

CAPITAL REPORTER

Scott Summers

Raleigh, N. C., Dec.—Lot's of folks are wondering why the State—with a \$12,000,000 balance five months ago—needed to borrow \$10,000,000 last week to tide it over the next three months.

Administration critics will make the most of it. They'll try to make it appear that the State is headed for bankruptcy under Governor Scott. Nothing could be further from the truth.

It's just that expenses for the last several months and for the next few months are outrunning income. But a big swing in increased income to the State comes every year when the income taxes are paid—mostly during the first six months of the year. Then is when the year's surplus is made, with income far outrunning expenses.

It's sorta like a tobacco farmer. He has plenty of money on hand in the fall of the year, after he's sold his tobacco. But come spring, and planting time, he often has to borrow money to buy fertilizer and plants.

Actually, you could blame the present borrowing on the 1949 Legislature.

It left Raleigh with the general fund facing a \$3,000,000 deficit for the 1949-51 budget. In addition, it put a rider on the appropriations bill calling for a teacher pay bonus. The last was put on by administration opponents, with their tongues in their cheeks. They never expected it to be paid because they were sure the general fund would wind up in the red. And they wanted to be able to go home to the teachers and

say, "see, what we did for you—we tried to get you a raise".

That expected \$3,000,000 deficit plus the more than \$7,000,000 it will take to pay the teachers their bonus will make up the \$10,000,000 that was borrowed. Actually, the contingent pay boost, or bonus, was authorized when the Advisory Budget Commission saw that revenue for the current fiscal year apparently would warrant it.

So, despite having to borrow the \$10,000,000, the State will wind up with the budget in balance by June 30, 1951—the end of the current fiscal year. In fact, the way things are going, there might even be a few million dollars surplus by that date.

December 12 at 11 a. m. in Washington, U. S. senators and representatives from North Carolina will gather in the House Ways and Means Committee Room.

There they will meet with Governor Scott, members of the State Ports Authority, and Wilmington representatives to coordinate efforts in influencing the Maritime Administration to lease a portion of the idle Wilmington shipyard to Jack Buncher of Pittsburgh. Buncher has agreed to lease the 18,000-ton Navy drydock set aside for Wilmington, if he can get part of the shipyard. The drydock is stored in Panama awaiting a decision.

Ironically, the drydock was secured for Wilmington by then-Senator Frank Graham. His successor, Willis Smith, who won in a bitter primary fight, will be asked to help make it possible to get the drydock to North Carolina.

Opposition to the idea is expected from shipyards and drydocks operating along the Atlantic coast, and influence—or pressure—of the entire North Carolina congressional delegation may be the deciding factor in the drydock in operation at Wilmington. However, recent developments indicate that the Maritime Administration may be willing to lease a part of the Wilmington shipyard, and that will

be the deciding factor.

In addition to bringing employment to between 300 and 400 persons, plus revenue from ships being refitted at Wilmington, the drydock would augment the \$5,000,000 State Port terminals and dock now being built at Wilmington under the recent bond issue. Development of a ship repair center there also would aid in the effort to get steel mills to locate in eastern North Carolina, since shipbuilding is a tremendous consumer of steel.

A lot of North Carolinians are glad that the Tar Heel state wasn't picked for the H-bomb materials plant site. In fact, some of 'em have been heard to say that they thought it was still too close, being in South Carolina.

North Carolina was considered for the plant, however. But the main reason it wasn't chosen was because of power—despite all the conversation from electric company bosses about the "abundance" of electric power in this state.

The South Carolina site was taken because: (1) not too many people, comparatively, would be displaced; (2) because a large, flat area of land was available; (3) because there are seven hydroelectric power plants in the immediate vicinity; (4) because plenty of water was available.

Notes from Washington:

An attempt to raise the federal tax on cigarettes from 7 cents to 9 cents a pack is not expected to succeed. A boost from \$9 to \$10 per gallon in the U. S. liquor tax is expected, however.

A plan that will aid North Carolina in getting new industry—particularly war industry—is being worked out. The government is working on a plan for on-the-job training in the plant, using local workers. In other words, the idea is for a plant that moves to North Carolina to train Tar Heels for the jobs rather than bring in personnel from elsewhere. The main idea of the plan is to prevent mass migration of workers from one area to another, such as the movement of thousands of people to California during the last war to work in airplane plants.

Price controls may be put on meat by spring.

A report that tire rationing is not in sight brings laughs from auto supply houses. Tires aren't rationed to them by the government, but they get only a small "quota" from tire manufacturers.

A big—in fact, one of the biggest—rubber company has its eye on North Carolina in the search for a place to build a \$25,000,000 plant.

Officials say these things are the most important in selecting a site: cost and availability of labor; closeness to markets; cost of transportation; and, cost and availability of power.

Governor Scott stole the show at the National 4-H session in Chicago when he told the kids he was in favor of 18-year-olds being given the right to vote.

"If they're old enough to be responsible for a half-million dollar jet plane, then they're old enough to accept the responsibility of voting," he said.

The Governor's attitude is not new. In his inaugural address, he said much the same thing.

At the Southern Governors' Conference, Governor Scott and Governor Sid McMath of Arkansas were the only two who did not yell for federal aid for Civil Defense programs.

Ironically, neither of the two states fall into the States' Righter category, and some of the Governors who have hollered the loudest about states' rights were the first to want federal aid.

It was reported at the meeting that Texas and North Carolina have the best Civil Defense programs in the South, with the Texas program being considered one of the best in the nation.

Scott's comment about Civil Defense was that "the people seem more interested in the program than do the leaders".

It always seemed funny to me, that the folks who yell loudest about "states' rights" are among the first to stick their hands out for federal government money.

How can they expect to take the money and not take some form of federal control?

Folks who don't want federal government telling state government what to do; folks who don't want state government telling city and county government what to do, should remember this:

The only time you have complete control over the way something is done is when you do it yourself.

If you want someone else to do the job, you have to pay.

Just like you can't expand state services without paying more taxes—that's just simple arithmetic.

Incidentally, the Advisory Budget Commission will unanimously recommend a balanced budget to the General Assembly. Their recommendations will not call for new taxes—not even for lifting exemptions on the sales tax.

And the recommended budget will be very little more than the one for the current biennium.

However, Governor Scott will point out some things he thinks should be done in his message to the legislature. These probably will include a stream sanitation program, expansion of the Highway Patrol, and reinstatement of the motor vehicle inspection law—a different version from the last one, however.

In other words, the legislature will be told: "Here's what we can do on an 'as is' basis. Here's what ought to be done—but you can't

do it without more money. And you can't get more money without more taxes."

Which probably means that very few, of any, new or expanded services will be added by the General Assembly, because legislators are notoriously a spineless lot when it comes to raising taxes.

The Governor got a "Thanksgiving Day" note from Shallote, in Brunswick County.

It came from Dr. R. M. Holden, who expressed thanks to Scott and his administration for "the wonderful things that are being done for us here in Brunswick."

Holden said that the road and school program was putting the county on the way to become "self-supporting", and that the only "fly in the ointment now" is a 40-mile square area without a telephone.

With every Southern state stressing good forest management the golden age of forestry is just beginning in the South.

Spend Millions On Research Plan

Sparked by a \$120,000,000 supplemental appropriation granted by the last session of Congress for military research, the Defense Department is launching an all-out speed-up military research and development program so that the Western Allies' fewer men will be able to outclass any future enemy.

The number of farm units in the United States has decreased by nearly one million since 1935. At the same time, the size of the average farm unit has increased considerably.



For Better Christmas Cooking



B. S. Courtney & Son
Furniture Since 1911
Open Friday Evening 'til 9:00

CLEAN FUN



BLUE STAR CLEANERS
Martin County's Largest and Most Modern Cleaners

Expert Alteration and Dyeing — Rug Cleaning
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

Washington Street — Telephone 2552
All Clothes Insured Against Fire and Theft

JOIN THE PARTY

Sponsored By
AMERICAN LEGION — WILLIAMSTON — AT THE HUT

Every Tuesday, 8 P. M.

21 — BIG PRIZES — 21


Bring the Family — No Admission \$1.00 Per Seat For 20 Games

SINCLAIR BUILDS NEW PIPELINES TO HELP MEET RECORD OIL DEMAND



MORE OIL BY PIPELINE. Faced by an unprecedented public demand for petroleum products, Sinclair Refining Company is going all-out to increase deliveries to motorists and fuel oil users. As part of its great \$150,000,000 expansion program, Sinclair is adding hundreds of miles of pipeline to its already existing lines.

Sinclair builds to serve you better



N. C. GREEN, AGENT
WILLIAMSTON, N. C.

The GRISCIER

SAVES HOURS OF KITCHEN LABOR



\$9.95
WITH 3 TEMPERED STEEL CUTTERS.

A must for the modern kitchen! The amazing Griscier saves hours of kitchen labor every week—it slices, shreds, grates, strips, scallops, shoestrings. Rotary action works unbelievably fast. Cutters are instantly interchangeable. Built to last a lifetime!

Worrell Appliance Co.

You can pay more but you can't buy better!



The '51 FORD is built for the years ahead!

Why pay more for a car when you can't buy more beauty... more comfort... more get-up-and-go than you get in the '51 Ford with the 43 new "Look Ahead" features? These features are designed to make Ford stay young... stay in style... and stay savingful not for just a year—but for the years ahead!



— with 43 "LOOK AHEAD" features!

For '51, Ford brings you the last word in smooth driving—Automatic Ride Control. It self-adjusts to give you the right ride for every type of road condition. You get Ford's new Automatic Posture Control, too. It automatically adjusts the seat height and angle as you slide it forward and back. And you get Ford's Automatic Mileage Maker, to give you automatic gas savings through the years ahead. And, best of all, this '51 Ford offers you Fordomatic—the smoothest, newest and savingest automatic drive ever!

And comfort, and savings aren't all The '51 Ford offers you "Fashion Car" Styling that's a match for any car at any price. In Ford's "Luxury Lounge" Interiors, the dash colors, and the new "Color-Keyed" Fordcraft Fabrics on seats and ceilings are all custom-matched to exterior colors. But look at the exploded view of the car above for the rest of Ford's "Look Ahead" features. Better still come in and see for yourself why folks with an eye to the future have an eye on Ford.