

WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

NOTE: This is the twelfth of a series of weekly summaries prepared by the legislative staff of the Institute of Government on the work of the North Carolina General Assembly of 1957. It is confined to discussions of matters of general interest and major importance.

Legislators were as furiously active as celebrants around a Maypole this week, as they became the second General Assembly since 1935 to meet the late (but probably not the last, because of the new February convening date). A full-throated House debate on compulsory auto insurance extended over two full legislative days to highlight the week's activity, while bill introductions and calendar action continued to move well ahead of 1955 progress. Representatives earned Speaker Doughton's commendation as a "working House" by so clearing local calendars that not a single local bill was available for consideration on Tuesday.

Motor Vehicles

It now appears probable that there will be some form of revision of the state's laws dealing with damage by indigent motorists, but no one can say what it will be. Proponents of the compulsory insurance law showed surprising strength as they pushed HB 116 through the House. In the meantime, the Senate Committee on Insurance gave a favorable report to the unsatisfied judgment fund bill, laying the basis for a possible Senate-House deadlock on the two plans.

The practice in some courts of accepting a guilty plea to a lesser charge in drunken driving cases would be curtailed under SB 361, which would require the court to hear the state's evidence before accepting such a plea. A House bill would prohibit automobile insurance firms from acting as distributors of auto license plates. SB 142 (authorizing the Department of Motor Vehicles to suspend the license of a driver who has been convicted and had part of his sentence suspended on condition that he not drive for a specified period) has been ratified.

Constitutional Revision and Legislative Reapportionment

Carrying out a proposal made in the Governor's address to the Legislature, administration forces introduced a resolution creating a 15-member commission to study the need for revision of the State Constitution and make recommendations by July 1, 1958. Following the precedent set by the handling of the Pearsall Plan, the Governor is requested to consider calling a special General Assembly session for consideration of the commission's proposals (which could then be voted upon in the general election that fall).

Thought to be dead for this session, the legislative reapportionment issue rose like a Phoenix this week, with two new bills. SB 385, reportedly offered with the administration's blessing, would increase Senate membership from 50 to 100 (giving each county one Senator) and House membership from 120 to 160 (one Representative per county, with the excess apportioned according to population) and empower the General Assembly to further increase House membership by statute. The Governor would have the duty of making the reapportionment, subject to correction by the General Assembly itself and review by the State Supreme Court. HB 982 would merely redistrict the Senate under the present constitutional provisions, thus requiring a majority (rather than 3/5th) vote for passage. It would create 38 Senatorial districts (rather than the present 33), give Forsyth, Guilford and Mecklenburg two Senators each, and reshuffle the other districts.

State Government

Widely-varying statutes governing the state's ten institutions of higher education outside the Consolidated University would be replaced by a uniform pattern under a Board of Higher Education proposed this week. It would restate the purpose of each college, provide for a uniform number of 12 trustees per institution, and define the powers and duties of trustees and presidents.

A Reorganization Commission bill would require the State Personnel Council and the Merit System Council (both of which deal with personnel standards for certain state employees) to have two mem-

bers, require that one member of the Merit System Council (which also has jurisdiction over local health and welfare employees) have experience in county government, and give county commissioners authority to require such employees and county agents to conform to the regulations for other county employees with regard to hours of work, vacations, and sick leave. Other Reorganization Commission bills dealing with state property management and standardizing salary-fixing procedures have passed both houses.

Local taxing authorities have for years looked hungrily at tax-exempt state holdings within their jurisdictions. A 1955 act granted three counties 10 per cent of the proceeds of timber cut on state lands within their boundaries, in lieu of taxes; similar treatment has been sought by three additional counties this session. SB 362 proposes to deal with the problem on a statewide basis, requiring such payments out of timber proceeds by all state agencies other than educational institutions and the State Board of Education. No provision is made for payments in lieu of taxes for other state property.

Solicitors retiring at 65 or after 20 years of service would receive 2/3 of their regular pay for life under HB 905. Another House bill would authorize pensions for certain state employees retired before the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System was established. SB 369 would grant State Highway Patrolmen a \$40 monthly subsistence allowance.

Local Government

To supplement the hurricane-relief benefits made available by the final passage of the Urban Redevelopment Bill, HB 912 would grant cities and counties authority to enact flood zoning regulations so as to qualify their citizens for benefits under the Federal Flood



YOU PUSH TOO HARD! — Horsing around are these two bears in the London (England) Zoo. Rusk gets toppled from the swing by playmate Nikki. The latter is a gift from Russian leaders Bulganin and Khrushchev to Princess Anne, daughter of Queen Elizabeth.

Insurance Act of 1956. Other local governmental measures would

(a) authorize municipalities to own gas and sewer systems and extend their services beyond their limits; (b) bring all local governmental employees other than elected officials under the Workmen's Compensation Act; (c) authorize municipalities to act on behalf of their citizens whose land is also included in a drainage district; (d) give drainage districts the power of eminent domain; (e) enable landowners to create forest districts to provide improvements in their forests; and (f) impose personal property tax liens on a merchant's stock and fixtures which are transferred to another between the list-

board of elections for good cause shown. HB 964 would repeal the rule authorizing teachers to vote in their home counties, rather than counties where they teach. Petitions for special elections would automatically die if not completed within a year, under HB 893.

Business Regulation

Bills concerning occupational licensing boards continued to flow into the legislative stream. HB 930 would require funeral directors to be licensed and specify minimum equipment for funeral homes. HB 954 extends the jurisdiction of the Structural Pest Control Commission to include moths, roaches and bedbugs and requires as many as three licenses of individuals in the business. A Senate bill modifies the procedures of the Board of Cosmetic Art Examiners. Other bills would require State licenses of small loan businesses, buyers of one to nor more (annually) of stock peanuts from producers and beer and wine importers.

Fears that the Senate might yet emasculate the minimum wage bill were not realized Monday, when it amended the bill to exempt summer camp employees and sent it to the House. HB 932 would authorize the Commissioner of Labor to make rules for the safety, sanitation and well-being of railroad employees.

Miscellaneous

Commissions to study problems related to cancer and the state's sex laws were proposed. SB 321 (providing for sterilization of mothers of two or more illegitimate children) received a favorable report after being rewritten to declare such persons "grossly sexually delinquent" instead of feeble-

minded. A House bill would let local ABC boards spend 5 per cent of their profits for education as to the effects of alcohol. You will have to get up even earlier to outfox North Carolinians if Representative Gobble's bill establishing daylight saving time is passed.

STATIONED IN KOREA

Pvt. Jessie T. Turnage, whose wife, Loretta, lives at 312 E. Queen Street, Edenton, is a squad leader in Company C of the 24th Infantry Division's 34th Regiment in Korea.

Turnage entered the Army in October, 1955, was last stationed at Fort Benning, Ga., and arrived overseas in July, 1956.

It's Buyer's MARKET time

NOW is the time to BUY FRIGIDAIRE

- Air Conditioners for home and business
- Ice cube Makers
- Water Coolers
- Beach-In Refrigerators
- Frozen Food Cases
- Compressors

Hot weather is over—for a while. But right now is the time to buy or replace air conditioning and refrigeration. See us for outstanding Frigidaire values during Buyer's Market time. Delivery and installation at your convenience.

Ralph E. Parrish Incorporated  
Your Frigidaire Dealer  
PHONE 2421—EDENTON

TAYLOR THEATRE

EDENTON, N. C.  
Saturday Continuous from 1:30 Sunday, 2:15, 4:15 and 8:45

Thursday and Friday, May 9-10—  
Audrey Hepburn and Fred Astaire in "FUNNY FACE"  
MRS. ROLAND EVANS

Saturday, May 21—  
Double Feature  
Guy Madison in "REPRISAL"  
—and—  
Frank Sutton in "FOUR BOYS AND A GUN"  
MRS. GEORGE SMITH

Sunday and Monday, May 12-13—  
All New Technicolor  
Gordon Scott in "TARZAN AND THE LOST SAFARI"

Tuesday and Wednesday, May 14-15—  
Double Feature  
Anita Ekberg and Victor Mature in "ZARAK"  
—and—  
Eleanor Parker in "LIZZIE"  
E. J. LANE

Drive-In Theatre  
HI-WAY 17  
Edenton-Hertford Road  
EDENTON, N. C.  
OPEN EVERY NIGHT

Friday and Saturday, May 10-11—  
Double Feature  
Marjorie Main in "THE KETTLES IN THE OZARKS"  
—and—  
John Derek in "THE LEATHER SAINT"  
MRS. MADISON PHILLIPS

Sunday, May 12—  
George Gobel in "THE BIRDS AND THE BEES"

Monday and Tuesday, May 13-14—  
Sheree North in "THE LIEUTENANT WORE SKIRTS"  
MRS. ROBERT POWELL

Wednesday and Thursday, May 15-16—  
Bill Haley and His Comets in "DON'T KNOCK THE ROCK"  
MRS. FLOYD CALE

NOTE: If your name appears in this ad, bring it to the Taylor Theatre box office and receive a free pass to see one of the pictures.

**TERMITES BORMING?**  
CALL OTTO THE ORKIN MAN  
FREE INSPECTION  
WORLD'S LARGEST PEST CONTROL CO.  
PHONE 3223

TESTED APPROVED GUARANTEED  
Wood Appliances  
Ralph E. Parrish Incorporated  
Your Frigidaire Dealer  
PHONE 2421—EDENTON

**Schenley**  
Whiskey of Elegance  
RESERVE  
\$2.50 PINT

The Reason  
Mr. V.—Our George will be in the hospital for a long time.  
Mrs. V.—Why? Have you seen the doctor?  
Mr. V.—No, but I've seen his nurse.

So Very Hard  
Customer—Give me some of that prepared monoaceticacidester of salicylicacid.  
Druggist—Do you mean aspirin?  
Customer—Yeh! I never can think of that name.

announcing our second honeymoon trip in cooperation with Sanel  
**FREE MOTHPROOFING**  
**WIN A FREE TRIP**  
ANYWHERE IN FREE EUROPE  
MONACO, PARIS, HOLLAND, ETC.  
HAVANA, CUBA  
PALM BEACH, FLORIDA  
ALL EXPENSE PAID TRIPS FOR TWO VIA AIR  
nothing to buy • no slogans to write • register inside, no obligation

**ELLIOTT CLEANERS**  
Phone 2616 Edenton, N. C.

**YOU MAY BE THE WINNER!**  
**ELLIOTT CLEANERS**  
PHONE 2616 EDENTON, N. C. 104 E. QUEEN ST.  
YES! I want To Win A Free Second Honeymoon Trip!  
I understand no purchase is necessary.  
NAME .....  
ADDRESS .....  
CITY ..... STATE .....  
PHONE .....  
 I do have dry cleaning. Please contact me.  
 I do not have any dry cleaning.

**Dreams Or Realities?**  
Just dreaming about things you want won't get you anywhere—but a growing Savings Account will help to make your dreams come true.  
Stop wishing — start saving. Have money in the bank for a payment on a home... that new car... a carefree vacation... opportunities for a fuller life. Open your account now at The Bank of Edenton and start saving for the things you want.

**THE BANK OF EDENTON**  
EDENTON, NORTH CAROLINA  
SAFETY FOR SAVINGS SINCE 1894  
MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM  
MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION