

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

1880-Sixty-Fifth Anniversary Year-1953

THOMAS L. ROBINSON.....Publisher
J. E. DOWD.....General Manager
B. S. GRIFFITH.....Executive Editor
C. A. MCKNIGHT.....Editor

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 1953

THERE IS, AFTER ALL, A GOP PRESIDENT

IT HAS long been our understanding that one of President Eisenhower's primary objectives in the reorganization and streamlining of the sprawling executive branch of the Federal Government.

It has long been our understanding that many of the 33 million persons who voted for him expect him to make changes in government, particularly those of the President's party, and shared this objective, for they have clamored loudly and long for efficiency and economy in the executive branch.

This week, however, House and Senate committees on government operations voted to restrict General Eisenhower's power to reshuffle and streamline agencies and bureaus, despite an earnest plea from Budget Director Dodge.

This action came on the Eisenhower Administration's request to extend the power, enjoyed by President Truman for three years, to submit reorganization proposals to the House and Senate. Under the law, due to expire in a few months, these plans go into effect 60 days after submission unless a constitutional majority (that is, one more than half of the full membership) of either house opposes it. This procedure was used by President Truman to accomplish many recommendations of the Hoover Commission, such as the Bureau of Internal Revenue reorganization. The new administration merely asked for an extension of this authority.

IMPROVE THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY BILL

STATE SENATOR SANFORD has introduced a bill that would establish a Presidential preference primary in North Carolina.

One-third of the states have such primaries today. They are held on different dates and have diverse provisions. Some are binding on delegates; others are not. Nevertheless, they give voters a chance to express their choice. And that expression has some influence on convention delegates, even though the primary may not be binding.

We hope, however, that the General Assembly weighs this bill carefully, and improves upon it.

As introduced, the bill provides for a separate ballot on the regular party primary day in May for marking a preference among Presidential candidates. A petition signed by at least 5,000 voters from at least 80 of the state's 100 counties would be necessary to enter a nominee. A \$200 filing fee for each candidate is required. Written votes would be permitted. The results of the vote would not be legally binding on delegates.

The bill has several good points:

1. The primary would be held close to convention time when most individual preferences have crystallized.
2. It would cost little—only the price of extra ballots and tabulation.
3. The filing fee and petition requirement would deter "jackpots and lightweights from cluttering up the ballot. (However, the requirement that petition signers live in 80 counties serves no useful purpose and should be deleted.)

The legislators can improve this bill by picking up provisions of present and proposed primary laws in other states. For

THE STORY OF A GOOD TOWN

WHAT are the local factors that largely determine the choice of a site for new business or industry?

After a careful survey, research divisions of seven Southern universities recently gave the answer to the question:

1. The availability of industrial sites with good transportation facilities and utility services.
2. Effective fire and police protection for property.
3. Adequate water, electricity, gas, local transit, and sewer facilities.
4. An ample supply of employees who have the basic training for the special skills needed by the industry.
5. Good schools for the children of employees.
6. An effective public health program.
7. Adequate recreation facilities, including parks, playgrounds, and swimming pools.

From The Asheville Citizen

DOG OR TV?

OUR BIGGEST little neighbor, the Tryon Daily Bulletin, studies the tax structure of Polk County and concludes that it is cheaper to own a television set as far as taxes are concerned than to own a dog.

It works out this way: If you live in Tryon and Tryon Township the combined city-township tax on a television set is \$12.25. But if you own a dog you pay a County tax of \$2.35 plus a City tax of \$1—the dog rates, flat or feisty.

These figures pose a problem which we think is only too happy to confuse: Dog or TV?

A television set cannot chase rabbits, bark a warning, or do tricks (except to flip over). But neither does it track mud into the house, cause a fire, nor knock over garbage cans. While it does not come when called, it can be turned out all night without a whimper (indeed, it is often just this way.)

(This analysis of the structure and membership of the N. C. General Assembly was prepared by the N. C. League of Women Voters, of which Mrs. Adelaide Williams is legislative chairman, and is reprinted here today with the permission of the League in an effort to bring the public into the standing of our state legislature.—Eds., The News.)

1. Who are the presiding officers of the General Assembly?

The Lieutenant Governor, Luther H. Hodges, elected by the voters in the November, 1952, election, presides over the Senate. The Speaker of the House, Rep. Eugene T. Bost, elected by the members of the House in 1952, presides over the House of Representatives. In addition, the Senate elects a President pro tempore and the House of Representatives elects a Speaker pro tempore in the absence of the Lieutenant Governor. In 1953 the Senate elected Senator Edwin Pat to fill the post.

2. What other officers does the General Assembly have?

Each house has a similar group of administrative officials and employees. The principal clerk is the Secretary (House), Ray Byerly, (Senate). His duty is to keep all records of the House and Senate. He also provides members and committees with copies of bills, reports, and resolutions when introduced, reported on and voted on. He also numbers bills as they are introduced.

3. Sergeant-at-Arms — S. W. Taylor (Senate). His duty is to act as police officer of the House by which he is elected. He is in charge of maintaining order on the floor, in the lobbies, and the galleries under the direction of the presiding officer.

4. Chaplain — Opens the daily sessions of the House with prayer.

5. Pages — The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House have 14 boys as pages. The duties include carrying messages to the desks of members supplied with materials.

6. Committee clerks are stenographers assigned to certain committees.

3. Do the House and Senate use Robert's Rules of Order in legislative procedure?

No. A few general rules are prescribed by the Constitution and the General Statutes. Most of the rules are adopted by each house at the beginning of its session. Usually the Chairman of the Rules Committee simply modifies the rules of the previous session by deletion. Occasionally, there is controversy over a change in rules.

4. What is the Order of Business of the General Assembly?

The order of business is similar in both houses and adopted by resolution. That of the House of Representatives is as follows:

1. Speaker calls the house to order.
2. Prayer.
3. Journal of preceding day is approved on appearance of quorum.
4. Petitions, memorials and papers.
5. Reports of standing committees.
6. Reports of select committees.
7. Introduction of resolutions.
8. Unfinished business of preceding day.
9. Bills, resolutions, messages and other papers on the calendar.

5. What is a public bill? A local bill? A private bill?

A public bill is one which operates uniformly throughout the State. Perhaps this is because, however, certain counties or localities may be excepted. A local bill applies only to a particular county or group of counties or a geographic unit. Over one-half of all bills introduced in a session are introduced in a session. Their consideration often is given on Saturday mornings. A private bill applies to an individual or a single one of a class and compensation to a citizen for injury by the state such as might occur in an automobile accident.

6. How are committee members chosen?

At the beginning of each session, the Lt. Governor in the Senate and the Speaker of the House

MECKLENBURG'S DELEGATION



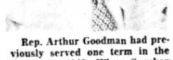
Rep. E. M. O'Herron Jr. in his second term, heads the House committee on employment security and is vice-chairman of the appropriations committee. He is also on these committees: counties, cities & towns, education, finance, insurance, manufacturers and labor, mental institutions, public utilities, roads & highway safety, teachers & state employees, retirement, veterans legislation, UNC trustees.



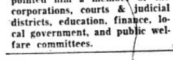
Senator Fred H. McIntyre, whose only previous political experience was on the City Council, is a first-term in the General Assembly. He was appointed vice-chairman of the Senate committee on counties, cities & towns by Lt. Gov. Luther Hodges. He is also named, to the appropriations, public roads, public institutions, public welfare, wildlife, and penal institutions committees.



Rep. E. L. Hicks is also a freshman. He was given these committee assignments by Speaker of the House E. T. Bost Jr.: appropriations, banks & banking, conservation & development, constitutional amendments, corporations, counties, cities & towns, health, higher education, mental institutions, public welfare, senatorial districts, and veterans' legislation.



Rep. Charley Gillette, a first-term, was appointed to these committees: agriculture, institutions for the blind, elections & election laws, federal and interstate relations, finance, health, institutions and the deaf, judiciary No. 1, mental institutions, propositions & grievances, roads & highway safety, wildlife reserve.



Rep. Arthur Goodman had previously served one term in the House, in 1945. When Speaker Bost gave out his committee assignments, he named Mr. Goodman vice-chairman of the House committee on insurance, and appointed him a member of the corporations, courts & judicial districts, education, financial, general government, and public welfare committees.

6. What is a standing committee?

A standing committee is one set up by the rules of a house to designate that a certain group of its own membership will conduct its own business on a permanent basis. The committees are: Agriculture, Counties, Cities and Towns (local bills), Courts and Judicial Districts, Education, Finance, Judiciary No. 1, Judiciary No. 2, Propositions and Grievances (Bills on gambling, liquor, etc.), Health, Roads, Salaries and Fees (Bills with provision regarding salaries of local or central officials), Judiciary No. 1 and 2 handle the same kind of bills, that is those which require "local" action.

12. What is the function of the Appropriations Committee?

By statute these committees are required to consider all proposed legislation carrying an item of proposed expenditures. A bill providing for an increase in salary for state teachers, for example, would be referred to this committee although it might first go to the Educational Committee.

14. What is the Biennial Appropriations Bill?

The Advisory Budget Commission of which the Governor is chairman is instructed by statute to prepare an executive budget for the operation of all state supported departments, agencies, institutions, etc. The part of the budget dealing with routine expenditures is embodied in the Biennial Appropriations Bill and usually is introduced by the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee. It is referred to the Senate and House committees on appropriations.

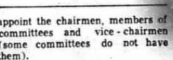
17. What is a Conference Committee?

This is a special committee appointed by the officers of both houses when a bill in identical form and the changes made by the second. Appointment is by mutual consent of a majority of conferees appointed. They meet in executive session, hold no hearings. They operate in the last three legislative sessions and the majority report is signed by a majority of conferees from each house.

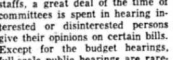


Two House rules have been the subject of controversy particularly in the last three legislative sessions — so much so that both together are popularly referred to as the "rag rule." There are three most often changed:

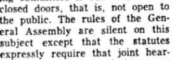
1. When the minority in a committee seeks to bring out a minority report, objections to the rule have been raised. The 1949 rule, continued in 1951, requires the majority to be placed on the calendar of the committee members who were present and voting" when the bill was acted upon in committee. Previously the House rule, like the present Senate rule required only the signatures of three committee members "present and voting." (The adoption of consideration of a bill before that of the majority report and thus would determine whether the bill was voted on a favorable or unfavorable calendar but would not be a vote on the merits of the bill.)
2. After a minority report has been filed on a bill, the House, the objection has arisen as to the number that should be required to adopt the minority report. Until 1941, the House rule (like the Senate) required only a majority vote. In 1941 the rule was changed to a two-thirds majority and in 1949 again was changed back to a majority vote.



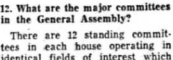
The procedure by which bills can be forced out of committee and onto the floor of the House has been the subject of political wrangling. In 1941 a proponent could withdraw a bill from committee upon a proper motion if supported by a majority of the House. In 1941 the necessary vote was raised to two-thirds. In 1949 this rule was revamped and brought into line with the Senate rule by providing that only a majority vote is required to have a bill withdrawn from committee by majority vote and that only one bill may be held by a committee for more than one day when the author has given a three-day public notice of intention.



It may be added that one section of these disputed rules has remained undisputed. In case a bill is withdrawn from committee, a minority report is made, according to both Senate and House rules, only on a favorable calendar and may only be removed by a two-thirds vote of the members.



The Senate rules corresponding to the controversial House rules mentioned above have never been labeled "rag rule."



18. What is engrossment? This is the process of re-writing a bill after it has passed the House and is ready to be forwarded to the other. It contains all the changes made by the House. In strict sense engrossment means "writing in a large hand." Below is a list of supplementary material.

19. What is the Office of the Secretary of the State, Thad Eure?

a. The List of members with a seating diagram of the 1953 North Carolina General Assembly, Representatives and Senate — free

b. Booklet, "Thad Eure's Parliamentary Aid" — free

2. From the Institute of Governmental Administration

a. Henry W. Lewis, "The General Assembly of North Carolina, Guidebook of Organization and Procedure of the Interior, Albert Fall, 1915"

b. Henry W. Lewis, "Legislative Committees in North Carolina" (Excellent but difficult) \$100.

(Extra copies of this analysis may be obtained locally from the publications chairman of the Charlotte League, Mrs. J. Fred Walters, 1945 Queens Road West, from the League of Women Voters, 6 Abernethy Hall, Chapel Hill, N. C.)

3. From the League of Women Voters

a. "The League of Women Voters, 1915-1953"

b. "The League of Women Voters, 1915-1953"

c. "The League of Women Voters, 1915-1953"

d. "The League of Women Voters, 1915-1953"

e. "The League of Women Voters, 1915-1953"

f. "The League of Women Voters, 1915-1953"

g. "The League of Women Voters, 1915-1953"

h. "The League of Women Voters, 1915-1953"

i. "The League of Women Voters, 1915-1953"

j. "The League of Women Voters, 1915-1953"

k. "The League of Women Voters, 1915-1953"

l. "The League of Women Voters, 1915-1953"

m. "The League of Women Voters, 1915-1953"

n. "The League of Women Voters, 1915-1953"

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round M'Kay's Department Wealthy And Powerful

WASHINGTON

WHEN the bands played back in Oregon, the new Secretary of the Interior Douglas M'Kay was usually to be found dressed up like a white rooster, a golden gallin hat riding at the head of the parade. Here in Washington, as head of the Interior Department, Governor M'Kay is more different, so far is not riding at the head of the parade.

Perhaps this is because of a bureaucracy is new to him. Or perhaps it is because every new Cabinet member, even the old incumbent Harold Ickes, would shy about commanding bureau chiefs who have been 30 years in Government as agents of the Interior Department.

Wake Island, M'Kay asked someone in the Interior Department: "Who runs the show?" "You do," was the reply.

But aside from minor ignorance, M'Kay is not likely to be a smart and too cautious. He plays his cards close to his chest and he would not be surprised if he were to see the White House wants. And when put on the griddle by the Senate Interior Committee regarding the redoubt issue, he stood a stand midway between the two should co-operate.

This is the type of man who has taken over the reins of the richest department in Washington. He is not a man who is likely to hand out to any other—barring the military contracts of the Defense Department.

Molasses-Bow Bureau

With the headlines focused on war and the threat of war, many people have forgotten about the Interior Department.

the big power interests, the big landowners, and most of the policies championed by the conservative wing of the GOP. Nevertheless, it was on Mike Strain that the new Secretary of the Interior leaned when, alone and uncomfortable amid the State Department, he had his first lunch in the department of which he is now boss.

Friendly Auto-Dealer

DOUGLAS M'Kay is a friendly, energetic fellow who will probably get along well in Washington. He is a former farm boy far better than his General Motors Cabinet colleague, Charles E. Wilson. As a bigger Chevrolet-Cadillac dealer, he has a lot of cars to the State. But when he became Governor he quit selling cars on a sea of starting faces.

For the law of Oregon is similar to the Federal law, and no State executive can buy from his own company. M'Kay will not make mistakes on this or on a lot of other things, despite the fact that he is still green regarding his job. Commenting on his trip to the Pacific to meet General Eisenhower, at

In the days of Honest Harold Ickes, it was considered so unexciting as far as honesty was concerned that the press seldom pried into it. As a result, Ickes' tenure was continued under Secretary Oscar Chapman.

However, it was only about 30 years ago that the Interior Department was the biggest boogie-boo in Washington and that Secretary of the Interior, Albert Fall, had to jail for giving "oil" to the domain — when Oilman Doherty's Little Black Book was published.

Today, the Interior Department, though less in the headlines, is probably even more important than it was 30 years ago. As the Department's power grows, so is the biggest dispenser of molasses in the entire United States. To it the lobbyists come with their rate files around the molasses bowl.

It is doubtful whether Secretary M'Kay himself has the extent of his own power. No other single man sits in the same key position to influence the development of the Interior Department as the Secretary of the Interior, M'Kay. How he will use that power will be the subject of another column shortly.