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## Changes Recommended For State Government

### Research Institution Suggests Abolishing Some Officers And Consolidating Others; Only Three State Officials Would Be Elected By The People; The Rest Would Be Appointed By The Governor.

By M. R. DUNNAGAN

Raleigh, Dec. 30—Revolutionary changes, constitutional and statutory, are recommended for reorganization of the State government in the report of the Institute for Governmental Research of the Brookings Institution, Washington, D. C., to Governor Gardner last week. Many offices, as now formed, would be abolished and others established, on a plan of consolidation and correlating the State's activities.

In the first place, only the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor and the State Auditor, of the State officers, would be voted on by the people, who now elect, in addition, the State Treasurer, Secretary of State, Superintendent of Public Instruction and Attorney General, constitutional offices, and Commissioners of Insurance, Agriculture, Labor and Printing and the three members of the Corporation Commission, offices created by legislative enactment.

These offices, under the recommended plan, would be abolished as such and in most cases others set up to take their places, or they would be merged into other offices recommended in the report. Many commissions and boards would be abolished, although in some cases such bodies or commissions would be kept, but only in an advisory capacity. The Governor would name the boards and most of the executive officers, some with the approval of the State Senate, while others would be named by the boards with the approval of the Governor.

The main features of the proposed changes include placing the Governor at the head of the administration, lodging in him the power of naming the officers and placing upon him the responsibility of official action, substituting bureaus for the board plan of organization, substituting a Governor's Cabinet for the present Council of State, and establishing a Department of Justice, embracing all of the 20 district solicitors, with the Attorney General as head.

All of the present departments and divisions of the State would be embraced in 12 Departments, including Finance, Justice, Education, Health, Highways and Public Works, Agriculture, Conservation and Development, Labor, Institutions, Local Government: Finance, Banking and Insurance and Public Utilities Commission. The latter taking the place of the present Corporation Commission. All others would be abolished or included within these departments, with as many divisions as necessary to handle all phases of the work included.

This is the "short ballot" with a vengeance. It goes much further than has been proposed before. Edward M. Gill's short ballot bill proposed in 1929 and which was to be introduced again next month, proposed to allow the Governor to appoint the present statutory officers, leaving those created by the Constitution to be elected as at present. Several Constitutional amendments and changes are proposed in the latest report, and they, of course, will have to wait until the next election. Whether Governor Gardner will seek to bring about all of the changes proposed, or only some of them, is uncertain, pending his recommendations to the Legislature.

#### May Consolidate Colleges

The proposal to consolidate the three higher educational institutions, the University at Chapel Hill, State College at Raleigh and the College for Women at Greensboro, suggested in the report, is causing much comment, especially among the alumni, faculty and friends of the institutions. It would give a University of North Carolina with about 7,000 students to begin with and would doubtless bring about economies in elimination of overlapping courses. The plants, as now established, would remain intact and in continued use.

Governor Gardner's plan for a central purchasing agency for all the State's institutions, divisions and departments, making purchases of all supplies and materials on open competitive bids, instead of at retail and higher prices, would, Governor Gardner contends, save \$400,000 the first year of its operation or 10 per cent

of the \$4,000,000 spent each year. This bureau of purchasing and contracting would not embrace the Highway Department, which spend about \$2,000,000 a year and is already on an excellent basis, the Governor said. Opposition to the general sales tax as a "tax on poverty," is expressed in the report of the State Tax Commission, which has just been issued and certain numerous results of investigations and recommendations for the guidance of the General Assembly in tax matters.

## New Superintendent At Water-Light Plant

The new year starts off with some rather important changes in connection with Beaufort's water and light department. The Board of Commissioners met yesterday morning in a special session and elected E. D. Doyle a member of the Water and Light Commission to succeed Joseph House who resigned several months ago and whose place had not been filled.

Last night a meeting of the Water and Light Commission was held at which time Roy Hamilton was elected superintendent of the plant to succeed Hardy Lewis who has been superintendent for a number of years. The commission is composed of C. R. Wheatly, W. P. Smith and E. D. Doyle. Mr. Doyle has been elected chairman of the board. Mr. Hamilton the new superintendent has had a good deal of experience with crude oil engines on fishing vessels which is the type of engines used at the plant.

For several weeks the electric plant has not been giving good service and the machinery, although comparatively new, became badly in need of overhauling. Mr. Van Dyke a representative of the Fairbanks-Morse Company, and who installed the equipment a few years ago is here and is getting the machinery in order. It will cost several thousand dollars to do the repairs so a News man was informed. A concrete tank for water for the plant is also being built and a shallow well will be put in to supply the tank with water.

A few weeks ago an offer of a quarter of a million dollars was made for the water and light plant and was rejected by the Board of Commissioners

## HIGHWAY COMMISSION PLANS ROAD WORK

Raleigh, Dec. 31—A meeting of the state highway commission will be held here at an early date to discuss the use of the \$1,900,000 federal aid emergency appropriation, Chairman R. A. Doughton announced today. The work must be completed by September 1, Mr. Doughton said and also there is need to give people immediate employment, therefore the commission will be called to meet soon.

## STERLING CHADWICK BURNED BY OIL STOVE EXPLOSION

Mr. Sterling Chadwick suffered very painful injuries to both hands and face yesterday in a brave attempt to save his mother's home from fire. An oil stove in the bathroom ran up and was on the verge of explosion when Mr. Chadwick took hold of it to throw it out of the window. The stove exploded in his arms, burning both hands, face and throat, flames licking up one sleeve and burning that hand and arm severely. He was carried to the hospital and was resting as comfortably as could be expected.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

Herbert Salter, Sealevel, and Carada Mason, Atlantic.  
Geo. R. Smith, Salter Path and Juanita Fulcher, Newport.  
Iredell J. Wade, Williston and Mary G. Bell, Smyrna.

Robert Ripley says that any man, woman or child can jump or leap higher than any building or structure in the world. Guess so, the building cannot jump, it is stationary.

## ASHEVILLE PEOPLE CONGRESSMEN MAY SWITCH TO WETS SEEM STIRRED UP

### Ask For Special Solicitor To Investigate Conditions In

#### City And County

Raleigh, Dec. 30—Governor Gardner this afternoon said he was without authority to designate a special solicitor to investigate conditions growing out of bank failures in Buncombe and Henderson counties.

The governor said he was confident, however, the investigation being conducted by the banking department would bring out any evidence to convict those who may have violated the banking laws.

"But as to the violation of the law by officers of the city and county if any," he added, "I am without authority to make the investigation along the same lines now being followed by the banking department."

I. M. Bailey, an attorney for the state banking department, has spent much time in Asheville and Hendersonville lately and is scheduled to return to that section from Raleigh shortly after the new year.

#### Is First Statement

Today's statement was the first statement of Governor Gardner on numerous requests from Asheville and Hendersonville for a special solicitor to investigate conditions.

Approximately \$8,000,000 of city and county funds were tied up in the closing of two Asheville banks.

Governor Gardner said his only power would be to designate a special judge to sit as a committing magistrate to "hear such evidence as might be presented tending to involve any who are guilty of violating the laws either in connection with the operation of the banks or the conduct of the affairs of the city and county."

The governor issued the following statement:

#### Earnest Consideration

"Request has been made upon me to designate a special solicitor for the prosecution of cases in Buncombe and Henderson counties growing out of the recent failure of banks in those counties. These requests have received my earnest consideration because of my desire to render any assistance possible in connection with violations of the law which may have occurred in the conduct of the affairs of banks or of the cities and the counties.

"The investigation has led me to the conclusion that at the present time the governor is not vested with authority to designate a special solicitor for the prosecution of such cases as may be presented either in the lower courts or the Superior court of either county.

#### Audits Being Made

"I am confident that the investigations being made by the banking department are such as will present in complete form information with reference to the violations of the banking laws in connection with the operation of the banks and while these investigations have not as yet gathered the facts, it is information that as soon as the audits now being made can be completed and transactions in the banks can be analyzed evidence will be at hand to convict those who may have violated the banking laws. I recognize the necessity of thorough and complete investigations, however, and await the results with a feeling that nothing will be left undone which

## BUNCOMBE AND CARTERET COUNTIES TOO HEAVILY BURDENED WITH TAXES

Raleigh, Dec. 29—Buncombe and Carteret counties are used as examples by the State Tax Commission to show that "in the case of many local governments," an analysis "will show combined maturities and interest requirements within a given year to be substantially larger than can be met by any tax levy that could reasonably be borne," in its report to the General Assembly, made public this week.

"For example," the report continues, "on the assumption that the total debt of all governmental units in the county bears evenly over the entire valuation of the county, the rate necessary to levy to meet principal and interest payments during the next 12 years in Buncombe County would range between \$1.73 and \$1.53 per year. The amounts falling due annually range between \$2,865,000 and \$2,536,000. In Carteret County, the rate necessary to be levied for debt service on the same assumption would range between \$3 per year and \$2.69 per year.

"As a matter of fact, however," the report continues, "these maturities are not spread evenly over the entire valuation of each county. Property in the cities has to pay the county-wide rate, therefore of any

### Waiting For Favorable Time; Liquor Question Much Discussed

Washington, Dec. 28—The opinion that 40 dry members of the house are awaiting only a strategic moment to switch their allegiance to the wets followed close upon reports today that a battle is brewing in that chamber over the proposed \$2,000,000 appropriation agents requested by the justice department.

Simultaneously, members of the law enforcement commission, returning from a five-day recess, indicated that another delay is in prospect for their promised prohibition report, while from other quarters came a flurry of statements on the wet and dry question.

From Stanley High, editor of the Christian Herald, came a statement that a recent "authoritative canvass of the capitol lobbies" had "revealed at least 40 members of the house who confessed themselves prepared to desert."

At the same time, High strongly criticized the "professional" dry leaders. He asserted that "the nation's dry organizations are not adequate as they stand today, to save prohibition."

#### Women Attack Decision.

The Woman's Christian Temperance union, meanwhile, made another attack upon the decision of Judge Clark of New Jersey holding the eighteenth amendment invalid.

It issued a statement from Senator Sheppard of Texas, co-author of the amendment, saying that at the time Congress considered it only one voice was raised, and that weakly, against the proposal to have the amendment ratified by state legislatures.

Judge Clark held ratification should have been given by constitutional conventions.

A third statement came from Ernest Cherrington, secretary of the World League Against Alcoholism, criticizing the recent claim by the association against the prohibition amendment that 50,000 prohibition prisoners are now being held in American jails.

#### Says Wets Crying

Cherrington said "the wets are crying out today" because "the shoe is pinching them."

Word of a prospective house battle over the increased dry appropriation came from anti-prohibition members of the appropriations subcommittee handling the measure. It was reported the proposed increase had been approved only after once being rejected, and that some members of the group will carry their objections to the house floor.

would tend to bring to justice those who have been responsible for the catastrophes in western North Carolina.

"It is my hope, therefore, that in this emergency each move may be considered with calm deliberation so that in justice may not be done to any one, but that full punishment may be meted out to any and all offenders against the integrity and public morals of our people."

## More Investigations Of Election Probable

Charlotte, Dec. 30—The rumbling chimes of Senator Gerald P. Nye's campaign funds investigations rolled back into North Carolina today, provoking—and promising more—fireworks.

Winner and loser in the Ninth congressional district election swapped words.

Congressman Charles A. Jonas, Republican, defeated, said a member of the Nye committee "went so far as to tell me that in his opinion the voting and election conditions in North Carolina had those of Pennsylvania 'stood aside.'"

Congressman-elect A. L. Bulwinkle, Democrat, victorious, urged Mr. Jonas to look "to his own crowd" and said he welcomed investigation.

#### No Thought of Contest

The question of contesting the election came up.

"I am not entertaining any thought of a contest," Mr. Jonas said, "but I do feel the citizens of this district would not stand by and see a Congressman take a seat if investigations revealed he had gained that seat with the assistance of election frauds."

The Republican said "so far as I know" the election was "fair" but "informal." He thought both parties in North Carolina should "get together and help clean up our deplorable election conditions." He offered to lend his assistance, even though he be accused of "squealing."

Mr. Jonas predicted future defeat for Democrats, who "can carry the State without resorting to such practices as they have," unless they "call a halt, quit this unfair play and follow the election laws."

The twin statements followed hard on the heels of letters Chairman Nye wrote to Mecklenburg county folk asking information about alleged irregularities in voting of absentee ballots, a sore spot in both the 1930 primary and election.

## Motor Truck Accident Mars Holiday Season

The Christmas season was greatly saddened in the Otway community when Hassell Lawrence, a seventeen year old youth, met death in an accident on the highway near Smyrna Wednesday evening. The truck in which Hassell was riding and which was being driven by his brother Watson ran off the road into the soft dirt and was turned over when an attempt was made to get it back on the road.

The unfortunate young man was thrown out of the cab of the truck and landed on his neck in such a way as to fracture it at the second vertebra. He was able to speak and said that he was badly hurt. He was put into a car almost immediately and brought to the Emergency Hospital in Beaufort but was dead by the time he reached there. The youth was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Lawrence of Otway and has many relatives and friends in that section who greatly regret his untimely death.

#### BIRTHS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Piner of Williston, Christmas day, a son.  
Borne to Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hamilton of Sea Level, Wednesday, December 31, a son.

## TIDE TABLE

Information as to the tides at Beaufort is given in this column. The figures are approximately correct and based on tables furnished by the U. S. Geodetic Survey. Some allowances must be made for variations in the wind and also with respect to the locality, that is whether near the inlet or at the heads of the estuaries.

High Tide	Low Tide
Friday, Jan. 2	
5:57 A. M.	11:13 A. M.
6:19 P. M.	12:20 P. M.
Saturday, Jan. 3	
6:45 A. M.	12:05 A. M.
7:08 P. M.	1:08 P. M.
Sunday, Jan. 4	
7:34 A. M.	12:55 A. M.
7:58 P. M.	1:55 P. M.
Monday, Jan. 5	
8:21 A. M.	1:46 A. M.
8:47 P. M.	2:42 P. M.
Tuesday, Jan. 6	
9:11 A. M.	2:38 A. M.
9:39 P. M.	3:31 P. M.
Wednesday, Jan. 7	
10:01 A. M.	3:34 A. M.
10:35 P. M.	4:18 P. M.
Thursday, Jan. 8	
10:33 A. M.	4:30 A. M.
11:07 P. M.	5:07 P. M.

## BIG DAMAGE SUIT IS NOW ON TRIAL

### Administrators of H. L. Joyner And Jasper Hoel Sue For \$100,000

One of the largest damage suits ever tried in Carteret county is now under way in Superior Court. The case has caused the appearance here of a large number of witnesses and others interested in it and is being contested by a considerable number of prominent attorneys.

Judge E. H. Cramer of Southport who is holding the special term of court arrived Sunday afternoon and opened court promptly Tuesday morning at ten o'clock. Every morning since then court has met at 9:30 o'clock. Judge Cramer gave attorneys and litigants to understand that he is here for business and he insisted that no time be wasted. Some cases have been nonsuited, some tried and some continued.

The suits for damages now being tried started yesterday morning. They grew out of the tragic deaths of H. L. Joyner and Jasper Hoel of Greenville which occurred on June 29th, 1929 when the two men and a companion, Raymond Elks, were fishing at or near the bridge across Bogue Sound which connects the main land with Atlantic Beach. The suits are brought by T. J. Broadhurst and J. J. Elks, administrators of the estates of the two deceased men, against the town of Morehead City, Atlantic Bridge Corporation and Atlantic Beach Corporation. The sum of \$50,000 is asked for the estate of each man. Mr. Joyner left a widow and daughter and Mr. Hoel was survived by his widow and two children. The men were employes of a tobacco warehouse in Greenville.

About two hours were consumed yesterday in selecting a jury and several witnesses were examined. The issues submitted to the jury are first negligence on the part of the defendants, second contributory negligence on the part of the plaintiffs and what damages, if any, are the plaintiffs entitled to collect. Appearing as counsel for the plaintiffs are: former Judge A. W. Dunn, L. W. Gaylord, J. C. Lanier of Greenville and Alvah Hamilton of Morehead City. Attorneys for Morehead City are Larry I. Moore, Thomas Moore of New Bern and W. C. Gorham of Morehead City. Atlantic Beach is represented by Luther Hamilton of Morehead City and Atlantic Bridge by J. F. Duncan and C. R. Wheatly of Beaufort. It is alleged that the two men killed by reason of the fishing line of one of them getting caught on a high voltage wire used to carry power to the beach.

Other cases disposed of this term of court are as follows:  
Mrs. Gertrude Hancock and Mrs. Gertrude Hancock ex. of the estate of S. P. Hancock against Taylor and J. E. Woodland. The matter was settled by agreement and the plaintiff is to pay \$50 to the defendant to cover matters in controversy and all costs.  
Oneal against W. M. Jones and others: goes off the docket on opinion of Supreme Court given more than ten days before this term.  
M. S. Snowden against J. S. Whitehurst: settlement reached by which defendant is to pay to the plaintiff the sum of \$283.24 with interest and costs.

D. G. Bell against M. C. Adams and C. V. Webb. The court held that plaintiff was entitled to recover and taxed him with the costs.  
Milton Lewis against Willis Seafood Company, called and failed and nonsuit ordered.  
Styron against Day, C. Goodwin against Day, D. Goodwin against Day, Koonce against Day. Cases consolidated and order made that a jury not to exceed thirty men, be drawn from Pitt county and the cases set for trial first Monday of June term of court. It is thought that court will continue through Friday and possibly a part of Saturday.

#### WILD CAT CAPTURED

A live wild cat was brought to town by B. W. Gillikin Tuesday and exhibited on Front street. The animal did not appear to like confinement and showed signs of being ready to bite or scratch any one who got in his reach. Mr. Gillikin had set a trap to catch a fox and upon visiting the trap Tuesday morning found the cat in it. It was caught by one foot and was not seriously injured. Mr. Gillikin has caught foxes several times in his traps. He lives a short distance from Beaufort on the North river road.