

Every Tar Heel Will Be Affected In One Way Or Another By 1947 General Assembly's Laws

The 1947 General Assembly, which adjourned Saturday night, wrote approximately 1,000 new laws into the books—laws which will affect in one way or another every citizen in North Carolina.

In appropriating more than \$360,000,000 to be spent during the 1947-49 biennium, the 1947 session embarked the State on the greatest spending program in its history.

A far-reaching program of highway safety legislation was enacted.

The legislature enacted a law to prohibit the closed shop and maintenance of membership shops, and it refused to pass legislation providing a maximum 48-hour week and a 40-cent minimum hourly wage.

The session appropriated \$6,250,

000 to be matched with federal and local funds to construct hospitals throughout the State and completed carrying out recommendations of the Medical Care Commission by appropriating \$3,790,000 to be matched with \$1,500,000 in Federal funds for a four-year medical school and teaching hospital at the University of North Carolina.

The biennial appropriations measure calls for expenditure of \$191,692,795 from the general fund and makes provision for pay increases of approximately 30 per cent for public school teachers and about 20 per cent for other state employees. Public school appropriations for the biennium total \$128,000,000 with about \$102,000,000 earmarked for

teachers' salaries.

The spending measure allocated a total of \$117,761,933 from the highway fund for highway construction and \$2,198,823 from the agriculture fund.

The governor, as director of the budget, estimated that the State's general fund revenues for the biennium would total \$198,172,800 compared with appropriations of \$191,692,795. This apparent deficit would be met with a surplus of \$6,477,004 expected at the end of the current fiscal year, leaving the general fund "in substantial balance."

From a general fund surplus now on hand, the legislature appropriated \$48,432,256 for its permanent improvements program, \$7,000,000 for an emergency salary bonus now being paid teachers and state employees, \$9,800,000 to boost the post-war reserve fund to \$30,000,000 and \$1,500,000 for the purchase and development of Camp Butner, part of which is to be used as a new hospital for the insane.

Highway safety legislation enacted by the General Assembly includes a financial responsibility measure and an act to require mechanical inspection of motor vehicles, periodic reissuance of drivers' licenses, a 55-mile-an-hour speed limit on State highways, and stiff penalties for vio-

lution of the traffic laws.

Many legislative days were taken up with debate on the ancient issue of alcohol. Three measures were introduced calling for a statewide referendum on the subject. Two were killed by the Senate Finance committee and a third received its death blow from the House committee on propositions and grievances.

More than two-score measures were introduced to deal with wine and beer. Some of them called for elections in various counties to outlaw the two beverages. Others would have prohibited wine and beer in a number of townships or in the vicinity of schools and churches.

Most of the measures were securely locked in finance committees of the two houses until Rep. Odus Mull of Cleveland succeeded in attaching to the revenue measure an amendment to dry up beer and wine sales in Cleveland county. For agreeing to remove this rider from the revenue bill, Mull won support for bills to prohibit wine or allow local regulation of beer in 29 counties. These measures sailed through the House but were killed by the Senate Finance committee.

However, a measure calling for local option on beer and wine was passed. Under the act, an election can be held in any county on the issue of beer or wine or both upon petition of 15 per cent of the registered voters. If a county votes to outlaw wine or beer, then any municipality with a population of more than 1,000 could vote on the question.

The General Assembly departed from tradition on alcohol in another aspect by enacting measures to permit votes on legalizing ABC liquor stores in Hickory, Franklinton, Lenoir, and Asheville. Hitherto, nearly all ABC elections have been on a county-wide basis. Also passed was a measure calling an election in Mecklenburg county on legalizing ABC stores. A bill to permit an ABC store vote in any city of 5,440 population was defeated.

The most effective lobby seen in Raleigh in many years, the N. C. Wildlife Federation, brought terrific pressure to bear upon the lawmakers and won a battle to divorce the Division of Game and Inland Fisheries from the State Department of Conservation and Development. After July 1, an independent state agency, the Wildlife Resources Commission, will administer the program to protect the state's wildlife.

The 1947 General Assembly was definitely hostile to proposals for increasing the state's licensing and regulatory boards. A measure to set up a board to regulate undertakers passed the Senate but was killed in the House. Measures to place regulation of the taxicab industry under the State Utilities Com-



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mission were killed. A commission to make a thorough study of the licensing boards was provided for in a resolution that sailed through both houses.

A measure to provide for the licensing and regulation of "licensed practical nurses" was enacted. The act would not prohibit anyone from serving as a practical nurse, how-

ever.

A measure was enacted outlawing the manufacture, transportation, sale, possession, and use of fireworks in the State, effective July 1.

The legislative session will result in submitting several issues to the people in the next general election. These will include: Removal of the constitutional limitation on debt of

state counties and municipalities; increasing the authority of county commissioners to levy taxes for general fund purposes from 15 to 25 cents per \$100 valuation; increasing legislators' pay; to provide that in special elections the results will be determined by a majority of the votes cast, and to double the pay of legislators.

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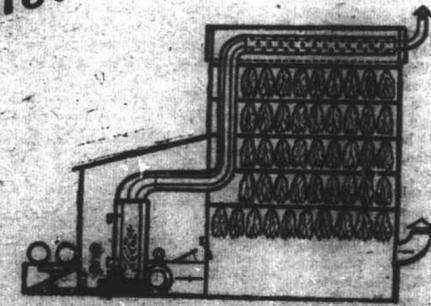
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FIRE HAZARD Danger of fire is almost entirely eliminated for not only is the burner outside the barn but the fuel supply as well. Open fires are eliminated and thermostat and limit controls prevent any overheating. Your insurance rates both for the barn and crop and for surrounding buildings will be lower.

ENTIRELY AUTOMATIC Since the entire operation of the "Sure-Cure" System is entirely automatic there is a substantial saving in labor costs. Less than fifteen minutes of the operator's time is required during one whole curing process.

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STEEL BARN Although "Sure-Cure" burner units may be installed in connection with existing barns best results and optimum safety are secured by using the ARMCO STEELON building. This building is constructed of steel panels with specially designed joints which are airtight. This is an important factor in securing positively controlled ventilation. Your "Sure-Cure" dealer can give you complete information about the ARMCO STEELON building as it is an important part of the "Sure-Cure" system.

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Greenville, N. C.

NOTICE

OF
Municipal Election
For 1947

Time .. MAY 6th, 1947
Place .. TOWN HALL

REGISTRATION BOOKS WILL BE OPENED SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1947, and will be closed on Saturday, May 3, 1947, at sundown.

No new registration is necessary, only those becoming eligible to register since the books closed are required to register now.

MAYOR and FIVE (5) Commissioners will be elected.

All citizens desiring to become a candidate for Mayor are hereby notified to file with C. M. Paylor, Town Clerk, not later than Monday, April 25. Candidates for Commissioner must file not later than April 30.

It is recommended that it is necessary in order to give time for the election to be held in compliance with House Bill 1408, passed by the General Assembly, under which this election will be held.

It was ordered by the Board of Commissioners at Farmville in regular meeting of

J. M. Paylor
Town Clerk