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## Great Battle Fought Over Sales Tax Bill

### For More Than A Week Legislators Have Wrestled With This Problem; Governor Gardner Against It; How To Raise Money For Six Months School Is Giving Much Trouble

By M. R. DUNNAGAN

Raleigh, March 30—Sales tax or no sales tax has been the all-absorbing problem in the General Assembly for a week, particularly in the House of Representatives side of the General Assembly. The question of a sales tax, then which, was answered by the House committee and later by the House, as a committee of the whole, in favor of the general sales tax, as against the so-called luxury tax by the close margin of four votes.

This vote, of course, was not decisive. In fact, proponents of the luxury tax, in some instances, voted for the general sales tax, with a sort of reservation that they would introduce amendments when it comes to final voting in the House to substitute the luxury tax, or that the Senate, when the revenue bill reaches that body, would substitute the luxury sales tax and send it back to the House for concurrence.

Lines established when the so-named MacLean bill was enacted to require the Senate to support the six months school term, and when the later Johnston-Jolly bill, providing machinery for operation of the six months term, was enacted, both by overwhelming majorities—these lines have become all broken up over methods of financing the six months term. It would seem that the legislature would incline toward the luxury tax, on tobacco products, cosmetics, soft drinks, playing cards, automobiles, and other articles listed as non-essential. Instead, they have turned to a tax on general sales which would be collected by Merchants on all articles sold to all classes of people.

If the general sales tax finally gets by the House, it is freely predicted that it will meet death in the Senate. In fact, belief is that the Senate will not adopt any form of sales tax, general or luxury. A poll of the members in that body is said to show 26 members opposed to all forms of sales tax. If so, then the sales tax is doomed. If the general sales tax had been passed in the House by a good majority the forces of that vote may have carried it over in the Senate, but with a majority of only four, the Senate is expected to take the position that the small majority can be overcome and vote it down.

### Opposed To Sales Tax

Several factors have entered into the apparent change in line-up and breaking away of the earlier supporters of the MacLean act. Governor Gardner appeared before a joint session of the two houses last week and voiced strong opposition to the sales tax idea as being economically unsound, a tax on poverty and should only be imposed as a tax of last resort. His speech, said by many to be the best he ever made, had strong logic and carried conviction to many of those formerly supporting it.

Representative A. D. MacLean, sponsor of the six months bill and the general sales tax, characterized one part of it by saying that the Governor must be "a damned ass or thinks you are one." It caused much comment, and no little criticism.

Opponents of the general sales tax argued that it is a shifting of the tax burden from the big property owner to his employees. They pointed to the lining up of Mr. MacLean, supposedly representing the small landowner and home owner, with the representatives from Forsyth county, referring to it as not a legalized marriage but as a companionate marriage. The tax proposal is one per cent, which, it is pointed out, is five times as much as any general sales tax in any other state. The case of running across the state line to make purchases to avoid the tax, with the accompanying loss to merchants at home and thus to the community was stressed.

Those favoring this tax said it was fair and just, that all receive benefit from the government and all, rich and poor alike, should help support it. The average of about \$3 a year would impose no hardship on the poor, they argued.

Great pressure is being brought to bear on the legislators from home to support the MacLean measure, but great pressure is also brought against the sales or the luxury tax. It is not considered improbable by close observers that the efforts to raise about \$13,000,000 additional revenue will fail and that the result will be an-

increased equalizing fund. That say at \$10,000,000, will in reality bring more relief than complete operation. Continued on page six

## Otway Fracas Brought Large Crowd To Court

A fight between two youths brought a large crowd of people from the Otway community to Recorder's Court last Tuesday and took an hour or so to try. One of the boys, Elbert Gillikin 17 years old was tried on the charge of an assault with a deadly weapon upon Carroll Lawrence who is 19 years old. The latter appeared in court with his head and face swathed in bandages.

Lawrence testified that on Monday March 23rd he was walking along the highway and that the Gillikin boy driving a car and with two other boys riding with him came pretty near running over him. He said the car came back, stopped and that he had some words with Elbert and they cursed each other and that Elbert hit him on the forehead with some weapon or other, he did not know what, broke his nose, split his forehead and knocked him unconscious. He was brought to Beaufort later and treated by Dr. W. S. Chadwick.

Everett Lawrence, Lemuel Gillikin and two or three other witnesses testified that there was an argument and fight between Carroll and Elbert and one or two witnesses testified that some one threw a stone at the car. No one testified as to seeing a weapon in Elbert's hand. The defendant denied using any weapon and said he hit Carroll with his fist after the latter had taken hold of him and tried to pull him out of the car. Dr. Chadwick testified that he thought the wounds were caused by some hard substance striking Carroll with considerable force. Attorney E. Walter Hill for the defense undertook to show that Carroll was the aggressor in the fight and that his head struck the car door or else the pavement when the two boys fell during the scuffle.

Judge Davis decided that the defendant was guilty and withheld sentence until next Tuesday.

Burt Lloyd submitted a plea of guilty to the charge of trespassing upon the property of the Norfolk Southern Railroad and was given a jail sentence of sixty days.

On account of the absence of attorneys and witnesses several cases were continued to next Tuesday.

## Piver And Fillingame Bound Over To Court

George Piver and Wilbur Fillingame, the two young white men charged with breaking into the store of the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company here about ten days ago were brought in to city police court last Friday afternoon for a hearing. When the warrant was read to them they offered no defense and Mayor Taylor, having no jurisdiction in the case, bound them over for trial in the Superior Court at the June term.

A bond of \$250 each was required of them which they were not able to give and they were committed to jail to await trial.

Lije Hardesty, colored, submitted to a charge of drunk and disorderly and was given the choice of paying a \$2.50 fine or serving 10 days on the streets.

James King, colored, of Morehead City was fined \$10 for not being in court to stand trial on a charge of fast driving. His case had been continued for two weeks and he failed to show up Friday.

## BEAUFORT YOUNG MEN WIN ATHLETIC HONORS

Two Beaufort young men who are students at the University of North Carolina won distinctions this week. Cecil Longest pitched the game against Cornell University Monday and according to the press report of the game pitched steady and winning ball. He allowed but six hits and struck out four batsmen. He also got a two base hit.

William Potter, also of Beaufort, caught a part of the Cornell game. On Tuesday at a meeting of the baseball squad he was elected captain of the team. "Piggy" as Potter is known at college is a senior and a regular catcher on the team.

## Major Dan C. Hutton Interred Here Sunday

St. Paul's church here was filled Sunday with a large number of people who had gathered there to pay their respects to Major Daniel C. Hutton who died at Phoenix, Arizona Monday, March 21. The services at the church and at the grave were conducted by the Reverend Dr. B. F. Huske, rector of St. Mary's Episcopal church of Kinston and former U. S. Naval chaplain with the rank of Commander. The church choir rendered "Lead Kindly Light" and "In The Hour of Trial" in the church and at the grave "Abide With Me" was sung.

Full military honors were paid the deceased at the funeral. Officers of the National Guard from New Bern acted as honorary pallbearers and non-commissioned officers were active pall bearers. At the grave a firing squad fired three volleys and the bugler sounded "taps."

Washington, March 26—Major Hutton, was a son of the late Daniel C. Hutton, of Goldsboro, and a grandson of the late B. V. L. Hutton, of that place. He was a descendant of the Churchill family, founders of Goldsboro. Major Hutton was 35 years old, and is survived by his widow, Mrs. Eddie Ruth Hutton, of Phoenix; by two children by a former marriage, and by his mother, Mrs. Lina Davis Hutton, of Beaufort.

Major Hutton was a graduate of the University of Maryland. He joined the Maryland National Guard and saw long service on the Mexican border with the organization, and then went to France as a Captain in the Medical Corps of the 29th Division, serving until the Armistice. At the close of the war he entered the regular army as a captain, and was promoted some time ago to the rank of major. He is a nephew of Col Paul C. Hutton, Medical Corps, U. S. A., and a native of Goldsboro. Major Hutton will be buried beside his brother, the late James C. Hutton, who also served during the World War in the 29th Division.

## WELL KNOWN BELK FIRM OPENS NEW BERN BRANCH

An event of considerable importance in the commercial life of New Bern and this section took place last Saturday in the opening of Belk's Department Store. The new firm occupies the large building used for many years by the Coplon Company which in its prime was one of the biggest mercantile establishments in eastern Carolina.

The New Bern store is the sixty eighth of the stores operated by this firm in the Carolinas and Virginia. The Belk firm started many years ago with one small store in Wadesboro, N. C. and has spread all over North and South Carolina having branches in nearly all of the larger towns and cities. The New Bern management is well pleased with the start made there and expects to do a large business in this section.

## ANY IMPROVEMENT IN CROP PRICES NOT PROBABLE BEFORE FALL MONTHS

(Crop Reporting Service)

Raleigh, April 1—GENERAL: Any improvement in crop prices will be quite gradual and may not be noticeable until the fall months of 1931. Production costs of crops will definitely be lower than last year. Fertilizer usage will be materially decreased. Labor prices are lower. Farmers are growing more of their feeds and foods. The improvement of ECONOMIC conditions has thus already begun. Foreign demands are expected to improve this year. It will be difficult to get credits for producing crops.

It must not be overlooked that there are large surplus or carry-over of stocks now on hand for wheat, cotton and tobacco. The general business depression is a real factor. The cultivated acreage of all crops will be about the same as 1930—maybe more.

CORN: Corn comes first in acreage (one-third of crop land, in North Carolina). The farmers plan for a further increase in acreage amounting to 7 percent in North Carolina. It had been increased 12 percent during the past two years. This State produces no real surplus of corn. Much more will be required if we are to grow the needed livestock. This is a wise and safe expansion. It will grow in any county and legumes may be grown economically with the corn. The Corn Belt supply is the shortest for twenty-nine years, due to drought conditions. The United States crop is expected to be increased 4.9 percent in acreage this year.

TOBACCO: The carry-over or surplus stocks of flue-cured tobacco

## BEAUFORT SCHOOL BILL INTRODUCED

### New Law Will Make Changes In Method Of Appointing Trustees

Yesterday a bill was introduced in the House by Representative Luther Hamilton which makes some important changes in the administration of the Beaufort Graded School. The new law if it goes into effect provides that there shall be nine members on the school board, three to be appointed by the County Board of Education and six by the city commissioners. It also provides that three of the members shall come from the rural districts that patronize the school. The bill reads as follows:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES OF BEAUFORT GRADED SCHOOL

WHEREAS, under Chapter two hundred and fourteen of the Private Laws of one thousand nine hundred and nine, as amended, establishing graded schools in the Town of Beaufort, Carteret County no provision was made for the accommodation of school children outside of said school district, and consequently no provision was made for representation of out-lying districts on the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, since the establishing of the said Beaufort Graded School District there has been a general consolidation of schools of the county with the result that seven or more communities are now patronizing the Beaufort Graded School and furnishing approximately one third of its students; and

WHEREAS, it is considered proper and desirable that a re-organization of the Board of Trustees be had to the end that proper representation be given patronizing communities on the said Board: Now, Therefore, The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section 1 That the term of office of all of the members of the Board of Trustees of Beaufort Graded School, (Beaufort, Carteret County) shall expire on the thirtieth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and thirty-one.

Sec. 2. The Board of Trustees shall consist of nine members, three of whom shall be appointed by the Board of Education of Carteret County and shall be appointed from patronizing districts or communities other than the Town of Beaufort. The appointment of one of said three members shall be for a term of two years, one for a term of four years, and one for a term of six years. The other six members of said Board of Trustees shall be appointed by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Beaufort, shall be bona fide residents of the said town, and two of whom shall be appointed for a term of two years, two for a term of four years, and two for a term of six

(Continued on page five)

## Some Fine Weather In Month of March

The month of March, as it usually is, was somewhat blustery but there was also some nice weather during the month. Only a few times did the temperature drop below freezing. On the third there was a light fall of snow which however did not stick to the ground except for a very short time. The winds were westerly for twenty days and mostly easterly the rest of the month. The rainfall was 5.51 inches. The temperature day by day follows:

	Max.	Min.
1.	61	50
2.	59	43
3.	46	33
4.	40	31
5.	53	32
6.	59	35
7.	65	47
8.	59	47
9.	49	36
10.	49	33
11.	54	30
12.	54	30
13.	59	32
14.	63	43
15.	63	43
16.	53	42
17.	49	35
18.	55	33
19.	68	41
20.	59	43
21.	56	36
22.	64	45
23.	58	42
24.	61	38
25.	61	51
26.	64	41
27.	63	43
28.	58	43
29.	67	52
30.	60	42
31.	58	47

## N. S. Passenger Train Runs Into Pile Driver

Railroad accidents nowadays are rare enough to be somewhat of a novelty but they do occur occasionally. One such happened Wednesday morning when the Norfolk Southern passenger train after crossing the bridge between Beaufort and Morehead City ran into a siding and collided with a pile driver.

The accident was caused by an open switch which engineer N. H. Russell could not see on account of smoke from the pile driver engine until it was too late to stop. Fortunately no very serious damage was done. The passenger engine was damaged somewhat and a freight engine was substituted for it. The pile driver was also injured to some extent. Alonzo Williams, fireman, Jack Ellison, train porter and mail clerk Bostic, all colored men, were bruised a little and were taken to the Morehead City hospital where they had their wounds dressed. The passenger engine and pile driving outfit were taken to New Bern for repairs.

## H. L. LANGLY BADLY HURT WHEN CAR BUMPS HIS CART

Mixie Fisher, colored man from Morehead City, is in jail and H. L. Langley of the Bettie community is at home with a fractured skull as the result of a collision that took place at the east end of the Morehead City bridge Thursday, March 26.

The accident happened at about four o'clock. Mr. Langly was driving a mule hitched to a cart and was going west. Fisher was driving a car and going east. He says that he was on his way to Beaufort to get his sister's daughter who goes to school in Beaufort. Fisher states that just after coming off the bridge he struck a bump in the road and lost control of his car, that the mule got excited and he did not and that he struck one of the wheels of the cart causing it to turn over and throw Mr. Langley out on the pavement. Mr. M. T. Mills of the Sound Chevrolet Company happened to be passing along and took the injured man to the Morehead City hospital. It was found that he had a bad fracture of the skull and left wrist broken. It was feared that he might die. However Monday he returned to his home at Bettie although he was not yet considered out of danger.

## BIRTHS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Guy Willis of Smyrna at Gloucester, Friday, March 27, a son.

Pads have been specially designed to protect edges of tables from the clamps of meat grinders and other kitchen implements as well as to afford the clamps tighter grip.

Millions in Farm Loans Washington, March 13—Secretary Hyde said today that the Department of Agriculture had loaned over \$12,000,000 from the drought relief fund

## ELECTION MATTER GETS ATTENTION

### Republican Members Ask That Ballot Boxes Be Impounded; No Action Yet

RALEIGH, April 1—Republican members of the house and senate today introduced joint resolutions to request Governor Gardner to impound ballot boxes in the Bailey-Pritchard senatorial election last November in order that they may be turned over to the elections investigating committee of the United States senate.

Representatives Butler of Sampson, and M'Beck of Mitchell, introduced the resolution in the house, with Senator Grant of Davie, giving it to the senate.

Both houses refused to consider the resolutions immediately, the attitude of Pritchard in contesting the election of Senator J. W. Bailey being termed "unsportsmanlike" by Hamilton of Carteret, during debate in the house. Half dozen senators objected in the upper division. A motion of Johnson of Pender, to table the house resolution failed.

The house concurred in senate amendments to the Seawell bill to create a new banking department divorced from the corporation commission and directly under the governor. The bill will become law upon ratification.

Senate amendments to the Newman bus bill, however, did not please the house and were refused.

The house discussed salary cuts again, receiving a favorable committee report on the Davis-Moye bill with an amendment to reduce the scale of reductions to range from 5 to 15 per cent instead of from 10 to 3 per cent. This bill, however, was sent to the appropriations committee upon motion of Pitts of Catawba, Harris of Person, chairman of the appropriations group, told the house his committee favored a 10 per cent cut and expected to report a bill tomorrow.

The senate finance committee continued study of uncontested sections of the house revenue bill.

The house killed the Bennett bill to increase the personnel of the highway patrol from 37 to 87, adopting a motion of Garibaldi of Mecklenburg to table the act.

Seeking to reduce cost of tax foreclosures, the senate added its approval to the Ewbank house bill limiting attorney's fees in suits for taxes of 1929 and prior years.

The senate rules committee gave an unfavorable report to the house resolution to discharge committee clerks and members of the enrollment staff after April 4.

Approval was given the omnibus board of education and justices of the peace bills by the senate. The upper house adjourned until noon tomorrow.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

Franklin Willis and Madeline Adams, Newport, N. C.

The first industrial exposition, in which all nations of the world participated, was held in London from May 1 to October 1, 1851.

A new hack saw blade has fine teeth at one end for starting cuts and coarse ones at the other end to finish them.

## 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, April 3	Low Tide
8:14 A. M.		2:02 A. M.
8:37 P. M.		2:10 P. M.
	Saturday, April 4	
9:01 A. M.		2:52 A. M.
9:25 P. M.		2:55 P. M.
	Sunday, April 5	
9:49 A. M.		3:41 A. M.
10:15 P. M.		3:40 P. M.
	Monday, April 6	
10:38 A. M.		4:32 A. M.
10:59 P. M.		4:29 P. M.
	Tuesday, April 7	
11:08 A. M.		5:26 A. M.
11:31 P. M.		5:22 P. M.
	Wednesday, April 8	
12:06 A. M.		6:23 A. M.
12:32 P. M.		6:21 P. M.
	Thursday, April 9	
1:10 A. M.		7:28 A. M.
1:42 P. M.		7:29 P. M.