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## DIVERSION FIGHT MAKES INTEREST IN CAPITAL CITY

Recommendations of Governor May Win in End; Spending Lobby Taking Strong Hand; Tuition Increase Measure Likely Dead; Local Bills Flood Both Houses

By EMMET ATKINS, Jr.  
(Special Correspondent)

Raleigh, Jan. 24—Back of the highway fund diversion fight now boiling in the legislature lies a story which every taxpayer in North Carolina should be familiar. The outcome of that fight is still very much in doubt. But sometime between now and March the issue will be decided one way or the other, and on that decision rests much that is of vital importance to the average citizen.

Most people think the issue will be won according to Governor Hoey's recommendations viz. that \$7,000,000 be transferred from the highway fund to the general fund to balance the budget for the next biennium. This appears quite likely, but the mere sanction of such a program by the governor isn't nearly enough to assure its passage.

Arrayed against diversion of highway funds is one of the most magnificent lobbies ever to come to Raleigh. In addition to an odd miscellany of recruits, including, of all people, the Rural Letter Carriers Association—the anti-diversion lobby has the more or less open support or sympathy of the gasoline and oil people, the road builders, the automobile clubs, the automobile manufacturers and various others. It is a formidable array, and one with a great deal of capital behind its wishes.

On the other side is the most numerous and insistent lobby of all—the spenders. The spenders are unanimously for diversion—not because of greed, but rather from dispensation. The most ingenious tax-finders in North Carolina have been unable to find any other places to raise money. The ceiling has been reached as far as taxation is concerned. Even the master of all tax-raisers, Huey Long, once remarked, according to legend, that whenever he wanted to raise more money, he had only to read the latest tax bill from North Carolina to discover some hitherto untaxed article.

The spending lobby is by no means limited to those on the state payroll, or to the agencies and institutions supported by the state. Even greater than these are the legislators themselves, who are much more sanguine spenders than revenue-producers. No less a statesman than Speaker Libby Ward, recently, over the radio, gravely acknowledged it to be his political philosophy not to tax anything anymore, and yet to provide "every possible" service for the taxpayers.

Behind the legislators lies, of course, the greatest lobby of spenders—the people back home. The most cynical taxpayer is fundamentally a spender, and it seems to be a maxim of politics that the citizen as a spender is much more valuable than the same citizen as a taxpayer.

Fundamentally, the leaning of the legislature toward the principle of diversion arises from the utter despair at ability to either trim the budget by \$7,000,000 or the ability to raise that much more money. An examination of the record shows that legislators are not budget-trimmers. About the only budget-cutting ever done in this town has been first by

(Continued on page eight)

## Blowing Rock Lady Dies On Wednesday

Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Ward of Blowing Rock, died at the home last Wednesday after a long period of illness. She was 71 years old.

Funeral services were conducted Friday from the Blowing Rock Presbyterian church and interment was in the Reformed church cemetery. Rev. A. G. Lackey of Lenoir, occupied the pulpit.

The active pallbearers were: Ben Greene, Jay Knight, Parks Knight, Luther Greene and Robert B. Hardin. Surviving are three sons and three daughters: C. G. and George E. Ward, Blowing Rock; Harry Ward, Santa Fe, Calif.; Mrs. C. D. Douglas, Blowing Rock; Mrs. Ann Council, Blowing Rock, and Mrs. Ransom Killian, Lincolnton. There are seven grandchildren.

Mrs. Ward, who was the widow of E. B. Ward, had spent most of her life in the Blowing Rock country, where she was held in the highest regard. She had been a consistent member of the Episcopal church at Blowing Rock during the greater part of her adult life.

## Named to High Court



Washington, D. C.—Felix Frankfurter of Massachusetts, professor of the Harvard Law school, who was named by President Roosevelt to be an associate justice of the United States Supreme court. Frankfurter was named to the vacancy created by the death last July of Benjamin N. Cardozo.

## CONFERENCE OF BAPTIST PASTORS

Ministers and Deacons of Two Associations to Gather Here February 6th

The pastors and deacons of the Three Forks and Stony Fork associations will be held in the Boone Baptist church on Monday, February 6th. It was announced this week by Rev. N. C. Peppers, chairman of the

committee, that a full attendance be present at the conference.

Following is the program for the conference:

1. Devotional by Rev. Grady Hamby.
2. How Do Modern Preachers Have Union in Their Preaching? led by Rev. Grady Minton.
3. How can Pastors and Deacons be More Honest With God and the Church? led by Rev. Tipton Greene.
4. What can be Done to Stimulate a Greater Interest in Church Attendance? led by Rev. Levi Greene.
5. Ministerial Ethics—Good and Not Good, led by Rev. J. C. Canipe.

## Mrs. Elizabeth Leak Dies at 83

Mrs. Elizabeth Leak, 83 years of age, died Saturday morning at the home of a daughter, Mrs. L. E. Beach on Zionville R. F. D., following a long illness. A paralytic stroke was given as the immediate cause of her death.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday morning from the Meat Camp Baptist church by Rev. E. C. Hodges, and interment was in the churchyard cemetery.

Surviving is one son, John Leak of Smethport. Two daughters, Mrs. L. E. Beach of Zionville, and Mrs. Mary Roland of the state of Maryland also survive, together with 31 grandchildren and a large number of great-grandchildren.

Deceased was the widow of J. M. Leak, well-known pioneer Watauga county citizen, and had spent the greater part of her life in this county. She was a member of the Baptist church for more than 30 years and lived a life of devotion to religious causes. She leaves many friends throughout this region.

## Mother Mrs. Bingham Succumbs Wednesday

Mrs. E. C. Jones, aged 70 years, a resident of Marshville and mother of Mrs. L. L. Bingham of Boone, died in a Charlotte hospital last Wednesday from a sudden illness, following an operation performed a week previously.

Funeral services were held at Peachland Friday afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. Bingham and family attending, and interment was there.

Surviving are three sons and seven daughters: Walter Jones, Peachland; James Jones, Marshville, and Jesse Jones, Greensboro; Mrs. Ed Greene, Peachland; Mrs. Ray Ashcraft, Monroe; Mrs. L. L. Bingham, Boone; Mrs. M. O. Bowman, Marshville; Mrs. M. F. Davis, Raleigh; Mrs. R. E. Johnson and Mrs. R. L. Leary, Greensboro.

Mrs. Jones, who was a prominent resident of her community, had often visited her daughter in Boone, where she had made many friends.

## BURGESS GETS REA CONTRACTS IN ASHE AND ALLEGHANY

\$264,000 to Be Spent for Building of Transmission Lines in Neighboring Counties; Surveying in Watauga County is Practically Completed

Melvin F. Burgess, Inc., Baltimore contractors, have been awarded the job of building the transmission lines for the REA in Ashe and Alleghany counties at a total cost of \$264,000. It was learned Wednesday. The bid of Mr. Burgess was approved without going through the procedure of advertising on the same basis as was used in the construction of the Watauga county lines. The letting of the contract in this way hastened the work in Ashe and Alleghany by about six weeks, it is pointed out. 285 miles of lines are covered by the contract.

Engineering crews are already busily engaged in staking the REA lines in Ashe county in the vicinity of Sutherland and Baldwin, and headquarters for the crews will be moved from Boone to Jefferson in about ten days, says Mr. Harry Dewar, project engineer.

### Construction Progress

Mr. Burgess is making good progress in the rebuilding of the principal transmission lines from Lenoir and at the same time poles are being delivered on the lines in the direction of Deep Gap and Todd. Something like 80 per cent of Watauga's 175 miles of lines is completed. Engineers are now engaged in this county in running service connections principally, and the lines in the western section of the county are ready for inspection by Mr. Dewar, preliminary to their actual energization. Current is to be turned on these lines first,

## GREENE RENAMED TO FAIR TAX BODY

Boone Merchant Attends Hearing Before Legislative Committee on Sales Tax

Clyde R. Greene, prominent hardware merchant and local civic leader, was renamed as a member of the N. C. Fair Tax Association's directorate, at a meeting held in Raleigh Wednesday of last week. Mr. A. W. Bunch of Statesville, was elected president, while J. Paul Leonard of the same city, retains the secretarial post.

While in Raleigh Mr. Greene appeared before the joint finance committee of the legislature, in his official capacity, relative to proposed changes in the three per cent sales tax law.

## JUNIORS INSTALL NEW OFFICERS

At a recent meeting of the Daniel Boone Council of the Junior Order United American Mechanics, the following officers were installed for coming year: Junior past counselor, Ralph G. Greene; counselor, W. M. Cook; vice counselor, N. C. Greene; financial secretary, W. O. Robertson; recording secretary, Richard E. Kelley; assistant recording secretary, R. D. Hodges, Jr.; chaplain, Rev. J. C. Canipe; warden, R. D. Shoemaker; conductor, S. B. Greene; outside sentinel, G. E. Miller; inside sentinel, E. F. Shore; treasurer, Clyde R. Greene; trustees, D. L. Wilcox, W. C. Greer and A. E. Hodges.

The council now has a membership of 50. It meets the first and third Monday nights in the Junior hall in the postoffice building.

## Health Office Gets Clinical Supplies

The local health department is in receipt of several hundred dollars worth of supplies for venereal disease clinical work, it is announced by Dr. Robert R. King.

This equipment comes to the local health office through the provisions of the Bulwinkle legislation, making funds available for the fight on social diseases.

## WELLBORN GREER DIES

Wellborn Greer, 70 years old, resident of Triplett, was found dead in his bed Tuesday morning. Death was believed to have been due to heart attack. No further details are available other than that the funeral services were to have been held in the home neighborhood Wednesday.

## CONFERENCE ON FARM PROGRAM



Washington, Dec.—Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace (left), as he conferred with Senator Ellison D. Smith of South Carolina, chairman of the senate agriculture committee, regarding proposed new farm legislation.

## Building & Loan Audit Reveals Great Progress

### MINISTERS WILL MEET ON MONDAY

Baptists of Two Associations Will Gather in Revival at Mount Vernon Church

A revival of the ministers of the Three Forks and Stony Fork Baptist Associations will begin next Monday at the Mount Vernon church, continuing until February 3, and a cordial invitation is extended to all the deacons from the two associations to attend. Ministers from other associations are also invited, and free entertainment will be provided by the church for all ministers.

The program for the revival is as follows:  
9:30 a. m.—Devotions.  
10:00 a. m.—Bible Study, R. E. Powell.  
11:00 a. m.—World Wide Missions, J. C. Canipe.  
12:00—Recess for lunch.  
1:30 p. m.—Devotions.  
2:00 p. m.—Stewardship and Fellowship, J. C. Pipes.  
3:00 p. m.—Conference hour:  
Monday—"A Balanced Evangelism for Today"—Dwight Edmiston.  
Tuesday—New Testament Missions, W. D. Ashley.  
Wednesday—Promotion Work and Plans in Our Association, N. M. Greene.

Thursday—What Are the Prerequisites to a Dynamic Revival? Carl Triplett.

Friday—Are There Any Evidences of a Coming Revival? Tipton Greene.  
Evening Session  
7:00 p. m.—Devotions.  
7:30 p. m.—Preaching every evening by W. C. Pipes.

## Two College Heads Oppose Tuition Boosts

Dougherty and Meadows Declare Increase Would Keep Needy Students Out of School

Raleigh, Jan. 24—Presidents of two North Carolina teacher colleges told the joint appropriations committee last Thursday that proposed tuition increases would keep needy students out of school.

However, Dr. Leon R. Meadows, president of Eastern Carolina Teachers College, admitted that if the boosts were ordered, large student loan funds might help to meet the situation.

Dr. E. B. Dougherty, president of Appalachian State Teachers College, opposed the tuition increase because, he said, only three other state teacher colleges in the country were charging more tuition than Appalachian's present rates.

Dr. Dougherty said Pennsylvania teacher colleges charge no tuition and no fees.

The tuition increases recommended by the advisory budget commission would boost charges at E. C. T. C. from \$60 to \$75 a year and yield \$17,925 in additional receipts. A proposed increase of \$27 to \$48 in tuition at Appalachian would bring in \$22,575 a year more than the college is getting now from this source, the budget commission estimated.

"I am making a plea not only for E. C. T. C., but also for other teacher colleges and for the Greater University," Dr. Meadows said in opposing the tuition increase.

"Twenty-five per cent of our enrollment this year is made up of

(Continued on page eight)

## BIRTHDAY BALL PLANS ALMOST COMPLETED HERE

Stubby Taylor's Orchestra Engaged for Boone Event; Blowing Rock Committee to Have Dance in Resort Town Saturday Evening; Much Interest is Being Manifested

Plans for the President's Birthday Ball are rapidly nearing completion, according to Pat McGuire, general county chairman for the benefit event, who announced Tuesday that a special committee of Blowing Rock citizens have arranged another dance to be held in that city Saturday evening, as a further aid in the campaign being conducted against infantile paralysis in the county and in the nation.

The ball in Boone will be held at the high school gymnasium Friday evening, a hall which can nicely accommodate one thousand people, and it is believed with the additional room, a record-breaking number of dancers will be present. Stubby Taylor and his orchestra will provide the syncopation for the occasion, and the well-known aggregation is bringing along an added attraction in Bruce Smith, one of the best violinists in the state. Card tables have been provided for those who do not care for dancing, light refreshments will be served, and other entertainment features provided.

The Blowing Rock Event  
At Blowing Rock, the newly refinished floor at the Bark will be used Saturday evening for the ball, and an old-fashioned square dance, with music by a well-known band of stringed musicians, will add to the jollity of the occasion. A committee, which is busily engaged in working out the final details of the event, has also arranged for the presence of the job chairman of the county organization, and consists of the following additional members: Mrs. Irene Coffey, Jack Rainey, Cecil Critcher and Robert Hardin. The admission at Blowing Rock will be fifty cents and at Boone \$1.00. It is believed that a great many couples will attend both functions, and that the proceeds this year may be practically doubled.

Funds Do Much Good  
The following statement from Miss Marguerite Miller, county welfare officer, and one of the vice-chairmen of the local organization, cites some of the benefits which have come to Watauga county from the birthday balls held previously. Miss Miller says:

"During the past few years since facilities have been available by which crippled children could receive treatment without cost, there have been around 75 children in Watauga county who have benefited from this fund. Out of this number there are 15 or more children who have had infantile paralysis. It would not have been possible for these children to have received this treatment had it not been for the funds raised through the President's Birthday Balls, and from funds made available through the division for crippled children of the state board of health.

From the President's Birthday Ball for 1936, \$91.45 was kept in Watauga county which was used for infantile paralysis. In 1937 we received \$144.28 from the ball, which was also used in like manner. This fund was exhausted in November, 1937. Since the funds were all turned over

(Continued on page eight)

## Goodfellows Club Will Meet Friday

The Goodfellows club will hold its regular meeting at the high school gymnasium Friday evening in connection with the President's Birthday Ball, and President E. E. Garbee urges a full attendance of the membership. Card games will be enjoyed and refreshments served and an evening of unusual fun and good fellowship is promised. Officers of the club for the ensuing year will be elected at this meeting.

## Many Interested In Watauga Farms

Mr. S. C. Eggers, local realtor, states that he is receiving an unusual number of inquiries from people in various sections of the county who are interested in the purchase of realty here, more particularly farm property.

Mr. Eggers has been closing some trades all along, and the increased activity which is now apparent is undoubtedly a harbinger of an increased degree of prosperity.

## Poultry Course Is To Be Held In City

Mr. F. C. Parrish, extension poultry specialist from Raleigh, will hold a one-day poultry short course in Boone on February 6, it is learned.

The course, an annual occasion of interest to all extension workers and poultrymen, will be for five counties: Avery, Alleghany, Ashe, Wilkes and Watauga.