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## THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

### A Comprehensive Review of State's Condition and Needs.

The Governor begins his message with a note of impressive events during the last four years of the State's history. Never in its history has it been so prosperous in up-building along all useful lines and its name and fame reach far and wide. From amid the panic there has been much prosperity. Cotton mills have been built in every section. We raise 600,000 bales and manufacture more. We have 53,446 looms and 2,573,148 spindles. We are first in manufacture of plug and smoking tobacco and number of chairs, and have the largest pulp factory in the world.

Progress in education is most gratifying. During the last two years from county and local taxation 490,342.15 has been raised and by donations and bonds \$749,671.31. School property has advanced in value by \$1,189,258. School terms are lengthened and teachers better paid. The last General Assembly appropriated \$45,000 for high schools and 156 have been established with an enrollment of 3,049 pupils. The present body will be asked for \$50,000 for the purpose.

The State Superintendent's report shows a deep interest in education over the State.

The Governor notes improvements in morals, industry and patriotism.

The commission of which the Governor was chairman, was given power to adjust the State's indebtedness. This has been effected with satisfaction to creditors and honor to the State except that the iniquitous special tax bonds, repudiated by the State. The bonded indebtedness due in 1918 amounts to \$6,886,000, but the stock in the North Carolina Railroad is worth \$168 per share and will meet this and have more than \$1,000,000 left.

The last Legislature appropriated \$500,000 for further means of caring for the insane. The Governor assures the present body that the commissioners have performed their duty faithfully and is sure that impartial inspectors would exclaim, "Well done."

A few enumerations follow:

A good tract of land on which to build an epileptic hospital has been purchased at a fair price. This will also furnish a good farm, on which the patients can work. A wing to the Eastern Hospital which accommodates 100 patients has been completed. A nurses' home at Morganton is about ready for occupation, and when the nurses move into it, will give space for 100 more patients in what are now the nurses' quarters. Another building at Raleigh for 100 women is now under rapid construction; three brick buildings, colony plan, at Raleigh, for 100 convalescent patients; also six more brick buildings at Raleigh—three for 100 epileptic women and three for 100 epileptic men—will be finished by April 1st; also two brick buildings at the colored hospital at Goldsboro for forty epileptic patients, and two frame buildings for forty tubercular patients, besides all needed repairs. The commission will also at once erect another colony building at Morganton for 100 more patients, and will supply all needed wants.

The Governor rehearsed a resume of the difficulties with the railroads on the rate issue and assures the body of his determination to compel obedience to the law had not satisfactory adjustment been made and ratified by the called session of the General Assembly.

This adjustment has proved a great blessing to the State. The Corporation Commission has made out a strong case to the interstate commission against discrimination in freight rates and it is hoped that good results will yet follow. The Governor says if we lose we must appeal to Congress.

He recommends that the body request the railroads to remedy the present annoyances from the mileage book system. The Governor recognizes some acts of injustice to the railroads in the way of unreasonable penalties that should be righted and commends a spirit of fostering these great arteries of commerce, instead of needlessly crippling them, while yet enforcing obedience to law by them as by individuals.

The Governor says there are not many pressing laws needed now and recommends a short session.

He asks for an increase in the Governor's salary from \$4,000 to \$6,000, and of the Commissioner of Labor and Printing to \$2,500, all the other State officers salaries having been increased at the last session.

The Governor says he has lived economically but has had to spend \$2,000 more than his salary every year. He says the Governor should not want more than his expenses but should have this amount.

He urges immediate action that the new incumbents may reap the benefits. They cannot do so if the act is not passed before the inauguration of Gov. Kitchin.

**Taxation.**

The Governor dwells at length upon the intricate subject of taxation. He recommends that valuations on personal property, real estate, money credits, etc., be as nearly as possible

to its real value. This would necessitate only a very low rate. It would advertise the State to advantage and invite capital and settlers. More than forty-five counties receive more from the State than they pay into the treasury.

Valuations are so lacking in uniformity as to do great injustice to the just. Taxes collected since last Legislature have fallen below appropriations from lack of uniformity. The Governor urges that the present law of equalization be repealed as it is too costly with no method of enforcing it properly or of securing uniformity. He says:

"I suggest that you appoint a very strong finance committee who shall consult with the Auditor, Treasurer and Corporation Commission, and after considering all suggestions made make such a law as will properly advertise the true value of the State's property and allow the rate to be fixed at a lower amount. While the assessment was made last year, there is no constitutional provision that prevents this Legislature from requiring a new valuation."

**Primary Elections.**

The Governor notes the great expense and annoyance of candidates for public office begetting a tendency of good men to shirk from duty while bad men are liable to secure the places to the jeopardy of the State. He recommends legalized primaries and a law requiring candidates or persons working for them in primaries or elections to give a strict account under oath for all money collected or expended in the campaign under penalty for misdemeanor and debarment from ever holding public office in the State. He would also have newspapers and public speakers punished for defamatory assaults against a candidate under satisfactory roofs are at hand. He thinks we should have more polling places and that the polls should be closed at 4 o'clock.

**Criminal Procedure.**

The Governor notes the crowded condition of the court dockets and recommends that recorders be appointed or elected in every city and town or township to try all misdemeanors and favors a division of the State into two circuits thus dividing equally the judicial districts in which the judges should rotate. It would save expense and time and all necessary changes could still be made under certain conditions.

He would give the State an equal number of challenges of jurors as the defendant in criminal cases since the defendant is allowed to testify in his own behalf. He further says:

"I also insist that you thoroughly examine all the judicial districts, equalize them in accordance with the amount of work necessary to be done, and then put Solicitors on a salary."

He recommends that executions be made in the State penitentiary and that they be by electricity instead of the present mode of hanging. He thinks the change can be made in the mode without changing the constitution.

**Corporation Commission.**

The Governor speaks in high praise of the good work of the Corporation Commission and says of its sphere and power:

"Instead of being curtailed, as they were by the last General Assembly, should be extended and enlarged. It should be given all power necessary to regulate all interstate passenger and freight rates, to prevent railroads from unjust discrimination, to require connecting lines to make close connections, and to do anything and all things necessary to control and regulate all railroads, steamboats, telephone lines and banks, with full power to enforce its orders by contempt proceedings. I therefore suggest that you carefully go over with the Commission all the present laws and make such amendments as will restore its power and thus make it more efficient and valuable to the State."

**Insurance Commission.**

The taxes collected for the last fiscal year were \$224,630.58, and are increasing every year. Each General Assembly must necessarily furnish needed help for this department.

**Bureau of Labor and Printing.**

The amount of useful work done by this bureau is little understood and appreciated. It is the only department that gathers statistics in regard to all our industrial and agricultural pursuits, and when these statistics are published and sent broadcast over the country, they advertise our resources as can be done in no other way. This bureau visits factories and examines into labor conditions, such as proper labor hours and the child-labor problem.

He thinks that if the Bureau did nothing else than the State printing it would still be profitable. He would have the salary of the Commissioner raised to \$2,500, and his territory and field of usefulness enlarged.

**Agricultural Department.**

This department he says, has been of great benefit to the State in advancing the scientific knowledge of farming, thus making this branch of

industry more attractive and remunerative. The experiment farms, bulletins, etc., have been very helpful. It has kept out undesirable emigration.

**State Prison.**

The Governor says the State penitentiary is not only self-sustaining, but actually pays money into the State treasury. He calls attention to acts of the last Legislature inquiring it to repay former appropriations on this is asked for. He asks the Legislature to print and distribute to its members the report of Superintendent Mann, which he thinks sets forth valuable ideas and plans.

**Geological Survey.**

The Governor recommends that in accordance with the act of the convention of Governor's at the White House, the State establish a commission through which the waste of our forests, minerals, fish, oyster and other resources, might be checked and, as far as possible, absolutely prevented.

Proper laws should be enacted to protect our oyster and fish industries, which would yield revenue to the State. The display at Jamestown he says, shows that no State has more valuable gems than North Carolina. Our forests should be protected, which he thinks could be effected by regulating the size of trees subject to be cut for lumber.

The Governor dwells upon the subject of roads, presenting the great necessity for action by this body looking to good roads.

The Governor speaks in cheering tones of the personnel and efficiency of the State Guards. He has no recommendations.

**Pensions.**

On the subject of pensions the Governor has this to say:

"Find out what the veterans of the Civil War require, and then do all you can for them; and when you have done all that is asked, you have not done half enough to repay them for their loyalty in the past. A small increase will be asked for the support of the Soldiers' Home. The veterans are getting old; they cannot work and many are now coming to the Home. Give what is needed, and let the deeling years of these old soldiers be in ease, as in a comfortable home they smoke the pipe of peace, awaiting their summons to come up higher."

**State Institutions.**

After noting the good work of our State schools he says:

"Money spent in educating our boys and girls yields the greatest of all dividends to a State, and educated brains, directing trained fingers, is the power that is lifting manufacturing, developing our resources, educating our coming generations and elevating our morals. A cultivated, educated brain is the handmaid of thrift and enterprise that builds up but never destroys."

After noting the good and benevolent work of the institutions of the Deaf, Dumb and Blind, he says:

"Few States have such a high standing as ours for institutions of this class, and I can truly commend the management of both as being wise, faithful and humane. They, too, will come to you for aid."

On account of enlarging at Goldsboro and an enlarged number of patients at Morganton, he says:

"These two hospitals had to go in debt—the one at Goldsboro for \$11,000, and the one at Morganton for \$20,000. It was a case of necessity and the Legislature is asked to appropriate the funds to pay the debts.

The propriety of appropriation to the Ellanor Training school is questioned, and he thinks careful investigation should be made before more is given to it.

The Governor urges that an administration building be put where the Supreme Court and the Agricultural buildings now are, which will be fire-proof and of dimensions adequate to the needs of the different departments that are now in mere fire traps, and liable to burn with their values that will run into millions. He sees that it will require an issue of bonds but the absolute need together with the small burden it will place upon the State he thinks will not compare with the good accomplished. Most of great improvements, he notes, are accomplished with the aid of bonds.

**Trusts and Monopolies.**

The result of the recent cases before the Supreme Court of Missouri shows that unlawful combinations and trusts can be controlled, even to the extent of driving them out of a State.

Some people confuse corporations and joint stock companies with monopolies and trusts, and yet they are vastly different, for the former are legal and should in all things be encouraged, while the latter are illegal and indefensible, and should not be tolerated, but driven out of the State, as was done in Missouri.

I unhesitatingly say to the General Assembly, encourage in every way possible each legitimate concern and business in the State, pass such laws as will encourage them, shield them from unjust taxation and insure their enjoyment of peace and protection, thus inducing a high order of capital and labor to come into the State for the purpose of locating as investors and as home-seekers, but at the same time thoroughly examine every corporation, combination or concern doing business in the State, and if any are found that are engaged in trying to crush out competition, unlawfully lowering or raising prices or in any other form or manner try-

ing to monopolize trade or stifle competition, then control such unlawful associations or monopolies, even though it be necessary to drive the business entirely out of the State.

Have we such monopolies in the State? Then control them or drive them out; but to every legitimate and useful business extend a welcoming hand and give every aid you can render to add to their prosperity, thus advancing the State's wealth and growth.

**Reformatory and Reform.**

The last General Assembly appropriated \$7,500 per year for two years for a reformatory. A site has been purchased and a building is now being erected. All the States, notably Georgia, having reformatories claim that they do a great deal of good by reclaiming wayward youth, and making out of those who would be lost or hardened, if left to associate with old criminals, good citizens, with trades and useful occupations. I recommend that you increase your appropriation to at least \$10,000 each year for two years, thus putting the Reformatory in a position to render effective service and enabling it very soon to become self-supporting.

The Governor urges strict laws regulating cigarettes, opium, cocaine, whiskey, beer, etc.

The Governor deprecates lynching and says he has tried to give speedy trials to remove their excuse. All good citizens have aided him, and law and order have prevailed all over the State.

The Governor thinks the prohibition law adequate and no new legislation on this subject is needed, but urges the members and all good citizens to co-operate in its enforcement.

**Constitutional Amendments.**

"Having given my views as to the laws needed to be enacted, I will suggest to the General Assembly that it submit to the people the following constitutional amendments:

"First. Give the Governor the veto power. North Carolina and Rhode Island, I am informed, are the only States in the Union where this power is denied the Governor. If the Governor abuses the power, two-thirds of the members of the Legislature can pass the law over his veto, while having the right to veto often prevents unwise and ill-advised laws from being passed. With the veto power the Executive acts as a check on the Legislature, and the legislative branch on the Executive, and thus the people are protected.

Second. Let all State, county, township and municipal officers be elected for four years instead of two.

Third. Let the General Assembly meet only once in four years, unless for some extraordinary purpose it is called in extra session by the Governor, with the approval of the Council of State; then let the session be ninety days, with no bills allowed to be introduced the last ten days, except by unanimous consent. This has worked in Canada and other countries.

**Recapitulation.**

The Governor's recapitulation urges:

First. Increase the Governor's and Commissioner of Labor's salaries.

Second. Equalize taxation by adopting a better mode of assessing both real and personal property.

Third. Pass a legalized primary law and amend the election law.

Fourth. Amend our criminal procedure by putting Solicitors on salaries, dividing the State into two judicial circuits, appointing recorders, thus relieving the Superior Courts, and have executions in capital cases take place at the State Prison and by electrocution.

Fifth. To avoid inhumanity, scandal and to institute a more effective system of working convicts, thus making the State Prison self-sustaining, place all convicts under the management of the State authorities, though still to work the roads of the various counties desiring such labor. (See Superintendent Mann's suggestion.)

Sixth. Restore the former powers of the Corporation Commission and even give it more power with contempt proceedings to enforce its orders.

Seventh. Strengthen the Reformatory already established, and yet pass such laws as will prevent the terrible practices that render such institutions a necessity.

Eighth. Provide a suitable and sufficient administration building, thus protecting valuable records and papers, and also giving needed room in which the various departments can transact their business and be better equipped to render more efficient service.

Ninth. Pass all laws necessary to protect our forests, insure the building of good roads and better govern and control our fish and oyster industries.

The Governor closes by answering some criticism and explaining his motives and his hope of much good accomplished by mingling with the people and advertising the State. If it were his opportunity he would do more along these lines again than he did. He expresses his devotion to the Old North State, commends the new Governor and says:

"Hoping that you stay in our Capital City may be pleasant to you and profitable to the State, and extending to every member my kindest regards and best wishes. I bid you God-speed in your labors, and ask the richest blessings of heaven on all that you may accomplish for the State's betterment and prosperity.

"Respectfully,  
"R. B. GLENN, Governor."

## LEGISLATURE MEETS

### North Carolina Lawmakers Now in Session.

### JUDGE GRAHAM MADE SPEAKER

Legislators Assemble and Organize—Gov. Glenn's Message Read in Person—Preparation for Inauguration.

Raleigh, Special.—The General Assembly met on Wednesday noon, when the nominations made in caucus Tuesday night were confirmed by election. Francis D. Winston presided in the Senate and F. D. Hackett, the retiring principal clerk, presided in the House. Chief Justice Walter Clark administered the oath of office.

With the completion of the organization Governor Glenn was notified of the readiness of the Assembly to receive his message, but at his request this was deferred until Thursday morning when he appeared before the joint session of the assembly and read the message in person.

On the Democratic side of the House of Representatives this session are such old and recognized leaders as R. A. Doughton, of Alleghany; R. H. Hayes, Chatham; A. W. Graham, Granville; W. C. Dowd, Charlotte; George L. Norton, Wilmington; Harry Stubbs, Williamson; A. P. Kitchin and others. While on the Republican side, which comprises a voting strength of thirty, there are A. T. Grant, Jr., Davie county; M. N. Harshaw, of Caldwell; C. Ed. Taylor, Brunswick; T. E. McFarly, Lexington, and others whom the Republicans are confident will make it interesting for the dominant party.

**The Caucus.**

On the third ballot and by a vote of 43 to 36 the Democratic caucus in the House Tuesday night selected Judge Augustus W. Graham, of Granville, Speaker of the House, over Mr. W. C. Dowd, of Mecklenburg. On motion Judge Graham's nomination was also made unanimous.

Just forty-nine years ago Judge Graham's father was elected Speaker of the House by the first caucus held in the new hall of the new Capitol. The selection of the Speaker was left as the last work of the caucus on account of the belated train from the west, bringing four Representatives said to be Dowd men. On the first ballot Dowd received 23, Graham 21, Haynes 11. The balloting was rapid, with considerable animation. On the third ballot, the vote being: Graham, 43; Dowd, 36; Haynes, 2.

The nomination of other officers for the House resulted as follows: Principal clerk, T. G. Cobb, of Morganton; reading clerk, R. M. Phillips, of Lee county; Engraving clerk, M. D. Kinsland, of Wayneville; sergeant-at-arms, George L. Kilpatrick, of Lenoir.

The caucus of the Democratic members of the Senate resulted in the selection of Whitehead Klutz, of Salisbury, for president pro tem. He had no opposition. Other officers chosen were: Principal clerk, A. J. Maxwell, of Craven county; reading clerk, Mark Squires, of Lenoir; engraving clerk, W. E. Hooks, of Greenville; sergeant-at-arms, R. E. Staley, of Wilkesboro; assistant, Nick Dobey, of Raleigh; Senator J. A. Long, of Person, was made chairman of the Senate caucus and J. L. Barham, of Wayne county, secretary.

The Senate passed a resolution preparatory of the inauguration of the Governor, and the State officers Tuesday, January 12th, at 1 o'clock.

A joint resolution was offered in the House by Perry, of Vance, extending profound sympathy to the King and Queen of Italy and their subjects and appropriating \$5,000 for the relief of the sufferers of the earthquake. This was referred to the committee on finance to be approved.

Senator Manning offered a resolution that the Senate and House meet in joint session Tuesday, January 12th, to open and publish the returns for the election of Governor and other State officers, and that these be introduced into office at 1 o'clock that day; furthermore, that a committee of three Senators and five Representatives be named as a joint committee to provide suitable arrangements and regulations for the inauguration and to report the expenditures incurred. The Senate thereafter adjourned until 11 o'clock Thursday.

Chief Clerk Cobb, of the House, announces the following appointments as assistant clerks: Alex. Lassiter, of Bertie; W. A. Bobbitt, of Lenoir; W. N. P. Smith, of Wake; W. S. Page, of Iredell; R. F. Leatherwood, of Jackson; R. L. Huffman, of Catawba; F. D. Hackett, Jr., of Wilkes. Lawrence Erwin, of Burke, messenger.

The following appointments of employees for the Senate are announced: Clerks—Otis Self, of Catawba; S. W. Wade, Carteret; W. T. Smith, of Wake. The Senate on Friday passed two separate bills increasing the salary of the governor from \$4,000 to \$6,000 and the Commissioner of Labor and Printing to \$2,500. There was no opposition to the bills along party lines. Senator Emple of New Hanover, favored \$7,500 for the Governor's salary.

Representative Morton of New Hanover, had his protest filed on the journal in opposition to the Governor's reading his message in person.

Speaker Graham is remarkable for the number of old Confederate, chiefly from the Home, that he employs as laborers about the Senate chamber. He is himself a veteran.

The Legislative committee fixed upon 1 p. m. next Tuesday for inaugurating Governor Kitchin. The Woodmen of the World band, of Concord, has been selected for the occasion. The cadets of the A. and M. College are named to participate.

The day was largely consumed in committee work, after a short session in which committees were named.

### NO. INCREASE.

### Bill Passed by Senate Increasing the Governor's Salary Referred to House Committee, Where It Will Probably Die.

Raleigh, Special.—The proposition to increase the Governor's salary from \$4,000 to \$6,000, which the Senate gave such endorsement, is destined to meet with disaster in the House, if the action of the committee and the positive declarations of a score of the members of that body are to be accepted as a reflection of the general sentiment. The House committee on salaries and fees, of which Representative E. R. Wooten is chairman, met and, after what is said to have been a spicy discussion of the merits of the bill, decided to recommend that it be considered at the unusual hour of 4 o'clock Monday afternoon. Had the committee suggested 4 o'clock Monday morning or midnight, it would have served the same end, for the House will hardly be in session at the time actually designated. This is regarded as nothing more than a polite method of smothering the proposed measure, which the members of the committee themselves oppose and which they know will never be ratified by the House, but to kill it would be, for obvious reasons, embarrassing to all parties concerned.

Just why sentiment should have changed so abruptly is hard to precisely determine. There is no question that a majority of the members of the two houses approved the suggestion which Governor Glenn so urgently recommended in his valedictory message Thursday. That such was the case was shown by the action of the Senate Saturday when the Nimrocks bill was presented. It passed the three readings with substantial majorities each time.

An idea may be had from the remark of a member, when some one raised the issue of the constitutionality of the bill. "What's the use?" asked he, nonchalantly. "We are going to kill it any way, and the investigation you suggest would do nothing but entail needless toil. The bill is now where it should be and there it will remain, never fear. It will sleep throughout the least of its natural life and then will be forgotten." Another member who opposed the bill justified himself thus: "The Governor's salary is \$4,000. According to the reports of the State Treasurer the mansion expenses during the past year were \$3,000. Six hundred is allowed for traveling incidentals and \$500 for something else. That makes \$3,100, which I consider fair compensation."

Such being the case—the action of the committee and the opinion of the members—unless very extraordinary effort is put forth between now and Monday, the measure providing for the increase in the Governor's salary will be lost never to be heard of again at this session.

The much-talked-of bill by Senator Manning, enlarging the powers of the Attorney General so that he shall have the power to investigate corporations as to violation of the anti-trust law and making him attorney of record for the Corporation Commission, was introduced Saturday and went to the judiciary committee. It provides also for an assistant for the Attorney General with a \$2,500 salary.

In the Senate a bill was introduced relating to superannuated judge, providing one who shall be available for special terms and to supply for any Superior Court judge who is sick.

The bill that passed the Senate increasing the Governor's salary from \$4,000 to \$6,000 came over on Saturday and in the regular order of procedure was referred by the Speaker to the committee on salaries and fees.

Both the Speaker and the chairman of the committee on rules, Mr. Dowd, seemed inclined to look with disfavor upon the practice of suspending rules and considering bills before they have been to committees.

## REVENUE RAIDERS

### Six Thousand Gallons of Beer Destroyed Near Hickory.

Hickory, Special.—Six illicit distilleries and 6,000 gallons of beer were captured and destroyed in a remote section of South Mountains, thirty miles south of here, by a party of raiders organized by Special Government Agent C. F. Blalock, of Hickory. The officers report the blockaders comfortably housed in the yards of their homes. Although taken unawares, no arrests were made. One man was engaged in raising hogs, fattening them on still slop. He had several hands in the act of killing a hog weighing 500 pounds. The settlement in which the seizures were made is known as York settlement, and at one time was dangerous for officers of the law; but the younger generation seem to prefer showing their heels rather than standing their ground and fighting. Mr. Blalock said: "We have warrants for eight or nine and their arrests will follow. All are old residents of that community, so you see the revenue officers are not out of commission and have plenty of work to do."

**Financial Plans of Proposed Orphanage Making Good Headway.**

Winston-Salem, Special.—The building committee of the Methodist orphanage, which is to be built this spring on the Dwire farm to the west of this city was in session here last week. The committee is composed of Rev. Dr. George H. Detwiler, of Charlotte; Walter Thompson, of Concord; C. H. Ireland, of Greensboro; P. H. Hanes, O. B. Eaton and James K. Norfleet, of Winston-Salem. The report of Rev. J. P. Rodgers, field agent, showed in gratifying degree that this phase of the project was going well. In Leaksville and Spray alone Mr. Rodgers secured \$1,000 for the orphanage.

**Electric Suburban Railway.**

Salisbury, Special.—The Piedmont Carolina Railway Company has enlisted the good wishes of the Salisbury Merchants' Association and at a late meeting the association passed resolutions asking the county commissioners to meet in special session and grant franchises to the railway company. The first link of the car line will be built from Main street to the fair grounds, and rails and ties are now being distributed along that road. The company proposes as soon as franchises are secured and the work can be inaugurated to extend its lines to the Piedmont toll bridge by way of East Spencer, to South River, to Granite Quarry and Faith and through China Grove to Kannapolis on the Cabarrus county line. Power for the car line will be furnished by the Southern Power company.

**Lee's Birthday.**

The birthday of General Robert E. Lee will be appropriately celebrated by the University of North Carolina on the 19th of January. President Woodrow Wilson, of Princeton University, will deliver the address. President Wilson is one of the foremost thinkers of the world today, and a scholar who appreciates the virtues, the services and the life of Lee. It is probable that many State officers as well as other distinguished citizens from all parts of the State will attend the celebration. President Venable has extended an invitation to the General Assembly. This, however, is the day set apart for the election of a United States Senator, which will be Hon. Lee Overman.

**Thos. L. Canler Disappears.**

Goldsboro, Special.—Mr. Thos. T. Canler, secretary and treasurer of the Selma Cotton Mills, has strangely disappeared and deep mystery surrounds the case, which last Saturday was the all-absorbing topic in this city, where he was last seen Friday night only for a moment, as he got off the train from Selma at 8:30 o'clock. About 9 o'clock Saturday morning letters, checks, bank book and other papers were found inside the yard of the Acme Fuel Company that life must have had on him and thrown over the fence. It seems most like a voluntary absence as no foul play seems probable.

**Two Run Over by Train.**

Spencer, Special.—Being run over by a freight train on the Southern Railway yards at Spencer Saturday afternoon, Oscar Eart and Wade Worley, each aged 22 years, employees of a section force from Princeton, Johnston county, were carried to a hospital in Salisbury in a serious condition. At an unguarded moment they were caught under the rear of a shifting train. Eart is said to be badly crushed in the body, and Worley lost a foot and was seriously injured in the side.

**South Dakota Regrets It.**

Raleigh, Special.—South Dakota now regrets that she sued North Carolina on bonds made (in reconstruction days and repudiated since) and collected \$10,000. She is seeking an honorable way to return the money. These bonds were given to South Dakota by holders of large blocks of the bonds, who could not themselves sue and collect from the State. They hoped to get the State to compromise on the whole. An intimation comes that if the Governor of North Carolina will ask for it he can get it.