

INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT

WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

(NOTE: This is the eleventh of a series of weekly summaries prepared by the legislative staff of the Institute of Government on the work of the North Carolina General Assembly of 1961. It is confined to discussions of matters of general interest and major importance.)

The 1961 session continues to run well behind the two previous sessions in volume of bills handled. Comparative figures follow:

Session	Total Bills	Public Bills	Local Bills	Res. Bills
1961	850	462	388	343
1959	979	549	430	403
1959	1243	540	703	500

COURTS
The contending armies in the Court War have stacked their arms and furled their flags. The House passed the compromise substitute for HB 104, the Taylor Bill, on both readings by about 75 percent favorable vote, as Rep. Kerr, a strong opponent of the 1959 Bell Bill and of the original Taylor Bill in this session, was a major factor in obtaining approval of the compromise by the full House. When the bill reached the Senate, the opposing factions agreed upon an amendment which would take administrative authority from the Supreme Court and place it in an Administrative Office to be established by the General Assembly. The amended bill then passed the Senate without dissent, and the House concurred in the amendment with only three members opposing.

As finally approved, the bill requires the General Assembly to establish uniform district courts throughout the state by January 1, 1971, at which time all presently existing inferior courts shall cease to exist. The Superior Court and Supreme Court will remain substantially unchanged. All courts will be financed at the state level. Procedural rules for court below the Supreme Court will be made by the General Assembly, unless the Assembly delegates this authority to the Supreme Court, and even then the Assembly could change a court-made rule. Administrative responsibility would be vested in an Administrative Office of the Courts. JP's will be replaced by officers of the district courts called magistrates, who will be appointed by the Superior Court judge upon nomination by the Clerk of Superior Court. All other judges will be elected. The bill falls far short of the sweeping changes recommended by the Bell Committee in 1959, but it does achieve a uniform court system with responsibility at the state level.

FINANCE AND APPROPRIATIONS
Storm signals were hoisted during the week in connection with new revenue proposals. A motion in the Joint Committee to appoint a joint subcommittee to consider the various tax proposals ran into opposition from members who apparently felt that they would have a better chance of prevailing before the full committee. A motion to adjourn, approved by a standing 39-36 vote, avoided a decision on the motion to appoint the subcommittee. On the following day, Wednesday, the two Finance Committees met separately; the House voted to continue full committee discussions for several days and then to refer the revenue bills to a subcommittee to be appointed by Chairman Wicker; the Senate voted to continue full committee discussion for the time being, and reached no decision on the question of ultimate appointment of a subcommittee.

The Appropriations Subcommittee cleared a number of smaller items Wednesday, including pay raises for the Supreme Court and Industrial Commission. As of this date the subcommittee has approved approximately \$35 million in appropriations, which represents an increase of about one percent over the Advisory Budget Commission's recommendations for the purposes involved. The Subcommittee began consideration of the Consolidated University budget on Thursday.

PUBLIC WELFARE
North Carolina will be prepared to take advantage of a part of President Kennedy's program to aid the unemployed and bolster the economy if two bills considered this week are enacted. HB 567, introduced this week, would make eligible for aid to dependent children those children deprived of parental support because of the unemployment of the father. The federal legislation to make matching funds available appears about to pass Congress. There are also indications that ADC money may be made available by Congress for children who reside in foster homes (under present law the child must reside with parents or relatives). SB 206, which has passed the Senate, would give North Carolina authority to extend ADC to this group should Congress pass such legislation.

HB 590, introduced this week, would increase the payments to hospitals providing services to public assistance recipients and medically indigent. At the present time the State Board of Public Welfare makes payments from the "pooled fund" for hospitalization at the rate of \$10 per patient day for hospitalization of public assistance recipients (and as of May 1, 1961, because of

SB 12 ratified March 31, of certain medically indigents); these payments are scheduled to increase to \$12 per patient day on July 1. HB 590 would appropriate an additional \$692,417 for the "pooled fund" and \$432,000 for medically indigent persons; these sums with federal percentage matching, would allow the payments for hospitalization to be increased to an amount of not over \$20 per day.

The Senate passed a committee substitute for SB 68 which authorizes the State Board of Public Welfare to license day care facilities. The substitute merely spells out in detail the facilities that would not be covered and the circumstances under which the license could be denied or revoked. The Senate also passed SB 231 which authorizes the waiving of the interlocutory decree in adoption proceedings when the adoptive child is the grandnephew or grandniece of the adopting parents.

DECEDENTS' ESTATES
Several amendments to the comprehensive 1959 legislation governing rights of surviving spouses and the distribution of the property of persons dying without leaving a will were introduced this week. SB 237 spells out the types of property to be considered in valuing the property passing to a surviving spouse, for purposes of determining the right of the spouse to dis-

MISCELLANEOUS
HB 582 would replace the present 9-member Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education with a 5-member Board of Nursing. SB 122 was amended to exclude persons over 21, and those under 21 who have written parental consent, from the requirement that there be a 24-hour waiting period between application for marriage license and issuance thereof; the bill

Miss Stroupe's Rites Conducted

Funeral rites for Miss Minnie Stroupe, 80, of Cherryville, sister of Mrs. C. E. Pruitt of Kings Mountain, were held Sunday afternoon from Shady Grove Baptist church at Cherryville, interment following in the church cemetery.

Miss Stroupe died at her home last Thursday following a long illness. She was a native of Gaston county, daughter of the late J. J. and Susan Farris Stroupe.

In addition to Mrs. Pruitt, she is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Will P. Sellers and Miss Jane Stroupe, both of Cherryville.

Comedy Corner



"Is that you Junior? What did my little man learn in school today?"

A 38-year-old London, England, steelworker shaved off half (1/2) of his beard because it tickled his wife.

Panhandle Pete

The one-man Band ON THE STREETS OF KINGS MOUNTAIN Saturday afternoon AT 2 P. M.

For Mayor

VOTE FOR

X Kelly Dixon

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Mother's Day is May 14



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DACRON*-NYLON-COTTON LUXURIOUS SLEEPWEAR

3.99 each

Dainty bands of delicate embroidery edged with Shirred touches of fine lace! Flattering squared necklines, soft gathered bodices! Easy care too—Dacron polyester nylon and cotton washes like your hands, asks little more than a touch-up with your iron. We have this luxury for you in pink, blue, maize or lilac. Waltz gown, sizes 32-40; capri pajamas, 32-38; sleepcoats, baby dolls, sizes small, medium or large. *polyester



NYLON TRICOT SLIP HAS FLUTED PLEAT TRIMMING

3.99

A flutter of baby-fine pleats at bodice, hem. Embr. sheer & lace outlines. White. 32-40.

BABY DOLL SLEEVES! FLOWER PRINT DUSTER

3.99

No-iron cotton crepe. Contrast piping, dainty lace trim. White background. 10-18.



Novelty weave Arnel tricot and cotton framed with deep collar. Blue, green, pink, green, blue. 14 1/2 to 24 1/2.

Cool, sleeveless cotton print. Square neck framed with deep collar. Blue, green, pink, green, blue. Sizes 12-20.

Crisp, sleeveless shirt dress. Diamond applique accents. Gray, taupe or blue predominating. 10-20.

GIVE HER DRESSES \$5.99 to \$8.99

