

SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The house took up the bill introduced by Mr. Walker of Union requiring a separation of the races in cotton mills in South Carolina. The bill was passed to third reading after the adoption of the committee amendments.

Under a resolution from the house committee of medical affairs, the petition of certain property owners who live near Parr Shoals, on Broad river, and who asked that the land to be flooded by the Parr Shoals dam be first cleared of brush and trees, was referred to the state board of health for action.

The matter of anti-alien legislation came up again in the house in the form of a concurrent resolution offered by Mr. James of Lee calling on the South Carolina senators to oppose the ratification of a treaty with any nation whose citizens are now ineligible to citizenship. The house tabled the resolution.

The house, through Speaker Smith, received a letter from the Florence Civic league commending the body for passing the Sanders bill.

At the request of Mr. Welch of Richland the house took up out of its order the bill introduced by Mr. Miller of Richland to require street car companies in cities of 25,000 or more inhabitants to provide proper heat and air brakes for their cars. The measure passed to third reading without opposition.

The DeLaughter joint resolution appropriating \$400 for the erection of a monument to the memory of McKie Merriweather of Edgefield county was passed by the house to third reading without opposition.

In a little less than five hours the house passed the general appropriation bill to third reading at its session. With scant ceremony, the house voted down nearly all the amendments proposed to the various items in the bill after they had been explained by some member of the ways and means committee. The total of the bill as it was passed by the house was increased by about \$35,000. The bill as reported by the committee carried a total of \$2,391,795 and provided for a state levy of 7 mills, an increase of 3-4 of 1 mill over the tax collected by the state in 1913.

After a debate the house agreed to an amendment decreasing the appropriation for the Confederate Infirmary by \$5,000 and fixing the salaries to be paid to persons in charge of its management. For the third year in succession the house killed the item of \$5,000 in the appropriation bill for Todd & Benson, architects of Charleston, "in full payment—for plans and specifications of the state house and model for other claims in connection with this work." And also the Todd & Benson item was killed by a vote of 59 to 27. Last year it was killed by a vote of 71 to 32. At both sessions the

items died at the instance of Mr. McDonald of Oconee.

The increase in the appropriation bill was due, to the adoption by the house of an amendment offered by Mr. James of Lee to set aside \$45,000 for a contingent fund for needy rural schools, to be expended under the supervision of the state board of education and paid out on the application of county superintendents of education.

For lack of one vote, almost all hope of the passage of legislation by the general assembly to safeguard the primary election system vanished into thin air, when the house by a vote of 54 to 54 refused to pass to third reading the primary election reform bill now pending in the senate. The senate bill was substituted for the house bill by a vote of 54 to 53 on the motion of Mr. Stevenson of Chesterfield, who led the fight to enact legislation which would guarantee to South Carolina honest primary elections.

The Liles bill fixing an annual license of \$5 and \$10 on automobiles, the fees to be used for building and maintaining the roads in the counties in which they are paid, was taken up by the house and passed to third reading.

Mr. Liles said that the bill would raise approximately \$65,000 for a special road fund.

At the request of Mr. Stevenson the house took up out of its order, the Welch-Busbee-Barnwell bill relating to negotiable instruments and passed it to third reading.

The Earle bill providing for creating a thirteenth judicial circuit by riving the Tenth judicial circuit was taken up by the house and passed to third reading. The bill proposed that Anderson and Oconee should be allowed to remain in the Tenth circuit and Greenville and Pickens to be placed in a new circuit to be known as the Thirteenth circuit.

The Mixson bill changing the inheritance law when a husband dies intestate, so as to give the widow one-half instead of one-third of his property, was killed by the house.

The county supply bill, one of the omnibus measures of the ways and means committee, was passed to third reading by the house.

The house, at the request of Mr. Pyatt, of Georgetown, passed to third reading the bill by the committee on fish, game and forestry charging a license to non-residents who fish for shad or sturgeon in the waters of South Carolina. The licenses are to be granted by the board of fisheries through the county treasurer, and they are not transferable. County treasurers are to be furnished with license blanks and tags by the board.

On motion of Mr. Welch, the bill by Mr. Miller requiring railroad companies to provide shelter at their shops for employes repairing cars, was passed to third reading with the proviso that it should not apply to railroads less than 20 miles in length. Mr. Miller introduced the bill at the instance of men in the Southern shops in Columbia.

Senate.

Debate on the Earle-Stanley-Mixon-Hunter two-cent passenger rate bill, begun in the senate, continued

throughout the night session and will be taken up again immediately after the morning hour, when the indications are that it will be killed, or the committee amendments adopted.

The opponents of the two-cent rate contend that it is unfair to give the man of means the advantage of a two-cent rate in purchasing a mileage book and to require the man who can not afford to invest at once in transportation for from 500 to 1,000 miles to pay two and a half and three cents a mile. The opponents answer this by saying that it is the same discrimination that is made in favor of a large shipper as against a small shipper; that the man paying the railroad \$20 in a lump sum makes that much money available for the use of the railroad in its business.

Senator Young said that the proponents of the two-cent rate bill admitted that it would prove confiscatory in the case of short lines, yet, he said, they would have a trunk line haul passengers for 100 miles more or less within the state for two cents. The logic of this view of the matter Senator Young said that he could not see.

The discussion of the measure has brought out from the proponents, and from Senator Earle especially, denunciation of the railroad lawyers who frequent the lobby as he contended from the beginning of the session of the end. The railroad committee has also come in for a share of criticism. Senator Earle said that he had not gone before the committee, because he expected an unfavorable report on his bill in any event.

The senate passed a bill authorizing the establishment of the pellagra hospital and commission, carrying an appropriation of \$75,000, of which \$25,000 is to build the hospital which would be the first in the country.

The senate refused to change the change the pension laws of this state, and killed the bill providing an additional stenographer for the seventh circuit which is composed of Spartanburg, Cherokee and Union. The house passed the pension reform bill.

Columbia Station Substitute Bill.

A substitute for the Welch bill to require the railroads to erect and maintain a union station in Columbia was reported out of the railroad committee of the senate. The substitute makes no mention of erection but provides simply for the improvement and maintenance of an adequate station. The substitute bill would place the matter in the hands of two engineers, one to be appointed by the railroads, and the other by city council, instead of the Chamber of Commerce.

Mileage Good For Family.

The railroad commission recently issued order effective within 30 days requiring railroad companies to accept mileage coupons from any member of the family of a purchaser, provided the purchaser at the time of buying his mileage stated in writing who constituted the members of his family. The order followed the complaint of Senator Earle of Greenville.

H. S. Hardwick, of Washington, traffic passenger manager of the Southern railway was here. Assistant Attorney General represented the state.

Fair Last Week in October.

October 26-31, inclusive, the last week in the month, was fixed upon as the time for the state fair of 1914 at a meeting recently of the executive committee, South Carolina Agricultural and Mechanical Society. D. F. Efrid, general secretary, and D. G. Ellison, treasurer, were re-elected. Neither had opposition.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS ITEMS.

Systematic encouragement of thrift will hereafter be part of the policy of the Columbia public school system. The commissioners authorized the establishment, in the high school only at present, but eventually in all the schools, of a savings funds for pupils.

The state of South Carolina was awarded a verdict of \$360 in the court of common pleas recently against the Seaboard Air Line railway. The complaint was brought on behalf of Clemson College.

The Columbia-Camden railroad was chartered recently with capital of \$250,000 and work was commenced on the electric line of railway between Columbia and Camden. R. L. Abney and Senator Weston and others are behind the movement.

Rev. Stephen A. Nettles, formerly editor of the Southern Christian Advocate, is confined to the home of his sister, Mrs. E. C. Alsbrook in Spartanburg by injuries which he received when he slipped and fell on the icy pavement.

The first shipment of the 7,000 eggs to be sent into Union county to fill the orders for the members of the Union County Poultry Association is now being received.

A delegation of railroad officials and directors of the Spartanburg chamber of commerce met in consultation with J. T. O'Dell, relative to the erection of a new union station for Spartanburg.

Orangeburg county schools have received \$3,250.63 to be used as school extension aid. Thirty-five schools of this county have received this aid.

Prof. J. H. Harper, director of the agricultural department of Clemson College, has accepted an invitation to conduct one of the conferences at the 1914 Conference for Education in the South, to be held in Louisville, Ky., April 7 to 10, inclusive.

After a pleasant and instructive series of meetings in the Pendleton street Baptist church at Greenville, the B. Y. P. U. convention adjourned recently to meet next year at Darlington. The banner for which competition was keen was awarded to the B. Y. P. U. of Tabernacle church of Columbia.

A new enterprise for Gaffney is a hog farm which has been established by R. E. Johnson. Mr. Johnson has purchased some registered animals and will raise them for sale. He has had considerable experience in handling live stock, and only up-to-date methods will be employed by him.

Henry Von Oshen, Jr., of Orangeburg and Mr. Howard of Charleston have entered into a business to raise poultry and sell eggs, etc. The poultry farm has been established on the road between Orangeburg and St. Matthews, about two miles from Orangeburg.