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Today and Tomorrow

By FRANK P. STOCKBRIDGE

Chocolate

Perhaps America's most widely distributed food product is chocolate. It was unknown to the civilized world until the Spanish conquistadors found the Mexicans drinking a concoction made from the cacao bean. The explorers took the bean and the drink back to Europe with them.

We use about 150,000,000 pounds of chocolate a year, in the form of candy, flavoured for ice-cream and soda, and as a drink, which we call cocoa, although the original Mexican word was cacao. The rest of the world uses about as much as we do.

The food value of chocolate is high; it is a concentrated energy producer. The forms in which it is generally sold, highly sweetened, make it less digestible for persons who cannot take care of sweets easily. But for anybody engaged in active physical work there is no better stimulant combined with nourishment than sweetened chocolate.

Unemployment

While the rest of the country is recovering its normal tone quite noticeably, New York City is getting very sorry for itself over the business depression and unemployment. Business isn't any worse in New York than it is anywhere else, and there are no more unemployed, proportionately, than in any other town. But the city newspapers and the public have just got around to take serious notice and raising money for the benefit of the unemployed. It has become the fashionable thing for the smart set to attend football games for charity, join unemployment committees and get their names and pictures in the paper. Several million dollars has been raised, with the result that every tramp and drift in the country is heading for New York as fast as he can go, to get some of the easy money that is being handed out to anybody who can pull a omelette.

Not that these shift unemployment and suffering, too, in New York. It is mostly in cases where illness, old age or sheer incompetence is to blame. I know of many cases where people looking for competent help have been unable to find any really useful persons who didn't have a job.

Hogs

There is something in the idea of feeding wheat instead of corn to live stock, according to an account issued by the Federal Farm Board of the experiences of many farmers who have tried it.

Frank Lewis of Oklahoma fed 311 pigs on wheat and found that 400 pounds of wheat make 100 pounds of pork. He figured on what he got for his wheat thus converted into pork, and says it brought him \$1.67 a bushel. Other farmers who have tried the same thing report that wheat has brought them from \$1.00 to \$1.00 a bushel by the same process.

Every innovation of this sort is a step toward the ultimate solution of the farm problem.

Dollars

To most of us a dollar is just a dollar. To financial experts, a dollar is merely a gauge whereby commodities are measured. But financiers often speak of the dollar as if it were variable, while commodities are stationary. Instead of saying, for example, that wheat is cheaper, they will say that the wheat dollar is richer.

Dr. Andrew A. Bock, famous statistician, says that the "wholesale dollar" has increased about 7 per cent, and the "cost-of-living" dollar about 1-2 per cent since the beginning of 1930. That is merely another way of saying that wholesale prices are down below last year's level and that retail prices for the necessities of life are down almost as much. The interesting point he makes is that while the "wages dollar" has also increased—another way of saying that wages on the average are lower—the shrinkage there is only 1-2 per cent, so that there is really a larger margin above living costs. For the man who has a job, then, there was a year ago for the man on the same wages.

Barton

The Rev. William E. Barton, who died the other day, will be remembered a hundred years from now not because he was a great preacher, which he was, but because he did more than any other person to dig out all of the facts about the life of Abraham Lincoln.

Until Dr. Barton began his research, many of the popular beliefs about Lincoln were pure myth. His friends had written accounts of his life which were as false in many particulars as those written by enemies. Dr. Barton's several books revealed

DRASTIC CHANGES IN N. C. GOVT ARE ASKED IN REPORT

Brookings Institute of Government Research Advises Consolidation of Many State Departments, Would Operate State Schools Under One Head. Other News of the Week at Tar Heel Capital.

By M. E. DUNNAGAN
(Special Writer for The Democrat)
Raleigh, N. C. — Revolutionary changes, constitutional and statutory, are recommended for reorganization of the State government in the report made to Governor Gardner by the Institute for Government Research of the Brookings Institution, Washington, last week. Many offices, as now formed, would be abolished and others established, on a basis of consolidation and co-ordinating the activities of the State.

In the first place, only the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor and the State Auditor, of the State of North Carolina, would be elected by the people, who now elect the State Treasurer, the Secretary of State, the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Attorney General, constitutional officers, and Commissioners of Insurance, Agriculture and Labor and Printing, and the three members of the Corporation Commission, offices created by legislative enactment.

Those offices, under the recommendation plan, would be abolished as such and in most cases others set up to take their places, or they would be merged into other offices recommended in the report. Many commissions and boards would be abolished, although in some cases such boards of commissioners would be kept, but only in an advisory capacity. The Governor would name the boards and most of the executive officers, some with the approval of the State Senate, while others would be named by the boards with the approval of the Governor.

The main features of the proposed changes would include placing the Governor at the head of the administrative features, vesting in him the power of naming the officials and placing upon him the responsibility of official action, substituting bureaus for the board plan of organization, for the present Council of State, substituting a Governor's cabinet and establishing a department of justice, embracing all of the district collectors, with the Attorney General at its head.

All of the present departments and divisions of the State would be embraced in 12 departments, including Finance, Justice, Education, Health, Highways and Public Works, Agriculture, Conservation and Development, Labor, Institutions, Local Government, Finance, Banking and Insurance and the Public Utilities Commission, the latter taking place of the present Corporation Commission. All others would be abolished or included within these departments with as many divisions as necessary to take care of the different phases of work.

This is the "short ballot" with a vengeance. It goes further than has been proposed before. Edward M. Gill's short ballot bill proposed in 1929 and which was to be introduced again next month, proposed only to allow the Governor to appoint the present statutory officers, leaving those created by the Constitution elective as at present. Several constitutional amendments and changes will be necessary to bring about the changes in the latest report and they, of course, will have to wait until the next election. Whether Governor Gardner will seek to bring about all of the changes advocated, is only some of them, is uncertain, awaiting his recommendations to the General Assembly.

\$107,600,000 in Merchandise

North Carolina had, given in taxation in 1928, a total of \$107,600,000 in stocks of merchandise and fixtures, or an average of \$1,076,000 for each county; \$121,394,000 in materials in process of manufacture, or \$1,213,940 per county average; \$26,279,000 in household and kitchen furniture, above the \$300 exemption, county average of \$262,790; solvent credits of \$131,268,000, or \$1,312,680 per county; \$89,826,000 in miscellaneous items, including automobiles, or \$898,260 per county, and \$68,493,000 in all other unspecified items, or \$684,930 per county, the 1930 report of the State Board

(Continued on Page 8)

Lincoln as he really was, and settled forever the question of his ancestry and paternity.

While engaged in this work, Dr. Barton was at the same time pastor of one of the most famous churches in the country, the Oak Park Congregational, which he built up into a model for all "institutional" churches. He was a great and a good man and the father of a son, Bruce Barton, who is as famous in his line as the minister was.

Christmas Reunion of J. M. Shull's Family

Christmas, 1930, was a merry occasion at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Shull, of Valle Crucis. For the first time in the history of the family at the Christmas season, all the children were gathered together with the parents under the old home roof-tree. And they, with other relatives and friends, went from their homes in different states to take real Christmas happiness to Mr. and Mrs. Shull, who have been left alone for several years, their children so scattered that at one time no two of the seven were in the same state and one even as far away as the Philippine Islands.

Also, almost the entire family of B. G. Leake, a son-in-law, by their presence made the occasion a double family reunion. The festivities began with an old time oyster roast at the cottage of Mother Leake on the edge of the Shull homestead. As one by one the cars rolled in from their journeys over ice and snow-covered highways, the guests were ushered in where a warm welcome and a whole basket of oysters in the shell were awaiting them.

On Christmas morning, while some went to church, others gathered in the parlor of the home and united their voices in the old time Christmas carols. But by early afternoon, they were all together for the old-time Christmas dinner, to which sat down thirty-two guests, representing besides North Carolina, Kansas, Maryland, South Carolina, New York and the Philippine Islands.

In the midst of the meal, Mr. J. M. Shull, affectionately known as "Daddy Jim," arose and spoke feelings of the joy the occasion brought him and Mother Shull and expressed his appreciation to those who had come from near and far to join in the first and perhaps the last gathering of its kind. He called on representatives from the various states to speak and several appropriate and feeling responses were made.

After the dinner, everybody again gathered in the parlor by the lighted Christmas tree, under which many gifts were piled, which by the aid of Santa Claus, reached the right hands. Several other relatives and friends, including Jim Shull, son and three daughters of Neva, Tenn., dropped in during the afternoon.

As the dusk succeeded daylight, some departed for their homes while others extended their stay at the homestead for a few days. Among the guests, including from the immediate Shull family besides the parents, a son, six daughters, a brother, a nephew and niece, three sons-in-law and five grandchildren, were Mr. John T. Shull, Dighton, Kansas; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Shull, Amy, Kan.; Mrs. D. S. Moore, White Hall, Md.; Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Knoblauch and Frederick Knoblauch, Charleston, S. C.; Mr. and Mrs. B. G. Leake and James William Leake, Manila, P. I.; Mr. and Mrs. I. D. Shull, Jean Shull and Mary Schiefel Shull, of Valle Crucis; Mr. and Mrs. Ira T. Johnston and Thomas Shull Johnston, of Jefferson, N. C.; Miss Wilhelmina Shull, Gastonia, N. C.; Miss Beatrice Shull, New York City; Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Baird, Valle Crucis, N. C.; J. M. Horton, Vilas, N. C.; Robert O. Glenn, Richmond, Va.; Captain and Mrs. Paul Leake, Cary, N. C.; Elizabeth and Anne Leake, Beaufort, S. C.; Mrs. Leake of Valle Crucis, N. C.; George Vaughan, New York City, and Henry Vaughan, Clonson College, South Carolina.

Failure to Pay for Gas Lodges Two in Bastille

Messrs. Howard Church and John Kirby, residents of Wilkes County, staid Christmas day at the Vilas Service Station and bought a small quantity of gasoline for their motor, before proceeding in the direction of Boone. But for some reason or other, they failed to make payment, the filling station man telephoned the police in Boone, and within a period of minutes, Policeman Gross had halted the pair, found ten gallons of bad liquor in the vehicle, and placed the travelers and their cargo in the county jail for safe keeping.

Church and Kirby remained in the lock-up until Saturday when they were released under bond for their appearance at the spring term of Superior Court.

Harris Elected Captain Of Mountaineer Squad

Reece Harris, brilliant halfback of Appalachian State Teachers College, has been elected captain of the mountaineers for next season, it was announced here Monday by Coach Johnny Johnston.

Harris hails from Thomasville, N. C., and is a junior. He has been a member of the squad for two years and is 21 years of age. He stands 5 feet 11 inches and was one of the high scorers in State football last season.

The new Mountaineer leader succeeds Freddie MacDonald, brilliant guard, as leader of the squad.

FEDERAL DROUGHT RELIEF FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE IN N. C.

Watauga Mentioned as One of Six Counties Needing Aid. Loans to Be Made for the Purpose of Buying Feed and Fertilizer. To Bear Interest at the Rate of Five Per Cent. No Free Gift.

Raleigh, N. C. — Federal funds available for loans to farmers under the drought relief act recently passed by Congress authorize \$15,000,000 for this purpose will not likely be available until some time after the middle of January, said Dean I. C. Schaub, director of the agricultural extension service of State College, and in charge of distributing this fund in North Carolina.

It must be kept in mind, said the director, that money from this appropriation is no free government gift. The fund will be distributed as a straight loan secured by a lien on the crop and earning interest at the rate of probably five per cent. Only those who have been grossly injured by the drought, hail or other storm winds and cannot get credit elsewhere are eligible for the loans. The money can be used only for buying feed for livestock, seed and fertilizer for planting the new crop and gas and oil for the tractor.

Mr. Schaub says that when a loan is finally approved at Washington, it will probably be paid in installments. That is, the borrower would get the money necessary for buying feed for his livestock immediately, but would not get that for his seed and fertilizer until later. In the meantime, however, if it became known that money advanced to buy feedstuffs had not been used for that purpose, no additional funds would be granted, he said.

It is not known just how much money will be apportioned to North Carolina. The Federal authorities say that the states of Virginia, Kentucky, Arkansas and other central states are in a more critical condition than North Carolina, and the bulk of the funds will be expended in those areas.

However, Mr. Schaub is proceeding to set up the machinery to make the loans in this State. The two counties needing the money were badly hit by the drought are Surry and Stokes, he said when the farmers are ready to write. Rockingham, Alleghany, Watauga and Ashe, a committee consisting of a banker and two farmers will compose the county committee in each case in the two worst drought stricken counties and it is likely that township committees will be set up to assist the county committee. These committees will pass on all applications.

The application blanks will be available during the middle of January and can be obtained from the county farm agent. Where there is no county farm agent, blanks may be secured from the committee appointed for the county. Mr. Schaub is now getting reports as to the needs of farmers in the sections affected and is securing responsible persons to serve on the county committees. In the meantime, farmers desiring to take advantage of the fund should consult with their local county farm agents as to the necessary action, said Mr. Schaub.

Ask Tobacco Farmers To Report on Crops

Tobacco men of Watauga are requested to report to Howard Walker, Sugar Grove, the success that has attended their efforts in the culture of the weed. Business men and farmers would like to know what has been done in Watauga County in the raising of tobacco.

Just answer the questions that are appended to this article as accurately as possible and mail to Howard Walker, Sugar Grove, N. C. It matters not how small a crop you raised during the past season—answer the questions just the same. Some of the reports will be published in The Democrat. The questions follow:

Give your name and address. Amount of land in tobacco? Amount and kind of fertilizer used? Cost of fertilizer used, hours of labor devoted to producing and marketing? Man hours? Horse hours? Total cost of labor? Other expenses? Total expenses? Number of pounds tobacco produced? Average price received per pound? Total amount received for tobacco? Net profit or loss?

REGULAR MEETING AMERICAN LEGION TO BE HELD JAN. 2nd

Our regular meeting will be held on January 2, 1931, 7 o'clock p. m., at the American Legion hall over the Boone Feed Company store. All are urged to attend. We are still the leading post in the Seventeenth District. Come on, comrades, and let's make it a hundred by January 20th.

C. L. YOUNCE, Commander. Ralph Greer, Adjutant.

Rev. H. G. C. Hallock Writes from the Orient

Dear Editor: You doubtless have many real among farmers whom the Chinese class as second only to the office. They may be interested in the I enclose. He is "San-da-loh-te," one Chinese farmer worship to good harvests.

The "highly civilized" China country of idols and idol-worship. The people have gods for every purpose and need and for every emergency and occupation. I sometimes think China has as many gods as people! The farmers' god is really named "Koh-zen," meaning grain-god. "San-da-loh-te" describes him—"Three-heads-six-hands" god. The Chinese often call men and gods this way, as Mr. One-eye or Mr. Pot-mark or Mr. Crooked-foot, or Mr. Iron-crutch. You will notice that the god I send has six hands, in the upper two hands he carries the sun (red) and the moon (green). If he turns the sun and moon properly the seasons come to the advantage of the farmers. If not, then Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter are bad.

In the second pair of hands are the "rain-bell" and the "wind-shorn" (seven-stars of Great Bear). With these he governs the winds and the rain so as to give the farmers (if he is pleased with them) sufficient wind and rain to make crops grow quickly and abundantly. Koh-zen's third two hands grip two swords. With these he slashes all the devils who would destroy or harm the crops or farms. Koh-zen has two eyes for each of his three heads and an extra one for good measure. Seven is a "perfect number." With his seven eyes he can see everything perfectly. He can see the needs and supply them. He can see the dangers and devils and repel them. Is he not a useful sort of fellow? But they must worship him faithfully to keep him pleased. He is worshipped chiefly in the spring enough to last the whole year. They set fire feast before him and burn candles and incense, themselves eating when he leaves!

The eight red characters express their prayers, "S-kyi bing-an, Kan-hwa no-zwen"—May the four seasons be peaceful, the silk and produce be abundant. The figure above is the "Pa-ku," a highly valued and much used charm. The four gods attending Koh-zen are powerful assistants. Koh-zen is very busy and needs these fellows to run his errands and carry out his commands for mercy. You will thus see how the Chinese needs and desires are like those of Westerners, and how Chinese, in their gods the attributes suited to supply their needs. How we wish they knew our own true God and realized how He is really living and able and willing to supply all these pictured needs and all other needs as well.

It is our joy to live among this interesting people and lovingly point them to our wonderful Lord, not forcing any religion upon them but revealing "a more excellent way" to them to adopt or reject according to their own sweet will. Pray for this great people. May you and others have a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Yours in Christ's glad service,
H. G. C. HALLOCK,
C. P. O. Box No. 1241,
Shanghai, China
November 5, 1930.

County's Oldest Home Destroyed by Flames

Fire of undetermined origin, on last Wednesday completely destroyed the residence at Vilas, which was occupied by its owner, Mrs. Mattie Holslow, and the family of Mr. Coy Billings. The flame is supposed to have started from a defective fire. The furnishings downstairs were removed and saved from the flames, but everything in the upper story was lost. Mr. Billings has estimated his loss at \$500, but no figure has been placed on the building or the furnishings belonging to Mrs. Holslow. It is also understood that considerable property was in the home belonging to a son-in-law, Mr. Jack Smith. There was no insurance.

The building was perhaps the first brick structure erected in Watauga County having been constructed by the late Benjamin Council, a pioneer resident of this section, and was at that time the finest home in the county. Despite the fact that it was erected before the Civil War clouds formed, it was in good repair at the time of the conflagration. Much of the old and highly prized furniture of the ante-bellum period was included in the loss.

The poultry department of State College was recently donated an exceptionally fine Rhode Island Red cockerel by the Tar Heel Red Farm of Salisbury. The cockerel is of the pure Tompkins strain and will be used in the breeding work of the college poultry plant, announces R. S. Densteyne, head of the department.

There are fifteen hundred miles of canals in Germany.

PRESBYTERY SENDS WORKER TO STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

Mrs. Evelyn Saddle Brown, Charlotte, to Spend Several Months in Boone. Will Do Religious Work Among Students and Locate Membership in City. Church May Be Founded in Future.

Mrs. Evelyn Saddle Brown, of Charlotte, Presbyterian lay worker, arrived in Boone Monday, and during several months to come will engage in religious work among the students of her faith at Appalachian State Teachers College. Mrs. Brown has the backing of the Holston Presbytery, and during her extended stay in the city intends to identify herself with the life of the community.

A recent canvass of the registration at Appalachia shows that there are seventy Presbyterians, A. R. P. and Reformed students in that institution.

In addition to assisting the students in their religious activities, Mrs. Brown will make a survey of the town to locate the Presbyterian constituency, looking toward the organization, some time in the future, of a church here. She is peculiarly fitted for this work, having graduated at Mitchell College and at the Assembly's Training School. She has had several years' experience in the work, and has a brilliant record. For the present she is making headquarters at Daniel Boone Hotel.

From time to time during Mrs. Brown's residence in the city, Dr. Gillespie of Greensboro, Rev. B. H. Stone, of Jefferson, and other Presbyterian ministers of this section will conduct preaching services at the college.

During the lifetime of the late Rev. Edgar Tufts, of Banner Elk, the organization of a Presbyterian Church in Boone was discussed, and at one time seemed almost assured, but following the death of the great man plans were abandoned, and until recent months no definite step had been taken. It is believed that today there are at least fifty members of that faith who reside within the vicinity of Boone. This number coupled with the Presbyterian membership at State College, would form a substantial foundation for the organization of a church here, and in the hope of all that this can be accomplished during the coming year.

Inmate of County Home Succumbs to Exposure

Will Greer, originally a citizen of the Elk community, but for the past two and a half months an inmate of the county home, was found frozen to death in the snow a short distance away last Monday evening. The 65-year-old charge of the county was said to have been a strong and able man for his age, and had temporarily resided in the Shady Valley of Pennsylvania.

When the inmate of the poorhouse made his attempt at about three o'clock Sunday morning, he instituted search for him and traced him by tracks in the snow to the highway a short distance away. Since Greer had threatened a number of times to return to Shady, it was decided that he had caught a ride in that direction, since he had not been seen by neighbors.

However, on Monday morning a passer-by reported having heard someone "in the woods," and Messrs. Edward Mast, Ralph Cotard, Earn Hodges and others instituted search, finding the frozen body without much difficulty.

THE WEATHER

Weather report for week ending December 27, 1930, as compiled by the Co-operative Station, Appalachian State Teachers College, Boone, J. T. C. Wright, observer:

Average maximum temperature, 33 degrees.

Average minimum temperature 10 degrees.

Average temperature, 21 degrees.

Average daily range in temperature, 23 degrees.

Greatest daily range in temperature, 43 degrees; date, 21st.

Average temperature at 6 p. m. (time of observation), 21 degrees.

Highest temperature reached, 46 degrees; date, 26th.

Lowest temperature reached, 4 degrees below zero; date, 21st.

Number inches of rainfall (including melted snow), 0.95 inches.

Number inches of snowfall, 2.

Greatest rainfall in 24 hours, 0.70 (date, 26th).

Number of days with 0.01 inch or more rainfall, 3.

Number of clear days, 2.

Number of cloudy days, 4.

Number of partly cloudy days, 1.

Direction of prevailing wind, NW.

Dates of heavy frost, 21st.

Dates of light frost, 22nd.

Dates of fogs, 26th.

Other phenomena described as follows: Solar halo on 22nd and 25th.