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Race Track Bill Was Cause Of Commotion

Both Houses Pass Bill To Legalize Betting On Races And Then Rescind Action; Large Number of Farmers Visit Capital And Demand Reduction of Taxes on Land; Legislature May Stay In Session Until April

By M. R. DUNNAGAN

Raleigh, March 16—Neither the school bill nor the highway bill has created more interest in any one week than has the Buncombe racing bill, which has occupied the center of the stage for the past week and finally given an unfavorable report by the Senate committee Friday, after that committee had previously given it a favorable report. The entire Senate body also reversed itself Friday night, tabling the bill and putting the "clincher" on it so it cannot come up again except by a two-thirds vote.

The bill provided that racing tracks and devices may be erected in Buncombe at a cost approaching half a million dollars, to be rented at \$5,000 a day for 36 days a year for horse and dog racing and operation of pari-mutual devices—gambling machines—which church people and moral forces assailed as steps toward legalizing gambling and making Buncombe a Monte Carlo of vice and degradation. Proponents pointed to the money Buncombe would receive, saying it would help bring back to that county from its financial debacle. Women led the promoters and formed a formidable lobby. The House passed the bill by a heavy margin and the Senate passed it on second reading, when it was re-referred to the committee on Counties, Cities and Towns, which later reversed its position.

Farmers Demand Reduction

"Emballt farmers" descended upon the General Assembly last Thursday by the hundreds and from all over the State, demanding tax reduction on land. The Finance committee, which have been through torment in their efforts to find the \$19,500,000 to operate the schools for six months without an ad valorem tax, heard them, as it has heard merchants and manufacturers who are opposed to sales or production taxes. While probably close, doubt is expressed that a sales tax can be enacted, although one will be necessary to carry out the six months school plan. The committee is probably approaching, but has by no means arrived, at a solution of the problem. It may yet be necessary to continue the present plan with an increased Equalizing Fund.

While the 70th day is about here, the General Assembly members are by no means near their return home. Most of the important bills are yet to be threshed out on the floors of one or both houses. The local government bill is passed and out of the way, and is to be printed and distributed at once. But amendments are being added to it. The highway measure has passed both houses, but conference committees are still trying to iron out minor differences.

All of the bills relating to reorganization of the government have made some progress during the week, including those established a personnel department, a purchasing agent, reorganization of the Department of Agriculture, establishing a separate banking department, appointment by the Governor of the members of the Corporation Commission, but time will be required to get them through. A bill to create a new Department of Labor, making the commissioner appointive, and specifying divisions, is under way. The Finance and the Appropriations bills are by no means complete and will require fully a week after they are reported out.

The bill to provide for a State insurance fund for the ensuing employees under the Workmen's Compensation act was killed in the Senate, but other bills to amend the Compensation act, interpreting and modifying it, will probably pass.

The omnibus bill, naming members of the county boards of education, has been introduced. It usually brings out many local fights and efforts to turn out boards by other factions. The omnibus bill naming magistrates has not yet made its appearance.

Not Ready To Adjourn

Prognosticators are moving up their dates for adjournment, most of them now believing it will be April 1 before the General Assembly can finish its work.

A summary of the activities so far shows that almost exactly 1,500 bills (Continued on page eight)

Considerable Business In Recorder's Court

In spite of the fact that Superior Court last week disposed of a large amount of criminal business Recorder's Court Tuesday found something to do. There was no case of unusual interest.

J. S. Smith of the Wildwood section was tried on the charge of a simple assault upon his father-in-law Edward Mann. Smith denied the charge and said that his father-in-law came to his place, that they had some words and that Mr. Mann struck him with a stick which he used as a buggy whip. Mr. Mann claimed that Smith was drinking, that after some disputes they got together together, exchanging licks and got down on the ground. Attorney A. B. Morris appearing for Smith claimed self defense but did not succeed in convincing the court of his client's innocence. Judgment was suspended on payment of costs and the defendant given 30 days to get the money. Judge Davis told the men he wanted them to make friends and stop their squabbling.

The hardest fought case tried was that in which Simon Gatlin, World War veteran and colored cafe proprietor, was indicted for selling liquor. He was defended by attorneys E. Walter Hill and C. R. Wheatly. The evidence against Gatlin was given by Arthur Stewart, Louis Jones and John Henry. They testified that they were in the cafe one Sunday morning, that Stewart ordered a breakfast of eggs and bacon and that with the breakfast Simon served a pint of whiskey which was drunk by the men. Stewart said he paid 85 cents for the breakfast and liquor. Gatlin denied selling the liquor, in fact said he was at home asleep at the time. He said he had had Stewart arrested for disorderly conduct once before and that he had him arrested on the day of the alleged sale of liquor for using bad language. He was corroborated in his statement by several women who were in the place at the time. He also proved a good character by several witnesses. The evidence being very contradictory Judge Davis said he would give the defendant the benefit of the doubt and rendered a verdict of not guilty.

A considerable degelation from Harker's Island headed by Justice of the Peace Eugene Yeomans was on hand and it looked like a pretty big trial was on foot but it didn't amount to a great deal. Jack Ricks and Marvin Lewis two young men from the island were indicted on the charge of committing a breach of the peace by firing a gun and frightening the women and the children Sunday night February 15.

The evidence against the defendants was slight, in fact no one testified that Ricks did any thing out of the way. Deputy sheriff Fulcher heard a gun fire and saw Marvin Lewis with a gun which had all of the shells in it unfired. A Mrs. Lewis testified that she heard Marvin say he had fired a gun. Judge Davis and Solicitor Phillips agreed that the evidence did not justify a conviction and therefore the charges were dismissed.

A case against Starling Lewis, charging breach of the peace was dismissed.

Edward Higginson, trespass, called and failed and bond of \$50 was forfeited.

C. E. Sanderson, bad check, dismissed because prosecuting witness did not show up.

L. M. Garner, bad check, continued until next Tuesday.

ICE CREAM SUPPER

Beaufort Council No. 248, Junior Order United American Mechanics will have an ice cream supper after the regular business meeting Monday night, March 23, at their hall in the Duncan Building. All members are invited to be present.

Martin County farmers sold 16,641 pounds of poultry for \$2,728.68 last week saving from 3 to 5 cents a pound by selling cooperatively at the poultry car, says T. B. Brandon.

FEW CIVIL CASES TRIED LAST WEEK

Mostly Criminal Cases Tried; Norman Larkee Given Twelve Months On Roads

Last week's issue of the News carried most of the proceedings of Superior Court of much interest. On account of the large criminal docket not many civil cases were tried. Several consent judgments were made, two divorce cases and one suit tried.

Norman Larkee of Morehead City who was convicted by a jury after many hours deliberation of assault upon a female, was given twelve months on the roads of any county in the district.

George Perry, assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill submitted through his counsel E. Walter Hill to the charge of assault with deadly weapon and got six months on the roads.

D. M. Fulcher, worthless check, continued until June term.

Carlton Laughinghouse, a laying and killing, auto accident, arrested in Cleveland county and put under bond of \$1000 for his appearance at the June term.

Warren B. Smith, embezzlement, continued to June term.

Augustine Gillikin, abandonment, capias and continued.

Alex Becton, assault with deadly weapon, continued to June term.

Mrs. Jennie Lewis, perjury, prayer for judgment continued.

Everett Goodrich, breaking and entering, plead guilty and was sentenced to one year in the penitentiary.

Alex Smith, temporary larceny of automobile. Called and failed, capias and continued.

Fate Jones, larceny, tried by jury and acquitted.

James and Leslie Guthrie, breaking, entering and larceny. Court directed verdict of not guilty.

Grace Reel Piner against Louis K. Piner, divorce granted on statutory grounds.

George Henderson against Delzora Hendersoin, abandonment for five years, divorce granted.

McGlohan against Joe L. Willis, suit for possession and back rent. Jury decided plaintiff entitled to immediate possession and to recover \$70 back rent. Defendant appealed.

Solicitor Clark reported to the court that he had examined the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court L. W. Hassell and found same in excellent condition.

The grand jury made its report to the court to the effect that it had visited the various offices, the jail and county home and found all in good condition.

Several delinquent tax matters from Morehead City were heard in which M. L. Mansfield was the plaintiff. The court decreed that the defendants may have until the June term to pay all taxes and street assessments to the plaintiff Mansfield.

WOMAN'S LIFE SAVED BY COAST GUARD SERVICE

Ocracoke, Mar. 17—The U. S. Coast guard saved the life of an Ocracoke woman last week. Stricken with an illness that needed prompt hospital attention Dr. E. A. Pierce the coast guard and resident physician of this island ordered the patrol boat of Portsmouth station and a hurried trip to the hospital in Washington was made. In Norfolk, Va., at the Naval Base there are two ambulance planes which are at the disposal of residents of the outer banks of the Carolina coast and which have on scores of occasions served the same purpose as the coast guard boat did on Saturday and thus saved the lives of many persons.

CONTRACT FOR BRIDGE FILL WILL BE LET VERY SOON

Bids have been asked for on the fill across North River by the State Highway Commission and it is expected that the contract will be let for this work on the 27th. The bridge force has been assembling materials for some days for building the bridge part of the structure which will be of wood. It is probable that the entire cost of the job, fill, paving and bridge will be less than the bridge cost which is there now and which was built by the county about ten years ago.

The U. S. War Department has approved the plans of the Highway Commission and granted the necessary permission which is required to bridge any navigable stream. It seems probable that work will start on the structure finished in a few months.

NEED MONEY FOR VETERANS' LOANS

A Billion Dollars Estimated As Necessary To Meet Demands

Washington, March 18—Demands of world war veterans for loans has thrust before the treasury the necessity of raising \$200,000,000 in less than a month.

Likewise Director Hines of the veterans bureau believes that within a short time loan checks will be going out at the rate of 200,000 weekly, a sharp increase, as the new machinery limbers up with use.

Secretary Mellon announced yesterday a request by veterans administrator Hines for \$500,000,000 to cover payments on 1,372,006 applications received to March 15. It had been estimated \$300,000,000 would suffice, and 1-2 per cent treasury certificates were issued to get that sum.

Hines said, however, the half-billion would be needed by April 11. How the \$200,000,000 would be raised was not announced.

The veterans administrator also told Secretary Mellon \$1,000,000,000 would be required to pay all loans. He estimated 75 per cent of the 3,500,000 adjusted compensation certificate holders would take advantage of the opportunity to borrow half the face value of their certificates.

Hines asserted \$90,000,000 would be required this week to meet loans and \$100,000,000 weekly for the next three. Since congress overrode the president's veto and increased the borrowing value of certificates, loans have been granted 282,874 veterans for sums totalling \$104,035,366.

Walter Garner Held For Superior Court

Walter Garner had a hearing in City Police Court Friday afternoon on the charge of assault with a deadly weapon upon his step-father Tom Noe, an account of which was in the News last week. He had no attorney and waived examination. Mayor Taylor put him under a bond of \$1000 for his appearance at the June term of Superior Court.

Several cases were tried most of which were of the drunk and disorderly variety.

Mark Washington, colored, answered to two cases of drunk and disorderly and one of assault with a deadly weapon. He admitted to the first two and said he was not guilty of the third. In the first case he was given a fine of \$2.50 and cost of five days, in the second 5 and costs or 10 days. The warrant in the third case was amended to fighting and he was fined \$20 and costs or must serve 30 days on this charge.

Paul Davis, driving too fast on the streets of Beaufort drew a fine of \$20 and costs which he paid.

Harry Davis, colored, drunk, first offense was fined \$1 and costs amounting to \$4.90.

Several cases were continued until next Friday afternoon.

Two Young Men Hurt In Automobile Crash

Two young men were seriously hurt and one received minor injuries in a car and truck collision that occurred on the State highway west of Morehead City Sunday night. Jeff Sabiston sustained a fracture of the skull and Lester Norris got his collar bone broken and had serious injuries to his head. North Sabiston, also in the car, was not hurt as badly as the other two but all were taken to the Morehead City Hospital from which North Sabiston was released Wednesday. The young men are from the Core Creek community.

A light Ford truck, with which the car collided, was driven by Ralph Smith of Morehead City. Wesley Beacham also of Morehead City was riding with Smith. Neither of the two was injured. Both car and truck were pretty badly damaged. The accident occurred at about 10 o'clock. Dr. C. G. Ferebee happened to come along just a few minutes after the accident and give the injured first aid attention and helped to get them to the hospital.

James E. Guthrie and Grace E. McCabe, Newport.

Milton Smith, Lola and Bessie Daniels, Roe.

It is estimated that 200,000 persons in the United States suffered from pellagra, a disease caused by malnutrition, during 1929.

Present Legislative Session May Break Endurance Record

Looks Like Adjournment May Not Come Before April First If Then; Sales Tax Bill Has Been A Hard Problem To Handle; Important Legislation Yet To Be Disposed Of

Big Porpoise Caught In A Shad Drift Net

Ocracoke, Mar. 17—A giant porpoise measuring seven feet from tip to tip and weighing several hundred pounds was beached here last week after it had become entangled in a shad drift net in the ocean's surf. Too large to be floated again the mammal was dragged upon the high water mark and left to die.

It lived about 24 hours despite the fact that its captors thought they had severed his jugular vein before leaving it upon the beach. A few years back had the blubber of the porpoise been boiled out it would have brought about \$2.50 per gallon. A porpoise the size of the one landed would have yielded about 15 gallons of oil.

Curator Brimley of the State museum has on one occasion requested an Ocracoke friend to be on the lookout for the head skeleton of one of the larger porpoises. Should the skull of the one now lying on the beach here prove satisfactory it will be sent to the museum.

The porpoise is one of the most graceful inhabitants of the ocean. Their lazy movements near the shores where schools of small fish are numerous have been familiar sights to beach goers every where. It is legended among men who sail the sea that should a person fall overboard that a porpoise would happen along to serve as a ferry to shore. Despite the fact that many peculiar things have happened at Ocracoke nothing of this kind ever occurred. Men overboard are usually rescued before the porpoise ferry happened along.

Broccoli Shipments Obtain Good Prices

Broccoli shipments have been going forward in a satisfactory manner so County Farm Agent Hugh Overstreet informs the News. Two varieties of the crop were planted, an early and a late kind, and cutting of the former has been in progress for several weeks.

Most of the broccoli that has left this county has been shipped in large trucks some of which carry as much as a half freight car load. It is packed in bushel hampers and each hamper carries a small quantity of ice used to keep the vegetable fresh. Prices have been very good, from \$2.50 to \$3.00 a basket and the growers are well pleased. In a few weeks shipments will start from Virginia. Carteret county has the advantage in that the crop matures earlier here. Those who are shipping broccoli are W. M. Savage, D. S. Oglesby and Son, J. P. Thomas, G. L. Cotton, C. T. Oglesby, W. C. Willett, G. W. Huntley. The crop is all shipped to New York city.

WRONG NUMBER SHOWN BY FIRE ALARM INDICATOR

Some defect in the indicator at the fire house caused the fire truck to go to the wrong box and thereby let fire get good headway on the home of Hoyt Oden, colored citizen who lives on Pine street Tuesday morning. The alarm was turned in from box 36 at 7:30 and the indicator showed 32. This caused a loss of some ten or fifteen minutes in getting to the spot. A second alarm was turned in and both trucks finally got to the fire and did all they could to put it out.

The house was a one story wooden structure. The origin of the fire is not definitely known but firemen think it started from a flue between the kitchen and dining room. The damage to the building is estimated at about \$700 with no insurance.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

The Town of Morehead City to International Public Utilities Corporation, 3 lots Morehead City, for \$350,000.00.

J. S. Fulcher to Sunie Fulcher 96 acres, Beaufort Township, for \$1.00.

W. L. Staveil Trustee to W. L. Bell and wife, 1 lot Beaufort, for \$2,000.

James Downing and wife to Adelaide Day, 19 acres Cedar Island, for \$115.

E. P. Gaskill et al to W. W. Styron 5 acres Cedar Island for \$5.

Edgecombe county farmers saved about \$1.00 through cooperative purchase of lespezea seed. One hundred farmers pooled their orders.

By CARL GOERCH

The legislature is still at it. Along with the great drought, the present business depression, the blizzard of 1888 and the low price of cotton and tobacco, it now threatens to become a national calamity.

Tree sitters and marathon dancers were bad enough, but now along comes a legislature that threatens to eclipse all endurance records ever established. They've evidently forgotten that they ever had homes and families of their own.

"Mother; oh, Mother; tell me, I pray!
"What causes Daddy to stay away?"
"Hush, little darling, so sweet and pure—
"Daddy belongs to the legislature."

The present week is going to bring many important issues to a head. There's the sales tax, for one thing. Thus far, it has proved to be in the same category as the Wickersham report; nobody has been able to make heads or tails out of it. There's the revenue bill, too;—to say nothing of the short ballot and various and sundry other things.

You'd naturally think that things were getting so hot and unpleasant around the capitol that the boys would want to quit and go home. But, on the other hand, most of them are married men, and they're going to find things even hotter and more unpleasant when they finally straggle up their respective front porches.

Financial conditions in a number of counties are reported to be very bad. In some instances schools may have to close. Teachers haven't been getting their salaries for two or three months. That certainly is too bad. But I have yet to hear of a single county where the sheriff, the register of deeds, the clerk of the court and the rest of the gang around the court house haven't collected their salaries in full.

There was a whole page in The Raleigh News and Observer last Sunday, devoted to telegrams and letters expressing opposition to the Buncombe county gambling bill. The bill has had a rather hectic career. The consensus of opinion seems to be that a horse race and a dog race are not good for the human race. From now on, so far as North Carolina is concerned, horses may continue pulling cars and plows, while dogs can scratch for fleas in peace.

The prison bill passed by an overwhelming vote. To be perfectly frank, I've been interested in that piece of legislation as much as anything that the legislature has had before it. The people of the State evidently realize that a new building and a new system of handling the prisoners is absolutely necessary. There is no reason in the world why they should have to be maintained in idleness. George Ross Pou has some ideas with respect to prison management which, if carried out, are going to be of benefit to the State as a whole. He is going to get busy on them in the immediate future, and his work is going to be most interesting.

(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 Friday, March 20

8:13 A. M. 2:29 A. M.
8:59 P. M. 2:38 P. M.

Saturday, March 21

9:13 A. M. 3:05 A. M.
9:29 P. M. 3:07 P. M.

Sunday, March 22

9:45 A. M. 3:40 A. M.
10:00 P. M. 3:40 P. M.

Monday, March 23

10:15 A. M. 4:18 A. M.
10:36 P. M. 4:15 P. M.

Tuesday, March 24

10:53 A. M. 5:01 A. M.
11:05 P. M. 4:58 P. M.

Wednesday, March 25

11:10 A. M. 5:50 A. M.
11:40 P. M. 5:56 P. M.

Thursday, March 26

12:16 A. M. 6:47 A. M.
12:33 P. M. 6:43 P. M.