

CAPITAL REPORTER

Scott Summers

Raleigh, N. C., Nov.—The beer boys are going to try for the jackpot in the 1951 General Assembly. They're going to try to put 3.2 percent brew in each and every one of the 100 counties.

Via the grapevine comes word that the beer barons are not satisfied with the local option vote on sale of beer—they get beat too often to suit them.

So they're going to try to put through a state-wide bill making it legal to sell the 3.2 beer in every county. The first step, or perhaps in the preamble of the bill, will be to get the 3.2 declared "non-intoxicating." In other words, they'll say it's just about as innocent as the "near beer" prohibition days.

Actually, I'm told, the beer being sold in those North Carolina counties which have legal beer sales is very little if any above the 3.2 percent alcohol mark.

And, if any of you have any doubts that 3.2 beer won't get folks to feeling pretty frisky, ask some of the boys in service. Most PX's sell beer on army posts, and it's supposedly 3.2 percent. But it does right well in the way of making a lot of the boys feel no pain.

The beer boys have contacted most of the incoming legislators,

and reportedly are boasting that they have enough of the lawmakers on their side to get the state-wide 3.2 beer sale through both House and Senate.

The Governor last week said in effect that grafting had been pretty common in the Prison Department for years, but that breaking it up would take "at least two years."

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He said breaking this up would save the State millions of dollars.

He hit at critics of the administration who, he said, "just want to criticize but don't offer any constructive criticism."

The Governor maintained that his so-called "petty graft campaign" has saved up to some \$5,000,000. He did not cite other figures, but said this saving has been made by abolishing free meals at prisons, cutting down use of telephones and state-owned cars, and in keeping state employees from walking off with hams, etc., from state farms.

As to prison graft, Capital Reporter noted some time ago that the State Bureau of Investigation is quietly investigating prison camps all over the State. There have been some changes made in

some of those camps recently, and likely will be others.

Prison Director John Gold is doing everything he can to clean up the situation, but anyone familiar with the situation knows that it will take some time. After all, you can't remake the prison system overnight, and some of the goings on are so deep-rooted that it will take quite a bit of digging. Accusing a man of being a crook is one thing, but proving it on him is quite a different job.

Back to beer, for a minute. The North Carolina Division of the U. S. Brewers Foundation has been advertising a "Live and Let Live" campaign lately. The ad has been in a number of the State's newspapers, and it praises the work of the Malt Beverage Division of the State Board of Alcoholic Control in keeping beer-selling places "clean, orderly and operating according to law."

C. A. Upchurch, Jr. has done a good job in cleaning up the beer joints. But it seems a little ironic that his praise must come from the brewers.

L. A. Martin of Lexington recently was named judge of the Davidson County Court. All of the announcements I saw failed to mention that he is a long-time leader of the dry forces, and was the ramrod of the 1949 Legislature in trying to get through a bill for a state-wide liquor referendum. He did block passage of city votes on legal hooch, however, by forcing amendments on all such local bills. These amendments allowed a city liquor vote only if the county did not call a county-wide vote. All of the counties called for votes.

A study of the 1949 farm income by states shows that North Carolina is well down the list, below the national average in most instances. For example: in cash from livestock and products, North Carolina was 45th with an average in-



Mickey Rooney faces Pat O'Brien in a dramatic moment from "The Fireball," the story of the roaring roller skating speedway which arrives Thursday at the Watts Theatre. The Thor production, released by Twentieth Century-Fox, is the first to attempt to tell on the screen the inside story of a champion of this fast-growing American sport.

come per farm of \$501. Nevada topped the list, with a \$10,926 average per farm, and South Carolina was last, with an average of \$407 per farm. The national average was \$2,561.

In cash farm income from crops, North Carolina ranked 22nd with an average of \$1,922 per farm. Arizona headed this list, with a \$13,431 per farm average, and West Virginia was last with a \$219 average. The national average was \$2,119.

In total cash farm income, North Carolina was 40th with an average per farm of \$2,449. Arizona was first with \$18,717 and West Virginia was last with \$1,149. The national average was \$4,710.

But when you consider that the average North Carolina farm is around 21 to 22 acres—among the smallest in the nation on an average—it is not surprising that the "per farm" average is well down the list. North Carolina ranks second in the number of farms.

In summing up the situation, the Institute for Research in Social Science at Chapel Hill notes that the State has a long way to go before "she can be considered a reasonably well-balanced agricultural state."

"Our surplus land and surplus energy could profitably be devoted to more livestock in our farm program," the institute says. "We have excellent resources for production of livestock and we are making progress in this direction. But as long as our livestock ratio remains at the bottom in the

United States it is evident that we need to accelerate our progress towards a better balance between livestock and crops."

The defeat of Democrat Harry Vander Linden as Catawba County's representative in the legislature is being attributed to legal liquor. Vander Linden succeeded in getting stores in, but he lost this year to Republican Roy E. Leinback, Jr., a preacher and a dry.

E. Gerald Lackey of Winston-Salem, president of the N. C. Motor Carriers' Association, has written all members of his organization expressing "great alarm" at reports of speeding by trucks.

"I urge each of you to check every driver's record for speed or other violations upon the completion of each trip, and to weed out any known violators," Lackey wrote the truckers.

"I urge you to consistently remind them of their responsibility, and that speed violations will not be tolerated."

Lackey said further that this "urgent matter" will be fully discussed at the Association's board of directors meeting December 11. Recent reports have shown that trucks and buses have been the biggest offenders at exceeding the speed limit on state highways.

The National Tax Equality Association—NTEA—which is back of a radio advertising campaign against cooperatives of all sorts was the subject of a congressional

investigation this year. The investigation was made by a select House committee, headed by Rep. Wright Patman of Texas.

NTEA was one of four organizations studied by the House group. All of the organizations were purported to be small business representatives.

But the House committee reported that "none of these four organizations truly represent small business, and that big-business money contributions—from U. S. Steel, Standard Oil, and various public utilities, to cite only examples—encircle these organizations."

In its lobbying report for the first quarter of 1949, NTEA showed 43 contributors of more than \$500 each for the quarter. Of these 16 were public utility companies. For the third quarter, 14 of a total 31 such contributors were public utilities companies including Carolina Power and Light Company.

In a summary, the committee report said that NTEA claims to represent small business, but that this claim is false or misleading. This is the same outfit that is sponsoring radio ads—or spots—fighting cooperatives, and announcing the ads as sponsored by "local taxpaying merchants."

Pete: What's the difference between a single man and a married man?

Tony: What? Pete: A single man has no buttons on his shirt, and a married man has no shirt.

Wood pulp is the basis of 95 percent of all paper.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Having this day qualified as administrator of the estate of Johnnie Jones, late of the county of Martin, this is to notify all parties having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned within one year from date hereof or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All parties owing any sum to the said estate will please pay the same at once.

F. B. Harrell, Administrator, Estate of Johnnie Jones, deceased, Oak City, N. C. This the 25th day of October, 1950. No 26 no 2-9-16-23-30

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

North Carolina, Martin County. Having this day qualified as the Administrator of the estate of Lucey R. J. Burnett, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to exhibit them to me, or my attorneys undersigned, on or before the 19th day of October, 1951 or this notice will

ADMINISTRATRIX NOTICE

Having this day qualified as administratrix of the estate of George C. Jenkins, deceased of Martin County, this is to notify all persons holding claims against said estate to present them for payment on or before the 30th day of October, 1951, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are asked to make immediate settlement. This the 30th day of October, 1950.

Mattie L. Jenkins, Administratrix. No 2-9-16-23-30 de 5

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