

# The Polk County News.

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## CONGRESS CLOSES ITS SESSION

### Past Session Has Been One of Unusual Activity and Public Importance

#### THE PRESIDENT PLEASSED

Closing Session Crowded With Hard Work.—The President Visited the Legislature Chambers.

Washington, Special.—Both Houses of Congress adjourned at 10 o'clock Saturday night. For the first time in the history of the government Congress adjourned on the day which closed the fiscal year. Other sessions had adjourned before and some after June 30, but the Fifty-ninth Congress ended its first session on the day, when the government strikes its balances and closes its books.

There were some interesting features to mark the end, which finally came when there was less than a quorum in either House, as many senators and representatives relying on the belief that the adjournment would come early in the day, made their arrangements to be there and they did not remain for the closing scenes. An error in the enrollment of the sundry civil appropriation bill caused quite a flurry about the capitol. It was found by Secretary Root, in looking over the bill after it had been signed by the President, that it contained an appropriation of \$3,000,000 for a site for a public building in Washington, a provision which had been eliminated from two different bills.

After some perplexity the error was corrected by a joint resolution.

Roosevelt at the Capitol.

President Roosevelt came to the capitol about 1 o'clock in anticipation of an early adjournment, and when he found that there would be a delay in order to secure the enrollment of the bills, which had to be passed, he took lunch in the capitol and in the afternoon visited the Congressional library.

Speaker Cannon rigidly carried out his intention of keeping back the adjournment resolution until the bills were all passed and signed, and the hour for the end was not known until a short time before the gavel fell with the announcement by Vice-President Fairbanks in the senate and the speaker in the House, that the first session of the Fifty-ninth Congress stood adjourned without day.

Both Senate and House met early but a long recess was necessary in the afternoon to enable the enrolling clerks to catch up to the bills that had been passed.

The closing scenes in the Senate were formal and without interest. In the House there were the usual hilarious performances consisting of amusing speeches and songs which occupied the time during the long waits, and members made the best of the hottest day of the season with merriment.

No Imperfect Business.

No business of importance aside from completing the pending legislation was transacted in either House during the day.

The work accomplished by the Congress that terminated today is told by Speaker Cannon to the Associated Press. He said:

"In my judgment the work done

and the legislation enacted in the session just closed, exceeds in importance for the best interests of all people of the republic, the work of any session during my 30 years of public life.

"I have not time to make a complete review of all the legislation. Suffice it to say that the legislation covering the appropriations and authorizing of public expenditures has been most carefully considered and wisely enacted.

"The legislation commonly referred to as the rate legislation, the pure food bill, the inspection feature of the agricultural bill, are all measures that affect the interests of all the people and while nothing perfect can be enacted, I am satisfied that the operations of these laws will demonstrate their wisdom.

"And I believe if nothing else had been accomplished than the enactment of these three measures, they alone would be sufficient to make the first session of the Fifty-ninth Congress a memorable one in the history of the republic."

President Roosevelt on Work of Congress.

Washington, Special.—President Roosevelt on the adjournment of Congress, dictated a statement concerning the work accomplished during the session just concluded. He says that the present Congress has done more substantive work along the lines of "real constructive statesmanship" than has been accomplished at any session of Congress with which the President is familiar. He says that men of genuine patriotism have a right to feel "a profound satisfaction in the entire course of this Congress."

The ext of the President's statement follows:

In the session that just closed, the Congress has done more substantive work for good than any Congress has done at any session since I became familiar with public affairs. The legislation has been along the lines of real constructive statesmanship of the most practical and efficient type, and bill after bill has been enacted into law which was of an importance so great that it is fair to say that the enactment of any one of them alone would have made the session memorable; such, for instance, as the railroad rate bill, the meat inspection measure, the pure food bill, the bill for free alcohol in the arts, the consular reform bill, Panama canal legislation, the joint statehood bill, and the naturalization bill. I certainly have no disposition to blink what there is of evil in our social, industrial or political life of today, but it seems to me that the men of genuine patriotism who genuinely wish well to their country have the right to feel a profound satisfaction in the entire course of this Congress. I would not be afraid to compare its record with that of any previous Congress in our history, not alone for the wisdom but for the disinterested high-mindedness which has controlled its action. It is noteworthy that not a single measure which the closest scrutiny could warrant us in calling of doubtful propriety has been enacted; and on the other hand, no influence of any kind has availed to prevent the enactment of the laws most vitally necessary to the nation at this time."

Meat Inspector's Bill.

Washington, Special.—When the conferences on the agricultural appropriation bill took a recess they professed that it appeared to be an impossible task to reach an agreement on the meat inspection amendment. Another attempt to reach an agreement will be made.

Dead and Injured in Wreck on English Railroad.

Salisbury, Eng., By Cable.—Driving at a mad pace over the London Southwestern Railway the American Express carrying 43 of the steamer New York's passengers from Plymouth to London, plunged from track just after passing the station here at 1:57 o'clock Monday morning and mangled to death in its wreckage 23 passengers who sailed from New York June 23, and four of the trainmen. Besides those to whom death came speedily, a dozen persons were injured some of them seriously.

## NORTH CAROLINA CROPS

General Summary of Condition of North Carolina Crops for Week Ending Monday, July 2, 1906.

The temperatures during the past week were very high in every part of the State, averaging about 4 degrees above the normal. The highest was 100 degrees on the 29th in Halifax county; and the lowest, was 60 degrees on the 28th in Henderson county. The hottest days were the 29th and 30th, and the coolest, were the 26th and 27th. The rainfall averaged about one-half the normal amount. During the first portion of the week there were frequent thunderstorms with showers which were for the most part light. Some heavy rain occurred, but were local in character. On Monday night, June 25th, a severe thunderstorm with hail was experienced in Harm, Harnett and Johnston counties doing considerable damage. The latter part of the week was generally fair.

A Serious Crime.

Greensboro, Special.—Will Glass, a negro boy 17 years old, was given a hearing before Justice of the Peace D. H. Collins on a warrant charging him with attempted criminal assault upon Hazel Whittington, the 13-year-old daughter of Mr. John Whittington, who lives three miles from town. Glass was bound over to Superior court and in default of a \$500 bond went to jail. The girl said that one afternoon this week, while her father was in the city, the negro came into her room and attempted to drag her on the bed. An old negro woman, who was there at the time, drove the negro away. The negro woman corroborated the story told by the girl. Glass has been in trouble before and it surprises no one that he is under this charge.

Crushed Between Boilers.

Spencer, Special.—Fred Glosson, aged 25 years, a boiler maker at the Southern shops here, was seriously injured by being caught between two large boilers. He was frightfully mangled in the body and it is feared his injuries will prove fatal. He was rescued by fellow workmen. At the time of the accident Mr. Glosson was working between the boilers which were propped up by the use of timbers. These fell, causing a collapse and catching the workman underneath.

Killed in Union County.

Wadesboro, Special.—Early Monday morning just across the line in Union county, which borders Brunswick township, of this county, Wat Hill shot and killed Marion Burgess. Burgess and his wife were in a buggy together when he was killed and the cause of the killing could not be learned here, but it is supposed to have been the result of bad blood between the parties.

South Carolina Cotton Growers.

Asheville, Special.—The South Carolina Cotton Growers' Association met in annual convention at Lake Toxaway, about 200 delegates being in attendance. Many manufacturers from this and adjoining States were present.

Topics for the Tar Heels.

A charter is granted the Hendersonville Auditorium Company, capital stock \$25,000, more than a hundred citizens being the stockholders. The company will build an auditorium for general purposes.

The Windsor division of naval militia has been reorganized and put in shape for service and the inspector general, Colonel Bain, is directed to muster it in.

On the 12th of July, at the various court houses, applicants for admission to the Agricultural & Mechanical College are to be examined by the county superintendents of education.

Charters were granted to the Rye Ola Bottling Company, Charlotte, with J. M. Ross, T. M. Miller and F. A. McKnight as incorporators. The authorized capital stock is named at \$10,000, of which \$1,500 is paid in by local stockholders. The Beckeye Water Company, West Asheville, has \$25,000 capital stock, with \$3,000 paid in by L. P. and R. P. Hanynes and Julius C. Martin, all of Asheville. The company will furnish water, lighting and power. The Durham-Parrish Company, to do a general merchandise business. The incorporators are G. A. Durham, S. M. Gattis, and H. L. Parrish, Hillsboro.

## EXPLAINS RATE BILL

Facts About the Leading Piece of Work By Last Congress

ITS STRONG AND WEAK POINTS

Salient Features of the Measure Which Became a Law After Lengthy Consideration.

It is something of a task to study in detail the "rate bill" as it has become law. It may, therefore, be useful to our readers to make a summary of the salient features that work important changes in the interstate commerce law. The definition of common carriers includes for the first time express companies and pipe lines for the transportation of oil, but not sleeping car companies. The definition of a railroad covers all the appurtenances connected with tracks and terminals, and the term "transportation" covers all the instrumentalities used in receiving, conveying and delivering persons or property, including what is necessary for ventilation, refrigeration, storage, handling, etc. This brings under the law the so-called private car companies and elevators. The clause restricting the use of passes or free transportation is new, but it is pretty liberal in the exceptions made. The provisions intended to prevent common carriers from competing in production and trade in commodities which they carry is limited to railroad companies and takes effect on the first of May, 1908. The main purpose of this, which was one of the Senate amendments, is to divorce the ownership, control and operation of coal mines from the railroads engaged in transporting the product, but it applies to all other commodities except such as may be for the use of the railroads in their business as common carriers. Railroads are required to make on reasonable terms such connection at shipping points by means of spurs, sidings, etc., as may be "reasonably practicable," where it will result in efficient business to justify the construction and maintenance of the same. Whenever they fail to do this and complaint is made, the commission after investigation may require it to be done, and its orders in the premises may be enforced by the same proceedings as its other orders.

The provisions regarding the filing and posting of schedules of rates and charges are fuller and more explicit than those of the law at present. They must include all through and joint rates, or, where these are not established, all the separate rates and charges "applied to through transportation." No change can be made without a notice of thirty days, except that the commission may "in its discretion and for good cause shown," allow changes on shorter notice or modify the requirements of the law "in respect to publishing, posting and filing tariffs." All contracts, agreements or arrangements between common carriers affecting their rates or charges must be filed with the commission, and it may prescribe the form of all schedules. Similar requirements are made regarding passenger fares. There is a stringent anti-rebate provision, which is substantially that of the Elkins Act, but somewhat strengthened. It makes it unlawful for "any person or persons or corporation to offer, grant or give, or to solicit, accept or receive any rebate, concession or discrimination in respect to the transportation of any property," whereby such property shall "by any device whatever be transported at a less rate than that named" in the published schedules, or whereby "any other advantage is given or discrimination practiced." The penalty is a heavy fine for each offense, but any person or any officer, director or agent of a corporation who shall be convicted of the offense is made also subject to imprisonment. Ample provision is made for the enforcement of this clause, and offenders who receive rebates or pecuniary advantage are made liable to forfeit three times the value of the consideration received in proceedings brought on authority of the Attorney General.

The section giving the commission power to prescribe rates has been made familiar in the long discussion of this measure. It is only necessary to recall that where upon complaint and after full hearing the commission finds that "any of the rates or charges whatsoever demanded, charged or collected," or any regulation or practice "affecting such rates or transportation," are "unjust or unreasonable, or unjustly discriminatory or unduly preferential or prejudicial or otherwise in violation of any of the provisions of this Act," it may "determine and prescribe what will be the just and reasonable" rates or charges to be observed as the maxi-

mum, and what practice is just, fair and reasonable to be thereafter followed, and may issue an order for their observance, which "shall take effect within such reasonable time, not less than thirty days, and shall continue in force for such period not exceeding two years, as shall be prescribed in the order of the commission, unless the same shall be suspended or modified, or set aside by the commission or be suspended, or set aside by a court of competent jurisdiction." The power to prescribe rates extends to through and joint rates where the carriers have failed to agree upon them and complaint is made. Elaborate provision is made for enforcing the orders of the commission, by prosecutions for failure to comply with the requirements of the law and for forfeitures and penalties. Incidentally in designating the venue for suits against the commission to "enjoin, set aside, annul or suspend any order or requirement of the commission," jurisdiction for such suits is specifically vested in the Circuit Courts of the United States. This is a point which provoked such a ponderous and prolonged debate in the Senate. The provisions of the former Act for expediting "the hearing and determination of suit in equity as so forth" is made applicable, with some further specifications, and here the proviso over which so much contention was made is interposed, "that no injunction or interlocutory order or decree suspending or restraining the enforcement of an order of the commission shall be granted except on hearing after not less than five days' notice to the commission."

The other important provisions are those relating to annual reports to the commission, the details of which are fully prescribed, giving the commission power in its discretion to prescribe forms for all "accounts, records and memoranda to be kept by the carriers" subject to the Act, including those relating to the movement of traffic, as well as receipts and expenditures, and enlarging the commission to seven members with seven-year terms and increasing salaries to \$10,000 a year. There is no doubt that this bill has greatly strengthened and improved the interstate commerce law. How this provision giving the commission power to prescribe rates will work can only be determined by experience. Probably the only effect it will have will be to put the carriers on their guard and induce them to take pains with their schedules to avoid conflict with the authority of the commission. The commission may also be cautious about conflict over rates, but if there should be serious conflict the cumbersome system would probably break down by its own weight.

New Canal Commission.

Washington, Special.—Because of the failure of the Senate to confirm the Isthmian Canal Commission, President Roosevelt has named a new commission consisting of Theodore P. Shonts, chairman; John F. Stevens, Governor; Governor Charles E. Magoon, Brigadier General Peter C. Hains, U. S. (retired), Mordecai Endicott, civil engineer, U. S. N. and Benjamin M. Harrod, members.

News Notes.

Attorney-General Moody had conference with the special counsel engaged by the Government to assist in the Standard Oil investigation.

The treaty between the United States and Santo Domingo will probably be postponed until next December.

Residents of points near Fort Monroe complain of reckless firing from the big guns at the fort.

State Auditor Dixon says that reports from corporations are now pouring into his office. The State now derives a very considerable revenue from corporations, some coming in from the fees for charters, the license fees, the general taxes and also the taxes on what are known as the excess value, the latter amounting to a good many millions of dollars.

The agricultural department is sending out experts to several points in the State to collect exhibits which go to New England. Mr. H. F. Addicks goes to Blowing Rock to make collections in that part of the State.

Congressman J. H. Small Renominated.

Elizabeth City, Special.—The convention for the first congressional district was held here and Hon. J. H. Small was nominated without opposition to succeed himself. Mr. Small appeared before the convention and made a 15 minute speech, in which he declared that Bryan would be the nominee for President in 1908 and that his election was a practical certainty.

## HEAVY APPROPRIATIONS

Largest Appropriation Ever Made for Public Buildings.

Washington, Special.—Subject to changes, the Senate committee on public buildings and grounds, upon convening made public the amendments made during its night session in the omnibus public building bill. Among the new items included, are the following:

Lynchburg, Va., \$80,000; Fernandina, Fla., \$100,000; Greenwood, S. C., \$75,000; Clifton Forge, Va., \$40,000; Dalton Ga., \$7,500; Waveross, Ga., \$7,500.

Reductions in appropriations from the House bill are as follows:

Greenville, S. C., \$80,000 to \$75,000; Florence, Ala., \$150,000 to \$125,000; Ocala, Fla., \$80,000 to \$65,000; Portsmouth Va., \$98,000 to \$90,000; Dothan, Ala., \$40,000 to \$35,000; Albany, Ga., \$125,000, to \$100,000.

The Senate committee made increases in the House appropriations as follows:

Marietta, Ga., \$5,000 to \$50,000; Fayetteville, N. C., \$10,000 to \$60,000; Paris, Tenn., \$10,000 to \$40,000; Chattanooga, Tenn., \$50,000 to \$110,000; Gainesville, Ga., \$45,000 to \$50,000; Salisbury, N. C., \$60,000 to \$75,000; Washington, N. C., \$60,000 to \$75,000; Fredericksburg, Va., \$30,000 to \$40,000; Griffin, Ga., \$5,000 to \$7,500; Newman, Ga., \$5,000 to \$7,500.

To the general legislation of the House is added a provision for tearing down and rebuilding the public building at Richmond, Va., and contracts are authorized not to exceed \$200,000, with a limit of cost for the building when completed of \$800,000.

Leading Sunday School Workers Hold Meeting.

Knoxville, Special.—A meeting was held in Knoxville last week of some of the leading Sunday school workers of Knoxville preparatory to the meeting of Sunday schools of East Tennessee in Knoxville on September 5, 6 and 7. Secretary Edward Albright of the state organization was in the city to give the matter impetus. A chairman of the entertainment committee was appointed, a committee selected to secure a place of meeting and other arrangements made. The program was discussed and the intention is to have a program of able speakers. In a few weeks, the program will be issued and the work will begin in earnest to secure a large attendance at the meeting.

Found Dead in Her Room.

Richmond, Special.—Miss Albenia Fitzgerald was found dead in her room by a colored woman, Laura Clark, who had gone to the Fitzgerald home to gather the laundry. No one answering the call, she entered the house and went to Miss Fitzgerald's room, where she found the body lying directly in front of the grate, the head resting against a trunk. The coroner found nothing to indicate the cause of death except an affection of the brain. Miss Fitzgerald had probably arisen and commenced to dress, and had been stricken while crossing the room. Miss Fitzgerald was 33 years old. She had been in ill health for several years.

Columbian Minister Named.

Washington, Special.—Enrique Cortez has been named the Colombian minister to the United States to succeed Diego Mondaza. The State Department has been advised by the American Minister Barrett at Bogota that the appointment of Cortez following the initiation of preliminary negotiations at Bogota looking toward the framing of treaties between the United States and Colombia intended to settle all disputes and inaugurate a new era of friendly relations.

Forest Fire Rage.

EIPaso, Texas, Special.—Forest fires burning in the lumber tracts near Magdalena, Sonora, and the town of Magdalena, is threatened. It is reported that several mining camps have been destroyed. The region is thickly populated with American miners.

Great Race Horse Dead.

New York, Special.—Perhaps the greatest race horse this country has ever known, and possibly the best of all time, fell dead in his box at Sheepshead Bay at 1 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Courageous to the end, he refused to give up until the last ounce of his strength was expended, and he died as he had lived—a brave-hearted thoroughbred. James R. Keens, the owner of Sysonby, when an offer of \$200,000 was made a few months ago for the animal, merely replied that money would not buy him.

Shot Negro Intruder, Released.

Danville, Special.—In the Mayor's court here Robert E. Morris, who shot and instantly killed an unknown negro who attempted to enter the bedroom where his wife and daughter were sleeping Monday night, was exonerated of all blame. The negro was buried Thursday. His identity was not established.

Freight Wreck in Florida.

Ocala, Fla., Special.—At 10 o'clock Saturday night while a heavy freight train with two engines was trying to mount a steep grade on the Atlantic Coast Line at Martin, nine miles north of Ocala, the train broke in two and the rear cars were telescoped by the pushing engine. The conductor, Cary Smoak, and a negro flagman, name unknown, were killed. Seven loaded cars were burned and the bodies of the conductor and flagman were almost entirely cremated.