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LEGISLATORS AND LOBBYISTS ARE GATHERING IN RALEIGH

Questions Will Come Up That Will Make Present Session of General Assembly One of The Most Important In History; Taxation, Schools And Highways Make Big Problems

M. R. DUNNAGAN

Raleigh, Jan. 6.—Fifty Senators and 120 Representatives, less one removed by death, are gathering in Raleigh this week to begin what may well be termed one of the most important sessions the General Assembly has ever held in North Carolina. Along with them are lobbyists representing every kind of interest, intent upon preventing detrimental and encouraging favorable legislation, from every point of view.

State and county government reorganization, growing out of Governor Gardner's Brookings Institution report, taxation, highways, schools, State's Prison, these are the principal general classifications of the problems that will face the 170 lawmakers during their 80 or more days of deliberation.

Taxation will be the most vexing problem, since it will be necessary for the Legislature to provide additional revenues to carry on the State's activities on the present basis, or greatly restrict the expenditures in order to balance the budget. Even with the \$2,000,000 surplus brought over from the last administration, and the 10 per cent cut this year in most of the appropriations, estimates place the deficit at the end of the biennium at \$1,000,000.

Governor Gardner guarantees a \$400,000 saving by a purchasing and contracting agency for all State institutions and departments, and it seems that this is striking popular fancy, to such an extent that either the agency or at least purchasing control will be established. Another \$300,000 is the estimate on savings by consolidating administrative features of the three higher educational institutions into one State University, through eliminating overlapping in structural activities.

The addition of one cent a gallon on the gasoline tax is not exactly popular, but officials see no way around it, if the State is to take over the county roads for maintenance, which now appears likely. The Prison Commission report also favors the State taking over the remaining convict camps and assuming control over all convicts as an economy measure, along with a complete reorganization of the prison system and building a new central plant.

Confederate Veterans Decrease
Only 1,430 Confederate veterans remained on the State pension rolls at the last semi-annual payment, as of December 15, at which time there were 79 negro servants drawing \$200 a year, or \$15,800 a year. The veterans drew \$253,075 in December, while the two classes of widows of veterans, the totally disabled and confined to the home, numbering 322, and those married before 1880, with a few others added by the State Pension Board who were married to veterans before 1899, numbering 3,633, received \$229,950 in December.

Haywood had the largest number of veterans, 38, while Mecklenburg and Surry had 36 each. Yancey had 33, Davidson 32, Wilkes 30, Rowan and Gaston and Yadkin 28 each. Wake had 23 and Surry 21 completely disabled widows. Mecklenburg had 95 and Iredell 92 class "B" widows. Thirty-one counties had all the 79 negro servants, Granville with 8, Gaston with 6 and Harnett, Union and Yadkin three each. Dare has only one veteran on the pension roll and Tyrrell has only four class "B" widows.

Carteret County received a total of \$1,447.50 from the last semi-annual advance distribution in December, including \$547.50 for the three veterans; none for negro servants; none for class "A" or completely disabled widows, and \$900 for the 18 class "B" widows, according to the records of State Auditor Baxter Durham. When a veteran dies during the six-month period before the check is distributed, the money goes to the next of kin. All actual veterans get \$1 a day, or semi-annual checks of \$182.50.

Death of Otto Wood, notorious one-handed lawbreaker and prison escaper, shot down by Chief of Police R. L. Rankin in the heart of Salisbury last Wednesday, removes from the front pages one of the most dangerous criminals in this State since the passing of the famous Lowrey gang of outlaws. Wood, whose list of crimes ranged from misdemeanors to murders, had been declared an outlaw after his fourth escape from State's Prison, on the ground that he

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FISHERMEN HAVE VERY GOOD LUCK

Large Catches Made Last Week At Hatteras And Ocracoke

The New Year started off very nicely in so far as a good many Carteret fishermen are concerned. With the discovery last year that some good fishing was to be had around Hatteras and Ocracoke a new field was opened up for Carteret county fishermen. Some good results were had there last year and judging from the start made last week it looks like the prospects are good for this winter's fishing.

The News is informed that more than 200,000 pounds of fish, mostly trout, were caught on the first and second of January on the Ocracoke and Hatteras grounds. Boats from Morehead City, Harker's Island and Atlantic made very good catches. McKinley Lewis, Ivey Gaskill, Martin Thomas and Arthur Lewis of Harker's Island made catches of 32,000 pounds and others did well also. Monday three boats from Hampton, Va., brought here 15,000 pounds, mostly flounders. The prices obtained seem to have been satisfactory to the fishermen. Some sixty to seventy thousand pounds were bought by dealers here in Beaufort. The dealers say that the prices at which they have been selling are low though and that they have not been able to make much profit.

Fishing on the Ocracoke and Hatteras grounds is no easy job. It takes good boats and good boatmen to do the work. The ocean there gets fearfully rough at times and a blow came up in a very short time. A loaded boat trying to get across the bar at Ocracoke in rough weather is in a dangerous fix. There have been

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Whale Gets In Net And Scares Fishermen

By JIMMIE GUTHRIE

It was last week when the sure enough excitement was meted out to every one alike down on the shores of Ocracoke. Its like this, one day during the week that many boats were fishing in the curve of the beach at Ocracoke. Fish on that particular day were not so plentiful and the sea was running alarmingly high, the wind very mild and the very movements of the water thereabouts would spell destruction or some bad mishap. However, not intending to stay out very long, it seemed that everybody was lounging around awaiting for some one to start inside, when the occupants of a boat not far distant could be seen as though they were in distress, when the boy said to me, Look! So I looked and great God! I exclaimed, within a foot of the boat a roaring splash of water just hid the western portion of the horizon, the two brave men who proved to be Capt. Joe Davis and Abraham Lewis were scrambling on top of and over the cabin for safety. Said I to the boy its a whale and she's entangled in his net and she will sink the boat certain.

As it happened our engine started and good for me it did, 'cause I was going to start if the engine failed. Everybody felt that the boys had to be assisted but to do so placed every one in the same danger. After all, though we sauntered near the perilous scene where upheavals of the water could be seen and heard far away.

When we drew near it could be plainly observed that a big 60-foot whale was in the net, had took charge of the rear end of the boat driving the men all forward. So I with my heaving line in hand to throw to the helpless boys who needed to be pulled from such a varmint, it threw its full size above the water with power enough to remove Ocracoke from its bedding, scaring me half to death I stumbled and fell, entangling the line that I held in my hand about my neck and had I not been a good rope handler I would have been hanged. This sudden lunge of its fluke took 50 yards of net from the boys off with her, after all I got the worst end of the bargain as usual, finding an oil can had mashed the pump spout broken and my thigh hurt also.

BIG DAMAGE SUIT ENDS IN MISTRIAL

Jury Out Ten Hours; Plaintiffs Want Case Moved To Another County

After waiting until nine o'clock Saturday night for the jury to bring in a verdict in the big damage suit tried in Superior Court last week, Judge Cranmer called the jury and ordered a mistrial. The jury it seems was unable to agree on a verdict. The jury was out 10 hours. The unofficial report is that five jurors favored giving damages to the plaintiffs and seven opposed allowing anything.

As related in the News last week the suits were brought by J. J. Elks administrator of the estate of Jasper Hoel and T. J. Broadus administrator of the estate of H. L. Joyner against the town of Morehead City, the Atlantic Beach Corporation and Atlantic Bridge Corporation. Each plaintiff sued for \$50,000. The trial started on Wednesday morning and was closely contested by a strong array of counsel on both sides. It was alleged that the two men were killed by coming in contact with a live electric wire on Atlantic bridge while they were engaged in fishing from a boat. Saturday night counsel for the plaintiffs lodged a motion that the case be moved to another county for a new trial. Judge Cranmer continued this motion to the next term of court.

The case of Norman S. Bowles versus Atlantic Beach and Bridge Corporation was nonsuited.

Rena Bullock versus John E. Willis, suit about a dividing line. It was decreed that the dividing line set out on the map was the true dividing line and Surveyor E. D. Hardesty was instructed to locate and mark said line. Carteret Supply Co., versus Ocean Beach Company and K. P. B. Bonner. Nonsuit as to Bonner and confirmed as to Ocean Beach Company.

Albert Gwaltney versus D. In. Garner, administrator of estate of P. P. Garner. Verdict set aside and new trial ordered.

Sam W. Morgan and W. B. Blades against Norfolk-Southern R. R. Clerk instructed to transmit the record to the Judge of the Fifth Judicial District for his determination thereof.

E. L. Davis against the Standard Oil Company. Jury gave a verdict of \$400 for the plaintiff and the defendant appealed.

MONEY COULD BE SAVED BY CENTRALIZING COUNTIES

(State Superintendent Public Instruction)

Raleigh, Jan. 6.—One of the recommendations set forth by Supt. A. T. Allen in his report to the Governor and members of the General Assembly is the centralization of financial control of school funds in the several counties.

The consolidation of all the different operating funds in a county," Supt. Allen states, "would make possible many economies, and the total savings over the State would amount to many thousand dollars.

"At present, there are often in one county fifteen or twenty spending agencies—all determining how public money shall be spent. There is no one agency responsible in a county for financial control. If all the funds for the operation of the schools in a county could be consolidated into one fund—all the money from the State and all the money raised from local resources spent by one responsible agency—real business administration could be introduced into the operation of the schools. Such a task would appeal to the best business interests of the county and the very finest and most capable business men would be glad to serve on county boards of education.

"Some of the business principles that could be introduced might be stated as follows:

- a. Provide for only one responsible spending agency.
- b. Provide concentrated financial control and thereby effect many economies.
- c. Provide an agency to regulate supplementary salaries.
- d. Provide an agency to regulate the employment of additional teachers.

"Through these agencies and the economies which they could accomplish, it is believed that the consolidated school term could be operated for less money than is now spent for the operation of our present system with its uneven lengths of term and impassable district lines. Furthermore, such a centralized financial control would make possible a degree of flexibility which would enable the system to adjust expenditures to

LACK OF DEMAND CAUSES SURPLUS

World Supply Of Wheat Has Increased Every Year Since 1924

Washington, D. C. Jan. 5.—Failure of consumption to keep pace with production resulted in the greatest supply of wheat on hand in 1930 on record, both in the United States and throughout the World.

This was shown by a study just completed by the Bureau of Railway Economics and made public today of the relationship of wheat prices to transportation costs in the United States, and the principal economic factors affecting the world wheat situation.

"The annual carry-over of wheat in the United States," according to the study, "averaged 103,000,000 bushels at the beginning of the years 1923 to 1927, amounted to 128,000,000 bushels in 1928, 247,000,000 bushels in 1929 and 275,000,000 bushels in 1930.

"Supply, that is production plus carry-over, which averaged 912,000,000 bushels in 1923 to 1927, increased to 1,043,000,000 bushels in 1928, to 1,053,000,000 bushels in 1929 and 1,115,000,000 bushels in 1930.

"Production and supply in the United States has in general maintained its relationship to that of the world throughout the entire period, although the tendency has been toward a relative increase in supply.

"World production of wheat (exclusive of Russia and China) which was 3,551,000,000 bushels in 1923, rose to 3,676,000,000 bushels in 1927 and then increased greatly to 3,973,000,000 bushels, the largest production on record, in 1928, after which it declined to 3,491,000,000 bushels in 1929 and to an estimate of 3,650,000,000 bushels in 1930.

"World disappearance of wheat, that is, consumption, seed utilization, etc., although following in general the same course as production, has not kept pace with production, so the world carry-over of wheat has increased almost every year, especially since 1924.

"During the five years, 1923 to 1927, disappearance in the United States averaged 23.3 per cent of the world total, while in 1928 it amounted to only 20.9 per cent and in 1929 to 21.9 per cent. The carry-over in the United States, which at the end of the year averaged 32.9 per cent of the world total during the five years, 1923 to 1927, amounted to 41.8 per cent in 1928 and 50.9 per cent in 1929."

The bulletin shows prices paid to farmers at 159 points in 21 states during the 1923-30 crop year. It also shows the average price paid to the farmer in the United States over a period of years. According to the study, the average price in 1929-30 was 105.1 cents per bushel, which was 5 cents per bushel greater than in the previous year, but was 15.4 cents per bushel less than in 1927-28.

The bulletin further says, "There is no definite relationship between freight rates on wheat and the prices paid to the farmer; that is, rate and price differentials as between different points do not correspond.

"This study of the wheat situation," concludes the bulletin "appears to warrant the conclusion that variations in the prices paid to the farmer for wheat in the United States during the crop year 1929-30 were due to such economic factors as large supplies, reduced demand, favorable and unfavorable reports of weather and crop conditions both in the United States and elsewhere, and competition in the world market with wheat from other countries."

LOFTIN MOTOR COMPANY WILL GIVE A CAR AWAY

The Loftin Motor Company starts off the New Year with a bang in the shape of an offer to give an automobile to some fortunate customer. The purpose of the offer of course is to stimulate trade and this is followed up with a full page advertisement in this newspaper and a large number of circulars. The Loftin Motor Company will have a drawing for the car on July 4 and some body will get a Ford roadster that day for probably a very little investment. The advertisement on page eight explains the proposition.

GARDEN CLUB MEETING

The Garden Club will have its monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. M. Leslie Davis, Friday evening, January 9, at eight o'clock. The subject of the month is roses, and the program will be in charge of Mrs. E. R. Seeley.

Mrs. W. G. Mebane, Pub. Chmn.

December Was Rather Rainy And Cold

Beaufort and vicinity had some right cold weather during the month of December and there was also considerable rain. There were 6.44 inches of rain which was about two inches more than the average for December.

The coldest day in December was the last day, when the mercury fell to 25 above zero. Six days during the month it went below thirty. Five days the maximum temperature was sixty or above. There were 14 clear days and 17 cloudy and partly cloudy ones. The wind blew from the north-west ten days and from the north-east nine days and from other points of the compass for the rest of the month.

The temperature figures day by day as furnished by the U. S. Weather Station are as follows:

	Max.	Min.
1.	64	54
2.	58	31
3.	59	43
4.	60	47
5.	64	52
6.	61	47
7.	55	45
8.	54	32
9.	59	40
10.	60	46
11.	59	51
12.	57	36
13.	51	42
14.	50	34
15.	46	28
16.	52	33
17.	50	36
18.	46	38
19.	50	38
20.	48	31
21.	45	37
22.	42	32
23.	40	27
24.	47	26
25.	58	40
26.	59	41
27.	51	32
28.	46	33
29.	42	34
30.	45	25

Sea Level Fuss Aired In Recorder's Court

Most of the time of Recorder's Court Tuesday was taken up with the trial of Gaston Hill and Frank Taylor, two young men from Sea Level, on charges of assault and trespass. The result of the trial was that Hill was convicted and Taylor was acquitted. Attorney Alvah Hamilton defended the young men and attorney C. R. Wheatly assisted Solicitor Phillips with the prosecution.

The prosecution witnesses in the case were Mr. and Mrs. Wallace H. Willis. The testimony disclosed the fact that the trouble between the parties grew out of a dispute about a road. The first witness, Mr. Willis, testified that he had forbidden the public and the Hill family in particular, to use a private road leading through his premises to the public highway. He said that in the early part of the night of December 21 the two defendants were on his road, that they had some words and Hill struck him. He denied on cross examination that he struck Hill with a knife. Mrs. Willis corroborated the statement of her husband and denied that she attacked young Hill. She said that he struck her with his fist or hand.

Gaston Hill was the first witness for the defense. He said that he is twenty years old, six feet and eight inches tall and weighs 190 pounds. He admitted being on the road, said he had never been warned to stay off. He said Willis struck him with a knife and he knocked him down. He said he did not strike Mrs. Willis but pushed her away from him when she tried to attack him. Frank Taylor corroborated his statement as did also Moye Taylor a fourteen year old boy. Taylor said Mrs. Willis called Hill a liar and used other strong language to him.

Uriah Mason, an elderly man, a witness for the prosecution, made quite a speech in the course of which he said he always told the truth and said that Mr. Willis did not have a knife in his hand. Mrs. Nannie Fulcher, a witness for the defense, contradicted Mason by saying that he left the scene before the fight occurred.

After listening to vigorous argument by the lawyers Judge Davis decided that Hill was guilty of trespass and also assault and fined him \$25 and costs. Taylor was declared not guilty of either charge. An appeal was taken by Mr. Hamilton and bond of \$75 required.

Milton Joyner, a young Negro man from Morehead City, was convicted of having liquor in his possession and given three months on the roads. Alexander Smith, a young Negro

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BOARD COMMENDS WHEATLY'S ACTION

Thanks Highway Commissioner For Taking Over Atlantic Road

The first meeting of the Board of County Commissioners for the year 1931 took place Monday. A considerable number of people were on hand to see about getting roads fixed and other matters. The minutes show that business was transacted as follows:

J. F. Boyce claimed that some error was made in listing his land for taxation. The matter was referred to the County Auditor for investigation.

The wife of J. E. Lewis came before the board for the purpose of getting her husband out of jail where he has been for several months. They have several children and are said to be in destitute circumstances. Lewis who came to Morehead City a year or so ago from Kingston and is a Greek by birth, figured in court several times on bad check and bootlegging charges. A motion offered by Commissioner Chadwick to ask the presiding judge of the district to release the man was passed.

Benjamin Baker, an elderly man from Merrimon township, came before the board and asked to be admitted to the county home. A motion was passed to admit him.

A delegation came before the board to see about putting a bridge across the old canal in the Harlowe section. The board agreed that the county should furnish the lumber and Ball Brothers the piling and the county force will go ahead with the work.

The matter of adjusting a road dispute at Sea Level came up and a committee composed of H. C. Taylor, Mitchell Taylor and Joe Lane Salters to assess the lands necessary to establish the road was appointed.

County Auditor J. J. Whitehurst submitted a report as to the county's affairs which was read and filed. The following resolution adopted by the board:

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JOY RIDE GETS DEFENDANT INTO POLICE COURT

Only one case had an airing in Police Court Friday afternoon. There were a few other cases on the docket but as the defendants were scalloping and doing other work they were permitted to go over another week.

Alexander Smith, a young Negro man who lives on North River road was tried on two charges. The first was stealing a truck and the other was driving the truck on the streets of Beaufort while in an intoxicated condition.

Smith said that on New Year's day some white man, whose name he did not know invited him to take a ride in the truck and he accepted the invitation, that they went up the road a few miles and the man left him with the truck. He denied any intention of stealing the truck. Dallas Blake, owner of the truck testified that some one drove it away and that he hunted it up and found the defendant in it. Mayor Taylor bound Smith over to Superior Court on the first charge and to Recorder's Court on the charge of driving while under the influence of liquor. A bond of \$50 was required in each case.

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, January 9	
11:29 A. M.	5:29 A. M.
11:47 P. M.	5:57 P. M.
Saturday, Jan. 10	
12:29 A. M.	6:33 A. M.
12:46 P. M.	6:51 P. M.
Sunday, Jan. 11	
1:30 A. M.	7:42 A. M.
1:49 P. M.	7:47 P. M.
Monday, Jan. 12	
2:34 A. M.	8:52 A. M.
2:55 P. M.	8:45 P. M.
Tuesday, Jan. 13	
3:35 A. M.	9:58 A. M.
3:57 P. M.	9:44 P. M.
Wednesday, Jan. 14	
4:34 A. M.	10:59 A. M.
4:56 P. M.	10:41 P. M.
Thursday, Jan. 15	
5:30 A. M.	11:06 A. M.
5:51 P. M.	11:54 P. M.