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ON LIQUOR LAWS

A Modification Is Likely

Although medical authorities claim that any other kind of drinking is dangerous, it is becoming increasingly difficult to take a "social drink" in North Carolina. The state's attorney general has ruled that if N. C. liquor laws are strictly enforced, the only place one will be able to legally take a drink is in his home.

If the liquor laws are enforced strictly along the lines laid down by the attorney general in his recent interpretation, it would mean:

1. Liquor could no longer be carried into a cafe.

2. Liquor could not be consumed in a "social club," such as a country club, lodge hall, etc.
3. Liquor could not be given as a gift to a friend.

4. Liquor could not be served at "social hours" before any sort of meeting or entertainment unless the affair happened to be in the home of the entertainer.

It stands to reason that imbibers are unhappy with this ruling. Unhappy to the extent, in fact, that they will scream bloody murder if the law is enforced to the degree the attorney general says is possible and legal.

Unquestionably, the interpretation will lead to a liberalization of the state's liquor laws when the General Assembly convenes in 1967. Strict enforcement would be entirely contrary to American drinking habits, and moral or immoral, the people of the state

will insist on the right to take a sociable nip whenever they choose.

What brought the whole thing about was the widespread custom of brownbaggging: that is, carrying liquor from car to cafe or dance hall in a brown paper bag and serving the beverage to oneself after the management had provided ice and other accoutrements. It also has been a widespread practice to stage cocktail parties, or social hours as they are popularly called here, before important gatherings of one sort or another.

Now, neither can be done legally, says the attorney general. The only legal way, then, to buy and consume whisky is to purchase it at an ABC store and take it by the nearest route to your home, there to drink it perhaps in the presence of a nagging wife. In fact, one is in violation of the law, we are told, if he delays or detours on his way from ABC store to home.

Without indulging in the morality or immorality of drinking alcoholic beverages, it can be noted that the state's laws, as interpreted by the attorney general, border on the absurd. What the interpretation likely will lead to is a drive for open bars. What almost certainly will happen is a modification of the law which will provide some satisfaction to the people who voted the state wet in the first place.

Personally, I don't see how a golfer can make up his mind to win a tournament and then go out and do just that. Looks to me like they'd make up their mind to win them all -- or at least all the big ones -- and thereby earn a couple of million dollars a year.

Clean-Up Campaign

The local clean-up campaign beginning this month and lasting for the next 365 days merits the thoughtful consideration and full cooperation of every citizen of Raeford and Hoke County.

Since this area does not abound in scenic attractions, it behooves us to make the best use possible of the physical facilities we do have. And nothing speaks better for the citizens of a town and county than immaculate lawns, freshly-painted buildings, clean windows, and premises spruced up in general.

The local clean-up campaign is a major effort by local civic, social and other groups. Each group has been assigned a specific phase of the campaign, and through their leadership, a majority of the "trash" that litters our town and

county likely will disappear. Gone, too, will be the weed-grown vacant lots, littered with bottles and cans, for the sponsors intend to see that property owners clean up the lots, else they'll have the town do it at the expense of the property owner.

A clean-up campaign certainly is nothing new, but a beautification project which lasts the year 'round is unique. We all ought to pitch in and make the campaign so unnecessary after two months that the sponsors will abandon that project and begin another equally as useful.

We are proud of our town and county. Surely we will show our pride by removing the eyesores, large and small, which mar the beauty of our hometown.

Grassroots Opinion

According to the American Gas Association, costs of drilling a gas well may run anywhere from \$100,000 to more than \$2 million, depending on depth and the difficulties encountered in drilling. The main cost stems from the fact that only one exploratory well in nine turns out to be a producer--and only one in 44 eventually becomes a profitable producer.

In Barry Goldwater's view: "When the economy is booming, government should be taking the edge off inflation by paying its debts instead of piling up record-breaking new ones."

An editorial in the publication Michigan Medicine says: "Few, if any, new drugs or inventions have been commercially developed in countries which do not offer proper patent protection to the inventor. Of the new drugs introduced in the United States from 1941 to 1964, 369 came from the United States, 44 from Switzerland, 33 from Germany, and 28 from the United Kingdom. Equally significant is that 90 per cent of the new drugs originating in the United States came from company laboratories."

Hindsight



By Jim Taylor

Golf Played For Big Cash

Fat Jack Nicklaus won the Masters golf tournament, to the surprise of no one in particular, defeating Gay Brewer and Tommy Jacobs in an 18-hole playoff Monday after they had tied at 288 -- even par -- for 72 holes.

After the tournament, Nicklaus said he had made up his mind before the affair started to win -- "no ifs, ands or buts about it." He was inspired, if that's the word, by the tragic death of one of his best friends who died in an airplane crash flying from Columbus, Ohio, to Augusta.

Of course, it was safe for Nicklaus to say that about his determination after he sneaked in Sunday with a tie. Had he not missed a three and one-half foot putt on the 17th, he would have been the undisputed champion after the regulation four rounds.

But he missed the putt. Brewer missed one almost as short on 18 and had that one dropped. Brewer would have been champ, for all of Nicklaus' determination.

Personally, I don't see how a golfer can make up his mind to win a tournament and then go out and do just that. Looks to me like they'd make up their mind to win them all -- or at least all the big ones -- and thereby earn a couple of million dollars a year.

Monday's playoff reminded me of the one in 1954 when Sam Snead and Ben Hogan tied at 289 after 72 holes and stayed over for another 18 holes on Monday.

Snead beat Hogan, 70 to 72, as I recall, to capture his third Masters title. Hogan, on the other hand, is a two-time winner of the event.

I was in the gallery that final day of the 1954 tourney and I saw an amusing thing happen on the 18th fairway. The course was soggy from extended rain and the ball frequently would imbed in the fairway.

Snead and Hogan were on the

18th tee, the issue still not decided, when a Snead fannedecide to help out the Slammer. When Hogan's tee shot bounded close to the fellow, he ducked under the gallery roped off and stomped the ball, which buried out of sight in the soft fairway.

Hogan got a free lift, of course, and the Pinkertons got the practical joker. The last time I laid eyes on him, a Pinkerton had him by each arm and his feet were scarcely dragging the turf, so fast were they ushering him off the premises.

Several oddities worthy of note occurred in this year's Greater Greensboro Open.

A fan picked up one golfer's ball and disappeared into the crowd before she could be stopped. The golfer had to take a two-stroke penalty for a lost ball.

If he'd had a witness to the theft, he could have escaped the penalty. There was a fellow standing there, he said, but he lost him while chasing the woman.

On the final day of play, I saw another golfer hit a shot to the left of the fairway and into the edge of the woods. Just as the golfer was some 80 yards from the ball, along came a kid and plucked it out of the grass.

The irate golfer went into action. He yelled at the kid, waved a golf club over his head, and started running toward the boy. The kid, meanwhile, took off down the fairway, dropping the ball as he went.

An official was called and the golfer was allowed to drop a ball at the spot he believed the ball to have been. He went on to par the hole, so I reckon the kid didn't foul up his game.

Some of the professional golfers are bothered by the slightest distraction. Concentration is supposed to be the secret to winning golf on the tournament trail, and a mis-hit shot can sometimes cost a golfer a bundle of booty.

Take that four-foot putt

Brewer missed on 18 Sunday. If that putt had dropped, he'd have won \$20,000 in prize money and no telling how much in fringe benefits. As it was, he collected \$8,300.

That one little putt, then, cost him \$11,700.

That's a right high price to put on a single golf stroke.

Dave Marr, the handsome Texan who teamed with Tommy Jacobs to beat Bobby Nichols and Fayetteville's Ray Floyd in the CBS Golf Classic, told about the winning shot while he was at the Greensboro tournament.

When Tommy knocked his ball into a trap after I had blown my chance to win the hole -- which was the last of the match -- I said to myself: 'well, we made a heck of a run at it.' Then Tommy -- who's one of the poorest trap players on the tour -- stepped into the sand and knocked the ball into the hole."

That little shot was worth exactly \$30,000, because the winners got \$80,000 and the losers only \$20,000.

I hope I never have to play for that amount of money. The strain of it would kill me.

LA GRANGE, ILL., CITIZEN:

"The opinion pollsters discovered that a high percentage of those favoring medical care were not aware that the proposed legislation would not cover doctor costs, that benefits are limited to short periods, that there are no provisions for the major catastrophe long-term illness and high cost surgical bills. There is going to be a lot of unhappiness with the limited benefits. But there will be elation among those who can afford to pay all their illness costs. They will benefit in equal measure with those who have limited or no means to meet the bills of illness."

PUPPY CREEK PHILOSOPHER

Philosopher Has Strong Answer To People Who Assert He's Lazy

Dear editor:
From time to time some people around Raeford have implied, implied thunder, have come right out and said that I'm lazy.

"Ole J. A., whoever he is, must be the laziest man in this part of North Carolina." I heard one man tell another in town one day while he was looking over a copy of The News-Journal. "You ever heard of anybody as far behind in his work as he seems to be?" I now wish to state that some people just don't know the difference between an economist and a bum.

According to a front-page article I read in a copy of a newspaper last night, the leading economists of this country have advised President Johnson to ask big business to slow down and even postpone some plant expansion, in order to head off inflation. They have studied the economic index and the cost of living and spiraling prices and decided that too fast expansion at this time would be inflationary, and many industrialists have agreed.

I am pleased to announce that I was years ahead of the economists.

Some people thought the reason I didn't build a new house around this crabgrass farm was that I was too lazy, whereas actually all the time I was fighting inflation.



CLIFF BLUE ... People & Issues



DEADLINE -- Friday, April 15 at noon is the deadline for filing for county and legislative offices.

The last days and hours are generally pretty trying days on the candidates, who are hoping, but fearful that they will not get by without opposition.

Candidates breed candidates and contests breed contests.

2ND HOUSE DISTRICT--In the 2nd House District--in the Lee and Harnett counties a hot contest is shaping up for the two seats in the State House with four candidates having already announced -- two from each county, William W. Stator, Jr., and Jimmy Love of Lee County and Rep. Carson Gregory, incumbent representative from Harnett and Clyde Adams, both of Angier. The question is will Rep. Shelton Wicker, the veteran incumbent legislator from Lee, enter the race or bow out by deadline time next Friday.

DR. LEO JENKINS--Wherever Dr. Leo Jenkins of East Carolina College goes and whenever he makes a speech these days he provides good copy for the newspapers as he campaigns unceasingly in behalf of university status for his institution of higher learning.

In recent years East Carolina College won two rounds in the General Assembly.

First, Rep. Walter Jones led the battle for a nurses school, and in 1965 Jones, then a state senator, led a fight for a medical school.

Now Jones has moved up to congressional status and will not be in Raleigh to lead the battle for university status in the 1967 session.

Walter Jones was a tireless battler for many sound pieces of legislation during his several terms in the General Assembly.

LIQUOR ISSUE -- Twenty years ago the "wet" and "dry" issue was a hot political question in North Carolina, but the "wets" by attrition have moved ahead until North Carolina today can be regarded as a "wet state."

But the ruling by the Attorney General that it is illegal to consume liquor outside one's home has brought to the fore the liquor issue which will remain an issue until the 1967 General Assembly acts upon it, unless the governor calls a special session to take care of the thirst of our drinking people. Unless

the uproar is stilled by the courts we expect the General Assembly to liberalize the liquor laws, at least to the extent regarded as legal until the recent ruling of the attorney general. In fact we suspect the laws will be much more liberal after the General Assembly gets through amending them than was thought to be the case before the attorney general spoke out.

47TH DISTRICT--In the 47th House District three Democratic candidates have announced for the two seats. Comprising the 47th district are Haywood, Madison and Wance counties. All the candidates are experienced legislators. Ernest Messer is the incumbent from Haywood County, Charles McCrary, the other candidate from Haywood has served in the House before and Liston Ramsey of Madison County has served a couple of terms.

19TH DISTRICT--In the 19th Senatorial District comprised of Davidson, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond and Scotland counties, three candidates are seeking the two Democratic nominations. They are Senators Joe Sink of Davidson and Voit Gilmore of Moore both incumbents and J. F. Allen of Montgomery. Before the deadline at least one other candidate is expected to announce. If John Covington or Dr. Bill James does not run for Richmond County Senator Jennings King of Scotland is expected to enter the race.

STONEBROOK -- From all over the state and beyond the horse people and others will gather at Southern Pines Saturday for the annual "Stonebrook" steeplechase races which attract thousands each year. Many come early for a picnic lunch at the noon hour and enjoy the mule races before the main attractions get under way at 2 p.m.

LIP SERVICE--While there will be lots of lip service to "law enforcement" in the "brown bag" liquor talk, you need not expect much effort other than a "token" raid here and there.

DR. CARROLL--Dr. Charles F. Carroll, state superintendent of public instruction leads a Tar Heel delegation to Washington this week to oppose the federal desegregation guidelines which the State Board of Education has called "impractical, irregular and illegal."

STATE REPORT

BY STATE SENATOR VOIT GILMORE

CAMPAIGN TRAIL -- Campaigning is a healthy American activity. It puts candidates and voters eyeball-to-eyeball on issues of the day. At least, that is the case when an elective job is contested in a primary or general election. There is no lack of competition in the new 19th Senatorial District which embraces Davidson, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond and Scotland counties.

It's still a bit early for the average voter to be warmed up about the North Carolina primary election coming May 23. As I move about through the 19th District, I observe these characteristics:

Voters are confused by the recent redistricting which resulted from federal court action. Candidates must take time to explain the new lineup of counties for Congressional, State Senate and House of Representatives voting.

Almost every house occupied by someone has its television set operating, no matter what hour of the day or how terrible the program. Often while greeting a visitor at the door, a housewife will still keep her eyes half-glued to the television screen.

Vietnam quickly enters most casual political conversations around the district. Usually it is because television carries almost hourly notices about the war. Too, most people seem to have some relative or acquaintance involved with the military. When they learn that I have only recently returned from an inspection trip in Vietnam, strangers ask me if there seems to be any prospect of our winning it. Many sigh and end the conversation with this sentiment, "Well, I guess it's necessary, but I wish we weren't over there."

REVAMPING STATE TAXES -- If you have a complaint about North Carolina taxes, now is a good time to sound off. The special Tax Study Commission, instructed by the last General Assembly to update state taxation, is meeting regularly and preparing its recommendations for the 1967 legislature. Recommendations and protests may be filed with the commission's secretary, Building, Raleigh.

Some of the fiercest growls will be over the N. C. Intangibles Tax. It is described in four-letter words by many residents of the Pinehurst-South-

ern Pines area who have substantial parts of their estates in out-of-state securities. Their tax burden is disproportionately large as a result of the I. T. -- or would be large if they made North Carolina their legal residence. Many refuse to move here because of the I. T., maintaining a home elsewhere while they come to the Sandhills for something less than six months of golf or horses.

It would be interesting if the Tax Study Commission could estimate how much in death taxes our state loses as a result of estates probated in other states which belonged to people kept out of North Carolina by the Intangibles Tax.

FOR BETTER MAPS -- Less than one-third of North Carolina is covered by up-to-date topographic maps. This fact causes problems as our rapid growth requires precise surveying to position new highways, buildings, water and sewer lines, watershed programs, flood control, power lines, mineral surveys and a host of other daily needs. With incorrect maps, roads might fail to intersect properly and water could flow in an embarrassingly wrong direction.

The state's Society of Civil Engineers is urging Raleigh to adopt a ten-year program to completely map North Carolina. It's a necessity for orderly growth. And, oh yes, the federal government has flagged out a way to pick up half the tab for the job.

IN PURSUIT OF BEAUTY -- Hundreds of concerned Tar Heels met in Raleigh last week to see whether beauty can keep a toehold among the sprawling industries, highways and suburbs which daily gobble up more acres of North Carolina.

The Governor's Conference on Beauty considered highways, natural resources and city-county planning. Although garden clubs and roadside businessmen differ sharply on what beauty is, the cross-section of citizens who met in Raleigh adopted guidelines which can assure a prettier, healthier state.

I was chairman of the group which considered what the state's travel industry might do. Greater use of architectural and landscaping advice was agreed on. There should be more emphasis on native assets, such as our southern See STATE REPORT, Page 10