

# New Bern Weekly Journal.

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## ELECTION LAW PASSED.

### Protest of Republicans and Populists Without Avail.

### Pension Bills. Land Not Paying Taxes in Onslow. Cash for State Prison Management. Officers Named by Caucus.

**JOURNAL HOUSE, Raleigh, N. C., March 1.**  
The election law has passed the House and it furnished the chief point of interest yesterday. There was a big kick for the Republicans and Populists to its passage and in fact it was the first sign in a long time that there was life in the corpse.

The declaration was made by Hampton that the people would repudiate this election law at the polls. He said the worst of the provisions was that for challenges at the polls, and Williams offered an amendment providing for registrars and poll holders of different parties. He declared that "the great Republican party here in North Carolina is not dead but sleeping." Pritchard of Mitchell, said the Western people would not submit to such a law; that the white men there would be trifled with or suffer their liberty at the ballot box to be abridged.

These criticisms on the election law did not dismay the Democrats. They smiled and when all was said Winston explained in terse and vigorous style the provisions of the new law. He said that he was under obligation to the opposition, white and black, for its concern, expressed for the future of the Democrats. He said the election law, with the exception of the State and county election boards, was the same as that in effect up to 1895. He arraigned the fusion party's election law, which it termed a "fair" election law. The provisions of the law he said had been thoroughly digested by the Democratic caucus and he called the previous question.

The amendments proposed by the fusionists had first to be voted on and a roll call was insisted. This was bad and the first amendment was voted down. Then the other amendments were voted on without a roll call and each time the fusionists voted "aye" and then the Democrats followed with a "no" that nearly raised the roof. It was very funny.

The machinery act came up as a special order. It was stated by Holman, upon inquiry by Overman, that there were very few changes from the old act, and that these changes were of minor importance.

Overman then made a motion to dispense with the reading of the 123 sections and 73 pages of the act. Bonshall said the finance committee had in the bill effected a saving of \$10,000 in the State by requiring sheriffs to make out their own tax lists.

Winston offered an amendment to section 15, which was adopted, "that any person, corporation or firm who fails to list the poll taxes or property taxes required of them by law shall be guilty of a misdemeanor."

A bill which was taken up was to provide for the government of the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Raleigh, repealing all former laws.

Winston offered an amendment which provides that the management and control of the college shall be vested in a board of 20 trustees, and the president of the college is made ex-officio president of this board. There are to be 7 trustees elected for 2, 7 for 4 and 7 for 6 years. It provides for the election at present of a sufficient number to make the number 21, as the fusionists whose terms do not expire continue to hold office until expiration of their terms.

Justice said the main change from the old law is the election of the trustees by the legislature and the provision that the trustees are to meet on the 2nd Monday in March and reorganize. The bill passed its readings without debate and by a unanimous vote.

The pension bills have been accumulating and yesterday 100 were disposed of at once by being tabled. However that was only for convenience for they were already contained in an omnibus bill and this one was passed. It saved the time that would be required to pass each pension claim separately.

A bill was introduced to amend the Code in regard to hunting on the lands

of another. It provides that when one hunts on posted land, upon proof of the advertisement and notice that the land was posted it shall be prima facie evidence that the defendant had knowledge of the posting.

The insurance bill was taken up as a special order. It passed 2nd and 3rd readings, with a few amendments.

Thompson of Onslow said that in his county there was a tract of 120,000 acres of land which had not paid any taxes since 1798. He said it had paid only one year after grant was issued. The land was bought by David Allison of Pennsylvania, who died immediately after the grant, and his heirs are now suing the board of education.

Yesterday was a day of work and much progress was made. There were 105 bills introduced and made into laws by receiving the signatures of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. The mere signing of the names consumed three-quarters of an hour in each House.

The bill to furnish the State's Prison with \$5,000 cash became a law and is now available.

It was expected that the Wilson case would be heard and decided in joint session yesterday, but it is such a delicate morsel that it was saved over until today. It is like the poor and will be always with us. The fact is that the members don't know what to do with it and therefore are willing to put it off. But today at 4 p.m. is the time set once more.

The public printing is to go to Barnes Bros., the Populists, so the committee decided and could not do otherwise, for when the Legislature decided to let it go to the lowest bidder, that decided the matter. There are a good many who are bewailing the outcome, saying that the party is not taking care of its friends, and others think that it shows good faith and economy to save the public money. Each one can take his choice of opinion.

The caucus met last night to select officers and named the following, for Insurance Commissioners James R. Young of Vance, for Labor Commissioner B. R. Lacy of Wake, for Keeper of the Capitol, C. C. Cherry of Edgecombe. There were no selections made for Railroad Commissioners, and another caucus will be held Thursday night to do that. It is said that a combine was formed last night to elect a certain set and the postponement was made by the opposition to give time to break the combine which will probably be done.

The A. & N. C. R. R. proposed sale to Edwards is exciting considerable interest. The hearing before the Senate yesterday was given to Edwards' side of the case who tried to show that the road was in very bad condition, the rolling stock poor and the rest of the affairs in the last stages of decay. Tonight the opposition will be on deck and will tell how fast the trains ran on the beautiful road bed and how everything on and near the road is in apple pie order and what a shame it would be to let the State part with such a grand 6 per cent piece of trunk line property.

Perhaps by the next day the caucus will decide to take up the matter. At the present writing the Edwards' side seem to be getting the worst of it.

Late News Items.

Shirking between the Americans and Filipinos continues at Manila.

General Reyes, the Nicaraguan revolutionary leader, has surrendered, thus ending the rebellion.

Pope Leo XII has been taken suddenly ill. He had a prolonged fainting fit, and fever, following a chill.

Commander Tausig, of the gunboat Bennington, has taken charge of the island of Guam as governor.

A test vote on the ratification of the peace treaty was taken in the Spanish Cortes and resulted in favor of ratification by 120 to 118.

There is deep dissatisfaction at Santiago because the public funds of that province have been curtailed by Governor General Brooke.

The army reorganization and increase bill will be passed by the House, although the Senate amendments are not liked by the administration.

Baron von Bulow, German Foreign Minister, stated in the Reichstag that "grave consequences" would ensue unless China puts a sharp check to attacks on Germans in that country.

The House passed a number of bills carrying appropriations for public buildings. The fate of the river and harbor bill is still in doubt, as there is strong opposition to the Senate amendment.

An unsuccessful effort was made to confirm the nominations of Admirals Schley and Sampson in the executive session of the Senate. Senator Butler of North Carolina, made a vigorous attack on Admiral Sampson.

The majority report of the Senate committee on the charges of bribery against Mr. Hanna is the only senatorial election declares that the charges are not sustained. The minority report recommended further investigation by the Senate committee.

At the request of the German government, communicated to the State Department through Ambassador von Holleben the President has consented to take under the protection of the United States the lives and property of the man subjects in the Philippines. All German warships will be withdrawn from the Philippines.

## THE LEGISLATURE.

### The Ever Appearing Wilson Case Again Up

### Jim Crow Car Bill a Law. Reduction of Salaries State Officers. New Bern Largely Represented Before Committee.

**JOURNAL HERALD, Raleigh, N. C., March 2.**  
At last the Wilson case was before the joint session of the two Houses yesterday, sitting as a Court of Impeachment. However there was nothing further accomplished and no vote was taken. When the two Houses met at 4 o'clock a lively debate ensued over whether the Wilsons and Governor Russell should have counsel to present their case.

A number of members were opposed to hearing the attorneys. They thought that enough had been said already, and that the printed testimony taken before the committee was enough to go by. Senator Osborne chairman of the committee that reported favorably to the Wilsons, arose and said that if the two Houses sitting as a court should refuse to allow counsel, it would be the first time in 300 years that Anglo-Saxons did such a thing. In reply to other objections, Judge Connor spoke a few minutes but long enough to deliver a forcible and telling speech in favor of the permission of counsel, referring to the trial of Raleigh and thence drawing a point to enforce the present case. The contention for counsel prevailed and a motion was made that the counsel for Wilsons and for the Governor, each be allowed an hour and a half, and the hearing would be today at four o'clock.

With all the Senators in the Hall of the House and the lobby filled with prominent people and the galleries crowded to the limit, the scene was a lively one. So much has been said about the case that it has become celebrated, not so much for its merits as for a spectacle, with all the talking of counsel, and then the members explaining their votes, it will be a mercy if the affair is over tomorrow at all, even if continued late into the night. At present it looks like it might develop into the star attraction of the whole show.

"Jim Crow" in spite of the prophets, has passed both House and Senate. Reached the Senate, there was some disposition to amend it. Some were not satisfied. But they were warned that the session was near an end and they had better be satisfied with the bill as the House passed, as it might yet be lost in the shuffle if kept open much longer. So Senator Ward withdrew his substitute as did several others and the bill was passed and as soon as signed will be a law. It is exactly as already published in the JOURNAL. This bill is known as the Craig bill and is perhaps as good as could be passed with all the conflicting interests considered.

The bill to reduce the salaries of certain State officers came up as a special order. The salary of the State Treasurer first came under consideration. In the bill as it passed the House this salary is reduced to \$3,250.

Senator Hairston spoke strongly in favor of a general reduction of salaries of State officers. He said the party was pledged in the last campaign to reduce such salaries. This was opposed by Senator Glenn. He thought the State officers received too little as the matter originally stood, and he could not see the fairness in reducing the salary of the Treasurer and leaving the Governor's salary intact.

Senator Travis offered the following amendment: "Resolved, that the officers of North Carolina be put up to the lowest bidder from Governor down."

Senator Fields' contention was that the reduction was demanded by the condition of the working classes, and that the salaries of the State officers had far more economic value now than when they were fixed.

Senator Justice did not think the reduction at all equitable. It discriminated against a few officers. The passage of the bill, he said, would make no political profit. The people are not fools.

Senator Daniels believed that these should be reduction; that the State officers should not be paid out of proportion to the other citizens of the State. Senator Glenn said that for the amount of work required and done North Carolina gave less salary than any State in the Union.

Senator Osborne said that he had not seen anything in the bill that he could conscientiously vote for. He wanted some little time to take the matter into consideration, and he therefore suggested that the bill be referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee. Upon motion the bill was re-referred and sent to the Judiciary committee.

Bill to issue \$10,000 of 4 per cent 10 year bonds to pay the penitentiary debt, at the order of the penitentiary executive

## ROYAL BAKING POWDER

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### Jim Crow Bill Passed.

Wilson Case Hearing Postponed. Bill Introduced. Judge Shepard Succeeds Dr. Manning in University. Special to Journal.

**RALEIGH, March 1.**—The separate on bill (Jim Crow) passed the Senate today and will become a law as soon as signed. The office of Railroad Commissioner was abolished, and the office of Corporation Commissioner created in its place. The bill for a bond issue of \$1,000,000 to pay the indebtedness made under last management in the Penitentiary, passed the House.

The joint session to hear the Wilson case met this afternoon, a great crowd attending. The meeting adjourned until tomorrow afternoon in order to give the attorneys on each side one hour and a half in which to address the joint session as a Court of Impeachment.

Judge Brown has decided in favor of the new Penitentiary Board, and against late Supt. Day, and the case will go to the Supreme Court.

There will be a hearing in the Senate chamber tonight before the committee regarding the proposed sale of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad. Ex-Chief Judge James E. Shepard, of Raleigh succeeds the late Dr. J. M. Manning, as Professor of Law in the University of North Carolina.

OTTIS HAS MEN TO SWARE.

Two Battalions Sent From Manila to Other Points in the Philippines.

**WASHINGTON, February 28.**—The following cablegram was received today at the war department from General Otis: "MANILA, February 28, 1899. Battalion of the Twenty-third Infantry sailed for Cebu on the 26th instant. Battalion of California volunteers sails for Negros tomorrow. Everything quiet here for the past three days. OTIS."

The fact that General Otis finds it possible to spare men to go to other islands is regarded by the officials as the most reassuring indication that has come to the department lately. It is felt that the would not send soldiers to distant points to Cebu if he felt any doubt as to his ability to maintain himself at Manila.

It is said at the navy department that there is no probability that additional ships will be ordered to reinforce Admiral Dewey. Admiral Dewey's purpose is to make a determined attempt to cut off further supplies of arms and ammunition to the insurgents. These, it is known, are going into the islands in small quantities from Hong Kong and Singapore notwithstanding the efforts of the United States secret service men to prevent it.

Conditions in the Philippines favor the blockade runners and the task of keeping munitions of war out of the hands of the natives will be difficult, provided they have the money to purchase the goods. The fact that these can be bought in the open market in Asia cannot be made a matter of complaint by our government, for the reason that it always has maintained the right of neutral citizens to engage in such business.

Captain Symonds' Course Approved.

**WASHINGTON, March 1.**—The course pursued by the commander of the gunboat Marietta at Bluefields in giving asylum to General Reyes, the leader of the defeated rebels, is fully approved here. It is said that Captain Symonds probably averted bloodshed and rioting and incidentally prevented destruction of American property by offering this refuge and thus terminating the active resistance of the rebels. It is probable the Marietta will convey Reyes to a place of safety in some other country, unless he can make terms with the government of Nicaragua.

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Spanish Cabinet Resigns.

**MADRID, March 1.**—Senator Sagasta has handed resignation of the ministry to the Queen Regent.

The cabinet crisis is expected to last for several days, as it will be necessary for the Queen Regent to consult with the presidents of the chambers and other political leaders.

In the meanwhile the chambers will adjourn until a new ministry is formed. The Ministerialists hope the Queen Regent will support Senator Sagasta and dissolve the chambers.

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March 24, 1899.

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