

# BILL ARP.

From The Atlanta Constitution.

My wife reads the papers more or less every day and keeps up with the sensations. Most of the time she sits in her accustomed corner and plies her needle and thread, making little garments for her grand children, or new covers for the cushions or mending underclothes or darning stockings or something. When she gets tired she walks in the garden or goes down to see Jessie and the children. She went to town yesterday and bought some thread and some toilet soap and got weighed and asked the family all around to guess how much and one guessed it, exactly one hundred and fifty pounds. She asked me to guess, but I said no—she had had her way so often and so long that I couldn't come near it and she shook her fist at me. Good gracious! when I married her she didn't weigh a hundred and wore number two shoes and stepped like a deer. "Tempus fugit," next week will be the fifty-fourth anniversary of our wedding day, fifty-four—the talismanic number made up of nines or its multiple, as, 3, 6, 9, 18, 27, 54—3 and 6 are 9, 1 and 8 are 9, 2 and 7 are 9, 5 and 4 are 9. And soon our birthdays will come along again, the first and fifteenth of June, and time keeps rolling on.

My wife was reading the paper and suddenly stopped and spoke to me, saying: "Well, isn't it about time to quit writing about the negro?" "Why so?" said I. "Why, don't you see that the whole business of the race problem was settled in Atlanta last Sunday? The mayor and the preachers, black and white, all made speeches, and seemed to agree and everything is harmonious. So if I was you I would write about something else. Take up George Washington for a change and let Booker go dead."

Well, they did play on the harmonican right smart and I hope the problem will take a rest, for everybody is tired of it. Even Crumpacker is tired, and now says the negro must work out his own salvation. That's all right. When they call off the dogs, I'll quit. They are waking up to the true character of the negro. A Chicago man who has been visiting the prisons says there are about forty-six thousand negroes in that city, which is about two per cent of the population and that the prison records as shown him by wardens, show the negroes to be thirty per cent of all the criminals confined, and that the negro quarter of the city is the rendezvous and the refuge of nearly all the white burglars and thieves that infest the city.

But that's none of my business, as my wife says. Chicago needs them for municipal politics. But I have quit. Let the negro go along and evolve, as Crumpacker says. I had rather look out of my window and see two little girls coming up the walk hand in hand to see me than to write about anything. And the little boy is coming, too. His nurse is rolling him in his carriage and he will run to me as soon as he gets in the room, and will nestle on my knees and say his little words, and my greatest comfort is that all of them love me and won't go home without kissing me a sweet goodbye. That nurse is a copper-colored girl about twelve years old, and she loves that baby and watches him as carefully as a mother. She is the daughter of our sexton, who is the janitor of the public school. He and his good wife are exceptions to all the fratilities of the race, and so are their children. If there were many like them there would be no race problem. Those three little children come to see me every day and make me to forget myself and my long illness, and I find myself whispering, "Suffer little children to come unto me." "And a little child shall lead them." What a pity they have to grow up and lose their innocence and see, grief and trouble. How sweetly sad are the memories of our youth.

One poet says:  
Oh! would I were a boy again,  
When life seemed formed of sunny years,  
And all the heart then knew of pain  
Was wept away in transient tears.

And another says:  
I remember, I remember, the house  
Where I was born,

The little window where the sun came  
Peeping in at morn.  
It never rose a wink too soon,  
Nor brought too long a day,  
But now I often wish the night  
Had borne my breath away.

And so do I remember the little window and the long happy days, but I have never wished that I had died in childhood, nor do I wish to die now. I wish to live for the sake of these same grandchildren, for I know I can do something to guide and comfort them along the journey of life, and they would miss me. A child without a grandpa and grandma has not had its share of happiness.

What a beautiful verse is the last one of poor Tom Hood's poem:  
"I remember, I remember, the fruit trees, dark and high,  
I used to think their slender tops were close against the sky,  
It was a child's ignorance, and now 'tis little joy  
To know I'm farther off from heaven than when I was a boy."

Last summer the little baby boy was sick. We feared he would die. As he lay upon a pillow in his mother's lap, the little 4-year-old girl went up

close and whispered to her mother, "Mamma, if baby dies mayn't I keep him for a doll?" I never tire of their childish talk. It is always sincere, and that is truth, for sincere means without wax—unsealed, "since cerum"—no secrets, open and read if you wish. It is an old adage that "children and fools never lie," and this reminds me of George Washington, who, tradition says, cut down a cherry tree, and when his father inquired who did it, replied, "Father, I cannot tell a lie. I did it with my little hatchet." I don't believe that. It must have been a mighty little tree that a little boy could cut down with a little hatchet. And if he was bad enough to do it and knew better he wouldn't have made such a saintly speech as "Father, I cannot tell a lie." My history says that many of these little stories came from the nursery. But that he did, when yet in his teens, undertake to mount and subdue an untrained blooded horse, and the horse reared and ran and plunged so furiously that he bursted a blood vessel and fell dead with George on top. His mother was greatly grieved, and scolded him severely. I never knew until recently that he took the smallpox on Barbados island, and was slightly marked all his life. George says in his letters that his negroes gave him much trouble and great concern, for he had to be away on public business most of the time and could not look after them. He inherited one hundred and forty and six hundred acres of land and his wife one hundred and fifty more an seven hundred acres of land, and I reckon they did give him trouble. He never bought or sold any, and set them all free in his will.

Mrs. Robert E. Park, regent for the Georgia room of the confederate museum at Richmond, wishes me to give notice that next month (April) the confederate bazaar will be held there for the benefit of the museum and the Jefferson Davis memorial arch. Mrs. Park asks for special Georgia contributions for the Georgia room, and all the regents of the southern states ask for help from every man, woman and child, so that the entire south may share in the honor. The circular is much too long to be appended to my letter, but I will inclose it to The Constitution.

And now please excuse my mention of a matter personal to an old soldier, W. F. Lee, a private of Company D in Hampton Legion. He has lost his horn, a large, long beautiful horn that while in camp below Richmond he dressed and polished and engraved with his name and a wreath. He took the horn from the head of a Texas steer at a butcher pen in the rear of Grant's army. He sent it home in the fall of 1864 by his brother, who stopped over night at Columbia at the Wayside Home and there lost it. He says, "Major, I am growing old, awaiting the blast of the last trump, but I would like to blow my own horn once more before I die."

Do please somebody send him that horn C. O. D. to Piedmont, S. C.

## REED'S METHOD OF WORK.

Would Postpone It to the Last Minute for Light Literature.

Many stories are told illustrative of Reed's methods of work. He was extremely fond of what is called "light literature" and would postpone work on a task he had before him to the last possible moment in order to finish some story or romance. He always managed to get up steam, however, in time to complete his work.

For weeks before his graduation from college he was buried in the treasures of fiction contained in a friend's library. The number of speakers for commencement day had been changed that year from fifteen to ten, and Reed was reminded of the fact by a college mate.

"Time enough yet. Why I have five weeks!" he answered.

"But the other fellows have been working five months!"

"Never mind," he answered as he went on with his reading, "I'll have a place on the program." And he did so, standing fifth on the list of commencement orators.

Next to fiction he was fondest of oratory. He was a student of parliamentary law and of oratory long before he himself became an authority by the publication of the standard works, "Reed's Rules" and "Modern Eloquence."

Another time Reed was asked to contribute an article to a magazine by a certain date. As usual, he put it off. Finally the last night of the allotted time arrived, and Reed sat down at his desk, intending to scribble off an apology for his inability and a refusal to write the article. Suddenly an idea occurred to him. He wrote feverishly until after 2 o'clock the next morning and finished the article in the one sitting.

## Wealthiest Girl in the World.

There can be but little doubt that the Grand Duchess Olga of Russia, who has just attained her seventh birthday, is the wealthiest little girl in the world. Immediately after her birth something like a million pounds was settled upon her, the huge sum being safely invested in England and France. If she lives to reach her majority her marriage settlement is likely to be the largest on record. No one knows the extent of the white czar's wealth; it is doubtful if he himself does. He is far and away the largest landowner in the world, and he has gold and other mines in Siberia which bring in a revenue, the amount of which is never made public.

## THE LEGISLATURE

### House and Senate Vigorously at the Work Assigned Them.

**THE REVENUE BILL.**  
At 11:25 Monday the House went into committee of the whole to resume consideration of the revenue bill. Judge Graham asked to be relieved of the chairmanship of the committee of the whole some remarks to make on the bill. He had been unable to agree fully with the majority of the finance committee on some of the provisions recommended. Mr. Smith, of Gates, was appointed chairman.

Section 4, relating to corporation taxes payable to State Treasurer, was adopted.

Section 5, relating to "tax exemptions repealed" was considered next. This section is designed to repeal all laws exempting from taxation all property liable to taxation except property belonging to the State and municipal corporations, and property held for the benefit of churches, religious societies, charitable, educational or benevolent institutions or orders, and also cemeteries. Provided, That no property whatever held or used for investment, speculation or rent, shall be exempt.

The foregoing was amended by adding the words "unless said rent shall be used exclusive for charitable or benevolent purposes or for the interest upon the bonded indebtedness of said religious, charitable or benevolent institutions." That amendment was accepted by the chairman of the finance committee.

Mr. Roberson, of Guilford, moved to amend by exempting the property of fair associations. Mr. Gattis moved to amend the amendment by saying this exemption shall not apply to fairs where games of chance and other immoral and fake attractions are allowed. The amended amendment was lost.

Section 6, the inheritance tax provision, was opposed by Messrs. Brittain, of Randolph; King, of Pitt, and White, of Halifax. Judge Graham and Governor Doughton explained the section and it was adopted.

Section 7, providing when heirs, legatees, etc., are discharged from liability was adopted.

Section 8, providing that if tax is not paid at the end of two years after death of decedent, 6 per cent. per annum shall be charged thereon until paid, was adopted.

Section 9, providing for the deduction of tax by executors, etc., was adopted, and the committee at 1:30 rose and made its report to the House.

### PASSED THIRD READING.

To authorize commissioners of Henderson county to levy special tax to repair court house. Amended by Hoey to leave the matter of issuing bonds to vote of the people.

To allow the city of Charlotte to fund its floating indebtedness and to levy a special tax to meet same.

To amend and revise the charter of the town of China Grove.

For the better working of the roads of Burke county.

To establish graded schools in Nash county.

To authorize the issue of bonds by Gaston county to improve the public roads.

To incorporate the town of Buie's Creek, in Harnett county.

House bill: To repeal chapter 410, laws, 1899, relating to Rutherford dispensary.

Senate bill: To amend chapter 89, laws 1877.

Senate bill: To amend chapter 645, acts 1901, relating to Statesville.

Senate bill: To prevent the depredation of domestic fowls in Forsyth.

The Senate bill to revise the pilotage laws of the port of Wilmington came up. Senator Brown said that he introduced this bill by request, but he did not consider it a local bill, in that it affected all the people who shipped there. He did not expect the bill to pass over the Senator from Brunswick's opposition and he would not resist that Senator, but he thought it ought to pass.

Senator Bellamy made a speech against the bill saying the enemies of the pilots are the lumber trust and the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company. The bill would ruin the pilots and Wilmington.

Mr. Pharr, as a member of the minority of the committee, favored the bill.

Mr. Brown said the bill was favored by many leading business men of Wilmington and shippers through the port. The bill was deferred till next Wednesday.

House bill: To extend limits of Hobbard.

House bill: To restore local self-government to Perquimans.

House bill: To amend the stock law in Ashe county. Mr. Wellborn said that he was opposed to the bill and demanded a roll call. This was given and he voted aye.

House bill: To make place of delivery of liquor the place of sale in High Point.

House bill: For stock law election in Alleghany.

House bill: To repeal chapter 647, laws of 1891, affecting stock law in Johnston.

House bill: To restore self-government to Pasquotank.

House bill: To liquidate debt of Madison county.

House bill: To bridge across Tow river.

To amend and consolidate charter of Burlington.

To establish graded school at Haw River.

### Making Good Progress.

The House has made good progress on the Revenue Bill. Several sections were disposed on Wednesday.

### THE PENSION BILL.

The pension bill was considered as a special order at 11 o'clock. It asks for the same appropriation as was given

two years ago, \$200,000. Mr. Parker, of Halifax, chairman of the committee on pensions, made an eloquent appeal for the old soldiers. Several short speeches were made and the bill passed second and third readings.

At the night session of the House Mr. Walters introduced a bill to provide for working the public roads of Caswell and Catawba. The bill to amend the public school law with reference to the election of county boards of education passed final reading. Amendments to exempt Yadkin, Cherokee, Wilkes, Davie, Buncombe, Surry, Swain, Alexander and McDowell were voted down.

Bills were passed as follows: To incorporate the Raleigh Trust, Safe and Deposit Company; favoring passage of Appalachian Park bill by Congress; regarding the election of United States Senators by a direct vote of the people; to preserve birds in Union county.

The House went into committee of the whole for the further consideration of the revenue bill, beginning with section 55, relating to the tax on State banks and private bankers. The section provided a tax of \$1 on every \$1,000 dollars employed as capital. Dwyer moved to make the tax 50 cents instead of \$1. The amendment was lost and the section adopted.

Section 56 levying a tax of \$100 on agents of packing houses was adopted.

Section 57 which provides that a tax of \$200 be placed on all breweries and a tax of \$50 on agents of breweries in each place the business is carried on, was adopted.

Section 58 as adopted imposes a tax of \$200 as license on each oil company doing business in the State and 50 cents on each \$100 worth of sales.

Section 59 provides a graduated tax on dealers in futures according to the population of the town where business is carried on; in towns of less than 5,000 \$50; more than 5,000 and less than 10,000 \$100; more than 10,000 and less than 15,000 \$200; more than 15,000 \$300. This refers to trading in what is commonly known as "futures."

Section 60 is in reference to the tax on liquor dealers. It imposes a tax of \$150 semi-annually on dealers selling in quantities of less than five gallons; five gallons and more, \$200; rectifying, \$200; malt liquors exclusively, \$50. These amounts are to be collected every six months. Each county shall levy a like tax for county purposes.

Mr. Morton moved to amend by making the annual tax \$300 on retail dealers; \$500 on rectifying; \$500 on wholesale; two-thirds to go to the State and one-third to the county. This he declared, is double the license tax and as much as the business will stand.

Mr. Graham moved to amend by requiring dealers in liquors to pay 10 cents for every gallon of liquor sold, 5 cents for every gallon of wine, 5 cents for every gallon of malt liquors, 5 cents for every gallon of medicated bitters or other beverage that will produce intoxication.

Dealers shall make monthly reports and it shall be considered perjury to make any false return, punishable by heavy fine and imprisonment. Judge Graham estimated that the tax would raise \$54,000 a year.

Mr. Gattis moved to amend by making the tax on retail dealers \$10 each six months instead of \$150. Mr. Morton's amendment was lost. Mr. Graham's was withdrawn, and Mr. Gattis' was adopted. Section 60 as amended was adopted.

Section 61 and 62 relating to dealers in rice beer, medicated bitters, druggists selling liquors, are the same as now in force.

Section 63 places a tax on grain dealers based upon the number of bushels consumed.

Section 64 as adopted provides for a State liquor tax to be applied one-half to the Treasury, and the other half to the treasury of the county board of education.

Section 65 leaves an annual tax of 2 per cent. on receipts from dispensaries. Mr. Kinsland moved to exempt the Waynesville dispensary.

### PASSED FINAL READING.

An act to incorporate the Bank of Whitakers.

An act to regulate fishing in Roanoke river.

### TRUSTEES OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY.

The Senate and House met at 12 o'clock in joint session to elect trustees of the State University. The following were chosen:

M. J. Hawkins, of Warren; E. M. Armfield, of Guilford; Victor S. Bryant of Durham; C. Thomas Bailey, of Wake; W. H. S. Burgwyn, of Halifax; R. B. Creecy, of Pasquotank; John W. Graham, of Orange; Chas. W. Worth, of New Hanover; F. G. James, of Pitt; R. B. Redwine, of Union; R. A. Johnson, of Richmond; J. O. Atkinson, of Alamance; Walter Murphy, of Rowan; Fred L. Carr, of Greene; Perrin Busbee, of Wake; Chas. McNamee, of Buncombe; Lee T. Mann, of Gaston; Geo. Rountree, of New Hanover; Z. V. Waiser, of Davidson; F. D. Winston, of Bertie.

Owen H. Guion, of Craven, was elected in place of W. T. McCarthy, deceased, for term ending November 30, 1905. The following for same term:

William R. Kenan, of New Hanover, in place of William H. Chadbourne, deceased; J. Allen Holt, of Guilford, in place of George E. Butler, A. H. Galloway, of Rockingham, in place of Thos. B. Keogh; A. W. Graham, of Granville, in place of Edward H. Meadows; Thos. S. Rollins, of Madison, in place of W. W. Rollins.

The following for the term ending November 30, 1907: Daniel E. Hudgins, of McDowell county in place of John A. Robebbling, resigned.

The following for the term ending November 30, 1909: George Stephens of Mecklenburg, in place of Warren G. Elliott, resigned.

Mr. M. O. Sherrill, was re-elected State Librarian, and the joint session adjourned.

A bill to regulate the sale, inspection

and branding of cotton seed meal was discussed at some length. Mr. McNeill, of Scotland, opposed the bill, saying he believed it discriminated against the farmers. Messrs. Daughtridge, of Edgecombe; White, of Halifax; Whitaker, of Wake, and Scott, of Alamance, all large farmers, favored the bill, believing there was no discrimination in the bill. The bill passed its several readings and was sent to the Senate without engrossment.

An act to incorporate Bethel Baptist church, in Orange county.

### Flore of the Revenue Bill.

At 12:30 the Senate went into committee of the whole on the revenue bill with Senator Glenn in the chair. Mr. Henderson had charge of the bill. Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 were adopted. Schedule AA, the inheritance tax, was adopted without opposition. Section 8 requiring the tax to be paid at the end of two years after death of decedent with six per cent. This was amended by adding "unless the payment is prevented by litigation over said estate."

Sections 9 to 21 were adopted. Sections 22, requiring tax-payer to show his income on list. Mr. Hicks, of Granville, opposed the unquestioned features of the blanks. Mr. Henderson offered the following substitute:

"Section 22. The tax-payer shall list his income for the year ending June first from any and all sources in excess of one thousand dollars.

"Section 22. What question blank shall contain in regard to income. The blank for listing taxes shall contain the following questions: "Was your gross income from salaries, fees, trade, profession and property not taxed, any or all of them, for the year ending June first, in excess of one thousand dollars? If so, what was that excess?" These were adopted.

Section 29 imposes a State tax on circuses, that charge more than 50 cents admission including reserve seats, of \$200, and on each side show \$50 a day. On other such shows under canvass \$50 a day. The bill allows county commissioners to impose a county tax not exceeding \$1,000. Mr. Woodard opposed the latter, saying circuses were educational institutions to many people. Mr. Webb said the circuses made a dead set for the county commissioners, and he thought the tax should be fixed. All amendments were defeated and the original sections adopted.

Section 30, exempting entertainments given solely for religious, charitable or educational purposes was adopted.

Section 31, imposing a tax of \$5 on lawyers, doctors, dentists, oculists, photographers, opticians, osteopaths or any person practicing any pretended art for healing for fee or reward. Mr. Woodard wanted the part "or any person practicing any pretended art of healing" stricken out. This was lost.

Mr. Warren sent an amendment providing that no additional county, city or town license tax should be imposed was lost.

Mr. Spense moved to allow any county to impose a tax not exceeding \$100 on persons not licensed by the State board of medical examiners. This was lost. Mr. Webb opposed Mr. Spence's amendment, saying there were some useful osteopaths in Buncombe. Mr. Mann advocated striking out the word "pretended" and he protested against the legislature going out of its way to cast a slur on Christian Scientists and others. Mr. Travis said no one would say that his art was a pretended one, so unless the word was left out nothing would be derived. Mr. Hicks, of Granville, said if pretended was left out and nothing substituted it was a recognition of these arts. Mr. Wellborn said these arts ought to be prohibited. Mr. Hicks amendment to substitute "professed" for "pretended healing" was adopted. The section was then adopted.

Senator Pharr's bill introduced requires railroads to receive cars tendered at the sidetrack for any warehouse connected with the railroad by siding.

### THE WOMEN OF TURKEY.

Friday the Only Day They Have a Little Liberty.

Friday is the only day on which Turkish women enjoy a little liberty and release from the dreadful seclusion in which they are always kept, and they are not slow to avail themselves of the chance. On Fridays every one goes to the sweet waters of Asia, which consist of a small river running about two miles inland, with trees and meadows on each side.

Hundreds of boats assemble and glide up and down the river. Every boat or caïque has two or more Turkish ladies on board. The sight is a very fine one, as each private caïque is most carefully got up, and the boatmen wear brilliant liveries to match the cushions and the long embroidered cloth which hangs over the stern and trails in the water.

The khedivah of Egypt's is one of the finest, in crimson and gold, embroidered with crowns and fishes. Besides the liveries and parasols make a wonderful show, and here may be seen all the latest Parisian creations. The ladies must not speak to men, but the careful observer can frequently catch sight of veils lowered or other signal given when a particular boat is passing, and habitual frequenters can point out boats which are sometimes close to each other.

It is a very innocent diversion and would not satisfy Western ladies. An hour before sunset the police boats appear and force all women to leave.

Let him that would move the world first move himself.—Socrates.