

### North Carolina's Record Assembly Adjourns Sine Die on Last Wednesday

(By A. R. DUNNAGAN)

Boone, N. C.—The North Carolina General Assembly, which adjourned sine die at 2 o'clock this morning, was, in many respects, one of the most remarkable sessions ever held by a law-making body in North Carolina, not only in length of the session, but in the amount of legislation and action from normal hours when it achieved.

No other session has lasted for 143 days, or 121 legislative days, except the 1868-9 reconstruction period session of 148 days, from which 12 days of legislative business must be taken, leaving only 136 days. It established a new record in length and never got into an adjourned sine die.

No other session has taken from the local units and vested in the State government authority, particularly in the maintenance of roads and schools and in the administration of county, city, town and local district fiscal affairs. These local units gave up authority and autonomy to a greater extent than ever before, trading in their independence, much local, inefficient and ineffective administration, for what is expected to be greater concentration and more effective handling of governmental affairs.

No other session has taken back to the property owners of the State a greater measure of tax relief, for which local estate owners were clamoring. All taxes were cut and removed from the jurisdiction of the highway, and school and local government laws will bring a reduction averaging 57 cents to the local owners of property and a tax cut of many cents.

No other session has entered upon legislative business the amount of taxes that was levied against such business by the general Assembly, a tax that will not have been reached here by the insistence of local tax relief. The burden has, in large measure, been placed on more successful business, that most able to pay, and while apparently more than a just share, may not be an onerous tax.

The closing day of the session marked the passage and enactment of several of the most important pieces of legislation of the entire session, including the Revenue, Appropriations, Machinery, School and other acts.

The Revenue Act provides for collection of nearly \$30,000,000 a year in taxes, as compared with about \$18,000,000 in previous years. Of this, \$17,500,000 is for schools, including \$15,000,000 for the six-month term, to be supplemented by the approximately \$2,500,000 from fines, forfeitures, penalties, poll and dog taxes, collected and used locally. \$1,000,000 for the extended term and \$100,000 as an emergency fund. This sum includes the estimated \$1,500,000 from the 15-cent ad valorem tax for current expenses of schools.

A list of 100 men, as a part of business, wagon and horse companies and others in all State departments, are not more than 10 per cent, for public school teachers and a cut not exceeding that of such teachers for the employees and teachers of State institutions, are included in the Appropriations Bill. The University's appropriation was cut to \$721,000 each of two years, while the other State institutions generally were cut same to help reduce the expected deficit of \$1,500,000 a year on present business conditions.

The Machinery Act provides for no revaluation of property, the 15-cent ad valorem tax for schools being on the basis of the 1930 valuation. The school bill puts into effect operation of the 5-cent tax term by the year, with the cut of the 15-cent tax from the counties and provided for some relief economies. State Superinten-

dent A. T. Allen is not at all displeased with the outcome of the school legislation, which at times was headed toward crippling schools. The last act passed provided for continuing activities of the State Tax Commission, specifying a study of taxing and assessing property for 1931. This measure was almost killed because of the requirement of a two-thirds vote to pass it on these readings in one day, until Governor Gardner called off the opponents allowing it to pass.

A levy act was filing of the report of the committee investigating charges of attempted bribery and corruption, instituted by Senator H. S. Ward. The committee's report was that no Southern had been found to have taken and his oath of office, that no competent evidence was introduced to show that S. Clay Williams, president of W. S. Reynolds, officer of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, had tried to bribe a Senator, but the difference in sworn testimony of Senator John Hinsdale, W. S. County, and D. H. Pope, chairman of the Wake board of commissioners, should be called to the attention of the solicitor. Senator Ward filed a supplemental report, although signing the general report, in which he showed his feeling against "big business" and the Reynolds Company particularly. His report was referred to the com-

mittee without reading.

The much-discussed racing and pari-mutuel betting bill passed in public bills was enacted, and three amendments were introduced last week, in the House. The amendments were of an agricultural and stock-raising nature, and were introduced by Representative W. W. Neal for Morrow and State-wide interest. Probably all County. It passed the House, but not the Senate. A bill for the purpose of amending the constitution for Bancroft met a like fate earlier in the session and one for (talk in Column) passed by the Senate at the close of the session. A bill for the purpose of amending the constitution first, was brought back to the floor by those mentioned above, for the purpose of amending the constitution and kind of each body.

The most interesting rush of legislation of the session, 800 measures, considered earlier in the session, other than racing, seem to go out to a long rest. The session was noticeably slow from last-minute legislation, even though a few measures got by. The last-day slaughter was not large size to the long time for session, but the bills to restrict the State as to Senators and districts, and of reapportionment, the members of the House of Representatives, went to the table in spite of the constitutional requirements, because of personal ambitions and sectional squabbling.

The 1931 General Assembly passed 1,200 measures, 1,117 laws and 83 resolutions, out of 2,102 bills and resolutions introduced, leaving 900 which failed to pass. Probably 500 public bills were enacted, and about 100 of those were amendments, changes, corrections and minor amendments, leaving about 200 of general measures, State-wide interest. Probably all County. It passed the House, but not the Senate. A bill for the purpose of amending the constitution for Bancroft met a like fate earlier in the session and one for (talk in Column) passed by the Senate at the close of the session. A bill for the purpose of amending the constitution first, was brought back to the floor by those mentioned above, for the purpose of amending the constitution and kind of each body.

county-wide special charter and local tax special districts of the State.

Amendment relative to auditing of county accounts.

Amendment to act providing for incorporation and maintenance of cooperative organizations.

Revise law as to establishing courts.

Repealing the Federal Contract Act.

Amendment relative to compulsory school attendance.

Prescribe powers and duties of N. C. Corporation commission, providing a complete report of holdings, investments and revenue of public service corporations.

More cotton goods are manufactured in North Carolina than in any other State.

## PASTIME THEATRE

"Place of Good Shows"

FRIDAY-SATURDAY, JUNE 5-6  
**Richard Arlen and Mary Brian**  
—IN—  
"GUN SMOKE"  
Actionful! Thrilling! A Western That's Different!

MONDAY-TUESDAY, JUNE 8-9  
**CLARA BOW**  
—IN—  
HER LATEST TRIUMPH  
"KICK IN"  
A moving picture that moves! A fighting picture that fights! A talkie that says something! See it!

**FREE BATH TOWELS**  
STARTING MONDAY, JUNE 8th, every lady who purchases an adult ticket to Pastime Theatre will be presented with a genuine Muskogee Bath Towel, sizes running as large as 22x40. This is the first of a complete set of beautiful towels to be given away each Monday for a number of weeks. No extra charge whatever.  
**ABSOLUTELY FREE, AND TO ADULT LADIES ONLY!**

WED-THURSDAY, JUNE 10-11  
**Clive Brook, Conrad Nagel and Ann Harding**  
—IN—  
"EAST LYNNE"  
An avalanche of fiery love and tears!

# \$2000 IN PRIZES!

# OLD TIME FIDDLER'S CONVENTION

At Courthouse in Boone, N. C.  
FRIDAY and SATURDAY NIGHTS  
**JUNE 12 & 13**

Some of the Best Bands and Solo Musicians in this and Adjoining States Have Been Secured!  
**FOUR PRIZES EACH** for Individual Fiddlers, String Bands, Banjo Pickers, Guitars, Charleston and Buck Dancers, Male Quartet, and Truck Bringing the Most People.

**Auspices of American Legion**  
BENEFIT OF LEGION BAND  
CHILDREN 25c - ADMISSION - ADULTS, 50c



Smile At the Ache

**Muscular Pains**  
They may attack you anywhere—your back, your legs, your arms, your neck.  
These Pains may be mistaken for Neuritis, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Sciatica.

Stop them with that modern, pleasant, mint-flavored tablet, DR. MILES' ASPIRIN-MINT. It's quick in action and effective. Try it for Headache, Colds, and Neuralgia.

**DR. MILES' Aspirin-Mint** Two Sizes 15c and 25c  
**YOU'LL GET RELIEF OR YOUR MONEY BACK**