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OUR RALEIGH LETTER

By M. L. Shipman

Raleigh, Dec. 3.—Thanksgiving has come and gone again. The significance of the day was duly recognized in a general way here and Raleigh churches entered into the spirit of the event with appropriate services. All the churches of all denominations represented here united in the effort to help gladden the lives of the hundreds of fatherless and motherless children now under the fostering care of the orphan homes of the State by responding to the call of the North Carolina Orphan Association for liberal contributions at Thanksgiving. The children at all the homes were favored with ice cream for dinner dessert through the generosity of the North Carolina Ice Cream Manufacturers' Association and a stream of gold followed the day after from churches, lodges and individuals into the coffers of the orphanage treasuries. Those who overlooked this opportunity for service on or before Thanksgiving Day are still privileged to show their love for the orphaned children of North Carolina and their appreciation of the orphan homes which are nourishing and bringing them up under Christian influences. It is never too late to do good. Christmas is the next step.

Raleigh hears that Governor-elect O. Max Gardner desires to be inducted into office with the usual formalities and ceremonies rather than depart from the old custom simply to harmonize with the amendment to the State Constitution adopted by the people two years ago making lawful the inauguration of the Governor and other State officers on the first day of January. Hitherto the inaugural ceremonies have not taken place for a week or ten days after the assembling of the General Assembly and until a canvass of the vote by joint committees of the two branches had been made. The 1928 amendment makes possible the elimination of this formality, but Mr. Gardner dissents. The Attorney General's office holds the new idea is not a compulsory procedure and the former custom of ushering in a new administration is likely to be observed this time. The hope of salary increases for the constitutional officers is advanced as another reason for waiting several days after the meeting of the Legislature to inaugurate the new administration. This would enable all State officials to realize the benefit of any salary increases enacted prior to the assumption of duties assigned to them under the constitutional requirement. It is probable that the present Governor will, on request of the Governor-elect, hold over until January 11 and recommend the usual plans for the inaugural ceremonies. Mr. Gardner is sitting informally with the Advisory Budget Commission in the preparation of the budget for the biennium beginning July 1, 1929.

The official canvass of the votes cast in the recent State election shows little change from the result a year ago. Hoover for President carried sixty-one of 100 counties, receiving a total vote of 349,795 to 288,108 for Governor Smith and his majority is 61,687. O. Max Gardner led the State ticket with 362,009 votes and a majority of 72,594. He received 12,205 more votes than Herbert Hoover thus emerging from the conflict as the most popular candidate of any party in the State this year. An error of 2,000 votes given A. T. Allen for State Superintendent of Public Instruction in the early counting placed his name at the head of the ticket in the number of votes received, but a re-checking of returns reduced him in rank, and placed the head of the ticket at the top. The official returns show that Stanly Wilberne, elector from the First District and high man on the Democratic National ticket, received 288,008 votes as compared with 286,407 given Clyde R. Hoey, elector at large whose name appeared first on the Smith ticket for President. Stuart W. Cramer, elector at large, whose name headed the Republican National ticket in the State, received 349,795 votes, a plurality of 63,388 over Hoey and 61,787 over Winborne indicating that around 2,000 voters declined to cast their ballots for Hoey as reprisal for his strong and vigorous support of Governor Smith. Scratching candidates for elector was a common practice in many counties on election day, according to returns filed here with the State Board of Elections and the Secretary of State.

Sworn statements filed with the Secretary of State show an expenditure of \$74,478 by the Republicans and \$49,620 by the Democrats in the recent campaign. The Republicans received \$25,000 from the National Committee, while the Democrats were unable to extract an amount in excess of \$10,000 from Chairman Rascoe. It is little wonder, therefore, that the Republicans were successful in their effort to carry the State for Secretary Hoover, elect two congressmen, thirty-five representatives to the General Assembly and thirteen State Senators. Early in the year many Democrats made up their minds that they would not support Governor Smith and remained adamant to the end of the contest. A divided Democracy gave hope to the Republicans and thousands of them swarmed to the polls on November 6th who had not voted for years and years. The money they spent went to special workers. According to the report C. Jamison, of Charlotte, headed their list of contributors with a check for \$25,000. Former Governor Morrison, also of Charlotte, was the leading contributor to the Democratic fund, giving \$5,000.

Tabulations recently completed by the State Department of Public Instruction show that there were 843,778 children enrolled in the public

(Continued on Page Nine)

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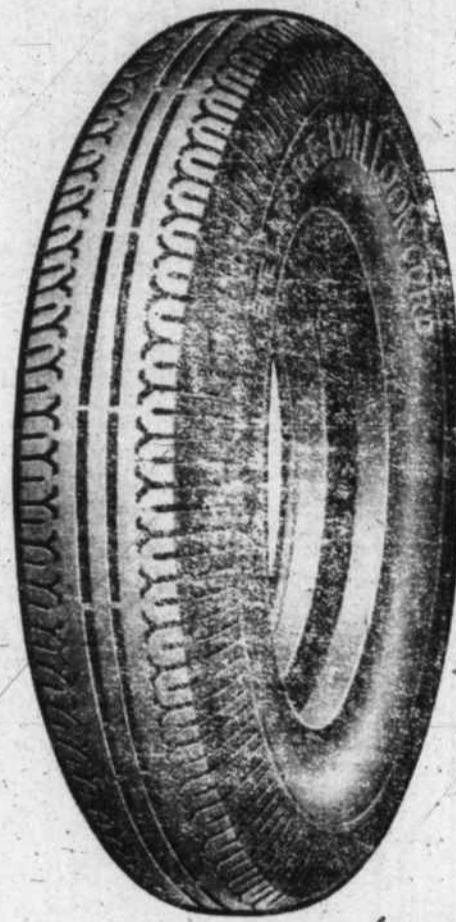
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