

Wood Alcohol For Whiskey Fatal To Three Here

N. C. Budget For Next 2 Years Expected To Be Largest In State History

Recommendations of the advisory budget commission on state spending during the 1949-51 biennium will be presented to the General Assembly Thursday, Governor Scott announced today.

With the budget commission report at hand, the lawmakers, who have been marking time mostly so far this session, will be able to get down to serious business.

Although the commission report is a secret, it is expected to call for the greatest spending program in state history, and probably will recommend increased pay for teachers and state employees, increased appropriations for state-supported colleges and hospitals, and increased appropriations for the needy aged.

The budget report constitutes a guide for the lawmakers as they go about their job of deciding on the needs of state agencies and the availability of state revenues.

The report will be accompanied by bills prepared by the budget commission to put its proposals into effect, including the biennial appropriations bill and a bill recommending changes in the state's tax structure. In addition there probably will be a bill appropriating funds for permanent improvements at state institutions.

Another bill which the budget commission is expected to propose probably will provide pay increases for school teachers and state employees on a retroactive basis. If enacted, this bill probably would enable the state workers to receive their pay increases within a few weeks instead of having to wait until July 1 when the biennial appropriations bill is effective.

Such a bill was introduced early in the 1947 General Assembly and provoked a bitter fight over the amount of pay increases the workers and teachers were to receive.

The budget commission was confronted with the task of bringing requests of state agencies into line with anticipated revenues. The commission received requests for a total of \$611,000,000. On the present tax structure and if collections remain constant, revenues are expected to amount to about \$425,000,000 during the biennium. State spending this biennium will total about \$322,000,000.

TWO BIOGRAPHS OF GEO. WASHINGTON RECEIVED BY SYLVA LIBRARY

The Sylva library has just received two volumes of a biography of George Washington by Douglas Southall Freeman, presented by District No. 1 of North Carolina Federation of Women's club, in memory of Mrs. E. L. McKee. Mrs. T. A. Case of Murphy has given a new subscription to Current Biography, in memory of Mrs. McKee also.

Hugh Monteith Installed As President Of Scout Council

Hugh Monteith, local attorney and active in Scout work for 22 years or more, was installed as president of the Daniel Boone Council in impressive ceremonies at the First Baptist church in Asheville Monday evening when the Council observed annual Scouters convention.

Mr. Monteith was among 29 people at the convention from Sylva which gave Sylva the largest attendance and enabled the Sylva Scout leaders to return the attendance trophy to Sylva for the 4th time in succession. There were fifty-five attended from the Smoky Mountain District, of Jackson, Macon and Swain counties.

Also installed at the Monday evening convention were W. C. Hennessee, Paul Kirk, of Sylva and Rufus A. Morgan of Franklin, as members of the executive

FUNERAL RITES FOR DR. F. L. SMITH HELD IN BREVARD FRIDAY

Well Known Druggist Dies Of Heart Attack At Home of Friends In Mocksville

Funeral services for Dr. F. L. Smith, who died Wednesday, January 5, at the home of Dr. and Mrs. John Weiters in Mocksville, were held at 11 o'clock Friday morning in Brevard at the home of Mrs. S. M. Macfie. Burial was in the Brevard cemetery. Rev. A. Rufus Morgan, of Franklin, officiated at the services.

Pallbearers were Sol Schulman, R. O. Wilson and Phil Stovall, of Sylva, Dr. Wilson Lyday and J. Ashe Macfie, of Brevard and S. R. Roane, of Whittier.

Dr. Smith was enroute to his home in Whittier and had stopped for a short visit with the Weiters. Death was attributed to a heart attack, suffered while in the Weiters home.

A son of the late John B. and Frances Sauers Smith, he was a native of Lexington. He was a graduate of the school of pharmacy of the Medical College of Virginia and had practiced his profession in Virginia and North Carolina. He first came to Sylva in 1934 and was associated with the Sylva Pharmacy until 1937 when he went to the central part of the state. He was a charter member and the first president of the Madison Lions Club. He was also a charter member of the Winston-Salem Pharmaceutical Association, serving as first president of that organization.

Dr. Smith returned to Sylva early in 1947 and was again associated with the Sylva Pharmacy. He and Mrs. Smith made their home in Whittier where they operated the "Longtime Beagle Kennels."

Survivors include the widow, Ruth Gilley Smith, a son, Michael Sidney; six sisters, Mrs. E. B. Craven, Mrs. Joseph H. Thompson, Mrs. L. M. Grimes, Mrs. C. H. Thompson, of Lexington; Mrs. James E. Williams, of Charlotte, and Mrs. E. B. G. Taylor of Richmond, Va.

First Half Day Store Closing Catches Many

Many citizens were caught Wednesday afternoon when the first half-day closing period went into effect. Having forgotten that the stores would begin closing at 12 o'clock on Wednesday, numerous would-be shoppers went home empty handed and a bit disgruntled over the situation.

Sheriff Takes 3 More Stills In Drive On Liquor

Sheriff Middleton and Deputy Frank Allen have taken three more "Moonshine" stills in the last week, which are in addition to the 40 captures in the past five months.

These liquor making stills were taken in the Balsam and Cullowhee sections. On Tuesday of last week the officers captured a 40-gallon outfit and destroyed 400 gallons of mash near Balsam and another almost the same size on Dark Ridge. A 30-gallon still and 160 gallons of mash were destroyed on Cullowhee Mountain the same day.

In commenting on the large number of stills captured in the past few months, the Sheriff stated that this may have something to do with the Sylva men resorting to a quick plan of making whisky from wood alcohol, as their usual source of supply had possibly been cut off in this way. However, this was no excuse for men resorting to such a dangerous practice, he said, the result being fatal for three already.

CATAMOUNTS DEFEAT APPALACHIAN 59-57

Last Second Field Goal By Carter Is Victory Margin

A field goal with three seconds to go by Guard Artis Carter was the victory margin needed by Tuck McConnell's Western Carolina Catamounts to defeat the Appalachian State Mountaineers 59-57 at Cullowhee Tuesday night.

The game, one of the most thrilling ever witnessed on the college court here, saw Appalachian lead from the start and hold a margin of from two to eight points all the way until the final few minutes.

With four minutes remaining the App was out front 51-45, but the Cats quickly tied the score on two field buckets, by Vee Rhodes and one by Clyde Pressley. Then the score was tied five different times from there until Carter won the ball game with his basket.

Bob McGinn led the Cats with 18 points, 15 of them in the last half. The victory moved W. C. into second place in the North State Conference.

Polio Funds Exhausted; No More For N. C.

CHAPEL HILL, Jan. 11.—The polio epidemic fund for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis in New York has been exhausted and, therefore, no more funds can be sent to North Carolina chapters until after the 1949 March of Dimes campaign is over. Philip S. Randolph, executive secretary of the state epidemic fund committee and state eastern field representative, said at headquarters here today.

Notifying all chapter officers and campaign directors throughout the state, Mr. Randolph said "I have just been advised that funds are exhausted and there is little hope of further financial assistance from that source until after the 1949 March of Dimes. This critical condition demands immediate action on the part of all persons connected with the foundation.

"Therefore the North Carolina epidemic fund committee cannot fill requests for funds which are in the office at this time. As funds are received they will be promptly released to those chapters in greatest need."

Saw Tojo Dead



BUDDHIST priest Shunso Hanayama is shown at a press conference in Tokyo as he described the last moments of former Japanese Premier Hideki Tojo and six other top warlords. Hanayama said the men went to their death on the gallows of Sugamo prison after cheering the emperor and the Japanese way of life. Although Hanayama did not witness the executions, he performed last rites over the bodies, later cremated. (International)

JAMES BRYSON HELD ON BREAKING AND ENTERING CHARGE

Sheriff Middleton and Sylva Police are holding James Bryson, colored, about 30, in the Jackson County jail in default of \$600 bond on a charge of breaking, entering and larceny. Bryson was arrested Monday by the Police Department and Sheriff Middleton for breaking and entering Sylva Supply Hardware store sometime Saturday night at which time certain items of merchandise and a small amount of change was taken. The officers recovered a .32 Colts revolver which Bryson had sold and which had the same serial number as on an invoice of the store.

Officers stated that they are still seeking other stolen goods. A hearing will probably be held Saturday for Bryson, the Sheriff stated. Bryson had just recently been released from the State prison in Raleigh after serving a term for larceny, officers stated.

Farmers Urged To Place Lime Orders For 1949 Supply

Farmers are urged to place orders for the lime they will need for 1949 at once. It is believed that delivery may become difficult later in the year due to shortage of freight cars and for other reasons. Therefore, any farmer who wishes to receive lime through the AAA program is asked to come by the AAA office, which is located on the third floor of the courthouse, and place his order. The cost to the farmer is \$1.80 per ton and is payable at the time the order is placed.

Wootens Observe 50th Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. William A. Wootens were honored by their children in observance of their Golden Wedding anniversary, January 8th, at their home on Mill Road in Webster.

They were united in marriage January 8, 1899 at Franklin, N.C., and have resided in Jackson County for the past 46 years.

Mrs. Wootens was the former Miss Cora Mashburn of Franklin. To this union were born four children; a daughter, Mrs. Gertrude Buchanan of Webster, three sons: Homer M., Logan T., Dennis C., all of Winston-Salem, and nine grandchildren.

WNC Party Special Guests Of Mayor Of New Orleans

A party of Western North Carolina sportsmen were the special guests of Mayor de Lesseps Morrison of New Orleans on New Year's Eve.

The party included Coach Tom Young of the Western Carolina Teachers College, Cata-mounts, Dr. Kelly Bennett, mayor of Bryson City, Ben Sloan of Waynesville, and Judge Dan Mcoe and Ralph Sutton of Sylva.

The honor came when the party dropped by Mayor Morrison's office prior to New Year's Eve for Dr. Bennett to pay his respects to the Louisiana political standout. While visiting in the mayor's office, Mr. Morrison presented to each member of the party a Key to the City which carried the Seal of the City of New Orleans.

While there, Mayor Morrison invited the party to be his special guests for New Year's Eve and to occupy the mayor's suite at the St. Charles Hotel on New Year's Eve. They accepted.

Poison Liquor In Sylva Has Sobering Affect On Waynesville

(Mountaineer)

Chief Orville Noland does not believe that any of the 15 people who drank poison liquor in Sylva last week were from this area. Three men are dead, and three others desperately ill, it was reported from Jackson county Monday noon. One other man is reported missing, but officers here said that had not been confirmed.

Chief Noland said that one of the men now reported desperately ill was a frequent week-end visitor to Waynesville, and had at times given considerable trouble by getting drunk. This man was reported to have been in Waynesville Saturday night, and "looked like his eyes were set in death" one person said. The police did not know of his visit, as he behaved himself and went back home to begin "doctoring up."

It is understood from officers that the man is frightened over the death of three other men, and is now eating huge quantities of raw dough, and washing it down with melted lard and olive oil in an effort to kill the affect of the poison.

Officers said that a gallon of paint thinner was used as a base for making two gallons of white liquor. The thinner was wood alcohol.

Among the many reports coming from Sylva, was one picked up by a passing officer, who said: "It is impossible to sell white liquor in Jackson county for five cents a pint, since all this happened."

Chief Noland further commented by saying: "Things have been mighty quiet around here. We have had fewer drunks during the past week than in a long, long time."

"To what do you attribute this?" he was asked. "I don't know whether they are broke, or scared, but it has certainly been a quiet period for the police."

Annual Tax Listing Starts Monday, 17th

Jennings A. Bryson, county tax supervisor, has announced that tax listing for the year 1949 will begin in the various townships in the county on Monday, the 17th. All taxes must be listed in January and since there is only a short time from the 17th through the 31st every tax payer should contact his nearest list taker and declare his property as of January 1, 1949.

The name of the list taker in each township, the places and dates on which he will be working, will be found on an advertisement in this paper.

BOSSAMON'S In Sylva

Extine, Gunter & Burch Die after Drinking Party, Several Others Made Ill

FUNERAL RITES FOR ROBERT L. HOLDEN HELD MONDAY P. M.

Prominent Citizen Of Cullowhee Community Died In Sylva Hospital

Funeral services for Robert L. Holden, 71, farmer of the Speedwell community of this county, who died in the C. J. Harris hospital Saturday morning, Jan. 8, following a brief illness, were held at Speedwell Baptist church Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

The body lay in state at the church for one hour before the service.

Rev. Jonathan Brown, pastor of the Speedwell church of which the deceased had been a member since early manhood, assisted by Rev. John Kincaid, pastor of the Webster Methodist church, officiated.

Active pallbearers were nephews of the deceased, J. S. Mitchell, Clifton Crisp, Clinton Hooper, John Henson, Wood Smith, Fred Bryson.

Honorary pallbearers were: Dr. Ralph S. Morgan, Dr. T. D. Slagle, Mitchell Melton, R. M. Bryson, F. S. Shelton, Shirley Wilson, R. L. Knight, Charlie Knight, E. L. McKee, Dan M. Allison, W. V. Cope, Griffin Middleton, Dr. W. P. McGuire, John R. Hooper, W. A. Hooper, William Norton, Glenn Hughes, W. R. Sherrill, Alex Southard, Edward Bryson, Dan Bryson, Jennings Bryson, Z. V. Watson, Prof. R. L. Madison, T. B. Bumgarner, R. C. Sutton, John Painter, R. U. Sutton, and Robert B. Bryson.

Flowers were in charge of the girls of the Intermediate department of the Sunday school.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Drucilla Taylor Holden, five sons, Leonard and Robert of Sylva, Arthur of Speedwell, Leburn of Bristol, Tenn., and Master Sgt. Frank Holden of the United States Army; four daughters, Mrs. John Ferguson, Whittier; Mrs. Robert Sherrill, Jr., Sylva; Mrs. Hugh Ferguson, Nashville, Tenn., and Mrs. Carl McCracken, Speedwell.

A host of out-of-town and state relatives and friends attended the funeral services.

Late spring freezes reduced production of peaches in the State last year. The 1948 crop is estimated at 1,646,000 bushels, 43 per cent less than in 1947 and 23 per cent under the 10-year average.

Sheriff Middleton Makes 'Moonshining' Unprofitable

Moonshining in Jackson county is not the safest and surest way to make a living these days. The 40 copper outfits captured by Sheriff Middleton and his deputies during five months of 1948 prove this statement. They poured out 4000 gallons of sweet mash which was enough to manufacture about 400 gallons of "mule".

Had this mash been made into whiskey and legally sold the federal government would have netted something like \$3600 in liquor tax money.

When you see Sheriff Middleton and his deputies with their khaki's on, riding away in their jeep, you can rest assured that some one has reported the whereabouts of a liquor-making contraption. If you think searching for them and raving-hiding them over miles of rugged hills is an easy job, then you should accompany the officers on

Three young white men are dead and several others are recovering from poison effects after drinking wood alcohol which they mixed with water last Wednesday night in a drinking party of a group of painters, all of the Sylva area.

Charles Extine, 30, died in bed sometime early Thursday morning after drinking with the group Wednesday night. The second victim was Hal Gunter, 23, who died about 6 p.m. Thursday. Cole Burch, Jr., 20, who was taken to the hospital Thursday, was released that afternoon as being out of danger. He walked to his home, talked with friends on the street on the way, stating "I'll never drink another drop", then died at his home about 10:30 Friday morning. All three men were in a party of some 12 or 15 men who engaged in a drinking party at the home of Burch and Extine sometime Wednesday afternoon and evening.

Following the death of Extine, Sheriff Griffin Middleton investigated and found a gallon container half full of wood alcohol which members of the party said had been full, the other half being mixed with water and drunk by the men. The varnish and paint thinner had been secured from a local building supply firm Wednesday.

Each of the poisoned victims died in great agony, surviving members of the party stated. A number of others were deathly ill for sometime.

Coroner Lum Dills said that no inquests would be held as it was evident the men died from drinking the mixture in place of whiskey.

Funeral services for Extine and Burch, half brothers, were held Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock at East Sylva Wesleyan Methodist church with the Rev. Ernest Jamison and Rev. Dock Norman officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Services for Gunter were held Saturday at 2 p.m. at Moses Creek Baptist church with the Rev. Dillard Wood and the Rev. Lawrence Crawford officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Surviving Extine and Burch are the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cole Burch, Sr., two brothers, James Extine, of Knoxville and William Extine of Sylva; three sisters, Miss Genette Extine of Glaboro, N. J., Miss Annette Burch and Miss Betty Alice Burch, of Sylva.

Surviving Gunter are the father, Garrett Gunter, of Cowarts and mother, Mrs. Pearl Rabb Gunter of the state of Washington; two sisters, Mrs. Rita Shuler and Miss Fredia Gunter, both of Cowarts and a brother, Glenn Gunter, of Ellijay, Ga.

Moody funeral home was in charge of the services.

Sheriff Middleton Makes 'Moonshining' Unprofitable

one of their unpleasant searches. In the past few weeks Sheriff Middleton has captured a total of six stills, nearly every one of them within four or five miles of Sylva.

Students in various Jackson county schools are benefiting from the sheriff's adventures. He has presented most of the copper to vocational departments for the purpose of experimenting in making trays, bowls, baskets, flowers and etc.

It is the belief of Sheriff Middleton that high tax on legal liquor is the cause of the uptrend in moonshining and bootlegging in the mountain area. Another reason, he said, is the return of a plentiful supplies of sugar, the availability of copper and barrels for storage, and the chief necessities.