

The Chatham Record
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Manley, the Atlanta banker, was finally declared sane, though there was substantial evidence to the effect that he had been crazy for several years. Maybe, lunacy can account for some of the 57 varieties of bank failure in North Carolina the past five years. Banking is supposedly in the hands of the select business men of the communities; yet it is doubtful if any other business or profession in the state can show as many disastrous failures as banking the past five years. We doubt if ten thousand dollars has been lost to the creditors of all the newspapers in the state during that period, and newspaper men are not necessarily the picked "business men" of their communities.

A Franklinville citizen calls attention to the opening of the Yadkin River bridge at Stoke's Ferry as another reason for the direct highway from Raleigh to Lexington through Pittsboro, Siler City, Franklinville, and Asheboro. The new bridge shortens the distance from Charlotte to Durham twenty miles. There is no question that the Raleigh-Pittsboro-Asheboro-Lexington route will be ultimately recognized as one of the most essential highways in the state. It is the short route from the capital west. Besides, it runs crosswise with the railroads instead of paralleling a railroad, thus opening up virgin territory and acting as a feeder to the railroads and railroad towns. As stated so often the past ten years by this writer, a highway paralleling a railroad serves little real purpose as a transportation route for produce or merchandise. The farmers carry their produce to the railroad, not up and down it; likewise, fertilizer and other supplies must be carried from the railroads. The North Carolina Railroad should have come through Pittsboro rather than Durham. But that die was cast long ago, with the consequence that the section from Apex to Lexington has had no east and west transportation facilities, and can probably never have a railroad. Yet the lack of rail facilities can now be largely neutralized by a hard-surfaced highway.

The farm extension bureau is warning farmers against planting feed oats. The fine-looking feed oats are grown too far north for this climate. The experts advise buying seed from reputable seed dealers, even if the cost is greater.

BUS LOCAL
For Sale in Grant Township, Randolph county, 185-acre farm on easy terms. 50 acres cleared land. Apply X care of Chatham Record Sept. 2 3tc.

It is not generally known that the best route from Sanford to Greensboro is by way of Pittsboro back into sixty at Siler City. There is only two miles difference in the distance, while the Pittsboro route has the advantage of the cement road from Sanford and of the unusually good soil road from Pittsboro to Siler City. The advantages outweigh the slight difference in distance. Accordingly, Pittsboro should see a large part of the traffic between Greensboro and Wilmington over route 60. The only reason it does not, is that the traveling public does not know the facts. It was only a few weeks ago that a Siler City citizen said that the Siler City folk now come by Pittsboro in going to Sanford. And, by the way, the Siler City end of the Pittsboro-Siler City highway is being oiled, further improving this road.

Even with a 25-percent profit on school books it has not always been easy to secure satisfactory dealers in the county-seat towns. Dealers cannot afford to sell school books on credit; yet it is a difficult task to deny credit, especially at a time of year when money is scarce. But now a suit is threatened against the book companies because Tennessee children can buy the same books for a few cents less, and simply because Tennessee dealers get only fifteen percent profit instead of the 25 percent North Carolina dealers get. The book companies get identically the same for books sold North Carolina and Tennessee school children. If anybody, then, is to blame for the higher cost to North Carolina children it must be the representatives of the state who made a contract that permitted the North Carolina dealers to charge a 25-percent profit, and it is assumable that those representatives considered a 25-percent profit just and fair. There is no justice in making the book companies the goat.

Experiments prove that practically the value of the fodder is lost in the reduced weight of the corn. Consequently, the fodder-puller has his work for nothing, and if there is any disagreeable work on a farm, it is fodder-pulling. The answer is, fuder pea and bean hay.

Twenty-five years ago on leaving the North Greenville, S. C., high school for Lumberton, the writer turned the principalship over to his recently employed assistant, E. B. Jackson, just out of the Citadel school at Charleston. Two years ago that youngster was elected lieutenant-governor of South Carolina. Tuesday he ran second in the primary for the governorship, and here is hoping that our friend may pull out ahead in the second contest.

The school book agitation has brought an order from the B. F. Johnson Publishing Company directing that text books published by them shall be sold at the wholesale price. We don't know whether the profits or the cut from the dealers' losses is free the wholesale price.

Ma Ferguson was beaten two to one in the second race for the gubernatorial nomination in Texas. Dan Moody, who was nominated, is a youngster of only 32.

Crops are wonderful in view of the prospects in June. A late fall would mean a big cotton crop in Chatham. But the same thing would mean so large a crop in the whole South that prices would be so low as to absorb the profit of the larger yield. It is good to see Chatham farmers with a prospect of fine corn and forage crops. We haven't seen it before in the two years we have been here.

Governor McLean has made a fine selection in choosing Dr. John B. Wright as successor to the late Dr. R. H. Lewis as a member of the State Board of Health.

The solution to the text book question is, possibly, that the state furnish books free to the school children.

It is difficult for the Sesqui Centennial to arouse much interest. In 1893 very few people had ever seen the marvels displayed at the World's Fair. Today the whole world is wise to its marvels. In 1876, at Philadelphia, the telephone was a marvel. Today the wonders of the world are brought to the people's homes, either in actuality or by the moving pictures and the magazines. A great city itself was an eye-opener in earlier days. Now the most of those who have not actually seen a great city have seen living representations of them on the screen.

North Carolina has had its usual quota of deaths the past week from automobile accidents. The weekly number of deaths is about that of the fatalities of the average North Carolina counties in battle during the whole period of the World War. That means that as many people will be killed by automobiles in two years as the state lost in battle (not by disease) during the whole war.

Dr. Walker, dean of the department of education at the University, says that the alumni of the University are not "given enough to intellectual pursuits." It might throw considerable light upon the actual value of the university education given at so great a cost to take a census of the graduates of the last five years and see what they are doing for the development of the state, in either moral or industrial way. Candidly, the writer has very little idea that the prosperity of North Carolina, taking such for granted, is due to any great extent to the greater prevalence of higher education. Nor do we believe that an eight-month school term will materially effect for the better the industrial progress of the state. Scores of North Carolina towns used to have ten-month terms; yet the development of the most of those towns the past thirty years is not due to the superior educational advantages of the boys who regularly attended those schools—schools which had really a high type of teachers men who placed beside the average town principal today would bedwarf the latter. We commend to the extension department of the University an investigation as to how many college graduates of the past twenty years are really engaged in industrial or agricultural work, and how many recent high school graduates can be found employed in industry. Back to Dr. Walker's statement, it will be found, doubtless, that those who actually were of the intellectual type at college are today given to intellectual pursuits. Nor is this indicative of an opposition on the part of the writer to education. Knowledge is essential. But some folk have been crammed with things that they have no taste for and have denied the things that they need for their own good and for the state's good.

More folk in the South could tell what they were talking about forty years ago Wednesday morning than could, we suspect, a week ago Wednesday morning. The 31st of August fell on this fortieth anniversary on Tuesday just as it did in 1886. The anniversary was marked by the shaking up of one of the Azores Islands, where a number of people were killed, and much property destroyed.

Mr. W. B. Cooper of Siler City was badly cut about the face and head when his car struck a pole ten miles from Greensboro Sunday morning. The accident is said to be due to derangement of the steering gear. He was taken to a Greensboro hospital, where he was reported by the Monday papers as having rested well Sunday night.

Mr. J. Shirley Waters, one of the Pittsboro high school teachers, received the degree bachelor of arts in education the other day at the University. Mr. Waters already had one diploma from the University.

PRIVATE MUSEUM ON TOP OF SKYSCRAPER

Bingham Keeps Rare Marine Specimens in Suite.

New York.—On the top floor of the office building at 32 Broadway, in the heart of the financial district, there is what is undoubtedly the only skyscraper oceanographic museum in the world. Perhaps it is an exaggeration to call it a museum for it consists of only two rooms of a private office suite, and it is not now, and probably never will be, open to the public. But in the glass cases and in glass jars awaiting study and mounting are some 3,000 specimens of marine life, many of them of hitherto unknown species.

This office building collection is the nucleus of what is expected to grow into a thoroughly organized private museum, which Harry Payne Bingham, its owner, will house in an appropriate building. Meanwhile Mr. Bingham is working in company with Louis I. Mowbray, assistant director of the Aquarium, classifying and studying the wealth of marine material they got on the three months' 11,000-mile expedition they made last spring in the Caribbean and the Pacific.

Some Extraordinary Fish.
Hundreds of these specimens already have been mounted and placed in glass cases in Mr. Bingham's office at 32 Broadway. Others are on the wall. Many of them are deep-sea varieties, in the grotesque shapes made familiar by William Beebe's descriptions last year of the ocean treasures he found on his cruise in the *Arcturion*. Their range of size is extraordinary.

There is one fish from the depths of the ocean only three inches long. It is equipped with a tough skin which has prevented it blowing up as most deep-sea fish do when brought to the surface from the heavy pressure of the lower levels of water. And on the wall nearby is a giant swordfish 12 feet long. On the wall also is a specimen of weakfish six feet long, weighing 175 pounds, in striking contrast to the six-pound variety caught in New York waters and served on restaurant tables.

The skyscraper collection contains even a sea-serpent. It looks like a blacksnake about three feet long, with the under side of its head white. It was caught close to shore in the Gulf of California.

All Mounted and Painted.
The fish, as they are seen in Mr. Bingham's office, are in their original shapes and colors. Francis West, taxidermist of the Bingham-Mowbray expedition, made plaster casts of the five fish while they were flopping about the deck. Their skins have now been fitted over these casts and painted by Wilfred Bronson, an artist, who observed them in life in a diving suit and made notes of their coloring.

In an adjoining room is a motion picture projection machine and a screen on which Mr. Bingham and Mr. Mowbray can throw pictures they took on their voyage. With the aid of this they can study again the life habits of the sea animals.

Mr. Bingham admitted that it was true that he was planning to establish a museum, but said his plans were entirely vague thus far and that he did not yet have enough material to warrant forming a museum. His office serves meanwhile as a storeroom and workroom.

Mr. Bingham formerly was a member of the New York Stock exchange, but sold his seat two years ago to concentrate his attention on his studies of marine life, in which he has long been interested. He intends to make another three months' voyage early next year in search of specimens. He and his party will travel in the *Pawnee*, his 160-foot yacht, in which he explored southern waters this year. The yacht is equipped with Diesel engines. It contains a laboratory, rooms for mounting the specimens and elaborate paraphernalia for exploring the depths.

Church Censors Clothes
Milan.—Women who dress too modernly will be refused admittance to church, by order of Cardinal Tosi, who has forbidden public dances.

GRADUATE NURSE
In Pittsboro for the time being, Miss Lucile Peterson, a recent graduate as a nurse, offers her professional services to the people of Chatham county.

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Renew Lightning Rods Put On by Ben Franklin

London.—New lightning rods are being installed on St. Paul's cathedral, which Benjamin Franklin originally equipped with lightning conductors. In 1770 he was in England negotiating in connection with the difficulties Great Britain was having with its American colonies, which were becoming restless, and it was at this time he helped to install the conductors. The original rods on the famous cathedral were iron, and the engineers who are now adjusting copper rods have a fragment of the original iron conductor which the American devised.

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Farm Sale

The Horace Jones Place, 162 acres, Subdivided into Small Farms; Located on Route 60 near SILER CITY, N. C.

This farm is known as the H. Q. Jones place, located about 3 miles from Siler City on Route 60 near Oakley Church and Oakley School. Property now owned by Arthur S. Edwards, and within 2 1-2 miles of Mt. Vernon Springs. The Old Home place has one of the finest springs of water in the County, and is an extra fine place for a Club House. This is an extra good farm and has been subdivided into small tracts to be sold for the high dollar, your price our price. One nice little residence in Oak grove near the highway. If you are in the market for a fine little farm don't miss this sale.

Saturd'y, Sept. 11, 2:30 P. M.

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