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HIGHWAY BILL KILLED IN SENATE

UPPER HOUSE UNWILLING TO DISRUPT ROAD SYSTEM

Wants All Counties on Same Footing—Continues Plantation Truck Bill

The State, 25

Practically the entire day and night session in the senate was spent in discussing the highway commission, the two mill highway tax, the motor vehicle license fund, and automobiles and trucks, during which time two measures said to be liable to disrupt the system of roads and the work of the highway commission were killed one outright and another in effect.

A third bill with somewhat the same provisions as the two that met death was discussed at length last night, but no vote was reached. The measure meeting defeat were the bills by Senators Ragsdale and Wells, the first to allow counties having no state maintained road, no state highway, no road on which federal aid had been expended or on which actual construction work had been begun to retain the two mill tax and the 80 per cent license fund for exclusively county purposes, and the other to allow Edgefield county to use the two mill tax and the motor vehicle license fund on the roads of the county as the county authorities saw fit. The third bill of the day, the one by Senator Moore, to allow Abbeville county to use as it saw fit the same funds will be taken up again today.

By a vote of 17 to 15 the senate struck out the enacting words of the bill by Senator Ragsdale that provided for the retaining of all the two mill highway tax and the motor vehicle license fund by the county road authorities in counties where there was no state road, state maintained road or a road on which federal aid had been expended, or a road on which the highway commission had not begun actual construction.

This measure, opponents said, would practically disrupt the state system of roads and interrupt the work of the highway commission in its efforts to build a system of highways from county seat to county seat. Senator Ragsdale said Fairfield county had no state roads and he saw no chance to build any at the present time, and explained that the bill was to let the county use the funds on the roads of the county.

The general argument against the measure was that it would seriously upset the system of state roads, and for this reason was not desirable. Speaking for the bill were Senators Ragsdale and Wightman and against it were Senators Young and Watkins.

Senator Young moved to strike out the enacting words and by a vote of 17 to 15 the enacting words were stricken out.

The senate continued until next session the bill by Senator Johnstone to provide for a reduced license fee for motor trucks used exclusively for plantation purposes. This measure met with considerable opposition and was continued on a vote of 15 to 10 after the senate had earlier in the morning refused to strike out the enacting words by a vote of 11 to 25.

Afraid of Bill

The bill was originally framed so as to provide for a license of one-third the regular fee for motor trucks, but the committee on roads, bridges and ferries amended the measure so as to make the fee one-half, and Senator Johnstone accepted the amendment. Mr. Johnstone explained that ample provision was contained in the measure to prevent violations and made an able and earnest plea for the passage of the bill.

Several senators objected to the measure on the grounds that it would open the way for other exemptions for trucks used exclusively on city streets and other purposes. Several amendments went under with the bill.

The bill had the recommendation of the committee on roads, bridges and ferries, but the senate decided that the time was not propitious for its passage and continued it for a year.

Senator Christensen asked that the two revenue bills from the house, one levying a tax on gasoline and oils and the other on inheritance and

gifts, be advanced to third reading with the understanding that the fight would be made there, but on objection by Senator Wightman that the printed bills had not been on his desk 24 hours consideration was postponed.

May Delay Session
Mr. Christensen pointed out that his effort was being made looking toward an early adjournment, and after this statement the objection was not withdrawn.

The ever present "free rangers" came near creating another stir during the morning, when Senator Jeremiah Smith attempted to get an amendment to a bill postponing the taking effect of the stock law in Georgetown county so as to include Horry county. After explaining the matter and a little discussion, the Georgetown bill was amended so as to include the free range counties and make the taking effect of the stock law uniform in all the "free grass" counties, namely December 31, 1921.

Senator Bethea offered a concurrent resolution asking congress to curtail the power of the interstate commerce commission in reference to rate making and to restore to the states the inherent right to govern its internal affairs, especially in regard to interstate freight and passenger rates on the railroads in South Carolina. The resolution was adopted.

The bill by Senators Marion, McColl and Beasley increasing the number of trustees of the University of South Carolina to 21, exclusive of the ex-officio members, was passed to third reading with a statement by Mr. McColl that he could substitute the house bill when it came over in order to assure passage of the measure during the present session, a similar bill having been passed by the house, it was said.

The Richland county supply bill was sent to a third reading with notice of amendments. No tax levy has yet been fixed, but this will be done on third reading.

The bill in reference to the \$300,000 bond issue of the city of Columbia was also advanced to a third reading.

After spending practically the entire day in discussing the highway commission, the senate last night failed to reach a vote on the third highway bill of the day and postponed the debate until immediately after the joint assembly today.

Second Bill Goes

The bill by Senator Wells that would have allowed Edgefield county to spend the motor vehicle license fund and the two mill tax on the roads of Edgefield county without deference to the highway commission and the present law was killed in effect when the senate adopted the judiciary committee's amendments that struck out that part in reference to the two mill tax and the motor vehicle license fund. The bill, framed as a county government measure, would have practically broke into the highway system and began an avenue for other counties to come in and get exemption from the highway act in reference to the two mill tax and license fees.

The judiciary committee amended the measure so as to eliminate all these features and to make the bill entirely a local matter. The fight was made on the adoption of these amendments and by a vote of 20 to 14 the amendments were adopted. The bill then passed to a third reading without objection.

After disposing of this measure another bill of similar provisions by Senator Moore was taken up. The latter bill provides that the two mill tax and the motor vehicle fund shall be returned to Abbeville county to do as the county sees fit. This bill was debated considerably, but no vote was reached, due to an executive session of the senate to confirm appointments made by the governor during the past year.

Senator Young bore the brunt of the defense for the highway commission and it was by his efforts that the bills were killed. Senator Wells and Senator Moore ably pleaded for their bills, but the senate decided that the system of roads to be constructed was of more importance than county wishes.

On the bill of Senator Moore, which is to be taken up again today. Sena-

DEFLATION CRISIS OVER LAST MONTH

Fairfax Harrison Foresees Better Times

The State.
Chester, Feb. 24.—Fairfax Harrison, president of the Southern railway, was a guest of the Chester chamber of commerce today.

At a luncheon given in his honor Mr. Harrison said the crisis in the present period of financial depression was reached the last week in January. Since this time there has been a decided change in the 12 states traversed by the Southern railway. He states that conditions are gradually getting better and that things will be normal again by autumn. What he had to say was based on information that comes to him from official sources in both railroad and financial circles. He is optimistic over the future and while he does not predict any such prosperity as the country enjoyed in October, 1919, and April, 1920, he sees better days for all industry not far hence.

President Harrison came to Chester at the invitation of the chamber of commerce. He was very much pleased with the great number of improvements in Chester since his visit here ten years ago and took a great interest in the prospective development of the community as pointed out to him.

He left Chester on a special at 2 o'clock in the afternoon for Columbia, where he will deliver an address on "The School of Hellas" Saturday to the classical scholars of the Southern states.

CHARLES L. WATKINS NOW WITH M. C. JOHNSON CO.

The following news item from The State will be read with interest. Mr. Watkins has many friends in Newberry:

Charles L. Watkins of Columbia who was connected with the Congaree Motor Truck Co. of Columbia for some time has accepted a position with the M. C. Johnson Co., state distributors for the Haynes car.

Mr. Watkins was previously with the Haynes company, and his friends among the owners will be pleased to have him back with the organization of America's first car. He will enter upon his new duties March 1st.

Senator McColl offered an amendment to place Marlboro county in the measure and Senator Wightman wanted Saluda in the list. Mr. McColl spoke in favor of the bill. Mr. Young spoke against the measure as did Senator Watkins. The pending question today will be the motion by Mr. Young to strike out the enacting words.

Committee Reports

A favorable report was made by the judiciary committee on the bill by Representative Sapp to increase the age of consent from 14 to 16 years, with an amendment to reduce the sentence for violation of the act in certain cases.

No recommendations were made by the same committee on the house measure to greatly increase the power of the public service commission.

Two bills of considerable interest came over from the house one to increase the number of trustees at the university and the other relating to the procuring of a certificate from a physician by contracting couples before they can receive a marriage license, the intent being to see that both parties are free from diseases. The latter bill is by Representative Simonhoff.

The free conference report on the bill to give the general assembly financial control over all state revenues and expenditures was adopted, the report taking in practically all of the senate amendments to the original house bill. A concurrent resolution calling for the appointment of a joint committee to look into the feasibility of erecting an office building for all state offices was received from the house, but no action was taken.

At 10 o'clock a rather protracted executive session was held and a large number of appointments made by the governor during the past year were confirmed.

In addition to the statewide bills a number of local matters were given action during the night.

HOUSE RELEASES COLUMBIA LAWYER

BARNARD B. EVANS OFFERS APOLOGIES TO HOUSE

"Was Not Responsible" for Actions in Assaulting Representative Sapp, Says Evans

The State, 25

Barnard B. Evans, Columbia attorney who was taken into the custody of the house of representatives following an altercation with Representative Claud N. Sapp of Columbia in the house lobby Wednesday night, was yesterday morning brought before the bar of the house and released. The motion, instructing the sergeant at arms to release Mr. Evans from custody, was made by Representative J. K. Hamblin of Union and was seconded by Mr. Sapp.

Mr. Evans was taken into the custody of the house upon the motion of Representative Hanahan of Winnsboro following the difficulty with Representative Sapp just after the house began its night session Wednesday. J. S. Wilson, sergeant-at-arms of the house, after placing Mr. Evans under arrest sent him to the police station, where he was held until yesterday morning, when the house sent for him to give him the opportunity of clearing himself of the charge of contempt.

"Judged in Contempt."
Escorted by the sergeant-at-arms Mr. Evans was led up to the speaker's stand.

"You have been judged in contempt of the house," Speaker Atkinson told him, "for having committed a breach of decorum of the house in that you did appear on the floor of the house in an intoxicated condition and that you were guilty of disorderly conduct on the floor of the house which was continued by you in the lobby, where you assaulted a member of the house, who was passing from one house to the other, all in the presence of the members of the house while in regular session."

"You were taken into custody by the sergeant-at-arms at the order of the house and you are now given this opportunity to purge yourself, if you can, of contempt of the house. You will now explain your conduct and the house will then take such action as it sees fit."

Evans Offers Apologies.
Mr. Evans, facing the members of the house, then made a brief statement expressing his apologies for his action:

"Last evening," he said, "I was invited to visit the house to hear a speech. During the evening I had indulged in a quart, two pint bottles, of champagne—a rarity—and I probably took too much. If I have been guilty of any infringement upon the decorum of the house I apologize most humbly to any one I have offended. It was not my intention or desire to insult or offend any one. If I have transgressed the rules or decorum of the house it was not my intention to do so. I was not responsible and therefore I express to the house my apologies."

Mr. Hamblin then introduced his motion to accept Mr. Evans' apology, Representative Hanahan, who was responsible for Mr. Evans' arrest Wednesday night, immediately moving to table this resolution, which would release the Columbia lawyer from custody. The motion to table was lost. Mr. Hamblin's motion was then carried and Mr. Evans, who had been escorted from the hall at the conclusion of his statement, was again brought before the speaker to be informed of the house's decision and his release.

Calvin Crozier Chapter

The Calvin Crozier chapter, U. D. C. will meet Tuesday afternoon, March 1st at 4 o'clock at the home of Mrs. Elmer Summer with Miss Rosalee Summer, Mrs. D. J. Burns, Mrs. W. C. Schenck and Mrs. David Caldwell as associate hostesses. It is hoped that every member will be present. Please refer to the year book before coming so you will be prepared for the business of this meeting.

Miss Julia Kibler, Pres.
Mrs. Tom P. Johnson, Secty.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS PROSPEROUS PROSPERITY

Epworth League and Young People's Society Grace Church Honor Name of George Washington

Prosperity, Feb. 28.—The Epworth League of the Wightman chapel Methodist church gave a delightful Washington's birthday party Friday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. May. Patriotic colors, red hatchets and cherries were used in the decorations. As the guests entered they were given a bouquet of cherries as souvenirs of the occasion. In an interesting contest Willie Leaphardt scored highest, winning a hatchet filled with candies, while the consolation fell to Byrd Gibson. The patriotic idea was further used in the tempting refreshments served by Miss Elizabeth May.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Shealy presented a gala appearance Friday evening when the Young People's society of Grace church held their February social with them. The rooms were thrown en suite, while flags, hatchets and cherries told that Washington's birthday was being celebrated. Miss Ethel Shealy assisted in receiving and pinned on each guest a tiny red hatchet. In the presidential contest Miss Rebecca Harman and Tom Sease were the fortunate winners of a basket filled with candy cherries. Hot chocolate and wafers were served.

Parent-Teachers association held its February meeting Thursday afternoon in the school auditorium. The president, Mrs. Jacob S. Wheeler, presided. After several musical numbers, Rev. J. D. Griffin addressed the meeting on Christian Education. The three subjects being: God, Man, World. He stressed the importance of Christian teachers, to keep before the children the Christian ideals. General discussions were opened by Superintendent McSwain, who had a heart to heart talk with the parents. The second term examinations have just been completed and the parents are very much gratified at the good work done by Supt. McSwain and his excellent corps of teachers.

Miss Mary DeWalt Hunter of Andrews spent the past week-end at home.

Dr. J. S. Wheeler has returned from a Masonic convention held in Charleston.

Miss Jean Adams of Pelzer was the week-end guest of Mrs. J. C. Schumpert.

Mrs. A. G. Voigt of Columbia is the guest of Mrs. C. J. Shealy.

Dr. and Mrs. G. Y. Hunter left today for Baltimore where Mrs. Hunter has gone to Johns Hopkins hospital for treatment.

James R. Ducenberry of Anderson has been on a short visit to friends here.

Mrs. Kersh and two daughters, Misses Tillie and Sadie of Poland have come to make their home with the former's brother, I. Koplan.

Mesdames J. B. Stockman and W. T. Gibson are visiting their brother in Ninety Six.

Miss Gurella Rowl of Chester hospital is the guest of Mrs. Olin Bobb.

Misses Lila Dominick and Alice Dominick of Columbia were home for the week-end.

Rev. Henry Black, president of South Carolina Synod, spent Friday here.

Miss Grace Sease of Pelham was home for the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Mills of Columbia are visiting Mr. and Mrs. John Mills.

Mrs. J. B. Bedenburgh and children of Pomaria spent Saturday with Mrs. J. M. Werts.

Rev. J. R. Fizer of Columbia filled the pulpit of the Baptist church Sunday afternoon. While here he was the guest of Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Harmon.

Mr. S. J. Kohn and Mrs. Roy Kohn left Sunday for Asheville to visit Miss Doris Kohn.

Misses Josie Griffin, Clara Brown and Rosine Singley attended the Teachers Meeting in Newberry Saturday.

Master Maxwell and William Kohn of Columbia are visiting their grandmother, Mrs. S. J. Kohn.

Miss Annie Lee Langford of Spartanburg has been home on a short

SAYS CONFEDERATE HOME IN DEPLORABLE CONDITION

Investigating Committee Reports State Woefully Derelict in Care of Old Soldiers

"It is with shame that your committee is forced to report that in their opinion the state has been woefully derelict in its duty to these old soldiers (in the South Carolina Confederate home), who are entitled to be its proudest wards. We do not believe that such conditions as now exist at the Confederate home can be found to exist in the most poorly kept jail in South Carolina.

"Certainly there is no state prison or reformatory in South Carolina that would not be a credit to the home in which those are now incarcerated who were at one time in the forefront of the battlefields of Virginia as the proud representatives of our great state."

So read excerpts from the report of the committee of the general assembly appointed to investigate conditions at the Confederate home for old soldiers. On this committee were Representative C. N. Sapp, chairman, Senators M. C. Harrelson and J. G. Padgett and Representatives M. C. Foster and J. R. O'Rourke. The report was submitted last night.

Difficult to Picture

A true picture of conditions existing at the home can not be conveyed in the report, the committee says, because it is impossible for the average mind to visualize such conditions existing in a home conducted under the fostering care of the state, the Confederate Veterans' association and Sons and Daughters of the Confederacy.

Following these generalizations comes a detailed report of the investigation. The main building, says the report, is most unsightly by reason of its dilapidated condition. The roof leaks to such an extent that the building is hardly habitable during a rain; the plastering is falling in many rooms. The heating plant is inadequate and the bedding, in the words of the committee, "it is so repulsive when it is realized that these old men, wards of the state, are forced, without any alternative, to sleep in such conditions, that we hesitate in making a true statement in reference thereto, but suffice it to say that in our opinion no dog house kept by any gentleman in this state would be quite so unsightly and unsanitary."

The dining room is, too, "in a condition which we do not believe would be tolerated by the good citizens of this state, if they knew the real conditions." The hospital, says the report, is not in much better condition than any other department to which attention has been called. It is heated by ordinary wood stoves. One trained nurse is employed during the day and at other times the inmates are attended by negro male help, says the report. From eight to 12 men, 75 or 80 years old, are confined in this hospital at all times. Danger from fire is also called to the attention of the assembly.

Suggestion New Plant
The committee reports that it believes it would be economy for the state to erect a new plant rather than try to repair the present one. It recommends that a new building costing approximately \$75,000, be erected. In case this be not done, the committee recommends that not less than \$35,000 be appropriated for repairs and for refurbishing the building. In discussing the needs for a new building, the report reads: "Certainly we are not so penurious as to say that the state is unable to do this small honor to the men and the cause of which we are so proud when we realize that we have now under construction and have constructed elegant brick homes, modern in every respect, to reform criminal negro boys, fallen women and the feeble minded, all of which are perhaps worthy objects, but certainly none of which, in our opinion, are so worthy as the cause to which we are now calling your attention."

There are 96 inmates now in the home, says the report, with several on the waiting list. The committee recommends that the superintendent be authorized to employ an additional graduate nurse and that an appropriation sufficient for the purchase of three additional milk cows be made.

Wants Woman on Board

In conclusion, the report says: "We are of the opinion that either due to mismanagement or lack of proper interest the home in the past has not been properly cared for, but we have no quarrel to pick with any one responsible for the conditions, it being our only desire to remedy the conditions now existing and prevent its recurrence. We believe that the present superintendent is doing the best he can under the circumstances, and are happy to report that without exception the inmates of the home are highly pleased with his administration of its affairs but, as so frequently stated in this report, he, nor any other superintendent that may be had can do justice to the inmates under the conditions now existing.

"We strongly recommend that at least a minority of the members of the board of control of the institution be ladies, for the very good reason that at present it will only take a glance around the premises to convince one that the helpful influence and beneficial touch of the good women has been lacking in the past, and we believe that if they be given a voice in the administration of the affairs of the home that a recurrence of the present conditions at the home will be impossible."

GREENWOOD MAN SHOT IN HOLDUP

HE REFUSES TO THROW UP HANDS AND GETS BULLET

Physicians Say W. T. Saxon Will Die—Injured Man Accuses Prisoners

The State.

Greenwood, Feb. 24.—Refusing to hold up his hands when confronted by two armed men last night about 9:30 o'clock while on his way home from his shoe repair shop, W. T. Saxon, about 50 years of age, was possibly fatally shot in the shadow of a church in the Greenwood mill village where he lives. According to Chief of Police M. D. Chandler whom Saxon asked to see after being carried to a local hospital, he identified one of his assailants as John Burnett, a mill employee. Hack Fuller, another mill employee, is also under arrest.

When accosted by the holdup men, Saxon says he recognized them and laughed, thinking they were playing a joke on him. Burnett, he claims, told him if he did not hold up his hands he would shoot. Saxon replied that he did not have the grit to shoot, it is said, and received one bullet at close range. The bullet apparently was an explosive bullet. It ranged downward through the abdomen, tearing jagged holes in the intestines. Physicians say Saxon has no chance of recovery.

The tragedy last night was the climax of a series of robberies and hold-ups. Two Bailey Military Institute cadets were robbed of a small amount of jewelry a few weeks ago, and two other cadets, by refusing to hold up their hands, bluffed three bandits into flight last Friday night.

Woman's Auxiliary

The Woman's Auxiliary of the American Legion will meet in the Legion hall Thursday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock. The members and those who care to join are cordially invited.

Sadie Dennis,
Temporary Secty.

Cunningham-Carpenter.

Miss Lila Eloise Cunningham and Mr. Ernest A. Carpenter, were married by the Rev. James Cleland on February 2, 1921, at the Church of the Transfiguration (better known as "the little church around the corner") in New York city.

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