

The Smithfield Herald

VOLUME 40

SMITHFIELD, N. C., FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1921

NUMBER 52

DEFICIT IN SCHOOL FUNDS OF STATE

Improved Standards The Cause, Says Dr. Brooks; Revaluation big Factor

Estimated expenditures for the public schools in North Carolina overreach the legislative appropriation by approximately three-quarters of a million dollars, according to an analysis of the school situation in the State issued by State Superintendent E. C. Brooks yesterday.

To further complicate the situation the incomes of many counties have been reduced through a revision of property values, which may seriously embarrass the administration of the schools before the 1921-'22 term has run its six month length. This feature of the situation is not discussed in Dr. Brooks' statement, but will be the subject of a letter addressed later to county authorities.

An almost over-night elevation of their professional standing by thousands of North Carolina teachers, entitling them to the higher salaries provided in the schedule adopted by the General Assembly is responsible for the deficit that stares the school authorities in the face, Dr. Brooks finds, after a careful analysis of the situation.

North Carolina citizens have demanded better teachers in their schools, the State has placed a premium on better teachers, and the teachers have measured up to the standard established, Dr. Brooks declares, and it is now up to the State to make good its program of building up the schools with better teachers. It will cost an additional three-quarters of a million, bringing the total school budget in the State to around \$15,000,000.

"A statement will be issued to county officials giving them directions as to how to proceed under the new legislative provisions so that our rate of progress may be maintained," the statement concludes. The suggestions to county authorities have not yet been determined upon, it is understood, and will come after further consultation with the Attorney General and the Council of State.

Appropriations for public schools have more than doubled within the past four years, according to Dr. Brooks' figures, and this year local and State money combined will amount to approximately fourteen million dollars. To this will be added the \$700,000 deficit looked for in the budget, and to which Dr. Brooks will devote his immediate energies.

Last year Dr. Brooks worked out a schedule of certification that placed the teachers of the State on a standardized basis, offering those who improved their standing higher salaries. More than 7,000 flooded the summer schools, acquired the desired credits and made themselves eligible for higher pay. More are crowding in this year, and will further tax the school funds.

Dr. Brooks' statement is as follows: "The public school year ends June 30th, and on or before that date the State Public School Fund due the several counties will be carefully estimated and the amount due each will be determined.

"The apportionment of this fund is based on the qualifications of the teachers and the attendance of children in school, thus placing a premium on good teachers and on large attendance. The State Department of Education has just completed the rating of all teachers, the number of teachers employed based on attendance and the amount of money needed to pay the State's part of the six months school term. But owing to the large increase in the number of teachers employed and especially to the large increase in the number of well qualified teachers employed there will be a deficit of about 15 per cent in the State Public School Fund. The change, however, that has taken place within one year in the teaching profession is remarkable, as the following facts disclose:

"1. In 1919-20, the total number of teachers employed was 15,993. But 8,502 or 53 per cent of the entire teaching profession were unable to meet the requirements of the lowest

BIDS FOR SCHOOL BUILDINGS

School Board Receives Bids On White and Colored Schools, But Award Not Yet Made

According to advertisement bids were received up to twelve o'clock Wednesday on the white and colored school buildings to be erected here in the near future. Thirteen bids on construction of buildings were received and eight on the heating.

The school board met at one o'clock and for five consecutive hours canvassed the bids, but let only the heating contract. This contract was awarded The Grinnell Company, Inc., of New York, with branch office at Charlotte for the sum of \$10,532. This includes heating systems of both buildings.

The following companies submitted bids on the heating:

Dunford and Kern, Oxford, \$11,676.70; Unkefer Plumbing and Heating Co., Wilson, \$11,943; Hunt Brothers, Greensboro, \$11,378; B. W. Sugg, Smithfield, \$11,080; B. McKenzie, Greensboro, \$13,270; Carolina Heating and Engineering Co., Durham, \$11,200; Dermont Heating Co., Durham, \$10,900; Grinnell Co., Inc., Charlotte, \$10,832.

As to the contract for the construction of the two buildings, ten of the thirteen bidders were eliminated, leaving three still to be considered. An adjourned meeting will be held Monday morning to make a final decision.

When the school board began planning for the new buildings which are urgently needed, it appeared that it would take \$300,000 to build and equip the two structures. By the time the election was called it was decided that possibly \$200,000 would put up the houses. By waiting for sometime to let the contract it now seems that the psychological moment for building has been struck and it is very probably that not only the buildings but the equipment for both may be had within the limit of the bonds now issued. The bidding was very spirited and all bids were gratifying to the board, being much less than was formerly anticipated that the buildings would cost.

When completed, Smithfield will have as good school facilities as any town this size in the state, a fact of which every citizen has reason to be proud, and with a faculty above the average, the educational advantages to be had there will undoubtedly be a drawing card to the town.

Death Near Four Oaks

Mrs. Julia Dodd, widow of Mr. Jas. Dodd died Saturday morning about five o'clock at the home of Mr. Carson Adams, her nephew. She was a sister of the late Mr. D. W. Adams who lived near Four Oaks. She was about ninety-two years old. She had been in feeble health for some time. She had a fall a few months ago which seemed to hasten her departure. The burial will take place at the home burying ground today. Rev. G. F. Adams, her nephew, will preach the funeral assisted by her pastor, Rev. E. B. Craven.

State certificate, which is graduation from a standard high school and six weeks of professional training.

"In 1920-21, the total number of teachers employed was 17,523, an increase over the previous year of 1,530 teachers. But the number of unprepared and untrained teachers was 7,382 or 42 per cent of the entire teaching profession. Within one year the number of unprepared teachers was reduced by 13 per cent, while the total number of teachers employed was increased about 10 per cent.

"2. In 1919-20, the number of teachers holding State certificates was 7,491. But in 1920-21 the number was 10,141, showing an increase in one year of 35 per cent.

"3. In 1919-20 the number of teachers holding the highest standard certificates that is, having as much as two years of college training or its equivalent, was 2,368.

"In 1920-21, the number of teachers of this class was 4,367 or an increase of 85 per cent. No State in the Union has ever made greater progress in one year.

"Over 7,000 teachers went to school last summer from six to twelve weeks. Hundreds of teachers of the lowest class stopped teaching and entered school last fall for the purpose of improving their qualifications."—News and Observer, June 29th.

TARIFF BILL NOW IN LOWER HOUSE

Some Schedules Higher than The Payne-Aldrich Law, Others are Lower

Washington, June 29.—The administration's permanent tariff bill was introduced today in the house of representatives and for the first time was made public.

No explanatory statements accompanied the introduction of the measure as heretofore has been customary and no official estimate was made of the revenue it is expected to return.

Unofficial estimates by members of the ways and means committee, however, placed the expected return as high as \$700,000,000 a year. The Payne-Aldrich law in the normal pre-war years produced a little more than \$300,000,000 a year.

Examination of the bill which averages 346 printed pages, shows that in some cases the rates proposed are higher than corresponding rates of the Payne-Aldrich law while others are lower.

An estimate of how the whole bill compares with the Payne-Aldrich law would be possible only by tariff experts making a detailed study because the schedules of the new bill are in many cases not framed in parallel with the subjects of the "Payne law" but are differently constructed.

In comparison with the Underwood tariff law of the Wilson administration the new bill removes many articles from the free list, although it leaves a large list free of duty, including print paper, wood pulp, leather and harness and agricultural implements. It raises the duties on the great bulk of imports already being taxed. It has made no notable additions to the free list.

Comparison of the wool schedule with schedule K of the Payne-Aldrich bill over which a bitter fight was waged in Congress, showed material reductions in a number of instances. In the items of hose and gloves the duty fixed by the committee was 30 cents a pound and 25 per cent ad valorem duty in addition while in the Payne bill the rate was 44 cents a pound and 60 per cent ad valorem. Clothing, as fixed in the bill, carries 20 cents a pound and 25 per cent as against 44 cents a pound and 60 per cent in the Payne measure.

The same degree of shading was made by the committee in knit fabrics at 25 cents a pound, and 20 per cent ad valorem, against the former Republican rate of 33 to 44 cents a pound and 50 to 55 per cent ad valorem.

Republican members of the committee, refusing heretofore to give any intimation as to the exact provisions of the measure, declared today that the rates on wool were much below the Payne-Aldrich schedule.

Democratic members of the committee did not get access to the bill until late today and they were at work tonight in an effort to find out just how it compared.

In the rush to get the bill to the house, the committee had no time to submit a report, but it is subject to change, it was said, by a Republican caucus. Only a few changes were made at the meeting today, the most important being a turn about on the question of oil. After voting down last week a proposal to tax crude petroleum, the committee, at the 11th hour, put a tax of 35 cents a barrel on crude and 25 cents a barrel of fuel oil.

The lumber schedule, as originally drawn, was cut to pieces last night by the committee which finally heeded the appeal of Republicans to have finished lumber kept on the free list. Shingles, however, were taxed in the lumber schedule, but many other items were not. There was no lumber schedule by name, the numerical system being followed.

In deciding to drop the retaliatory tariff proposal the committee provided in the bill that if any country imposed a duty on any of the free list lumber exported from the United States, the President might enter into negotiations with it to obtain removal of the tax, and failing in his efforts, would be empowered to declare equal rates on the products imported from such country.

Most of the talk around the capitol in the last week has been over lumber which was expected to be the real

HALF OF AUTOS ARE WITHOUT LICENSES

Owners Slow This Year In Sending In Applications; 68,000 Are Issued

Less than half the automobile owners in North Carolina had secured new licenses when the automobile license department of the office of the Secretary of State closed yesterday afternoon, and the end of the automobile year tonight at midnight will scarcely bring the number up the half-way mark.

Only 63,300 licenses had been applied for yesterday afternoon, and 7,200 trucks, and the estimated number of passenger automobiles in the State is placed at 150,000 and trucks at 15,000. Applications came in for 7,100 licenses yesterday, the heaviest in the records of the department and the next few days are expected to continue record smashing.

The same day last year found 78,800 licenses applied for, or about two-fifths of the entire number issued in the June-July rush, and the business done on that day a year ago was only 4,400 as against more than seven thousand yesterday. Chief Clerk Sawyer expected the rush to continue with probably ten thousand applications today.

North Carolina has lost none of its motor vehicles, Mr. Sawyer thinks, but the folks are just loath to part with their money this year. They are hanging on to it until the very last minute, and the closing days are more fevered than yet recorded since the State began to tax automobiles. He has no doubt that the number will amount up to the 150,000 mark before the rush is over.

Receipts thus far have amounted to approximately a million and a half dollars, or not far from the totals of last year. This year the tax has been considerably increased which explains the fact that receipts have run up to such proportions. More than a hundred women are engaged in tabulating the applications, issuing the licenses, and mailing them out.—News and Observer, June 30.

W. B. CREECH SLIGHTLY HURT

Came Very Near To Having A Bad Accident On Railroad Crossing Between Here and Four Oaks

An accident which came very near to being quite a serious one occurred Monday night at the railroad crossing near Corinth church between here and Four Oaks, when train Number 33 struck the car which was being driven by Mr. Wilmer B. Creech. According to Mr. Creech and others, the train failed to blow for the crossing and was upon Mr. Creech before he knew it. Fortunately the top of the car was down and Mr. Creech jumped. As he jumped he struck the iron rail and fell over the track on the left side from the train, thereby sustaining slight injuries. The car was totally demolished. The train stopped, picked Mr. Creech up and carried him back to Benson, where at the home of Mr. J. F. Lee, the extent of his injuries was learned. His many friends are glad that only a few bruises and a sprain were discovered. It was a very narrow escape from death, and should be a warning to all auto drivers to stop, look and listen, at all railroad crossings.

bone of contention at the first party caucus. But the leaders in the fight to have it remain on the free list indicated that such other differences as might exist on the subject would be adjusted. The tax of 50 cents a thousand on shingles brought some complaints from members who had been urging that no duty be imposed on any products needed at this time in relieving the housing shortage.

The oil tax, imposed on the heels of the action by the committee last week, was unexpected. The duty was not as high, it was said, as that proposed and rejected the other day by a vote of 9 to 8, but American oil producers kept up the fight and the rat was the last important action of the committee before Chairman Fordney took the bill to the house and formally introduced it.

Along with oil, the caucus is expected to deal with the chemical schedule, and some others.—Associated Press.

SMITHFIELD'S WHOLE TIME SEC.

Chamber of Commerce Employs Whole Time Secretary Who Takes Up Work Today

The Chamber of Commerce at a recent meeting decided to try out what a whole time Secretary would do for Smithfield, and as a consequence Mr. John Morris, of Goldsboro, will arrive in the city today to fill that position. Mr. Morris, who is a nephew, of the late Dr. G. J. Robinson, comes highly recommended. He has been associated with Mr. Denmark, of Goldsboro, who is secretary of the chamber in that city, and comes with experience in that line of work.

The business men of the town are interested as never before in the program of Smithfield and feel that the employment of a man to give his entire time to the town's interests will be a step forward. The building program of the present and immediate future will attract attention toward this city, and business along other lines pushed at this time will undoubtedly help materially in the growth and development of what is already one of the finest small towns in the state.

Prominent Physician Dies

Under the above heading the following was printed in yesterday's News and Observer:

"Goldsboro, June 29.—Dr. Oscar Eason, prominent in the social circles of this city and well known throughout eastern North Carolina as an eye, ear, nose and throat specialist, died at his home this afternoon on East Elm street, after an illness of several months."

Dr. Eason was reared in Johnston county, a few miles north of Selma. After graduating in medicine he located at Princeton where he had marked success in his profession. He did general practice there. He left Princeton to take a course to qualify himself as an expert in the treatment of the eye, ear, nose and throat diseases. When ready to do this work he located in Goldsboro. He was one of the best young men ever reared in Johnston and his death seems untimely. The burial took place yesterday afternoon in the family graveyard in Oneals township, this county. He was buried under the auspices of the Knight Templars of the Masonic order. His many friends in Johnston will hear of his death with deep regret.

Mr. M. B. Andrews Writes Book

Mr. M. B. Andrews, who was formerly at Kenly as superintendent of the Kenly school, has written a book which will be of interest to young men and women who desire a college education but are with limited means. The following resume appeared in yesterday's Greensboro News which gives an idea of the subject matter: "How to Work Your Way Through College" is the name of an unusual little book written by M. B. Andrews, principal of the Asheboro Street school of Greensboro, which has just come from the press. In the book, containing 63 pages, Mr. Andrews answers in the affirmative, and proves his answers from personal experience, at least as to the first two questions: "Can a young man work his way through college? Is it wise for him to undertake the task? Can a young woman work her way through college? Is it wise for her to undertake the task?"

The book contains both a straightforward story of the struggles the author experienced in trying to work his way through Trinity college, and several strong letters of encouragement written by some of the ablest citizens of the state. "It is with the hope that this material may help some other young persons in circumstances similar to mine," says Mr. Andrews in his foreword, "help that young person to resolve to secure a college education regardless of the cost, that I send this little book forth."

Former Johnstonian Honored

At the North Carolina Pharmaceutical Association which met in Charlotte last week, a former Johnston County man, I. W. Rose, now of Rocky Mount, was elected to head the association next year. J. A. Goode, of Asheville and P. A. Lee, of Dunn were elected vice-presidents.

FIGHT AGAINST A NEGRO APPOINTMENT

Southern Senators Oppose Georgia Negro Politician For Federal Post

Washington, June 29.—Southern Senators are up in arms in opposition to the confirmation of the negro, Henry Lincoln Johnson, Republican National committeeman for Georgia, as Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia. If he is confirmed it will take the Republicans to do it, for the Democratic Senators are going to oppose having the Georgia negro politician put back in the position from which he was ousted when Woodrow Wilson became President. Johnson was appointed as recorder of deeds for the District by President Taft, and when Democrats came into power in 1913 he went out, the position going to a white man, John F. Costello, member of the Democratic committee for the District.

The first news of the nomination of the Georgia negro by President Harding was heard by Senator Harris, of Georgia. He will fight it to the limit. It aroused his ire, as it did that of Senator Thomas Watson, of Georgia. Senator Watson termed the nomination "a flagrant insult to the State of Georgia" and the Georgia Senators found solid backing for their views, indignation being expressed by Senators Simmons and Overman, Smith and Diall of South Carolina, Trammell, and Fletcher of Florida, John Sharp Williams and Pat Harrison, of Mississippi, Underwood and Heflin, of Alabama, and other Southern Senators.

The opinion is that there will be a solid line-up of the Democrats against the nomination. And as Senator Borah has given warm expression to his opinion of the negro politician there is a feeling that he and others from the West will be found in opposition to the nomination, if the administration does not whip them into line. Senator Hiram Johnson said he had no further interest in the Linney or Johnson cases.

Senator Simmons expressed no surprise at the nomination of the Georgia negro, for the signs indicated that some negro appointment was coming as an aftermath of the humiliation of Frank A. Linney, in his surrender to the North Carolina negroes. It is thought that Senator Simmons feels that the nomination of Johnson was perhaps the natural thing to follow the enforced surrender of Linney to the negroes before confirmation would be promised to him, the force that caused Mr. Linney's humiliation coming from the Republican National administration. The administration it seems, is determined to force every white Republican leader in the Senate to bow down before and cater to the negroes as a condition to obtaining recognition. And in especial the Republican Senators from states in which the negro wields the balance of power are going to do what the administration tells them to do. And it has told them that the Georgia negro must be confirmed.

Henry Lincoln Johnson, as Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia, will have something above 50 employees under his control. About 30 of these are young white women. From some of those already there have come expressions akin to anguish that they will either have to give up positions which they need, or take orders from a negro. Some have had friends see members of the Senate in their behalf, asking that these Senators aid them in securing positions in other branches of the government; or to aid in defeating the confirmation of the negro.

The pain and humiliation that faces these young women is the same that has affected the young women of the office of the registrar of the treasury, young women from all sections and of the two parties, as set out in their letter of protest against the appointment of a negro registrar of the treasury.—Edward E. Britton, in The News and Observer.

Cotton Blooms

The following cotton blooms have come to us this week:

B. J. Benson, Benson, Route 3, June 28th.

G. S. Sanders, Four Oaks, Route 1, June 29th.