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Highway Problem Now Attracts Attention

Big Contest Over Governor's Proposed Road Law; He Favors Change of State Highway Commission And State Control of All Roads; Highway Patrol Question Under Consideration Also.

By M. R. DUNNAGAN

Raleigh, Feb. 9.—Hardly had the smoke of battle on the six months State operation school bill cleared away and the education committees of House and Senate had buckled down to try to find the additional \$11,000,000 to \$13,000,000 it requires, before the road proposal, one of Governor Gardner's major measures sprang into the center of the stage of the North Carolina General Assembly and gives promise of being one of the big contests this week.

Two bills were introduced last week Friday, one carrying the Governor's recommendations, the other continuing the present methods of highway work, but with changes. Only one provision is the same—a six cent tax on gasoline, the two cents going to the county roads in both bills, but by different routes.

General provisions of the Gardner bill are well known. It would abolish the nine highway districts and the nine commissioners, making the State a single district and the commission of a chairman and four commissioners a State-wide commission, the chairman to receive \$7,500 a year for full time, the other commissioners \$10 a day while on duty. The State would take over the 45,000 miles of county highways and maintain them with two cents of the gasoline tax and a million dollars additional a year. The counties would still have to take care of their road bonds and interest.

The other bill leaves the commission as it is, abolishes all of the county, township and district road boards and returns road matters to the county commissioners. The two cents on gasoline, about \$6,000,000 plus another million, would go to the counties, prorated on a basis of one-third area, one-third population and one-third number of registered automobiles. Two or more counties may join as a road district. The first bill provides that the State take over all highway machinery and all county convicts and use them for highway work.

Col. T. L. Kirkpatrick, president of the U. S. Good Roads Association, continued his attack on the Gardner plan at a meeting of county commissioners in Raleigh last Thursday, when an organization was formed to oppose the plan, and a resolution to that effect was adopted. About 150 persons, representing about half of the counties, were present. All of them, it was found, are not opposed to the Gardner plan. Colonel Kirkpatrick opposes the entire plan, but John Sprunt Hill, fourth district commissioner, opposes primarily the plan to abolish the present commission.

Governor Gardner comes back by bringing Leslie R. Ames, former State highway engineer, Frank Page, former chairman, the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads, and others to the support of his plan. He sees in it a response to the mandate of the people of the State to relieve them of as much of the tax burden as possible, improved rural roads and a better rounded State system.

Whether to enlarge or abolish the State Highway Patrol is being thrashed out by the Roads committees of House and Senate, following a public hearing Wednesday. A bill to abolish the patrol has been introduced, while another, with provision for a \$1 drivers license and a \$5 chauffeurs license to support it, would increase the number to 150 to 200. Indications are that the patrol will be continued, and probably increased, but probably not more than 75 or 100 members at most.

Not Many Bills Past

Although the session is about half gone, normally, not more than 35 or 40 bills, practically all of them local, have completed their course and been ratified. Bills introduced in the Senate have exceeded 160, while in the House the number is above 360. Committees are hard at work, however, and the floor debates are expected to reach full swing this week. Appropriations committees have heard all institutions, departments and agencies seeking more money to operate on, while Finance committees have heard protests of many groups seeking to have tax rates suggested in the Revenue bill reduced. It is the usual conflict of those wanting more money and those wanting to pay less. Four of Governor Gardner's measures have reached the hopper.

(Continued on page eight)

Road Sentence Given For Larceny of Sugar

A considerable number of cases were on the docket in Recorder's Court Tuesday but on account of the usual difficulty in getting witnesses to attend court some were continued. Several were gotten off the docket however.

David Parker, colored, of Morehead City submitted to the charge of breaking several windows in the city jail Saturday night. It seems that he had been locked up for being drunk and he expressed his resentment in that fashion. Judge Davis gave him the option of paying \$15 and costs or serving 30 days in jail.

The trial of Henry Turner, young colored man of Beaufort, on the charge of assaulting Charlie "Goose" Chadwick with a piece of scantling brought a considerable number of witnesses into court. They were mostly for the defendant though. Charlie Goose who has but one leg, attempted to prove Turner's guilt mainly by the evidence of Polk Johnson, a well known character who is also minus a left leg. Polk did not help Charlie much, neither did Ellis Baxter. Henry denied hitting Goose at all and had several witnesses who testified that they did not see him strike Goose. Attorney C. R. Wheatly who appeared for the defendant undertook to show that there was nothing to the affair and succeeded in getting his man acquitted.

Alfred Wilson, also young Beaufort Negro, charged with throwing a piece of brick at Jim Chadwick was convicted and fined \$5 and costs and given until next Tuesday to comply with the sentence or serve 30 days.

J. H. Stallings of Dunn, who is a fish dealer, was tried on the charge of giving a bad check to H. W. Fergus of Morehead City for \$171.75 and also for giving a check of the same sort to John Smith for \$40 for fish. He admitted the charge but said he would make the checks good if given the chance and Fergus and Smith said they were willing to give him a chance. The court's sentence was 90 days on the roads and costs, capias not to issue for 60 days.

David Parker, colored, was tried and convicted of the larceny of two 100 pound bags of sugar from the warehouse of G. W. Huntley. The evidence against him was given by G. W. Huntley Jr., Robert King and Milton Lewis. They testified that they saw Parker take the sugar from under some steps at the warehouse, where it had been hidden by some one earlier in the day, and that they chased him and turned him over to the police. Parker admitted taking the sugar from under the steps but denied that he put it there. Judge Davis said he was guilty and gave him 90 days on the roads.

A case against John Bunyan Congleton charging him with entering a store belonging to Sam W. Morgan and stealing some articles from there, was continued to next Tuesday. The case of L. K. Piner of Morehead City was also continued. He is charged with giving a bad check. Judge E. Walter Hill his attorney wanted the case tried but the prosecution asked for a continuance and this was granted.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

T. W. Kittrell and wife to C. A. Dudley and wife, 30 acres White Oak Township, for \$200.

Pearson Investment Corporation to C. M. Hill, 3 lots Newport, for \$100.

Chas. L. Abernethy and wife to Earle W. Webb, 24 1-2 acres Morehead Township, for \$300.

J. H. Davis Sheriff to E. H. Gorham, 10 lots Morehead City, for \$59.

J. M. Ball et al to D. M. Salter, 2 acres Merrimon Township, for \$550.

James W. Mason Comr. to Carteret County, tract Straits Township, for \$127.78.

Paul H. Deming et al to Edward S. Cornell, 20 acres Davis Precinct, for \$6500.81.

E. W. Hill Trustee to Rudolph Piner et al 19 acres Smyrna Township for 300.

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YOUNG NEGRO MAN KILLED IN FIGHT

Blow With A Hammer Fractures Skull of Henry Wilson; Slayer In Jail

Henry Wilson young Negro about 21 years old is dead and his alleged slayer Alonzo Bell is in jail as a result of some sort of altercation they had Sunday morning. Bell is also young, apparently 18 years old or thereabouts.

It has been difficult to get many reliable facts about the homicide. Bell was arrested Sunday night at about 9 o'clock by deputy sheriff R. E. Chaplain and police officer Gherman Holland and brought to town and put in jail. Monday afternoon a preliminary hearing took place before Justice Henry W. Noe. Through his counsel C. R. Wheatly the defendant waived examination and was committed to jail without bond to await trial at the March term of court. The defendant did not go on the stand and made no statement about the matter.

The report that the News heard was that the two men attended a party Saturday night; that they quarrelled about something and wound up with a fight Sunday morning when Bell struck Wilson on the front part of the head with a hammer knocking him unconscious. It is reported that both had been drinking. Mr. Thos. Campen brought the man to the Emergency Hospital here and an examination was made and an X-ray picture taken. It was found that a fracture of the skull three or four inches long had been made and that nothing could be done for him. He was taken to a house in the colored section of town and died there about 7 P. M. The officers located Bell hidden under a bed in the home of Mrs. Laurel John Merrill who lives on the Laurel road. The two men also lived in that section.

City Charter Amended In Two Particulars

A bill to amend the charter of the town of Beaufort has been passed by the General Assembly. The bill was drawn by City Attorney M. Leslie Davis and makes two changes in the charter. One change is to make the terms of the city officials begin the first Monday in July instead of the first Monday in June. The other change permits the city board to hold its monthly meetings either in the day time or at night as they prefer. The present law requires the meetings to be held in the day time.

The bill reads as follows: The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section 1. That sub-section (21) of Section 53 of Charter 435 of the Private Laws of North Carolina of 1913 be and the same is hereby amended to striking out the words "June" in line one and three of said sub-section (21) and in inserting in said lines one and three in lieu thereof the word "July."

Section 2. That Section 1, of Chapter 203 of the Private Laws of North Carolina one thousand nine hundred and twenty-one, be and the same is hereby amended by striking out all of said section from the first word "That" in line one of said section, and substituting in lieu thereof the following:

"That the commissioners shall form one body, and a majority of them shall constitute a quorum and be competent to perform all the duties prescribed for the commissioners, unless otherwise provided. On the first Monday in July after their election they shall convene for the transaction of business and organize and shall meet on the first Monday in every calendar month thereafter, at such an hour as the commissioners may name for such meeting, and they shall be allowed the sum of five dollars per day for their said services."

Section 3. That section 3 of Chapter 203 of the Private Laws of one

WANT DELEGATION TO GO TO RALEIGH TO OPPOSE TAXING GAS USED BY BOATS

The News is in receipt of a telegram from Representative Luther Hamilton calling attention to the fact that the gas tax matter is to come up for a hearing. It is proposed under the new law to discontinue allowing rebates on gasoline taxes. The tax on gasoline is collected for road purposes and boatmen do not have to pay it. If boatmen are required to pay this gasoline road tax it will mean a considerable burden to boatmen in Carteret county. The hearing takes place at 2:30 o'clock Friday 13th. A

MOREHEAD CITY FIRE DISASTROUS

Several Small Business Concerns Wiped Out; Not Much Insurance Carried

A fire that proved very disastrous for a number of people occurred at any early hour Tuesday morning in Morehead City. This was a row of wooden buildings on the north side of Arendell street owned by R. A. Cherry and used for various purposes.

The fire started at about two o'clock. The Morehead City fire department responded promptly to the alarm and, although a high wind was blowing which made any fire a serious matter, held the blaze to the wooden structures. The buildings were not entirely destroyed but were almost so with the exception of the two story house on the corner which was used by J. H. Harris as a bakery on the first floor and living quarters upstairs. The Beaufort firemen were called about 2:30 and went across the bridge in record breaking time and assisted in holding down the blaze.

The News understands that the total loss caused by the fire is estimated at about \$25,000 and that there was only \$8000 insurance. Several of the renters of the store rooms had no insurance at all. The buildings were occupied by J. H. Harris, bakery, Mannie Willis, cafe, W. E. Winberry, cold drink place, Peter Kenan, shoe repair shop. The shoe shop saved a machine but the other occupants lost practically every thing they had. The burned buildings were in the fire district and cannot be rebuilt of wood.

MEASLES EPIDEMIC

Fayetteville, Feb. 10.—More than 100 children are out of school as the result of an epidemic of German measles here.

Police Court Does Considerable Business

A rather large number of defendants faced Mayor Taylor in City Police Court last Friday afternoon. Practically all of them submitted to the charges against them and got off with small fines and the costs. The records follow:

Nettie Henry, colored, disorderly conduct, guilty, \$1 and the costs.

Roy Potter, colored, disorderly conduct, \$1 and costs.

Arthur Stewart, colored, disorderly conduct, \$1 and costs.

Mark Washington, colored, disorderly conduct, \$1 and costs.

Henry Turner Turner, colored, assault on Charlie "Goose" Chadwick, bound over to Recorder's court.

Harold Willis, fighting, \$1 and costs.

Milton Piner, fighting \$1 and costs.

Wm. Ed. Potter, colored, fighting \$2.50 and costs.

David Parker, colored, larceny bound over to Recorder's court.

Alfred Wilson, colored, assault, bound over to Recorder's Court.

HOOVER SPEAKS TONIGHT

President Hoover will deliver a speech tonight which will be broadcast over the country by stations WABC and WJZ and others. Today is the birthday of Abraham Lincoln and the address is in honor of that event. The address is to begin at 10 o'clock and will last about half an hour.

GIVES TO DROUGHT RELIEF

Mrs. C. H. Bushall, local Red Cross Chairman, has just received a splendid donation of \$5. from the Harlow Sunday School for Drought Relief.

thousand nine hundred and twenty-one be further amended by striking out the words "twenty-one" in line two of said section and inserting in lieu thereof the words "thirty-one."

Section 4. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Lobbyists Rush to Raleigh When Taxes Are Suggested

By CARL GOERCH

Citizens Mass Meeting Favors Shorter Term

A practically unanimous vote in favor of an eight months school term and in favor of surrendering the city school charter was given in a mass meeting held in the county courtroom Friday evening.

The meeting, which was called for 7:30 but was a little late in getting started, was fairly well attended the court room being about half filled. Mayor Bayard Taylor called the meeting to order and C. R. Wheatly explained its object which was to consider the school question in Beaufort and make some recommendations regarding it. Judge M. Leslie Davis actas secretary of the meeting.

The principal topics discussed at the meeting were the length of the term and the matter of surrendering the school charter. It was claimed that the term could be cut one month, that is eight months instead of nine months and the school put under the county system without impairing its efficiency. With the exception of Morehead City and Beaufort all of the schools in the county are operated on the eight months basis. Those who spoke in favor of the changes were Messrs. C. R. Wheatly, F. R. Seeley, L. W. Hassell, W. P. Smith, W. W. Lewis, Harry Parkin, Hugh Hill, and Joe House. Judge Dav is opposed surrendering the school charter but said he had no objection to the eight months term. He thought it well to wait and see what the Legislature would do about the whole school question. The meeting however was not in sympathy with his suggestion.

A motion was offered by Joseph House it was carried by a practically solid vote. The motion also included a provision favoring increasing the number of members of the County Board of Education from three to five. A committee composed of Joseph House, F. R. Seeley, L. W. Hassell, H. C. Jones, R. Hugh Hill, and Richard Felton was appointed to bring the matter before the Representative of this County, Mr. Hamilton and the two Senators of this district, Messrs. Ward and Hardy.

A motion was offered by Mr. Seeley that the city board be approached to see if it would be practicable to cut the session this year from eight to nine months. He said that Superintendent Fritz had told him that this would be practicable.

C. G. GASKILL COMPANY ERECTS LARGE BUILDING

Anticipating an increased business this season the C. G. Gaskill Brokerage Company is erecting a large building, 86 by 138 feet on Lenoxville Road near Live Oak street. This firm which is composed of Carl G. Gaskill and Elbert Dudley have been in business in Beaufort for several years and have occupied for most of that time a building near the city power plant. For some time they have acted as agents for the Corbitt Package Company barrel manufacturers. Now they will handle the product of the Farmers' Manufacturing Company of Norfolk, Va.

The new building of the Gaskill Company is not yet completed but will be ready for occupancy in a very short time. The firm has also taken over the building next to the new one which has been used by William Longest for several months as a repair shop for automobiles. This building is now used for an office and warehouse. The Gaskill Company besides handling barrels, baskets and crates does a large business in the sweet and white potato line. An advertisement on another page of this newspaper announces the removal to new quarters.

M. S. SNOWDEN TO REPRESENT BARREL MANUFACTURER HERE

The business of the Corbitt Package Company of Wilmington which has been handled here by the C. G. Gaskill Brokerage Company for several years has been taken over by M. S. Snowden of Beaufort. The Corbitt Company makes barrels and packages of various sorts. Mr. Snowden represented the firm some years ago but gave it up and has decided to go in the business again.

Mr. and Mrs. Snowden have lived in Carteret county for a good many years and have been actively engaged in the trucking business. They were among the first to raise white potatoes on a large scale in this county. They are extensively engaged in the potato business not only on their own farm but also have share arrangements with other growers. They also grow cabbage, beans and other produce for the truck markets.

The legislature is composed of a lot of mighty fine fellows. They're chaps who are kind-hearted, sympathetic, generous and considerate. They are anxious to please the people of the State and want to do the right thing. Somebody makes the suggestion that the power interests ought to be taxed. What happens? A regular army of lobbyists descends upon Raleigh and proves convincingly and conclusively that the power companies are just about the verge of starvation. The legislators listen to the presentation of facts, wipe the tears out of their eyes and decide that in view of circumstances probably it would be best not to impose any additional tax on the power people.

Somebody else makes the suggestion that we ought to have a sales tax. Thirty-eight thousand merchants immediately have a stroke of apoplexy, seventeen thousand die of shortness of breath and several thousand others develop serious cases of the rabies.

Then comes the proposal to tax moving pictures, and every theatre operator goes to Raleigh and displays figures which prove that not a penny has been made in the theatre business since 1786.

When bills are suggested for taxing barbers, bottlers, fish-dealers, chiropractors and bootleggers, representatives of these professions immediately run to Raleigh and succeed in blocking any such move.

Then somebody introduces a bill it put another tax on the farmer: It is given publicity through the newspapers. Members of the legislature hold their breaths. They gaze at visitors in the hotels but fail to discern a single farmer among them. They spot all kinds of lobbyists, but nary a farmer-lobbyist. A huge sigh of relief is released. "Maybe it's best to put on that kind of a tax after all," says Mr. Legislator. And the bill is passed with very little opposition. Along with learning how to live at home the farmer ought to learn how to do a little lobbying.

The Lieutenant-Governor of South Carolina visited the legislature in Raleigh last week and made a talk to the senators and representatives. He advised the legislators to visit other States and get new ideas. Judging from some of the bills that have been introduced in Raleigh thus far, they've already got too many ideas up there. If they get any more, the chances are that the whole State will go broke.

One hundred and fifty representatives of county government and county road boards met in Raleigh last week to declare open war on Governor Gardner's highway program. If the Governor were to make a speech saying that he hoped for fair weather on the Fourth of July, there'd be a delegation in Raleigh before the week was out to declare open war on any such a proposition. A good many of the counties want to see the extra tax placed on gasoline, but they want to handle the expenditure of funds. Whenever it comes to raising money, they're willing for the State to do it, but when it comes to spending it, they want to do it themselves. Besides, if the State were to control maintenance of county roads, members of the boards of commissioners, (Continued on page five)

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, Feb. 13	
5:16 A. M.	10:59 A. M.
5:36 P. M.	11:37 P. M.
Saturday, Feb. 14	
6:06 A. M.	11:26 A. M.
6:25 P. M.	12:24 P. M.
Sunday, Feb. 15	
6:51 A. M.	12:15 A. M.
7:09 P. M.	1:05 P. M.
Monday, Feb. 16	
7:31 A. M.	12:59 A. M.
7:51 P. M.	1:40 P. M.
Tuesday, Feb. 17	
8:08 A. M.	1:39 A. M.
8:27 P. M.	2:14 P. M.
Wednesday, Feb. 18	
8:40 A. M.	2:16 A. M.
9:10 P. M.	2:44 P. M.
Thursday, Feb. 19	
9:11 A. M.	2:52 A. M.
9:34 P. M.	3:15 P. M.