

Legislative Summary

Andy Griffith was only a face in the crowd as the General Assembly turbulently moved toward adjournment this week. Although he and Miss North Carolina appeared before both houses Friday, legislators were busy with their ABC's and hardly paid them notice. The House went on a two-day schedule from Wednesday through Friday and reduced its backlog of bills considerably, while the Senate was able to clear its calendars completely by stretching out its morning sessions to midafternoon. Unfortunately (from the standpoint of those seeking adjournment), some of the benefits of this speed were cancelled out by the introduction of 129 new bills.

Predictions as to the adjournment date were being hedged as the week ended, because Senate-House conflict on the provisions of the Revenue Bill left the situation uncertain. At best, action on the bill could not be completed until Thursday, and any further dispute would put off passage until the following week. Meanwhile rumor had it that the important Appropriations Act would not be put into final form until passage of the Revenue measure.

There were relatively few important bill introductions during the week, as legislative attention was turned to those which had been submitted earlier. Altogether, 163 bills were ratified, 82 more were finally passed, and 39 were killed.

Budget Matters

The big money bills held the center of the stage throughout the week. The Governor's proposals in the Revenue Bill for revising the corporate tax allocation formula so as to be more attractive to new industry apparently were safe, with the Senate-House controversy swirling around lesser provisions granting relief to particular groups of taxpayers. Following ratification of the administration bill for a \$10 million capital improvements bond issue (designed to release funds for salary increases), bills were submitted to appropriate any unanticipated surplus during the next year so as to preclude unnecessary issuance of the bonds. The House received another measure from the Board of Higher Education, authorizing the state's colleges to issue revenue bonds for financing dormitories; it supplements an earlier

bill creating a revolving fund for construction of such facilities.

State Government

Success of the gradual approach to state government reorganization (reflected in the high rate of approval of Reorganization Commission bills this session and in 1955) led to introduction of HR 1370, creating a successor Commission. This week Commission bills to improve coordination among state personnel agencies and local governments and among agencies in the field of building regulation were ratified; its measure regulating occupational licensing boards cleared the Senate; and bills to revamp the Building Code Council, clarify the State Personnel Director's powers, and create a Legislative Research Committee were reported favorably.

Legislative action has been completed on SR 372, creating a commission to recommend changes in the State Constitution, and HR 974, creating a cancer study commission. New bills propose creation of commissions to study (a) the need for a uniform may law for the state, (b) the problem of uninsured motorists, and (c) the proper allocation of functions between the city and county of Durham.

HB 590, regulating deposits of unused state funds, was amended on third reading in the House to permit deposit in banks of the state having a ratio of loans to total deposits of 39% (instead of 50%) or more. After one experience with a February convening date, HB 1365 would convene the legislature in mid-January.

Motor Vehicles

Progress of the compulsory li-

ability insurance bill through the General Assembly has resembled the Perils of Paulina. In this week's installment, it apparently won its way to success (when passed on second reading by the Senate), but was abruptly left cliff-hanging when an amendment added appropriations for its administration (which necessitated re-referral to the Appropriations Committee). In the closing rush, friend and foe alike predicted it would never make its way back to the floor. With the unsatisfied judgment fund bill similarly locked in committee, it appears unlikely that problems created by the uninsured negligent motorist will be solved in 1957. The proposal for a study commission reflects this prospect.

The sins of the fathers apparently extend also to their nephews. HB 1277 was submitted Monday night, proposing creation of a voluntary vehicle inspection system generally similar to the mandatory system defeated earlier. By dint of speedy action by its proponents, it reached the House floor Friday—just in time for its own funeral. Other bills killed during the week would have (a) plugged a loophole by making the plea of nolo contendere the equivalent of a conviction for purposes of drivers' license suspension, and (b) provided for regulation and suspension of drivers' licenses of persons subject to convulsive seizures.

The two houses agreed to a conference committee report on the motor vehicle equipment bill, which restored the authority of the Motor Vehicles Commissioner to establish standards and approve safety belts. Both houses have also passed the bill authorizing creation of controlled-access highways.

Local Government

Although most of its legislation for local governments has taken the form of bills affecting only particular counties and municipalities (1042 of the 1886 introductions thus far), the General Assembly has received and enacted a greater than usual number of statewide bills in this area. This week it received (1) a slightly modified version of the bill creating a new statewide firemen's pension fund, (2) a bill authorizing discontinuance of county TB hos-

Farms Being Checked By Representatives ASC

Checking of farms in Watauga county to determine compliance with acreage allotments and soil bank agreements and contracts is now under way. It was announced this week by Dwight Cable, Chairman of the Watauga ASC Committee.

Virtually all farms must be visited by a representative of the ASC county office to make either an accurate measurement or an estimate of crop acreages. ASC performance reporters will work singly since farm operators are expected to assist in any necessary acreage measuring.

Mr. Cable stated that wheat acreage determinations have already been completed but that the work of measuring other crop pits, and (3) a bill prohibiting local taxation of most forms of irrevocable property (but authorizing taxation of certain leases by tax-exempt persons or agencies, when the purpose of the lease is private gain).

Miscellaneous

The effort to revive horse and dog-racing in the state was stabled by a House committee. . . . Attempts to regulate nonpar banks, first by prohibiting the practice except by small banks and then by requiring them to proclaim their nonpar status on their checks, met similar fates. . . . As an outgrowth of the minimum wage controversy, the Senate changed its rules to permit any Senator to move for withdrawal of a bill from committee after 10 days of inaction; nothing further has happened in the House. . . . Another bill increasing solicitors' salaries (but not cutting off private practice of law) was submitted; it fixes salaries at \$7938 and expense allowances at \$2000. . . . Senators who charge that wild-fowl flock like geese to hear themselves on recordings have submitted a request that the federal Wildlife Service outlaw electronic calling devices (after failure of a bill prohibiting the practice).

corn allotment to qualify for price supports. This acreage must also be measured on any farm in the commercial corn area on which acreage of any crop has been placed in the Acreage Reserve or which is participating in the Conservation Reserve. All Acreage Reserve tracts must be measured, he said, and any farmer participating in both the Acreage Reserve and the Conservation Reserve must be in full compliance for any Soil Bank payments. The chairman requested the assistance

and cooperation of all farm operators in this big job of measuring crop acreages.

ONE WISE MAN

Scranton, Pa.—A parking lot owner was somewhat puzzled by the sight of one lone, unattended car on the premises when he opened for business recently. Investigating, he found a note under the windshield of the car, which read: "I am drunk. I do not want to drive. I parked it here. Whatever it costs, I'll pay." The owner's name was signed to it.

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1 pkg. lime-flavored gelatin
1/2 cup boiling water
1 cup Sealtest Buttermilk
1 cup Sealtest Cottage Cheese, beaten until almost smooth (or finely chopped onion)
1 tbsp. white vinegar
1 tsp. bottled horseradish
Dash pepper and paprika
1/2 cup finely chopped celery
1/2 cup thin slices of small radishes

Dissolve gelatin in boiling water. Cool to room temperature. Stir in buttermilk and cottage cheese until well blended. Chill until slightly thickened. Combine remaining ingredients. Fold into slightly thickened cheese-gelatin mixture. Pour into 1-qt. mold which has been rinsed in cold water. Chill until firm. Unmold on crisp salad greens. 6 servings (116 calories per serving). Serve with Sealtest Skim Milk.

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