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CONGRESSMAN POU ISSUES STATEMENT

Agreed to Go on Ways and Means Committee

GETS OTHER GOOD ASSIGNMENTS

Will Very Gladly Support Kitchen in Caucus For Place On Ways and Means Committee.

Observer Bureau, 44 Post Building, Washington, D. C., Jan. 16.—Congressman Pou to-day issued the following statement:

"Before the holiday recess and before there was any suggestion of opposition to the Democratic members of the ways and means committee who voted against free lumber, it was agreed between Mr. Clark and myself that I would probably go off the ways and means committee, if he gave me certain assignments, which he had in view and which were very much preferred by me. The suggestion that I ought to go off the committee in that event came from me. When it was announced that no man who voted as I did could remain on the committee, I thought we might as well fight out the difference. I know that this announcement did not receive the approval of Mr. Clark or Mr. Underwood and I know also that Mr. Clark would have insisted on my remaining on the committee, if the fight along this line had been kept up, and I have an idea that his wishes would have prevailed.

"It is now understood perfectly that there is to be no discrimination against any one on account of any vote heretofore cast and it is also understood that, as far as possible, all differences are to be held in abeyance during the Sixty-second Congress. So far as I am concerned, I can not see that anything is left to fight for, and I think it would be puerile for me to continue to fight for a place I had already voluntarily agreed to give up and to decline to accept assignments, which my friends know I very much prefer, because some report sent out from Washington has said I could not again be elected on the ways and means committee. I shall accept the places which Mr. Clark and Mr. Underwood ask me to accept. I have made no campaign for any position, have not solicited support from my colleagues and have only written two letters about committee assignments in response to letters written by colleagues to me.

"From the day I came to Washington before Congress met, I have done what I could, absolutely regardless of any personal ambition, to help settle in a proper and honorable manner all differences which were calculated to divide the Democrats of the House. I believe both Mr. Clark and Mr. Underwood will very cheerfully indorse this statement. The prospects for Democratic victory in 1912 are so bright that I would feel like a criminal if I had pursued any other course. I would gladly serve on the committee on ventilation and acoustics, if by so doing I can help elect a Democratic President in 1912.

"The tentative agreement reached is entirely agreeable to me. I could not be better satisfied, even if I had made a fight from a selfish standpoint. I think the country will see the Democrats of the next House more united, if possible, under the leadership of Mr. Clark and Mr. Underwood, than we have ever been before. North Carolina will have representation on a large number of the great committees which formulate and control legislation than ever before. I shall very gladly support Mr. Kitchen in the caucus for a place on the ways and means committee. His services deserve the very highest recognition.

"If I have done what is best to promote the success of my party without surrendering one iota of the principles in which I believe, if I have done what is best for the interest of my colleagues from North

Carolina. If the result shall enable me to show my gratitude to some of those who for years have so loyally supported me, it would seem that I have some reason to be content."

Mr. Pou also said that Hon. Champ Clark read his statement before it was given to the press and said, "Every word of Pou's statement respecting what took place between him and me is the exact truth. His course from the beginning is deserving of the highest commendation."—Charlotte Observer.

204 DEAD IN EARTHQUAKE.

Great Damage Done by Violent Tremore at Kebery, Asiatic Russia.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 13.—A dispatch received here to-day from Vyerny, Asiatic Russia, says that a violent earthquake occurred last night at Kebery, in the Pishpek district of the territory.

The bodies of 204 Kirghiz have been dug from the ruins of fallen buildings.

Col. W. J. Hicks Dead.

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 16.—Col. W. J. Hicks, for 13 years superintendent of the Oxford Orphanage, died there at 3 o'clock Saturday morning. Colonel Hicks retired from the superintendency some time ago, but was still there serving as "a labor of love," as the Masons expressed it. He was 83 years old and had been in feeble health for quite a while.

EIGHT MEN KILLED ON WARSHIP

EXPLOSION ON THE DELAWARE WITH FATAL RESULTS.

Occurred in Boiler Room as Ship Was Returning From Cuban Waters.

Washington, Jan. 17.—Eight men met instant death and one man was so horribly burned that he probably will die as a result of a boiler explosion aboard the battleship Delaware this morning, the cause of which is yet unadjusted according to a wireless message tonight to the Navy Department from Captain Gove.

The Delaware was on her way to Hampton Roads from Guantanamo, Cuba.

The nine victims were on duty in the boiler room when the accident occurred. A terrific shock sent the crew scurrying below and nine bodies were dragged from the cloud of hot steam that hissed through the hold. Captain Gove wired the Navy Department the names of eight men who were killed, but the identity of the ninth victim who was carried from the boiler room with traces of life in him was designated as "unknown" in Captain Gove's message.

Two Deaths in a Family.

In the death of Mr. Simeon C. Peedin, of Pine Level, on Tuesday, January 10th, Johnston County loses one of her best citizens. He had a case of pneumonia about four years ago and his health has been very poor since then. He had been ill about a month before his death. The funeral was preached at Bethany, Primitive Baptist church, at Pine Level, where he held his membership, by Elder J. W. Gardner, of Goldsboro. He was buried at the John R. Creech graveyard. Mr. Peedin was born November 7th, 1847, and was in his 64th year when he died. He was one of the best farmers of the County. He followed the intensive system and made large crops. Until his health failed, he took a great interest in everything about his farm. For a short time before his death he had been living at pine Level and running a store. He was a good business man. His place will be hard to fill. We regret to chronicle the death of such men. Among his sons are Mr. A. P. Peedin, of Washington, D. C., and Mr. A. A. Peedin, a merchant of Smithfield.

Mr. Agrippa Jasper Peedin, a son of Mr. Simeon C. Peedin, was born June 30th, 1881, and died January 3, 1911.

FOOD PRICES ARE GOING TO TUMBLE

Butter and Eggs in Cold Storage to Unload

CHICAGO MEN FACE FAILURE

Wholesale Prices of Butter and Eggs Already Lower, and Retail Figures May Follow.

Chicago, Jan. 15.—Millions of pounds of butter, eggs, cheese and poultry held in cold storage warehouses here will be thrown on the market before May 1, and a general tumbling of food prices is expected at once, according to commission merchants.

Numerous Chicago commission men are said to be facing failure as a result of their efforts to maintain an artificial price on the necessities of life. The inability further to uphold this price is said to be due to a combination of circumstances, chief of which are the open winter of 1911 and the banner crops of 1910.

Three commission men failed in the last week as a result, it is said, of holding great quantities of butter, which they purchased at an average price of 31 cents a pound and now are unable to market for more than 27 or 28 cents a pound.

While the wholesale prices of butter and eggs have dropped within the last few weeks, there has as yet been no decline in the retail prices.

Some of the produce which now is to be unloaded on a falling market has been in warehouses for as long as five years. By means of the cold storage houses commission men have been able to maintain an artificial price, not only to the consumer, but to the producer, it is said.

No public warehouse report is ever made here, and the exact amount of produce in the hands of Chicago firms cannot be estimated. Thirty-two warehouses are said to have 44,000,000 pounds of butter, eggs and poultry. Men familiar with the market condition to-day said it would be impossible to say whether that figure represented the total or whether it was only a small percentage of the entire amount.

The increased sale of oleomargarine is given as an added cause for the situation that the commission men now find themselves facing. Thousands of consumers, unable to pay the price at which butter has been held, have become users of oleomargarine, according to information gathered by dealers.

Butter is six cents a pound lower, wholesale, than it was a year ago, and is selling to grocers at the lowest figure in five years.

NEW BOY "SALTED" THE COWS.

Rubbed It Into Their Hides, and Horses Pursued Herd.

Chicago, Jan. 13.—Arthur Mannix, a farmer living near Hammond, Ind., was astounded yesterday afternoon at the sight of his herd of cows being madly pursued by four of his horses. As one of the cows dropped from exhaustion the farmer ran to the rescue, expecting to see her trampled. Instead the horses eagerly began licking her hide.

Investigation disclosed that a boy from Chicago, recently employed, when told to "salt the cows," had carefully rubbed the salt all over the animals, working it into the hair. The horses were "salt hungry."

FIRE KILLS THREE BABIES.

Gasolene Stove Exploded in Their Mother's Absence.

Duluth, Minn., Jan. 15.—The three daughters of Peter Bubee, aged one, four and six years, were burned to death to-day at their home at Knife River.

A gasolene stove exploded while Mrs. Bubee was away from home.

THE LEGISLATURE NOW AT WORK

To Increase the Salary of Judges

BONDS TO PAY INDEBTEDNESS

Johnston's Senators and Representatives Have Good Committee Appointments.

In the matter of Committee Assignments, our Senators and Representatives fared pretty well. Senator Barbour is on a number of important committees as follows:

Appropriations, Revisal of Judiciary, No. 2, Education, Mining, Shellfish, Senate Expenditures—Chairman, Institution for the Blind, Internal Improvements, Public Roads, Corporations, Legislative Apportionment, and Distribution of Governor's Message.

Senator Baggett has the following committee assignments: Revisal of Judiciary, No. 2, Banks and Currency, Claims—Chairman, Privileges and Elections, Penal Institutions, Institution for the Blind, Manufacturing, Insane Asylum, and Printing.

Our Representatives in the House are not on so many committees, but they have enough to do to keep them busy. Mr. Horne is on the following:

Finance, Banks and Currency, Joint Committee Public Buildings and Grounds—Chairman, Insurance and Pensions.

Mr. Allred has the following committee assignments: Judiciary, No. 2, Corporation Commission, Courts and Judicial Districts, Corporations, Enrolled Bills, and Internal Improvements.

These committee assignments have been gathered from the daily papers and there may have been some that escaped our notice. If, however we find this is true, we shall try to give them later.

We shall not attempt to give all the work of the legislature, but we shall try to keep our readers posted on what our own representatives are doing.

The most important bill introduced in the Legislature Thursday of last week was by Senator Graham "to provide for the payment of all appropriations which have heretofore been or shall hereafter be made during the session, and for the redemption of bonds falling due on January 1, 1913. The bill contains a preamble quoting from Governor Kitchen's message and State Treasurer Lacy's report as to the need of more funds, and authorizes the Treasurer, upon approval of the Governor and his council, "to borrow whatever money is sufficient to cover the difference between the amounts appropriated and the revenues received by the Treasurer during any fiscal year."

For the redemption of the notes so given, or if loans cannot be made at satisfactory rates of interest, the Treasurer is authorized and directed to issue bonds of the State of North Carolina, payable forty years from date of issue, not to exceed the sum of one million dollars. The bonds are to be issued in denominations of one hundred, five hundred, and one thousand dollars, and are to draw interest at the rate of four per cent, payable semi-annually.

Judge Ewart, the Republican leader in the House, seems to be an energetic member, if one is to judge by the number of bills he introduces. Friday he introduced a bill to prohibit the Pullman Car Company from charging more than \$1.25 for lower and \$1.00 for upper berths on cars used in intra-state traffic.

The bill of Mr. Battle, of Wake, permits the State Agricultural Society to have \$150,000 worth of property and provide additional fair buildings. The bill has passed the House.

The following bills have passed the House:

To amend the Revisal relating to Jury fees before justices of the peace for Johnston county.

To fix salaries for county officers of Beaufort county; provides com-

pensation as follows: Sheriff \$3,200; Clerk \$2,100; register of deeds \$2,400; treasurer \$1,000; auditor \$900.

To provide for the payment of costs of convicted defendants in Johnston county.

The Wake County Good Roads Association has launched a campaign in favor of a \$300,000 bond issue in Wake county. The Legislature will be asked to authorize the bond issue subject to the vote of the people.

In the House a bill has been offered by Cox, of Randolph, to increase the salary of the chief clerk of the State auditor to \$2,000, and that of his assistant to \$1,500 so they will be on an equal footing with the clerks of other departments.

The House Committee on Judicial Districts decides to report favorably the bill of Representative Spainmour, on Burke, for re-adjusting the pay of Superior Court judges, so they get pay at the rate of \$100 per week for days of court actually held during the year and at the end of the year, if they have not held courts of duration enough to make the present salary of \$3,250, then the State Auditor is to issue a warrant for the remainder. If extra time is made by any judges they can earn additional compensation to the amount of \$4,000 for his annual compensation.

The House Committee on Liquor Traffic announces that it will hear argument Wednesday of next week for and against State-wide prohibition of near-beer and other drinks of this class, the bill under consideration being that Representative Kent, of Caldwell.

DR. W. L. CUNINGGIM IS DEAD

WAS PRESIDING ELDER OF THE RALEIGH DISTRICT.

Passed Away at His Home in Raleigh Tuesday Night After an Illness of Only a Week.

Raleigh, N. C., January 18.—Rev. W. L. Cuninggim, presiding elder of the Raleigh District of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, died at his residence here at 12:25 this morning, after a week's illness, from pneumonia. He was 55 years old and had served in many important pastorates, coming to Raleigh last December, after four years of service in the Wilmington district.

He was a brother of Rev. Jesse L. Cuninggim, of Nashville, Tenn., and a graduate of the University of North Carolina and of Vanderbilt University.

He had been in the ministry for about 30 years, and had served at Raleigh, Oxford, Goldsboro, Henderson, Weldon, Wilmington, Durham, and other points. For many years he was secretary of the North Carolina conference.

STATE TROOPS GUARD SLAYER.

Nathan Montague, Murderer of Three Tried and Convicted in Six Hours.

Oxford, N. C., Jan. 16.—Accused of murdering and burning the family of J. L. Sanders, and attacking Mattie Sanders, before slaying her, Nathan Montague, a negro, was tried, convicted, and sentenced to death a month hence, all within six hours here to-day. State troops guarded the court and prisoner from the angry citizens who urged around the building during the proceedings. Montague, a small black, took his doom quietly, and was returned to the penitentiary at Raleigh, where he will be put to death February 16. The jury returned a verdict in eight minutes, as the prisoner had confessed. Any other verdict would, it is said, have brought on a lynching.

All the testimony developed was purely circumstantial. Though Montague had confessed his crime, the barbarism of it caused the State to refrain from developing the confession at the trial, less it incense the community beyond control.

The heart of Bladen county was opened to the public Saturday when the first regular passenger train over the Virginia and Carolina Southern rolled into Elizabethtown carrying 80 people.

STATE SELLS ITS INTEREST IN LAKE

Company Chartered To Undertake Proposition

WILL DRAIN BIG DISTRICTS

Boston Capitalist and Many North Carolinians Interested in Deal to Open Fertile Farming Lands.

Raleigh, Jan. 16.—North Carolina's interest in the Mattamuskeet Lake drainage district, Hyde county, is sold by the state board of education for \$100,000 to the Southern Land Reclamation Company, chartered to-day for the purpose of undertaking this drainage scheme, declared by Chief Elliott, of the United States bureau of drainage, the biggest drainage undertaking in the world. This lake bed which the state owned is 15 miles by six miles, an average depth of only a few feet, with a black soil underneath expected to make intensely fertile farming lands. The drainage districts include over one hundred thousand acres, half of it owned by citizens of Hyde. The Southern Reclamation Company assumes the state's obligations and assumes \$300,000 of a \$400,000 bond issue for the cost of a drainage system involving a system of canals and an immense plant to convey the water to be neighboring sound, the pumps having a capacity of 113,000 gallons of water per day. The farming of the drainage districts is completed with J. P. Kerr, of Asheville, J. S. Mann and T. H. B. Gibbs, of Hyde county, as commissioners. The \$400,000 of bonds are to be issued within the next 60 days the work to begin very soon thereafter and completed within eighteen months.

D. N. Graves, a Boston capitalist, is principal stockholder and assumes the state's obligations with other blocks of stocks held by C. A. Webb, J. P. Kerr and W. T. Mason, of Asheville. They have \$150,000 authorized capital and \$25,000 subscribed. The company not only pays the state \$100,000 for its fifty thousand acres, but assumes about \$14,000 expense in the preliminary work of forming the district, the deal being made possible by verification of the drainage cost estimates and the withdrawal of exceptions by the Roper Lumber Company, a subsidiary of the Norfolk and Southern Railway, which has extensive interest in the district.

GRANDFATHER AT AGE OF 33.

Son of Spencer, N. C., Man Who Married at 14 Now a Father.

Spencer, N. C., Jan. 13.—V. H. Bryson, of Spencer, has become a grand father at the age of 33. He was married when 14 years of age, his wife being only 13 years 6 months old. His eldest son, who was married at 17, is now a father.

SHOOTS SELF AND NIECE.

Uncle of 45 Angered Because 14-Year-Old Girl Declined to Wed Him.

Boston, Jan. 13.—Angered because his 14-year-old niece, Felmina Viana, refused to marry him, Candido Viana, aged 45; to-day shot and dangerously wounded the girl and then attempted to kill himself with a revolver.

The shooting occurred at Viana's home in East Boston. Both man and girl were taken to a hospital, where doubt was expressed as to their recovery.

John K. Tener, who resigned from congress on Monday, was inaugurated Governor of Pennsylvania Tuesday. Tener is not yet 48 years old. His first fame was won as a professional base-ball player, and later on he was at the head of the Elks' organization. After leaving the base-ball diamond he went into banking and from thence to congress. Tener was born in Ireland and came to this country as a boy of nine.