

STATE GETS MOST ROADS FOR MONEY

FRANK PAGE TALKS OF RESULTS OF HIGHWAY PROGRAM AT BAYBORO.

BIG CELEBRATION STAGED

In Honor of the Completion of the New Bern and Bayboro Asphalt Road.

Bayboro.—North Carolina gets more roads for the money it spends than any other State of the Union does or ever has, Frank Page, State Highway Commissioner, told a board of Pamlicoans, who came from every quarter through the hardest rain the county has witnessed in months to take part in the celebration staged in honor of the completion of the New Bern-Bayboro asphalt road on the 10th here. Mr. Page told of the progress made on Carolina's great highway project.

Governor Cameron Morrison also was slated to make a speech but the death of T. C. Leak in Rockingham county compelled him to cancel the engagement at the last moment. J. E. Cameron, commissioner for this district, also spoke.

Mr. Page reviewed the work of the Highway Commission since its inception, pointing out that the State had only 210 miles of improved roads when the commission was created. Within four years the total of finished roads has passed the three thousand mile mark and thousands of other miles are under construction. The State is spending a tremendous sum of money, he said, but the saving to its people in gasoline and wear and tear on automobiles alone are millions of dollars each year. Mr. Page spoke, too, of the justice of the system of taxation through which the State acquires funds for the retirement of the road debt. Automobile owners pay it. Those who travel little pay little, those who travel much pay much. Visitors from other states who use these roads pay too through the gasoline tax. Folks who own no cars pay no road tax.

For the great service being given the people of North Carolina by the Highway Commission Mr. Page wanted no more of the credit than due any member of the organization. The nine directors and the great skilled engineers, skilled and unskilled workmen from the organization to which all credit is due he said. North Carolina is blessed by their devotion to duty. They have done the work.

Endorse Deep Water.

Wilmington.—To General Lansing H. Beach, head of the engineers for the war department, the chamber of commerce has written a letter absolutely endorsing the proposal of Fayetteville to have the government provide eight feet of water to the Cumberland metropolis the year round by building a third lock and dam on the upper Cape Fear river.

A letter has been directed to R. M. Horsburgh, secretary of the Fayetteville chamber, stating that this city will lend to Fayetteville any and all support in their effort to have the board of engineers for rivers and harbors recommend the construction of said lock and dam.

Salvation Army at Fayetteville.

Fayetteville.—A definite decision to establish a post of the Salvation Army in this city was the result of a mass meeting held in the courthouse here, and Salvation Army work on a permanent basis will be inaugurated in Fayetteville with the first of the year. The meeting, which was attended by a good number of the city's most representative men and women, was addressed by Major William H. Barrett, of Charlotte, commander of the division composed of North and South Carolina. Major Barrett made a most interesting talk on the work of the great organization.

Picture Shows What Schools Doing.

Asheville.—Mrs. Curtis Bynum, president of State Parent-Teachers' association, has accepted an offer from the Famous Players-Lasky picture corporation to carry monthly on the screen 1 fits North Carolina theaters interesting facts about what the state association is doing for the welfare of parents and children.

Shippers Meeting Changed.

Rocky Mount.—The meeting of Eastern Carolina shippers which was scheduled to have been held at Wilson Saturday, Dec. 8, for the purpose of further perfecting the Eastern Carolina Shippers' Association has been postponed until December 27, when it will be held at Goldsboro, according to announcement received by chamber of commerce officials and shippers here, from M. R. Beaman, of Wilson, secretary of the newly formed organization.

To Improve Roads.

Asheville.—Improvement of all roads through government reservation at Oteen Veterans' Hospital will be undertaken in the near future, according to announcement made by Colonel Miller, head of that institution. An engineer from the Veterans' Bureau at Washington is now at Oteen making estimates of the cost and as soon as his report is completed and acted on by the bureau, work is expected to start. There are several miles of road around the hospital.

Bulb Development on Coast.

An investigation looking toward the possibilities of bulb development in the Wilmington section will shortly be made by the coastal plain branch experiment station, according to an announcement made here by the state department of agriculture. The experiment will be conducted in the section around Wilmington.

Dr. Charles Dearing, superintendent of the state, has purchased sufficient bulbs of the hyacinth group to plant one acre of land and planting will commence immediately. Dr. Dearing states that he wishes his station to be in a position to advise commercial growers concerning the possibilities of bulb culture and to aid and encourage such planting should the venture about to be undertaken prove successful.

"At least two commercial growers," said Dr. Dearing in the statement of the department made public tonight, have already begun the venture. It seems that the federal department of agriculture has placed an embargo on hyacinth bulbs from Holland and other foreign countries to become effective in 1926.

This action, Dr. Dearing states, was taken because of the presence of some plant disease which makes the importation of these bulbs a dangerous matter; but the federal authorities have given the growers until 1926 so that the industry may have an opportunity to be started in this country. The coastal station will be one of the first in the country to begin an experiment of this nature.

"Bulbs sufficient to plant one acre," declared Dr. Dearing, "now cost about \$1.275. From the claims made by commercial growers, however, there should be returns of about \$800 the first season from the flowers; about \$1,200 the second season from flowers, and from both flowers and mother bulbs in the third season, 1926, at least \$3,250 per acre. The indications are that the growth of these bulbs for selling the cut flowers and the mother bulbs should open up a profitable field of intensive farming for the section of North Carolina."

Raps Inefficiency of Schools.

"What education in North Carolina needs, white and black alike, is a few more real teachers and a few less time servers," Miss Elizabeth Kelley, president of the State Education Association told of thousands members of the Negro State Teachers Assembly here, speaking before the second session of the annual convention held in the City Auditorium.

It was the second consecutive evening of plain speaking through which the Negro teachers have passed. Miss Kelley got down to the fundamentals of education, pointed out its defects and challenged the Negroes to do their part in eliminating them.

With even more enthusiastic applause and "amens" than greeted the Governor, the Negro teachers applauded the head of the white teachers of the State when she held up to ridicule many of the educational dogmas and called upon all teachers to see what they are worth to the community where they are working, and if they don't measure up, to get out of the way for a real teacher.

"When you have taught a boy to read and write a few intelligent sentences, to spell and to count enough to get through with the ordinary processes of life and have planted in him the belief that he can do anything he sets his heart on—then you have educated him, and until then you have wasted your time and his time and everybody's money," she told the teachers and they shouted for her.

Education is the biggest business in the State, with an investment of 50 million in capital and an operating account of thirty million a year and nearly a million people taking part, either as raw material or as operatives, Miss Kelley said. It is the biggest business and there is less known about it, she repeated. Many people brag about it who know nothing about it.

The University and the colleges are fine, but out in the back country, where eighty per cent of the children of the State live, 60 per cent of the schools are not worthy of the name, she said. She gave the figures from a county where she had recently made a survey of the schools. In the first grade there were 1,642 children and in a year only 421 of them were promoted to the second grade.

Plan Welfare Bureau for Negroes.

Establishment of a bureau with a trained negro worker in charge who, under the commissioner, will supervise the public welfare work among the negroes in North Carolina is the next line of extension of its activities planned by the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare, Mrs. Kate Burr Johnson, Commissioner of Public Welfare, told the members of the N. C. Negro Teachers' Assembly at the concluding session of their meeting here.

Winston-Salem Leads in Permits.

Winston-Salem is leading all North Carolina cities in the number of permits issued for new buildings and repairs to old buildings during the month of October, according to the monthly report of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond of activities in the Fifth Federal Reserve District. In the value of new construction, however, Greensboro was leading with a total expenditure during the month of \$387,210.

Asheville Man to Draft Water Report.

Reports to be made by the State Ship and Water Transportation Committee will be compiled by Harry W. Plummer, of Asheville, who has been engaged for the work, according to an announcement by Charles E. Waddell, chairman of the commission's committee in charge of preparing the report. The commission has been engaged in conducting an extensive and comprehensive investigation of North Carolina's port possibilities and the potentialities of water commerce.

The Letter to Santa Claus



My mamma said for me to write
To dear old Santa Claus tonight;
So I have told him, best I could,
That I have been so very good—
And as he's sure to come our way,
A call on me I know he'll pay;
I'd like a doll, a cart and horn,
And all the joys of Christmas morn.
—Avery J. Wells

Christmas Love Brought Her Joy

WELL, girls, I have made it up with Beatrice." Ann, "the hard-bolled" of the office, yanked up her coat and had placed them in the locker that ranged across the end of the room.

No one paid much attention to Ann usually. She was of such an explosive nature, and said such irresponsible things, that she was not taken seriously. But the break between Ann and Beatrice had been of long standing and had been commented upon so much by Ann that her announcement caused the other girls to look up questioningly.

"That's a fact," continued Ann, "and I am so ashamed of my treatment of her this long time."

"How did it come about?" asked

Sadie, assistant to the department manager.

"Well," exclaimed Ann, "I will have to confess my beastly nature, before I can tell you how it happened. In a spirit of spite I sent Beatrice a Christmas present, which no one but good little Bea could ever have accepted as anything but an insult. It makes no difference what it was. Today noon I met her on the street and she stopped me to thank me for the present."

"It was not the present so much, Ann, that came by mail," said she. "What made me feel good was that she had been thinking of me. Then she took hold of my hand to kiss it and said, 'It was not any kind of a present that I wanted most from you, Ann, but your love and companionship

and sympathy. I have been hungry for you, Ann, and you had no right to take yourself away from me. I give you my love for Christmas—will you give me yours?' And little Ann, the hard-bolled, cried right on the street. 'What do you think of that, girls?'"

"The day of miracles is not past, it seems," commented one.

"And now do you know what?" This from Ann. The girls waited expectantly for further information from the erratic one.

"Well, I always thought Christmas was to get people to spend lots of money to send things to other people that they did not want," rattled off Ann. "Now I have a new understanding of Christmas since my most loyal friend has asked me only for my love . . . and she sure is going to get it."—C. F. Wadsworth.

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GREETINGS!

From out our house the candles glow
With ruddy, cheerful light,
And may their gleam across the snow
Reach you and yours tonight.

For we have peace and joy and health
To bless our Christmas fire,
And love, that is the fairest wealth
That any can desire.

So, out across the drifting snow,
Our Christmas song speeds true;
Our candle-flames all bravely go
To light our wish to you.

—Edith Ballinger Price.

Busy Mailmen Add to Our Christmas Cheer

FROM house to house they go with cards and calendars of cheer, presents and surprises.

Always cheery, never complaining, how much they add to our Christmas joy and pleasure! If cross expressions were worn by those who brought us our Christmas presents it would not be the same. And yet they work so hard, so over- and they carry so much, and all to

others, to help make them happy. Our mailmen are a pretty wonderful lot and our Christmas time is added to by them to a very big degree.

It seems as though we should do our part to give a little cheer to our mailmen in gratitude and appreciation of the spirit in which they do their work.—Mary Graham Bonner.

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Magic of Christmas Sweeps Entire World

THE magic of Christmas flew over the world today, changing the dreary commonplace events of yesterday into things of wonder and delight and filling the earth with happiness and joy and cheer. It permeates the whole earth from end to end and mankind in every land and in every clime responds to it in the fullest measure. For into

our hearts at this time there comes a beautiful something that raises us above ourselves and brings us to greater heights than we ever reach at any other time. For with the magic of Christmas time man buries self in trying to promote the happiness and well-being of others and in doing this finds greatest happiness for himself also. For it seems as if the more we give of love, of service and of ourselves the fuller grows the store from which we draw upon and the richer we grow in the things that make for

our own happiness. Let us then allow the magic of Christmas time to fall upon us so deeply that it may not only stay with us at this time but through all the days to follow.—Katherine Edelman.

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NEVER TOO HIGH

It might be different with a lot of things around Christmas, but the mistletoe is never too high.

DOINGS IN THE TAR HEEL STATE

NEWS OF NORTH CAROLINA TOLD IN SHORT PARAGRAPHS FOR BUSY PEOPLE

Winston-Salem.—The Winston-Salem Presbytery is the name chosen for the new division of the Presbyterian Church cut off from the Orange Presbytery by order of the Synod of North Carolina.

Greensboro.—Liquor brought a beautiful 18-year-old girl here to a 60-day sentence in jail, and, in addition, earned her a beating at the hands of two young men, according to testimony in municipal court.

Wilmington.—Mayor James H. Cowan, of Wilmington, who has served as North Carolina vice president of the Atlantic Deepwater Waterways association, has been elected a director at large of that important organization.

Asheville.—Plans for the enlargement of Mars Hill college, Baptist junior college located near Asheville, involving an expenditure of \$125,000, will be outlined at a meeting of alumni and officials of the institutions at Gastonia.

Hickory.—The city of Hickory sold \$340,000 worth of bonds at premiums and interest rates which, according to Bruce Craven, who prepared both issues, set a record for municipal paper in this state.

Fayetteville.—A negro elevator boy named Thuyston was killed instantly while attempting to repair an elevator in a local hospital here. The negro came in contact with an electric wire owing, it is said, to ignorance of the machinery.

Wilmington.—J. C. Vereen, prominent merchant of Phoenix, five miles west of here, was brought to a local hospital after having been shot from ambush in the front yard of his home. A load of buckshot took effect in his head and neck.

Greensboro.—Guilford county commissioners voted to place a steel door at the entrance of the county jail, on the top floor of the courthouse, to cost \$540. The door will be useful in repelling any mob that might take a notion to get a prisoner, and also be useful in preventing the escape of prisoners.

Rocky Mount.—News was received here of the suicide of C. L. Edwards, traffic officer on the state highway between this city and Tarboro, which occurred at his home in the Edgecombe county capital.

New Bern.—Bridgeton, little town across Neuse river from here, took another long step forward when it passed with an overwhelming vote a bond issue for \$212,000 to be used for paving sidewalks, and making other permanent street improvements. The issue was passed by a ratio of about nine to one in a registration of only 91.

Charlotte.—Dr. A. M. Redfean, 61, for 27 years college surgeon at Clemson College, S. C., died in Charlotte hospital where he had been under treatment ten days. He was born in Anson county, N. C., and had lived in Charlotte since he retired from medical practice three years ago.

Winston-Salem.—Col. J. C. Bessent, who has been a justice of the peace since September, 1894, has officiated at the marriage of one thousand couples. This honor came to him when he performed the ceremony, uniting the lives of George D. Crouch, and Mrs. Dossie Durham.

Salisbury.—W. L. Baker, local post-office clerk, is in a local hospital with a broken leg sustained when he tried to crank his automobile with the engine in gear.

Asheville.—A mistrial was ordered in the cases of Mrs. Jennie Poe, 65, and her grand-daughter, Ethel Caldwell, charged with the murder of the former's husband, W. A. Poe, on August 26th, according to word from Waynesville.

Raleigh.—Edenton Street Methodist church will have the first church service to be introduced in Raleigh. The chimes to be installed at once are the gift of Mrs. N. E. Edgerton and her son.

Morganton.—Governor Morrison has authorized a special term of Burke County Superior court to convene here January 7 to try criminal cases. Judge B. F. Long, of Statesville, will preside.

Winston-Salem.—While playing in the woods during the noon recess, students of the Mineral Springs School, just northeast of the city, found a quantity of whiskey. Officers were notified and an investigation revealed 35 gallons.

Henderson.—County Farm Agent J. C. Anthony and a party of Vance county farmers have returned from a 500-mile trip through the boll weevil infested areas of the Carolinas in which they made a close up study of the best methods of combatting the pest.

Winston-Salem.—A new Presbytery to be composed of nine counties in this section, formerly a part of Orange Presbytery, will be formed at a meeting to be held here. The counties to compose the new Presbytery are Forsyth, Surry, Stokes, Alleghany, Ashe, Wilkes, Davie, Davidson and Yadkin.

Kinston.—The coming holidays will be the driest this town has ever known. Spurred on by public sentiment county and city officials have practically cleared this section of bootleggers and the court docket is congested with cases against alleged whiskey runners.

Greensboro.—Ethel Allen, negro woman, while drunk and chasing her husband on Elm street, chief thoroughfare here, took a shot at him and missed him, but hit a blind white man, Clyde Pence, newspaper salesman. Pence was hit in the hip and badly hurt, but will recover, it is thought.

High Point.—Congestion of the local yards of the Southern Railway Company apparently due to a lack of sufficient labor to meet the increased business has caused much unfavorable comment. It was indicated that High Point shippers would appeal to executives of the railroad for relief.

NINE KILLED IN TRAIN COLLISION

SEVEN OTHER PEOPLE ARE INJURED. TWO PROBABLY FATALLY.

BILL DONOVAN IS A VICTIM

Third Section Telescopes Second Which Had Stopped on Account Auto on Track.

Forsythe, N. Y.—Two sections of the Twentieth Century Limited, the pride of the New York Central railroad, crashed in the fog and rain here with the loss of nine lives. The locomotive of one section ploughed through an observation car on the rear of the other, which had stopped because of the wreckage of an automobile by the foremost section of the train which was running in three parts.

All of the dead and injured were in the observation car, which was ripped open by the impact. The dead include W. B. (Wild Bill) Donovan, manager of the New Haven club of the Eastern league, who with other baseball magnates was on his way to Chicago to attend the baseball conclave. The automobile which was the indirect cause of the wreck became stalled on a railroad crossing, and three occupants of the machine jumped as they saw the express train thundering down upon them. They escaped injury and were eye witnesses of the wreck which followed a few minutes later.

The second section of the limited had passed the first when the latter developed engine trouble near Albany and it was this section which hit the automobile. After determining that no one was injured, the train proceeded. The first section, following a few minutes later, stopped to investigate when the blazing automobile was sighted, and was standing still when the third section crashed into it.

President John A. Heydler, of the National League, and other baseball men were among the first to reach the wrecked car and helped in removing the dead and injured.

Charles J. Patterson, of Cleveland, engineer of the third section, declared at the scene that he had seen the warning block signal and red flare to stop the train. He declared he had applied his brakes when he first saw the signal, but that because of the fog he was upon the other section before he could stop.

The list of dead announced officially by New York Central headquarters here follows:

- Mr. and Mrs. Otto Sweet, Los Angeles, Calif.
- Mr. and Mrs. K. Ernest Sturman, Springfield, Ill.
- W. B. Donovan, manager New Haven, Conn., Eastern League baseball club.
- Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sullivan, of Springfield, Ill.
- Mr. Carl D. Kinsey, Chicago.
- R. Pennell, Pullman porter, New York city.

Message of Coolidge Well Received.

New York.—Interest in financial and business circles during the past week naturally centered in President Coolidge's message, and, judging by the behavior of the securities markets, the document was well received. Business men were reassured by the definite stand taken in favor of tax reduction and most observers were pleased with the position taken in regard to railroads.

Final returns on the net earnings of class one railroads in October showed a total of \$102,700,000 or 4.75 per cent of the interstate commerce commission's valuation as compared with \$98,200,000 or 4.45 per cent in September. Car loadings continued to hold up well, the total for the week ended November 24 being 99,000 a figure larger than ever was reached in any preceding November.

Sign Trade Pact With the Germans.

Washington.—The United States Government is gradually extending its commercial treaties and trade agreements to cover all the wartime nations of the world, securing in every instance the "most favorable national clause" which ensures for American commerce at least an equality of opportunities and conditions in the fight for world trade.

A new treaty of this character was signed at the State Department between the United States and Germany, one of the few formal conventions that have been consummated between the two Governments since the signing of its separate treaty of peace in 1922.

Big Power Plant Sold.

Charlotte, N. C.—The largest consideration ever paid for a deed for property in the county, according to officials in the office of Clerk of Court James M. Yandle, was placed on record when papers were filed recording the sale of the dam and bulkhead at Mountain Island by the Catawba Manufacturing and Electric Power Company to the Southern Public Utilities Company for \$30,000,000.

The consideration named on the deed was "\$1,000 and other considerations."

Explosion Injures Three.

Pien Bluff, Ark.—Three persons were injured and damage estimated at \$40,000 was caused by an explosion which wrecked a portion of Sahara Temple Shrine building and damaged the fronts of two stores here. Escaping gas is believed to have caused the blast.

Several persons were in the building but none was seriously hurt. The three injured suffered painful bruises and shock.