

Government Per Capita In North Carolina Is Lower Than 41 States

1932 In This State Was Only \$10 Per Person Survey Shows

S. H. Hobbs, Jr., of the University News Service, reports that the cost of government per capita in North Carolina is lower than 41 other states in the Union.

A great deal about the cost of government, the cost of county government, the cost of municipal government. What really matters is what government costs, but within any given state there may be inexactness. A state may have inexactness in government, and expenditure, or some other point that should be covered in North Carolina.

The report shows that for the year 1932, the aggregate cost of government in the state was \$129,000,000. This cost, on a per capita basis, was \$10.00. North Carolina ranked 41st among the states. The cost in the lowest state, Nevada, was \$7.11, or more than \$3.00 less than North Carolina. The average per capita cost for the year 1932, and that for the year 1931, and that for the year 1930, and that for the year 1929, and that for the year 1928, and that for the year 1927, and that for the year 1926, and that for the year 1925, and that for the year 1924, and that for the year 1923, and that for the year 1922, and that for the year 1921, and that for the year 1920, and that for the year 1919, and that for the year 1918, and that for the year 1917, and that for the year 1916, and that for the year 1915, and that for the year 1914, and that for the year 1913, and that for the year 1912, and that for the year 1911, and that for the year 1910, and that for the year 1909, and that for the year 1908, and that for the year 1907, and that for the year 1906, and that for the year 1905, and that for the year 1904, and that for the year 1903, and that for the year 1902, and that for the year 1901, and that for the year 1900.

WHAT COSTS COVER?

Governmental costs are classified under several headings. First covers operation and maintenance of general government, or current operating expenses. This covers general government; protection to person and property; health and sanitation; highways; charities; hospitals; corrections; schools; libraries; development and conservation of natural resources; and miscellaneous, the main item being pensions.

The current operating costs are the costs involved in the operation and maintenance of public enterprises, which are revenue producing; interest on debt; and outlays, mainly for permanent improvements. For North Carolina interest is a large item, running to nearly \$20,000,000.

COST BY UNITS

The total cost of state government in the year 1932 was almost exactly \$129,000,000. The cost reduced to a per capita basis was \$10.00, and North Carolina ranked forty-first among the states in this respect. One-third of this sum was for interest and outlays.

In view of the fact that our state government has greatly relieved the counties and municipalities of their former functions, our rank of forty-first in per capita cost of state government is surprisingly low. Evidently the state is stretching its dollars. The few states that had cheaper state government were mainly in the South. State government was more expensive per capita in South Carolina \$21.97; Virginia \$17.47; Florida \$16.94; Arkansas \$20.95; Louisiana \$39.38; Oklahoma \$17.92; and Texas \$18.09. In only one Southern state, Mississippi, was state government as much as one dollar per capita below the cost in North Carolina. Strange but true, according to the Federal survey.

The aggregate cost of county government for 1932 was \$46,439,000. Reduced to a per capita basis, the amount was \$14.37, and North Carolina ranked 17th among the states. In other words, county government in North Carolina in 1932 was expensive compared with other states, although by that time counties had been considerably relieved by our state government. The main relief to counties, however, has come since 1931-32. In many states counties are not important units of government. The average per capita cost for all counties in the United States was \$12.88.

The cost of municipal government in North Carolina aggregated a little over 25 million dollars. Reduced to a per capita basis, city population only, the amount was \$23.08 and North Carolina ranked 34th among the states. The average per capita cost for all cities in the United States was \$45.32 or nearly twice the cost in North Carolina. For these and other facts see the data which appear elsewhere in the News Letter, or secure a copy of Financial Statistics of State and Local Governments, 1932, U. S. Bureau of the Census.

AUTO ACCIDENTS

What caused most of the automobile accidents last year? Read the interesting story taken from insurance companies' statistics on the reasons for mishaps. One of many interesting articles in the American Weekly (issue of March 17), the big magazine which comes regularly with the BALTIMORE SUNDAY AMERICAN. Buy your copy from your favorite newsboy or newsdealer.

"City of Churches"

The name "City of Churches" was given to Brooklyn, N. Y., because of the large number of churches in proportion to the population. It was also given to Mexico City by Humboldt, where there were at the time 300 churches to 400,000 inhabitants.

Letter To The Editor

LEGION SUPPORTS EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Honorable J. T. Bailey, Representative Haywood County, Raleigh, N. C.

Dear Representative:

At a regular meeting of this Post held March 4th, the members thoroughly discussed Superintendent Erwin's educational program wherein he requests \$22,000,000 for the schools in North Carolina, and pledged their full support thereon and authorized the undersigned to convey to you their views on the matter.

This organization has one hundred ten members who are residents of three townships in this county, and we are one hundred per cent opposed to the cut of \$596,135 from the proposed appropriation. We understand that to be the tentative recommendation of the investigating committee, and feel that any slicing of the requested appropriation would be detrimental to the cause of education and that it should be accorded no tolerance whatever.

We believe that our legislators are men who are capable of weighing the merits of the situation and want to do the right thing about it, but there are influences which would allow stones of investigations to be left unturned, thereby resulting in unwise and unfair legislation under the disguise of economy. Such economy as cuts in the school budget is false and saves of no measure of equity. Sacrifices, if necessary, ought to be made in other things less essential, in order that the education of our people might not only thrive, but have the very best that we can afford.

The amount asked for by Mr. Erwin represents a minimum, yet scanty safe financial outlay for the decent and orderly conduct of educational institutions, and if enacted, would allow instruction to be carried on in such a manner as would produce happy-minded teachers and pupils by providing for them the things so necessary and vital in their educational endeavors.

We have been informed of good authority that some of the schools, under present conditions, do not always have sufficient fuel and sanitary supplies to make the personnel comfortable. This condition is deplorable. Transportation at present is unsafe and inadequate, and we have knowledge of specific cases where children are forced to leave home before daylight to catch a bus and then cannot get back home until after dark. This causes them to either have to wait in the cold out of doors or sit in a cold school building (due to fuel economy) waiting their turns to ride on over-crowded buses. On account of insufficient appropriation for Attendance Officers, many cases of delinquency in attendance are in evidence; office expenses necessary to administration are greater than funds provided; health conditions are often dangerous because there are not enough clinics and health education in the homes of school children; libraries cannot be considered "hit-or-miss" adjuncts—they are as necessary to education as the daily diet is to the body, and should be kept up by replacements and additions of wholesome literature under the supervision of efficient librarians; two very important branches of education are being sadly neglected, viz. Music and Vocational Training. Last, but not least, the meagre salaries of teachers, principals and other officials are not sufficient, in these times, to afford them the necessities of life. It would follow that competent educators are seeking, and will continue to seek more remunerative employment, if this situation is not corrected.

There is but one remedy for these distressing conditions, and that is the full and complete support of the entire legislative program for the school budget as outlined by Superintendent Erwin.

We members of Varner-Rhinehart Post No. 61 of the American Legion in the Department of North Carolina intend to give this matter of educating the children in this state our staunch support, and we urge you, Mr. Representative, to support this matter to your utmost ability, not only voting for them, but using your good influence to the end that favorable legislation in their behalf may be overwhelmingly enacted. By doing so, we are sure that we shall all find deep satisfaction in believing that we have done the right thing.

With every good wish for your good health, your continued success and a profitable session of the Legislature, we are,

Very sincerely yours,
ROBT. C. RHEA,
Commander.
CHAS. M. BEALL,
Adjutant.

LIKE SHORT STORIES

If you enjoy reading short stories you will find two interesting stories every Sunday in the American Weekly, the big magazine which comes every week with the BALTIMORE AMERICAN. Buy your copy from your favorite newsboy or newsdealer.

THRILLING MYSTERY STORY

The unusual exploits of the French police are told by H. Ashton-Wolfe, noted criminologist, in another of his stories of baffling mysteries. One of many features in the American Weekly issue of March 17, the big magazine which comes regularly with the BALTIMORE SUNDAY AMERICAN. Buy your copy from your favorite newsdealer or newsboy.

The Word "Money"

The word "money" is said to be derived from the Roman "moneta," the name given to their silver by the Romans because it was coined in the temple of Juno Moneta, 60 B. C.

Less Than Third Of Haywood Babies Are Now Registered

North Carolina parents are classed as "fair" in their response to the appeal of the Bureau of the Census, the State Board of Health and the State ERA for a complete registration of babies born in the state during the past year, Dr. John H. Hamilton, director of the Division of Vital Statistics, is informed.

North Carolinians had reported approximately one-third of the number of births recorded for 1933 on the little cards sent out from Washington up to the end of last week. Recorded births in 1933 reached 75,422 and already in 1934 the number has reached 79,350, by which Dr. Hamilton estimates that complete recording will show at least 80,000 births last year.

Haywood county parents have reported in the present "Register Your Baby" campaign the births of 212 children during the past year, or 292 per cent of the 727 actually recorded births for the year 1933, up to last week, as compared with about 33 per cent for the state, Dr. Hamilton said.

This indicates that fully 50,000 parents in North Carolina have had children born to them during the past year who have not filled in the buff-colored cards distributed by the Postoffice Department to them from the postoffice from which they receive their mail, said Dr. Hamilton. The children who have thus been slighted may have occasion many times in the future to condemn the parental neglect the vital statistics man said.

The campaign is about to end, but there is yet time for parents to secure these cards from the nearest postoffice, the State Board of Health or from the field or case workers for the relief organization, if they have misplaced those received earlier, and get them to Washington in time to be counted and checked at the State Board of Health in Raleigh.

Here the lilting music of "The Lucky Jade" and see the cute chorus of "Peppermint Sticks."

Go to Church Sunday

"GRACE CHURCH IN THE MOUNTAINS"

Episcopal
Rev. Albert New, Rector.

On the third Sunday in Lent, March 24th, our services will be: 10 A. M. Church school. 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. regular morning and evening services. Monday, March 25th, being the "Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary," there will be a celebration of the Holy Communion at 10:30 A. M. at which time the members of the Woman's Auxiliary will present U. F. O boxes for Missionary work through-out the week.

At 5 P. M. on Monday there will be a Lent devotional service and meditation. Everybody cordially invited to our Lenten and all other services.

WAYNESVILLE 'FRESHYTERIAN CHURCH

Dr. R. P. Walker, Minister.

Our Bible school is on the upgrade and Mr. L. M. Riceson, Supt., is soon going to launch a drive for new members. Don't wait. Come Sunday. The pastor will bring as a third Sunday in Lent (next Sunday morning, Titus 2:11-12, the subject being, "That Amazing Grace.") It rains every Sunday but our congregations are good nevertheless. One said to the pastor this week: "A man needs to go to church Sunday in order to live right during the week." There is much truth in that remark. Try it and see for yourself. Christian Endeavor 7 o'clock. Prayer meeting, Wednesday 7:30. Come; you are invited.

THE WAYNESVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Regular services will be held next Sunday. Sunday school 9:35. Morning worship 11:00. B. T. U. 6:30. Evening worship 7:30.

March is missionary month in this church. Special offering in the W. M. U. for Home Missions, and an offering in the Sunday school the 5th Sunday for Home and Foreign Missions.

WAYNESVILLE METHODIST

Paul Hardin, Jr., Pastor.

Sunday night at 7:30 we are going to have a service that will be slightly different but one which we think you will like and enjoy. It will be a "Sermon In Song." Certain facts of the life of significant hymns. There will be congregational singing, solos and duets. You will enjoy the music and we believe that you will be benefited by the sermon of the songs. Remember the hour—7:30.

The church school convenes at 9:45 a. m. Mr. Hugh Sloan, superintendent.

Morning church service, with sermon by the pastor, at 11 o'clock.

The young people meet at 6:30 in the evening.

Come to church Sunday, and remember the "Sermon In Song Sunday night."

ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Howard V. Lane, Pastor.

Third Sunday of Lent. Morning Mass at 11 A. M. Followed by the Way of the Cross. Sermon, "The Sacrament of Penance," by the pastor.

Instructions for the children on Saturday afternoon at 3. Morning Mass at Franklin at 8. The public is invited to attend.

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