

# CHATHAM RECORD

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Editor and Publisher

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## Editorials

Do you know why the late August and the September sun seems so hot as compared with that of June days of the same degree of temperature? The answer is, the sun rays are more slanting in late summer and consequently more of them hit a man when standing in the sunshine, the fewer strike a square foot of the level soil or pavement in September than in June. The latter fact is the chief cause of the change of seasons, along with the longer nights of the fall and winter, which are themselves due to the same cause as that producing the slanting rays. A single sun ray carries as much heat in winter as in summer, indeed a little more, as the sun is nearer in winter, but not nearly so many of them strike a given area of the earth's surface. It is the number that does the business in the summer time. Yet many more rays strike a standing man in December than in June, in the early products were produced only "more lately" on the farm.

### HOW TO HOLD BACK PROGRESS

(The Hamlet News-Messenger)

There are some simple but safe and sure rules to retard the progress of any community. They are easily mastered. They cost nothing to follow, except in the long run, and who cares about the long run?

In fact they are paths of least resistance. Tho they are destructive, they are no less an interesting study. Here are some of the rules to hold back needed development:

When a good movement is started be against it by being for it with a big IF. This will make people think you are all right and a booster. After getting over the IFS throw in a few BUTS for good measure, something like this: "I'm for it all right, BUT —" A few of the BUTS are given for the guidance of those who don't remember the ones they used last time. 1. "BUT this is not the right time." This usually works well and gets a lot of folks scared out. 2. BUT it will cost too much." This is a humdinger of an alibi. It appeals to the big fellow who can afford it and the little fellow's spirit is getting something out of it." This alibi spreads like wildfire all over the town, and pretty soon Mr. So-and-so the poor innocent devil who has managed to acquire a little community spirit to help the town get ahead, is all but taken out and hung to the nearest telephone pole.

After using all the IFS and BUTS to be thought of, try some of these:

If it's a bridge or road proposed, keep "for" it, but say with emphasis that the road builder don't know what they are talking about. Suggest an entirely different method of building the road and constructing the bridge. In fact, hold out that the road should have gone east instead of west, and that the bridge is going across the wrong river.

If it's something like a new school building, by all means quickly turn architect and school board and superintendent of construction. Ask them to build it your way. Be sure, of course, to keep saying you are "for" it.

And so on and on. You can hold back progress indefinitely by a little practice on the above rules and also the ones you have used all these years. When the other town goes right ahead and grows and your town stands still or goes backward, if you want to keep on kicking that's your privilege, but you'll soon find that you are kicking no one but yourself in the long run.

## HOW THEY LOVE THE DEAR CHILDREN

A Mede and Persian decree of the county board of commissioners of Johnston county to the effect that a cut of over \$51,000 in the budget of the board of education should be made has resulted in the cutting off of 84 teachers from the school force of county and of not one reduction of salary, so far as the record discloses to the writer.

The county superintendent of schools, the principals of the score of great consolidated schools in the county, and the remaining teachers will continue to draw the salaries that were deemed sufficient away back in 1919 when prices were high and money abundant. But we cannot suppose that the members of the Johnston county school board have no common sense. They were simply helpless in the face of the legalized salary schedule of the state board of education, a schedule, as just suggested, dating back to the flush years of the history of the state. The only recourse was for the high-salaried school officials and principals and the remaining teachers to volunteer reductions in their salaries.

But, of course, that has not been done, nor will be done. O, those dear school men and women love the children dearly till it comes time to show that love in a practical way and then love of self, as always, betrays itself and the children may go hang.

We shall not blame the county commissioners a minute. They know that the children of Johnston county need to retain shelters over their head and bread for their mouths more than they need extra schooling just at this time. In fact, the Johnston commissioners have done a service to the state in bringing about this impasse which shows the disastrous effects of the legalization of the state salary schedule for teachers and school officials. The law of supply and demand has been abrogated. Men and women who are prepared to teach have not been allowed to compete for positions, and thus bring down the salaries to a nearer level with the incomes of the tax-payers and with what the same teachers could make in enterprises of their own or when turned loose to secure unprotected employment.

Every child in Johnston county, presumably, must receive a smaller degree of intensive instruction, else the school board has been employing an excess of teachers. And it is not because the county board of commissioners has not supplied a sufficient fund to pay for the full quota of instructors if the privilege of bargaining remained to teachers and school boards. Do you not know that the 84 teachers discarded would be glad to hold their jobs at a 25 per cent decrease in salary, rather than have no salary at all? What are they to do? The other counties do not need the excess. Moreover, if it had been put up to the whole bunch of Johnston county teachers to reduce voluntarily their salaries or lose their jobs, do you not believe that nine out of ten of them would have made the reduction? But the law forbids. The salary schedule must be enforced or the equalization funds are denied.

Of course, it is right for teachers to have a living wage, but it takes scarcely half now to live than it did when the scale was arranged. Moreover, the large salaries are coming from money collected by stress from an harassed people. Thousands of homes are being sold from over the heads of the very children whom these teachers are employed to teach. But the lucky teachers must continue to draw their handsome salaries and the beloved children to suffer at home and then go to school to be crammed and packed in classes where the amount of teachers' attention desirable cannot be given them.

The Chatham Record calls upon the next legislature to restore the right of bargaining to teachers and school

boards. No labor union has ever been more tyrannical than the teaching force of North Carolina under the protection afforded them by the state board of education, since 1929 confirmed in its tyranny by statute law. Eighty-four men and women, badly needing employment as the lucky remaining ones, are without employment, while the rest continue to draw salaries that are all out of proportion to the incomes of the people who are supporting them.

Down with the tyranny! The very Hancock bill was a blow to the rights of the children, in that it increased the number of children for the teacher instead of enabling the proper number of teachers to be employed by permitting the school boards to hire in accordance with the value of the dollar.

### HOW DO THEY GET THAT WAY?

Some time ago a young Dr. Noble of the state school of department asserted that a \$100,000, which is anything but a "school fact." Now we note that R. B. House, secretary to the president of the University and old enough to have some gumption, declares that the advancement in public school education the past 30 years has caused a five-fold increase in the wealth of North Carolina.

In the first place, it is not true that North Carolina has increased five-fold in wealth in these thirty years, and in the second place, the schools have done comparatively little to cause whatever augmentation of wealth there has actually been.

Thirty years ago North Carolina had quite an abundance of timber which has now disappeared. Thirty years ago the state had no indebtedness to compare with the present. Towns have grown into cities, and factories have multiplied, it is true; but there is scarcely a hundred miles more railroad, not an acre more land, while many farmers have been practically abandoned. The farm lands are mortgaged, and many town homes are mortgaged to the hilt.

The bonds of the state and counties, of which this county has outstanding more than a million dollars, are largely held by people in other states, as are the mortgages on the farms, especially the thousands of them made to the Farm Loan Banks. It is doubtful if the number of cattle and horse, hogs and sheep, in proportion to the increase in population, has held its own these thirty years. Automobiles have swarmed, but by the time they are paid for, they are largely in a decrepit condition.

Accordingly, when the indebtedness held by outsiders and the value of the properties held by the citizens of other states, such as railroad stocks and bonds, power plants, telegraphs, etc., besides many thousands of acres of lands taken over by outside individuals and corporations, is deducted from the actual value of the property of the state, and deductions are made for double listing of values, such as farms and the mortgages on the farms, and due allowance is made for the increase in valuations for this period, of \$36 per capita circulation of money over that of the period of that of \$10 per capita it is clear that the boasted increase of wealth will have done like Vance's catfish, "swunk." Moreover, what there is, is to be prorated among one and one half as many people as there were 30 years ago.

That much for the assertion as to the increase in wealth, and we mean WEALTH, or property, not figures that place five values upon the same acre of land of 1900, or cause a two hundred pound hog to sell for \$30 instead of \$12, and a house built 50 years ago in a small town to be valued in a larger one today at five times its earlier valuation. Nor does money count. Money can only effect changes in owners of property. It is not wealth.

Now, as to the assumption that, whatever the increase,

it is due to the increase in public school education, it is mere bosh. The men who have developed the farming industry in North Carolina have not been educated in the public schools within the past 30 years, and generally have never had more than, say, 40 months of schooling in their lives. We know two counties like a book, Sampson and Chatham, and we know that a high school graduate on a farm is a rarity, and they are not numerous in the factories.

The tobacco, cotton and furniture factories, and the water power developments have not been initiated nor even developed because of a more generally educated younger generation. The Dukes, the Reynolds, and many others responsible, for these developments if educated at all, were educated earlier than 1900. Of course, there are exceptions, and younger men of the new regime in education are gradually replacing the initiators of them, and are inaugurating new enterprises, but hardly proportionately to the extent of the older group, unless you count filling stations, saw mills, and garages.

We are not necessarily pessimistic, but it is just as well to see things straight, and such assertions as that of Mr. House will in the long run do more harm than good. He ought to be able to distinguish between post hoc and propter hoc. Even if the wealth of the state had multiplied as stated, one must have facts to justify attributing the growth to the fact that the public schools happened to be developed contemporaneously.

If there is any kind of printer's slip that will make the writer of an article sweat, it is the omission of a line in such way that the thing still reads straight along. One like that occurred last week in the article where we were listing the products of the old farm in Sampson, making it appear that eggs and other products were produced "more lately" on the farm.

### THE POSITION OF LABOR.

(The Hamlet News-Messenger)

The founders of Labor Day showed wisdom in selecting a Monday as the day to celebrate the victories of the working man as well as commemorate the struggles which he has gone thru to gain his present position. All holidays, except, perhaps, those of strictly religious origin and nature, should fall on Monday, thus giving a two or a two and a half days' holiday for all classes who can cease their labors without crippling the accommodations of the rest.

But labor has exhibited other bits of wisdom too. The farmer has never been able to organize as have the industrial trades workers. The conditions surrounding one class are radically different from the circumstances of the other. Here we see the great American Federation of Labor with no less than 106 affiliated unions, representing every kind of labor from the trap-drummer in a dance orchestra to a metal polisher in a stove factory. Besides these we have the "big four" in the railroad field, known as the engineers, firemen, trainmen, and conductors. Then we have the amalgamated clothing workers who are also unaffiliated with the Federation so far as internal structure of organization is concerned. And of course the Industrial Workers of the World who are in a more or less strange class by themselves, whether their purposes are industrial, social or political. Lastly we have the non-union, the common laborer and workers generally in all kinds of occupations all of whom come under the head of labor with respects to Labor Day. Even the brain worker, so-called, "knocks off", so to speak, and plays golf or swims or motors, or does the other hundred and one things that men do when away from the daily grind.

It's a great institution, this Labor Day. Many of us forget its significance and do nearly everything that has nothing to do with celebration. But labor is still a great power for good or bad as labor makes it. It's political power is tremendous; it's social power is felt wherever workers live and work; and its industrial or financial power is often reckoned with, sometimes to the benefit of the workers, sometimes not. The salvation of labor is sound leadership. This constructive leadership has been noticeable recently in its move to stamp out destructive Communism. So long as organized labor seeks to preserve American ideals, that long will it enjoy its present position. The aim of labor should not be to destroy capital, but to seek its fair share of it.

### Bible Thought and Prayer

**ALL NEEDS SUPPLIED**—The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.—Ps. 23:1-6.

**PRAYER**—O Lord, do Thou satisfy us early with Thy mercy, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Jealousy knows no loyalty.—Spanish proverb.

## CAROLINIANS--Know Your State!

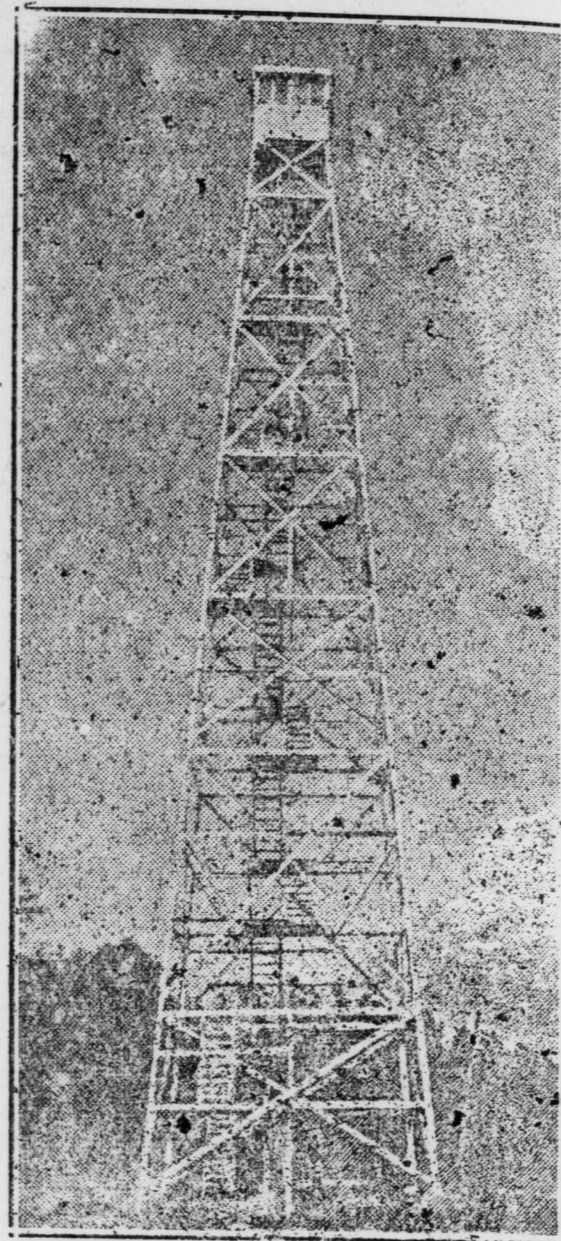
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### FOREST FIRE OBSERVATION TOWERS

The State Forest Service is making every effort to cut down losses from forest fires and recently five steel observation towers have been erected in Buncombe, Wilkes, Robeson, Hertford and Brunswick Counties at a cost of \$1,300 each. The first of the system of lookout towers, which will eventually give protection to all the wooded area of the State, was erected about three years ago and today there are sixteen steel, three wooden and one stone look-outs. The present structures range from 35 to 102 feet in height, and are surmounted by an enclosed cabin in which a warden is stationed during the fire seasons. It will probably be necessary to build 125 towers to complete the State's primary forest fire detection system.

Taxpayers of North Carolina were recently reminded by the State Department of Conservation and Development that approximately 4,000,000 acres of land are in a state of unproductivity due to forest fires and they estimate this loss at \$8,000,000 annually.



### DID YOU EVER STOP TO THINK?

By EDSON R. WAITE  
Shawnee, Oklahoma

That advertising is a satisfying service. It serves everybody well. If you are a manufacturer, it will create a demand for what you have for sale; it will increase turnover, which will in turn increase your profits.

If you are a retailer, it will increase your business so you can buy in larger quantities and take advantage of volume prices and discounts; it will reduce your overhead and keep your stock moving so you will always have nothing but new and attractive goods to sell.

If you are a consumer, you can save every day in every way by buying only from business concerns that advertise. When you buy from them you not only get the best at right prices, but their ads are a guarantee that their goods are as represented.

Advertisements not only stand for quality, but they assure you of satisfaction.

Every business should advertise not once in a while but all the time. Every citizen should read the ads and buy only from the concerns that advertise.

The advertising columns should be the meeting place of all buyers and sellers.

That it is not necessary for you to go to some other city or send to buy anything.

The stores of your city are in position to supply your every want. They sell at reasonable prices the highest quality of merchandise.

Along with the growth of your city, your home merchants are always making improvements and adding to their stocks to take care of increasing business—always keeping in stock the best merchandise at a price that can't be beat elsewhere.

Local merchants aim to retain trade by furnishing better service and better quality at better terms and prices.

If you don't read local advertisements and buy from your local merchants, you are a loser.

People who earn money in one city and spend it in another should move to the other city. It will be no loss to the home city if they do.

### N. C. Forestry to Convene Tuesday 9th

The twentieth annual meeting of the North Carolina Forestry Association will be held in the City of North Wilkesboro, September 9, 10, 11. Following is a number of special features of the program which will form the basis for a number of addresses and discussions:

- "The Land Utilization Problem"
- "The Forest as a Basis of Industry and Wealth."
- "The Forest and Game."
- "Farming our Woodlands."
- "Forest Legislation, Taxation, etc."

"What is North Carolina Doing?" To those who like "more action and less talk" the afternoon programs will be especially appealing. These demonstrations have been planned for the man of action, for those to whom timber and its manufacture is "life."

Special addresses by men of prominence are featured in the program each day.

For a program please address R. W. Graeber, State College Station, Raleigh, N. C.