

Message of Gov. Glenn Sent to Legislature

(Continued from First Page.) In my Thanksgiving proclamation of 1907, the people seem to have millions for improvement, investment and education, but are tired of seeing money squandered for strong drink, which only brings ruin and shame; for they have ascertained that the true worth of a state is not always to be gauged by the amount of its finances, the strength of its military or the value of its products, but by the character and habits of its men and women. By authority of an act passed by the last legislature, a commission, with the governor as chairman, was given power to adjust the state's indebtedness, and this was done to the perfect satisfaction of our creditors and with honor to the state. Now all indebtedness except the iniquitous special-tax bonds, which were repudiated both by the legislature and the people, has been finally settled on a perfectly just basis. Today we can truly say the state owes nothing for, with its bonded indebtedness due in 1918 amounts to \$3,888,000, and the par value of our stock is only \$4,403,610, still, when we learn that the stock in the North Carolina Railroad is worth \$1.88 per share and will soon be more, we find that not only can we pay off our indebtedness, but still have more than a million dollars balance to the state's credit. The last general assembly appropriated \$500,000 to more adequately and humanely care for our helpless insane, and by authority of the law I appointed a commission to carry out its provisions. I have seen it carefully and impartially considering its work. I can endorse what the commission has done, and ask that it be continued until it completes what it has begun. Some people, not knowing that all the money appropriated was not at once available, and not considering that land had in some instances to be bought and material supplied, have seen fit to criticize the commission for being too slow; but when all is understood and it is known what steps have already been taken and what will be accomplished in the end, they will be ready to exclaim with me, "Well done!" I will enumerate what has already been done and what will soon be available: A good tract of land, which to buy an epileptic hospital has been purchased at a fair price. This will also furnish a good farm, on which the patients can work, thus making them more healthy and also adding to their support. 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 need repairs at the hospital having been made, and now the commission has tried to carry out the will of the legislature. The commission will also at once erect another colony building at Morganton for 100 more patients, and this will supply all needed wants. They deem it best—and in this I concur—to keep all epileptic patients at one hospital and all tubercular patients at the other, thus keeping these classes of patients separated from the practically healthy inmates; and, with trained physicians prepared to treat these particular diseases, a greater percentage of cures is insured. What the last legislature did for these unfortunate ones cannot be commended too much, and I earnestly hope that your body, actuated by the same merciful will, will complete the work so nobly begun. The last general assembly passed an act fixing maximum passenger and freight rates of 2 1/2 cents per mile, with a request for a 2-cent mileage book. The legislature disregarded my suggestion and fixed a 2 1/4-cent rate per mile, and also fixed freight rates. Hearing that the railroads intended to refuse to obey the law, I had a conference with certain railroad authorities, and proposed that the new law be given a fair trial for six or eight months, and if the increase in travel made it remunerative the law should stand, but if it were shown that the railroads were losing money I would at once convene the legislature and ask them to remedy the wrong. The railroads refused to agree to this plan, and also would not obey the law, but took out injunctions in the federal courts. With no feeling of bitterness to the railroads, but believing it my sworn duty to enforce the law passed by the legislature, whether I approved or disapproved the rate fixed, I attempted to enforce the law, and would have done so if it had taken every dollar in the treasury and put arms in the hands of every available man in the state. Serious trouble for a time seemed imminent; there was a conflict between state and federal authorities, and much blood engendered. However, cool heads on both sides prevented any actual outbreak, until at last a compromise that I deemed fair to both the railroads and the state was effected, which agreement was ratified by the legislature in extra session. Since then no friction has existed; for, while the railroads did not put the mileage books on sale and for use in the manner contemplated by the agreement, and certainly not in the spirit, even if in the letter, of the compromise, in other respects they have faithfully complied with their agreement, and the settlement has proved a blessing to the people and in no way injurious to the railroads. At the special session \$5,000 was placed in my hands for the purpose of trying to prevent the railroads from

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fair value, others at about half, and some as low as a third, and yet they may all be situated in the same locality and be equally fertile and rich. This is absolutely unfair to individual taxpayers and counties that act right, and violates the rule of uniformity prescribed by the Constitution. Let us try to avoid this. Briefly, I suggest that the present law be changed to the extent that the assessors, as now, assess all realty, having power to examine witnesses, deeds, etc., and in addition also assess the value of all personalty, and send their assessments of realty and personalty to the board of equalization. Then let every taxpayer, under oath, with penalties and misdemeanors attached, if he acts falsely or fraudulently, list both his real and personal property, and what he conceives to be a fair value, and then send said valuation also to the board of equalization; and then the board, having both the assessors' and the individual's valuation of property, can scarcely make any mistake in assessing the property at a correct value. Let this rule be adopted, and we will soon find that we will have all the taxes necessary to defray the expenses of the state, and still the rate will be much lower than at present. I advise that the present law in regard to the board of equalization be repealed, as it is too costly, with no method to properly enforce it and no proper method of ascertaining the true value of property in the various counties. Primaries and Elections. Obtaining nominations and being elected to office are becoming too expensive, and, also, often fraudulent methods are resorted to in order to win. While it seems that in these days the man the office, still he would be required to do so with clean hands and correct practice. To remedy this growing evil, after a most careful study of all suggested plans, I recommend a legalized primary law for the nomination of all state, county and municipal officers, and that on a certain day, to be fixed in the law, at least sixty days before the election, there be held throughout the entire state, at the regular polling precincts, a legalized primary for all political parties. In this law I earnestly ask that you insert a publicity clause, requiring every candidate, manager, worker, friend or other person collecting or using money in the interest of a candidate, either in the primary or at the regular election, to render, under oath, a statement of the amount of money received, from what source, and how expended. Also insert a clause that whenever any newspaper of individual, during a campaign, either in the primary or at the regular election, shall, for the purpose of injuring or detracting from any candidate's chances for election, wantonly and falsely make any scandalous, malicious, immoral or degrading charges against any candidate, either orally or in writing, said newspaper, person or persons so offending shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. It is right that true charges be made, and, if true, should be made to prevent bad men from being elected or nominated; but before making such charges the paper or persons should be certain they are true and not, for malicious purposes, try to ruin and degrade a candidate. Criminal Procedure. To give relief to some crowded dockets, and for the more speedy enforcement of the criminal law, with proper safeguards preventing too lenient punishment of crime, I recommend that in every town, city and township there be appointed or elected one or more persons as recorders or trial justices, who shall have jurisdiction to try and punish all misdemeanors. This system has worked well in many of our cities and greatly relieved the superior courts from the trial of criminal cases. It has been repeatedly suggested that the state be divided into two judicial circuits, half of the judicial districts being in one circuit and the other half in the other, the judges of a district rotating in one circuit, as they now do in the state. This would save an immense amount of expense and time to our judges, who are now paid little enough, and certainly could do no harm, for the governor, as now, could have the power to allow judges to exchange courts from one circuit to the other, if any good reason were assigned, and could also entertain a great deal of only get \$4,000. Gentlemen, it is not enough. Asking this increase can do me no good, for in less than a week I return to private life. I have lived economically, and yet each year I have spent \$2,000 more than I have received. A governor ought not to desire to make one dollar for, to hold the office is a great honor, but he ought not to be required to serve the people for less than his actual expenses. I ask you, therefore, to at once increase the salary of the governor and the labor commissioner, for after they are inaugurated it cannot be done. Taxation. Nothing will come before you fraught with more interest to the state than the question of taxation, and yet there is nothing more difficult than to ascertain the best method of properly assessing both real and personal property for taxation, as required by Article V, section 3, of the Constitution, which says that "Laws shall be passed taxing by a uniform rate all moneys, credits, etc., and also all real and personal property, according to its true value in money." To me the true rule, and the one that will induce the most capital and best class of people and investors to come into our state, is to assess all property at a fair valuation, and then have as low a rate as possible, for a high rate and low assessment frighten both home-seekers and investors away, while a low rate and high valuation would properly advertise us and cause them to settle amongst us. More than forty-five counties received from the state more than they pay in taxes to the state, and the assessed value placed upon property varies about in proportion to the number of counties in the state. Some counties assess property at a

Good Roads. In my judgment, the greatest need today in North Carolina is good roads, and here, too, the geological survey has already done much service. When inaugurated in 1905, I said: "Next to illiteracy, levies the highest tax on a state, and bad roads are a curse and a hindrance to the business, education and progress of a people." Dr. Pratt's recommendation as to the kind of highways we need means my approval, and I hope a fuller and more up-to-date measure relating to roads will be passed at this session, for one needs only to study the improvement in counties having good roads over those having roads without proper grade and full of mud to know what better highways mean for the growth and wealth of a county or state. Pensions. As I said in my message of 1907, and now repeat, find out the veterans of the Civil War, 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. It is not my purpose in this message to take up separately institutions established for the education of our youth or for the amelioration of pain and suffering; for this I did fully in 1907, and now refer you to that paper. I will say, however, that much as applicable to all: I do not believe any other state, according to its wealth and population, has tried to do more for its youths' education or in caring for its unfortunate than North Carolina. The University of the State, the Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges for both white and colored, the State Normal and Industrial College and the training and normal schools for both races have all been conducted on a high plane, without any scandal or troubles, and have equipped many good men and women, who, going out into the state to engage in various occupations, have added greatly to our extraordinary growth and development, and, in my judgment, the good accomplished by these higher institutions, coupled with the fruits produced from our public schools, has added as much as any other instrumentality to the wealth and prosperity now enjoyed by the state. What I have said of the above institutions can likewise be said of the Deaf and Dumb and Blind School at Raleigh and the Deaf and Dumb School at Morganton, and to this much more can be added. New Building Needed. In addition to the appropriation asked for these institutions, the \$5,000 for high schools, the appropriation for the improvement of the Soldiers' Home, the increase of the amount allowed the geological survey, so it can better protect our forests, build good roads and guard our oyster and fish industries; the amount asked for the reformatory, and \$50,000 to complete the magnificent Eastern Training School and \$25,000 for its maintenance, thus giving the state for \$55,000 property worth over \$200,000, and other needed improvements, it is apparent to every sensible person that it is absolutely necessary for more room, in order to properly conduct the affairs of the state. The agricultural building and the supreme court building are fire traps, and yet they contain records, books, relics, etc., worth millions of dollars. The insurance commissioner is in a rental building. Valuable records are scattered all over Raleigh, exposed to danger from fire and other sources of loss. The superintendent of public instruction, the state librarian and the commissioner of labor and printing are cramped for room and cannot do their work as they wish. These are the conditions. Now, what is the remedy? I will not urge the enlargement of the capitol, for, while I believe this is best, it would be so bitterly opposed that the measure would fail, and we need relief now. So I content myself by urging a sufficient appropriation, which, taken with the amount the agricultural department is ready to give, will add an administrative building upon the lot now occupied by the supreme court and the agricultural building—one amply sufficient for all present needs. Not to do this will be a foolish policy, leaving valuable records, books and papers unprotected, and greatly hindering the state officers from rendering the state adequate services. With the youth of our land needing education, the unfortunate ones in our institutions for the insane and the deaf and dumb and the blind, and other departments asking needed help, we must either declare a policy that will make provision for all, or else declare that we will take no more in our institutions of learning. In the Soldiers' Home or in our deaconary institutions making no provision to protect our records, documents, etc., and leaving our youth to go elsewhere for an education or get none; our unfortunates to suffer and become dependent on the state, instead of breadwinners and producers, and our records run the risk of destruction and our departments render inefficient service for lack of

room. Advocates Bond Issue. To me there is only one way to meet the emergency, and that is to issue enough bonds to accomplish what is necessary to be done. Of course, you will hear objection from some good men, who will say, "Don't issue bonds; let us pay as we go, or else not make any improvements." I have already shown you that we are practically out of debt; in fact, our assets are more than we owe, and therefore we can easily issue enough bonds to put all our institutions in a good and healthy condition and provide for an administration building without increasing our tax rate one cent, and these bonds in a few years will be paid off by the enhanced value of our property and a better assessment in taxation. I recommend, therefore, that you appoint a wise business committee that will act for the state's true interest, which committee shall investigate what is necessary for these institutions to render efficient service to the state, commensurate with our present requirements and conditions, and then find out the amount required to do this work; and then, if the amount derived from taxes is not enough to do all that is required, issue enough bonds to do what is necessary. It will not take very much, and the good accomplished will be so great that all thinking people will soon approve your acts. Just now we need wise statesmen to look at these things as they are, and then have the courage to carry out what they deem to be right; and when this is done, I feel that all patriotic people, regardless of party affiliations, will approve your course. Trusts and Monopolies. All lawful business should be encouraged but illegal monopolies should be driven out of the state, is the substance of the recommendation as to trusts and monopolies. 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, if 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. Conclusion. And now, in conclusion, let me say that, four years ago, with trepidation, but with love, I took upon myself the administration of the affairs of this great commonwealth. That I have made mistakes no one will more readily admit than I, but that I have tried to do my duty as God gave me to see the light, I believe that even those honestly differing with me will admit. I had no personal ambition to promote, and, knowing no condition, color or creed among the people, but desiring to be the governor of all and not any particular class or party, I have acted solely for what I deemed would best uphold the state's highest interest. I know some have criticized me because often out of my office, but I had competent assistants in charge, who could attend to routine duties as well or better than I, and I was always in call in case my presence was needed. So, as the people could not visit me, I have gone amongst them, finding out their wants and necessities, and thus being better able to intelligently lay before you what is best for their interest. At home I have tried to encourage our farmers to take more pride in their work and to more economically and efficiently perform their duties; have encouraged every

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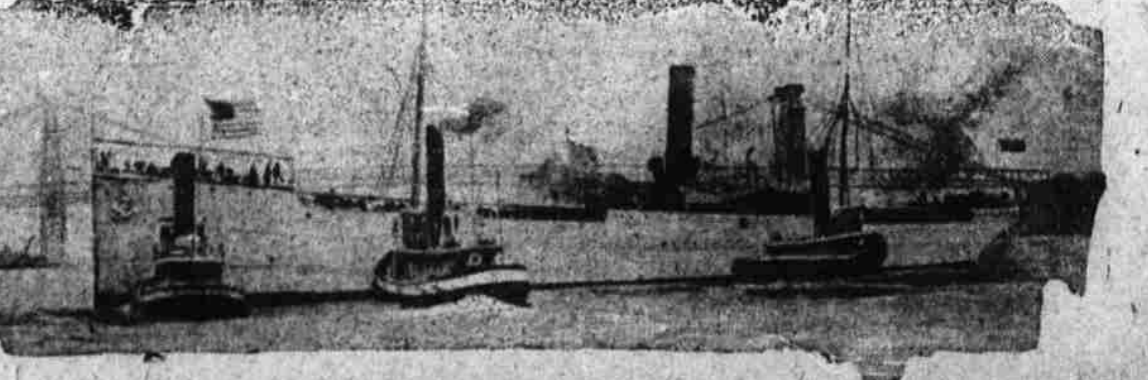
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Second. Let all state, county, township and municipal officers be elected for four years instead of two. Third. Let the general assembly only meet once in four years, unless for some extraordinary purpose it is called in extra session by the governor, 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 well in Canada and other countries. Conclusion. And now, in conclusion, let me say that, four years ago, with trepidation, but with love, I took upon myself the administration of the affairs of this great commonwealth. That I have made mistakes no one will more readily admit than I, but that I have tried to do my duty as God gave me to see the light, I believe that even those honestly differing with me will admit. I had no personal ambition to promote, and, knowing no condition, color or creed among the people, but desiring to be the governor of all and not any particular class or party, I have acted solely for what I deemed would best uphold the state's highest interest. I know some have criticized me because often out of my office, but I had competent assistants in charge, who could attend to routine duties as well or better than I, and I was always in call in case my presence was needed. So, as the people could not visit me, I have gone amongst them, finding out their wants and necessities, and thus being better able to intelligently lay before you what is best for their interest. At home I have tried to encourage our farmers to take more pride in their work and to more economically and efficiently perform their duties; have encouraged every

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