

# THE DANBURY REPORTER

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## SPARGER REVIEWS LAWMAKERS' WORK

**SENATOR FROM STOKES AND SURRY REPORTS PROGRESS OF IMPORTANT LEGISLATION AT RALEIGH—SAVING OF TWO MILLION DOLLARS TO TAXPAYERS—REAL ESTATE TO BE REVALUED AND FIFTEEN CENT. ADVALOREM TAX TO BE REMOVED.**

Senator S. Gilmer Sparger, representing Stokes and Surry in the upper house of the General Assembly, spent the week end at his home here.

While in Danbury Senator Sparger gave the Reporter a very interesting review of the progress of the legislation indicating that the law-makers are hard at work on their tremendous task of balancing the State's budget, affording relief to the taxpayers, and carrying out the promises made by the Democratic party to the people.

"The General Assembly has been in legislative session twenty-four days," said the Senator "and although it probably appears to the average person that nothing has been accomplished, I am of the opinion that no General Assembly in the history of the State has laid as firm a foundation upon which to base its legislation. The personnel of both Houses realize the distressed condition of the State of North Carolina and are seriously and earnestly directing their efforts to the balancing of the budget. Never before has there been a group of men under the dome of the capitol more interested in the welfare and being of the dirt farmer and the small wage earner."

Senator Sparger went on to say:

"A more economical operation of every unit of Government in North Carolina is foremost in the minds of every member of both legislative bodies. This fact was clearly evident on the second day of the session when Senator Larry R. Moore sent forward a joint resolution asking for the appointment of a committee to study the reorganization of State Government. As a result of this resolution, a committee was appointed composed of the brainiest men in the Senate and the House of Representatives, and after ten days of deliberation their recommendations were reported to the two houses. Accompanying their report was the introduction of thirteen bills, the substance of which was the elimination of all non-essential Bureau and Commissions, the consolidation of certain Departments where it is possible to do so and still maintain an efficient Government and the request of all Constitutional Officers for a voluntary and substantial reduction in their present salaries. I feel assured that at least eleven of the proposed measures will be enacted in the Law and thereby result in a saving to the tax payers of North Carolina of a sum in excess of two million dollars."

The Democratic party has pledged itself to revalue real estate in North Carolina and to remove the present fifteen cents on the one hundred dollar valuation which has been levied during the past two years for

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## RIVER BRIDGE NEARING FINISH

**BIG STRUCTURE AT BUCK ISLAND, ALSO CULVERT NEARBY, IS ALMOST COMPLETED—SOME OF THE STATE'S MAJOR PROJECTS.**

The big cement bridge across Dan river at Buck Island, four miles north of Danbury, will be finished in two or three weeks, with favorable weather. This job, whose contract price was \$223,000, which has been under construction by the McClelland Company of Charlotte, might be called one of the major projects of the State Highway department. It is a thing of beauty as well as usefulness, lying on No. 80 at the intersection of the highway which leads to Stuart, Va. The work has been under the supervision of R. J. Patterson, who is a vice president of the McClelland company.

Almost adjacent to the bridge is one of the largest culverts in the State, and in the building of which from one-third to one-half as much cement was required as the bridge consumed. The erection of this structure has been under the management of H. H. Sherill, subcontractor, and whose superintendent is O. R. Oakley. The contractor for the culvert from the State is Geo. R. Martin, of Salisbury, whose bid was about \$10,000.

## L. W. C. of Palmyra Holds Meeting

The Loyal Wesley class of Palmyra M. E. church held its regular monthly meeting recently at the home of Mrs. J. Morris Smith with eight members and one visitor present. The president, Mrs. Paul Lewis, presided and also conducted the devotional exercise. Miss Novella Earp read a beautiful little poem entitled "A New Year Thought," and the class teacher, Mrs. N. S. Mullican in her own inimitable and charming manner gave a discussion from a popular magazine, "Blessings on the Little Things." The Bible test was conducted by Mrs. Lewis and Miss Irene Earp made the highest grade and was awarded a novelty hot pot holder.

During the business session several important business matters were discussed and settled.

After the class benediction, a social hour was enjoyed and the hostess served delicious cake and coffee.

The next meeting will be held February 24, at the home of Mrs. Charlie Blaylock.

## Hay Destroyed

Three stacks of hay belonging to Jas. H. Tilley were burned on the McClelland meadow Thursday. As the feedstuff was located away from a public road, and as the day before a settled rain had been falling, wondering everything exposed in a wet or damp state, the "passing cigarette" theory is remote. It looks like the work of irresponsible children.

## Ill With Flu

Mrs. T. G. Poindexter is confined to her room today with a light attack of flu.



**S. GILMER SPARGER**  
Senator From Stokes and Surry in  
1933 General Assembly.

## FROM J. D. WADDILL, DON'T WANT TAXES

### Type of Land Has Much To Do With Tobacco Quality

I have often been asked the question why it is that some grades of leaf tobacco will sell on the market from twenty-five to forty cents per pound while other grades sometimes will bring less than 1 cent a pound. I will say that the varying in the prices is largely due to the kind of land upon which the tobacco is grown.

I know a landholder that has 1,500 acres in one body in Forsyth county and not exceeding one-fourth of this land will grow the kind of tobacco the manufacturers want, which is one cause of tobacco not selling for a price that pays the farmer.

And the low price of farm lands is due to the high taxes on same. If farm lands were exempt from taxation, lands would advance in price at once, in the same way as other things that are not taxed.

The poet says that:  
"Poverty is a weary thing,  
Full of grief and pain;  
It boweth down the hearts of men  
As with an iron chain."

—J. D. Waddill, in Winston-Salem Journal, Salem Chapel, N. C., Jan. 25, 1933.

## Child Seriously Burned.

The 3-year old child, a boy, of Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Nelson, was seriously burned early Tuesday morning. The clothing from one side of the child's body was burned entirely off.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson live in Meadow township, near Ross' store.

## Sells Timber

R. O. Wood, ex-county commissioner and farmer of Snow Creek township, near Sandy Ridge, has sold his timber, estimated at 150,000 feet, to Hyllon & Trent.

## J. J. Booth Ill

J. J. Booth is confined to his home with severe or serious illness. He was taken Saturday on his return from Winston-Salem with pneumonia or pleurisy.

## State Merchants Protest Against Mercantile Levy At Hearing

Raleigh, Jan. 24.—Retail merchants of North Carolina are hearing all the tax they can stand, and the proposed 300 per cent. increase in mercantile taxes would force them to close their doors, a delegation of merchants this afternoon told the joint finance committee of the General Assembly.

The budget revenue bill recommended increasing mercantile taxes from one tenth of one per cent. of gross receipts to four-tenths of one per cent. The merchants protested they could not bear this increase, pointing to the fact that about 90 per cent. of the stores of North Carolina operated "in the red" last year.

W. L. Dowell, of Charlotte, executive secretary of the Retail Merchants Association, declared that while merchants were bitterly opposed to both the increase in mercantile taxes and the proposed sales tax, they would prefer to take the latter if they had to make a choice.

A high enough sales tax, he said, could be passed on to consumers, but the mercantile taxes which he called a "disguised sales tax," could not be passed on to the consumers and had to be absorbed by the retail merchant.

## Gid Mabe Robbed

News reaches here that Gid Mabe, of Ellerbe, formerly of Danbury, was robbed in Winston-Salem of \$160.00 Thursday. He had sold a load of tobacco and was stopping at a boarding house near the warehouse, when the money was lost.

## Highway Cutting Down

Agreeably to the retrenchment policy now being adopted by all the State departments, the highway forces in Stokes have recently been considerably reduced. Quite a number of employees have been laid off indefinitely.

Mrs. W. E. Joyce visited Winston-Salem Saturday.

## YEGGS CRACK BANK AT DOBSON

**THE EFFORTS OF THE CROOKS WAS A FLUNK ONLY \$500 BEING SECURED—LOSS COVERED BY INSURANCE.**

The Mount Airy News thus reports the Dobson bank robbery.

What appeared to be professional gentlemen made an effort to rob the vaults of the Surry County Loan & Trust Co. at Dobson early Thursday morning, but the fire alarm they placed against the safe containing the bank's funds failed to break the door and the yeggs failed to make another try.

The robbery was discovered early this morning. Entrance was had through the front door by breaking the lock. The yeggs then covered the front of the vault with a large canvas and working behind this shield they burned the lock on the vault door with a gas torch. Having the gas tank and canvas on the bank floor when they left. By using the canvas they concealed the light that was made with the gas flame as it burned the door away. Gaining entrance to the vault they then placed a charge of explosive against the small safe which contained the majority of the bank's cash. But the charge failed to break down the door. In the vault outside the safe was a small amount of money, small change, which was carried away, and this amount is not expected to be more than \$500.

It was about three o'clock this morning that some of those sleeping at the Brady Norman hotel heard a muffled noise and it is supposed this was the explosion set off by the yeggs. The records of the bank were scattered about the premises but were not molested.

It is said the bank carried about \$8,000 in cash which was stored in the safe that withstood the shock of the explosion. The funds are covered by insurance. Cashier R. C. Llewellyn was open for business as usual while officers made a survey of the premises for any clue, but as yet nothing has been discovered that throws any light on the identity of the men.

## Contest Over Bailey Election Is Dismissed

Washington, Jan. 25.—The Senate privilege and election committee today formally dismissed the contest filed by George M. Pritchard against the election of Senator Bailey.

The committee appointed a subcommittee to pass on the claim of Pritchard for reimbursement of expenditures in connection with the contest. Robert H. McNeill, representing Pritchard, stated that the Asheville Republican felt that the Senate should investigate Senator Bailey's election because he felt there was widespread fraud and corruption. McNeill pointed out that Pritchard thought the Senate should by all means reimburse his friends for expenditures and pay attorney's fee. The amount requested was \$12,000, none of which Pritchard said would go to him.

## DEMOCRATS MET HERE SATURDAY

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SESSION TO CONFER WITH MEMBERS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY—MURPHY-BOWIE BILL IS ENDORSED—COURSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APPROVED.**

The Democratic Executive Committee of Stokes County, eighteen of the twenty-one members present, held a session at the county house Saturday.

The meeting was at the call of the chairman, S. P. Christian, to meet with the Stokes representatives in the General Assembly, to consider legislation of interest to the county, and to transact such other matters as might properly come before the meeting at this particular time.

Senator Sparger and Representative Phillips were both present and gave interesting accounts of their respective stewardships at Raleigh. The courses of the two representatives in the law-making body of the State were unanimously endorsed by the committee.

There was considerable discussion of impending legislation, notably the new marriage act to be passed, allowing the medical examination to be dispensed with; the consolidation of some departments and elimination of others at Raleigh, which will result in big reduction in taxation; the Murphy-Bowie bill with reference to prohibition repeal, etc. These measures were endorsed by the committee after discussion.

In view of the national Democratic platform's declaration favorable to the sale of light wines and beer, and the almost certainty of congressional action as a result of the national upheaval against the lawlessness and crime attendant upon the wholesale violation of prohibition laws, a bill sponsored by Murphy and Bowie has been introduced in the legislature favoring the repeal of the Tarrington act in the State if the Federal act is passed. The Murphy-Bowie bill does not permit of the return of the saloon, but recognizes the inexpediency of North Carolina undertaking to enforce laws out of harmony with Federal statutes. The Murphy-Bowie bill would permit the sale of light wines and beer in the State under strict State and Federal supervision, and receive the tax from the sale of the beverages, recognizing the indisputable fact that whiskey is now sold everywhere without government supervision, and tax-free to the bootleggers.

With this view, while many members of the committee were strict prohibitionists, after considerable discussion, the committee voted to endorse the provisions of the Murphy-Bowie bill.

No action was taken by the committee as to the endorsement of postmasters, or of any other jobs, and after some business matters had been transacted, the committee adjourned.

Miss Nell Joyce, who is teaching at the Calvin Wiley school, Winston-Salem, spent the week end at her home here.