

THE BEAUFORT NEWS

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Long Session Tires Members Of Assembly

Physician Says They Need Rest; Longest Session on Record; May Last Until Easter; Very Hard To Agree On Any Thing And Suspicious of Each Other.

By M. R. DUNNAGAN
Raleigh, March 23—The North Carolina General Assembly is tired. One of the doctor members read the symptoms and declared most of the members are used up, spent, need a rest. They have already broken all records by staying in session two weeks over the normal time, with slim prospects of getting away in another two weeks. "Easter" is the most promising prediction now.

The Assembly has reached its lowest ebb. Members are talkative, touchy, and irritable. They have spent two and three hour sessions in passing one or two bills and probable tabling as many more. All want to talk and dissect every bill. They question each others motives constantly, and often justly. There is a sort of back-wash over passing bills that now seeks to kill them. During the next two weeks, predictions are, they will buckle down and dig out of the maze which enshrouds them.

The past week has been spent in marking time, awaiting the Finance bill which has been promised almost daily. It is now in final form and will be taken up early in the week by the House, which will spend most of this week on it before it gets to the Senate for probably another week. Both of the houses, meanwhile, will be getting other legislation behind them. Another big bill is the Appropriations measure, which also will require time. It will doubtless move along behind the Revenue bill.

A movement, described as sinister, is said to have been forming and reached a head the past week. It is called a combination of the power, utility, tobacco and railroad interests with the so-called MacLean forces to put over the general sales tax proposal to finance the State-operated six months term. The general sales tax, estimated to raise \$9,000,000, would cost an average of about \$3 a person a year, which, multiplied by the population of any county, will give the approximate additional amount that county will pay for school support, indirectly. In many of the counties it would be twice the amount that would be received through operation of the MacLean plan, the statisticians figure.

Such an alignment, observers say, is passing strange—a sort of lion and lamb status. It has caused many questions to be asked. Apparently, also, it is causing a sort of re-alignment of forces. Seemingly there is a shift toward the school plan embodied in the bill introduced the past week by Chairman John H. Folger, of the Senate Education committee, and others, which bill provides a \$10,000,000 school fund, \$8,200,000 for the six months term and \$1,800,000 for the extended term. This, experienced school men say, will give more relief than the MacLean plan accompanied by the \$9,000,000 sales tax, although it is an indirect tax. The Folger plan carries no sales tax, but would necessitate \$3,500,000 more than is now provided, coming from power, tobacco, foreign corporations and probably an increase in the income tax.

No Short Ballot

The "short ballot" will not go over this time. The bill providing for the reorganization of the Department of Agriculture was passed by the House after it had changed the bill to make the commissioner elective, rather than appointive. The bill to have the Corporation Commission members appointed rather than elected was tabled by its author. The purchasing agent bill, which would take away a part of the duties of the Commissioner of Labor and Printing, is half over and may pass. The bill to reorganize that Department into a Department of Labor, is in the hopper and may or may not pass.

Governor Gardner's bills, one to reorganize the Department of Agriculture, the other to reorganize the Corporation Commission, did not carry in them the short ballot provision—that Governor appoint the officials. That was aided by the committees. His Department of Labor bill does carry that feature, since the committees added it to other bills. Governor Gardner favors the short ballot, but he believes it should be provided in the Constitution, so each succeeding General Assembly could not change it. He will doubtless ask (Continued on page 8)

Worthless Check Cases Predominate In Court

The time of Recorder's Court was taken up almost entirely with the trial of bad check cases. There were three of these tried.

J. H. Starling was first tried, charged with having given a worthless check for \$136 to the Union Fish Company of Beaufort. The defendant admitted owing the money and said he would pay the check if given a little time. The judgment of the court was that he was guilty and he was sentenced to three months in jail, capias not to issue for thirty days to give the defendant a chance to raise the money to pay the check and the costs.

L. M. Garner of Newport was tried on two bad check charges. He was acquitted on one and convicted on the other. In the first case Price Mason claimed that the defendant owed him \$16.50 for some oysters, that he gave him a check for the amount which was no good. His attorney E. Walter Hill plead not guilty for him.

The defendant claimed that Mason had agreed to hold the check for him and was corroborated by the fact that it was two weeks afterwards that the bank stamped it as worthless. Judge Davis said he did not think the act came under the provisions of the bad check law and dismissed it.

In the other case the defendant Garner was charged with having given a check to W. E. Currier for \$55.00 for oysters. He said he presented it at the Bank of Newport and it was turned down for lack of funds. Currier said there was no agreement on his part to hold the check and he was corroborated by one or two other witnesses.

The defendant claimed that the oysters did not come up to specifications and that he could not sell them for any thing much and also claimed that it was understood the check would be held until he could sell the oysters and pay for them. He was supported in his statement by H. C. Garner who was a partner with him in selling the oysters.

Judge Davis decided that the defendant was guilty and after considerable discussion on the part of Attorney Hamilton for the prosecution and Hill for the defense it was decided that the final sentence would be deferred for ninety days to give the defendant a chance to pay the check and the costs.

Bert Lloyd of Beaufort, sent up from City Police Court, was given a hearing on the charge of breaking into the oil house of the Norfolk Southern Railroad. He admitted it and said he was so drunk that he did not know any thing about it. The warrant was amended to read trespass. Sentence was deferred until next Tuesday in order to hear other testimony.

UNDER FOLGER PLAN CARTERET CO. WOULD GET \$103,650 FOR THE SCHOOLS

By M. R. DUNNAGAN
Raleigh, March 23—About 15 of the larger North Carolina counties would get more money out of the State for operation of the six months school term under the so-called MacLean plan than they would pay into the Treasury under the general sales tax plan which accompanies it, while the remaining 85 counties would pay more under the sales tax terms, school people estimate.

Under the MacLean plan, all of the counties participate in the State fund, but most of them pay back more, indirectly, under the sales tax, some twice as much, as the difference between the amount the MacLean plan gives them and the amount the Folger plan gives them. The latter plan, embodied in a bill introduced by Senator John H. Folger, chairman, and members of the Senate Education Committee, provides a \$10,000,000 school fund, \$8,200,000 for the six months term and \$1,800,000 for the extended term. Under this plan, four of the larger counties, Durham, Forsyth, Mecklenburg, New Hanover, do not participate in the equalizing fund.

The MacLean plan contemplates a general sales tax which is estimated

SAMARCAND GIRL ADMITS CHARGE

Says She Started Fire That Burned Two Buildings That Cost \$200,000

Lumberton, March 23—Margaret Pridden, of Wilmington, one of the 16 girls held in the Robeson county jail in Lumberton awaiting trial at the May term of Moore county Superior Court on a charge of burning two buildings costing \$200,000 at Samarcaud, State institution for delinquent girls, takes entire responsibility for starting the fire.

The Pridden girl talks freely about the matter, stating that she set fire to one of the buildings and would do it again. She gave as her reason that she was tired of the place and thought she might be moved if the building burned. She says she set fire to Chamberlain Hall after other girls had failed in their attempt to commit the same offense. While Chamberlain Hall was burning, other girls set another building afire, thinking officials would believe it caught from the first.

The fire came about 8 p. m. At that time some of the girls were undressed and in bed; others were undressing. They lost about every thing they had. Indictments charging first degree arson, which is punishable by death, were drawn against 16 of the girls, and 10 of them were placed in the Moore county jail at Carthage and six in the Montgomery county jail at Troy. They were brought here March 1 in a school bus by Sheriff McDonald, of Moore county.

The girls are almost minus clothing, but the modesty of most of them seems not affected. As the Pridden girl, scantily clad, told of her part in the affair, a cigarette rolled out on the floor from the bed on which she was sitting. About her other girls listened or took part in their conversation, some wearing only raincoats or a couple of pieces of clothing. Of the visitors they begged matches, cigarettes, magazines or stationery. One pulled out a copy of the gospel according to St. John and reminded that they took time sometimes to read it.

Under the fatherly guidance of Jailer Austin Smith, the girls have learned to like the Robeson county jail and Lumberton. They prefer to remain here, many of them say, and would like to have Jailer Smith as their keeper always. Carefree and happy most of them seem to be, little realizing the seriousness of the offense with which they are charged. Asked what punishment they expect, most of them reply, "from three to five years in the pen."

Those held in jail here are: Virginia Hayes, Leakesville; Marion Mercer, Ayden; Wilma Owen, Waynesville; Mary Lee Bronson, Rocky Mount; Estelle Wilson, Lexington; Thelma Council, Tarboro; Allie Harding, Washington; Margaret Abernethy, Kinston; Rosie Mull, Rutherford; Bertha Hall, Norfolk, Va.; Edna Clark, Halifax; Deloise Sewell, Cove City; Pearl Stiles, Canton; Margaret Pridden, Wilmington; Chloe Stillwell, Kinston; and Josephine French, Haw River.

Rumania established new high records for drilling, production, refining and export of petroleum last year.

to produce \$9,000,000 in revenue. With slightly more than 3,000,000 population in the State, that means an average of about \$3 per person per years in the sales tax, collected indirectly. With a population of 133,010 at \$3 each, Guilford would pay \$399,030 of this tax and receive \$670,693 from the State; on the same basis, Mecklenburg would pay \$383,913 in the tax and receive \$595,785 for her schools; Forsyth would pay \$335,043 and get back \$531,147; Durham would pay \$201,588 and get \$335,210; New Hanover would pay \$129,030 and get \$197,026.

Carteret county, under the Folger plan, would get \$103,650 of the equalizing fund and \$117,496, or \$13,846 more, under the MacLean plan. But Carteret with a population of 16,900, paying \$3 each would pay \$50,700 into the State fund, or \$36,854 more than the difference between the amounts received under the MacLean plan and the Folger plan.

While the larger counties would gain, Carteret would lose under the MacLean plan, compared with what she would get under the Folger plan.

ROBBING STORE ATTEMPT FAILS

Two Young Men Walk Into Trap On Dark And Stormy Night

Thwarted in an attempt to rob the store of the Atlantic and Pacific company here on Front street two would be robbers are now occupying rooms in the county jail. The men are William Fillingame and George Piver, two young white men neither more than 25 years old.

The attempted robbery occurred between midnight and 1:30 A. M. Sunday morning. The night was wild and stormy. A northeast gale was blowing and a cold rain was falling. It seemed perhaps a favorable opportunity for a midnight adventure. About midnight just before leaving the store the Manager, James Piver, and his assistant Ed Ratcliffe heard a noise in the rear of the building and suspecting that some one was trying to break in the store went to the city hall to get a police officer. He found Chief W. R. Longest and the chief and two city employes, Adrian Brooks and Hubert Springle, accompanied Mr. Piver back to the store where they all waited for further developments.

It was about 1:30 when the two men effected an entrance into the store. The front part of the store was dark but the back room was lighted and when they arrived they were very much surprised to be received by the Chief of Police and other members of the party. Perhaps the most surprised of all was Manager Piver when he discovered that his own brother was one of the invaders of the store. The men had a large screw driver and one or two other tools which they had used in entering the store. Piver had a pocket knife and Fillingame a dagger. A \$200 appearance bond was required of each of them which they could not give and both were locked up in the county jail. A preliminary hearing of the matter will probably take place before Mayor Taylor at 3 o'clock Friday afternoon.

SALARY BILL PASSED

Raleigh, March 23—Representative Hamilton's bill, for the relief of the constable of Harkers Island township, has been ratified by the General Assembly.

The bill for the relief of the clerk of the court and register of deeds of Carteret county was also ratified Saturday.

Statistics show the longest lived persons in America are native born children of native born parents.

ROW MAY BREAK OUT IN RALEIGH MOST ANY TIME NOW SO IT SEEMS

By CARL GEORCH
It wouldn't surprise me in the slightest to see a riot start up in Raleigh at any time.

The boys are getting so mad that there's no telling what will happen next. They're fighting each other now, instead of fighting for lower taxes.

Out in the world thou goest, Oh, treasure of my heart! Now hark to what I tell thee, Ere moving to depart.

Become a lawyer if you wish; A doctor or a barber. Against these not a single grudge Doth mankind ever harbor.

Become a farmer or a clown— Or even be a waiter.

But for the love of Pete, my son— Don't be a legislator!

The short ballot bill got sat on last week. And that uncovered a lot of opposition which, until then, had kept itself more or less in hiding. You see, there are some members of the legislature who never have been and who never can be actual leaders. They resent the idea of anyone else attaining any prominence along those lines. The Hon. O. Max has been doing some mighty effective leading during the last couple of months, and some of the boys don't like it. They're now snapping and yipping at his heels like a bunch of terriers. What they're trying to do is to tear him down, even though they may have to tear down some mighty good bills in order to accomplish their purpose.

The drug-store liquor bill didn't stand much of a show. What's the sense of loading up all our drug stores with liquor when you can go out in the country and get all you please? Useless and entirely unnecessary.

And this week we come to the oft-discussed and oft-cussed MacLean bill, which has to do with the State support of schools. This bill, unless

Joseph Godwin Passed Away Tuesday

Morehead City, March 25—The sudden death of Joseph (Perry) Godwin occurred here of pneumonia Tuesday night at 6:45 o'clock at the Morehead City hospital following a week's illness of influenza. The deceased was born in Wilson, in October 27, 1889, the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Wm. Godwin. He entered service during the World War and spent some time on the Mexican border and was in the expeditionary forces in France. After returning home he engaged in the tobacco business. In 1924 he married Mrs. Pearl Willis Ball. At the time of his death, he held the position of city clerk.

The funeral was conducted from the residence of his mother-in-law, Mrs. S. S. Willis. The services were conducted at 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon March 25th by Rev. J. A. Vache, assisted by Revs. A. P. Stevens of the Missionary Baptist church and S. W. Everett of Free Will Baptist church.

The city council acted as pall bearers.

The Junior Order U. A. M. took charge of the services at the grave.

The American Legion attended in a body, with members of the New Bern Post who composed a firing squad at the grave gave taps and salute.

Besides his wife he leaves a daughter Frances Anne and two sisters, Mrs. R. N. Bishop of Greensboro and Mrs. Joe Stevens of Richmond, three brothers, John of New York City, W. L. Godwin of Raleigh and Richard Godwin of Norfolk.

POLICE COURT SESSION WAS RATHER LIMITED

Mayor Taylor had two cases for trial in Police Court Friday afternoon. Neither defendant offered any resistance and the court was soon finished.

Alonzo Fulford, young colored man charged with having been drunk and disorderly submitted to the charge and was given the option of paying \$1 and costs or working five days on the streets.

With respect to the oil house of the Norfolk Southern railroad. He said he was drunk at the time and did not know much about the affair. He was held for Recorder's Court under a bond of fifty dollars.

MARRIAGE ANNOUNCED

Mrs. Rose Ramsey whose marriage to Mr. Frank Robinson of Philadelphia formerly of Beaufort, has been announced, left Wednesday for a visit to friends in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

LUXURY TAX BILL KILLED IN HOUSE

Refuse To Accept Luxury Tax as Substitute For General Sales Tax

RALEIGH, March 25—The house this afternoon refused to accept the "luxury tax" idea as a substitute for the day general sales tax on retail merchants which is included in its revenue bill.

RALEIGH, March 25—The senate today passed the administration bill to merge the boards of trustees of the three major state institutions of higher learning, after heated debate, while the house continued its fight over what form of sales tax it will include in its revenue bill.

Representative Day of Onslow, charging that Governor Gardner's address yesterday opposing any form of sales tax was "a positive invasion of legislative prerogative," opened the fight to retain his plan to levy a one per cent tax on gross sales of retail merchants.

Representatives Johnston of Ashe, and Lumpkin of Franklin, fired the opening barrage for the proponents of the "luxury tax" idea, embodied in an amendment offered by Representatives Crouse of Alleghany, and Flannagan of Pitt. They termed the luxury tax "a painless tax" which would be extracted without the payer realizing it.

Throughout the extended debate last night and today almost every speaker has pointed out that the persons who will pay the sales tax, which ever idea is adopted, are those who now pay the ad valorem tax but that a sales tax would not be noticed as much as a lump sum payment of ad valorem taxes in that it would be extracted throughout the year instead of a one time.

The proposed consolidation of N. C. State college and N. C. C. W., with the University of North Carolina through a merger of the boards of trustees met opposition from Senators Jones of Richmond, Baggett of Harnett, and Umstead of Orange, who led the fight against merger at this time with Senators Burrus of Guilford, and Lindsey of Brunswick.

Committee amendments and changes offered by Senator Hindsdale of Wake, and accepted by Senator Whedbee of Perquimans, to create a commission of 12 experts to study the merger and report to a consolidated board of trustees were adopted but the efforts of Jones to defer the matter until 1933 was killed. Under the Whedzee amendments the 1931 assembly and not that of 1933 will name the consolidated board of trustees.

The senate, upon request of Chairman Dunlap of its finance committee, referred the Baggett bill to place a tax on foreign stocks. The finance body reported the bill favorably yesterday.

Dunlap told the senate he had promised members of his committee to give them "specific notice" if a tax measure was to be taken up and this was not done yesterday.

Two special orders in the senate, the Seawell and Cherry banking bills, were carried over and set for Friday morning.

The senate killed the Burrus bill to make the physical examination before marriage licenses may be issued more strict, and recessed until tonight.

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, March 27	
1:23 A. M.	7:54 A. M.
1:52 P. M.	7:51 P. M.
Saturday, March 28	
2:38 A. M.	9:05 A. M.
3:08 P. M.	9:06 P. M.
Sunday, March 29	
3:48 A. M.	10:08 A. M.
4:18 P. M.	10:17 P. M.
Monday, March 30	
4:51 A. M.	11:02 A. M.
5:19 P. M.	11:01 P. M.
Tuesday, March 31	
5:48 A. M.	11:18 A. M.
6:11 P. M.	11:52 P. M.
Wednesday, April 1	
6:38 A. M.	12:16 A. M.
7:01 P. M.	12:39 P. M.
Thursday, April 2	
7:28 A. M.	1:10 A. M.
7:49 P. M.	1:25 P. M.