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BOWIE'S RAILROAD BILL TO REDEEM LOST PROVINCES STARTS IN HOUSE

Raleigh, Feb. 1.—Lost Provinces scored a rediscovery in the house today when Representative Bowie, of Ashe, presented a "bill to be entitled an act to redeem the counties in northwestern North Carolina without railroad facilities, known as 'the lost provinces' of North Carolina."

The caption of the 10 lines pretty nearly gives the character of the bill. The plan of redeeming these forgotten counties is "by authorizing the construction by the state of a railroad, which, in connection with the railroads will constitute a trunk line of railroad from northwestern North Carolina to eastern North Carolina, and coal fields into western, central and eastern parts of North Carolina, and to aid in the completion and construction of certain roads in northwestern North Carolina in which the state already has a pecuniary interest."

Mr. Bowie times the state's "pecuniary interest" in the Elkin and Alleghany, from Elkin going toward Sparta, 15 miles of which the grading has been done on three miles the state owns \$30,000 in stock resulting from convict labor.

In the Statesville Air line running from Statesville toward Mount Airy, the state has an equity of \$132,400, the work of convict labor.

In the Watauga and Yadkin Valley going to Boone from North Wilkesboro 29 miles equipped for operation, the state has 552 shares of stock which cost \$55,200. And the turnpike from North Wilkesboro to Jefferson, in which the state gave convict labor amounting to \$63,810.

The bill prescribing the method of financing thereof empowers any county, town, municipality or township through or near which "any of the proposed roads may be located and constructed under the provisions of chapter 67 * * * subscribe

to and take stock in said company when so formed and in this manner raise the funds sufficient to take the stock required by this act to be furnished before the state subscribes its stock in said company, as hereinafter enacted."

State Can Own 49 Per Cent

The state does not become a participant in this construction until at least 51 per cent of the stock has been raised by "persons, firm, or corporation, county, town or township." Upon evidence of good faith and the payment of this amount of money for construction of one or more roads, the state will subscribe to 49 per cent and issue serial bonds "payable in not less than 10 or more than 40 years from the date of issue."

The bonds bear interest not exceeding 5 per cent and are in \$100, \$500 and \$1,000 denominations. The bill meets the Interstate Commerce clause by completing a trunk line. The road or roads adopted would connect with the Winston-Salem division of the southern somewhere near Mount Airy, or with the Southern at Statesville or Taylorsville, and would touch the Norfolk and Western at West Jefferson, or at some point on the Virginia and Tennessee line, to connect either with the Carolina, Clinchfield and Ohio or the Virginia and Southwestern, or the Louisville or Nashville, or any other railroad company that may hereafter be formed.

This was much the most important thing that the house had today. Representative Bowie regards the bill the most important measure which will come before the assembly. He has spent all of the two years since he made a move in the house in working out some plan by which the redemption of the lost country may be compassed.—Charlotte Observer.

CONDITIONS ARE BAD IN GERMANY COMMERCIAL CLUB CHANGES ITS NAME

An idea of post-war conditions in Germany is gleaned from letters received from distant kinspeople in Beirthein by Frank Krauss, former postmaster at Waxhaw. "You will no doubt be rather astonished to get a letter from here after so many years of unusual silence," one reads, "but I have been so lucky to get your address only a few days ago. I am the widow of your cousin, Wilhelm Krauss, from Munster. I dare say family Krauss has probably mentioned us in letters to you."

"I am sorry to inform you that my dear husband died quite suddenly last year, leaving us and our dear little girl, Elizabeth (age of 14) be hind entirely devoid of all means of living. Our two sons, aged 27 and 28 years, perished in the awful war. Our elder son and elder daughter, striving themselves very hard for gaining their living, are equally unable to support us. So I am often very hard up, especially as everything is so dreadfully expensive."

"I have a small monthly allowance of 400 marks, but this sum is not even sufficient for a week. The worst of all is that I am often ill of late and so little able to do hard work. Even my sewing does not bring me much, as my poor eyes get weaker and weaker. So you perhaps will understand and excuse my asking you if you would kindly send me some worn-out dresses of your daughters for my little girl and for myself. I have a good hand at rearranging and getting up decently old things for us, and I ask you, too, to help me in getting my girl to a good school of dressmaking by sending me a few dollars so that I should be able to pay her a place as an apprentice."

"You may be sure that this pecuniary help should only serve as an assistance for the education of my dear girl. And you may be equally sure that you are helping persons worthy to be helped. Please do not be angry at my asking for help from you. If our poverty were not growing harder and harder every day, the prices of the more indispensable victuals rising continually, I should never have allowed myself to write to you in this way."

"You are already a long time over there in your rich happy America. Let me hope that you have not quite forgotten your relations in your poor old Germany."

Mr. Krauss is of German parentage, but was born in this country. Ever since the signing of the armistice he has been sending food and money to his once well-to-do but now war-impooverished relations in the old country.

A glimpse of Christmas in the old country is given in another letter. "A German Christmas festival day, be it ever so humble or poor, is deeply moving. I wish you could spend Christmas eve, if it were only one time, with us in the way we observe the day. You would never forget it."

Other extracts read: "You have doubtless read of the high cost of living in Germany. It is becoming oppressive. Most any kind of food is unobtainable except at excessive prices. I am told that life has grown more difficult even over there in your happy free land."

"Under present conditions we fare ill, and things will not improve unless we obtain a large loan from America."

The Boone Commercial Club, one of the most active organizations of which the town has ever boasted, had its last meeting in the lobby of the Critcher Hotel Saturday night, and the body in the future will work under the more distinguished name of "The Boone Chamber of Commerce," the change being made by a unanimous vote of the large number of members present. Much business of interest was transacted, and the gathering was very highly entertained for some time by an address from Mr. Van Doozer, of Bloomfield, Neb., who is here looking after the establishment, or rather encouraging the establishment of a creamery in Boone. His talk was clear, logical and he showed from statistics that nothing would pay better here, with our natural advantages, than a creamery. A committee was appointed to take the matter up in further detail with the visiting gentleman, and some conferences have been held, but nothing so far has been given out for publication. Watauga is rapidly forging to the front in her dairying business. She now boasts of ten cheese factories with an annual output of 150,000 pounds. And if a creamery could be established here without interfering with the cheese industry, it would indeed be another great asset for the farmers of the county. The prospects for its establishment, so far as we have been able to learn, are fairly good, and we hope next week to be able to give something more definite concerning the big enterprise.

GOVERNOR DENIES ANY DEFICIT IN NORTH CAROLINA TREASURY

Governor Cameron Morrison in a statement issued Tuesday night declares that the present revenue of the state justifies the general assembly in making the provision for the ensuing two years by the budget commission, re-asserts that there is no deficit in the operating account of the state, except the excess of expenditures over receipts as shown by the treasury report, and claims that further information that he has indicates that the ultimate surplus will be larger than the previous estimate over which the conflict between the Governor and Corporation Commissioner A. J. Maxwell arose.

Among other things the Governor says:

"There is no deficit in the state treasury of this state, except in the mere cash on hand, and today we are in process of collecting taxes levied by the last general assembly but not yet collected, aggregating about the following sums:

"Income tax \$3,500,000.
"Railroad taxes \$600,000.
"Insurance premium taxes \$415,000.
"Miscellaneous taxes at least \$400,000.

"Total \$4,915,000.

"One great corporation was written up since the budget commission report and the authors claim they owe \$300,000 more income tax for 1921 than they have paid. From the facts given to me I think this will be collected.

"I am satisfied the outstanding taxes will make a cold five million odd dollars.

North Carolina was among the first states to begin tick eradication work and is about the last to finish the job.

Are you feeding your child tuberculosis? It might be worth while to have that dairy herd tested.

In the world's audience hall, the simple blade of grass sits on the same carpet with the sunbeams and the stars of mid-night.

NORTH CAROLINA TO HAVE MORE THAN HALF OF THE SPINDLES IN WHOLE SOUTH

Charlotte, Jan. 30.—A total of 235,868 additional spindles were installed in cotton mills in the south during the year 1922; 154,996, considerably more than half of the total, being installed in North Carolina mills.

A total of 807,720 spindles will be installed in southern cotton mills during the present year. Of this number 583,760 will be installed in North Carolina mills.

These figures are taken from Clark's annual spindle increase list as compiled and published by the Southern Textile Bulletin in its current number. The Clark list shows in detail the installation by states. Included in the statistical data published by the Textile Bulletin is also a knitting increase listing machines were installed in the south during 1922. Of this number, North Carolina installed 1,008, Georgia being second with 532, Tennessee third

with 514 and Virginia fourth with 328.

North Carolina leads the entire South in the total number of cotton mills, having a total of 501 mills with 5,530,188 spindles, 78,000 looms and 18,290 knitting machines. South Carolina has 180 cotton mills with 5,135,404 spindles, 119,504 looms and 1,473 knitting machines. Georgia has 176 cotton mills with 2,788,988 spindles, 95,152 looms and 6,913 knitting machines.

It may be deduced from the figures given that North Carolina installed more than 50 per cent of all the spindles installed in the South last year. She will install more than 72 per cent of the spindles being installed in the South during this year. She installed 37 per cent of the knitting machines installed last year.

It is remarkable that the total num-

COMPLETE INVESTIGATION OF STATE'S FINANCES IS ORDERED BY LEGISLATURE

Follows Denunciation at Joint Session of Assembly of Maxwell's Deficit Figures—Governor Scores Those Who Assert State is Running Behind in Its Revenues.

RALEIGH, N. C., Feb. 2.—The North Carolina general assembly today passed and ratified a resolution introduced by Senator Harris of Wake County which calls for an investigation by the finance committee of the house and senate of the condition of the state's finances.

The resolution empowers the committee to call witnesses, examine books and report its findings to the general assembly.

Vigorously denouncing Corporation Commissioner, A. J. Maxwell for publication of a treatise on the financial condition of the state which he characterized as "untrue" and asserting that its publication was motivated by a vindictive attitude toward the administration and its constructive program, Governor Morrison in a half-hour address to a joint session of the general assembly at noon today demanded a complete investigation of the state's finances by the legislature.

"A situation has arisen concerning the fiscal affairs of the state which in my opinion makes it my duty to come before you and submit the remarks I am about to address to you," the governor began, and after discussing the figures that were incorporated in the Maxwell article to which he referred and giving the source of his authority for the statement he made in his biennial address on the state's finances, he closed with a denial of the Maxwell figures.

"It isn't true," the governor declared in his impassioned conclusion, "and I demand of this general assembly that this matter be investigated and this man exposed in that slander of the state whose bread he eats."

Opening his remarks upon Mr. Maxwell's treatise, Governor Morrison said "an official of the state of North Carolina, holding a position of honor which he has held for a long time, has made an assault on the state's fiscal system and attempts to show the treasurer's report untrue."

He continued saying, "that part of the press so hostile to the present administration could not be expected to do otherwise had sought to have the general assembly believe I have given false and misleading information about the state's financial affairs and this he had ignored, he stated, and that the statements coming from Mr. Maxwell, an officer of the state, must receive consideration."

"If Mr. Maxwell's statements are true," the governor said, "the treasurer of the state has made an untrue report. If the treasurer's report is true," he added, "then Maxwell's article is false."

"Make a prompt and fearless investigation and wherever the wrong lies, place it," Governor Morrison urged, and proceed to discuss the figures involved, telling the general assembly that Treasurer Lacy in his biennial report showed a deficit of \$1,833,895.41 and stated that the report was made of June 30, 1922, the closing date of the state's fiscal year.

"That is the only deficit the treasurer," the governor stated, and he added that Mr. Moody of the treasurer's office said today that those were the facts.

"Mr. Maxwell says there are other deficits," the governor concluded, "stating that there is one back of that deficit. Of what character would be the treasurer's report which gave the actual condition of the fiscal year if back of that deficit would be one not brought forward?"

"We deal with the fiscal year," the governor declared. "This is a serious matter, because the recommendations I have made to you, because all of the recommendations of the budget commission were made on a basis of that report."

He added that there were those inspired by malice and venom seeking to injure the governor of this state by trying to make statements that were not true.

Maxwell alone I dignify with complaint," he continued, and he called attention to the fact that the budget commission was a legislative committee and not an administrative one, and asserted that this body had found the figures as to the state's financial affairs upon which an ultimate surplus was based sufficient for the commission to make them the basis for its recommendations.

Here is Maxwell's View of the State Finances

The article to which the governor alluded in his address before a joint session of the general assembly was published in the mornings today under the signature of A. J. Maxwell,

GOVERNOR IS VICTOR IN FIGHT WITH OPPOSITION

The tidal wave of political reaction which hit Raleigh over the week end has been forced to recede and Governor Morrison stands out clearly as the overwhelming victor in the greatest and most determined fight that has been made in his administration.

It was a mighty blow that struck last week, but it didn't have the force behind it to carry it on. It was a "smoke-screen" and when a determined public began to dig in it found there wasn't anything justifying the battle that was waged. Every move now assures a Morrison victory, and the chief executive has won in a fight which had as its motive his political destruction.

The 1922 general election disclosed hardly more clearly than the flood of messages to the legislature and Governor Morrison during the past few days the true sentiment of the people of the state in the matter of continued progress. They demonstrated their lack of interest in politics and the fullness of their souls in the betterment and development of their state. Morrison stands for that and the state has proved through the genuineness of its response that it is with him.

Some political observers are forecasting two weeks before Morrison will know if he has won or been defeated, but there is enough in the pledges of fighting support and the general amendment of the recognized progressive element all over North Carolina to swear by an assertion that the administration is victorious.—Charlotte Observer.

ARBUCKLE TO BECOME A MOVIE DIRECTOR

Roscoe C. ("Fatty") Arbuckle announced last week he had signed a contract to direct motion pictures for a comedy film corporation, and that he was done with acting.

"My greatest ambition is to make people laugh and make them happy, and I can do it best as a director of comedies," he said in a prepared statement. "This is my chance to make good in the right way and in a profession that I know and love and in a way that will meet the approval of all. I start work at once, and from now on you will only hear from me through the medium of the comedies that I direct."

The comedian recently announced he would appear in a film being made in a Hollywood studio. Religious and other organizations in various parts of the country protested against the reinstatement of the actor because of the nature of testimony produced in his trials for manslaughter in connection with the death of Miss Virginia Rappé in San Francisco last year, which ended in his acquittal.

LOCAL BUILDING & LOAN'S GROWTH

New Year Finds Association Making Remarkable Strides—Secretary H. H. Greene Enthusiastic.

From an interview with the Secretary of the Watauga Building and Loan Association we gather that Wataugans have opened their eyes to the benefits of such an institution, and are offering their support in liberal measures.

Mr. Greene tells us that one year ago the Association had received in installments \$3,799.50, and had made loans of 2,800.00. During January only of this year \$12,184.00 has been paid in and loaned, while the total loans aggregate \$25,715.83.

Applications for stock are being made daily and Mr. Greene says that no doubt the business if this month will exceed the above figures for January.

A welcome guest in your home, bringing good reports of the progress of your friends and your community—the home town paper.

Worms won't injure your cabbage this summer if you know how to control them. Write the Agricultural Extension Service, Raleigh for C185. "Dusting of cabbage and collards to control worms."

BANQUET NEXT MONDAY

The Boone Chamber of Commerce will give a banquet at the Critcher Hotel next Monday evening, beginning at 7:30 o'clock. Plates will be laid for one hundred or more guests. Each member will have the privilege of buying two plates, one for his wife, mother, or sweetheart, and one for himself, and one for an invited guest, that is if he wishes to make the investment of an extra dollar, for a friend. The plates will cost \$1.00 each. A splendid menu is being worked out, and if it is something new to eat that you are looking for, be on hand. Another real feature of the occasion will be an address by President J. E. Grading, of the Johnson City Chamber of Commerce. He has had much experience in town and city building, and it goes without saying that his address will be most helpful to our local Chamber of Commerce. A good and profitable meeting is expected. The Boone Chamber of Commerce is to be congratulated, under the management of its efficient officers, for the splendid work it is doing, and trying to do for our town and county. It is really "a live wire" when it comes to doing real work, and putting out effort and money for the betterment of this great section.

NEW BUSINESS FOR BOONE

The J. E. Ashley Company will occupy the Farthing stand when vacated by Mr. T. Hill Farthing, who will move into the bank block as soon as it is completed.

This new business will be in charge of Mrs. J. E. Ashley, who will carry an up-to-date line of notions, novelties and millinery.

Mrs. Ashley comes to us with wide experience in the mercantile world, having been associated for a number with the Miller's of Knoxville, Tenn. and C. E. Cate Company of Johnson City, Tenn. The new firm and the present business lady who will have it in charge will be gladly welcomed to our town, and in advance we predict a splendid business for her.

COMMISSIONERS MEETING POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT MONDAY

On account of the illness of the chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, and the failure of one of the members, Mr. James Miller, to be on hand, on account of weather conditions, the meeting was postponed until next Monday. On authority of a letter received by from the chairman, and Mr. Willmore, the only member present. If you have business before the Board, be on hand next Monday.

SEVERAL PASSENGERS INJURED IN WRECK NEAR SUMPTER, S. C.

Sumpter, S. C., Feb. 1.—Several passengers were injured this morning when Atlantic Coast Line passenger train No. 35, southbound, collided head-on with a freight train at Privateer, nine miles south of here.

G. C. Hines, of Florence, S. C., a mail clerk, was the most seriously injured. Most of the other injured were negroes, who sustained only bruises.

The track was expected to be cleared early this afternoon. Train No. 35 is operated between Florence, S. C. and Augusta, Ga.

SAYS CHURCHES SHOULD INVEST IN ADVERTISING

Every church should set aside money to be used for newspaper advertising, Rev. J. T. Barber, of the committee on conservation and advance of the Methodist Episcopal church, declared in his address in Chicago last Sunday.

"The church can send its message in the papers to non-church goers and to those of its members detained at home because of sickness, business and other causes," he said.

"The preacher speaks to hundreds, while newspapers speak to thousands and millions. Church members should assist editors, but criticism of editors and editorial policies are harmful. The pulpit and press should pull together and not apart."

CATTLEMEN'S ASSO TO MEET IN MARCH

The eleventh annual convention of the Southern Cattlemen's Association will be held at Roanoke, Virginia, March 14th, 15th and 16th. This meeting should be of much interest to cattlemen in this section. The association, which embraces twelve of the southern states, has done valuable work in the development and improvement of the cattle industry. Its annual meetings are of unusual interest and education value, and the meeting this year promises to be one of the best ever held.

As has been the custom at past meetings of the association, sales of registered beef cattle will be held during the convention. The sales at Roanoke will consist of over one hundred head of short horns, Herefords and Aberdeen-Angus selected from among the leading herds in the south. An instructive and interesting feature in connection with this part of the meeting will be the shows of sale cattle to be held preceding each sale. This will not tend to assure sale offerings of high quality but having the cattle placed by competent judges before they are sold should be of benefit and interest to prospective purchasers, especially those just starting in the purebred business. Total premiums amounting to approximately seven hundred dollars will be awarded at the three shows.

Hatch early. The early chicks bring the pullets that lay the early eggs and these bring the best prices.

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