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COMMITTEE AGAINST JARVIS.

Joint Bodies Unfavorably Report New County Measure by a Vote of 13 to 7. Sampson, Johnston, Cumberland and Harnett Register Opposition to Grantham Bill While Special Train Brings Proponents From Dunn and Duke.

(News and Observer, 17.)

The bill to allow the voters in the territory affected to hold an election on the question of establishing the county of Jarvis was yesterday reported unfavorably by the joint committee of the General Assembly on counties, cities and towns. Perhaps the largest delegations that have attended any hearing upon a legislative matter during the present session came here yesterday to register their opposition or favor to the bill.

An hour before the committee was scheduled to meet the gallery was packed and jammed, and soon after 12 o'clock the delegation that came up on a special train from Dunn and Duke had filed into the Capitol and crowded the rotunda and galleries of the House and Senate. Sampson, Johnston, Cumberland and Harnett had delegations here to oppose the bill, while delegations from Duke and Dunn and Sampson County were here to ask for the election. Smithfield doubtless sent up the largest individual delegation, including, perhaps, the fairest delegation of the opposite sex that has graced the gallery of the House during this session. And they didn't fail to express their sentiment when the opposition scored a point.

But the Jarvis delegation, prominent with ribbon badges of white, came here to fight for the bill and fight they did. Never were speakers more vociferously applauded or more warmly cheered than were the Jarvis proponents who appeared before the committee. At times innocent bystanders could imagine without difficulty a sensational ninth inning rally, after two were "out," by the encouragement offered the speakers. Cries of "Now you got em!" "Got to it, Nat" and "That's the old stuff" were heard frequently during the argument before the joint body that held the fate of the new county in their hands.

Mr. Pou Draws Blood.

Mr. James H. Pou, for the opposition, drew first blood when he declared that "the advocates of the new county have mutilated three counties in the proposed bill and are swinging the butcher's knife over Cumberland." It was then that the Smithfield delegation made themselves prominently known.

The argument on the merits of the bill began with Representative Grantham's speech, he "who started all this row," when the Representative formally introduced the bill to the committee that would take away parts of Sampson, Johnston and Harnett and make Dunn the capital of the county that would bear the name of the lamented ex-Governor of North Carolina.

Following Mr. Grantham, Ernest F. Young, called "the father of Dunn," began the argument for the new county. His pleas was that the county seat of Harnett, Lillington, was now 20 miles away from Dunn by the nearest highway of sand and mud, "mostly mud," and 53 miles by railroad. Distances to the county seats of government from the proposed sections of Sampson that would be dismembered by a creation of the new county, were longer and equally disadvantageous to travelers. He explained that Dunn and Duke, with their rich back ground, were thickly populated and that 75 per cent of the criminal litigation of Harnett County originated in the proposed detached sections of Harnett; that the advocates of Mr. Grantham's bill did not ask for the establishment of the new county but only that the question be submitted to the voters residing in the territory that would be affected. Of the political aspect, he said that Harnett was Republican to start with and would be Republican if the new county were created—although he, as "a born Democrat and would be when he died" hoped to redeem Jarvis. The new county would make Johnston safely Democratic and give Sampson a fighting chance, he said.

Hon. Charles Ross, of Lillington, who led the opposition, paid a beautiful tribute to the character and integrity of Representative Grantham. "We appreciate well that this is not a local measure and know that Geo. Grantham is not bound by the conventions that govern local matters,"

he said. He praised Mr. Young for his valiant service to the Democratic party but rapped down hard on "the lobby that the proponents of the new county have maintained at a heavy cost." He referred to this as the third effort of the Dunn people to create a county and detailed the respective total taxable property in Harnett and in the would-be detached sections. "Harnett is an even county in area, taxable property and population, with the other 99 counties of North Carolina and the State does not need any addition. The number is even and it should so remain."

E. M. Stringfield, of Fayetteville, and Clerk of the Court, Will Walker, of Cumberland, next spoke in opposition to the bill, as also did Senator John A. Oates, of Fayetteville, who said that "Cumberland doesn't want 75 per cent of the criminals of Harnett County segregated to themselves, but does want to lend them a protecting wing."

Mr. Pou followed Mr. Oates with a speech that continually drew the cheers from the anti's. Mr. Pou stated that there were 709 voters in the townships that would be taken away from Johnston, and of this number 472 had protested against the dismemberment proceedings. "There are 14 or 15 blind tigers in these townships who want to get in a new county because they can begin business with a new slate," he said.

Mr. N. A. Townsend, for the proponents, clearly presented the political complexion of the new move and it was he who received the encouragement that told the earnestness of the big delegations in the House.

Judge F. H. Brooks, of Smithfield, spoke against the bill. Nathan Barefoot, of Sampson, spoke for it and said "that he had been coming to Raleigh every time the proposition came up and expected to come until they got Jarvis County. I have read my Bible from Genesis to Revelations and not one time have I seen any decree that limits the number of counties in North Carolina to 100."

Mr. J. R. Baggett, of Lillington, followed for the opposition and introduced Col. Dan Hugh McLean, "the silver tongued orator of the Cape Fear and the war horse of her Democracy." Colonel McLean closed for the opposition and J. C. Clifford closed for the proponents.

FOOD CONDITIONS IN GERMANY.

Situation May Not Become Worse But There is Little Hope of Relief This Year.

The food situation in Germany may not grow worse, but it scarcely can become better. This is the outstanding feature of Germany's great problem.

The German people as yet are not starving and they still have provisions in adequate quantities to support life, while in the case of further decreases in available supplies there is still the institution of compulsory "soup kitchens," the most economical method of making all foodstuffs go as far as possible to stand between Germany and any forced termination to the war through an absolute lack of food. Life for the civilian population of Germany on the present scanty allowance of food, however, is far from pleasant, though the German newspapers are fond of referring to conditions this winter and last winter as exceptional. They also say that the short rations are due largely to bad harvests and like to intimate that normal crops of grain and potatoes in the coming summer may end the principal food difficulties.

GUARDSMEN TO SOON RETURN.

Funston Directed to Immediately Demobilize Remaining State Troops on the Border.

Washington, Feb. 17.—Orders were issued by the War Department today directing General Funston to begin the immediate demobilization of all the guard units remaining in border camps and it is expected that the last troop train will be on its way north by March 7th.

General Funston will have on the border nearly 50,000 regular troops disposed along the line from Brownsville to Yuma, Ariz., on plans worked out by the general staff.

Secretary Baker emphasized that the withdrawal of the state troops is in no way connected with the crisis with Germany, but carries out a policy determined on long ago.

SATURDAY IN LEGISLATURE.

Two Fish Bills in Legislature May Bring Sharp Fight. Senate Ready to Pass House Bill Declared to Endanger the Freedom of the Press.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 17.—Important fish bills came into both the House and Senate today. Senator McNider introduced a fish bill to strengthen the State Fish Commission and adjust the law to meet conditions that have developed through the experience of the commission the past two years. It cuts the tax on the smaller fishermen and permits family catches free of any tax and adjusts the administration for probable saving of \$1,500 in the expense of the administrative department.

Representative Grant, of Onslow, introduced a fish bill that proposes to change the basis of appointment of commissioners, requiring the Governor to appoint those recommended by legislators representing the counties with fishery interests and only men actually interested in fisheries. It readjusts the taxes on the nets, reducing the tax somewhat on the larger nets from the present scale.

These bills foreshadow a sharp fight that will mark the closing days of the Legislature over the fisheries question, representatives of fishing counties having been unable to get together.

Representative Doughton, chairman of the Finance committee, introduced two notable bills today to require ice plants, street railway and electric plants to pay privilege taxes.

Despite the most spirited insistence of Senators Jones, Linn, McCoin, Joyce, Person and numerous others of the best speakers, that it was a dangerous step in the direction of muzzling the press, as one of the un-failing bulwarks of liberty and free speech, that body today voted 21 to 18 for the House bill to prohibit the publication of the names of women who become victims of criminal assault. All were favorable to the object sought, but the fear was that the passage of such a bill would be an entering wedge of other legislation that would lead to dangerous curtailment of free speech. When offered for final reading there was persistent objection that forced the measure over to Monday before it can be passed and ordered enrolled for ratification.

Bills Passed Senate.

Bills passed the Senate as follows: \$100,000 school bond election for Raleigh; Special tax for Aulander school district; Authorize county commissioners to pay expenses of Confederate veterans to reunion.

Senator Holderness introduced a joint resolution to provide for the indebtedness of the State's Prison. It directs the prison directors to pay the State Treasurer \$56,300 represented in earning of the convicts in railroad stocks.

The House went into committee of the whole on the revenue bill and completed its consideration sufficient to adopt it for second reading, which was given when the committee arose and reported the progress made. The final reading will be given probably Monday and the measure sent to the Senate.

The House passed the following bills on final reading:

Increase efficiency in the care of tuberculosis patients; Extend the jurisdiction of the Corporation Commission as to the right of eminent domain; Better protection of the people on the public highways of Jones and Craven counties; Prohibit obstructions on the roads of the State.

The House adjourned to 2:30 o'clock Monday.—W. J. Martin, in Wilmington Star.

The Greensboro Record charges that the editor of The Landmark "got up out of a sick bed" and went to Raleigh to prevent Dr. Archibald Johnson having a bill passed to substitute mules for bloodhounds in chasing criminals. The Landmark editor is glad that he isn't charged with going to Raleigh to help save the two-quarts-a-month law. He didn't hear of Dr. Johnson's bill, but the doctor was on the ground and it may be he had such a measure up his sleeve. It is now up to Col. Fairbrother to go to Raleigh and submit a few remarks to the legislators on the merits of the proposition.—Statesville Landmark.

A total of 2,760 vessels passed through the Panama Canal up to January 1.

RAILROADS OFFER RESOURCES.

Fairfax Harrison is Named Chairman of Special Committee of National Defense to Help in Event of War.

The railroads of the United States Friday informed President Wilson that the resources of their organization are at the disposal of the government in the event of war.

Officials of 18 roads were appointed a special committee of National defense, President Fairfax Harrison, of the Southern Railway, being chairman. He was the chairman of the committee formed by the railroads last fall to expedite the transportation of troops to the border, which will be supplemented by the committee named today.

W. W. Atterbury, vice-president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, sent the telegram to President Wilson notifying him of the action of the railroads.

The committee was named at a meeting of the American Railway Association's executive committee and will act under the direction of President Wilson's National Council for defense. Daniel O. Willard, president of the Baltimore and Ohio and a citizen member of the council in charge of transportation and communication, will act in an advisory capacity both for the new committee and for the council in the railroads' preparedness measures.

AN APPEAL TO LOVE FOR STATE

Will Tar Heels Let \$500 Stand in the Way of N. C. Float in Inaugural Parade?

Washington, Feb. 16.—A great effort is being made to have a North Carolina float in the inaugural parade.

The following appeal has been made to patriotic Tar Heels for funds and support:

"The Woman's Division of the Inaugural Parade has perfected plans for a number of States to be represented in the parade by appropriate historical floats. About twenty-five States, as we are creditably informed, are maturing plans for participation.

"Surely North Carolina with such an eventful history and with such a record of loyalty to our President will wish to be represented in this pageant of the States.

"A number of North Carolina women have organized for this laudable purpose and have decided to appeal to the men and women of the State for aid. It appears that maybe as much as \$500 will be required to defray the necessary expense of a creditable representation. Commercial organizations and public spirited individuals are urged to contribute.

"The inaugural occurs in less than three weeks. Many details and much preparation are involved and final decision must await response to this appeal.

"Remittances may be made to Mrs. John H. Small, the Cairo, or to Mrs. Edward W. Pou, the Shoreham, Washington, D. C."—H. E. C. Bryant, in News and Observer.

PASSAGE OF POSTOFFICE BILL.

Gets Through Senate and Carries Drastic Prohibition Provisions.

Washington, Feb. 16.—With its added drastic prohibition legislative provisions, the annual postoffice appropriation bill carrying \$332,000,000 was passed by the senate today after a week of vigorous debate. It was sent back to the house, which will ask for a conference on the amendments.

The senate wrote into the bill a provision making it a criminal offense to ship liquor into States which prohibit its manufacture and sale, thus nullifying the statutes of certain prohibition States permitting the importation of limited quantities of liquor for personal consumption.

Another provision would bar from the mails letters, postal cards, circulars, newspapers and other publications containing liquor advertising in States having laws against such advertising; violation to be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 or imprisonment not to exceed six months for the first offense or more than one year for the second offense.

Determined efforts made by the postoffice committee to increase second class mail rates and establish 1 cent postage on drop letters were made and bitterly contested and the proposals finally were thrown out on a point of order.

EASTERN CAROLINA CIRCUIT.

The Representatives of County Fair Associations Meet and Plan a Schedule.

A dispatch from Goldsboro dated February 16, and published in Saturday's Greensboro News, gives some news of interest to Johnston County:

"The organization of the Eastern Carolina Circuit of fairs was effected in this city today, by representative officials of the several fair associations of eastern North Carolina—Goldsboro, Kinston, New Bern, Smithfield, Rocky Mount, Tarboro and Clinton had officials at the meeting and the Eastern Carolina Circuit of fairs was organized, with the following as its officers: President, C. A. Johnson, of Tarboro; first vice-president, G. A. Horne, of Rocky Mount; second vice-president, Graves J. Smith, of Goldsboro; secretary and treasurer, Dr. W. C. Knox, of Kinston. The date for holding the fairs of the towns represented were fixed as follows: Rocky Mount, October 2-5; Goldsboro, October 9-12; New Bern, October 16-19; Kinston, October 23-26; Tarboro, October 30 to November 2; Smithfield, November 6-9; Clinton, November 13-16."

FOUR OAKS NEWS NOTES.

Four Oaks, Feb. 19.—Mr. D. C. Lassiter, W. U. Tel. Inspector, spent Sunday here with friends.

Mr. L. C. Barbour left Saturday for Scotland Neck to accept a position with a large mercantile company of that place.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Lee left last week for Shelbyville, Indiana, where they will make their home, Mr. Lee having quite a responsible position with an Interurban Railway company there.

Mr. K. L. Barbour celebrated his 68th birthday Thursday, surrounded by his children and grandchildren, who were all present except a daughter, Mrs. O. E. Matthews and son, of Dillon, S. C.

Attorneys J. B. Adams and C. C. Lee attended Recorder's Court Tuesday.

Mr. Vick Cole has returned from Buie's Creek Academy and will be associated with his father, Mr. John T. Cole, in business here.

Mrs. Ed. S. Coats, of Fellowship, was the guest of her daughter, Mrs. I. M. Massengill, last week.

Mr. Chas. A. Creech was in Rocky Mount last week in the interest of the Equitable.

The Principal of Four Oaks Graded School, Mrs. Lucas, accompanied by her assistant teachers, attended the Teachers Meeting in Selma and report Selma's welcome a real one and are looking forward to the day when Four Oaks has a school building such as Selma township's.

Among those who went to Raleigh last week we note the following: W. R. Keen, G. K. Massengill, Dalton Lee and W. E. Barbour.

We hear that Prof. Lappham, of Wilson, will speak for us again next Sunday. We feel grateful for another opportunity to hear such a man talk.

Mrs. O. E. Matthews and son, Edwin, Jr., of Dillon, S. C., are spending a few days at the home of Mr. K. L. Barbour.

Mr. Jno. S. Stroup is laying the foundation for a nice cottage in North Four Oaks.

Mr. W. H. (Bud) Lee is working relief agent at Sharpsburg for a few days.

Mr. S. W. Brown visited his mother in Oxford last week.

Mrs. R. B. Strickland has returned from a visit to Dunn.

The chicken and egg market in Four Oaks has reached skyward for prices quite a bit earlier than usual. Eggs 35 cents and hens 15 to 18—Some prices for February.

Speaking of eggs, Mr. Jas. A. Creech asks us to announce that he went Micro's record one better during the month of January. He shipped 52 cases—1560 dozen, almost 4 times as many as Micro, the average price being 35 cents.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Tucker wish to express their thanks to their many friends who were so kind to them during the recent illness and death of their boy.

The play "All On Account of Polly," given by Miss Hinton and school pupils, Friday evening, was the best ever seen in our school. A full account will appear later.

Messrs. Chester Cole, Barham Creech, Hunter Strickland, and John King, of Buie's Creek Academy, spent

GENERAL FRED FUNSTON DEAD.

Collapsed in Hotel Just After Finishing Dinner. Was 51 Years of Age. For Past Year His Strenuous Task Kept Him on Duty Much of the Time 20 Hours Per Day. Just Completed Arrangements for Return of Last of the Guardsmen.

San Antonio, Texas, Feb. 19.—Major General Frederick Funston, commander of the southern department of the United States Army since February, 1915, died suddenly at a hotel here tonight a few minutes after he had finished dinner. He collapsed while seated in the lobby of the hotel talking with friends, and playing with little Inez Silverberg, of Des Moines, Iowa, a guest with her parents at the hotel when he fell unconscious. Death was almost instantaneous. General Funston was 51 years old.

Ever since March, 1916, when he was placed in command of all United States forces on the Mexican border, General Funston had worked at an unusual pace. At critical times in border developments he frequently remained on duty 20 hours of the 24. The handling of regulars disposed of at various stations on the border, the Pershing expedition and, of late, re-arrangement of regular troops while providing for the return of National Guardsmen have entailed an enormous amount of detail work, probably exceeding that which fell to any commanding general of the United States Army since the Civil War. Only today General Funston completed orders for the return of the last of the guardsmen. Because of the amount of work which has fallen to him, General Funston's only recreation or relaxation for nearly a year has been an occasional dinner party with a few friends.

Only recently General Funston returned from an inspection trip which took him as far as Nogales, Ariz. That, with one trip to Brownsville, Texas, and a brief visit to Austin, Texas, last year, were the only occasions when he has been absent from his desk since the border trouble developed.—News and Observer.

Miss Florence Telfair Dead.

Following a short illness from pneumonia, Miss Florence Telfair died early yesterday morning at Rex Hospital where she was taken last Saturday.

She was the daughter of the late Dr. Alexander Telfair, of Smithfield, and had been a resident of Raleigh for the past twenty years. She was a musical instructor for a long time and was well known in this city. She is survived by a number of nieces and nephews, Mrs. Everard Baker, Miss Inez Horton, Mr. Archie and Telfair Horton, of this city, and Mrs. L. N. Zealy, of Columbia, S. C.—News and Observer, 17th.

COMMISSION MAY SOLVE PRINT PAPER QUESTION

Washington, Feb. 16.—News print paper manufacturers facing criminal prosecution in United States courts for alleged combination in restraint of trade proposed to the federal trade commission today that it fix a reasonable price for the output of the principal plants of the United States and Canada. The commission announced tonight that it had the proposal under consideration and would reply immediately. It is generally believed the answer will be an acceptance.

The action of the manufacturers gives a signal victory to American newspaper publishers, who in the face of advancing paper prices have seen nothing ahead but ruin for many of their number. If the proposal is accepted, officials say, it will mark an expansion of the functions of the government which in arbitrating the differences between the two industries opens up a wide field of possibilities for the future. Although nothing has been said concerning the continuance of grand jury proceedings in New York, it is well understood the manufacturers' move was predicted on the assumption that there would be no criminal prosecutions.

Sunday here with their parents.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Wilber returned to their home in Richmond, Va., after a brief stay with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Davis.

Miss Maxory Godwin, of Dunn, was the guest of Miss Florence Adams this week.