



Photo taken shortly before they hopped off for their trans-Atlantic flight attempt shows, left to right, Brice Goldbourn, Mrs. Frances Grayson and Lieut. Oskar Omdal.

OUR RALEIGH LETTER

By M. L. Shipman

Raleigh, Jan. 2.—State departments resumed business two days after Christmas, but little more than passing interest has transpired. The Printing Commission started in Wednesday to untangle the printing snarl existing since last June and in three meetings cleaned the slate of several classifications before the departure of the Governor from the city on Friday afternoon. Members of the Judicial Conference created by the General Assembly met on Friday and discussed a number of measures of the legal fraternity, on recommendation of the Conference, tried without success, to have enacted into law at the last session.

One of the first acts of the State Printing Commission on Wednesday was the rejection of the bids of the six firms who did the State's printing the last biennium, on account of non-compliance with the provisions of the new specifications in that percentage of each classification had been demanded and that the bids were again practically the same. With these bids out of the way the following awards were made to out of town firms: Printed forms, poll and registration books, blank books, pamphlets and machine ruling to Owen G. Dunn, New Bern; tax abstracts to Christian and King Printing Company, Durham; bitters, posters and cardboard signs, Southern Printing Company, Raleigh; punching and cutting, Burke and Pittman Company, Raleigh; periodicals, Oxford Manufacturing Company, Oxford. Machine and monotype composition and cylinder press work are yet to be considered with no bidders since the proposals of the former contractor were rejected, while a contractor for heavy binding must be found to meet further requirements of the State. The Commission claims a big saving on the items already awarded, but when the expenses of Commissioner Grist on a tour of inspection to a number of states for purposes of comparing prices and the Washington specialist who prepared the elaborate new specifications and assisted in the tabulations gets his, there may be quite a different story to relate. Furthermore, one of the former contractors presented a lower bid on the tax abstracts than the Commission has agreed to pay the Durham firm and all of them had lower bids on the poll and registration books than the firm to which this award was made. It is said, but for the sake of economy their bids had been rejected and were not before the Commission when the awards were made.

For the month ending November 30, 1927, the State had \$14,466,654.62 in cash, say reports of the State Auditor and State Treasurer. General fund balance, \$987,013.21; highway and other special funds, \$12,993,101.63, and outstanding warrants \$426,539.72. In a recent statement Judge B. Warren, secretary of the North Carolina Education Association, pointed to the erection of 734 school buildings within the last five years covering over \$35,000,000 and being of modern construction of five rooms, or more. 513 of these were for white children in the rural districts and 129 in the cities and towns. For the negroes thirty-five were built in the country sections and forty-two in the cities. \$18,413,840 were expended for the whites in the rural communities and \$14,687,929 in the cities; for the negroes in the country sections \$411,264, and in the cities, \$2,024,370. Last year there were enrolled in the city schools for whites 133,308 children and in the rural schools 410,834. Gratifying advancements along educational line from the days of Governor Aycock, whose administration gave impetus to the movement in a big way, along through the years to the present time is emphasized in the statement of Mr. Warren who calls attention to the expenditure of one million dollars on the State's public schools in 1900 against \$32,000,000 annually today. North Carolina is no longer in a class with New Mexico and other backward states in providing means for the education of her children. Only a few days ago the State Superintendent of Public Instruction announced the availability of the \$2,500,000 building and loan fund appropriated by the last general assembly.

A decrease of 202,000 acres in cotton this season is reported by Dean I. O. Schaub, of the College of Agriculture, but that an increase of 60,000 was planted in tobacco and 39,000 acres in peanuts more than last year. Taking the place of the cotton deficit was cowpeas, soybeans, clover, timothy and tame hay, the acreage of which increased from 658,000 in 1926 to 768,000 in 1927. An increase of 3,000 acres of Irish potatoes and 2,000 of sweet potatoes is reported, but production was far short of home needs and Dean Schaub recommends a further increase of 60,000 acreage in 1928. The acreage of the tobacco crop jumped from 574,000 to 642,000, an increase of 68,000 acres due, it is said, to attractive prices in 1926. Peanut production also showed a big increase on account of heavy planting, 233,000 acres being utilized in growing this palatable commodity. Happily the farmers of the State have more hog and hominy for themselves and feed for their stock in more plentiful this winter than last.

Out of 317 cases presented to the Supreme Court during the fall term 249 were passed upon before adjournment for the holidays and opinions on the remaining sixty-eight were handed down later on. It was a busy session. A thirty million dollars gain in North Carolina Banking institutions the past year is reported by the State Banking Department, the resources of the 536 State and National banks aggregating the huge sum of \$540,340,729 exclusive of trust assets amounting to \$76,966,289 in State banks and \$14,584,167 of the 39 industrial banks. It is said, Little wonder that North Carolinians have purchased in the

neighborhood of 100 million dollars in insurance during the last twelve month period from the eighty-eight licensed companies doing business in the State. The fire companies have also enjoyed a profitable period notwithstanding heavy losses every month, the latest monthly report showing a loss of \$639,762, according to Insurance Commissioner Dan C. Boney.

Another sales rush is over at the Automobile License Bureau and Commissioner Doughton says there is to be no extension of time. Tardy license buyers are to be arrested and prosecuted. The present issuance was for a twelve months' period and the cost of licenses range from \$5.00 for motorcycles to \$267.50 for 4-ton trucks with solid tires. Literally thousands have failed to procure the required plate for their cars and it is predicted that inspectors have a big job ahead of them in rounding up delinquents. The Theft Bureau recently arrested seven men and recovered more than forty cars on a raid in Moore and Randolph counties.

This good old State of ours leads the Nation in elimination of grade crossings, according to the Chairman of the State Highway Commission, who reports that during a period of twelve months 49 grade crossings were wiped out, nine ahead of Missouri "second in the race." Thirty-three in this State were abolished by re-location of roads. Underpasses or over-head bridges put sixteen out of business. To wreckless driving is attributed a large number of fatal accidents and motorists are admonished to have a care in approaching dangerous crossings and short curves. During the week preceding Christmas and the holiday week-end seventeen fatalities were reported, six of them being in automobile accidents. The secretary of the North Carolina

cotton Manufacturers' Association proclaims the premiership of North Carolina as a cotton manufacturing state, with 490 mills, more than 6,000,000 spindles and the employment of 80,000 workers. It leads in active spindle hours, taking this distinction from Massachusetts and is pressing that state in other respects.

Baptist Centennial workers report subscriptions amounting to \$450,000 from the central and eastern sections of the State, \$230,000 of which was obtained in the Raleigh district. The forces will soon move westward.

One Thing and Another More prisoners were admitted to the State Prison during September and November of this year than for any other similar period in the history of the institution, say the authorities, the number being 187, November taking the lead with 94.

The Interstate Commerce Commission lowers rates on cement shipments into North Carolina, effective April 14th.

Dr. Byron U. Richards, health officer of Rhode Island, has returned home after spending several days observing the work of the North Carolina State Board of Health, and before leaving expressed himself well pleased with the type of disease prevention work that is being done here. The Salary and Wage Commission will be in action here on January 5th to consider requests of State employees for salary increases, of which there are around 300.

H. B. Cummins, noted psychologist, and Southern regional agent of the rehabilitation division of the Federal Board for Vocational Education, is here this week for a conference with H. L. Stanton, state supervisor of the department in North Carolina, on problems of vocational guidance.

Prof. C. E. Williams, head of the department of agronomy at State College, has been appointed a member of a committee to handle a research award offered by the Chilean Nitrate of Soda Company, being one of the members elected to serve three years. Col. Joseph Hyde Pratt gives out a statement in which he predicts a vast expansion of North Carolina water and steam development during 1928, with millions of dollars entering into the power projects and a rapid advance of the manufacturing industry of the State.

On account of an appeal to the Supreme Court which cannot be heard until after the opening of the Spring term, Larry Newsome, Wayne county negro sentenced to be electrocuted on January 13th, for the murder of little Beulah Tedder, will have a short while longer to make preparations for the chair.

The 118th birthday of Andrew Johnson, a former president of the United States born in Raleigh, was celebrated here on December 29th in a very quiet way.

Prof. T. E. Browne, State Director of Vocational Education, returned recently with Mrs. Browne from a meeting of the Vocational Association in Los Angeles and reports a most enjoyable trip through the most scenic farming section of America, along with wonderful scenic grandeur.

The State Board of Charities and Public Welfare held their quarterly meeting here during the week, with three of the seven members present, and transacted business of routine character. Only 7 per cent of 14-year old children in the State enter industry, says the secretary of the State Welfare Commission.

Vacations burn your skin and holes in your pockets.

Dr. Frank Crane Says



Anniversaries

The Italo-Hibernian poet, Tomaschelli, has written: "I think that the meanest historian on earth

Is the one who recorded the day of one's birth."

If your life has not been particularly happy or lucky, why should people observe the anniversary of our birthday?

Some people make much of birth-days and newspapers give a list of the birthdays of prominent men every day but there are two opinions about that.

Young ladies of a certain age get one birthday and stick to it. They are twenty-two for instance, until they reach thirty-five, and then they begin to go back.

A good plan when you begin to be old is to select a certain age and keep it. Why get any older?

As for me I would prefer to celebrate anniversaries other than my birthday.

I would like to recall the first time I fell in love, if I could, or the first view of the sea, or the first revelation of moonlight or starlight.

The first good view of a tree would be also worth remembering, or an orchard in full bloom.

The first good investment I ever made or the first examination successfully passed, or the first time I escaped a merited punishment.

I remember the first day I was converted to Wagner, and the first time that the full appreciation of the old masters in painting dawned on me. These are epochs in one's existence,

divine enlargements to the house of life and commendable as well as memorable.

The first pay day also adds to one's superiority complex.

If we are going in for celebrating, these might be worthy celebrations. But just to record that you have lived some sixty years—of what good is that?

Life is a pleasant thing perhaps and it is good to see the sun and to function otherwise, and one would not willingly give it all up. But not very much of the time are we glad we were ever born. Perhaps we ought to be, but the mulgrubs are too busy with most of us and our life is hardly successful enough for us to celebrate continuously.

It is very complimentary for our friends to say that they are glad we were born and they hope we will live a thousand years, but we sometimes question whether the really mean it.

Some of us have reached the decline of our years. When somebody asks us to have a cocktail or a high ball we are put before us we must also refuse because the doctor says so.

Our present ailments and limitations are sufficient without calling up those of the past. We would never render ourselves public nuisances by continually rehearsing our calamities.

Let us forget them. About the best thing we can all do with the past is to forget it and look forward to the future. That may be better, and again it may not be, but at least it has the advantage of being untired and we are justified in looking forward to it hope fully.

Eggs from blood tested flocks of pure strains will furnish the best supply of baby chicks, warns poultry specialists at State College.

Mothers might find it easier to coax some work out of their daughters now if they would only put a steering wheel somewhere in the kitchen.

G. W. Murphy & Son

"Where A Dollar Does Its Duty"

Table with two columns: GROCERIES and MEATS. Lists various items and prices such as Bulk PEANUT BUTTER, Bulk MINCE MEAT, Fancy Patent FLOUR, Choice Navy BEANS, California Black Eye PEAS, Pinto BEANS, Choice IRISH POTATOES, SALMON, Maxwell House COFFEE, Fancy CORN, DEHYDRATED VEGETABLES, Mixed, MURPHY'S SPECIAL COFFEE, Kingans FRANKS, "Our Own" SAUSAGE, Kingans Pork SAUSAGE, Pork LIVER, Beef LIVER, Fresh Country HAM, Sliced, Fresh Whole HAMS, SOUSE, Kingans, Fresh SPARE RIBE, Choice Western STEAK, Choice Native STEAK, STEW BEEF, Swifts Premium HAMS, Sliced Boiled HAM, Sliced DRIED BEEF, Sliced BACON, Kingans, Select OYSTERS.

PENDER'S The Better Chain Stores

Money Savers

Table listing various grocery items and prices: Amron or Ten Hills STRING BEANS, can10c; Pride of Hillsboro CORN, large can, 3 for25c; Gorton's Ready To Fry CODFISH, 2 cans25c; California Yellow Cling PEACHES, 3 large cans . .50c; Large Halves in Heavy Sugar Syrup; D. P. Fancy SUGAR CORN, can . .18c; Colonial Small LIMA BEANS can 13 1-2c; Sniders Fancy SLICED BEETS, can 12 1/2; D. P. COFFEE the World's Best Drink, lb47c; D. P. Famous CAKE, Plain, Layer, Light Fruit 25c lb.; Our Pride BREAD, 21 Ounces of Quality 10c; SALT PORK, Rib Bellies, lb.18c; Plates, lb.15c; Fat Backs lb.17c; D. P. BACON, Breakfast Sliced 1-2 lb. Carton 1-lb. Carton 23c 45c.

FLOUR Plain - Self Rising



If you want any better flour you will have to go away from Louisburg to get it. We except none, and we know all the brands handled here. Don't let your merchant sell you an unknown brand claiming it to be "Just as good as Monument." He can make more profit on an inferior flour.



We have a good flour cheaper. 5 PER CENT HOUSE DISCOUNT we allow on flour enables the merchant to sell at very attractive prices.

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