

GETTING ON SLOWLY

Memorial Meeting in Honor of the Late Governor Ellerbe.

A TWO DAYS' HOLIDAY

Taken by Both Branches of the Legislature. Very Little Work Done So Far by Either the House or Senate.

After considerable discussion Tuesday the House of Representatives reduced the salary of the Phosphate Inspector from \$1,500 to \$1,200.

After a long running debate the following bill regarding convict labor was passed to a third reading:

The board of directors of the Penitentiary are hereby authorized and empowered to lease or hire out any convicts in the Penitentiary, except convicts under sentence for murder, rape, arson and manslaughter, under the following rules, regulations, and restrictions, with all others imposed by the said board: That the said board of directors shall make an annual report to the General Assembly at the regular session showing the number and names of convicts hired out, to whom hired, for what purpose, and for what consideration, and the board of directors are authorized to retain for the use of the penitentiary all amounts received by them from the hire or labor of convicts during the current fiscal year: Provided, that the preference shall be given to counties desiring to hire the convicts for the purpose of the public works of such counties for \$4 per month, and the county pay all expenses of guards, transportation and medical attendance: Provided further, that the county authorities shall have the right to hire such convicts and work them on their chain gangs and pay for them out of funds appropriated for repair and construction of public highways.

They and the bill voted on the final passage of the bill resulted 62 to 42 in favor of the second reading of the bill being ordered. The vote was clinched. A number of new bills were introduced and the House adjourned on Wednesday.

There was a spicy debate in the House Thursday over the proposition to take Friday and Saturday holiday. Mr. Magill moved that when "this house adjourns it be to meet Monday at 12 o'clock."

Mr. Lockwood moved to amend by making it 8 o'clock at night. The amendment was adopted by a vote of 89 to 20.

Mr. C. P. Sanders moved that for Saturday the house draw no pay. Friday is Lee's birthday, a holiday which should be observed. But for Saturday the members should accept no pay from the State.

Mr. Baot and Mr. Ashley heartily favored the suggestion of Mr. Sanders. Mr. Williams said that there were a number of members who could not go home Saturday and it would be unfair to them to take their pay from the State for an adjournment which they could not help.

Mr. Means suggested that those members who were here Saturday appear before the clerk and have their names recorded. They could draw their pay and the absentees could forfeit theirs.

Mr. B. Woodward contended that the time had been frittered away thus far during the session and he was opposed to adjourning until Monday.

Mr. Marion wanted to meet at 10:30 a. m. Friday, Lee's birthday.

Mr. Stevenson thought it proper to spend a day in honoring the memory of a hero, but it was not right to use that as an excuse to obtain another holiday.

Mr. Marion's amendment was killed, as was Mr. Sanders' amendment to the original motion.

The question before the house then was Mr. Lockwood's amendment to Mr. Magill's motion, to assemble Monday at 8 p. m. The yeas and nays were demanded, resulting as follows:

Yeas—Baot, Bates, Blythe, Colcock, Dargan, Dowling, Duke, Epps, Estridge, Evans H. H., Evans N. G., Fairley, Floyd, Gause, Henderson, Hoffmeyer, Johnson H. E., Johnson W. J., Lockwood, Lofton, Magill, McGraw, McCullough, McEntee, Mitchell, Mobley, Montgomery, Moses, Nettles, Patterson, Pyatt, Ragdale, Rogers, Robinson, S. A., Sanders C. P., Stackhouse W. M., Thomas W. H., Thomas W. J., Williams, Wilson, Wimberly, Winkler—47.

Nays—The Speaker, Ashley, Bailey, Bell, Black, Bolls, Brantley, Browning, Cross, Crum, Davis, Dean, DeBrull, Denny, Edd, Gant, Graham, Hollis, Jackson, Leacock, Lyles, Mann, Manly, Marion, Mauldin, Lahan, McCoy, McDill, McLaurin, Means, Moss, Peirce, Prince, Ragdale J. W., Richards, Richardson, George W., Robinson C. E., Robinson R. B. A., Sanders C. P., Sharpe, Sinkler, Smith, Jeremiah, Smith J. L., Stevenson, Suber, Throat, Varn, Verrier, Verner, West, Weston, Whitson, Wingo, Woods, Woodward H. H., Woodward M. B., Wyche, Young—57.

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This was agreed to by the house and clinched on motion of Mr. Rogers. A number of those who opposed adjournment until 8 p. m. Monday were standing in the hall with hat in hand and overcoats on, ready to break for the train and to take a holiday which they had voted against for the house as a body.

Mr. W. J. Johnson defended his bill to reduce the rates of transportation to not more than 2 and 3 cents. The railroad people had been given a hearing before the committee, while he had been given no hearing. He wanted South Carolina to be on an equal footing with her sister State, Georgia. It is unfair for northern stockholders of South Carolina roads to demand a larger fare than in Georgia. After some discussion the bill was killed by a vote of 42 to 39.

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BIENNIAL SESSIONS.

Proposed for the Legislature by the House of Representatives.

HOW EACH MEMBER VOTED.

Eighty-three Members Voted for the Measure. While Only Twenty-two Voted Against It.

On Tuesday of last week in the House of Representatives Mr. Edd called up his joint resolution to make the sessions of the General Assembly biennial. The time of the General Assembly, he said, is taken up amending and repealing statutes. The statutes of a general nature are jumbled up and the laws affecting the several counties are at variance. There are only seven or eight States which have annual sessions of the General Assembly. Just as much could be accomplished in biennial sessions. The Legislators are pledged to economy, and the people should be given a chance to say whether they want the Legislature to meet every year or every two years. The bill merely provides for an election on the question of an amendment to the Constitution.

Mr. Penitoy said he was a member of the House in 1886, 1887, 1888 and 1889. The resolution, he said, was nothing new. He said at that time if the House did not meet in five years it would be better. Formerly the House met late in November and adjourned before Christmas, but you reform Legislators meet and remain in session forty days, and there is no more done. Biennial sessions are wanted.

Mr. Wolfe said that nine-tenths of his biennial constituents favored biennial sessions. There was now too much legislation. The State is not rich enough to pay for laws of no value. The taxpayers are overburdened. There is a public demand for the measure.

Mr. Baot said that since 1791 down to the present time the bill of rights has provided for the General Assembly to meet frequently. He thought it healthy for the lawmakers to meet frequently. It is the result of the wisdom of ages. After further discussion a yeas and nays vote was ordered, which resulted 83 to 23 in favor of the resolution.

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Under the Constitution it took the eighty-three votes to order the vote on the constitutional question, and the resolution now goes to the Senate for passage. The third reading in the House.

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BROAD TIRE BILL.

Passed by the State Senate by a Large Majority.

HOW THE SENATORS VOTED.

Nearly Two-Thirds of Them Favor the Good Roads Measure.

Full Text of the Bill as It Passed.

The Broad Tire Bill was fully discussed in the State Senate on Wednesday and finally passed by a very large majority.

Senator Ragdale moved to strike out the enacting words and spoke to his motion in opposition to the bill. Although the supervisor of his county, Fairfield, had endorsed the bill, he said the sentiment among the men who use wagons was against it. Fairfield is a hilly county and the wagon owners say the wide tire wheels will slip off the hills.

Senator Saratt opposed the bill on very much the same grounds as did Senator Ragdale. He thought the wide tires would not work on roads in his county.

Senator Appell said he would vote against the bill but would ask for Clarendon to be exempted.

Senator Bowen thought the bill would be a hardship on Pickens.

Senator Mayfield took the floor and said he was in favor of the bill. He said the present road law is modeled after the Pickens idea. He was raised in the county adjoining Pickens, and as a boy had worked on the roads there. The United States department had sent a commissioner to Pickens who highly complimented the roads. The law was made in the county of Pickens and he had never seen or heard of any of them slipping into the gulches. In late years he had lived in the low country and had noticed the advantage of broad tires on sandy roads. They were good for both clay and sand roads. In sand, the wide tires poked the road. He said he was in favor of the bill because the road law was modeled after the Pickens idea. He was raised in the county adjoining Pickens, and as a boy had worked on the roads there. The United States department had sent a commissioner to Pickens who highly complimented the roads. 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