

OUR LAWMAKERS.

WHAT THEY ARE DOING FOR SOUTH CAROLINA.

Several Very Important Matters Considered and Settled—Adjournment in Night—The Governor Vetoes a Tax Bill—Other Proceedings.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Feb. 25.—Special: The house today finally passed the general pension bill, appropriating \$100,000. Efforts were made to reduce it to \$50,000 and increase to \$150,000 and both failed.

After a great deal of debate it was decided to repeal the expenditure made at Atlanta from Governor Evans for \$6,000, if so much be necessary, and that the exhibit be used at the Chicago Cotton States Exposition.

A long fight was made on the South Carolina college appropriation. The bill was passed on to \$20,000. This was voted down, but no further action was taken in the morning.

The general house is that the general assembly will adjourn about Wednesday or Thursday.

The ways and means committee recommend a four and a half mill levy. The senate devoted the morning to the consideration of the road bill, which was passed. The former came back from the house with amendments knocking out the provision to exempt cities of over 15,000 inhabitants and upon motion of Mr. McCaia, the senate concurred in the amendment.

The road bill was then taken up and a number of amendments were adopted before the whole hatch were recommended.

The metropolitan police bill then came up and Mr. Barnwell gave the amendments to give the city authorities some control over the new police in such matters as requiring reports to be made to the mayors by the chiefs requiring accounts of expenditures to be submitted, records to be kept open for the inspection of the city authorities and making them subject to such audits as the mayors may regulate the duties of police. Debate on the bill was adjourned to the night session. Then the first matter of any general interest considered was the bill to repeal the free pass bill, which came up saddled with an unfavorable report and died without a groan.

The metropolitan police bill then came up again, on motion of Mr. Barnwell, and passed.

The house bill to fix the passenger rates for railroads then came up as the special order and the unfavorable report was indefinitely postponed and the bill, after being amended by Mr. McCall to fix the rate at 24 and 25 cents for first and second class fares respectively passed by a vote of 14 to 13.

COLUMBIA, Feb. 26.—Special: The senate struck a snag on the railroad rate bill yesterday and stuck to it nearly all day until a motion to take recess prevailed.

Immediately after the morning hour the report of the conference committee on the bill relating to the adoption of children, recommending concurrence in the house amendments was adopted.

Non-concurrence then being voted in the house amendments to the pension bill, Messrs. Norris and Douglas were appointed on the committee of conference.

A bill to exempt certain portions of Hampton county from the operations of the general stock law was then killed on an unfavorable report.

A bill relating to the conveyance and admission of patients to the State hospital for the insane then came up as amended by Mr. Jordan to fix compensation of attendants at \$2 per day and 12 cents per mile, with \$1 per day for guard where one is necessary.

Mr. Buis then introduced a bill to incorporate the Roman Catholic church of St. Joseph's of Charleston, which was placed upon the calendar without reference.

Mr. Barnwell also introduced a bill to declare the last day of 1895. The question whether the bill should pass its final reading then came up. The yeas and nays being called, the bill passed by the following vote: Yeas—Archer, Barton, Brown, Deam, Douglas, DuBose, Finley, Fuller, Harrison, Jordan, Mayfield, Miller, McCalla, Odell, Saunders, Stackhouse, Stripling—18. Nays—None.

Mr. Kirkland, Mauldin, Moses, McDaniel, Pettigrew, Ragin, Sloan, Turner, Verdier, Walker, Watson, Williams—16.

The house resolution to fix the 7th of March as the day of final adjournment was then agreed to.

NEW BILLS. The following new bills were introduced during the session of 1894 to be published with the acts of 1896.

By Mr. Archer—To validate and confirm certain acts of the Spartanburg and Rutherford Railroad Company.

As to the county of Colleton, I would respectfully recommend that a joint resolution be passed by your honorable body giving them the relief desired, as in that county the taxpayers are unable to pay and the county affairs, I am reliably informed, will not be embarrassed thereby.

John Gary Evans, Governor. The senator from Beaufort county being absent consideration of the message was postponed.

The first bill considered at the night session was Mr. Fuller's bill to regulate the movements of cars, trains and traffic between lines connecting with in this State, and to prevent any discrimination in the rates charged or facilities offered such connecting lines, and to prevent all discrimination, and to require equal facilities and advantages to all railroad companies within the State without the State which they directly or indirectly connect, and to provide for the issuance and recognition of through bills of lading by all railroads doing business in this State, to prevent the diversion of freight, to prevent violation of this act by any railroad in this State, to constitute the same a misdemeanor and to provide punishment therefor.

Of special interest is the penalty clause, which imposes damages of \$500 for each violation of the law—and permits any person to bring suit for said violation. The original bill provided for a penalty of \$5,000, which was reduced to \$500 on motion of Mr. Mayfield. The bill passed to its third reading as amended.

Messrs. Finley, Ebird and Harrison were then appointed a committee of free conference on the new county bill.

The second reading bills were taken up, and the following ordered to their third reading: Mr. Fuller's joint resolution to require the penitentiary authorities to lend to 10 convicts to the Winthrop Normal school.

The senate bills then being exhausted, the house bills were taken up and the following were quickly passed: House bill to authorize and empower cities, towns and other municipal corporations to issue negotiable county bonds for the refunding or payment of bonded indebtedness existing at the time of the adoption of the present Constitution to the State.

House bill to provide for the drainage of Middle Tiger river and its tributaries.

House bill to provide for the inspection of beef and mutton in any of the cities and towns of this State, with amendments by Mr. Finley, was made the special order for tomorrow at 10 o'clock.

Mr. McDaniel introduced a bill to enable Beaufort Westbrook of Chester county, a minor, to apply for admission to the bar.

HOUSE PROCEEDINGS. When the house met, a message was received from the senate stating that that body had killed the bill to repeal the anti-free pass act, the jim crow bill and the bill looking to the changing of the names of towns and villages.

A conference committee consisting of Messrs. Carroll, Ashley and Hardy was appointed on the bill relating to the names of children.

A similar committee was appointed to adjust the differences between the two houses on the penitentiary investigation committee's expenses.

An unfavorable report was presented and adopted on the senate bill relating to punishment for embezzlement. A similar report was also presented on the bill looking to the adjustment of differences by arbitration.

An unfavorable report was adopted on the bill to make the chairman of the medical committees of the two houses members of the State board of health.

There were but two third reading bills—one being the general appropriation bill. This was given a third reading without any discussion and was ordered to be sent to the senate.

The question of adjournment. The senate resolution fixing next Wednesday as the day for final adjournment was called up.

Mr. Thurmond moved to table the senate resolution and take up the house resolution fixing Saturday week as the day for final adjournment. This was agreed to.

Mr. Thurmond moved to make it the 5th. He said all they had to do was to work like they had heretofore worked when Christmas started them in the face.

Mr. Sturkie moved to table this amendment, saying he wanted nothing left undone. The amendment was tabled, and the resolution fixing Saturday week as the farewell day was adopted.

for the purpose of creating said sinking fund shall immediately upon collection of the same be placed in a sinking fund. All unexpended balances of taxes raised for ordinary county expenses and all unexpended balances of taxes raised for any special county purpose excepting school purposes shall at the end of the year be carried to the credit of said sinking fund.

Sec. 3. Whenever the said sinking fund shall accumulate to such an amount as to equal the amount of the ordinary annual expenses of the county, then enabling the finances of the county to be placed upon a cash basis, then the said fund shall be carried to the credit of the general account of the county, and said sinking fund shall be closed and this act shall cease to be operative.

Sec. 4. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

Sec. 5. This act shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

Mr. Pollock called for the income tax bill but the supply bill was demanded. Upon a division vote the supply bill was taken.

The section making the general State levy reads as follows: Sec. 1. That a tax of 4 mills, exclusive of the public school tax hereinafter provided for, upon every dollar of the value of all taxable property of this State, be and the same is hereby levied for the purpose of meeting appropriations to defray the current expenses of the government for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 1896, and to meet such other indebtedness as has been or shall be provided for in the general act and joint resolutions passed by this general assembly at the regular session of 1896 providing for the same.

The bill was then ordered to a third reading.

THE INCOME TAX. Mr. Pollock's income tax bill was then called up, and Mr. Magill moved to strike out the enacting words.

M. J. G. Saunders moved to indefinitely postpone the bill.

At the night session the speaker ruled that the educational bill could be made a special order. It was then made a special order for tomorrow.

Then the income tax bill was taken up, but the delay was suspended temporarily to allow the report of the committee on conference on the new county bill to be read. The committee had failed to agree. A committee of free conference was asked for.

Mr. Patton suggested that there was only one such place.

Mr. Pollock—What county, France? Mr. Patton—No, heaven, Laughter. The roll call was demanded on the motion to strike out the enacting words. The bill was then killed by a vote of 60 to 30.

The clincher was then put on and the waste of time ended.

Those who voted for the bill were Messrs. Blackwell, Bramlett, Burns, Brown, Ellerbe, Fowler, Hammett, Hardy, Harvey, Connor, L. S. Elliott, Hobbs, Lemonson, Lessee, Moore, McDaniel, Munter, Pickens, Pollock, Price, Sturkie, Tatum, Thompson, Thurmond, Tyler, Warr, Williams, T. S.; Williams, Fred; Wolf and Spaker Gary.

After further discussion the bill was killed by a decisive vote.

The subsequent proceedings were of no public interest.

Preparing for the Fray. WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—"We have touched bottom and are now on rising ground" is the cheerful sentiment expressed by the national Democratic congressional committee, which is now completing its organization for the campaign.

Representative over the race of Arkansas, president of the committee, a number of vacancies were filled and a special committee of five, of which Mr. Hutcheson of Texas is chairman, was appointed to fill the remaining vacancies in State and Territories which have no representative in the house. The other members of this committee are Senators Mitchell of Wisconsin and Representatives Wheeler of Alabama, Maddox of Georgia and Dockery of Missouri.

The following is the personnel of the committee: State—Messrs. McCall, McDaniel, M. D. McKim, Missouri; Amos J. Cummings, New York; F. E. Woodard, North Carolina; W. N. Roach, North Dakota; Fred C. Layton, Ohio; C. J. Erdman, Pennsylvania; W. J. Talbot, South Carolina; Benton McMillen, Tennessee; C. K. Bell, Texas; Wm. A. Jones, Virginia.

THE VETO SUSTAINED.

LIVELY DEBATE OVER THE BEAUFORT AND COLLETON BILLS.

Plain Statement from the Senator from Beaufort—The Measure Finally Lost—Other Proceedings.

COLUMBIA, Feb. 27.—The feature of today's business was the Senate's refusal to override the Governor's veto of the Beaufort and Colleton bills. The taxpayers in Beaufort and Colleton.

Mr. Verdier, when the governor's veto of the bill relieving portions of Colleton and Beaufort from the payment of taxes due in the cyclone year and whose payment had been from year to year postponed, came up, took the floor. He had known nothing of the introduction of this bill, but he found it on the calendar. It had been introduced by Mr. Sanders in the senate and Mr. Cooper in the house, and these representatives of Colleton had justly and generously included Beaufort in the exemption which they asked for Colleton.

False representations had been made to the governor and on them he had based his resolution. One of the prime movers against it was a large speculator in county funds—one W. H. Lockwood—who styles himself president of the Bank of Beaufort. He had bought up this paper, county obligations, and was anxious that the collection of taxes be enjoined. There were also at least two county officers who, for some reason unknown to him, were opposed to the passage of the resolution.

Of the storm-swept sections of the State, relief had been given to Georgetown, Berkeley and some sections of Charleston, but none had ever gone to St. Helena parish. He said this and defied contradiction. But St. Helena had never asked for anything but the postponement of taxes. The property of St. Helena parish had been sold to pay the taxes of the State at large in 1893. The State of South Carolina had never lifted his finger to relieve them of this burden. Two or three years ago that section had been swept by a cyclone which not only destroyed vast amounts of property, but something like 1,000 lives. The whole country had responded to appeals for relief. Mr. Barnwell had said that she had requested herself by committing the taxes in certain sections. He was not well posted, but he thought that in certain portions there had been relief given from South Carolina to certain portions of Georgetown, Berkeley and Charleston counties, but he was sure that no relief had come to St. Helena parish, Beaufort county.

Mr. Jordan said he had received a letter from Mr. Barnwell which said the day from Mr. Martin, chairman of one of the relief committees in Beaufort county, that he had received \$2,000 for relief in his section.

Mr. Verdier replied that none of this went to St. Helena parish, but was used in a section as little hurt as any in the county and to which two shipments of property had been made by Beaufort people.

Mr. Finley asked what number of people would be relieved by this resolution.

Mr. Verdier said he would answer that directly, when he would show some written evidence which would prove the representations made to the governor were false. The only relief to St. Helena parish had ever received was a postponement of taxes. He had never asked for any relief that the taxes be remitted until their neighbors from Colleton had included them under a bill for their own relief, and in their kindness tied a millstone around their own necks that had dragged them down with Beaufort.

Now the representations that induced the governor to veto this resolution were false and made solely by speculators in the State of South Carolina. The president of the Bank of Beaufort, W. H. Lockwood, had approached him on the matter and stated that he had a lot of county paper on hand and that it was of great importance to him that the taxes should be paid. His people were accustomed to suffering; they had made no public appeals and would not have been here to speak except for the kindness of Mr. Colleton who had got them to pay.

Mr. Verdier—I mean an excessive burden to collect taxes for property that has been swept away.

The veto was sustained by a vote of 18 to 13 as follows: Yeas—Barnwell, Buist, Denis, Deham, Finley, Kirkland, Moses, Pettigrew, Sanders, Sloan, Turner, Verdier, Walker—13.

Nays—Archer, Barton, Brice, Brown, Jordan, DuBose, Fuller, Harrison, Jordan, Mayfield, Miller, McCalla, McDaniel, Norris, O'Dell, Stackhouse, Stripling, Williams—18.

A recess was then taken to 8 o'clock. The house bill to provide for the inspection of beef and mutton was killed.

IN THE HOUSE. The senate sent a message stating that it had concurred in the resolution in regard to adjourning on Saturday week, the 7th.

The following bills passed a third reading and were ordered sent to the senate: The bill to regulate and control county sinking funds created for the purpose of placing the finances of the counties of this State upon a cash basis.

The bill to raise supplies and make appropriations.

The joint resolution to authorize the superintendent of the penitentiary to borrow money from the Beaufort plantation and to mortgage the same.

The Saluda county bill, the very last on the calendar, was taken up owing to the necessity for its passage, and ordered to a third reading without any debate.

and dry in the town of Beaufort has been speculating in county claims and want to make their profit out of it. This man (Lockwood) was an agent of the freedmen's bureau, who came there from the north, a Republican to make money, and is now trying to suck the life blood of the people. He referred to one large taxpayer on the list who does not today own the house that he is living in—having lost everything by the storm—but who is assessed for the property that has been swept away. He knew merchants in that list who had their goods swept away, and who were existing today, financially, by the generosity of their northern creditors. He represented some of them, and held claims against some of them that would wipe out everything in the world they had, but for the sympathy of their creditors who stayed their hands. He knew one man, whose name was on the list, who had lost \$30,000 worth of goods out of one warehouse, and it was upon these goods that he was assessed and was forced to pay the taxes. He was stating these facts that his people might be understood. He said that money grabbers and money-lenders should come here and misrepresent them without his defending them and setting them right. As he had said to his friend, he did not intend to look poor, though he was as poor as any man in his county. He intended to keep a stiff upper lip and go down with his flag flying. But all that he had made since the war, to which he had gone as a boy, in which he had served for four years, it was in far away Massachusetts had shipped him without saying a word about it. His friends had afterwards wanted to raise a fund and buy him a library, but he thought he was already unfortunate enough without being held up as an object of public charity. He had no idea that it had ever occurred to the governor that the values upon which those taxes were levied in 1893 had been destroyed, but such was the fact, and he hoped the senate would consider it and overrule the veto.

Mr. Mayfield drew a graphic picture of the damage that the storm had done in Barnwell county, from which, he said, there had never come an appeal for aid. He found on the list four men who paid taxes amounting to over \$400 a year, and 11 who paid over \$100 a year, but such was the justice to give 16 men back their taxes and leave only a balance of a little over \$2,000 to be returned to the poor people.

Mr. Verdier said that much of those large tax lists represented property that had been swept away. They had lost it, and now to make them pay it would be a hardship.

Mr. Mayfield—One of the men on that list is Congressman Elliott, who is getting \$5,000 a year. Is he to be exempted?

Mr. Verdier—Because there onesuch instance, are you going to make all the others sell their homes. Is that your idea of justice?

Mr. Mayfield said that in Barnwell county that year they had not made money enough to pay for their fertilizers. He thought this joint resolution an injustice to the State of South Carolina. It was time to call a halt. There was Congressman Elliott whose salary was \$5,000 a year to be exempted. (I ask the reporters not to take that down.) He did not believe it was just and for these reasons would vote to sustain the governor's veto.

Mr. Verdier said he would not one of those merchants whose taxes were \$2,500 to \$500 a year, but less than \$2,500 in that storm. The lost property is the property on which these taxes are due to a large extent.

Mr. Mayfield asked if these men were not able to pay their taxes.

Mr. Verdier replied that if they were sold out under the sheriff's hammer their property would doubtless bring enough for that purpose, but he would ask the gentleman if that would not be a better plan.

Mr. Mayfield—All taxation is a burden.

Mr. Verdier—I mean an excessive burden to collect taxes for property that has been swept away.

Mr. Skinner tried to amend the committee amendments so as to give the governor, instead of the State board of education, the right to fill vacancies in the office of county superintendent for the unexpired term, but it was not adopted.

Mr. Otis introduced a bill to require the county superintendents to deliver a public address on education at least once a year, but it was tabled.

THESE WERE ADOPTED. The following new sections were adopted, being proposed by the committee.

Section 13. At the expiration of the terms of office of the school commissioners of the several counties of the State, there shall be elected by the qualified electors of the county superintendents of education for each county, who shall hold his office for the term of two years and until his successor is elected and qualified. He shall, before being commissioned and entering upon the duties of his office, give bond to the State for the use of the county in which he is elected, for educational purposes, in the penal sum of \$1,000 with good and sufficient sureties to be approved by the county board of commissioners, conditioned for the faithful and impartial discharge of the duties of his office, and shall take and subscribe the oath of office prescribed in section 26, article 3 of the Constitution of this State, which he shall file in the office of the secretary of state.

When commissioned, he shall immediately enter upon the discharge of his duties. His failure to qualify within 30 days after notice of his election shall create a vacancy.

Sec. 14. The State board of education shall fill all vacancies in the office of the county superintendent of education for the unexpired term.

Sec. 15. The salary of the county superintendent of education of each county shall be the same as that now fixed or hereafter to be fixed by law for the school commissioner thereof, payable monthly by the county board of commissioners out of the ordinary county funds; and he shall be allowed \$100 per annum for traveling expenses, if so much be necessary, payable in the same manner, upon an itemized statement of such expenses being filed with said board.

Sec. 16. It shall be the duty of each county superintendent of education to visit the schools in his county at least once in each year, and oftener if practicable, and to note the course and method of instruction and the branches taught, and to give such recommendations in the art of teaching and the method thereof in each school as shall be necessary, so that uniformity in the course of studies and method of instruction employed shall be secured, as far as practicable in the schools of the several grades, respectively. He shall acquaint himself as far as practicable with the character and condition of each school, noting any deficiencies that may exist, either in the government of the school or the classification of its pupils or the method of instruction employed in the several branches, and shall make such suggestions in private to the teachers as to him shall appear necessary to the good order of the school and the progress of the pupils. He shall note the character and condition of the school houses, the sufficiency or insufficiency of the furniture and shall make such suggestions to the several boards of trustees, as in his opinion shall seem conducive to the comfort and progress of the several schools. It shall be the duty of each county superintendent of education to aid the teachers in all proper efforts to improve themselves in their profession. For this purpose he shall encourage the formation of associations of teachers for common improvement and conduct teachers' institutes. He shall attend the meetings of such associations and give such advice and instruction in regard to their conduct and management as in his judgment will contribute to their greater efficiency.

Sec. 17. There shall be a county board of education in each county, composed of the county superintendent of education and two other persons to be appointed by the State board of education, who shall hold their office for the term of two years from the time of their appointment and until their successors shall be qualified. No person removed by the State board of education shall be appointed a member of the county board of education unless he is qualified to hold a first grade certificate. The rest of the committee amendments—some 30 or more—were agreed to without trouble. They were simply amendments to make the bill conform to the provision for the county superintendents.

THE GENERAL SCHOOL LAW. The general school law which was the special order for noon was then taken up.

The first committee amendment agreed to was one to cut the salary of the superintendent of education from \$1,300 to \$1,500.

THE NEXT AMENDMENT looked to putting back in the bill the provision for county superintendents.

Mr. Otis thought this was an unwise effort to go back to the old system.

Mr. Sturkie thought a school commissioner was an absolute necessity.

Mr. Fred Williams had been a school teacher. He could see no necessity whatever for this officer.

Mr. Wilson said his county wanted the office elective. His people wanted the office elective.

Mr. L. J. Williams said the house should consider well before it abolished this office. They were at the beginning of a new era in the public school system. Every department of the government should have a head. This was the wrong time to experiment.

Mr. Ellerbe said this was one of the few questions to provoke discussion on this bill. It was now more necessary than ever to have this office.

Mr. Otis' idea was to have a board in each county, having general supervision of the schools. He could see no use of having a school commissioner.

Mr. Townsend thought that this was one of the most important matters of the session. He did not want to concentrate so much power in the hands of the superintendent of education. This official, as the bill stood, could appoint all the county boards. It would be taking the matter out of the hands of the people. They were starting out on a new educational era. More time ought to be allowed for making such radical changes.

Mr. Thurmond feared that they could not get along without a school commissioner.

After much debate the committee's amendment, retaining the school commissioners was adopted.

The amendment to increase the membership of the State board of education from five to seven and to provide that there should be one from each congressional district was agreed to.

After some discussion the house adopted the committee amendment to have one depository in each county.

Mr. Pollock offered an amendment that the county superintendents should be paid out of the funds of the State and not out of the county funds.

Mr. Rainford moved to strike out the provision for \$100 a year each for the traveling expenses of the county superintendents.

The debate was then adjourned until the night session.

THANKS TO CHARLESTON. Mr. T. P. Mitchell offered a resolution of thanks to the people of Charleston for their trip to Charleston last week, which was adopted. It read as follows: "This house having accepted an invitation to visit the city of Charleston on the 22d day of February, 1896, it is, therefore,

Resolved, That the thanks of the house of representatives of the State of South Carolina, be, and the same are hereby, tendered to the managers and projectors of such visit."

with said board.

Sec. 16. It shall be the duty of each county superintendent of education to visit the schools in his county at least once in each year, and oftener if practicable, and to note the course and method of instruction and the branches taught, and to give such recommendations in the art of teaching and the method thereof in each school as shall be necessary, so that uniformity in the course of studies and method of instruction employed shall be secured, as far as practicable in the schools of the several grades, respectively. He shall acquaint himself as far as practicable with the character and condition of each school, noting any deficiencies that may exist, either in the government of the school or the classification of its pupils or the method of instruction employed in the several branches, and shall make such suggestions in private to the teachers as to him shall appear necessary to the good order of the school and the progress of the pupils. He shall note the character and condition of the school houses, the sufficiency or insufficiency of the furniture and shall make such suggestions to the several boards of trustees, as in his opinion shall seem conducive to the comfort and progress of the several schools. It shall be the duty of each county superintendent of education to aid the teachers in all proper efforts to improve themselves in their profession. For this purpose he shall encourage the formation of associations of teachers for common improvement and conduct teachers' institutes. He shall attend the meetings of such associations and give such advice and instruction in regard to their conduct and management as in his judgment will contribute to their greater efficiency.

Sec. 17. There shall be a county board of education in each county, composed of the county superintendent of education and two other persons to be appointed by the State board of education, who shall hold their office for the term of two years from the time of their appointment and until their successors shall be qualified. No person removed by the State board of education shall be appointed a member of the county board of education unless he is qualified to hold a first grade certificate. The rest of the committee amendments—some 30 or more—were agreed to without trouble. They were simply amendments to make the bill conform to the provision for the county superintendents.

THE ENROLLMENT QUESTION. Mr. Whitmore offered an amendment to define enrollment as meaning "an attendance of at least 100 school days during the preceding scholastic year."

Mr. Burn said that the committee appointed by the committee. The pupils in the country could not attend the schools as well as those in the cities.

Mr. Ellerbe said that it would be manifestly unfair to base enrollment on the average attendance. They thought it but fair that a pupil should come to school at least twenty days out of 100 school days. That was what the committee wanted. It would encourage the people to send their children to school.

Mr. Bacon made quite a strong speech in favor of the 20 day requirement. He said the interests of the rural districts should be looked after.

He said that he would not put a premium on children staying at home.

Mr. Burn said that the 20 days provision would give the town and cities an advantage. The schools in the cities would always have a great advantage.

Mr. Thomas regretted very much that the line between city and country should have been drawn.

Mr. Fred Williams wanted the 10 day provision or a lower one.

Mr. Burn said that the committee called on Mr. Whitmore's amendment. The house agreed to the amendment by a vote of 55 to 36.

When the committee amendments had been adopted Mr. Sturkie offered one to require a man to be a patron of the school in his district before he could be eligible to election as a trustee.

Mr. Ellerbe said there were some men who had no children to educate. The amendment was then tabled.

Read This, Boys. The following extract from tract addressed to young men and all is worthy the attention of all young men, particularly to the very young who are so anxious to appear like men.

"The boy who spends his money for beer, wine, whiskey, or tobacco, said dies upon himself an appetite which can never be satisfied. He is not only most seriously endangering his life, and is quite sure, if he lives until he is fifty or sixty years of age, to spend the sum of which would give him a comfortable home. Many a householder and farmer has slowly but surely spent his money on the above positions until his property has had to be sold to pay his debts."

Boys and young men, do you want to follow in the footsteps of such? If you do not, keep away from saloons and let intoxicating drinks and tobacco alone.

"Touch not, taste not, handle not." The boy or young man who commences spending his money for tobacco or intoxicating drinks as a rule, hands himself over to a life of poverty and sorrow very frequently result. It is very easy to get into the habit of using such poisons, but it is very difficult to get out, for they enslave mind and body, and not a few have been driven to despair by the loss of suffering which follows an attempt to regain freedom. Boys and young men, strive towards a noble manhood; do not become slaves; let intoxicating drinks and tobacco alone. Such positions are not necessary, they will do you no good. You will enjoy much better health, and, as a rule, will live much longer without than with them, as has been abundantly demonstrated by statistics."

Fatal Practical Joke. MARION, O., Feb. 24.—As Oran DeWese was escorting a young woman home from church last night, Virgil Eberly and two friends stepped from behind a tree, drawing a revolver. Eberly cried: "Hold up your hands." DeWese then shot Eberly through the lungs, and he will die. Eberly and his friends were simply trying to frighten DeWese.

A Life for a Collar Button