

### General Assembly

## To Face Four Major Issues

Indications are there will be three big issues in the 1961 General Assembly which will be obvious. A fourth, and in some respects the most significant, will be apparent only to experienced observers.

Money is always a big problem, and will be this year. The total amount of the budget is a closely guarded secret, but it is commonly known that it will be the biggest in history -- going well above a billion dollars for the biennium, including Federal aid funds.

Education, mainly the public school system, will require nearly two-thirds of the total, more than 75 per cent of the general fund. The rest will go to build and maintain highways, law enforcement and courts, health and welfare, and general administration. To meet the demands of education a lot of new money will be necessary. Not all of it will have to come from new sources, because the advancing economy will afford more dollars from current sources.

But some new sources must be found. Most likely is elimination of present exemptions from the general sales tax. The tax may be applied to many goods now exempted, and a three per cent automobile tax is not improbable. Any of the arguments successfully used in the past against soft drink and tobacco taxes have lost their force. The problem in some of these matters is that the Federal Government also is seeking new revenue sources, and there is danger that double impact may invoke the law diminishing returns. That is particularly true with respect to cigarettes, liquor, and gasoline. There will not be a state-level property tax, but there is danger that effort will be made to shift to counties and cities larger share of the total burden, requiring their ad valorem levies.

**COURTS**  
Government reorganization which the chief segment will be revision of the judicial system, may take a major issue, it might be disposed of their quickly, though not without bitterness. There is sort of tacit understanding "court reform" efforts be limited to inferior courts. It is conceded on all that the program presented years ago was too conservative for one dose.

State money will figure as prominently as publicity in consideration of highways, and insurance laws as affect the small loan business segments of community insurance, scientific for drunkenness, and the system for revocation of driver permits will occupy attention.

**Major Issue Will Be Senatorial Re-Districting**  
It might be interesting to see hundreds of people who have heard and talked and written so much about "re-apportionment" of legislative representation to learn that there ain't no such thing! Calling to find the word in the office dictionary, your reporter checked the big, 6-inch thick book in the Governor's office. It isn't there either. There is "apportionment," defined as the result of apportioning, which is defined as dividing in just proportion. The dictionary has "re-point," "re-arrange," "re-assemble," "re-assign" and "re-district" --- but not "re-apportionment."

The primary definition given for re-district is "to re-arrange legislative districts especially congressional." The institution definitely apportioned membership in the North Carolina House of Representatives, but it left the problem of districting the state senatorial and congressional representation to the General Assembly.

The state has 100 counties, with total population of about 4 million and a half million people. It has 120 representatives and 50 senators in the Legislature, and eleven representatives in the national Congress. Apportionment of representatives is purely mathematical --- remaining 20 to be allotted strictly on basis of population. Under that plan some counties have two, some one, some four and perhaps some now entitled to five members. Any "re-apportionment" which would change at set up violates the constitution.

So, the problem facing the coming Legislature is one of re-districting --- re-arranging the State senatorial and congressional districts so to give as nearly as possible equal representation to citizens of the state.

**EQUITABLE**  
The big question is what constitutes equal representation. If only population is to be counted, each of the eleven congressional districts would have about 409,000 people, and each of the 50 senatorial districts about 90,000. That allocation could put three

counties in some congressional districts, 20 counties in some others. It could give one county three senators, and divide the services of one senator among eight or nine small counties. Such arrangement quite obviously cannot afford equal representation. The point is that apportionment has been fixed; the need is for arranging the districts so as to meet the legal demands for equality of representation.

Similar problems of equality occur in solicitor districts. Some districts have only a few terms of criminal court a year, while others have almost continuous sessions of court. On basis of cases tried, the solicitor in the multicourt district would appear to have a much heavier load than his colleague in the scattered court district. In practice, the small district solicitor often has a harder time because he does not have the assistance of well organized and trained police and sheriff departments or a system of inferior courts.

The committees seeking to work out the district lines will have to take into account both population and area in order to determine equality of representation. And, also, they will have to consider political --- factional, partisan and personal.

That means some lines will be drawn not on basis of equality of population or area, but on basis of political trades. That is where gerrymandering comes into the picture.

Experienced legislators and observers agree that while money will be a major problem as always, and reorganization of State government including court revision, will call for serious study, the problem of re-districting the state for senatorial and congressional seats will likely be the most time-consuming and temper-testing issue facing the 1961 General Assembly.

A child drinks in the outward world through the eyes and rejoices in the draught.  
-Mary Baker Eddy

## Capital Clipboard

by Eula H. Greenwood

### NOT THIS TIME

Terry Sanford is Governor of North Carolina, has been for some two weeks now, and will be... if he lives... for 206 weeks more. But since taking office January 5, he has winged to Chicago and to Palm Beach, Fla. --- and so has hardly found time to warm that big leathery chair in his office.

After plugging hard for 12 solid months for the office (and the Democratic Party), you might think our Governor would be permitted two or three weeks of peace. We recall the good old days when the first few days of a new official's term of office used to be called the "honeymoon period." No more.

**FANGS IN GREENSBORO**  
With Governor Sanford, a new approach is being taken. Editorials lambasting him for some of his appointments have appeared. Letters --- to the editor have torn him apart. Nor would we label as altogether pleasant for him the conference he had with the media last Thursday evening in Republican-riden Greensboro. Fangs showed clearly through some of the questions.

Viewing-with-alarm is the modern-day approach. It is heck if you do and heck if you don't. We note that Governor Sanford has not complained --- at least not out loud --- and has handled the ball very well in the press-radio-television sessions.

**SCATTERED SHOT**  
Even though he is fast-on-his-feet, Terry Sanford can look mostly for trouble for many months to come from erstwhile Lake-leaders and Gavin-gops. They will serve to keep him on the defensive.

And the tight rope may become a beaten path. There is still much bitterness abroad; and the wounds are slow amending. But, viewing the scene with Socratic eye, Governor Sanford can see that for two weeks he had the full blast. Now he knows the critics must turn to Kennedy and the Washington scene.

Then will come the Legislature --- always fair game --- and taxes. The shot must be scattered in the months to come. This may afford the Governor sufficient time to stabilize his administration.

**CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT**  
A study of the downtown problem in North Carolina cities was conducted by the Institute of Government with Ford Foundation funds last spring.

Now in book form, some results of the findings will be available by the time a big meeting on downtown problems comes up at Chapel Hill on February 19-20. Mooresville, which we understand is in the running for All-American City honors, will report on what it is doing about traffic congestion, parking, etc. Downtown developments in Ahsokie, Durham,

Winston-Salem, and Greensboro, will also be highlighted at the meeting.

Principal speakers for the event: Lt. Gov. Cloyd Philpott of Lexington.

**RACIAL EMPLOYMENT**  
Now feeling new strength throughout the South, Negroes have begun a quiet campaign to determine if they are being treated fairly on the employment front. The whirlwind will soon settle over the offices of the Employment Security Commission throughout North Carolina. Look for this to erupt into prominence any day.

Raleigh has had two privately owned employment agencies for about three years now. A third one opened early this month.

**THE CHAMP?**  
When Kerr Scott, freshly sworn in as Governor, was having such a hard time with his 1949 Legislature --- he finally got all he wanted, incidentally --- he singled out the following lobbyists for special attention:

Sam Blount, Fred Bowman, Gilmer Sparger, and Harry Buchanan.

The next morning out came the Raleigh News & Observer with these Peck bad boys stand, grinning, arm-in-arm in a big three column photo. Thus they were recognized by none other than the Governor himself as leaders of the "Third House."

Blount, who was with the beer people, is practicing law in Washington, N. C., his hometown. Sparger, originally from Mt. Airy, is still doing a first class job for the petroleum people here, Harry Buck of Hendersonville, a theatre man, is still going good for the theatres. We no longer look to them as a tax source --- television has seen to that, and Fred Bowman of Chapel Hill to this good day has kept the crown tax off soft drinks.

There you have the quadruplets --- the Martin, Barton, and Fish of the early days of Kerr Scott --- except that each and every one of them were and are the hottest of Democrats. But there was more venom in FDR's attack on his bedevilers than in Kerr Scott's statement on Bowman, Buchanan, Blount, and Sparger.

If lobbyists want to learn lessons in influencing legislation, they could do no better than sit at the feet of Bortler Bowman. This will be his 20th session as a lobbyist --- that's 40 years, son --- and we are not including the special sessions. He's probably the champ --- in years as well as results.

**FROM THE CLIPBOARD**  
Meredith Vice President Bob Deyton out with a heart attack... and so is UNC Comptroller William Carmichael... and Banker LeRoy Martin recovering extremely slowly from brain surgery at Duke, December 27.

## SENATOR SAM ERVIN SAYS



Washington - The 87th Congress convened on Tuesday, January 3, 1961. Immediately after its opening, the so-called ultra liberals initiated a fight to have the Senate itself change Rule 22 of the Senate without any study being first given to their proposal by the Rules Committee --- a course of action required by orderly procedure. Fortunately, they suffered at least a temporary defeat when the Senate voted, 50 to 46 to refer their proposal to the Rules Committee for study.

The Proposal --- It seems not amiss to indicate the implications of the proposed change in Senate Rules, Under Rule 22, as it now stands, debate in the Senate upon any pending measure cannot be ended unless two-thirds of the Senators present and voting so decree.

The purpose of this Rule is to make it certain that any Senate minority shall be given a reasonable opportunity to persuade the Senate majority that a pending proposal is unwise and ought not to be enacted into law.

Use Of Epithets - The so-called ultra liberals sought to change Rule 22 so as to provide that 51 Senators should have the power to silence the other 49 Senators. In accordance with the smear technique now practiced all too frequently, in public life in

America, the ultra liberals say that the change proposed by them is necessary to silence the "filibusterers." It would be equally as just for those who oppose the change in Rule 22 to say that the purpose of the so-called liberals is to gag those who disagree with them. As a consequence, anyone addicted to the use of epithets as a substitute for reason might well say that we have just witnessed a contest between the filibusterers and the gaggers.

My Position - I favor Rule 22 as it stands. I have always liked the statement attributed to the French philosopher, Voltaire: "I disagree with what you say, but I shall defend to the death, your right to say it." I also agree with the observation made by William S. White, one of America's foremost columnists who points out in his book on the Senate that it is well to remember that any rule devised today to silence troublesome demagogues can be used tomorrow to silence a brave man fighting a just cause."

For children, there is neither past nor future and what so rarely happens to us --- they take pleasure in the present.

-La Bruyere

## THE CHEROKEE SCOUT

N. JERUE BABB, Publisher ... PHYLLIS B. BABB, Editor  
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### Editorial

## Hogging The Parking

Murphy hogs the uptown parking spaces to such an extent that it loses thousands of dollars in trade during the year. This was particularly true during the holiday season.

Murphy people monopolize so much of the parking that the visitor at times has to play second fiddle. There is a view among competent observers that we use the parking meters for the convenience of ourselves rather than as a traffic control device designed to keep traffic moving thus allowing more customers to visit and shop in our town.

Make a check. When you are in the business district about 8:30 in the morning, notice how many automobiles already are parked. Notice that most of them are local cars. Notice that the shopper has not yet arrived and when he does he takes second place in parking to the man who works in town.

Merchants who park in front of their stores are actually running shoppers away from Murphy rather than attracting them. The same goes for a merchant that allows his help to park in front of his store. Now this doesn't mean for the merchant and his help to park across the street or in front of his neighbor's store, but find off street parking or park out of the business district.

It's a two block walk in any direction from the square to ample parking space that will not interfere with residential or business property. There are even lots in downtown Murphy where parking space can be rented by the week, month, or year, and rates are as cheap as keeping the meters well fed.

## Thoughts On Growing Old

(From The Chinese)

All of my life has been quiet. The world roared by me; there were great things to be done, I thought long about them, and sat and listened. To the sound that the river made, dashing against the boulders.

All of my life has been dreams. The air from the busy concerns of men eddied and swirled about me. I dreamed about the quiet eyes of a face that lighted my heart. To the sound that the winds made, rustling magnolia leaves.

All of my life has been music. A world of men went out to maim and murder each other, I turned my face away and heard the sounds that the stars made. Moving, slow and sedate, in their courses.

## Andrew Johnson Republican Home

Raleigh - Deep in the bosom of Andrew Johnson will sleep most of the 14 Republican members of the General Assembly during the 1961 session, if current indications hold true to form.

Those deans of the loyal opposition --- Sen. B. C. Brock of Mocksville and Rep. T. E. Story of Wilkesboro --- have already reserved their rooms again at the Andrew Johnson Hotel here. There, too, you will find most of their cohorts.

This has been the main legislative nesting place for Republicans for several sessions now. Incidentally, Brock will be serving in his tenth regular session --- five in the House and five in the Senate, while Story will be in his eighth regular term, all in the House.

## House Seat No. 13 Goes to Rowan Solon

Raleigh - A lot of friends of Rep. Clyde H. Harris of Salisbury wanted him to run for Speaker of the House last year. He considered it carefully, but finally decided not to oppose Joseph H. Hunt of Greensboro.

Hunt will sit in the Speaker's chair, Harris in Seat 13. That's the way he wanted it.



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