

Today: fair, much colder; northwest winds.

THE MORNING POST.

READING ROOM

Temperature for 24 hours: Min., Max., Ex. 60

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Senator Hanna Proposes to Pension All the Old Slaves

A Bare-foot Negro Boy Excites a Newspaper's Indignation -- Something as to North Carolina Water-powers

By THOMAS J. PRINCE

Washington, Feb. 4.—Special.—Senator Hanna introduced in the Senate today a bill which not only provides for pensions of ex-slaves, but actually arranges for families, ranging from \$500 to \$100 in value. There is only one interpretation of the Ohio senator's action, and that is, he has made a bold effort to outbid Mr. Roosevelt for the negro vote. Every Republican politician in the present day apparently has his eyes set on the negro vote, and it would seem that Mr. Hanna has taken in line.

When seen this afternoon, Senator Hanna said that he introduced the bill in response to a request from the colored people of the State. It is introduced by request, when a member of Congress is specially asked to introduce a measure. In this case Mr. Hanna assumes responsibility for the bill, for it gives no intimation on its face that it was offered at the instance of other persons. The Ohio senator apparently is not taking an unusual amount of interest in the measure, for when he was asked what committee it had been referred he replied that he did not know, and did not care.

The bill, which is entitled "an act to pension freed-men," created considerable interest about the capitol today. This was due almost entirely to the fact that the author is such a prominent figure in political life. Last year Representative Blackburn of North Carolina introduced a similar bill, though he explicitly stated that he did so "by request." No attention was paid to the incident except in North Carolina, where Mr. Blackburn was severely criticized. The fact that Mr. Hanna is national chairman of his party and is considered a formidable candidate for the presidential nomination attaches peculiar significance to the introduction of the bill. Undoubtedly a great deal of discussion among colored people of the south will result.

The bill provides that ex-slaves over twenty years of age shall receive a pension of \$15 a month; those between fifty and seventy shall receive a bounty of three hundred dollars and a pension of \$12 a month; those between fifty and sixty shall receive a bounty of one hundred dollars and a pension of \$8 per month. Those under fifty years of age shall be entitled to receive \$4 per month until they are fifty years old, when they shall receive \$8 per month.

Another section of the bill says that relatives or others who may be charged with the support of aged or infirm persons released from involuntary servitude shall be entitled to and receive the monthly pension awarded to such aged or infirm persons, in whole or in part, upon showing to the satisfaction of the secretary of the interior that such support is afforded in a humane and becoming manner, the amount of such payment being under the control and discretion of the secretary aforesaid.

A similar bill has been advocated by colored people of the south and elsewhere, and a great deal of excitement has been caused in some sections of the country, resulting in adding to the correspondence of the pension office, because at different times an impression has gone out among the colored people that pensions were actually being granted by the government to ex-slaves.

There have been instances in which colored men have taken advantage of the ignorance of colored people in the north to obtain money to press the enactment of such a law, and arrests and convictions have been made because of fraud practiced in connection with this matter by means of misrepresentation.

Dr. Curry Ill at Asheville
A dispatch received this morning from Asheville, N. C., announces the illness of the Hon. J. L. M. Curry, former minister to Spain, who has been in the south for some weeks for his health. Mrs. Curry was in Philadelphia, visiting relatives. Arrangements were made for her to reach the bedside of her husband at the earliest possible moment. She left Philadelphia this afternoon in a special car attached to the Southern limited, and was joined here tonight by Richmond Pearson, her brother-in-law, who will journey with her to Asheville. For some time the Curry family have occupied their home in this city. The cause of Mr. Curry's illness is not known, although he has been in failing health for some time.

Disturbance About a Bare-foot Boy
Deputy Marshal John Dockery arrived in the city today with Red Hines, a thirteen year old colored boy from Scotland station, Scotland county, N. C., who was sentenced to four years in the Cheltenham reformatory, Prince George county, Md., for the larceny of a letter containing \$10. The boy was taken to the Central police station for temporary confinement, and because he was barefooted the Star printed a sensational article this afternoon, expressing much indignation. The Star story said among other things:

"The sight of the boy being taken shivering through the streets barefooted and suffering from the effects of the weather because of the lack of clothing attracted attention, and some of those who witnessed the sight suggested that the humane society might do well to take a hand in the matter. No such action was taken, however. The boy will be conveyed to the reformatory this afternoon. The boy said he was induced by another boy to steal the letter."

If the boy was shivering he certainly did not do so because of the weather, for this was a veritable balmy spring day in Washington. The article gives evidence of having been inspired by imagination. It says in addition:

"Capt. Boardman was greatly astonished this morning when a small colored boy, thinly clad and barefooted, was driven into his office by a deputy United States marshal and an assistant. Straps had been arranged about his shoulders and back as to give him the appearance of being harnessed. Two long pieces of leather were used as reins and these were in the hands of one of the two men."

The colored lad had now been provided with shoes and will be taken to the reformatory tomorrow.

North Carolina Water Powers
The director of the United States geological survey issued today a bulletin, telling of the wonderful opportunities offered by the undeveloped water-powers of the south, and in North Carolina particularly, which is certain to attract the attention of capitalists and manufacturers and result in great good to that section. The bulletin says, among other things:

"The present scarcity and high price of steam coal have again aroused interest in the great water power possibilities of the southern states. In magnitude and convenience of location for manufacturing purposes more desirable undeveloped water-power are to be found in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia than in any equal area elsewhere in the United States. Several of these, whose development is thoroughly practicable, are capable of furnishing power in greater quantity than is to be obtained elsewhere, except at Niagara and Sault Ste. Marie, and at a very low cost per unit of power developed."

"Many of the smaller water powers of these states have already been developed and used in the operation of cotton mills, but recently the larger powers, of magnitude sufficient to supply the needs of a manufacturing city, have been receiving much attention, and a number of important projects looking to their utilization are now under way. Large developments are now in progress on the Yarkon river, near Salisbury, N. C., where the plans, it is said, contemplate a final maximum development of sixty thousand horse power; and on the Catawba river, near Rock Hill, S. C., where the Catawba electric power company has almost completed a large plant which will supply power to Rock Hill, Charlotte and other towns within reach of its transmission lines."

"On the streams west of the Blue Ridge developments are now being made on the French Broad river, below Asheville, N. C., and are projected at several points on the Little Tennessee and the Hiwassee rivers."

"Considerable impetus has been given to the development of southern water powers by the investigations carried on for several years by the hydrographers of the United States geological survey, who have collected much data regarding run off and discharge, which is widely used by engineers and others interested in these matters."

pointment as postmaster at Kittrell, and against whom a fight was made by citizens of the town, is here to secure his commission.

The Senate this afternoon confirmed the nomination of D. W. Patrick to be collector of the port of New Bern. Dr. V. S. Warren, assistant surgeon general's office for two years, has been granted thirty days' sick leave, the expiration of that time he will be detailed to Cape Fear quarantine, Southport, N. C.

Representative Claude Kitchin had twelve rural delivery routes to go into effect in his district this week. An inspector will go to the district in a few days to investigate additional routes.

Representative Pou returned from North Carolina today. Ex-Judge Timberlake was here today en route to New York. Other arrivals are C. J. Carson of Taylorsville, J. W. Stevenson of Monroe, Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Manning of Durham and Hugh McRae of Wilmington.

NOT SO CRAZY

Eli Rogers Held on a Charge of Murder

Monroe, N. C., Feb. 4.—Special.—Eli Rogers, the murderer of Miss Nancy Pressley and the negro boy, had a preliminary hearing this evening before Squire Flow and was bound over to court. Evidence in this trial shows that Rogers is not as crazy as it was supposed. However there is no doubt that he will get out of the trouble on the plea of insanity.

The safe crackers are still safely lodged in the county jail. Nothing can be learned from them. They say their counsel advises them not to talk at all. They will get a preliminary hearing this week.

TRUST-BUSTER BILL

Program Arranged for Debate in the House

Washington, Feb. 4.—The committee on rules this morning decided that the Littlefield anti-trust bill shall have the right of way in the House immediately after the post office appropriation bill, now under consideration, has been passed. The measure will be discussed for thirteen hours in committee of the whole, ten hours being devoted to general debate and three hours to the discussion of amendments under the five-minute rule.

The resolution of the committee on rules, a greed to this morning, provides that there shall be no roll-call in the House on amendments rejected in committee of the whole. This will preclude the Democrats from offering a series of amendments upon which the Republicans, or some of them at least, do not wish to go on record as opposing. There is little likelihood of any material change being made in the measure as reported from the committee.

Mr. Powers, one of the sub-committee which prepared the bill, will open the debate in support of the measure, and Mr. Littlefield will close. A part of the five hours allotted to the affirmative will be occupied by Mr. Thomas of Iowa and Mr. Parker of New Jersey, who do not approve of the bill in its entirety.

Members of the committee on judiciary have already made application for eight and half hours of which there is only five hours available, so it is assumed that the opposition in debate will be confined to members of the committee on judiciary.

YOUNG LADY DROWNED

Miss Ethel Royster Swept from a Buggy into a Creek

Oxford, N. C., Feb. 4.—Special.—Miss Ethel Royster, daughter of Mr. L. A. Royster of this place, and a teacher in one of the county schools, was drowned this morning in Hatchett's run while on her way to school. In the buggy with her were a young man named Thloston and his sister, who escaped a similar fate by clinging to bushes overhanging the creek. The horse was drowned. The body of the young lady has been recovered.

Robbers Stole the Vault
New Bern, N. C., Feb. 4.—Special.—The post of Havelock, about 12 miles below New Bern, was robbed last night by Postmaster John Russell used a trunk as a vault to deposit his money and stamps. The midnight visitors captured the entire vault, containing \$29 in stamps and some cash. An investigation is being made as to the robbery. J. E. Smith, recently named for ap-

Prohibition for Wilkes Wins Out in Committee

Counsel for Whiskey Men Did Not Come—Bryan and Pagram Asked for an Election but Are Voted Down

The bill introduced in the House for prohibition in Wilkes county will be reported favorably by the committee on propositions and grievances. The bill has been stoutly resisted by the representatives from Wilkes, Gen. Bryan and Dr. Pagram. They insisted on giving the people of Wilkes the right to vote on the question, but their views have been successfully not, in the minds of the committeemen, by the delegations that have come from Wilkes in favor of the bill.

There were seventeen members of the committee present and voting when the final consideration was had, and there was not a voice against a favorable report, although Gen. Bryan was present and had voted, alone, for his amendment to refer the question to the people.

A bill to provide for an election on the establishment of a dispensary at Wilson was reported favorably; at the meeting of the House committee on propositions and grievances yesterday afternoon.

It was the day designated for the consideration of the Wilkes county prohibition bill. When this matter was called up by Chairman Watts letters were read from counsel employed by the whiskey men asking that the hearing be postponed as they could not leave Wilkes court on account of important litigation.

Mr. Bryan asked that no definite action be taken until after both sides have had a chance to be heard. Ex-Sheriff Church of Wilkes said court broke three hours before he left Wilkesboro and they could have come if he had wanted to. The judge who held the court came away on the same train on which he left Wilkesboro.

Upon the statement Dr. Alexander moved that the matter be gone into and continued to a finality.

Mr. Bryan thought it would do no good to oppose the motion. He thought the matter was cut and dried, and the committee did not intend to hear both sides. He was here as a representative in part of Wilkes county, and he wanted before the matter is ended to introduce an amendment to leave the matter to a vote of the people in his county. He thought unless that amendment was adopted he would be treated discourteously as a representative from Wilkes.

Mr. Curtis thought Mr. Bryan had done the committee an injustice in saying the affair was cut and dried, and that only one side was to be heard. The whiskey men have had a hearing so far as they have shown they want it and if twenty more of their representatives were here today they would be given a respectful hearing.

Dr. Alexander said he meant no discourtesy to the gentleman from Wilkes in moving to hear and determine this matter at once. He thought the opposition had ample time. It was shown that attorneys had been notified; that they could have come had they so desired and they are not here.

The motion was adopted and the bill was read.

Mr. R. A. Spainhour said in favor of the bill, that it would be a great advantage to Wilkes county to pass the bill. The schools and churches go down near all the distilleries. The county would improve morally and financially. The liquor made there is not all shipped out of the county, a great deal is drunk in the county. It has a great deal of drunkenness and crime, and with the removal of whiskey our jails would not be so full and our terms of court would be lessened.

It would not work much injury to the orchard men as many of them have planted shipping varieties of apples that are not suitable for distilling purposes. I think the distillers only pay ten cents a bushel for apples, and they are worth more for shipment.

Ex-Sheriff Church said large brandy crops made large docket in court and occasionally a murder. From the whiskey business comes the trouble. He conscientiously believed the passage of the law would benefit the county morally and every other way. The better class of people in both parties would be pleased with the passage of this bill. There is a section of Wilkes that ten to fifteen years ago was stuck full of whiskey barrels and that has been changed. There is not whiskey there now and the old gulleys have been transformed into good wheat fields.

Mr. J. L. Hemphill, a merchant, said the plea for the orchard man would not hold good as apples sell at a price to distillers that will not pay to gather them. There is a great deal of drunkenness in Wilkes, and a great deal of crime. The best people of both parties favor this bill. If left to a vote right now without any work being done prohibition would be adopted; but the whiskey men would give away thousands of gallons of liquor and the election would be

this influence be carried against prohibition.

Mr. Simpson of Perquimans said he could not see that we were getting much nearer a solution. The Democratic party has always tried to uplift humanity. Churches and schools have been built more rapidly where whiskey has been eliminated. Now let us give Wilkes prohibition and let those good people have a chance to rise higher. (Applause.)

Mr. J. G. Hackett, who was the Democratic nominee against Gen. Bryan, and came nearer defeating him than any man who ever ran against him, said it was essential to the welfare of the county to adopt this measure. He knew the sentiments of the best people, the taxpayers, and they want it. We ask you to pass this bill.

Rev. C. W. Robertson of the Presbyterian church, said the whiskey business in that county was blasting his finances. He pointed out the loss of time of men under the influence of whiskey and in attending courts as a result thereof. A case in court last week showed that three pints of liquor had cost \$182, in fines and court costs.

Corn and wheat and neat are shipped into Wilkes and hard wood and timbers are shipped out in order to get money to pay taxes and purchase little necessities for our people.

The wives and children of Wilkes want relief from the terrors and evils of the liquor traffic. The blighting effects of the business keep people in ignorance. Where the parents do not realize the importance of an education they will not send their children to school.

The people, the moral people in Wilkes, have rights the state has heretofore trampled upon; and we come here now, gentlemen, asking you to recognize our rights.

Rev. J. B. Taylor of the Methodist church, said the opposition had deserted the moral side of the question, because they have nothing to stand on there. They talk of the financial standpoint and they have little to stand on there, so that all they have left only the political phase of the question. The sentiment of the people is strong there for prohibition. He carried around one petition and out of about a hundred men only two refused to sign the paper. The sentiment has grown rapidly in the last year and is growing yet.

Dr. L. F. Webster addressed himself to the question of whether the people of Wilkes want this thing. He had led the movement in organizing temperance societies, and he found all over the county the people are wrought up over the question and they want prohibition. We can help our weaker brethren by taking away from them the manufacture, sale and use of liquor.

Dr. Pagram said he did not want the committee to misconstrue the attitude of himself and Gen. Bryan, we are both temperance men and were never drunk in our lives. We are the representatives of our county, and if the good people of the county want prohibition we will not raise our hands against it. He pleaded for recognition as a member of the General Assembly.

Gen. Bryan: I want to say a few words.

Mr. Carlton: I hope the gentleman will confine himself to the question and not speak long.

Fire Cracker Bill Passes the House

Several Graded School Bills Also Pass Final Reading in the Lower Branch of the Assembly — Toxaway Liquor Bill Postponed

The gentleman from Scotland, Mr. McNeill, had plenty of help on his fire cracker bill when it came up as special order yesterday on its final reading.

The original bill was drawn by Mr. McNeill to prohibit the sale and use of fire crackers more than three inches long in North Carolina. Gen. Davidson offered an amendment yesterday to include air and spring guns carrying leaden or metallic missiles and also placing the penalty on the dealers and not on the users.

General Davidson said there had been frequent accidents, especially on holiday occasions, from the careless use by irresponsible boys in the use of dangerous explosives. Air and spring guns carrying leaden missiles had also been responsible for the loss of eyes and limbs. He sought, however, to make the sale of these things unlawful and not their use. He wanted to make it hard for the children to obtain them.

Air and spring guns make no noise upon being discharged, and is difficult for the officers who are charged with enforcing the law to catch up with and control them. It is not at all essential to the happiness of the boys to use these dangerous guns; they can still have their pop guns carrying soft and harmless missiles. The bill is wholesome in its effects.

Mr. Hall wanted to make the bill effective except on the 4th of July and the 25th of December. Mr. McNeill said those were the very days he was striking at, as it is then the harm is done.

Mr. Guion wanted to make the act operative July 1st. Mr. Blount moved to amend to make it effective thirty days after ratification so as to give time for dealers to dispose of old stocks on hand. Mr. Owen moved to amend by making the bill effective July 1st, 1903. Mr. Britton said if the members would go over to the blind institution and look at the sightless boys there they would stop making amendments and pass this bill as it is.

Mr. Drewry said no hardships would accrue to the merchants as all dealers in fire works send left over goods back to the factories within thirty days after a holiday season has passed. He related several instances of injuries to children, and wanted the bill to pass. Mr. Freeman of McClenburg favored the amendment offered by Mr. Blount.

Mr. Phillips struck straight from the shoulder and said thirty days was long enough for any dealer to dispose of any left over stock. He had a lot of the stuff on hand himself and if he couldn't get rid of it in thirty days he would throw them away.

Mr. King didn't think the bill as amended would have the desired effect as it did not prevent the use of the dangerous articles. To this General Davidson replied he did not want prosecutions directed at the children of the state, and he thought making it unlawful to sell them was sufficient for the first step.

General Davidson's amendment was accepted by Mr. McNeill. Mr. Abell moved that skyrockets be included.

Mr. Hall's amendment making the act operative except on July 4th and Christmas was lost. Owen's amendment was also voted down and Blount's amendment giving dealers thirty days grace was adopted. The passage final reading and the gentleman from Scotland smiled in a satisfied way.

Prohibit Making a Noise
A bill to prohibit public drunkenness was read. It proposed to make it a misdemeanor for a man to get drunk and make a loud noise, and the wording of the bill was such that a man would be indictable for a loud yell whether drunk or sober, whether by himself in the woods or at a public gathering.

Mr. Blount thought a man ought to be allowed to applaud at a political speaking without being subject to arrest and punishment.

Mr. McNeill solemnly observed that the bill encroached upon the time honored custom of shouting at camp meetings.

Mr. Newland said he was a fox hunter and was opposed to the bill because under its provisions he could not hold at his dogs in the chase.

Mr. Abell said it discriminated against the country people. He didn't think it right to let the town folks get drunk and yell about the streets when the country man was prohibited from doing likewise in the woods. He therefore moved to lay the bill on the table. The motion was lost, and on motion of Mr. Curtis the bill was referred to the committee that a proper measure may be reported.

Reduction of Married Women
Mr. Abell's bill to punish the seduction and abduction of married women came up on third reading.

Mr. Cowan offered an amendment to provide for punishment in the event the woman shall have been innocent and virtuous since her marriage. This was accepted by Mr. Abell and the bill passed its final reading.

Marriage of First Cousins
Mr. Foy's bill to prevent the marriage of first cousins met with opposition and was finally laid on the table. Mr. Smith argued that if other states had a similar law, if it was universal it might have a good effect, but it would be easy to go across the state line and marry and the law would be a dead letter. Taking another view he said he doubted the right of the Legislature to pass it. For one he was not willing to impair the contracts already entered into. He would be willing to try to persuade first cousins to fall in love with some one else, but was not prepared to tread on the dangerous ground this bill leads to.

Mr. Whitaker of Guilford suggested an amendment for the consideration of Mr. Smith providing that the act shall not be effective until after all existing contracts have been complied with.

Dr. Riddick, Alexander of Mecklenburg and Goode of Cleveland all opposed the bill. The last named moved to lay on the table and the motion prevailed by a vote of 32 to 30.

Special Order for Watts Bill
The Watts bill about which so much interest is beginning to center since its favorable report by the committee which investigated it, has been made the special order for twelve o'clock Thursday, February 12th. Several speeches will be made for the bill and it is understood one or more strong speeches are being prepared opposing it. It is likely to be one of the biggest fights of the present session.

House Proceedings
The House was called to order at 11 o'clock by Speaker Gattis and prayer was offered by Rev. J. W. Ingle of Lincoln.

Petitions were introduced as follows: From Robeson, Union, Buncombe, Randolph, Wake, Pamlico, Stokes, Iredell, Brunswick, Northampton, Orange, Halifax, Gaston counties in favor of temperance legislation.

From citizens of Wayne county asking for an iron bridge across Little river.

From Perquimans county in favor of the London bill.

From Rutherford against dispensary legislation.

From Haywood to build a bridge over Big Creek.

The Watts bill was reported from the committee on propositions and grievances with a recommendation that it pass as amended, and was made a special order for next Tuesday at 12 o'clock, 200 copies ordered printed including the amendments.

New Bills Introduced
By Williams—An act to create high school districts in Union county.

By Parker of Wayne—An act to regulate the jurisdiction of justices of the peace.

By Parker of Wayne—An act to build a bridge over Little river.

By Bullard—An act to allow Fayetteville to issue bonds.

By Hooker—An act to regulate the use of public bridges in Beaufort county.

By Hooker—An act to appoint a justice of the peace.

By Hooker an act to empower the commissioners of Beaufort to levy a special tax.

By Daughtridge—An act to incorporate the North Carolina Farmers' Protective Association.

By Foy—An act directing the commissioners of Pender county in regard to use of the sinkhole fund.

By Scott—An act to appoint Jno. M. Foust a justice of the peace in Alamance.

By Daniel of Vance—An act to change the county line between Vance and Franklin.

By Ray—An act to authorize a special tax in Yadon county.

By Freeman—An act to authorize a special tax for building or repairing court house in Henderson county.

By Watts—A resolution to pay Miss Sarah Wiley Burkhead five dollars for typewriting for propositions and grievances committee.

By Grant—An act to pay certain school claims in Davie county.

By Bullard—An act to amend the charter of the Bank of Fayetteville.

By Murphy by request—An act to define perjury.

By Morphis—An act to ratify, confirm and approve the charter of the Tennessee railroad.

By Fuller—An act to amend the Code so as to include foxes in the term stock.

Passed Final Reading
An act to amend the charter of the town of Red Springs.

An act to establish a graded school at Tryon in Polk county.

An act to incorporate the town of Stokes in Pitt county.

An act to amend chapter 85 private laws of 1897 and chapter 215 private laws of 1899.

An act to establish and maintain a graded school in the town of Graham.

(Continued on 5th page)