

# The Journal - Patriot

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1935

## Merry Christmas!

Today it becomes fitting that this newspaper use the time-honored phrase at Yuletide and wish one and all a merry Christmas.

Another year has rolled by in its flight to eternity. As usual, many things have happened to all of us, some good and some disappointing, but our wish is that every reader of these columns enjoy to the fullest extent the celebration of the anniversary of the coming of the Prince of Peace, the Son of God and the perfect example of human living.

"For behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people."

There is no other event which we celebrate that should be more full of great joy than Christmas. The above quotation, which is familiar to all, expresses the thought that is contained in the more modern phrase of "Merry Christmas."

## The 200-Inch Eye

The human race is on the verge of learning hitherto unrevealed secrets about the universe. The casting of the great 200-inch telescope lens for the great new observatory in California has been successfully completed. It will take three years to grind it to the proper shape to reflect and magnify the heavens. The unaided human eye can see only six thousand stars. With this new telescope more than a million and a half heavenly bodies will be visible and the moon will appear as if it were only 25 miles away. It is hard to measure the value of knowledge in cash, but the more mankind learns about the composition, the organization and the processes of the cosmic universe, the more we may hope, in time, to learn about how to live on our own tiny speck of dust which we call the "earth."

## Business Census

Beginning January 2, the federal government will launch a comparatively new undertaking—a census of business throughout the country.

In 1930 was the regular decennial census of the population and the agricultural industry and in 1935 was the farm census. A need has been in evidence, high officials state, for a census of business in order that the business man may have some dependable figures on which to base his plans for future expansion.

Previous efforts at taking a business census fell far short of the plans for the one to be taken next month. The census that has been planned will cover every line of business and the mass result of the entire job will be tabulated and kept for use by industry.

a clearing house for ideas of soil improvement and the members will have the agricultural teacher at Mountain View as an instructor. We predict that such a club will prove to be an asset to the community.

## Street Repairs Needed

Although much beneficial work has been done in patching some of the worst spots on the streets in North Wilkesboro, there is still many places that need attention if the surfaces are to be saved. We understand the state highway and public works commission has allotted a considerable sum for street repair and maintenance here and we hope that the state agency will not fail in its duty.

Not being engineers we do not profess to know just what ought to be done on some of the streets, but the street in front of the new postoffice is certainly one that needs something in the way of repair.

A suggestion, why not widen the street on the south side similar to the done on the north side some time ago and repair the asphalt surface? This

would add greatly to the appearance of the street and make it possible to eliminate much traffic congestion.

## A Farmers' Club

The farmers of Haymeadow community are to be congratulated on organizing into a club in order to promote the general welfare of the farming profession in that part of the county.

According to the report of the first meeting the farmers plan to gather at regular intervals and discuss subjects that should lead them to find more and better ways to improve their farms and indirectly make more profit. We might also suggest that the meetings will be of value as social gatherings for the men who till the soil. The meetings will also serve as

There is no need for any business man to feel reluctant about giving the information desired to the enumerators, who are bound by oath not to divulge any information gained in taking the census and for him to violate the oath makes him liable to indictment and conviction in the federal courts.

If the business census is carried out according to plans contained in an article published in this newspaper Thursday, it should be well worth its cost in providing some accurate information about this thing we call business in the United States.

# BRUCE BARTON Says:

## CAN'T EVADE PROBLEMS

A man has just been in to worry me about the children. He points out that taxes are getting worse and I am getting older, and that if I set up annuities and insurance trusts and do a lot of other things, my children may perhaps be better off.

As far as insurance is concerned, I have been a booster for it all my life. My father, who was a preacher with a large family, and a small salary, used to remark that he had "kept himself poor paying insurance premiums." But the insurance premiums enabled him to sleep peacefully at night and, having seen us all through college, he proceeded to cash in his insurance, and he and mother had a good time on it during their last years.

How completely they might have spoiled their days and nights if they could have looked forward into the future. Suppose they had known, in 1900, that this country was going to do a nose dive in 1929 which would be followed by the worst depression in history. Suppose they had said to themselves: "What a terrible ordeal that may be for our children and grandchildren. We ought to do something about it."

Well, they couldn't have done anything about it. And, as things have turned out, we are still eating regularly; we have a dry place to sleep, and so far have neither applied for a dole or sought admission to a nudist camp.

The changes that are going to come in the United States are beyond the imagination of any one to forecast. Our children and grandchildren will have to meet them, as we have had to meet the problems in our own lives. What we can do for them beyond health and education is not much.

## SELF RELIANT ARE EDUCATED

President James A. Garfield was asked: "What is your definition of a college?" To which he replied: "Mark Hopkins on one end of a log and a student on the other."

Not luxurious dormitories or Gothic recitation halls; not rich endowments or mammoth football bowls, but a great teacher in personal contact with his pupils, stirring their imaginations, stimulating their minds.

Mark Hopkins had the teaching genius in the top degree. What was the secret of his success? Answering that question in his autobiography, Bliss Perry quotes his own father, who had been one of Hopkins' pupils: "After beginning by asking the pupil what the textbook said about this and that topic, the doctor would invariably inquire, 'What do you think about it?'" It stole the hearts of young men to hear such a man as he was plumping down upon them from his desk, as if it were a matter of much importance, such a question as that. It suddenly increased their own self-respect."

And Bliss Perry adds: "To discover that you had a mind—narrow, commonplace, or ill-trained, perhaps—but a mind of your own, was a thrilling experience."

Many students graduate from college without ever making that discovery. For them education has been twenty years of mental message. They come into the world with no plan except to find a boss who will keep on telling them what to think and do.

You can go twenty miles from a railroad into almost any cross-roads town and find men and women who have self-formed convictions and operate their minds under their own steam. Such folks, however ignorant of books, are educated.

The G. O. P. is struggling with a tough problem. It's trying to think of something to offer the people which the administration hasn't already given them.—St. Louis Star-Times.

# Montfort Stokes 44th Governor of North Carolina

(By W. J. Sadler in The State)

WILKES county's first contribution to the gubernatorial chair of North Carolina, after more than half a century of American independence, was in the person of Montfort Stokes, who was elected governor of the state on December 18, 1830, retiring after two terms on December 6, 1832.

Stokes, who came from a splendid western North Carolina family, had an interesting background at the time he was chosen as chief executive of the state. At the outbreak of the War of the Revolution he had enlisted in the United States navy, where he rapidly advanced to the rank of an officer. His services to his country, however, were destined to be of short duration. After serving less than a year, he was captured by the British and spent the balance of the war in a New York prison.

Served in Many Ways Liberated after the conclusion of hostilities, Stokes followed several vocations in a number of states, finally returning to North Carolina where he made a name for himself in the political life of the state. He served several terms in the house and senate of the general assembly, and in 1816, was selected as one of North Carolina's representatives in the upper body of the United States congress, where he served until 1823.

Stokes was selected for the governorship over J. J. McKay of Bladen, and succeeded John Owen, also of Bladen, who had refused to accept election for a third term. He was one of the last chief executives to be chosen by the legislature, which soon was to enact a statute placing in the hands of the citizens of the state the right to select their governor through a popular vote.

Capitol is Burned It was during Stokes' first administration that the old capitol building in Raleigh was destroyed by fire. Shortly after he assumed office, the structure was found in flames, but heroic work on the part of volunteer firemen had held the damage to a minimum. However, several months later, soon after the top of the building had been covered with metal roofing, fire again was discovered, and this time all efforts to prevent its destruction were unavailing.

Newspaper accounts of the conflagration devoted considerable space to the attempts which were made to save the splendid statue of George Washington, which had been placed in the rotunda of the building some years previously. This splendid piece of statuary was the work of the famous sculptor, Canova, and was the particular pride of a great many citizens of the state.

"Of that noble edifice, with its special decorations," says the Raleigh Register in an account of the fire, "nothing now remains but the blackened walls and smouldering ruins. . . . The statue of Washington, that proud monument of national gratitude which was our pride and glory, is so mutilated and defaced that none can behold it without mournful feelings. The most active exertions were made to remove the chef-d'oeuvre of Canova from the ravages of the devouring elements, nor were they desisted from until the danger became eminent."

## New Cornerstone Laid

Following the destruction of the capitol, there was considerable agitation for the construction of a new building in some city other than Raleigh. A number of bills, favoring and disapproving of this suggestion, were introduced in the legislature, but no definite action was taken during the remainder of the time Stokes held office. It was not until the assembly met late in December, 1832, that a decision on the site of the new capitol was reached. It resulted in Raleigh remaining the location of the governing unit of the state. The cornerstone for the building was laid on July 4, 1833, and two years ago, on that same date in 1933, the one-hundredth anniversary of the event was celebrated in Raleigh with appropriate exercises.

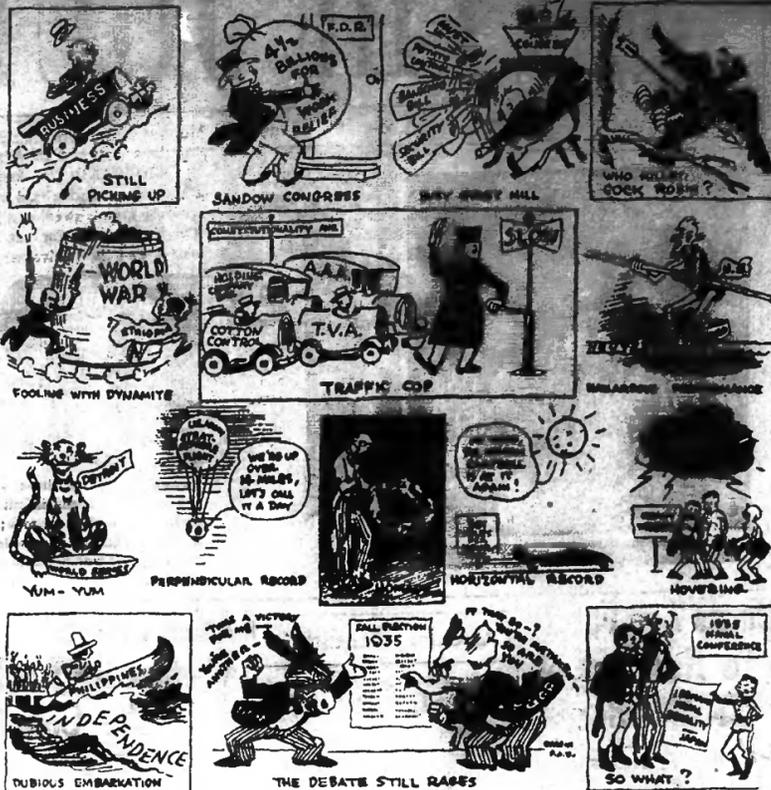
## An Unhealthful Condition

Prior to Stokes' service as governor there had been a considerable migration of residents of the eastern section of the state to other areas of North Carolina, and in many instances to other states. This was caused, historical accounts say, by the widespread impression that the low altitude, swamps and other natural causes in the east were not conducive to good health. When Stokes assumed office, he took cognizance of this situation and urged the legislature to adopt measures looking to drainage and other methods of overcoming an unwholesome condition.

Stokes continued the fight many of his predecessors had made for a better government.

# REVIEWING 1935

By A. E. Chasin



lic education in the state, and was successful in having authorized a number of free schools in Johnston county. However, a widespread and comprehensive system of schools was not to come into the state until more than half a century later when Charles B. Aycock served as North Carolina's governor.

## Slavery Question Perplexing

The first faint predictions of what later was to be known as the War Between the States occurred while Stokes was governor. The agitation for the emancipation of slaves, started among the British West Indies, spread to northern states of this country. Stokes, realizing the seriousness of the situation, issued a statement in which he said that the slavery situation was "an evil which it is impossible at present to remedy."

## Set Out Cuttings to Start New Shrubbery

Winter and spring months offer the home gardener a good opportunity to enhance the beauty of the home grounds by propagating more shrubs and flowering plants.

One of the most popular ways of propagating deciduous shrubs is setting out cuttings of stems six to eight inches long, said J. G. Weaver, floriculturist at State College.

The wood of last season's growth should be taken during the fall, winter, or spring, he said. Be sure that all twigs taken are alive, and do not cut too close to a bud.

When the cuttings are made in winter, Weaver advised that they be stored in a cool cellar in damp sand or peat. Or they may be buried outdoors in well drained sand.

As soon as the soil is in good workable condition in the spring, the cuttings may be set out in the garden in rows 18 inches apart, with the cuttings four inches apart in the row.

Next fall, after the cuttings have grown a little, transplant them to a place where the spacing is wider, so they may develop into a good shape before they are set around the house.

Evergreen shrubs are a little harder to propagate, but the

home gardener can do it with a little care.

In the fall, or early winter where the climate is mild, set out evergreen cuttings five to seven inches long. Do not remove any more foliage than necessary to insert the lower end into the sand bed.

Set them in rows four inches

apart, with the twigs two to four inches apart in the row. Shade them with laths or burlap during the following summer. They often require 12 to 18 months to develop roots so they can be transplanted.

Read Journal-Patriot ads.

# Piano Specials!

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And so, at this Christmas-time—1935—every member of the Reins-Sturdivant organization feels that he would like, for a space, to cease from his labors in service and voice his own goodwill to men.

We are convinced that good times must forever depend upon two things—goodwill and peace which come to men through the outgrowth of goodwill.

You have expressed your goodwill to us, and it is our honest desire to be worthy of your continued goodwill.

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