

BREVARD BUILDINGS UNFIT FOR USE SAY STATE DEPT. HEADS

(Continued From Page One)

school buildings there and report of inspection follows:

HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM:

The roof of this section of the building is supported by wooden trusses, 19 feet on centres and covering a span of 57 feet. These trusses are carried on brick walls 13 inches thick re-enforced by outside buttresses. The walls show no defects other than a slight bow, no doubt, built in.

The three main trusses, unsupported between walls, show warpage, due, in all probability, to inferior material and poor workmanship in construction and decay where entering in the walls, resulting in deflections in the roof over this section of from 2 1/2 to 4 1/2 inches.

A further inspection of these three trusses, after the deflections of the roof were noted shows the principal members pulled apart and out of line.

In my opinion, the students and teachers marching in and out of the auditorium could cause sufficient vibration to bring about the failure of either of these trusses and the failure of one would, no doubt, result in the failure of all with the resultant precipitation of the roof over this area.

Mr. J. E. Jones, the principal of the school, was notified of this danger and advised not to use the auditorium until advised by you.

The roof of the whole building shows marked deterioration and if not soon replaced will allow conditions resulting in further decay of principal supporting members of the school building.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL BUILDING:

This building is a two-story brick building of ordinary construction of the type popular 35 or 40 years ago, most of which have either burned or been removed and replaced by safer and more modern buildings. There are two inside stairways leading from the vicinity of the furnace room and toilets in the basement, via offices and class rooms on the first floor, to the second floor.

The second floor consists of four class rooms and auditorium, the auditorium containing two class room (dressing room) areas at the stage end of the building.

The auditorium contains 480 seats and is served by two five foot exits leading in turn to the two inside stairways, but the cross aisle leading to these two exits is only three feet wide. These exits are so located that in case of fire or other emergency on the stage, over three-fourths of the occupants of the auditorium would have to travel toward this danger to reach an exit. There is a non-standard fire escape from the stage, but this is inaccessible to the people in the auditorium. The two side aisles leading to this cross aisle are each 27 inches wide and the two remaining or central aisles leading to this cross aisle are each 34 inches wide.

In case of fire reaching either of the stairways, all of the occupants of the auditorium would be forced to use the one remaining stairway and this within TWO MINUTES after the first sign of smoke or flame. As this one stairway would accommodate only 300, under the most favorable conditions, 180 would be unaccounted for.

The furnace room and fuel room in the basement are not segregated from the remainder of the building, these two areas extending to the two inside stairway areas. A fire originating in this furnace or fuel room could easily involve both stairways while the auditorium is occupied and this condition, highly probable, under existing circumstances, would result in all of the occupants of the auditorium being cut off of any way of escape.

PRIMARY SCHOOL:

This is a two-story FRAME (brick veneered) building with FIVE CLASS ROOMS and one music room on the second floor. This forms a condition which has not been approved for school building construction by this state since 1919 and a condition which is deemed extremely dangerous as (quoting member of Safety of Life Committee of National Fire Protection Association)

"Children of primary or grammar school age assembled on the second floor of a frame building under the best known conditions are in constant danger of fire and panics."

Two of the class rooms on the second floor are not in use and three of the five rooms have non-standard

fire escapes. The fire escapes, however, from the second grade room and the class room not in use, at present, have balconies requiring step-up inside and step-down outside and the steps, only twenty-six inches wide, proceed to the ground without an intervening landing. The use of these fire escapes, far or by children of primary school age is fraught with danger as one child slipping, and this is to be expected in case of fire or other emergency, would subject all following to a fall the entire height and length of the stairway.

In my opinion, a fire gaining any headway on the first floor of this building would, through the large open stair area in the center of the building, involve all of the second floor class rooms before there would be any hope of using the dangerous outside stairways and such a fire would, under existing conditions, in this building, result in a fearful loss of life.

At the time of the inspection large portions of the brick veneer was off the building and barriers built around the sides of the building.

Respectfully submitted,
SHERWOOD BROCKWELL.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

Insurance Department
Raleigh
November 3, 1934.

Mr. G. C. Bush,
Superintendent of Schools,
Brevard, N. C.

Dear Sir:—

Enclosed please find report of inspection of school buildings in Brevard, N. C.

This is to notify you of the conditions outlined in this report and that the auditorium of the high school building, the auditorium of the grammar school building and the second floor of the primary school building are condemned for school or assembly purposes (see Sections 2773-4, NCCS, until the following changes are made:

HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING:

1. Replace present defective trusses with properly designed trusses built and installed to support all loads without any sign of deflection.

NOTE: Trusses of the same dimensions, if built of first class material, by competent workmen and properly installed, will meet the requirements. This department, however, recommends the service of a first class architect and builder.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL BUILDING:

1. Segregate the furnace and fuel room areas from the remainder of the building by surrounding this area with unperceivable, except to the outside brick walls of at least 8 inches thick and covering the area thus formed with a concrete slab at least 4 inches thick. Entrance to this area to be from the OUTSIDE ONLY.

2. Increase the width of the two extreme side aisles (27 inches now) to at least 3 feet 6 inches.

Increase the width of the two central aisles (34 inches now) to 4 feet.

Increase the width of the cross aisle to five feet.

3. Cut doorways 4 feet wide and 6 feet 8 inches high at each of the points shown by "A" and "B" on the diagram and hang doors 4 feet wide and 6 feet 8 inches high to open OUT onto standard Iron Fire Escapes to be erected at these two points. Each of these fire escapes to consist of an IRON balcony at least 5 feet wide and 6 feet long with iron stairways leading from each balcony to the ground.

Each STAIRWAY to be at least 4 feet wide, placed at an angle of not more than 45 degrees slant. Each stairway to be equipped with additional balcony or landing at least 4 feet by 4 feet for each 14 steps of each stairway.

Treads to stairways to be at least SEVEN inches wide and placed not further than 8 1/2 inches (vertical) apart.

Balconies and stairways to be equipped with well-secured hand rails, all constructed and attached to the building to safely withstand a life-load of at least 75 pounds per square foot.

4. Remove all unnecessary inflammable substances from the building, keep the building clear of all accumulations of trash and debris and conduct fire drills as required by Section 5542 of the Consolidated Statutes of North Carolina.

PRIMARY SCHOOL BUILDING:

This department recommends the demolition of the second floor of this building and the use of materials salvaged in enlarging the present one story portion into a one-story building sufficient to accommodate the children and teachers now using the building.

Any attempt to use the second floor of this building would, in our opinion, offer dangerous conditions to the occupants and at all times subject to condemnation procedure

THROUGH CAPITAL KEYHOLES

BY BESS HINTON SILVER

CAN'T STOP IT—Governor Ehringhaus' popularity in the tobacco belt of Eastern North Carolina continues to grow and there is increasing sentiment that he offer for the eastern senate seat now held by Senator Josiah W. Bailey, in 1938. The governor isn't saying much but the pressure must be assuming compelling proportions. Most men are creatures of suggestions and there can be no doubt that Ehringhaus' friends in the east are missing no opportunity to suggest that he run for the senate.

KNOWS HIS STUFF — Wallace

Winborne of Marion, state democratic chairman, has a few stars in his crown as a political organizer and economical operator of campaigns. In the two state-wide campaigns Mr. Winborne has managed, unprecedented majorities have been piled up for his party and with no deficit. In fact he has the office furniture out of hock and a few dimes to jingle in the party purse until it comes time to pass the hat again in 1936.

EASY MONEY—Easy come, easy go is the way many politicians view taxes collected from motorists in North Carolina. Because the gasoline tax of six cents on the gallon is collected without a whimper and the license tax without much squawk many of the quick-thinkers would cut other taxes and use the money paid by farmers hauling their produce to market to further their own political ends. There's just one fly in the ointment—many wheels are spinning in the mud in North Carolina these days and for every spin some tax is paid on gasoline. If the country roads were in as good condition as they were two years ago the politicians might get farther with their plans.

VEERING WINDS — Times have

changed since mother was a girl and, in fact, even more recently, two years ago R. T. Fountain governor of North Carolina and leader of a democratic minority that lacked a mere 7,000 votes of making him governor. During the recent campaign he made only one speech, at Gastonia, and it is reported that less than one hundred people were out to hear him. Two years ago the very name Fountain would draw a crowd, campaign or no campaign. Does that mean the Mr. Fountain's great personal following has gone to sleep?

NOT UNEXPECTED — The slight

increase in Republican representation in the general assembly as a result of the voting last week wasn't any surprise to the politically-minded who hang around the state capital. Rumblings of discord had been coming in from more than one backwater for some time, much to the concern of Democratic leaders. You wouldn't have been forced to look far to get a bet that the republicans would have twenty members in the next legislature.

VALOR AND CAUTION — Some

political observers are wondering if the overwhelming endorsement accorded the New Deal in the national election will have the effect of toning down Senator Josiah W. Bailey in the next session of the congress. The Raleigh senator was quite outspoken in his criticism of some New Deal policies in the last session and incurred the displeasure of many democrats as well as the praise of others.

ANNOUNCEMENT COMING? —

One aftermath of the recent campaign is a rather confirmed opinion around Raleigh that Clyde R. Hoey of Shelby has been running for governor for some time. If Mr. Hoey hasn't been doing that his friends have been staging for him a campaign. Many of his close personal friends in the Capital City are expecting his announcement to "low on the heels of the die adjournment of the coming session of the legislature.

under the provisions of Section 2773 NCCS.

The use of the second floor of this building is therefore condemned for school or assembly purposes.

Yours very truly,

DAN C. BONEY,
Insurance Commissioner.

Rich in Natural Resources

Czecho-Slovakia is one of the richest countries in Europe in natural resources.

DEER HUNTERS WILL START NEXT MONTH

Gathering from north, east and south, in early December 400 hunters will take part in the second deer hunt to be staged within the bounds of the great Pisgah National Game Preserve near Brevard. The lucky 400 nimrods were chosen by lot from among 1,548 applicants in 14 states who sought hunting privileges in this area.

This is the second hunt to be held in the Pisgah preserve, the first having been staged in 1932. The hunting period this season extends from December third to December 22. The Pisgah refuge might be termed the "happy hunting grounds" for deer hunters since the purpose of the hunt will be for the reduction of an overstocked condition of the preserve, the deer having become so numerous as to threaten their own food supply.

Each hunter will be allotted three days for hunting during the three weeks shooting season. During this time he will be allowed to kill one deer of either sex and may then take his game with him to any part of the United States.

Groups of from 25 to 50 will hunt during each of the three-day periods. Their terrain of operations will lie within a 10,000-acre tract of the Pisgah refuge lying along the Davidson river, an area heavily stocked with deer. Their base camp will be Pisgah Forest and they will report each morning, at 8 a. m. or earlier, as practical to Ranger W. P. Duncan, who has charge of the hunt. Hunters may camp in the White Pine camp within the forest boundaries, using their own camping equipment.

Represented in the great hunt will be nimrods from all parts of the east, applicants having sought the coveted shooting privileges from the District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee and West Virginia.

OPIUM SMOKING IN U. S. ON INCREASE

Federal Agents Alarmed by Sudden Spurt.

Washington.—Opium smoking, which in recent years had declined in the United States, is showing an "alarming increase," the narcotics bureau of the Treasury department revealed. Seizures of smoking opium by federal agents last year totaled 748 pounds, or twice as much as in 1932, the bureau reported. Officials made no secret of the fact that they view the development with alarm.

Practically all of the prepared opium seized, the records disclosed, came from China and appeared to be mostly a blend of the Chinese and Persian products.

The heaviest seizures were on the Pacific coast, in the Hawaiian Islands and in the Philippines, nearly all of the drug coming to these areas by ship from the Far East.

On the Pacific coast the most popular brands were found to be "Cheong" and "Yick Kee"; in the Hawaiian Islands, "Lam Kee" and "Lo Fook Kee," and in the Philippines, "Lion," "Dragon" and "Tonzee"—all identified by federal agents as originating in the Far East.

The price in the illicit traffic remained about the same as in 1932, but officials said this was due to the increased demand taking up the additional supply believed to be available.

Although the opium traffic has increased, government officials reported decreases in the seizures of heroin and cocaine.

Most of the heroin smuggled into the country came from French ports, while the cocaine seized was of Swiss origin.

Officials also reported a discouraging development in a number of the states caused by the increasing use of Indian hemp, or "marijuana."

There is an extensive wild growth of the plant in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Utah and Wyoming. Federal agents found that in sugar beet states many field laborers secretly plant marijuana patches and sell the product or use it personally.

The drug is most commonly used in the form of cigarettes, selling generally from 15 to 25 cents each. It is also mixed with beer or other beverages.

TRY OUR WANT ADS

WHIRL AT THE WORLD OF NEWS

Items of interest gleaned during the past week

May Sell Cardinals
St. Louis—If Law H. Wentz, multimillionaire Ponca City, Okla., oil man, is willing to pay \$1,250,000 in cash to Sam Breadon, president of the St. Louis Cardinals, control of the 1934 world championship baseball team will change hands, it has been reported.

Tobacco Growers Prosper
Raleigh—Tobacco farmers of the state of North Carolina received more than twice as much per pound for tobacco they sold in October this year as they got for what the market paid in the same month of 1933.

Child Found Dead
Nashville—The body of a child found in a shallow grave on one of the grounds of the state tuberculosis hospital was identified positively today as that of Dorothy Ann Distelhurst, missing since September 19.

No One To Starve
Washington—President Roosevelt is preparing to renew his pledge that "no one will starve" this winter, it was learned Tuesday as his economic security advisers were ready to discuss a broad social legislation program for the next congress.

Building Increasing
New York—Latest building statistics, showing a marked expansion throughout the country, attracted much attention in Wall Street Tuesday in view of the belief in some quarters that construction holds the key to the next phase of economic recovery.

Italians Must Work
Rome—Compulsory work for all able bodied Italians, including the scions of the glamorous ancient families whose forebearers have made history, will be a part of the new state program.

Dies At Wheel
Jersey City, N. J.—An automobile screeched to a halt in the middle of the street. Traffic jammed behind it. A gruff policeman bellowed at the driver: "What's the matter — You dead there?"

He was Joseph Parker, 51, had died of a heart attack. Although dying, he had clamped on the brakes of his car. Mrs. Harry Mulry and her daughter Margaret were passengers.

Have Narrow Escape
Norfolk, Va.—Seven persons were rendered unconscious by carbon monoxide gas escaping from a defective heater on a Norfolk-bound bus.

They were rushed to a hospital where first aid was rendered and all were reported to be out of danger.

Views With Alarm
Paris—Fresh warnings of an armed menace in Germany coupled with domestic celebrations inspired Premier Lalande to issue an appeal to French political parties to forget their differences.

Hitler's air fleet and Germany's reputed ability to produce 900 planes monthly were causing grave concern.

Arizona Guardsmen Cuidado
Parker, Ariz.—The "Arizona Expeditionary Force," consisting of 100 national guardsmen whose troop emblem is the gila monster and whose motto "cuidado," (Spanish for look out or caution) had their sailing orders cancelled. They had been ordered to Parker dam, on the Colorado river, to halt federal construction work.

Record Attempt Fails
Newark, N. J.—Captain Eddie Rickenbacker failed in his attempt to set a new speed record for commercial planes on the trip to Miami, Fla., and return. Bad weather hampered the flight all the way.

Chaco Flares Again
Buenos Aires—A new Bolivian offensive in the Chaco Boreal has recaptured approximately 1,600 square miles of territory in the northwest area of the disputed region, reports reaching here say.

To Edit Paper
New York—Arthur Brisbane has assumed editorial direction and management of the New York Daily Mirror, tabloid paper.

LEGION HEARD REV. PERRY LAST SUNDAY

Around forty ex-service men attended the special Armistice Day services at St. Philip's Episcopal church last Sunday morning, at which time the Rev. Harry Perry, rector of the church and chaplain of the local American Legion post, delivered the Armistice Day sermon.

Offering taken at the morning service was given by the church to the Legion to be used as a fund for aid of disabled veterans in the county. Homer K. Compton, teacher of music at Brevard College, rendered a vocal solo during the services.

The group of ex-service men, led by Eck L. Sims, commander of the Monroe Wilson Post American Legion, met at the county court house and marched in formation to the church for the services. Officials of the legion have requested that public expression be made of their appreciation to the church for the generous offering, and to the Rev. Mr. Perry for his courtesies.

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SOUTHERN RAILWAY SYSTEM

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