

Weekly Legislative Summary

While loyal Carolina fans clutched their smelling salts in nervous anticipation of one last agonizing, fibrillating, glorious weekend of basketball, the General Assembly swept through a fast-breaking week of heavy work. Calendars were full of controversial items all week long in both houses. On Tuesday the House showed itself once again the graveyard of capital punishment reform, as it defeated on second reading by 73 to 40 the proposal to make life imprisonment mandatory in capital cases unless the jury decides otherwise. Wednesday the Senate played forum for the session's first floor consideration of brown bagging. Backers easily beat down a series of diluting amendments, and the bill was sent to the House where rougher sledding is anticipated. During the week both houses gave their blessings to the bills to create a new intermediate appellate court and to increase workmen's compensation benefits. The omnibus school board bill also cleared the House.

A legislative landmark of sorts was passed on Thursday when sponsors of the move to retain standard time for the Old North State gave up the fight and consented to indefinite postponement of their bill (BS 85) in Senate committee. Barring the unexpected, DST will blossom in North Carolina on the last Sunday in April and wither the last Sunday in October.

Progress Report Through The 33rd Daily Session

Thirty-three weekday sessions of the 1967 General Assembly are now history. Judging by experience this probably marks approximately the one-third point for the current legislature.

Through today 504 bills and resolutions had been introduced in the two houses. The total continues to run well ahead of the average of the last three regular sessions (469 as of the corresponding dates). The percentage of public bill introductions, which earlier had been considerably higher than usual, now has subsided to a more nearly normal 66 per cent.

One hundred twenty-five bills and resolutions have been ratified, and seven have been formally put to rest by unfavorable reports or floor defeat. As usual, most of the ratified acts consist of local bills or honorary resolutions, but 22 public laws are included. Prominent among the new laws are acts ratifying the presidential disability amendment to the U. S. Constitution, increasing workmen's compensation benefits, liberalizing

subsidence allowances of the principal clerks and other officials of the General Assembly, removing auto inspection violations from the driver license point program, and repealing oyster and clam lease provisions of the 1965 commercial fisheries law revision. Almost one-third of the ratified acts are of the "lawyer's law" variety, resolving problems that are of special concern to practicing attorneys.

The Joint Appropriations Committees have now reached an important milestone along the road to completing their labors. On Thursday the committees concluded their hearings on requests by state agencies and institutions for changes in the 1967-69 budget allocations. Requested increases from these sources reportedly totalled \$142.8 million beyond the \$1.5 billion appropriations recommended by the Governor and Advisory Budget Commission, for both operating and capital funds.

On the revenue side the two Finance Committees between them are considering over 20 proposals to revise the tax laws. Tax cut proposals — reduced rates and enlarged exemptions or deductions — account for almost all of the pending bills. The proposed cuts would affect a variety of exactions, including income, sales ad valorem, intangibles, inheritance and Schedule B license taxes. Altogether it is estimated that lost revenues in the aggregate would amount to over \$117 million for the next biennium. A late introduction of today involves a tax increase of sorts—a bill to permit cities and towns to charge up to \$10 for local auto license plates, in place of the present \$1 maximum. A local option sales tax proposal has been under consideration, and has

WTAR-TV Newsmen To Speak In Edenton

An informal dinner, to be held at the Chowan Country Club, is planned by the Edenton Woman's Club for Saturday evening, April 15 in honor of William M. Drower of the British Embassy, Washington, D. C.

Mr. Drower, First Secretary of the Embassy, will be the guest speaker the following day at special ceremonies which will commemorate the 200th anniversary of Chowan County Courthouse, culminating the 1967 Pilgrimage of Colonial Edenton & Countryside, it has been announced by Mrs. W. J. P. Earnhardt, Sr., chairman of the committee handling the arrangements.

"Accompanying Drower, Order of the British Empire predict everyone coming will have a marvelous time."

Mrs. Drower from Washington will be First District Rep. Walter B. Jones and Mrs. Jones, the chairman said. "We shall have with us an outstanding after dinner speaker, John R. Griffin and Mrs. Griffin. He is the director of public affairs and news for radio and television station WTAR, Norfolk, Va.

For entertainment a memorable and gifted vo-

calist, Rev. Hubert Morris, has consented to be on hand and his accompanist will be Mrs. Morris. Mayor John A. Mitchener, Jr., will be master of ceremonies at the dinner. "Guests will be arriving at the country club for the social hour beginning at 7 P. M.," Mrs. Earnhardt said, "and dinner is scheduled to be served promptly at 8 o'clock. We are making a special effort with both decorations and menu."



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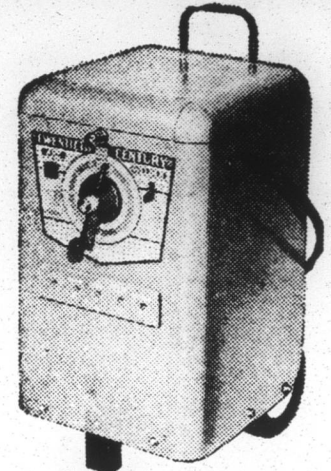


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PACIFIC NORTHWEST 30 Days
A deluxe tour featuring the most rugged and beautiful sections of the United States and Canada. Visit South Dakota's Badlands, Yellowstone, Portland, Seattle, Victoria, Vancouver, Canadian Rockies, Lake Louise and the Ice Fields, Medicine Hat and Minnesota Lake Country. You travel through 16 states and 3 Canadian Provinces, covering nearly 8,000 miles. Two departures from Raleigh: June 16 thru July 15 and July 21 thru Aug. 19.

OLD MEXICO 21 Days
Travel through the Deep South with sightseeing and a night in New Orleans. In Mexico your schedule will include Monterrey, Saltillo, San Luis Potosi, Queretaro, Mexico City, Cuernavaca, Taxco, The Shrine of Quadalupe, Pyramids, Acapulco. Many meals included in Mexico. Leave Raleigh July 19, return Aug. 8.

EXPO 67—NIAGARA-MONTREAL 9 Days
The theme of Expo 67 is "Man and His World." See the story of man's progress, aspirations and future exhibited in pavilions of more than 70 participating nations. You will also see Niagara Falls, St. Lawrence Seaway, Toronto, 1000 Islands, Ottawa, Montreal. Return through Adirondack Mountains, New York City. Five departures from Raleigh: June 10 thru June 18, June 24-July 2, July 22-July 30, Aug. 19-Aug. 27, Oct. 7-15.

EXPO 67—QUEBEC-MONTREAL 9 Days
This tour offers a bit of New England as well as two of Canada's most interesting cities and Expo 67. Visit Quebec—really two cities in one—the old walled French city and the new modern sections built outside the wall. See Expo 67 at Montreal, Canada's largest city. Return through Western New York and Penna. Dutch Country. Four departures from Raleigh: June 3 thru June 11, July 8 thru July 16, Aug. 5 thru Aug. 13, Sept. 30-Oct. 8.

NOVA SCOTIA 19 Days
An outstanding tour of Canada's historical Maritime Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward and Quebec. After visiting historic New England take the 100-mile sail across the Bay of Fundy, visit Yarmouth, Annapolis Royal, Ft. Ann and Grand Pre, site of the expulsion of the Acadians. Then to Halifax, Truro, Sydney, Cape Breton Highlands, Charlottetown, Moncton, Campbelltown, Quebec, Montreal and Ottawa. Leave July 29, return Aug. 16.

NEW ENGLAND FALL FOLIAGE 8 Days
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