

Dunn Bank Deposits Indicate 60% Increase In Prosperity.

Bank deposits in Dunn have increased sixty percent or more within a year. Yet Dunn has not been one of the more fortunate communities of eastern Carolina since this is a cotton community and benefited comparatively little from the inflow of cash from tobacco sales. Moreover, its cotton crop was below par, in both quantity and quality. Accordingly, a 60 percent increase in bank deposits in Dunn indicates not only a most gratifying increase in prosperity here but suggests even greater increases in many communities of the eastern half of the state.

Asked as to the diffusion of the prosperity indicated by the increase in the deposits of the Dunn unit of the First-Citizens Bank and Trust Company, Cashier E. B. Graham stated that the number of new accounts opened the past year was greater than in any year in the bank's history, except, of course, the first year, when all were new. It was indicated also that the increase in deposits was due most largely to those new accounts and to increases in many other accounts rather than

to huge increases in a few accounts.

It is hardly assumable, however, that the 60 percent increase is an exact index of the increased prosperity. The insurance of bank funds has played a part in bringing out of hiding considerable sums, it is assumable. In fact, Mr. Graham stated that he thought a number of \$5,000 deposits would be larger if the insurance covered larger deposits than that sum. Yet it may be that possessors of larger sums use several banks to get the benefit of the insurance protection. If that is true, it would suggest that there is a way to insure all bank deposits, and that in the long run the government would just about as well provide for insurance of any-size deposits.

On the other hand, the bank deposits hardly show the full extent of the betterment of conditions. There were more people who owed money than had cash a year ago. It is the extent to which debtors have been enabled to make payment that would most clearly indicate the true status of the community. But that conditions are most gratifyingly better than a year ago is quite evident.

Let Them Banish Fire Crackers.

That was a good idea set in motion Wednesday by Representative Kelly of Sampson county when he introduced a bill banishing the sale of firecrackers in Sampson county. Other representatives flung in so many amendments asking that their counties be included that someone moved the bill be made of state-wide application. Among the counties added was Harnett. Good for Representative Fred Thomas. Let him see that the bill goes through for this county, whether it be made state-wide or not.

It was objected by Lumpkin of Franklin that much revenue would be lost and that fireworks would be ordered from other states. The last is a real objection, but the objection can be eliminated by making it illegal for anyone to have firecrackers in possession during December.

Employment Offices Of Little Value.

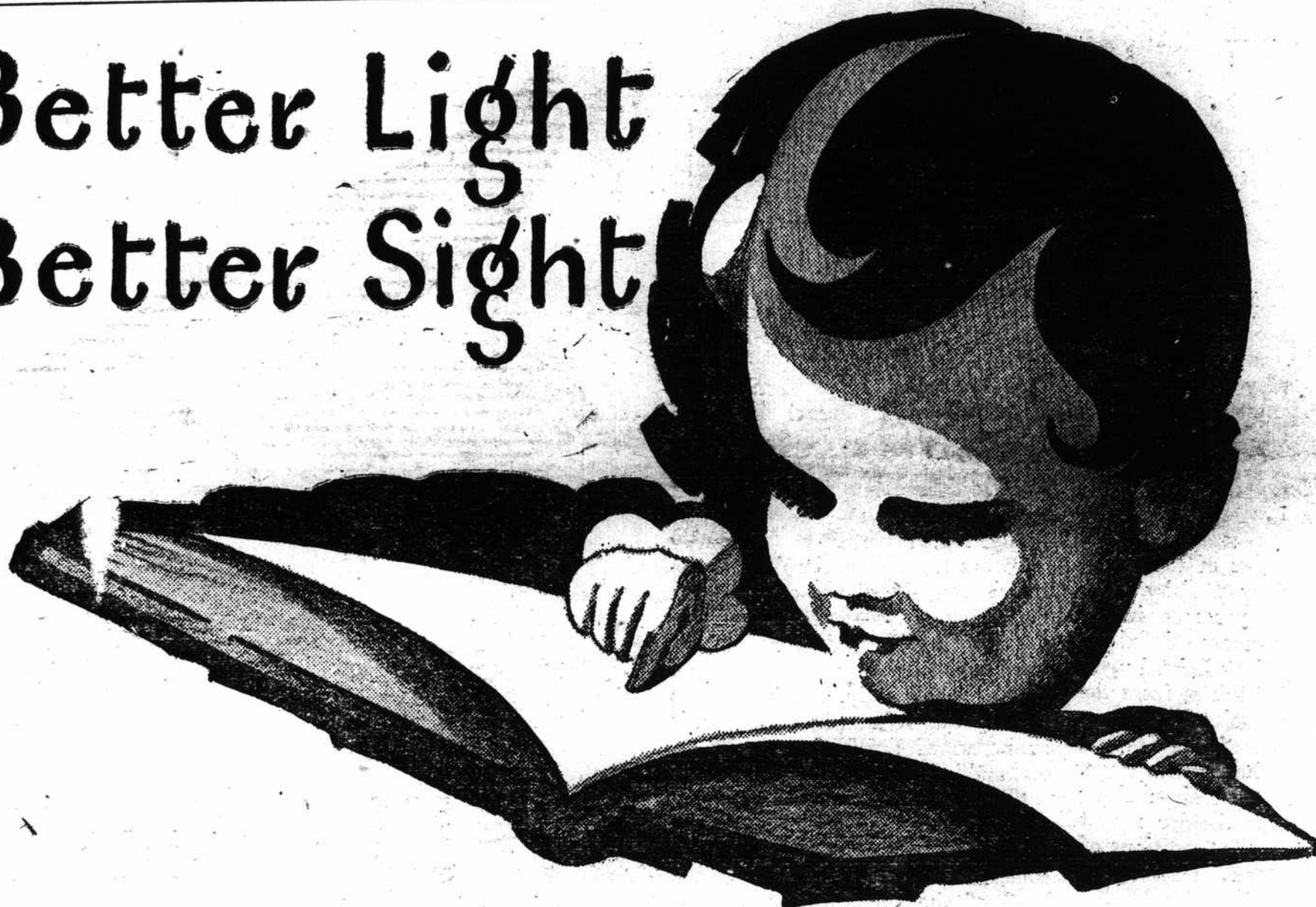
A bill appropriating many thousands of dollars to help maintain free employment offices in North Carolina has been offered in one of the houses of the General Assembly. The thing needed is jobs, and em-

ployment offices do create jobs—for their managers. But they get more than relief wages. When other jobs abound the unemployed will be found by one means or another. Nor can an employment office find a job for anybody till that job exists. The sum suggested would better be employed in creating jobs at mere living wages than in establishing a medium for finding jobs that do not exist.

A Word of Tribute to The Late T. B. Eldridge.

Few of our readers remember, I presume, when T. B. Eldridge edited the *Morning Post* in Raleigh. Like the *News and Observer* of the early years of the century the *Post* was an eight-page paper. The writer became quite chummy with Mr. Eldridge in those days. He was a gentleman and a capable newspaper man. Afterwards he became mayor of Raleigh and made a good one—some say the best the city has ever had. But time flew relentlessly on and Mr. Eldridge passed his three-score years and ten and several years extra. He is now gone. In his passing the state has lost a man who served it well.

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