

## Auditor's Detailed Statement of Randolph County's Finances Refutes Republican Misrepresentations

The complete statement of the financial condition of Randolph county as furnished to the county commissioners by Mr. F. J. Phillips, State representative of Crawford, Stull and Company, auditors, is reproduced herewith. This statement is made out by a company of accountants who deal in cold facts and figures and a company that has no interest in any manner whatsoever with the political conditions or situations in Randolph county or any other county in the state. It is on facts and figures compiled from records on which every county, municipal corporation, or private corporation in the country bases its business for a fiscal year.

It is, therefore, on such statements that the business and financial affairs of Randolph county are conducted, not upon the word or propaganda circulated by any politician or set of politicians.

The records from which these statements are taken are open to public inspection in the court house at Asheboro and the books may be examined at any time by any and every citizen of the county who has the desire to go to the records. It is true, that some have gone to the records and after having done so have published and broadcasted statements of the financial condition of the county that are absolutely at variance with the facts. It is not the fault of the county administration or the auditors if these parties have not gotten the figures correctly. Those who examined the books and broadcasted the statement under the signatures of the chairman and the secretary of the Randolph county Republican executive committee either could not take a correct and complete statement of the county's finances off the books, or else deliberately made a statement that was not borne out by the facts.

In order that the people of the county might know to the exact penny the financial condition of the county, Mr. C. C. Cranford asked for a detailed statement from the auditors. This statement was offered to the Tribune, the official organ of the Republican party in Randolph county, for publication as a matter of general interest and information to the citizenship of the county. The Tribune first agreed to print the statement as reproduced herewith, and copies of the statement were furnished the paper. In the afternoon of the same day Mr. Cranford, who tendered the statement to the Tribune, was informed by the editor, Mr. Elmore, that he would not publish the statement. Then Mr. Cranford asked for a page advertisement in the Tribune in which to publish the statements reproduced herewith and his request was granted with the understanding that he would pay the regular page advertising rate, \$38.00, and the matter to be marked "Political Advertising." Tuesday night Mr. Cranford was informed by Mr. Elmore that he would not publish the statement under any consideration whatever.

This statement with the exception of the school funds, over which the county commissioners have no authority, is identical with the statement published by Mr. C. C. Cranford, a member of the board of county commissioners, in a recent issue of The Courier and sent by Mr. Cranford to every voter in the county, except that Mr. Cranford's statement showed \$1,000.00 more indebtedness than this statement shows. The reason for this difference lies in the fact that in September a check was drawn by the commissioners for \$1,000.00 as payment on a bond which was due October 1st, and the bond had not been returned to the commissioners when Mr. Cranford issued a statement of the county finances.

The records of the county, as reproduced in the statement, show that the net indebtedness of the county October 4th, 1924, is just \$65,120.38 more than it was on December 4th, 1922, when the Republican office holders relinquished the affairs of the county to the present Democratic administration. The statement has been made by the Republicans that the present administration has increased the indebtedness of the county over \$200,000. This is false as the statement of the auditors will show.

No county administration in the last eight years has accomplished as much in 22 months with as little expenditure as has the present county Democratic administration, and at the same time paying interest and maturing bonds and other evidences of indebtedness created by the Republicans during their 6 years administration of the county's affairs. Every dollar of the people's money has been economically expended to the best advantage.

The statement taken into consideration the 1924 taxes which are now due. A perusal of the statement of the condition of the county December 4th, 1922, will show that the 1922 taxes were taken into consideration in this

statement and the Republicans given credit for it.

Not only have the county's finances been economically conducted, but the people of the county have been saved during the 22 months of the Democratic administration the amount of \$21,243.67 by the placing of the county officers on a salary basis. This saving is itemized as follows:

Saved in Treasurers Commissions	12,901.02
All-time county commissioners saved	2,750.00
Listing and computing taxes	2,941.15
Sheriff's commissions saved over salaries paid	1,721.42
Register of Deeds saved over salaries paid	164.50
Clerk of Court saved over salaries paid	765.58
<b>Total saving for 22 months</b>	<b>\$21,243.67</b>

Seldom in any political campaign has deception been more resorted to by the Republican party than in this campaign. Not only have the Republicans spread their vicious propaganda from every stump in the county, but they have also refused to publish the truth of the county's affairs as evidenced by the statement of the auditors.

The plain truth is that the Republicans having made their inaccurate statement of the condition of the county prefer to continue in their deception during the remainder of the campaign in order that as many as possible of the voters of the county may be led astray by their false figures.

Not only this, but also the Republicans at the outset refused to meet the Democratic candidates in joint debate so that the people might be able to judge for themselves between the statements of the two opposing parties. Since the Republican party refused to meet the Democratic candidates and discuss the affairs of the county the Democrats have been striving to bring the truth home to the people in order that they may not be misled by a wilful propaganda supported only by the statements of campaign orators.

Facts and figures speak for themselves. If the Republican party had desired to be fair it would have in the first place sent its candidates to every stump in the county to meet the Democrats in joint debate. In the second place the leaders of the party would have permitted the publication of this accurate statement of the county finances by the official auditors in their party organ. In the third place instead of getting up a set of unsupported figures they would have sought correct statements and would have

based their campaign on facts and not fancies of some man's or set of men's imaginations.

The issue is clear. Shall the people be deceived or shall they have the truth on which to base their votes next Tuesday?

Shall Randolph county continue to have efficient Democratic government or shall it again be turned over to the Republicans for another orgy of extravagance?

Will you please furnish me a complete financial statement of Randolph County in duplicate as of October 1st 1924, also copy in duplicate of the affairs as presented by the State Bureau of County Auditing, Dated December 4, 1922, the date on which the Democratic party went into office in the county.

Also advise me if the statement gotten out by me showing the condition

of the finances of the county, dated October 6, 1924, is correct, exclusive of the School Funds over which we have no control. I would also appreciate an explanation of the effect of a loan to the State of North Carolina, such as has recently been made for the purpose of road construction.

Thanking you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter, I am,

Yours very truly,  
C. C. CRANFORD,  
Member Board Co. Commissioners.

Asheboro, N. C.  
October 25, 1924.

Mr. F. J. Phillips, State Representative, Crawford, Stull & Co., Auditors, Asheboro, North Carolina.

Dear Sir:

Will you please furnish me a complete financial statement of Randolph County in duplicate as of October 1st 1924, also copy in duplicate of the affairs as presented by the State Bureau of County Auditing, Dated December 4, 1922, the date on which the Democratic party went into office in the county.

Also advise me if the statement gotten out by me showing the condition

of the finances of the county, dated October 6, 1924, is correct, exclusive of the School Funds over which we have no control. I would also appreciate an explanation of the effect of a loan to the State of North Carolina, such as has recently been made for the purpose of road construction.

Thanking you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter, I am,

Yours very truly,  
C. C. CRANFORD,  
Member Board Co. Commissioners.

Asheboro, N. C.  
October 27, 1924.

Mr. C. C. Cranford, Member Board County Commissioners, Asheboro, North Carolina.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with your request of October 25, 1924, we have prepared financial statements of Randolph County as of the dates requested and enclose them herewith in duplicate. While it is customary to prepare

schedules supporting items appearing on financial statements, we have omitted this on account of time, but refer you to the General County Ledger which supports each item appearing thereon in detail, except the 1924 tax levy which was taken from the tax books, and which has not been verified by us. We are of the opinion however, that the figures shown on this item are reasonably correct.

In regard to the correctness of your statement of October 6, 1924, we will say that the notes payable, other than those of the School Board, was correct. We find that during the month of September there was a payment of \$1000.00 made on Bridge and Road Bonds which you failed to show, which will reduce the bonds outstanding by that amount.

You asked us just what effect the loan to the State of North Carolina for road construction would have on the financial position of the county. It will not effect it in any way except the current expense of accrued interest that will be paid from time to time, until the notes have been paid off, as you will hold a note, or other evidence of the indebtedness which

will offset the amount of the county's liability.

Hoping that we have furnished you the desired information concerning the financial position of the county, we are,

Yours very truly,  
CRAWFORD, STULL & CO.,  
(Signed) By F. J. Phillips,  
North Carolina Representative.

By permission, copy to:  
Asheboro Courier  
Randolph Tribune

Asheboro, N. C.  
October 28, 1924.

find financial statement from the audit report dated December 4, 1922, so that you can compare them. Please note however, that the net deficit for all purposes is \$65,120.38 since December 4, 1922. In other words, for all county improvements, we have easily spent the small sum of \$65,120.38 more than we have taken in.

I hope that you will be able to publish this in the Randolph Tribune this week.

C. C. CRANFORD,  
Chm. Democratic Ex. Com.

Copy to:  
Randolph Tribune  
Asheboro Courier

Asheboro, N. C.  
Oct. 28, 1924.

Mr. W. W. Brown,  
R. F. D., Asheboro, N. C.

Dear Sir:

I note your letter, supposed to be addressed to me, and printed in the Tribune; if you will read each circular you will find one has school funds and the last only County matters other than school funds, both statements are correct.

C. C. CRANFORD.

As promised in my letter to you on September 3rd, 1924, I am handing you a complete financial statement of the County of Randolph, including the school funds, as prepared by the firm of Crawford Stull & Company, who are employed by the county to audit the books for the year 1924. This audit is up to October 1st, 1924, and takes into consideration the 1924 tax levy which is now due. You will also

### County of Randolph, Asheboro, North Carolina, Statement of Current Assets and Liabilities, December 4th, 1922. (Exhibit "A")

Assets	General and Special School Fund	General County Fund	Roads and Bridges Fund	Court House and Jail Fund	County Home Bond Fund	Liberty School Bond Fund	Ramseur School Bond Fund	Randleman Road Bond Fund	Stock Law Fund	All Funds Consolidated
Cash and Bank Balances	9139.08	10066.14	1942.70	2369.08	2049.31				961.00	25927.26
Cash Due from other Funds	9413.14	10868.06	2000.74	2440.10	2110.78				871.83	26704.65
Cash with County Superintendent	2.74									2.74
Amount Due 1920 Levy	7817.32	436.85	81.94	10.65	7.72			13.38		8317.86
Amount Due 1921 Levy	6355.27	3782.00	286.70	286.69	99.00	56.56		122.67		10938.89
Amount Due 1922 Levy	95618.33	40196.27	5993.33	3995.55	1035.81	5523.84		1412.28		166142.54
Amount Due on "B" and "C" Taxes		717.45								717.45
Due from State Equalizing Fund	110.49									110.49
Notes Receivable and Interest		471.47								471.47
Lands Bought Tax Sales		476.46								476.46
Treas. Com. from other Funds		5590.37								5590.37
Fund Deficit	128456.32	19623.38	64799.32	10255.41	9102.07	5302.12	5580.40	1548.33	732.83	245400.18
Totals	\$128456.32	\$90134.82	\$67191.68	\$10255.41	\$9102.07	\$5302.12	\$5580.40	\$1548.33	\$732.83	\$245400.18
<b>Liabilities</b>										
Cash Due to Other Funds		26071.85						632.80		26704.65
Over Paid by Sheriff, 1920 Levy		5382.56								5382.56
Over Paid by Sheriff, 1921 Levy		1621.22								1621.22
Vouchers Outstanding	8161.87	1773.35	56.30							9991.52
Notes Payable	40500.00	54200.00	63339.88	5000.00						163039.88
Over Charges to be Refunded		206.76								206.76
State Loan Fund	1610.00									1610.00
Treasurers Commissions Due		879.08								879.08
Treas. Commissions Due General Fund	1484.27		3795.50	165.28	50.00	20.10		75.22		5590.37
Funds Surplus	51756.14	90134.82	67191.68	5165.28	50.00	20.10	5580.40	708.02	732.83	215026.04
Current Surplus All Funds	76700.18		5090.13	9052.07	5282.02	5580.40		840.31		30374.14
Totals	\$128456.32	\$90134.82	\$67191.68	\$10255.41	\$9102.07	\$5302.12	\$5580.40	\$1548.33	\$732.83	\$245400.18

### County of Randolph, Asheboro, North Carolina, Statement of Current Assets and Liabilities, October 1st, 1924 (Exhibit "B")

Assets	General and Special School Fund	General County Fund	Road and Bridge Fund	Court House and Jail Fund	County Home Bond Fund	Liberty School Bond Fund	Ramseur School Bond Fund	Randleman Road Bond Fund	Stock Law Fund	Funding Bond Proceed Fund	Sinking Fund	Bond Interest Fund	Farmer School Bond Fund	State of N. Carolina Fund	All Funds Consolidated
Cash and Bank Balances	69183.55	1108.39	5673.69	683.74	1153.23	896.43			109.66	958.01	9957.57	9450.16	22696.12	25.97	121896.52
Cash Due from other Funds			23398.43	3885.77	6553.94	5094.49			623.17	5444.49				147.61	45147.90
Cash with Co. Supt. T. F. Bulla	2.74														2.74
Amount Due on 1923 Tax Levy	5460.86	1530.07	790.97			47.98	751.83	67.48			75.43	150.91			8875.03
Amount Due on 1924 Tax Levy	119061.02	32509.66	50854.19			4840.13	5172.48	1474.07			10123.17	20246.34	1290.45		245571.51
Notes Receivable		750.00													750.00
Accounts Receivable		125.00													125.00
Lands Bought at Tax Sale		1853.14													1853.14
Due from State Equalizing Fund	110.49														110.49
Funds Deficit	198818.16	37876.26	80717.28	4569.51	7707.17	10879.03	5924.31	1541.55	732.83	6402.50	20156.17	29847.41	23986.57	173.58	424332.33
Totals	\$198818.16	\$60157.62	\$115922.07	\$4569.51	\$7707.17	\$10879.03	\$5924.31	\$1541.55	\$732.83	\$6402.50	\$20156.17	\$29847.41	\$23986.57	\$173.58	\$424332.33
<b>Liabilities</b>															
Cash Due to Other Funds		45000.66											9000.00		45147.90
Vouchers Outstanding	8112.99	747.20	922.07								1001.25	9971.80			29755.31
Notes Payable	51490.60	14000.00	115000.00									5000.00			185490.60
Over Charges Payable		206.76													206.76
State of North Caro. (Marriage Lis.)		203.00													203.00
Funds Surplus	59608.59	60157.62	115922.07	4569.51	7707.17	10879.03	5924.31	1394.31	732.83	6402.50	19154.92	14875.61	14986.57	173.58	269333.07
Current Surplus—All Funds	134214.57														163328.06
Totals	\$198818.16	\$60157.62	\$115922.07	\$4569.51	\$7707.17	\$10879.03	\$5924.31	\$1541.55	\$732.83	\$6402.50	\$20156.17	\$29847.41	\$23986.57	\$173.58	\$424332.33

#### BONDS AND LONG TERM INDEBTEDNESS OCTOBER 1ST 1924

Refunding Bonds	50000.00
Court House and Jail Bonds	14000.00
County Home Bonds	30000.00
Public Road Bonds	46000.00
Roads and Bridge Bonds	150000.00
Liberty Township School Bonds	8000.00
Randleman Township Road Bonds	25000.00
Funding Bonds	120000.00
Farmer School Bonds	29000.00
<b>Total Bonds outstanding</b>	<b>\$474000.00</b>
State Literary Loan for School Houses	3775.00
State Special Building Fund Loan for school houses	138500.00
<b>Total State Notes</b>	<b>142325.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$616325.00</b>
Less: Current Surplus (Exhibit "B")	163328.06
<b>Net County Deficit October 1st, 1924</b>	<b>\$452996.94</b>

#### BONDS AND LONG TERM INDEBTEDNESS DECEMBER 4TH, 1922

Refunding Bonds	50000.00
Court House and Jail Bonds	18000.00
County Home Bonds	30000.00
Public Road Bonds	97000.00
Roads and Bridge Bonds	150000.00
Randleman Township Road Bonds	25000.00
Liberty School Bonds	8000.00
<b>Total Bonds Outstanding</b>	<b>\$780000.00</b>
State Special Building Funds	40000.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>820000.00</b>
Less Current Surplus (Exhibit "A")	80874.14
<b>Net County Deficit December 4, 1922</b>	<b>\$387625.86</b>
Net Increase 12-4-22 to 10-1-1924	65120.38
<b>\$452746.24</b>	