

OUR RALEIGH LETTER

By M. L. Shipman

Raleigh, May 25.—Governor McLean as director of the budget, makes it plain to departmental and institutional heads that their estimates must be made on a reduction of at least five per cent below the legislative allowance and be in his hands not later than June 10. This was clearly set forth in a statement sent to directing heads of the State's business subdivisions during the week. The Governor also declared himself against the governmental policy of estate taxes. The Attorney General decides that the University and other similar State institutions are subject to regulation of the Salary and Wage Commission. Directors of the State's Prison report on conditions at that in-

stitution and appeal for help in placing idle labor. The State starts suits to recover pension money mis-used in Sampson county and H. D. Griffin, said to be the leader of the mob who removed Joseph Needleman from the Martin county jail and mutilated him, appeals his case to the Supreme Court for a new trial. These were the outstanding events of a rather quiet week in administration circles. A number of paroles were granted, some applications rejected and happenings of significance, in a general way, add to the more important news of the week.

Governor McLean issued a memorandum as director suggesting that the budget cut for all departments and institutions be made five instead of seven per cent tentatively fixed some weeks ago. The memorandum calls for all budget estimates not later than June 10, 1925, for the next biennium period and for allotment of

appropriations for the first quarter of the year beginning July 1, next. All appropriations for departments and institutions made by the recent General Assembly are expected to be reduced five per cent if not for a greater amount. With a deficit now in excess of \$9,000,000, according to the latest announcement, the pruning knife is likely to become more active than at first anticipated.

Answering an inquiry Governor McLean writes Governor Clifford Walker of Georgia: "I am very much interested in this question, and am very firmly of the opinion that the Federal government should abandon its policy of levying estate taxes as a source of revenue and leave the imposition of such taxes to the states as a source of state revenue exclusively." The two executives find themselves in agreement in that an estate tax is, in practical effect, an ad valorem tax on property and should be recognized as a state source of revenue. Governor McLean is bringing the subject to the attention of the North Carolina delegation in congress and urging their attendance upon a convention soon to be held in Savannah to consider taxation problems.

The Attorney General rules that "the act to provide a Salary and Wage Commission applies to the University and all other institutions of the State, and that there is no constitutional prohibition against the passage of such an act by the Legislature." So the Executive Committee of the University Trustees have got what they asked for and may govern themselves accordingly. It is now in order for the University and all other state agencies to send in the questionnaires they have received properly filled out. State employes in and about the capitol are apparently anxious to have the salary matter settled one way or another right away.

Directors of the State's Prison, in session here during the week, ascertained that there are now confined in that institution 1,325 prisoners, of which there are 425 men on the Caladonia farm and 125 on the farm near Raleigh. Also, that there is a "surplus" of 775 prisoners, 45 of these being women who are employed in gainful occupations, within the prison walls. 339 are employed on the highways or in quarries, leaving 391 men available to those needing laborers for any purpose. The board asked for help in placing this surplus labor thus aiding in making the prison self-sustaining. The directors gave their backing to the new prison chaplain who complained of having been misquoted in a newspaper interview.

The State has started suits in the Wake Superior Court against W. F. Sessoms, former clerk of the Superior Court of Sampson county, and his Lordsmen for recovery of \$21,292.50 in pensions fraudulently converted to the use of Sessoms while in office by forging the names of dead Confederate veterans, for which he was convicted and sentenced to serve from two to four years in the State's Prison. The suits cover periods 1914 to 1918; 1918 to 1922; 1922 to 1923, during which it is alleged, in the complaints filed by the Attorney General's office, that the convicted official fraudulently converted 336 pension payments to his own use. Administrators of deceased bondsmen are included in the suits, the progress of which will be watched with interest.

Governor McLean revokes the conditional parole issued to John Helge, of Caswell county, on April 29th. Reason: Informed that prisoner was convicted in the City of Danville, Va., on May 14, 1925, of driving an automobile while intoxicated, sentenced to sixty days in prison and fined \$100. The North Carolina charge was for violation of the prohibition law. The Governor paroled Malcolm Morris, serving a term for larceny in New Hanover, into the custody of the State Asylum of Maryland, of which State he is a native. James Knight, of Anson county, Alonzo Warren, of Onslow county, and Lester Cornatzer, of Davie county, serving sentences for various offenses were declined paroles for "good and sufficient reasons."

The Governor has made permanent the parole of Carlos Smith, young Raleigh man, convicted sometime ago of having carnal knowledge of a girl under fourteen years of age and sentenced to serve a term in the State's prison. Smith was paroled several weeks ago, but re-arrested on complaint of the girl's family. Further hearing was granted at which the fact was brought out that the girl is now happily married and living in Virginia. Attorneys for the prisoner insisted that he had completely reformed and that sufficient punishment had been imposed. Judge Grady, who tried the case, recommended clemency and the Governor decided to make the recent parole effective.

Members of the Tri-State Growers' Co-operative marketing Association held a big meeting at the State College during the week, listened to the annual report of General Manager R. R. Patterson and a speech by former Congressman H. S. Ward, of the First District, who predicted that the next Congress of the United States would write co-operative marketing into law and that henceforth thereafter the Imperial Tobacco Company of Great Britain will not be able to boycott the wares of the Association. General Manager Patterson promised that the Association would heed the recent recommendations of the committee of agricultural authorities which investigated its affairs and advised corrections.

The General Council United Commercial Travelers of the two Carolinas closed a three-day convention at the Sir Walter Hotel on Saturday. His Excellency welcomed the delegates on behalf the State and Mayor Culbreth on behalf the City of Raleigh, while J. R. Witherapoon represented the Chamber of Commerce as its president. W. D. Mowry, Supreme Councillor, of Kansas City, was the principal speaker. The organization staged an attractive parade and a number of candidates were initiated into the mysteries of the Bagman of Bagdad. The visitors were given the "time of their lives" by the local entertainment committee and voted the Capital City

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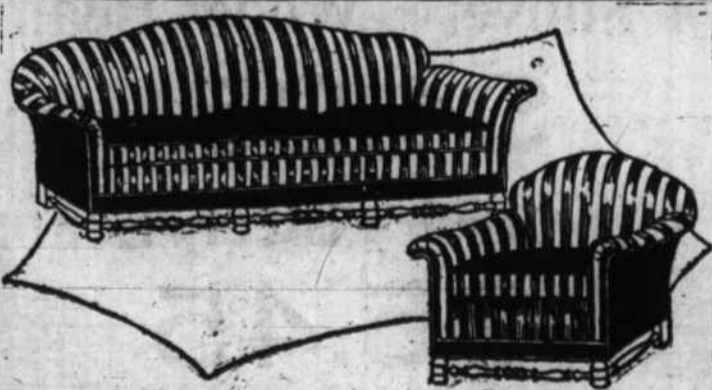
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a most generous host. His numerous friends regret the serious illness of State Highway Commissioner John E. Cameron, of the second highway district who was recently committed to the State Hospital for the insane here. The trouble is said to be traceable to an attack of uraemia some two years ago which left Mr. Cameron in a very nervous condition. Hope for recovery is entertained and no changes are expected in the personnel of the highway commission for the present.

According to statistics recently compiled North Carolina leads all other states in the actual number of laws enacted. The last Legislature enacted 1,173 which is said to be ten per cent in excess of that of any other state for the year 1925. None of these are considered to be the least bit radical in the "destructive" aspect of the

term. Commissioner of Revenue Dough-ton has completed his emergency force without exhausting the list of applications. He could accept only twenty-seven out of a total of 400 to 500. The Commissioner lets it be known that there are no more vacancies. The personnel is much smaller than usual, but the department hopes to "get by" all right.

Governor McLean has accepted the vice-presidency of the United States Good Roads Association recently tendered him by that organization at the annual meeting in Houston, Texas. Governor Trinkle, of Virginia, is president of the organization.

Insurance Commissioner Stacey W. Wade returned from Washington, D. C., Friday morning where he delivered an address before the insurance section of the United States Chamber

of Commerce at a luncheon given in the ball room of the New Willard. Press reports indicate a pleasing effect of the address upon those who attended the meeting. The subject was "Responsibility of the Policyholder."

The State Equalization Fund commission held a meeting in the office of State Superintendent Allen, but reached no conclusion touching allotments of the educational fund to the various counties. This is to be done at a conference on June 1st.

North Carolina is to take part in a nation-wide movement to create a memorial to Walter Hines Page, who has honored himself and his State during a life replete with activities as a man of large affairs both at home and abroad. It is proposed to raise a million dollar endowment fund to

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AND WHEN SHE WAS BAD SHE WAS HORRID

FORGET THE CURL. We suspect her hair was bobbed. It was a hot summer day and Nama did not dress her as a young lady of 12 whole years expects. We believe the following would have caused one of those very, very good days.

HER DRESS. White Voile, trimmed in bal or Baby Irish lace 48c, 75c and \$1.15 yd.

HER PRINCESS SLIP. Shadow-Stripe Satine, 48c, 69c

HER SHOES. Buster Brown Patent Sandals, \$4.25

HER HOSE. 3-4 Length White Silk, 50c

HER UNDERWEAR. Little Sister Sealpax Union Suits, just like bothers, 89c

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