

## WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

NOTE: This is the eighth of a series of weekly summaries prepared by the legislative staff of the Institute of Government on the work of the North Carolina General Assembly of 1953. It is confined to discussions of matters of general interest and major importance.

As the 1953 General Assembly completed its fifty-first legislative day on Friday, sessions were noticeably longer, with mounting calendar action occupying most of the legislators' time. The joint appropriations committee with its hearings completed has already begun its work trimming additional requests. Unless a prolonged fight develops over Governor Umstead's budget proposals, legislators may soon begin to eye a prospective adjournment date, although little is heard as yet on that subject. Next Thursday the legislators take a holiday to visit Camp Lejeune.

### Propositions and Grievances

The public hearing on the "all or nothing" liquor referendum bill before a House committee on Tuesday brought hundreds of citizens from all over the state to Raleigh. Charges ranging from lightly veiled suggestions of liquor interest bribery (later retracted) and communist dictatorship by past legislative committees to failure to recognize the democratic right to vote were made by the dry forces. Others pleaded for consideration of the issue not as a revenue measure but as a moral one, as suggested by the Governor in his inaugural message. The Governor himself reiterated his position as favoring some kind of liquor referendum, but stated that he would not push the legislature further. No committee action was taken on the bill. Meanwhile, not even a murmur went through the House as the veterans' bonus bill, once regarded as a potential storm center, received its last rites through an unfavorable report. The Senate passed by a very narrow margin the bill to legalize cap pistol caps, which now is in the House Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

### Appropriations and Finance

Although the joint appropriations committee put in only two days this week actually whittling on budget requests, it still may be in a position to complete its work by the end of the month. A public welfare request for \$1,396,500 was turned down and many lesser requests were earmarked for study by a subcommittee, shortly to be appointed to handle major controversial items and periodically bring in recommendations to the full committee.

Amid rumors that Senate leaders will permit no tax increases and may refuse to go along with the Governor's recommended \$15 million bond issue for educational institutions and hospitals, tax reduction proposals dominate the work of the joint finance committee. In a hearing on the proposal to eliminate or reduce the State intangible tax on stock, bank deposits and accounts receivable, textile representatives agreed that the state was chasing pennies \$4.2 million last year (of which 3.4 million was allocated to municipalities) while losing dollars (potential additional income tax from wealth attracted by the state by a more favorable tax structure). Companion bills introduced this week proposed to eliminate still further tax "inequities"—this time by repealing the wholesale sales tax and wholesalers' license tax which bring the State an estimated \$750,000 a year.

### Local Government

An attempt was made in the House on Thursday to stop the flood of local bills exempting volunteer firemen from jury duty by making the exemption state-wide. HB 561, another state-wide measure designed to aid local governmental units, substantially rewrites the state rabies control law to make it easier for the average dog owner to comply with the law as well as to make it easier to ad-

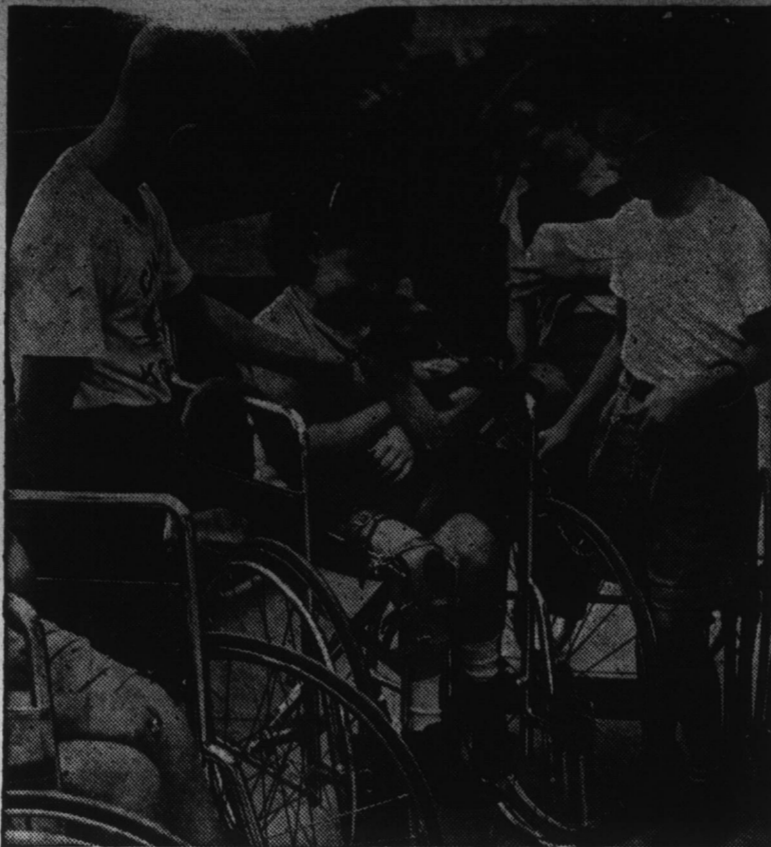
minister, and brings the State Board of Health more clearly into the rabies control picture.

### Motor Vehicle Law

The big question in the motor vehicle field is whether or not mechanical inspection will be required again. Rumors persist that Senate Judiciary 2 committee is prepared to give a favorable report to SB 183 providing for inspections by private garages, but a vote has been postponed until next week. Also postponed was a vote on the proposed financial responsibility law designed to encourage more drivers to take out automobile liability insurance. Thursday was dubbed "highway safety" day as 14 bills dealing with motor vehicles and their use on the highways were introduced; four other motor vehicle bills passed the House and were sent to the Senate. The bills passed would allow learners to practice driving at night as well as in the daytime; require dimming of headlights when following a car as well as meeting one; permit red lights on the front of school buses and private cars of some firemen; and make it easier for minors whose parents are deceased to get a driver's license. Some of the new bills would tighten the law on driving while under the influence of any drug; let the Commissioner approve muffler types; permit vehicles meeting stopped school buses on boulevards with a center separation strip of at least five feet to proceed without stopping; prohibit overcrowding of cars, motorcycles, and motor scooters; and clamp down on motorists who hit parked vehicles and fail to seek out the owner, in addition to stiffening provisions on collision reporting generally. A bill to let JP's try driver license violations got a favorable report, but was then sent to a new committee. The tobacco hogshead haulers will have to be a little more careful in securing the hogsheads since HB 62 finally passed both House and Senate in amended form; but trucks will not be required to have splash guards, as HB 254 received an unfavorable report.

### Education

While representatives of the State's private schools urged the finance committee to give them hunting privileges by raising the allowable income tax deductions for charitable gifts from 10 per cent to 20 per cent, public school interests were favored by a bill to permit the financing and establishment of two-year "community colleges". A second driver education bill made its appearance; this one, appropriating only \$25,000 to public schools, has a greater opportunity for survival than its predecessor



Shown above are some of the children who benefit from funds raised during the 1953 Easter Seal campaign, which is now in progress. The Chowan County Society for Crippled Children and Adults is sponsoring the 20th annual drive to raise funds for crippled children and adults in Edenton and Chowan County. The appeal is being conducted nationwide simultaneously in all 48 states, the District of Columbia, Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. It continues for one month, ending Easter Sunday, April 5.

which called for appropriations of almost \$340,000.

### Regulatory Agencies

The problem of licensing professions and vocations in N. C. received special attention this week. House bills were introduced to carry out recommendations of a special commission set up by the 1951 legislature to study practices and procedures before state agencies. The principal proposal would establish procedures to be followed by all 22 of the state's licensing boards in giving licenses and applicants an opportunity to be heard in cases affecting their eligibility to practice, with board decisions subject to court review. The Senate received a bill to abolish the present Nurse Examining Board and the Committee on Standardization (which set minimum requirements for the approval of nurses' training schools) and to transfer their powers to a new Board of Nurse Education and Examination. At a public hearing on the Naturopathy bill, proponents made another in a long series of efforts to obtain state support in the form of a licensing board. Vigorous opposition was again encountered from leaders of the regular medical profession. As in 1951, a State Milk Commission has been proposed with extensive powers to fix

prices and license distributors in commission-designated areas.

### Courts and Judicial Districts

As a new effort toward improving court efficiency, HB 657 was introduced to increase judicial and solicitor districts from 21 to 29. Each new district would have 1 resident judge except the 18th (Guilford), 20th (Mecklenburg) and 25th (Brunswick, Madison, Mitchell and Yancey), which would have 2. No district would have more than 1 solicitor. Jurisdiction of each emergency superior court judge would be extended by HB 570 to give such judge in his district concurrent jurisdiction with other superior court judges to decide matters out of term. An Administrative Procedure Commission bill creates a clear means of obtaining court review of certain types of administrative agency decisions.

### Local Marine Breaks Record For Carbine Rifle At Cherry Point

Technical Sergeant Reynold L. Mosley, husband of the former Florence C. Morris of Route 1, Edenton, broke the record at the Cherry Point rifle range for the Carbine rifle by firing

267 of a possible 276.

The new record holder was on temporary additional duty from his permanent station, Auxiliary Landing Field, Edenton when he set the new mark on February 6, and was firing for regular annual qualification.

Sergeant Mosley, a bakery chief, is now serving with the Marine Air Base at the Auxiliary Landing Field at Edenton.

A career man with 10½ years of service in the Marine Corps, Technical Sergeant Mosley served with the First Marine Aircraft Wing during World War II in the Far East. He now wears the China Service Ribbon, Good Conduct medal with two stars, Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon, World War III-Victory Medal, and the American Theatre Ribbon.

Sergeant Mosley now resides in Edenton with his wife, Florence, and two children, Reynold Lewis, Jr., 19 months old, and Sarah Arleen 7 months.

While there is a lower class, I am in it. While there is a criminal element, I am of it. While there is a soul in jail, I am not free. —Eugene V. Debs.

### Chowan Beef Cattle Growers Enjoy Tour

Several carloads of beef cattle growers from Chowan County attended the beef cattle tour in and around Suffolk, Va., recently. This tour was sponsored by the American Bank and Trust Company of Suffolk, Va., under the direction of their agricultural agent, L. E. Pettyjohn. The growers observed beef cattle being wintered under various conditions.

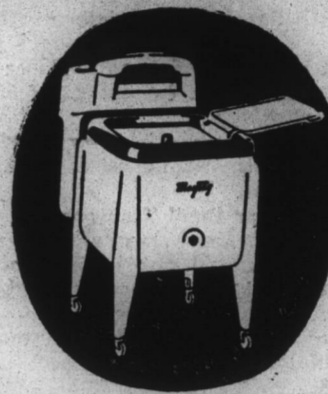
At the noon hour those on the tour enjoyed a bountiful barbeque dinner furnished by the bank.

### SGT ROBERT BEDELL IN KOREA

Marine Staff Sergeant Robert S. Bedell of Edenton is a helicopter mechanic with the First Marine Aircraft Wing's Observation Squadron in Korea. He inspects helicopters before they take off on evacuation missions to the front lines.

Sgt. Bedell's wife, Anne, and daughters, Marion, live at 301 West Gale Street. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Bedell of Long Beach, New York.

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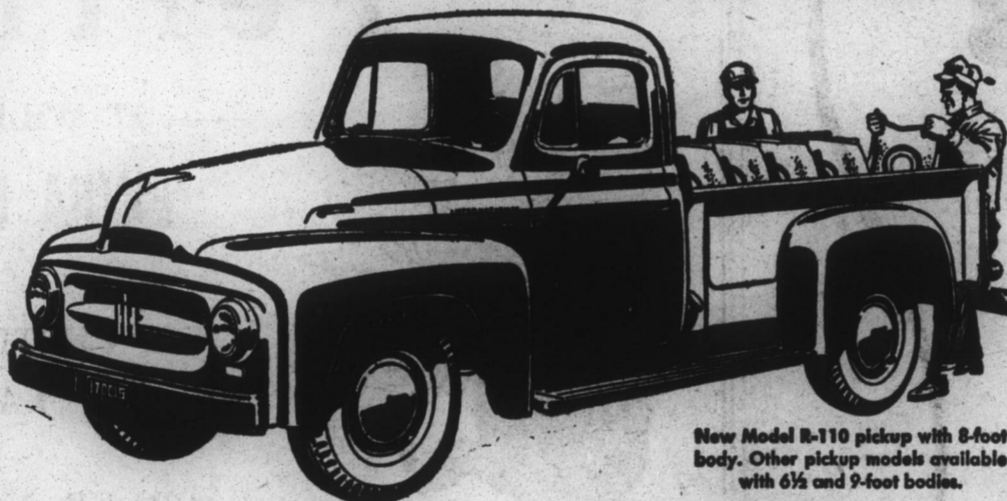
# Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey



\$2.30 PINT

\$3.65 4/5 Qt.

## IH... Lower Cost Each Mile, Each Year!

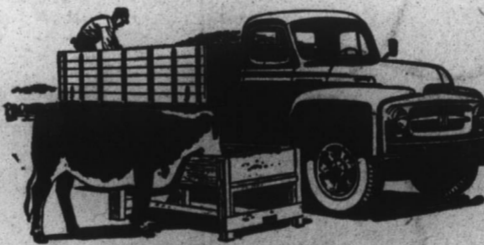


New Model IH-110 pickup with 8-foot body. Other pickup models available with 6½ and 9-foot bodies.

### New International Trucks Value Only IH Can Give You

Economy begins the first mile you drive a New International Truck. Operating costs start low, stay low. New International Trucks give the biggest economy of all—the extra years of service that New Internationals are built to deliver. Consider all the costs and you'll want a New International.

New—features you want in America's most complete truck line: 168 basic models... New International styling identified by the IH emblem... 307 new laboratory-proved, road-proved features... First truck builder to offer choice of gasoline or LP gas with Underwriters' Laboratories listing in 1½-ton sizes and other models... Comfo-Vision cab with one-piece Sweepstair windshield... Steel-flex frame... 296 Wheelbases... Easy starting, greater fuel economy... Wide range of axle ratios... Reel steering comfort and control... Sizes from ½-ton to 90,000 lbs. GVW rating.



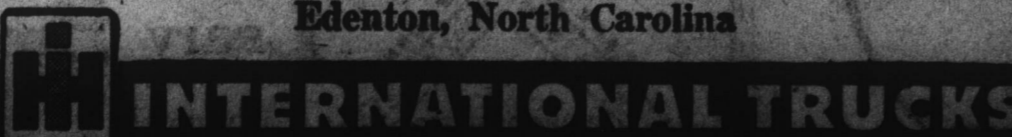
New Model IH-160 with 12-foot grain body and Comfo-Vision cab.



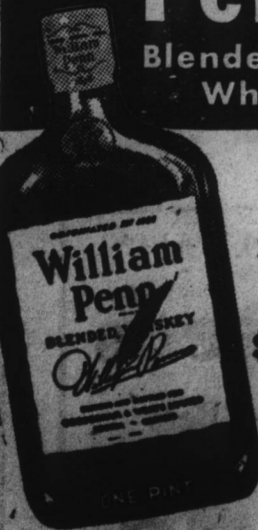
New Model IH-120 pickup with A-A-Rak attachments.

See The New Internationals at

BYRUM IMPLEMENT & TRUCK COMPANY  
Edenton, North Carolina



## William Penn Blended Whiskey



Retail Price  
\$2.10 Pints  
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86 Proof

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