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The Weather—FAIR.

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HOUSE BEGINS TO DIGEST ITS MASS OF BILLS

Few New Measures of Importance Offered at Session Today

THANK GOV. POTHIER

Committees Turn in Favorable Reports on Several Measures—Pace's Labor Bill is Disapproved—Bill to Create Piedmont County Makes Appearance in Both Houses—Would Increase Salary of State Librarian—Proposed to Compel All Passenger Trains to Stop at County Seats—Speaker Dowd Announces Additional Committees.

The house of representatives settled down today to digest some of the measures which were fed to it yesterday. There were few new measures introduced, and these were generally of minor importance. The bill to establish the new county of Piedmont out of parts of Guilford, Davidson and Randolph made its appearance, being introduced in the house by Mr. Kirkman, of Guilford. It was also offered in the senate and the new county campaign is now on. Mr. Allred, of Johnston, introduced a bill requiring railroads to stop all trains at county seats upon flagging, and Mr. Battle offered the bill to increase the pay of the state librarian from \$1,500 to \$2,000. The other measures offered were mostly of a local character.

Committees' Report.
The batch of reports from committees showed that those bodies have settled down to their work in earnest. Among the more important measures reported favorably were Gen. Carr's bill raising the limit of the value of property Trinity College may hold. Mr. Robert's state "white slave" law also was reported favorably, but the measure offered by Mr. Pace, of Wake, providing that corporations shall pay the wages of deceased employees to their relatives or other persons entitled was disapproved.

Judge Ewart's joint resolution thanking Governor Pettigrew, of Rhode Island, for refusing to accept the repudiated measure on which the roll has been called. Judge Ewart, in urging the passage of the resolution, made a short speech, in which he severely scored those who have been hawking these bonds about the country for no other purpose, apparently, than to harass the state. He declared his approval of Mr. Turlington's bill to prohibit those holding office under the state from accepting fees for prosecuting claims against the state. The roll call on the resolution showed no votes against its passage and it was sent over to the senate.

House Routine.
The house was called to order at the usual hour by Speaker Dowd, who called upon Rev. Mr. Gaultier to offer prayer. The house then took up the regular routine. The following favorable reports were made by committees:
Privott's bill relative to fishing in Albemarle Sound.
To validate election of certain justices in Alleghany county.
To regulate pay of jurors in Stanly county.
To authorize Henderson and Transylvania counties to employ engineer.
Relating to dogs in Granville county.
To amend charter of Trinity College.
To prohibit throwing sawdust in Big Ivy Creek.
Relative to butchers keeping records, etc.
To prevent detention of women in houses of prostitution.
To validate error in bond election in New Bern.
To amend charter of Buckhorn Academy in Hertford county.
To provide for payment of wages due deceased employees. Reported unfavorably.

Resolutions and Bills Offered.
Carr of Durham: Resolution in (Continued on Page Two.)

ANTI-NEAR-BEER BILL

State-Wide Bill Introduced in the Senate

Senator Carpenter, of Gaston, introduced the State-wide Anti-near-beer Bill—Bill to Establish County of Piedmont Introduced—Greensboro New Charter Bill Passes Third Reading.

The bill to abolish the near-beer traffic throughout the state and the bill establishing the county of Piedmont, carved out of Guilford, Davidson, and Randolph, were the most important measures introduced at the brief session of the senate today. The bill relating to near-beer was introduced by Senator Carpenter, of Gaston, at the request of the ministers of Gastonia.

The bill creating a commission form of government for the city of Greensboro passed third reading in the senate and was ordered engrossed and sent to the house.

The bill remedying a defect in the call for a bond election in New Bern was the first to pass and was ratified by the general assembly of 1911.

Enough bills have already been referred to keep the senate committees busy and they are getting down to the real task of considering proposed legislation, holding meetings every afternoon.

The senate met at 11 o'clock. Rev. I. McK. Pittinger, of the Church of the Good Shepherd, offering prayer.

Bills Introduced.
Martin of Washington: Prescribing the time for holding courts in the first district. Referred to judicial districts committee.

Carpenter of Gaston, by request of ministers of Gastonia: Abolishing the near-beer traffic throughout the state. Propositions and grievances.

Cobb of Robeson: Appointing three justices of the peace in Parkton township, Robeson county. Justices of the peace.

Holden of Franklin: Providing for good roads in Youngsville township, Franklin county. Public roads.

Boyd of Rowan: Establishing the county of Piedmont out of portions of Guilford, Davidson, and Randolph. Counties, cities and towns.

Ivie of Rockingham: Regulating labor in manufacturing industries. Manufacturing committee.

McDonald of Moore: Authorizing the consolidation of the North Carolina and South Carolina Railroad. Railroads committee.

Thorne of Nash: Appointing C. H. Harris and J. W. Robbins justices of the peace in Rocky Mount township, Nash county. Passed third reading and sent to the house without engrossment.

Sikes of Wake: Changing the name of the Baptist University for Women. Education committee.

Ex-senators R. E. White and B. F. Beasley were extended the courtesies of the senate.

The bill remedying the defect in the call for a bond election in New Bern was ratified.

The bill incorporating the city of Greensboro under a commission form of government passed third reading unanimously and was ordered engrossed and sent to the house.

Senator Johnson of Duplin was allowed to withdraw his bill relating to the landlord and tenant act.

A report was read from the corporation commission giving salaries paid to officers and employees.

A report was received from State Insurance Commissioner James R. Young, giving salaries paid in his department.

An invitation was read from the State Historical Commission to the senators to attend the unveiling ceremonies of the bust of the late Senator Matt W. Ransom tonight, in the hall of the house of representatives.

President Newland announced additional appointments to the standing committees as follows:
Finance—Hicks of Granville.
Institution for the Blind—Reinhart of Lincoln.

The senate at 11:20 adjourned until 11 o'clock tomorrow.

Hobson Introduces Tariff Revision Bill.
(By Leased Wire to The Times.)
Washington, Jan. 11.—Representative Hobson, of Alabama, introduced in the house today a tariff revision bill. The bill provides for an automatic reduction of the entire tariff schedule of 25 percent, but this reduction is to be made gradually so that manufacturers can prepare for it without interfering with contracts.



Charles R. Drummond, the millionaire bigamist of St. Louis, and his third wife. It is believed that Drummond has again eloped and the prosecuting attorney of St. Louis has wired the New York police to watch for him. Drummond's companion is said to be a young stenographer of St. Louis.

STATE NATIONAL GUARD MEETING IN DURHAM

(Special to The Times.)
Durham, N. C., Jan. 11.—The national guard association convened in this city today at noon and was called to order by Major W. C. Bowman, of Washington, the president of the association. The meeting was pretty well attended, and the program was very interesting due to the soldiers, and those interested in the militia. In addition to the regular program, which had to do with militia and army matters, two crack squads of Company M. will give a bayonet drill at the army this evening at 7 o'clock. The squads will be in charge of Sergeant Washington.

Following this the members of the association will be banqueted in the club rooms of the Elks. A number of important officers of the regular army in the city for the meeting.

The association was welcomed to the city at noon today in an address by Mayor W. J. Geiswold.

USED MAILS TO DEFRAUD.

President of Investment Company in Lockup, Unable to Give \$1,000.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)
Manchester, N. H., Jan. 11.—Unable to obtain bail of \$1,000, Joseph De Champlain, president of the New England Investment Company, and a resident of this city, is in the lockup charged by United States postal officials with using the mails in a scheme to defraud.
Champlain was arrested in the railroad station as he alighted from the Montreal Express and was about to greet his wife, who had been waiting in the station five hours for the delayed train.

He was on his way to Providence to attend a meeting today of the investment company at which it had been planned to oust him from the presidency and reorganize the concern.

In the complaint signed by Post-office Inspector W. W. Stone, of Concord, De Champlain is accused of having obtained at least \$660,000 from credulous investors, mostly people of small means through alluring circulars sent through the mails.

Plenty of Gold in Chicago.

Chicago, Jan. 11.—Cashier Frank C. Russell, of the government treasury, has reported to sub-treasurer Len Small that the actual cash in the vaults had passed the \$190,000,000 mark for the first time in the history of the Chicago sub-treasury.
This is said to be more gold than is held in the sub-treasuries either at New York or Washington.

GRAND LODGE CONVENES

Grand Master Hackett's Address An Inspiring Effort

Shows Masonry Throughout State to be in a Flourishing Condition. Annual Oration Made Epic by Former Lieut.-Gov. Winston—Sessions Continue Today.

The Grand Lodge of Masons of North Carolina met in the Masonic Temple in this city last night in regular communication. Promptly at 8:30 o'clock Hon. Richard N. Hackett, grand master, sounded the gavel and the business of the one hundred and twenty-fourth annual session began.

At the opening of the communication Grand Chaplain Plato Durham invoked the blessings of the Grand Artificer of the Universe for Divine guidance in a most eloquent and fervent prayer.

Assistant Grand Secretary W. W. Wilson called the roll of the craft, which showed that 266 lodges were represented at the opening.

Grand Master Hackett then arose and delivered his annual address. It was a masterpiece of oratory, as well as giving a full and complete review of the Masonic order for the past 12 months in the state. He said that while the past year had not been a record-breaker so far as gathering new members was concerned, that the fraternity was still moving onward in a way more satisfactory than for many years. He paid a high tribute to the departed brother Masons in this grand jurisdiction, and also of the grand jurisdictions throughout the world. In speaking of the Oxford Orphan Asylum he said the institution was one of the brightest jewels that shines in the Masonic horizon. He paid a high tribute to Colonel Hicks, who has recently resigned as superintendent of the asylum.

Never before in the history of the grand lodge have the representatives of the Masons of North Carolina heard a more brilliant and eloquent address.

After a few minutes of refreshments, Past Grand Master Francis D. Winston, the grand historian, made a most eloquent address in verse and one which was greatly enjoyed.

Secretary's Report.
Grand Secretary John C. Drewey then read his report, showing that nine dispensations have been granted during the year and not a single lodge has been discontinued. The report showed that there are 29,546 Master Masons in the state.

The several reports from the Oxford Orphan Asylum were very gratifying and showed that the institution is in a very prosperous and progressive condition. Special mention should be made of the physician's report, there not having been a single death at the institution for the past three years.

Past Grand Masters who are attending the opening session are: Noble, Moye, Nichols, Clarke, Winston, Liddell, Rogers, and Gattis.

Today the grand lodge takes up its routine work and the committees appointed last night will prepare and submit their reports. The election of officers will be held tonight, and the entire grand lodge will attend the unveiling of the bust of Senator Matt W. Ransom in the capitol. The late Senator Ransom was a Mason.

The chairman of the committees appointed last night are:
Jurisdiction—Chief Justice Clark, Orphan Asylum—Maj. S. H. Moyle, Fraternal Dead—Dr. F. M. Smith, Finance—A. B. Andrews, Jr., Foreign Connections—Dr. John A. Collins.

Propositions and Grievances—No. 1, W. H. McLaurin; No. 2, J. L. Gwaltney.

The report of the Temple committee showed the Masonic Temple to be making a good showing, the total profit from the building for the past year being \$7,522.26. The debt was reduced during the year \$12,500.

Couldn't Find Work, Killed Family.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)
New York, Jan. 11.—Crazed by his inability to find employment, Charles Vestring shot his wife in the head as she lay in bed today in their home at No. 32 Forest Avenue, Queens, turned the gas on in a room where their one-year-old baby lay asleep, and then went to another room and set himself on fire.

When Mrs. Vestring was wounded she ran to a rear window of their apartment, on the first floor, and leaped into the yard of David Finning, where she lay unconscious. The child and mother probably will recover but Vestring will die.



Miss Pola La Follette, daughter of Senator La Follette, of Wisconsin, who has announced her intention of going back on the stage, although her distinguished parents disapprove everything in her power to prevent her. Two years ago Miss La Follette left the stage at the request of her father and since that time has attempted to her social obligations, both in Washington and at home. But the stage has not lost its attraction for her and she has now determined to return despite the opposition at home.

EXPRESS COMPANIES PROFITS \$12,000,000

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)
Washington, Jan. 11.—Express companies operating in the United States had a business of \$12,500,000 for the year ended June 30, 1910, of which \$2,400,000 was profit, according to a report published by the interstate commerce commission today.

It is shown that the average revenue per piece handled by the companies was 26 cents.

The total income of the companies amounted to \$20,247, of which the Wells Fargo Express Company operated the largest share.

PATENT SUED FOR \$80,000,000.

Old Law Which Permits Suit Against Gamblers to Recover.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)
Chicago, Jan. 11.—James A. Patten, wheat king and cotton manipulator of 1902, received a rude shock at Hot Springs today when he was informed that he had been sued for \$8,000,000. He was sued for this sum by Dr. Paul Burmaster, president of the Chicago Anti-Gambling League and the action is based on an old law which permits the recovery of sums lost at gambling, together with a penalty of double the amount.

The suit was brought by Burmaster as a citizen and is an action in debt to recover \$2,000,000, the other \$4,000,000 is tacked on to make up the penalty.

Burmaster, a short time ago, became acquainted with a Northside broker who, he says, told him of the methods of the board of trade. The broker, conscience-stricken and "having his" urged Burmaster to do something.

He did. He sued Patten.

EXILED FROM PORTUGAL.

Ex-Premier Charged With Plotting With Enemies of the Republic.

(By Cable to The Times.)
Biarritz, France, Jan. 11.—Ex-Premier Franco, of Portugal, arrived here today from his native land. Charged with plotting with the enemies of the Portuguese republic, Senator Franco was taken to the Spanish frontier in an automobile and warned not to return. He may never again be allowed to set foot upon the territory which once he practically presided. Senator Franco is charged with conspiring with the royal party to assist in re-establishing a monarchy.

ROADS CONCEAL PROFITS

Charges Affecting Truthfulness of Statements Made

Attorney James Before the Interstate Commission in Rate Hearing Says Statements of the Railroads Do Not Tell the Whole Truth—Further Suspension of Rates.

Washington, Jan. 11.—It practically is assured that the proposed advances in freight rates in both official classification and western trunk line territories, now under investigation by the interstate commerce commission will be suspended to some date beyond February 1.

The possibility of a further suspension of the proposed rates has been realized for several weeks. The advent into the commission of two members, Mr. McLeod and Mr. Moye, neither of whom is yet familiar with the voluminous record of the testimony in the cases, led to the conjecture that a further suspension of the rates might be necessary.

It was hoped, both by members of the commission and by the railroads and shippers, that further suspension would not be necessary, but of review of the situation by the commission today appeared to indicate the desirability, if not necessity, for the suspension. It is pointed out that it manifestly will not be possible for the commission to reach a decision in these very important cases and make an order requiring its conclusion before February 1.

With that situation confronting it, the commission has taken up with representatives of the railroads now would not be necessary, but a record of the arguments of the cases, the proposition further to suspend the rates. They in turn, have returned the matter to the executive officers of the various lines. It is expected that the roads again voluntarily will suspend the rates in view of the suggestion of the commission. If they do not comply with the commission's invitation, the likelihood is that the commission will exercise its authority to suspend the rates for such time as will enable it finally to dispose of the cases.

Charges affecting the truthfulness of statements made by railroads of their financial condition to the interstate commerce commission were made by Attorney Francis B. James of Cincinnati, representing the National Industrial Traffic League and the shippers association of that city, at the hearing before the commission today. He said that the railroads had concealed their profits, and that the statements sent to the commission did not tell the whole truth. He declared that never before had the railroads done such an enormous business. He stated that securities were today commanding a good price, that railroad investments were considered gilt-edged by experts who have compiled manuals on the subject and that generally the railroad situation was considered stable, notwithstanding the claim by the railroads that this industry would fall into bankruptcy if the interstate commerce commission filed a brief in the case of the western classification rate advance. It gives an exposition of the evidence introduced by the railroads operating west of Chicago asking for an increase in rates as well as the in Washington as participants in the claims of shippers in that territory protesting against the increase.

J. S. Spelling, attorney for the Freight Payers League of the United States, filed a brief in opposition to the advance of rates on the western lines.

He stated that the rates should not be increased at this time because the roads are doing a great volume of business and there has been no material increase in railway materials.

Farmers Object to Potash Tax.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)
Washington, Jan. 11.—Attempts of the German potash trust, to enlist American farmers in the effort to maintain the potash tax, have not been successful. Circulars were sent broadcast by the trust in agricultural sections suggesting letters to the effect that farmers were not interested in the effort to obtain relief from the tax. Instead of complying with this request thousands of farmers are writing to the white house objecting to the tax.

Ceiba Bombarded.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)
New Orleans, Jan. 11.—The victorious forces of revolutionary President Bonilla attacked and bombarded the town of Ceiba, Honduras, today, according to a despatch received from Puerto Cortez.

LEAD POISON SYMPTOMS WERE EVIDENT

Dr. Hupp Firm Under Cross-Examination, As to Schenck's Trouble

THE USUAL BIG CROWD

Biggest Crowd Yet at the Opening of the Trial of Mrs. Schenck for Poisoning Her Husband—Mrs. Schenck Seemed to Enjoy the Struggle of Men and Women to Obtain Seats—One of Woman's Attorneys Displeased With Her Determination to Handle Her Own Case—State Claims It Has Already Built Up a Strong Case.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)
Washington, Va., Jan. 1.—Anticipating the most sensational evidence yet given in the trial of Mrs. Laura Farnsworth Schenck, who is charged with poisoning her husband, John O. Schenck, the biggest crowd that has ever far been brought out attacked the one court house today oversteering for a time the additional guards which had been placed about the building and in criminal court room by order of Judge Jordan.

Mrs. Schenck, attired in the same gown she has been wearing and carrying several law books in addition to her bulky note book, stepped jauntily into the room, accompanied by a deputy sheriff and seemed to enjoy the tumultuous struggle of men and women for seats. But only for a short time. Then, in a business-like manner, she opened the books and began scanning the quotations in the ledger.

It was reported shortly before court opened that one member of Mrs. Schenck's counsel is objecting to her defending herself and is threatening to withdraw. He is displeased at the defendant's determination to master criminal law and handle the reins of the defense. Mrs. Schenck spends every spare moment in her cell poring over law books and before breakfast this morning she requested several volumes of criminal procedure and rules for presenting evidence.

"I am more confident than ever and I am feeling fine," declared Mrs. Schenck as she left her cell.

The woman is showing fewer signs of illness and partook of a hearty breakfast in her cell, eating with a law book propped up in front of her. She dressed carefully for the day's ordeal and was apparently confident and cheerful, despite the damaging evidence which the prosecution is bringing out against her.

Lines of determination came into her face and hostility into her eyes as Prosecuting Attorney Handlan bustled into the court room prepared, as he said, to add further links in the chain by which he hopes to drag Mrs. Schenck into prison.

Among the first witnesses to arrive was Dr. Frank Lomoyne Hupp, the dapper young physician who was responsible for the arrest of Mrs. Schenck upon the poisoning charge. Dr. Hupp was prepared for a hard fight upon the stand under the grueling fire of cross-examination.

The testimony so far adduced, with its tales of plots and counter plots which the alleged poisoner watched her wits against the subtle and cunning minds of those who were trying to save Schenck from death and incriminate his wife, shows that the real battle has just started and that it will eclipse any other case of its kind in the annals of criminal history in West Virginia. The state claims to have already built up a strong case.

The prosecuting attorney held conferences in his office with Herbert O. Baer, a druggist, and chemist who made tests of medicines administered to Schenck and said to contain poison; Dr. E. J. Burns and Dr. J. T. Thornton, who were called into consultation with Dr. Hupp during Schenck's illness, before court opened and it was reported they would be called to the stand during the day.

Sensational evidence was expected from Miss Kline, a reported Pinkerton detective, who, under the guise of a trained nurse, got into the confidence of Mrs. Schenck.

As the day's session opened counsel for the defense excused all Mrs. Schenck's witnesses until Saturday making it evident that the prosecution would occupy the balance of the week in presenting its case.

Dr. Hupp was called to the stand as court opened.

The question in the cross-examination put to Dr. Hupp were modeled upon notes taken by Mrs. Schenck during the direct examination. Drs. Jensen and Osborne sat beside Attorney J. J. P. O'Brien, who conducted the cross-examination.

(Continued on Page Seven.)