

NORTH STATE LAWMAKERS

Proceedings Devoted Largely to the Local Measures.

Third Reading Bills.

At Monday's session of the House the following new bills passed third reading:

An act to amend the charter of the Piedmont Savings Bank.

An act to provide for the sale of property in which there is a contingent remainder.

A joint resolution to appoint a committee to investigate the cost of converting the State prison building into a hospital for insane or other useful purposes.

A resolution concerning the distribution of the George Peabody fund.

These passed third reading in the Senate:

House bill: To levy a special tax in Sampson to pay expenses of smallpox epidemic.

Senate bill: To authorize Guilford county to vote on bonds for road improvements.

House bill: To provide for working the roads in Smithfield township, in Johnston county.

House bill: To authorize Jackson county to levy a special tax.

House bill: To amend the charter of Red Springs.

House bill: To incorporate Stokes in Pitt county.

Senate bill: Authorizing Cleveland to levy special tax for roads and bridges.

Senate bill: Authorizing Tyrrell to levy special tax.

Senate bill: To incorporate Lawndale in Cleveland.

Senate bill: Allowing Lenoir to levy a special tax.

Senate bill: To change the corporate limits of Marion.

Senate bill: To establish graded school in Freemont.

In both House and Senate quite a number of local private bills were introduced, together with many petitions and resolutions on the temperance question.

Senate bill: Authorizing Madison county to issue bonds to pay the outstanding indebtedness of the county.

Ayes 28, noes 2—Crisp and Wellborn.

Senate bill: Allowing Whiteville to issue improvement bonds.

Senate bill: To authorize Montgomery to issue bonds to build court house.

Senate bill: To authorize Edenton to issue bonds.

House bill: To incorporate Rhodhiss in Caldwell.

Senate bill: Authorizing Pitt to levy a special tax.

House bill: To amend chapter 88, Private Laws of 1897, and chapter 215, Private Acts 1899—after diligent inquiry one Senator finally explained that this bill amended the charter of Lumberton.

Senate bill: Regulating contested elections was deferred until Monday.

House bill: To correct State grant No. 479.

Senate bill: To amend the law, regulating notaries' fees.

Senate bill: To confirm certain charter privileges and rights of the Suffolk & Carolina Railway Company.

Senate bill: For better drainage of land in Lincoln.

Senate bill: To amend pension law was tabled.

Senate bill: To abolish the board of examiners of State institutions. Mr. Glenn said that he did not know that there was such a board until he saw their report in the papers and that report was thoroughly unjust and unfair to at least one State institution. He thought taking the authority for visiting the institutions from the Legislature was a great mistake. He could not endorse the work of the examiners that cost \$12,000 and accomplished nothing. Mr. Spence objected to third reading.

Senate bill: To abolish standard keeper in Vance, failed to pass.

House bill: To prevent public drunkenness in Macon county.

House bill: To shorten time of notice of publication.

Senator Reinhardt sent up and had read a memorial from the agricultural students in the Agricultural and Mechanical College asking for an agricultural building.

House bill: To amend chapter 524, Laws of 1901, so as to eliminate the oath primary elections except in case of challenge, applying only to Mecklenburg county. This bill amends the law so as to require the managers of primary elections to administer an oath "when any voter is challenged in good faith, the challenger stating grounds for such challenge."

Senate bill: Allowing M. N. Ames to practice law and be a justice of the peace.

Senate bill: To regulate contested elections, was tabled.

Senate bill: To amend The Code, section 380, with reference to measures.

Senate bill: To amend chapter 750, Laws of 1901.

House bill: To incorporate the Bank of Martin County, was amended and passed.

House bill: To incorporate the Raleigh & Eastern Railroad was amended regarding the rate clause and then passed second reading.

PASSED THIRD READING.

House bill: To ratify and affirm the incorporation of the Carolina & Tennessee Southern Railway Company.

House bill: To amend chapter 15, Laws 188.

Senate bill: To form a school district from Cumberland and Robeson.

House bill: To relieve Annie B. Whitted, of Person.

House bill: For relief of Miss Julia B. Howard, of Person.

House bill: For relief of Miss Ella Chandler, of Person.

House bill: For relief of Mrs. Stanford Potter.

Senate bill: Regulating hunting in Halifax and Warren.

House bill: To repeal acts of 1887 regarding collecting taxes in Caswell.

House bill: To allow Caswell to levy a special tax passed second reading.

Senate bill: Regulating local option election in Brevard and placing safeguards about the liquor traffic in Transylvania.

House bill: For paying school claims in Davie.

House bill: To relieve Miss Mary Jane Watkins.

Senate bill: To relieve Miss Mattinette Pecto, of Halifax.

Senate bill: To relieve Miss Nannie Tanner.

Senate bill: To regulate the sale of liquor in township No. 1, Edgecombe.

Senate bill: To regulate sale of malt in McDowell.

House bill: Amending an act regulating hunting and fishing in Currituck.

House bill: To prohibit the manufacture, sale and shipping of liquor in Cumberland.

House bill: Resolution regarding the distribution of the Peabody fund.

The Senate adjourned at 1:40 o'clock until 12 o'clock Monday.

The child labor bill was postponed until Wednesday.

New Relief Committee.

Mexico City, Special.—A relief committee under the name of "Comite Nacional," has been organized here, to take the place of the charity commission which has been collecting funds for Mazatlan. President Diaz is honorary president of the committee. The actual president is Minister of Interior Corrali. In view of the controversy that people leaving the city of Mazatlan dodge the sanitary stations, and because of the reported appearance of the plague at a small town near that city, the authorities have decided to make more strict regulations governing emigration from the stricken fort.

All the Protocols Signed.

Washington, Special.—Minister Bowen, Venezuela's representative in the peace negotiations at Washington, signed with each of the allies' representatives here, a protocol providing for the immediate raising of the blockade and for the reference of the question of preferential treatment of the claim of the allies against the Venezuelan government to The Hague. The final formalities occurred at the British embassy. At 11:20 Friday night Mr. Herbert, the first secretary to the embassy, announced to the Associated Press that the British protocol had just been signed. All the protocols were signed at 11:50.

The Oregon Deadlock.

Salem, Ore., Special.—The last week of the legislative assembly will begin and from present indications there will be no election until the last day and perhaps the last hour of the session. No joint resolution for adjournment has yet been passed, but the Legislature will probably dissolve on Friday or Saturday. Throughout the entire session State Senator C. W. Fulton has been the leading candidate with 34 votes, 45 being necessary for a choice.

Baptist Missionary Conference.

Macon, Ga., Special.—The Baptist Missionary Conference and School of Methods will meet in this city on the 17th of February, and will continue through the 22nd. Several preachers and speakers of national reputation will deliver addresses during the conference. Among these will be Dr. John R. Sampey, of Louisville, Ky.; Dr. Wm. E. Hatcher, of Richmond, Va.; J. M. Frost, of Nashville, Tenn.; Dr. W. W. Landrum, of Atlanta, and Rev. B. W. Spillman, of Nashville.

Sea Water Kills Germs.

Typhoid germs die after a few days' exposure in sea water.

TILLMAN ON HABEAS CORPUS

Vigorous Effort Made to Get Him Out of Jail on Bond.

Newberry, S. C., Special.—Applications for bail for former Lieutenant Governor James H. Tillman, charged with the murder of N. G. Gonzales, editor of The State, in Columbia, S. C., January 15th, was argued here last week.

The hearing was presided over by Chief Justice Y. J. Pope, who on last Saturday granted the hearing to the defending attorneys of James H. Tillman.

The commonwealth of South Carolina was represented by State Attorney General Gunter and Solicitor Thurmond. Tillman was defended by Congressman-elect George W. Croft, his law partner and P. H. Nelson, of Columbia.

Justice Pope signed an order requiring Tillman's counsel to serve copies of affidavits upon the solicitor general, who would reply if desired, and the answers of the state will be served upon the appellants who are also given the right to reply.

Monday at noon both sides will be present before Justice Pope in Columbia, and final action will be taken.

Tillman and his lawyers are sure of winning the decision on the ground of self defense. The solicitor and his assistant counsel declare they will resist bail to the very last.

The hearing of the application for bail began shortly after 2 o'clock. The court room was packed almost to suffocation. There was no demonstration when Tillman entered as the judge had warned everybody to be absolutely quiet. Tillman appeared calm, then nervous, impatient and angry at the varying stages of the hearing.

Col. Nelson, for Mr. Tillman, conducted his case. Affidavits were read alleging Gonzales had sent a message threatening Tillman's life. One affidavit declared it was expected and believed Tillman would be shot by Gonzales whenever the two men met.

A lengthy affidavit from Tillman was read in which he swore he had been warned by many that his life was in danger, and that he fired in self defense. His affidavit declared that as Gonzales approached on the fatal day, Gonzales slipped his hand into his overcoat pocket, which Tillman says he thought was a motion to draw a pistol. Not until the shot was fired, Tillman says, he realized Gonzales had not also shot him.

When the appellants announced closed the solicitor objected to any further continuance of the hearing on the ground that affidavits had been sprung on them at the very latest moment, when they had no opportunity to make investigation.

Justice Pope ruled after argument from both sides had been made that his order would be to continue the hearing until all affidavits on both sides could be answered. Both sides declined an expression of opinion after the decision had been announced.

The details of the tragedy in which Editor Gonzales lost his life are well remembered. Since the day of the shooting, Thursday, January 15, quiet and persistent efforts have been made by Tillman's legal advisers in outlining their plans of defense.

TILLMAN REACHES NEWBERRY.

Former Lieutenant Governor Jas. H. Tillman arrived at 2 o'clock, accompanied by his brother-in-law, Judge Buchanan, who is his leading counsel. Other members of counsel who accompanied the prisoner were R. H. Nelson, Geo. Rembert and Geo. W. Croft, former congressman, who is Mr. Tillman's law partner.

There was no demonstration at the depot, when the party arrived, as it was supposed they would come via the Southern. Instead, Tillman, an officer, and counsel came over the other route.

Tillman was driven immediately to the office of Col. Cole Blease, a member of counsel, where many of his friends called on him during the short time before the party went to the Crowell hotel to dinner.

The officer from Columbia had very little to do, and no one who did not know would have thought Tillman was under arrest.

Mr. Tillman said: "All I ask for is a fair trial and I am ready for it."

While he was talking to me, one of his lawyers called him to the window and said: "Jim, there's one of the best friends you have got in the world. He has been praying for your acquittal."

"That's a good friend to have," said Tillman, "and his prayer will be answered."

After a brief conference with friends in the lawyer's office, Mr. Tillman was taken to the hotel and dinner was served.

WINDING UP OF CASE.

Mr. Bowen Taking The Last Steps in Venezuelan Controversy.

Washington, Special.—Minister Bowen expects to begin immediately the preparations of the protocols with the representatives of the unallied powers for the settlement of the claims of the citizens of those nations who have suffered as a result of the trouble in Venezuela. There are eight of these claimant nations. The drawing up of the protocol with this government will be the first undertaken. Solicitor Penfield, of the State Department, will represent the United States in these negotiations with Mr. Bowen. Work on this protocol, it is expected, will begin tomorrow and Mr. Bowen's belief is that matters will move forward with greater rapidity than they did with the representatives of the allied governments who were enforcing the blockade against Venezuela. The negotiations with France will follow those with the United States, and so on until the protocols with all the unallied creditor nations are completed. The statement has been made that the allied powers were opposed to preferential treatment to Great Britain, Germany and Italy, and that in all probability Venezuela, the United States and France will be lined up as representing the eight unallied nations at The Hague, as opposed to the three allies.

Mr. Bowen continues to receive congratulatory dispatches from Venezuela on the outcome of his work here. One of those which he prizes most highly is from the citizens of La Guaira, through the prefect which read as follows:

"La Guaira—The citizens of La Guaira through me felicitate you as the great and good friend of Venezuela."

Various efforts have been made by representatives of big financial houses in this country to sound Mr. Bowen as to his views on the question of financing the debts of Venezuela, which will arise out of the expected adjudication of the claims by the several mixed commissions. Mr. Bowen, however, has informed all those who have spoken to him on the subject that his mission here is entirely a diplomatic one, and that he could not consider the financial features of the matter.

POSTMASTER MULLEN IS OUT.

Mr. Smith Appointed to Succeed to the Office.

Charlotte, N. C., Special.—Mr. W. N. Mullen was last week removed from the office of postmaster of this city on the third charge. It will be remembered that the first charge against him was for intoxication. This was settled in a way satisfactory to the department, and Mullen was retained. The second charge was that a shortage of several hundred dollars appeared in his books. This was some weeks ago, but Mullen showed that the shortage was fully covered, and again was retained. Last week, however, the charge was urged that he had failed to weigh second-class matter, and that as a result the government had lost a large sum of postage. Mr. Mullen was then relieved and the question of a successor came up. Mr. Geo. B. Hiss was tendered the position, but declined. Mr. R. W. Smith was then appointed. Several telegrams were sent to the department and to Senator Pritchard urging the withdrawal of Mr. Smith's name, but this action was not taken, and it is likely that his appointment will be confirmed.

Ex-Governor Fishback Dead.

Little Rock, Ark., Special.—Former Governor Wm. Fishback died Monday at his home in Fort Smith, of paralysis. He was 72 years of age. He was widely known as the author of the Fishback amendment, by which the Legislature is forbidden ever to pay certain bonds issued during the reconstruction period.

A Special Wrecked.

Washington, Special.—It is reported that the Florida Special on the Southern Railway, which leaves here at 9:50 p. m., was wrecked 10 miles south of Alexandria, Va., Saturday night. One man is said to have been killed. Physicians have been sent out from Alexandria. An arrest has been made on a charge of train-wrecking.

CROWDS VISIT THE SENATE

To Hear the Opening Prayer By Gen. Booth.

Washington, Special.—An immense crowd was attracted to the Senate Friday to hear the invocation of General Wm. Booth, founder and commander-in-chief of the Salvation Army. Among the occupants of the galleries were Booth Tucker, the general's chief assistant and son-in-law and a large number of Salvationists. When the statehood bill came up, Mr. Depew resumed his remarks, and attacked the Mormon Church because he said he believed its members still cling to the practice of polygamy. Referring to the anti-polygamy provision in the Statehood bill, Mr. Depew said that it would seem that "the fine Italian hand of the Mormon apostle had been at work in the preparation of the measure and that the concentrated influence of the Mormon hierarchy could be seen in the determined effort to prevent any amendment which would completely exclude polygamy." It is not disputed, he said, that the vote of the Mormon Church is absolutely controlled by the central hierarchy of that organization. He declared that the migration of Mormons to the different States and Territories was not for the purpose of securing homes and farms, but in the rough a compact to control legislation.

Any legislation, Mr. Rawlins declared, in any State directed at Mormonism is futile, unless there is a public sentiment which will sustain the same, while the question was not as to the inadequacy of the provisions against polygamy, but as to the exercise of political power. Persecution is the seed of the Mormon Church, he declared, and it did not do any good to arraign the entire people and brand every Mormon as a slave, a most unjust accusation. "To do that," he said, "you solidify those who would aid you in bringing about the very conditions you see here." The best possible school, he said, for the correction of these evils, is to emancipate the Mormons and leave them free to work out their own destinies.

Mr. Dubois said he did not think the reference of the opponents of statehood to polygamy were serious. He declared that if the statehood bill is allowed to be put on the postoffice appropriation bill he would consent to it, and advocate the placing of the Idaho constitution relating to elections, as an amendment and require Arizona and New Mexico to subscribe to it before being admitted. Under the test oath of that constitution, he said, Idaho disfranchised every member of the Mormon Church, and for years they were without a vote.

After an executive session the Senate adjourned until 1 o'clock tomorrow, to allow Senators to attend the noon wedding of Senator Cockrell's daughter.

Three Men Drowned.

Washington, N. C., Special.—During the heavy gale of Thursday night the skipper Maco was capsized in Swan Quarter bay, and Captain Robert Wescom, master, and two white men were drowned. The reports are conflicting, but one rumor is that five negroes, also of the boat's crew, were drowned. The same evening in Palmetto river, off Fork Point, two miles from this city, the schooner, "Father and Son" was sunk. The crew, two in number, were saved. In the cabin is the purse of the captain containing \$158. The service of John M. Edwards, submarine diver, has been secured and an effort is being made to raise the "Father and Son" from her watery grave.

Eight Fires at One Time.

Tampa, Fla., Special.—Eight fires broke out here and were raging at the same time in different sections of the city. A block of wholesale warehouses on Whitney street, including the Cudahy Packing Company, Tampa Fertilizer Company, Curruthers Produce Company, S. A. Edwards, W. H. Osborne, J. K. Parrish and Walter Willis Company was burned. The entire loss was about \$20,000. Labor Hall was gutted by fire and the Tampa Furniture Company's mattress factory was destroyed with several smaller fires.

Statue to Mercer.

Washington, Special.—Secretary Root has issued an order to carry out the purpose of Congress, directing the submission by Edward V. Valentine, of Richmond, Va., of designs for a bronze statue of General Hugh Mercer and has invited the mayor of Fredericksburg, Va., to secure and convey to the United States a suitable site for the statue, which is to cost \$21,500.