

RAILWAY TAXATION

Speaker Connor Introduced as a Substitute a Resolution Directing the Railroad Commission to Assess All Railroad Property 6 per Cent on Net Income.

The House met at 10 o'clock. Bills were introduced. By Willard, to incorporate Grand Commandery Knights Templars of North Carolina. By Currie, of Bladen, to provide for naval store inspectors at Wilmington, to be appointed by the mayor and aldermen. By Allen, of Wayne, to incorporate the North Carolina Association. By Roushall, to amend the charter of Wilson. By Hoffman, to allow the voters of Morganton to vote on the question of a dispensary. By McLean, of Harnett, to amend the charter of Dunn.

Bills passed to make Neuse river in Johnston county a lawful fence. To establish a dispensary at Seaboard. To allow the building of a dam across the Yadkin river, to furnish electric power to Charlotte, Salisbury and other places. To incorporate the North Carolina Mutual Provident Association (colored).

At 11 o'clock the House resolved itself into committee of the whole on the revenue bill, and took up again the amendment of Julian to strike out sections 59 to 62, which impose an income tax on railways.

Winston said he regretted to differ with the committee but the proposition was to tax again property which had been taxed once—the income derived from taxed property. He declared that not a vote should be cast for such a tax. It was alleged this was in line with the tax on merchants. The only justification for the merchants' tax is that a large part of the property is not on hand June 1. No one save the railroads gives in for taxation the full value of its property. The property of railways is not consumed, it remains all the while. There is no similarity between railways and insurance companies. The railway property is tangible; the assets of insurance companies is largely the confidence of the people of the State. If the railways are not assessed at their full value, put them at their full value first, as the condition demands. The railway commission is given guardianship of railways and has raised its assessed value million of dollars. He declared that no one here knew how much this new tax would put upon railways and he added, "Why single out the railways for this new departure in taxation?"

He spoke in eloquent words of the great work the railroads had done last year in the hour of the State's trial. Last June, July and August there was fear on the part of Democratic leaders whether the great organizations of capital would aid them. These railroads answered the appeal to them for aid in the noblest manner, and sprang to the aid of white supremacy. He read from the Democratic hand book of 1898. In this it is plainly said that the rights of capital and of corporations shall be given just protection. He declared that the landmark was the ark of safety and the covenant which guided the white people in the grand campaign of 1898. No man when pleading for the interests of the people in the campaign dared say he would not stand by this solemn league and covenant made with the good people of North Carolina.

Willard, in support of the bill said it was right and just to levy a special privilege tax on property which enjoys special and monopolistic privileges. He said Connor and Winston were in error in saying that railways were singled out—that telegraph companies paid tax on their property and also an income or privilege tax. He said it was undemocratic to tax railways, and wanted to know why they did not use that argument as to the tax on telegraph and telephone companies. He expressed surprise at Connor's argument that the tax might in the future be extended to cotton mills, and of Craige's argument that it might even be extended to farmers.

Rountree asked him whether he thought this tax ought to be placed on such corporations as electric light and gas companies.

Willard said yes, in a lesser degree.

In conclusion Willard (who is the author of this new tax scheme) said it might be defeated now, but it would not down. He declared that the lowest argument was the one that the Democratic party had made pledges to the corporations.

Robinson said Winston had laid down two astounding propositions—one that it was undemocratic to tax railways, the other that the party was pledged

not to tax them. He defended the committee.

Roushall said he did not think it fair in Winston to argue that there was a pledge by the Democratic State chairman to the railways which was binding.

Allen, of Wayne, said that the State chairman said he had made no pledge save that in the platform and the hand book—which is that railways and all other corporations shall receive equal justice and equal treatment and favored the committee's bill.

Gattie asked Roushall if the same rate of taxation a much tax now. He would yield as much tax now. He wanted to know if there was not \$100,000 in the State treasury.

Roushall said it was only apparently there.

Willard said it would take \$75,000 of the \$100,000 to pay the expenses of this legislature.

Justice said that to get the matter of this tax properly it was necessary to say that this House was under no obligation and no pledge. He said that Robinson's statement that it was a fight between corporations and the people seemed too much like Gov. Russell's argument as regarded the railway commission. He asked where would be the justice of taxing the gross earnings of a road like the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railway, which has made no money. He said the proper principle is to tax the tangible property and take its earning capacity into account. He was willing to vote for a bill to have the railway commission do this. He bitterly opposed the inauguration of this new system.

Robinson asked what would be Justice's opinion when it was shown that the Southern Railway's net earnings were 23 1/2 per cent.

Justice replied that Robinson appeared to be addressing himself to an attack on the Southern Railway and leaving the other roads out of the question.

Harnett spoke in favor of the tax and said it was no new departure for the Democratic party, either in the nation or the State.

Curtis opposed any tax save on property.

Alexander asked if railways did not have \$115,000,000 invested in North Carolina.

Thompson, of Onslow, said the cost of the railways was \$88,000,000.

Willard said that the railways paid 4 per cent on \$99,000,000, and 12 per cent on \$22,000,000, the assessed value.

At 12:15 the committee rose and the House took up the special order, the election of trustees of the State University. At this moment an act was brought in and ratified, providing for the election of a State Librarian. This was deferred until the trustees were elected.

The Speaker named McIntosh and Williams, of Yadkin as tellers; Kemp P. Battle, C. M. Stedman, F. H. Busbee, H. C. Wall, Benahan Cameron, James S. Manning, John W. Fries, R. M. Furman, W. A. Guthrie, Thos. S. Kenan, R. H. Lewis, Jas. A. Lockhart, of Anson; James D. Murphy, J. L. Patterson, Fred. Phillips, John A. Roebeling, Henry Weil, W. T. Whitsett, E. J. Hale, Charles M. Cooke, T. J. Jerome, H. E. Faison, T. B. Pelree, Jas. Sprunt, L. J. Picot, Joseph P. Caldwell, H. A. London, Frank Wilkinson, E. R. Britton, were nominated by Winston and were elected without opposition.

Boggs, of Catawba, nominated M. O. Sherrell for State Librarian. Hampton nominated R. A. Cobb, and Williams, of Yadkin nominated Miss Sallie Stock-Sherrell was elected receiving the solid Democratic vote.

At 1 o'clock the House again went into committee of the whole on the revenue bill.

Speaker Connor said that the highest moral principles should govern the imposition of a tax that the simplicity of needing money could not justify the levying of any kind of a tax.

State must set the model, the ideal for the citizen. The law is but the consolidated wish of the people. Unjust taxation has done more than anything else to deprave public morals. He said that the dealing was with corporations of which the public is not fond, and hence this is apt to warp judgment. The thing to do is to be fair, to get the best result on sound principles. He said the value of rail-

CHARLOTTE DISPENSARY

Bill Made Special Order for Tonight

Gallant Captain of the Raleigh Thanked—Bill to Sell A. & N. C. Railroad—Wrangle Over Extra Pay to Pages.

The Senate met at 10 o'clock, and prayer was offered by Rev. J. E. Boon.

Bills introduced: By Clarke, to establish a Western District Criminal Court. This bill was put upon immediate passage and passed final reading. It provides that a criminal circuit shall be established in the counties of Buncombe, Madison, Haywood, Burke, Swain, Caldwell, Appeals to the Superior Court. By Black to sell stock in the Atlantic and North Carolina Railway; and to incorporate Liberty Normal College. By Glenn, in regard to Joseph C. Ogden, commander of the "Raleigh." (This is a resolution, and was immediately adopted. It stands as a token of the State's appreciation of the gallant services of Captain Ogden during the recent war with Spain.) By Butler, to devise a plan for marking Confederate graves. By Hairston, resolved that this General Assembly do not adjourn until the Agricultural Department be taken from its present corrupt management. The question was put to a roll call vote as to whether it should go upon immediate passage and was lost, so it went on tomorrow's agenda.

Senator Glenn announced that he would file a minority report in favor of the Charlotte dispensary bill, and asked that the bill come up for discussion on next Tuesday. A score of purely local bills passed their final readings.

Senator Osborne then entered the Senate and asked where the Mecklenburg dispensary bill was. He was told by Glenn that it was understood the bill should come up Tuesday. Osborne objected. He asked the Senators to consider the strain upon him and act on the matter today. He considered that advocates of the dispensary had produced all argument possible a him and no reason could be assigned for holding up the bill. It was agreed that the bill should be considered whenever it was reached on the calendar.

Among the bills passed were: To amend the charter of Wilmington; to establish a dispensary in Lexington; to regulate the sale of liquor in Macon county; and to provide for a dispensary to amend the charters of Salisbury and Statesville.

The special order for the election of the trustees of the University was taken up and the same were elected as in the House.

The time honored custom of giving the pages five dollars in addition to their per diem of one dollar came up in the form of a resolution signed by thirty-three members of the Senate. Senators Hinks, Smith and Daniels made eloquent speeches against the passage of the resolution and after half an hour was consumed in discussing the propriety of the principle involved, Senator Daniels even going so far as to produce a five dollar gold piece, which he said he was willing to give to the pages, but was unwilling to expend the State's money as a bonus to them. Finally, by a roll call vote of 23 yeas to 16 nays, it was decided that the five dollars should be given to the boys.

On the motion of Senator Brown, the Charlotte dispensary bill was made a special order tonight at 8 o'clock.

Resolution passed asking Congress to protect depositors in Freedman's bank.

The bill to consolidate and improve the normal school for the colored race was opposed in some part by Ward, who wanted the appropriation mentioned in the bill changed from \$8,000 to \$5,000.

Senator Fuller argued that the appropriation be not curtailed and requested the passage of the bill as it stands. Upon motion of Senator Johnson the bill went over until tomorrow, and the Senate adjourned at 6 o'clock.

Mr. Lawrence S. Holt, Mr. Erwin Holt and Mr. Harper Erwin, of Burlington, were here today to attend Rev. Dr. Smedes' funeral.

Mr. Oscar J. Spears, the well known Republican attorney, is at the center. He is here to begin the taking of depositions in the contest of Col. Oliver H. Dockery (Republican) for the seat of Hon. John D. Bohamy (Democrat) as Congressman from this (the Sixth) district. Evidence will be taken in most of the counties. Mr. Spears' associate counsel is Mr. Chapin. He claims that Col. Dockery is confident that he will get the seat.—Charlotte News.

"I have received strange news from my son in the Klondike." "Has he not rich?" "No; but a man who saw him up there said he was working."—Chicago Record.

LAI D TO REST

Funeral of Rev. Dr. Bennett Smedes

DEEPEST SORROW

Service Held From Christ Church This Morning at Eleven O'Clock.

The mortal remains of the late Rev. Bennett Smedes, D. D., were deposited in their final resting place in Oakwood cemetery this morning.

All of yesterday and last night the body rested before the altar in the Chapel at St. Mary's and hundreds visited the chapel to look for the last time upon the face which they had loved so well. The loss of this good man was felt in every class, race and sect in the city. Among the callers were Roman Catholics and Protestants. Many colored people also went.

The casket was covered with violet palm. A white cross and a cluster of palm leaves rested on the pall.

Two hundred teachers, boarders and day scholars from St. Mary's followed the remains to Christ church at eleven o'clock where the funeral services were conducted. Bishop Cheshire, Rev. Dr. Marshall, Rev. Dr. Pittenger, Rev. Julian E. Ingles, of Henderson, and Rev. Thomas Bell, of Wilson officiating.

The hymns sung were "For all the saints who from their labors rest," "Peace, Perfect Peace" and "Hark, Hark, My Soul."

The pall-bearers were: Dr. P. E. Hines, Dr. T. D. Hogg, Dr. R. H. Lewis, Capt. S. A. Ashe, R. H. Battle, Esq., Col. J. W. Himsdale, Mr. Chas. E. Johnson, Col. Benahan Cameron, Mr. Chas. M. Busbee, Mr. Thos. T. Hay, Mr. Wm. Boylan and Mr. Frank P. Hayward, Jr.

Mr. A. B. Stromach, Mayor A. M. Powell, Rev. Dr. A. M. Simms and Mr. E. H. Busbee, as representatives from the L. O. B. Branch Camp of Confederate Veterans, acted as pall-bearers. They wore Confederate uniforms.

The church was crowded with loving friends who came to pay their last tribute to the mortal remains of the one whom they all loved. The teachers and students from St. Mary's attended in a body.

The floral tributes at the cemetery were magnificent and the new mausoleum was completely hid. The other graves in the section were also covered with flowers.

A PRIVATE SCENE.

By special request M. A. F. Bowden gave last evening, at the home of Mr. Chas. D. Wilder, on Dawson street, a practical demonstration of the use and value of hypnotism.

His experiments were convincing and fully explained to the satisfaction of the audience.

Two members of the audience, stating that they were suffering from severe headache, the value of therapeutic suggestion, in the alleviation of pain, was shown by the almost instant cure of the same.

FILIPPINO STRUGGLE

Filipino Lost Yesterday in a Marked Improvement in the Epem's Markmanship—Our Headquarters Removed

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—(Gen. Ochs called today: "On the nights of February 23rd and 24th, and yesterday morning the insurgent troops gained access to other outskirts of the city behind our lines. Many were invading and about 1,000 entrenched themselves but were completely routed yesterday. The loss, in killed and wounded was about 500 and 200 prisoners taken. Our loss was very slight. The city is quiet and confidence is restored. Business is progressing.

Secretary Lusk took to the cabinet this morning two cipher cables transmitted by Dewey dated this morning. One says: "For political reasons the Oregon should be sent at once." The other says: "The Yokertown arrival. The Charleson and Petrel are circling around the Philippines. Attacks are more quiet."

Dewey's cable asking that the Oregon be hurried has caused the officials to believe the situation in the Philippines is very serious. The despatch caused the greatest apprehension. It is inferred trouble with German is expected.

THE COMPROMISE.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—Senators Hawley and Calkins, representing the two parties, are considering a draft of the compromise bill submitted by the War Department, attempting to harmonize the views of the two parties. It is doubtful if the bill will be in shape to report to the Senate before tomorrow morning.

The House is considering the army appropriation bill. The debate is limited to five hours to be concluded before adjournment tonight.

COLDER.

For Raleigh and vicinity: Fair, colder tonight and Saturday.

The high area and cold wave have moved to the Lake region of Ohio valley, but the temperature has moderated very considerably in the readings northwest, no below zero being reported this morning. The lowest was 2 degrees above at Davenport. The temperature is below freezing in the central Mississippi and Ohio valleys and in the Lake region.

Some precipitation, chiefly snow, is reported over the Lake region, but elsewhere the weather is fair. A storm is forming in the extreme north-west.

THE MONKEY AS A COTTON PICKER.

Editor Times-Visitor.

Since the appearance of my article in the Times-Visitor on above subject a few days ago, numerous enquiries have been made as to how the monkey is caught; this useful employment, of course, it required some study to come to a conclusion of the very best plan. It will be remembered that a few years ago, a distinguished professor of a Northern college, visited Monkey-land for the purpose of studying monkey language, for he believed that they had a language. His report was published in the Washington City papers two or three years ago. This professor, in order to increase himself with the natives of the country he visited and secure their protection, took with him many little trinkets and small useful articles to give as presents to them. Among these articles was a number of cheap striped caps, similar to those worn by Jews on our American race courses.

One day the professor was in the forest, carrying a basket filled with these small articles, while he intended to distribute among the natives, and among the articles were several of these striped caps. In order to catch the monkeys' eyes, he went on himself. "Wee! Wee! Wee!" he went, on himself.

The day being warm, the professor lay down in the shade of a large cocoanut tree, listening to the chatter of monkeys above him. He took from his head the cap he had been wearing, putting it under his head on the top of the tree that gave him shade, and went off to sleep.

The monkey, seeing that the professor slept, slipped down and stole every cap in the basket of the professor, and then swamped him awake the professor, who, looking into the tree above him, saw that every monkey in sight had on one of his striped caps. The only one left was the one he had under his head. Taking it in his hand, with a pious exclamation, through it at the amusing little animals, with the exclamation, "Bless your little souls, take this one, too!"

The monkeys, following the example of the professor, and imitating him in action, threw every one of his caps back at the professor.

It is a well known fact that the way the cocoanuts are gathered is, when a monkey is found up a cocoanut tree, to throw some thing towards him, and he will throw back a cocoanut. This plan is so well known and has become general that cocoanut gatherers have provided themselves with large rubber balls, or hollow balls, and use them being light, if they should accidentally hit the monkey, he would not be hurt.

These incidents having been related to the agent who was catching monkeys for experiment on the Mississippi

It might be well for our Legislature now in session to make a small appropriation in aid of this laudable enterprise. It will be as wise as some of its legislation, and the money of the State as economically spent. X. X.

She—"and so you saw service in Cuba? I do hope you were one of the first to go up San Juan Hill." He—"Oh, no! I wasn't a newspaper correspondent. I was only a soldier."—Chicago News.

MANILA, Feb. 24.—(Owing to the withdrawal of all suspected Filipinos yesterday and the clearance of the streets last night, the threat of renewal of the scenes of the previous night did not occur, and with the exception of a few shots in the neighborhood of the penitentiary, the city is assumed quiescent.

Outside of Manila the troops are very active. Near Cebu the Brigades commanded by General Harrison Gray and this had several lively skirmishes. The enemy was driven back at day's dawn with severe loss.

The feeling in the city is very much improved today, and business is generally resumed. The police are generally commended for preserving excellent order. The Spanish arrived last night with the Twentieth infantry.

MANILA, Feb. 24.—(The afternoon, despite the excitement of the past two days business is proceeding as usual. General confidence is felt in the ability of the authorities to maintain order. American women were sent aboard the transports at a safeguard to them against danger. Sharpshooters have practically ceased, but there is continued skirmishing on McArthur's front. One American was killed and four wounded this morning. The U.S.A. battery this morning bombarded the church of San Francisco at Del Monte, used by the insurgents as a fortress, from which they attacked the South Dakotas yesterday.

MANILA, Feb. 24.—This afternoon the enemy's sharpshooters are very active about Calocan. All day they have paid special attention to three gun batteries near the railroad. There is a noticeable improvement in the observed marksmanship. About the Twentieth Kansas regiment and three others were wounded and one man killed.

The fire was set during the night that headquarters were removed from headquarters to 60 yards within the lines.

BRIEFS.

Mr. Nat Brown is quite ill.

Will "Adams" who advertises means to get pleasure call at this office.

Mr. D. T. Moore, Sr., of Waynesville street is very ill, with pneumonia.

Rev. Sidney Host and Mr. W. L. Wall of Durham, attended Rev. Dr. Smedes' funeral today.