

ACT OF CREATION

Office of County Treasurer May Be Abolished

POWER GIVEN COM'RS

Librarian's Salary Bill Strikes a Snag—Postponement of Wake Partition Bill—Apportionment Bill—Details

Several bills of importance went before the Senate yesterday. Several of them are of importance to a great many counties.

The bill empowering county commissioners to create or abolish an office of county treasurer is now in the hands of the committee on counties, cities and towns. It was reported favorably by the committee on counties, cities and towns.

The bill to increase the salary of the librarian, on the other hand, met with opposition that it was reported to the committee on counties, cities and towns.

The bill to provide that the salary of the county clerk be increased from \$1,000 to \$1,200, and that he be allowed an assistant.

The bill to provide that a separate apartment be provided in the library for the deposit of books, also that a committee be appointed to select and purchase books out of the fund annually provided for that purpose.

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ston, Cumberland, Rowan, Fredell, Pitt, Halifax, Gaston, Union, Randolph, Edgecombe, Wilkes, Sampson and Beaufort.

The Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns have been considering the bill introduced by Senator Foushee to give a slice of Wake county to Durham. Wake objects to this very strongly. It is proposed to add the territory named below to Oak Grove township, Durham county, viz.:

Beginning at the point where the present Wake and Durham county line crosses Big Lick Creek; thence down the meanders of said Big Lick Creek to where the same enters Neuse river; thence up the said Neuse river, according to the meanders thereof to where the present line of Wake and Durham counties crosses said Neuse river, near the Fish Dam Place; thence southwardly along the said present Wake and Durham county lines to the point where said line crosses the said Big Lick Creek, the beginning point.

This description is embodied in section 1 of the bill.

Further consideration of the bill has been postponed till next Friday at 3:30 o'clock, when the Wake county people will be heard.

PROCEEDINGS IN DETAIL

Senate called to order at 11 o'clock by Lt. Gov. Turner. Prayer by Rev. Mr. Weaville. Journal of Thursday approved.

Reports from various committees sent forward and bills placed on Saturday's calendar.

A bill that passed through mistake (the committee having reported it "unfavorably," and it being read by the clerk "favorably") at time of passage was reconsidered and tabled.

The bill in question provided for the repeal of section 2 of chapter 228 acts 1899.

Leaves of absence were granted to Senator Marshall (till Monday), to Senator Wood (till Tuesday), to Senator James (till Monday).

Petitions were presented as follows: By Mr. Miller of Caldwell; From citizens of McDowell county asking a modification of present election law.

By Mr. Warren. To pension W. H. Southland and B. H. Bishop.

By Mr. Broughton. From Beulah church, Wake county.

By Mr. Fox. To incorporate certain churches in Pender county.

New Bills Introduced The following new bills were introduced and passed first reading:

By Mr. Henderson—S. C. 584. To amend charter of Salisbury and Fayetteville Railroad Co. Calendar.

By Mr. Dula—S. B. 585.—To authorize.

IT MEETS FAVOR

Jim Crow Car Bill Passes Unanimously

CRAIG ACT AMENDED

Bill Affecting Insurance Companies Passes—Amendment for Gross Receipt Tax Voted Down

The popularity of the "Jeems" crow car act was evidenced in the House yesterday, when a bill amending the present law and making it more stringent in its application passed without a dissenting voice.

Republicans even gave their assent to the enactment of the amendment, which provides that railroads, in the discretion of the Corporation Commission, shall provide accommodations for both races on mixed trains carrying freight and passengers.

The Willard bill, which amends the Craig act so that insurance companies are relieved of its provisions, passed all of its readings. An amendment offered by Judge Graham providing that insurance companies which left the State as the result of the passage of the Craig act shall pay taxes on premiums collected since leaving the State, was voted down.

Another measure that fell by the wayside yesterday was the bill increasing the pay of penitentiary guards. The measure only received five votes.

Speaker Moore announced the fact that the calendar was badly congested with an accumulation of bills, and it was suggested that longer hours be observed. The House adjourned, however, at the usual hour until this morning at 10 o'clock.

The Sabbath observance measure and the bill authorizing the State to engage in the manufacture of fertilizers were both ordered printed.

Gov. Aycock's Message Telling of the Great Work of the College

Governor Aycock yesterday transmitted to the Legislature the biennial report of the A. and M. College. The Governor's message pays a high compliment to this great institution. In his message the Governor said:

"I herewith transmit the biennial report of the North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts for the years 1898 and 1899.

"This institution is training our young men to skilled labor in the various agricultural and mechanical trades, occupations and professions. Its field of work is almost unlimited, and it is entirely distinct from that of the University and the other colleges. It is endeavoring to supply the large and increasing demand in our State for skilled workmen; mechanics, machinists, draughtsmen, engineers, electricians, dairymen, stockmen, truckmen, textile workers and educated farmers.

"As this is the only college of its kind in the State, it should be properly equipped and supported. But even a casual visit to the college shows that its present equipment is entirely inadequate. Its income does not suffice to meet its necessary running expenses; its equipment of buildings and machinery is not equal to the proper instruction of students already enrolled; and it is greatly hampered by a large debt inherited from a former administration. The college has no chapel for daily religious services and public exercises; there are no dormitories for hundreds of applicants; and textile machinery to the value of eight or ten thousand dollars, which has been donated by friends of the college, is now largely unused and valueless for lack of a suitable textile building and motive power. These wants should be supplied. They are fundamental and vital.

"This college is not a philanthropy, but a genuine investment and a necessity. Its thorough equipment and proper support will enable it to train hundreds and even thousands of men to useful and profitable labor, and will greatly promote the industrial development and material prosperity of North Carolina. I earnestly ask your careful consideration and wise treatment of its urgent needs."

CRAIG ACT AMENDED House Refused to Make Fugitive Companies Pay Additional Taxes

a roll call vote, and the gentlemen who supported the measure were: Messrs. Garrett, Gattis, Graham, Russell and Whitaker of Forsyth.

The following is Mr. Graham's amendment, which was defeated: Amend by adding to section 1: That the Insurance Commissioner shall issue no license to any insurance company doing business in North Carolina prior to the ratification of chapter 62, laws of 1899, which withdrew its business and agents from this State in consequence of the passage of said act, until said insurance shall have paid two per cent. upon the amount of the gross receipts of premiums paid by policyholders in this State since said insurance company so removed from the State.

Mr. Graham began the debate, which became a very interesting one. He said: "Judging from the number of insurance agents and their friends here working for this measure, we had better take more time to consider it. The main purpose of this is to allow insurance companies run out of the State as the result of the passage of the Craig act to come back. I heartily endorse the Craig act. Those people who do not want to observe the laws of the State, I don't care to have them here, and I don't believe the people of the State do. This bill ought to be amended. Those companies who have left the State because of the Craig act ought to be required to pay taxes on monies collected since they left before being licensed to do business in the State. You can't tax the property or the office of an insurance company. Insurance companies have to pay taxes on the amount of business they do. It is different with rail road and other corporations, whose equipment property is assessed for taxation. A few companies have been permitted that they are doing no business in the State and all the while they have been carrying money out of the State to the north and northwest. I shall offer an amendment to require these companies to pay two per cent on the money they have taken out of the State. This is just and right. I don't care how pleasant and affable these insurance men are. We ought not to treat them with any more consideration than we do other insurance companies.

Mr. Wright of Rowan: "This act only requires the insurance companies to domesticate. I think the amendment of the gentleman from Granville is unfair and unjust. This is an attempt to collect back taxes, which, as I understand, they have not been doing business in the State."

Mr. Graham: "You did not have any policy in these companies, did you?"

Mr. Wright: "No."

Mr. Graham: "Well, I did. The insurance companies have collected your money."

(Continued on Second Page.)

SOUTHERN ELECTION LAWS

Favorable Report Ordered on Senator Chandler's Bill

Washington, Feb. 8.—The Senate committee on Privileges and Elections, by a strict party vote of 5 to 1, has ordered a favorable report on Senator Chandler's bill to test the constitutionality of the laws of those Southern States which have disfranchised the negroes by intelligence qualifications. Democratic members of the committee gave notice that they will introduce a bill against it.

The bill appropriates \$25,000, with which the Department of Justice is authorized to bring such action before the United States Supreme Court as is necessary to determine whether the laws of certain Southern States conflict with the Federal Constitution. The States of Louisiana, North Carolina, Mississippi and South Carolina are those against which action is contemplated.

THE RACES AT NEW ORLEANS

New Orleans, Feb. 8.—Results at New Orleans: First race, selling 1 mile—Rushfields 7 to 5, L. Blossom 3 to 1, Heroes 5 to 2. Time 1:48.1.

Second race, selling 1-16 mile—J. Collins 5 to 2, Letoy Blue 3 to 1, Mit Boykin 12 to 1. Time 1:56.

Third race, selling 3-4 mile—General Magruder 4 to 1, Albert Vale 7 to 5, Dugan 8 to 1. Time 1:24.4.

Fourth race, handicap mile—Eduard 3 to 1, Emp Beauty 2 1/2 to 1, The Elba 8 to 1. Time 1:39.1.

TIME TO TALK

Senators Want to Discuss the Subsidy Bill

PRITCHARD FAVORS IT

Naval Appropriation Bill Reported with Committee Amendments—Battleships and Cruisers Struck Out

Washington, Feb. 8.—At the close of morning business in the Senate today the Ship-subsidy bill was called up.

Mr. Frye took the floor and proceeded to make an explanation as to his desires in regard to the bounty measure. He said that he had no desire to hold night sessions, and wished to make some agreement so a vote might be taken without resorting to an extra session.

Mr. Jones of Arkansas replied to this, saying that none of the Democratic members wanted night sessions, but they wanted time to discuss the bill thoroughly before taking a vote.

Mr. Frye replied that he was willing to grant all this, so long as filibustering was not resorted to.

Mr. Teller replied that there would be no filibustering, and that there had been no filibustering. He said that night sessions merely delayed the vote on the bill and would continue to delay matters.

Mr. Frye asked that a limit be placed on debate, as he himself was opposed to night sessions.

Mr. Jones said this could not be done, as the minority had a number of speeches prepared and wished to show to the world the dignity of the measure.

Mr. Chandler replied that a clause should be adopted. He gave notice that he wanted an extra session, and sent to the desk a bill providing for an extra session of Congress every two years.

Mr. Pritchard then made a long speech in favor of the bill. He expressed the opinion that the pending bill came nearer to embodying the principles which should control the subject than any other plan that had been advocated. Its defeat, he said, would be one of the most fatal blots that could be given to American industry at home and to American commerce abroad.

At the close of Mr. Pritchard's speech the Ship-subsidy bill was laid aside temporarily, and the Naval Appropriation bill was taken up. The bill carries a total of \$78,626,973, or a net increase of \$1,613,338 over the House bill. The principal item of increase is one of \$850,000 for the purchase of coal, making the appropriation for that purpose a round two millions. For a coal depot at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, the committee added \$100,000, and \$250,000 is inserted for urgent necessities attendant upon the construction of the Cavite naval station.

Another provision authorizes an extension of the waters of Porto Rico preparatory to establishing a naval station there, the strategic position of the island with reference to the United States and the proposed Nicaragua Canal to be taken into consideration.

The committee struck out the House provision abolishing the two years for naval cadets, which leaves the academic course six years, as at present. The number of cadets to be appointed by the President is increased from ten to fifteen. The enlistment period in the marine corps is fixed at four years.

The committee struck from the bill authorization for two new battleships and two new armored cruisers at a cost of \$150,000,000, replacing it with a provision directing the preparation of plans for those vessels to be submitted to Congress next December, together with recommendations whether the ships shall be sheathed or unsheathed, what shall be the weight and extent of their armor, the form and location of their turrets, the number and size of their guns, etc. The purchase of three Holland submarine torpedo boats, to cost \$175,000 each, is authorized.

SIXTEEN JUDGES

Joint Committee Agrees on Number

NO CRIMINAL COURTS

Committee to Draft Bill and Report Today—Each Judge to Hold Thirty-five Weeks of Court

The Joint Committee on Judges and Judicial Districts decided yesterday to report favorably a bill abolishing the two criminal courts and creating sixteen judicial districts.

A committee of three, consisting of Senator Woodard and Messrs. Allen and Craig, were appointed to draft a bill, which will probably be introduced in the Legislature today. The bill is to go into effect July 1st.

Only one member of the committee voted against the decision of the committee. Senator Lindsay favored the abolition of the criminal districts, but thought fifteen judicial districts would be a sufficient number.

A poll of the counties was made to ascertain the number of additional court terms desired. A committee, consisting of one member from each district, consulted the members of the Legislature and made its report accordingly. The report of this committee developed the fact that 124 additional weeks of court were desired. These figures were made on the basis the criminal courts are to be abolished. The present number of Superior Court weeks in the counties in the State are 428. The present number of court weeks, together with the number desired make a total of 557. With sixteen judges on the bench and 567 court weeks the average number of actual weeks each judge would hold court would be 35 1/2. That is the present average.

The following was the result of the sub-committee's report yesterday:

Table with 3 columns: Districts, Court wks. desired, Present No. of court wks. The table lists districts from First to Twelfth with corresponding court weeks and present numbers.

Mecklenburg asked for 13 extra weeks and Buncombe 19.

Mr. Shannonhouse, of Mecklenburg, stated that 35 weeks of court was the average number for a judge. He stated that the work of our judges off the bench amounted to fully 8 or 10 weeks. "The most laborious work," he said, "is not in the court, but off the bench, making up cases on appeal and hearing cases at chambers. The average number of court weeks has been 35 and the proposition now is to make the number of weeks 35 1/2."

Senator Lindsay: Two ex-judges who are members of this Legislature have stated that a judge ought to work 40 weeks. I think fifteen judicial districts would be sufficient. If judges work only 35 weeks, taking off 8 weeks or special outside work they will then have nine weeks' vacation. I think 15 judges a sufficient number.

Mr. Shannonhouse: "Judges take much of their vacation traveling and frequently they are working until a late hour in the morning."

Senator Lindsay: "When a judge comes to my county he gets a week's vacation. We have been very liberal in making up the apportionment of additional court weeks to the new counties. We can easily save the State the expense of one of these judges."

Senator Grader stated that there were already fourteen judges, counting those of the criminal courts, and the dockets throughout the State could not be cleared. The extreme western district needs one judge alone, and Buncombe county is even asking to be made a judicial district. What we want to do is provide a liberal number of judges and compel them to attend the courts. My experience is that all judges are overworked.

The motion made by Rountree to abolish all criminal courts and create sixteen judicial districts prevailed.

SPECIAL ORDER

THURSDAY AT 11 A. M.

Impeachment Resolution Reported Favorably in the House—A Minority Report

At last the impeachment proceedings have been brought before the lime light of publicity.

In the House yesterday, Judge Allen, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, reported favorably the Craig resolution for the impeachment of Chief Justice Furches and Judge Douglas, of the Supreme Court, the consideration of which has been going on behind closed doors for the past week.

The resolution for impeachment was made the special order next Thursday at 11 o'clock, when it will be taken up for action on the part of the House.

After announcing the fact that the committee had reported favorably the resolution Judge Allen asked that the resolution be made the special order at 11 o'clock Thursday. He said this postponement had been requested by Mr. Ebbes and Mr. Blythe, the Republican members of the committee, who desired to have time to prepare and file a minority report.

The House decided to print the report of the Sub-judiciary Committee, as well as the evidence of Judges Clark and Montgomery, Col. T. S. Kenan, clerk of the Supreme Court, and Col. J. C. L. Harris. A motion to this effect was introduced by Mr. Rountree of New Hanover and unanimously adopted.

In what shape Judge Connor will introduce his resolution of disapproval is not yet known. Judge Connor stated last night that he would probably introduce the resolution as a substitute.

There is more or less speculation as to the result of the action of the House when the resolution comes up. While some are sanguine the charges for impeachment will be made, others are not. It is the general belief that the impeachment proceedings have less bright prospects in the Senate. The fact that it takes a two-thirds vote to impeach in the Senate indicates that favorable action for impeachment on the part of the House would have much less showing in the Senate. There are eleven Democrats and Republicans in the Senate, and it would only require the votes of seven Democrats to defeat the proceedings for impeachment. It would require thirty-four votes for impeachment by the Senate.

The motion made by Rountree to abolish all criminal courts and create sixteen judicial districts prevailed.

Eastern Criminal Judgship

Wilmington, N. C., Feb. 8.—Special.—A petition was circulated here today asking the Governor to appoint E. K. Bryan, Esq., Criminal Court judge for the Eastern district to succeed Judge Augustus M. Moore, whose term expired with the meeting of the General Assembly. The appointment sought for Mr. Bryan will be good until the next general election if the Criminal Courts are not abolished, and in case they are abolished until the new system of increased Superior Courts is in effect. Friends of ex-Judge O. P. Meares are also urging him for the place.

Asheville Surprised

Asheville, N. C., Feb. 8.—Special.—The report of the Judiciary Committee, as well as the evidence of Judges Clark and Montgomery, Col. T. S. Kenan, clerk of the Supreme Court, and Col. J. C. L. Harris. A motion to this effect was introduced by Mr. Rountree of New Hanover and unanimously adopted.

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