

Washington.

News of the National Capitol Briefly Noted in Passing for the Reader.

Never in the history of the country, old officials around the Capitol say, have so many Congressional investigations been held at one time as the case now is. The situation, they say, is almost without parallel, and indicates clearly that other laws than those under which we are now living must be enacted or the higher courts of the land, including the United States Supreme Court and the Inter-State commerce commission, must hereafter more strictly enforce their mandates. The many loopholes in which violations of the law, both civil and criminal, so frequently occur, must be closed up. Not until that time will it become unnecessary to hold investigations, such as that now going on in the Ballinger-Pinchot matter, in the investigations of the food and meat trusts, into the transportation of second-class mail matter and other investigations by special committee of Congress in Washington.

It has never been determined just what expense the national immigration commission, which spent several months abroad a year or so ago in trying to settle the immigration ques-

tion, has been to the country. Likewise the inland waterways commission has been called upon to expend a large amount of money on work that ought to have been done by Congress.

There is no way of estimating what the expense in the Ballinger-Pinchot case will be when it is ended. Many witnesses will come to Washington from time to time, from far distant States, and their expenses, including railroad fare, hotel bills and incidentals, must be paid by the Government. In addition to this the expenses of the Senators and Representatives, who compose the committee, when the long trip to the West is made to personally inspect the Cunningham coal lands, the mismanagement of which formed the basis of Glavis's charges against Secretary Ballinger, must be paid by the Government.

It is not believed that the food and meat trusts investigation will be completed for a year or more, although a partial report of the inquiry may be made at the present session of Congress. The outlook therefore is for continued investigation in many lines for at least the next year or two.—P. H. McG., in Charleston News and Courier.

Message of Gambling.

That President Taft will, at an early date, send to Congress a special message urging the passage of a bill prohibiting gambling and agricultural products was stated by Representative Livingston, of Georgia, at a meeting of Southern Representatives and officers of the Farmers' Union last week. He discussed ways and means of breaking up this practice. President Barret, of the Farmers' Union, stated that the 200,000 members were resolved to eradicate gambling on agricultural products, even if it meant the closing of every exchange in the country. "The Louisiana lottery is no more," he said. "The government can relieve the farmers in the country from the incubus of exchange gambling in the same way if it chooses to do so. We farmers are appealing to Congress."

\$13,000,000 for Agriculture.

The annual agricultural appropriation bill for the above amount which is now before the House. It is for carrying out the projects already underway, for the regular work of the department of agriculture and for the extension of work in many branches. This is about the same amount that was carried in the bill last year. The discussion, it is thought will disclose whether the farmers, wholesalers or retailers are responsible for high prices.

Reclamation Swamp Lands.

During the consideration of the agricultural appropriation bill before the House last week, Representative John B. Small, of North Carolina, made me suggestions in connection to swamp lands in North Carolina. He urged the Federal government to do the work of drainage of the swamp lands between Albemarle and Pamlico Sound. His sentiments were cheered.

Pension Lett Carriers.

Senator Fe introduced a bill for the pension of letter carriers and postal employes as a reward for long and faithful service. Under the terms of the measure any person who has served in the postal service either as letter carrier or postal clerk may be retired on 80 per cent of his full annual pay upon reaching the age of 75 years while in the service, if at the time of attaining such age he has been 45 years in the postal service.

To Probe High Cost of Living.

Foreshadowing an investigation by Congress of the high cost of living the houseways and means committee have authorized Chairman Payne and Representative Clark, the majority and minority leaders in the house, to collaborate in the preparation of a resolution providing for such inquiry and defining the form of procedure.

Want Pay for Use of Church.

A measure to appropriate \$1,000 for the relief of the Roanoke Island Baptist church on Roanoke Island, N. C., in payment of a claim for damages used that congregation through the use of its church by Federal forces during the Civil War has been introduced by Senator Overman.

Indian Woman Denied.

The supreme court has denied the petition of L. B. Conley, the Indian woman lawyer to prevent the sale of burial grounds in Kansas City. Her ancestors are buried in the grounds.

Insurgents Give Over.

The unanimous decision to support the administration's program of legislation was reached at a conference of the insurgents of the House of Representatives Monday night.

Postal Savings Bank Bill.

The Postal Savings Bank bill has been favorably reported to the Senate from the Senate Committee on Post-office and Post Roads.

Wants Absolute Prohibition.

Representative Aiken, of South Carolina, has introduced in Congress a bill for the District of Columbia that no persons, corporation, association, or club shall manufacture or sell liquor or beverages which contain alcohol and, which if drunk, will produce intoxication. Wholesale and retail druggists are the only persons who may dispense "pure alcohol" for medicinal purposes. A penalty of from \$100 to \$500, together with imprisonment at hard labor, for violators of the proposed law. A druggist who violates the act will have his license revoked for a year. The bill eradicates all saloons and wholesale liquor stores, and would eliminate the traffic in spirituous or malt liquors henceforth and forever.

Adulterating Oysters.

The United States government is going after those who transplant oysters from salt water to fresh water and frequently near the mouth of rivers, where they are allowed to fatten and enlarge beyond their normal proportions thus making them much more marketable, but less desirable to the consumer. This was developed in the testimony of Dr. Wiley, the government chief chemist, before the House subcommittee engaged in investigating the high prices of food stuffs.

Making Little Headway.

Little headway had been made in the two months congress has been in session toward the enactment of important legislation demanded by President Taft, yet on every side are heard predictions of an early adjournment. The cause of the delay seems to be that the leaders of the majority fail to get together in support of the administration's measures.

For N. C. Public Buildings.

Senator Overman, of North Carolina, has introduced bills calling for an appropriation of \$60,000 for a government building at Oxford, N. C., also \$35,000 on extension and enlargement of the public building at Reidsville, N. C.

\$7,000 For Customs Judges.

The salaries of the judges of the Court of Customs Appeals, which was created by the new Tariff law, have been practically fixed by the House at \$7,000 each. The Tariff law named \$10,000.

Plans For Post Offices.

Government architects are soon to draw plans and prepare specifications for eight federal buildings in South Carolina. They are Abbeville, Aiken, Darlington, Gaffney, Laurens, Newberry, Orangeburg and Union. Appropriations, \$50,000 in each case except Aiken, which was \$60,000, were made in the act of 1909 for the above places.

No Appropriation For Boll Weevil.

An unsuccessful effort was made by Southern Congressmen in the House last week to have the appropriation for the study and demonstration of the best methods of meeting the ravages of the boll weevil, the foe of cotton, increased from \$215,000 to \$500,000. The proposition was defeated by a vote of 88 to 115.

Hear Flint Case March 14.

The Supreme court has set March 14 for hearing the Flint case of Vermont to test the constitutionality of the corporation tax provision of the Payne tariff act.

The Cherry Trees Were Burned.

Two thousand young cherry trees, the gift of the Japanese government to the city of Washington, were reduced to ashes at the propagating gardens of the Department of Agriculture last week. Experts of the department, in examining the trees, found that they were hopelessly diseased, and explained a number of new insect pests that it was thought wise to turn loose in this country.

LAW-MAKERS OF PALMETTO STATE

Below is given a brief summary of the doings of the law-makers of the South Carolina General Assembly day by day:

WEDNESDAY—Feb. 2.

Section 1 of the rate and mileage bill fell by the wayside, and although the senate held but one session, in this time Senator Graydon's bill will be on the floor. The striking of section 1 from the bill was accomplished shortly after the senate convened, the vote standing 22 to 12. This section reads as follows: "That from and after April 1, 1910, the legal rates of carrying passengers in this State by all railroads over 40 miles in length shall be 2 1-2 cents per mile, computing by the shortest route, and no more." After the bill had been killed in part, discussion of the second section, relating to mileage books, was participated in by a number of senators.

"That in case any railroad company, or companies, shall put on sale any form of mileage books at said rate, or less, the presentation of the correct number of miles, by the shortest route, out of said book to the conductor or other officer authorized to take up tickets shall entitle the person holding said mileage to travel on the train of any road selling said mileage, and upon the presentation of his mileage to any agent of said company to have his baggage checked, as now provided by law.

"Sec. 3.—That all acts, or parts of acts, inconsistent herewith be, and the same are, hereby repealed."

The Confederate soldier pension bill introduced by Senator Mauldin was killed after evoking much discussion.

The house passed and ordered sent to the senate the prohibition bill introduced by Mr. Richards. The house passed the bill to a third reading, the errors made the night previous as to the date it should go into effect not being corrected.

THURSDAY, Feb. 3rd.

The Senate—Graydon's mileage book bill was passed to a third reading with amendments. The opponents of the bill got the section reducing the rate stricken out and Senator Rogers got in an amendment making a coupon on which a trunk has been checked good only on the line on which the trunk was checked, but Senator Clifton failed to get his amendment through allowing the roads to make contracts for the sale of mileage books with the regulations, which would have had the effect of putting the bill to sleep; bill amending the child deed law under which Senator Tillman has his grandchildren, was also discussed but no decision was arrived at.

The House—Compulsory education got a serious blow, the education committee bill being killed by a vote of 78 to 20, the heaviest yet recorded against such a measure. The friends of the bill said the backsliding was due to the near approach of the State commission; there was a long and lively debate in the House Wednesday night on the Richards pistol bill. The House would have killed the bill but for a demand for a roll-call. The first hostile motion resulted in a tie vote. The opponents made several desperate stabs at it after this but the House refused to kill the bill.

FRIDAY—Feb. 4th.

The Senate—Senator Joe Bailey of Texas got his "bid" to address the General Assembly, but it is not in inviting form, fourteen Senators voting against his coming. The Senate was against him for two reasons, one because Senator Tillman wanted him invited and the other in order to slap him for his slapping young Sinkler Manning at Washington last year; the proposed legislation against the mileage book regulations still hangs in the balance. The Senate had another hard fight over the Graydon bill, but adjourned debate till next Tuesday. No new amendments were adopted.

The House.—The House, after killing the Richards' pistol bill passed the Kelly bill from the Senate outlawing all but pistols 200 inches or more long and weighing three pounds or more. The penalty is \$100 fine. The House amended it by providing excepts in case of a man being on his own premises or having good reason to expect an assault. The Kelly bill is the present law on the subject and is being re-enacted to cure a technical defect; it now seems practically certain that there will be no investigation of Clemson at the hands of this Legislature. The House refused to make a special order of the bill to this end and it has little chance of passage otherwise; the bill of the majority portion of the asylum investigating committee looking to a bond issue of a million dollars and the appointment of a commission to select locations and build two new hospitals, one for whites and the other for colored patients, in case the bond issue carries and to secure opinions on sites in case the bond proposition does not carry, have received majority favorable reports at the hands of the ways and means committee, while the minority's bill authorizing the purchase of 1,200 acres of land within 10 miles of Columbia has been unfavorably reported. All three of the bills come up for consideration next Tuesday on the order of the House making them a special order for that day.

SATURDAY—Feb. 5th.

The Graydon child-deed bill was given its final reading in the Senate Saturday morning without further discussion and without further attempt to amend it. There were only eight votes against it Friday night. As the House is practically agreed on the Gasque bill to the same end, and will pass it next Tuesday, it remains now for the two houses only to get together on minor differences of amendments. The Graydon bill as it left the Senate will likely be substituted for the Gasque bill with some minor changes.

46 Men Saved.

Savannah, Ga., Special. Friday forty-six men were saved by the crew of the Mallory liner "Alamo" from the sinking steamship "Kentucky" on her way from this port to New York around the Home to Seattle, and taken to Key West, Fla. The vessel went down more than a hundred mile off the South Carolina coast. The signal of distress was given by wireless telegraph from this port to the crew of the liner "Alamo."

Big Meat Co. Fails.

New York Special.—The Mexican National Packing company, a New Jersey corporation, controlled by English investors and operating a string of slaughter houses and packing houses in the republic of Mexico under special concessions from the Mexican government, failed Thursday with liabilities, including stock, of approximately \$37,000,000. The assets were not announced, but it is estimated that they are in excess of the liabilities.

Tickled to Death on Boycotted Steak.

Pittsburg, Pa., Special.—A dozen foreigners discussed the meat boycott at breakfast in a Mulberry Alley boarding house and all except "Mic" Skoviac, a Slav, agreed to eat no meat. Skoviac, delighted with having the breakfast steak to himself, tickled it so violently that he choked to death on the first mouthful.

May Strike April First.

Toledo, O., Special.—President Lewis of the United Mine Workers said Saturday that there would be a general suspension of work in the bituminous fields of the country April first if agreements on the wage schedule are not reached by that date.

No Increase in Shoe Duty.

Washington, Special.—The Cuban government will not increase the duty on American shoes imported into that country, the United States charge at Havana reported Saturday.

Robbed Passengers of \$400.

Pittsburg, Kan., Special.—Three unidentified men held up and robbed the passengers on an eastbound Missouri Pacific passenger train, five miles East of here last Friday night. They were unmasked. About \$400 and a small amount of jewelry was taken from the passengers.

Hereafter all prisoners appearing in the Bristol, Va., police court will have their descriptions so carefully recorded that if they appear again they can be identified at once.

NEWSY GLEANINGS.

Bishop Cyrus D. Foss, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, died in Philadelphia.

Twenty Japanese settlers have been murdered in an uprising in South Phangan, Korea.

One of the largest milk concerns in New York City reduced its price to eight cents a quart.

Passengers on La Bretagne told how Parisians laugh at first at the rising waters of the Seine.

Champ Clark introduced a resolution for the election of a new committee on Rules at Washington, D. C.

New York, Boston, Washington and other American cities forwarded large sums for the relief of the Paris flood sufferers.

January's crime record in New York City included jewel robberies aggregating \$250,000 that the police kept secret.

A dispatch from Tokio, Japan, announced the government's intention to place all its bonds on a four per cent basis.

The Borden Condensed Milk Company bid five and five-eighths cents a quart for the contract for supplying five New York City hospitals with milk.

James R. Keene was made a defendant in a suit brought at New York City in connection with the collapse of the Columbus and Hocking pool.

Borough President Miller, of the Bronx, New York, chopped off seventy-five official heads and abolished positions which cost the city \$125,000 a year.

Augustine Birrell is expected to take the post of Mr. Gladstone as Home Secretary and be succeeded as Chief Secretary for Ireland by Winston Spencer Churchill; John Burns may be appointed President of the Board of Trade.

UNITED ON THAT.

"There is a wide difference of opinion as to the desirability of a quiet wedding."

"Well?"

"But everybody wants an unobtrusive divorce."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS.

STATE EXPENSES.

Estimates by Comptroller General Jones for 1910.

Over \$1,500,000 will be required to run the State government this year. The exact estimated amount as given by Comptroller General Jones is \$1,547,190.16. These figures do not include extraordinary expenses that may arise.

The following are the estimated totals for each department of the State government:

Governor's office, \$13,650; office of Secretary of State, \$6,200; office of Comptroller-General, \$10,550; office of State Treasurer, \$7,600; office of Superintendent of Education, \$6,700; office of Adjutant and Inspector-General, \$16,700; office of Attorney-General, \$6,875; office of State Librarian, \$1,600; Pension Department, \$250,000; Railroad Commission, \$11,570; Indexing and Coding Acts, \$2,310; State Electrician and Engineer, \$2,260; Insurance Department, \$8,000; Infantry Confederate Veterans, \$10,500; Judicial Department, \$94,100; State Geologist, \$3,500; Historical Commission, \$2,250; State penitentiary, \$6,550; Health Department, \$12,100; Tax Department, \$83,893.14; legislature expenses, \$45,000; election expenses, \$24,000; examining committees, \$1,950; public printing, \$23,500; completion of State House, \$23,001.68; Commission of Immigration, \$10,420; South Carolina University, \$8,000; South Carolina Military Academy, \$25,750; Winthrop Normal and Industrial College, \$96,153.65; Deaf, Dumb and Blind Asylum, \$27,000; Catawba Indians, \$3,200; Miscellaneous, \$110,155.83; interest on public debt, \$1,547,190.16.

Corn Breeders Organize.

For the purpose of providing better corn seed not only for the members of the association, but for every farmer in the State, the South Carolina Corn Breeders' association was organized in Columbia last week with a membership of 30. Those in attendance were representative farmers from all sections of the State and there was a lively interest displayed in all of the proceedings of the meeting. It was urged upon the members that it is necessary to breed corn seed that will be adaptable to this climate. The organization was perfected and many of the details for the future of the organization worked. A. E. Gonzales has offered \$1,000 to be used as premiums for those that do the best corn breeding within the next two years.

A Remarkable Woman Dead.

There died recently near Blacksburg Miss Peggy Clark, who had lived until the 21st of this month, would have been 108 years old. In the old family Bible, which belongs to one of her kinsmen, is the record of her birth, February 21, 1802. She always lived the simple country, out-door and open-house life, and in later years indulged in the luxury of smoking her pipe. Although her home was within 200 yards of the Southern railroad line from Atlanta to Washington, and every day for a third of a century she heard its percerous freight trains and magnificent vestibuled coaches roll by, she never herself enjoyed a ride over it. She was never sick enough to require the services of a physician and died rather suddenly. Miss Clark lived with her cousin, Mrs. White, who is nearing her 90th year and who has, for the past 15 or 20 years, been drawing a pension from the United States government on account of her husband having served in the Mexican war.

Monument to Dr. Smith.

The officers of the First Presbyterian church, at Columbia, have decided to advise the congregation to erect a monument to the memory of their late pastor, the Rev. Dr. Samuel M. Smith, at his grave in the church yard.

Baccalaureate Sermon by Bratton.

The baccalaureate sermon before the graduating class of the university of South Carolina on Sunday, June 5, will be delivered by Theodore DuBose Bratton, Episcopal bishop of Mississippi.

At a meeting of the Laymen's Missionary movement in Spartanburg Mayor Lee was called upon to close all disorderly houses in that city.

Gov. Ansel has received a letter from an old Confederate veteran who is now a resident of Baltimore, in which information is asked to a pension for a veteran who resides outside of the State. No veteran receives a pension who is not a resident of the State. The State in which a veteran makes his home must give the pension. If a veteran from another State moves to South Carolina, this State will then pay a pension provided the applicant is eligible.—The State, Jan. 31st.

Snap Shots.

H. C. Mosely, promoter of the C. N. & L. railroad, and its best president, is dead at Clinton.

A movement is launched at Greenville for a \$50,000 Y. M. C. A. building.

County superintendent Martin, of Lexington, came near drowning in trying to cross Wateree creek in the Dutch Fork.

Laman is to have a new passenger station.

It is announced that Thos. I. Rogers, of Marlboro, is to be a candidate for congress to succeed Hon. J. E. Elerbe.

NEWS BRIEVITIES

Condensed from Wide Fields, Domestic and Foreign.

AS THEY ARE HAPPENING DAILY

Suited to the Wants of Busy Readers Seeking a Knowledge of What is Going on.

The Roanoke (Va.) Railway & Electric company have announced an increase of one cent an hour in the pay of conductors and motormen. The increase was unopposed.

The mandate of the federal circuit court, at Macon, Ga., has ordered the sale of the Savannah, Augusta & Northern railway to satisfy a claim of nearly \$300,000 made by William J. Oliver, a contractor of Knoxville, Tenn., and confirmed the order of the United States court of this district, and the sale of the railroad and all of its properties will be made on Tuesday, March 15, at Statesboro, Ga.

On the 10th anniversary of the assassination of William Goebel (the funeral of his brother, Arthur Goebel, who died in Phoenix, Ariz., January 20, was held in Covington, Ky., on Monday.

Floating helplessly in a disabled gasoline launch, three men were drowned when the launch was run down by the towboat Enterprise off Hopefield Point near Memphis, Tenn.

The wages of the car men of the local traction company at Lynchburg, Va., has been increased to a maximum of 21 cents an hour. This is an increase of a cent an hour.

The Southern Railway has recently placed an order for a number of gas-electric cars of modern design, which will be built and adapted especially to the requirements of the Southern section of the country.

Samuel H. Tatersall, for many years supreme secretary of Improved Order Heptasophis, died suddenly at his home in Baltimore of heart failure. He was born 44 years ago in Philadelphia.

Jose Santos Zelaya, formerly resident of Nicaragua and who has been in Mexico City since the last of December, left last week over the Mexican railway for Vera Cruz, from which port he sailed on the 4th in a Spanish steamer for Belgium.

One million dollars probably will be given certain educational institutions at Nashville, Tenn., by the board of trustees of the Peabody Educational committee. The gift will mean the establishment of the George Peabody school for teachers at Nashville.

A London cablegram says David Lloyd-George will visit the United States next summer as the guest of American Welshmen. He will be accompanied by Sir Samuel T. Evans, the solicitor-general; W. Abraham, M. P., and William Jones, M. P., and according to the Druid, the organ of the Welsh people in America, a banquet will be given in his honor, which President Taft is expected to attend.

Brakeman Chain Campbell was killed, Conductor Ballard was seriously injured and several others received minor injuries in a freight wreck on the Virginia and Southwestern Railroad at Moccasin Gap, Tenn.

In an official report to the Illinois State food commission, just made public, State Inspector Hoey declares that horses are being slaughtered by the wholesale in Chicago and the meat is being sold and distributed for human consumption.

The price of Bibles will go up on March 1, according to an announcement by a large Bible publishing house in Chicago. The cause for the advance is the enforcement of the new tariff on imported leather and paper.

William E. Castle, president of the Millers' National Federation, says that if the housekeepers will buy more flour, the question of the advanced cost of living will soon be settled.

At Sumter, S. C., Maj. Marion Moise, a leading lawyer and financier killed himself with a revolver in his office.

Waycross, Ga., is to have a 60-acre celery experiment farm.

Tosam Leger, 70 years old, was shot and instantly killed by his grandson, aged six years, near Estherwood, La. The latter picked up a gun, unknown to the grandfather, and was trying with it when it was accidentally discharged. The load took effect in Leger's back and the youth, by the recoil of the weapon, almost had one of his eyes torn from its socket.

Approximately 165,000 railroad employes have been added to the half-million in this country, to whom pension plans already apply. This large increase is due to the action of the New York Central and Rock Island lines, which have announced the inauguration of pensions.

Rear Admiral Bob Evans has been detached from duty with the general board by orders received last Wednesday. He is in his 64th year, and for the first time since his graduation from the Naval Academy, fifty years ago, "Fighting Bob" Evans is left without any active duty to perform.

According to the report of the Manitoba department of agriculture the value of the butter produced in this province during 1908, was \$1,216,976, an increase over the previous year of about \$170,000.