

Raleigh Round-Up

More Talk On New Capitol Building, Speculations On Minimum Wage Law

BY KIDD BREWER

THE LAST? . . . A lot of the legislators we have talked with during the past few days seem to think this may be the last session of the N. C. General Assembly to be held in the State Capitol.

When both houses are in session, humming and grinding away at the bills, the place seems overcrowded. Three high school science classes can fill the upstairs galleries to overflowing. The seats there are the narrow, high-backed type that we used to have in our churches.

MUSEUM . . . You can sit in the gallery of House or Senate — and particularly in the House — for 30 minutes sometimes and catch only a word or two of what is transpiring in the well below. And to climb from the ground floor of the Capitol up the four flights of steep stairs to the overlooking galleries is the equal of a five-block run at full gallop.

Now the beauty of our legislative halls in North Carolina is tremendous. We heard a famous artist

NOTICE

State of North Carolina
County of Transylvania

Having qualified as administratrix of the estate of Clarence McCall, deceased, late of Transylvania County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the office of Thomas R. Eller, Jr., Attorney, 3-5 West Main street, Brevard, North Carolina, on or before the 29th day of January, 1960, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 26th day of January, 1959.
S—Mary Jane Price McCall,
Administratrix of the estate of
Clarence McCall, deceased.
1-29-6tc

refer to it one time as "breath-taking". We would not go that far — for we are not that artistic — but our State Capitol is a thing of beauty, inside and out. But when walking through it, visiting a friend having offices there, or greeting legislators in the rotunda, I sometimes have the feeling that I am in a museum-piece.

SQUAT . . . Now within the next few days you will likely hear and read more about a new legislative building. With the present set-up, only the Lieutenant Governor, over in the Senate side, and the Speaker of the House, and the chief clerks of the two houses, have offices. The chairmen of three dozen important committees and their stenographers squat for a dictating session wherever they can find a chair. Many an old courthouse in this State has better bathroom facilities than our State Capitol.

\$100,000 . . . Our first State Capitol here was destroyed by fire in 1831. We soon got to work on another one, but it was not until the summer of 1840 that the work on our present building was finished. It cost us a little over one-half million dollars . . . or the equivalent of five years of taxes. Our total tax income for North Carolina in that year was less than \$100,000! Our income for our next fiscal year — 120 years later — is expected to be a little over \$500,000,000.

COMPARISON . . . If we were to spend five years of state taxes on our new legislative building — as we did 120 years ago for our State Capitol, the cost would be five times \$500,000,000 — or two-billion-five-hundred-million dollars!

And this would be the most expensive building on earth! All of which gives you some idea of the burden of putting up a building which cost \$531-

674.46. in 1833-1840 — and of how our State taxes have increased from \$100,000 per year to \$500,000,000 in six generations.

MINIMUM WAGE . . . Although you hear a great deal of talk about the certainty of this legislature adopting a state minimum wage law, don't bet your last dollar on it. While everybody says the law is needed, strange winds blow. We hear that a lot of the members who came sailing into town plumping for it two weeks ago are slowing down a little. Those opposing North Carolina's telling employers what they must pay their help point out that no other state south of Delaware and east of the Mississippi has a state minimum wage law. Also, the talk of a bill calling for a dollar-an-hour minimum wage was slowing some of them down to a walk last week. But the Governor is pushing . . . and so is Frank Crane.

We predict a long, hard battle before the adoption of any type of State Minimum Wage Law. This type of legislation is not easy.

NOTES . . . The average number of bills introduced at one of our North Carolina legislative sessions is about 2,000 . . . but at the rate they are being dropped into the hopper this time, the number is expected to run close to 3,000 — a large proportion of them affecting only one county . . . or only one community in the county . . .

Carl Goerch, story-teller-publisher, aviator, and the man who has been reporting doings of the legislature for more than a quarter of a century . . . has hit it lucky . . . with the National Executives club, which lists among its speakers the best in the land . . . Goerch has just been informed that he has been added to their select group . . . and will hit the banquet circuit for Executives clubs soon after he and Mrs. Goerch return from a two-months tour of Europe with Edmond Harding's cruise . . . and Carl also plans to have Mrs. Goerch with him executing. They pay a fee for each appearance . . . and expenses for the speaker . . . and Goerch figures the two combined will be enough for a nice speaking tour of America . . . and here's wishing them luck . . . and fun . . . when all this gets under way several months hence . . .

Failure of the massive resistance movement in Virginia's effort to avoid integration is putting a quietus on some attempts to follow this approach in Tarheelia . . . and will no doubt slow down to a walk Dr. Beverly Lake's run for Governor . . . More on this later as the picture develops . . . but legislative leaders we have talked with say N. C. will stick strictly with the Pearsall Plan adopted in special session in the summer of 1955.

A shipwrecked sailor who had spent three years on a desert island was overjoyed one day to see a ship drop anchor and an officer handed the sailor a bunch of newspapers.

Officer: "The captain suggests that you read what's going on in the world and then let us know if you want to be rescued."



CONGRESSMAN DAVID M. HALL received a Boy Scout emblem from Scout George Hanks, Jr., in observance of National Boy Scout week. Scout Hanks of Rockville, Maryland and Magnolia, N. C., was selected by his troop to present the emblem to Rep. Hall in a brief ceremony commemorating the 49th anniversary of Boy Scouts of America.

NEW INSTRUCTORS ADDED TO STAFF

As the second semester begins, two new teachers have joined the faculty at BHS. They are Mrs. Ralph Humphries and Warren Burleson.

Mrs. Humphries, who is teaching sociology, is well known as a former teacher and leader in extra-curricular activities. She is a graduate of Western Carolina college with a B. S. degree.

Burleson, who is the pastor of King Street Baptist church, attended Southwestern Seminary, University of N. C., and graduated from Furman University with a B. S. degree. He is teaching English and has formerly taught at Valley Springs in Buncombe county.

Concert Highlights Agenda Of Program For Recent Meeting

The band at Brevard high school presented a concert on Monday, February 16th at 8:00 in the school auditorium.

The event was a P-TA program which the public was cordially invited to attend. The band letters were also presented during the program to the following seniors: Jean Fluke, flute; Leonard Poteet, drums; Sarah Nicholson, bass clarinet; and Ann Wells, majorette.

The numbers that were played were as follows: Burst of Flames, a march by Richard W. Bowles; Final movement of Symphony No. 1 in E Flat, by Saint Saens; Iphigenia in Aulis, an overture by Van Gluck; Prebuefs Faust, by Charles Gounad; and ending the program of music was Headlines, a modern rhapsody by Carlestone Colley.

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