

# GOVERNOR SINGS STATE'S PRAISES

Tells Chicago Citizens That North Carolina Is An Industrial Leader

## OTHER NEWS OF STATE

By M. L. SHIPMAN

RALEIGH, May 27.—It appears that Governor Gardner made a good job of it in his effort in reminding Chicago and surrounding territory that North Carolina occupies a prominent position on the map of the country. Many Illinoisians heard for the first time that the "Old North State" contributes more for the support of the Federal Government than their own state, but it is not recorded that any serious attempt was made to disprove the claim. The Governor's "Story of North Carolina" included a graphic description of the growth of the State from the dark days of reconstruction to its present position near the top of the list in the galaxy of states along the lines of education and industrial endeavor. Terming its population as "the purest Anglo-Saxon stock in the world," the Governor told his radio audience of its progress along lines of education and public welfare, its agricultural past and prospects for the future, its industrial development, its standing in the textile industry and pre-eminence in the tobacco manufacturing and producing world, its furniture and lumber industries, the development of its natural resources and its wonderful highway system. In story and in song, the Governor let it be known that his home State stands at the head of the list and the cradle of independence in America had its first setting right here in North Carolina. The Governor is glad he went and delighted with the reception tendered him in the big "Windy City" in which he and Mrs. Gardner were royally entertained by the North Carolina society.

On his return the Governor found his desk piled high with correspondence that had accumulated during his brief absence from the State and a number of callers awaiting his return to ask favors for themselves and their friends. He found a vacancy on the State Board of Agriculture to be filled and applications asking for authority to employ more teachers than the new school law contemplates got what they wanted, provided circumstances warrant the additions. The law prescribes a teacher for every 27 pupils in high schools and 32 in elementary schools, but authorized the board to approve additional teachers if necessary.

**Makes A Ruling**  
On the request for a ruling of Major Matt H. Allen, chairman of the North Carolina Industrial Commission in charge of the operation of the Workmen's Compensation law which goes into effect in the State on July 1st, the attorney general's office issued an opinion to the effect that employees of street railway companies and tram and

logging railroads are exempted from its provisions, but if such railways have employees other than those actually engaged in the transportation departments would not be exempted. This ruling will also effect power companies which operate street car systems. Considerable interest is being shown here, and elsewhere in the State, in the compensation act and employers generally are said to be squaring themselves with its provisions rather than elect to operate on their own responsibility. A rating bureau has been established here on the sixth floor of the Commercial National Bank Building to provide information for the insurance companies writing compensation insurance, and employers and employees who come under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act, and desire to be informed regarding classifications and rates applicable to particular risks. The commissioners are busy answering calls from various sections of the State for personal visits of informative character.

Figures compiled by the State Board of Equalization show a small increase in the State's taxable property for last year and a decrease of corporate wealth from \$726,238,499 to \$716,760,574, or \$9,477,925, the calculations including the real and personal property and corporate excess of domestic corporations, the valuations of public service corporations, and the valuations of banks. Guilford county shows the greatest corporate wealth and Gaston the greatest increase for the year. The greatest general increase was in Buncombe; Nash the greatest decrease, with New Hanover a close second. Increases are shown in 23 counties and decreases in 72. Those with less than \$100,000 corporate wealth are Alleghany, Clary, Dare, Graham, and Hyde.

**Number Autos Increase**  
Despite the wail about excessive taxes and a stringent money market the sale of new motor vehicles climbs higher and this promises to be a banner year in the automobile business according to reports compiled by the Auto License Bureau of the State Department of Revenue. The sales to May 1st aggregated 24,379 new automobiles exclusive of trucks. During a like period last year only 16,881 were sold. Since the first of January 10,248 new Fords have been introduced; 5,346 Chevrolets; 1,332 Whippets, 1,137 Essex; Pontiac, 982; Dodge, 369. Including all makes on the market, authorities figure a gain in total sales of around 20,000 for the year.

Rules for travel on boats recently issued by the State Corporation Commission require life preservers for every one on the vessels, adequate fire extinguishers and standard lights for all boats operating at night. Boats operating under Federal license and those rented and operated by the renter are exempted. In the matter of freight rates the commission has brought a case before the Interstate Commerce Commission to secure lower rates for the State from the eastern and central parts of the country. An early conference of the ship-

pers of the State with the Transportation Advisory Commission with the view to a get-together movement is likely.

**Greater Fire Loss**  
The fire loss in North Carolina this year to the first of May is said to be \$2,491,601 against \$1,945,250 for a corresponding period last year, due to an unusually large volume of mercantile conflagrations during January and February. An increase in forest fires is reported also, the damages estimated for April being \$87,413 and double that of the preceding month. It is said that, with one exception, the fires reported during April were caused by human negligence, about one-fourth originating from brush burning operations. Eighty-five are charged to incendiarism, 65 to smokers, while campers, hunters and fishermen started 17. During the month of March 28,848 acres were burned over by 390 fires which might have been easily prevented.

Registers of deeds in some of the counties are calling attention to the provisions of the new marriage law which provides that contracting couples under 21 years of age must file notice of their intention to apply for a license five days before the same can be issued, except in cases where marriage announcements are carried in the newspapers. The law before effective on July 1. Forsyth county ranks first in the number of marriages within the last

six months period with 498, Guilford next with 475, and Wake third with 449. In border counties a decrease in the number is noted and is attributed the increase in the license fee from three to five dollars and, in some instances, the cost and inconvenience incident to obtaining health certificates required in an act passed by the General Assembly of 1927. Hundreds of couples step over into Georgia and South Carolina rather than "pay the price" here at home. Twenty-one of the 65 men seeking jobs as members of the State highway patrol failed to meet local tests required and left "school" at Camp Glenn, Morehead City, where applicants for places were undergoing training. It is said, will be composed of 37 men, 10 of whom will

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