

THE CONCORD TIMES PUBLISHED MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS

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AGAIN WE SAY "AMEN."

We hasten to utter our approval of the manner in which Governor McLean acted when 400 prisoners went on strike at the Halifax county farm.

The time to act in such emergencies is at the beginning and Governor McLean knows this. He could have waited until things cooled off, but that would have been too late.

While these prisoners were trying to take the law into their own hands a mob was doing just that in Arkansas. A negro was charged with attacking a white mother and daughter.

We are told in press dispatches that the mob outnumbered the officers that the latter had no chance to do anything.

There was plenty of time for troops to be called out. No doubt there is a national guard company in Little Rock.

The North Carolina plan is the wiser. It is better to be too well prepared than not sufficiently prepared.

The soldiers were not called upon for anything except guard duty. Prison officials handled the men.

READY FOR SHOW-DOWN.

The Piedmont and Northern officials have decided to drop the matter of jurisdiction and fight for an extension of their lines in the two Carolinas on the grounds of necessity.

Several weeks ago representatives of the interurban company asked the Interstate Commerce Commission to decide whether it had jurisdiction in the matter of extensions for an interurban company, the P. & N. Group contending then that in its original petition it included the right to extend its lines later.

Perhaps the P. & N. group has come to the conclusion that the I. C. C. would claim jurisdiction in the matter and decided the quickest way to settle the whole thing would be to present arguments supporting the contention that the extensions are necessary for the proper growth of this great Piedmont Section.

Other rail companies are fighting the interurban but just the same we feel that the commission will be convinced that the new lines are needed.

to let the P. & N. carry the fight alone the commission may not see the matter in the true light, and the request may be denied.

We repeat that we fail to understand why the Southern and other lines are fighting the proposal. It is true that the interurban will get part of the business these other lines are now getting but at the same time new business will be created and in the long run we believe the Southern will get more business than at present.

The Southern is to be considered, as are the other lines whose business might be affected by the extension, but the chief point to be considered by the commission, it seems to us, is the welfare of the community to be served.

This Piedmont Section is just beginning to grow. New enterprises are ready to begin operations in sections not now served by a rail company.

MEAT AND MILK ANIMALS.

In a survey made by the University News Letter it is shown that Cabarrus county ranks 27th in the State in meat and milk animal units.

In this study horses and mules have been omitted, attention being given only to food-producing animals—cattle, sheep, swine and poultry.

In order to determine whether one county is more heavily stocked than another, it is necessary to reduce the different kinds of livestock to some unit basis.

- 1 steel or cow ----- 1 animal unit
2 calves or heifers ----- 1 animal unit
7 sheep ----- 1 animal unit
14 lambs ----- 1 animal unit
5 hogs ----- 1 animal unit
10 pigs ----- 1 animal unit
100 chickens ----- 1 animal unit

The figures from which this table was prepared are those of the United States Census of Agriculture, 1925.

Ashe, Buncombe and Haywood counties lead in the total number of meat and milk animal units and likewise rank among the best five on the basis of such animal units per farm.

HOOVER AND FOREIGN DEBTS.

Secretary Hoover was active in sessions of the Pan-American meeting held recently in Washington, the purpose of the meeting being to consider world stabilization and peace.

There was some diplomatic language to Secretary Hoover's utterances but in plain language he told his hearers that it is poor business to lend money to foreign countries for unproductive enterprises such as war.

And of course war is unproductive. As The Winston-Salem Journal says, "wars are the most unproductive of all human enterprises. They settle nothing. They unsettle everything."

"Take this position and stand alongside it that of Secretary Kellogg. There is an immediate clash for the latter thinks we should let foreign nations have money for the prosecution of war.

been made to that country, all with the approval of Mr. Kellogg, and practically all of the money has been spent for war machinery and munitions.

Part of the money, we are told, has been expended for the purpose of "balancing the national budget," deficits easily accounted for other wars.

The position of Secretary Kellogg means that the United States has been encouraging foreign war by furnishing the necessary cash. Nicaragua and other South and Central American countries can't carry on war very long; they have not enough money.

TEST OF COUNTY FINANCE ACT.

Machinery has been set in motion for a test case on the recently enacted county finance law. In a friendly suit brought in Guilford county a restraining order was sought to keep Guilford county commissioners from selling \$1,500,000 worth of bonds under the new act.

State officials for the most part think the law is all right, but a bond expert has ruled otherwise, and the only way for the thing to be settled is to put it up to the Supreme Court.

However, if the court rules with the bondsmen, then there will have to be a special session of the Legislature or this phase of the county government reform legislation postponed until the next session of the Legislature in 1929.

Those persons bringing the suit are not opposed to the law. They are just trying to get an official ruling so counties in the State will know whether to issue bonds under the law or resort to some other method.

QUEER REASONING.

Mrs. Ruth Snyder admitted these facts on the witness stand: That she received a sash weight in the mails from Henry Judd Gray, knowing he was to use the weight on her husband's head.

That she refused to throw the weight away, although she knew its purpose, because it was Gray's property and she wanted to give it back to him.

That she concealed jewelry in her home to keep Gray from taking it. That's queer reasoning.

Here we find this wife admitting that she concealed jewelry but opened the way for the murder of her husband. Apparently she was more concerned with material things than with the life of her husband, and the jury no doubt will be reminded of this many times before it retires to reach a verdict.

Gray seems to have been more frank. He says he struck Snyder but denies that he was acting alone. He admits almost wholly his part in the murder plot, whereas Mrs. Snyder seeks to put all of the blame on Gray.

We do not see how any man could have gotten away with this stuff had there been any opposition from the wife.

Governor McLean is going to cut out some of his conferences. Hereafter he will meet regularly with newspaper men just three times a week, whereas in the past he has been meeting them each day.

SCHOOLHOUSES AND PROPERTY.

In 1925-26 Cabarrus county ranked 68th among the counties of the State in the number and value of schoolhouses and property for rural white children.

In State School Facts we learn that in 1925-26 there were 54 white schoolhouses in this county, valued at \$394,075. This was an average value of \$7,298, with an average value per child enrolled of \$72.45.

The total appraised value of all the public school property used for elementary and secondary educational purposes was \$84,541,828 on June 30, 1926.

Washington County has the largest per capita investment per rural white child \$252.38. The lowest per capita investment is in Cherokee County at \$21.29.

In 1924-25 only 13 counties had a per capita investment per white child enrolled of \$100 or more; in 1924-25 there were 33 counties in this group; and in 1925-26, 39. This shows the increasing value of school property in these rural systems.

Buncombe County has more money invested in rural school property for white pupils than any other county, \$1,844,190. Five counties, Buncombe, Guilford, Robeson, Rockingham, and Johnston, each has over a million dollars invested in school property used for white rural children.

ABOUT "DOUBLE" PARKING.

Efforts by police officers here to break up "double" parking in the business district have brought protests from certain persons who base their claim to a "double" parking privilege to the fact that many persons drive their cars downtown in the morning and leave them parked in the same place all day.

So long as this is done, it is argued, other motorists must either spend much time looking for parking places, walk some distance or go elsewhere to do their buying.

It has been suggested by Chief Talbirt that merchants refrain from the present practice of leaving their cars parked on the busiest streets of Concord from morning to night.

Many clerks ride to work in the morning and leave their cars in the same place, right in front of some store, until they are ready to go to dinner.

The result is that the motorist who drives to the business district on business has difficulty in finding a place to park. Many errands in stores can be attended to in a minute or two, the time limit for "double" parking, but this is not always the case and the result is the would-be buyer has trouble spending money with the merchants.

Most business owners and clerks could find parking space in the rear of their stores. Removal of these cars from Union street would materially relieve the present unsatisfactory condition.

THE PIEDMONT & NORTHERN.

The dispatch in The Observer yesterday from its Washington correspondent to the effect that the Piedmont & Northern Railway, without waiting for a decision in the matter of jurisdiction, is going to push its case before the Interstate Commerce Commission on the broad ground of public convenience and necessity means that this little Piedmont interurban system is going to the mat immediately with the Southern, the Seaboard Air Line, the Atlantic Coast Line, and the other large systems.

This new development in the matter of the P. & N. extension rather definitely brings into the fight the industrial and other business interests of the Piedmont section of the Carolinas and that part of the public in this section that is interested in its continued industrial growth.

The 4,402 schoolhouses used for white children were appraised at \$73,729,278, and the 2,393 schoolhouses used for colored children were valued at \$8,812,550—an average value of \$16,749 and \$3,683 for each schoolhouse of each respective race.

The city schools are very much better equipped with property than the rural schools; and the larger the cities, the more property there is available for each child.

The Observer believes that it judges correctly the opinion and the determination of the people of this section. If it does properly appraise the feelings of these people it does not hesitate to predict that there is going to be a battle royal; that the Interstate Commerce Commission is going to be shown conclusively that the completion of the projected links of the P. & N. are needed for the fullest industrial development of this section; and that this projected mileage will be built.

The rural schools have less property per child than any other group—\$92.52 per white pupil and \$18.90 per colored pupil. There are more schoolhouses used for

the education of the white children of Wilkes county than any other rural system, 124. There are fewer schoolhouses for white children in Camden County, 8. The 124 schoolhouses are appraised at \$160,740, or an average value of \$3,716 per schoolhouse and a per capita value of \$51.91; whereas the 8 schoolhouses in Camden county are valued at \$90,000, or an average of \$11,250, and a per pupil value of \$84.75.

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TAKING THE HIDE OFF

Charlotte News. We can hardly blame Dr. Wilkes for taking a little time off to tell his people that unless they devoured the latest book of sinners they would be damned.

One of the sanest of these criticisms comes under our observation in the case of Ernest Garrison who in a cool and collected fashion:

"Deeper than his hatred of the cynicism about human nature, he conceives it, it rotten to the core, made up of fools who can be exploited who exploit them, plus a small but not insignificant number of futility souls who get crushed by the classes because they do not exploit."

It will please those who want to know the world as it is to read these things. The real character and service of the industry are known remotely, if at all.

Snair Lewis is an ardent admirer of the book is widely and violently attacked. The price is \$2.50, but a wise man can find a much better investment for his money.

In the years to come both the author will be consigned to the waste bin of the world. The man who loves his loved will enjoy reading it.

HATS OFF TO BELLS

Charlotte Observer. Formal opening of the new store of the Belks gives distinction to the department stores of quality in New York. It gives this city attention and a very pronounced one.

The Belks have established here a store between Washington and New York. The store is six stories high, with 71 feet and a depth of 207 feet, and a floor space of 2,000,000 square feet.

When I've embarked on department stores the people were manifestly disappointed when the Effrids followed suit, they were overdoing the business.

The enterprise of the Belk brothers is a development of tremendous importance to the business of this section, and are willingly given the prize and are willing to give the prize for the magnificent addition they have made to the retail fame and the business of this section.

It is quite in contrast to the store occupied when they began business 31 years ago, and is a monument to the energy and capability of two country boys to open a store and so soon developed into a store of this magnitude.

DOUBLY WORTH

Durham Herald. Formal dedication of the new college at Elon college a few days ago has contributed to education in North Carolina another lasting monument to the people of this section.

The building, costing \$100,000, was built through the generosity of the Duke, and bears the name of the Duke, and the name of the Duke, and the name of the Duke, and the name of the Duke.

The question games are getting harder all the time. In one game asked who is the other senator from News.

The people of the United States would own about 90 per cent of the world's automobiles if they were all paid for.—Rushville Republican.