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Next General Assembly Will Have A Hard Time

At End of Next Fiscal Year Deficit Estimated to Be Around Eight Millions; Revenue Act of 1931 Runs Far Short; If Taxes on Land Are Abolished Must Raise \$10,000,000 in Other Ways

By M. R. DUNNAGAN

RALEIGH, Mar. 1.—If the 1933 General Assembly takes over full State support of the six months school term, which all of the announced candidates for Governor are advocating, funds the State deficit and balances its budget which are demanded, that body will have to find more than \$10,000,000 more in taxes other than on real estate than the 1931 General Assembly was able to find in its five months of effort.

The 1931 General Assembly appropriated \$13,700,000, of which an estimated \$3,700,000 is to come from the 15 cent ad valorem tax on real property, for the operation of the six months school term. But an average levy of 18 per cent of the levies of the 100 counties, or about \$3,000,000 was levied by the counties to supplement the State school fund. Nearly \$7,000,000 more money, a total of about \$18,000,000, will have to be raised by the State for the schools. The deficit of general fund operations at the end of the next fiscal year is now estimated at \$8,000,000, on which the interest when funded will reach nearly \$500,000 a year. Then, too, the revenue act of 1931 fails by about \$2,500,000 a year to raise money appropriated by the same General Assembly. In truth, it will take some of the best minds of the State to straighten out the finances in the General Assembly of 1933.

More Cows Are Needed

North Carolina has only about half enough cows to meet the average American standard of one cow for each five persons, and only nine mountain counties, Alleghany, Ashe, Clay, Watauga, Macon, Davie, Jackson, Graham and Henderson have sufficient cows to produce the milk their citizens should drink, Dr. J. M. Parrott, State health officer, says in his State wide Milk for Health drive.

Alleghany has a cow for each 2.9 persons with milk to spare, while Dare has only one cow for each 18.4 persons. Wake needs 11,000 and Forsyth 15,000 cows to bring them up to the American average. Less than half a pint of milk per person per day is consumed in this State, a pint being the national average.

Counties most deficient in cows are Dare, New Hanover, Wilson, Carteret, Lenoir, Martin, Pitt Edgecombe, Chowan, Brunswick, Robeson, Onslow, Bertie, Beaufort, Craven, Wayne, Scotland, Columbus, Nash, Cumberland, Duplin, Greene, Forsyth, Harnett, Halifax, Hertford, Johnston, Durham, Washington, Sampson and Wake.

Actual cash must be in hands of officials of local school districts at the end of the extended school terms before the State Board of Equalization will provide its part of such funds from the \$1,500,000 appropriated for this purpose, either in tax money already collected or from revenue anticipation notes properly approved and sold by the Local Government Commission, the board decided in regulations adopted at its meeting last week.

Reports to the board were that number of districts were preparing to get their teachers to agree to teach through the extended term on the promise of pay later, thus setting up

POLICE COURT NEWS

In City Police Court last Friday afternoon Garland Willis young Beaufort man, charged with breaking and entering the Sea Breeze Theatre waived examination and was held for Superior Court under a \$300 bond.

Sam Jordan, colored, plead guilty to the charge of fighting. As he seemed to be somewhat justified Mayor Taylor let him off on payment of the costs \$3.90.

Ed. Henry, colored, charged with drunkenness was fined \$2.50 and costs or ten days on the streets.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Henry Godwin and Hazel Mann, Newport.

Theodore Lawrence and Neta Lawrence, Beaufort, RFD.

A. H. Dixon and Bartie Heuser, Newport, RFD.

W. E. Smith of Halifax County has planted six bushels of black walnut as a new forestry project on his farm.

SCHOOL QUESTION STILL UNSETTLED

Board of Commissioners Trying To Find Funds For Schools

A great deal of interest has been manifested in the school situation since the publication of the News last week that the County Board of Education would close the schools March 15 unless some arrangement could be made in the near future to finance them for two months more.

A special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was held Monday at which time the school situation was considered. Charles S. Wallace addressed the board and earnestly requested that every thing possible be done to keep the schools open. Superintendent J. G. Allen also discussed the question. After due deliberation the board decided to make an effort to do something about continuing the schools for the full eight months. A motion offered by Commissioner Chadwick and seconded by Commissioner Guthrie was offered and passed which reads as follows:

"The County Attorney is requested to go to Raleigh, and present the matter of appropriating sufficient funds from all sources to the payment of one month of the extended school term of two months, plus the required debt service fund due the State Treasurer and if he consents we authorize the County Board of Education to proceed with the two months school term."

A representative of the News had a conversation by telephone with Mr. Hamilton and was told that he saw Mr. Johnson, director of the Local Government Commission, and had a satisfactory interview with him. Mr. Hamilton thinks that some satisfactory arrangements can be made whereby the schools will be continued. If the school operate two months longer the State will of course share largely in the expense. It seems probable that some final decision will be reached about the whole matter very soon.

HOME OF EDDIE COPELAND GOES UP IN SMOKE

Fire this afternoon at about one thirty o'clock destroyed the residence of Eddie Copeland who lives west of Morehead City on route 10 a short distance beyond the railroad crossing. The fire started from an oil stove in the kitchen. A fire truck from Morehead City responded to a call for help but as very little water was available could not do much except keep the fire from spreading to nearby buildings. Most of the furniture and other articles in the house were saved.

SOFT CRAB SHIPMENTS ARE UNUSUALLY EARLY THIS YEAR

The earliest shipment of soft crabs from the local market that anybody remembers took place last month. A few were shipped in February and more have gone forward this week. Usually the soft crab season opens the latter part of March and if it happens to be a cold season not many are shipped then.

The crabs that are being caught now, contrary to what is usually the case, are good sized ones and yesterday the News understands dealers were paying \$1.00 a dozen for them. Marshallberg is headquarters of the crab industry in this county and reports are that the crabbers there are quite busy now.

NEW LUMBER PLANT WILL BE ESTABLISHED HERE SOON

Prospects seem very favorable for the early location of a lumber manufacturing plant in Beaufort according to information which the News has obtained. No deal has yet been made for a location for the plant but several sites are under consideration and it is probable that a decision will be reached soon. The Scarboro-Safrit Lumber Company of Mount Gilead, N. C., will own and operate the proposed enterprise.

R. W. Safrit spent several days here last week and was here again yesterday looking after the details of getting the plant here established. Last November a deal was closed by the Safrit brothers for a large tract of timber. This was the Serpell-Dunning holdings of some 6000 acres in the eastern part of the county. The company may acquire some other tracts here and there after they get their business under way. R. G. Best who is an experienced lumber man will superintend getting the logging operations.

The Scarboro-Safrit Company plans

FLAMES CONSUME PLAYVIEW BEACH

Colored Resort Totally Destroyed; Potato Curing House Also Burns

Play View Beach, a colored summer resort about three miles from Beaufort on Core Sound was completely wiped off the map Tuesday night by fire. So complete was the destruction that not even a pile of ashes was left, probably blown away by the wind. The fire occurred at about 10 o'clock while a strong northwest wind was blowing and made a spectacular blaze. It was seen at a distance of several miles. The origin of the fire is not known.

Play View Beach was built several years ago by W. T. Davis and operated by him. It was sold for the benefit of creditors last November and J. A. Hornaday was made trustee. The principal creditors were the Beaufort Lumber and Manufacturing Company, Graham Brothers, Gaskill-Mace Company and C. G. Gaskill. Mr. Gaskill held a first mortgage on the property and had an insurance policy of \$500 on it. The building is said to have cost about six or seven thousand dollars. The place has been popular with colored people in the summer time and white people are said to have gone there occasionally, some even since it was closed down.

Another bad fire Tuesday night was that of the potato curing house of A. Brinson Lewis at Otway. The house with several thousand bushels of potatoes was burned. The building probably cost about \$1500. The News has not learned whether Mr. Lewis had any insurance or not. No one knows what caused the building to catch fire.

Many Schools Closed Superintendent Says

The schools in almost every state in the Union are facing practically the same situation that confronts the schools of North Carolina, according to Supt. J. G. Allen who returned from Washington, D. C., recently where he attended the annual meeting of the National Education Association Feb. 20-24. In fact in some of the states many of their schools closed at Christmas after only 3 1-2 months, while in many states the greater part of the schools have already closed at the end of only four or five months.

Supt. Allen said that the testimony of educators from practically every part of the United States shows the schools of only two states to be on a more secure basis than the schools of North Carolina, so far as the six months term is concerned. By comparison with other states and in view of tax collections in Carteret County, Supt. Allen thinks that the people of North Carolina and of Carteret County in particular, have reason for profound gratitude for the wisdom and almost prophetic foresight with which the 1931 general assembly laid the foundations of our constitutional six months term so securely that the depression and the Budget Commission have been unable to shake it.

CUTS SWEET PEAS

While all flowers this year have been unusually early to bloom, Mrs. Maude Garner this week reported cutting the first bunch of sweet peas. There have been several straggling blooms, before this, but this week there were enough in bloom at one time to make a good sized bunch.

Washington Snapshots

Taken by The Helm News Service

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—A surprisingly large bipartisan majority of the House of Representatives swept to passage Speaker John N. Garner's plan for a special "economy committee" to draft a consolidation program for the Federal departments and independent bureaus. The vote was 215 to 22 for the adoption of the resolution authorizing the appointment of the special committee. Almost as many Republicans as Democrats voted for it. As a result, much of the politics was taken out of the issue of government reorganization, although it represented a defeat for President Hoover's request for Congressional authority to reorganize the Federal departments by executive order.

Coincident with the appointment of a House committee to investigate and recommend possible Federal economies through consolidation of bureaus and commissions. President Hoover issued a statement expressing "delight" that Congress was about to take up the task of reorganizing the Government machine. Mr. Hoover, in a special message last week, urged Congress to give him authority to perform this task, but the House ignored the request and launched a counter plan on its own initiative. The body approved a resolution calling for a House committee of seven to inaugurate the economy plan.

Secretary Mills found it necessary to recommend additional tax levies to the House ways and means committee because the previous estimates were found to be inadequate. It may be assumed, therefore, that the taxes which he now recommends were approved only because of the serious emergency with which the Treasury is confronted. They should be considered as temporary levies to last only while the budget is being balanced.

Foremost among Secretary Mills' recommendations is a tax on gasoline. For the Nation as a whole the gasoline tax is already exorbitant. Yet these levies are being increased by the States because they as well as the National Government are in need of additional revenue. Under the circumstances the wisdom of a Federal gasoline tax would seem to be highly questionable. Since the States are bearing the brunt of relief for the unemployed, Uncle Sam ought not to invade their taxing sphere unless it is absolutely necessary. Certainly the ways and means committee will be able to find a means of raising \$1 additional \$165,000,000 without entering this field.

A navy as strong as treaties will permit was recommended to the Senate by its Naval Committee to place the United States in "a bargaining position" at the Gen. A. Arms Conference. Warning that the American fleet is "rapidly becoming a navy of obsolete ships," the committee reported that early enactment of the Hale bill to bring the navy up to limits fixed by the Washington and London treaties was "imperative."

Defeat of the LaFollette-Costigan bill for the appropriation of a huge Government fund for relief of the unemployed, serves notice that even the United States, as at present, constituted has come to a realization of the distinction between State duties and obligations and Government duties and obligations. Success of the indigent or otherwise unfortunate remains, under the Senate's decision, the concern of the communities, and States in which these folk reside. Their care continues to be the burden of those who dwell beside them, who know them best.

The George Washington bicentennial celebration in the House chamber was followed by an ovation to Speaker Garner against which all the gavel-wielding prowess of the ruddy Texan could not prevail. The demonstration was staged by the House members alone who, after applauding the visiting President, Supreme Court Justices, Senators and diplomats out of the chamber, saved their main vigor for their own Speaker. Republicans joined with the Democrats, as members stood in their places, applauded, yelled and waved handkerchiefs and copies of the Congressional Record, creating such a din that the healthy hammering of the gavel by Mr. Garner could not be heard.

More than 100,000 visitors thronged Washington for the opening of the Bicentennial Celebration of the

SIMMERING STAGE IN POLITICS NOW RALEIGH REPORTS

Ehringhaus, Fountain And Maxwell Making Speeches And Will Continue To Do So

COX NOT DECIDED YET

By M. R. DUNNAGAN

RALEIGH, Mar. 1.—Politics in North Carolina may now be described as having reached the "simmering" stage and may be expected within the next two or three weeks to reach the "boiling" point. The three gubernatorial candidates made speeches the past week and will have more such engagements from now until the June primary, three months off. Also, there are signs of more activity among the candidates for other State offices, to say nothing of the contest for a seat in the United States Senate.

Moreover, there has been a growing belief in Raleigh and over the State that General Albert L. Cox, former superior court judge and World War veteran, may emerge from his seclusion of months and get into the race for Governor. General Cox admits that he is being encouraged extensively, and states that he will announce his decision the latter part of this week. The other prospects may as well be eliminated, unless Solicitor Thomas A. McNeill, Lumberton, decides to do a little whirlwind campaigning for the nomination.

But this General Cox matter is getting more toe-hold. It's a sort of swell and whether it grows or blows up is uncertain. There are those who say that if General Cox can get a few State Legion leaders behind him, the Legion will "go down the line" for him, a former State commander. Also, it is intimated that his platform may have points of similarity to that of Josephus Daniels, and, in that event he would likely get the Daniels support, for what it may be worth. General Cox was in Washington last week. It is presumed he talked with members of the N. C. delegation, probably including Senator Cameron Morrison. The two are friendly. It is known that Senator Morrison has money. It is presumed that General Cox, as other candidates will need that sort of help. It is being suggested that—well, that maybe there is an understanding. At any rate, it is assumed that with full Legion support, financial help, and the blessings of Josephus Daniels General Cox would enter the race and make it warm for all.

J. C. B. Ehringhaus, A. J. Maxwell and R. T. Fountain, gubernatorial entrants, are on the go, each having made a political speech last week. Mr. Ehringhaus decided reports that he is tied up with "corporate interests" or that he is an "administration" candidate asserting that he is the only candidate for governor that has no administration connection, or State post. He said he is not a supporter of the "short ballot" and bases his candidacy on tax relief, economy in government, full State support of the six months school term, preservation of essential activities, protection of the State's credit, and defense of the

(Continued on page eight)

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 4 | Low Tide |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 6:11 a. m. | | 11:37 a. m. |
| 6:30 p. m. | | 12:24 p. m. |
| Saturday, March 5 | | |
| 6:56 a. m. | | 12:28 a. m. |
| 7:14 p. m. | | 1:02 p. m. |
| Sunday, March 6 | | |
| 7:37 a. m. | | 1:13 a. m. |
| 7:56 p. m. | | 1:38 p. m. |
| Monday, March 7 | | |
| 8:12 a. m. | | 1:54 a. m. |
| 8:31 p. m. | | 2:11 p. m. |
| Tuesday, March 8 | | |
| 8:45 a. m. | | 2:30 a. m. |
| 9:06 p. m. | | 2:42 p. m. |
| Wednesday, March 9 | | |
| 9:18 a. m. | | 3:06 a. m. |
| 9:39 p. m. | | 3:14 p. m. |
| Thursday, March 10 | | |
| 9:50 a. m. | | 3:43 a. m. |
| 10:11 p. m. | | 3:46 p. m. |