

Siftings From the Legislature

By M. R. DUNNAGAN
Special Writer for The Democrat

Raleigh, N. C.—The Senate Finance committee, receiving the House revenue bill Friday afternoon and night sessions, announced at midnight that it had increased the two per cent. general sales tax rate to three percent, eliminated the half-cent tax on each kilowatt hour of electric energy and the tax on stock of foreign corporations, and had reduced certain franchise taxes, having the measure ready for action by the Senate, reconvening Monday at the noon hour.

These changes have been expected, just as the Senate is expected, but not without a fight, to accept the measure about as presented by its finance committee, which bill is, in fact, almost exactly the revenue bill reported by the House finance committee. The house, after more than a week of bitter struggling, amended its committee's bill, adding the tax on power and foreign stocks and increasing certain franchise taxes, reducing the three per cent sales tax to two per cent. The Senate committee has now returned it to its former status.

The Senate will spend three to five days on the measure, probably sending it back to the House in the last half of this, the 18th week of the session. The House may buck at first, or it may accept the bill as it will come back from the Senate. If it bucks, then a conference committee will be named and the differences worked out. At any rate, it seems safe to predict that the revenue measure finally adopted will not be far different from the measure as it has now come from the Senate finance committee, and as it earlier came from the House finance committee.

Organized merchants of the State, through Secretary Willard L. Dowell, served notice in a letter to the General Assembly that they will attack and oppose the general sales tax, on the ground that it is unconstitutional.

Some House members who bitterly opposed the sales tax, now that the bill is passed, express the hope that the Senate will increase the rate from two to three per cent, doubting if two per cent will give enough to balance the budget. A three per cent tax is expected to pass the House easier now that a two per cent tax did in the first place. The Davis Cherry bloc, in the ascendancy at times, is now definitely split and split.

R. G. Cherry deserting Tam Bowie early last week and urging adoption of the sales tax committee report. Although the House has about 100 public bills and a few local measures on its calendar, accumulating during the week while it was engaged with the revenue bill, it took the usual week-end off, deciding on the usual local bills only for the brief Saturday session and returning Monday night. The Senate which has kept up and disposed of its measures as they arose decided on the short Saturday session, but to return at noon Monday to the revenue bill task.

As matters now stand, hope for adjournment this week went a-glimmering. The Senate will accumulate a heavy calendar this week while it deals with the revenue bill, but the House, meanwhile, will be disposing of its calendar. Near the end both houses can knock out bills in a hurry—in contrast to spending two hours last week on one local bill—but best bets are that the end of the session will not be reached until well into next week. A possible, but not expected, deadlock on the revenue bill may carry the end further away.

While 86 bills were ratified last week, 76 of them were local measures, leaving only ten State-wide, and half of those were ready for ratification the week before. One of the new ones permits transportation, storage and handling of beer, wine and other 3.2 beverages. The main machinery bill, which sets up methods of licensing, taxation, restrictions and regulations on sale of beer and wine, is under way and will be passed this week.

One new law provides for regulation of automobile liability rates; another allows tobacco boards of trade to make rules governing the sale of leaf tobacco at auction; still another allows trustees of the State University to contract for and finance erection of a State College athletic stadium from funds other than State general revenues; another permits donors to special purposes to fix salaries of State employees handling work supported by such donations.

To last week 843 measures had been ratified, 242 originating in the Senate and 601 in the House. New bills introduced last week were 94, 27 Senate and 67 House, making the total to date 1,978, or 590 Senate and 1,388 House. Many are local measures, while many others amend or supplement acts already passed by this General Assembly.

Excitement was caused in the House Friday when a lobbyist was ejected from the hall for insistent efforts to get his name placed in the omnibus bill as a member of his county board of education while that was being considered. He later apologized.

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Visits Roosevelt



Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald of England is now in the United States, upon the invitation of President Roosevelt, for the first of informal economic conferences with leaders of the debtor European nations. Mr. MacDonald and his daughter were week-end guests at the White House.

DR. CHANDLER TO DELIVER SERMON COLLEGE FINALS

Former Boone Minister in Baccalaureate Delivery Next Sunday. Dr. Andrews of High Point to Address Graduating Class on the 5th. Degrees to Be Conferred on 45 Now, and 30 at Close of Summer Term.

Dr. O. J. Chandler, former pastor of the Boone Methodist Church, now located at Asheville, has been chosen to preach the annual sermon to the graduates at the college. The well-known minister's delivery will be in the college auditorium Sunday evening, it was announced Tuesday by Dean Rankin.

JURY DRAWN FOR FEDERAL COURT

Twelve Wataugans Called for Service at Term Which Convenes in Wilkesboro May 15th. Judge Hayes to Preside.

Deputy Clerk L. B. Bumgarner Friday released the names of those who have been drawn for jury service at the May term of Federal court which convenes in Wilkesboro on the 15th. The list is made up of citizens of Ashe, Alleghany, Watauga and Wilkes counties. Judge Johnston J. Hayes, of Greensboro, will preside, with District Attorney J. R. McCrory and his assistants prosecuting a docket composed, principally, of liquor law violations.

Jurymen drawn from Watauga are: Thomas Glenn, Valle Crucis; C. C. Triplett, Triplett; J. G. Story, Blowing Rock; Frank Eggers, Mabel; Roy Adams, Vilas; Ted Davis, Todd; A. C. Moody, Blowing Rock; Stewart Barnes, Boone; F. H. Moody, Boone; E. B. Hagaman, Beech Creek; Carl Wineberger, Zionville; J. E. Hardin, Shulls Mills.

THREE STILLS IN THREE WEEKS; ALL FROM ONE SECTION

Information from the office of Sheriff A. Y. Howell is to the effect that some sort of record had been established lately for apprehending moonshiners. Three stills in the same number of weeks have been taken from the upper Meat Camp section. The last of these was on Saturday when a still, 15 gallons of liquor, and considerable beer was seized, along with two prisoners, Conley and George Woodring. The Sheriff, together with Deputies A. C. Farthing and Hill Hagaman and Constable Frank Greene, took part in the raid.

This makes the fifteenth still captured by the Sheriff and his deputies since they were inducted into office last December.

COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM GIVEN AT BETHEL HIGH

Hon. Wade Williams of Charlotte Delivers Baccalaureate Address. President of Boiling Springs College Preaches Sermon. Senior Class Play a Success. Institution Now an Accredited School.

Commencement exercises began on Thursday, April 20th, at the Bethel High School Thursday evening at 8 o'clock the seniors presented the following exercises: Invocation led by Rev. E. J. Farthing; song, "He Leadeth Me," sung by the class; salutatory address given by Lucy Farthing; history of the class by Doshia Cable; class poem by Leslie Gay Greene; class will by Marjiam Kincaid; song, "The North Carolina Hills"; class prophecy by Beulah Isaacs; gifts presented to the members of the class by Howard Kincaid; valedictory address by Loy Farthing. The exercises closed with the class song (composed by Lennis Farthing) followed by the benediction by Mr. Charles Clay.

Graduating exercises began Friday evening at 8 o'clock. Invocation by Mr. Charles Clay; song, "The Old Rugged Cross," sung by the class. The literary address was delivered by the Hon. Wade Williams of Charlotte. Mr. Williams is a wonderful speaker. He has the ability to cause his audience to think with him. After the literary address, County Superintendent Hagaman delivered an address to the graduates. Mr. Hagaman's address was appreciated very much by all who heard it. Then diplomas were delivered by the superintendent to those students finishing the seventh grade and to the fifteen high school graduates. The seniors then sang the class song, followed by the benediction by Rev. E. J. Farthing.

Saturday evening at 8 o'clock the seniors presented a play, "The Eyes of Love," which was a great success.

On Sunday morning at 11 o'clock the commencement sermon was delivered by Doctor J. L. Jenkins, president of Boiling Springs Junior College. Dr. Jenkins preached on "The Young Generation," using as a text Acts xiii, 38: "For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep." Dr. Jenkins preached to a large and very appreciative congregation.

The people of the Bethel community are very much pleased with the progress made by the school during the past year. They are very proud of the fact that Bethel is now a standard high school, and extend their appreciation to the principal and to the teachers who have so loyally supported him in the work of the school.

No Changes to Be Made In Board of Education

Raleigh, N. C.—No changes were made in the names of members of the Watauga County board of education when the omnibus bill naming the boards in the 100 counties was taken up in the House of Representatives last Friday. Changes, evidences of local fights in many cases, were made in the boards first named in the bill in probably twenty instances. The measure goes to the Senate this week and it is likely that other changes will be made and local fights will come out on the floor of the Senate. No names appear on the omnibus pension roll bill, naming Confederate veterans and their widows as eligible for pensions, from Watauga County. The names presented have to be passed upon by the county pension board and the State Board of Pensions, however, before they are placed on the roll.

\$900,000,000 in Gold Is Still Hoarded in U. S.

Washington.—Despite President Roosevelt's anti-gold hoarding order of April 5, requiring the metal to be deposited with the government before May 1, approximately \$900,000,000 still remains outside the treasury and federal reserve banks.

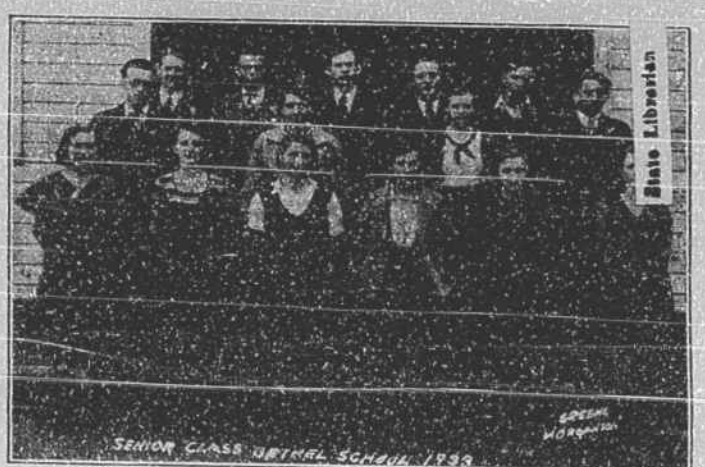
The Federal Reserve Board's weekly statement showed that the gold reserves of the 12 institutions amounted to \$3,365,595,000, an increase of \$281,956,000 since March 8, and of \$50,040,000 in the last week.

On April 3, when Secretary Woodin announced \$600,000,000 of gold and gold certificates had been returned to the treasury, officials said there was outstanding at that time \$1,000,000,000 in gold and gold certificates.

Since then \$81,956,000 in gold has been returned but the amount received this week was \$29,000,000 more than came in the week before.

Scientists contend that women are superior to men in those mental tasks which require quick thinking and attention to details.

GRADUATES OF BETHEL HIGH SCHOOL



The above picture is of the first graduating class of Bethel High School. Top row: Berl Isaacs, Barton Farthing, Frank Roark, Principal R. A. Spainhour, Blain Isaacs, Wiley Perry and Howard Kincaid. Middle row: Ethel Currie and Kate Winberger. Bottom row: Leslie Gay Greene, Lucy Farthing, Doshia Cable, Lennis Farthing, Marjiam Kincaid and Loy Farthing. One of the seniors, Beulah Isaacs, was not present when the picture was made.

Moore Named For Mayor; Old Board Is Renominated

J. Frank Moore was named as candidate for Mayor, and the incumbent Board of Aldermen, H. B. Perry, K. L. Clay and Brantley Duncan, renominated, when the Democrats of the city met in convention Tuesday evening for the purpose of naming a slate of candidates to be voted on in the municipal election on May 2nd.

More than 150 gathered in the auditorium of the courthouse to have a voice in the naming of the city fathers for the ensuing two years. The meeting was called to order by Chairman T. B. Moore and U. T. C. Wright was installed as secretary, following which a motion to vote by ballot was adopted.

In a brief address W. F. Miller placed the victorious Board of Aldermen in nomination, calling attention to the fact that during his tenure in office, the indebtedness of the town had been reduced \$10,000, and that interest on outstanding bonds was being met, in spite of the depressed financial conditions.

Mr. Miller also disclosed a plan whereby Federal or other monetary assistance might be secured for the purpose of refinancing the bonded indebtedness of the city, and reducing the burden by more than half, or roughly to \$100,000. Mr. Miller indicated that this program

could likely be carried through under the continued administration of the present board.

The nominations were seconded and Charles S. Stevenson placed before the assembly the names of C. L. Rhyne, Brantley Duncan, and Dr. J. C. Farthing, the name of Duncan appearing on both tickets. The result of the balloting constituted an easy victory for the administration, with the following result: H. B. Perry 91, R. L. Clay 85, Brantley Duncan 149, C. L. Rhyne 67, J. C. Farthing 59. Tracy Council received one vote. The three highest were declared the nominees of the Democratic party.

A. M. Norton placed in nomination J. F. Moore for Mayor, while Jim Rivers offered the name of Mayor J. M. Moretz. The count-out indicated that Moore had received 111 votes, J. F. Moore 46, and Jim Rivers 43.

Moore was declared the nominee of the party.

Others, who had not been placed in nomination received a scattering vote. They were: Ester Setzer 2, Cooge Lovell 2, Roby Owens 1, A. P. Ward 2, Roscoe Little 1.

There was no evidence of discord in the convention, but the concert of action clearly indicated effective pre-convention campaigning. Official information is to the effect that the Republican party will not offer a slate of candidates.

200 Wataugans Apply For Forestry Positions

About two hundred young men, ranging in age from 18 to 25 years, called at the office of Mrs. Smith Hagaman, County Welfare Superintendent, since Monday, to apply for jobs in the Federal Forestry Corps, which is being recruited from over the entire nation. Of this number 18 have filled in and returned the necessary blanks, and nine have been tentatively selected to form the first quota from this county, the selections being based largely on the needs as well as the physical fitness of the applicants.

Mrs. Hagaman states that another contingent of nine will be selected soon and the third group of three will afterwards complete Watauga County's allotment of 21. The first nine will leave for Asheville sometime next week, where they will be in charge of the Department of Labor and likely assigned for active duty in the Smoky Mountains National Park.

According to welfare workers, the youths who have offered themselves at the courthouse have

comprised an unusually fine lot of boys, alert and eager for employment. It is stated that all other things being equal, the degree of destitution in the family affected, will probably be the deciding factor in making the assignments.

Those who are accepted for this reforestation program will be expected to stay six months. At Asheville they will undergo physical examination and medical inspection, and, if accepted there, will be sent to an army camp. There they will spend two weeks undergoing a period of physical conditioning, will be immunized for smallpox and typhoid fever, and will be provided with proper clothing, before being sent to their final destination in the national forests.

Each man is allowed clothing to the value of \$58 and an allowance of \$9 for replacement. Housing, food and medical care are also provided. In addition to this each one will receive \$30 per month, and of this amount he is required to send not less than \$25, nor more than \$27.50, to his parents or other dependent relatives.

Rev. A. H. Gentry Passes in Virginia

Rev. A. H. Gentry, native Ashe citizen, and well known throughout Watauga County, died near Fries, Va., on the 14th, and was buried on Easter Sunday, according to information reaching The Democrat Wednesday.

Mr. Gentry was a widely known Methodist minister who years ago had held meetings in Boone. He was a brother to Mrs. Elta Horton, who for so many years lived in this city, and had many friends in this county.

School Bus Wreck Is Fatal to Four Children

Salisbury, N. C.—The death toll of a head-on collision between two school buses rose to four Saturday with the death of Amanda Broadway, the third child of farmer Ira G. Broadway to be killed in the wreck. A fourth Broadway child, Roy, 14, was not expected to live.

Mary, 10, and Frances Broadway, 12, daughters of the farmer, and Curtis Hartley, 12, were killed when the collision occurred.

TOTAL 36 MONTHS IN PRISON TERMS GIVEN BY JUDGE

Recorder's Court Has Busy Session Tuesday and Wednesday and Three File Notice of Appeal to Superior Court. Liquor Cases Comprise Most of Docket. Some Sentenced for Larceny. Few Fines Recorded.

A heavy docket faced Judge Sudderth's Recorder's Court when it convened Tuesday morning, but at noon Wednesday all but three cases had been disposed of by the tribunal. A total of 36 months in road sentences were handed down by the Recorder, aside from a few suspended sentences. The complete proceedings up to press time follow:

Alice Hodges, manufacturing, assessed with one-half the cost and placed under six months suspended sentence.

Ed Stokes, violating prohibition law, 8 months on road, sentence suspended on payment of \$5 per month for 3 months to the Clerk of the Court. He was also required to pay costs.

Chauncie Holloway, abandonment, 60 days on road.

Dwight Moretz, disturbing public gathering, \$10 and cost.

Roy Bumgarner, violating prohibition laws, fined \$10 and costs of action; 4-months sentence suspended.

Oliver Hampton, violating prohibition laws, 8 months on roads.

Jarvis Greene, violating prohibition laws (2 cases), 12 months on roads.

Fims Carroll, assault on officer, 6 months on roads; notice of appeal to Superior Court.

Alice Carroll, assault with deadly weapon, 4 months in jail; appeals to Superior Court.

Charles Carroll, assault on officer and interfering with arrest, 4 months on roads. Suspended on good behavior over a period of eight months. Appeal to Superior Court.

Blaine Hodges, larceny and violation dry laws, dismissed.

Howard and Link Trivett, larceny, 60 days on roads; sentence not to be effective until June 1, if bond of \$200 can be posted for guarantee at that time.

BEER TO RETURN SUNDAY MIDNIGHT

One Town License Has Already Been Issued to Handle Foamy Liquid and Others Contemplate Asking for Permits.

Beer, an outlaw in North Carolina for 25 years, comes back as a respected citizen Sunday night at 12 o'clock when the Francis beer bill throws open the door to 3.2 per cent brew and fruit juices. In Boone Mayor Moretz has already issued one city license for handling the suds and other applications are being made, it is stated. Under the terms of the regulatory act passed by the Senate and now in the House of Representatives, the town shall charge a license of \$10 and \$15, depending on whether the liquid is consumed on or off the premises on which sold.

If no act shows up on the statute books making the law inoperative as to Boone, beer may be procured here from at least two sources, and one of them will stock both bottled and draft beer. Orders are out for Boone's first consignment of real beer, but indications are that they will not be promptly filled. Demand at the breweries is so heavy that North Carolina may be expected to be fairly dry until the supply can get within gunshot of the demand.

Would Exempt Church Property from Street Tax

Raleigh.—All property owned by church or religious denominations within the corporate limits of the town of Boone, Watauga County, would be exempted from payment of all street and sidewalk paving assessments for paving already done and also for future paving assessments, under a bill introduced in the House of Representatives Thursday by Representative Greer and referred to the finance committee, from which it received a favorable report Saturday was passed on the calendar.

The bill also provides that when any such property shall no longer be owned and used by and of the churches for church or parsonage purposes, during the period for levying and collecting paving assessments it shall immediately become liable for the unpaid paving assessments as may appear on the assessment roll of Boone. The measure would become effective upon ratification.

Good mop rags can be made from men's discarded woolen socks.