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NEW YEAR
Is Our Wish
To All**

First National Bank

W. E. WHITE, President F. J. BEASLEY, Cashier
W. B. BARROW, Assistant Cashier
LOUISBURG, North Carolina

1928

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OUR RALEIGH LETTER

By M. L. Robinson

Raleigh, Dec. 26.—State officialdom contracted the Christmas spirit and elaborate planned parties brought joy to the employees of practically all departments, while Raleighites found the usual pleasure in carrying Yuletide cheer to the needy and the distressed. Big hearted men and women vied with each other in accepting opportunities to administer to those found to be unable to help themselves and not a family in all of Raleigh or Wake county, so far as known, was overlooked on "the day before Christmas." A number of State officials and many "under secretaries" abandoned their onerous duties and are spending the holidays at "the old home." Only the automobile bureau of the Department of Revenue continued operations on a full time basis, the sale of new license plates making this necessary. Special programs were put on at the churches and in every service the Babe of Bethlehem was magnified in story and in song.

The syndicate, headed by the First National Bank of New York, has exercised its option on \$3,500,000 of the \$10,000,000 involved in its agreement with the State last spring and is allowed until March 31st on the remaining \$6,500,000. Delay of the engravers to deliver the bonds taken up by the syndicate necessitated a trip to New York by Treasurer Lacy to make temporary arrangements for the State's protection until the bonds are delivered and signed by Governor McLean and Mr. Lacy, who will a little later journey to the Metropolis for that purpose. All the bonds were sold on a 4 per cent basis.

Governor McLean and the other members of the State Printing Commission are still wrestling with proposals for the execution of the public printing, the solution of which seems no nearer than on the day last summer when the second batch of bids was rejected. Since that time a specialist from Washington, D. C., it is said, has been working on—and finally completed—a set of elaborate specifications, on which twenty-four bids were opened in the Governor's office last Tuesday. These proposals came from every part of the State, but it so happened that only the recent contractors presented bids on the items of machine and monotype composition which furnished the excuse for rejection at the June meeting on account of an increase from 80 to 98 cents per thousand ems. Furthermore, the Raleigh printers and the Observer Printing House, Charlotte, decline even to handle these controverted items unless they are given a percentage of all classes of work contemplated in the biennial contract. In other words, they ask for part of the "fat" to go along with the "lean" and so advised the Commission in explanatory letters accompanying their bids. Meanwhile, the specialists are still tabulating.

Chief Justice W. P. Stacy, of the North Carolina Supreme Court, is to spend the interim between this time and the opening of the spring term in an effort to assist in the settlement of a wage dispute, having been named as a member of the board of arbitration which will try to bring the railroads and their employees together on the question of compensation. Serving with Judge Stacy will be Leslie M. Shaw, former Governor of Iowa and Secretary of the Interior under President Roosevelt, as neutral representatives, and two men named by the railroads and a like number by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. The neutral arbitrators were selected by the Federal Board of Mediation at Washington and the investigation will have to do with the wage scales in the southeastern territory of which North Carolina is a part.

The State Board of Equalization in session here during the week handed out \$16,000 additional to counties as follows: Person, \$3,000; Caswell, \$1,000; Granville, \$2,000; Bladen, \$2,000; Hyde, \$2,000; Rockingham, \$2,000; Currituck, \$2,000; and Yancey, \$2,000, the money apportioned coming from the special fund of \$100,000 set aside by the Board earlier in the year for contingency and emergency purposes after the collection of \$3,126,443.38 of the \$3,250,000 appropriated by the last General Assembly known as the Education Equalization Fund. \$40,000 remains of this special fund which may not be used unless claims of other counties come up at the February meeting. Expenses of the Board for the year is around \$5,000, it is said, and worth every dollar, for property values have been brought nearer a uniform basis and longer terms for rural schools in a number of counties through State cooperation.

The State Board of Education reports a reduction of from one to seven cents in the new text book contracts which is a saving of \$57,400 on the whole. A new series of books on health, language and grammar for use in the elementary schools were adopted for the five-year period, a reduction being secured on each over prices paid for the old ones covering these subjects. The total saving is based on 150,000 children in the fourth and fifth grades, 100,000 in the sixth and seventh grades computing the reductions on all the new books that were substituted for the old ones. Besides this saving the new books are considered superior to the old ones in many particulars.

North Carolina's capital city has been host to fifty-five conventions of one kind and another during the year, the larger number being held in the summer. The large number sets a new record for Raleigh in this respect.

The action of the Supreme Court in declining to pass upon the question of the validity of the \$75,000 worth of bonds issued by the city of Raleigh to aid in the establishment of a bigger and better State Fair has thrown a monkey wrench into the machinery

which may stop operations until it is too late to complete plans for an exhibition next year. The Court issued an order directing attorneys to present arguments showing the authority of the city of Raleigh to order a new registration for the special election in which the proposal to issue bonds was voted upon and whether the bond issue for the purpose could be considered a municipal need contemplated in objects sought through special proceedings of this character and import. A decision is not likely in the matter before the opening of the February term and State Fair enthusiasts are visibly disappointed at the turn the affair has taken after every detail of the State's terms had been complied with.

North Carolina ranks eighteenth among the states in the export of merchandise, according to reports of the Federal Department of Commerce and maintains her lead in the textile field. Merchandise shipments during the second quarter of 1927 reached a value of \$13,799,712; raw cotton, valued at \$5,902,309, was sent from the State to foreign markets; exports of leaf tobacco valued at \$3,143,276; cotton cloth, \$1,049,761; cotton yarn, thread and cordage, \$791,100; cotton hosiery, \$609,376; cotton mill waste, \$419,551; vegetable food products and beverages, \$405,662; and tobacco manufactures, \$333,745. The Department also reports that the dollar volume of business during the week ended December 10th, showed an increase over previous weeks. Resources of the 76 national banks in this State on last call totalled \$211,946,000, the capital stock being \$15,188,000, and the surplus \$9,958,000.

The recent death of R. W. H. Stone, for eleven years president of the Farmers Union, at Rex Hospital here, moves from the scene of action one

of the best farmers in Piedmont North Carolina and a man who practiced what he preached at home and abroad. Loss of farmers in their agricultural pursuits during the past seven years, lately pointed out in a speech by Dr. B. W. Kilgore, may be attributed to a gain of corporate industries as he contends, but if every land tiller in the State had exercised the good common sense which made Mr. Stone the most successful farmer in his county agriculture would be more pleasant and profitable all over the country. Just now the State is boasting of the biggest strawberry crop in its history and a lead over all other states in the Union, with a car shipment of 2,202 during the 1927 season, and Duplin county leading with 1,236.

A rather large surplus of labor in the State is reported by the State Federal Employment Service, a condition not unusual at this season of the year. Mrs. Thomas Weaver Sprinkle, nee Miss Mary Frances Camp, will resume work with the State Department of Public Welfare on her return from an extended bridal tour to Tampa, Florida and Havana, Cuba. The North Carolina Art Society directs attention to the law against cutting or spoiling of trees or timber within 100 yards of any State Highway unless by the owner or with his permission, the maximum punishment being fifty dollars fine or a maximum sentence of thirty days, and insists upon the encouragement of Highway Beautification. Heroes of the sixties are rapidly passing out, according to the State Auditor, who reports 300 fewer pensioners this year than last. Capt. John A. Nelson, fisheries commissioner of the State, tells of heavy shipments of scallops and shrimps, two of the choicest sea foods taken from North Carolina waters, largely found in Bogue and Core

sounds in Carteret county. A blaze which is said to have started in the attic of the Capital Club early Thursday night damaged furniture and fixtures to the extent of \$3,000. John H. A. Moore, of Wilson county, would like to have the \$25 allowance for turning on the current on Larry Newcome, Wayne county negro who is to be electrocuted at the State Prison January 13th. Senator J. M. Sharpe of Rockingham county, recently appeared before the Corporation Commission to ask for the elimination of dangerous railroad crossings near Reidsville which have been the scene of a number of serious accidents the past year or two. Number of stipend hours for North Carolina cotton mills during November exceeded those of any other state, reaching the new high level of 1,993,371,350. Judge Sinclair reverses the action of former Insurance Commissioner Wade in revoking the license of H. W. Pearson, of Lee county, and the same will be reinstated forthwith. Shell fish sanitation is being discussed in connection with laboratory work at Morehead City by State and Federal departmental experts, the subject having recently been brought to the attention of H. E. Miller, sanitary engineer of the State Board of Health. State Treasurer B. R. Lacy is happy over the recent arrival of his son, Dr. Thomas Allen Lacy, from the Grady Memorial Hospital, Atlanta, to spend the holidays. 783 men and women have entered the State Prison since the beginning of the year, according to announcement of the Superintendent, against 580 in 1926. State health officials report the development of 1344 new cases of measles in the State within the last ten days which reduced school attendance in many sections.

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FRANKFURTER SAUSAGE, lb. - 25c	
Bulk Peanut Butter, lb. 19c	Fancy Sugar Corn, can 12 1-2c
Campbells Soups, can 10c	Soft Shell Walnuts, lb. 30c
Van Camps Tomato Soup, can ... 7 1-2c	Fancy Tiny Peas, can 30c
Pure Breakfast Cocoa, 1 lb. carton. 25c	Fancy Sweet Peas, can 15c
3 Pounds Cooking Figs 40c	Baker's Cocoanut Blue or Yellow Label, can 15c
With Cup and Saucer 3 lb. Can Luzianne Coffee \$1.30	QUALITY Alone accounts for our Coffee Sales increasing 100 per cent.
Maxwell House Coffee, lb. 50c	"MURPHY'S SPECIAL" COFFEE Leads the way in quality, satisfaction and distribution, "There's A Reason" ONLY 30c PER POUND
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When time comes for putting the incubator into service for the spring hatching of chickens it should be cleaned thoroughly and disinfected to destroy disease organisms before the eggs are placed in it. Be sure that all dirt and dirt have been removed from the incubator, and disinfect the interior of the machine as well as the egg trays and nursery drawers with an efficient disinfectant such as a qualified cresol solution.

NOTICE

The annual meeting of the stockholders of The First National Bank of Louisburg, N. C., will be held in the banking rooms of said bank on Tuesday, Jan. 10th, 1928, for the election of Directors and such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

F. J. BEASLEY,
Cashier.