

The Carolina Review: Special Session

First Special Segment ... The N. C. General Assembly convened last week amid some slight-of-hand parliamentary tactics to satisfy constitutional questions over the authenticity of the "special" session.

As soon as the session was underway, the legislators got busy putting together a state employee and teacher pay raise. That pay raise had not been effected in July ostensibly to await state legislative evaluation of federal cutbacks in funding. One thing that did not occur was a legislative evaluation of the federal dollar shortfall. Instead, the lawmaker's concentration centered around differences over state tax revenue projections for the next year and a half. Legislative analysts were projecting a smaller percentage of revenue growth than were the governor's fiscal experts.

The lawmakers kept the advice of their experts on projected income, but through fiscal gobbledegook, found another \$30.9-million. They also limited the pay raise appropriation to six months, when it will have to be re-appropriated.

With that problem solved, the Assembly was able to put together a 5 per cent across-the-board increase

for state employees and teachers effective January 1, 1982.

The raise was less than employee lobbyists had hoped for - especially since the raise was not retroactive. But legislative conversations were so negative until by mid-week the employee groups seemed almost happy to get away with what they got.

Since the pay raise was the primary issue, the session might have been adjourned as early as Wednesday afternoon - except for a couple of snags.

One snag appeared over an extra jump in the pay scale for school administrators. The Senate wanted the extra amount, the House didn't.

By Friday morning, the joint "Super-sub" (the chairmen of various sub-committees on appropriations) and a joint conference committee had put their heads together to figure a working compromise.

Of course, the "Super-sub" had to meet anyway since the other snag to earlier adjournment was the appearance of fifty or so special interest bills. Those special bills ranged from an effort to appropriate money for a coastal river study (successful) to the hopes of one legislator to increase membership of local

community college trustee boards (unsuccessful).

The only real effort to address federal funding cutbacks (the original reason for even holding the special session) occurred through legislation authorizing a statewide referendum on a \$300-million water and sewer bond issue.

Up until the sweeping budget appraisal of the Reagan administration, seventy-five per cent of water and sewer improvements were federally funded.

Grimsley ... One legislative effort that failed was a behind-the-scenes effort to gut the Coastal Area Management Act. NRCDC Sec. Joe Grimsley set out to block that action.

Grimsley pointed the finger at Lt. Gov. Jimmy Green and Senate Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kenneth Royal as having personal interests in the legislation. Both Green and Royal own beach property regulated by the act.

When Green and Royal yelled foul, the governor

suggested that Grimsley go back and "talk with them." That according to an administration source.

The same source said Grimsley "isn't the sort of person who would just go out and lie. What he does is talk too much."

"Maybe he went wrong by ascribing motive," said the source.

Either way, Grimsley was successful. The Coastal Area Management Act remains intact. Legitimate problems in the legislation, however, suggest mounting opposition in the future.

Second Special Segment... Although the "first" special segment was just adjourned, citizens can look forward to a "second edition" on October 29.

Apparently, the Attorney General's office feels that legislative re-districting accomplished during the original 1981 Assembly can not be defended in court and must be done over.

Aside from the gasoline tax, re-districting was supposed to have been one of the major accomplishments of that "segment" of the session.

Letter To The Editor

To the Editor: Two points of clarification are necessary regarding electric rate comparisons appearing in recent media reports.

First, Vepco achieved rate parity with our neighboring utility in the spring. The difference in rates between Vepco and CP&L for the average customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours (kwh) in April and May was 61 cents.

Customers utilizing heat pumps or other forms of electric heat and consuming

2,000 kwh were charged \$96.49 by Vepco and \$100.58 by CP&L.

Second, rates on file with the N. C. Utilities Commission which include rate requests pending approval indicate Vepco's rates will again be equal to or less than CP&L's in December, January, February and March.

For the average customer using 1,000 kwh, CP&L will probably charge about 82 cents less than Vepco.

Electric heat customers will be charged about

Trenton Resident Chosen

Jones Wins Top Tree Farmer Award

RALEIGH — Charles C. Jones, a native of Jones County and resident of Trenton, has been selected as the 1981 North Carolina Tree Farmer of the Year. Announcement of the selection was made by Dewitt Sheffield, chairman; Joe Kelleher and Ed Tokarz, vice-chairmen of the N. C. Tree Farm Committee of the N. C. Forestry Association.

The award has been given in North Carolina since 1975 to recognize achievement in forestland management by an individual forestland owner. Jones owns forestland in Jones County and has 485 certified in the national tree farm program administered by the American Forest Institute in Washington, D.C.

Robert Francis of Edenton won the honor in 1980.

Along with being a tree farmer, Jones owns Brock Ford in Trenton. He has been involved in forestland management since 1962 and joined the American Tree Farm system in 1964.

"He was selected as this year's winner for his initiative as a private forestland owner," according to Kelleher, "and his willingness to try a variety of forestland management practices."

Jones says he has been interested in tree farming since 1962 when he was discharged from military service and returned to Jones County to live. His forestland at that time was poorly stocked, having been the victim of forest fires. "I didn't want to leave the land idle, not producing," he says, "some of my early steps failed, but I learned from the failures."

Today all of the 485 acres he has in the American Tree Farm system are in some form of forest plantation development. His most successful stands are those which received modern treatments such as site preparation following harvest, bedding prior to

planting young tree seedlings and some fertilization.

Jones has received assistance from the N. C. Forest Service and cooperation from Champion International, and adjacent neighbor, in protecting his forestland from fires.

Training Session Is Set

On October 29, day care and head start staff in 13 Northeastern North Carolina counties will be meeting in a training session concerning health and nutrition.

The session will be held at Knobb Creek Recreation Center in Elizabeth City and is jointly sponsored by the Day Care Section of the North Carolina Department of Human Resources, Eastern Region Division of Health Services, N. C. Office of Child Day Care Licensing and the Developmental Evaluation Center serving the northeastern counties.

The session is designed to assist staff who work with young children in meeting the health and nutrition needs of the children in their care. Child health professionals from the local region as well as several faculty from the ECU School of Medicine,

Department of Pediatrics will be leading the workshop on such topics as recognizing childhood illness, infant health needs, the health needs of special children, disease prevention through sanitation and nutrition and cost efficient food services for young children.

Gary Taylor, health education consultant in the eastern Region, Division of Health Services, will address the group in its opening session on "Modeling Good Health For Children." Taylor, the father of two preschool boys, will emphasize the importance of setting a good example in health habits for young children.

The format of the workshop is designed for staff in day care and head start centers, but parents and others who work with

Continued On Page 3-B

Fraud Investigation Increase

RALEIGH — Anti-fraud investigations during September increased 134 per cent over those in July according to figures released by the Benefit Payment Control unit of the N. C. Employment Security Commission (ESC).

Last month the unit investigated 508 persons who had claimed or were then claiming unemployment insurance benefits. Of that number, 239 cases were classified as fraudulent. State courts tried 65 persons and convicted 61 of them during September. This represents an increase of 103 per cent

over July's results. The commission recovered \$141,318.50.

According to Ron P. Hawks, chief claims investigator, changes in investigative procedures as well as technological advances have enabled his team of investigators to pinpoint potential fraud earlier than ever before. Persons in 33 of the state's 100 counties were cited during September. Five convictions were achieved in both Buncombe and Vance counties, four each in Cleveland, Forsyth and Onslow counties and three or less in 26 other counties.

Phelps Detective Agency

ALL TYPES OF INVESTIGATIVE AND SECURITY SERVICES — STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL —

- PRE-EMPLOYMENT
- PSE (LIE DETECTION)
- REPOSESSIONS
- BAIL BOND VITATORS
- UNDERCOVER AGENTS

INSURED, BONDED AND LICENSED

P.O. BOX 268
919/332-5270

AHOSKIE, N.C. 27810
(24 HR. CONTROL CENTER)

Continued On Page 3-B

Craft Sale
Hobbsville Community Center
Hobbsville, NC
Sat., Oct. 17th
10 A.M. Til 5 P.M.

Lose weight sensibly in **14 DAYS**

42 Tablets or 42 Capsules
Reg. 4.81
Now 3.61

Diet Gard
APPETITE SUPPRESSANT
14 DAY DIET PLAN

MITCHENER'S PHARMACY
Downtown Edenton 482-3711
"Your Chamber of Commerce Brings Industry & Jobs"

TG&Y
family center

Shop Mon. - Sat. 9 - 9
Sunday 1 - 6 Edenton Village Shopping Center

Come Play **Basket Bingo**

Each shopping cart will be numbered
If your number is called, you will receive 10% off on your purchase.

Bed Blankets
100% Polyester
Twin & Full Sizes
3.97

Drapes
by Weeks
5.00

Light Brite
8.88

Rubik Cube
4.88

moonlight madness

Friday Night
6 p.m. 'til 10 p.m.

60 ct Extra Absorbent **Pampers**
6.99
Limit 2

Register To Win!!

Free 15 Speed Bike

Will Be Given Away At The Drawing.
Between 6 & 10

Cowboy Hats
6.00

Mens Flannel Shirts
3.97

Havoline
10 W 40 Oil
79¢
Limit 6

Tide
49 oz
1.47
Limit 2

Prestone II
Antifreeze
3.88
Limit 2

Levi's WOMENSWEAR

Ladies Levi Bendovers
17.88

"Support Your Chamber of Commerce - Help Bring New Jobs To Chowan County"