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SECRETARY SINK DEFENDS ACTS OF WAGE COMMISSION

Says Increased Salaries Went To Employees of Highway Commission

STATE HAS DEFICIT NOW

(By M. L. SHIPMAN)

Raleigh, January 25—The rapidly increasing disturbance over the functioning of the Salary and Wage Commission, the meeting of the State Agricultural Society, report of a state deficit and the fight on school fire insurance rates were among the outstanding matters of interest in administration circles during the week. In addition many other matters engaged attention of the Capital City residents during the week.

The criticism of the Salary and Wage Commission, which became stronger during the week with the coming of Lee's birthday, a holiday which the Commission declared should not be observed unless one day was taken from the annual vacation of each employe observing it, was answered on Sunday with a statement from Hoyle Sink, secretary of the Commission in which Mr. Sink charged there was an organized propaganda to discount the work of the Commission and that members of the legislature were being approached by certain bodies with a view to having the Commission legislated out of existence at the next legislature. Mr. Sink, in a long statement, defended the actions of the Commission. On Saturday the Commission made it public that salary increases of approximately fifty thousand dollars had been granted beginning this month but against this set the fact that the Commission had abolished offices and reduced salaries to the total of about \$39,000 in October and approximately the same amount had been saved by the state by the voluntary discontinuance of certain jobs by department heads before the Commission got work but in anticipation of the Commission's work. The salary increases allowed were defended by Mr. Sink on the ground they were chiefly for employes of the Highway Commission where not a single increase had been granted in a year.

Representative W. W. Neal of McDowell county, a member of the legislature creating the Commission, was among those attacking it in the past week. Mr. Neal asserted the Commission was taking into itself powers which the Legislature had not intended. The North Carolina Society of Engineers also joined the ranks of those opposing the Commission when it requested that greater consideration be shown for technically trained men.

The report of a deficit in the General Fund of the State as of January first, closing the first six months of the fiscal administration of Governor McLean was explained by the Executive with the statement of large disbursements and meager collections. Mr. McLean said he expected to change the deficit of \$800,000 to a surplus by the end of a full fiscal year as the income and other collections coming due shortly would swell the income.

Stacey Wade, Insurance Commissioner, served notice, after a meeting with the South eastern Underwriters that he would oppose the 25 percent increase in school fire insurance rates in N. C. which the Underwriters body has ordered effective. Mr. Wade branded the action as "high handed," and contrary to law.

With the prospect of no fair this year, the Agricultural Society at a meeting elected W. A. Hart of Tarboro president succeeding Max Gardner and discontinued the office of general manager held by E. V. Walborn.

The Auditors office, the Treasurers office and that of the Adjutant General observed Lee's birthday in defiance of the Salary and Wage Commission and on the ground that that body had no authority to set aside holidays created by the legislature.

The Salary and Wage Commission has fixed ten cents a mile as the al-

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BOGUE BANKS BEACH EQUAL TO DAYTONA

Apparently Mr. Henry Fort never loses an opportunity to boost Carteret county. He has shown his faith by making large investments in Carteret county dirt and whenever he gets the chance he tells folks what a fine country it is. A recent communication sent by him to the Manufacturers' Record illustrates this point. The letter is of interest to people in this section and is therefore reproduced below:

"Mr. Richard H. Edmonds, Editor, Manufacturers' Record, Baltimore, Md.
Dear Sir:

In your article in this week's Record you state that the celebrated Daytona-Ormond Beach in Florida is said by experts to be the most wonderful beach in the world.

I would like to inform you and the world that persons well qualified to pass on their merits give it as their opinion that the beach mentioned is in no respect superior except by advertising to the wonderful beach of BOGUE BANKS, Carteret County, N. C. The latter beach is as wide, if not wider, as hard if not harder, as long if not longer. It is 24 miles long without a break. I have measured 525 feet in width at about low tide, and have often been unable to make an impression with my shoe-heel.

When Eastern North Carolina gets what it should have in the way of publicity the Daytona Beach will have to share its fame.

Yours very truly,
H. K. FORT.

Philadelphia, Pa.

EDUCATION DEPT. HEADS VISIT ATLANTIC HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. J. H. Hillman, Director of Teacher Training and Certification in North Carolina, and Mrs. T. E. Johnston, State Supervisor of Teacher Training, visited the Atlantic Schools Wednesday.

Atlantic is the only school in Carteret county that offers a course in Teacher Training and there are only a few high schools in North Carolina that now have a Teacher Training Department. Many high schools have recently made application to establish such a department but their applications were refused because of the lack of state funds to aid in the work. Teacher Training is offered to high school graduates only. Atlantic was fortunate to get a Teacher Training Department before the State funds for that work were exhausted, but that is characteristic of the Atlantic people to take advantage of educational opportunities.

They have never had an excess of money but they realized the value of an education and established one of the first high schools in Carteret county. Not long ago some one in Raleigh remarked "Atlantic must have one of the best schools in the state judging from the students that they send to college."

The people of Atlantic are proud of their school and they have a right to be proud of it because it is one of the better type of schools. It is well organized, the children show progress in their work, and the teachers have a splendid cooperative spirit.

NO SNOW IN BEAUFORT.

Beaufort has yet to have its first snow this winter. On Monday a snowfall several inches deep took place almost all over the State but there was none along the coast. Here it rained all day and a stiff wind blew from the northeast.

JUDGE DUNN MAY RESIGN.

A report sent out from Raleigh, is in circulation to the fact that Judge Albion W. Dunn who has been holding court here this week has resigned. Governor McLean has been out of Raleigh for several days and the resignation, if made, has not been acted upon. Judge Dunn has been on the bench about ten months. He apparently made a good impression upon the public while holding court in this county.

Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Lay are in Wilmington this week attending the Episcopal convention there.

Mrs. J. W. Mason and son returned home Monday after spending several weeks in Goldsboro with relatives.

STATE NEWS

Items of Interest From Various Parts of State

North Carolina has a record breaking building volume last year according to the F. W. Dodge Corporation. Building and engineering contracts awarded during the year amounted to \$104,514,500 which was an increase over the previous year of 29 percent. The year 1926 also promises to be a good one in the building line.

Jews in North Carolina have started a drive to raise \$200,000 for relief work in Russia, Poland, Rumania and other countries. This is the State's quota of a large fund being raised in the United States.

Thirty five men connected with the prohibition office at Charlotte are to lose their jobs soon. This is caused by an order from General Lincoln C. Andrews who is the head of the prohibition forces in Washington. The men to be discharged operate in North and South Carolina and Georgia.

W. H. Pittman, director of publications of the State Department of Public Instruction has resigned his position. He goes to Edgecombe county as superintendent of public instruction at a salary of \$5000 a year which is considerably more than he got in Raleigh.

An organization was recently formed in Greensboro the purpose of which is to secure the abolition of capital punishment. There is a similar organization in Asheville and plans are under way to organize more such associations in other parts of the State.

William Davis, employer in a cafe at Asheville, is being held on suspicion of murdering or at least knowing something about the murder of Mrs. Annie May Burgess. The woman was found last Thursday dead, her head having been crushed apparently with a piece of iron pipe. She and Davis had been associating together for some time so it is alleged.

The Chamber of Commerce of Charlotte gave a big dinner Wednesday evening in honor of W. C. Wilkinson, sixth district highway commissioner. Mayors of 300 towns were invited, county commissioners and other prominent citizens were also asked to attend the affair.

Ira Wagoner and Jim Rogers escaped from the Moore county jail at Carthage Sunday. The men had gotten hold of hack saws in some way and managed to saw their way to freedom.

The Chamber of Commerce of Hendersonville is advocating an 8000 mile publicity tour to advertise western Carolina. The plan is to have a large number of cars go out as far as California and return boosting Carolina all the way.

The first constitutional governor of Florida was a North Carolinian. His name was William D. Moseley and he was originally from La Grange. He was elected governor of Florida in 1845.

Joe Singleton a 60 year old white man from Goldsboro went to the Sattie penitentiary Monday to serve a sentence of 30 years. He was convicted of killing Atlas Durham on account of a dispute about a debt.

E. L. DAVIS & CO., SECURE CONTRACT MOREHEAD BLUFFS

E. L. Davis and Company heating and plumbing contractors of Beaufort were lowest bidder on a large contract let by the Bogue Development Corporation of New Bern, for installation of plumbing and heating in eight cottages and hotel building at Morehead Bluffs. The work to begin at once.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

Permits to wed have been issued by Register of Deeds Jno. W. Hamilton to the following since last week: Earl Mason Beaufort and Geraldine Robinson, Atlantic.

WARM CRITICISM OF COUNTY BOARD

Dr. J. J. Davis Charges That County Officials Are Wasting Public Funds

This newspaper makes a practice of publishing articles relating to public matters without regard to who does the writing or what side they are on. The best way to get at the truth of any question is to turn on the light. As to whether Dr. Davis' criticism is just or not the News is not prepared to say. If what he says is true it is high time to call a halt. If it is not true then he has done an injustice to the board. As to his statement that the News is in the habit of "praising" the county officials there is no warrant for his saying so and he cannot show any copy of the News with any such praise in it. The News is in favor of good roads and good schools but is not in favor of wasting one cent of the public funds. Dr. Davis' letter is published herewith.

Editor of the Beaufort News:

In practically all your recent issues you have been praising our present County officials and boosting our great progress to the rest of the world. Now there are two sides to every question and the truth should not hurt any honest cause. With your permission I will give the pessimistic view of our present county affairs.

If hard surfaced roads really increase farm values what was the trouble with the Murray Thomas farm? It is one of the best and certainly one of the noted and widely advertised farms in the county. It has had more public money spent as improvements to it by far than any other farm in the county. Fifteen years ago I could not buy uncleared, cut-over woodland in that part of the county for less than \$10 per acre and then \$1 was worth more than two now.

If the county commissioners really believe what they preach about hard-surface roads increasing values; if they are sincere in their efforts to care for the financial interest of the people; why did they not hold that farm until the improved road was thorough it and then put it on the market and try to get what it owed the county out of it. Why did they sell it to Mr. Wheatly as soon as they had decided to put a hard-surfaced road through it? The price, \$8,500 for 700 acres would not pay for the road through the farm and the county lost a part of its claim.

It that is a sample of the increase in farm values by hard-surfaced roads then God pity the farmers.

The form of roads being built in this county is the cheapest grade that can be erlded hard-surface and it has failed to give satisfaction in any section where it has been built. The Federal government does not approve of this type of road and will not aid states to build it. From the number of patches that had to be put in this first section, almost before the other end was cold, it would look like this was below the usual grade, even of this class of road.

In the last campaign you 'boosters' told us this road could be built to Atlantic for \$12000 to \$15000 per mile but the present road as now constructed is costing nearer \$40,000 per mile.

There are some features about the road construction in this county that is difficult to understand as they are so different from methods used in other counties and by the state. In state work the road is surveyed as near straight as practical, the proper width and then improved machinery is used to ditch and grade it. This method was not followed by our road builders. They took some of the worst kinks out of the old narrow roads, graded the cented and poured the hard surface. Then they use hand labor, teams, wagons and carts to widen and grade the sides while our expensive road machinery rusted in the woods.

There are only two reasons I could give for this: (1) We have so much money to spend and such a short time to do it that we don't give a damn how it is spent (2) or, as our engineer is working on the per-

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REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

The following realty transactions have been recorded by Register of Deeds Jno. W. Hamilton since last week:

T. K. Lewis and wife to John S. Perkins 1-2 Lewis Robinson lot Beaufort for about \$600.

E. B. Whitehurst et al to J. T. Graham et al 50 acres near County Home for about \$500.

Beaufort Realty Corp. to Helen M. Stevens lot 7 and 8 block 68 West Beaufort.

Mattie Tripp and husband to Emily Ann Lancaster tract White Oak Township for about \$450.

E. H. Gorham et al to Bogue Development Corp. Block 47, 37, 121, Morehead City for about \$7,175.

Edwin M. Piner and wife to Chas. H. Piner South half lots 6 and 7 Block 67, Morehead City for about \$607.05.

Rufus Lewis and wife to G. C. Brinson lot 16, Block 42, Morehead City for about \$100.

W. P. Morris and wife to Interstate Cooperaage Co. right of way White Oak township for \$125.

S. W. Ferebee and wife to Z. Z. Grantham 100 acres Smyrna township for \$10 and other considerations

BIG DEVELOPMENT PLANNED IN EAST

New York Financier Takes Option on Large Tracts and Will Sell It in Farms

New Bern, Jan. 23—East Carolina is scheduled for another land development project, according to advertisements appearing in the New York Times, stories in the Washington, N. C. Daily News and local indications. The Aitken Properties, Inc. a New York company, has been incorporated for \$5,000,444 of which \$2,000,000 has already been subscribed by H. E. Aitken, financier and motion picture film magnate, and his association, for the purpose of carrying out a big co-operative farm and "back to land" movement in eastern North Carolina and Florida.

Options have been obtained on 51,000 acres of land, of which 12,000 are near New Bern in the vicinity of Aurora; 16,000 acres are at Lake Phelps and the remainder is farther south with 26,000 acres in Florida.

Plans have been made to help finance the building of homes on small farms, which will be sold in five-acre units at \$200 and \$300 per acre. Co-operative basket and barrel factories are planned. Carnations and narcissus bulbs will be grown for northern markets.

Offices of the company will be established in Washington and New Bern also in the north, to sell farms and to feature the advantages of life on the rich black soil of North Carolina. Thomas Dixon, noted author, has been retained to write a feature film called: "Facing the South, or Back to Dixie."

Already a representative of the company is in this city and is hard at work on the project. No announcement will be made public by him, however, at this early date.

NICE SOCIAL EVENT AT ODD FELLOWS HALL

A very enjoyable social was given by Miriam Rebakeah Lodge No. 141 L. O. O. F. in the Odd Fellows Hall, last Thursday evening.

The guests were the members of Concordia Lodge No. 11, L. O. O. F. and their families.

During the evening several games were played and two contests held. (Floral and Carolina Contests). The Floral Contest was won by Mrs. H. M. Parkin, Mes. C. T. Chadwick earning the next number of pints. The Carolina Contest was won by C. T. Chadwick and W. O. Williams, each scoring the same number of points.

After the games and contests a very delicious salad course was served.

COMMENCEMENT PREACHER SECURED.

School Superintendent R. L. Fritz has secured the Reverend Thos. M. Grant of Lumberton to deliver the sermon to the graduating class of Beaufort High School. Mr. Grant is pastor of Chesnut Street Methodist church of Lumberton and is said to be a very fine speaker.

SUPERIOR COURT NOW IN SESSION MOVES SWIFTLY

Criminal Docket Cleared in One Day. Judge's Charge A Forceful One

MANN WILL CASE ON TRIAL

A cold rain and a northeast gale that lasted all day Monday delayed the opening of Superior court but despite that fact the business of the court has moved rapidly forward. Judge Albion W. Dunn, who is presiding over the court, insists upon no unnecessary delays and lawyers, witnesses and everybody else connected with the court has to be right on the job. The criminal docket was finished the first day, although three days had been set aside on the calendar for it. The Judge thereupon ordered that the civil docket be moved up to Wednesday, instead of Thursday and the motion docket was disposed of Tuesday.

Judge Dunn's charge to the grand jury, about fifty minutes long, was a forceful one and was heard attentively by all in the court room. He said this was his first visit to Beaufort and that he was glad to be here. He paid a tribute to the legal profession and said the lawyers of this district ranked as high as any. He was sarcastic in his reference to an article published recently by M. L. Wright, formerly of this county, concerning lawyers, punishment of criminals and so on. Judge Dunn says he opposes the abolition of capital punishment and believes that criminals should be punished for their misdeeds and not petted. He says the State didn't need more judges so as much as for those now on the bench to do more work.

Id McLean is the greatest Governor the State has ever had. He thinks Christian educators should be in charge of the public schools and that evolution should not be taught in them. He says crime is increasing in North Carolina and that probably there are too many laws. No law can be enforced unless public sentiment is back of it. He thinks prohibition a wise law if properly enforced but unenforced does more to create disrespect for law than anything else. He says there are only two ways to enforce prohibition. One is to have a great many officers and the other is for folks to stop buying liquor. He thinks many of the filling stations are selling liquor. There are too many young criminals and more whites than blacks. Parents are partially responsible. He explained the duties of the grand jury and urged them to do their work without fear or favor. R. T. Wade was made foreman of the grand jury and Herbert Forlaw was appointed special deputy in charge of the jury.

Criminal cases have been disposed of by the court as follows:

Dave Bell, assault, not to be found case noll prossed.

W. H. Peterson, driving car while under influence of whiskey, called and failed, noll prossed.

Manly Bailey, receiving stolen property, noll prossed.

Fred Lloyd, violating prohibition law tried last court and allowed to go under his own recognizance and pay costs failed to do so, capias issued.

Paris Willis, aiding and abetting in prostitution, noll prossed.

Ben Gabriel, theft, noll prossed with leave.

Harrison Hemingway, violating prohibition law, noll prossed.

James O. Harris, violating prohibition law, jury verdict guilty. Sentenced to twelve months in jail, commissioners may hire him out to some other county.

C. L. Pittman, passing worthless check, capias and continued.

J. J. Donovan, abandonment, noll prossed with leave.

Romie Mann, violating prohibition law, noll prossed.

Needham Garner, violating prohibition law, noll prossed.

G. A. Lupton, false pretense, continued.

Kenneth Murray, having liquor in possession, pleaded guilty and was fined \$25 and costs.

Charles Stevens, pleaded guilty to unlawful possession of liquor and

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