

# How Legal Stores Bring Liquor Under Control

(First of a series of articles on the business operation of Alcoholic Board of Control stores in North Carolina, written in view of Mecklenburg's June 14 election on legal liquor control.)

**By BURKE DAVIS**  
**Charlotte News-Special Writer**

RALEIGH—If the voters of Mecklenburg County speak out in favor of ABC stores on June 14, their government would shortly enter quietly into a \$5,000,000 business—a business which has been operating for more than ten years in Eastern counties as sedately as if groceries, not liquor, were involved. The process by which Mecklenburg would enter this business is prescribed by law.

Shortly after the election, if control advocates win, a combined board of the County's officials would meet to lay their plans. They would be members of the County Board of Commissioners, the County Board of Health and the County Board of Education. These citizens would meet to appoint the Mecklenburg Alcoholic Board of Control.

Commissioners: Sid Y. McAden, Caldwell McDonald, Sandy Porter, Carl McEwen and Artie Cochran. Board of Health members: T. C. Boat of Charlotte, Supt. of Schools J. W. Wilson, Dr. Ben H. Webster of Charlotte, dentist, F. H. Cline of Charlotte, druggist, and Mayor H. B. Baxter, R. A. Beatty of Davidson College's faculty, and Dr. E. H. Hand, County Health Officer. School Board members: W. Banks McClellan of Charlotte, R. C. Bohlander of Pineville, E. D. Funderburk of Matthews, J. Mason Smith of Lower Steel Creek, and W. E. Putts of Davidson.

These men would choose an ABC chairman and two Associate members. They would have to pick men of well known for their character, ability and business acumen. The chairman would be appointed for three years, one Associate for two years, the other for one year—so that terms would be staggered. In succeeding terms, these men would serve for three years.

The Combined Board would set salaries for ABC Board members. In most large ABC counties the chairman is a full-time employee of the County, and in Durham, largest of ABC counties by liquor man is paid \$4,000 a year. Most Associate members are part-time employees, drawing nominal per diem pay. State law requires that the salaries be adequate, but that they "shall not be large enough to make said positions unduly attractive or the objects of political aspirations."

**BOARD IN FULL CONTROL OF STORES**

Once the Combined Board had appointed the Mecklenburg ABC Board, its duties would cease—though it would keep a watchful eye on operations, and could remove any member of the ABC Board for cause. From that point the new ABC Board would carry on, and this would be strictly County business. The Board would establish stores, equip and operate them. It would oversee warehouse and retail operations, and buy liquors at a fixed and uniform price scale.

First, the Board would lease the best available locations for stores—probably four or five of them, likely all in the downtown area. If these locations were not protected by nearby residents and seemed otherwise sound, the State ABC Board would approve them. Operations would be conducted under contract with a Supervisor, an official necessary in large ABC systems, and pay him to direct the whole business. Durham pays its supervisor \$2,700 a year, plus a small bonus based on years of service. Wake pays its supervisor \$3,420.

The Board would buy shelving to store its liquor, lease a warehouse, buy specially-equipped cash registers, and hire enough store managers and clerks to open for business. It would then buy liquor from the central warehouse in Raleigh, all from the State-approved list. Prices would be fixed in advance—and these, by arrangement directly with distillers, would be as low as any in the country. The liquor would be brought from Raleigh to the Mecklenburg warehouse by a trucking firm, which operates under contract with the State. It would then be taken to various Mecklenburg stores by an ABC truck, and transportation of the liquor would be guarded by a system of hand-to-hand receipts. Every bottle of liquor could be accounted for at every stage.

Now all these things were done, the stores would open. They would not have any neon lights or projecting signs about them, outside or inside. Their windows would be painted green about halfway up, and the only lettering on the windows would read: Mecklenburg County Alcoholic Board of Control, Store No. —and so on. Inside, no liquor would be prominently displayed. It would be arranged on shelves running from front to back of the store—mostly out of sight—and no more than a few bottles of any one brand would be easily visible from the counter.

**RULES FOR OPERATING STORES**

Several cash registers would be mounted on the counter, each served by a clerk. The clerks would not be permitted to suggest any brand of liquor to any customer. And customers would order from an official list of prices and brands available, posted in the store. Clerks would be prevented by law from serving these persons:

1. Minors.
  2. People under the influence of intoxicants.
  3. People convicted of drunkenness or drunken driving.
  4. Known habitual drunkards.
  5. Known bootleggers.
- No drinking would be allowed on the premises, and no bottles could be opened there. Clerks could, by law, refuse to sell liquor to anyone, without stating the cause. Each store would be furnished a list of convicted drunks and drunk drivers by the Clerk of Court, and could check the list at any time. If a clerk violated any of the rules set forth for him, he would be fined.

**BOARD PAYS PAY OF EMPLOYEES**

The Board would set its own salary figures for supervisor, store managers, clerks and the liquor haulers scale (last year Durham paid a liquor business of over \$4,000,000 and made over \$600,000 profit). Chairman of Board, \$4,000; Associates, \$10 per diem for weekly meetings; store managers, \$2,800 to \$3,000; supervisors, \$2,700; chief of law enforcement, \$3,200; law enforcement deputies, \$2,100 to \$2,700; clerks, \$2,100 to \$2,400. In Durham employees draw annual bonuses of one per cent for each year's service, up to a maximum of 8 1/2 per cent.

Mecklenburg's liquor business, on the basis of population and known consumption of legal liquor here, would probably run to more than \$5,000,000—and its total income might well double that of Durham. Estimates are that the ABC system would require about 50 employees to staff the warehouse, administrative office, the stores, and law enforcement agency.

(Tomorrow: The liquor business inside the ABC store.)



AN ABC STORE in Eastern, N. C. ABC counties look like a dignified grocery store—without the advertising signs. This is an outside view of one of Raleigh's four stores. It is located in a respectable and busy retail district; its operation has never drawn complaint from neighbors.

# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

Largest Afternoon Newspaper in The Carolinas

ESTABLISHED 1888 CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 1947

## 'LYNCH' CASE SET

### Vogler In Race For State Treasurer



JAMES B. VOGLER

**15 Cents An Hour**

**Pay Raise Offer Made By Ford**

DETROIT — (AP) — The Ford Motor Co. today offered \$130,000 CIO production workers the equivalent of a 15 cents an hour wage increase and simultaneously boosted 20,000 salaried employees 10 per cent.

The boost in salaries was limited to those making less than \$1,000 monthly, and became effective June 1, the company said.

The offer was made in such a way as to exclude 3,800 striking foremen as long as they were not covered by a contract.

The proposal to the CIO United Auto Workers, which has threatened strike action after three weeks of negotiations, was conditioned on their acceptance of their old contract virtually intact except for wage issues.

It provided an 11 1/2-cent hourly wage boost, plus six paid annual holidays, identical with the pattern established in settlements with General Motors Corp. and Chrysler Corp.

There was no immediate union comment.

Acceptance by the UAW-CIO of the proposed increase would boost the average Ford production wage to \$15.00 an hour compared to \$14.82 1/2 at General Motors and \$14.44 1/2 at Chrysler.

**S. C. Robbery Nets \$87,000**

COLUMBIA, S. C. — (AP) — A dawn house robbery in Columbia's fashionable Wales Garden residential section today by three masked men, one armed with a rifle, netted \$87,000 in cash, "the greatest robbery in the city's history," Chief of Detectives W. H. Rawlinson reported.

Brothers D. A. and S. C. Murray called Rawlinson shortly after 6 A. M. that they had been beaten and held captive in their house by three masked men who entered about 5:30 A. M. then forced them to dig up the cash buried in a box in the cellar.

The Murray's mother, a 90-year-old invalid, and her nurse, Mrs. Mary H. Herring, were held captive in one room of the house, the brothers said, after the nurse was bound and gagged.

"This was a carefully planned hold-up," Rawlinson said. "We've placed every available man of the force on the case." Rawlinson identified the Murphys as "prominent in the liquor business here."

**Up To 12 Inches**

**Spring Snows Blanket Part Of Nebraska**

OMAHA — (AP) — Perverse spring rains raising up to 12 inches at Alliance covered much of western Nebraska today.

The snow, varying from two to five inches in other western Nebraska areas, began falling last night and continued through the morning between 200 and 300 feet were broken down by the heavy wet snow which contained 1 1/2 of an inch of moisture, roads were blocked, traffic snarled and all snow removal equipment called into play.

The city of Alliance also reported some difficulty with power lines but telephone service was not affected. The snow fall was heavier than any experienced during the winter.

Temperatures dropped to freezing in some places.

**Art Director's Wife To Try Again For Divorce**

SAN ANGELO, Tex. — Gertrude May Korda, wife of Film Art Director Vincent Korda, plans to come here shortly, her attorney has announced, to seek a divorce reportedly denied by a judge who required the couple first to try to obtain what he described as a "mail order" decree.

The rebuke came from Superior Judge Herman Clarke at a hearing attended only by their attorney while Mrs. Korda was at her home in New York and her husband was in England, where he currently resides.

Mrs. Korda's attorney filed notice yesterday that a second hearing would be held in Judge Clarke's court June 10. At that time, he said, Mrs. Korda, but not her husband, would be present in person, but then be represented by deposition. She, also, would be present.

**Legislator Formally Announces Experienced In State Service**

By PETE MCKNIGHT  
News Editor, The News

Representative James B. Vogler, veteran member of the General Assembly from Mecklenburg County, today formally announced his candidacy for the office of State Treasurer in the 1948 general election.

Mr. Vogler is the first to announce for the office which has been filled since 1923 by Charles M. Johnston, who recently said that he would seek the governorship of North Carolina next year.

In announcing his candidacy, Mr. Vogler praised the fiscal policies of the State government, and pledged his every effort, if elected, to maintain the State's solid financial condition.

"I believe my five terms as a member of the General Assembly and of the joint finance committee has given me the necessary background knowledge of State income and expenditures. I believe that I should continue our present establishment of levying sufficient taxes to meet the necessary expenses of State functions, and no more."

"North Carolina is now out of debt. Sufficient money has been placed in escrow for the purpose of paying off the State's bonded indebtedness and interest as it comes due. We should seek to operate in the future on the same basis, and avoid adding any new bonded indebtedness."

"Our state, perhaps more than any other Southern state, has achieved a happy balance between income and expenditures. Our services to our people are broader than in any other Southern state. Our load is not oppressive. I hope we can continue that balance," he said.

**LONG IN LEGISLATURE**

Mr. Vogler's legislative career began with the special session of the General Assembly called in 1936 to match the Federal Government's Old Age Assistance and Unemployment Compensation programs.

In the 1937 regular session, Mr. Vogler was co-sponsor of the free textbook bill under which the State furnishes free books to students up to the seventh grade.

In the 1939 session he was chairman of the House committee on the subject of a severance pay bill, which was also active on the subcommittee of the committee on the subject of the original measure, now law, eliminating age and sex barriers in primaries.

In 1941 he was chairman of the committee on counties, cities, and towns, and was the author of a bill which eliminated the sale of consumption from the sales tax, and another which resulted in the establishment of the vocational trade school in Belmont.

He was not in the 1943 Legislature because of his position as a director of salaries, which capacity he directed the many salvage bills for the war years, and was a member of the legislative committee on the subject of necessary materials during the war years.

He returned to the Legislature in 1945, was chairman of the committee on public welfare, and sponsored an anti-labor law which placed loan agencies under the supervision of the State Banking Commission, and a bill to establish a State Labor Council.

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**One Granted Stay**

**Americans Hang 26 More German Camp Operators**

LANDSBERG, Germany — (AP) — U. S. Army executioners hanged 26 more Elite Guard administrators of infamous Mauthausen concentration camp today, completing the execution of 48 of the camp's guards and foremen for war crimes.

Twenty-two men were hanged yesterday in two hours and 37 minutes. Today's executions of 26 men occupied three hours and 30 minutes.

One man received a last-minute stay of execution. He was Otto Spiegel, 32, the Mauthausen mess sergeant. A final decision is expected from U. S. Army Headquarters within 24 hours.

When the last of the regime, Spiegel definitely demanded to know why he was not being hanged with his comrades.

**COMMANDANT LAST**

Major Victor Zoller, Mauthausen commandant, was the last to die as the U. S. Army hangmen wound up the largest executions of an Allied power in the history of war crimes prosecutions.

Zoller, 35, smiled as he stood on the trap for his last words. Like many of the others he declared that he was not a war criminal and added:

"Many who were hanged here yesterday were not war criminals. They were just men."

An American military court conducted the 48 men of slaughtering.

**SEE AMERICANS ON PAGE 11-A**

**Guard Loses Bravado Before Trap Springs**

LANDSBERG, Germany — (AP) — Will Fry, 25, who was a guard at Mauthausen concentration camp, told jailers that he was going to sing "Give Me Five Minutes More" and "Open the Door, Richard" as he searched the last mile to the gallows this morning.

When the time came to go, however, he was completely subdued. His final words, delivered slowly, haltingly and without bravado were:

"I am playing like Jesus on the Cross. I am dying without fault. Father forgive them."

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An American military court conducted the 48 men of slaughtering.

**SEE AMERICANS ON PAGE 11-A**

**Income Tax Votes**

**Move To Raise Exemption Fails**

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Proposal to raise the personal income tax exemption to \$750 for single persons and \$1,500 for married couples was rejected 44-27 today by the Senate.

The amendment was offered by Senator McClellan, Democrat, Arkansas to the pending tax bill. Present exemption is \$500 each for the taxpayer and his spouse.

McClellan estimated the amendment, if adopted, would have cut Federal revenues \$3,000,000,000 a year and taken \$3,000,000,000 to 9,000,000 taxpayers off the rolls.

The Senate also voted down a proposal to recognize family partnerships for Federal tax purposes.

By a 54 to 29 vote, the Senate turned down the plan, offered by Senator McClellan, Democrat, Arkansas, as an amendment to the income tax reduction bill.

McClellan declared that the Internal Revenue Bureau refuses to allow husband-wife partnerships in non-community property states the advantage of splitting their partnership income to reduce tax payments, even in cases where the husband has paid a gift tax on the transfer of property to his wife.

Senator Millikin, Republican, Colorado, said he is "more hopeful than ever" that the Senate will approve the \$4,000,000,000-a-year income cut by tomorrow night.

A possibility remained that the Democrats might stage a fight to force the effective date of the bill until next January 1. Some Senate authorities believe, however, that the bill will definitely pass.

McClellan said he was not in a position to make a move in adopting committee amendments yesterday. He said he was waiting for specific table of lowered withholding rates to take fingerprints and make their investigation.

"We have not gone in there yet, but from what we can see there have been some openings where we can get some things done," he said.

He explained that the boxes had been returned by the Grand Jury to the board and had been placed in the hands of the State Election Commission, but by two election commissioners, one Democrat and one Republican. The boxes, metal ballot containers, were sealed and sealed.

"These boxes contained all of the ballots turned over to the jury."

**Truman May Head Back**

GRANDVIEW, Mo. — (AP) — President Truman is planning an early return to Washington in view of the amazing improvement of his mother in the past few days.

Presidential Press Secretary Charles G. Rose said Mrs. Martha E. Truman's improvement has reached a point that if it is not a setback today, "the President may safely consider an early return" to the White House.

Rose made his observation at a news conference at 10:45 A. M. (EST) a few hours after the President said his mother had "the best night" last night since she flew here May 17.

Dr. George W. H. Graham, the President's physician, said that the 64-year-old president's temperature had been normal since his departure "is excellent" and her pulse "is good."

The amazing progress of the recovery of the president's mother, which he said Saturday night is regarded by White House aides as "almost miraculous."

**Jon Hall And Wife Would Build Air Clubhouse**

SANTA MONICA, Calif. — (AP) — Actor Jon Hall and his singer-wife, Frances Langford, plan to establish an air clubhouse, hangar and aircraft sales agency at a cost of \$750,000 at the Santa Monica municipal airport.

**Checked In Fraud Probe**

Congress from the Fifth District of Missouri last August.

"It is our belief," the Grand Jury report said, "that Roger C. Slaughter in this race was deprived of the nomination by fraud, by the use of false names and other types of fraud."

Graves said the bureau for election was defeated by Enos Astell who was endorsed by both President Truman and James M. Pendergast, head of a Kansas City Democratic faction. Astell was defeated in the general election by Albert M. Brewster, Republican.

Graves said the theft of the ballot early last year apparently was the "work of professionals."

He said the burglary had brought a mattress to the vault, but apparently did not need it. The outer double door had been open

**Primary Ballots Taken From Out Of Kansas City Board**

WINSTON-SALEM — (AP) — Negotiations between the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. and representatives of 5,000 to 6,000 striking CIO employees remained enveloped in secrecy today.

Officials of the United Tobacco workers and agents of the management resumed discussions of contract differences yesterday after a lapse since May 1, the beginning of the strike. D. Yates Heather, Federal conciliator, said there would be no announcement.

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**Weather**

Partly cloudy and continued warm today, Thursday and Friday; scattered showers or showers Saturday and Sunday.

Temperature at 3:30 today: 81 High and low last 24 hours: 81-59. Wind: light S. Sea: calm.

More Weather Data on Page 11-B

**Rich Bryant Men Called Into Court On August 3**

**Cherry Names 7 Defendants**

RALEIGH — (AP) — Gov. R. Gregg Cherry announced today the names of seven Rich Square men charged with kidnaping a Negro from jail at Jackson last Friday and said they would be brought to trial the first Monday in August in Johnston County Superior Court.

Meanwhile Solicitor Ernest R. Tyler of Northampton said, "Additional arrests may be forthcoming today" in the attempted lynching of Gowlin (Buddy) Bush, 24.

Changed as members of the mob are:

Robert "Bob" Vann, pickle factory worker.

Russell Bryant, filling station operator.

Lynwood Bryant and Gilbert Bryant, brothers, carpenters.

Glenn Culler, barber.

Joe Cunningham, assistant theater manager.

W. Cooper, lunch stand operator.

Their ages were not immediately available.

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Meanwhile Solicitor Ernest R. Tyler of Northampton said, "Additional arrests may be forthcoming today" in the attempted lynching of Gowlin (Buddy) Bush, 24.

Changed as members of the mob are:

Robert "Bob" Vann, pickle factory worker.

Russell Bryant, filling station operator.

Lynwood Bryant and Gilbert Bryant, brothers, carpenters.

Glenn Culler, barber.

Joe Cunningham, assistant theater manager.

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Their ages were not immediately available.

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