

Published Every Afternoon Except Sunday.  
Entered as second class matter at the postoffice at New Bern, N. C., under act of March 3, 1879. Carl Goersch, Editor.

Member of The Associated Press. The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to use for republication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper and also the local news publisher herein.

# THE NEW BERN SUN-JOURNAL

## EDITORIAL PAGE

Thursday Afternoon, December 7, 1922.

Period	By Carrier	By Mail
One year	\$7.00	\$6.00
Six Months	3.50	3.00
Three Months	1.75	1.50
One Month	.65	.50
One Week	.15	.15

**MR. TURNBULL, WE THANK YOU.**  
For five days New Bern has been devoting her time, her labors and her thoughts of those things which may be referred to as having to do with the unhappy and the depressing side of life.

A destructive fire in a few hours' time laid waste a thousand homes. Since then every energy has been directed to relieving the distress of the fire victims. All these developments, as may readily be realized, have had a decidedly depressing influence upon the community.

Yesterday afternoon, however, ten little words contained in a telegraph message received here from Norfolk, changed the entire sentiment of the community. Those ten words were as follows:

"Have purchased the Roper property and will rebuild at once."

The message was signed by A. R. Turnbull, president of the Rowland Lumber Company. It was received by W. G. Griffin shortly after 5 o'clock yesterday evening. He took the glad tidings around to the Chamber of Commerce. A cheer greeted the announcement from those who were gathered there. The presses of the Sun-Journal, which already were printing out the evening edition, were stopped and room was made for the important news. By seven o'clock everyone in New Bern had heard of it.

On all sides one observed smiles and cheerful expressions. Everywhere the question was being asked: "Have you heard the good news?" New Bern had almost forgotten that there were such words as "good news."

The message has put a new heart into the community. It has revived us from the great shock of last week's disaster. It has instilled in us a faith for a greater and better New Bern.

A typographical error in yesterday's paper made the telegram read as being addressed to "W. W. Griffin, Cashier the National Bank of New Bern." Call it a typographical error if you want to; we look upon it in the nature of a prophecy, for we believe that out of the ashes will arise a new New Bern indeed.

For all this, Mr. Turnbull, New Bern

Who is this man, Turnbull?  
He is the man who, about a year or

more ago, leased the idle Roper Lumber Company plant here and gave employment to about five hundred men.

His company suffered a huge loss in the first fire of last Friday. He is the man who was among the first to contribute to the relief fund, his check for one thousand dollars being received here last Saturday.

He is the man who is going to give employment to hundreds of men who are now idle and who is going to help us solve one of the greatest problems in connection with the fire.

If there ever was a man who deserved the gratitude and the commendation of New Bern, that man is A. R. Turnbull.

### OUR FUTURE GROWTH.

Take a man of mature years and a boy of seven or eight years and stand them side by side. Watch them carefully and see which of the two grows the faster. Everybody knows that there will be little change in the man's condition, but that the boy will increase steadily in stature.

Take a man who is sick and one who is well and observe them for the purpose of seeing which makes the greater gain in health. Everybody knows it will be the sick man, unless it be that he dies.

We mention these incidents in connection with what we believe the future holds in store for New Bern. While it is true that our community has been growing right along, the growth hasn't been what it should have been. We believe that as a result of last week's disaster, New Bern is going to get a fresh start and will move forward with such impetus that it will be many, many years before the momentum ceases.

The fire loss has bound us closer together and it has inspired us to a finer devotion to our city and a greater faith in her future.

We are confident that Governor Morrison and State Highway Commissioner Page are going to do everything in their power to help Craven county to secure the road construction work which will provide employment for those of our fire victims who are now without jobs.

### WITH OTHER EDITORS

**The Battle of the Streets**  
During the 19 months of participation in the World War, the United States had approximately 35,000 killed in action. We grieve over those who paid this last debt of patriotism and regard them as the costly sacrifice which we were asked to lay upon the altar of world peace and national honor.

In 1921, over 10,000 persons lost their lives in traffic accidents in 34 states of the Union. Complete statistics are not available for the 48 states but it is safe to conclude that last year the automobile exacted a death toll of 14,000 lives. We accept this staggering toll of fatalities as a matter of course.

That most of these traffic deaths were due to carelessness goes without saying. Reckless speeders who took risks at corners and in congested districts, drivers who tried to prove that liquor and gasoline would mix, inexperienced and incompetent motorists who had no business at a steering wheel—they piled up this heavy total of casualties. Some accidents were doubtless unavoidable but they were conspicuous by their infrequency.

The most alarming aspect of the whole question is to be found in the certain fact that the death rate is increasing rather than diminishing. The 1921 fatality record showed a disturbing increase over that of 1920 and unless all signs fail, the figures for 1922 will exceed those of last year.

And yet for all, the American people are slow to appreciate the tragic fact that the automobile is a death-dealing instrument and that in the hands of the untrained or careless driver, it is a thing to be feared. Where the locomotive slays its thousands, the motor car slays its tens of thousands. As a lethal agency it has no superior among the destructive forces of man-made civilization.—Asheville Times.

### An Exchange of Benefits

Two items from the report of Saturday's session of the North Carolina conference were of special interest to Durham, one being the announcement of a gift of \$10,000 to Trinity college by S. C. Vann, of Franklinton, and the other was the announcement of a gift of a second \$10,000 to Louisville college by R. H. Wright, of Durham. A pleasing coincidence about it is that a Durham man gave to a Franklin county institution, and a Franklin man gave to a Durham institution. Each of the donors selected a worthy cause, and the Methodist conference is to be congratulated upon having two such loyal supporters as Mr. Wright and Vann.—Durham Herald.

### THE TOWN GOSSIP

TO SAY I'm touched.  
WOULD BE putting it mildly.  
SO I want to say.  
RIGHT AT the start.  
THAT I'M deeply touched.  
PROFOUNDLY TOUCHED.  
AS A result of the response.  
WHICH HAS been made.  
TO THE little tale.  
WHICH I told in this column.  
YESTERDAY AFTERNOON.  
ABOUT HAVING lost.  
SOME SHIRTS and things.  
IN THE big fire.  
BECAUSE THEY happened to be.  
AT ELIZA Moore's house.  
WHO'S OUR washwoman.  
AND ELIZA'S house.  
WAS DESTROYED by the fire.  
AND AS I stated yesterday.  
I SORT of felt.  
THAT PERHAPS the folks.  
DIDN'T KNOW about my loss.  
AND THEY'D be glad.  
TO MAKE contributions.  
IF THEY found it out.  
AND HAD no idea.  
THEY'D BE so ready.  
TO COME forward.  
BUT IT just goes to show.  
THAT NO one knows.  
HOW MANY friends he has.  
UNTIL HE'S in trouble.  
AND NEEDS them.  
AND AS a matter of fact.  
I SORT of felt.  
THAT THERE were folks.  
WHO HAD suffered.

SO MUCH more than I.  
IN FRIDAY'S great fire.  
THAT PERHAPS my plea.  
WOULD NOT receive.  
VERY MUCH attention.  
BUT SOMEHOW or other.  
THERE APPEARS to be.  
ABSOLUTELY NO limit.  
TO THE generosity.  
OF SOME of our folks.  
AND AS a result.  
OF THE response.  
WHICH HAS been made.  
I'M PUBLISHING a list.  
OF THE names.  
OF THE contributors.  
TO THE fund.  
TOGETHER WITH what they gave.  
AND I now believe.  
THAT I'M in a position.  
TO GET a new start in life.  
AND WILL manage.  
TO GET along all right.  
SO HERE'S the list.  
Harry E. Barlow ..... 2 cents  
Albert Hibbard ..... Coca-Cola  
Henry Henderson ..... One blotter  
Hubert Tolson ..... Advice  
Parkhill Jarvis ..... Pencil  
I THANK you.

### STATE IS ADVISED OF CAMP GLENN HOUSES

RALEIGH, Dec. 6.—The state executive department today received a telegram from Secretary of the Navy Denby, offering to sell to New Bern for the consideration of \$1.00 all government buildings at Camp Glenn. The offer was made following the request of Congressman Abernethy. The buildings probably will soon be torn down within the next few days and the lumber shipped to New Bern for the building of homes for those made homeless by the fire.

### ONE THING AFTER ANOTHER

#### PHRASEOLOGY

Writing about a "fire" is interesting, providing it is worked according to Hoyle.

Finrstance. You can start in by stating that there is a fire.

That can be followed up by the announcement that the flames raged.

Following which should come the information that a great conflagration is in effect.

And if your readers are not satisfied with that, they can be hooked into complete unconcern by springing upon them the news that a holocaust prevails.

It should also be remembered that everything about a fire is lurid. The flames are lurid, the atmosphere is lurid, the ruins are lurid and the noise is lurid.

We are referring to fire hose just now.

And no fire story is complete without smouldering embers.

Then, something's got to be said about the devastated area. It would never do to report a fire without calling attention to the devastated area. The words sort of roll off the tongue. Devastated area! That's good.

And every reporter who has written up a fire and has failed to mention the heroic efforts of the firemen, has been slain by his editor in cold blood.

It just simply isn't being done.

Such an offense is almost as bad as writing up a society event and failing to say that the hostess served delicious refreshments.

That's the greatest sin a reporter can commit.

And oh, yes! Before you forget it, if you ever intend writing about a fire, under no circumstances forget to mention the hoarse notes of the fire whistle. Every fire is hoarse. Nobody knows just why, but it is.

### GUNS AND BULLETS ON WAY TO ERIN SEIZED LIVERPOOL

LIVERPOOL, Eng., Dec. 6.—The local police today seized large quantities of rifles, ammunition and explosives discovered on ships sailing for Southern Ireland.

# ANNOUNCEMENT!

## TO THE PUBLIC!

WE WISH TO ANNOUNCE THAT R. C. PRATT IS NOW ASSOCIATED WITH THE WILLIS MOTOR COMPANY IN THE CAPACITY OF SALES MANAGER AND WE HOPE THAT HE WILL BE ABLE, WITH THIS NEW COMBINATION, TO BETTER SERVE THE PUBLIC IN THEIR PURCHASE OF AUTOMOBILES AND ALSO IN DOING THEIR REPAIR WORK.

MR. PRATT IS BRINGING WITH HIM THE FRANKLIN AUTO ACCOUNT AND THE WILLIS MOTOR COMPANY WILL FROM NOW ON HANDLE THE SERVICE ON FRANKLIN CARS IN ADDITION TO THEIR REGULAR LINE OF REO, DURANT AND STAR CARS.

WE WISH TO THANK THE PUBLIC FOR PAST FAVORS AND WE HOPE FOR A CONTINUATION OF THESE IN THE FUTURE.

# WILLIS MOTOR CO.

A. R. WILLIS.

R. C. PRATT.