

The Rocky Mount Herald

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Judicial Pensioners

Below we are printing a copy of clipped editorial that has meant food for thought. The Editor of the Biblical Recorder, has written on the subject in a very inspiring manner.

Governor Hoey, the past week signed commissions placing four North Carolina judges on the state pay roll for the remainder of their lives. The commissions become effective January 1 and the four favored ones are Superior Court Judge William F. Harding, of Charlotte; N. A. Sinclair, of Fayetteville; Henry A. Grady, of Clinton, and E. H. Cramer, of Southport. They are retiring with a pension on two-thirds pay.

Already there were four of these pensioned judges, Walter L. Small, of Elizabeth City; Thomas B. Fin ey, of North Wilkesboro; Frank A. Daniels, of Goldsboro, and P. A. McElroy, of Marshall.

This makes eight of these pensioned judges living off the taxpayers of the state. We do not believe that if the question of starting this judicial pension list had been left to a vote of the people that it would have been enacted into law. We believe it would have been voted down two to one.

In addition to these eight pensioned judges we have five or six special or emergency judges that are kept busy holding courts for the regular 21 judges who may have something else that they wish to occupy their minds.

It is claimed that these eight pensioned judges can be called upon to hold special terms of court but the calls in the past have been few and far between.

Thus it will be seen that we have a total of 34 judges in North Carolina to hold our courts and a great part of the time they are not busy. The North Carolina judiciary is costing the taxpayers of the state too much money and should be curbed.

The Biblical Recorder, outspoken newspaper organ of the great Baptist denomination, in this state, doesn't have much of an opinion of the judges pension legislation. Says that paper in its current issue:

"It is reported that Governor Hoey has appointed four additional emergency judges: there were already four, so that now North Carolina has eight such. They are appointed for life and are to receive a stipend or salary of two-thirds of their present annual salary, which is \$8,000 a year. of a total of \$42,933.33 a year, for which they are expected to render no service, since the only seeming reason for using the 'emergency' is to give this pension to them the semblance of being authorized by the Constitution of the State.

"We have only respect for these men who have served the State as Superior Court judges—they are all worthy men—but we must say that we cannot approve, and we think the people of North Carolina do not approve, putting men of any class on a pension of more than five thousand dollars a year, and least of all elective public officers. Judges are elective officers and as such are favored beyond any other class of public officers in North Carolina; their term of office is twice as long as that of the Governor of the State, and except for the salary of the Governor the judge gets a higher salary than any other State official. It has not always been so. Until the close of the century the judges got \$229.16 a month, \$2,750 a year, or with a liberal allowance for traveling expenses \$3,000 a year. This was increased before the war to \$4,000 a year, and since the war has been further increased to \$8,000 a year, including traveling expenses. It does seem that those who for any considerable period of years receive such a comfortable salary should be able to lay up something for their old age and not be under the necessity of becoming pensioners on the bounty of taxpayers, many of whom in North Carolina, though most worthy men, do not have an annual income of one-tenth of the amount of the annual allowance of an emergency judge."

R. C. BRAKE PASSES

In the passing of R. C. Brake, affectionately known as Clarence Brake, the city of Rocky Mount has lost one of its most loyal and active citizens; active leader in the church, active in business and active and devoted to the development of Rocky Mount. He had been connected with the city of Rocky Mount as alderman, city treasurer and chairman of Public Works Committee for many years. Always vigilant and uniting in his service to Rocky Mount he was always regarded as a young man because of his activity and was a friend of young and old. He was descended from an honorable old Edgecombe County family. The city of Rocky Mount sorrows with the devoted children in their loss.

HAS THE MAYOR FORGOTTEN?

We do not feel that it would be mete and proper for this Christmas season to pass without discharging our public duty by again calling attention to the mayor, the Board of Aldermen, the City Manager and the Committee on Parks and Playgrounds of the importance of securing and providing suitable parks and playgrounds for our people and children. There has been some little progress made but it is very little progress considering the needs and the unusual opportunity of obtaining these sites. The land on Marigold Street has been cleaned up, the ravine on Western Avenue has been secured and cleaned up and according to press notices a piece of property has been acquired for the colored people in Little Raleigh somewhere in the neighborhood between the Battle White School and the Holland Colored school. This of course is commendable but with the extravagances of the general spending up and down Tar River and also the large amount that has been spent on stadium and night athletic fields for the benefits of the Red Sox of Boston. It is indeed small in proportion to these other expenditures. Barring what money that was spent on the water tank which monopolized our former little park, there had been no money spent on the Edgecombe side of the town. The last mayor's platform was "Pass the honors around for securing more parks and playgrounds." In his opening address he stated that one of his first objectives was a piece of land that is now vacant in the part of Rocky Mount adjoining the Lutheran church property. Now we cannot think that the mayor with this solemn promise has abandoned this objective, but we are anxious to know what is the trouble, where is the delay, what is the delay? Is the Board of Aldermen not willing to back him in this object, the platform that the people elected him on? The mayor should inform the electorate if it is the alderman so that the people could relieve the mayor. If it is the aldermen that cause the delay by not backing up the leadership of the mayor then the people should know if these matters are to be the only time the people have any rights in a democracy remedied. This coming May will be another election and is at the ballot box.

R. C. BRAKE DIES AT HOME

Served City As Alderman For 20 Years; Funeral Services Were Held Monday

R. Clarence Brake, alderman for the past 20 years and native of Edgecombe County, died of a heart attack Sunday afternoon at his home here. He was 64 years old last September 25.

The veteran alderman had begun during the past month to show promise of recovering from a critical head injury suffered July 21 when he was hit by a car. Following treatment at a hospital here and in Richmond, he had been removed to his home during the latter part of September. Recently he had been able to leave the house in a wheel chair and a week ago had walked a short distance with assistance.

Funeral services were conducted at 3 o'clock Tuesday from the First Presbyterian church with Rev. Norman Johnson officiating. Burial followed in Pineview cemetery.

Surviving members of the family include two daughters, Mrs. R. C. Anderson and Mrs. Ben Roney; three sons, Clyde, Jesse and Douglas Brake, all of Rocky Mount; two brothers, J. Ben Brake of Edgecombe County and T. W. Brake of Rowland; and three sisters, Mrs. J. L. Calhoun and Mrs. J. M. Pearce of Edgecombe County and Mrs. W. B. Harper of Florence, S. C.

His wife, who was before marriage Miss Hettie Cosby of Tarboro, died in February 1937. Clarence Brake, his oldest son and a Henderson business man, was killed in an automobile accident later the same year.

Mr. Brake was the son of Jesse Brake and Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas Brake of Edgecombe County.

A. S. Lyon Injured In Accident

City Purchasing Agent Suffers Fractured Rib In Truck Wreck Here

A. S. Lyon, city purchasing agent for a number of years and former city utilities director, suffered a rib fracture when a Daughtridge Fuel Company truck collided with a city truck.

"Governor" Lyon was injured when a utilities department truck in which he was riding, driven by Zorah D. Pullen, meter reader, was hit by a truck driven by Burt Durant at the Main-Goldleaf street intersection at 9:10 o'clock. The truck driven by Durant, going east on Goldleaf, hit the left side of the city truck, going north on Main, according to the police report of Officers L. L. Williams and M. N. Hinton.

ERWIN ADDRESSES BATTLEBORO CLUB

Schoolmasters Club Hears Superintendent Discuss Education

Clyde A. Erwin, superintendent of the North Carolina schools, addressed a meeting of the Schoolmasters club of Battleboro held in the Battleboro school.

Superintendent Erwin reviewed the progress of the schools in that state since 1914, pointing out the many improvements made since that time.

He discusses teacher welfare, emphasizing an adequate retirement law and urging the restoration of salaries to the pre-depression level.

Mr. Erwin also spoke of pupil welfare, pointing out the necessity for the establishment of the twelfth grade and stressing the importance of a wider scale of vocational work.

He recommended a change in the compulsory school attendance law.

LOST HIMSELF

Seth looked dazed and weary as he trudged homeward, and a neighbor asked the reason. "Well," he said "my wife told me to take our cat out and lose it. I put it in a basket and tramped six miles into the country, and if I hadn't followed it, I'd never have found my way home again."—Clipped.

First Plows of Tree Branches

The first farm plows were made of crooked tree branches and worked by man power.



SEASON'S GREETINGS... 1938

The Star of Bethlehem shone bright in a wintry sky; ethereal telegraphy, flashing a signal of the coming of a new man-child. In a manger was His bed. Straw cradled His small body, and over Him in prayer knelt Mary, His Mother: blessed virgin, chosen to bear a son in God's own image. The Star of Bethlehem shone bright in a wintry sky . . . and three alone visioned in it's radiance this wonder which had come to pass. Three traveled toward that Star, bearing gifts worthy of such a child. And after these three came more. For Lo! Here was a miracle! And as the weeks sped into months . . . the months into years . . . more and more pilgrims came to see the Boy who was wise in the ways of man, and prophetic in His words, far beyond His years. When he was fully grown a man they called Him Teacher . . . Mentor . . . Friend . . . and in all that He spoke, the messages of Love, Peace and Brotherhood were the foundation of all good. Centuries have winged their way between His "then" and our "now"; yet still His words live on . . . an inspiration for us to heed when doubt assails us. He taught us how to follow it. Now 1,938 years after the Star of Bethlehem first shone bright in a wintry sky . . . let us not forget!

EX-SHERIFF DIES AT WILSON

W. D. P. Sharp, Last To Handle Rites Held Monday Afternoon For Legal Hanging

Wilson, Dec. 20.—Last rites for William David Pope Sharp, 77, former sheriff of Wilson county for 14 years, were held from the home here yesterday afternoon and interment was in Wilson's Maplewood cemetery.

The former sheriff was the last sheriff to officiate at a public hanging here before the state took over the execution of criminals. He was also remembered for his bravery as a law enforcing official and for the fact that in his 14 years in office he only drew a gun three times and each time in self defense.

In the early part of this century Sheriff Sharp officiated at the hanging of John Henry Rose, who was convicted of the murder of a white man, whose name has been long since forgotten. It was the last public hanging in this section and possibly in the entire state.

MR. CONSTANTINI MARKS EIGHTY-FIFTH BIRTHDAY

Mr. N. Constantini was guest of honor at a family dinner party given by Mr. and Mrs. N. Constantini, Jr., at their home in Tarboro on Sunday, December eighteenth. The occasion was the annual observance of Mr. Constantini's birthday anniversary, the day marking the eighty fifth milestone.

The attractive home was bright with Christmas decorations of red and green, holly and other vivid berries being combined with ever greens to create a festive scene. The dinner table was appointed in the same Yuletide scheme.

Those present for the significant event were: Mr. and Mrs. Alex Constantini, Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Constantini and Randolph Constantini, Jr., of Tarboro; Mr. Irb Wright, of Chapel Hill, and Miss Mildred Hawkins, Mr. Kirby E. Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. K. E. Hawkins of this city.

NO PAPER NEXT WEEK

According to the custom of most weekly newspapers there will not be an issue of the Herald next week—Christmas week.

The next issue of The Rocky Mount Herald will be January 6, 1939.

If you have time spare the vegetable garden this fall.

Winston-Salem Is Second In Volume

Total Of 484,066,530 Pounds Of Flue-Cured Tobacco Has Been Sold In North Carolina This Season For Average Of \$23.15

North Carolina farmers sold 484,066,530 pounds of flue-cured tobacco, through December 1 for \$112,161,894, an average of \$23.15 per 100 pounds, the state department of agriculture reported Saturday.

The figures compared with 530,706,756 pounds sold through December, 1937, for \$113,301,443, an average of \$25.12. For the entire flue-cured crop last season, growers received \$141,060,367.

"Growers have marketed their crop more rapidly this season than last season," said W. H. Rhodes, chief of the department's statistical division, "and a larger percentage sold to date than was sold last of tobacco crop has probably been year by December, 1."

Wilson warehouses, which have sold 58,065,921 pounds at an average of \$24.14, led the state in volume and price. Winston-Salem was second in the price-average ranking, with 39,209,800 pounds sold at \$23.05. Second in volume was Greenville, which sold 44,747,074 pounds at \$23.72.

Other cities with high price averages included Carthage, 2,390,556 pounds at \$23.56; Durham, 33,165,738 at \$23.37; Fuquay-Varina, 9,377,859 at \$23.91; Reidsville, 8,281,021 at \$23.50; Ahsokie, 3,050,622 at \$23.06; Farmville, 16,265,766 at \$23.45; Goldsboro, 7,633,395 at \$23.25; Robersonville, 6,120,100 at \$23.18; Rocky Mount, 42,813,560 at \$23.04; Tarboro, 3,915,928 at \$23.28; Williamston, 6,290,590 at \$23.63.

Producers' sales during November totaled 51,263,239 pounds at \$21.09 as against 90,036,736 pounds sold last November at \$23.65.

The final estimates by the federal government on North Carolina's tobacco crop will be made public December 19, Rhodes said. "It is now evident from the sales reports that the poucentage of tobacco produced in North Carolina this season is considerably better than the growers had expected earlier, and final sales will approximate very closely the August and September estimates of the crop," he added.

Used Cave for Glass Work

The first glass maker in Scotland was George Hay (1556-1625). He took advantage of a peculiarly formed cave at Wemyss, on the Fife coast, and set up his furnace there in.



By Hugo Sims, Special Washington Correspondent

PAN-AMERICAN PARLEY EUROPE INTERESTED U. S. PRESTIGE HIGH. SOME DIFFERENCES. SEEKING COMMERCE. NEW FUNDS FOR PHA. EDEN'S VISIT DANGERS OF WAR. ECONOMIC PROBLEM RELIEF AND DEFENSE.

The Eighth International Conference of American States in Lima, Peru, last week attracted considerable interest not only in the States represented in the meeting, but also in Europe where several nations have what they consider important interests at stake.

With every nation in the Western Hemisphere represented and apparently intent upon proclaiming to the world the solidarity of the Western Hemisphere, the delegates face a difficult task in the framing of declarations to suit the individual peculiarities of the nations involved. There was evident a desire not to flaunt a spirit of isolation from world affairs, and, on the part of several important South American nations, an anxiety not to offend European nations, heretofore closely attached by commercial interests and blood ties.

It is interesting to note that, for the first time, such differences of opinion as exist, do not involve the United States which, heretofore, has been the target of a Latin-American bloc usually led by Argentina. Some of the nations desired to proclaim immediately some form of agreement relating to the joint defense of this part of the world, but the Argentinians were strongly opposed to anything like an American League of Nations, a projected American Court of International Justice, and to anything like a continental alliance. The American delegation, for the most part, was not involved in the struggle between the opposing camps, but rather devoted its time to an attempt to find a common view point.

The capitol of Peru, now enjoying its summer season, was extravagantly decorated with flags as the delegates arrived. It is worth noting that every nation in the Western Hemisphere owes its origin to a revolution and most of the South American countries venerate common patriots. The general idea was that a defense alliance in the form of a treaty was unnecessary. Much stress was placed upon the importance of developing trade and cultural relations between the two Americas.

At the same time, it was pointed out that there is considerable difference between the people of the United States and Canada, for example, and the inhabitants of the other nations. Most of them descended from Latin races, with the culture of old Spain as well as its religion. This is quite different from the Anglo-Saxon traditions of the English and American people, but in the opinion of all speakers a demonstration of the ability of nations to live together in peace and to develop their mutual interests.

One of the results of the conference will be to focus the attention of the people of the United States upon the nations of South America. Their importance in the future trade prospects of the United States receives new consideration. The standing of the United States has never been better. Since the congressional government on North Carolina's tobacco crop will be made public December 19, Rhodes said.

"It is now evident from the sales reports that the poucentage of tobacco produced in North Carolina this season is considerably better than the growers had expected earlier, and final sales will approximate very closely the August and September estimates of the crop," he added.

Neighbor Policy was sincere, the prestige of the United States has grown immeasurably. In fact,

some of the Latin-American delegates went to Lima with instructions to vote with the United States delegation on all topics. This is, indeed, an unusual condition.

That one of the prime motives of the United States is to improve trade with these countries is apparent from the declaration in Washington that Secretary of the treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., is studying possible efforts to make available adequate exchange facilities with South and Central American countries. While none of the Latin-American countries owe the United States Treasury any money several of them have borrowed extensively from private investors. The possibility of lending gold to these countries in order to stimulate their buying of goods from the United States is receiving attention. Before it can be done, however, Congress would have to authorize direct loans.

Trade figures for the first ten months of this year show that American goods to the amount of \$520,000,000 were sold to Latin America and that the United States bought \$622,000,000 worth from Latin America. This means that we are selling about one-fifth of our exports to the Latin-American countries, and buying from the nations of this hemisphere about one-fourth of our imports.

Acting according to an act of Congress, passed last February, President Roosevelt has approved an increase of \$1,000,000,000 in the capacity of the Federal Housing Administration to insure residential mortgages. The President's action was taken upon receipt of a letter from Stewart MacDonald, Federal Housing Administrator, who pointed out that on December 1st the F. H. A. had insured mortgages amounting to \$1,585,000,000, leaving it an unobligated balance of \$415,000,000. The appraisals already were in progress on applications amounting to \$115,000,000 and new applications were coming in at the rate of \$100,000,000 a month. Consequently, it was necessary, if the F. H. A. was to continue its program, to have an authorization for more than the \$2,000,000,000 set by the Act of Congress.

The visit of Anthony Eden to the United States seems to have aroused some interest in Japan, where spokesmen recently announced that the Japanese Government had given up hope of driving a wedge between Great Britain and the United States. Henceforth, it was said, the island policy would become firmer against the United States. The British Government, some weeks ago, admitted that it had under consideration a loan to China, which would, of course, help her in her resistance to the Japanese.

Some years ago observers predicted that 1939 and 1940 would be years of danger, when Germany and Italy would reach the peak of their fighting strength before facing a steady decline of military power as Great Britain and France got their rearmament programs underway. Recent events, including the Italian agitation for French territory and the German attitude toward Momei, indicates that the leaders of these two aggressive powers realize that their advantage is temporary. Whatever claims they have to advance might as well be set out now and if a war is to be fought, this is the best time for the battle, so far as (Please turn to page four)

NOTICE

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