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 W. C. DOWD, Pres. and Gen. Mgr.  
 TULLAN S. MILLER, Editor  
 W. M. BELL, Advertising Mgr.

TELEPHONES:  
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**MARSHAL FOCH'S VISIT.**  
 Marshal Foch has been, perhaps, the most feted guest that America has ever entertained. The country delighted to show and to do him honor. He has gone back toward his homeland with the plaudits of the multitudes ringing in his ears, with a trunk full of University degrees, with parchments proclaiming the esteem in which Americans hold him, with souvenirs in gold and silver and sapphires and diamonds and with a great variety of tokens from high and low. Evidently the country has enjoyed the distinction of entertaining him and the opportunity of acclaiming him as the greatest living exponent of the military art.  
 The addresses delivered by the Marshal during his long stay here and his swing around the continent were pretty much the same in line of thought, with mere variations of phrase. They rang with praises for the fine spirit of Americans in war and in peace and were prophetic with hope that the United States and France would ever feel the common tie of unity which bound them together in the great enterprise of saving civilization. The Marshal has a horror of war and wants to see it ended, and yet he had mighty little to say of what is now going on in Washington in the interest of its elimination. In some interviews he seemed to indicate little faith in the mere act of disarming, but professed his confidence in some plan by which the nations might associate themselves together for the creation of the peace- and for the enhancement of the ideals of peace.

**WHERE OUR PEOPLE LIVE.**  
 Seventy-one per cent of the people of North Carolina live in the country. Not all of them are farmers for the reason that the census includes in this number all classes of country people living in the urban districts as well as in the unincorporated towns, and when these are detached from the number who are actually engaged in farming, the total number of farmers and their families is reduced to 1,376,000 of the aggregate of 1,828,000 dwelling in the countryside. Seven out of every ten people in North Carolina live in the rural sections.  
 There is a great significance to these statistics. They prove that North Carolina is at least seven-tenths rural and only three-tenths urban. They indicate that the serious concern which should take hold of those who are set up in the high places, who are influential in education, in social uplift, in moral betterment and in any other endeavour for the benefit of the citizens of North Carolina is to give seven-tenths of their labors to the countryside.  
 The rural problem is the problem of North Carolina. It may not be the problem legally, for here the majority of the people are city-dwellers. More people live in Charlotte than live in the remainder of the county. This, therefore, so far as mere numbers is concerned, is an industrial rather than an agricultural center, but not so throughout the State as a unit. Its problems are overwhelmingly rural and, therefore, its legislative enterprises, its public benefactions, its social efforts, its health endeavours, all of its multiplied services are being called for in the countryside at the ratio of seven to three. Where the majority of the people of any commonwealth are, there the commonwealth ought to be ministering unto them and aiding them in their developments of every sort.  
 That is one of the reasons at least that the great educational program which the State is trying to foster ought to be stimulated. This program is calling for a renaissance in the rural school; it is trying to put educational advantages in the rural side commensurate with those in the cities; it is trying to wipe out the nine-tenths of the white illiteracy in the State which now resides, not in the cities, but in the countryside. The cities are only furnishing one per cent of the whole of white illiteracy while the country regions are furnishing the remainder.  
 If there are any notable reforms which North Carolina needs, these statistics irrefutably point the way to the countryside. Rural reformation is our task so long as we remain so pre-eminently rural in population.



**Listen to This**  
 When Jane Slump stops to take a breath she cries, "I'm really bored to death. Oh, for excitement of some kind! Forsooth, I think I'll lose my mind."  
 The truth about this female Jane is that she long since went insane. All her life her one great greed has been to hit high spots with speed. She went to this and went to that with Tom, Dick Harry, Ned and Pat until she could not stand a dull life. Life to Jane is bleak and dull when she is not at high-brow fetes where joy is spread at rapid rates. Excitement is her middle name. She withers when the day is lame. Take her to a picture show and she will sigh, "It's very slow. Is there not another place where we can see a faster pace?" And so unless you swim in kale your company to Jane is stale. She can only feel sublime when hitting high spots all the time. The moment that her fun is through the poor girl knows not what to do. She often weeps in blank despair and wildly tears her golden hair.  
 That's the end fate has in store for those who hit high spots galore. The moments that they spend between are never pleasant and serene. Fate makes greches of them all. They only smile when at a fall. You can only outwit fate by cutting down your rapid gait.

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1921.**  
**CHRISTIAN CONFIDENCE.**—This is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us.—1 John 5:11.  
**SOUTH'S BUILDING RECORDS.**  
 In its Southern building records during November, The Manufacturers Record takes into large account the big construction projects of the Southern Power Company in this vicinity which, it estimates, will add \$20,050,000 to the aggregate to be expended throughout the South during the next few months. The Record presents an amazing review of construction activities throughout the South. It is a matter of doubt whether any other section of the country can parallel the building record now being met in this part of the country. During November, The Record says, the amount of money involved in contracts awarded and to be awarded approximates \$92,000,000, of which \$68,674,605 represents initial announcements, and \$23,325,395 is involved in contracts actually awarded. For the week ended November 4 the valuation of contracts awarded was \$8,113,556. This is the third largest for the year, the record week being that of October 7 when the total for contract awarded was \$19,672,998. The figures for the four weeks of October approximate \$100,500,000, consisting of \$69,020,265 in contracts to be awarded and \$31,522,165 in contracts actually awarded.  
 Contrary to expectations in some quarters the contemplated projects show no sign of a let-up, although there has been some slackening in contracts awarded largely attributable to seasonal conditions. The total for this classification is practically the same in November as for October. The average valuation per week of contracts awarded was \$5,902,467, compared with the average for the year to date of approximately \$6,400,000.  
 Each week now many new projects of importance are announced and a large number of developments involving the expenditure of millions of dollars in the aggregate which were initially planned during the early spring months, seem certain to be well under way before the end of this year. A large carry-over into next year will thus result. This carry-over from 1920 was lacking in large measure in the early months of 1921, and building activity the first of this year was typified by new construction. Building supply men, architects and contractors look for big things in their respective fields next year and conditions now seem most hopeful.

Dr. Currell Resigns as University Head  
 Columbia, S. C., Dec. 15.—William Spencer Currell, president of the University of South Carolina, has tendered his resignation to the board of trustees, to become effective May 13, 1922, on the day when the president reaches his age of 61 years.  
 The trustees met yesterday but in view of the fact that the full membership was not present, consideration was deferred to a later date. Dr. Currell has been head of the University since July, 1914.  
 Another matter decided upon was the establishment of a graduate school at the University. John E. Swearingen, State Superintendent of Education, and ex-officio member of the Board of Trustees, was appointed chairman of a committee to prepare a curriculum of the graduate school.

**NOT SURPRISING.**  
 It is not at all surprising to learn that the Associated Charities is in financial trouble, that is, unable to carry on its work on the present extensive scale with the limited funds at its command. It has always been a thing to marvel at how it could prosecute such a comprehensive program of activities with the small amount of pocket change it could get its hands on. The people of this community evidently have no conception of the vast amount of work it is doing and the extent of its operations, otherwise, they would not stand by and see it suffer for the want of an ampler financial budget.  
 The organization is splendidly maintained and running along smoothly and efficiently. Its personnel is doing a work at salaries which are inferior to those which its member could easily command if they chose to enter some other pursuit. But because of their interest in this work and their desire to engage in such a ministry, they are willing to make some self-denials and to suffer inadequate support to the end that the program of alleviation may itself be unaffected by the parsimonious financial supply to which they have access.  
 If there was a more general understanding of the character of work being done, both as to its extent and as to its vital relation to the social and civic wellbeing of the city, it would never find itself cramped; or, if those who actually know of these things were disposed to lend it their interest and financial support in accordance with their own knowledge of the work and its needs, there would be no trouble about finding money enough to carry out the program.  
 The community is going to have to make some arrangements by which the Associated Charities can continue to function, not on a less extensive scale, but on a gradually increasing scope, and it may as well make up its mind to this effect now.

**SCHOOL BILLS**  
 (Continued From Page One.)  
 For the public schools in the various counties of the State where complaint is registered as to whether the county commissioners have exceeded their authority in fixing the school tax rate.  
 Another effort was made by the House to bring about adjournment Saturday night when a joint resolution, introduced by Representative Grant of Davie county, fixing Wednesday as the final date on which bills could be introduced was passed and sent to the Senate for consideration.  
 Representative Ross introduced a bill seeking to have the daisy made the official flower. The rules were suspended, the bill put on its immediate passage and was forthwith defeated on a viva voce vote.  
 Representatives Fountain and Murphy admonished the House to speed up its work in order to "get away from here" by Saturday night. The Senate, it was pointed out, was well up with its calendar while the House was not. They asked for less delay in the consideration of all measures.  
**SENATE SESSION**  
 Reaffirmation is all that is now needed to make the \$710,000 school deficit bill a part of the laws of North Carolina, for the senate repeated its performance of Tuesday in voting unanimously, and without discussion or demand for explanation for the passage of the bill in its third reading. The measure authorizes the State Treasurer to issue bonds for \$710,000 the proceeds from the sale of which will be used in reimbursing the counties and cities which have advanced money that was supposed to have come from the State for the payment of one half of the expense of running schools six months in every county.  
 The fact that the bill has been very thoroughly discussed in the lower house and in committees prevented the necessity for discussion and explanation in the upper house. This was the only matter of State-wide importance and significance that was handled at the morning session of the Senate, which completed the roll call and other local bills on its schedule for the day by 12:30 and recessed until Wednesday night at 8 o'clock in order to take up the public bills.  
 Senator Elmer Long, author of the bill calling for publicity in connection with tax rebates, announced on Wednesday that despite the action of the Senate in sending his bill back to the Judiciary committee for consideration, he was going to ask for a vote on the measure on the floor of the Senate. He has no idea what kind of a report the bill will get from joint Judiciary, but even if it comes up on an unfavorable report, the measure can be placed before the Senate.  
 Senator Harry Stubbs has not decided when he will bring up his bill providing the call for a constitutional convention. He asked that it be postponed when it first came up.

**AS IT IS AT VANDERBILT.**  
 Vanderbilt University, with one of the greater medical colleges in the South, has found it necessary to limit the freshman class of this year to 50 matriculates and no transfers from other institutions were accepted in the higher classes. The Vanderbilt Alumnae announced in a late issue that 150 applicants have been turned down this Fall and adds that "it would have been easy to have a freshman class of 200 this year instead of 50 if the University had possessed sufficient equipment to accommodate them". In addition to these limitations, the University has refused 67 transfers from other medical schools.  
 This situation in Vanderbilt, duplicated in practically every medical college in the country, among the larger and more famed institutions, especially argues mightily for the planting of a medical college of first-class proportions in North Carolina, to become a part of the University. It would be losing a luminous opportunity if the thought and agitation already applied to this enterprise should be allowed to dissipate and nothing come of it. Such an institution as this would not merely be practical in that it would mean a fine material investment for the State, but it would appear that self-interest alone will compel action. If students of medicine from this and other States are to find no doors open to them elsewhere, there will be nothing else left to do but to provide them facilities at home for accommodating their life-ambitions in this field.

**DEMOCRATS AND THE PACT.**  
 The Democratic Senators may do as they please in reference to voting for the quadruple alliance which Senator Lodge has succeeded in having adopted, but if they want to abide by the wishes of their constituents, they will cast their votes against this measure. The Democratic voters of the country understand quite well the inferiorities of this pact and the only basis upon which they would be disposed to accept it at all would be with the hope, if not with the actual understanding, that it may lead to enlargement, that others may be drawn into it later and that, at length, it may become an alliance that will function with the wholesomeness with which the league of nations can be made to function.  
 The main reason for opposition to the proposition centers in its limitations. Of course, it has other defects, but none of them are to be considered above the possible good that can come out of it, if only it was broadened so as to make greater international concept of action possible. As it stands now, its narrowness is its own undoing. It will tend to create rather than to heal friction. If it always trouble between the United States and Japan, it makes trouble for both with other countries and so it does with all the four included in it.  
 Its second article is in such notable correspondence with the far-famed Article Ten of the original league of nations that it actually does create between the signatories of this alliance practically everything which Article Ten would have created among all signatory to that document, so that it retains many of the virtues of that league which this nation, through Senatorial spite, has discarded, and then, unfortunately, it reaches out and assimilates some vices which the other did not possess.  
 As it stands, however, it is unacceptable to Democratic thought and support; it is being severely castigated by the independent press of the country which is largely for the league of nations and it is being unanimously supported only by those politicians and that element of the public press that is hidebound and partisan and hostile toward former President Wilson. That fact alone tells the story of this alliance.  
 The letters which the children are writing, through The News, to Santa Claus indicate that, in their estimation, the old patron saint lives in a climate far removed from such a terrestrial disturbance as a financial depression and the glorious fact is that he does.

**HAYES GIVEN LIFE TERM IN THE PEN**  
 Snowhill, Dec. 15.—Thomas Hayes yesterday was sentenced to life imprisonment for his part in the killing of William Whitley, farmer of Greene county last August. Sentence was passed on Hayes, last of three defendants to be tried for the killing, when counsel in Greene county superior court entered a plea of guilty.  
 Hayes received the same sentence imposed on Mrs. Sarah Whitley, widow of the victim, who is now serving her term. Wright Rouse, the negro engaged by Mrs. Whitley and Hayes to do the killing, is now awaiting electrocution.

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 For today and Wednesday these lovely Suits, Coats and Wraps bear special prices as a pre-Holiday offering. Second floor.

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