

STATE LEGISLATURE DOWN TO HARD WORK IN FINAL SESSIONS

Day and Night Sessions Are Held Daily as the Solons Strive to Pass on Bill Presented to Them.

DETERMINED TO FINISH TASKS

Solons Were Slow Starting But They Are Working Double Time Now to Complete the Work.

(By the Associated Press) Raleigh, Feb. 25.—That the 1925 General Assembly has hit its stride and gotten down to hard work is not doubted in Raleigh now.

Almost any time of day and the early time of the night there is something going on in the capital—if not a session of either house or senate, then a meeting of some committee. It is very noticeable that there are very few legislators at the shows this week, and even the hotel jobs appear more empty except around meal hours.

Hearing Set For Friday

Raleigh, Feb. 25.—A committee hearing will be conducted here at 3:30 Friday afternoon on the bill launched in the house several days ago by Representative Braswell to allow withdrawals from the co-operative associations.

Wants More Money For Confederate Veterans

Raleigh, Feb. 25.—A bill to increase the Confederate pensions by approximately 33 1/3 per cent, was introduced in the Senate today by Senator Heath. A large number of local measures were also introduced.

New Record For New Bills

Raleigh, Feb. 25.—The greatest number of new bills introduced at any one day's session of the 1925 General Assembly was sent forward today in the House.

Miss Julia Alexander, of Mecklenburg sets a new individual record by introducing 15 of the 82 new bills.

Among her bills were: To make it violation of law to publish the name of the woman in cases of criminal attack.

To retire teachers of the state on pension after 25 years' service.

To make it a misdemeanor for officials to obtain by third degree methods confessions from criminals.

To repeat the absentee voters law.

To prevent public officers from being election officials.

Representative Connor introduced a bill which went forward in the Senate yesterday to provide a third \$5,000,000 school loan fund.

The minority report on the Australian ballot system bill was introduced and adopted in the House, bringing the measure directly before the body for consideration.

11 ATTORNEYS, FOUR DEFENDANTS STRIKE

Row in German Court Between Lawyers For Communists and Judge Comes to Head.

Leipzig, Feb. 24.—A row in court today between Judge Nieder and attorneys for the defense in the trial of 16 communists charged with murder and terrorist acts, reached a climax this afternoon in a strike of 11 attorneys for the defense and of four of the defendants.

The morning session came to a precipitous end with the forcible removal from the court by the police of Attorney Arthur Santer, one of the lawyers for the prisoners, after a hot verbal exchange with the judge over the court procedure. After luncheon the defendants' attorneys requested the court to adjourn until Thursday while they made representations to the department of justice with regard to the handling of the case.

When the states attorney objected, claiming such procedure would lower the judiciary in the eyes of the people, the court withdrew for a deliberation which lasted an hour and a half and then declined to accede to the wishes of the defense.

All the attorneys except two assigned by the state to defendants unable to secure counsel, left the court room. Court adjourned until tomorrow.

Mrs. Sheppard Refuses to Testify.

(By the Associated Press) Chicago, Feb. 25.—Mrs. William D. Sheppard who was co-guardian of the millionaire orphan, William M. McClintock, today refused to testify at the inquest into the death of the young man.

Her husband, foster-father and chief beneficiary of the orphan's will which was drawn less than a year ago, right after he became 21 years old. At a previous session had refused to testify.

Prisoner Killed Trying to Escape.

(By the Associated Press) Raleigh, Feb. 25.—In the third break for freedom of State prisoners in as many weeks, Charles Jackson, 29, of Edgecomb county, was instantly killed and John McDowell, negro, of Rockingham, was wounded by guards this morning. The break occurred at the negro prison farm, just outside of Raleigh.

NEW INTEREST CREATED IN THE STOKES TRIAL

Arrival of W. E. D. Stokes, Jr., in Chicago, Gives Rise to New Speculation.

(By the Associated Press) Chicago, Feb. 25.—The trial of W. E. D. Stokes, New York millionaire, and three co-defendants, charged with conspiring to defame his second wife, Mrs. Helen Wood Stokes, received increased attention today after the unexpected arrival from New York of W. E. Stokes, Jr.

No announcement was forthcoming from attorneys as to the probable part of the young man who was mentioned in the defense's opening statement in the trial and who was sued by his step-mother in 1923 after a letter alleged to have been written by him in revelation of intimacy with Mrs. Stokes was read in the first Stokes suit for \$1,000,000 which alleged character defamation, never has been brought to trial.

In cutting its present case the defense asserted that the allegations of intimacy with his stepmother Young Stokes made in what has come to be known as the "daring pop" letters would be proven. That letter read:

"My darling Pop: I'm sorry to say that I was intimate with Helen as Sarahagawatt Bley this fall. W. E. D. Stokes, Jr., Jan. 11, 1919."

FRENCH IN FURY OVER CLAIM UNKNOWN SOLDIER IS GERMAN

Story Spread That Man Buried to Typify Heroes Was Not French Rouses Rage.

(Copyright, 1925, "Philadelphia Record" and New York World.) Paris, Feb. 23.—Some German papers are trying to make the people believe the Unknown Soldier buried beneath the Arc de Triomphe is not a French warrior, but a Huertenberg infantryman, and Paris is seething.

All France has built up a cult about this unidentified man, who symbolizes the sacrifice, devotion and bravery of the French army. The people's fury at the German insinuation is equalled only by their contempt for what one paper calls German "stupidity and bad faith."

The Stahlhelm, organ of a German nationalist organization, credits the story to a Swiss source. It gives the name of the German soldier as August Schütz of the twenty-third Stuttgart regiment. The article declares the French authorities, when they opened his coffin, actually found the man's German identification button.

APPROVE PLAN FOR THE WALTER HINES PAGE SCHOOL

North Carolina Society of Baltimore Adopts Resolutions Approving of the Plans for the School.

(By the Associated Press) Baltimore, Feb. 25.—Establishment of the Walter Hines Page School of International Relations at Johns Hopkins University was commended as being "worthy of the most active and generous support" in a resolutions adopted unanimously at the annual dinner of the North Carolina Society of Baltimore last night.

Walter Hines Page after whom the new school at Hopkins is named, is a native of North Carolina, and similar resolutions endorsing the establishment of the school at Hopkins have been adopted by the North Carolina Society of New York and other cities, it was announced at the dinner.

Representative Charles L. Abernethy, of the third North Carolina congressional district, was among the other speakers.

Killed Sister to End Suffering is Defense in Court.

Paris, Feb. 24.—"I killed her because I wanted to open the gates of heaven to her," said Anna Levasseur, a middle-aged dressmaker who shot and instantly killed her sister Anais on February 16, when she was arraigned before the investigating magistrate today charged with murder.

The woman explained that her sister was suffering from tuberculosis of an advanced stage and that she shot her to relieve her suffering. She denied her act had been influenced by the killing by Mlle. Uminaska, a Polish actress, of her fiancée to relieve him from agony of an incurable disease. Mlle Uminaska recently was acquitted.

"I am a firm believer in the hereafter," declared Anna Levasseur today. "I have no fear of going to the great beyond to meet my sister if men sentence me to die."

The physicians who have examined the Levasseur woman say she is rational.

Wants Cotton Statistics.

(By the Associated Press) Washington, Feb. 25.—Creation of a joint Congressional commission on cotton statistics to inquire into cotton records in the Census Bureau would be authorized in a resolution approved today by the Senate and sent to the House.

The resolution, introduced by Senator Smith, democrat, of South Carolina, would order an examination and audit of cotton statistics in the Census Bureau with a view to determining the amount of surplus cotton, if any, on hand. The commission would be composed of three Senators and three Representatives.

Widow Case in Charlotte Court.

(By the Associated Press) Charlotte, Feb. 25.—That Thomas I. Watson, of Greensboro, who killed Joseph E. McDonough, of the same city, February 15th, was so overcome with the shock when he found the man in a room with Mrs. Watson at a local hotel, that he was irresponsible was the general tenor of the plea the defense was prepared to make with the calling of the case in Superior Court this afternoon.

The U. S.—Mecklenburg Sought Constitutional Commission.

(By the Associated Press) Washington, Feb. 25.—Establishment of the United States-Mecklenburg semi-centennial commission would be authorized in a bill approved today by the Senate without debate. It would comprise three persons appointed by the President, four senators and four representatives.

TWO MORE ARRESTS MADE IN CAMPAIGN FOR DRUG PEDDLERS

Dallas Dentist and Pretty Gastonia Girl Are In the Hands of Officers as Result of Raid Tuesday.

MISS ORAN HICKS GIRL ARRESTED

Dr. A. V. Boyles is Dentist Arrested—25 People Have Been Arrested in Drive During the Week.

(By the Associated Press) Charlotte, Feb. 25.—A Dallas dentist and a pretty Gastonia girl today were in the hands of Federal agents who are conducting anti-narcotics drive in this part of North Carolina.

Miss Oran Hicks, arrested after officers had raided her home in Gastonia and found a supply of morphine valued at \$2,000, and nine hypodermic syringes.

Dr. A. V. Boyles was arrested in Dallas while in his automobile in the act of selling a container of morphine, according to officers. His automobile was confiscated.

These arrests brought the total number of persons that have fallen into the far flung nets of the agents to approximately 25.

The pretty Gastonia girl has been used as a plant in the opinion of officers, and her home utilized for storage purposes. She confessed, agents said, that she had been distributing narcotics under the direction of someone else, to Charlotte, Greensboro and several other cities in the state.

TRAFFICKING IN YOUNG GIRLS IS CHARGED

Well Organized Ring at Work in the Judgment of Welfare Official.

Durham, Feb. 24.—What is regarded as an organized ring in the traffic of young girls, creating a situation here more serious than it has been for years, is expected to be broken up with the arrest of alleged ring-leaders within the next forty-eight hours.

"White slavery in its worst aspect," is how the condition is characterized by one local official. Girls of ages ranging from fourteen to nineteen years of age have been reported missing from their homes here and near here. During the last two weeks, seven young girls, most of them sixteen and under, have disappeared from homes here. One of them, Margaret Bennett, sixteen, of Pope Street, has just been returned to her home after her discovery by police in a Goldsboro resort, where she had been an inmate for two weeks.

Violet Wilborn, age 17, of Morning Glory Avenue, disappeared from her home last night and no trace of her has been uncovered. Evidence has been collected by W. E. Stanley, superintendent of health and public welfare here, that a well organized gang is operating in Durham and in other cities in North Carolina. The girls are being procured, he believes, in this opinion, for road houses and resorts in and near cities of the state.

A road house near Durham, under suspicion, will probably be raided within the next two or four hours.

In most instances, it appears, the young girls have been approached through casual acquaintances. They have been persuaded to cast their lot in the road houses of this and other counties and have apparently left of their own free will, accepting the new order and proving easy prey for the procurers.

Noted Speakers for Sunday School Convention.

(By the Associated Press) Greensboro, Feb. 25.—A number of specialists in Sunday school work will make addresses at the annual State Sunday School Convention which is to be held here April 28, 29 and 30, according to an announcement received here from D. W. Sims, general superintendent of the North Carolina Sunday School Association.

Among the speakers that have been announced are Dr. Charles W. Brewster, Dayton, Ohio, general secretary of the Sunday school work for the United Brethren Church; Charles Darise, St. Louis, Mo., who will do special work in the convention along the line of the organized adult Bible class; Dr. Percy R. Hayward, Chicago, Ill., will be in charge of the special conferences for workers for young people; Miss Meme Brockway, Philadelphia, Pa., who will be in charge of the cradle roll department workers; and Thomas S. Evans, who will work in the interest of the Daily Vocation Bible School.

Mrs. Fulton Bagley, High in Society, Found Drowned.

West Palm, Fla., Feb. 24.—Washed on the beach a half mile below the Breakers pier early today, a woman's partially clad body quieted all doubt as to the Vera City rumors that someone had jumped from the pier last night at 9 o'clock. The identity of the victim was established as Mrs. Fulton Bagley, guest at the Breakers hotel and socially prominent in New York, where she lives at 957 Park Avenue.

Shortly after the discovery by Cecil Connelly, Palm Beach town employe, had been reported to the Breakers, Mrs. Bagley, of New York, reported Mrs. Bagley, her friend with whom she was sharing a room, had been missing all night. She identified the alippers and has found on the pier last night as belonging to Mrs. Bagley.

"Fib" is an abbreviation of fable, an improbable story.

LENTEN SEASON BEGINS

Forty Days to Be Observed in Many Churches as Special Period of Prayer.

New York, Feb. 25.—With the blessing and placing on forehead of ashes, the Lenten season of 40 days of penance was ushered in today. It was Ash Wednesday. Throughout the city, in Catholic, Episcopal and some of the Lutheran churches the day was observed with special services. In the Catholic churches special masses were said and sermons bearing on the season were preached. Previous to the masses, however, the ashes, made by burning the palms left over from last year, were blessed. After the mass they were distributed.

It is generally accepted that the time was a slowing up of social activities in town. In fact, the season is practically closed, and departures for the South, the Pacific coast or Europe are increasing daily. Dinners, opera, bridge parties and sewing classes, varied by numerous charities and other entertainments for charity, with a few very small and private dances thrown in, comprise the majority of the New York high society during the penitential period. This is the time when society women remaining in town rest and recuperate after their winter of gaiety and get themselves in good condition for spring travels and summer dissipation. Lectures are a daily diet.

Art, literature, politics, history and hygiene are discussed to the mental and physical improvement of the listeners. It is a harvest time for teachers of various arts. Riding lessons, fencing, skating and gymnastics all are practiced by the fashionable young women.

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SENATOR MCCORMICK DIED DURING DAY AT CAPITAL HOTEL

Senator Found Dead in Hotel Room After Attempt Was Made to Gain Entrance to the Room.

PARTICULARS OF DEATH UNKNOWN

Death Was Caused by Gastric Hemorrhages One Report Issued During the Day Declared.

(By the Associated Press) Washington, Feb. 25.—Senator Medill McCormick, of Illinois, died here early today.

The Senator was found dead in his room at the Hamilton Hotel at 10 o'clock.

Circumstances surrounding his death were not immediately available. His office declined to make any announcement. It was said at the hotel, however, that the death was the immediate result of gastric hemorrhages.

Senator McCormick's death was discovered when Dr. Noble P. Barnes, who had been attending, was called after hotel attendants found his room locked and could get no reply to requests for admittance.

Formal announcement of the senator's death was made in the Senate by his colleague, Senator McKinley, and the Senate immediately adjourned until tomorrow out of respect to his memory.

Shock to Chicago Friends. Chicago, Feb. 25.—News of the death of Senator Medill McCormick in Washington was so entirely unexpected that at the moment press wires were carrying bulletins of his death, the Senator's office here could not credit the dispatches. Mrs. McCormick, who is here, had not at the time received the news. Gen. Frank Dixon, the Senator's personal representative here said.

Mrs. McCormick was entirely unprepared for the shock of the news of her husband's death. She was virtually prostrated, but nevertheless prepared to depart at 1 p. m. for Washington.

CHAMPION CLAIMANT ADMITS HE'S AMERICAN PRESIDENT

Philadelphia, Tiring as Senator and Governor, Agrees to Defer Inaugural on Holiday.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 24.—Pierson M. Stackhouse, of Nineteenth street above Columbia avenue, Philadelphia, who came to Washington about four years ago, announcing that he was to be sworn in to succeed Senator Boies Penrose, again showed up in the national capital today, and this time it was no mere Senatorial toga which he sought. He told guards at the Senate chamber, where he went directly from the train, that he was there to be sworn in as President of the United States, to which high office he had been elected by a majority of 13,000,000 votes.

Stackhouse, who is 75 years old, was well dressed and dignified in manner. He wore an odd-appearing gray derby with a flat top, and his finely chiseled features would attract attention anywhere. He was informed that as today is a holiday it would be impossible for him today and he was advised to return to Philadelphia to await developments. He left for home on an afternoon train.

Mr. Stackhouse informed some of those who talked to him while he was waiting around the Senate door that he had been serving as Governor of Pennsylvania.

Excuses to Stay Out BULK OF TELEPHONING

Men Explaining to Wives They Have a "Conference" Keep the Wire Busy.

Los Angeles, Feb. 25.—Daily conferences held after business hours in Los Angeles mount up into the thousands of this and other counties and G. De Nevers, Southern California telephone officials, who say that around 5 o'clock every evening several thousand business men call up to inform their wives that they can't get home to dinner, usually because of a "conference."

During the brief period between 4:45 and 5:10 p. m. the telephone girls handle many calls a minute that at any other time during the day," said Mr. Powley. "The bulk of them are men calling up their wives about not being able to get home to dinner."

Various other factors that make the traffic in telephone calls jump and cause switchboards to light up like the proverbial Christmas trees, said Mr. De Nevers, are fires' explosions, and radio announcers requesting listeners to "call up and let us know how you hear us." If a day opens with clear weather and rain comes up later the number of phone calls increases unbelievably, the officials said. Everybody seems to be calling up to cancel engagements or to rent taxicabs.

Checking over the 1,750, 000 calls a day, the telephone operators say that the popular notion is correct, men can't compete with women in long conversations.

Representative Christian Improved.

(By the Associated Press) Raleigh, Feb. 25.—Representative Christian of Cumberland County, who was knocked down by a taxicab Monday and seriously hurt, was reported slightly better this morning. It was stated at the hospital to which he was taken that he had partially regained consciousness.

Senator Stanley Resting Comfortably.

(By the Associated Press) Washington, Feb. 25.—Senator Stanley of Kentucky, who was injured yesterday by a "bit and run" automobile driver, was resting more comfortably this morning at an emergency hospital here.

Postal Pay Conference Report Adopted.

(By the Associated Press) Washington, Feb. 25.—The conference report on postal pay and rate increases bill was adopted today by the House.

THE COTTON MARKET

Showed Renewed Firmness at Opening With First Prices Ranging 11 to 26 Points Higher.

(By the Associated Press) New York, Feb. 25.—The cotton market showed renewed firmness at the opening today owing to the continued strength of Liverpool, complaints of inadequate rains in the southwest, and reports that no further notices had been issued. First prices were 11 to 26 points higher, and active months sold 15 to 22 points above yesterday's closing, with old crop positions making new high ground for the movement. May contracts sold up to 25.00, the highest price touched since the decline to 23.29 for that position toward the end of last month, and trade interests were good buyers of near months, while there appeared to be broadening commission house demand. A good deal of realizing at the advance was absorbed on comparatively slight reactions.

Opening prices were: March 24.65; May 24.95; July 25.27; October 25.08; December 25.11.

POST OVERSEAS CONSIDERED FOR MRS. PATTERSON

Consider North Carolina Woman as Minister to Siam.

Washington, Feb. 24.—Mrs. Lindsay Patterson, member of the Republican national committee for North Carolina, is here for a short stay. Mrs. Patterson is receiving serious consideration by the State department for a foreign post, and is being backed by Republican national leaders. Mrs. Patterson participated in the last presidential campaign in a number of states under the auspices of the speakers' bureau of her committee.

Should the State department inquire of the North Carolina senators with respect to the fitness of Mrs. Patterson for employment in the foreign field, she will put in a good word for her. Of late days the name of Mrs. Patterson has figured in connection with the position of minister to Siam, and her friends are under the impression she would be very glad to accept this post.

CHARGE HIGH POINT MEN BURNED THEIR STORE

David Harris and Henry C. Zaban Were Bound Over to Supreme Court After Hearing.

(By the Associated Press) High Point, Feb. 25.—David Harris and Henry C. Zaban, High Point merchants, today were at liberty under bonds of \$2,000 each, following preliminary hearing in municipal court last night when they were ordered held for Guilford Superior Court on charges of incendiarism.

Harris and Zaban are charged with having burned their store here on the night of January 22nd. The State concluded at the hearing that fresh evidence would be presented when they came to court to fight the blaze. The two defendants denied the charges. Harris claiming he was out of the city at the time of the fire.

REVOLT BY KURDISH MEN REPORTED IN LONDON

Extent of Revolt Is Not Known as the Dispatches Give Meager Accounts.

Constantinople, Feb. 25 (By the Associated Press).—Kurdish insurgents are reported to have captured the city of Kharpur in eastern Asia Minor.

The eastern fleet of Vice Admiral Josiah S. McKee is scheduled to leave its winter quarters at Guantanamo Bay February 13th, but, theoretically, it will be late in the month when Admiral S. S. Robison, commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet, learns that the "enemy" is approaching and leaves here to meet them. The probable meeting place will be Magdalena Bay, Lower California, and the eastern fleet will seek to establish a base there. Admiral Counts, commander-in-chief of the naval forces, will witness the "battle" from his flagship, the Seattle.

After the battle problem has been solved the two fleets will unite and proceed to Los Angeles harbor for overhauling, preparatory to sailing to Hawaii about the first of April.

War Game on Large Scale Staged for Pacific Coast.

(By the Associated Press) San Pedro, Calif., Feb. 25.—Half of the personnel of the United States navy will engage in what is declared to be one of the greatest sham battles in American naval history, off the coast of Lower California, Mexico, some time between February 25th and March 12th, when the Pacific fleet, based here, is to go forth to meet the scouting fleet from the east coast, theoretically trying to force an entrance to Los Angeles harbor.

The combined strength of the fleets engaged in the maneuvers will be 13 battleships, 120 scout cruisers, destroyers and other war craft and 12 squadrons of aircraft. These will be manned by some 40,000 men.

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Repeal Law Which Barred Cigarette Sale in Kansas.

Topeka, Kan., Feb. 24.—The state senate today passed a bill repealing the old law barring the sale of cigarettes in Kansas. The vote was 26 to 9. The measure repeals the anti-cigarette law, adopted in 1909, prohibiting the sale of cigarettes within the state. In recent years, however, the statute has not been rigidly enforced. The effect of the law has been to raise the retail price of a 15 cent package of cigarettes to 25 cents.

Kansas was one of the first states to place a ban on cigarettes.

Fate of the repeal measure in the house is problematical.

Gloria Swanson Improved.

(By the Associated Press) Paris, Feb. 25.—Gloria Swanson, American film star, who underwent an operation last week, passed an excellent night, says a report from the clinic where she is resting. Her condition is greatly improved, her fever having distinctly diminished.

With Our Advertisers.