

LYNN NISBET:

# Around Capitol Square

**FILING** — It will cost all statewide candidates, except governor and supreme court justice, more to enter the primary race this year than ever before. Filing fees for legislative candidates and for most county officers also will be increased over the 1948 and 50 scale, because of increased salaries provided by the offices sought. The election laws fix the filing fee at one per cent of the annual salary. Presently the attorney general is paid \$8,400 per year and members of the council of state are paid \$7,500; but with beginning of the next term these salaries go to \$10,000 for the attorney general and \$9,000 for the council of state members who are the secretary of state, state auditor, state treasurer, superintendent of public instruction, commissioner of agriculture, commissioner of labor and commissioner of insurance. That means it will cost candidates for attorney general \$108 to file and will cost candidates for the other positions \$90 each. No change was made in the salary of the governor or supreme court justices, that figure remaining at \$15,000 and \$14,400 with filing fees of \$150 and \$144, respectively.

**LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR** — No change was made in the regular salary of the lieutenant governor, which stays at \$2,100 per year. But the "compensation" of the lieutenant governor was substantially increased by the raise in pay as ex-officio presiding officer of the state senate. That was upped by virtue of a constitutional amendment ratified two years ago from \$700 for the session to \$20 per day for a period not exceeding ninety days. The 1951 general assembly ran well above the ninety days and Lieutenant Governor H. P. Taylor was paid the maximum of \$1,800 as president of the senate. Added to his regular salary as lieutenant governor that brought his compensation for the year to \$3,900 and fixed the base filing fee for the office next time at \$39 instead of the \$28 which Taylor paid four years ago.

**LEGISLATORS** — Application of the same rule to filing fees of candidates for the general assembly would set that figure at \$13.50 this year, instead of the six dollars which had prevailed for a long time. Members of legislatures from 1951 to 1948, inclusive, were paid \$15 per day for the length of the session, with provision for extra pay in event of a special session. The amendment ratified two years ago changed the basis of pay to \$15 per day for not exceeding ninety days, or a maximum of \$1,350 for the regular session. The 1951 session went well above the ninety days, and each member was paid the maximum of \$1,350, which set the filing fee for candidates at \$13.50.

**GRAVY** — Whichever member of the house of representatives is elected speaker will get a free ride for part of his filing fee. Because the speakership is not an office at stake in the primary, he will pay the same \$13.50 filing fee as all the other 119 members—but if the session goes to the ninety days he will get \$1,800 in compensation.

**RECORD** — At noon Monday books in the office of Raymond Maxwell, secretary to the state board of elections, showed three candidates had filed for the supreme court associate justiceship. These filers were Titmuss Valentine, now serving by appointment of the governor; Oscar Efrid of Winston-Salem and Superior Court Judge Allen Gwyn of Reidsville. Valentine and Efrid filed for both terms—the approximate one month for the unexpired term to which Valentine was appointed and the full eight years beginning January 1. Gwyn filed only for the full term. In other words, Valentine and Efrid each tendered checks totaling \$288, while Gwyn settled for one check of \$144.

**GAMBLE** — Paying \$144 for the chance of serving for a little more than one month might be classed as a gamble for all candidates except incumbent Justice Valentine,

who would have something to gain by retaining continuity and seniority. At that, it is a right good bet with odds of about ten to one. Available salary for the short term would be about ten times the cost of filing for the office.

**PICK-UP** — Business has been rather dull at the state election office, but it is likely to pick up fast now. At least two others have announced candidacy for the supreme court—Judges Don Phillips and Hunt Parker. Four candidates have announced for governor—William Umstead of Durham, Manly Dunaway of Charlotte, Ernest Gardner of Shelby and Hubert Olive of Lexington. Marshall Kurfes, mayor of Winston-Salem has formally announced for lieutenant governor, and Roy Rowe of Burgaw will announce this week. At least three other candidates are confidently expected in that race. Announcement of his candidacy for secretary of state was made some time ago by J. T. Joyner, Jr., of Winston-Salem. Brandon Hodges has announced that he will seek re-election as state treasurer. Waldo Cheek has said he wants to continue as commissioner of insurance. All other incumbent elective state officials are expected to be candidates for re-election. Suggestion that Clyde Erwin might seek the governorship instead of superintendent of public instruction is not taken very seriously since entry of Olive in to the No. 1 race. Whether or not these incumbents have general opposition, the board of elections bank account will get several thousand dollars in filing fees before the books close at noon of March 22.

## Redden Supports Umstead, Won't Manage Campaign

**By RECORD BUREAU**  
WASHINGTON. — Rep. Monroe M. Redden, of Hendersonville, said there is "nothing to" a report he would manage former Senator William M. Umstead's gubernatorial candidacy in return for later political reward.  
Redden said, "I am going to support Bill Umstead" for governor, but "I certainly am not going to manage his campaign."  
The Hendersonville lawmaker, who was out of the country when the report developed last year, said that as far as promises of future political reward were concerned, "I do not plan to run now or in the foreseeable future for any political office, nor do I plan to accept appointment to one if it is offered."  
Last year's report had it that Redden, in return for management of the Umstead campaign, would get the Durham man's support in a later race for either governor or senator, or that he would be appointed to the Senate by Umstead if a vacancy should develop during the gubernatorial term.

## Prospects Good For Yam Growers

Although present indications are that there will be a 15 to 20 percent increase over the 40,000 acres planted in sweet potatoes in 1951, it will still fall short of the 62,000 acres planted in 1950, according to J. B. Gourlay, Marketing Specialist for the State Department of Agriculture.  
The production last year was 3,760,000 bushels as compared with 6,220,000 bushels in 1950. However, with a favorable growing season, the production this year could easily reach five to five and one-half million bushels in 1952.  
Mr. Gourlay points out that growers and dealers realize that they have to grow a quality product, grade and pack properly to command and keep the lead in prices received for sweet potatoes on the northern and eastern markets.  
His department will work even more closely this year with each producer, to popularize even more strongly all sweet potatoes shipped from North Carolina.



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