

"THE PRESIDENT ALSO SPOKE"

"Four score and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation.***"

President Lincoln was beginning his address at the dedication of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg, but the crowd was so intent upon applauding and congratulating Edward Everett, the famous orator who had preceded him, that they missed the opening words of the speaker.

The next day the newspapers published long stories of the meeting, giving a commendatory report of Everett's address. But in most cases the newspaper accounts ended with the simple statement: "The President also spoke."

Americans have little noted nor long remembered what Everett said there. His "brilliant" speech has long since been forgotten, but it is already clear that the world will never forget what Lincoln did there. His less than three hundred words have become known as one of the world's greatest speeches.

Between his opening statement that "our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal," and his closing plea that "this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom: and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth," he asked his audience to pledge themselves to a new dedication which would demonstrate that "these dead shall not have died in vain."

He etched indelibly upon world history and literature as clear, as lucid, as understanding, a statement of what Americans have lived and died for, as has ever been uttered.

Back of Lincoln's speech, and his warrant for it, was nearly a century of history which tried men's souls and cost the lives of many thousands. In the face of the perils that now confront America, Lincoln's earnest plea persistently rings in our ears.

"The President also spoke."
And he is still speaking.

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January Building Permits Reach Total \$762,000

Construction activity in Charlotte during January more than doubled the December record, according to information obtained yesterday at the building inspection department at the city hall.

Last month permits were issued for construction work estimated to cost \$762,192, compared with \$308,094 for December. The total for January, 1940, was \$529,605.

During the month permits were granted for the erection of 30 residences to cost \$109,525; three duplex buildings, \$20,000; four multi-dwellings, \$24,000. The largest permit was for the construction of the Federal Reserve bank building at a cost of \$325,00.—Observer, Sunday.

No fisherman who ever caught a big one ever went home through an alley.

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Labor Office Moves To Van Ness Bldg. Rear Law Bldg.

The Charlotte office of the North Carolina Department of Labor has moved from its rooms in the Piedmont building and is now located on the second floor of the Van Ness building, behind the Law building, it was announced yesterday by Glenn Penland, district inspector. Mr. Penland said that those who wished to consult with the department would have a better chance of finding someone in the office on Saturday morning or early on weekday mornings, as members of the department are out most of the time making routine inspections.—Observer, Tuesday.

I do the very best I know how—the very best I can—and I mean to keep doing so till the end. If the end brings me out all right, what is said against me won't amount to anything.—Abraham Lincoln.

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N. C. Wholesale Trade In 1940 Up 49.7 Per Cent Over Year 1929

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 5.—Wholesale trade in North Carolina in 1939 amounted to \$831,251,000 which was 49.7 per cent higher than in 1935 and 19.6 percent higher than in 1929, the Census Bureau, Department of Commerce, reported today. The 1935 figure was \$555,396,000 and that for 1929 totaled \$695,118,000.

The average number of employees in wholesale establishments in North Carolina increased from 16,980 in 1935 to 30,347 in 1939, a gain of 78.7 per cent. (Personnel of 229 commission bulk stations is excluded from the 1935 figure). In 1929, there were 15,745 employees. In addition to the 30,347 employees reported for 1939, there were 2,075 proprietors and firm members of unincorporated businesses. Pay roll of wholesale establishments in North Carolina in 1939 totaled \$38,838,000, compared with \$20,456,000 in 1935, showing an increase of 65.4 per cent. (Pay roll of 229 commission bulk stations is excluded from the 1935 figure). Whole-

sale pay roll in 1929 amounted to \$25,679,000.

In 1939, North Carolina's wholesale establishments amounted to 2,859, compared with 2,458 in 1935 and 2,403 in 1929.

ways, always acceptably. And thus ends this much mooted question, with everybody happy — except probably those who didn't get the job.

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