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\$1.50 A YEAR IN ADVANCE

MOST IMPORTANT LEGISLATION THAT WAS PASSED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State Gives Liberal Hand To Its Institutions More Than Ten Millions in Bonds Were Authorized — Voting by Mail — Veterans And Widows To Get Increase In Pensions.

By Edgar Womble in News and Observer:
Possibly the General Assembly of 1917 left undone some of the things that it should have done and did some things that it should not have done, yet, in the opinion of those whose opinion has weight, it was the most progressive legislature and enacted more constructive legislation than any other body that has set in the halls of the capitol for the past quarter of a century.
Practically every branch of the State's life was touched and the legislators struck out in bold lines in many cases. The particular outstanding nature was the splendid way in which the State institutions were provided for, both as to maintenance and permanent improvements. Measures for making rural life more attractive and a forward step in educational matters loomed large. Measures for prison reform and the establishment of reformatories for women were also striking features of legislation.

es and inducements held out for prisoners in the lower classes to strive to get into the higher classes. The indeterminate sentence is provided for and provision is made for the recreation and instruction of the prisoner.
Institution to Save
Wayward Women and Girls
The crying need for the reclamation of wayward women and women of the criminal class was another matter that weighed heavily on the hearts and minds of the legislators and four acts were passed to carry out the work of this kind. The leading measure was that which establishes a State Home and Industrial School for Girls and Women and for which an appropriation of \$25,000 for site and building was provided with a maintenance appropriation of \$10,000 a year. The location of the institution is to be settled by the board of directors, to be appointed by the Governor. Another act was passed which gives cities of more than 20,000 population the authority to establish jointly with the county in which they are located reformatories for women and girls. Buncombe county was authorized to establish a reformatory for women and girls. Mecklenburg and Craven counties were authorized to establish reformatories for youthful offenders of both sexes and both races.

To Vote on Changing State Constitution
There was a feeling that the constitution of the State has become a little dog-worn and needs to be brought up to meet modern conditions. It has undergone radical changes in many particulars since its adoption. And to the full body of Representative Electors meeting in the people of the State at a general election the question shall be called, passed by both Houses and was ratified. In consideration of the opinion that changes are needed in the constitution, amendments are to be submitted to the voters at the next general election and other legislation was passed over on the belief that such legislation should be taken up by a constitutional convention and that the convention would be called by the vote of the people.

Free Text Books For Randolph Children
In the matter of providing free school books for dependent school children in the schools of the county Randolph has taken the lead in the State in this matter and will no doubt make other counties sit up and take notice. This measure was passed through by Senator Greig and provides that the books be furnished to pupils from the first to seventh grades, inclusive.
No matter which came before the Legislature consumed more time than the education question and at times the office of Dr. Joyner, the superintendent, was a storm center in which it was manifested that the superintendent had staunch supporters, and opponents. Strang to say the educational legislation of real importance, and there was plenty of it, went through smoothly, the fight and fuss being over the question of selecting county boards of education which was finally disposed of towards the end of the session by a compromise measure originated by Senator McCall. This provides for the nomination of members for the county boards by each political party at the same time that other county officers are nominated, the nominees to be transmitted to the General Assembly which is to elect from the nominees submitted. Six counties only in the State elect by popular vote their county boards of education and all efforts to extend this to other counties proved futile. Acts were passed, after days of prolonged fights for Bertie, Franklin and Wayne counties to elect their boards but these acts were nullified by the passage of the compromise county educational bill.

Three Million Dollars Voted for Improvement
The big feature of the legislature was the bond issue of \$3,000,000 authorized for permanent improvements of the various State educational and charitable institutions. This net proceeds for an issue of \$3,000,000 each year, beginning this year, for the next six years. It became apparent early in the session that if the permanent improvements needed by the State institutions were to be cared for in an adequate manner, in fact at all, a bond issue was absolutely necessary. While it was shown that the State's revenues would show an increase for the next two fiscal years it was also clear that it would take every cent of this revenue for the maintenance of these institutions. The feeling was alike among both Democrats and Republicans that the State could not longer delay this forward step to march in unison with the spirit of progress being made by the State's own citizenship and that of other States. It was realized that the proud boast of the State that it had the lowest tax rate of any State in the Union was a sounding brass and a tinkling symbol unless its institutions were maintained on a high plane and its citizenship given an equal chance with the people of other States.

Uniform certification of teachers advocated by the Superintendent of Public Instruction and endorsed by the State Teachers Assembly and the Farmers Union became law. For this purpose a State board of examiners was created. In the same act this board was constituted institute conductors. These institutes are to be conducted biennially in each county in the State for not less than two weeks.
To Stress Agriculture And Home Economics
Instruction in agriculture and home economics are to be further stressed in the schools of the State and the Governor is authorized to appoint a commission composed of three members whose duty it shall be to prepare a course of study in agriculture, manual training and home economics for the public schools of the State. Each county board of education is authorized to prepare at least two acres of land adjacent to each public school in the county for the purpose of gardening and putting into practical operation the results of such studies.
For the reduction of adult illiteracy and the conduct of moonlight schools an annual appropriation of \$25,000 was made.
For the purpose of making rural life more attractive an annual appropriation of \$25,000 was made for entertainments in school houses or other places designated by the commission.

Five Per Cent Bonds For Building Roads
Few measures of importance have been enacted in recent years that can compare with the measure of Representative Clark, of Pitt, for the promotion of road building in the State. This permits counties to exchange their bonds, bearing five per cent for State bonds issued for road building, bearing four per cent. By this method the counties securing these bonds mature its bonds by simply paying the interest.
Bill for Humane Treatment of State Prisoners
That prison reform was needed and that North Carolina should join with other States in this class of work occupied an upper place in the minds of both Houses and the outcome in this direction was the enactment of the bill with some amendments of Senator Turner, former lieutenant governor, who was chairman of the legislative committee which investigated prison conditions. This act provides for the classification of all male convicts into three classes, the first class to be known as the honor class and which are to be worked without guards and are to be exempted from wearing stripes. A scale of wages is also provided for the class-

One of Shelby's noblest citizens dead
L. C. Webb died Sunday at Colorado Springs—His remains to arrive here Thursday.
Lawrence C. Webb, one of nature's noblemen, a former Shelby merchant, and son of the late David C. Webb, died Sunday morning at 10 o'clock at Colorado Springs, Colo., following an illness of several years. His remains will be brought to Shelby Thursday morning and the funeral services will be held at the Webb home on West Marion street that afternoon.
Mr. Webb since gaining his majority, had been intimately connected with the business life of our city. Inheriting the large mercantile establishment from his father, he together with his brother, Mr. Hatcher Webb, conducted one of the finest business houses of the county for years and when his brother sold his interest in the firm to Mr. Geo. Hoyle in 1905, this firm became known as Webb and Hoyle, which partnership continued until about four years ago when Mr. Webb was forced to retire from business because of ill health.
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noble and hopeful fight for his life, but the dreaded disease, tuberculosis proved too strong for his enfeebled powers.
This community is grieved over his untimely death at the age of forty-five years. Like his deceased father, D. C. Webb, he was noted for his truthfulness, honesty and integrity of character. His kindness of heart and nobility of soul made him look on the bright side of life and carry sun shine in his heart, for he saw something good in everyone, and never spoke evil of others.
For many years he had been a faithful and upright member of the First Baptist church of this place. Prior to his death he spoke clearly of his approaching end and said he was without fear for the future life. He leaves an aged mother, Mrs. Elya Webb and three brothers, Messrs. Hatcher, Charlie M., and Paul Webb, also five sisters, Mrs. Fannie McCall of Kings Mt., Mrs. Claude Blanton of Mooresboro, Mrs. Mary Mundy and Misses Kate and Selma Webb of this place.

Program
The Sunday School Convention of the Sandy Run Association will meet with the Mt. Pleasant Church Cleveland county the 5th Sunday in April and Saturday before.
Rev. H. D. Harrill of Forest City will preach the introductory sermon at 11 o'clock Sunday.
Scripture—1st Timothy 5th chapter and 24th verse—Speakers, C. M. Teal and L. J. Jones.
First Query—Can People be Saved Without Repentance and if not, do we Preach Repentance Enough?—Speakers, J. G. Graham and S. A. Bridges.
Second Query—Is it Right to Wait Till the Week Before the Convention to Pay our Missionary Money?—Speakers, W. M. Gold and B. M. Bridges.
Introductory Sermon Sunday by D. J. Hunt at 11 o'clock.
Question box open all the time.
Z. D. HARRILL.
Fiddler's Festival at Spartanburg
The 3rd annual convention of Old Time Fiddlers will be held in Spartanburg, S. C., under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A., afternoon and night March 30th. The performances will take place in the large auditorium of Converse College and will be the biggest event of its kind ever pulled off in this section. Prizes will be given to the contestants and all who wish to enter the contest will please confer with W. V. Martin, Spartanburg, S. C.

SOCIETY NEWS

House Party This Week
Mrs. C. R. Hoey will entertain this week the following personnel of charming Gastonites at her home on East Marion street, from Thursday until Saturday, these ladies coming over Thursday especially to attend the 4th annual district club meeting: Messames G. W. Ragan, R. C. Warren, S. A. Robinson and Frost Torrence.
Ishpeming Club Meets
With Miss Laura Burton Miller as hostess at her apartments at the College Inn on last Saturday afternoon, the Ishpeming club enjoyed a most delightful literary program.
"The American Stage" was the interesting subject, which was handled in the following manner:
Roll Call—Names of American Actors.
Players Who Have Inherited the Talent of Their Parents—Miss Beth Andrews.
The Inner Life of the Actress—Miss Margaret McMurtry.
Out Debt to the Actor—Miss Blanche Johns.
The Only Woman Librettist in America—Miss Lila Dover.
During the social hour which followed, a tempting salad course was served.
Mrs. McBrayer Club Hostess
A delightful afternoon was spent by the members of the 20th Century Club and a few invited guests at the handsome home of Mrs. T. E. McBrayer on last Friday.
The lower floor of the McBrayer home was thrown on suite and was tastefully decorated in a color scheme of yellow, jennas being the chosen flower.
The subject of the afternoon was to have been on Henry Harrison's recent book, "V. V. Eyes," but on account of the absence of a number of those who were scheduled to appear on the program, this was abandoned entirely and a social hour was indulged in during which the game of rook was enjoyed.
When cards were laid aside a delicious and elaborate salad course with accessories brought the pleasure of the afternoon to a close. The hostess was assisted in entertaining by Misses Agnes and Ruby McBrayer and her two attractive young daughters, Misses Frances and Miriam.
Those invited beside the club members were Mrs. Willis, of Kentucky, Mrs. Lawrence Lackey, Mrs. Mary McBrayer, Mrs. Jack Palmer and Misses Agnes and Ruby McBrayer.

Shelby, N. C. 100 acre farm three acre farm six miles from many others in county and let me show you these or exchnge with you.

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PROGRAMME

For Cleveland County Commencement, April 7th.
10:30 a. m.—Parade. All schools will form in line between Baptist church and S. A. L. Ry. Commenced on parade. I. C. Griffin, S. C. Lattimore, and Lawton Blanton.
11:30—Commencement exercises at Court House. Address by Rev. Leo M. White. Diplomas and medals given by the Daughters and Row-Peter-son awarded at Court House. I. C. Griffin, presiding.
11:30—High School spelling match at graded school building. J. T. Allen presiding officer.
11:30—Seventh Grade spelling match at Graded School building. Lawton Blanton presiding officer.
11:30—Seventh Grade declamation and recitation contests at Methodist church. Supt. Frank Orr presiding.
2:00 p. m.—Athletics. Around court square. Everybody is requested not to leave automobiles around the inside of square as the races will be run there.
For Boys Under 14 Years of Age
1 mile race, 1-4 mile race, 100 yard race, relay race.
For Boys Over 14 Years of Age
1 mile race, 1-4 mile race, 100 yard race and relay race.
4:00 p. m.—Base ball and basket ball between best teams in county. School exhibits will be at Graded School building and can be seen all during the day. Maps will be given for the following exhibits:
For best exhibit for one teacher school.
For best exhibit by two teacher school.
For best exhibit by three teacher school.
For best exhibit by a four to seven teacher school.
For best exhibit by a room of Shelby schools.
For the best exhibit by a room of the Kings Mt. schools.

PRESIDENT PLACING NATION ON WAR FOOTING

Washington, March 25.—President Wilson took steps today to place the nation on a war footing.
By executive order he directed that the navy be recruited without delay to full authorized war strength of 87,000 enlisted men. Taken in connection with emergency naval construction already ordered, this means that the President has exercised to the full limit of his legal powers as commander-in-chief to prepare the navy for war.
For the army the President directed that two new military departments be created in the Atlantic coast region. The order means that the task of organizing whatever army Congress may authorize will be divided among six departmental commanders instead of four in the interests of speed and efficiency in mobilization.
Protect American Industries
The third step was to assume as a national duty the task of protecting American industries from domestic disorders in the event of hostilities.
For this purpose 11 full infantry regiments, two separate battalions and one separate company of national guards were called back into the federal service to act as national police in important districts. Supplementing these troops a regiment of Pennsylvania guard and two companies of Georgia infantry, en route home from the border for muster out, were ordered retained in the federal service.
Girls Did Not Fight at St. Peter's School
Special to The Star:
In behalf of the girls of St. Peter's School, I want to say that the local in last Friday's issue, having it that two girls at this place had fought each other, is entirely false.
I cannot account for such a report. However, it seems to me that a person with ordinary intelligence should know the nature of such a report, and have more respect for the school and the teachers in charge than to write it up to the editor of the county paper. The party who did this has either been mis-informed or just wanted to misrepresent us.
THE TEACHER.
FOR EASTER
Cut Flowers and Potted Plants, Candies, Easter Novelties, Ice Cream. Place your orders now for Flowers. Kendall's Drug Store, Stationery and Toilet Articles. adv.
ICE CREAM
The Velvet Kind, contains 10 per cent Butter Fat. IT IS PURE. Cones 5c, saucers 10c. Kendall's Drug Store. adv.
\$100.00 Worth of Cooking Utensils to be given away free at J. D. Lineberger's Sons this week. \$8.00 set of ware goes free with every Majestic Range we sell. adv.
Mr. Henry Smith of near Fallston was a business visitor in Shelby Monday.

PLANS COMPLETED FOR RECIPROCITY DAY THURSDAY

Occasion Expected to be Most Interesting Event in Club Circles of This City.
All necessary plans have been perfected for the entertainment of the 4th District meeting of the N. C. F. C., in this city Thursday, the local federated clubs being the hostesses. Already 85 club women, representing the various clubs in this district have accepted this invitation to be present at the meeting, and the inspiration to be had from the presence of so goodly a number, will go largely to making this the most successful district meeting in the history of the Federation.
The arriving guests will be met at Southern and Seaboard stations and taken to the home of Mrs. S. S. Royster on South Washington street, where a luncheon will be served at noon. At 2 o'clock the business session will be opened, Mrs. Gordon Finger of Charlotte, chairman of this district, presiding.
The program is as follows:
Federation Song—Club.
Invocation—Mrs. R. E. Ware, Shelby.
Greetings from the Civic League—Mrs. W. B. Nix, president.
Greetings from the 20th Century Club—Mrs. L. M. Hull, president.
Greetings from Ishpeming club—Miss Laura B. Miller, president.
Response—Mrs. W. J. Davidson.
The District a Unit in Club Work—Mrs. Eugene Reilly, Charlotte.
Song—"Carolina Hills"—Mrs. E. Y. Webb, Shelby.
Finance and Our Future—Mrs. C. C. Hook, Charlotte.
Work With Children and a Library Builder—Miss Annie Pierce, Charlotte.
Club Reports.
District Nursing—Mrs. George Wilson, Gastonia.
Forecast of State Meeting at Durham.
Our Hostess Clubs—Miss Eugene Cannon, Concord.
Song—"American"—Club.

'Clean Up and Paint Up' Week With The Colored People

On Thursday afternoon, March 22, Prof. I. C. Griffin and Mr. Wm. Lineberger had a conference with the colored ministers and others concerning the clean up campaign. As a result of this conference a mass meeting of the colored people was held at Wilson Street Presbyterian church Sunday night.
In mass meeting assembled we were favored with the presence of Prof. I. C. Griffin, Mr. Wm. Lineberger and Mr. J. L. Thomason of John M. Best Furniture Company. Addresses and remarks were made by these gentlemen and others. Among the many things Prof. Griffin said: Why clean up?—How clean—When to Clean up—Where to clean up?—The danger of disease germs—How to kill the fly?—Clean up front and back yards, inside homes and your person.
The following named persons were appointed on committees:
Committee on streets and alleys—L. S. Webb, J. A. Webb, Cicero Eskridge, D. C. Corry, Mrs. C. M. Walker, Mrs. Amie Jones, Mrs. Julia Brown.
Committee on yards—Sam Haney, A. H. Hosking, J. E. Peeler, R. R. Cabanass, Mrs. Julia Logan, Mrs. Amie Peeler, Mrs. Lusia Erwin.
Committee on gardening—Mrs. Essie Hunter, Mrs. Sallie Ostell, Mrs. Price, Mrs. Mary Corry, S. W. Webb, Gus Roberts, George Carol.
Committee on sanitation—Dr. A. D. Lord, William Fullenwider, Dock Blanton, W. M. Moore, Wade Jones.
Committee on Finance for Prizes—Rev. H. Walker, Rev. A. M. Erwin, Rev. H. P. Domerrick.
Prof. Griffin has offered \$1.00 to the school boy or girl for the best essay on the work done in cleaning up. Also Mr. Lineberger and Mr. Thomason gave \$1.00 each toward the prizes.
A collection was taken amounting to \$7.60 which is in the hands of the committee on prizes.
We are under many obligations to our white friends, especially to the above named gentlemen for the interest shown in us as a race and in our people of Shelby.
A. W. FOSTER.
Card of Thanks
We desire to thank our neighbors and friends for their kindness during the illness and death of our dear mother, Mrs. Thomas H. Abernethy. Although our hearts are too full for words we want our friends to know that we will remember their sweet sympathy.
T. H. ABERNETHY AND FAMILY
Play at Elizabeth
"Oak Farm," a rural drama of three acts, consisting of a strong cast will be shown at the Elizabeth School at 8 o'clock, Friday evening, March 30th. The public is cordially invited.