

The Smithfield Herald.

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SHORT SESSION ENDED SATURDAY

Two Important Bills Fail To Pass

WILL MEET AGAIN APRIL FOURTH

Taft Promptly Calls for Reconvening When Reciprocity and Tariff Board Measures Fail to Be Enacted. Bailey's Resignation Heightens Excitement.—Turbulent Scenes Mark Closing Day.

The Sixty-first Congress expired at noon yesterday amid exciting scenes and circumstances unparalleled in recent years.

All the appropriation bills got through, but Canadian reciprocity and the tariff commission bill failed.

President Taft, at the Capitol, signed scores of bills which had emerged triumphantly from the grueling closing grind, returned to the White House, and made good his promise to call an extra session. A proclamation calling the Sixty-second Congress to special duty on April 4 was issued with exceeding promptness. The President expects it to pass upon his tariff agreement with Canada—a task which the expiring Congress refused to perform.

In the midst of unusually exciting adjournment episodes, in which were filibusters galore and scenes bordering on a riot in the House, Joseph Weldon Bailey, of Texas, added to the general sensations of the hour by resigning from the United States Senate, although he reconsidered his act later in the day.

Bailey Causes Sensation.

The Bailey pronouncement came near overshadowing entirely many other incidents containing thrills, from the savage effort of Senator Owen to secure statehood for two territories to the standing pat of President Taft. Thoroughly pleased and angered over the attitude of his colleagues in abandoning a "gentlemen's agreement" as to the Arizona constitution and voting to admit that territory to statehood with New Mexico, the famous Texan wired his resignation to the governor of his State, and also placed it in the hands of the Vice President.

Interest in an impromptu Cabinet meeting in the President's Room, following the latter's signature of the bills, and called for the purpose of determining the date of the extra session, was diverted by the statement communicated from man to man in the lobbies like an electric current:

"Bailey has resigned!"

Animated discussion of this happening was still rife when, an hour later, the proclamation for the extra session went forth from the White House to accomplish its annihilation of doubting Thomases and assert the fact that Canadian reciprocity was by no means dead as far as the President was concerned.

Filibusters Threaten.

A filibuster by Senator Owen, of Oklahoma, which began in the weary hours of the night before, threatened to defeat two of the appropriation bills. The clock was set back twenty-five minutes in order to straighten out the tangle and rush them through.

Over in the House another filibuster, conducted against the tariff commission bill, tied up legislation until near the hour which would mark the death of the Congress. The hands of the House clock were turned back a full forty-five minutes. The filibuster by the Democrats there was successful. The Republicans were forced to abandon the tariff commission bill.

The incidents surrounding the winning fight of the House Democrats were exciting in the extreme. Parliamentary tangles bred confusion and misunderstandings stirred up anger. The sergeant-at-arms with his mace grew to be a common figure in the aisles. Members of the House were on the verge of fist fights on two or three occasions, and one representative, Johnson, of Kentucky, went so far as to announce that he would like to fight the Speaker if he weren't so old. The Speaker retort-

ed that he had never shielded himself behind his age yet, and smilingly invited the Kentuckian to "lay on MacDuff."

Farewell for Cannon.

At a quarter to twelve, in the midst of a roll call, Representative Payne officiated at the giving up of the tariff commission bill ghost. The customary adjournment scenes followed. "Uncle Joe" Cannon made a most impressive farewell speech. When he banged the desk with his gavel for the last time as Speaker, a cheer arose, and the combined choir of lame ducks and happy holdovers gathered in the pit and sang.

It was a more sober leave-taking in the Senate—even strained—for unhealed wounds of battle there were many. Senator Owen, smarting under the collapse of his Statehood coup; Senator Scott, keen in disappointment over an eleven-hour failure of the general service pension bill; Senator Bailey, of Texas, furious, and determined to leave the Senate, and Senator Gore, of Oklahoma, stung by a ruling of the chair which had abruptly swept him from his feet as he rose to move the consideration of the reciprocity bill, were a few of several Senators who got tangled up in the furiously grinding legislative wheels as they turned out delayed business. Nevertheless, to most of the spectators in the jammed galleries it was the customary formal ending. Vice President Sherman was praised and thanked by a resolution passed by the Senate while he momentarily left the chair. With the closing words of an appreciative and cordial speech, he rapped sine die adjournment.—Washington Herald, March 5th.

FOUR OAKS COMMENCEMENT.

Exercises Formally Begin Sunday. Several Interesting Features.—Fine Meeting at Methodist Church.

Four Oaks, Mar. 9.—The commencement exercises will be formally opened in the Methodist church on Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

On Monday evening at 8, in the main auditorium of the building, the commencement exercises will begin. A splendid programme has been arranged by the faculty and the exercises will doubtless be of a very interesting nature.

The Primary department under the supervision of Miss Mary Justice, will render in splendid manner, "The Gypsies' Festival." The Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Grades, as well as the Sixth and Seventh, will be represented in the other very interesting numbers.

On Tuesday morning, a very interesting day programme has been arranged, including hurdles, broad-jumps, three-legged race, potato race, etc. The Jr. O. U. A. M. will assist in the exercises of the day and it is hoped that Superintendent Joyner, as well as Superintendent Royall, will be present to make addresses.

In the afternoon the Alpha Literary Society will have its programme of Oratory, Declamation and Debate. Eighteen of the Society's ablest members will compete for the prizes.

The question to be debated is, Resolved, "That woman should have the right to Suffrage." Two of the young ladies of the society will debate. Miss Nan Hines and Mr. Elbert Johnson, Jr., will represent the affirmative; Miss Lydia V. Temple and Mr. Roy Keen will defend the negative.

In the evening the concluding exercises will probably be its most interesting. The play entitled, "The Sweet Girl Graduate," will doubtless be the best thing of its kind ever attempted in this vicinity. The more advanced students of the school will compose the cast. Miss Mary Barbour will play Maude, the sweet girl graduate, around whom so much humor and pathos are centered. Her beau, Jack, will be Mr. Roy Keen.

Other interesting features, together with the Kenly Brass Band, will present the best programme of its kind ever offered in Four Oaks.

The public is cordially invited to be present at all exercises of the commencement.

The revival at the Methodist church closed Tuesday evening, with the addition of 24 new members, and several others made professions. Rev. and Mrs. Glenn returned to their home in Greensboro, Wednesday afternoon. The meeting has been the best, by far, of any ever held here.

RULES COMMITTEE FORMALLY CHOSEN

Congressman Pou To Be One Of These

R. L. HENRY OF TEXAS CHAIRMAN

There Are Seven Democrats on Committee While the Republicans Will Name Four. On Account of Length of Service Mr. Pou Ranks Number Two on This, One of the Greatest Committees in the House.

Washington, March 6.—The rules committee, one of the most powerful of the house committees of the Sixty-second Congress, with Representative Robert L. Henry, of Waco, Tex., at its head, was formally created by the new house ways and means committee at its first meeting today. The following were announced as the seven Democratic members of the committee:

Robert Lee Henry, Texas; Edward W. Pou, Smithfield, N. C.; Thomas W. Hardwick, Sandersville, Ga.; Augustus O. Stanley, Henderson, Ky.; Finis J. Garrett, Dresden, Tenn.; Martin D. Foster, Olney, Ill., and Matthew R. Denver, Wilmington, O.

The committee will consist of 11 members. The four Republican members will be chosen by the Republicans later, along with the other Republican personnel of the committees of the new house. The ways and means committee, which is charged under caucus dictum with the function of selecting the committees, is not employed to name the chairman, but it recommended to the new rules committee that it elect Mr. Henry as chairman, which is tantamount to designation at this time.

The members of the rules committee were named in the order of their seniority of service. Messrs. Hardwick and Stanley have served in Congress the same period, and the service of Messrs. Foster and Denver has been identical, and to choose the priority of rank of these, in each case the members of the ways and means committee drew lots resulting in the order given. Chairman Henry has been elected to eight Congresses, was once mayor of Texarkana and assistant attorney-general of Texas, and has performed notable service on the house judiciary committee.

Recorder's Court for Johnston.

The General Assembly just adjourned, passed a bill establishing a Recorder's Court for Johnston County, with jurisdiction of all criminal offenses committed in Johnston County below the grade of a felony and all larceny and receiving cases where the valuation of the property does not exceed twenty dollars. Also, said court has jurisdiction of all civil actions growing out of contract to an amount not exceeding five hundred dollars, and two hundred dollars in tort.

All justices of the peace and mayors are required to bind over to the Recorder's Court all criminal cases tried by them, in which they have not final jurisdiction, where probable cause is found, except cases of felonies, other than larceny and receiving cases where the valuation of property is twenty dollars or less.

The court will be held in Smithfield each and every Tuesday morning—all cases to be sent up to first sitting of court after trial of case by committing magistrates and mayors.

Mr. F. H. Brooks, of Smithfield, is named in the bill as Recorder for the term ending December 1, 1912. His successor will be elected at the general election in November, 1912.

The Clerk of the Superior Court, Mr. W. S. Stevens, is appointed Clerk of the Recorder's Court, and will receive the same fees as he now receives in Superior Court cases. The salary of the Recorder is to be fixed by the County Commissioners, but shall not be less than one thousand dollars per annum.

The first session of this court will be held on Tuesday after the first Monday in April.

We are requested to announce that Elder W. A. Simpkins will preach at Little Creek Primitive Baptist church, the second Sunday in March, at 11 o'clock.

FEARFUL WORK OF THE FLAMES

Many Lose Lives in Hotel Fires and Theatres

NINETY DIE IN RUSSIAN FIRE

In One Case Two Babies in Their Cradle Are Victims of Popping fire—Hotel at Lakeview Burns and Two Guests Lose Lives.

Several fearful tragedies have resulted from fire within the last few days. Lives have been lost and much property has been destroyed and untold grief has filled many hearts because of the direful results of uncontrolled flames. The following stories tell only in part what fires have done for the last few days.

Twin Babies Lost Lives.

Spartanburg, S. C., Mar. 4.—While asleep in their cradle Friday night, Reginald and Florence McDowell, age eight months, twin brother and sister, were both so badly burned that both have since died. Their mother, Mrs. W. P. McDowell, left the children asleep in a room and it is supposed a coal popped from the fire onto the bed and ignited the clothing of the children. On returning to the room, Mrs. McDowell was horrified to find that the clothing of the children was ablaze. In her efforts to extinguish the flames, Mrs. McDowell was seriously burned about the head and shoulders. Lorence died soon after the being burned, while death did not end the sufferings of her twin brother until this morning. At New Prospect this afternoon a double funeral was held.

Two Guests Lost Lives.

Carthage, March 6.—Two guests lost their lives, a score narrowly escaped death or serious injury and a property damage of \$30,000 was sustained by a fire which early this morning destroyed the beautiful new tourist hotel, "Loch Crystal," at Lakeview, a resort about eight miles from this place.

The dead are: Mrs. Anna M. Barnes, of New York, and Mrs. G. C. Pettis, of New Haven, Conn., who died from injuries after a heroic rescue by her son.

Howard Whitmore, a clerk in the hotel, who by his tireless efforts and splendid bravery saved many guests, was badly burned and is tonight confined to his bed from injuries received. E. S. Wooley, of Detroit, Mich., also suffered injuries while working to rescue the guests. For his bravery and daring in saving lives of the guests he deserves special mention.

The fire was discovered about 5 o'clock this morning and the flames so quickly spread through the large frame building that all efforts to check them were futile and the only hope was to save the lives of the 25 guests who were stopping in the hotel.

Mrs. Barnes was on the third floor of the building and her body has not yet been recovered from the ruins. Several futile efforts were made by rescuers to reach her.

Mrs. Pettis, a very old woman, while being rescued by her son, C. M. Pettis, sustained serious injuries and died from these and from the shock an hour later. Mrs. W. E. Youland, wife of the manager of the hotel, received injuries, but will probably recover.

The property destroyed was worth about \$30,000, this being partially covered by insurance.

Theatre Holocaust in Russia.

St. Petersburg, March 6.—Ninety persons, mostly children, were burned and trampled to death in a fire that destroyed a moving picture theatre at Bologne. Forty persons were injured, many seriously.

The fire occurred yesterday, but news of the disaster was not received until today.

The theatre was an old building and caught fire from the picture machine. Five hundred persons were in the building and they immediately made a mad rush for the narrow doors at the rear.

All might have escaped had order been preserved, but the exits were soon clogged by the scramble. The men in attendance beat down the women and children, their cowardice being described as barbarous.

But few of the bodies were recog-

nizable. Bologne is twenty-five miles south of St. Petersburg, near the Nicolai railway.

Fire in Minneapolis.

Minneapolis, Mar. 6.—One of the most disastrous fires this city has ever known destroyed Sunday the Syndicate Block, on Nicollet avenue, between Fifth and Sixth streets. The total loss is estimated at \$1,000,000, and it is possible that two lives were lost, although this has not as yet been definitely determined.

Twelve persons were rescued from the upper stories of the building while the flames were roaring around them. Some of these sustained slight injuries, but none was seriously hurt.

AT THE CAPITAL OF BANNER.

Graded School Faculty Entertained By Mr. and Mrs. Britt. Rogues Try To Get All of Pressing Club Except Proprietor. Local and Personal Items.

Benson, March 8.—Mr. Farthing, the photographer, left Tuesday for Wilson, where he has opened a studio. He will be here in the future only on Saturdays.

C. T. Johnson left yesterday for New York and other markets in the north to buy his spring and summer goods. He will be away about ten days.

Dr. Utley spent Sunday in Richmond with his wife, who is in the hospital there. He reports that she is improving some.

Mr. R. F. Smith went to Fayetteville yesterday on business, returning this afternoon.

Miss Leola Smith visited in Smithfield Sunday and Monday, returning Tuesday.

Mrs. J. W. Whittenton left Monday for Raeford where she will visit her mother for several days.

Misses Mattie Draughn and Maud McLeod, teachers in the Harnett county schools, visited at the home of Miss Meta Harper Sunday.

Miss Florence Johnson, who has been in the Conservatory of Music, in Baltimore for the past year, came home Saturday to spend several days with her parents.

Mrs. Fannie Stewart returned Sunday from Harnett county where she has been on an extended visit.

Some unknown person or persons entered the pressing club run by Minor Eason, colored, on Sunday night and removed his entire pressing apparatus by way of a window in the rear of the building. Many have expressed regrets that the proprietor himself was not in at the time so that he too might have been got rid of in a similar manner.

Attorneys J. R. Barbour, N. T. Ryals and J. W. Wood have been attending court at Smithfield most of the week. They report that crime is on the decrease in our town, there being no cases in the criminal court from here.

A phone message was received her this morning by the chief police stating that all the convicts in the Harnett county chain gang had made their escape from the camp at Dunn some time last night. There were fourteen of them but it is reported that one returned saying, that he preferred the roads to the weather.

One of the most enjoyable occasions here for some time was the entertainment given by Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Britt at their home Monday evening from eight-thirty till eleven, in honor of the faculty of Benson Graded School. Those present, were Prof. Z. H. Rose, principal of the school, and Misses Emily Canaday, Mary Cooke, Louise Carroll, Nannie Corden, Ruth Jones and Mrs. Luna Tolar. Those present beside the faculty were, Messrs. W. T. Martin, J. C. Warren, R. E. Parker and W. H. Slocumb. Recitations and music were the features of the evening, after which various refreshments were served.

Miss Emma Eldridge, who has been teaching in Pleasant Grove township, passed through town to-day enroute for her home in Sampson County, her school having closed last week.

Mr. Clarence Poe has returned from his trip around the world, arriving at his New York Monday. As soon as he arrived he received a telegram stating that his mother died that day. Sad, sad was his home-coming and his thousands of friends and admirers deeply sympathize with him.

MISSIONARY TELLS OF AWFUL PLAGUE

Gives a Picture of Conditions in North China

SAYS PLAGUE VICTIMS ALL DIE

Some of the Conditions in the Plague Stricken District Told By a Foreign Missionary of the Southern Baptist Convention.—Some of the Precautions Taken.

A missionary of the foreign mission board of the Southern Baptist Convention has written to the board, under date of February 13, telling of the conditions in North China. We give below an extract from the letter:

"We have a very serious situation in Chefoo and North China just at present. The black plague is raging in Manchuria and reached Chefoo about a month ago. There are said to be about twenty deaths a day here but no one knows definitely how serious the situation is, as the Chinese conceal their sick and dead. The death rate is 100 per cent., practically, almost no one surviving a true case of the plague. So far most of the cases in Chefoo have been on the west side; all our work and workers are on the east side. But it is slowly but surely working its way in our direction. We have suspended all our services for the present, as the disease is frightfully contagious and is conveyed by the breath. It attacks the lungs, destroying them in a few hours, the sufferer choking to death and turning black in the face. For that reason it is called the "black plague," or "black death." The same disease killed about half the population of England in the Middle Ages.

"We are taking every possible precaution. We have bought in several weeks' supplies, do not let our servants or children leave our yard and do not go out any more than is necessary. I wear a mask over mouth and nostrils when on the street. Practically all foreigners, Japanese and many Chinese do this, and it is a queer sight to see so many people on the streets with the lower parts of their faces covered. You often do not recognize your most intimate friends until you are close to them.

"But most of all we are trusting in the God of the 21st Psalm and the Captain of our salvation who sent us here and who promised: "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." It is sweet in an hour of trial like this to know we are where the eternal God has willed for us to be."—Richmond Virginian.

Sudden Death in Ingrams.

Mr. S. D. Stanley, of Ingrams township, died Tuesday afternoon, about three o'clock, at his home near Four Oaks. He attended court at Smithfield, Monday and spent some time in The Herald office with us. While here he renewed his subscription and told us how well he enjoyed reading The Herald. He spoke of having good health. He ate a hearty dinner Tuesday, after which he intended to haul a load of light-wood. Before starting to his work he sat down to read for a short while. There was no one in the house with him except Mr. Needham Baker. Suddenly he fell from his chair to the hearth. Mr. Baker tried to help him get up, and spoke to him, but no reply came. He breathed only once or twice after Mr. Baker took hold of him. Mr. O. D. Stanley, who died recently, was one of his sons. Mr. J. B. Stanley, railroad agent at Red Springs, N. C., is his son also.

Death Near Smithfield.

At 7:45 A. M., last Sunday morning, Mrs. Dora Johnson, wife of Mr. W. G. Johnson, died at their home, near Smithfield. She had been ill from measles, which was followed by pneumonia, causing death. The burial services were conducted by Rev. A. S. Barnes. The remains were interred Monday afternoon, in the graveyard at the David P. Johnson farm. Before her marriage to Mr. Johnson, she was a Miss Benson. She leaves her husband and several children.