

MAXWELL REPLIES TO GOVERNOR MORRISON

Insists That There is a Big Deficit and Not a Surplus in the Treasury of North Carolina.

SAYS ECONOMY BADLY NEEDED

Says Governor Failed to Notice the Deficits That Appeared in Two Years in the State's Money.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 3. (By the Associated Press.)—Asserting that Governor Cameron Morrison and the budget commission has "invented special items of their own to convert" the deficit...

At Maxwell declared the "old frog in the well story" might be applied to the state financing with state credit being deeper in the well and that they are ignoring the facts and sound advice presented by our own...

The State Treasurer was correct in calling attention to a net deficit of \$1,853,894 in the operating expenses "on the funded years" of revenue income...

Their report showed a deficit for the period of \$1,853,895.41. They set against that deficit the resources which they estimated to be due and available on January 1, following...

It not only had a full year of income tax under the new law, but it also had \$144,161.03 of income collected by the counties under the old law and not settled for to the state...

WOMAN SHOOT HERSELF BUT DOESN'T KNOW IT Carries Bullet for 17 Hours in Muscles Below Heart. New York, Feb. 1.—A pistol bullet that lodged in the muscles beneath the heart of Mrs. Elmore Marker, of Brooklyn, and remained there for 17 hours straight without her being aware of it, was removed in St. Peter's hospital...

Warrants Are Out for Election Officials. Asheville, Feb. 1.—Warrants for E. J. Cuthbert and R. L. White, Jr., of Randolph county, charged with violation of election laws, have been served, and the men are under bonds of \$500 each. Bronlow Jackson, United States Marshal, stated today...

Couldn't Understand. "Tomorrow," announced five-year-old Frank proudly to his Sunday school teacher, "is my birthday."

MUCH SCHOOL BUILDING UNDERWAY IN THE STATE

Special Fund Create for Rural Districts Has Proved Great Blessing. Raleigh, Jan. 31.—Cities and towns in North Carolina during the past two years voted bond issues of approximately \$15,000,000 for the purpose of providing better school buildings...

"The counties are providing large brick buildings with auditoriums for the rural consolidated schools," the report reads. "This has been made possible through the aid of the special building fund authorized by the last general assembly."

The report shows, in accordance with an announcement made by the superintendent recently, that the entire building program, when completed, will cost about \$25,000,000.

"The idea of a state loan fund for aiding the counties in erecting school buildings is not known," it is stated. "In 1903 the general assembly very wisely set aside the state literary fund, then amounting to about \$200,000 to be used as a loan fund for building school houses."

"But this has been totally inadequate. The counties had only one other alternative—local bond issues. But this required a vote of the people. As a result, the strong wealthy centers could secure bond issues by levying a reasonably low tax rate, while the more backward districts, in many instances, if they were in favor of education, could not secure a bond issue of sufficient size to provide the necessary buildings without levying a tax rate that would be almost prohibitive."

"The general assembly of 1921, however, made it possible for the counties to secure funds to erect buildings in the rural districts and this paved the way for a county-unit system that will make better schools possible for the children of the county."

"The special building fund will be loaned to counties on a pro-rata basis. That is, each county will be entitled to borrow the same per cent of the special building fund that the school population of the county bears to the school population of the state."

"No loan shall be approved by the state department of education until the plans of the building and location of the same and the size of the district have been recommended by the director of school house planning."

"By June, 1921, applications had been received for the entire \$5,000,000. But the constitutionality of the act was questioned and the state board of education was stopped from making the loans until the courts could pass on its constitutionality."

"You Ought to Hear Him." "Yassuh, he shuah, has got a fine new minister; you oughter hear him pray."

HARDING AND COOLIDGE URGE BETTER POLITICS

Council of Citizenship Created by President—Vice President Urges Voting. Washington, Feb. 2. (Capital News Service.)—By executive order a new body was set up today, the Federal Council of Citizenship Training.

"All government departments as well as the Board of Vocational Training and the Veterans Bureau are represented in the new body. The duties of the council," the order sets forth, "are to make constructive suggestions as to how the Federal offices may operate to secure more effective citizenship training, both in their own work and in co-operation with all other public and private agencies throughout the country."

"Good government needs the active, energetic, and concerted action of an aroused and earnest citizenship. They can not leave their elections to the dictation of the few. They can not leave the holding of office merely to self-seekers. They must be prepared to make the sacrifices, to endure the discomfort and the misrepresentation, the loss of business opportunity required by being a candidate for and holding public office."

With statistics at hand showing that more than half of the electorate (almost twenty-eight million) did not vote in the last election, the highest officers in the government are urging a better and more conscientious effort to discharge the first duty of citizenship. It is well realized that a people deserve the kind of government they get, and that only through a program of education as to the patriotic duty of voting intelligently can the government adequately reflect the popular will.

WANTS GOVERNMENT TO BUY FARMERS' NITRATE Bill Reported Favorably Calls for Purchase of \$10,000,000 Worth. Washington, Feb. 1.—Government purchase of \$10,000,000 worth of nitrate and its re-sale to farmers at cost for use in connection with the 1924 crop would be authorized by a bill ordered favorably reported today by the house agriculture committee.

As it was passed by the senate and originally offered in the house by Representative Stevenson, democrat, South Carolina, the measure would have provided for the purchase and sale of the nitrate for this year's crop, but members of the house committee changed the effective time on the ground that the operation could not be completed in time for the use of its fertilizers on the farms this spring.

The expectations is that the nitrate would be bought in Chile, although it is not so specified in the bill. Raleigh, Feb. 2.—Approving the action of the general assembly in naming a committee to investigate the condition of the state's finances, as requested by Governor Cameron Morrison today, when he addressed a joint meeting of the legislature, and disavowing any personal animosity toward the governor or his administration, Corporation Commissioner A. J. Maxwell tonight issued a statement to the Associated Press in which he continues to insist that a deficit of more than \$5,000,000 exists in the operating fund of the state, instead of the alleged prospective surplus upon which the budget commission acted.

Young Men Tried For Blowing Up Calaboose. Salisbury, Jan. 31.—Many citizens of the town of Rockwell were in Salisbury for the sessions of Rowan county court either as witnesses or interested spectators at the trial of a young man for blowing up the calaboose of the town of Rockwell during a noisy celebration of the Christmas season. The charge was that dynamite was used. The defendant proved an alibi that was satisfactory to acting Judge Furr. There were other cases growing out of this celebration on the part of the young men of the town, but main interest centered in the blowing up of the calaboose.

Ridgecrest Landslide; Delays Southern Trains. Asheville, Jan. 31.—Southern railway passenger train number 16 eastward, was delayed more than two hours, and passenger train No. 21, westward, was delayed four hours tonight on account of a landslide on the tracks at the mouth of a tunnel, two miles east of Ridgecrest. Train No. 21 arrived in Asheville about midnight, the tracks having been cleared at 11 p. m. No. 16 left Asheville at 4:40 o'clock this afternoon. The slide occurred about 5:45 o'clock. The cause is attributed to the recent rains in this section.

Wants Ford's Proposal Accepted. Washington, Feb. 3.—Unqualified acceptance of Henry Ford's massive ship offer was proposed today in the House by Chairman Madden, of the Appropriation Committee. Representative Madden declared he viewed the matter purely from a business standpoint and that his desire was to put the great Alabama project in the hands of the man of demonstrated capacity irrespective of his politics.

DAVIDSON PLEASED AT SELECTION OF YOUNGER

Feeling is That Former Athletic Star Will Make Good as Head Coach for Presbyterians. Davidson, Feb. 1.—The news this morning from Blacksburg, Va., that V. P. L. Younger (better known as "Monk" Younger), a member of the coaching staff of the V. P. L., a former Davidson star, making in one year letters in football, basketball and baseball, and a large factor in establishing along with "Red" Johnston, Hugh Gray and others, William McB. Fetzer's reputation as a genius for developing athletic talent in his pupils, is to coach at Davidson the coming year, is received with every general satisfaction and pleasure.

Dr. J. M. Douglas, faculty representative in athletics, had an interview with Younger several days ago in Lynchburg, Va., and reported upon his return home that he was quite sure Younger would accept the offer made him, but with proper loyalty to V. P. L. Younger declined to make any definite promise till he had gone over the situation with his friends at the Virginia institute.

The feeling here is that Younger will make good as head coach in the same pronounced way that he did at V. P. L. as coach in basketball and assistant coach along other lines. There is no question that Younger will have the enthusiastic support of the student body and of all athletic squads, and it is equally certain that all necessary additions to complete a coaching staff of high quality will be given him in due time.

ASHEVILLE TRAINS HIT AND EIGHT ARE INJURED

Passenger Train No. 16 and a Freight Train Collide Head-on at Marion. Asheville, Feb. 1.—Eight people were injured as the result of a head-on collision early this morning between passenger train No. 16 and a freight train on the Asheville division of the Southern railway at Marion, according to an official report received today by local officials of the railway.

None of the injuries was serious, officials reported, and passengers and members of the crews were able to proceed on their journey after the collision.

The injured were: C. A. Bray, Greensboro; Mrs. E. B. Wooten, Higgins, Conn.; and Mrs. J. M. Laverette, Salisbury, all passengers; and J. W. Dowling, Biltmore, Pullman conductor; William Simpson, Charlotte, dining car waiter, and John Harper, Emma; David More, Asheville, and S. L. Wilburn, Asheville, Pullman porters.

None of the crew on the freight train was injured. Officials stated today that they had not determined the cause of the wreck. No. 16 left Asheville yesterday afternoon at 4:40 p. m. en route to New York and the east. The freight train was bound for Asheville. The trains met in the yards at Marion and both were going at a low rate of speed when the impact came, about 12:45 o'clock Thursday morning.

FARM RELIEF PROGRAM IS ABOUT COMPLETE

Passage of the Lenroot-Anderson Farm Bill Will Complete Senate Farm Program. Washington, Feb. 2.—Passage by the Senate today of the Lenroot-Anderson farm bill, regarded as certain when vote is taken under an agreement on Wednesday, will complete action by that body on its farm relief program. The Capper bill, companion measure to the bill to be voted on today, recently passed the Senate and has been referred to committee by the House.

Numerous amendments remain to be disposed of. Among those acted on yesterday, the only one of importance adopted was by Senator Swanson, democrat, of Virginia, providing for the distribution of excess capital of credit agencies to be financed by the government.

BELGIAN DEPUTY PREDICTS WAR IN NEXT TEN YEARS

Urges Six Months' Military Service in Army Reorganization. Brussels, Feb. 1.—"I am convinced, if things go on as they are going, that within five years, or at the latest 10 years, we shall have war," said Emile Vandervelde, Socialist leader in the Chamber of Deputies, in the course of a debate today on plans to reorganize the Belgian army.

"And what a war!" the speaker continued. "It will not be between armies, but will be a people's war of burning and asphyxiation."

Trinity Students Get West Point Appointments. Durham, Feb. 3.—North Carolina boys who are going to West Point seem to prefer getting started from Trinity College. Two members of the freshman class at Trinity and one member of the sophomore class now hold appointments to the army institution. They are G. B. Caldwell, of Monroe; R. F. Sink, of Lexington, and Clay Bridges, of Raleigh.

ADULT ILLITERACY IN STATE MUST BE WIPED OUT

Dr. E. C. Brooks Makes Recommendations Showing How It Can Be Done. Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 3.—The illiterate adult population of North Carolina will never learn to read and write in my judgment unless the state gives special aid. Making these schools a part of the public school system is not sufficient. This is a peculiar class that needs special attention. Not only the state and county officials but our churches, fraternal organizations and women's clubs should cooperate to eliminate illiteracy from this class of our population.

This statement is contained in the biennial report of Dr. E. C. Brooks, superintendent of public instruction, based on a study prepared by Miss Elizabeth Kelly, commissioner of adult illiterates.

"The census of 1920 shows that the native white illiteracy has decreased within the past two years from 14 per cent to 8.2 per cent," it is stated, "and for both races from 18.5 per cent to 13.1 per cent. By far the larger part of the illiterates remaining today are adults who did not have the advantage of an education twenty years ago. The census of 1920 shows the illiteracy of children, of school age between ten and twenty-one years of age, inclusive, and we may see from these figures how effective the schools have been. In 1920, the illiteracy of white children between ten and twenty-one years of age in twenty-five counties was 2 per cent, less; in three counties it was less than 1 per cent; in nineteen counties between 4 and 6 per cent; and in the other twenty-two counties between 6 and 9 1/2 per cent."

"The school system was reorganized in 1919-1920—the term was lengthened, more teachers were employed and the compulsory attendance law was made effective—and the records show that practically 100 per cent of the children of compulsory school age were enrolled in school, it is stated. The illiteracy of the next generation, it is asserted, will practically disappear.

"During the scholastic year 1920-21," the report continues, "fifty-two counties organized schools or classes for adult beginners and had regularly paid teachers, the state paying one-half the expenses and the counties the other half."

"Beginning with the scholastic year 1921-22, the schools for adults were made a part of the public school system and were financed as other schools of the counties were financed. During the biennial period, special texts peculiarly suited to these schools have been prepared and published. Perhaps the most noticeable piece of work done in the state is to be found in Buncombe county. I have received letters from mothers, who heretofore had been illiterate, in which they express appreciation for this work and a joy in the fact that they learned to write to their children.

"The need of a stricter enforcement of the compulsory attendance law is very apparent. For example: we found in one county 462 pupils from 14 to 16 years of age now attending school that had not completed the fourth grade. In other words, boys and girls of high school age have not been long enough to learn to read and write with ease and use numbers intelligently. Therefore, I believe that children under 16 years of age who have not completed the elementary school should be required to attend school until they have completed at least the seven grades of work as outlined in the elementary school.

"Our compulsory school law requires the attendance in school of children between the ages of 7 and 14. But in our towns and cities and mill villages, continuation or part time schools can be provided with little additional expense, which would permit children between 14 and 16 years of age to attend school a part of the time. They might work half a day and attend school half a day, or follow the alternate work plan. This is being tried successfully in North Carolina and in most states of the Union," the report reads.

Sixty-Eight Alumni Meetings to Be Held. Durham, Feb. 2.—At Troy in Montgomery tonight R. E. Thigpen, assistant alumni secretary of Trinity College, will launch the most intensive campaign among alumni ever mapped out by an educational institution in North Carolina. This meeting is the first of 68 similar meetings to be held from Murphy to Currituck in the next 78 days.

Trinity authorities by this intensive campaign expect to realize the goal of the interest on \$1,000,000 annually from subscriptions from the alumni of the institution. The meetings are the following of intensive advertising campaign carried on from the alumni office in Durham and by district chairmen over the state.

"While we are interested in reaching the goal set in the financial campaign," says Dr. Few, president of Trinity, "it is that we arouse the general enthusiasm of the alumni for their alma mater, bring back the love that was theirs when they were students, that we show them that the greatness of any educational institution may be measured by the interest which its alumni display."

VETERANS' BUREAU GIVEN SHARP SHAKEUP

Forbes Is Out—Director Goes to Europe For "Rest" and New Director Will Be Named. Washington, Feb. 1.—The administration of the veterans' bureau, for months a subject of bitter controversy, is undergoing an investigation which is expected by some well-informed officials here to result in important readjustments.

How far the changes to be made will go in the direction of a complete overthrow of bureau personnel and methods of operation remains to be determined by President Harding after all the facts have been ascertained and laid before him, but it would cause no surprise among some of his closest advisers if shifts recently made among bureau officials were followed by others of a more far-reaching character.

The inquiry is understood to have been undertaken after many charges of improper administration had reached the White House from the American legion and other sources, and after members of Congress who have looked into bureau affairs had about perfected a plan to ask for a public Congressional investigation.

For the present the storm center of the controversy appears to be the legal division of the bureau, which has the final say on all contracts for hospital sites and other contracts involved in the government's program of veteran aid. Charles R. Cramer, who, as general counsel for the bureau, was head of the legal division, retired today from office after he had announced that he would leave it to Col. Chas. R. Forbes, the bureau director, to say whether his services were any longer considered desirable.

FEBRUARY MEETING OF THE ALDERMANIC BOARD HELD

Most Important Matters Continued Until March—Several Matters Acted Upon. The board of aldermen held its regular February meeting at the city hall Thursday night. Quite a large number of matters were presented to the board, but the majority of them were continued until the March meeting, or until the meeting to be held next Thursday night.

Widening of West Depot Street was one subject that brought out much talk at the meeting. This subject was discussed at length, and finally the board decided to continue the discussion at the meeting next week.

Joe Robertson, representing the North Carolina Public Service Company, appeared before the board, and asked for more time in making some payments due the city. His company had been asked to be ready to make a report at the meeting. Illness in the families of several officials made it impossible to get the reports ready Thursday, the board was told.

The city engineer was asked to confer with proper officials relative to making the State and Federal highways which run through Concord, one highway.

ABOUT 250 ARE VICTIMS OF PTOMAINE POISONING

Guests of Jackson Day Banquet at Norfolk, O., Will Recover. Norfolk, O., Feb. 1.—About 250 of 350 persons who attended the twenty-fourth annual Jackson day banquet here last night were ill today of ptomaine poisoning. Physicians said they believed the poisoning was caused by food which was served after the covers of the cooking utensils were taken off it while it cooled. Political leaders of both parties from over Huron county attended the banquet. None of the cases of illness reported so far are serious.

In most cases the illness developed early this morning. Congressman E. L. Davis, of Tennessee, and Mrs. Margaret Allman, of Canton, principal speakers on the program, had not been affected early today. Among those most seriously ill are Probate Judge M. Bechtel, and County Clerk E. W. Wall, of Norfolk. Both will recover, it is said.

Sugar Made by Light

London, Feb. 3.—It is announced by Professor Hugh R. Rathbone, of Liverpool University, that considerable quantities of sugar have been made from carbonic acid by the agency of light. This wonderful feat has been made possible by the results of remarkable experiments carried out by Professor E. C. C. Bailey, a prominent investigator of the mysteries of light.

Professor Bailey, with his colleagues Professors Heilbron and Barsor, discovered that ultra violet light would convert water containing carbonic acid gas into formaldehyde, a substance now used on a large scale in many branches of surgery; but they found, too, that the light rays continued in their wonderful process, eventually turning the formaldehyde into sugar. Water is available in immeasurable quantities and carbonic acid is merely a waste product equally abundant, and the magic of light waves of a certain length will cause them to combine and give sugar.

FINANCIAL CHECK IS ASKED BY GOVERNOR

In Address Before Joint Session of General Assembly Governor Morrison Asks for Investigation.

MAXWELL ARTICLE WAS DENOUNCED

Characterised as "Untrue" by Governor, Who Says He Wants "Slander" Exposed to the State.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 2.—Vigorously denouncing Corporation Commissioner A. J. Maxwell for publication of a treatise on the financial condition of the state, which he characterized as "untrue," and asserting that its publication was motivated by a vindictive attitude toward the administration and a "constructive program," Governor Morrison in a half hour address to the joint session of the General Assembly called to hear him at noon today, demanded a complete investigation of the actual condition of the State's finances.

"A situation has arisen concerning the fiscal affairs of the state, which in my opinion, makes it my duty to come to you and submit the remarks and information I am about to address to you," the Governor began, and after discussing the figures that were incorporated in the Maxwell article to which he referred, and dealing with the source of his authority for the statement he made in his biennial address in regard to the condition of the state's finances he closed by declaring that the Maxwell allegations are "not the truth."

"It isn't true. It isn't the truth," the Governor declared in his impassioned conclusion, "and I demand of this General Assembly that this matter be investigated and this man exposed in that slander of the state whose bread he eats."

Opening his remarks upon Mr. Maxwell's treatise Governor Morrison said "an officer of the state of North Carolina holding a very high and honorable position which he has held for a long time, has made an assault upon the fiscal condition of the state and the financial condition of the Treasury which must be given attention." He continued saying that "that part of the press so hostile to the present administration that fairness could not be expected of it," had sought to have the general assembly believe that "I have given false and misleading information about the state's financial affairs, and this he had ignored, he stated adding that "the statements coming from Mr. Maxwell an officer of the state, must receive from those in authority prompt and fearless consideration."

"If Mr. Maxwell's statements are true," the Governor said, "the Treasury of the state has made an untrue report. If the report of the Treasury is the truth this officer eating the bread of the state has made an untrue statement affecting importantly, if not vitally, the credit of the state at a critical point in a great construction program."

"Make a prompt and fearless investigation, and wherever the wrong lies place it," Governor Morrison urged, and "receded to discuss the figures involved, telling the General Assembly that Treasurer Lacy had reported a deficit in the state's operating fund of \$1,953,895.41 and stating that the report was made as of June 30, 1922, the closing date of the state's fiscal year.

"That is the only deficit the Treasury reported," the Governor stated, and he added that Mr. Moody, of the Treasurer's office had reassured the accuracy of the figures today. "Mr. Maxwell said there are other deficits," Governor continued, "stating there is one back of that deficit. Of what character would be the Treasurer's report which gives the actual condition at the end of the fiscal year, if back of that period was a deficit not brought forward? It would be a false report."

"We deal with the fiscal year," the Governor asserted, "this is a serious matter because every recommendation I have made to you, all of the recommendations made by the budget commission, were founded on faith in the absolute verity of that report." He added that there are those "inspired by malice and venom, seeking to injure the Governor of this State, who have undertaken to show I have made statements that are untrue, and in an effort to substantiate them they omit to mention facts" in the treasurer's statement.