

FOUR The Morning Star

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 1921.

The Poor Teacher: The report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. E. C. Brooks, has in it many evidences of great progress in education in the state. Unfortunately, almost every good feature is so linked with one of which we cannot be proud that it is difficult to feel very greatly elated over the school situation in North Carolina.

Still more disturbing is the fact that, though the number of teachers in the public schools in 1919-20 was 16,854, an increase of 1,785 over the previous year, there were 403 schools closed because of the lack of teachers.

A great factor contributing to the improvement of the schools was the increase in appropriations by the last general assembly which made it possible to increase the salaries of the teachers. Then Dr. Brooks quotes salary ranges which make us wonder that we have nearly 17,000 teachers.

We may also consider the fact that the average length of the school term for the white race for 1919-20 was 136 days, for the colored race 113 days. This does, of course, leave ample time for the picking of cotton or for any of the other means which teachers find potential sources of income.

Furthermore, as long as teachers' salaries are so low, we can not expect a phenomenal increase in the professional training of those willing to teach. It is not only that competent men and women, unless by nature very altruistic, will not become teachers, but that those in the profession will not be able to keep up the standard.

New Hanover County's high salary rate and generally efficient system has done much to raise the state average, but we cannot rest on the knowledge that a 170-day term, and well-paid teachers with comparatively high certification, are our full responsibility.

Speaking of the cattle industry of Eastern Carolina, Dr. Low says, in effect, "there ain't no such animal." And there never will be until something resembling united war on the cattle tick is developed by action of the General Assembly.

Mr. Harding didn't say what element of our population he would take up after finishing with our best minds, but some indication of the shift that has been made may be noted in the announcement that he has just conferred with "Big Bill" Thompson of Chicago.

Governor Morrison's Address

The things mentioned ought to be done. Sound business principles require that they shall be done speedily and without delay. We can not progress in our spiritual, intellectual or material development unless they are done.

Courage is the keynote of Governor Morrison's inaugural address. He refuses to be intimidated by "hard times." The comprehensive program of development which he would launch in North Carolina has not been trimmed or devaluated in order to meet the specifications laid down by the faint of heart.

It is a man of vision, of faith, of sound business sense who spoke to the General Assembly and to the people of the State in yesterday's inaugural message. There is, moreover, in the construction of the address a simple directness betokening a mind that is charged for action.

The reactionary will whisper to the timid that this is a bad time to expend much money because of the depressed condition of our whole business life. Business is depressed, and we have recently suffered severe loss and shrinkage in values.

Science and Housework

That the farmer's barnyard had running water before his home did; that his wife cooked, and washed and cleaned with the most primitive tools, while he was making his own work efficient with the most improved machinery has long been a point of attack by all those who have the good of society at heart.

During this week, however, the second conference on household management, under the direction of the Chicago Woman's Club, the Chicago Housewife's League, the Woman's City Club and the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs, has been meeting in Chicago.

After a look at the latest pictures of Lieutenant Farrell, we are no longer puzzled by the fact that his two aeronautic companions decided to eat some of their carrier pigeons instead.

Senator McCormick is now on his way back to the United States. We hope he made Mr. Harding's international program as clear to the people of Europe as it has been made over here by other Republican mouthpieces.

Old "Devil Nuss" Hatfield is dead. He was a right pert gentleman in his time, but if he kept up with the newspapers we imagine he quit talking about his notches before the end came.

We haven't changed our mind about Mr. Harding's good sense in calling off the inaugural blizzard, even since reading that hundreds of costly gowns will as a result be dumped on the bargain counter and great stacks of flower orders cancelled.

OFFICERS TO SALUTE WOUNDED

New York World: That Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood, commanding the sixth corps area at Fort Sheridan, Ill., has a high feeling of honor for those soldiers who were disabled in the fighting during the war is shown by an order he has just issued on the subject of military courtesy.

Fort Sheridan is still honored by the presence of many sick and wounded soldiers from the battlefields of the World War. The commanding officer will set the example in showing special consideration to those disabled soldiers and will salute those who are unable to salute first as they would wish.

Still, it might be well for Mr. Harding to recall the fact that extreme amabilities made a one-term stay of Mr. Tamm—Waco Times-Herald.

Letters to the Editor

THE FEE SYSTEM

I have been hoping you would actively oppose the proposed change in our county by which the courthouse officials will be paid by a fee system instead of by fixed salaries as at present.

A lawyer of prominence in the state writing to the North Carolina club, which is engaged in the study of governmental problems at the State University, expressed himself as follows: "Our fee and salary bill ought to be worked over. One clerk will figure out about twice as much as another does, and it is hard to tell which is right.

This criticism may apply equally as well whether our courthouse officials are paid fixed salaries or whether they receive their remuneration by an uncertain, cumbersome and antiquated fee system. But should we do anything which would tend to perpetuate this crazy-quilt system described by this lawyer?

It was in 1905 that the counties of North Carolina began to change from a fee system to a salary system and in that year the legislature substituted salaries for fees in Guilford, Buncombe, Forsythe and Mecklenburg counties.

The states of California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Kentucky and New Jersey followed Ohio in rapid succession. The advocates of a return to a fee system are those who will be benefited by the change, together with a very few lawyers who complain that they cannot get papers served promptly under the present system.

Contemporary Views

CUT WAR APPROPRIATIONS

San Francisco Chronicle: The world is tired of the whole wretched business of war. War has ceased to afford opportunity for what a half barbarous race could call personal glory.

We need have no fear of attack, for the people of other nations have suffered and are suffering, far more than we, and are determined that there shall be no more war.

CHICAGO, CITY OF POETS

Chicago Daily News: Too long have foreigners judged Chicago solely by its major industries. "Chicago—ah, the stockyards!" says the Londoner.

But now comes the Illinois women's press association with the announcement that, in an effort to provide the Chicago historical society with data about Chicago authors, it has already catalogued more than 70 novelists and poets.

More interesting than the fact that it was easy enough to find 70 Chicago novelists and poets is that these men and women have been able to cultivate the arts while living next door to all the roaring industry that makes us so much of Chicago.

PRINCE PARADOX ARRIVES

New York Herald: The only man in the world who can prove that black is white is in America for a visit. We are confident that G. K. Chesterton will illuminate this country we can only hope that we shall interest him.

Mr. Chesterton could prove, with that devilish logic of his, that girls have ears, although it is notorious that girls' ears have not been visible in a year or two.

He could demonstrate that the Volstead act instead of being an enemy of the drinking classes is really their friend, if by showing them, through the theoretical scarcity of liquor, that drink is a luxury and not a commonplace thing.

Before Mr. Chesterton fires his final paradox everybody will believe that the East River bridges have existed since the glacial period and that modern man built the river beneath them.

Fashion has decreed that skirts shall be longer. If there is to be any modification, how else could they be modified?—Savannah News.

MORRISON'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS

RALEIGH, Jan. 13.—The inaugural address of Governor Cameron Morrison, delivered today, follows in full:

I warmly thank the general assembly, the city of Raleigh, their gracious committees, and all friends participating in arranging for our inauguration. It is all so handsomely and generously planned that I am both grateful and delighted.

I also desire to express deep appreciation to all the people of the state, of both races, and of both political parties for the many acts and expressions of good will coming to me from every section of the state since my election as your governor.

Under our American system of free and tumultuous party nominations, and elections we have the most intense and angry primaries and elections held anywhere in the world, where there is orderly government, but after the tumult and shouting of our primaries and elections have passed, and in perfect freedom of discussion and action, the people have chosen their officers, we yield to the choice of the majority the most united, generous and wholehearted loyalty and support.

It is in complete accord in North Carolina about the more important questions of government, but we allow ourselves to become excited and divided over the less important questions about which we differ, and fail to agree upon plans and methods to have done the things we have most at heart.

On this, to me, very happy occasion, I want to forget the few things we differ about, and beg for deep consideration and broad co-operation from all the people of the state.

As your duly chosen governor, I appeal to all the people of the state to unite in a great spirit of Christian accord and patriotic co-operation to write the history of our state that I would like to suggest.

We must enforce the law against crime in our state and with God-like impartiality and justice. We must let the criminal in our midst know that organized crime in this state will make no quarter with crime; that our state's conception of justice, though "seasoned with mercy," is inexorable, and that in our practices of mercy, justice and leniency, we cannot be found.

We must take humane care of all our defective and unfortunate people, whose defects and misfortunes are of a character that they cannot care for themselves, and that the state must be made adequate for the treatment, care, and training of these helpless and defective ones within our border.

And the delinquent girls and boys must be cared for and trained as the conscience of a Christian civilization demands. Our institutions for this sacred and patriotic work must be strengthened and made adequate to carry out this noble purpose.

The institutions and organizations which we have set up for these noble purposes are well designed for the great work to be done, but we have so much greater than we knew that they must all be strengthened and equipped to do larger work than heretofore.

We must throw around the home and life of our people an enlightened world's knowledge of preventive medicine, and make, ceaseless, war upon disease, and curing and death, in our state. Our great department of health must be generously endowed and equipped for this humane service.

We must make the common schools for the training and education of our children as good as any in the world. We ought to glory in the difficulties overcome and progress made in this sacred and patriotic work in the last twenty years, but we want to have an equal share until the pre-war boys and girls of our state have an equal chance with any in the wide world for a modern and up-to-date education.

Criticism of past achievements is, as a rule, unproductive. It is better to have a large measure of the good of the past which we believe the part of wisdom requires that we should boldly move forward and under the

wisest plan we can work out and concord about, proceed with energy and celerity to construct a complete system of hard surfaced state highways.

Colleges Are Inadequate: Until recently it would have been an apparent waste of public funds to have expended the money upon the state's institutions for higher learning which we now know to be imperatively demanded.

We must look upon this condition as a liability and financial difficulty. It is our state's greatest asset, and splendid work of the state's construction of our great educational awakening.

We must have good surface roads in the state. The main highways must be of hard surface, and dependable every day of the year.

The state must force the construction of these highways for the state and have stated, but there is no reason to doubt that the state cannot

It will be impossible, in my judgment, for the state to finance a plan for the highways which requires the state to construct and maintain the system without heavy ad valorem taxation and public sentiment will not stand ad valorem taxation for such a purpose.

We will build this state highway system. The judgment of our people is formed about it. The only question is: Are we going to build it by piecemeal, and in a large measure dissipate the advertising benefit and strength of it, or will we construct it, as speedily as sound business principles will permit, as a glorious whole?

I am not unmindful of the solemn responsibility of advising the expenditure of the vast amount of money and the other matters mentioned ought to be. Sound business principles require

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Notice to Stockholders

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of The Wilmington Savings and Trust Company, of Wilmington, N. C., will be held at the office of the company on Thursday, January 20, 1921, at 11 o'clock. It is desired that all stockholders be present at the meeting.

The Wilmington Savings & Trust Co. W. HULL MOORE, Cashier