

Governor Hoey Tells of State's Fine Tax Record

Writes Magazine Story Relating How North Carolina Government Combines Service and Solvency

Proof positive that state governments can function efficiently, solvently and with full service to the people, without invading the field of property taxation is found in North Carolina's record, according to the article "North Carolina Has Arrived!" in the current issue of Holland's, "The Magazine of the South." The Tar Heel State, Governor Hoey declares, has not levied state taxes on real property since 1921, and it levies only a small tax on intangible property. As a result, the governor points out, the field of property taxation is left almost exclusively to the counties, cities, and towns. At present, a large proportion of the property-tax revenues received by these subdivisions in North Carolina is used for debt service, and the bonded indebtedness of these subdivisions is being steadily reduced. As an example, he cites the fact that from July 1, 1932, to the same date in 1937, the state and its subdivisions paid off approximately \$50,000,000 of bonded indebtedness over and above all new borrowings, and paid all interest charges.

"During this same period," Governor Hoey writes, "the counties, cities, and towns have been given a saving of more than \$35,000,000 in interest charges alone, as a result of refunding and refinancing operations carried on through the good offices of the Local Government commission. Since January, 1933, the State of North Carolina has not had to borrow a single dollar on short-term notes for operating expenses, so that it has saved hundreds of thousands of dollars in interest charges formerly incurred by having to borrow in anticipation of taxes. It has finished every fiscal year since July, 1932, with an increasingly large credit balance of surplus, despite steadily enlarged budgets for various state services."

All this has been achieved, the governor emphasizes, in the face of the fact that the state maintains all public schools for a term of eight months annually—calling for a yearly appropriation of some \$25,000,000—and has since 1931 been responsible for the maintenance and improvement of one of the nation's finest systems of public highways.

Governor Hoey goes on to discuss the consolidated schools of North Carolina, and the state's agriculture, industry, natural resources, and tourist trade.

"With it all," he concludes, "I covet a continuation of the North Carolina spirit."

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There were 108 at Sunday School Sunday and a very large crowd at preaching service Sunday night, including a large number of visitors which are always welcome.

There is lots of sickness in this community but hope they will all be well soon.

Miss Inez Fipps of Hephzibah, was among the visitors at preaching Sunday nite.

Mrs. H. M. Poole went to see her mother, Mrs. R. S. Jones Sunday afternoon who has just come home from the hospital. She was improving.

Mr. and Mrs. Graham Bostic and son of Fayetteville, spent Sunday with Mrs. Bostic's mother, Mrs. N. A. Poole.

There is lots of measles and whooping cough in the nearby neighborhoods, but there have not been but few cases in this community.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Miles, Mr. and Mrs. Clevy Stells and daughter, and Joseph Blackley of Durham were visitors in this community Sunday.

Mrs. Martha Faison of near Rolesville is seriously ill at the home of her son, Mr. Charlie Faison.

MRS. W. J. UPCHURCH

Last rites for Mrs. W. J. Upchurch, 51, who died at her home Saturday near Pearce's, following a stroke of paralysis, were held Sunday afternoon at Pearce Baptist church by Rev. H. O. Baker, her pastor, with burial in the church cemetery beside her husband who died nearly nine years ago.

Surviving are four children, Mrs. Carl Baker, Mrs. Vernon Perry, Nathaniel and Gorman Upchurch, all of near Zebulon; two granddaughters; her father, Levin Medlin, Louisburg, Rt. 1; four sisters, Mrs. Charlie Baker, Mrs. Willie Pearce, Mrs. Clifton Barnett and Mrs. Jack Jones; one brother, Wesley Medlin.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to extend to our friends the greatest appreciation for kindnesses to us during the few hours

of sickness and the death of our mother.

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