

New Bern Weekly Journal.

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PLENTY OF STEAM.

In Both Houses of Legislature Over Bills.

Jim Crow Car and Dispensary Bills Provoke Oratory. A Thrust at Colleges. Souvenir Pen for Journal.

JOURNAL BUREAU.
Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 23. In the language of the small boy, yesterday was a "warm number" in the Assembly. While the separate car, "Jim Crow," bill was being debated in the House, the Senate was considering the Greensboro Dispensary and the Madison County bonds. As the House paused in its talk, the cheers and applause that followed Senator Glenn's oration in the Senate swept across and echoed through the Hall. The galleries had standing room only and as the contest on the separate car bill ebbed and flowed it was watched with intense interest.

The "Jim Crow" car question blossomed out suddenly. It was a "special order" but it had been side tracked before and might be again. The question was on the substitute bill by Allen of Wayne. It provides, as before stated, two first class cars for white and colored and one second class car divided by a partition for both races, with the second class coach between the two first class ones.

It further provides that freight trains, relief trains, Pullman or sleeping cars, through express trains not stopping at local stations, negro workmen and officers with prisoners are excepted from the provisions of the act. The Railroad Commission can exempt roads whose earnings are not \$1,500 a mile. Steamboats and street cars are subject to the provisions of the act. The railroad failing to provide separate accommodations is guilty of a misdemeanor and liable to a fine of \$100 per day. The conductor who fails to carry out this law is also made guilty of a misdemeanor.

Then came the rush of amendments offered to the bill. Exceptions to certain railroads where travel was light were offered. A uniform rate of three cents a mile, no second class. To leave the matter to Railroad Commission. To apply the law to local freight. These and various other amendments kept things in a whirl and when the members came to vote on the amendments one after the other they scarcely knew where they were at. Nearly all the proposed changes were voted down.

The bill passed the second reading by a big majority. Winston moved to suspend the rules and put the bill on its third reading which would have completed the job so far as the House was concerned. The third reading had been objected to by Craig who said he wanted more time to consider it, and the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill was lost by a tie vote, two thirds being necessary. The bill was made a special order for today, to immediately follow the revenue bill. So as soon as the revenue bill is disposed of, it will be put on passage and will surely go through in short order and be carried over to the Senate.

In the Senate Glenn continued his speech in support of the bill to ratify the Madison county bond issue of 1887. Glenn argued the justice of paying the bonds, and said that the decision of this case would be general in effect.

Bryan was opposed to the bill and thought the matter ought to go before the courts. He thought the people of that county had been swindled and the buyer of the bonds knew there was crookedness.

Sensor Ward said that Madison county had paid more than double what the purchasers of the bonds had paid for them. He said the Western Carolina Bank, a defunct corporation was the main strength behind the bill.

Sensor Osborne said as always, voted for a debtor to pay an honest debt and this Madison county bond debt he considered valid. His speech was a very strong one and well delivered. The bill was lost on a motion to table it and then called hard and fast by a refusal to reconsider.

The Guilford Dispensary created a storm immediately after the Madison bill was laid to rest. Senator Bryan offered an amendment to the bill that

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the question be left to the citizens of Guilford county at an election to be held June 1st, 1899. Senator Wilson of Guilford supported the bill and gave it a strong support as the Senators like to concede home matters to the Senator from the "dear old North."

Then Senator Glenn stepped in and supported the bill with great earnestness. He stood by it on the moral question, more, than any other and spoke in high terms of the South Carolina law. Then he said people had come to him and said, "Glenn you are ambitious, keep your mouth shut on the question or you will be damned and lost. You will never rise any higher in the favor of the people of North Carolina." In reply he declared that he was satisfied, and opened up in a vehement declaration for the moral side of the question. His eloquence was fundamental and the bill passed with the applause still ringing through the Chamber.

The Wilson Commission cases have progressed until they are once more before the Democratic caucus. Nothing done or decided however. It would have saved money to have paid them and let them go. The caucus last night also debated a resolution that no more dispensary bills would be considered this session but the resolution was lost.

The rumbling of dissatisfaction over the State at the non-passage of the separate car bill has put fresh life into it. There is enough steam on now to carry it through and the petitions and complaints coming in will settle the matter.

The Constitutional Amendment bill was ratified yesterday. In the Senate the pen used by President Reynolds was secured by Senator Smith. In the House where the signature of Speaker Connor was the final act of ratification, the pen and penholder used by the Speaker was given to the New Bern Journal and your correspondent will forward it, to be preserved as a memento of the campaign of '98.

Thompson of Onslow, brother to the Secretary of State, is blossoming out into a full blown Populist. Several of his actions have tended that way, and yesterday he introduced a bill to withdraw the exemption from taxation of institutions that have invested their endowment in securities or bonds of trusts. This is aimed particularly at Wake Forest College, and at some other schools. Wake Forest has Standard Oil securities to the amount of \$50,000.

A pleasant event in the Senate was the presentation to Senator Ward of a gold headed cane from his constituents, who love him so. The presentation was made by Senator Bryan.

JIM CROW CAR.

Substitute Bill Passes House, Revenue Bill Under Discussion, Greensboro Dispensary.

SPECIAL JOURNAL.
RALEIGH, Feb. 23.—The substitute for the Separate Cars bill, offered by Craig, passed the House instead of the Allen's bill.

It provides that all railroads and steamboat companies shall provide separate but equal accommodations for white and colored people, either by having separate cars, or by compartments in the cars, which shall be under the supervision of the Railroad Commissioners, and they may except certain railroads.

The penalty for neglect by any railroad is one thousand dollars a day, while neglect continues, recoverable by the commissioners.

This does not apply to Street Railways.

The revenue bill is still under discussion.

The committee reports favorably on the Greensboro Dispensary bill.

AGAINST DISPENSARY.

Senate Committee Vets. A Dramatic New Dispensary Bill.

Special to Journal.
RALEIGH, February 23.—The House spent the day on the Revenue bill, and hourly noticed it, when the bill for the graduated tax on the gross earnings of the railroads came up.

Willard of New Hanover, Thompson of Onslow, and others supported the bill. Craig and Connor opposed it because the railroads are taxed all valorem already.

Craig made a grand speech, outlining Democratic principles, and said that he had pledged himself to give justice to all.

The question went over until tomorrow.

Mecklenburg county Dispensary bill was before the committee in the Senate chamber this afternoon.

A special train from Charlotte brought down a big delegation favoring the bill all wearing badges, who marched to the capitol building in a column.

The debate lasted all the afternoon, the doors were closed to keep out the crowd. The chamber was packed, the Mayor of Charlotte and many prominent people being present.

At seven o'clock the arguments were closed.

Sensor Osborne arose and spoke about a minute appealing to the committee to stand by him against the dispensary.

Sensor (then arose and said he loved Osborne, but loved his county and wife more and would vote favoring the bill. The committee voted four to three against the dispensary. It was the most dramatic event of the session. The minority report will be made before the Senate tomorrow.

THE LEGISLATURE.

Hot Discussions On Revenue And Dispensary.

Some of the New Tax Rates. Nominations For State Institutions. Don't Know Their Own Bills. Bad Drinking Water.

JOURNAL BUREAU.
RALEIGH, N. C., February 23.

The House yesterday had another long day at the Revenue bill and while sailing along smoothly ran upon a rock in the nature of the liquor license tax. Winston introduced an amendment to the effect that the Dispensaries in taking the barrooms should pay an equal tax to the State. If there is such a profit in the Dispensary, he said, they should be willing to pay the tax. The \$100, now paid the State by each barroom is cut off when the Dispensary gets the profit. This brought upon him Clarkson of Mecklenburg and Robinson of Cumberland. They declared that it was not because the member from Bertie was so anxious for revenue as that he was opposed to the Dispensary. This brought on a general scuffle and as the House had resolved itself into a committee of the whole the discussion was of a free nature. The snag was enough to stop further consideration of the revenue bill and Speaker Connor resumed the chair while the bill went over, and the separate car bill came upon the scene once more.

Great things had happened to "Jim Crow" over night. The Allen bill that provided two first class cars and a divided second class car had grown so weak that when it was presented to the House it straightway fell down and died, and Phoenix like from the ashes arose the Craig substitute. As a reading of the new bill will show, this is a radical change. It provides that the railroads shall furnish "separate accommodations" and leaves the supervision to the Railroad Commissioners and the enforcing of the penalty to the same officials. It was the most wonderful transformation that has yet taken place this session. It will prove an excellent law, if enacted and carried out by honest Railroad Commissioners. Undoubtedly it is in the nature of a compromise, but it serves the purpose aimed at and makes it easier on the railroads it will be what all good people desire. It has now to run the gauntlet of the Senate, but as the Senators can not hope for anything different at this late day in the session, they will probably agree even if they do not fall in love with it at first sight. Senator Ward of Washington, however will probably take a shy at it.

The following is the bill as it passed the House.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section 1. That all railway and steamboat companies doing business as common carriers in the transportation of passengers for hire in the State of North Carolina, other than street railroads, shall provide separate and equal accommodations for the white and colored races on all passenger trains and steamboats carrying passengers. Such accommodations may be furnished by railway companies either by separate passenger cars or by compartment in passenger cars which shall be provided by the railways under the supervision and direction of the Board of Railway Commissioners, or the officers succeeding to their power. Provided that this shall not apply to relief trains in cases of accident, to Pullman or sleeping cars, or through express trains that do not stop at all stations and are not used ordinarily for traveling from station to station, to negro servants in attendance on their employers, to officers or guards transporting prisoners, nor to prisoners so transported.

Sec. 2. The Railway Commissioners of this State or the officers succeeding to their powers are hereby authorized to exempt from the provisions of this act branch lines and narrow gauge railways, if in their judgment the enforcement of this act be unnecessary to secure the comfort of passengers by reason of the light volume of passenger traffic or the small number of colored passengers traveling on such narrow gauge or branch lines.

Sec. 3. That when any coach or compartment of a car for either race shall be completely filled at a station where no extra coach or car can be had, and the increased number of passengers could not be forborne, the conductor in charge of such train is hereby authorized to assign and set apart a portion of a car or compartment assigned for passengers of one race to passengers of the other race.

Sec. 4. That all railway companies shall furnish first and second class passenger accommodations.

Sec. 5. That any railway company failing to comply in good faith with the provisions of this act shall be liable to

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a penalty of \$1,000 per day, to be recovered in an action brought against such company by the Railway Commission or the officers succeeding to their powers in the county of Wake and covered into the State Treasury.

Sec. 5. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

In the Revenue bill section 18 fixes an annual license for theatres, instead of a license tax for each performance. In Raleigh, Charlotte and Wilmington for instance \$200 is the charge for such license. On performances in unlicensed theatres the tax is \$10 for each performance. The tax on concerts is \$3 and lectures \$3, unless these are solely for charitable, religious or educational purposes, or in a licensed hall. The circus license is \$100 and on side shows \$50 a day, and on animal shows \$50 a day, whether free or otherwise, and the county shall levy the same and no more. Gift enterprises \$30, itinerant dealers in any kind of prizes \$100 in each county and if not \$20. The tax on all public ferries, bridges and toll gates was fixed at one cent.

Section 20, taxing each horse and mule kept for hire 50 cents for each six months, and an annual tax of \$25 on persons selling mules and horses.

Section 23 imposes a graduated license tax on merchants (doing away with the obnoxious purchase tax) beginning with \$1 on \$500 capital and so on upward, so that 10,000 capital pays \$6; 20,000 pays \$13, \$30,000 pays \$29, &c. This was arranged at the instance of the merchants and was perfectly agreeable to them; that the merchants purchase tax yielded \$47,000, and this license tax it is estimated would yield \$30,000.

The peddlers' license tax was fixed at \$5 for each county for peddler on foot, \$15 for those with one horse, \$20 for those with two horses; for itinerant salesmen who sell on the street or in a temporary rented house \$50 for each county.

Section 26, fixing the tax on sewing machine dealers at \$250 annually was adopted. The tax on sellers of pianos or organs is fixed at \$10 each. Banks are taxed ad valorem on capital invested and a tax on capital employed of \$25 for \$10,000 or less and \$2 for each \$1,000 of capital stock in excess of \$25,000, also \$5 for each county in which they have an agency; penalty for failure to comply with law \$2,000.

License on life insurance companies is \$250, and on fire insurance companies \$200, surety companies \$1,000; and a tax of 2 per cent on gross receipts in this State is to be paid, unless of assets are invested in this State, in which case the license shall be 1 of the above and the tax 1 per cent.

The tax on commission merchants, brokers or dealers buying or selling 1 per cent on commissions; cigar tax 5 cents per 1,000, and 4 cent pound on chewing and smoking tobacco, and 15 cents per 1,000 for cigarettes; this not to apply to any manufacturer and no city or town or county to be allowed to tax.

After this section came the liquor tax naming \$100, annual on dealers, and Winston offered an amendment to tax dispensaries on a graduated scale, \$500 on each county dispensary; \$100 on each in a town of between 500 and 2,000 and \$800 for towns between 2,000 and 4,000; on township dispensaries \$800, and on dispensaries in cities or towns having over 4,000 people \$1,000.

A lot more of amendments followed and the whole affair went over until next day.

The Senate yesterday was calm and peaceful. Nothing was up to cause excited feelings. A communication was received from the Governor, nominating the following directors of the Western Hospital at Morganton: For a term of two years, beginning March 3, 1899, J. P. Sawyer, Buncombe; J. P. Caldwell, Mecklenburg; J. G. Holt, Caldwell; for a term of six years, beginning March 3, 1899, Isaiah I. Davis, Burke county; Joseph Jacobs, Forsyth county, and C. H. Armfield, Iredell county. These nominations were confirmed.

The message was received from the Governor nominating the following directors for the Central Hospital at Raleigh for a term of 5 years: W. B. Fort, of Wayne, and Dr. R. N. Speight of Edgecombe; for a term of 6 years, beginning March 3, 1899, J. D. Biggs, of Martin; Dr. R. H. Stancill, of Northampton; and J. B. Broadfoot, of Cumberland. They were all confirmed.

If the advocates of war on corporations had better men to represent them in the legislature, the cause would command respect. It will be remembered that Senator Hairston did not know what was in his bill. Now it develops that Stevens the anti-trust bill maker is the same kind of a fellow. He did not know, when asked, whether the penalty provided in his bill was classed under a misdemeanor or felony. He said he "copied" the bill. This is a feeling right that this legislature was not sent here to war on railroads and corporations and some of these offensive bills

are going to get krock out blows.

The Dispensary agitation will break out today with double force, a great delegation with the biggest petition brought to the Legislature is coming from Charlotte. Clarkson in the House will support the Charlotte bill but Senator Osborne, it is announced, will make a tremendous attack upon it in the Senate.

The House was in session last night until 11 o'clock and passed on 67 bills, most of them roll call bills. The work and agitation at the Capitol is now at high pressure. There are great numbers of people going and coming night and day and the galleries are constantly packed.

The city water is making people sick. It is coolly announced that there is sulphuric acid in the water, drained in the stream from the phosphate works. Many people are sick from the effect. A well like the one at New Bern would be a gold mine here at present.

No certainty about adjournment yet, but no new bills allowed after tomorrow.

The Board of Internal Improvements meets here tomorrow to elect the directors of the A. & N. C. railroad.

THE TRUCK CROP.

Sam Westbrook Writes on Outlook From Florida to Wilmington Messenger.

Gainesville, Fla., February 18.

Editor Messenger:

The message and untruthful reports sent out from this State relative to the greatest cold wave which ever visited Florida, while they may prove of benefit to some interests of this State are not calculated to do justice to the real thing.

Knowing, therefore, that the truck and fruit growers in the Wilmington vicinity are much interested in knowing the facts as they exist, I have decided to give you a brief report of the damage done and the conditions as they exist here today.

The cold wave which passed over Florida, and which prevailed as far south as Key West, with varying temperature, has wrought the greatest damage possible to conceive.

Here at Gainesville the thermometer went down to 0 degrees. For two days the thermometer remained below freezing—Monday and Tuesday—the mercury varying from 8 to 20 degrees.

I have it from the most reliable authority—the superintendent of the Southern Express Company, with headquarters at Jacksonville—that all vegetation is killed throughout the peninsula excepting a part of that which was under canvas, and most of this was more or less damaged.

The lettuce crop is a complete loss, except where covers were used, and there was only a limited acreage thus protected. Strawberries have been set back from three to five weeks and in some instances killed outright. Peas and beans and Irish potatoes which were up are a total loss.

The conditions as they exist today with the farmers are most deplorable. In fact everything must be done over and owing to the lateness of the season but few farmers will pay any attention to this class of truck.

The growers here, however, are a progressive lot and will make every effort to raise enough of the other kinds of vegetables such as peas, beans, Irish potatoes, cucumbers, to matons and cantaloupes to make up in part at least, what has been lost by the cold. Their lands which had been planted to the crops killed, are in good condition and seed can be put in at once, or as soon as the weather which has moderated, will permit.

I would like to suggest, that in view of the destruction of lettuce in Florida, that the Wilmington growers have an excellent opportunity to raise a spring crop of lettuce, as the outlook for a profitable market is most excellent.

I have ever considered eastern North Carolina a very favorable section for vegetable growing, but never have I looked upon her opportunities in this respect with more favor than at present. This year, however, the outlook for that section is exceedingly favorable, and I trust that our growers will accept the situation and profit by it.

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Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets remove the cause that produces LaGrippe. The genuine has L. B. Q. on each Tablet. 25c.

Rev. Bennett Remond, D.D.,

Special to Journal.

RALEIGH, February 23.—Rev. Bennett Remond, D. D., Principal of St. Mary's School, in this city, died here this morning at 8:30 a. m.

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NOTE STYLES AND SIZES.	
9186—Walking Foot, hand sewed, calf bala, sizes 1 1/2, 2 1/2, 3 1/2, 4 1/2, 5 1/2, 6 1/2, 7 1/2, 8 1/2, 9 1/2, 10 1/2, 11 1/2, 12 1/2, original price \$5.00, now \$3.75	9190—Plain Square Toe, hand sewed calf bala, sizes 1 1/2, 2 1/2, 3 1/2, 4 1/2, 5 1/2, 6 1/2, 7 1/2, 8 1/2, 9 1/2, 10 1/2, 11 1/2, 12 1/2, original price \$5.00, now \$3.75
9187—Walking Foot, double sole, hand sewed, calf bala, sizes 1 1/2, 2 1/2, 3 1/2, 4 1/2, 5 1/2, 6 1/2, 7 1/2, 8 1/2, 9 1/2, 10 1/2, 11 1/2, 12 1/2, original price \$5.00, now \$3.75	9191—Plain Square Toe, calf cong, sizes 1 1/2, 2 1/2, 3 1/2, 4 1/2, 5 1/2, 6 1/2, 7 1/2, 8 1/2, 9 1/2, 10 1/2, 11 1/2, 12 1/2, original price \$5.00, now \$3.75
9188—Laid Cap Toe, hand sewed, calf bala, sizes 1 1/2, 2 1/2, 3 1/2, 4 1/2, 5 1/2, 6 1/2, 7 1/2, 8 1/2, 9 1/2, 10 1/2, 11 1/2, 12 1/2, original price \$5.00, now \$3.75	9192—Plain Square Toe, bala, sizes 1 1/2, 2 1/2, 3 1/2, 4 1/2, 5 1/2, 6 1/2, 7 1/2, 8 1/2, 9 1/2, 10 1/2, 11 1/2, 12 1/2, original price \$5.00, now \$3.75
	9193—Laid Cap Toe, calf bala, sizes 1 1/2, 2 1/2, 3 1/2, 4 1/2, 5 1/2, 6 1/2, 7 1/2, 8 1/2, 9 1/2, 10 1/2, 11 1/2, 12 1/2, original price \$5.00, now \$3.75

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