

# 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. Even 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 2,878,148 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 \$1,180,258. 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 3,949 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 \$509,000 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 emendations 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.

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 able 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 unless satisfactory proofs 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 records be applied or cleared 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 \$224,680.58, 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 power 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 faster than it can spare same. Action 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 declining 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 building 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 Ellman 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 case 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.

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, 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 only meet 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 fifteen 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 or trial justices to try misdemeanors, 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 government 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 your 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."

## 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. Dewler, 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 Spenser, 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. That, however is the day set apart for the election of a United States Senator, which will be Hon. Lee Overman.

**Lawyers Want Twenty Districts.**

Clinton, Special.—The several bar associations composing the Fifth district have asked the other bar associations of the State to join in asking the Legislature to form twenty judicial districts in the State instead of sixteen as now exist.

**Judge Linney Seriously Sick.**

Taylorsville, Special.—The many friends of Hon. R. Z. Linney in this county will be sorry to learn that he is seriously ill at his home in Taylorsville. He suffered a collapse while making a speech in Mitchell's court about a month ago. He rallied from the attack, but he is now quite feeble and his condition is considered serious.

**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 a 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.

**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.

**\$100,000 Distributed.**

Raleigh, Special.—The apportionment of the first \$100,000 among the counties for public schools is just made in the Department of Education, the basis being about 14 cents per capita.

The North Carolina State Reformatory located near Concord, is ready now for criminals under 16 years of age.

## NORTH STATE HAPPENINGS

Occurrences of Interest Gleaned From All Sections of the Busy Tar Heel State

**THINKS RECEIPTS WILL HOLD UP.**

Large Increase in Total Revenue Received by Statesville Office, Notwithstanding Falling Off in Tax on Spirits.

Statesville, Special.—Cashier Roberts of the office of the Collector of Internal Revenue Brown, reports the following collections for December, 1908:

Spirits	\$ 2216.03
Cigars	47,423.60
Tobacco	199,938.00
Special tax	581.76
Total	\$250,199.23

The total collections for last month shows an increase of \$45,082.08 over the collections for December, 1907. Compared with the collections for December, 1907, there was a decrease of \$27,126.11 in the collection on spirits last month, but an increase of \$73,522.75 in the collections on tobacco and the total shows a good increase over the collections for the same period a year ago.

While collections on spirits will no longer figure in Cashier Roberts' report, because of the prohibition laws which went into effect in this State on the 1st instant, he feels confident that the Statesville office will collect as much money during 1909 as it did in 1908.

**Tree Falls on Young Man.**

Thomasville, Special.—Wednesday morning about two miles south of here Mr. Robert L. Rothrock was the victim of a very serious, if not fatal, accident. He was sawing down a tree and as the tree was falling it struck another tree and bounded back about ten feet. Mr. Rothrock was struck a terrible blow on the right shoulder, being knocked to the ground and the tree falling on top of him. A negro working with him gave the alarm and nearby residents came to his aid. As quickly as possible the wounded man was rescued and carried to his home in an unconscious condition. The young man was still unconscious Thursday night but somewhat better. There is some hope of recovery for him as he is resting fairly well.

**Editor Poe Succeeds Oates.**

Raleigh, Special.—At a meeting of the officers and members of the executive committee of the North Carolina Anti-Saloon League, held in the parlors of the Park Hotel, Thursday afternoon and presided over by Mr. Heriot Clarkson, of Charlotte, Mr. Clarence H. Poe, editor of The Progressive Farmer, was chosen to succeed Mr. John A. Oates as chairman of the executive committee, who resigned on account of his health. After a careful review of the situation it was decided not to undertake any new legislation of a general character along prohibition lines. It was decided, however, to actively oppose any measure designed to render ineffective the general law approved by popular vote last May.

**Sisters of Mercy to Establish Hospital in Asheville.**

Asheville, Special.—An interesting real estate deal was closed here Tuesday when Dr. John Hey Williams conveyed to the Sisters of Mercy of North Carolina twenty acres of property on South Main street, known as Ridgewood. The consideration named in the deed is \$10. The property is, however, valuable and a short time ago \$14,000 was refused for it. It is understood that the Sisters of Mercy who have conducted a hospital on Starnes avenue here, will enlarge their work and establish a fine hospital.

**Lumberton Boy Loses a Leg.**

Lumberton, Special.—Wednesday night at 10 o'clock Oscar Warwick, 16 years old, got his left foot caught in a seed conveyor at the oil mill and the leg was crushed so badly that amputation was necessary. Warwick was not employed in the mill but went to see his brother, who is employed there.

**Southern Power Company to Enter Salisbury.**

Salisbury, Special.—Upon application of Mr. C. C. Moore, representing the Southern Power Company, Rowan county's board of commissioners Tuesday granted a right of way for the electric lines of the Southern to cross Rowan entering Salisbury by way of Albemarle and other points touched in southern Rowan. The building of the line, which will be the second to enter Salisbury, will cost \$100,000 or more, and when completed will furnish power in abundance for all lines of industry in this section of the State.

**Barbee Re-Arrested.**

Durham, Special.—Reuben Barbee, who was discharged two weeks ago by Mayor P. C. Graham because of the insufficiency of the evidence against him, was re-arrested Friday morning upon the grand jury's finding a true bill against him for the murder of Engineer J. A. Holt, and is again in jail.

**Wild Cat Killed by 13-Year-Old Boy.**

Wilmington, Special.—Mr. E. D. Pearsall, "the sage of Rocky Point," has sent down to Wilmington the left hind foot of a "graveyard" wild cat killed last week in Pender county by a 13-year-old son of Mr. Obed Watkins. The boy was hunting birds and came on the wild cat devouring a rabbit in the weeds. The cat snarled and spit at the boy, but he was game and laid him out with a single discharge of his shotgun.

**New Corporation For Spray.**

Spray, Special.—On New Year's day the Carolina Cotton & Woolen Mills Company was incorporated, bringing one mill on dollars additional cash capital to Spray, and opening up new and advantageous business avenues. E. Frank McNamee and others are interested in this new enterprise.

**Die! From Gas.**

R. S. Brown, a resident of Robersonville, Martin county, arrived in Richmond Tuesday night and died Wednesday morning of asphyxiation.

**REFORMATORY NOW READY.**

Governor Issues Proclamation Directing Youths Under 16 Years Who Are Convicted of Crime to Be Sent to This School—President McNeill on Insurance.

Raleigh, Special.—Governor Glenn, being informed that the Stonewall Jackson Reformatory of Manual Training School for the detection and reformation of the criminal youth of North Carolina at Concord is ready for occupancy, issued his proclamation Wednesday to that effect and notified the judges, mayors and recorders of criminal courts that they have the authority, and it is their duty, to sentence to this school all persons under 16 convicted of any violation of the criminal laws.

The Governor Tuesday granted pardons to the following named: Ed Williams, of Mecklenburg; Arthur Daniel, of Dare; Richard Green, of Rockingham; Allen Bailey, of Wake; Rowan Luckey, of Rowan; John Gordon, of Forsyth.

President J. D. McNeill, of the National and the State Firemen's Association, was here Wednesday and says the condition of the fire departments in the State is better than ever before. Next week the executive committee will meet here and will ask the Legislature for some additional legislation. The chief thing is that the insurance tax shall apply to all companies alike. The law now applies only to foreign companies and not to those chartered in this State.

**Severely Hurt.**

Fayetteville, Special.—Ad Tindall, a young white man, of this county, was found lying by the road about three miles south of Fayetteville Wednesday with his head split open. After he had been carried to a hospital in this city and regained his power of speech, Tindall declared that he had been assaulted by Luke Moore, a young man living near Fayetteville, with whom he became involved in a drunken quarrel while out hunting when Moore clubbed him with his gun and felled his companion.

**Detective's Narrow Escape.**

Durham, Special.—An attempt was made to assassinate Detective James W. Ashburn Thursday, who came here in the murder case of Engineer J. A. Holt and who brought about the arrest of Reuben Barbee on the preliminary hearing before Mayor P. C. Graham, and who later furnished evidence, it is supposed, to the grand jury on which Barbee was again arrested Wednesday afternoon, this after a true bill had been found. The shot that was evidently intended to take the life of the defendant was fired into his room at the Church Street House on Church street.

**Fatal Fall From Trestle.**

Shelby, Special.—About 9 o'clock Wednesday morning Mr. Bud Brown, of Mount Airy, aged about 33, fell from the Seaboard Air Line trestle over Second Broad river, two miles from here, upon which he had been working, and his neck was broken. Death was almost instantaneous. The fall was about 60 feet, the cause being the sickness of the cross-ties upon which Mr. Brown was walking, which was caused by the heavy rains which have prevailed here during the past few days.

**Action Ratified by Directors.**

Fayetteville, Special.—The directors of the Southern Life Insurance Company met here Wednesday and ratified the action taken by the commission of the Southern Life in conjunction with the stockholders of the Seminoles Securities Company at the recent meeting in Columbia.

**Buncombe to Issue Bonds.**

Asheville, Special.—The board of commissioners for Buncombe county in monthly session Wednesday afternoon adopted a formal resolution requesting the legislators from Buncombe in the General Assembly to secure the enactment of a bill authorizing the county to issue \$125,000 in bonds to take up the present floating indebtedness of the county.

**Forsyth's Schools Gets \$6,000 From Recorder's Court.**

Winston-Salem, Special.—The county school board met Monday with Messrs. J. F. Griffith, J. W. Pinnix and E. W. Hauser present. City Treasurer W. E. Franklin was in attendance with an order from the mayor authorizing the payment to the county treasurer of \$6,000, accruing from the recorder's court in fines and forfeitures and set aside as the county's opportunity for schools.

**Train Goes Through Trestle.**

Wadesboro, Special.—First section of Seaboard Air Line freight No. 39, southbound, went through the bridge over the Pee Dee river, 15 miles east of here, at 5 p. m. Thursday. Conductor Fountain and his flagman were both injured. The wreck was caused by a broken brake beam.

## QUEEN HELENA'S HEROISM IS ACCOMPLISHING WONDERS

London, By Cable.—Among the many graphic accounts of the earthquake published here is a beautiful tribute paid to Queen Helena by a correspondent in Southern Italy:

"One must go back in fancy and remembrance to the most touching exhibitions of womanly tenderness and self-sacrifice celebrated by poets and consecrated by legend," he says, "to understand the benefit of the work the Queen is accomplishing in