

Corporation Values Dropped Considerably In '31

SHOW DECLINE OF OVER 13 MILLION DOLLARS, REPORT

Total Assessments On Public Service Corporations In State Suffered Decided Slump Last Year.

Total assessments on public service corporations in North Carolina for 1931 were \$351,683,433, a decrease of \$13,251,578 under 1930, the state board of assessments has reported.

A \$14,000,000 decrease was shown in the assessments for railroads, the 1931 figures being \$219,576,509 compared to \$233,593,460 for 1930. Increases were reported for power and telephone companies, but decreases were shown in the assessments for telegraph companies and the Pullman company.

Power company assessments for 1931 were placed at \$110,651,173 compared to \$110,408,572, in 1930.

Telephone company assessments were increased from \$16,706,918 in 1930 to \$17,830,212 in 1931. The telegraph companies' assessments were decreased from \$2,188,816 in 1930 to \$1,952,416 in 1931. The 1931 assessment of the Pullman company was \$1,150,000 compared to \$1,397,450 in 1930.

Counties levy ad valorem taxes based on the assessment on the public service corporations "property within their bounds."

The Southern Railway company, the largest individual public service corporation operating in North Carolina, showed a decrease of approximately \$5,800,000 in its assessment. The 1931 figure was \$90,825,909 compared to \$96,648,310 for 1930.

The Carolina Telephone and Telegraph showed a greater 1931 valuation than the American Telephone & Telegraph company, although in 1930 their assessments were the same \$2,750,000. For 1931 the Carolina valuation was \$3,000,000; the American company \$2,850,750.

The largest valuation for telephone companies however, was for the Southern Bell company at \$9,892,150 compared to its 1930 valuation of \$9,245,000. The Interstate Telephone company's valuation was \$550,000 in 1931 compared to \$425,000 in 1930.

The total valuation for all bridge and canal, turnpike, steamboat and ferry companies was \$25,000 in 1931 compared to \$119,910 in 1930. Express companies' valuation remained the same, \$337,000. Water companies were valued at \$106,500 in 1931 compared to \$121,075 in 1930. Refrigerator companies valuation for 1931 was \$54,623 compared to \$61,810 in 1930.

U. S. TO STICK PINS IN BULLS

Washington—A plan to stick pins in bulls to make them bellow for the talkies is being considered by the department of agriculture.

Intent upon carrying on a cross-breeding experiment, the department has imported a shipment of hearty Africander bulls and heifers from South Africa. Soon they will be taken to Texas for experiment. In order to develop interest in the Africanders, the department is inviting motion picture newsreel companies to send cameramen to photograph the unusual herd, and, aided by a few pins, get their bellows in sound reels for posterity.

Used Stenographers In Blackmail, Claim

Dallas, Texas—How certain pretty stenographers allegedly dated up their married employers and then blackmailed them has intrigued police here.

The self-styled president of the Tired Business Men's Association, indicted by the county grand jury on a charge of embezzling from a typist, was believed to know the details.

Police accused him of operating an employment agency for stenographers that amounted to a racket with business men as the victims.

The scheme, police explained, was this: The man got jobs for stenographers on the condition that they would sign contracts with him agreeing to go on parties with their employers and demand money later for eventualities of misconduct they were to permit.

The association president got most of the money, police said. One business man was reported to have paid \$3,500.

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North Carolinian Wins Automobile



PAUL R. VESTAL, 622 Silver Avenue, Greensboro, has just been notified that he won the 197th automobile in the daily nation-wide Cremo contest announced each week-day night over the Columbia network. Mr. Vestal was born in Greensboro in 1910, is unmarried and has been engaged in the banking business for three years. He has his choice of a Ford, Chevrolet or Plymouth automobile as a reward for writing the winning statement.

Made World Chew Gum



William Wrigley, Jr., Chicago chewing gum magnate, owner of the Chicago Cubs, Catalina Island, and many millions, died in Phoenix. He established his business in forty countries.

Will Always Grow Cotton And Tobacco

North Carolina farmers will always grow cotton and tobacco. They know how to grow the two crops; they are trained and equipped to grow them; and they know that during any given series of years, these two crops have returned the highest acre income.

In this manner, C. B. Williams, head of the department of agronomy at State College, sums up the question of whether Tarheel farmers should plant cotton and tobacco this year. Mr. Williams contends that prices below the cost of production are no new thing. This has been true since 1630 when the early colonists of Virginia said that only the best quality of tobacco paid the cost of production. In 1894, cotton brought only 4.6 cents a pound on December first. At times since then the price of both crops has been below the cost of production. "But," says Mr. Williams, "despite these low prices, farmers have reduced their acreages, have made good yields on what acres they have planted, and, when increased consumption came about, the ruinous prices did not usually remain for any great length of time."

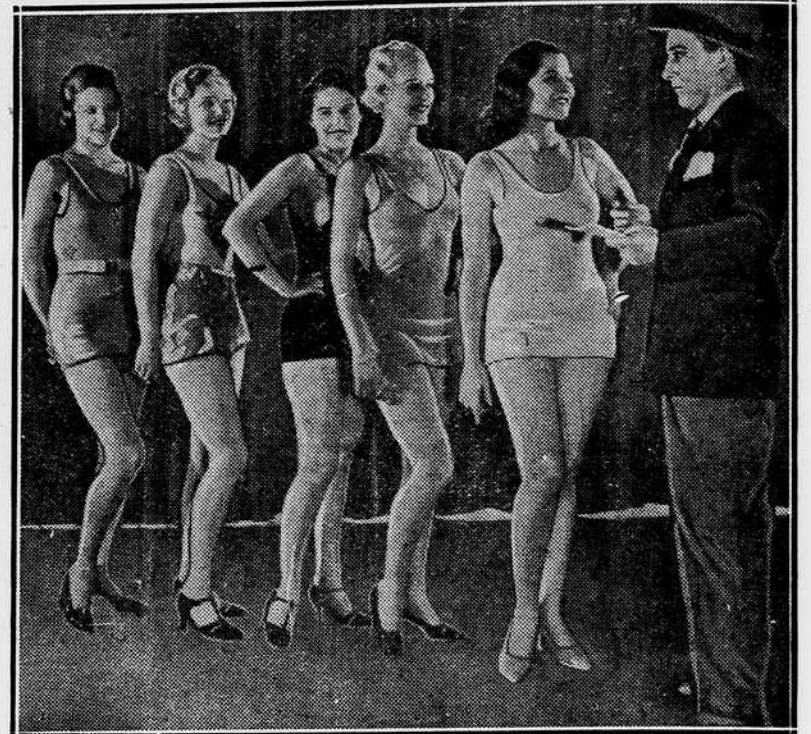
Established Lawn Needs Some Care

Once the homeowner has a good lawn established, his problem thereafter is to keep it in a thrifty condition. The solution of this is to be found in how he waters, mows and fertilizes his grass.

"As it becomes more difficult to get stable manure at reasonable prices, homeowners are finding the use of commercial fertilizers to be more practical in supplying plant food to their lawns and grounds," says Glenn O. Randall, floriculturist at State College. "A good lawn mixture would analyze 10 percent phosphoric acid, 6 percent nitrogen and 4 percent potash. Other formulas may be satisfactory if they contain enough of these three plant foods. However, it is desirable that one-half the nitrogen be from the quickly available inorganic sources such as nitrate of soda and the other half from the slower acting organic sources such as cottonseed meal. This helps to distribute the supply of nitrogen over a longer period. Apply these fertilizers at the rate of ten pounds to each 100 square feet."

When the grass is two to three inches high it should get its first cutting with the mower blades set high. Then the lawn should be mowed regularly thereafter as the grass reaches this height. It is unnecessary to remove the

This Is One of the Jobs That Fame Brings



NOW wouldn't you like to be Bing Crosby or at least be in his shoes? He has just been selected to judge a beauty contest at Oglethorpe University in Georgia, so to be qualified for the job—and he admits it's going to be quite a job—he has been practicing up on some of Broadway and Fifth Avenue's most famous models. Perhaps you recognize some of them from advertisements you have seen in the newspapers and magazines. Bing, who sings on the Cremo program every week night over the Columbia Broadcasting System, was comparatively unknown a few months ago. Now, because of his original type of singing he is one of Broadway's reigning theatrical and radio stars. He is, as the New York Telegraph says, "the boy who went over with a bang with his peculiar style of singing songs by tumbling from bar to bar in a pleasing exhibition of vocal musical gymnastics." If such musical success is apt to give one so pleasant a job as judging beauty contests, we predict an unusual increase in the ranks of the musical gymnasts. Perhaps you might listen to Bing to find out how it's done.

cut grass unless it has been allowed to grow too long or the weather is extremely wet.

Thirty Bushels Of Corn Results From Lespedeza

An increase of 30 bushels of corn an acre by the simple expedient of growing lespedeza on poor land is the interesting result reported by B. G. Jeffries of Burlington, Alamance County.

Enos C. Blair, extension agronomist at State College, reports the incident. "In February of 1929, Jeffries planted lespedeza on two acres of land. His farm is a typical old belt tobacco farm and the soil is a white sandy loam, innocent of any organic matter," says Mr. Blair. "The slopes are all badly eroded. In 1929 and 1930, the lespedeza was harvested for seed but all the stalks and leaves were left on the

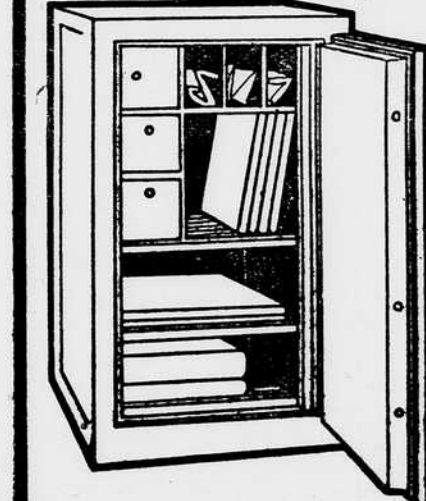
land. Last year, 1931, the two acres were turned for planting corn. Six additional acres adjoining were also planted at the same time."

Mr. Blair says the corn for the eight acres was fertilized with 200 pounds an acre of a 10-4-4 mixture and planting was done on May 15. No top-dresser was used. However, the lespedeza land showed the same effects of having been top-dressed with nitrogen fertilizers since the corn grew faster, larger and looked more thrifty than the corn on the six acres without lespedeza.

AUDIT REQUIRED

Raleigh—Superintendents of public instruction in the 100 counties of the state have been sent instructions relative to the annual audit required of all school records by the new law, by Charles M. Johnson, director of local government.

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