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TWELVE MILL LEVY FOR COMING YEAR

GENERAL ASSEMBLY PASSES APPROPRIATION BILL CARRYING TOTAL ALLOTMENT OF SIX AND HALF MILLION DOLLARS. REPORT OF FREE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE QUICKLY ADOPTED

Carrying a total appropriation for state purposes of \$6,534,925.82, and a levy of 12 mills was brought from free conference yesterday morning adopted, ratified, signed by the governor and became law, all within a few moments after the measure had been reingrossed.

The free conference committee, composed of Representatives Sapp, Leopard and Hughes and Senators Christensen, Watkins and Johnstone reached an agreement near 4 o'clock, but the typewriting of the report and the engrossing of the bill with the incident details kept the measure from the two houses until 7:55 o'clock. At 8 o'clock both houses adopted the free conference report and the bill was immediately ratified and sent to the governor for his signature.

A levy of 11 1-2 mills is contained in the bill for general state purposes and the additional half mill for the greater Citadel, bringing the total levy to 12 mills, the same as in 1920 excluding the two mill highway tax. The act says that not more than 11 1-2 mills shall be levied for general purposes.

The free conference committee reduced the bill to below the original house figure and materially cut off the senate amendments. The house bill provided for an appropriation of \$6,563,061.71 and the senate increased this to \$6,734,361.02. By these figures it is seen that the measure was cut by \$28,145.89 from the original house bill and also indicating that the fight of the reductionists was not in vain, despite the fact that they themselves thought so.

As finally ratified the measure provides for the raising of \$5,378,664 by the 11 1/2 mill levy and \$1,052,545 by special revenue. Senator Christensen explained yesterday morning that the reason the levy is 11 1-2 mills in spite of the fact that the ways and means committee provided for a 11 mill levy in the house bill was that sufficient millage for the total appropriated. The house bill was that the house measure did not carry a sufficient millage for also anticipated the passage of the gasoline and inheritance tax measures, both of which were continued until the next session.

Increase Over 1920

The bill is an increase of \$447,784.43 over 1920, but carries exactly the same levy, excluding the two mill highway tax. This is made possible by approximately \$50,000,000 additional taxable property being placed on the tax books of the state during the past year.

In anticipation of the taxes to be collected the measures provide that the state financial board, composed of the governor, the comptroller general and the state treasurer, may borrow money to run the state government, and also the Citadel appropriation of one-half mill, not to exceed \$5,050,000 and not to pay above the legal rate of interest.

The two mill highway tax is suspended for the year as was originally provided for by the ways and means committee, but the senate amendment giving counties having bond issues the privilege to retain the two mill tax was adopted.

In the legislative department \$100 extra for the engrossing clerks was provided because of the extra work and the pages were all increased from \$125 to \$200 and all the laborers were likewise advanced from \$125 to \$200.

The recording clerk in the secretary of states office was advanced

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DEFER ELECTION UNTIL NEXT YEAR

House and Senate Agree to Discontinue Balloting, Ends in Deadlock—Governor Cannot Make Appointment

The last ballot to be held at this session of the general assembly in the election of an associate justice of the state supreme court to fill the unexpired term of the late George W. Gage was taken Friday morning, the house and senate yesterday afternoon agreeing to postpone further balloting until next year.

This action was taken in the adoption by both houses of a concurrent resolution, introduced by Representative W. D. Barnett of Columbia and rings down the curtain on one of the most dramatic election contests ever witnessed in the joint assembly. Jesse F. Carter of Bamberg took the lead on the first ballot over a field of ten candidates when the balloting was opened February 18 and for 37 consecutive ballots held first place, only to be displaced on the next to the last ballot by M. L. Bonham of Anderson. Mr. Carter went ahead again on the final roll call, the balloting ending with him leading by the narrow margin of two votes. The deadlock, which occasioned the abandonment of the daily balloting, had existed almost from the initial roll call, the gradual withdrawal of candidates and the race wore on serving, only to leave the decision of the contest apparently as far removed as when the race was first begun.

Judge Hayne F. Rice of Aiken was the first candidate to leave the race, his name being withdrawn just before the roll call began for the fourth ballot. The other withdrawals came: Judge W. F. Townsend of Columbia at the end of the fourth ballot, Judge Edward McIver of Cheraw and Judge Ernest Moore of Lancaster at the end of the 12th ballot. Prof. E. Marion Rucker of Columbia at the end of the 14th ballot and Judge Thomas S. Sease of Spartanburg at the end of the 15th ballot. Four candidates remained in the race when the balloting closed Friday: Jesse F. Carter of Bamberg with 48 votes; M. L. Bonham of Anderson, 46; Senator J. Hardin Marion of Chester, 30, and Judge S. W. G. Shipp of Florence, 24.

The adoption of the resolution leaves the state supreme court with the heaviest docket of recent years and no way to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Associate Justice Gage. Governor Cooper can not appoint a man to fill the vacancy, he said Friday, and the court will be forced to handle the work before it with only four members. This, however, will probably cause little inconvenience in the hearing of cases in that three members of the court constitute a working majority and may transact all business. The state constitution provides that the governor may fill the vacancy when the unexpired term to be so filled is for a period of less than a year. Associate Justice Gage's term would not have expired until August 1, 1922.

Mr. Barrett introduced his resolution in the house some time ago but the proposal was sidetracked to allow the house to consider and pass a resolution introduced by Julius S. McInnes to provide that the joint assembly meet and continue balloting until an election could be had. This resolution came up for consideration in the senate early Friday afternoon and was killed by an overwhelming majority. Mr. Barnett's resolution was adopted by the house Friday afternoon after short debate and was immediately sent to the senate to also be considered and adopted with only two dissenting votes.—The State.

THE COTTON MARKET

The futures market was at a practical standstill today, the final figures being 10 to 15 points lower. Eleven cents was the best price offered for cotton locally today.

EMPLOYEES QUIT ON ATLANTA RY.

FIFTEEN HUNDRED GO OUT ON STRIKE SATURDAY AT 11 ACTIVITY OF SYSTEM IN STATE PRACTICAL PARALYSIS AS RESULT OF WALKOUT—TRAINS CAN'T MOVE

Atlanta, March 6.—With approximately 1,500 of the 2,000 union employees of the Atlanta, Birmingham & Atlantic railroad out on a strike called at 11 o'clock Saturday in protest against a reduction of wages. Judge S. H. Sibley in the United States district court late today handed down an order declaring in effect that the wage reduction order of February 28 would be given "no other or further effect than it ought to have by law under the factors which may be established at the hearing already set for March 26."

The judge's order was taken to mean that the question of wage reduction is dependent on the outcome of hearings before him set for March 26. Meanwhile reports indicated that no trains were being operated on the road, which serves many Alabama and Georgia towns between Birmingham, Atlanta and Brunswick.

Judge Sibley declared no question of jurisdiction had been raised before him and that the claims of the brotherhood that the United States railway labor board had exclusive jurisdiction had not been presented to him for consideration. "The order of February 28 putting into effect a wage reduction effective March 1 followed a practice common in administrative cases and does not prejudice the rights of any one or cut off a hearing, but facilitates it for all who desire to be heard," the order continued.

In conclusion the court ordered Col. B. L. Bugg, receiver, to "take steps to protect property in his hands to avoid incurring liability to shippers and others until further order of this court."

"It is hoped the employees will not by refusing to operate the road further jeopardize their own interests and complicate their rights by terminating their status as employees," the order said.

Both sides issued statements last night, Colonel Bugg declaring that as receiver "he is not a party to any case pending before the railway labor board," and the men contending that reduction of wages under less than 20 days' notice violated the transportation act.

No effort will be made to maintain train service until a check up has shown how many employees remained in the service, it was learned at the general offices here. Indications were that practically all shop employees had quit, but that some 400 to 500 employees in the general offices here, mostly clerks, had remained on duty.

Morris Brandon of counsel for the road issued a statement saying the Newlands act of 1913, which requires 20 days' notice of a wage cut, applies to only 20 per cent of the road's employees.

There was a possibility tonight, it was reported that if Judge Sibley should construe the wage reduction order to be not actually in effect pending a hearing before him on jurisdiction that the strike might be called off, but nothing definite had developed tonight. A mass meeting of all railroad unions will be held here Monday to discuss the entire situation on the Alabama, Birmingham & Atlantic.

HOW IT ALL HAPPENED

The two basketball teams from the High school went over to Clinton Thursday and met defeat at the hands of the two Clinton teams. Son Bill knows exactly how it all happened for he tells us that "when they got there, they treated them to all sorts of drinks then Abbeville took dinner with the Clinton team and they had more to eat than they had had in a long time and after dinner Abbeville couldn't run at all!"

LIQUOR QUESTION AGAIN DISTURBS

FURTHER RESTRICTION FOR DISTRIBUTION. PLANS NOW DRAWN UP—REGULATIONS CONTEMPLATE ELIMINATION OF WHOLESALE DEALER—FOREIGN QUESTION ENTERS

Washington, March 6.—Regulations further restricting the distribution of liquor—now confined to manufacturers and wholesale druggists—have been drawn up and await the approval of the new administration.

The regulations as drafted by prohibition officials would limit manufacturers to sale of their own products and forbid them to dispose of other manufacturers containing alcohol. Such a step in the opinion of prohibition officials would greatly restrict the sale of intoxicants and by cutting off the slight latitude now allowed manufacturers, coupled with the elimination of the wholesale liquor dealer, would practically limit the distribution of liquor to wholesale druggists.

Protests against the total elimination of the wholesale liquor dealers however, have been received by the treasury from representatives of the Catholic, Episcopal and Lutheran denominations. These denominations have been accustomed, spokesmen for the churchmen have explained, to purchase the wines used for sacramental purposes from certain dealers who provided them with wine of a standard quality.

Churchmen Protest

With the elimination of the dealers, churchmen declared their source of supply has been cut off. As a remedy the prohibition authorities have been asked to permit reputable dealers who have been in business more than three years to continue the distribution of sacramental wines as an exception to the general regulations now in force. Early this week a hearing on the matter is to be held by the internal revenue bureau.

Disposition of the question of whether beer may be prescribed for medical purposes by physicians, prohibition officials said, also will come up for early consideration by the new administration. An opinion is understood to have been prepared for the treasury by the department of justice which would permit the use of malt liquors for medical purposes similarly with wine or vinuous liquors as contrasted with the restrictions of the prohibition act on whiskey. Use of beer is opposed, however, the prohibition enforcement authorities maintained that by permitting manufacture for medical purposes the already perplexing problem of handling the breweries would be made more difficult.

The attitude of the new administration towards the breweries is awaited with interest by their present enforcement officials in view of the steady campaign Commissioner Kramer has been waging in various sections of the country against beer containing more than the legal amount of alcohol and the numerous seizures of property which have been made by the government in the past few months.

Foreign Question Enters

Another question for the new heads of the department to decide is the matter of trans-shipment of liquor via this country when shipped from one foreign country to another. On the protest of the British embassy the opinion rendered by the department of justice holding transshipments of liquor illegal and vessels touching at American ports with liquor aboard to be violators of the prohibition laws has been returned for review. Meanwhile, both questions remain in statu quo.

In connection with the shipping angle to the prohibition, some prohibition officials have suggested the possibility of a new policy regarding liquor on American ships. Under the present law as defined, by the de-

GROUNDS OPENED AT WHITE HOUSE

First Act of Harding Administration Crowds Flocking in Blue, Red Green and East Rooms Also Unlocked for Curious

Washington, March 5.—Gates, to the White House grounds, closed to the public since the United States severed relations with Germany early in 1917, were opened late today under the first order issued by Warren G. Harding as president of the United States.

The new chief executive shortly after the luncheon which followed his inauguration went to the executive offices as his first official act ordered the opening of the gates and the withdrawal of the police who have stood behind them for more than four years. Another order opened the non-residential portions of the White House, including the famous Blue, Red, Green and East rooms, to any visitor having a pass signed by a member of congress or other recognized government official.

Immediately after the gates swung open at 5 o'clock the crowd which had waited beyond the high iron fence all day, hoping to catch glimpses of the retiring and incoming presidents, thronged in, after a slight hesitation, due perhaps to uncertainty as to the meaning of the action of the police. Passerby, including hundreds of government clerks, who, coming to Washington during the war, had been forced to view the executive mansion from a distance, joined the hundreds inside. News of the issuance of the order spread about the city and inaugural visitors and Washingtonians added a visit to the White House grounds to the list of history making events they had witnessed during the day.

Not content with walking about the grounds, many crowded on to the front portico until it took on the appearance of the famous "front porch" of the old Harding home in Marion during the campaign. Some, more inquisitive and more curious than others, peeped into the windows, while at times a half dozen or so had their faces pressed against the glass in the door leading from the portico to the central corridor in the executive mansion.

Several of those who had gained what seemed to be a choice hold on the front portico managed to squeeze themselves within when a delegation from the Hamilton, club of Chicago was received early in the evening by President Harding in the east room. Most of the visitors to the grounds, however, maintained a respectful distance from the executive mansion itself and at no time were enacted the scenes of Jackson's inauguration in 1829, when admirers of "Old Hickory" broke into the mansion, smashed furniture and tracked mud over the carpet and floors.

The stream of visitors to the executive grounds continued late tonight.

Department of justice prohibition follows American ships beyond the three mile limit and the sale of intoxicants on them is prohibited. Strong protest against this interpretation, however, has been made by shipping interests and Chairman Benson of the shipping board has informed the house that such a policy is injurious to the American merchant marine. For these reasons, officials asserted, the new administration will probably give careful consideration to the matter of divorcing liquor from ships.

ATTENDING THE MISSIONARY MEETING

Mrs. W. F. Perrin, Miss Bessie Lee Cheatham and Miss Orene McIlwaine are in Greenville this week representing the Abbeville Presbyterian church at the meeting of the Layman's Missionary meeting.

LEGISLATURE HAS ADJOURNED SINE DIE

END COMES ABOUT HALF AFTER EIGHT O'CLOCK SUNDAY MORNING—FINAL NIGHT OF NINETEEN TWENTY-ONE SESSION NOT UNLIKE MANY IN BYGONE YEARS—RUN TWO WEEKS OVER TIME

After being in session for two weeks over the usual 40 day session and going through the accustomed jam and rush at the last moments, at least on the part of the senate, and being characterized largely by fights to stand still and to keep from retrogressing, the general assembly adjourned sine die yesterday morning at 8:27 o'clock.

The closing hours were marked by only the necessary ratification periods and the usual long wait on the free conference report. When the adjournment was taken five members of the house were present and seven senators were in their seats. Sunday morning after 1 o'clock the senate by one motion cleared its 24 pages of statewide bills from the calendar and began the waiting period for the free conference report on the appropriation bill, doing nothing in the wee small hours but ratify a number of acts passed during the closing days. The house, having largely completed its work earlier in the session, had nothing to do but wait on the senate, and consequently spent all Saturday and Saturday night in somewhat light legislation.

The free conference committee took the appropriation bill early in the night and did not complete its work until around 4 o'clock yesterday morning. The engrossing of the measure was not completed until near 7:30 o'clock.

After ratifying the acts and completing the necessary action on the appropriation measure, the president of the senate sent a message to the house notifying that body that the senate had completed its work and was ready to adjourn sine die. The house, or the five members present was in the senate chamber at the time and Mr. Barnett announced that the house accepted the notice. A committee was then appointed to notify the governor that the general assembly was about to adjourn. The committee reported back that "everything was O. K." and that the governor had no further messages to transmit to the assembly.

As to the session in its entirety very little progressive legislation was enacted, the assembly spending a considerable portion of its time in defending existing institutions and fighting back the wave to abolish and cripple. Bills to abolish the tax commission, the board of public welfare, the highway commission, the department of agriculture, the public service commission and other such measures consumed many hours and days of the legislature, especially of the senate.

None of the measures recommended by the joint legislative committee on taxes, headed by Senator Marion, were enacted. The proposed constitutional convention was killed, the bill to place a tax on gasoline and oils and the measure taxing inheritance and gifts were continued until the next session. The income tax law was introduced, but never got as far as the senate. It was held up in the house. It is true that the legislation recommended by the tax committee was not pushed, except the inheritance and gasoline tax bills, both these being lost in the general slash to continue late Saturday night.

Not more than a dozen real acts affecting the state as a whole were passed and ratified. Of course numerous ones were enacted amending certain laws or referring to no important matters.

Other measures of more than usual importance are the statewide stock law, abolishing free range in South Carolina forever after December 31 of this year and the raising of the age of consent to 16 years.