

State's Dry Forces Ready To Make Most Determined Effort To Get State-Wide Referendum During 1949

Raleigh, Dec. 29 (AP)—North Carolina dry forces are ready for their most determined effort in years to get a state-wide liquor referendum.

They're looking ahead to the session of the General Assembly convening Jan. 5 with confidence built up through successes in beer and wine elections in 18 counties during 1948.

The dries are expected to go all-out in their demand for a state-wide vote, in contrast to the present system of county and municipal option, appear brighter than at any time in the last decade.

They are seeking such a referendum quite frankly because they think they can carry it and completely dry up the state. A few years ago they weren't keen for a state-wide election. At that time they were fearful they would lose and thus see the sale of whiskey legalized in every section of the state.

Two factors appear to favor the dries in their fight before the general assembly, aside from the air of authority which the beer-wine election results give to their claims that a majority of Tar Heels want a return to state-wide prohibition:

1. The house of representatives is expected to get rid of its controversial "gag rule." Governor-elect Kerr Scott in the campaign promised that he would recommend a state-wide referendum.

Actually, the "gag rule," as even its enemies concede, never has been used to block legislation. But many dries contend that it has always stood as a threat that could bury in committee any referendum legislation.

The attitude of Governor-elect Kerr Scott can have a lot to do with how the legislature handles the referendum question. His three immediate predecessors—Governors Hoey, Broughton and Cherry—each promised to recommend a state-wide referendum, and did no more than offer such a proposal to the assembly.

There are some factors which favor the wets, who are referred to offer vigorous opposition to any legislation for a referendum.

Since the 1947 general assembly met, the wets have won some victories of their own. They have succeeded in carrying ABC elections in Mecklenburg County, in the city of Asheville, and in the towns of Louisville and Franklinton.

Many legislators—including some from dry areas—sincerely feel that the ABC store system is the best the state has ever devised to handle the liquor problem. They believe that it is just as democratic for the people of the county or municipality to vote on the issue as it is to have the vote on a state-wide basis.

Still other legislators look at the issue from the revenue angle. The state took in a total of \$7,900,638 from the sale of alcoholic beverages in the past fiscal year and cities and counties took in even more. Profits from ABC stores are an important source of revenue for the 26 counties and three municipalities which have ABC systems. If these profits are voted out, these legislators declare, replacement sources of revenue will have to be found.

It Makes Japanese Nervous For Soldiers To Play With Trolleys

Yokohama—Dec. 28—(AP)—Playful U. S. soldiers have got to quit playing moforman on Yokohama's rickety old trolley cars.

The provost marshal cracked down today with an order forbidding it.

The reason: It makes the Japanese passengers nervous and they all get off at the next stop when a GI grabs the controls and "guns" the groaning old rattlers.

War Or Peace Conference Is Called By Chiang Kai-Shek Of Chinese Heads

Nanking, Dec. 29—(AP)—From all corners of China today came Nationalist military leaders to talk war or peace with Chiang Kai-shek.

The aging president, urged by many to quit, called the conference. It probably will start tomorrow. On its decision may rest the future of Nationalist China, beset on the north by conquering Communists.

Even as the warlords, generals and leaders arrived in Nanking, a government source revealed that a Red underground organization was hard at work only two miles from the capital.

A hint that Chiang, or his Nationalist leaders under a new chief, would carry on the fight came late in the day. Gen. Chen Cheng, former army chief of staff, was appointed Governor of Formosa by the Executive Yuan (council).

New Premier Takes Over In Egypt

Cairo, Egypt, Dec. 29—(AP)—A new premier took over today the reins of government dropped by the assassinated Mahmoud Fahmy Nokrashy Pasha. He urged Egyptian unity for the struggle in Palestine.

The new premier is Ibrahim Abdel Hadi Pasha, who was chief of the royal cabinet. He is expected to carry out Egypt's policy toward Israel much as Nokrashy Pasha would have done. The cabinet was readjusted.

Hadi Pasha is a middle aged lawyer who was held both parliamentary and ministerial position. He was sentenced to death as a youth for his revolutionary political beliefs, but was released under a political amnesty in 1924. He helped Nokrashy Pasha form the Saadist party, now dominant in the chamber of deputies, after a split of the Wafdist party in 1937.

King Farouk made the appointment. Nokrashy Pasha was shot to death at his office yesterday by a Fuad University student, who disguised himself in a second hand police uniform to gain admittance. The student was arrested. Police said he was Abdel Hamid Ahmed Hassan, 21, a member of the Nationalist Moslem brotherhood which Nokrashy Pasha outlived less than three weeks ago.

Recorders Court In Day Long Session

Halifax—Several cases were appealed to Superior Court and others were dismissed with fines and probations here yesterday in a full day's session of Halifax County recorder's court.

Court officials said most of the cases heard involved traffic violations and said the court was recessed by Judge Charles R. Daniel until tomorrow, when it will convene in Roanoke Rapids for a special session for the day in an effort to clear up a number of cases pending on the docket for trial.

Two men charged with driving drunk were given suspended sentences and heavy fines on conviction here yesterday. Albert Strickland was sentenced to 12 months, with the sentence suspended on the payment of a fine of \$150 and costs and two years good behavior, and Sterling Warren was sentenced to eight months, with sentence suspended on the payment of a fine of \$150 and costs and good behavior.

Frank Seabreeze, Rocky Mount Negro, was ordered to remain out of Halifax County for 12 months after he had been tried on charges of breaking and entering and trespass and assault and destruction of personal property. On the first charge Seabreeze was given a prayer for judgment continued on the payment of \$50 in costs and on the second count he was sentenced to six months on the roads with sentence suspended on the payment of costs and condition that he remain out of the county.

Other cases acted on yesterday included George Silver, Enfield Negro, charged with trespass and disorderly conduct, prayer for judgment continued on the payment of a fine of \$35 and costs and 12 months' good behavior; Grant Copeland, Littleton Negro, assault with a deadly weapon, \$50 fine and costs; James Biggs, Enfield Negro, larceny prayer for judgment continued on payment of costs and on two years' good behavior; and Cicero Robinson, Negro, assault and non-support, nol pros.

Negro Woman Being Held On Manslaughter

Seaboard—Lellie Ramsey, Seaboard Negro woman, was freed under a \$1,000 bond awaiting trial in Superior Court on a manslaughter charge in the fatal Christmas Day shooting of Ida Lou People, Negro woman, Sheriff J. C. Stephenson said today.

The county sheriff said the Ramsey woman was placed under bond following a coroner's inquest here, and she will be charged with manslaughter and the illegal use of firearms in the corporate limits of Seaboard.

The sheriff said he and county coroner James Buffalo of Seaboard conducted an investigation of the case Christmas Day and found that the woman facing the charge had been conducting target practice with a .32 caliber revolver from her back steps a about eleven o'clock Saturday morning. He said the Peoples woman, who lived nearby, was standing on her back steps watching the firing when one of the shots went wild, striking her just above the left eye and killing her instantly.

Lellie Ramsey was placed under arrest and the coroner's jury was summoned to hear the evidence in the case. Stephenson said district solicitor Ernest R. Tyler of Roxobel came to Seaboard for the inquest to hear the evidence presented.

The sheriff said there was evidence to the effect that the shooting had been unintentional and the charge of manslaughter was lodged instead of a charge of murder.

Daily Herald

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TAME WOLF DOGS — L. Saarloos (left) of Dordrecht, The Netherlands, holds two pups he bred with real wolf blood. One of the Saarloos dogs (right) sits quietly while a little boy plays with it. The experiment was started 20 years ago by mating a she wolf with a dog. The dogs are friendly to children. Some are used as guides for the blind and as police dogs in The Netherlands.

Demos Shying From Posts On Spy Group

Washington, Dec. 29 (AP)—New house Democrats — and many old-timers — are shying away from a seat on the Un-American Activities Committee.

A veteran of five terms said today the party's leadership may have to "draft" the fifth Democrat member when the committee majority switches next week.

This lawmaker, who would not permit use of his name, told reporters that Speaker designate Rayburn (Tex) has had letters expressing committee preferences from all 101 new Democratic house members, and from more than 50 present members.

But not one has asked to be assigned to the spy-hunting committee — even as a second choice. Rayburn himself could not be reached for comment immediately.

The Un-American Activities committee now has nine members — five Republicans and four Democrats. The ratio will be reversed in the new congress, convening next Monday.

All four present Democratic members will be back — Reps. Wood of Georgia, who is in line for the chairmanship; Rankin of Mississippi, Peterson of Florida and Hebert of Louisiana.

Three of the five Republicans will not be back. Rep. Mundt of South Dakota was elected to the Senate, and Reps. McDowell of Pennsylvania and Vail of Illinois were defeated for re-election. The two returning are retiring chairman J. Parnell Thomas of New Jersey and Rep. Nixon of California.

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ROANOKE RAMBLINGS

By PAT NANTZ

Clifton "Buddy" Braswell, son of Mrs. Mamie Braswell of Madison street, didn't seem to like our cold weather down south, so he decided after three days of it, he would go where he could remain defrosted. Buddy arrived at his home here on vacation from his studies at Stray College, Washington, D. C. on Wednesday and left Sunday for a fishing trip in Mexico...he flew there with a friend from here. He will report back to school on January 3....

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Matthews had their son, Clayton, Jr., who is with the Army... home for the Christmas holidays.

Friends of C. V. Lane will be interested to know that he is at his home here, after having been a patient in Duke Hospital, Durham, for several weeks. Mr. Lane was subjected to treatments of various types during his stay there....

Babson's Financial and Business Outlook For 1949 Indicates Total Volume Will Be Less Than In 1948

By Roger W. Babson
1. Total volume of business for 1949 will be less than that of 1948. There surely will be many soft spots.

GENERAL BUSINESS
2. Most industries will show smaller net profits. In many cases dividends will be less in 1949.

3. Military preparedness will be a new and powerful industry which this country never heretofore experienced in peace times. It is destined to bolster employment for some years ahead, but not the standard-of-living.

4. Inventories quoted both at their dollar values and in volume will increase during 1949. Both raw material piles and manufactured goods will be in greater supply during 1949.

COMMODITY PRICES
5. Some rationing or priorities may be attempted in 1949. The public will make demands for price controls in the case of certain products. Beware of installment purchases in 1949.

6. We expect the peak in wholesale commodity prices has been reached for this cycle. We, therefore, advise going easy on inventories. 1949 is a time to get out of debt and stay out of debt.

7. The retail price of some goods, other than food products, may be higher during 1949, but we believe that the Cost-of-Living Index has turned downward.

8. Retail price changes lag after wholesale price changes. This explains why we expect many retail prices on good quality merchandise to hold up for awhile after wholesale prices decline.

FARM OUTLOOK
9. The total farm income for 1949 should be less than that of 1948, due to lower prices for wheat, corn, pork, poultry, eggs and certain dairy products. Farmers should diversify more in 1949, get out of debt, putting surplus money into savings and prepare for real trouble some day.

10. The supply of certain vegetables and fruits should increase during 1949. The price of these should fall off, barring some weather, insect or blight catastrophe.

11. Poultry and dairy products will also increase in volume during 1949, prices averaging less than 1948 prices.

Ben Carter Hurt In A Corn Picker

Ben Carter, Northampton County farmer of the Darlington Community was badly injured at his home yesterday when he had his right hand caught in a corn picker, injuring the hand and severely lacerating his right arm.

Attendants at the Roanoke Rapids hospital where Carter was brought for treatment said the two middle fingers of his right hand were so badly mangled they had to be amputated. In addition to severe cuts on his hand, Carter's arm was mangled in the forearm and above the elbow.

His condition was reported this morning to be "fairly good."

Carter was admitted to the local hospital yesterday about three o'clock and told hospital attendants he had been cleaning out the corn picker when the rollers caught his hand and pulled it into the machine. The machine was stopped, but Carter was held in the machine nearly half an hour before the picker could be taken apart so he could be released and his wounds treated.

Mary Jane Griffin, Roy Lee Turner, Ralph Faulkner and Barbara Jenkins are among the many who will celebrate their birthday today... so here's wishing you all have a very happy one and many, many more just as nice....

Truman On Way Back To Washington

Kansas City, Dec. 29—(AP)—President Truman packed up today for his return flight to Washington to check reaction to his claim that high Russian officials are anxious to have an understanding with the United States.

Some officials close to the chief executive were of the opinion he sought to create suspicion in Soviet ranks in his talk to a luncheon here Monday.

Meanwhile, he declined to name the "certain leaders" in the Russian government who are "exceedingly anxious to have an understanding with us."

The opinion among some of his top associates is that he must have had in mind some of the 13 members of the Politburo who run the government.

All Mr. Truman would add to his Monday statement was that newsmen will have to do their own speculating.

Marshall Resting At Pinehurst

Pinehurst, Dec. 29—(AP)—Secretary of State George C. Marshall is at his Pinehurst home, Liscombe Lodge, where he will rest for an indefinite time.

Secretary and Mrs. Marshall arrived here yesterday from Washington. Marshall underwent a kidney operation at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington three weeks ago.

Hospital physicians said there the Secretary is scheduled to undergo a long period of recuperation.

Rabbit Jumps To This Menu

TAUNTON, England—(AP)—A wild hare made a frantic jump in the wrong direction when startled out of a bush here. It landed in the arms of Jack Summers, proprietor of the Gardeners' Arms Hotel. Added starter on the menu of the Gardeners' Arms — hare.

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Kerr Scott Outlines His Program For The 1949 Legislature

J. R. Taylor Dies Suddenly At Home Here

J. Roy Taylor, 44, died at his home at 1401 Washington Street early this morning following a short illness.

A native of Northampton County, Mr. Taylor, was the son of Mrs. J. G. Taylor and the late Mr. Taylor. He had made his home in Roanoke Rapids for nearly 25 years and had been engaged in business since he came to the city.

Funeral services will be conducted at three o'clock Friday afternoon from the home on Washington Street. The Rev. J. U. Teague, pastor of the Galatia Baptist Church in Northampton County, assisted by the Rev. B. Marshall White-Hurst, pastor of Rosemary Baptist Church will officiate at the final rites.

Burial will be in Cedarwood cemetery. Survivors are Mr. Taylor's wife, Mrs. Craethie Pope Taylor; one brother, Earl Taylor; one sister, Mrs. Eugene Hudson; one grandson, R. D., Jr., all of Roanoke Rapids.

Haw River, Dec. 29—(AP)—Governor-Elect Kerr Scott, who made a campaign pledge to let in some "fresh air" at the top in state government, believes some office-holders ought to step out without being asked.

In an interview at his farm home yesterday, Scott said he does not intend to seek any resignations immediately after he takes office, but:

"There are some of them who ought to resign after all the things they said in the campaign about my ruining the state if I were elected. In other words, if I was a skunk then, I'm one now."

Without hesitation, Scott reeled off answers to numerous questions about his intentions after his inauguration Jan. 6. He asserted:

1. He has in mind a reorganization of the state utilities commission.

2. He will support in the legislature a proposal for a state-wide liquor referendum.

3. He will recommend higher pay for teachers and other state employes, and a \$2,400 minimum salary for eachers.

4. He favors increased appropriations for state hospitals and mental institutions and is willing to face an increase in taxes rather than "let these services go deficient."

5. He will support legislation to remove the sales tax on meals served in public eating places.

6. He favors more assistance for the needy.

7. He still thinks the "gag rule" of the state house of representatives should be killed.

8. He believes the present Scott has asked to resign on should go ahead and appoint a chief highway engineer to replace W. Vance Baise, who Scott has asked to resign on Jan. 6.

The utilities commission reorganization he is considering, Scott said, would mean enlarging the commission, which now has three members, and adding to its staff "more technicians," with the aim of getting expanded utilities services to rural areas.

Although favoring the \$2,400 minimum salary for teachers, he said he wasn't so sure about maximum salaries they should get.

Scott declared that some of the present highway commission were "wasteful," and that there was a "tendency to build football roads, roads to real estate developments and golf courses."

A Chapel Hill-Durham boulevard which Governor Cherry recently allocated \$50,000, Scott said, was a "football road."

Does he want the present highway commissioners to resign when he takes office or wait until their terms expire May 17? "I think they've decided to stay on," he replied. They kept saying they were going to resign. I'm prepared for it if they do. I certainly want their cooperation if they stay on. The attitude of some of them indicated they're not willing to cooperate. That's not all of them. That's just some of them."

Even if the present commission stays on, he said, he thinks they should replace Chief Engineer Baise at once.

"I think the commission would go on and make a change so the new man can get started," Scott asserted. It would just "throw the program behind" to wait until May, he said.

He said he was still studying possible methods of financing his rural road goal of black-topping 12,000 miles and treating 38,000 more miles to make them passable in all sorts of weather.

Previously he had mentioned a possible gas tax increase, a bond issue or a combination of the two.

If only a gas tax boost is used, he said, a raise of five cents a gallon would be needed. A bond issue alone, he declared, should be \$200,000,000.

Two Negroes Being Held For Robbery

Halifax—Court officials said here today a Negro youth, Samuel Miles, 18, is being held in jail here awaiting trial in Superior Court on 13 separate charges of breaking and entering following his arrest last week and subsequent confession to having perpetrated a number of break-ins in and around Enfield during the past several months.

Miles was captured by officers last week in an Enfield store into which he had forced entry. He was questioned concerning a number of other reported break-ins and admitted to much space his participation in them.

Probable cause was found against him in a preliminary hearing, and he was sent to the county jail to await trial here in the Superior Court session which starts on January 31.

Another Enfield Negro, Nathaniel Peterson, is also being held in the Halifax jail for Superior Court on a charge of breaking and entering, court officials said.

Swede Finds New Wool Washing Way

STOCKHOLM—(AP)—A demonstrator at the Swedish Textile Research Institute at Goeteborg, civil engineer Joel Lindborg, has invented a new method to wash raw wool, which claimed to be far better than the older methods.

Hitherto the washing has been a damaging process. The wool, felted easily in the strong lye and that made the following carding difficult and hard on the fibres. After washing with the new method the carding machines can work 30-40 per cent faster than before and with better results. The fibres can be kept 20 to 25 per cent greater in length.

Another gain by the new method is that it makes it easier to extract valuable materials from the lye. Every ton of raw wool now 100 kilograms or more of high quality lanolin which is used for cosmetics and pharmaceutical preparations.

But the raw wool is not only fat, it is also salty from the sweat of the sheep, and from this saltiness can be extracted potash. Sweden imports both potash and lanolin.

Power Of Press Is Illustrated

Detroit, Dec. 28—(AP)—The power of the press was amply illustrated today.

It took only one edition for Joe Christian, bridegroom-to-be, and Gordon Clarke, his lost best man, to find one another.

Clarke, resident of Draper, N. C., flew to Detroit to serve his honorary function at Joe's wedding today to beautiful Barbara Mason.

Gordon and Joe were college chums at Medical School in Winston-Salem, N. C. Barbara is a Detroit girl.

But when the best man arrived, he found to his consternation that he'd lost the address. Every source he tried for help failed him.

Then he went to a newspaper office. His plight was put on page one, with his picture.

Quick as that, the best man and the betrothed couple were together and shaking hands. In the city room, of course.