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You'll get a big bunch of laughs out of the jolly coon songs, the bright minstrel jokes, the humorous specialties, and all the other varieties of fun, on the Victor.

Victor \$10 to \$100 Victor-Victrolas \$15 to \$250 Terms to suit

The Corley Co. SUCCESSORS CABLE PIANO CO. 213 East Broad St.

SPEAKERS OPPOSE PROHIBITION BILL

An object lesson in regard to the evil effects of forcing prohibition upon cities whose people do not desire it was presented to the House Committee on Privileges and Elections yesterday morning by Mr. Howison, who has lately come to Richmond from Memphis to lead the public sentiment in Memphis against prohibition.

On tests of strength between the sides favoring rigid enforcement of the law and that wishing liquor sold, he said, the results had been uniformly with the latter.

All others who spoke before the committee in opposition to the Jordan enabling act are Virginians who are well known in their communities. All said that the enactment of a law which would deprive the people of their right to vote, as a result of a Democratic election, was a crime.

Banker Speaks. H. R. Booker, president of the Merchants National Bank of Hampton, presented petitions from the Board of Supervisors of Elizabeth City county and the City Council of Hampton, with all signing save one, protesting against the passage of the Jordan bill.

Police Justice J. D. G. Brown, of Newport News, said the saloonkeepers in his section are men of good character, the others having been forced out. There have been but one or two convictions for violations of the liquor selling laws in several years.

Major Wood, it may be said, believes he can get more money for convict labor than is offered by the Reliance Manufacturing Company. If he is right, this would further take care of the finances.

Chairman Harman of the Senate Committee on Roads, and Chairman Throckmorton of the House Committee

On the 13th of July, A. D. 1909, W. C. Cook, to me personally known, appeared before me, W. C. Cook, and in my presence subscribed and swore to the above and foregoing statement.

DALE H. SHEPPARD. Notary Public. In and for Clinton County.

Letter to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y.

Prove What Swamp-Root Will Do For You. Send to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample bottle. It will convince any one. You will also receive a booklet of valuable information, telling all about the kidneys and bladder.

System Full of Uric Acid--the Great Kidney Remedy Cured.

DOUBLE CONVICTS ON STATE'S ROADS

Legislature Likely to Put 1,400 Men in Stripes on the Highways.

If diligent inquiry made yesterday among a large and representative portion of the membership of the General Assembly may be taken as revealing the probable outcome of the convict labor contract proposition, a reasonable prediction is possible. It is that the number of convicts on the public roads of Virginia will be doubled--increased from 700 to approximately 1,400. As to the remainder, of 500 men and 100 women, they will in all probability be employed at the State Penitentiary on some contract to be made by the directors--perhaps under regulations laid down by the Legislature.

Hardly a member approached was opposed to largely increasing the road force. Hardly one desired to see convict labor abolished entirely at this time, regarding such a step as the sale of the State Penitentiary on the use of all prisoners on the roads or other public work, as too radical, considering finances and the magnitude of the proposal.

Favor Mann-Wilson Bill. It appears that the bill drawn by Governor Mann and Sen. Highway Commissioner Wilson is high in favor. This provides that the penitentiary shall be continued, and that men convicted of felony shall be sent there. All prisoners shall be liable to labor on the roads. But for such men as the superintendent thinks unwise to enter road force, the directors are to make provision, either by contract or by some form of labor in the prison as will tend to make them self-supporting.

In addition the Governor desires a trial of the honor system, which he has recommended in his message. He merely wants it tried out in about two camps for a period, to see if it will work. If it is successful, he would have it extended to all camps, to lessen the number of guards and the consequent expense.

One main objection to the continuation of convict labor in the penitentiary has been the overcrowding there. Under the Mann-Wilson plan, this would be obviated, since the 500 men left there could have one cell each, with room to spare.

Would Pay Its Way. Now, the financial end of the proposition has been worked out on this wise: The State Highway Commission \$250,000 for State money aid for the appropriation year from February 1, 1912, to February 1, 1913, the period while the Thatcher contract is still in force. This is a sum similar to that enjoyed by this fund in 1908.

Under the following year, double the number of convicts, making the cost \$200,000. Of this, \$170,000 a year is now provided under the latest development of the Lassiter-Withers road law.

Should the bid of the Reliance Manufacturing Company be accepted it is estimated, the penitentiary would turn out a profit of \$25,000 a year. Give this to the convict road force. The automobile tax fund is steadily growing. The first year it was \$21,000, last year, \$58,000. Captain Wilson believes that within two years it will make up the difference of \$15,000 necessary to care for the additional convicts. In this way the State would not be hurt by the change.

As to the counties, it is figured that State money aid, for the first year, taken from these counties which need to use the new convict camps, would when distributed among the others about make things even among all those which desire State aid in some form.

Sentiment is strongly in favor of adding more convicts to the road force. But from day to day the feeling has grown in favor of some contract labor for the long-term and desperate men. The Governor does not oppose it; leaders in Senate and House favor it; social workers agree to it.

Might Get Better Bid. Major Wood, it may be said, believes he can get more money for convict labor than is offered by the Reliance Manufacturing Company. If he is right, this would further take care of the finances.

Chairman Harman of the Senate Committee on Roads, and Chairman Throckmorton of the House Committee

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System Full of Uric Acid--the Great Kidney Remedy Cured.

Two years ago I was very sick, and after being treated by several of the best physicians in Clinton I did not seem to get any better. I was confined to my bed. Seeing Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root advertised, I resolved to give it a trial. After using it for three weeks I found I was gaining nicely, so I continued until I had taken a number of bottles. I am now restored to health and have continued my labors. My system was full of Uric Acid, but Swamp-Root cured me entirely. I am sixty years old.

Yours very truly, W. C. COOK. 1203 Eighth Ave., Clinton, Iowa. State of Iowa, Clinton County--ss: On this 13th of July, A. D. 1909, W. C. Cook, to me personally known, appeared before me, W. C. Cook, and in my presence subscribed and swore to the above and foregoing statement.

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KEEP UNCLE SAM OUT OF VIRGINIA

House Committee Reports Bill Repealing Act Giving Rights to Government.

Federal encroachment in Virginia, without specific consent from this State, is to be stopped if a bill now before the House, offered by Chairman White, of Rockbridge, becomes law. The bill came up yesterday before the Committee on Privileges and Elections, at a special meeting called by Chairman J. F. Templeton, and it was unanimously reported.

The government, it was recently said, had in dredging the Potomac made some new ground with the mud on the Virginia side, and that certain lands on the adjoining owners, who claimed riparian rights.

The bill prohibits the act formerly passed allowing the United States to come to Virginia and acquire land by purchase or condemnation, or otherwise, to prevent the exercise of jurisdiction over it as to government. Under the law as it stands, the Federal government came near establishing a penal colony, and it was only averted by the protest of the Senators and Representatives in Congress.

HOUSE BILLS (Continued from second page) It which it has failed to draw. By Mr. Hart: A bill for the relief of the town of Denison, Surry county.

By Mr. Stephens: A bill to submit to the qualified voters of the city of Williamsburg, at a special election to be held therefor, the question of the establishment in the said city of Williamsburg of a dispensary for the sale of intoxicating liquors therein.

By Mr. Moore: A bill to amend section 2005 of the Code of Virginia, to prescribe the time for catching bees, so as to exclude from the operation thereof New River, in North Carolina, and to prevent the capture of bees with seines in certain waters of said county.

By Mr. Parker: A bill to amend the charter of the city of Portsmouth.

By Mr. Uta: A bill to amend an act to provide for the working and keeping in order the public roads of the counties of Greene and Madison.

By Mr. White, of Rockbridge: A bill to amend the laws relating to the State of Georgia and to relate the same to some appropriate place in Virginia, and to appropriate the same to the State of Virginia to the Committee on Chesapeake and Its Tributaries.

By Mr. Menzies: A bill to require a license of nonresidents to fish in the waters under the jurisdiction of the State of Virginia.

To Committee on Finance. By Mr. Moore: A bill to increase the pensions of Confederate veterans and their families, and defining who shall be entitled thereto.

By Mr. Byrd: A bill which shall the salaries of judges of the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia, whose terms expire on or after the 1st day of February, 1912.

By Mr. Bowman: A bill to appropriate at least two weeks ahead of any ending, respectively, the 25th day of February, 1912, and the 25th day of February, 1914.

To Committee on General Laws. By Mr. Banks: A bill to amend an act to promote the public health, convenience and safety by leveling, ditching and draining the wet, swamp and overgrown lands of the State.

SENATE BILLS By Mr. Paul: A bill to amend an act to authorize the purchase by the Commonwealth, for delinquent taxes and redemption within four years or more, referred to the Committee on Finance.

The Mutual Life Insurance Company OF NEW YORK Record of 1911

The close of the 69th year of the oldest company in America shows an increased amount of insurance in force, \$1,504,974,662—a gain of \$40,950,266—and an increased amount of new insurance paid for during the year, \$141,014,371, including restorations, increases and dividend additions—a gain of \$20,281,205. Other notable features of the year's record are

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Admitted Assets \$587,130,263.05; Policy Reserves 473,282,808.00; Total Income 84,913,851.25; Total Disbursements 68,388,137.13.

Balance Sheet, December 31st, 1911. ASSETS: Real Estate \$23,657,975.90; Mortgage Loans \$139,649,737.05; Loans on Policies \$76,048,489.89; Bonds, amortized value \$295,725,485.65; Stocks, market value \$38,833,442.00; Interest and rents, due and accrued \$6,162,660.68; Premiums in course of collection \$4,124,314.02; Cash (\$2,189,409.62 at interest) \$2,530,846.12; Deposited to pay policy claims \$397,311.74. Total admitted assets \$587,130,263.05.

LIABILITIES: Net Policy Reserves \$473,282,808.00; Other Policy Liabilities \$8,294,145.11; Premiums, Interest and Rents paid in advance \$454,124.71; Miscellaneous Liabilities \$1,875,885.44; Estimated Taxes, Licenses, etc., payable in 1912 \$1,164,125.63; Dividends payable in 1912 \$15,146,685.72; Reserve for future Deferred Dividends \$75,601,868.03; Reserve for Contingencies \$11,310,620.38. Total Liabilities \$587,130,263.05.

SAMUEL B. LOVE, Manager MUTUAL BUILDING, Richmond, Virginia. THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO., OF NEW YORK Home Office, 34 Nassau Street, New York, N. Y.

Here and There in the Legislature. The House Finance Committee expects to be able to report the general appropriation bill by February 23. While this will not be so early as the date at which the Senate has requested a report from its committee, it is at least two weeks ahead of any other bill reported by the committee.

There has been great complaint of this practice, on the ground that the bodies do not know what is in the bill when it comes from the conference committee and when they vote on the bill they are voting on a mystery.

Colonel A. M. Bowman, chairman of the House Finance Committee, presented the appropriation bill yesterday and had it referred. It is merely a tentative draft, containing the essential features of the bill, and is subject to change and improvement.

As prepared, the bill has no appropriations for the expenses of the Virginia Education Commission.

Before reporting the anti-gambling bill yesterday, the House Committee on General Laws cut down the penalty for violation from twelve months imprisonment to sixty days, reduced the fine from a maximum of \$1,000 to one of \$500, and eliminated the words "bet or wager."

An attempt to abolish a liquor dispensary by legislative enactment is being made by Mr. Adams, of Charlottesville, and Mr. Love, of Lunenburg, although it is not located in either county. The dispensary in question is the Leigh District Dispensary, located at Moherrin, Prince Edward county. The Adams and Love bill would repeal the act under which the dispensary was established.

W. H. Ewing, the House member from the county, will oppose the bill, and hardly knows what to think of the proposal coming from members from other counties. He said yesterday in a reporter for The Times-Dispatch: "I believe in the principles of temperance, and do not use liquor in any form, but I am opposed to bills dealing with local dispensaries which have been established by the majority vote of the people in a locality affected. A petition to abolish a dispensary should come from the voters where it is located, and not from other counties. The abolition of a dispensary does not abolish whiskey—it merely takes the trade in liquor from one place and concentrates it in large cities or encourages the big trade and blind tigers."

supervisors to ascertain the cost of proposed roads before calling elections on bond issues. Mr. Weaver thinks elections have been lost because the people were uncertain as to the cost of the proposed highways.

It has been determined between Governor Holt and Williams that the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections shall hear the argument as to the rearrangement of senatorial districts, and the House committee as to House districts. Later the two committees will get together and formulate a bill covering the entire proposition.

The Buchanan county land situation was before the House Committee for Courts of Justice yesterday. The Chalkley bill, allowing the statute of limitations to run against the Commonwealth on delinquent lands, where the claimant not in possession is delinquent. The idea is to not penalize the man who pays his taxes in such cases. J. J. Jeffries, of Norfolk, representing the holders of a large Buchanan county title, said he did not object if the bill were not made retroactive. But the committee felt that the present statute practically covers the point, and that some other legislation must be worked out to cure the situation.

Spencer Byrd proposed a bill in the House yesterday increasing the salaries of the judges of the Supreme Court of Appeals from \$4,500 the year to \$5,000, and that of the president of the court from \$4,700 to \$5,200. Such a course has often been advocated, but the objection is that the Governor should draw the highest salary, his compensation being \$5,000.

Colonel W. O. Moore, of Wythe, himself a Confederate veteran, would simply provide for all veterans and their widows by paying them flat sums of \$80 per year each. He offered a bill to this effect yesterday.

B. A. Banks, of Norfolk, introduced a bill in the House making amendments to the law of the 11th session governing the drainage of swamp lands.

Hugh A. White proposes to bring the body of General Henry Lee—"Light Horse Harry Lee"—father of General Robert E. Lee, from Cumberland Island, near Savannah, Ga., to the Lee Chapel at Washington and Lee University, or anywhere else in the State, the family may select. The State agreed to do this in 1881, but was prevented by the coming on of the War between the States.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

Go Early to City Auditorium If You Wish to Be Certain to Hear Woodrow Wilson

MAISON FRANCAISE 114 1/2 North Eighth Street, Richmond, Va. LOUIS CHEVALIER, Prop. Late Chef Palace Hotel, San Francisco, and Chef Metropolitan Club, Washington, D. C. Catering and preparing for private dinners a specialty. French Table d'Hote dinner daily, 5:30 to 9 P. M., 75 cents. Lunch, daily, 11:30 A. M. to 3 P. M., 50 cents. Meals also served a la Carte. For private dinners, etc. cooks will be furnished at residences if desired. Elegant rooms--newly furnished. Phone Madison 1038

Go Early to City Auditorium If You Wish to Be Certain to Hear Woodrow Wilson 8:00 Next Thursday Night, February 1 From Present Indications the Auditorium Will Be Filled to Overflowing. Mr. Wilson's fame as one of the most eloquent, entertaining and instructive speakers on the American platform has long since reached Richmond, and only those who go early will be sure of an entrance to the hall. Mr. Wilson's superior intellectual capacity is attested by his term as president of Princeton University, while his career as Governor of New Jersey has conclusively demonstrated his ability as a statesman and executive. Doors Will Be Opened at 7:30 P. M. Ladies as Well as Men Cordially Invited.