

# The Carolina Watchman

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING BY  
THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN PUBLISHING CO.  
SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA

Established in 1832 100th Year of Publication

E. W. G. HUFFMAN Editor

PHONES:  
News and Editorials 695  
Advertising and Circulation 532  
Business 532  
Locals and Personals 2010-J

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Payable in Advance  
One Year \$1.00  
Three Years 2.00

Entered as second-class mail matter at the postoffice at Salisbury, N. C., under the act of March 3, 1879.

"If the choice were left to me whether to have a free press or a free government, I would choose a free press."—Thomas Jefferson.

FRIDAY, MORNING, SEPTEMBER 9, 1932

## POPULATION DATA

### CITIES AND TOWNS

Salisbury	16,951	Gold Hill	156
Spencer	3,129	Granite Quarry	507
E. Spencer	2,098	Rockwell	696
China Grove	1,258	Faith	431
Landis	1,388	Kannapolis	13,912

### TOWNSHIPS

Atwell	2,619	Morgan	1,327
China Grove	8,990	Mt. Ulla	1,389
Cleveland	1,445	Providence	2,589
Franklin	2,246	Salisbury	25,153
Gold Hill	2,642	S. Irish	1,251
Litaker	2,562	Steele	1,142
Locke	1,904	Unity	1,406

ROWAN COUNTY 56,665

The influence of weekly newspapers on public opinion exceeds that of all other publications in the country.—Arthur Brisbane.

### SEVEN YEARS OF RAILROADING

A Statistical Railroad Summary for 1925-1931 has just been issued.

The principal deductions to be gained from it are that the rails have steadily lowered their cost of operation, have made remarkable progress in achieving further economies, have increased the speed and efficiency of operation, have advanced the safety of both passengers and employees and have seen their earnings drop lower and lower.

Many, many moons have passed since the rails were able to earn the 5-3.4 per cent on their investment, held to be a fair return by the Transportation Act. Not since they were returned to private hands after the war have earnings been that high. During the first six months of this year, for example, their earnings were at the average rate of but 1.01 per cent on their investment.

How long this state of affairs can continue has been a burning question for several years. Either we give the railroads a fair deal, by subjecting their competitors to the same type of regulation as we subject the railroads, or the future of transport is black indeed.

If the railroads go to the wall, the public will be the principal sufferer—and it will suffer plenty! No industry is more necessary to our social and economic well-being. Mr. Average Citizen should realize that he is vitally interested in this situation.

### NORTH CAROLINA'S LAND RESOURCES

North Carolina has a land area of nearly forty-nine thousand square miles, and ranks twenty-eighth in size among the states. On this land live more than three million two hundred thousand inhabitants, North Carolina being one of the more densely settled states of the Union. Although we rank twenty-eighth in size, two states have more farms, and only one state has more dwellers. This would naturally lead one to assume that much of the state's area is under cultivation. Yet strange as it may seem, only one-fourth of our land area is devoted to the production of crops, which is less than the national average! Furthermore, it is interesting to note that North Carolina farms are the smallest cultivated farms in the United States. This strange fact is largely the result of much poor land, wet land, rough land, and the intensive nature of our system of farming. The natural result of these small farms is that North Carolina farmers are relatively poor, have relatively small annual incomes, and have relatively small tax paying capacity.

Due to the fact that four-fifths of our land area is not yet under cultivation, and taking into consideration the natural conditions necessary for the utilization of land, it is safe to say that not more than two states can bring more land under cultivation in the future than can North Carolina. In other words, North Carolina, paradoxically, is both a densely settled state and a frontier state. We could easily support a farm population from two or three times as large as our present farm population without reducing the size of our farms, and still have plenty of land for forests and for other uses.

### THE WORST IS YET TO COME

That 13-year-old North Carolina mother of triplets may be too young to feel aggrieved at the early responsibility thrust upon her; but when she is 33 and they 20 and want to leave their babies in grandma's care while they go to a party, she probably will rebel.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

### HE DIDN'T FIGHT THE ENEMY, EITHER

In his speech notifying Mr. Hoover of his renomination, Representative Snell said:

"Upon you, sir fell the responsibility of exerting all the powers of government to protect this country (in the depression) . . . We recognize that it has been impossible for you to impart to the people all the details of the dangers that have confronted them. In the thick of battle it is not the general's business to issue bulletins; it is his business to fight the enemy" (the depression).

The following record shows how Mr. Hoover spent more than two years "fighting the enemy" and withholding from the people the "details of the dangers that confronted them."

October 24, 1929. New York Stock Market crash. October 25, 1929. The fundamental business of the country is on a sound and prosperous basis.—Statement by President Hoover.

November 21, 1929. There is no reason why business should not be carried on as usual.—Statement by President Hoover.

December 3, 1929. The sudden threat of unemployment . . . created unwarranted pessimism and fear. We have reestablished confidence. A very large degree of industrial unemployment has been prevented.—President Hoover's message to Congress.

January 21, 1930. The tide of employment has changed in the right direction.—Statement by President Hoover.

March 7, 1930. All the evidences indicate that the worst effects of the crash upon employment will have been passed during the next sixty days.—Statement by President Hoover.

May 1, 1930. We have now passed the worst.—Statement by President Hoover.

October 2, 1930. The depression is but a temporary halt in the prosperity of a great people. The income of a large part of our people has not been reduced.—Statement by President Hoover.

December 2, 1930. We have already weathered the worst of the storm.—Statement by President Hoover.

December 8, 1931. We find fundamental national gains. There has been a distinct gain in public health.—Statement by President Hoover.

December, 1931, marked the convening of the Seventy-second Congress with a Democratic House and only a nominal Republican majority in the Senate. This marked the beginning of the fight on the depression after two years of the issuance of bulletins by the General (Hoover).

Mr. Hoover did nothing to help matters until he was prodded by the Democrats. He knew full well that such measures or others similar to them, as were finally approved were necessary, yet he refused to call Congress together. He was trying to fill the people with a lot of Pollyanna stuff when the people in reality were in great distress.

If the Democrats hadn't gained control of the House we might still be fighting the depression with a bunch of silly, inaccurate statements from the White House.

### TAX BANKRUPTCY

Between 1913 and 1929 the national wealth increased from \$192,500,000,000 to \$361,873,000,000—an increase of 88 per cent.

National income increased from \$34,400,000,000 to \$85,200,000,000—an increase of 174 per cent.

During the same period total governmental expenditures, Federal, State and local, grew from \$2,919,000,000 to \$13,048,000,000—an increase of 347 per cent.

Governmental indebtedness increased from \$4,205,000,000 to \$30,194,000,000—an increase of 615 per cent.

In 1913 governmental expenditures represented 8.5 per cent of the national income, and in 1929 represented 15.3 per cent.

Bad as this may seem it by no means tells the worst. Since 1929 taxes have steadily risen, while incomes have sharply declined. It is reliably estimated that this year government will absorb not less than 30 per cent of the national income.

It is apparent that we are facing tax bankruptcy. There is a point beyond which we cannot pay—a point at which taxation ends and confiscation begins. All over the country farms, homes, real estate, even factories, have been taken over by the states in lieu of taxes. We are at last paying the price of government waste and extravagance. Only a decisive "tax revolt," that demands economy and efficiency and government retrenchment, can save us from the inevitable consequences of the present trend.

### UNDER ANOTHER NAME

The first problem, of course, is not preventing the return of the saloon but the regulation or abolition of the speakeasy. The saloon has never been abolished. It merely changed its style, invited in the young girls and went on doing business, calling itself a speakeasy.—Columbia Record.

### HE'D BE LONESOME

What this country needs is a man who can be right and President at the same time.—New York Morning Telegraph.

### HOOVER'S FORTUNE

So Mr. Hoover's fortune has shrunk to \$700,000. Well, any man who could save that much deserves a great following.—Quillen.

### MORE TO THE POINT

Mayor Walker asserts that his conscience is clean. But as a practical matter, the immediate issue is whether the Mayor's record is clean.—Asheville Times.

## First Hundred Steps the Hardest

By Albert T. Reid



## THE WATCHMAN TOWER

To Motorists and Parents Of Salisbury School Children:

With the re-opening of schools this week, it is highly important that motorists and parents as well as the police department and other agencies give thought to the danger of accidents near the schools. Motorists should not need to be told by police officers to slow down and drive carefully when passing school buildings. Those who will not observe the "school zone" traffic regulations should be promptly brought into court. Parents should carefully warn their children, especially young ones, to take proper precautions in crossing streets. With proper care and precautions on the part of all concerned, there should be no accidents resulting from the re-opening of the schools.

Governor Matthew Rowan.

To All Rowan County Rural School Authorities:

You have not forgotten, of course, the several tragic accidents of last year involving school buses, resulting in a number of deaths in the state.

With the opening of a new school year, every possible precaution against accidents should be taken. All buses ought to be thoroughly inspected frequently to discover and remove any defects in brakes or other parts of the mechanism. Drivers should be selected with the greatest care and thoroughly familiarized with their duties and the law regulating their work. The public should be reminded of the law which requires that approaching automobiles or other motor vehicles pause when about to pass a standing bus. Children should not be permitted to play and tussle in the buses.

It is to be hoped that such care and precautions will be taken with the operation of the buses this year that no serious accidents will occur.

Governor Matthew Rowan.

## COMMENTS

A SUMMER SYMPHONY.

To The Editor: At the end of a tedious day, our Summer night comes like a kind benediction.

Chairs are placed in close communion on the lawns. A kindlier spirit, induced by the high riding white moon and cooler air, pervades family groups and gatherings of neighbors. Watermelons are sliced and enjoyed with that gustatory appetite peculiar to Southerners. The night air is permeated with the incomparable odor of open melon hearts.

Children search for the big dipper in the stars. They tiptoe to place their hands on tree trunks and stop the song of locusts. Dogs nose toads in the walk.

The faint scents of abelias and boxwoods mingle with the spicy odors of zinnias and marigolds in the garden. Trees make eerie shadows. Night seems ancient, more ancient than day. Solomon knew such nights, and Caesar, and Napoleon.

Within the dimly lighted house,

through the black squares of open windows and doors, pours the chirring of crickets and the repitious song of katy-dids. The house is surrounded by an orchestra of cicada. The rooms have filled with the fresh, clean breath of night that promises casement of slumber.

Barbara Bowen.

ALL HE KNOWS.

To The Editor: All I know is what I read in papers and what I see and hear as I stroll around. Unless we can't believe our own eyes the eclipse was about as perfect as some of the politician's administrations.

I'd like to have seen Mayor Walker and Roosevelt discussing the eclipse and have seen if they got much pleasure out of it as they did in politics.

The dissolution of the "Bonus" expedition did not erase cause. Priest Coughlin sent \$5,000 to the boys in Washington who were (and still are) fighting for the bonus. He said he had to borrow the money. We wonder what was in the thousands of envelopes that came in as a response to his radio appeals. The Priest understands propaganda. That money will come back multiplied many times.

G. M. Fulbright.

She Suggests That Chain Stores Might Have Caused The Depression

To The Editor: Did it ever occur to you that maybe the chain and cut-rate store are partly responsible for the present depression? It seems to me that a few years ago when such stores were unknown financial conditions were considerably better. Almost all men and women at that time had an equal chance to succeed in business and money was more evenly distributed.

Now, however, the main boss receives all, while the working people—what few there are remaining—take all the bumps and are given cuts in salary. It is a fight to the death when a person is contemplating opening a new store. When he does, he is met with so much keen competition by cut-rate and chain stores that it is no wonder he can just about keep his head above water.

—S. I. P.

Perplexing Questions Which Would Require More Wisdom Than We Possess To Answer.

To The Editor: There are a few things which I wish you or some one would explain to me. Perhaps being just a woman taxpayer I am not expected to understand, but when everything possible is being done to decrease incomes how can we pay



IT'S NOT a very  
GOOD IDEA for a  
MAN AND wife who  
TAKE THEIR bridge  
SERIOUSLY TO play  
TOGETHER, FOR sooner or  
LATER, IT'S bound to  
CAUSE TROUBLE. Of course,  
IF ONE of them can  
LAUGH IT off, everything  
USUALLY WORKS out  
IN FINE Style. But a  
CERTAIN COUPLE here  
IN SALISBURY always  
PLAY AS if they meant  
IT AND so the other  
NIGHT WHEN they got  
HOME FROM a big  
PARTY SHE said to  
HIM, "NOW, if you were  
IN THE same circumstances,  
HOW WOULD you have  
PLAYED THE hand?" And  
IN VERY icy tones he  
REPLIED, "UNDER an  
ASSUMED NAME."  
I THANK YOU.

the increased income taxes and increased property taxes? How can we meet all the demands made daily to help this or that organization which appeals for charity? How can we take care of ourselves without denying others?

It is an easy matter to talk in big sums of money, millions, billions and so on. But will the people really be benefited or just made in permanent beggars who will demand help, saying, "Why should we work when we can be supported for nothing?"

On the other hand, will the money be used to create jobs for the unemployed and keep them busy instead of idlers? After reading of all the money to be raised and of all the general crookedness and grafting among our legislators I am wondering if my money and yours—for, of course, it is the taxpayers who furnish all these billions—is helping swell the income of our—to my mind—incompetent lawmakers.

I am not a calamity howler, but I have been so hard hit by the business slump that I certainly will appreciate a word of explanation that is really sensible and believable.

A TAXPAYER.

