

Siftings From the Legislature

By M. R. DUNNAGAN
Special Writer for The Democrat

Raleigh, N. C.—The Senate displaced briefly the important appropriation bill the past week to consider, pass and send to the Senate the Senator Francis "beer" bill, then completed and sent over the appropriations measure, only to have the house "throw it back" by refusal to concur, this necessitating a conference committee to try to iron out the badly tangled measure.

More enthusiasm than has been seen so far this session was shown over the "beer" bill, the first to come before the Senate, and the first in either house since the Congress passed and President Roosevelt signed the measure to the same intent. The bill, as passed by the Senate, provides for the sale of beer, wine and other light beverages with not more than 3.2 per cent alcohol, but prohibits operation of places solely or primarily for their sale—meaning no beer gardens. A tax of \$2 a barrel, or two cents a bottle, is imposed by the State, and municipalities are allowed to place a \$25 tax on places selling such drinks in and within two miles of their corporate limits.

Referendum Bill Voted Down

The Senate voted down the Senator Wayne amendment to allow a referendum on the measure, but adopted amendments allowing radio and newspaper advertising of wine and beer, legalizing the sale May 1 and eliminating the requirement that the revenue go to the school fund. The Senate vote finally was 33 to 11. In the House the bill was placed on the calendar for action early this week. Predictions are that it is certain to pass that body, probably two to one. It may be amended to provide for wholesalers and manufacturers, and otherwise, but it seems sure that beer and wine will be legal articles of trade after May 1, and the two months of revenue for the present fiscal year is expected to help materially in paying teachers and State employees.

The appropriations measure is due for a stormy finish. The House sent to the Senate a measure which that body tore to pieces, bringing out a greatly increased appropriation, with modest increases in all items. In addition to these increases to departments institutions and agencies, the Senate adopted an amendment, signed by 27 of the 50 Senators, calling for \$16,000,000 for operation of an eight month school without ad valorem tax. The question of whether the charter districts could or could not levy ad valorem tax for supplement to the school fund arose, but was not definitely answered, the statement being that that question would be answered in the school machinery bill.

The House appropriations embraced a reduction of about 44 per cent in the salary schedule from the appropriations of two years ago, the Senate measure, as finally worked out, sought a cut of about 32 per cent. Senator A. H. Gwyn, Rockingham, made strenuous effort to reduce appropriations approved by the Senate to the salary cuts would be about 30 per cent, as a compromise between House and Senate figures, but without success. The House, immediately after receiving the measure Friday, refused to concur in the Senate changes, and conference committees were named. A deadlock may be expected, as the houses are so far apart, and adjournment may be reached in two more weeks—but it is not likely.

The House and Senate got together on the revenue machinery bill. The House agreed with the Senate not to tax stocks in foreign corporations, and the Senate agreed to remove the 33 1-3 per cent limit placed on reductions of property values for taxation. These were the main points of difference.

The two houses also got together on the N. C. Bar Association measure to take from the Supreme Court and place in the hands of a lawyer board examination of applicants for licenses to practice law, providing for disciplining and for disbarring lawyers for unethical practices, but the right of appeal to the courts was inserted and retained.

The finance and appropriations committees were in session over the week-end, the former on the revenue bill, and a general sales tax was agreed upon, the rate left open until the appropriations measure is nearer complete and it is estimated how much more revenue will be needed. It is apparent that the appropriations measure will necessitate new taxes and general sales seems to be the choice. And that will mean another fight. Two weeks more is considered a minimum for finishing the legislative work, but longer is likely, even expected, as the factions are going to have a hard time getting together, both on appropriations and revenue measures.

Thought of the drain on the legislative pocketbook was taken Friday when Senator Hunsdale, immune from its benefits, introduced a bill to permit the county commissioners to pay actual expenses, not exceeding \$5 a day each, and from March 4, of the (Continued on Page 7)

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

A Non-Partisan Newspaper, Devoted to the Best Interests of Northwest North Carolina

VOLUME XLIV, NUMBER 40

BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1933

\$1.50 PER YEAR

La Follette Reports



Former Governor Philip La Follette of Wisconsin, just returned from a tour of Europe, called upon President Roosevelt to report conditions, particularly in Russia. La Follette has been mentioned for a Federal post in return for support given the President during the campaign last fall.

MERCHANTS NOT ANXIOUS TO SELL BEER IN BOONE

Purveyors of Other Merchandise Non-committal as to Whether They Will Offer Brew. New Legislation Chief Topic of Conversation, and Sales of Near-Beer Show Sharp Increase. City May Not Issue Licenses.

With the passage of the bill through both houses of the Legislature legalizing 3.2 per cent beer, conversation on the streets of Boone has become more or less monopolized by opinions on the effervescent beverage. A hasty review of the business places of the town, however, reveals that those merchants who would be supposed to handle beer, are in no hurry about making up their minds, and some of them openly doubt the wisdom of adding the suds. The people, generally speaking, so far as interviewed, find scant fault with the enactment of the beer bill, but it is understood that petitions are being made up to the end that beer may still be taboo in Boone.

Town Fathers May Object

Then there is the feeling that the city council may decline to issue licenses for the sale of the brew. One member of the board, however, stated when interviewed that he did not believe the municipal government would or should be permitted to ban beer, and predicted that enactment of the beer legislation would cut the consumption of intoxicating liquors seventy-five per cent.

Many local prohibitionists believe that unlicensed sale of the beverage would follow on the heels of adverse action by the board, and there is no particular reason for belief that more beer would be sold one way than the other. Grocery and drug stores report an unprecedented sale of near beer during the past two weeks, the increase in sales amounting to four and five hundred per cent. One chain grocery has received orders to clear out all remaining stocks at a price below cost, as no calls for the de-alcoholized beverage are expected after May 1, when 3.2 becomes legal.

REGIONAL B. Y. P. U. CONVENTION WILL BEGIN NEXT FRIDAY

First Denominational Meeting Held in This Section Will Draw Delegates from Large Territory. Inspirational Meeting Begins Friday Afternoon and Closes Saturday Afternoon.

The first denominational meeting to be held in this section comes to the Boone Baptist Church Friday when from 500 to 600 delegates will gather at the West Central Regional B. Y. P. U. Convention. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 2:45 on Friday afternoon and will close on Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock, according to announcement coming to Rev. P. A. Hicks, the local pastor, from Miss Winnie Rickett, B. Y. P. U. secretary.

The territory embraced in this district includes Wadesboro, Greensboro, Winston-Salem, Statesville, Charlotte, Morganton, and it is expected that an unusually large group of delegates will make up the convention, and be benefited by the purely inspirational program which will be participated in by some of the leading figures in Baptist denominational work. Mr. Bryan Hard of Cramerton, district president, will preside, and the general theme of the program will be "Looking Unto Jesus."

Mr. Hicks, in announcing the meeting Tuesday, insisted that the country churches send delegations to the convention, and enjoy the program and the meeting with officials of the organization and leading pastors of the denomination throughout the State.

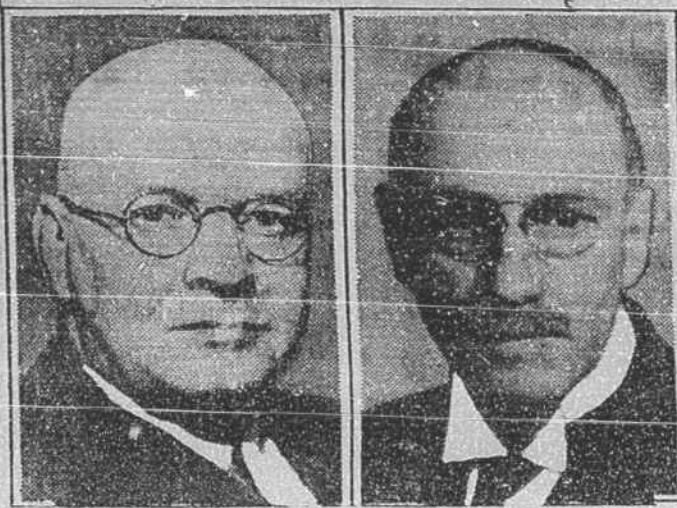
COLLEGIANS DEFEATED

A basket ball team made up of ladies of the town emerged as victors over one made up from the members of the college faculty in the college gymnasium Tuesday. The score was 31 to 3 in favor of the city folks, whose six was composed of the following: Inez Gragg, Grace Mast, Flora Greene, Alice Edwards, Pauline Bingham and Pansy Keys. The faculty line-up: Misses Dale, Harwell, Wary, Jackson, Ledbetter.

FINDS PAY LOST 20 YEARS

Whitehall, N. Y.—Cyrus Chilson, veteran railroad conductor, was wearing a broad smile Monday. He had recovered a pay envelope containing \$145 which he had given up for lost 20 years ago. Chilson found the envelope in the pocket of an old vest while doing some house cleaning.

Germany and United States Ambassadors



On the left is Dr. Hans Luther, new German Ambassador to the United States, succeeding Frederick von Prittwitz. On the right is David H. Morris of New York, new American Ambassador to Germany, nominated by President Roosevelt during March.

APPROPRIATION FOR A. S. T. C. IS GIVEN A BOOST

"Sense of Fair Play" Prompts Senate to Raise Figure Recommended by Budget Commission \$17,000. Wide Discrepancy Exists Between Figures for Three State Teachers Colleges.

Raleigh, N. C.—Out of a sense of fair play, the Senate has boosted the appropriation for the Appalachian State Teachers College, Boone, to \$60,000, which is approximately \$17,000 more than the figure recommended by the Budget Commission and the joint appropriations bill as adopted by the House of Representatives. The Senate approved the joint committee bill figures for the East Carolina Teachers College and the Western Carolina Teachers College at \$41,280 and \$40,000 respectively. The committee bill's recommendation for the East Carolina Teachers College was the same as that recommended by the Budget Commission, which the committee had increased to \$30,260 to \$40,000. The House, before sending the appropriations bill to the Senate, had approved the joint committee's figures for the three institutions.

Officials of the Appalachian State Teachers College did not appear before the joint appropriations committee and ask for an increased appropriation during the recent hearings. The only one of the schools to get a boost from the joint appropriations committee was the Western Carolina Teachers College, which the committee raised to \$40,000, or approximately \$16,000 more than the budget commission recommended. At the same time, the committee accepted the budget commission's recommendations for the Eastern Carolina Teachers College and the Appalachian Teachers College.

Senator Hanes of Forsyth County pointed out to the Senate that a wide discrepancy existed between the figures for the three institutions, presenting statistics that the East Carolina Teachers College, where the enrollment is 900, the per capita cost is \$125; at the Western Carolina Teachers College where the enrollment is 400, the per capita cost is \$120, and that at the Appalachian School, where the enrollment is 1,100, the per capita cost is only \$40.

BEER AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Washington.—Beer will be served at the White House in moderation when it is legalized in the District of Columbia, Mrs. Franklin Roosevelt, herself a teetotaler, said Monday after a conference with the President.

REVALUATION IS ACTED UPON BY COUNTY BOARD

Commissioners Expect to Make Horizontal Cuts in Property Valuations Under Tax Supervisor's Office. Action Is Required Under the Provisions of the New Machinery Act. No General Change Expected.

In accordance with the provisions of the new machinery act, the county commissioners in session Monday took up the question of revaluation of real property for taxes. The legislation leaves the method of revaluation in the discretion of the county commissioners, allowing them to order a horizontal reduction or to appoint assessors and appraisers to go over all the property on the tax books. The former method was approved here. Just what the percentage of reduction in valuation will be has not been determined, but an attempt will be made to adjust whatever inequalities might have been. The tax rate may be changed, of course, either way. With a lowered valuation the rate must be higher or vice versa. However, the full effect of the revaluation upon the tax rate cannot definitely be determined until after the bill now before the legislature providing for the State-supported 8-month school term shall have been disposed of.

73 Die As Airship Akron Crashes Into the Ocean

New York.—In a blinding electrical storm, the Akron, mightiest dirigible ever to cruise the sky, was plunged into the turbulent Atlantic early Tuesday morning about 20 miles off the New Jersey shore, and at dusk hope had waned for seventy-one missing members of the crew. Of the 76 men aboard the "Mistress of the Skies" as she crashed, four were rescued, but one of them died before he was brought ashore. A day of searching by water and by air brought the discovery of only one body of the ill-fated crew floating on the ocean.

Fourteen hours after this major disaster, the J-3, non-rigid Navy airship, crashed into the sea 1,000 yards off the Jersey coast, with a loss of two lives, as she searched for Akron victims.

Rear Admiral William A. Moffet, chief of the Navy Bureau of Aeronautics, was among those lost on the Akron.

Irish potato growers of Allegheny County have bought 100 bushels of certified seed in addition to the production of a seed crop for sale later to eastern growers.

TWO LOCAL BILLS INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE GREER TUESDAY

Raleigh, N. C.—Two Watauga County bills were introduced in the Legislature Tuesday by Representative Greer, of Watauga.

One would permit the board of county commissioners, in their discretion, to abolish the Recorder's Court of Watauga County, previously established.

The other provides for changing the boundary lines of the town of Blowing Rock and Watauga Township in Watauga County. This bill provides that Blowing Rock Township line shall be extended from the sugar tree corner on Rich Mountain, via John Lewis' and the power dam on Boone Fork Creek; thence a line to the top of White Rock Mountain, said line to be run so as to leave Calvin Coffey, E. H.

Hollifield, Troy Coffey and Dal Church in Watauga Township; then from White Rock to top of Grandfather Mountain; thence with Caldwell County line to corner of Watauga and Blowing Rock Township lines near the Daingerfield estate.

This bill provides that the property included in Blowing Rock Township shall bear the same uniform taxation that now exists in Watauga Township, and that the Register to Deeds of Watauga County shall transfer the property taken into Blowing Rock from Watauga Township without cost to the citizens owning property in said territory.

Both bills were referred to the committee on Counties, Cities and Towns.

WATAUGA BANK IS EXPECTED TO OPEN IN A FEW DAYS

Reorganization Is Fast Taking Form, It Is Said. Stockholders in Meeting Wednesday Expected to Draft Final Plan for Increasing Capital of Local Institution. Hood May Sanction Opening Soon.

The Watauga County Bank, closed since the beginning of the bank holiday on March 6th, may open for regular business within the next week or two, or just as soon as reorganization details are approved by the State Banking Commissioner, it was learned Tuesday evening.

The stockholders of the institution are in session today (Wednesday) and out of their deliberations is expected to come a clean-cut reorganization proposal, which will likely center about the reinforcing of the capital stock to an extent satisfactory to the Raleigh officials. How much money is to be provided as capital in the reorganized banking institution was not revealed.

The records of the local institution were gone over a few days ago by State bank examiners, and it is understood that after their audit had reached Raleigh, reorganization plans were promulgated.

The stockholders meeting is expected to last the greater part of the afternoon, and definite action toward opening the bank will follow.

OBSERVE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP WEEK

Series of Pre-Easter Services to Be Held at Boone Baptist Church. Special Music to Feature Daily Programs.

A series of pre-Easter fellowship services will be conducted at the Baptist Church, beginning Sunday and continuing through Easter. The services are to be of a consecrational nature and music is to be a special feature. Those in charge are very anxious that members of the congregation and friends of the church attend these services, and are trusting that it will be a real spiritual feast for the community. The following program has been arranged: Sunday morning, April 9—"The Dedication of Our Youth to God," Miss Winnie Rickett, of Raleigh. Sunday evening—"Open Doors," by Rev. P. A. Hicks, pastor. Monday evening—"Christian Obligations," J. A. Williams. Tuesday evening—"My Obligation to My Church and the Church's Obligation to Its Members," W. D. Farthing, Clyde R. Greene, H. R. Eggers and J. T. C. Wright. Wednesday evening—"Christian Forgiveness," Smith Haganan. Thursday evening—"The Church's Responsibility for the Unsaved in the Community," Roy Dolson. Friday evening—"Confession of Our Sins," by the Pastor. Sunday morning (Easter)—"The Risen Life," by the pastor. Sunday evening—Easter musical program, by the choir.

ASHE BOY WINS HONOR AT A. S. T. C.

Carmon Stuart Chosen as Best Orator at Local College. To Enter State Contest at Elon. Spoke on "Prohibition."

(Skyland Post)

Carmon Stuart, graduate of Healing Springs High School, was chosen to represent the Appalachian State Teachers College in the State oratorical contest, to be held at Elon College on April 28th. Mr. Stuart, in the trials, delivered an eight-minute address on "Prohibition." The contest began with eight entrants, with four remaining after elimination trials were held in the Appalachian and Rankin-Wilson literary societies.

Two contestants remained, and fought through a tie to a victory by the 13-year-old sophomore. Those competing in the finals were Leroy Sossamon, last year's winner, speaking on the subject, "A Sense of Humor," Boyd Baucum, speaking on "A True Evaluation of a Man," Byron Lathan, speaking on "America Must Face the Gang World."

The judges for the contest were Attorney Wade E. Brown, of Blowing Rock, Mrs. Linney, teacher of oral expression from Charlotte, and the teacher of English in Boone High School.

TAX COLLECTOR BILL RATIFIED

Raleigh, N. C.—The General Assembly has ratified the measure creating the office of tax collector for Watauga County.