

# The Mount Airy Daily News

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## General Assembly Passed Eleven Hundred New Laws

### Session Just Closed Considered Most Important in Years

### Public School System of the State Is to Undergo a Thorough Investigation

Raleigh, March 12.—Eleven hundred and seventy-three bills and 52 resolutions were passed by the general assembly of North Carolina during the 63-day biennial session of 1925. The session was considered by many to have been one of the most important in recent years, chiefly because of the drastic changes that were made in the state's fiscal policy.

Briefly, the general assembly of 1925 scrapped the accrual basis and adopted a "balanced budget" financial policy. Throughout the session the principal question before the two leading committees of each branch, that is, the committees on finance and appropriations, was how to make the appropriations come within the range of revenues to be actually collected. The new policy goes into effect with the beginning of the next fiscal year, July 1, when the executive budget will begin to function.

Governor McLean's principal campaign plank will begin with a declaration in favor of a "balanced budget"—an executive budget. And this was one of the reforms on which he placed strong emphasis in his inaugural address and also in his first commendatory message to the general assembly. There were other recommendations, but he stressed this most, letting it be known that he considered it the basis for a "businesslike administration of affairs of state."

### No Free Lance Agencies

Under the new system, adopted by the general assembly of 1925, there will be no "free lance" departments or institutions privileged to spend at random. The highway commission is about the only department not coming under the executive budget. This is because that branch of the state government runs on its own finances. Finances of the state are to be viewed from the standpoint of the whole, rather than from a fragmentary standpoint.

Sharp cuts were necessary all down the line, in making appropriations. Estimates were trimmed to a minimum—and then some. Requests were viewed and reviewed. All unnecessary things were eliminated.

Also, there was a co-ordinating of the state's collecting agencies. For instance, the collection of automobile license taxes was taken from the department of state and lodged in the department of revenue. This is the most striking example of the change. The governor directly recommended this course, which was adopted by the speedy passage of bills embodying the idea or policy.

Few new departments were added to the state government. Commercial motor transportation was taken under state supervision, but the duties incident to enforcing this new regulatory policy were vested in the corporation commission. The moneys derived thereon to be placed in the general fund. An enabling act, passed on the last night of the session, set aside an appropriation of \$10,000, to be used by the corporation commission. There may be a few minor jobs created on account of this new supervision, but they will, of necessity, go to men versed in transportation problems.

Efforts to establish a state department of police failed completely.

### Issuance of Highway Bonds

No fight developed over the issuance of highway bonds. The general assembly authorized \$20,000,000. There was a movement on foot to make the total \$35,000,000. This was given expression through bills introduced in the senate and house. However, when it was definitely learned that the governor would not consider espousing this view, it was dropped by the proponents of the \$35,000,000 bills. A tax of a cent a gallon was added to gasoline, making the total four cents, instead of three, as heretofore. The increase was to finance the new bond issue.

A fight did occur, however, over where the funds from the enforcement of the bus regulation measure should go. The original bus bill provided that they be placed to the credit of the highway commission. A bill passed the house assigning them to the general fund, and one passed the senate giving them to the school

equalization fund. The result was that the senate adopted the house bill, and the revenues go to the general fund.

A prolonged fight occurred over increased pensions for Confederate veterans and their widows. The original million dollar appropriation won. There was a bill in the house to tax automobiles \$2 for Confederate pensions. That failed. Then, a measure providing for a motion picture and theatre tax passed its third reading in the house, but this was killed in the senate.

Several fights developed to increase the equalization fund above that contained in the appropriations bill, but they were unsuccessful. There were slight changes, here and there, in the general appropriations bill but none that materially altered the total.

### Judicial Conference

Another departure voted by the general assembly was the establishment of a judicial conference, upon the recommendation of the governor.

The question of courts and judicial districts was considered at length in both houses. R. O. Everett, chairman of the house committee, presented a bill calling for the redistricting of the state into 27 judicial districts. This was rejected, but later one passed calling for 24 districts and an equal number of judges and solicitors, being an increase of four over the present number. This, however, was killed in the senate. Finally, there passed both branches of the general assembly the measure known as the Davenport bill giving the governor authority to appoint attorneys to act as special judges to relieve congested dockets. For many days the subject of judges and judicial districts was uppermost in the consideration of committees having this question in charge.

One of the outstanding features of the general assembly was the manner in which both branches, especially the house, accepted, in principle, the reports of the appropriations and finance committees. The house was more disposed than the senate to accept the reports in toto. However, in the final windup there were few vital changes.

The entire public school system of the state is to undergo a thorough investigation as one of the results of the recent session of the general assembly. The governor was authorized to name a commission of 12 to conduct the inquiry, which will deal with funds expended and with results obtained, as well as efficiency.

There will also be a commission to investigate the wages being paid state employes with a view to eliminating alleged waste. Each employe's work will be reviewed and his or her efficiency will be taken into consideration, with a view to equalizing remuneration. The basis of pay will be fixed with a view to rewarding efficiency.

### State Prison Supervision

The state's prison, which had been running at a loss, according to published reports, was taken from its former status, that of "an independent" corporation, and placed under a more rigid state supervision. It is now on an appropriation basis and its control is vested in a board named by the governor.

No longer will the various institutions and state departments be privileged to place their moneys where they chose to place them. All funds collected by state agencies must be deposited daily with the state treasurer. He, after this, will be the financial head of the state and responsible for the depositing of state funds with banks.

Also the departments and institutions must look to the state itself for legal advice. Two new assistants will be added to the office of the attorney general, and that office will have supervision over all lawsuits in which the state or any of its departments may be interested. In the event this office cannot render the service required, the governor will be notified and steps taken by him to secure additional counsel. This move will eliminate the employment by the state highway commission of a special attorney. One of the assistants in the attorney general's office will be assigned to the highway department and another to the department of revenue.

## DR. SUN YAT-SEN DIES AT PEKING

### "George Washington of the Far East" Expires

Peking, March 12.—Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the south China leader, died this (Thursday) morning.

Surgeons who operated on Dr. Sun at the Rockefeller hospital here January 26 declared his case was hopeless, and gave him only 10 days to live. The aged Chinese clung to life however, the 10 days passing, leaving him weaker, but still alive.

On February 18, against the advice of the hospital authorities, Dr. Sun was removed by friends and political associates to the headquarters of the Kuomintang (People party), the former residence of Wellington Koo, former foreign minister. It was there that he died.

Few if any statesmen, past or present, have known more ups and downs, more victories and defeats, more loyalty or treachery than Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the first provisional president of China, frequently called the "father of the republic" and often referred to as the "George Washington of the far east."

### Attacked Manchus

The name of Dr. Sun first began to appear in newspapers of the western world back in the late 80s, when his vigorous pronouncements against his arch-enemies, the dynastic Manchu emperors of China, attracted some slight attention. He was then living in the Hawaiian islands with his widowed mother who had migrated to Honolulu with her husband, an agent of a Christian mission, when Sun Yat-sen was an infant. Since 1895, however, when he essayed the first of his many revolutions, his name has become almost as well known to the Occident as it is to the 400 million Chinese nationals on behalf of whom he spent a life time of unremitting hardship and constant danger.

Dr. Sun was twice named to the highest constitutional office in China—the first time in the fall of 1911, when he was proclaimed the first provisional President of the Chinese republic, and again in May, 1921, when he was elected President of all China.

### Known Throughout World

There are few parts of the world to which he was a stranger. Wherever there were Chinese he had been always with the same mission, the same appeal—a Chinese republic. A small, quiet, stoop-shouldered man, a thin grayish mustache pointing upward at the ends Dr. Sun moved about the world holding his life in his hands every moment of the day and night, for it would have been worth \$200,000 to any one who could plant a knife between his shoulders. This reward offered originally by the Manchu government, was standing for nearly 20 years.

Dr. Sun, although few of his associates knew it, was a Christian. He was born in Hon'ulu in 1862 and received his medical education in the Hong Kong college. He was married quite early in life and was the father of two children, a son and a daughter.

## Senate Hazes Dawes Because Was Absent

Washington, March 12.—Vice President Dawes got another dose of hazing in the senate Thursday and, outwardly, took it smilingly.

Still smarting under his attack on its rules, and offended because he hadn't returned to the chamber on inauguration day, the vice president's fatal absence on Tuesday when the Warren nomination was lost because he wasn't there to break the tie vote, was too good an opportunity to be missed.

Senator Norris, of Nebraska, read to the senate a poem—a parody on Sheridan's ride—but instead of Sheridan riding to save the day at Winchester, a taxicab with the vice president inside was breaking the speed limit to the capitol in the futile dash to save the nomination of Mr. Warren to be attorney general.

Half suppressed laughter among senators punctuated the reading, but through it the vice president sat smiling and at the conclusion arose and returned the compliment to Senator Norris saying:

"The chair cannot refrain from expressing his appreciation of the delicate tribute submitted by the senator from Nebraska."

Senator Neeley, of West Virginia joined the hazing party by reading an editorial on "Absenteeism."

## RELIEVE McLEAN OF HEAVY WORK

### Consideration of Pardon Applications Has Heretofore Taken Vast Amount of Time

Raleigh, March 15.—Appointment of a pardon commissioner by the governor is expected to relieve the executive of a vast amount of work that has heretofore been omnipresent. It was stated on the floor of the general assembly, when the pardon commissioner bill was up, that "this ought to be called 'a bill to be entitled to act to save the governors' lives.'" This is the exact language that was used by Representative Madison, of Jackson county. Other members concurred.

Hundreds of applications for clemency are filed in the governor's office every year. Hundreds are acted upon. When an application is turned down it usually must be reviewed again by the governor. When a pardon or parole is granted, that ends it, unless it becomes necessary that it be revoked. In that event, there is usually an effort to get the prisoner "another chance."

During the early part of former Governor Morrison's administration he made a rule that he would hear applications for clemency only one week out of each month. This brought hundreds of attorneys and other interested persons to Raleigh during the designated week each month. During the other three weeks there were continual pleas in behalf of prisoners who had "extraordinary cases." Then, if the governor happened to be called out of Raleigh on business during "pardon week," as it came to be called, there were those who sought interviews at other times, claiming they were not at fault and insisting that they could not wait until the next "pardon week."

Governor Morrison finally abandoned the idea of setting aside one week a month for hearing applications for pardons. He returned to the practice of hearing applicants whenever they presented themselves devoting practically all this time to them with the exception of that taken for an occasional meeting of the council of state.

Hardly a day passes that the governor's office at Raleigh is not well filled with applicants for clemency, either for their kin people or clients. On many occasions prisoners themselves, out on temporary parole, have presented their cases in person.

Under the terms of the law authorizing the governor to appoint a pardon commissioner, that official will have general supervision over all cases until they are ready for a final decision, which must be made by the governor himself. He will be allowed a small expense account, in case he is called out of Raleigh to investigate cases. All papers will be turned over to him and he will get all data together and make his recommendation.

There was a movement on foot to start a movement for a pardon board which, under the terms of a bill that was introduced, would have had final jurisdiction over appeals for clemency. However, the governor decided to try out the idea of having a pardon commissioner for at least two years.

Hearing applications for pardons, paroles and reprieves has taken up most of the time of governors in recent years. It was with a view to relieving this situation that Governor McLean recommended legislation. His measure for the appointment of a pardon commissioner went through without debate, and he was assured that the general assembly would vote to submit a constitutional amendment calling for the creation of a pardon board. But he decided to try the legislation already enacted until the next meeting of the general assembly, at least.

## Barking of Dog Costs One Life, One Wounded

Goldsboro, March 11.—The barking of a dog cost Sam Barbour, of Clayton township, his life and resulted in the shooting of Hyman Dodd, of the same section. Barbour and Dodd drove up to the home of Dock Hill Sunday night and Hill, who was under the influence of liquor, came out to converse with them. During the conversation, Hill's dog barked at the other men and they kicked at it. Hill became incensed at this action and he went into the house got a gun and shot twice. The first hit Barbour in the breast, the second struck Dodd in the thigh.

Barbour died several hours later but his companion was not seriously wounded. Hill immediately gave himself up to the police.

## President Coolidge Loses Support of His Senate

### Senate Accepts Challenge of President to Give Attorney-General Nominee Recess Appointment by Voting Against Confirmation 46 to 39

Washington, March 16.—The nomination of Charles B. Warren to be attorney general was rejected for a second time today by the senate, 46 to 39, as compared to the 40-40 tie a week ago. Immediately there arose a question whether Mr. Warren would accept a recess appointment which President Coolidge announced last Saturday would be offered him in the event the senate took such action.

Neither the executive nor Mr. Warren made any statement. Secretary Sanders said Mr. Coolidge had the situation "under advisement" and Senator Curtis, of Kansas, the republican leader, who, with Senator Butler of Massachusetts, carried word of the senate action to the white house, declared the President would make known his position tomorrow.

Neither would intimate whether these indications pointed to a refusal by Mr. Warren to accept a recess appointment or whether Mr. Coolidge had under advisement the submission of a new nomination tomorrow or at some later date.

### Opposition to Fight

Meanwhile the senate is held in special session. Leaders of the opposition to Mr. Warren declared it would be so held for some time unless Mr. Coolidge submitted another name. Until the senate adjourns, a recess appointment cannot be made.

The vote came after four hours of fiery debate before crowds that jammed the galleries and extended in long lines through the corridors. Presentation of the case of Mr. Warren and of the President rested largely with republicans of the judiciary committee, two of whom made their maiden senate speeches in the fight. The leaders of the old guard of other days remained silent in their places.

Although the only question in doubt was the size of the majority by which the nomination would be rejected, the calling of the roll was followed with even a more eager intensity than was manifest last Tuesday when it first was turned down because of the inability of Vice President Dawes to reach the chamber in time to break the tie.

### Dawes Presides

The vice president was in the chair every minute of the session today and had his first real experience in attempting to force senate rules against demonstrations, which came frequently from the gallery as quips and jibes were hurled across the chamber by senators.

The hosts on both sides had been marshalled, some coming from sick beds and others having been summoned from great distances to cast their votes in the history-making struggle between the white house and the senate.

This was one of the few times in recent history that all the senators present answered when their names first were called. As the roll started, Senator Smoot, republican, Utah, who collapsed in the senate last week, came in slowly and took his seat. A minute or two later, Senator La Follette, of Wisconsin, recognized leader of the insurgents, who had been called from Florida, entered the chamber and took his seat in a front row directly before Mr. Dawes.

## Nobody Wants Job of North Carolina Executioner

Raleigh, March 14.—One state job created vacant because nobody wants it. There has not been a single application filed for the place of executioner at the state's prison, Superintendent Pou stated today.

"Although the job is there, continued Mr. Pou, "there was no law passed to make anybody take it. Begins to look as if the place will go begging."

The newly appointed state prison board will meet Monday for the purpose of naming a superintendent, a chief clerk and a warden for the present administration. The custom is for the governor to indicate his choice as to the places now held by George Ross Pou, Hugh Love and S. J. Busbee, respectively. There has been no intimation as to the governor's intentions in the way of making nominations to the board.

## STEAMER CARRYING JEWS LEAVES FOR PALESTINE

### Great Crowd Sees Zionists Depart for Dedication of Jerusalem University.

New York, March 12.—The steamship President Arthur left today for Palestine, carrying 300 Zionists who will attend the dedication on April 1 of the first Hebrew university in Jerusalem.

Thousands cheered and waved flags from the pier as the steamer departed.

The President Arthur, purchased from the United States lines by the American Palestine line for the establishment of a steamship service to Palestine, was delayed more than two hours in sailing.

It was necessary to call 100 police reserves to handle the crowd. No injuries were reported in the jam, although some of the spectators' clothing was torn.

The President Arthur floated both the Stars and Stripes and the flag of Zion, a white banner with blue triangles. This is said to be the first time this emblem has been carried by any ship.

The cargo included agricultural implements and trucks which will be used for farm development in Palestine.

Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, in a special service, prayed that success attend the voyage.

Among the prominent passengers were Philip Wattenberg, builder and president of the American Palestine line, and Edward Kaplan, religious editor of The Jewish Daily News.

It was said Mr. Wattenberg plans to build hundreds of homes in Palestine for Jews who return there from other countries.

## JUDGE B. F. LONG DEAD IN STATESVILLE

### Recognized as Leader in Legal Circles, and Never Missed Term of Court on Account of Sickness

Statesville, March 14.—Judge B. F. Long, recognized as one of the ablest judges on the Superior court bench of North Carolina, died at his home here this afternoon about 2 o'clock, death resulting from a stroke of paralysis which he suffered a few hours before.

Being a sufferer from high blood pressure Judge Long had been resting quietly for a few weeks at his home, upon the advice of his physicians. He ate breakfast this morning with his family and was apparently as well as usual until about 10 o'clock.

Benjamin Franklin Long was born in Graham, Alamance county, March 19, 1853, being nearly 72 years of age. He began the practice of law in 1878, forming a partnership with Maj. W. M. Robbins, of Statesville. He was elected solicitor of this judicial district in 1886, serving with distinction in that capacity for eight years.

He became Superior court judge January 1, 1903, and was for 22 years on the bench, serving in every section of North Carolina. He has shown himself to be a jurist of a high order.

Judge Long was pre-eminent as a trial judge, the peer of any lawyer or jurist of his time in this state. In his 22 years on the bench he bore the distinction of not having missed a court on account of sickness.

## Liquor Cache Valued at \$30,000 in Grave

Charleston, S. C., March 15.—Stocked with choice liquors, with a total value of more than \$30,000—based on current bootleg prices—a rum runners cache was discovered in a graveyard near here today by state and federal prohibition officers.

The cache contained 4,376 quarts of champagne and imported whiskies packed in burlap bags and apparently ready for distribution. Although the officers remained hidden near the spot for a number of hours no one appeared to claim the liquor. The belief was expressed that the graveyard was probably used as a "point of contact" between operators of liquor ships and their land agents.