



**May Lengthen Session** — Appointment last Friday of sub-committee of 18 men representing both houses in the legislature to study and make recommendations on the amount of money which North Carolina will spend during the next two years was done to shorten the session.

The rule has been for the joint appropriations committee to go into executive session after appropriation requests have been heard. This has required a great deal of time, what with approximately 85 men talking, studying, arguing, and sometimes just shooting the bull on favorite programs. The new approach should indeed save time if the full committee will accept the sub-committee's recommendations. However, if it insists on doing its usual amount of bickering, then the sub-committee move will not shorten the session but will lengthen it. In other words, deliberation by 18 men will not require as much time—unless the full committee insists on deliberating on deliberations presented to it.

**Long Battle** — A money matter laden with political dynamite has finally reached the front pages. For years now businessmen throughout North Carolina have been wondering why they frequently have to sacrifice from a few cents to a few dollars on checks in order to get them cashed.

If a mill in Hickory, for instance, receives for goods a check for \$50,000 written on a non-par bank, it costs the mill \$62.50 to get the check cashed. The local bank does not receive the money, but the non-par bank does. If you receive any check written on what is known as a non-par bank, then it costs you to get it cashed unless you go directly to the non-par bank to get your money. Gurney P. Hood, state banking commissioner, is of the opinion that this exchange fee system—of non-par clearance charge—costs North Carolina people upwards of \$2,000,000 per year.

There are 16,568 par banks in the United States. There are 2,141 non-par banks. North Carolina has 240, or better than one-tenth of all the non-par banks in the nation. Some non-par banks in the state are getting tired of the bookkeeping, bad public relations, and general messiness of the exchange fee system and are going par. A bill which would put all banks in North Carolina on a par basis was defeated in the legislature last week. Although there are a number of small banks now on a par basis—Moyock on Currituck county, for instance—many of them say they can't get along without the exchange fees. All the par banks want the non-par banks to come along and join their ranks. They maintain that the non-par

banks can do all right without the fee system if they will get out and promote their banks, lend more money, work more enthusiastically with their customers, and stop depending on exchange fees to carry them.

This legislature is apparently very much opposed to making non-par banks bring to an end the exchange fee system. Nevertheless, the whole argument has political overtones with big money involved and you will hear more about it as time goes by. The current battle is merely a tempest in a teapot.

**For And Against** — In 1948 during the heat of the Kerr Scott-Charles Johnson campaign for governor, some friends of Scott approached Gov. R. Gregg Cherry asking him if there was anything he could do for Scott.

Cherry knew he was unpopular with a large segment of the population. He told them he could probably help Scott more by making a speech for Johnson. Rumor had it that he was not for Johnson and was on the verge of coming out for him. The Scott people were not so sure of Cherry's unpopularity. They were uncertain. The Johnson followers felt the same way. So Cherry stayed out of the picture.

Gov. Scott is refusing to comment on pet legislation. He feels that to do so would hurt it. If the trend continues, you may find the governor making a public statement in favor of something he really doesn't want in order to assure its being killed by the general assembly. That's the way he feels now; and yet the legislature is looking kindheartedly on his toll turnpike superhighway. It looks as if the legislature is willing to go along with Scott on everything except higher taxes.

**Congressional Talk** — There are two or three members of the legislature who may not be here next time because of an interest in going to Washington. Alonzo Edwards of Greene county, Julian Allbrook of Roanoke Rapids, and L. H. Fountain of Tarboro are considered as likely candidates for John Kerr's seat in congress.

Roy Taylor of Black Mountain, Zebulon Weaver, Jr., of Asheville, and R. Lee Whitmire of Hendersonville may be among those running for the seat being vacated by Monroe Redden.

Congressman Hamilton Jones of Charlotte is expected to have opposition from one or more members of the legislature. The talk in Charlotte is that Robert Lassiter, Jr., is being groomed for governor sometime, but he may get sidetracked by congressional aspirations.

State Senator Hugh Horton of Williamston is mentioned quite

frequently as an opponent for Congressman Herbert Bonner.

**Big Change** — It is still too early to say definitely, but signs point to a big turnover in our congressional delegation through resignations and otherwise next year. Redden has already said he is quitting after this term. Congressman Harold D. Cooley may have formidable opposition. Congressmen John Kerr and Bob Dougton are likely to drop out at any time. These possibilities, with those listed above, present a potential turnover greater than we have had in Washington in many years.

**Wage-Hour Change** — Legislative sub-committees sometimes deal harshly with bills turned over to them for consideration and recommendation. This is their privilege; and the full committee can accept the alteration or kick it out the window.

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**RIDGECREST . . . ramblings**

Elizabeth Waite, manager of the Baptist Book store, Fresno, Calif., Florida Waite, secretary department of library work, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., June Cooper, manager Baptist Book store, Huntington Park, Calif., and Truett Myers, department of sales and advertising, Sunday School Board, Nashville, spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Pate. The entire party with Mr. and Mrs. Perry Morgan were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Willard K. Weeks and Mrs. Pate Saturday evening at the Weeks' home.

The Rev. Charles Jollay taught a class in religious education using

the text "Soul Winning Doctrines" at the Calvary Baptist church, West Asheville, this week, in preparation for the evangelistic crusade to be conducted in Buncombe county March 25 to April 8.

Fred Mac Burnett taught the men's bible class Sunday morning substituting for Dr. Hight C Moore who has been indisposed for a while although he was present at Sunday school and preaching services.

Luelle Jenkins and Miss Dexter Dillingham, Asheville, spent the week end with friends in Atlanta.

N. L. Perkins left Tuesday for Smithfield where he will be for about a month.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Biddix and little son, Jerry, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Biddix, Saluda.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Turner over the week end were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Free and their son, Bobby, of Wilmington.

Mrs. Lynn Reger and little son, Steven, are in Monroe, N. C., for a visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Fly.

Pruning the apple orchards of the assembly is a major activity this week and is being done under the direction of Clarence Allison.

Willard K. Weeks, member of the faculty of the training school held in the First Baptist church, Greensboro, last week teamed up with another teacher, Jesse Daniels, state Sunday school secretary, in a television broadcast on Ridgecrest Assembly and Camp Ridgecrest for Boys one day during the school. It is reported there are 30,000 television sets within the territory of the Greensboro station.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Weatherly have taken "Old Stagecoach House" and are happily domiciled there. At this house Ridgecrest Assembly was organized in 1907. Guests lodged there on the trip

from Salisbury to Asheville during primitive days of "horse drawn coach" travel before the Southern Railway pierced these mountains. It is a historical spot. Recently it was renovated, remodeled and modernized by its owner, Paul Harris.

Ted Jollay, Summerville, S. C., spent the week end with his parents, the Rev. and Mrs. Charles Jollay at "Hide-A-Way" cottage.

This column proposes a rabies clinic for Ridgecrest in May. What say, ye neighbors? Shall we extend an invitation to the county health department to conduct it? Mrs. C. W. Konrad and the May Faircloth Dixon SPCA of Black Mountain will team up with us in looking after the health of our dogs. It will be easier than taking the dogs to the Black Mountain clinic.

**RETURNS HOME**

Mrs. Melvin Lance returned home last Friday after spending a month's vacation in Florida.

**ACCEPTS POSITION**

Lawrence Parker left last week for Detroit where he has accepted a position.

**MONUMENTS**

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IN THE 75 YEARS since then, the Telephone industry has grown up to transform our everyday pattern of living. For millions, the telephone has become an indispensable aid—in business, government, the home, the farm, and in maintaining family and community ties.

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MISS ELSIE SAY SHE CAN READ HER HUSBAND'S MIND LIKE A BOOK — BUT I'D THINK IT WOULD BE MIGHTY DULL READIN'!



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