

# FIGHTING AND PROGRESSIVE MESSAGE DELIVERED BY GOVERNOR MORRISON

## GOVERNOR SOUNDS CLEAR CALL FOR EXTENSION OF "PROGRAM OF PROGRESS"

Recommends \$15,000,000 Additional Bonds for Rounding Out Highway System, Duplication of Last Legislature's Program for State Institutions, Permanent Improvements, Boat Line and Port Facilities, Promotion of Fisheries, and Creation of Departments of Banking and Commerce.



GOVERNOR CAMERON MORRISON

RALEIGH, Jan. 9.—(By the Associated Press.)—Governor Cameron Morrison's biennial message delivered to a joint session of the legislature today and which his supporters termed a "fighting and progressive message" was the chief topic of conversation in Raleigh tonight among legislators interested in the administration program, the chief recommendations of which were the creation of a state-owned shipping line and limitation of the state's indebtedness with protection of its sinking funds.

After outlining his plan for the establishment of the boat line corporation, financed with \$2,000,000 bond issue and operated by a commission appointed by the Governor and approved by the senate, the chief executive declared if it should be accepted the state would be awarded for freight; would receive a substantial revenue and "in addition build ten cities in the eastern and Cape Fear sections."

"Gentlemen of the assembly," the governor asserted, as he reached the climax of his message, "we can win with the boat line and state-owned port facilities, and I beg your prompt consideration of the whole subject."

He paused only a moment, then in a slow and deliberate manner said: "If we cannot find relief through this plan then I urge you to evolve from your councils a plan through which we can be relieved from the difficulty I have mentioned. The duty of finding a remedy is yours not mine. I offer my best thought on the subject. If you do not approve my recommendation, then I beg you to give this state a better one."

"Our commerce must not forever languish. We must not forever remain Virginia territory commercially."

The governor's supporters stated these few words in concluding placed the boat line recommendation squarely before the legislature in such a way that if his plan is not acceptable, its members must provide another. Not only does it place the lawmakers in this position, they continued, but it showed the executive is not adverse to receive "helpful suggestions from any one and if his plan is not practical to accept one that is better."

Among the opponents of the proposal, it was stated that the financial risk is too great for the state and the commission to investigate the plan would be clothed with too much power to proceed with organization.

While they stated the message as a whole was progressive, they claimed the shipping line proposal is not practical, and also maintained it would have to be submitted in the form of a constitutional amendment to a vote of the people.

In reply to this, the governor's supporters called attention to the treasurer's report, which, it was asserted, shows the largest surplus in the history of the state, when "credited with the railroad taxes, which have not yet been paid, and with the income taxes for 1922, which could not be computed and collected until after the end of the year." The council of state, they continued, would have final authority over the com-

mission to decide whether the line should be established.

"Give me, gentlemen, two millions of dollars to establish some North Carolina state-owned facilities, and to purchase a fleet of ships," said the governor, "then give me authority to operate them, and I promise you to save the state more money annually than it costs to operate the state government now, and to make it commercially free and independent."

"I appeal to you to create the North Carolina Ship and Port Commission, with appropriate and ample power to acquire terminals by lease or purchase, and to acquire and operate a fleet of passenger and commercial ships.

"We should act without delay. The cheap ships can be had now. Let me appoint the commission, and the senate confirm them. I promise you a great commission."

"Let the bonds issue when the commissioners say in writing to the governor and the council of state that they are ready to proceed."

"If you think caution requires it insert a provision that if the commission finds it cannot arrange the practical details in a way their judgment approves, they may report their findings to the governor and council of state, and they may, if they think wise, suspend further action until the next meeting of your honorable body."

"They say, 'Give us the details. We are ready to place them before your committee, then appointed, through practical men acquainted with the situation, the waters, the ships and freight rates."

"Water transportation and good roads and truck transportation competing with rail transportation will save the state more money before the first serial bond issue, ten years from their issue, than both the roads and ship company will cost the state, and in addition build 10 cities in the eastern and Cape Fear sections of the state."

"No hazard little, and the possibilities are immense. The hazard is two millions, and the prospect 10 millions profit annually. But we could not lose anything like two millions before we quit."

"I am satisfied the boat line would pay in its direct operating account, and I know it would if the North Carolina corporation commission will use its undoubted power in making rail rates from the water towns into the state."

"The interstate commerce commission, if it will, can force through joint bills of lading to be issued, if they did, as I believe they would, the boat line would make more money until the railroads gave us justice in freight than any corporation of the like size in this state," he said.

The other principal recommendations of the governor were a \$15,000,000 bond issue to continue the state highway construction program, improvement of fisheries in the state; adequate funds for enlarging health, educational, welfare and agriculture activities, and the creation of the department of commerce and industry and of banking.

The Governor stated the new system of taxation, "under the able administration of Col. A. D. Watts, has produced ample revenue to meet the

relatively large appropriations of the last general assembly" and that the revenue account will show the largest surplus in the history of the state, "when credited with the railroad taxes, which have not been paid, and with the income taxes for this year, which could not be computed and collected until after the end" of 1922.

After urging more funds for institutions for defectives and for higher learning, the governor called attention to the fact that the last legislature authorized the issue of \$6,700,000 of bonds to promote their programs. Sixty-two thousand five hundred and ninety-nine annually would redeem these bonds, he said.

"If you issue new bonds for the purpose now under discussion," the governor continued, "I also urge a full sinking fund from the general revenues of the state for their redemption. Sixty-two thousand five hundred and ninety-nine dollars set aside annually will redeem a duplication of the last general assembly's glorious work for these institutions. The small sum of \$125,198 set aside annually will redeem both issues."

Launching into his recommendations for the issue of \$15,000,000 to continue the state's highway construction program, the executive urged that an additional tax of two cents per gallon on gasoline be fixed and that a sinking fund of \$5,000,000 per year be applied to the payment of the bonds when due. One half of this amount would come from the general revenue of the state and the other from the automobile and gasoline tax.

"The first bonds are serial, and commence to fall due in 10 years in equal installments, and, of course, will require a much larger sinking fund than if they were all forty year bonds," he said in commenting on the issue authorized by the assembly two years ago. "I think the new bonds ought to be 40 year bonds."

"With a sinking fund of \$500,000 annually, we can redeem part of the bonds and refund the others, if we do not want to pay all. But my confident hope is that our revenue will justify enlarging this fund from time to time until it will be adequate for their redemption. But the sinking fund mentioned will be sufficient to place the whole transaction on a very high plane, and will not oppress anybody or embarrass the state's revenue."

The governor declared he believed constitutional amendments limiting the state's power to contract indebtedness to five per cent of the assessed value of the state's property and providing that when a sinking fund in created no general assembly could divert it to any other purpose, should be submitted to the people. If this is done, and the sinking fund suggested established, he continued, "North Carolina will be able to safely carry through the whole progressive program upon a lower interest basis than without them."

**To Promote Fisheries**

In connection with his proposed improvements of the fisheries in North Carolina, Governor Morrison said he favored an investment of \$500,000 "in opening of our inlets, planting oysters, building and operating hatcheries, including hatcheries upon the streams of central and western North Carolina."

The department of commerce and industry, recommended by the governor, would gather data and information "upon which our hundreds of patriotic Chambers of Commerce and other commercial organizations could advertise our state's advantages," and would co-ordinate the activities of industrial bodies of North Carolina.

"We ought to establish, in my judgment, without delay, a banking department, and place an able commissioner at the head of it," he asserted. "It is of the very highest importance that we should have up to date and competent supervision and inspection of the banks doing business in the state. It is important to the banks."

"This duty is now with the corporation commission. It does not cost the tax payers anything. The banks pay for it, and they ought to have such service as would give them the highest possible standing and credit. They are not getting it."

The corporation commission has too many other duties to perform, said the governor, and "we ought to have a commissioner of banking in the state of such standing and experience that when he says a bank is

all right, our people can put their money in it with confidence and security," he added.

**Text of Address**

The full text of Governor Morrison's message follows:

"Gentlemen of the General Assembly:

"Before proceeding with the recommendations which I appear before you to make, I desire to extend to the membership of your honorable body my hearty congratulations upon the opportunity before you to commence the New Year by service to North Carolina. The opportunity before you to serve the state and its people is almost boundless. You succeed the greatest general assembly in the United States in 40 years. Many of its members rich in service and experience and strong in the gratitude of their countrymen, have been returned with you. May I especially congratulate them upon their return, and say that I am deeply thankful that the state will again have the benefit of their courageous wisdom and experience in legislation."

"The state expects much from you gentlemen. You were selected by the people to carry on for them the most progressive program ever undertaken in a southern state of this republic. I am sure you will not disappoint the high expectations of your people and listen to the lamentations of the expiring reactionary. His piteous outcry will be heard again as soon as the breath knocked out of him by this last election can be recovered. He will use the argument he has employed for a thousand years, and will continue to use until enlightenment and progress have exulted him into the glorious realm of the progressive. We must make North Carolina do the duty of a great and enlightened state. The reactionary has been crushingly defeated in North Carolina, and the progressive ordered to lead North Carolina forward."

"We must go. The way is not so dark as it was two years ago, and the road is not beset with so many dangers as that over which your predecessors led North Carolina to glory everlasting. If the same resolute determination and wisdom in interpreting and declaring the will of the people dominate your body as dominated the last general assembly the victory over the reactionary, who would put North Carolina in the bondage of ignorance and inefficiency of other states and countries, will be complete and final."

"Gentlemen I appeal to you not to falter. We can not go on unless you lead the way. The weakness of our American system of government has been the failure of the states to charge the high duties placed upon them under our great American scheme of government. We can never have good government in this country until the states exercise their great powers, or 'rights,' to give modern and up to date progressive government in the states. North Carolina has the power to destroy every weakness which effects us, except such as is the common heritage of humanity. But it can only exercise this power through your honorable body. We have written glorious chapters in our country's history for states' 'rights' which are states' powers. Now, the period has come for us to show equal nobility in the use of states' rights, or powers. We must use the power for progress and righteousness if we expect to keep the power."

"What must we do to progress? Fortify and extend the great program of the last general assembly in every particular, and especially do I urge that you go forward in the health, educational, welfare, agricultural experiment and extension, and road building parts of the program."

**Institutions for Defective and Unfortunates and for Higher Learning**

"The last general assembly authorized the issue of \$6,700,000 of bonds to enlarge our institutions for the people, and for our institutions for higher learning."

"I have caused the department of commerce of the University of North Carolina to make us a calculation to show what sum placed at interest at 4 1-2 per cent. Would redeem these bonds. The sum required will be sixty-two thousand five hundred and ninety-nine dollars annually. I urge you to take from the general revenue of the state this small sum and place it in a sinking fund for their redemption."

"I hope you will, 'in round numbers,' duplicate the program of the last general assembly for permanent improvement at these great institutions for our defective and unfortunate people and for a higher learning. Our revenue prospects will amply justify it."

"Our new system of taxation under the able administration of Colonel A. D. Watts has produced ample revenue to meet the relatively large appropriations of the last general assembly, including all interest charges. We stood up for God and humanity in a trying hour two years ago, and God blessed North Carolina above almost every state in the Union. The revenue account will show the largest surplus, when credited with the railroad taxes which have not been paid, and with the income taxes for this year, which could not be computed and collected until after the end of the year, in the history of the state."

"If you issue new bonds for the purpose now under discussion, I also urge a full sinking fund from the general revenues of the state for their redemption. Sixty-two thousand, five hundred and ninety-nine

dollars set aside annually will redeem a duplication of the last general assembly's glorious work for these institutions. The small sum of one hundred, twenty five thousand, one hundred and ninety eight dollars set aside annually will redeem both issues. It is not much good it will do. Twelve and one-half per cent of the taxes paid on insurance premiums in the state will pay it. There will be many tax payers in the state who will pay enough taxes each to pay it."

"We can easily carry the interest on the full amount under our present revenue bill without any increase in taxation."

May I, gentlemen, for the broken and defective of both races, appeal to you to let North Carolina do the duty of an enlightened and Christian state to its feeble minded children, its thousands of insane, its poor suffering tubercular people, its blind, its crippled children, its wrecked and morally delinquent girls and boys, and to those who cannot speak or hear or see."

"Those who will pay the tax under the new revenue bill will approve. Those who believe in the religion of the Christian will approve."

"May I, also, gentlemen, appeal to you on behalf of the children, the boys and girls of North Carolina, to go forward with the additional bonds for the educational institutions for higher learning. It will not be an expenditure in the ordinary sense, but an investment which will yield profit more than any other the state could make."

"We must not falter. We have the strength to take the next step in our outlined six-year program. God carried us through the dark period when we could not see the way, and by his goodness gave us the strength to go on and take the next step."

**"Road Program"**

"We must go on with the road program. The people expect it. We are able to go on."

"I most earnestly recommend that you authorize the issue of \$15,000,000 additional bonds to round

**50 GOOD CIGARETTES 10¢**

GENUINE "BULL" DURHAM TOBACCO

(Continued on page three)

**COMMISSIONERS ATTENDANCE—FOR 1922**

G. W. Robbins served 25 days at \$4.00 per day	\$100.00
Traveled 210 miles at 5 cents per mile	10.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$110.50</b>
J. C. Miller served 25 days at \$4.00 per day	\$100.00
Traveled 192 miles at 5 cents per mile	9.60
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$109.60</b>
L. H. Holler served 24 days at \$4.00 per day	\$96.00
Traveled 72 miles at 5 cents per mile	3.60
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$99.60</b>

I, E. M. Harman, Register of Deeds for Watauga County, and Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners of Watauga County, hereby certify that the above are true copies as the same appears on record in my office of the attendance of the County Commissioners. This December 4th, 1922.

E. M. Harman, Register of Deeds.

**North Carolina: Watauga County:**

To the Board of County Commissioners of Watauga County.

I hereby render my annual report of trust funds and all funds in my office on the first Monday in December, 1922.

For Paul Grimes and Minnie Williams	\$ 50.54
For Heirs of Avery Penley	111.24
For Inez Gragg	129.94
For Blanch and Alma Lewis and Stella Greer	431.08
For Ethel Madron	160.74
For Robert Thomas	347.84
For Harriet, Francis, Iron and Emily Harman	241.86
For Dana Harman	91.13
For Heirs of Ed. Teague	85.83
For Annie Lee Luttrell	42.36
For Heirs of Mary Cline	7.40
For Russell Vannoy	419.80

The above amounts are on deposit in the saving department of the Watauga County Bank at 4 per cent interest

For the heirs of John Blair
 35.47 |

This amount is in the savings department of the Peoples Bank and Trust Company, at 4 per cent interest and the interest has not been computed since May 21st, 1920.

For Florence and Dale Vannoy
 838.28 |

This amount is loaned to O. L. Coffey on secured note and draws 6 per cent interest.

For Carrie Miller, note on G. C. Robbins, secured by mortgage deed, drawing 6 per cent interest, in Watauga County Bank, subject to check:

For W. S. Williams	16.47
For Letha Williams	16.47
For Mary McGinnis	95.80

**Total** 4,098.98

I certify that the foregoing is a true and perfect report of all trust funds and other funds in my hands on the first Monday in Dec. 1922. This the 4th day of Dec. 1922.

A. W. Smith, Clerk of the Superior Court.

After Every Meal

**WRIGLEYS**

Top off each meal with a bit of sweet in the form of WRIGLEYS.

It satisfies the sweet tooth and aids digestion.

Pleasure and benefit combined.

Save the Wrappage

FOR THE CHILDREN

**A Wish**

"I HAVE TAKEN Cardui for run-down, worn-out condition, nervousness and sleeplessness, and I was weak too," says Mrs. Silvie Estes, of Jennings, Okla. "Cardui did me just lots of good—so much that I gave it to my daughter. She complained of a soreness in her sides and back. She took three bottles of Cardui and her condition was much better."

"We have lived here, near Jennings, for 26 years, and now we have our own home in town. I have had to work pretty hard, as this country wasn't built up, and it made it hard on us."

"I WISH I could tell weak women of Cardui—the medicine that helped give me the strength to go on and do my work." This card fulfils her wish.

**CARDUI**

The Woman's Tonic