



As it closed its legislative session last week, the Arkansas General Assembly voted overwhelmingly against a bill which would have removed the sales tax on food.

Hodges Could Use Some

Among those running for the office of Lieutenant Governor in North Carolina in 1952 were Luther Hodges of Rockingham county; Roy Rowe of Pender county; and Ben McDonald of New Hanover county. They finished in that order.

Roy Rowe was the only one of the three who had had legislative experience. He is still in the theatre business. Mr. Hodges is now U. S. Secretary of Commerce.

Of the three, McDonald is more in the news—in southeastern North Carolina—than the other two combined. He is on television literally hours each week with his own show. McDonald is also in the hair-growing business.

His ads say, among other things: "Ben McDonald, Wilmington TV commentator, bald for years, now growing hair, using odorless salve."

About Roy Rowe we wouldn't know—but we saw the winner of the 1952 settee in Raleigh last week. He could do with a goodly dose (usually known as "dost") of Ben's salve.

General Alex Andrews

There is no better known, and no stronger, family in Raleigh than the Andrews'. They have managed the town at times as mayor and the Episcopal Church as lay leaders.

Thus we are glad to see another one of the clan achieve new prominence. All of which is by way of saying that Alex B. Andrews of Raleigh has just been made the first Tar Heel brigadier general in the Air Force Reserve. The appointment received scant press notice—and thus the mention here. Gen. Andrews, founder of the A. B. Andrews Co., is a Raleigh attorney and an alumnus of the University of North Carolina.

Steadily Increasing

It is no wonder that the State now plans to go to retail merchants again as tax collectors to improve the schools.

The N. C. Department of Revenue reports that as of the close of business this past December 31, there were 80,241 active retail merchants in this State. This figure, they explain, includes anybody who paid the \$1 fee required to become a merchant.

In 1942, North Carolina had only 34,000 retail merchants.

Mecklenburg county, for instance, had 5,037 active retail merchants as of this past December—and led the State—but ten years before had only 3,667.

Incidentally, school principals and school boards and school committees and school teachers might give a little thought to this:

Education would get better support from merchants (who collect about \$90 million per year in taxes for schools (if these schools would close up the little stores many of them operate in direct competition with service stations, snack bars, drug stores, etc., which they must depend upon for tax support.

A Different Tune

When Governor Sanford announced that a sales tax on food should lead the way to Better Schools in North Carolina, the

group that came up with the most bitter protest was the N. C. Bakers Council.

Last week it was the Governor's turn at bat. We do not mean to imply that it would not have happened anyway—of course it would have—but last week the bakers had something besides the food tax to think about:

"A 50 per cent increase in the price of bread used at State hospitals and educational institutions was cited Thursday as the immediate necessity for an anti-price fixing bill introduced in the General Assembly.

"J William Copeland, legislative counsel to Gov. Sanford, said that since July 1 of last year, State institutions have regularly encountered identical bidding . . . on bakery products.

"As a result, he said, the bread bill at Dorothea Dix Hospital in Raleigh has jumped this year to approximately \$50,000, compared to \$21,000 last year. . . ."

It was going to be interesting to see if the bakers would fight the price-fixing bill as bitterly as they are fighting the food tax bill . . . or the other way around.

No Corner On It

As the week wore on, identical low bids on sugar and salt contracts showed up in the State Division of Purchase and Contract.

It began to loo kas if Westinghouse and General Electric and the other industrial giants had no corner on price-fixing.

Meantime, the light bulbs in our house are about as dependable as lightning bugs. All are made by GE, too. We used to laugh at an old colored friend of the family who called bulbs "bugs." If he were living today, we would feel like going to him with abject apologies. He was right.

Our big General Electric purchases—like our refrigerator and stove—are solid as a rock after more than a decade of hard use. But our light bulbs are not nearly as dependable as tulips, daffodils, dahlias, and bulbs of that type. GE could learn a lesson there!

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Willow Valley News Items

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. McHuston of Greensboro visited over the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Dillard Greene.

Mr. and Mrs. Baker Ward and Mr. and Mrs. Garreth Ward visited Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Custer Ward.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Harmon and daughter of Knoxville, Tennessee, visited with Mr. and Mrs. George Harmon Sunday.

There was a Baptismal service at the Willow Valley Baptist Church, at the regular monthly meeting, Sunday night. The visiting minister, Roby Greene, brought the evening message.

The regular monthly singing is to be resumed once again at the

Willow Valley Baptist Church and the next singing is scheduled for Saturday night, March 25. It is hoped that there will be a large number attending. All gospel quartets, choirs, and singing groups are invited.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. McHuston and Mr. and Mrs. Dillard Greene visited in the Bethel community Sunday.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our appreciation to our friends for their many acts of kindness and sympathy shown us during the death of our loved one.—The J. C. STORIE FAMILY.

Zionville News Notes

The Rev. Y. Z. Grady of Chilhowie, Va. assisted by others who have visited Jerusalem and the Hold Land will show films they made while visiting there, at the Zionville Baptist Church Saturday night, April 1. Everyone is welcome.

Jack South of Pennsylvania is visiting his mother, Mrs. Lillie South.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Cornett visited over the week end with Mrs. Mae Brown who has been ill.

Mrs. Clint Winebarger and daughter, Miss Joann Winebarger, Kenneth Wilson and Sonny Harrison, all spent Friday night with Mr. and Mrs. Vance Vines at Burlington.

Mr. and Mrs. Kemp Wilson of Boone visited Sunday with Mrs. Maggie Norris and they were accompanied by Mrs. Norris while they visited Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Holman at Mountain City, Tenn. and Mr. and Mrs. Hoover Phipps at Trade, Tennessee.

Mr. and Mrs. Hort Hodges returned from St. Cloud, Fla. last week after a visit with Mr. and Mrs. James Layng. The Hodges are visiting other relatives in Virginia this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Thomas and family visited Sunday with Mr. Clyde Wallace at Trade, Tenn. Mrs. Wilma Wilson, Jimmy and Glenda of Route 2, Boone visited Mrs. George Miller, Sunday.

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