

ONLY THREE IN RACE

Other News of State Interest

FOR GOVERNOR'S JOB

(Special To The Herald)

Raleigh, Mar. 17.—The North Carolina gubernatorial contest has now settled down into a three-cornered fight in which J. C. B. Ehringhaus, A. J. Maxwell and R. T. Fountain will make the fur fly in the next 11 full weeks until the June 4 primary after which another month of a two-sided scrap has been freely predicted. It is probably safe to say neither can win in the first.

Willis Smith, speaker of the 1931 House, decided the past week not to enter the race. The only possible entrant now is solicitor Thomas McNeill, of Lumberton, who has been toying with the idea, but apparently has decided not to muddy the waters. Some good material has fallen by the wayside. Dennis G. Brummitt, Attorney General and General Albert L. Cox were considered candidates for two or more years, the first declining to enter some months ago, and the latter 10 days ago. Josephus Daniels played with the idea and gave it up. Angus Dhu MacLean, never considered a real aspirant, was touted, but declined. Congressman Lindsay Warren, suggested, hooted at the thought, and declared for his friend Ehringhaus.

The field is clear of any that might have been obstructions, and the three musketeers have all sallied forth on their tour of conquest. All have hit the trail the past week into the piedmont, where voters are thickest, Ehringhaus and Fountain in Greensboro, Maxwell in High Point and Shelby. Later in the week Ehringhaus took to the East and will be near the ocean this week. He announced meanwhile, that L. P. McLendon, major in the World War, Durham lawyer and former solicitor, prosecutor of the Wallace Davis and Luke Lea bank cases in Asheville, and son-in-law of the late Governor Aycock, will be his manager.

Senator Cameron Morrison came on for a talk with the Daughters at their Durham meeting last week and will do some old time campaigning in the State, beginning this week. His opponents, Robert R. Reynolds, Frank D. Gist and Thomas C. Bowie, have already taken to the stump.

D. F. Giles, Marion, candidate for Lieutenant-Governor, has announced a platform, A. H. (Sandy) Graham, Orange county, and D. I. Dellinger, Gaston, are quiet, but not so their prospective opponent, Mrs. E. L. McKee, Sylva, who will talk.

Attorney General Dennis G. Brummitt, on behalf of the State, has filed a complaint in Wake County Superior Court against six gasoline companies, the Standard of New Jersey, the Gulf of Texas, Sinclair, American and Shell, seeking to restrain them from operating under certain exclusive sales contracts they use in securing filling

stations and getting exclusive rights, which Mr. Brummitt holds in violation of the State's anti-trust and trade restraint laws.

The action was taken as a result of the investigation made last July by Mr. Brummitt, in which he found, as he set out in his complaint, that the defendants sold and distributed 221,000,000 gallons of the 255,000,000 gallons sold in the State in 1931 and that 75 per cent or more of it was sold at stations owned or controlled by them under these exclusive sales contracts.

Mr. Brummitt asks the court to declare the methods, processes, practices and agreements illegal and in violation of the laws of the State, that the exclusive sales contract unlawful and that an injunction issue restraining them from entering further into such contracts. "The court should determine whether these exclusive sales contracts violate our statutes," Mr. Brummitt said.

An important step toward liquidating the frozen funds in closed banks in North Carolina is to be taken by Commissioner of banks, Gurney P. Hood, who will seek funds for depositors of closed banks from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation by pledging such deposits as surety for the loans. Mr. Hood was authorized to take the necessary steps for this result at a meeting of the Advisory Banking Commission, meeting last week, and with an opinion by Attorney General Dennis Brummitt that such step is legal.

About \$60,000,000 is tied up in closed State banks in North Carolina, and it was estimated that at least ten per cent of the amount, \$6,000,000 could be secured and paid to depositors, thus speeding up liquidation and turning loose funds needed in industrial and trade channels. Former Governor A. W. McLean has been named by Governor Gardner as a member of the commission, succeeding Col. John F. Bruton, Wilson, resigned. Word H. Wood, Charlotte, A. H. Bahnsen, Winston-Salem, State Treasurer, Stedman and Attorney General Brummitt are the members.

Tyre C. Taylor, Governor Gardner's executive counsel, is carrying on so many activities that one newspaper editorial squib suggested that it would be necessary to build more fires around him so there would be one for all the irons he has. In addition to his regular job, which includes pardons and paroles, he launched his "Ten Year Plan," which attracted attention beyond the State, and now he has been elected president of the Young Democratic Clubs of the nation.

Mr. Taylor fostered the organization of the young people of colleges

and outside into Democratic Clubs in several states, based on the organization he formed in North Carolina in 1928, to such an extent that he was elected head of the national group in Washington recently and is expected to spend some three months in Washington directing their activities, after the Democratic National Convention and before the election. His work has attracted the attention and received the commendation of many national Democratic leaders.

"The North Carolina Plan, Inc." is the name of the organization which will promote Mr. Taylor's "Ten-Year Plan" for rehabilitation of North Carolina, and work is to start on the three major projects at an early date, the board of directors decided at a meeting here Friday night. Reports on the project were made and authority given for setting up an organization and starting activity. They in-

clude highway beautification, marking historical spots, protecting wild life, promoting a land, ark and forestry policy and publishing a tourist map and monthly magazine, devise and adopt a uniform trade-mark for N. C. products and have an economic primer written for the public schools; enlarge and carry on the Live-at-Home program promoting farm industries, a campaign for thrift education, curb marketing and farmers' exchanges.

Governor Gardner announces that while there are now three vacancies in the special superior court judges, no additional judges will be appointed unless or until it is necessary to carry on the courts. The 20 regular, three special and 1 emergency judges are co-operating to hold the courts, Governor Gardner said. By getting along without naming judges to fill the three vacancies, savings at the

rate of \$24,000 a year are being made. Governor Gardner expressing the hope that it will be possible to get along with the present judges and continue saving.

The State of North Carolina spent \$3,173,769.81 of its general fund, about \$2,500,000 of it for public schools, during February, in which month it received \$1,989,044.36 in taxes, by which it is seen that it increased the overdraft of \$1,190,281.62 at the beginning of the month to \$2,675,007.07 at the end of the month, it is shown by the combined statement of the Auditor and Treasurer for February.

The State highway fund paid out \$1,909,769.92 during February and received in taxes, largely on gasoline, \$2,419,167.68, thus increasing the \$5,756,281.65 balance at the beginning of

the month to \$6,267,688.41 at the end of the month. During the eight months of the fiscal year the highway re-employment paid out a total of \$32,817,089.13, and received only \$29,900,281.01, thus reducing the \$9,184,496.53 on July 1, 1931, to \$6,267,688.41 at the end of February.

In the general fund the Treasury has received \$21,456,378.82 and paid out \$21,595,187.80 in the same eight months, thus increasing the overdraft on July 1 of \$2,236,198.09 to \$2,375,677.07 at the end of February, in addition to \$6,302,371 in short term notes issued during that period.

The cash balance in the Treasury February 29 was \$5,505,341.49.

North Carolina was actually supporting 16,861 of her citizens at the end of January, including 6,278 mental patients, 1,234 physical defectives,

964 juvenile delinquents, 72 Confederate veterans and widows, 7,390 in State prisons, in addition to 987 in 41 county jails, 278 in 18 county prisons, workhouses or county farms, and 933 in 22 county homes, the report of R. Eugene Brown, director of institutions, State Board of Charities and Public Welfare, shows.

The increase in all such groups increased 239, or from 17,888 to 18,127 during the month of January, the report shows.

While three banks were closed by the State Banking Department in February, three others were permitted to re-open during that month, Gurney P. Hood commissioner of banks, shows in a monthly report. One bank was voluntarily liquidated, one was absorbed and one new branch was established, Mr. Hood reports



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