

### CRIME INCREASE SHOWN BY REPORT

Five Homicides And Two Convictions Average Weekly Record

Five homicides are committed in North Carolina and two men are sent to the State Prison each week to serve sentences for homicides, according to comparative figures covering 30 months from Jan. 1, 1921, to June 3, 1923, secured by the News and Observer yesterday from the State Bureau of Vital Statistics.

During the 30 months 612 people were killed in North Carolina, and 275 were brought to the State Prison to serve sentences for various degrees of murder, ranging from one year for manslaughter to execution for first degree murder. Twelve were for murder in the first degree, 157 for murder in the second degree and 110 for manslaughter.

During 1921, 246 homicides were reported to the Bureau of Vital Statistics, 105 people were punished by imprisonment or death for murder. In 1922, 253 people were killed and 99 were convicted and sentenced for murder. During the first six months of 1923 113 people met death in homicides and during the same period 77 men and women were committed to the prison for murder.

Over the 30 months' period 941 men and women were committed to the prison to serve sentences for crime, 275 of whom were brought for murder, or about 30 per cent of the convictions were for taking human life. The man killer has 56 chances out of a hundred of not being brought to prison when he has taken a human life, according to the figures of the Bureau and the Prison.

Homicide ranks next after typhoid fever in the cause for death reported to the bureau. In 1921 typhoid deaths totaled 307 and homicides 246. In 1922 typhoid killed 293 and homicides accounted for 253. Diseases decreased and crime increased. The comparative figures for the first six months of the current year are not available.

Homicide is defined by the State Bureau as any death caused by another person, other than accidental killings. Included are all deaths in which a person is charged with the killing, whether known to the local registrar or not. Shooting is by far the most widely used method of killing. Cutting with knives and razors rank second and assault with automobiles is listed in some cases as homicide.

The figures are not absolutely parallel. Murder committed in 1921 may not be brought to court for a year, and the cases overlap. But prison officials believe that the average would apply over a longer period of years for which figures might be available. Some few cases of manslaughter are punished with road sentences, but the vast majority of them are sent to the State Prison.

August and December are the great murder months in the State, according to Dr. F. M. Register, director of the bureau. Prevalence of liquor drinking during the holidays is largely responsible for the number of killings in December, and the lull in agricultural activities in August, bringing a leisure of congregation among the farm labor element, is responsible for the number of killing reported in August—Raleigh News and Observer.

### Durham Man Exposes Many To Smallpox

Durham, Dec. 18.—After exposing possibly hundreds of persons in Durham and Wake counties to small pox, A. L. Parrish, young Wake county man, is back at his father's home in East Durham to await full recovery before journeying forth again.

More than a week ago Parrish came here to visit his father and soon afterwards broke out with smallpox, according to the health department officials. He was placed in quarantine and a placard tacked on the front of the house. Later, when the public health nurse went to visit him, Parrish had vanished, smallpox and all. A warrant was issued for his arrest on charge of breaking quarantine, but he was not apprehended until Monday at a sawmill camp at Cullers, six miles below Raleigh.

### Negro Church Burns In City Of New Bern

New Bern, Dec. 18.—Fire of undetermined origin gutted Mt. Calvary Baptist negro church on Carroll St., here early this afternoon, with damage estimated at \$4,000. The blaze occurred within a short distance of the spot where the big fire started a year ago. Adjoining buildings were saved by the prompt work of the fire crews. Rev. Miles Spruell, pastor of the church, said he was in the building 15 minutes before the flames were discovered, but saw no sign of fire. A funeral was to have been conducted from the church this afternoon. Insurance of \$3,000 was carried on the structure, which had not been completed.

### GERMAN PEOPLE

#### FACE STARVATION

The Ardennes Model To Prevent Dine Starvation

Berlin, Dec. 18.—Germany is having a temporary breathing spell. Some of the German political leaders, however, say that the quiet pertaining at present cannot last longer than January 1, if substantial aid is not received from abroad. The more optimistic among the German leaders declare that the lull in the crisis may continue until February or even until March 1.

Meantime, the government is refraining from confiscating food, fearing that such a step would bring greater disaster later on. It is clinging to the hope that relief will come from foreign sources. Unemployment does not buy bread.

The shortage of German paper money in actual circulation further complicates buying by persons who may have foreign money or credits and the weak central government, without the support of a majority in the Reichstag, is ill-prepared to meet the critical situation.

Although the rentenmark, secured on real estate mortgages, has stabilized paper money temporarily, Chancellor Marx's statement that the rentenmark credit has been exhausted and that further rentenmarks can not be issued, indicates that the money presses can not relieve the currency shortage without pegging up the mark and sending it down with a crash. The government departments and the general public need a circulating medium so badly to keep ordinary business going and it is difficult to see what the outcome is to be.

Germany's food production is generally conceded to be at the least 20 per cent below what is needed to prevent widespread starvation even if it were evenly distributed and the public had the money to buy bread. Consequently millions of people would be in want before the next harvest unless funds are found some where to ease the situation.

### Warrenton Prisoner Prays For His Jailer

Warrenton, Dec. 18.—Prisoners are folks and appreciate kind treatment. This was proved in Warrenton in a striking way when T. H. Robertson, night policeman, was stricken with paralysis. He is improving, and was gratified to receive a letter from Leo Baucum, a white prisoner who is held on a charge of being mixed up in stealing a truck and \$700 from a carnival company. Writing to his jailer, Baucum said: "Dear Mr. Robertson: I am sorry to hear that you are sick and not so well, for I miss you a whole lot. We

have a nice man taking care of us, just the same I missed you.

"I am remembering you in my prayers and hoping that God will give you strength and power to be well again.

"I got a letter from home and found out that they couldn't help me any, but I am looking for the best and praying that God will forgive me and release me in January.

"Hoping to see you well by Christ-

mas at the most, I say good-bye and good luck to you."

### N. C. Boy Thought To Be Dead Is Located

Philadelphia, Dec. 18.—Ray McCoy, 28, believed dead for twelve years by his aged parents in North Carolina, was temporarily detained at City Hall yesterday while word was sent to his home.

His father is the Rev. C. Daniel McCoy, of the Iola Baptist Church, Franklin, N. C. The detective who located McCoy stated that "it might do the folks good to know their boy was this side of the grave."

McCoy, however, said he would not return, even though money for the journey might be forwarded.

"I set out to make my fortune," he said, "and so far have met nothing but failure."

## Christmas Buying Made Easy

Again the time has arrived when the problem of buying Christmas Gifts must be reckoned with. We are prepared to replace your confidence with the best gift ideas and the best gift values.

We have gone the limit this year in stocking a selection of gifts which will make your Christmas shopping easy. Our large and select line of gifts includes something suitable for Father, Mother, Wife, Husband, Brother, Sister, Sweetheart, and last but not least, the little folks in general. All the old lines have been replenished and fortified with the newest in every respect. We are offering this year many new ideas in Gift Suggestions and all our goods are of the best production, the finest made, and to early buyers we offer them at unusually low cost.

The happy accomplishment of EASY GIFT BUYING comes to those who make their selections from our large and varied stock.

Visit our Toyland and place your Christmas orders early. Don't let others get the first and best selections. Come and get them yourself.

## FITCHETT DRUG CO.,

DUNN, NORTH CAROLINA

## Ten Years Ago --and Now

Are you the man, today, you expected to be in your plans of ten years ago?

Have you accomplished as much as you thought you would, when you were dreaming your dreams for the future?

If you have fallen short of your earlier expectations, (and a great many men have), do you attribute a part of the disappointment of today to the fact that you have not saved and wisely invested?

If the past five or ten years have not meant as much to you as they should; if you can look back and call to mind many unnecessary expenditures, why not resolve, today, to make the future years count for something?

Our savings department will compound interest on your savings, each three months, at the rate of four per cent.

### Make A Savings Deposit Today



## First National Bank

DUNN, NORTH CAROLINA

## The Christmas Store

### TOYS TOYS TOYS TOYS

We have one of the prettiest and largest lines of Dolls shown in Dunn—just the ones that you are looking for.

- Dolls
- Furniture Sets
- Tea Sets
- Stoves
- Tables
- Chairs
- Comic Books
- Buckets
- Teddy Bears
- Doll Carriages
- Doll Cradles



### Real Christmas Gifts

Are the presents that last from Christmas to Christmas and then on and on. In our store you can find that kind of gifts. We will mention a few: Bed-room Suites, Dining Room Suites, Living-Room Suites, Rugs, Victrolas and many other things in the Furniture line that are practical and appropriate.

### TOYS TOYS TOYS TOYS

Our toy department is completely stocked—you can find almost any toy that you wish here.

- Automobiles
- Trains
- Velocipedes
- Riders
- Air Rifles
- Swings
- Rubber Balls
- Rubber Animals
- A. B. C. Blocks
- Dominoes
- Checkerboards



## Butler Bros.

DUNN,

N. C.