

CAPITAL CLIPBOARD

Many Legislators Left In Dark On Feelings Of Folks Back Home

By EULA N. GREENWOOD

MORE WORD WANTED . . . Speaking privately to a North Carolina group gathered recently in Washington, Congressman Alton Lennon complained that the average legislator doesn't often hear from the folks back home "unless we hit pretty deeply the nerve of his pocketbook."

A recent pool of some members of the N. C. General Assembly showed that a lot of them are left in the dark on the feelings of the voters on important issues.

Now if it is a local thing—some little item which really do not amount to a tinker's damn—the mail, the visits, the arguments, and the phone calls come through. But on highway safety, whether we should vote 200 million for road improvements, on senatorial redistricting, on whether 18-year-olds should have the right to vote, etc., that's another matter. The legislator is often forced to feel his way.

HOME OFTEN . . . With modern transportation, a member of the N. C. Legislature—the average member—can be home almost as much as he is in Raleigh.

He is generally home on Friday night, Saturday night, and Sunday night. He is in Raleigh Monday night, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. He leaves for home again on Friday.

Winston-Salem is now less than two hours from Raleigh, without breaking the speed limit. The Twin City is about 110 miles from Raleigh.

COMMUTERS . . . Draw a 110-mile circle around Raleigh and you will find within it almost a third of your legislators.

It wasn't long ago that a member of the Legislature would come to Raleigh and see the home folks one time—at Easter—during the entire session. Nowadays more and more of them are home every weekend.

We have not checked on it as to members, but just a lot of the solons are driving daily to and from Raleigh. This can be done with little sacrifice of legislative labor. And, of course, the member—physically, at least—is closer to his constituents.

It costs the average legislator \$15 a day to live in Raleigh. He can get by on this if he is careful. Well, at 10 cents per mile you can do a lot of commuting—150 miles daily—and save money.

But, you might say, the daily traveler would be out of touch with the Feel of the Legislature, the night huddles, the smoke-filled rooms, and the like, including the lobbyists.

True, but he could be home with the wife and children and, alas, with the folks who sent him to Raleigh in the first place.

A lot of committee meetings begin at 9 o'clock in the morning. When this time has been changed to 10 o'clock or later, you will see more commuting. There will be car pools.

In short, this thing of legislators coming to Raleigh and virtually setting up residence for six months is—for better or worse—coming to an end. And, when it does, much of the Old South charm and society of The Legislature will be gone.

OVERWORKED . . . They won't admit it officially, unofficially, singly, or as a group, but nobody here dreads to see a General Assembly come to town like the Attorney General's staff of lawyers and stenographers.

Of the 3,000 bills ordinarily introduced at the average legislative session, 2,000 of them will be written by the Attorney General's office. The introducer of the bill says what he wants; and it's up to the attorney working for the State to come up with it. It must be adapted to the General Statutes. It must have all the legal mumbo-jumbo, whereas a number was required. And, it should be regarded as Constitutional.

Some of these days—when we do some reorganization—a special Legal Assistance Office will be set up as part and parcel of the Legislature. This will be named and controlled by the Legislature. Until this is done, however, your Attorney General's office will be the final authority on all bills prepared for the N. C. General Assembly. It's a chore!

NEW CARS . . . Few years of new car sales were as good as 1962. This was true in the nation and it was true in North Carolina.

Experts say we should not expect a good year to be followed by a good year. There should be a letdown. Well, it may yet come—but there is no sign of it on the horizon.

As a matter of fact, new car

sales in North Carolina this past January led January of 1962 by 14,050 to 11,398.

New trucks, one of the industrial barometers, ran to 2,990 in January as compared with only 2,229 for January of last year.

In the new trucks, Ford was first at 1,045 and Chevrolet was second with 1,029. A poor third was International at 282. In fourth position was GMC at 231.

Although car imports are not at all what they were, that bug called Volkswagen seems to be holding its own. As a matter of fact, of the 617 foreign cars sold in North Carolina during January, 416 of them were Volkswagens.

We have never ridden in a Volkswagen, but to us their ads in the national magazines are the most interesting we see. Heard any new Volks jokes lately? We have, but can't tell them here.

With new cars, Chevy led Ford by 3,689 to 2,819 in N. C. in January. In third place was Pontiac at 1,093. In fourth, Oldsmobile with 866. Then came Buick at 861. Dodge and Plymouth sales ran nearly twice as many this January as January of 1962. But Rambler at 605 was greater than either. Falcon was down a little from last year, and so was Corvair.

Miss Rawls Dies In Florida

Miss Agnes Rawls, former Appalachian State Teachers College student and a summer visitor to Boone, died Sunday, after an extended illness in a Jacksonville, Florida hospital.

Miss Rawls was an elementary teacher in the Jacksonville public schools. She was a member of Kappa Delta Phi and Delta Kappa Gamma Sorority. As a member of the Riverside Baptist Church, she served as Superintendent of the Junior Sunday School department for 15 years.

Funeral services were held Tuesday at 4 p. m. in the Riverside Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Fla. Burial was in the Riverside Memorial Park.

Wataugans At Work



SECRETARY.—Employed by Jack Williams Accountants of Boone since last September is Mrs. Shirley Osborne Butts, pictured above. Selected at random as the first in a new series of "Wataugans at Work," which will be featured each week in the Watauga Democrat, Mrs. Butts is a 1959 graduate of

ASTC, has taught for two years at Greensboro's Summer High School, and is the mother of two children, Del, age three-and-a-half years, and Amy, age eighteen months. Her husband is a graduate student at ASTC this year.

AHS Choral Group Sings At Local Church

The eighteen voice Appalachian High School Choral Ensemble was the guest choir at the Grace Lutheran Church on Sunday, February 24.

The Ensemble singers are as follows:

Martha Allen, Martha Moretz, Glenda Wilson, Sallie Miller, Patty Robinson, Maria Erneston, Kathryn Mast, Ala Sue McGuire, Barbara Yoder, Johnny Parker, Wayne Clawson, Bartlett Dougherty, Eddie Winkler, Joe Todd, Baker Edmisten, Robert Matheson, and Bob Friend.

BPW Girl Of The Month

Kathryn Mast, a popular senior at Appalachian High School, was elected by the student council as Business Girl of the Month for February. A member of Mr. Coffey's homeroom, Kathryn is active in the band, Girls' "A" Club, chorus, vocal ensemble, and is secretary of the National Honor Society. After graduating in May, she

plans to attend Appalachian State Teachers College and major in primary education. She lives with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Mast, in Perkinville.

Rotary Boy Of The Month

The student council selected Sammy Sink as Rotary Boy of the Month for February. Sam is respected by his fellow classmates and is always very friendly. A member of Miss Elliott's senior homeroom, he is active in the National Honor Society. After graduation Sam plans to attend Wittenburg College, Springfield, Ohio. He lives with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. W. G. Sink, on Hillcrest Circle in Boone.

Citizens Of The Week

Clarita Adams, familiarly called "Punky," was recognized

as citizen of the week at Appalachian High School for the week of February 25. She received this honor because of her outstanding citizenship and friendly ways. Punky, who came to Appalachian High from Mercy High in San Francisco, California, is an active member of Miss Jones' senior homeroom and of the Social Dance Club. She lives with her grandparents, Dr. and Mrs. T. S. Adams, on Highland Circle, Boone.

Ernie Rhymer, an outstanding senior boy, was honored as citizen of the week for the week of February 25. A member of Miss Elliott's senior homeroom, he is also a dependable bus driver. Ernie lives with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Rhymer in Triplett.

Care Of Teeth Called Vital

If you are worried about an over-production of cavities of late, you may need to buy a new toothbrush.

Brushing seems the best way to cut down on cavities. You may try carrying a small child-size brush with your other cosmetics in your purse. Use it after every meal or snack to evict every food particle that may cause decay.

Dental floss is another important "must." It should be used once each day, and is doubly important where teeth are placed close together.

You may need to cut down on the sweets in your diet. Couple this with proper choice of foods which should start off with at least a pint of milk each day (two glasses).

Check with your dentist at least every six months. He will keep you advised on the condi-

tion of your teeth and gums.

As we get older all care must be taken to keep your gums in top condition. Such foibles as chewing ice, bar candy, cracking nuts, etc., must never be indulged in—at any age.

World War I Vets Meet Friday

The Veterans of World War I will have their regular meeting at the Legion Hut Friday night, March 1st, at 7:00 o'clock. All members are requested to be present announce Quatermaster Charles F. Dougherty.

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