

## Schools Replace Liquor As Chief Interest Of The Assembly

Raleigh, March 5—Schools stole the show this week and liquor was chased from the General Assembly stage.

The week started off with liquor referendum bills taking a quick one-two. The Martin bill, calling for a vote on an as-is ABC system or abolishment of it, was killed by the House propositions and grievances committee on Tuesday.

The next day the Penny measure, asking an all-wet or all-dry vote, got a death sentence from the Senate committee on propositions and grievances.

To top it off, the House also amended to death—then postponed indefinitely—a bill that would have prohibited advertising of any alcoholic beverages in newspapers, magazines, periodicals, or on billboards.

There is a slim chance that the dries will make a curtain call, though. Representative L. A. Martin of Davidson, introducer of one referendum bill, said, "We haven't given up the fight." He said a fight would be made to resurrect a referendum measure. Also, a bill calling for a state-wide vote on beer and wine may be introduced, he added.

But schools provided the biggest news of the week.

Education backers sent in an amendment (in the joint appropriations committee) that would add \$10 million a year to the school budget. It would be used mainly for increased teacher pay.

### MORE FUNDS ASKED

The school machinery act was introduced to both houses. Two more bills asking \$50 million for school building aid to counties hit the hoppers.

Wednesday night, Governor Scott took the air lanes to put a personal okey on increased spending for schools. He also called upon North Carolinians to come to Raleigh the next day and let their legislators know what they thought about it.

As one person put it, "He told us to come, so we came." And they did come. Some 4,500 of them.

It was the largest mass meeting at a legislative hearing in the memory of veteran legislators.

The hearing was held to discuss the school machinery act. But that wasn't even mentioned. Instead, spokesmen for the crowd told the joint appropriations and education committees that they wanted more money for teachers, more money for school building.

They said they didn't care what the cost was, it would be worth it. They added that they were perfectly willing to pay higher taxes. If necessary, to improve the school system.

They said they wanted the best for North Carolina children, on an equal basis — and now.

The joint finance committee came out with its revenue bill. It would add about \$200,000 a year to anticipated revenue. House Committee Chairman Larry More of Wilson said.

Several bits of sniping were taken at Governor Scott. The finance committee postponed indefinitely action on a proposed tax of soft drinks. The same group said it would not consider the proposed \$208 million rural road bond issue until after the revenue bill had been passed.

The Senate killed 28-14 a bill that would have given the Governor authority to appoint public representatives on 10 of the state's 21 licensing boards.

### SCOTT'S GAINS

On the favorable side of the ledger, a Senate judiciary committee amended and favorably reported a Scott-suggested measure setting up a personnel department.

Probably the most important positive action taken was the quick passage by both Houses of a bill giving teachers and state employes a 20 per cent raise retroactive to October 1, 1948. The raise is effective for the rest of the current fiscal year.

Both Houses also passed a bill approving the Governor's signing a pact with other southern states to establish regional schools. Also keyed by the Senate and House was a measure giving the state treasurer broader powers to invest state funds.

The House passed a bill to allow life imprisonment in all capital cases, upon recommendation of the jury. It killed a measure that would have done away with drivers' license exams and set up a "mail-order" license system.

The Senate passed a bill cutting the tax on oleomargarine wholesalers and permitting serving of colored oleo in public eating places.

An attempt to put some sort of motor vehicle inspection back in the law books wound up with the Senate roads committee okeying a bill calling for the State Highway patrol to spot-check cars. The same group killed an attempt to have an annual inspection with one lane in every county and a limited list of items to be checked.

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### ADMINISTRATRIX' NOTICE

Having qualified as administratrix of the estate of Gordon S. Justice, deceased, late of McDowell County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at Route 1, Old Fort, N. C., on or before the 10th day of February, 1950, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.


This the 8th day of February, 1949.

MRS. GORDON S. JUSTICE, Administratrix of Gordon S. Justice, deceased.

### ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

North Carolina, McDowell County

Having qualified as the administrator of the estate of Laddie Mills Hemphill, deceased, late of McDow-



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ell County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the law office of Roy W. Davis, Marion, North Carolina, on or before the 3rd day of March 1950, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment at the same place.

This the 3rd day of March, 1949.  
SAMUEL HEMPHILL, Administrator of the Estate of Laddie Mills Hemphill.