

THE CHATHAM RECORD

O. J. PETERSON
Editor and Publisher

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

One Year \$1.50
Six Months .75

THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 1929

Editorials

If the house had no other good deed to its credit, the killing of the abominable bonus bill would be sufficient to signalize its courage and good sense.

The death of T. E. Whitaker, head of the Oak Ridge school for many years, is a real loss to the citizenship of the State. He wrought well as school man and legislator.

Marshal Foch, the French hero of the World War, has been buried with the honors of not only his own nation but of many others. He was the most outstanding military leader of the war, generalissimo of the allied armies.

Governor Gardner, like President Hoover, is loyal to his old college comrades. He has made Nat Dunn assistant to the governor, and appointed Prof. Harrelson of State College to succeed Major Phillips as head of the conservation department.

The address of Supt. A. T. Allen before the teachers' association was in good taste and indicated an appreciation of the condition of the tax-payers of the State. Sentelle's and Warren's addresses, severely criticising the school bill and those who do not agree in every particular with the school clique, were rabid and calculated to do the cause of schools harm.

A bond dealer complains that, after he was invited through an advertisement to apply for information concerning the sale of \$18,000 of Pittsboro water bonds, he could get no answer to his inquiries. There is no use in advertising a sale of bonds if the sale has already been practically agreed upon. Keeping the letter of the law is not worth a cent; it is the spirit that maketh alive.

Oklahoma has just recently impeached its governor, about the third thus treated in the past ten years. Now Louisiana has an impeachment trial on hand; and Governor Long is even accused of trying to hire a man to kill a son of former Governor J. Y. Sanders, who was expected to oppose Long's plan in the legislature. Demagoguery has placed some mighty bad material in office in the South under the primary system, but it does not seem that all the governors elected in Oklahoma should be rascals, unless the whole population is of the same stripe.

Let us make a suggestion in all friendliness. Suppose the Pittsboro school be held to 4 o'clock these longer days and the extra hour be given to drill of classes in such subjects as they may be found lagging in. It is the clinching blow that holds the nail. A pupil that has not thoroughly grasped a subject really hasn't it at all; it will get away from him, and if he could retain it in such shape he couldn't use it. The hardship on neither teachers nor students will be too great. The writer has taught six and seven hours a day when he was busy every minute except recess periods, and he survived it.

Governor Gardner proceeded after the adjournment of the legislature to make a full list of appointments for the major jobs. N. A. Townsend resigns the judgeship to become assistant to the governor. Senator T. L. Johnson of Robeson succeeds Judge Townsend as judge. Attorney Cowper (pronounce it Cooper), of Kinston, is appointed to a similar judgeship. John Sprunt Hill is re-appointed highway commissioner for this district. The two new judges are really able

men. The editor of The Record knows Mr. Cowper to be one of the best lawyers in the State. We have seen him in action for a week at a time.

If the school folk adopt the threat of Jule B. Warren, secretary of the North Carolina Teachers' Association, and undertake to dominate the affairs of the State with the ballot, they will find it quite a different matter from carrying a school tax election in a district which school men at State expense canvass, while the opposition is usually left without organization or leadership. The people are, surely, as much concerned about educational opportunities for their children as are the teachers, but they will hardly consent to the more or less self-interested dictation of the school folk.

George Ross Pou, who has been reappointed superintendent of the state prison, makes a most sensible report to the directors, indicating that the only means of keeping the prison on a self-supporting basis is to establish manufacturing plants to supply the state institutions with soap, insecticide, desks, auto license plates, and other things that the various institutions have to buy. A second recourse is for the state to employ the convicts in road and bridge building. He points out that Virginia had 2000 convicts thus employed. There is no question, it would seem, that the state with an abundance of its own labor can build roads cheaper than it can get other people to build them with hired labor. And if convicts can make school desks, many thousands of dollars should be saved the state.

Now, Rowland Beasley, Pete is not so far behind as you might think. He has been here long enough to read in the newspapers about the fall of most of the empires since 1454. However, he wasn't taking any paper during the short-lived Napoleonic Empire; the Holy Roman breathed its last about the time "Old Pete" breathed his first; and the abortive Mexican empire is not very hard to catch up with. Now, what others are there that the editor of The Monroe Journal and the editor of The Chatham Record have not been able to inform themselves about from the newspapers? Either we have been living a good while or the most of the crumbling of empires has been in recent years. We almost saw the rise of the German Empire, and have certainly outlived it. The Brazilian, the Hawaiian, the Russian, the German, the Austrian-Hungarian, and the Chinese have all fallen almost within the period of your publication of The Monroe Journal. You are getting old.

Congratulations are hereby extended to our old friends D. D. and B. B. Dougherty who have seen the school which they started at Boone away back in the nineties, in a building through the holes in which one could almost throw a cat, become a full-fledged teachers' college. The recent legislature made the Boone school a regular four-year college. B. B. Dougherty, the younger brother, is president, and it is he who is being blamed by some of the school folk of the state as the author of the Hancock bill which came in for much criticism at the recent session of the teachers' association in Raleigh. But if B. B. Dougherty wrote the bill, we have more faith in it, particularly as to the economy features. Not many months ago The Record compared the cost per pupil to the state of the various state schools, and some may recall that the public cost of students at the Boone school was the lowest by far in the state, scarcely more than a third of the cost in some of the other schools, as we recall it. And there is no better guarantee of the character of the work a school man will demand in his school than the character of his work in college, and the Dougherty boys were real students, diligent and with sufficient brain to master the most difficult subjects, which is not as usual as one might think. As an instance of the comparative cost of a course at Boone and at other schools in the state compare the summer

school rates in the advertisement in this week's Record with those from other colleges in the state. No other two state institutions have been run, we believe, with the same regard for the tax-payer as have been the school at Boone and the Eastern Hospital at Goldsboro.

Right now, when it is not possible to convert this paragraph into a criticism of the new appointees to the county board of education, we wish to register a protest against the manner in which the appointments are made. Now, mind you, this is a criticism of methods and not of men. Messrs. Siler and Riggsbee may be the very best men in the county for the positions to which they have been appointed. But it is anything but democratic for the people to have no choice or voice in the appointments, and not even know who are slated for the positions till the appointments are ratified by the legislature. If it were necessary that such a situation exist, it would be futile to protest against it; but it is not necessary. Other counties nominate candidates for the school board in the primaries or in the county conventions. And what is more to the point, the legislature respects the recommendations of the voters. We happened to be in Raleigh when a test of that very issue came up. The county convention in Sampson county nominated a candidate for the board, but the executive committee later substituted another name. The Democratic senator from Sampson favored the nominee of the executive committee, but the friends of the nominee of the convention won out, and the convention's man received the appointment. That has set a valuable precedent. Accordingly, all that the people of Chatham have to do to have an effective voice in the management of its school affairs is to nominate their men in the primary next year. Let the Republicans nominate candidates and the Democrats their candidates. Then if the legislature is Democratic it can ratify the Democratic candidates, and if Republican the Republican candidates. Or it may be agreed that the Democrats will take one and the Republicans one, if there are two vacancies to be filled. Certainly, never again should the people be kept so completely in the dark. Under the present methods one or two men can continue a regime indefinitely or destroy it as readily. This is a matter for the people, and they should see to it that nominees are before the voters in the next primary.

LET'S HAVE A STATEMENT

A few years ago the electric light plant was sold for what ought to have been practically enough to take up outstanding bonds for the plant. Since the editor of The Record has been here, the one larger item of town expense was the outlay for a fire truck, \$2,500 we believe. The only other expenses have been current ones for street work, electric light, and for payment of a policeman's salary. Yet we find an issue of \$18,000 of bonds sold a few days ago, statedly for town improvements, but so far as we have learned a large part of the fund is to go to take up a \$7,000 note at the bank and to pay other debts. Certainly, the paving that is suggested is not so badly needed as to justify the issue of \$18,000 in bonds. Main street stood for 125 years without a foot of paving on it. Now it has paved sidewalks and a paved highway through it, and at such times as these, it would seem that the old village could get along for a few more years without paving the borders of the street. Also the residence streets which are to be paved are in much better condition, we surmise, than they were for a hundred years. Now, if the \$18,000 in bonds are issued for the purpose of doing this paving, The Record has no hesitation in pronouncing it untimely, if not unnecessary. Times are too hard to be putting such debts upon the people of the town. Moreover, the bonds have been sold when the money market is upset by the wild spread of speculation on Wall Street. Consequently, 6 per cent bonds have brought only par. And the interest on

the \$18,000 largely counterbalances the hardwon savings on county taxes. In 1932 not only will the interest be to pay, but a thousand dollars also to take up one of the bonds, and thus each year thereafter. And everybody knows that if times continue as they are, that the people will be in no condition to pay the additional tax. But a big issue has already been voted for water works, and if these are issued the burden will be four-fold what the \$18,000 alone makes it.

But if the money, or most of it, is needed to fund debts, the people are due information as to why that is true. The editor is not even going to try to find out and tell why here, for the law is plain that town officials are required to make an annual statement of expenditure, and this has been neglected. Therefore, instead of The Record's becoming the agent of informing the people of the acts of the town government, we are simply calling at-

tention to the fact that a considerable bond issue has been sold and the tax rate hereby necessarily boosted, and asking if a statement of town finances in accord with the law is not now in season.

No Bonus for Clerks and Other Employees

At the beginning of the present legislative session a rule was adopted that there would be no bonuses paid to legislative employes this year. Notwithstanding that rule, a bill was introduced on the last day of the session providing for a dollar a day bonus. At one time it looked like it might pass, but Representative Hanes of Winston-Salem moved to table it and it was killed. It was said that some of the clerks and other lesser rank employes were almost insulting to the legislators in their lobbying for the bill. The bonus has always been paid heretofore, and the clerks had anticipated it this time. Estimated saving to the state by Representative Hanes' action is \$20,000.

Your wife, as well as your sins, will find you out. A halting speech may be the result of a lame excuse.

FIVE GALLONS PAINT FREE

A large paint concern, in furtherance of an advertising and introductory campaign now in progress, offers to give, free of charge, five gallons of its best house paint, any color, to one property owner at each postoffice or on each rural route in this county. This concern wants its paint on a house in each locality this season which is the purpose of this remarkable offer. It also wants a local salesman in each county. Persons interested are requested to write the Central Oil Company, Louisville, Ky.

Former Governor Foley of New York has declined leadership of Tammany Hall, in connection with the row over a successor to Olvaney, it is said that a break has occurred between Al Smith and Jimmy Walker.

Flood waters in South Carolina and Georgia have broken up more blockade stills along the river banks than all the federal enforcement officers could do in a year, according to newspaper accounts of the floods.

Attend The
Merchants and Manufacturers
Exposition

APRIL 8th to 13th INCLUSIVE

Roycroft Warehouse Durham, N. C.

To be officially opened with an address by Governor O. Max Gardner on Monday night, April 8th.

High Class Entertainment—Different Every Night

<p>FEATURES O'Connor Sisters Goodfellows Quartet Hatcher & Rowe, Comedians Herdon Slicer, Pianist Fashion Revue</p>	<p>FEATURES Jelly Leftwich's Famous Orchestra 80-Piece Duke University Band Dixie Darling Musical Revue Frank Barfield's Minstrel Harmony Quartet</p>
--	--

Scores of splendidly arranged exhibits

25c Admission \$1.00 Season Ticket

Follow the Street Decorations to the Warehouse

OVERSIZE

A fertilizer without odor made for early fruiting and heavy production. Stood up in the rains last year better than cotton seed meal.

Mr. J. E. Overton of Sanford R. F. D. used two tons last year in a test with four kinds of fertilizers. He has already bought his whole needs for this year. **ASK HIM WHY HE LIKES OVERSIZE.**

Mr. M. D. Tetter, Mt. Gilead, N. C., got a few tons last year and got such excellent results that he has already bought this year. These men pay CASH and we can show you large numbers of the most successful farmers in North Carolina who have turned to **OVERSIZE** to help them out. While others are talking about slow sales **OVERSIZE** has increased 50% over last year. There is a reason. Try it and you will know.

If your dealer does not sell it write us. We will deliver on truck as far away as Chapel Hill on good roads at just about what you will have to pay if you hauled it home.

Sapona Mills Inc.

SANFORD, N. C.