

# The News and Observer.

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RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1899.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## LEADS ALL NORTH CAROLINA DAILIES IN NEWS AND CIRCULATION.

### North Carolina's Progress in 1899.

#### A Review of the Industrial, Educational and Religious Work of the Past Year.

#### OUTLOOK FOR THE END OF THE CENTURY

#### Enterprises Carried to Successful Completion and Those Projected For the New Year.

#### Letters From the Towns and Cities of the State Show What Has Actually Been Accomplished, the Capital Invested in Buildings, Factories, Schools, Municipal Improvements and Tell What Our People Have in Mind to Do.

The year which closes today has been one of unexampled activity, so far as this State is concerned, in the establishment of enterprises for the conversion of raw materials into finished products. There has been a vast expansion of those industries that experience had already shown could be profitably conducted in this State, together with ventures that are practically new to North Carolina. It is a tale of prosperity and growth, such a showing as promises greater things for productive industry in all lines where competition leaves the citizen free to do with his brains and capital his untrammelled best.

With a view to ascertaining what has actually been accomplished during the past year the following letter was sent to the mayor of every town in the State, as well as to many others who, of necessity, keep abreast with the industrial movement in their several communities.

Dear Sir: On December 31, the day preceding New Year's, the News and Observer will print a special NEW YEAR'S EDITION, devoted to a review of the industrial and educational progress of 1899 with a glance at the outlook for 1900. In order to make the review and forecast complete and cover the State, we will request every Mayor in North Carolina to write a short communication giving these facts with reference to his town:

1. Amount of capital (estimated) invested in manufacturing today and the amount in 1890.
2. Amount invested during the year 1899, the new industries established, and the old industries enlarged. Names of new industries, banks or other agencies that promote the business growth of the community.
3. Amount spent for building and repairing in 1899.
4. Educational changes and growth.
5. The manufacturing and business outlook for 1900.

The publication of this correct data from every progressive town and city in the State, signed officially by the Mayor, will, I am sure, be of great value to your community and the State. I beg your co-operation in having your city's industrial situation and prospects fully presented in this edition.

Thanking you in advance for your assistance in an enterprise that will be helpful to your community and to the State, I am,

Very truly yours,

JOSEPHUS DANIELS.

The replies are given below and speak for themselves. It is a remarkable feature of them that there is hardly one but shows that some productive industry has been established, while many show an increase in population and capitalization, in the enlargement of established plants and the founding of new ones that is phenomenal. So much for what has been done.

The indications are that if the State is spared panic and depression in 1900 that it will surpass 1899, or any previous year of the State's history, in forcing North Carolina forward as a manufacturing community. Within the year there have been incorporated over 200 new enterprises having a total capital stock of more than \$6,200,000.

#### COTTON MILLS.

By far the most striking feature of the year's industrial progress in the State has been the projection and building of new cotton mills, and the enlargement and better equipment of old mills. So numerous have been the enterprises of this sort that many conservative men have warned our people against the danger of committing themselves too exclusively to one industry, and advising rather that surplus capital be invested in small manufacturing plants of other kinds where the products will find a ready sale in contiguous territory.

In 1870 there were 33 mills with 23,897 spindles; in 1886, 80 mills with 199,433 spindles; in 1898, 186 mills with 1,018,000 spindles. Today the enlargement of the old mills and new ones just beginning operation will increase the number

of spindles to no less than 1,200,000. In 1898 the cotton crop of the State was about 500,000 bales, and her mills consumed 300,000 bales; this year the crop estimate is 480,000 bales, and her mills will need over 400,000 bales.

The capitalization of the mills in the State reaches the handsome figures of \$20,702,400, and we have approximately 1,200,000 spindles. In addition to the cotton mills there are 11 woolen, 28 knitting, 1 silk and 1 jute bagging mill.

The undeveloped water power of the State would turn at least 140,000,000 spindles, and manufacture about seven times as many bales of cotton as the entire country produces. The late W. C. Kerr, State Geologist, estimated the water power to be 3,500,000 horse power. Comparatively speaking, very little of this immense force has been utilized.

One remarkable phase, and certainly a most encouraging one, of the cotton mill situation is that nearly all the mills projected are actually being built, and almost entirely by local capital at that, showing clearly the substantial and non-speculative nature of the movement for more mills.

There have been projected during 1899 in this State 32 mills to manufacture cotton in some of its forms, the mills having a total minimum capital of \$2,483,500. This does not include the mills projected in 1898 and built this year. The new cotton mills are as follows:

Name of Mill and Location.	Capital.
Gibson, Concord	\$100,000
Windemere, Albemarle	30,000
Avalon, Mayodan	150,000
Indian Creek, Lincoln	30,000
Scotland County, Laurinburg	50,000
Fountain, Tarboro	100,000
Robbins, Goldsboro	12,000
Glencoe, Glencoe Mills	112,000
Bala, Patterson's Mill	6,500
Hart and Holt, Fayetteville	100,000
Shelby, Shelby	100,000
Daniel, Lincoln County	100,000
Patrick, Halifax	10,000
Sanford, Sanford	100,000
Delgado, Wilmington	250,000
Teecolora, Mt. Pleasant	30,000
Revolution, Greensboro	300,000
Bonner Knitting, LaGrange	2,000
Pembroke, New Bern	75,000
Elizabeth City, Elizabeth City	20,000
Amer. Develop., Spray	100,000
Lula, Gastonia	100,000
Carolina, Car. Cot. Mills	60,000
Alamance, Alamance Mills	20,000
Winston Knitting, Winston	6,000
American, Spray	200,000
Royal, Wake Forest	50,000
Neuse River, Falls of Neuse	100,000
Catawba, Newton	25,000
National Finishing, Greensboro	120,000
Melrose, Raleigh	25,000

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#### COTTON SEED OIL MILLS.

As compared with mills for the manufacture of textile products from cotton, mills for the manufacture of by-products are of comparatively late origin, nothing, comparatively, having been done in the erection of plants for handling the valuable by-products of cotton until within very recent years. During 1899, however, eight mills for the manufacture of cotton seed oil, meal and fertilizers have been projected in this State. They are as follows:

Name of Mill and Location.	Capital.
Cowell, Swan and McCotter, Bayboro	\$ 8,000
Selma, Selma	25,000
Concord, Concord	30,000
Machesfield, Tarboro	10,000
Cleveland, Lattimore	10,000
Wilson, Wilson	20,000
Monroe, Monroe	21,000
Davidson, Mecklenburg Co.	20,000

#### LUMBER COMPANIES.

The lumber industry of the State as a result of the unprecedented activity in building has had a year of phenomenal prosperity. It has been the report from nearly all important towns of the State that contractors have been unable to secure material to erect buildings on contract time, and many saw mills are months behind with orders. From the nature of the industry it is quite impossible to secure the data as to the actual output in lumber or the increase over previous years. Men in the industry, however, estimate that the increase in production over 1898 is not less than 30 per cent. Hundreds of thousands of acres of timber land in the East have

been bought by companies already in operation and extensive options have been secured in the west and much timber bought outright.

The following are the new lumber companies organized during the year and their capitalization:

Name and Location.	Capital.
Pinola, Mitchell County	\$100,000
Manteo, Manteo	10,000
South Mt., Hickory	60,000
West Car., Asheville	2,000
Rowland, Goldsboro	100,000
Redding, Randolph County	5,000
Sawyer, Asheville	5,000
Cobb & Thomas, Sanford	10,000
Ayden, Ayden	15,000
Bellhaven, Bellhaven	30,000
Union, Macon County	50,000
Ritter, Mitchell County	50,000
South Mt., Burke	Increase
Mt. Airy, Mt. Airy	35,000
Elise, Elise (Moore County)	10,000
McMullen-Miller, Faison	50,000
Brooklyn	5,000
W. W. Sims, Wilson	25,000

Total capital.....\$562,000

#### FURNITURE FACTORIES.

The manufacture of furniture has been confined almost entirely to one town in this State--High Point--until very recently and is still but a mere beginning if opportunities be considered. The factories that are in operation have enjoyed great prosperity and have, in general, been unable to meet the demand for their products. They are, so far as quality is concerned, making a grade of goods that challenges comparison with any on the general market and command ready sales throughout the Eastern and Southern States. During 1899 nine additional factories have been projected as follows: Rockwell Furniture Company, of Rockwell, Rowan county; the Macon Furniture Company, of Louisburg; the Kingston Furniture Company, of Kingston; the High Point Chair Company, of High Point; the Piedmont Table Company, of High Point; the Royal & Borden Furniture and Mattress Company, of Durham; the Carolina Furniture Company, of Mocksville; the Union Furniture Company, of Durham. In all about \$100,000 have been invested in furniture factories during the year.

#### MISCELLANEOUS FACTORIES.

Besides the manufacturing establishments above mentioned there have been projected during the year 29 corporate enterprises for the manufacture of various articles, having a total capitalization of \$242,000. The factories are a roller mill in Rowan county; the Central Manufacturing Company of Lexington; to make wooden utensils; a tannic acid factory in Cherokee county; a clothing factory in Charlotte; an ice and bottling establishment in Statesville; a distillery at Hamlet; a trowsers factory at Charlotte; a canning company at Newbern; roller mills in Durham; a harrow company at Statesville; a stone quarry at Asheville; an ice factory at Statesville; a casket company at Charlotte; a factory to make hardware at Winston; and axle and hub factory at Wilmington; a confectionery company at Greensboro, and one at Wilmington; a brick and tile plant at Asheville; an iron and steel implement factory at Elizabeth City; a buggy factory at the same place; a roof and paving material plant at Charlotte; a roller mill at Elizabeth City; a carriage factory at Hertford; a shirt factory at High Point and a bayonet-shovel company in Durham.

There have been organized beside 24 mercantile companies with a total capital of \$988,000. Telephone companies have been organized and systems are to be put in at Bakersville, Salisbury, Winston, Rutherfordton, Kenansville, Corbett, Morganton, New London and Lumberton, while the two long distance systems are rapidly extending their lines. It is only a matter of a short time until the State will be a net work of telephone systems, greatly facilitating business.

Elsewhere will be found articles by able specialists covering lines of industry that need not be mentioned here.

#### WINSTON.

##### A New Bank, Furniture Factory and Two Knitting Mills.

Winston, N. C., Dec. 28, 1899.

To the Editor: Your request for information in regard to the educational and industrial progress of our city came to me in the very busiest season of the year, and it is therefore impossible for me to give you the information desired. I will say, however, that there was not less than \$500,000 spent in building and repairing in 1899. This includes buildings now being constructed. I would say, to be conservative, that there is not less than three million dollars invested in manufacturing interests here in the two towns. This will exceed the amount invested in 1890 by about one million dollars.

A savings bank was organized this year, a large furniture factory and two knitting mills, a fair association with \$10,000 capital. A large new opera house in contracted for. The outlook for next year is encouraging. Our tobacco manufacturers are invading new territory, and rapidly increasing sales. Our tobacco market will nearly if not quite reach 25 million pounds of leaf tobacco. Many new industries will no doubt be inaugurated, some of them of real importance to this section as well as to the State.

Our educational facilities are first class. We have perhaps the best equipped graded school system in the State. In Salem is the famous female college, and the boys' school. There is no doubt but that the Davis School property will be

sold or leased to a large institution in Virginia.

I must not forget the gas plants. Two of these concerns will begin business in 1900. The street car and electric light company will enlarge and extend its business.

Truly,  
G. E. WEBB,  
Secretary Chamber of Commerce.  
For Mayor J. W. Griffith.

Winston-Salem, N. C., Dec. 30.

The dying year of 1899 has been of a bright and successful one for Winston-Salem, the only Twin City in the Old North State. For many years this city has been recognized, wherever she is known, as one of the most thoroughly enterprising and hustling towns in the entire South. Her business men are of the go-ahead kind and coupled with natural advantages Winston-Salem today has the proud record of being one of the biggest and best cities in the State.

Industrially speaking the Twin City has grown and moved forward during the year 1899. The two postoffices were consolidated July 1st, making it the only first class office in the State. The two biggest deals made during the year was the purchase and consolidation of the street railway and electric light plant with the Fries Power and Manufacturing Company and the capitalization of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company at \$5,000,000. One-half or more of the stock was taken by members of the American Tobacco Company. The street railway, under the new management, is in better shape than paying expenses, while the former owners lost money. The South Side Car Line will be extended to Wauwatosa. The material has been purchased for this work and the management is considering an extension to North Winston.

During the year the Twin City has become an important railroad centre. This was the result of the completion of the Mocksville-Mooreville Railroad. The Southern now handles all of the coal shipped over the Winston-Salem branch of the Urtol and Western Road from the coal mines in southwest Virginia, via Mooreville to the South. The yards of the two roads here are greatly enlarged in order to handle the increased business.

In tobacco circles 1899 has been a banner year. The manufacturers are well pleased with their trade. The shipments for the year have been in the neighborhood of 18,000,000 pounds. The sales of last year were nearly 13,000,000 pounds, and the warehousemen are predicting that these figures will be exceeded six or more million this year. A new enterprise, which has made splendid success from the start, is the Winston Furniture Factory. The company is giving employment to a large number of hands and is being well patronized.

The South Side Cotton Mill is working day and night. New looms are being put in to meet the increase of business.

There has been a great deal of building this year; not as much as in some former years, but every carpenter and mason has had no trouble in finding employment. A contractor said to me: "There has been plenty of work, but wages have not advanced. This will have to come, however, if McKinley prices continue to go up on things we eat and wear, or else there will be dissatisfaction with the workmen."

The new mammoth factory of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company will be completed early in the new year. This means an increase in the output of manufactured tobacco for 1900.

The large and handsome new First Baptist church is nearing completion and the pastor hopes to dedicate it within a few months.

The merchants here report the best fall trade for many years. The holiday patronage surpassed all former records.

The outlook for 1900 is quite encouraging for every enterprise in Winston-Salem. There is nothing to retard the Twin City's growth and prosperity, unless it be the coming Presidential election, which never fails to have a more or less damaging effect upon all business.

R. E. CARMICHAEL,  
City Editor Sentinel.

#### MORGANTON.

##### A New Bank, Electric and Telephone Company and Gold Mine.

To the Editor: In reply to your request I will say as to Morganton:

1. Total amount of capital invested in 1899	\$145,000
Total amount of capital invested in 1890	30,000
2. 1899, Bank (Burke Co.) \$30,000	
Electric Light Co., \$5,000	
Telephone Co.	35,500
3. Amount spent in building and repairs 1899	60,000
4. No changes, but increased interest.	
5. Manufacturing and business outlook for 1900 very flattering.	

I would also state that in the last month or two \$30,000 have been paid in cash for gold mining properties in Burke, and we have a new long distance Telephone Company at very moderate rates that gives universal satisfaction. The town owns the electric light plant and while only charging about half the usual city prices still gets its own street light practically for nothing.

Wishing you the success your effort certainly deserves. I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
JOHN TULL,  
Mayor.

To the Editor: This is one of the oldest towns in the Western part of the State, dating back to 1781--its county Burke having been formed in 1777.

It bears the name of the West Virginia wagoner famous at Cowpens and Saratoga, and commissioned by Washington to suppress the whiskey insurrection in Western Pennsylvania.

Prior to the Civil War it was the seat of a summer session of the Supreme Court, and had a State reputation as a pleasant town to spend the summer in. It was then a straggling village with

about 600 people, though they were quite a remarkable people, and of force in the State and society. This has been true of them from the days of the Revolution and is somewhat true of them yet.

The town lies on the Western North Carolina Railroad, one of the leading lines of the great Southern Railway, fourteen hours from Washington, seven hours from Raleigh, four hours from Charlotte and two hours from Asheville.

The State's largest and finest charity, the Hospital for the Insane, is located here, as well as the State School for the Deaf Mutes of the White Race. The population of the town proper is between 2,500 and 3,000--of the county about 20,000. Since 1890, it has made most of its progress.

The Alpine Cotton Mills, the Lesh Camp Tannery, the Morgan Manufacturing Company (wood works), and the Logan Roller Mills are its chief industries. They represent about \$150,000 in plant equipment, and do business to an amount of which I am ignorant, but evidently at a profit, as they are continually engaged. They furnish employment to several hundred persons. There are many saw mills in the county, and the shipment of lumber, both hard woods and pine, is a leading industry.

There are some thirty stores in the place, churches of the Presbyterian, Episcopal, Methodist and Baptist communities and two churches of the colored population, which here number about one-fifth of the whole.

About \$40,000 was expended during the past year in buildings--the Methodists having in that time well under way one of the handsomest churches in the West, and which represents about one-fourth of the above sum.

The town has a well equipped electric light plant of its own, and a good telephone system, connecting it with all the near by towns. The latter is a private enterprise. The Burke County Bank, owned by leading citizens of Catawba of strong financial standing does the exchange business of the place, and furnishes any needed accommodation in the way of money.

The health of the place deserves more than a passing remark. The situation on the sunny side of the Blue Ridge and just under it, while 1,200 feet above the waves at Beaufort was the inducement, which led the State to select it as the location for two of its chief institutions.

The Catawba River flows around the town and its drainage is excellent. While but few Northern people have come in those who have come are most excellent folk, and are well pleased with their environments.

The debt of the town is about \$17,000, and the tax rate is 50 cents on the \$100 valuation.

The Morganton Herald and the Burke County News, both weeklies, are the county newspapers, and receive a fair support.

The farming lands along the Catawba, the Johns and Linville Rivers and on the numerous tributaries of these are of excellent quality, and produces in abundance all the fruits and cereals, of the temperate zone.

Since 1836 gold has been successfully mined in the county and in earlier days it was the chief industry. Considerable capital from Virginia has recently been invested in old mines, and the vein mines are now in large demand. Most of the work hitherto has been placer mining.

The forests of the county are now being rapidly cut down without yielding any great income to their owners, and this is one industry that cannot unreservedly be commended. Otherwise all the signs here are favorable to progress.

WM. S. PEARSON,  
Editor Herald.

#### WILMINGTON.

##### \$550,000 Put in Factories and \$500,000 in Buildings in 1899.

Wilmington, N. C., Dec. 27, 1899.

To the Editor: The information which you seek in regard to the educational and industrial progress of this city can only be given with approximate correctness, as heretofore no records of such matters have been kept. We are trying to remedy matters in this, as in many other respects. The figures I herewith send are believed to be a conservative estimate of true conditions.

1. The total amount of capital invested in manufacturing in this city in the year 1890 was (about) \$750,000; the total amount today is (about) \$2,000,000.
2. During the year 1899 amount invested (about) \$550,000. The new industries established during the year 1890 have been, among others, one large cotton mill, one national bank, a wood-working establishment, machine shops and the enlargement of several plants.
3. Amount spent for building and repairing during 1899 (not including the above) about \$500,000.
4. The educational growth has been steady, and (excepting costly appliances, such as can be seen in the rich cities) it can be truly said that the schools of Wilmington are equal to any in the United States.
5. The manufacturing and industrial outlook is more encouraging than it has been, and the building of good roads by the county, which has begun, and the sewerage and street improvement about to be commenced in the city, with the reduction of the city debt, will add greatly to the encouragement.

I have given you a hasty generalization. ALFRED MOORE WADDELL,  
Mayor.

#### PITTSBORO.

##### Development of Water Powers, and Coal and Copper Mines.

Pittsboro, N. C., Dec. 29, 1899.

To the Editor: The industrial progress of this (Chatham) county for 1899 and the outlook for 1900 are very encouraging. During the year 1899 more important

and more numerous industries and enterprises have been undertaken than during any previous years.

Among these enterprises may be mentioned the purchase by the Cape Fear Power Company of the well known water power at Lockville for the purpose of transmitting electric power to neighboring towns, and the purchase by the Erwin Cotton Mills Company of several miles of water power on Haw River or the purpose of establishing one or more large cotton mills. Negotiations are now pending for the purchase of their valuable water powers (with which his county is peculiarly blessed) for the purpose of operating manufactories.

The Mineral interests of Chatham are our developed very successfully. The celebrated coal mine at Camnock is now worked on a more extensive scale than ever before. The Ore Hill Iron Mine is also being worked more successfully than ever before. Efforts are being made (and the prospects are very encouraging) for the successful working of several deposits of copper ore.

Our farmers are in better condition than they have been in several years. They certainly owe much less--are much less in debt--than in many years past, even if they may not have much more money. While their crops in 1899 may not have been equal to the average, yet they have sold them for a higher price than in several years.

The merchants say that their trade has been larger this fall than in many years.  
H. A. LONDON,  
Editor Record.

#### OLD FORT.

##### \$100,000 Invested in Graphite Mining as a Starter.

Old Fort, N. C., Dec. 27, 1899.

To the Editor: I take pleasure in answering some of your queries of a late date to the mayor:

1. No capital invested in manufacturing here in 1899.

2. Amount of capital invested in manufacturing during the year 1899: \$5,000 in milling; \$20,000 in lumber shipping; \$50,000 in distilling; \$4,000 in new buildings and repairs. One new store house and stock and two new stocks of merchandise have been added recently. Two residences are in course of construction with more to follow, and the outlook for 1900 is bright for building, shipping lumber, manufacturing and mining. A large plant for manufacturing stone ballast for the Southern Railway is to be placed here at once. The Connelly Graphite Works, just above, are spending \$100,000 as a starter for their immense business and have dozens of men at work, building and grading. This graphite business under the able management of Professors Huer and Weiss promises to be a mammoth affair for this country. There are other mining operations planning with some real estate transactions consummated and a better demand for realty of all classes. The volume of business generally for the closing year beats the record and prospectors are inquiring and looking about for investments.

Respectfully yours,  
WALTER GRAHAM.

#### MT. AIRY.

##### Factories and Quarries Double Their Capacity, 8 Miles of Railroad.

Mt. Airy, N. C., Dec. 26, 1899.

To the Editor: I send you below data as to the progress of our town. We have this year about \$95,000 invested in new machinery and manufacturing enterprises. There has been built this year two new flour roller mills; one tobacco factory has doubled its capacity; the furniture factory has also doubled its floor space; the Hamburg Cotton Mills has added fifty looms to their plant. Besides these there has been numerous smaller enterprises started up. There is not a vacant storehouse or dwelling house in the town. The Mt. Airy and Northeastern Railroad is graded sixteen miles out into the heart of the hardwood timber belt. The tract has been laid nearly half way and the trains are running on it. The Mt. Airy Granite Quarries are working all the hands they can get, and want as many more if they could be had. For new dwellings and repairing old ones there has been spent this year about \$40,000. This does not include manufacturing enterprises. In the matter of education, we have established this year first-class graded schools for both races, and they will be run eight months or more this year. I think the manufacturing and business outlook for 1900 is better by far than it has been in ten years or at any time in the history of the town.

We have no bonded indebtedness on the town, and not exceeding \$1200 indebtedness of any kind. Consequently we have a low rate of taxation.  
Yours truly,  
J. A. HADLEY,  
Mayor.

#### YOUNGVILLE.

##### A Bank and Tobacco Stemmy Put in Operation, New Buildings.

Youngville, N. C., Dec. 25, 1899.

To the Editor: In regard to your New Year's Edition, our town makes the following report:

(There is no manufacturing going here. The amount invested during year 1899 is about \$20,000, investing a bank, stemmy for tobacco pack, dwelling houses, etc. There has been about \$10,000 spent for repairing ing, etc. Educational advantages increased about 40 per cent. The outlook for 1900 is much better. A big demand for dwelling houses but cannot be furnished at present.)  
Respectfully,  
C. C. WINSTON,