

FOUNTAIN NOMINATED SPEAKER OF HOUSE ON SECOND BALLOT

Other Important Nominations Were W. L. Long, President Pro-Tem of Senate; J. Elmer Long, Lieutenant-Governor.

Raleigh, Jan. 5.—R. T. Fountain, of Edgecombe, was nominated as the candidate for speaker of the house by caucus of democratic members of the house last night, and will be elected speaker when the house formally convenes today at noon.

The Edgecombe solon was nominated on the second ballot with one vote to spare. The vote on the second ballot was: Fountain 51; Connor 34; Townsend 13.

Connor, of Wilson, ran only three votes behind Fountain on the first ballot. The vote on the first ballot was: Fountain 43; Connor 40; Townsend 15.

Following the nomination of candidates for other house offices, Fountain was escorted into the hall by a committee composed of Representatives Turlington, Winston and Ward, and made a brief speech in which he endorsed the policies of the McLean administration and advocated economical administration of the affairs of government.

The nominee for speaker will hardly name his committee before Monday of next week, but it was predicted last night that Representative Townsend, of Harnett, who trailed the voting on both ballots, was still in line for chairmanship of the strong finance committee. It was also predicted that Representative Walter Murphy, a strong supporter of Connor, would not be in line for chairmanship of the appropriations committee though he is expected to be placed on the committee, which he headed at the last session.

D. B. Moss, of Nash county, who placed Fountain's name before the caucus, is expected to land the chairmanship of one of the judiciary committees.

It had been predicted that the fight that had developed between the Connor and Townsend forces would result in Fountain's nomination; but it was by no means certain even after the three Wake county members of the house announced late in the afternoon that they would vote for the Edgecombe candidate.

Other candidates nomination by the democratic caucus last night were: Principal clerk, Alex. Lassiter, of Aulander; engrossing clerk, Miss Rosa Munda, of Concord; reading clerk, D. P. Dellinger, of Gaston county; sergeant at arms, Major John Liske, of Montgomery county.

50 PER CENT SALARY RAISE

Senator Moore Brings Bill to Increase Pay of Judges.

Raleigh, Jan. 5.—Senator Clayton Moore, of Martin, arrived in Raleigh yesterday with a bill in his pocket to raise the salaries of supreme court justices to \$9,000 and of superior court justices to \$7,500 with traveling expenses amounting to \$1,750 annually. The bill proposes an increase for the chief justice to \$10,000 a year. This is a raise of 50 per cent for superior court judges, and nearly that for the supreme court justices.

"It may not be bill number 1, but it will be dropped in soon after the senate opens," said Senator Moore, who left copies in his pocket.

The bill provides for the same salary of \$900 a year for stenographers for the supreme court justices and \$250 a year for incidental expenses. When the superior court judges were here last week to attend the judicial conference they discussed the question of increasing their salaries, which they said are inadequate in view of the increased cost of living.

The superior court judges held a conference and also called on Governor McLean.

Superior court judges get \$7,500 a year, \$1,250 traveling expenses. The proposed bill adds \$1,750 to the salary of the chief justice.

Boy Healer



Scores of people claim to have been healed when Abram George, eleven year old Indian boy lay his hands upon them. So great was the press about him at Rochester, N. Y., that he had collapsed from exhaustion.

VA-CAROLINA WAREHOUSE

Association is Composed of All the Warehouses in the State of Virginia

The Virginia - Carolina Warehouse Association is composed of all the warehousemen in the state of Virginia, prominent among members being Danville, Lynchburg, South Boston, Petersburg and South Hill houses. The organization is for the good of the people, including growers in the

state, they discussed the trade's outlook for the next twelve months and expressed their ideas in the following resolutions:

First, they admit that members have followed practices that are detrimental to the tobacco industry.

Whereas, some of the members of our association, in the bright belt, have this season bought and guaranteed tobacco in the country, divided their charges with truck drivers and farmers; and,

Whereas, we believe such practices are detrimental and injurious to the industry;

Resolved, That we as members of this association agree, each of us, to refrain from such practices in the future by ourselves or any employee connected with the business operated by any of us.

Following this confession and resolution of a more aseptic walk in life they proceeded to a position that was, if not philanthropic, at least first class business as viewed in the light of a modern broader business outlook as follows:

Whereas, the farmer and the commercial business of the dark fired tobacco belt of Virginia face a very serious situation due to the low prices paid for dark tobacco, and,

Whereas, the warehousemen of the state realizing that some effort should be made to alleviate the condition, called a meeting to be held at Key-ville, Va., Saturday, December 18, 1926, at 11 o'clock, a. m., at which representatives from most all the open auction markets of bright and dark tobaccos were present, and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved (1) That an appeal be made to all the buyers of dark tobacco to increase the amount of their purchases as well as increase the price paid therefor to such an extent that the farmers may realize an average of 12 to 15 cents per pound for their product in order that the dark tobacco industry may not be forced to go out of business.

(2) That the special attention of the tobacco buying trade be called to the fact that the present prices paid for the dark fired tobaccos are below the cost of production, and therefore (unless) that despite the unfavorable planting and growing conditions—often those necessary to water to get a crop planted, which entailed additional labor and increased cost of production, the farmers have raised a crop equal in quantity to that of the last year, which tobacco, although some may complain of its thinness, is not without its merits—as it is a clean smooth tobacco with a good color and fine strand and length, a cutter and

It is the hope of the tobacco

growers that their present very much

able years and realize the farmer is a co-partner, a producer of the raw material, and devise some measure whereby the farmer, their partner, may obtain better prices for his crop, and if necessary carry the tobacco for him a year and advise him before planting next season what supply will satisfy the demand and permit him to adjust his crops.

(4) That realizing that except for the good grain crops of this year there would be grave apprehension as to the growers of dark tobacco getting food and clothes sufficient and are so near the verge of bankruptcy that without some relief they will be unable to pay for their supplies and taxes this year, the Virginia - Carolina Warehouse Association is willing to co-operate with the buyers of dark tobacco and will use their influence to have the next and future crops curtailed to the extent of the demand for such tobacco.

(5) That the warehousemen realizing the concern of the tobacco

Big Year for Gas and License Taxes

Raleigh, Jan. 5.—Collections of gasoline taxes, automobile license fees and title registration fees in North of the present fiscal year, were at least ten million dollars, according to figures furnished The Raleigh Times Monday by the state department of revenue.

This is an increase of about two and one-half million dollars over the amount collected from the same sources in the first six months of the past fiscal year and almost four million dollars more than the fiscal year of 1924-1925.

Collections for the first six months of the present, and the past three fiscal years follows:

1924-1925—\$2,085,874.

1925-1926—\$7,255,832.

1926-1927—\$9,831,987.

Collections in December totalled \$772,663.74, and were divided as follows:

Gasoline taxes, \$706,424.99; licenses \$58,044.75; titles, \$8,194.

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REUBIN READY FOR HIS TRIP

Father of Thirty-four to Visit Congress and Look in on Coolidge

Washington, N. C., Jan. 4.—His suitcase packed, final orders administered to "Ma" Bland and the family, Reuben Bland was ready tonight for his excursion to the national capital tomorrow.

Reuben, claimant of the title of "Champion Father of the U. S." is going to see President Coolidge and congress. Reuben, the father of 34 children.

He will be accompanied to the capital by Carl Goerd, local publisher, and will be presented to congress Thursday by Representative Lindsay Warren. Arrangements have been made for him to greet President Coolidge at noon. The remainder of the day has been set aside for sight-seeing.

"I expect to have a good time," Reuben said tonight, "but my main reason for going is to keep the records straight and see that the fellow from Georgia, presented to congress last month, as the father of only 28 children, does not steal any of North Carolina's honors."

Reuben's friends and neighbors have planned a great send-off in Martin county tomorrow, and Reuben himself is working on a farewell speech.

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CITY FATHERS REDUCE LIGHT RATES 16 P. C.

Also Purchase Eight Acres for New Cemetery Near Present Site. Price Paid Was \$500 An Acre

At a recent meeting of the board of town commissioners the matter of purchasing additional ground for a cemetery was taken up and finally disposed of by purchasing an eight acre tract from Mr. B. L. Davis, located on the Farmville - Greenville highway, near the corporate limits. Fortunately the new site is only a short distance from the present cemetery. The purchase price paid was five hundred dollars an acre.

The board wishes those interested to offer suggestions of a name for the new cemetery, which will soon be laid off in lots of various sizes.

At the meeting of the board on Tuesday night of this week an action was taken which will come to the citizens with agreeable surprise. This was in the form of a reduction in price of electric current for lighting purposes.

The former rate of 16 cents a k.w.h. was reduced to 12 1/2 cents. A saving to those using lights of about 16 per cent. This rate to go in effect as of January 1, 1927.

The schedule of discounts is as follows:

Below \$10.00, 10 per cent. From \$10 to \$20 15 per cent. From \$20 to \$50, 20 per cent. From \$50 to \$100, 25 per cent. From \$100 to \$500, 35 per cent. From \$500 up, 40 per cent. Minimum charge, \$1.50.

State December Taxes Slump Showing U. S. Taxes Increase

Raleigh, Jan. 4.—State taxes collected in December for general fund purposes were slightly lower than those collected in December, 1926, according to figures made public Monday by the state revenue department.

The figures show collections of \$905,087 in December, 1926, as against collections of \$815,126 in December, 1925.

Taxes collected during the past December were from the following sources: income \$75,423; inheritance, \$76,971; license, \$45,546; schedule C, \$27,822; bus \$4,300; insurance \$1,971.

Taxes were collected in December, 1925, from the following sources: income \$108,918; inheritance, \$61,799; license \$65,829; schedule C, \$77,178; bus, \$10,000; insurance, \$2,005.

Washington, Jan. 4.—The treasury ended the first half of its fiscal year with a surplus of \$218,207,997 compared with \$128,598,300 for the same period a year ago.

000 From North Carolina in Six Months

More than one hundred million dollars in federal taxes were collected in North Carolina during the first six months of the present fiscal year and it is now almost a certainty that for the first time in the history of the state more than two hundred million dollars in federal taxes will be collected in a single twelve months period, according to Gilliam Grissom, United States collector of revenue for the district of North Carolina.

Monday Mr. Grissom announced December collections of \$16,621,000 bring the total collected since July 1 to \$109,410,000. During the first six months of the 1925-26 fiscal year the total collections were only \$92,575,000.

The gain of approximately \$7,900,000 in the first six months justifies us in expecting a gain of eight million dollars in the last six months, which will put us in the two hundred million dollar class, stated Mr. Grissom.

HO! TIGHT, MISTER, LOOK OUT FOR THE BUMPS. By A. B. CHAPIN. Illustration of a man in a hat and coat, with a sign that says 'ANOTHER 365 DAYS'.

COMMISSION REPORTED SPLIT ON 8 MONTHS SCHOOL TERM IN N. C.

Long May He Live



Latest photo of Hirohito former Prince Regent who becomes the new Emperor of Japan, through the recent death of his father.

Report of Body is Expected to be Made Public Before Next Week. Said to favor increased Equalization.

Raleigh, Jan. 5.—While no official announcement is forthcoming from the governor's education commission, which has been in executive session since Monday, reports last night were that the commission is badly split on the proposal of the teachers of the state that the present general assembly submit a constitutional amendment for an eight months' school term to be voted upon in 1928. The commission will continue its deliberations today, but no report is expected before next week.

J. O. Carr, of Wilmington, chairman of the commission, stated last night that no formal vote has yet been taken upon the question and the same statement was made by other members of the commission.

It was predicted by one member of the commission that if the body recommendation will be accompanied by another recommendation that the term not be increased until the equalizing fund for the six months shall have been increased to approximately \$4,500,000. On the same basis, an eight months school term would require an equalizing fund of \$6,000,000.

The state equalizing fund is now \$1,500,000, but Superintendent A. T. Allen has requested that the 1927 general assembly make this amount \$2,500,000 and it has been generally predicted that this recommendation will be incorporated in the budget which will be announced by Governor McLean in his message of Friday.

The present \$1,500,000 fund equalizes taxes for school teachers above 44 cents. The \$2,500,000 fund would raise it to 50 cents, thus raising practically all the counties in the state.

A return to a statewide tax on property, which the state abandoned in 1921, for the purpose of providing the proposed additional increase in the equalizing fund is said to be given very serious consideration by the commission.

The first intimation of a rift in the ranks of the commission came last week when Edgar W. Pharr, of Charlotte, speaker of the 1925 house of representatives, predicted that the commission would oppose lengthening the term to eight months.

Superintendent A. T. Allen, who has surrendered his office to the commission for so much time as may be required by their deliberations behind closed doors and who has not attended the sessions for the first time since the commission was appointed in April, 1926, yesterday expressed himself as not worried.

"I have spent a great deal of time at the hotel and have talked to the members," said Mr. Allen. "I have made no attempt to poll them and shall not do so, but the voluntary assurances of support for the amendment I have received are very gratifying."

Chairman Carr stated last night that it is expected that the commission will get far enough along today to enable instructions to be given to himself and Dr. J. Y. Joyner, the secretary, as to the drafting of the formal report, but that another meeting of the commission will be necessary to adopt the report.

Mr. Carr stated he could make no definite prediction, but that he hoped the report would be ready within a week or ten days.

COOLIDGE TO VISIT STATE

President Reported to Be Interested in the Shooting Around Pamlico Sound

Kinston, Jan. 3.—"Little Washington," as Mr. Coolidge is said to have called it, rather expects a visit from the president of the United States some time. Mr. Coolidge is more interested in the shooting in the territory around Pamlico sound, according to prominent residents of the tide-water town.

stories about the hunting grounds that appeared to thrill him when he lunched at the White House a short time ago. Bishop is from New England. His family lived at no great distance from the Coolidges. He met the president at the capital and was invited to lunch at the mansion. According to Bishop, Mr. Coolidge seemed to be deeply interested in his accounts of the water fowl shooting and fishing in Eastern Carolina. He enthused over them more than he is given to enthusing over such things, though the president was much in the limelight as an angler last summer.

Grover Cleveland visited the tide-water town while he was president. He was a ready hand with the quick gun, and shot good bags on every excursion to the sounds. Admiral R. D. Evans was another who found pleasure in the Eastern Carolina marshes. Cleveland and Evans are said to have made trips together to the shooting grounds.