Thursday, May 18, 1967



On Monday the Senate soncur red in the House amendments to Assembly finished its 66th week red in the House amendments to SB 104, thereby completing en-actment of the State's new abor-tion law. Monday night also saw House approval of the hike in usury rates to 7% for home loans. Highlight of Tuesday in the Senate was the unexpectedly early committee report of a Con-gressional redistricting proposal, substitute version of the Mills-Griffin bill, SB 69. This plan re-portedly involves a topside popu-

Griffin bill, SB 69. This plan re-portedly involves a topside popu-lation deviation of 3.33% above and the two Judiciary Commit-perfect equality and a downside deviation of 1.94%. Its contours mirror a major facelifting for the the tortured visage of the present Congressional map. Un-der this plan two sets of fncum-bent Congressmen might be thrown into the election ring to the the arring changes of resi-ther (barring changes of resi-gence from committee the bill was placed on the Senate cal-endar for next Tuesday's con-

was placed on the Senate car country, clues and consistent of the senate car country, clues and consistent of the senate car country, clues and consistent of the senate car country, clues and constrained of any also completed, this Tuesday, its legislature in modern times at the senate of the sension -15% ments of the Governor's law and ahead of 1965, 12% ahead of 1963

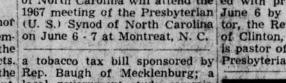
passage of the remaining seg ments of the Governor's law and order program, which now return to the House for concurrence in amendments. In addition the Sen ate gave final approval to a House bill proposing a Constitu-tional amendment removing re-strictions on legislator pay — a measure heralded as paving the way for eventual transition to annual legislative sessions. The House devoted most of its Tuesday session to debate on a proposed Constitutional amend ment to lower the voting age to 3 (HB 11), after rejecting an alternative proposal to give the Assembly discretion to lower the voting age. This debate occasion ed the first vote of 1967 by Speak er Britt, who departed the Chair long enough to contribute his ballot to a two-vote margin above the required three-fifths approv-al for a Constitutional amend-ment. By Wednesday, howevert-the wind had shifted and this bare majority had evaporated On third reading — amid a wel-ter of vote shifts and abstentions —backers of 18-year old voting could only muster 63 yotes, mine

42-member board with nine of ment financing and small loans; session.

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Aurington; and SB 430, millor other new only of the week of an inter-chamber solidar game duced by Sens. Wood and Henley. The McLendon bill embodies the Hodges Commission proposal for a 24-member board of trustees, while the Ragsdale bill seeks a ment purchasing, retail install-of the stirring spectacles of the

and the second



This will be the 154th annual One of the first orders of busmeeting of the Synod of North iness will be the election of a

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-backers of 18-year old voting could only muster 63 votes, nine shy of the necessary 72. The latter half of the week brought final necessary and week

brought final passage and ratifi-cation of the much-amended

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the Senate Committee's proposal next week offers hope for a de-cision this month or in early June. A general notion of the amount of heavy work remaining ahead can be gleaned by exam-ining the number of public bills awaiting consideration. About 350 ining the number of public bills awaiting consideration. About 350 public bills, other than "money bills"; are now lodged in com-mittee. Add to this additional public bills likely to be intro-duced during the remainder of the session, probably upwards of 300 or more bills, judging from recent years' experience. Thus, chances are that 600 to 700 pub-lic bills are yet to receive floor consideration and, in most cases, committee review as well. Some incentive for early ad-journment is offered, of course, by the fact that legislators' per diem of \$15 per day is limited by law to 120 days, or June 7th this session. Payment of expenses at \$29 per day continues, how-ever, as long as the Assembly re-mains in Raleigh, and the pass-ing of the last per diem pay day has never signalled an automatic exodus from the Statchouse.

has never signalled an automatic exodus from the Statehouse. The average legislative leave-taking date for the past decade is June 18th, and the record stay (in 1963) was through June 26th. With the amount of major legis-lation still on the docket, chances

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