

# Raleigh Roundup: Proposed Tax On Cigarettes Is Debated

**Continued from 6-A**  
 floor but exclaimed: "Hell, fire, the bid's popped off." And Rep. Ed N. Warren of Pitt, who is a tobacco warehouseman, predicted, "that bill will never sail. Everybody is picking on our program, from Califano on down."

So, instead of popping into holes, the defenders of the tobacco barons were popping out in droves.

The governor came back to a joint session of the House and Senate Monday evening to deliver his crime control message and to outline his strategy to prevent crime and "save our people." As usual the galleries were packed. This time there were law enforcement officers from all over the state, most of whom had been invited by the governor to a reception at the mansion and to hear his address to follow. Several of the members had requested the Speaker to extend the courtesies of the galleries to their friends from home and it became a never-ending chore. The Speaker finally said: "All of us extend the courtesies of the gallery to all of you up there."

Most of the people in the state now know that R. Brent Hackney, a deputy press secretary who helped write the governor's speech, found his coat had disappeared. We now have a follow-up on that event. It seems that he had left his coat in the press room on the first floor and after his complaints were heard the next morning, a Community Watch poster was placed on the pressroom door. That same day Hackney recovered his coat which was found hanging in the office of Zeb Alley, the governor's liaison with the General Assembly.

"Well, the governor's crime prevention program is getting quick results," the embarrassed deputy quipped.

There is a second chapter, also, to the interesting little accident involving Rep. Howard Coble of Guilford, who drove his motor vehicle down the steps of the N. C. Association of Educators Building a few evenings ago. The gentleman pleaded guilty for he said he turned into what looked, for all the world, like a driveway. Some partisan fun resulted when his colleagues learned there were no injuries nor little damage.

Since a bipartisan crowd of senators and representatives were on hand to attend a reception, there were plenty of partisan exchanges with the Guilford representative on the receiving end. "Make him walk a straight line, officer," one member called to one of Raleigh's finest who had been attracted to the scene. Of course, the officer determined that Rep. Coble was only arriving at the party and not leaving and was in control of his faculties, no tests were given and no charges filed. But, Rep. Thomas Rabon of Brunswick was determined that his Republican colleague would not get off so easy. On the floor of the House he said there was a moral to the story:

"That often it takes a whole band of good Democrats to clean up one Republican's mess."

Another signal honor has come to Rep. Dwight Quinn of Cabarrus. Thursday he received a letter from Secretary of State Thad Eure which offered congratulations to the Gentleman from Cabarrus for having served more continuous terms in one body of the General Assembly than any other member in the history of the legislature. Rep. Quinn, Eure said, had served 16 two-year terms or 32 years in the House of Representatives. The Secretary went on to say that in 1789 a Gates County statesman came to the General Assembly and served 38 years. These were one-year terms but were served in both the house and the senate.

The Gentleman from Cabarrus was roundly applauded and the Speaker said: "Dwight, stand up and let us see how durable you are."

Rep. Quinn thanked the Speaker and his colleagues and said he was glad that Thad Eure had discovered he was not the only old rat in the Democratic barn and that he had found that there had been someone from Cabarrus who had been in state government as long as someone from Gates.

After these exchanges the courtesies of the galleries were extended to Mrs. Quinn and their granddaughter, Miss Connie Dodge of Atlanta, who was visiting her grandparents during the week.

It is a custom for members

who have friends, relatives and constituents in the galleries to send notes to the Speaker asking him to extend the courtesies of the galleries to these people. Tuesday it was evident that the presiding officer was having some difficulties with his notes. Whereupon he asked Rep. Edd

Nye of Bladen if he would like to make an announcement. The Gentleman arose and extended the courtesies of the gallery to some people from his district. The Speaker explained: "Sometimes when I ask a member to make his own such announcement it is because I can't read his writing."

There have been a number of visitors in the galleries and roaming the corridors of the state house during the past week. There were large delegations of Democratic Women who entertained legislators at an elaborate reception at Democratic

Headquarters Wednesday evening. Business and Professional Women came down and greeted their representatives here at a luncheon in the Archives and History building. For the first time members of the N. C. Medical Society Auxiliary were in the city and visiting their

lawmakers. The Auxiliary hosted a breakfast at the Hilton Inn Thursday morning and the N. C. Medical Society honored the legislators at a cocktail buffet Thursday evening at the Capitol City Club. The historic State Capitol was setting Tuesday for a reception given by the Department of Ad-

ministration Advocacy Council. —  
 Reps. Robie Nash of Rowan and Jay Huskins of Iredell, two Democratic survivors from the Northwest disaster area, were having lunch in the legislative cafeteria the other day when GOP Sen. Donald Kincaid of Caldwell came by and asked if

he could join them. He, of course, was welcomed. Then GOP Sen. Cass Ballenger of Catawba came by and asked if he could join the three of them. "Yes," said the Gentleman from Iredell. "But one more would make a majority, and that's where I draw the line."

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