

**PASSED AT LAST.**

Members of the House Vote for the Biennial Sessions Bill.

**IT IS NOW UP TO THE PEOPLE**

To Say Whether They Want the Legislature to Meet Every Year or Every Two Years.

After a hard fight the House of Representatives passed the biennial sessions bill on Tuesday, Jan. 26. The bill passed the Senate at the last session and it is almost certain to become a law. If it does it means that the people of South Carolina will be called upon to vote on this question in the next general election, and if a majority of the voters cast are in favor of biennial sessions, the legislature will meet every second year after 1906.

The fight on the biennial sessions bill has come up every year since the session of 1896. There have been intimations that in the past the bill was advocated for "home consumption," and that the members of the house knew that in passing the bill they would rely upon the senate to kill it. But the action Tuesday was brought about by conditions that had to be faced squarely. The senate had passed the bill last year, and the house—after its repeated kicks on account of the lack of support on the part of the senate on bills which before had been killed—was called upon to declare itself in favor of the measure without any strings tied to it. The number of votes required was 83, and the bill received 87.

Mr. Moses of Sumter, opposed the biennial sessions constitutional amendment. The people do not attend the general elections and they do not take any interest or care about constitutional amendments. The Legislature of South Carolina is one of the cheapest. Long terms lead to carelessness and possibly extravagance. He thought it a good idea to bring the people together. The people have a perfect right to have their laws changed when they involve hard-ship. The people do not demand this legislation. He wanted the people to vote often on their candidates.

Dr. Black said he would favor the bill on the line of economy. Every two years was enough.

Mr. Beauford wanted to put the whole issue squarely up to the people. It is in the line of economy and his people want such legislation. He proposed to favor the bill before his people.

Mr. Richard insisted that his people knew what was going on and were fully posted on public issues. His people wanted such a bill.

Mr. Ehrd insisted that he has favored this resolution for seven years, and the resolution has passed the House. All that should be done is to pass the Senate resolution and then take up the matter of tenure later. All that is asked is to let this whole matter go to the people.

Mr. Dorroh urged that it was a routine bill. The only argument is that the people want this law. This is a legislative body and ought to consider this measure on its merits. He was an economist. He regarded the Legislature as a necessary—as much as the grand jury. As to too much legislation, if we need it we must have it. There must be a great deal of legislation to keep up with the rapidly changing conditions in this State. He thought there was danger in leaving too much power to the Governor. He believed it better to pay members a fixed salary and an unlimited session. South Carolina is one of the few States that has annual sessions and it has less statute law than most States. There has been a steady growth of crime, and it is as desirable to argue in favor of a session of the grand jury. The Legislature meets to provide for changed conditions.

Mr. Haskell urged that biennial sessions would lead to hasty legislation. Conditions have not changed since 1895, and the proof ought to be offered to show that there is a necessity for changing the sessions. Georgia came back to the annual sessions and called extra sessions nearly every year. The Legislature may easily save more than the cost of a session. In Alabama, where the corporate power is supreme, that corporate power secured quadrennial sessions. Corporations want infrequent sessions.

Mr. R. S. Whaley said there was no campaigning in his county. He has previously opposed this bill. In thirty-four out of forty-five States there are biennial sessions and in five States there are annual sessions. He had letters from forty-four States and was now convinced that the demand was for biennial sessions. He was of the opinion that the majority of the people would not take effect until 1907.

Mr. T. H. Hainsford was convinced that the people want biennial sessions. There was no use to argue that biennial sessions would not save much money.

Mr. Lide, of Orangeburg, was heartily and thoroughly in favor of the State advancing itself and going to biennial sessions. There is no necessity for annual sessions and such sessions as are needed can be acted upon for two years. A bill could go over for two years as well as for one year. The people would get along by waiting a little.

Mr. Holman favored annual sessions of the Legislature.

Mr. Magill insisted that the people did not want this bill. In response to an inquiry as to how he could read the mind of the people he said he was a hypnotist. The main point was that there is no demand for such legislation and there is no use to make the change.

Mr. Magill made a long and forcible speech for annual sessions.

Mr. Quick, of Marlboro, made a red-hot speech in the line of trusting the people to biennial sessions. He favored the bill vigorously and thought biennial sessions meant economy in whatever way it is figured. His people favored the change.

The House called the previous question. The question was whether the Senate resolution should be passed or

**AS HE SEES IT.**

The Brooklyn Eagle on Political Conditions in South Carolina.

**WE ARE ALL NOW AT PEACE**

Four Leaders Named Who It Is Claimed Has Gotten the Sections Together in Harmony.

The following article was recently published in the Brooklyn Eagle. It was written by Mr. N. O. Tenning, a staff correspondent from Columbia. It is an interesting review, but where he gets his facts from we do not know. Read what he says:

Evidences are not lacking that the Democratic feuds of a half century, which have estranged the people of the eastern district of this state from the rest of the up-country, are nearing an end. Significant as this is, it is less important in its bearing on the results of elections than it is on the social, commercial and industrial welfare of the people, for South Carolina is invariably Democratic, despite its sectional and class differences of opinion.

It is largely due to the influence of four men, two of them life-long controversialists and two of them peace-makers of a younger school, that this condition is approaching. They are Senator Benjamin R. Tillman, Governor D. C. Heyward, J. C. Hemphill, editor of the Charleston News, and Charles, and Mayor R. G. Rhett, of Charleston. They are men of strong individuality, differing in the views of political affairs, but possessing in equal degrees the qualities of state pride and party loyalty. This year these important South Carolina Democrats, who have hitherto represented Bryanism on the one side, Clevelandism on the other, and the idea of a compromise of Democratic factions between, will be in union in all the essentials of Democratic policy.

They will favor such action at St. Louis as will restore the integrity of national party lines, the adoption of a platform of live principles as distinguished from experimental theories, and the nomination of candidates for president and vice-president who will appeal to the conservative business sense of the country.

Nothing but the overwhelming control of the national convention by radicalism could this year swing Senator Tillman to Bryan or to any Bryan candidate, according to his close friends here. He was a free silver Democrat in 1896 and 1900, but he does not regard the old issue of importance now, except as it may become an instrument of damage to Democratic prospects at the polls.

Nothing could induce Senator Tillman, according to these same close friends, to support ex-President Cleveland for the presidential nomination. The statements made here on that head are very positive. President Cleveland and he were at odds over patronage in the last Cleveland administration.

Cleveland influences manifest themselves most conspicuously in the principal towns of South Carolina—Charleston, Columbia, Spartanburg and Greenville—where the idea of a commercial Democracy in the South, fostered by President McKinley and supported by Mr. McLaughlin while he was in the United States' senate, was entertained for awhile. Which retirement of Senator McLaughlin the semblance of organization of the Commercial Democrats disappeared. It was made up exclusively of Cleveland Democrats in the beginning, and it did not attract during its life any of the uncompromising regulars of the state Democracy.

The Cleveland Democrats have not, however, changed their opinions of Mr. Cleveland. They regard him as the best man who could be nominated. They are inactive because they believe that his letter to the editor of the Eagle cannot be disregarded in justice to him.

Chief Judge Parker's admirers here say that he more nearly represents the doubtful Northern states than any other man. The Democratic farmers of South Carolina are regulars of the old war-time school who look upon Mr. Cleveland's separation from the Democracy in 1896 as a bar to his eligibility. What they believe, they consider to be the belief of Democratic farmers in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Indiana. On these premises they reason that Mr. Cleveland would be knifed in South Carolina, while Chief Judge Parker, who voted for Mr. Bryan in 1896 would be loyally supported.

Conferees are to be held this week by Senator Tillman and his lieutenants, with respect to the make-up of the state delegation to the national convention. The men who are most mentioned for delegates at large are Senators Tillman and Lattimer, Governor Heyward and State Chairman Jones. It is now understood that the delegation will be unopposed and will be made up of the state's best known and most conservative Democrats. It is to be remembered, however, that South Carolina's anti-convention politics is the most uncertain in the South. But for the early and general recognition of the Democratic need of reunion in the state and nation it would be useless to speculate at all, at this time, on what the state will do at St. Louis.

It may safely be said that in any event the action which South Carolina will take the national convention will not be imitative. This state will follow that Northern leadership which best suits Senator Tillman.

A Fatal Fall.

Charles Holcombe, a nine year old lad of Asheville, N. C., died Saturday night as the result of an injury received while out skating two weeks ago. Young Holcombe, in company with numerous others, went to the ponds and lakes about Asheville during the extreme cold weather the first of January, and while skating he fell, striking his head on the ice. The boy was rendered unconscious by the fall, and was taken to his home, where he has lain in the same condition until Saturday, when death ensued.

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A dispatch from Charleston says the British steamer Manhattan, loaded with 20,000 bales of cotton and 40,000 sacks of grain on her way into port Wednesday morning. She left New Orleans Jan. 16 for Bremen. Fire boats are at work trying to save the cargo. The loss will be heavy.

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**A BIG HAUL.**

Twenty-Three Gamblers Up Before the Recorder in Columbia.

**FREE SCHOLARSHIPS**

At Clemson College Is Provided for by the Legislature.

The Bill Provides for Each County as There Are Members in the House.

After a long debate in the House on Wednesday, Mr. D. O. Herbert's bill to provide for scholarships at Clemson college passed second reading.

Mr. Cooper, in a strong argument against paternalistic features of the bill, declared that the State should foster its public schools and should maintain its State colleges, but it ought to stop there. The practical effect is that these scholarships will go to those who have had the advantage. If Clemson has more money than it needs, the revenue should be reduced or there should be some other disposition of the funds. He is opposed to all free scholarships at the hands of the State.

Mr. Logan favored the bill. He proposed an amendment, but he opposed giving preference to those who will take the agricultural course. The history of all agricultural colleges is that the young men do not wish to take the course. The wish of Mr. Clemson was that this should be a mechanical as well as an agricultural college.

Mr. Mauldin opposed the bill. It will fall short in its application. Many young men have been educated at the citadel whose parents are amply able to provide for them. He submitted the proposition that a man can support a boy at Clemson as cheaply as he can at home. He thinks the legislature had better keep its hands off.

Mr. Bomar thought that the remarks which he had heard seemed to be good politics but not much business. He suggested the need of a journal into which the speeches could be put for home consumption by the people who are always taking the "poor farmer." The trustees want to be let alone in the management of the institution. The proposition is not a good one.

Mr. Herbert corrected Mr. Bomar by saying that members of the board who had opposed the bill are now in favor of it.

Mr. Bomar continued that if they favor it they have not recommended it in their report. The college is more than full now. The history of colleges which have offered scholarships proves that it is not wise. Trinity college in North Carolina has done away with free scholarships although it has plenty of money. These scholarships would breed a race of office seekers who would say to the State, "You owe me a living."

Mr. Wingo, hailing from the rank and file of the farming populace, stated that he had acquainted his constituents with the nature of the bill. His farmer friends do not want it. The farmers feel that it will be favored few who get the scholarships. In reply to a question from a member, Mr. Wingo replied the intimation that he opposed the bill on account of its friendship for denominational institutions. What South Carolina needs is practical men. He is in favor of higher education, but the greater struggle of education in this State is to put it in the hands of the farmer who wrote to Mr. Wingo to favor the bill and concluded his letter by saying that he has \$2,000 worth of cotton and wants to know if now is the time to sell. That is the kind of man who expects to be benefited by the bill, not the really poor man.

Mr. Toole was surprised at the position taken by Mr. Wingo, who is a farmer. He favored the bill but opposed the proposition to require the beneficiaries to study agriculture alone.

Mr. Richards, the author of a bill to increase the Winthrop scholarships from \$48 to \$100 each, favored Mr. Herbert's bill. He wanted to make it certain that none but the extremely poor would be benefited and none but those who propose to take the agricultural course. However, he feared that it would be unconstitutional to give the scholarships to farmers' sons alone.

Mr. Jeremiah Smith favored the bill. He made a very strong speech in advocating it as a whole and particularly amendments which he offered. He wanted to give these scholarships to sons of farmers but not to farmers. He wanted to see that the sons of farmers gain advantages to become men of education in technical branches. Mr. Smith wanted to give these scholarships to farmers' sons.

Mr. D. O. Herbert thought the sarcastic flings of Mr. Bomar were unworthy. He accords the highest motives to others and asks the same for himself. He read a letter from a trustee favoring the bill. Senator Tillman himself upon the laying of the corner stone of the agricultural hall had expressed the hope that it would turn the agricultural department, the killing of the third anniversary of the killing of Governor Goebel. I had go as far South as South Carolina and will speak in Virginia and North Carolina, and that is as far as I have my plans made." Mr. Bryan is to deliver free lectures wherever he goes, says the paper, and will pay his own expenses.

Treasurers' Moros.

A dispatch from Manila says it has just been learned that Lieut. Campbell W. Flake of the Twenty-second Infantry, was killed while trying to enter Moro Cotta, Mindanao, for the purpose of examining the locality. He was accompanied by Private Foy of the same regiment. Lieut. Flake was shot treacherously, the Moros firing on the party while Maj. Bullard was parleying with them. Moro Cotta was at once taken by assault, with no further loss to the expeditionary force. The estimated loss among the Moros is twenty killed.

**THE FATAL FALL.**

Of a Cage to the Bottom of a Mine Shaft Causes Fifteen Deaths.

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As soon as possible the shift boss and a number of miners went down the mine through another compartment to the shaft. They found 14 dead, the bodies scattered in different directions. Arms and bodies had been found on the victims. From the 700 foot level to the bottom the shaft was 25 feet with the bottom.

The bottom of the shaft stands in 35 feet of water and into this the cage plunged, carrying some of the men into the water with it. Frank Gelles, engineer in charge, surrendered himself to the military officers in the district and was locked up. He would not talk. The militia has taken charge of the mine and a rigid examination will be made.

Smallpox Deaths Increasing.

The Columbia State says Dr. James Evans of Florence, secretary of the State board of health, who is here with Dr. T. Grange Simons, a member of the board from Charleston, to look after the appropriation for the board for the ensuing year, says that the number of deaths in smallpox cases in this State outside of the cities has increased to 5 per cent, since the first of January. In 1903 the deaths were only 1 per cent. of the reported cases, this also being the situation in the north. Since January the death percentage has gone up to 13 per cent. in the north and to 5 per cent. in South Carolina. Dr. Evans says that the disease is now of a more virulent type all over the country. For the year ending the 31st of last December there were 1,922 reported cases in this State outside of the cities and towns, and of this number 15 resulted fatally. In the 27 days of January there have been 193 cases, of which 9 resulted fatally.

The Shad Bill Passed.

In the Senate on Wednesday after the calendar had been read, the Gauss bill was brought up as a special order. Senator Walker of Georgetown, who has been active in fighting this measure, which prevents the shipping of shad out of the State, was on his feet immediately and renewed his opposition to have an amendment passed delaying the enforcement of the bill until February 20th of this year. He realized that the bill would itself be passed and asked of the senate to grant him this concession for the political family of Georgetown which he represented. The bill was passed as amended by Senator Walker.

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The Bill Provides for Each County as There Are Members in the House.

After a long debate in the House on Wednesday, Mr. D. O. Herbert's bill to provide for scholarships at Clemson college passed second reading.

Mr. Cooper, in a strong argument against paternalistic features of the bill, declared that the State should foster its public schools and should maintain its State colleges, but it ought to stop there. The practical effect is that these scholarships will go to those who have had the advantage. If Clemson has more money than it needs, the revenue should be reduced or there should be some other disposition of the funds. He is opposed to all free scholarships at the hands of the State.

Mr. Logan favored the bill. He proposed an amendment, but he opposed giving preference to those who will take the agricultural course. The history of all agricultural colleges is that the young men do not wish to take the course. The wish of Mr. Clemson was that this should be a mechanical as well as an agricultural college.

Mr. Mauldin opposed the bill. It will fall short in its application. Many young men have been educated at the citadel whose parents are amply able to provide for them. He submitted the proposition that a man can support a boy at Clemson as cheaply as he can at home. He thinks the legislature had better keep its hands off.

Mr. Bomar thought that the remarks which he had heard seemed to be good politics but not much business. He suggested the need of a journal into which the speeches could be put for home consumption by the people who are always taking the "poor farmer." The trustees want to be let alone in the management of the institution. The proposition is not a good one.

Mr. Herbert corrected Mr. Bomar by saying that members of the board who had opposed the bill are now in favor of it.

Mr. Bomar continued that if they favor it they have not recommended it in their report. The college is more than full now. The history of colleges which have offered scholarships proves that it is not wise. Trinity college in North Carolina has done away with free scholarships although it has plenty of money. These scholarships would breed a race of office seekers who would say to the State, "You owe me a living."

Mr. Wingo, hailing from the rank and file of the farming populace, stated that he had acquainted his constituents with the nature of the bill. His farmer friends do not want it. The farmers feel that it will be favored few who get the scholarships. In reply to a question from a member, Mr. Wingo replied the intimation that he opposed the bill on account of its friendship for denominational institutions. What South Carolina needs is practical men. He is in favor of higher education, but the greater struggle of education in this State is to put it in the hands of the farmer who wrote to Mr. Wingo to favor the bill and concluded his letter by saying that he has \$2,000 worth of cotton and wants to know if now is the time to sell. That is the kind of man who expects to be benefited by the bill, not the really poor man.

Mr. Toole was surprised at the position taken by Mr. Wingo, who is a farmer. He favored the bill but opposed the proposition to require the beneficiaries to study agriculture alone.

Mr. Richards, the author of a bill to increase the Winthrop scholarships from \$48 to \$100 each, favored Mr. Herbert's bill. He wanted to make it certain that none but the extremely poor would be benefited and none but those who propose to take the agricultural course. However, he feared that it would be unconstitutional to give the scholarships to farmers' sons alone.

Mr. Jeremiah Smith favored the bill. He made a very strong speech in advocating it as a whole and particularly amendments which he offered. He wanted to give these scholarships to sons of farmers but not to farmers. He wanted to see that the sons of farmers gain advantages to become men of education in technical branches. Mr. Smith wanted to give these scholarships to farmers' sons.

Mr. D. O. Herbert thought the sarcastic flings of Mr. Bomar were unworthy. He accords the highest motives to others and asks the same for himself. He read a letter from a trustee favoring the bill. Senator Tillman himself upon the laying of the corner stone of the agricultural hall had expressed the hope that it would turn the agricultural department, the killing of the third anniversary of the killing of Governor Goebel. I had go as far South as South Carolina and will speak in Virginia and North Carolina, and that is as far as I have my plans made." Mr. Bryan is to deliver free lectures wherever he goes, says the paper, and will pay his own expenses.

Treasurers' Moros.

A dispatch from Manila says it has just been learned that Lieut. Campbell W. Flake of the Twenty-second Infantry, was killed while trying to enter Moro Cotta, Mindanao, for the purpose of examining the locality. He was accompanied by Private Foy of the same regiment. Lieut. Flake was shot treacherously, the Moros firing on the party while Maj. Bullard was parleying with them. Moro Cotta was at once taken by assault, with no further loss to the expeditionary force. The estimated loss among the Moros is twenty killed.

**THE FATAL FALL.**

Of a Cage to the Bottom of a Mine Shaft Causes Fifteen Deaths.

In Victor, Col., by the falling of a cage Monday in the Stratton Independent mine located near the center of the city, 15 men are dead and one other severely injured. In the main shaft 16 men were being hoisted in a cage from the sixth, seventh and eighth levels. When the cage reached the surface the engineer, for some unexplained reason, was unable to stop the engine and the cage with its load of human freight was drawn up into the gallow's frame where it became lodged temporarily. The strain on the cable finally caused it to part, and the cage released, shot down the shaft with terrific speed. Two of the occupants, L. P. Jackson and James Timbers, had become entangled in the timber rods near the top of the gallow's frame. Jackson was crushed to death by the sheave wheel, while B. J. Baker had a marvelous escape from death, but received painful injuries before being rescued. The other 14 men were hurled to death down the 1,500 foot shaft.

As soon as possible the shift boss and a number of miners went down the mine through another compartment to the shaft. They found 14 dead, the bodies scattered in different directions. Arms and bodies had been found on the victims. From the 700 foot level to the bottom the shaft was 25 feet with the bottom.

The bottom of the shaft stands in 35 feet of water and into this the cage plunged, carrying some of the men into the water with it. Frank Gelles, engineer in charge, surrendered himself to the military officers in the district and was locked up. He would not talk. The