

With the Legislature

(By Emmet Atkins, Jr.)

Raleigh, April 4—Singing their swan song for 1939, Assemblymen closed the legislative books and started their homeward trek Tuesday. Since the adjournment took place at exactly 2:31 o'clock Tuesday morning, bringing to a close the 90-day session. The time of adjournment bore out to the day Governor Hoey's early prediction that the session would last 90 days or less. Tuesday marked the 78th legislative day and the 90th calendar day after the Assembly convened January 4.

Lawmaking gave way to levity during the last few days of the session as both Senate and House members held "love feasts" at which presents were exchanged, hatchets buried, and compliments passed back and forth as fast as they could be delivered. Governor Hoey expressed his appreciation and gratitude for the fine work and excellent cooperation of both houses.

As the session neared its end last week, the final piece of controversial legislation pending, the election marker bill, was banded back and forth between the two houses with no apparent headway being made. Goaded by the Governor, a compromise was reached Friday night and the bill passed and enacted into law Saturday. As finally passed, the bill provides that election officials

may help in marking ballots if no other qualified person is at the polls. As the House originally passed the measure, it would have allowed voters to get help only from near relatives or from some person who had not aided in marking another ballot. The Senate had tried to amend this to allow election officials to serve as markers. The House balked at this, resulting in the more lenient compromise bill finally enacted.

The end of the 13th legislative week Saturday saw the passage of two or three bills of state-wide importance among a host of local bills. The House approved during the week a bill to provide for establishment of a tubercular sanatorium in Eastern North Carolina. The measure was amended at the last minute to provide only \$10,000 next biennium for maintenance, as it was thought likely the institution could not open within 18 months. The measure provides issuance of \$250,000 in state bonds for erection of the hospital if matching federal funds are also available.

Enacted during the week were two Senate bills to require blood tests for expectant mothers and physical examinations for persons planning to be married. The two measures had previously been tabled, but were resurrected last week and enacted into law. They were both described as a part of

These Three Have Free Theatre Tickets Awaiting



Two free tickets to the Lyric theatre await each of the three persons pictured above, all of whom were photographed on Main street last Saturday afternoon. If you would like theatre tickets without cost, keep an eye out for The Tribune photographer next Saturday afternoon. — (Tribune Photos.)

the State's campaign against syphilis.

The school machinery and revenue machinery bills became law during the week.

Among other legislation enacted during the week were bills: To permit Morehead City, On-

slow and New Hanover county citizens to vote on whether they want to legalize horse and dog-racing and pari-mutuel betting; to require a revision of all poll books and a revisiting of voters before the 1940 primaries; to appropriate \$80,000 for eradication of the Japanese beetle; to create a commission to coordinate activities of the State Department of Agriculture and the N. C. State College Extension Service; to raise the pay of election officials; to create a State Department of Justice; and to raise the pay of the Agriculture, Labor and Paresoles Commissioners.

Among the dozens of measures killed were bills:

To include male employees of mercantile establishments under provisions of the maximum hours law of 1937; to raise the cost of automobile licenses 30 cents to provide hospitalization for persons hurt in highway wrecks; to permit municipalities of over 2500 population to vote on the question of establishing liquor stores; to prevent state agencies from engaging in enterprises in competition with private industries without the consent of the Governor and Council of State.

A "Hoey-for-President" boom was started during the week when both houses adopted a resolution recommending that the Democratic National Convention nominate Governor Hoey for the presidency next year. The chief executive said later he had "no illusions" about the presidency, but expressed appreciation for the gesture.

Also boomed for a higher office last week was W. E. Fenner, Representative from Nash, for the governorship in 1940. The 1939 session has on the whole been a comparatively mild one, rather conservative in its accomplishments, and for the most part undistinguished for any radical legislation or pyrotechnical outbursts of the kind that have taken place in previous sessions. Relatively little legislation of state-wide importance has been passed, but a great many local measures were ground out in the course of the three-month session. The largest budget in the history of the state was passed, not without a great deal of

wrangling, and enacted into law. Among the more outstanding accomplishments of the 1939 Assembly might be listed these:

They defeated, at the request of the Governor, a constitutional amendment prohibiting diversion of highway funds, although it now appears that the \$2,000,000 surplus in the highway fund will not be needed in the general fund this year.

They made no headway whatsoever in enacting wages and hours legislation, although they spent more time considering such legislation than any previous session.

They provided for "election reforms" by passing the absentee ballot law and an amended and emasculated "markers" bill.

They provided a much-needed and long-sought increase in teachers' salaries, and also boosted appropriations for most of the State-supported educational institutions.

They did not put into effect any exemptions on homesteads.

They reneged, after much pressure, on the Advisory Budget Commission's recommendation for tuition increases at the University.

They passed, in a much modified form, the Department of Justice bill.

They argued desultorily over the status of liquor throughout the state, and ended by slightly increasing the tax on liquor stores and on beer.

The ratio of differential between counties and the State on intangible taxes was changed to 60-40.

The sales tax was taken off basic building materials, but the "emergency" sales tax measure in force for the past six years was enacted into permanent law.

The slot machine law was granted a material reduction in taxes. The slot machine law was altered to allow gambling devices that do not pay off to operate legally.

A "permanent" revenue bill was enacted into law.

ZEPHYR

The Second Quarterly Conference was held at the Pleasant Ridge Methodist church last Sunday. Services began at 11:00 o'clock. Rev. W. A. Lambeth, presiding elder for this district, delivered a very interesting sermon after which the conference was held. Each church in this charge was represented. The churches are all showing advancement. Considerable interest is being shown in the Epworth League for the young folks from the various churches. At the close of the conference dinner was served to a large crowd.

Several from this community attended the annual junior-senior banquet in the Mountain Park gymnasium last Friday night at 7:45 o'clock.

The senior class of Mountain Park high school will present the annual senior play in the school auditorium Saturday night, April 8, at 7:45 o'clock. The cast includes several from this community. The public is cordially invited to attend. A small admission fee will be charged.

An Easter service will be held at the Methodist church next Friday night at 7:30 o'clock. The service will be in charge of the pastor, Rev. C. W. Russell. A most cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend.

We are glad to learn that Miss Edith Eldridge, who has been sick with the mumps, is much improved.

Misses Judy Ellis and Versie Collins spent last Monday in Dobson attending a 4-H club meeting.

Rev. Walter Callaway will fill his regular appointments at the

Baptist church next Saturday night at 7:30 and again Sunday morning at 11:00 o'clock. The public is invited to attend these services.

Mrs. Lenä Dockery, of Elkin, spent the past week here with her daughter, Mrs. Ettye Parks.

entire family of E. F. Myers is suffering with measles.

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Norman, of Mt. Airy, spent Sunday night here with Mr. and Mrs. Weaver Eldridge.

Mrs. Lucy Andrews, of Mt. Airy, spent the week-end here with her daughter, Mrs. G. L. Crouse, and Mr. Crouse.

Rev. A. F. Walker filled his regular appointment at Union Hill Baptist church Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Wolfe, of Dobson, spent a short time here Sunday, the guests of friends and relatives.

UNION HILL

Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Moore spent several days last week the guests of Mrs. Moore's sister, Miss Betty Isaacs, on Fish River. We are sorry to note that the

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