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THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE REFLECTS STATESMANSHIP

Governor O. Max Gardner, in his biennial message to the legislature, strikes a new note in state affairs, and displays a quality of statesmanship seldom seen in similar messages. While many people do not agree with the governor in all of his recommendations, all are in accord, however, that the message comes from the very depths of his heart, and its sincerity and boldness appeal to the people.

The governor based his message upon actual conditions existing in the state, and made his recommendations in the light of the fact that pay day has arrived for North Carolina. He started with the statement that the state's bonded indebtedness in 1913 was eight million dollars, and in 1930 this had been increased to one hundred and seventy millions, or an increase amounting to 16 times over the debt of 1913. But read the governor's own figures, used as a basis for his recommendations. The governor said:

To get a perspective of our problem we should look back over the road we have traveled in recent years of prosperity. In the twelve year period from nineteen-eleven to nineteen-thirty the total cost of government in North Carolina increased from twenty-three and one-half million dollars a year to the present total of one hundred million dollars. As late as nineteen-thirteen the cost of public education was only five million five hundred thousand dollars. Today the cost of public education amounts to twenty-eight million dollars a year. In nineteen-thirteen the state bonded debt was eight million dollars and as late as nineteen-twenty only eleven millions. It is now more than one hundred and seventy million. In nineteen-eleven the total debt of local governments was sixty million dollars; today it is three hundred and seventy-five millions. The sum total of this period of expansion presents us today with a bonded debt for the state and its subdivisions of five hundred thirty-seven million dollars.

The governor is not decriing any of the manifold improvements that have been made by the state and its counties and cities. He is glad that we now enjoy these improvements and means of advancement. But, like the good business man, he would make ready for liquidation of these debts. There should be no further debts made for a long time; there should be immediate reduction in all operating expenses of public business, and there must be a business-like administration of all public affairs, the message states.

In doing this, the governor points out the manner and method, as he believes best suited for the great task. Many recommendations are radical, while some are downright revolutionary to that school of thought so deeply imbedded in this old State of Tradition.

How far the legislature will go in adopting the recommendations made by the governor cannot be predicted. The legislature is made up almost entirely of members of the governor's own political party. If opposition in encountered, it must come from the governor's own group, politically speaking. That there will be opposition to much of the proposed program is a foregone conclusion. Already there is organized opposition to that recommendation concerning the revamping of the state highway commission, and placing in that group's hands the entire road work of the state. The recommendation that all state and county officers and employes accept a ten per cent reduction in pay has started a growling that is heard from urphy to anteo.

Tax reductions on real estate, as recommended by the governor, is one of the hardest of accomplishment. It is difficult to face the biggest debt in a state's history with the reverse proposition to reduce taxes.

The governor's appeal to agriculture to live at home, and stop sending one hundred and fifty million dollars a year to other states for food and feed, is an outstanding appeal of the message.

Reduction of the hours of labor in industry from 60 to 55 hours is a long-delayed thought, and, if adopted, will be an accomplishment that should have been completed many years ago.

Consolidation of counties, if at-

BY ALL MEANS GIVE THE SOLDIERS THEIR MONEY NOW!

Let every citizen who is interested in the welfare of the men who fought in the World War make known to our congressmen and senators the desire that the government make cash payment NOW of what is generally called adjusted compensation certificates. The question is before congress, and whatever is done, must be done immediately.

The men in North Carolina would receive the sum of \$64,301,543.75, if the government should adopt the plan that is being urged upon congress. This would do much in solving the hard problems facing nearly all of the men who would be affected by the payment.

The United States owes this money to the men who fought. This debt has been recognized, because the government has already investigated the claims and issued certificates, to be due some twenty years after their issuance a few years ago. The men need the money NOW. Many thousands of former soldiers are in desperate need of food and clothing, for themselves and their families.

This nation made all sorts of promises to the young men as they marched away to training camp and battlefield. They were told to go on and do the job of licking the kaiser, and save this nation and other nations from the dominant of a hellion like the German emperor. Well, the boys did it, and did it to a fare-you-well. Soon as the job was done, we forgot all about it, and nary a recollection have we had of the promises that were made to the boys as they went away.

Let's do it now. It is demonstrated beyond the shadow of a doubt that nearly every member of the fighting forces are anxious to receive their cash payment NOW. So let's join them in their demand for this just debt that the nation owes them.

Ex-service men have made statements concerning the matter, and any letter or communication sent by any citizen of the county to Congressman George M. Pritchard, House Office Building, Washington, D. C., will be another step toward obtaining this very just payment to the men who served this nation and the world in such splendid manner.

Read the statements of our boys, found on another page, and then your word by communicating with Congressman Pritchard at once.

THE GOVERNOR'S FAILURE TO MENTION ESSENTIAL

In perusing Governor Gardner's great message to the legislature, many thousands of men and women were disappointed upon reaching the end of the document, and found no reference nor recommendation pertaining to that great essential in public life—common honesty and fairness in elections. Toward the close of the message, the governor used these beautiful words in expressing a beautiful thought:

In the beginning of this legislature, which is the beginning of a new and, I hope, a better year, I covet for us all the resolution to conquer our fears. I am ambitious for us to recover first—not our prosperity, not our riches, not our ease and luxury—but that serenity of inner self which shall inspire our living faith in our institutions and continuing confidence in our fellowman.

The governor must have heard the rumblings in both primary and general elections, expressing resentment of the high-handed method of the state's election officials in flagrantly violating the election laws. If the citizens of the state are ever to enjoy "that serenity of inner self" which shall inspire our living faith in our institutions and continuing confidence in our fellowman, there must be a stop put to the glaring frauds as practised in our primaries and general elections. It is in the primary and election that we derive our government, and if crookedness is permitted at the very root and foundation and intention of our government, we say that there can be but little inspiration for a living faith in our institutions, and no confidence in our fellowman.

It is a matter of deep regret that the governor failed to include this most important recommendation for fairness and honesty in elections in his otherwise most splendid message to the legislature.

tempted fairly and not used as a political football in the gerrymandering scheme of things, might prove to be a popular portion of the governor's message.

It is a bold message, taken all in all, and required courage in its presentation, for upon the legislature's acceptance or rejection of its recommendations hangs the future of a man declared by thousands of citizens to be the state's greatest chief executive since the days of Aycock.

SOMETIMES WE OVERDO THE PROGRESSIVE STUFF.

Now comes The Charlotte Observer, whose daily visits delight some fifty thousand people every day, and makes serious error by listening to somebody who has something to sell. We are not chiding The Observer for this one slip-up, because that great daily has been too good to the mountains for us to permit one error to change us one iota in our warm feelings for the paper. The Observer was thinking along lines of highway marking and road signs. It had been called to The Observer's attention that an only sign at one road intersection in the mountains was the image of a horseshoe, burned into a post, with an arrow pointing in a certain direction. Then quoth The Observer:

We have passed through the North Carolina municipality of Horse Shoe a dozen times and were not aware of the fact, but a recent report by the National Conference on Highway and Street Safety serves as a reminder. That organization was speaking of the value of uniform signs, and we had thought North Carolina stood above reproach. In that respect, but along comes the sign people with information that "at an important road intersection in North Carolina, near a village called Horse Shoe, there is a board nailed to a fence with only the burned imprint of a horse shoe and a directional arrow on it to inform a motorist of the name of the place he is approaching. He is left to surmise whether it is a road sign, or the advertisement of a blacksmith."

Horse Shoe, we find by tracing the State Highway map, has location about six miles out from Hendersonville, on Highway Twenty-eight, the state's most scenic, reaching from Bat Cave through Hendersonville and Brevard, through the Sapphire Country, to Toxaway, Highlands, Franklin and one to Hayesville and Murphy, and the Henderson County road folks ought to have immediate interview with the blacksmith artist to establish of something more definite, if not artistic in the way of a guide post.

Now, let us tell you something. That horseshoe sign is our own sign, and we object to any new fangled folks coming along and changing it. It was there before the flood; it served the people before the war, and it stood in all its majestic beauty long before the crash, and it is going to stand right there for the direction and edification of future generations. All of the high powered arguments of all of the high pressure salesmen or signboards cannot prevail against its perpetual right to stand right there, in its lawful position.

Anyhow, any one who cannot read as plain a sign as the picture of a horseshoe, has no business visiting a town like the one which bears that name. Our horseshoe sign stands, even if we have to lick the whole highway commission and all the sign board salesmen this side of Turkey Creek.

AS TO BANK OFFICIALS' CHILDREN IN SCHOOLS.

In last week's Brevard News appeared a communication concerning the fact that the children of many former bank officials, whose banks are now closed, are back in college after the holidays, while the children of many depositors who lost heavily cannot go back to school. This article was but one of many received by this newspaper, and was on a subject that has been generally discussed not only in Brevard but in many other sections where like conditions prevail.

Interesting proof has been furnished this paper, however, concerning the children of one former bank official, and the reasons why these young people returned to school. This concerns the school work of Miss Elizabeth Shipman and young Mr. Hayes Shipman, daughter and son of Thos. H. Shipman, formerly president of the Brevard Banking company. This is Miss Shipman's last college year, and the president of the college wrote, upon hearing of the bank failure here, and insisted that Miss Shipman return to school so she could graduate in June. The letter, which was followed by others, urged Miss Shipman to come on back to school, graduate, and make payment for the remainder of the year's work whenever and however she could.

Hayes Shipman is working his way through school, having received one of the scholarships of the institution which permits the student to work so many hours a day, waiting upon the table and performing other duties about the school. Many young men in the colleges and universities pay their way in this manner, and Hayes Shipman, it is learned, is pursuing this course.

This light on the subject, insofar as this family is concerned, removes its members from the very just criticism that has been made of the general situation. Miss Shipman is to be congratulated upon having the high regard of the college officials which prompted the instant demand that she return and complete her studies. Young Hayes Shipman is to be ad-

mired for being willing to "make his own," and go on to school.

We fully agree, however, with the writer of the article and with the expressed sentiments of so many other citizens, that the children of bank officials whose institutions have closed should not spend money on their own children in college while so many boys and girls of those who suffered losses in the banks must give up their school work. We are glad that such is not the case with Miss and Mr. Shipman, and to learn that they are bravely and courageously making their own way in college.

CREDIT FOR ARTICLE GIVEN TO THE WRONG MAN.

Judge D. L. English appeared to be the author of an article in The Brevard News last week, when, in fact, the article was written by Mr. J. M. Clarke, of Sarasota, Fla., and sent to Judge English. The judge handed the article to The Brevard News, and we misunderstood him when it was handed into us. Upon reading same, and discovering that the article was written in the first person, we gave Judge English credit for it, not having understood Mr. Clarke's connection with it.

Judge English requests publication of the following note, which we gladly do:

"Editor Brevard News:
"I noticed in your last week's issue that you published an article with my name signed to it, which was an error that I wish you would correct in this week's issue. I did not write the article that you published or have anything to do with the writing of same. It was written by Mr. J. M. Clarke, of Sarasota, Fla., and was sent to me unsigned and which I delivered to you unsigned to be used for publication or through the Chamber of Commerce or other civic organizations with Mr. Clarke's hope that it might be nucleus in getting something started that would circulate some money in this section.

"Please publish this letter in explanation.
"Yours very truly,
"D. L. ENGLISH."

January 13th 1931

WHERE OUR MONEY GOES

(Hendersonville Times-News)
We find the following editorial in today's Asheville Citizen:

"Enterprising reporters of The Asheville Times, after extensive inquiries in the course of which automobile dealers, filling-tation operators, accessory dealers and finance and insurance brokers were interviewed, have estimated the cost of operation of the average automobile by the average man in Asheville at \$686 a year.

"This estimate puts the original cost of the car at \$900, the average yearly mileage at 12,000 and allows \$225 for depreciation. The largest single item of cost is for gasoline, \$157.50.

"There are about 500,000 automobiles in North Carolina. If The Times' estimate of the average yearly cost of an automobile is correct and if this average extends throughout the state, North Carolinians have been spending approximately \$343,000,000 a year in the operation of their cars. If the average yearly cost per car be put at \$600 they have been spending \$300,000,000. If the average yearly cost be put at \$500 they have been spending a quarter of a billion dollars.

"That was one-fourth the total income of the state in 1929—and the total income in 1930 was considerably less than in 1929. That is two and one-half times the total tax bill of the state—and the people, from the mountains to the sea, are in rebellion against taxes."

No comment on the foregoing is necessary. The figures gathered by The Asheville Times are no doubt approximately correct. As The Citizen says, the cost of owning and operating the motor cars in North Carolina is two and one-half times the annual tax bill of the State, and the people from the mountains to the sea are almost in a state of mind bordering on revolution on account of the high cost of taxation.

Why is it we hear no "hollering" about the high cost of owning and running the State's automobiles?

Every day, throughout the nation, there are people shouting from the housetops, inquiring as to what is the matter with the country and endeavoring to tell us what is responsible for the so-called "depression."

According to the views of The Times-News one major cause of the "depression" is the fact that the country is over-sold on automobiles. It is also over-sold in many other lines of manufacturing in which products are marketed on the time payment plan. The people of the country are loaded up with a vast amount of this indebtedness. It is bad enough to be responsible for the payment of the principal of this gigantic national debt, but the entire installment selling system is based on financing that is unsound because it is usurious. The average cost is several times the amount of any rate of interest legalized in this country. The cost of buying and carrying motor vehicles on this plan is one thing that is the matter with the country. The plan is economically unsound.

Another thing the matter with the country is "high financing" in the mortgage loan business. This is

TRULUCK TO OPEN PRESSING CLUB BUSINESS ON FRIDAY

Moultrie Truluck makes announcement in this week's News that he will open a pressing club on News Arcade next door to The News office, the business to be ready for Friday of this week.

Of Interest to Farmers

(By Noah Hollowell)

Low tobacco prices and a crop shortage in many sections have reduced many farmers to want and have discouraged thousands of others to whom Editor C. A. Cobb of the Progressive Farmer and Southern Ruralist sounds a very hopeful note. He points out that the "South produces eighty per cent of the American crop, and is first in domestic production, and first in domestic manufacture" with an average income of "more than a quarter of a billion dollars annually, around one-third of which goes to North Carolina, preeminently the great tobacco state." Mr. Cobb's consoling refrain is as follows: "Even so, it is not yet the rich source of income to the producer that it can be and will be if he will just do three things and do them well: Increase yield per acre, improve quality, and sell efficiently."

Tenants vs. Landlords
Do hard times intensify the farm-tenancy problems? While the average tenant lives ahead of his income is the situation aggravated during a business depression? One would decide in favor of the affirmative after reading the outburst of G. E. McGee, South Carolina farm landlord and journalistic humorist. He doubtless echoes the sentiments of most landlords in the following:
"The majority of everybody's tenants look to the landlord for bread and meat, gas and oil, pills and salts, coffins and caskets, clothes and tobacco, doctors and preachers, and everything else that they want or must have. They no longer have any credit, and every extra penny they get goes for something that they could very well do without—and it's the land-owner that sweats and sweats."

Tough on One-crop Farmer
The combination of rough, low prices and one-crop farming works havoc with the average poor farmer because the "one-cropper" seldom makes provisions for food for himself and family and feed for his stock. The Stanley News and Press, Albermarle, N. C., in discussing the

probably many times worse, as a rule, than the practices of the financing concerns in the installment buying business.
The Times-News believes every family ought to own a home; and the head of a family is justified in going in debt to acquire ownership of a home; but the practices of many mortgage loan concerns have but added to the troubles and losses of the people of the country.

Here, then, are two things the matter with the country—the high cost of installment buying and the high cost of mortgage loans—and the fact that the country has been over-sold in many lines of time-payment manufactured products and just as greatly oversold in the high-priced mortgage loan market.
When the honest, hard-working common people of the country are able to secure money at not more than six per cent, for investment in homes, a great impetus will be given to home owning and the general prosperity of the country will be greatly augmented.

When the masses are able to buy the automobiles and other manufactured articles they absolutely need—and buying is confined to actual needs—on fair and reasonable terms and interest rates, a big contribution to the return to normal conditions and general prosperity will be made. So long as the country is filled with money hogs and a large part of its business is controlled by Shylocks, there will be "panics" and "depressions" and bad business conditions.
The commercial god of the people of the United States is the personification of the "get-rich-quick" idea. They are not satisfied with reasonable profits. They do not propose to take the long, long trail of hard work and conservative and honorable business practices. They are looking for short-cuts that lead quickly to great wealth.

Many of the common people are inoculated with this virus. Their condition is as dangerous as that of the so-called financiers, the money hogs and the Shylocks.
The foregoing is not all that is the matter with the country, but it is the root of a large part of the country's troubles.

plight of some one-crop farmers in that section concludes "that there are few cows, hogs and chickens on these farms and they have grown some corn but very little."

The News and Press gives this safe counsel to its readers: "If you have any relationship with farmers in the county who plant on crop, and one crop only, use your influence to make them change their way of doing things." The News and Press quotes T. A. Laton as saying "that he had always made it a point to grow enough on his farm to live through the year. He had hogs, cows, chickens and a garden. He said that he made plans for his food first and then if he had time and the land he grew some cotton."

Farm Schools Threatened
"It offers farm people an uncertain chance to gain and an excellent prospect of losing more than anyone else," says the Country Gentleman relative to the proposed plan of Federal aid to public education as offered by the National Advisory Committee on Education, appointed by President Hoover to study and recommend policies for the national government to pursue toward education.

"A grant of \$2.50 per pupil under 21 years old with the sole restriction that these funds be used for the support of educational operations and leaving the application up to the state would help many hard-pressed localities and individuals—if used to reduce taxes and not to finance new educational projects," says the Country Gentleman, which adds that "while this possibility of relief to farm taxpayers is clothed in doubt, there is less uncertainty about the things that farmers stand to lose."

One of the policies of the committee calls for the repeal of all laws that give Federal grants to the state for special forms of education in the interest of particular groups. The Country Gentleman takes the position that farming is now the main beneficiary of such government grants through the experiment stations, Smith-Hughes Vocational Agriculture and such phases of extension work as fall in the educational sphere and that "the proposed repeal of Federal grants for special forms of education hits directly at the farmers."

The Drought a Blessing?
Did the 1930 drought in Western North Carolina bring a blessing in the way of better cattle in the mountains and more cattle in the coastal section where the farmers have never taken extensively to cattle as a part of their farm program?

F. H. Jeter, editor for the State College, of Agriculture and Engineering, does not say in plain words that blessing has come out of adversity or in disguise but by reading between the lines in the Charlotte Observer it is easy to detect this trend of thought and his implication.
Mr. Jeter quotes C. G. Flier, livestock marketing specialist of the state division of markets, as saying that 200 cars of cattle were listed with his at the beginning of the season for shipment from the drought-stricken areas of Western North Carolina to more abundant feed areas in Eastern Carolina.

L. I. Case, beef cattle research worker for the North Carolina Experiment Station, said he had personally known of the transfer of 29 cars of cattle from Western Carolina to the coastal section. Seventeen of these cars contained principally cows and heifers to be used for breeding purposes. There were a dozen or more pure bred sires in the consignment of breeding cattle. Mr. Jeter further adds as proof of his line of thought, the following:

"Another feature of the movement has been that some of the poorer grades of animals have been moved from the mountains to South Carolina and Georgia. It was wise to get rid of these animals entirely, says Mr. Flier, and since these have been sold, the mountain breeders have a better grade of beef cattle on which to build future herds.

"The best feature of the whole enterprise, however, has been the interesting of Eastern Carolina crop farmers in livestock growing. It is well known that hay and roughage of all kinds may be produced more economically in Eastern Carolina than anywhere else."

Checkerboard Chatter

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Published in the interest of the people of BREVARD and TRANSYLVANIA County by the

B & B Feed & Seed Co.

We wonder if we find as much satisfaction in breaking our New Year's resolutions as we do in making them?

No, we didn't get arrested last week—when the Pro-H's were here. We had, and still have, plenty of Mash—but it is that good Purina Mash that makes a hen lay more eggs.

"I can't marry him. Mother, he is an Atheist and don't believe there is any Hell."

"Well, marry him anyhow, dear, and convince him he is wrong."

"See by the papers" where men are being put back on their jobs all over the U. S. As we've been saying all the time, you can't keep good people down. Brevard and Transylvania will be with the rest of them when they begin climbing.

I don't know if you ever noticed it, but fish sure do grow mighty fast out of the water.

Well, we like frankness—and we were able to straighten out a good friend of ours this week just by reason of his frankness. If you

think we are wrong about any matter—come in and tell us so frankly, and we will thank you.

Charlie Bryson says that he is doing lots of grinding at his mill just behind our store.

Spring is not here yet—don't try to make your livestock think Spring is here—Feed a little Purina along to make up for the green feed they're missing.

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Brevard, N. C.
The Store with the Checkerboard Sign