

THE BEAUFORT NEWS

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PAGES THIS WEEK

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NUMBER 1

BUSY SESSION OF N. C. LEGISLATURE IS NOW FORECAST

Large Crowd of Lobbyist Already Filling The Hotels

TAXATION THE BIG ISSUE

(By M. L. SHIPMAN)

Raleigh, January 3—The holiday season having come to an end Raleigh is now getting ready for the session of the General Assembly which is to begin operations on Wednesday of the present week. Quite a few members and clerks arrived today and every train will supplement the number. Hotel lobbies are beginning to realize that there are lively times ahead for the Legislature always brings a big crowd to the capital city of the State.

The speakership fight occupies the center of the stage tonight and only enthusiastic supporters of the three aspirants for this coveted position are willing to place a bet on either of them. It is a reasonably safe prediction that the speaker will be selected from the three avowed candidates, N. A. Townsend of Hamlet, R. T. Fountain, of Edgecombe, and H. G. Connor, of Wilson and the fight is getting "fast and furious," with the friends of each claiming a victory for his choice. No withdrawal has been reported at this writing and there is not likely to be a nomination on the first ballot, certainly not unless one of the three drops out of the race. Lieutenant Governor Long, who will wield the gavel in the Senate, is ready "to go."

Clock observance predict a busy session with tax reform the paramount issue. The proposal of a thirty-million dollar bond issue for highway construction will come up in due course and the suggestion of submitting the question of an eight months school term is to be considered sometime during the session. The Educational Commission has not completed its report and recent rumors indicate a division in the Commission on the idea of submitting the issue at this time. Superintendent A. T. Allen insists that conditions warrant immediate action and is expected to press the fight to a final conclusion regardless of the recommendation of the Commission.

Governor McLean has been a busy man for weeks in the preparation of his biennial message to the General Assembly and whipping into shape tentative measures he feels should be considered by the legislative body. The state budget for the two-year fiscal period beginning July 1, 1927, on which the Governor and his Advisory Budget Commission have been working since the first of November has been completed, the report having been written by Representative N. A. Townsend. A revenue bill is also practically finished and will be passed on to the finance committees of the two branches of the Assembly early in the session. It is said that this bill will provide for not less than \$14,500,000, an increase of \$1,500,000 over the revenue bill enacted by the Legislature two years ago, the inheritance tax to carry the major portion of the greater amount. Governor McLean will deliver his message on the second or third day of the session. This document is likely to reflect the results of the strictly business administration which has characterized the activities of the Chief Executive the past two years and he will doubtless pledge the remaining period of his term to even greater measures of economy. The Commissioner of Pardons has been of great aid to the Governor in handling details with which his predecessors were compelled to contend. While Mr. McLean has extended clemency to 560 persons since taking office two years ago the pardon commissioner has handled practically all the applications, and the actions of the Governor have been based on his recommendations, 20 paroles, 17 pardons, 23 respites or reprieves, 25 commutations and 75 temporary paroles have been granted in 1925 and 1926.

The "Committee of One Hundred," composed of fundamentalists are planning to swoop down on the solons with a demand that theories be not taught as facts in state supported schools. Zab V. Turlington, representative from Iredell county, is to be spokesman for the Committee in the House and prospects for a spirited fight are looming as time for action approaches. It will be a repetition of the scrap over the Poole resolution in the House during the session of 1925 which resulted in a victory for the opposition. Evolutionists refuse to become excited and

(Continued on page eight)

ARTIST MINISTER RECEIVES NICE HOLIDAY GIFT

Just before Christmas 1926 a nice turkey was sent around to the home of Rev. L. B. Boney by a friend who managed to conceal the name of the giver, and on New Years day of the present year he received through the mail a bill of money pinned to a piece of paper on which was written "from a friend," but no name signed. Mr. Boney wishes to thank the person or persons who so kindly remembered him and wishes for them much happiness in the new year.

PRISONERS FIND WAY TO LIBERTY

Court Too Near To Stay Longer In County Jail So Four Men Leave

The near approach of Superior Court with the prospect of being tried before Judge Cranmer perhaps was a little too much strain on the nerves of four prisoners in the county jail and so last night they took their departure. They went out through a window on the second story of the north side of the jail and did their work so quietly that the jailer and his family who live in a house about fifty feet from the jail were not disturbed at all.

The men who broke out of jail were John Moore, Louis Jones, Alf Wilson and Lovie Davis, all colored. Moore and Davis were held on charges of violating the prohibition law. Louis Jones, who is a South Carolina negro, was to have been tried on the charge of stealing a car from Mrs. C. P. Dey. Alf Wilson was under indictment for stealing chickens. He is a boy and lives in Beaufort. Two other prisoners could have escaped also but decided that they did not care to do so and will stay and stand trial. They are Willie Green and Len Harper. Harper called Mrs. Chapman, wife of deputy sheriff R. E. Chapman the jailer, about 6:45 this morning and told her of the escape. Harper is being held on a liquor charge. He says that he allowed some boy to have the use of his car and the boy went out and got some liquor without his knowledge or consent. Green was with Louis Jones when they took Mrs. Dey's car and started on a joy ride. Green says Jones stole the car and invited him to take a ride with him.

The prisoners effected their escape without much trouble. They took a wooden bar and pried several iron rods out of a window and lowered themselves to the ground with blankets. The jail is not considered a very secure place to keep prisoners and escapes have been made from it several times before.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

Only two permits to enter the state of matrimony have been granted this week by Register of Deeds R. W. Wallace. They were to Abraham Taylor of Beaufort and Lula Morrison colored, of Newport. Also to Roy Mann of Newport and Ruby Frances Piner of Bogue.

Messrs. F. M. Simmons of Charlotte and J. E. Woodland of Morehead City were in town today on a business trip.

Mr. R. L. McCrary of Lexington was in town last night stopping at the Davis House.

Mr. Ranson Collier of Atlanta, Ga. is here on a business trip stopping at the Davis House.

December Weather Report Shows That Month Was About An Average

The weather in Beaufort during the month of December was not unusual one way or another. It was however considerably dryer than the average, 2.29 inches against 4.02 which is the mean rainfall for that month.	4	-----	65	47
Weather Observer Charles Hatsell's report shows that there are twelve clear days in December, eleven partly cloudy and eight cloudy ones. There were a few pretty cold days. The coldest was on the 9th when the mercury dropped down to 22 above zero. There were a good many days when the thermometer rose above sixty and on the 31st it was real summery when it climbed up 74 above zero. The wind blew from the southwest 11 days from the north-west 6 days, northeast 8 days, north 3, south 1, west 1, southeast 1 day. The temperature figures day by day are as follows:	5	-----	67	46
	6	-----	60	38
	7	-----	48	28
	8	-----	63	38
	9	-----	62	50
	10	-----	64	49
	11	-----	63	53
	12	-----	61	42
	13	-----	67	49
	14	-----	66	45
	15	-----	66	45
	16	-----	50	30
	17	-----	50	30
	18	-----	46	30
	19	-----	39	22
	20	-----	58	27
	21	-----	64	48
	22	-----	60	49
	23	-----	54	38
	24	-----	55	41
	25	-----	62	54
	26	-----	67	53
	27	-----	58	37
	28	-----	65	44
	29	-----	66	40
	30	-----	64	35
	31	-----	55	33

Lynchings During Past Year Somewhat More Than In 1925

The following record concerning lynchings for the past year was compiled by Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research. There were 29 persons lynched in 1926. This is 13 more than the number of 16 for 1925, 13 more than the number of 16 for 1924, 4 less than the number 33 for 1923, and 28 less than the number 57 for 1922. The courts had acquitted one of the victims. 20 of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law, 8 from jails and 12 from officers of the law outside of jails. 2 of the persons lynched were women. There were 33 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern states and 29 in Southern states. In 27 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In 6 other instances, armed force was used to

repel the would be lynchers. In 4 instances during the year persons charged with being connected with lynching mobs were indicted. Of the 34 persons thus before the courts, 9 were sentenced to the penitentiary; 8 for terms ranging from 4 to 20 years, and 1 for life. Of the 29 persons lynched, there were 22 Negroes, 6 whites and 1 Indian. 5 or less than 17 per cent of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape. The offenses charged were; murder, 8; rape, 2; attempted rape, 3; killing officer of the law, 5; wounding officer of the law, 2; attacking woman, 1; insulting woman, 1; frightening woman, 1; burglary, 1; charge not reported, 5. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 2; Florida, 8; Georgia, 1; Kentucky, 1; Mississippi, 4; New Mexico, 1; South Carolina, 3; Tennessee, 1; Texas, 7; Virginia, 1;

THREE STORES ROBBED LAST FRIDAY NIGHT

For the second time in a few weeks the stores of Davis Brothers and the Gaskill-Mace Company were entered by robbers last Friday night. About \$20 in money was stolen from each store and possibly some merchandise. The same parties no doubt entered the store of the Beaufort Grocery Company that night and stole some merchandise. Entrance to the stores was effected through trap doors in the roofs of the buildings. It is thought that more than one person took part in the robberies as one could hardly have gotten in and out of the buildings very easily. The police have investigated as much as possible but so far no clue as to the identity of the criminals has been found.

KANSAS DOES NOT WANT GERENS BACK

The county will have to pay for the transportation of J. F. Gerens back to Kansas if he ever gets there. At least it looks that way. In an effort to get rid of him Clerk of the Superior Court L. W. Hassell sent a telegram Monday to the Governor of Kansas asking what to do with Gerens. He received a reply several hours later which stated "Deliver J. F. Gerens to sheriff of Independence county at your expense." Signed Board of Administration.

So at present the authorities are about as much at sea as ever as to what to do with Gerens and his two children. It is alleged that the man is insane. He has been locked up in the town jail at Morehead City for several weeks and his little son and daughter are being cared for at the County Home. Mr. Hassell went to Raleigh a short time ago and tried to get the State officials to take charge of the Gerens or try to get them back to Kansas. It appears from the telegram quoted above that nobody in Kansas is very anxious to get them back there so what to do with the Kansas wayfarers is still a problem.

HEALTH OFFICE NOTICE.

Dr. T. C. Britt, County Health Officer will be in his office on next Friday, Saturday and Monday for the purpose of taking care of shell fish handlers. This is in addition to other regular Saturday office day, and is for next Friday and Monday only.

Envelopes were first used in France during the reign of Louis XIV.

HEALTH BOARD STARTS NEW YEAR

Dr. Britt Re-Elected County Health Officer. Drs. Maxwell and Royall Re-elected

The county board of health met in Beaufort Monday and held a short session. The ex officio members of the board are J. E. Woodland, chairman of the board of county commissioners, J. H. Workman county superintendent of education and T. M. Thomas, Jr. mayor of Beaufort. These members re-elected to the board Dr. C. S. Maxwell and Dr. B. F. Royall. They also re-elected Dr. T. C. Britt, county health officer. It is probable that the board will hold another meeting soon to attend to some other business.

A set of new year resolutions prepared by the State Board of Health is being distributed for publication. They are as follows:

RESOLVED—
I shall have a complete physical examination made by my family physician at the earliest opportunity to determine if any defects exist, which if corrected now, would prevent serious organic trouble in later life.

I shall give my children protection from diphtheria by having my family physician make immune to this disease by administering toxin-anti-toxin, particularly to all children from 6 months old to 7 years.

I shall safeguard the health of my family and community from small-pox by the only known method to prevent this disease—that of vaccination.

I shall do everything possible to prevent the spread of communicable diseases by not unnecessarily exposing my children to infection from others who are victims of diseases termed "catching" and by keeping them from school when suffering with suspicious colds, or running temperature that they may not be a source of infection to others.

I shall promote birth registration in my community by being certain that my children are properly registered with the vital statistics department of the State Board of Health, and by ascertaining if the physicians of my community are promptly registering all local births.

I shall insist on my family taking typhoid vaccine to prevent typhoid.

I shall give my city and county health officials every assistance possible in making my home community one of the most healthful spots in the State.

I shall drive my car in a manner that will not endanger my own life nor the lives of others.

PRICED ACCORDING TO AGE.

The proud father was extolling the womanly virtue of his daughters to the young man who had called.

"Nor will they go penniless to their husbands," the father added.

"There's Mary, who is twenty-five. She'll get \$1,000 when she marries. And Betty, just thirty-five, she will have \$3,000. And the man who takes Eliza, who is forty, gets \$5,000."

"You haven't got a daughter about fifty or so, have you?" asked the young man after reflecting a moment. —Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

An oil well at Olinda, California, is now the deepest well in the world. It penetrates the earth to a depth of 8,046 feet.

When Austin Chamberlain was installed as Lord Rector of Glasgow University, 2,000 of the students wore monocles in his honor.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MET LAST MONDAY

A meeting of the board of county commissioners was held here Monday. This was the regular first Monday meeting. A report of the proceedings of the board meeting will not be in the News this week as a copy of the minutes was not available in time for publication. An account of the meeting will appear in the News next week. The audit of the county's business which has been in progress for several weeks is not yet finished but the News is informed that it is about done and probably will be reported at the next meeting of the board.

SCALLOP SEASON IN FULL SWING

Began Monday. Fishermen Are Doing Very Well So Far

The scallop season in Carteret county opened up Monday morning with a rush and is now in full swing. On account of the scarcity of these shellfish last year the open season for them was closed indefinitely. By order of the State Fish Commission it was re-opened January the 3rd and will stay so until the board decides to close it again.

The boats of hundreds of fishermen dotted the waters in Core and Bogue Sounds, Newport River and in every creek or cove where scallops may be found. All the necessary preparations had been made and as soon as the tide had receded enough to permit the men to work they were busy with their rakes and trawls. Many of them could be seen wading in the water almost waist deep. The News is informed that all the scallop fishermen have been making very good wages so far. Some of them having made as much as \$10 a day. The dealers are paying \$2.50 a gallon for the catch. Every day now many gallons are being shipped from Beaufort and Morehead City, mostly to northern cities.

At this time of the year as a rule the scallop fishing is a great help to the fishermen. Fish are generally right scarce in January and so scallops help to keep the men employed during the Winter months. Carteret county waters are the only place in the State where scallop fishing is done on a commercial basis. Last year and the year before scallops were very scarce and the season was made very short in order to give them a chance to replenish themselves. They seem to be fairly plentiful now and it is the hope of everybody in this section that the catch this year will be a good one.

CITY BOARD HOLDS ITS MONTHLY MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the board of commissioners of the town of Beaufort took place Monday. Those present were Mayor Thomas, Commissioners Maxwell, Noe, Smith and Whitehurst. No business of very great interest was transacted.

Mr. John R. Willis, who conducts a restaurant on Turner street, asked that he be allowed to pay his tobacco license tax for six months instead of a year. A motion was passed to collect his tax to July the first.

Carteret Motor Company asked permission to erect a large electric sign, advertising Chevrolet cars, on the front of the place they occupy in the Southgate Terminal. A motion was passed granting them permission to put up the sign with the understanding that no post is to be placed there.

Mr. John Forlaw came before the board and asked to be paid for clay taken by the town from a lot on Queen street belonging to Jones and Forlaw. The matter was referred to a committee composed of Commissioners Whitehurst and City attorney Duncan. Some bills were audited and the board adjourned.

MARSHALLBERG PEOPLE WANT TO KEEP SCHOOL THERE

A delegation of citizens from Marshallberg came before the county board of education Monday and requested that for the present that their school shall remain where it is. There has been talk of consolidating several of the elementary schools in that part of the county. The board told the delegation that no action would be taken for the present and when the matter is taken up that due consideration will be given to their request.

The board of trustees of the Beaufort Graded School district presented a petition to the board asking for

ONLY 46 FARMERS PAID INCOME TAX OF 283,000 TOTAL

Professor Hobbs Makes Interesting Study of N. C. Farm Conditions

CALIFORNIA FARMERS LEAD

Of the 283,000 farmers in the "progressive, prosperous state of North Carolina less than 50 paid federal income tax during the year 1923, according to figures dug from the report of the Federal Treasury Department by Professor Sam Hobbs, of the University of North Carolina.

Though North Carolina ranks second among all states of the Union in number of farms, it ranks next to the last in the number of farmers who returned income tax schedules. Mr. Hobbs writes in the current issue of the University News Letter.

Of the 65 North Carolina farmers who filed income returns with the government only 46 reported a net profit. "We do not know how many of the 46 who actually paid a tax, that is, whose profits were in the taxable brackets," writes Professor Hobbs. "Probably not half."

During the year 1923 less than three North Carolina farmers out of every 10,000 even filed a federal income tax schedule. "It seems to us to be one of the most significant bits of information released in some time," the professor states.

As compared with North Carolina, California at the top of the list, files 810 farm schedules for every 10,000 farmers. Over 300 times the rate for this State.

"It is an interesting fact that upon an average only one out of every one thousand income tax schedules filed in this State is filed by a farmer," writes Mr. Hobbs.

These figures prove, according to Mr. Hobbs, that the tax burden is unjust and that it is the city man who supports the government.

Concerning this the University professor writes:

"It seems to us that two conclusions are pertinent. First, that the income tax does not hit all classes alike. The salaried man pays on his gross income; the corporation, the farmer, and others on their net profits. The operation of the income tax, the fairest of all taxes when equitably administered, is manifestly unfair to certain classes. It reaches almost no farmers, and it is inconceivable that there were only forty-six farmers in the State who made profit from farming in 1923. The salaried man may be unable to make ends meet, but he must pay on his gross income.

"Second, that the burden of supporting the State government falls almost entirely on the city people, since about the same people who file federal income tax schedules file State schedules. The franchise, inheritance, and business taxes are borne almost entirely by urban people. There are not more than two or three dozen farmers in the State who contribute to the general fund of the State treasury. They pay automobile license and gas taxes for the support of highways but contribute almost nothing to the general fund of \$15,000,000 or so required to run the state government. We do not claim that they ought to pay income taxes or bear a part of the burden of supporting the state government. It may be that they are already over taxed supporting local government. But it is a fact that our State government is supported by our urban and industrial taxpayers—fewer than 50,000 all told out of a population of nearly 3,000,000.

It is an interesting fact that the State that takes such high rank as a crop State; that leads the world in tobacco; that takes high rank in Cotton; that ranks second only to Texas in the number of farms, should have only 65 farm schedules filed by individual farmers. Three farm schedules per 10,000 farms looks bad for a great agricultural State."

Mr. A. M. Whelpley of Wilmington, was a guest of the Davis House yesterday.

its approval of a loan of \$15,000 to be used in building a school for the colored population. The board approved the request which was also approved by the board of county commissioners. The money is to come from the State Literary Fund. A few small matters were considered by the board and some bills audited after which it adjourned. Messrs. Wiley H. Taylor, Charles V. Webb and Dennis Mason who constitute the board and Superintendent J. H. Workman were all present.