

Trifles Before Evils.

After a long discussion at the night session on Tuesday the Senate rejected the motion to "indefinitely postpone" the Jim Crow car bill by a vote of 22 to 11, and passed the measure with some amendments designed to meet special contingencies.

At the same session Mr Aldrich's bill "to prohibit the carrying of any pistol, dirk, dagger, slingshot, razor, metal knuckles or other such deadly weapon, except openly on one's premises or on the highway, and to prescribe a penalty," came up for consideration, and on motion was "indefinitely postponed" by a vote which is not reported.

We think that most of the thoughtful people of the State will agree that the Senate did not choose judiciously between these two measures; that it would have acted more wisely, and with more promise for the good name and general welfare of the State, if it had indefinitely postponed the Jim Crow car bill and passed Mr Aldrich's bill against concealed deadly weapons.

We have never had a Jim Crow car service on the railroads in the State, not even when the race prejudice was most violent—about twenty years ago—and there is no evidence anywhere that anybody has suffered material annoyance or inconvenience because of the lack of such service. We have had a concealed deadly weapon service in force for thirty-three years, or more, and the public records and grave yards are "full of evidences of the evils it has wrought. It has led to a number of murders and murderous assaults—perhaps not less than a score, as they are reported almost daily—while the Legislature has been in session. It will certainly lead to hundreds more during the few months' interval between this session and the next.

In view of the homicidal conditions that have so long existed in the State, and are still in force, all of which are notoriously mainly due to the general habit of carrying of deadly weapons, and in further view of the comparatively trifling consequence of not providing separate accommodations for persons of different race travelling on the same train, it must be said that the Senate did not choose wisely between the two bills. It should have rejected the one it passed, and should have passed the one it rejected. And the Senators themselves will adopt that view, we think, on reflection.