disposed of yesterday, the most important being the continuance of the trial of Samuel Mangum for the killing of Pete Griffin, until the next term. This is in accordance with the forecast made in yesterday's Post. Mangum will remain in jail until trial, as the true bill by the grand jury is for murder in the first degree and is not billable.

The cases which came up for trial yesterday and disposition made of each were as follows: Bill Bryant, forgery, not guilty. Annie Hinton, false pretense; judgment suspended. Z. Marks, concealed weapon, continued. Andrew Pretty, assault with deadly weapon sixty days on bonds. Jerry Scott, larceny and receiving; judgment suspended on payment of costs. Fongo Foster, larceny and receiving, four months on the road. Douglass Wilder, larceny and receiving, not guilty.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

Call for State Association to Meet at High Point

Editor Post: As chairman of the Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Sunday School Association, and in obedience to the action of the committee, we beg leave to announce that the next annual meeting will occur at High Point, beginning on Wednesday evening, February 20, at 7:30 p. m., and will close on Friday evening, February 22. The sessions will occur in the Methodist Church. The official program covering subjects most interesting and profitable will be issued in a few days. The citizens of High Point extend a hearty welcome to the Sunday-school workers of North Carolina and will gladly furnish free transportation to all who

attend. Send your name to Mr. J. W. Wilborn, secretary of the committee on hospitality.

In all counties where there is an organization we trust the president will call a convention at once and appoint delegates unless same is already provided for.

Delegates will be recognized from any Sunday school of white people in North Carolina.

The railroads have granted reduced fare, and it is earnestly desired that the Sunday schools generally will be represented.

It gives us much pleasure to state that we are to be favored with a visit from the great itineraries of Sunday-school leaders, representing the International Sunday School Convention, consisting of Professor and Mrs. Hamill, Mr. Marion Lawhorne, Rev. B. W. Sullivan and E. O. Excell.

It will be worth the money and the time of the trip to hear these eminent workers. Mrs. Hamill comes to aid us in the study of primary work; being herself one of the foremost teachers in Illinois.

Prof. E. O. Excell, the great singer, will conduct the song services. We again extend an earnest plea to Sunday-school workers to take advantage of this great opportunity and attend the State association at High Point, February 20-22.

N. B. BROUGHTON, Chairman Executive Committee. We kindly ask the press generally of the State to publish this call.

Half a Million Grippe Cases

New York, Jan. 11.—The unseasonable weather and the opening of the streets have produced a condition in New York which physicians are forced, by a record of 500,000 cases of grippe, to regard as extremely dangerous. It is feared that in previous years, but more persons are stricken and the danger to each victim is exactly proportioned on the care he takes of himself and the seriousness with which the first attack is combated.

The President Improving

Washington, Jan. 11.—The President's condition is reported to be somewhat improved. He receded better last night than any night since he was seized with the grippe. He is still confined to his bed, however, a means of precaution against a relapse.

SAVED AT LAST

Russie's Crew and Passengers Brought to Land

Farman, Bouches du Rhone, Jan. 11.—After a night of terrible suspense all the passengers and crew of the French steamer Russie from Oran, Algiers, which stranded near here during a violent storm Monday, have been safely landed.

As the life line connected from the shore by the steamer parted again yesterday afternoon, when night set in no communication with the stranded steamer was possible. The last signaled message read as follows: "We have not a scrap of food left. Consternation prevails on board."

On receipt of this appeal the fishermen made two more plucky launches of their boat, but were beaten back, and as the Russie disappeared in the darkness those on board were apparently trying to launch their only remaining boat.

The storm raged with renewed fury during the night, and only those who were compelled to do so remained on the shore. Part of them huddled beneath a tarpaulin and others found refuge from the gale in the Farman lighthouse.

Several vain attempts were made during the night to reach the vessel. At day-break the vessel was reached by the Carro life boat. A few minutes later the Carro boat left the Russie's side, heavily laden. As she approached the life boat the occupants were seen to be women and one baby. The enthusiasm was delicious. The spectators plunged into the sea. Some of them dragged the life boat ashore and others lifted the women out of the boat and carried them in their arms through the waves to dry land. One woman was clasped in the arms of her son who had been waiting on shore since Monday. He swooned and had to be transported on a stretcher hastily constructed from wreckage and covered with blankets to the lighthouse. The other women collapsed from fatigue, cold and hunger. Their haggard faces and trembling limbs told of the awful experiences they had gone through.

It was unfortunate that want of foresight resulted in all the nourishment being kept at the lighthouse, two miles distant, for the sufferers had to walk there, assisted by their friends, before restoratives could be administered to them.

A four oared boat next arrived with seven more passengers, and the life boats then made repeated journeys until all were saved and sheltered in the lighthouse.

For four long days and nights the passengers and crew of the Russie have been in a state of terror. They have suffered the pangs of hunger, thirst and fear, the latter the most powerful, from cause of the belief that the vessel was going to pieces every minute.

A FRAUD ON TEXAS

Congressman Bailey's Connection with Standard Oil

that by this act of reincorporation "there was perpetuated upon the State a fraud which has brought her laws and courts into disrepute both at home and abroad, and shame and humiliation upon her people."

The resolution goes on to say that in the accomplishment of that purpose the officers had the active assistance of Congressman J. W. Bailey. The resolution is aimed at Mr. Bailey, who is here. On January 22 a United States Senator will be elected. Mr. Bailey has nearly all the members instructed for him. McFall has been fighting him for years.

DURHAM AND NORTHERN RAILWAY.

South. STATIONS. North. No. 51. A. M. No. 52. A. M. 4:20 ..... Lv. Apex ..... 9:50 4:44 ..... Lv. Holly Springs ..... 9:26 5:00 ..... Lv. Dukeston ..... 9:10 5:08 ..... Lv. Blainville ..... 9:02 5:20 ..... Lv. Holland ..... 8:50 5:40 ..... Ar. Angler ..... 8:30 P. M. Connect with S. A. L. express mail trains to and from Raleigh. J. C. ANGLIER, Gen. Manager.

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BELLEMONT, SHERWOOD, Kentucky Ry. Maryland Ry. Either at \$4 per gallon. We pay the freight.

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ACME WINE CO., Wines and Liquors & Agts for Pabst Milwaukee Lager Beer

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DOBBIN & FERRALL AT TUCKER'S STORE.

OUR GREAT WHITE FAIR

will be continued all this week. The magnitude of the exhibit and the great interest being shown in it by the ladies induce us to give this entire week to its continuance

It's a splendid gathering of the neatest, daintiest and most comfortable Muslim Undergarments the care and skill can make, at prices that must interest every one. All are invited.

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