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At the CAPITAL

By M. R. Dunnagan, The Pilot's Raleigh Correspondent

State Finances
North Carolina's highway fund showed a slight increase in balance, but the general fund lost nearly a million dollars of its balance, due to payments of teacher salaries, amounting to about \$1,750,000 a month, the combined statement of the Treasurer and Auditor for November shows. The State's total bonded debt is shown to be \$174,158,000, of which \$3,588,000 is to be paid January 1, along with the semi-annual interest payment of \$3,215,437.50. Of this \$6,773,437.50 to be paid then, \$4,824,440 comes from the highway fund, \$85,062.50 from the bridge fund and the balance, \$1,863,935, from the general fund, which is expected to show an overdraft from then until income taxes are paid, up to March 15.

The general fund had a balance of \$1,285,796.63 November 1 and during the month collected \$1,842,846.33, a total of \$2,128,642.96, but spent during the month \$2,780,249.90, leaving a balance of \$348,394.06 at the end of the month. This fund started the fiscal year, July 1, with an overdraft of \$2,601,372.28, and to the end of November collected \$24,554,933.71 and spent \$21,615,172.37.

In the highway fund November 1 the balance was \$10,880,735.03 and during the month receipts were \$4,333,532.20 and expenditures \$4,147,699.29, leaving the balance \$11,066,567.93. This fund started the fiscal year with a balance of \$12,179,564.21, collected \$21,769,436.78 and spent \$22,882,433.08 through November.

Revenue Bills

The Advisory Budget Commission has drafted the revenue and appropriations bills it will offer to the 1935 General Assembly, all except the provisions of the general sales tax, it with stated, following the meeting here Friday. That is expected to be completed later, guesses being that it will be a continuation of the three per cent sales tax, without exemptions of basic food items, as now. Governor Ehringhaus, who spent most of last week on speaking trips, is expected to spend some time now on these bills and his message to the General Assembly. He spoke at the 10th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Duke Endowment here Tuesday night. He then went to Washington and spoke at the Crime Conference Wednesday and Friday spoke in New York City at the convention of the National Association of Life Insurance Presidents. Preparation for the meeting of the legislature January 9 is expected to take most of his time until then.

Christmas Greens

Promiscuous cutting of holly and other Christmas greens with no regard for future replacement will soon deplete the supply, but judicious gathering will permit maintenance of a permanent supply, State Forester J. S. Holmes warns. He asks that trees and greens be taken by thinning and not cutting down all of the trees and greens in any one place. Cutting should be with a sharp saw or ax and near the tips of the branches, and not more than 25 per cent of the leaf surface of holly and greens should be taken, Mr. Holmes states.

Rural Electrification

Field investigations of 736 rural electrification projects and extensions in 77 counties had been completed to December 1 by Governor Ehringhaus' Committee on Rural Electrification, under Prof. D. S. Weaver, of State College, executive director. These

projects call for building 4,750 miles of lines and would serve about 24,000 customers of rural families. An investment of about \$7,500,000 would be needed to complete the work, estimates being that probably half of the proposed projects are practical or capable of being operated on a self-sustaining basis. The \$17,200 cost of the surveys was met by the FERA, a field investigator going into every county from which rural electrification applications were received. The study of facts collected will probably require six months longer.

Highway Projects

Bids were received on 12 highway projects, involving expenditures of about \$400,000, at the letting held Tuesday and contracts were awarded by the State Highway and Public Works Commission. Eleven other projects, probably more by this time, had been turned over to the Federal Bureau of Public Roads for approval by W. Vance Baise, acting State Highway engineer. The projects on which bids were received were located in Edgecombe, Nash, Carteret, Wayne, Bladen, Robeson, Granville, Wake, Anson, Hoke, Stanly and Caldwell counties. The 11 projects turned over for approval are in Rockingham, Wilkes, Madison, Durham, Randolph, Columbus, Ashe and two in Alamance, Rockingham-Caswell counties.

600 Miles of Roads

Exactly 600 miles of highways had been built in North Carolina up to Nov. 1 under the U. S. Public works road construction program, 347.3 miles were under construction and 94.7 miles had been approved for construction. The 1934 fund of \$9,522,239 had only \$613,766 left and the 1935 fund of \$4,840,941 had \$3,899,186 still available for this state.

JACKSON SPRINGS

Neil McDuffie left Sunday for Orlando, Fla., where he is at work with the Federal State Inspection Service. George R. Soss, with his sons, George, Jr., and William, were visitors here Sunday.

Mrs. Edgar Falls and son Markham of Gastonia have been visiting her mother, Mrs. S. P. Markham.

Mrs. A. H. Austin and sons, Fletcher, A. H. and Edward of Gastonia, spent the week-end with Mrs. W. L. Stubbs.

Mrs. W. L. Stubbs has returned home after a visit with her daughter, Mrs. D. M. Poore of Asheville.

Bud Rummage, who was critically injured in a truck wreck three months ago, has returned to his home from the Moore County Hospital.

Mrs. Ada Henderlite has left to spend some time with her daughter, Mrs. Allen Latta near Hillsboro.

Hubert Currie, who was injured in a truck wreck in Charlotte, has returned from the Presbyterian Hospital to his home at Derby.

Lieut. Beckham and family have taken Faith Cottage for the winter.

Otis Poole, one of our leading peach growers, has leased the A. A. MacDonald peach orchard.

Douglas Matheson is home from State College for the holidays.

W. E. Graham, who is employed in Hamlet, is home for the week.

Mrs. Maude C. MacDonald and Miss Waldo Stubbs were visitors at the home of Mrs. Earl Skeen in Biscoe last week.

Many Jackson Springs men attended a joint meeting of the Candor and West End lodges at West End Friday night.

Circle No. 3 of the Jackson Springs Auxiliary met with Mrs. Ida McKenzie on Route 1 Thursday.

Miss Dorothy Fishel of Winston-Salem is home for the holidays.

Mrs. C. C. Sox, Mrs. L. M. Brookshire and Miss Waldo Stubbs were shopping in Fort Bragg and Fayetteville Tuesday.

On Sunday morning at 10 o'clock at the Manse Kenneth Blue of Jackson Springs and Miss Marjorie Speight of West End were married, the Rev. R. G. Matheson officiating. The ring ceremony was used. Only a few friends were present, among them Misses May Love and Margaret Speight.

Announcements have been made of the marriage of Mark Charles of Winston-Salem and Miss Blanche Fishel of Jackson Springs on October 20th in Gannettsville, S. C. They will make their home in Winston-Salem after January 1.

BETHESDA YOUNG PEOPLE TO PRESENT CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The young people of Bethesda Presbyterian Church in Aberdeen are giving a program and pageant at the church on Sunday evening, December 23d at 7:30 o'clock. In addition to special music by the choir, Miss Laura Sneed, blind violinist from Flora Macdonald College at Red Springs will play. The public is cordially invited to the exercises. An offering will be taken for a Christmas gift for aged ministers.

CAROL SINGING TO CLOSE THE ARK FOR CHRISTMAS

The Ark School closes today, Friday, for the Christmas vacation. A program of carols in English, French, German and Latin will be given for parents and friends before distribution of gifts from the Christmas tree. As formerly, the pupils have generously donated food and clothing for the needy families. School will re-open on Monday, January 7, 1935.

New and beautiful designs in Christmas cards at Hayes.

102 Killed by Autos in State in November

Violent Deaths Increase 35 Over Corresponding Month of Last Year

An increase of 35 in the number of violent deaths in North Carolina was revealed by the State Board of Health in its November report, which listed 215 deaths by violence as compared with 180 in the corresponding month last year.

Fatalities in automobile accidents increased from 77 to 102 to be responsible for most of the rise, and the number of suicides jumped from 12 to 27.

Total deaths during the month were 2,835, as compared with 2,549 in the previous November. Births increased from 5,967 to 6,728, and infant deaths rose from 396 to 495. The maternal death list stood at 38, a loss of one. Homicides, numbering 37, also lost one.

Nineteen people lost their lives in fires, 13 by accidental shooting and six by accidental drowning. Automobile and train collisions killed four, and other railroad accidents accounted for seven deaths.

There were no fatal accidents involving airplanes. In the previous November there was one.

Pneumonia again led in the number of deaths caused by disease, claiming 274 lives last month.

Other causes were typhoid fever, five; measles, two; whooping cough, 20; diphtheria, 31; influenza, 41; epidemic meningitis, two; rabies, one; tuberculosis, 153; syphilis, 30; malaria, 16; cancer, 134; diabetes, 27; pellagra, 30; diarrhea and enteritis (under two years of age), 44; appendicitis, 23.

PINEBLUFF

Cadwallader Benedict of Princeton, N. J., is spending the Christmas holidays with his mother, Mrs. M. C. Benedict at Cedarcoke.

Mrs. R. P. Gibson and Miss Lida Hutchings leave this week for St. Cloud, Florida where they will spend the winter.

Miss Louise Bruton, Richard Bruton and Mrs. Mercers have gone to their homes in Great Kill, Staten Island for the Christmas season.

Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Butner and son, Henry spent Friday in Winston-Salem.

Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Farrell wish to thank the firemen and all others who helped to extinguish the fire which threatened their home last Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Adcox visited their daughters, Mrs. Nathan Bell in Fayetteville, the first of this week.

Miss Sally Allison is home from Flora Macdonald college for the Christmas holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. N. M. Wells and Mrs. M. M. Parker leave the last of the week for their homes in the western part of New York state where they will spend the two weeks' Christmas holiday.

Mrs. George E. Dennis of Troy, N. C., is visiting her daughter, Mrs. C. O. Newell.

Mr. and Mrs. I. H. Smith are spending Christmas at their home in Connecticut.

Christmas services will be held next Sunday night at the Methodist church at 7:30. The entire community will be welcomed to this service.

SCHOOL PROGRAM OUTLINED BY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

No radical changes need be made in the present machinery for operating the schools, in the opinion of the legislative committee of the North Carolina Education Association. The present eight months minimum term, the committee agrees, in working out its legislative program, should be used as a basis on which to build the school system of the future.

The program formulated after six months of study, in general terms and with details to be left to the new State Superintendent Clyde A. Erwin, follows:

(1) An eight months school term offering a minimum educational opportunity supported by the State, with liberal provisions for local units to operate schools for a longer term and for a higher standard.

(2) A sufficient increase in appropriations for the minimum term and opportunity to provide for a substantial increase in the salaries of all school employees and for adequate provisions for all other school services.

(3) A higher standard of academic and professional training for those employed in classroom and administrative positions.

(4) The county as a unit of school administration as long as it is the unit of administration for other functions of government, with provision for retention of city administrative units necessary for efficient administration.

The program has been worked out by the legislative committee named some time ago by President Guy B. Phillips, of the State association, and is composed of the following members: Cupt. E. L. Best, Louisburg, and Supt. M. E. Yount, Graham, co-chairman; Supt. W. A. Graham, Kinston; Principal E. H. Garinger, Charlotte, and Miss Oma Lafferty, Charlotte, president of the State Classroom Teachers.

BRIDGE LUNCHEON AT THE CIVIC CLUB ON JANUARY 4

On January 4th a Bridge Luncheon will be given at the Highland Lodge under the auspices of the Civic Club. Chicken in appetizing form will be served from one to two o'clock, to which everyone is invited, ladies and gentlemen, at the price of 50 cents. Bridge will begin at 2:30 with no extra charge for those who came to the luncheon. Prizes will be given.

There will be no meeting at the club house on December 28th.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

V. C. Stockard and wife to C. P. McLean, property in McNeills township.

O. T. Parks and wife to J. E. Booth and wife, property in Moore county.

John Warren Watson to Frank Maples, property in Mineral Springs township.

APPEAL TO SUPREME COURT OVER HEMP BOND ISSUE

The restraining order which was holding up the Hemp water bond issue was last week set aside by order of the Superior Court and the members of the Hemp Sanitary District board were authorized to proceed with the issue and sale of said bonds to the amount of \$60,000. The plaintiffs were ordered to pay the costs, and the case was ordered retired from the docket.

The plaintiffs gave notice of appeal to the Supreme Court. Appeal bond was fixed at \$50 and thirty days were allowed in which to serve the case on appeal.

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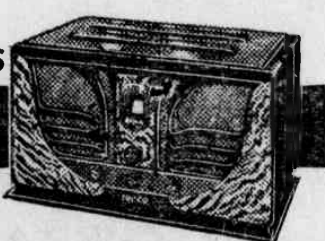
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