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LEGISLATION MOTOR BUS IS INTRODUCED

Bus Traffic Under Control of Commission With Tax on Business. Other Work.

Raleigh, Jan. 7.—With organization duties completed in the routine session convening at noon today, members of the 1925 general assembly this afternoon were turning their attention to the business of law making, developing several new legislative proposals that had escaped the pre-assembly speculation.

Two bills advertised here-to-fore went into the house hopper, with a couple of perfunctory resolutions, before the session was an hour old, and will receive early consideration from the solons. They were the measures providing for regulation of commercial motor bus lines, a proposition that has been seriously investigated by a commission of state officers, and the extension of the state pension fund to all Confederate veterans, a proposal advanced by Major W. C. Heath, of Union, and formally presented today for legislative consideration by Representative D. P. Dellinger, of Gaston county.

Lobby talk revealed two important matters for legislative consideration advanced by prominent members of the assembly. Representative R. O. Everett, of Durham, indicated his purpose to urge the enactment of legislation looking to the relief of the supreme court by submitting a constitutional amendment to increase the court's membership to seven. And Senator W. A. Foil, of Cabarrus county, announced plans for a bill to control motor traffic accidents and provide for the innocent party's protection by placing the liability in accidents above the mortgage held upon the colliding machines.

The bill presented to the lower house would place a six per cent tax on gross receipts of bus companies and make the license tax \$200.

The bus commission does not think that the state should exercise control in towns and cities which have their own regulations.

This commission, which was made a substitute for all the bus legislation offered at the special session, did its work without having any expense.

It is composed of chairman Frank Pave, of the highway commission; W. T. Lee, chairman of the corporation commission; James S. Manning, attorney general; R. A. Donohue, revenue commissioner and W. N. Everett, secretary of state. The bill was attached to the findings and this will be offered as the proper legislation for bus control.

The commission makes the point that the big bus traffic puts an abnormally heavy weight on the roads and harras horsepower of engine and gasoline consumed, makes no contribution to the upkeep of the roads by which the bus owners have their living. Attached to the report was the bill recommended by the commission.

It provides, broadly, that commercial motor transportation shall be placed under the control of the corporation commission, from whom a license must be obtained. To the corporation commission each applicant must give the details of the kind of service he intends to operate. Each application may be followed by a hearing if the corporation commission deems it necessary. No hearing shall be held less than five days subsequent to the filing of an application. Then, when the time and place of such hearing have been fixed, the applicant shall publish a newspaper notice to the effect that his application has been filed. Each application must be countersigned by the secretary of state, or his chief clerk, before it becomes operative. The corporation commission shall, at the time of granting a license certificate, fix the amount of bond to be given by the applicant, for the protection of passengers, and also for the protection of freight.

First manifestations of economy in this general assembly are recorded in the rules committee before which Representative Tam Bowie, of Ashe introduced a resolution against employing any newspaper men as committee clerks.

The inwardness of it is not known. Following controversial events of last summer the News and Observer made ground rules and shut off this luscious source of reportorial revenue from its own staff. In that famous battle last year Josiah William Bailey advertised on the connection of Editor Wade Hampton Harris, of the Charlotte Observer, and Brock Barkley, his correspondent. Colonel Harris is president of the North Carolina railroad and Mr. Barkley was a clerk in the port terminals commission office in addition to having held a committee clerkship at the general assembly. Mr. Barkley retorted in his inevitable clerical support, newspaper men who were on the same payroll and were supporting the Raleigh candi-

Motored to Negro Dance in Packard; Return To Jail

Negro Boys "Borrow" First National President's Packard For Trip To Rutherfordton Dance.

Tuesday night there was a big negro dance and "jamboree" near Rutherfordton and Johnnie Hogue and Odell Eskridge, Shelby colored youths, wanted to go—and they did, making the trip in a handsome Packard coupe, the "classiest rig" at the dance. But the return trip was not so royal or joyful, and here at the corporate limits of the town a reception party awaited their return and escorted them to town, and on down the street to the county jail.

Mr. Charles C. Blanton, president of the First National bank drove his Packard coupe up to the curb in front of the bank about 8:30 Tuesday evening and entered the back. Returning shortly he found it gone. Officers were notified and within a short time officers in all the nearby towns and cities were on the lookout for the big car. About midnight Chief Hamrick was notified that the car had passed through Forest City. Later word came from Rutherfordton that the car was located at a negro dance near there, but that the negroes couldn't be found. However, Chief Hamrick had ideas of his own and with Officers Hester and Moore he hid out to the river bridge and waited. Along in the morning, somewhere about 3 o'clock the cars loaded with negroes came shooting by eastward, coming home from the dance. One by one they were stopped until the sixth revealed the wanted negroes—Eskridge and Hogue—riding back with a friend from Gaffney. En route to the jail they at first denied the theft, later admitted it a little bit at a time until the full story came out with the declaration that they intended to return the car after the dance. Eskridge, it is said, backed the car out from the curb, but Hogue drove part of the way to Rutherfordton. Perhaps the youths made some of the other colored swains at the dance envious because of their car, but not a one has volunteered to exchange places with them now.

Eskridge had just finished serving a sentence on the Hendersonville gang, having been sent up from Shelby for an assault with a deadly weapon. Hogue at the time of his arrest was "hired out" for a period of two years for breaking in the sample room at the Central hotel. Both negroes are about 19 years of age.

Get Check Flasher. C. W. Wray, who claims Asheville, the "Mountain City," as his home, was arrested here Tuesday night by local officers on a check flashing charge at Gastonia. A Gastonia officer came after him about 4 o'clock Wednesday morning and carried him back to that place together with the woman supposedly his wife, who accompanied him. Wray was registered at the Shelby Inn near the Southern station when apprehended.

A house rule at the Inn is that guests furnish their own fuel and Wray had secured coal from the Ideal coal plant giving a check—one of the type that got him in trouble. The check was for \$150. It is said that at Gastonia Monday or Tuesday of this week he forged a check on a Gastonia man deposited it in the Citizens bank there, writing a number of checks, about six, on the account before the officers "got next" to the scheme. It was learned that he boarded a bus en route to Shelby and officers here being notified were not long in locating him.

In preparing land this spring, remember that a dull disk harrow is as bad as a dull pocket knife and much more common say farm engineering specialists at State college.

In some way the names of the News and Observer men got into the prints, at least their paper did. There will be no more of that.

The move on Mr. Bowie's part worries slightly. Four years ago he threatened to put them off the house floor by resolution, of course. Most of the boys have been against him in his races. That isn't interesting except as collateral circumstances. Anyway, Tam Bowie has offered the resolve and it has passed the house rules committee.

Others see in it real determination to weed out the small graft of the legislature. Many very beautiful girls are here for committee jobs. If by manhandling the press the femininity may be frightened a great gain will have been made. The angels say things look most unpromising. They never saw a poorer prospect. A third explanation is that quite a few of the girls on the state's payroll are now seeking additional compensation as committee clerks.

The general assembly two years ago had six of these jobs allotted newspaper men, two Associated Press men figuring in the grand divvy, it is said.

Fire Wednesday Threatened Textile Plant of Schenck's At Lawndale

Fire about the middle of the afternoon Wednesday for a time seriously threatened the textile plant of the Cleveland Mill and Power company at Lawndale, this county, and resulted in considerable damage to the mill and a severe injury to one of the fire fighters.

The flames gutted or partially devoured the picker and opening rooms of the mill, the old wheel house and resulted in some damage in the interior of the mill. Just what the damage amounts to Mr. John F. Schenck, sr., owner of the plant, was unable to say Thursday morning, a definite estimate not having been made at that time. Grady Blackburn, the young fellow injured, was struck by a falling limb from a burning tree as he was holding one of the hose lines turned upon the blaze.

Started in "Rope Drive." According to Mr. Schenck the fire started in the "rope drive" from the old wheel house to the mill and was caused perhaps by friction. Power to operate the mill is conveyed by the "rope drive" instead of by belts. The blaze was spread, it is thought by the drive, carried down to the wheel house and back up through the picker and opening rooms on into the north end of the mill.

The window frames, belting and other inflammable material in the picker and opening rooms were burned, together with what cotton was in the

Officers Elected By Senior Class

High School Students Name Leaders. Also Elect Annual Editors and Managers. Class Rings.

The senior class, the class of 1925, of the Shelby high school at a meeting held this week elected their officers for the year as follows: Max Dixon, president; Letha Branton, vice-president; Janice Green, secretary; Thelma Moss, treasurer; Ben Palmer, poet; Frances Hendrick, historian; May Connor, prophet; Bill Pendleton, writer of Last Will and Testament.

The school annual to be issued by the class will be known as "The Legend", and officials of the annual are: Nelson Callahan, editor-in-chief; Jessie Pearl Wall and May Connor, literary editors; Roy Self, athletic editor; Ruth Gaffney, department editor; Max Dixon, web editor; Mary Ruth Lemons, art editor; Albert Kerr, Frank Green and Mary Ford Elam, assistant artists; Caroline Blanton, business manager; Thelma Moss, circulation manager; Melba Metcalf, typist.

During the last few days the class rings have been received and the selection made has apparently met with the approval of the entire class.

Robert McBrayer Is To Be Buried Saturday

Mr. Robert McBrayer son of Mrs. Amanda McBrayer and the late Robert McBrayer who died suddenly Sunday at his home in St. Louis will be buried in Shelby Saturday, the funeral to take place from the home of his sister, Mrs. W. N. Dorsey on N. Lafayette street at 11 o'clock, the services being conducted by Revs. John W. Suttle and A. L. Stanford.

His remains left St. Louis at 8:30 Thursday morning accompanied by his wife, two daughters and one son and are expected to reach Shelby over the Southern tonight at 6:40 o'clock, the remains to be taken immediately to the home of his sister, Mrs. Dorsey. All of his sisters have arrived to attend the funeral, together with a number of relatives. Mr. McBrayer has a host of friends and relatives in Cleveland to whom the news of his sudden passing is a great shock.

Services In New Central Edifice

Sunday school at 9:45 a. m. Let every member be present on time. Preaching in new church at 11 a. m. by Rev. R. M. Hoyle. Preaching at 7 p. m. by Rev. J. E. Thompson both of whom are former pastors. At 3 o'clock there will be a special service for women and girls conducted by Mrs. C. L. Stiedly. All former pastors have been invited. There will be good music at both services. All cordially invited.

NOTICE. The regular annual meeting of the stockholders of the Union Trust company will be held in the director's room of the First National Bank of Shelby on Tuesday, January 20th, at 3 o'clock p. m.

FORREST ESKRIDGE, Cashier. Mr. and Mrs. Grover Beam have returned from a visit to Glen Alpine.

Aldermen Discuss Town Extension

At the regular meeting of the board of aldermen Tuesday night of this week, corporate extension was discussed and it was agreed to hold a meeting Wednesday evening at which time the board would consider what improvements the town could offer the outlying districts in case of extension, but because of other matters the special meeting was not held, but will be held later.

A delegation headed by J. H. Quinn asked that W. Graham street be opened up, the property owners agreeing to give property for a street 50 feet wide and not to erect any structure that costs less than \$4,000. It was voted to open this street.

Glegg street will be opened to Warren provided the property owners will give the land.

Struck by Limb

It was reported from the Shelby hospital Thursday that Grady Blackburn, injured by a falling limb at the fire, was getting along nicely and would in all probability be able to leave the hospital Thursday or Friday. According to information young Blackburn was engaged in fighting the fire when a limb from a burning tree fell and struck him on the head.

He was knocked unconscious by the blow, according to reports from Lawndale, but Dr. Harbison, of the hospital staff, says that he does not think the blow was so severe, only dazing him momentarily. He was brought to the hospital, where he was given treatment and it was found that the main injury was a laceration of the head.

Mr. Schenck questioned about the fire would not be positive nor offer an estimate of the loss, as he said that it was so distributed and damaged only portions that it would take some time to ascertain the actual damage, to the wheel house and mill.

County Bills Paid By Commissioners

Although "first Monday", the first in 1924, was one of the biggest in some time from the standpoint of county people in Shelby during the day little important business was transacted by the board of county commissioners in regular monthly session.

With the exception of the appointment of township highway commissioners and other minor matters the meeting was devoted to the current county bills.

J. M. Ledford was reappointed highway commissioner for No. 8 township and M. Fortune was appointed for the Grove precinct in No. 4. C. G. Bridges upon motion was released from the payment of poll tax. The following county bills were ordered paid: J. E. Causby, steel \$15.10; F. H. Lackey, work, \$5; J. C. Weathers, bridge steel, \$2,804.06; Z. B. Weathers and Sons, material, \$2,094.80; J. M. Ledford, election judge, \$6; Sam Runyan, burial expenses, \$20; C. C. Wallace, bridge lumber, \$14.50; A. L. Wortman, bridge work, \$12.61; F. M. Hastings, burial expenses, W. M. Hastings, \$20; South Shelby Pharmacy, supplies, \$8.50; C. A. Cabaniss, bridge work, \$6; A. C. Brackett, bridge lumber, \$72.30; J. S. Cline, bridge work, \$12.40; C. C. Wallace, casket, \$10.25; J. C. Washburn, bridge lumber, \$15; Summie Canipe, capturing still, \$20; Anchor Supply Co., material, \$5.15; Shelby Hardware Co., supplies \$9.83.

Cash Grocery Co., \$94.80; H. A. Logan, capturing still, incidentals and jail expenses, \$185.30; J. M. Best Furniture Co., casket, \$10; Paul Webb, supplies, \$20.40; Paul Poston, supplies \$10.28; J. F. Williams, supplies, \$12.05; Paragon Furniture Co., supplies, \$67.65; L. P. Megginson, supplies, \$5.05; Webb Brothers, supplies, \$4.50; J. F. Gaffney, labor, \$29.25; L. A. Cabaniss, salary and county home expenses, \$179.75; L. U. Arrowood material, \$9.40; Campbell Department store, supplies, \$8.66; Williams and Hamrick, supplies, \$1.50; Germe Mfg. Co., supplies, \$199.50; Mitchell Printing Co., supplies, \$67.60; M. A. Jolly, trip expenses \$12; M. H. Austell, trip expenses \$12; R. B. Kendrick, trip expenses, \$4.70; Edwards and Broughton, supplies, \$20.25; Cleveland News, tax notice, \$9; Major Hopper, supplies \$41.13; Wilson, Berryman and Kennedy, architects, \$262.06.

T. C. Eskridge, inquest expenses, \$27; Arey Brothers, kerosene, \$29.25; Shelby W. and L. plant, \$58.32; F. R. Turner, supplies, \$5.05; Thompson Co., lumber, \$25.44; M. R. Rollins, capturing still, \$20; Ellis Transfer Co., freight and drayage, \$3.85; Irma Wallace, home agent, \$50; F. D. Wilson, capturing still, \$20; Star Publishing Co., printing, \$38.50; Shelby Printing Co., printing, \$6; Wray-Hudson Co., supplies, \$27.45; Washburn Co., supplies, \$4.25; Shelby Plumb-Co., work, \$2.50; T. W. Hamrick, supplies, \$1.50; Commercial Printery, printing, \$13.50; R. E. Lawrence, county agent, \$125; National Supply Co., supplies, \$115.50; R. W. McBrayer trip expenses, \$5; Ellis Transfer Co., freight and drayage, \$5.55; R. C. Hicks, dental work, \$2; Graham-Christholm Co., supplies, \$9.20; S. A. Ellis, supplies, \$9; Irma Wallace, home agent, \$50; Ellis Transfer Co., freight and drayage, \$12.15; Ramsey and Smith, work, \$1.25; F. L. Hoyle, county insurance, \$130; J. F. Roberts, county insurance \$91.

W. M. U. of New Prospects Meets. The W. M. U. society of New Prospect church will meet with Mrs. W. I. Spurling Sunday afternoon January 11 at two o'clock.

All members are urged to be present as this is to be a special business meeting.

Mrs. O. C. Dixon, president. Gazzie Spurling, Secretary.

Students To Write On Cooperative Marketing Plan

Essay Will be Published in Special Marketing Edition of The Cleveland Star.

A county-wide essay contest to be entered by any grammar "grade or high school student in the rural schools of Cleveland county is announced by county Superintendent J. C. Newton. The essays will be written upon "The Advantages of Cooperative Marketing to Cleveland county" and a handsome silver loving cup is offered by T. W. Hamrick and Company for the best essay of the contest in conjunction with the county marketing association.

It is expected that students from every school in the county will enter the contest, which is attracting quite a bit of attention over the county. Engraved upon the cup will be the name of the winner and the name of the school in which the winner is a student, thus making the winning of the cup a school as well as individual honor. Literature on the subject, it is announced, may be secured from the county superintendent's office or the office of County Agent Lawrence. In addition to the cup the winning essay together with the name of the winner will be published in the county papers.

Special Star Issue. On Friday, January 30, The Cleveland Star will issue a special Co-operative Farm Marketing edition, devoted to the marketing of farm crops in this county. In addition to the winning essay, articles by leading farmers and others over the county boosting the co-operative plan will be published. Experts on marketing will also contribute to the edition, which will be scattered not only all over Cleveland county, but in adjoining counties. Local and county merchants and business men desirous of attracting the farm trade are already preparing advertising for the edition and at any time prior to the special issue advertising that is intended for that edition should be mailed or handed to O. Forrest McGill, co-operative field representative, or the advertising department of The Star with information that it is for the special issue.

Rules of Contest. By the plan it is hoped to interest the entire county in co-operative, or a better system of marketing for the farm products. Rules for the essay contest as announced by Superintendent Newton follow: 1.—Minimum length of essay 2,000 words. 2.—Maximum length of essay 4,000 words. 3.—Essay must be in the hands of the county superintendent on or before January 27th. 4.—Essay must be original. 5.—Essays to be submitted by number.

Get Negroes On Trip To South Mountains

Jack Camp and Bill Davis, negroes, were arrested in No. 10 township Wednesday night by Deputy Sheriff Plato Ledford. The officer halted them because their Ford coupe had no lights and after stopping them found eight one-gallon cans in the car and a big pistol on Davis. Five of the cans were in a suitcase, while the others were scattered around in the car. There was no liquor in the cans at the time, but all smelled of whiskey, the officer states, and the negroes were presumably en route to the South Mountains for a load, having told the officer it is reported that they were on a liquor expedition. They were placed in jail following their arrest and will be given a hearing before Recorder Mull.

In the latter part of December Deputy Ledford captured two Ford roadsters in No. 10, one with about 10 gallons of liquor and the other with only a small amount, it is said. Those in the cars, Charlie Kendrick, Dewitt and Bryan Moseley, of Gaffney, were given a four months sentence each.

First Baptist Church

Sunday school at 9:45 a. m. Fine enthusiasm. If you are not a regular attendant at another Sunday School you are cordially invited to help us in building a really great school. Judge John P. Mull is the efficient superintendent.

Morning worship and sermon as usual at 11:00 o'clock. Subject of the morning will be, "The Juniper Tree" or "The Lord Encourages His Servants." Good music and a glad welcome.

B. Y. P. U. meetings at the usual hours. There will be no evening service at this church on account of the opening services at the Central Methodist church.

Prayer meeting as usual at 7:00 p. m. Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Moriarty spent Wednesday in Greenville, S. C. Mr. Charlie Eskridge is on a business trip to New York.

TWO NEW SCHOOLS TO BE ERECTED SOON

Bids Are Being Asked on South Shelby and Fallston Brick School Buildings.

Bids are being asked on two new school buildings for the county, these bids to be opened in the office of the county superintendent J. C. Newton on Thursday January 22nd. Fallston which has long considered a new building and voted a special tax a year or more ago for a new building, but postponed building for the time being, will receive bids on a ten-room brick building with auditorium, office and library. The building will be steam heated, plumbed and lighted by the new light line which will soon be constructed from Shelby to Fallston.

South Shelby is asking bids on a brick structure containing 14 class rooms with auditorium, domestic science room, office and library, this building to be heated by steam plant and be plumbed and lighted. If this building is erected it will take the place of a frame structure which has served for a number of years with additions made because of the increased enrollment. According to J. J. Blair of the state department of education, Raleigh, the News and Observer quotes him as follows: "We are certainly building schools in North Carolina. Mr. John F. Schenck, of South Shelby, chairman of the school board, has just been in here arranging plans for a new school in that district to cost \$50,000 and I had to turn down invitations to attend the opening of two new school buildings in Burlington today."

Abandon Car After Getting Radiator

Automobile thieves working apparently on the accessory plan on Tuesday night made away with a Ford roadster belonging to Prof. Henry Davis, of the high school faculty, only to abandon the car after they had taken off the radiator and attempted to remove other parts. However, Mr. Davis laughs last, and probably best. The radiator was damaged by freezing a few nights prior and the booty secured by the thieves may not prove as valuable as anticipated.

The car was parked in front of the home of Mrs. Alice Lineberger, on Sumter street, where Mr. Davis rooms and was taken away around 9 o'clock in the evening. It was found the next morning behind the city baseball park, where it had been abandoned after the removal of the radiator and attempted removal of other parts.

There have been a number of petty thefts of tires and other automobile accessories in Shelby in recent weeks and the officers are somewhat of the opinion that the larceny is carried on by one outfit and that when the identity of the thieves is revealed all the missing articles or their whereabouts will be brought to light.

Negroes Die In Chair for Murder

Raleigh, Jan. 5.—Kenneth Hale and John Leak negroes, paid with their lives in the death chair at state prison today for the murder of Charlie Garwood, white taxi driver, of Lexington, last August.

Hale went to the death chair first and was seated in it at 10:25 o'clock. The 1,800 volts of electricity passed into his body four times before he was pronounced dead.

Leak was immediately brought into the death chamber and at 10:37 o'clock the current was turned on. Two shocks of less than a minute each were necessary before the negro was pronounced dead.

J. B. Garwood, brother of the murdered man, who came from Mocksville, Davie county, to witness the law's retribution for Charlie Garwood's death, fainted while the current was being applied to Hale, who went to the chair first. Mr. Garwood was assisted out of the little octagonal death cell to the open air. About 10 minutes later he was knocking at the door for re-admittance so he could witness the electrocution of Leak. This was denied him. Warden Busbee refused to let any one in after the second man had been strapped to the chair.

LOCAL TELEPHONE PRAISE FOR GOOD SERVICE

The local telephone exchange comes in for a bit of deserved praise from Mr. W. N. Dorsey who had occasion to call the home of the late Robert McBrayer in Saint Louis, Mo., this week. Within five minutes after the long distance call was filed, connection was ready for the conversation. At another time this week connection to St. Louis was secured in 20 minutes and Mr. Dorsey thinks the chief operator Mrs. Smith, the manager Mr. Arrowood and the whole force deserve praise for their excellent service.