

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

This is the first of a series of weekly summaries prepared by the legislative staff of the Institute of Government on the work of the North Carolina General Assembly of 1969. It is confined to discussions of matters of general interest.

The General Assembly of 1969—an early riser this year with its new January convening date—is now well into its second week of action.

In some respects this session is off to a fast start. After only eight legislative days, the Governor's legislative message has been delivered, the budget bills have been introduced, and permanent rules have been adopted in both houses with a number of changes from last session. But committee appointments are still substantially incomplete, and the rate of introductions of bills is slow. Both introductions and committee selections are running at about half the 1967 rate.

This year's Assembly is favored more sparingly with new members than some of its recent predecessors. A total of 48 members in the two houses with no previous legislative service compares, for example, with 71 new faces in 1967. Minority party representation continues to climb moderately. This year there are 12 Republicans in the 120-member House. These figures represent

Democratic losses of five members in the Senate and three in the House.

GOVERNOR'S PROGRAM
On Wednesday of this week Governor Robert Scott delivered the first of his major messages to the General Assembly, his legislative message.

The menu served up on the gubernatorial platter featured as main dishes ample helpings of recommendations for public education, higher education, law and justice, and intergovernmental relations. It also carried hefty side orders for state employees and the highway system. For dessert there was a choice of parks and recreation (a boost for the proposed state zoo) and promised tax rebates for senior citizens.

This message—true to form as the starting point for the Governor's legislative program—dealt liberally in general principles and broad directions for the new Administration. It held out an ultimate goal of achieving "the good life for all North Carolinians," the while reflecting some of the strains that accompany any effort to reach such a goal. But it also outlined a large number of concrete measures and recommendations endorsed by Governor Scott. Among these were a new state department of community affairs; extension of the State University system to

include Wilmington and Asheville-Biltmore Colleges; public school kindergartens; city school bus service; raising teacher salaries toward the national average; authority for the State Board of Education to appoint the State Superintendent and to set criteria for local school mergers; a police information network; strengthening the SBI; strengthening local authority to deal with civil disorders; broadening the mission of the Good Neighbor Council and giving it a full-time director; enlarging the State Highway Commission; and increasing state employee salaries and fringe benefits. Beyond these specifics there were a number of recommendations for legislative study of such matters as spiraling auto insurance rates; a merger of prisons, probations and paroles agencies; and a student assistance program to aid private colleges.

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Early this week the basic tools were shaped for handling the money issues that will be a major focus of legislative attention this session. On Monday the two presiding officers announced the membership of the "money committees" (Appropriations and Finance) in each house. On Tuesday the budget prepared by the outgoing Moore Administration was introduced in the two Houses (Capital budget—S 19 and H 19, Operating budget—S 18 and H 20).

To head the House committees Speaker Vaughn named Rep. Sam Johnson of Wake as Chairman of Appropriations and Rep. Thorne Gregory of Halifax as Chairman of Finance. Lt. Governor Taylor picked Sen. Lindsay Warren, Jr. of Wayne to head Senate Appropriations and Sen. Ralph Scott of Alamance to head Senate Finance. The presiding officers also announced formation of four subcommittees on Appropriations in each house, to be concerned with the areas of health and welfare, education, personnel and training, and general government. This is an innovation designed to encourage broader participation in the budget process, prompted doubtless by criticism of the handling of the appropriations bills in recent years.

Many political observers have noted that there is likely to be a big spread this year between the revenues generated by the present tax structure and demands on the General Assembly for state and local services. The Advisory Budget Commission's \$3.35 billion budget proposal of this week does nothing to weaken this impression. This biennial budget request is large in absolute terms, topping the \$3 billion mark for the first time in 171 years. It represents an increase of \$453 million over the current biennium, but much of this is needed

simply to sustain present levels of service. Only \$175 million of the increase would support expanded services, and most of this amount would go toward a 5% salary raise each year for state employees and school teachers. Among the large additional operating requests not reflected in this budget are approximately \$125 million additional funds that would be required to bring school instructional personnel salaries up to the national average, as has been requested by the State Board of Education. (This does not cover related increases in social security and retirement costs.) The capital outlay funds included in the Advisory Budget Commission proposal represents only a fraction of agency requests—for example, only \$20 million of almost \$250 million asked for higher education facilities, and only \$2.5 million of \$20 million requested for correctional institutions. And the budget makes no provision to meet demands for additional revenues for local governments.

Among the new taxes that have been prominently mentioned as possible sources of funds to meet these demands are increased sales taxes, a tobacco tax, and an increase in the gasoline tax. The estimated revenues from these exactions are: \$65 million for a one cent sales tax increase on the present 3 cents taxed items; \$25 million for a 5 cents per pack tobacco tax; and \$21 million per one cent increase in the gas tax (a three cent increase was recommended by the Governor's Highway Study Commission as part of a package of highway improvements and revenue sources). When the revenues from even these substantial tax increases are compared with the pressing demands for new services, it is obvious that the 1969 General Assembly is working itself up to an Excedrin headache when it comes to grips with this year's crop of money issues.

LEGISLATIVE ORGANIZATION

The General Assembly organized last week by selecting Democrats Earl Vaughn as Speaker of the House and Hector McGeachy as President Pro Tem of the Senate. Republicans named Harry Bagnal and Charles Taylor as minority leaders in the Senate and House. Old hands Brooks Poole and Eugene Simmons were named for the posts of Sergeant of Arms and Reading Clerk in the Senate; also, Archie Lane and Sam Burrow, to the comparable House posts. Both houses, however, have new Principal Clerks. Mrs. H. A. Smith replaces long-time Principal Clerk Mrs. Annie Cooper, whom she defeated in a close contest. Former Senator Roy Rowe replaces the late Ray Byerly as Senate Principal Clerk.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR SPECIAL IMPROVEMENTS MADE ON CERTAIN STREETS IN THE CITY OF KINGS MOUNTAIN.

Pursuant to law, notice is hereby given that the assessment roll relating to special improvements made on certain streets in the City of Kings Mountain has been confirmed. Copies of same have been delivered to the City Tax Collector, who will proceed to collect said assessment according to law. The assessment roll was confirmed January 28, 1969.

Total assessments or balances as shown on the following list may be paid without interest on or before the 28th day of February, 1969. In the event the assessment is not paid within said time it shall bear interest at the rate of 6% per annum from the date of confirmation.

The work herein referred to has been done, and this notice is hereby given under and pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 56 of the Public Laws of 1915, as amended. The names of interested owners and/or their respective representatives, together with the property assessment as follows:

FAIRVIEW STREET - NORTH PIEDMONT AVENUE TO LINWOOD ROAD - CURB-GUTTER

NAME	L. F. LOT	AMOUNT
Jay Motor Co., Inc.	100	\$ 50.00
Olin Sutherland	80	40.00
Ruby Falls	65	32.50
Richard G. Ross	72	36.00

PHILLIPS DRIVE - LINWOOD ROAD TO DEAD END - CURB-GUTTER

NAME	L. F. LOT	AMOUNT
Eugene Roberts	36.5	10.95

JAMES STREET-CHURCH STREET TO GRACE STREET - CURB-GUTTER

NAME	L. F. LOT	AMOUNT
Charles Oliver	106.1	53.05
H. R. Parton	125.3	62.65
J. B. Hawkins	46.0	23.00

BENNETT DRIVE - PHENIX STREET TO BRANCH STREET - CURB - GUTTER

NAME	L. F. LOT	AMOUNT
Addie Mae Baity	98	49.00
Mary Jane Hamrick	100	50.00
Louis Black	168.28	84.14
Andy Dover	110	Bal. Due 15.00

CLAY STREET - CLEVELAND AVENUE TO POINT - CURB-GUTTER

NAME	L. F. LOT	AMOUNT
Wilma Sellers Kirby	300	150.00
Ed Paterson	60	30.00
George J. Peterson	48	24.00
Leon Hamrick	75	37.50

CHEROKEE STREET - WELLS STREET TO POINT PAVING

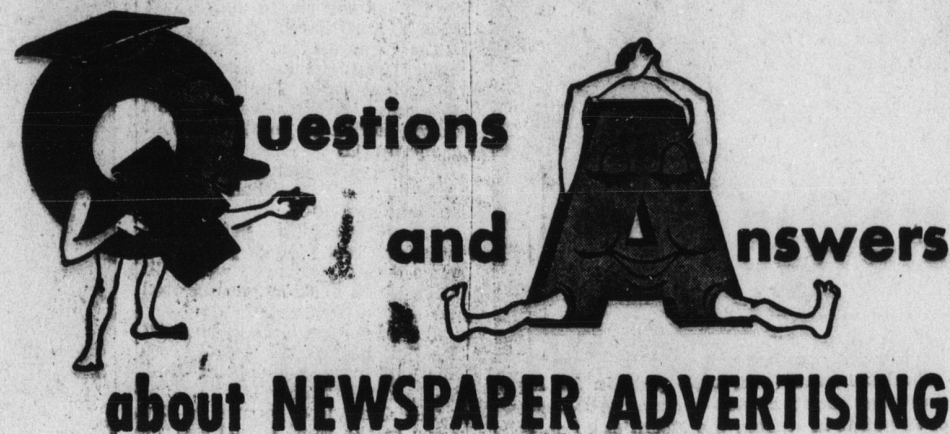
NAME	L. F. LOT	AMOUNT
E. H. Crouch	150	75.00

GRACE STREET - LINWOOD ROAD TO JAMES STREET PAVING

NAME	L. F. LOT	AMOUNT
Mary Jane Hamrick	85	42.50
H. R. Parton	161	80.50
Lola Mae S. Hall	83	41.50
Virginia and Walter Wiggins	84	42.00
Coy Bolin	85	42.50
Elma S. and Janet Gantt	83	41.50
Darvin Peterson	76.5	38.20

1:30

MEMO TO ADVERTISERS



Q. What are the 3 most important rules for profitable newspaper advertising?

A. 1. Your advertising message should be new, friendly, informative, easy to read. Give facts and news about your merchandise and service.

2. Advertise regularly. Make your advertising do what successful admen do—call on customers and prospects consistently.

3. Insist on audited circulation reports that give you the facts about the audience that your sales messages will have when you buy newspaper advertising.

Q. Is there a measure for the value of newspaper circulation to an advertiser such as the standards a merchant uses in buying merchandise—for example, like STERLING on silver?

A. Yes—in the well known circulation standards of the Audit Bureau of Circulations.

Q. What does A.B.C. do for me?

A. At regular intervals one of the Bureau's large staff of experienced circulation auditors makes a thorough audit of the circulation records of each publisher member. The results of each audit are published in an easy-to-read A.B.C. report for your use and protection when you buy newspaper advertising.

Q. What are the FACTS in A.B.C. reports?

A. A.B.C. reports tell you how much circulation, where it goes, how obtained and other FACTS that help you buy advertising as you would make any sound business investment—on the basis of known values and audited information.

Q. Are all publications eligible for A.B.C. membership?

A. No. Only those with paid circulation. This is important to advertisers because it is evidence that the paper is wanted and read.

Q. What is the A.B.C.?

A. The A.B.C. is a cooperative, non-profit association of 3,450 advertisers, advertising agencies and publishers in the United States and Canada. Organized in 1914. Brought order out of advertising chaos by establishing a definition for paid circulation, rules and standards for measuring, auditing and reporting the circulations of newspapers and periodicals.

Q. Is this newspaper a member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations?

A. Yes. We are proud of our circulation. We want you to know the FACTS about the audience your selling messages will have when they appear in these pages. Ask for a copy of our latest A.B.C. report.



KINGS MOUNTAIN HERALD

A.B.C. REPORTS — FACTS AS A BASIC MEASURE OF ADVERTISING VALUE

you'd smile
too if you
caught our SALE

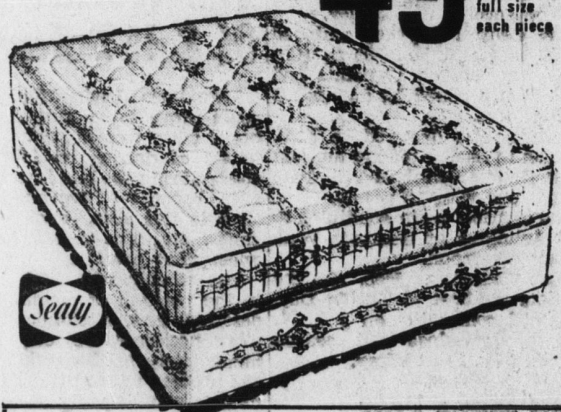


Repeat of last year's best seller.

Sealy Golden Guard

firmest Sealy ever
on sale nationally at

\$49.95
twin or
full size
each piece



Get a great night's sleep—
put on a happy face!

Sleep... the great beauty treatment! Starts with firmness only Sealy knows how to design. Last year's extra firm Golden Guard was so popular we're offering it again with an elegant new cover deeply quilted through puffy cushioning for surface comfort. Hundreds of specially tempered steel coils provide the special firmness that lets you sleep comfortable. Time to buy is now while our sale lasts!

TIMMS
furniture