

Party Patronage Issue Causes Concern

By MILDRED HUSKINS

Division on the floor of the House and Senate means one thing and in the State House committee rooms it means another.

When division is called on the floor, it means the presiding officer has been unable to determine if the "ayes" or the "nos" have prevailed and members are asked to stand up and be counted.

Last week there was some division of another kind.

After long sessions in the chambers of the General Assembly when calendars were considered, members seemed to divide and go into partisan caucus. These sometimes lasted for several hours as party matters were ironed out behind curtained windows and closed doors.

The most crucial came about after Republican Party Chairman Frank Rouse's letter to the party organization back home fell into the hands of the Democratic leadership and tempers flared at the mention that party patronage would be forthcoming as soon as the General Assembly went home. The reference to the governor's honeymoon with the news media which, Rouse said, is keeping the pressure on the legislators to make them "good little boys" really caused considerable concern for it seemed to be pretty nearly the truth.

Democratic party leaders had found it pretty difficult to get much mention in the newspapers and on television and radio while Republican members were forever being interviewed under the bright lights in the handsome courts of the State House. So, we predict the honeymoon may be cooling and the fact that Gov. Jim Holshouser saw fit immediately to answer the Rouse memo directly by letter to members of the General Assembly led observers to believe there must have been some concern there.

Anyway, it was an interesting week.

As more and more bills came out of committee, calendars became longer and, of course, some debate developed. It might be well here to again define a "catfish amendment." This reference is pretty generally made during debate and new members often wonder just what it means by the term. The member who introduced the bill will refer to an amendment as a catfish amendment which means, if the amendment passes, it will gut the whole bill. This is sometimes tried and the introducer of the measure must be alert to such tactics.

The term is supposed to have originated with Judge John R. McLaughlin of Iredell when he was a member of the House of Representatives. He used the little story of the youngster who had pulled a catfish out of the creek while fishing one day and was talking to the fish. "Now, little catfish. You just be still. I ain't going to do nothing to you but cut your guts out." The solon then went on to explain that the amendment just sent up would simply gut the bill. And this is said to be the origin of the term.

Often members will be cosigners of a popular measure when it is introduced and rise to oppose the bill when it comes out of committee and back to the floor for action. Reason for this reversal is usually because the bill has been changed in committee and comes back as a committee substitute. Friday

several members arose to speak against a bill, which would require prescription before selling hypodermic syringes or needles, after the committee had added other materials which would be controlled. "I, too, was a hitchhiker on that bill," Rep. Ed McKnight of Forsyth said as he opposed the committee substitute and it was sent back to committee.

Thursday afternoon, several members were absent from time to time and it developed they were bringing back results of the ACC Tournament game between Carolina and Wake Forest.

Rep. Art Thomas of Cabarrus, rising, to explain his local bill, said, "Mr. Speaker, if I appear to be a little nervous, it is because Wake Forest is beating Carolina."

Speaker Jim Ramsey, a Carolina man, said, "The chair would inquire as to the score" ... and was informed that it was then 41 to 37 in favor of Wake Forest. "The gentleman is out of order," the speaker quipped.

The business of the House continued and another member gained recognition and, on a point of personal privilege, announced the game had gone into overtime. Finally the game was over and House business had progressed almost to adjournment. The Speaker had learned Wake Forest had won the game and announced "Carolina fans will receive flowers and Rep. Jones (Rep. Robert Jones of Rutherford, an ardent Wake fan) will have a resolution." Rep. Odell Payne of Guilford asked all Carolina

fans with ACC tickets who wished to sell to get in touch with him and Rep. Larry Eagles of Edgecombe had a poem he had dashed off to further rib the Carolina followers.

On a point of personal privilege, Rep. Homer Tolbert of Iredell obtained recognition and, from the back row and with considerable emotion, said, "Mr. Speaker, after three terms in the General Assembly, this is the first time I have been actually happy. I've suffered long and hard and have pulled for that team for 45 years and I want this body to know, I'm really happy!"

Then, Rep. Henry Frye of Guilford, one of the three black members of the House, read his poem in which he invited Carolina fans to attend the MEAC tournament for black universities.

The body adjourned, finally, with Rep. Patricia Hunt of Orange making the motion that "this House do now adjourn in memory of the tragedy this day in Greensboro...."

Some needling goes on between members of the General Assembly and reporters. Senator Bette Wilkie of Henderson was ribbing Jay Hensley, who reports for the Asheville newspapers. "Jay is so country," she said, "when he first came down to Raleigh he thought a seven-course dinner was a 'possum and a six-pack.'" Rep. Fred Dorsey, also of Henderson, said with surprise, "I still thought it was."

Wilbur Hobby, presiding at the gala tondo the AFL-CIO gave to honor legislators Thursday evening, began by saying, "My job is talk and your job is to listen. If you get through before I do, hold up your hand."



ISLAND-HOPPING—Cotton chambery is a nature for spring and summer cruising. Here an easy-care, easy-wear dolman sleeve top in all-cotton stripes is the perfect mate for coordinated fit and flare pants. Both by Koret of California.

Sunday Sermon Topics Chosen

The Church School of Providence Baptist Church will begin at 9:30 A.M.; the morning worship at 11 o'clock. The sermon will be preached by the Dr. William C. Butts on the subject: "Christ, The Way of Life". The Special Educational Furniture Committee and persons who have children in the Baby Contest are asked to meet in the conference room. Mrs. Emma D. Bemby is chairman.

EXECUTRIX NOTICE

Having qualified as Executrix of the estate of Willie Thomas Rabey, late of Chowan County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons holding claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 16th day of September, 1973, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of any recovery thereon. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 12th day of March, 1973. BERNICE BLACKMAN RABEY, Executrix of the Estate of Willie Thomas Rabey, deceased. March 15, 22, 29, April 5c

ADMINISTRATOR'S CTA

In the General Court of Justice Superior Court Division Before The Clerk Having qualified as Administrator CTA of the estate of Raleigh B. Hollowell, late of Chowan County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons holding claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 8 day of September, 1973, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of any recovery thereon. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 27 day of February, 1973. MERRILL EVANS, JR., Administrator CTA of the Estate of Raleigh B. Hollowell, deceased. March 8, 15, 22, 29

ADMINISTRATRIX NOTICE

In the General Court of Justice Superior Court Division Having qualified as Administratrix CTA of the estate of Nola Z. Smith, late of Chowan County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons holding claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 15th day of September, 1973, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of any recovery thereon. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 13th day of March, 1973. MARGARET L. FARLESS, Administratrix CTA of the estate of Nola Z. Smith, deceased. Mar. 15, 22, 29, Apr. 5c

ADMINISTRATOR CTA NOTICE

In the General Court of Justice Before The Clerk Having qualified as Administratrix CTA of the estate of Clyde S. Adams, late of Chowan County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons holding claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 23 day of August, 1973, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of any recovery thereon. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 14 day of February, 1973. MYRTLE S. ADAMS, Administratrix CTA of the Estate of Clyde S. Adams, deceased. Feb. 22, Mar. 1, 8, 15c

NOTICE OF RESALE

Gerald L. Early and Betty A. Early Estate Lot 10, Block 101, "Surside Section", Cape Colony Chowan, County North Carolina Under and by virtue of an order of re-sale of the Superior Court of Chowan County, North Carolina, made in the Special Proceedings No. 72-SP-34 and entitled "James B. Early and wife, Claire Bryant Early, Petitioners, vs. Robert D. Anderson and wife, June B. Anderson, et al, Defendants", the undersigned Commissioner will at noon on Friday, the 16th day of March, 1973, at the courthouse door in Chowan County, Edenton, North Carolina, offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash that certain tract of land situate in Fourth Township, Chowan County, North Carolina and more particularly described as follows: All of Lot No. 10 in Block 101, "Surside Section" of Cape Colony, according to the survey plat of Woodard Hassell, dated October 5, 1964 and recorded in Plat Book 4, page 36 of the office of Register of Deeds for Chowan County.

THE OPENING BID ON THIS TRACT OF LAND WILL BE \$1,625.00.

This sale will be made subject to 1973 Chowan County ad valorem taxes and 1973 Cape Colony maintenance assessment, and the highest bidder shall be required to make a ten per cent deposit of the bid with the Court. A plat of this property is on file with the office of Register of Deeds as stated in the description. Dated and posted this 26th day of February, 1973.

W. J. P. Earnhardt, Jr., Commissioner 102 West Eden Street, P. O. Box 445 Edenton, North Carolina 27932 Telephone: (919) 482-4441 March 8, 15c

Senator Sam J. Ervin Says

WASHINGTON—Last week I introduced a bill entitled the Newsman's Privilege Act of 1973, which is designed to protect the free flow of information to the public.

This new bill represents my third attempt at drafting legislation with will accommodate both the interest of society in law enforcement, and the interest of society in preserving a free flow of information to the public. I have been attempted the task knows, this is no easy exercise. While I am certain that this bill can be improved, in my judgment it strikes a reasonable balance between necessary, if at times, competing, objectives.

The bill provides qualified protection for a newsman's source and for his unpublished materials. A newsman, under the bill, is entitled to refuse to reveal to a governmental body the name of his source of information if he gave a contemporaneous assurance to the source, either expressed or implied, that the identity of the source would not be disclosed. Furthermore, the information must have been obtained in the course of the newsman's occupation. Unpublished information is also protected from disclosure if it was gathered in the course of the newsman's occupation.

It is important to note that, despite these provisions, the newsman is not excused from testifying to the identity of any person who commits a crime in his presence. This provides a clear standard which puts both newsmen and sources on notice that where the newsman has viewed a criminal act, whether

or not as a pledge of confidentiality, he may later be compelled to identify the perpetrator of that act. This provision provides a small qualification to the general privilege conferred by the bill.

But it is a necessary and reasonable exception. No newsman would take lightly concealing a crime from public authorities, and no newsman should have a right to keep this information from the police. Yet to conform to the exception will require little imposition on the part of the newsman. He need only tell his source: "The law will protect against my having to disclose your name. But I cannot hide your identity if you are committing a crime." These terms are reasonable to any man, and will not interfere with the normal and necessary reporting and informing function of the journalist.

The provisions of this new bill would apply to both federal and state governments. THIS REPRESENTS, a departure from my earlier bills which applied only to federal jurisdictions. I have been convinced during the course of the hearings on this subject by the Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights that inclusion of the states, is within the power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce and, moreover, is desirable. A shield law which only applied to the federal courts would not fulfill its objective of protecting the free flow of information. If a uniform shield law were not in effect, neither sources nor newsmen could be assured that they would not be subpoenaed before state tribunals where the

testimonial privilege was different or did not apply. Under my bill, the states would be free to provide greater protection for newsmen if they so desire. My bill only sets minimum standards.

This legislation represents an attempt to reconcile two sometimes competing interests of society: the preservation of a free flow of information to the public and the administration of justice. Giving the newsman the right to withhold the identity of all sources of information, however obtained, would seem to weigh the balance too strongly in favor of the newsman and carry the potential for abuse. There is no need to allow the newsman to protect a source if the source did not ask for protection. Nor is any interest served by allowing a newsman to refuse to testify about an event which he saw while not performing his job. Similarly, the interest of society in identifying and punishing violators of its law is too vital to allow newsmen to testify about a crime committed in their presence.

This bill takes a balanced approach to resolve this issue. Its provisions are simple and direct. Under it, newsmen and their sources obtain protection which they can rely upon, and law enforcement officials are not unduly restrained.

District GOP Dinner Slated

Bill Dansey, First GOP Congressional District Chairman, has announced that the First Annual Lincoln Day Dinner will be held March 24, 7:30 P.M. at the Greenville Moose Lodge.

Tickets are available from all County Chairmen located in Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Greene, Hertford, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell and Washington counties.

The public is encouraged to attend. The guest speaker will be announced at a later date and should be of interest to all.

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New Books At Local Library

New books received at Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library include the following:

Adult-Fiction A North American Education by Clard Blaise.

Pure as the Lily by Catherine Cookson.

The Case of the Postponed Murder by Erle S. Gardner.

Adult-Non Fiction Everyday Life in Bible Times by National Geog. Society.

How to Probate an Estate by William J. Moody.

My Life in the Mafia by Vincent Teresa.

Landscape for Living by U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

The Blender Cookbook by Ann Seranne.

The Little Red Schoolhouse by Eric Sloane.

The Disasters of War by Goya Lucientes.

The Alps by Nat'l Geographic Society.

Damage Is Heavy In Town Accident

Damage was estimated at \$1,300 after two vehicles collided Thursday afternoon on North Broad Street, at Gale Street.

Joseph Calvin Gordon, 57, Route 1, Hertford, was driving a 1966 Oldsmobile and was turning into Gale Street, when the vehicle was struck from behind, according to police records.

Driver of the other vehicle involved was Oscar Frederick Blain, 50, of Edenton. His 1968 Buick was damaged in the amount of \$800 while the Gordon car was damaged in the amount of \$500.

There were no injuries.

New Program

Something of interest for area folk . . . As a part of its expanding cultural program, Museum of the Albemarle is offering a new film series beginning Thursday, March 15, at 8:00 P. M.

"Pioneers of Modern Painting" is the name of the six-film program. The films were produced by Colin Clark.

Each of the six programs is devoted to an artist who significantly influenced the development of 20th century art. They were written and narrated by Kenneth Clark.

The Norfolk & Carolina Telephone & Telegraph Co.



He'll eat anything he can get his hands on...

Poison Prevention Is More Than Packaging

New Federal law requires child-proof packaging for many products involved in childhood poisonings. To protect your children, ask for this special packaging . . . use it . . . and after using, be sure to resecure each safety closure!

However, Remember . . .

- Children are curious. They want to taste things. They will try to open the best designed safety guards.
- Children will imitate. Take your own medicine out of their sight.
- Children love sweets. Never tell them medicine is "candy." They'll eat it when you're not around.
- Small children can't read warning labels. Store hazardous household products and medicines in separate cabinets. Keep these substances locked up when not in use. Clean out cabinets periodically.
- Children get hungry and thirsty. Keep hazardous products in original containers, never in cups, soft-drink bottles or other food utensils.



NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK MARCH 18-24, 1973

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