

W. A. HART REPLIES TO QUESIES ON ROAD WORK OF DISTRICT

ROCKY MOUNT, Dec. 24.—Assurance that "everything is all right and will come out to the entire satisfaction of all you people if you will have a little patience and give me just a little time," were given by Highway Commissioner W. A. Hart, of Tarboro, in a letter received by chamber of commerce officials in reply to their recent inquiry as to why the contract had not been let for the Rocky Mount-Tarboro highway and what was the status of other road work in this immediate section.

During the course of his letter, Commissioner Hart expressed keen regret at being unable to address the Current Topics club last Monday night, but that he had necessarily been out of the city Saturday, Sunday and Monday, in view of the fact that his letter stated that he would welcome the opportunity to straighten you people out, an effort will be made to bring him to the city to address the Kiwanis club at its first meeting after the Christmas holidays which will be held Thursday, Jan. 5.

After giving assurance that everything is all right and urging the citizenship to have patience, Mr. Hart gives the following specific replies to the questions asked him in the chamber of commerce letter:

First, as to why the contract for the hard-surface highway from Rocky Mount to Tarboro was not let by December 10, as previously indicated—"I will say that the reason the contract for the road was not let on December 9 was on account of the Raleigh office not being able to get up the notes in time to let the contract. I have explained this fully to one of your county highway commissioners."

Second, as to why the road from Rocky Mount to Wilson had been worked only from Wilson to the Wilson county line and no further towards Rocky Mount—"In regard to the road from Rocky Mount to Wilson, I will say that you must realize that the Wilson part of this road is newly built and that we just have not had time to put that road in the condition that we would have liked to have done. Out of 820 miles of road to take over for maintenance in this district I have taken over something like 670 miles, and am doing the best I can with it until such time as contract will be let. However, I have instructed the maintenance engineer to take his big machines and employ such help as may be required to get through as early as he possibly can and put the road in first class condition."

Third, as to the status of the highway from Nashville to Spring Hope—"In regard to the third inquiry, road from Nashville to Spring Hope, that contract was let some 60 days ago, the contractor having so many jobs to complete delayed in getting there. He assures me that work will begin on this project soon after the beginning of the year."

BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS BEFORE M. C. STATION, REFEREE

Referee Station's meeting of creditors yesterday morning in the court house looked like a session of the superior court.

Not including the attorneys, there were about forty creditors present, having claims against Bailey and Herring, the bankrupts. The firm claims to have assets approximating \$130,000 with liabilities amounting to \$90,000.

Mr. Raymond Dunn of Enfield, Mr. Sam Smith of Scotland Neck, Mr. Paul Kitchin and Mr. Ashby Dunn of Scotland Neck, were the lawyers in attendance at this meeting.

XMAS PRESENTS TO EMPLOYEES OF MR. W. A. HART AND SON

The Sunday school rooms of the Howard Memorial church were filled last night with the employees of the Hart and Fountain Cotton Mills. There were approximately four hundred men and women.

This meeting was opened with a song, after which there was prayer. In speaking to his employees, Mr. Hart said about the happiest moments of his life were when he could get his people together on occasions like these. He said this was his night and he was glad to have his people with him and look them in the face and talk to them. Mr. Hart did not speak long, but he gave those present good advice just as a father would talk to his child.

Short speeches were made by Mr. Beck, the mill superintendent, and Mr. Hall.

In making the presents to the employees Mr. Hart said he had for his people a little gift from a sincere heart and in giving it to those present he bids them God speed for a safe journey of their lives.

As the names of those present were called, they came forward and were given a five dollar note by Mr. Mabrey Hart.

It was a happy crowd and the occasion was thoroughly enjoyed by all present, and most of all by Mr. Hart, who said it was more blessed to give than to receive. It was a fine spirit that prompted Mr. Hart to help make his people happy for the Xmas holidays, and it could be seen that they appreciated not only the gifts but the kindly words of advice and good cheer he gave them.

This is not the first time that Mr. Hart has remembered his employees. He has been doing this for the last three years and this remembrance by him of his people has had splendid effect on them. Employer and employee come together in a social and brotherly way and the feelings one for the other are thereby made better.

RADIO COMMUNICATION FROM U. S. TO CHINA

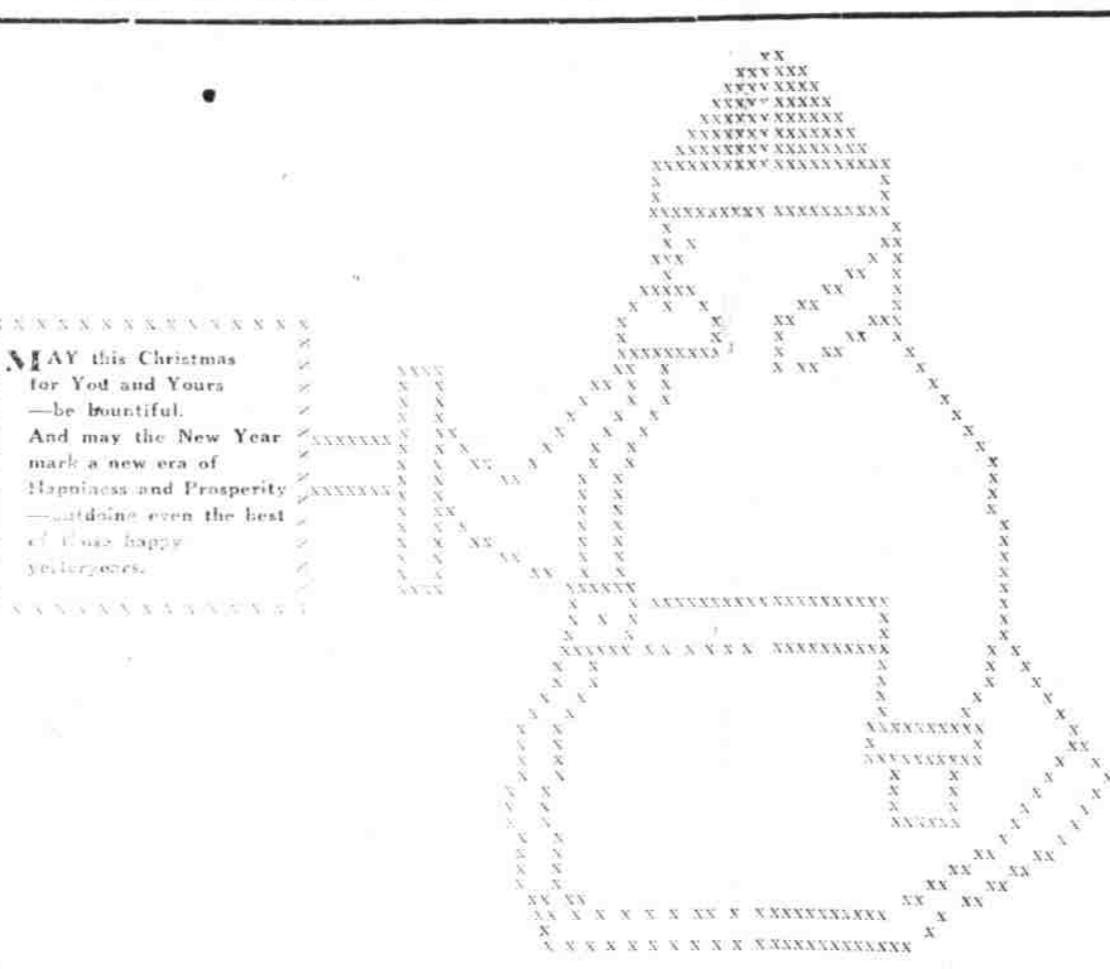
SHANGHAI, Dec. 24.—Commercial interests of Shanghai and China generally are looking forward hopefully to the opening of radio communication between Shanghai and America to be brought about by an erection in Shanghai in the next two years of a wireless station which it is said will be second to none in the world. The building of this station and of a general radio system for the interior of China is to be carried out by an American concern, the Federal Telegraph Co., under agreements lately concluded at Washington between the United States and China.

UNIVERSITIES DEBATE ON SETTLEMENT OF STRIKES

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 24.—A triangular debate between the University of Missouri, the University of Wisconsin and Washington University on the subject, "Resolved that the Kansas Industrial Relations Court System for the Settlement of Industrial Disputes Should be Adopted Throughout the United States," will be held in January, it was announced. Each university will have two teams, one taking the affirmative and the other the negative side of the question.

VORONEZH, Russia, Dec. 24.

Six priests are serving six months at hard labor charged with defrauding parishioners by claiming old irons renewed by miracle possessing special powers. They rented irons, which they carried into sick rooms,



MAY this Christmas for You and Yours —be bountiful. And may the New Year mark a new era of Happiness and Prosperity —and give even the best of us happy memories.

MAYOR EXTENDS FIREWORKS PERIOD

After reconsideration of the time set in which fireworks may be displayed in the city limits, Mayor Foxhall has consented to an additional day for the kiddies to have Xmas fun.

As stated several days ago, fireworks may be displayed from 6 p.m. today until 12 midnight tomorrow. This has been changed, and the time will be from 6 tonight until 12 Monday night.

LATE BULLETINS

ASSOCIATED PRESS.

CAIRO, Egypt, Dec. 24.—A mob reported to have attacked the government offices in Ghizah suburb, and British troops were rushed to the scene. Cairo is quiet.

ATLANTA, Dec. 24.—Friends of Eugene V. Debs are awaiting his release from penitentiary Christmas day. He will go home, Terre Haute, Indiana, where a celebration will be held. Debs was not informed of his release until today.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Frank Baer, Bohemian heavyweight, has been suggested as a possible contender for Jack Dempsey's title.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Ocean liners are rushing to port in an effort to land passengers before Santa Claus slides down the chimney.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., Dec. 24.—The sale of 12 naval vessels anchored here, including the cruiser Brooklyn, two colliers, a destroyer and submarine chasers, was made today.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Native policemen are reported deserting British India joining the Nationalist movement.

CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH

The Sunday school of the Baptist church has a delightful Christmas entertainment at the church last night. Some of the children gave a delightful program after which there was a Christmas tree for the children. Each child was presented with a stocking with some little gift, but the most beautiful and enjoyable part was the observance of "White Christmas" carrying out the idea of it being "more blessed to give than to receive." And each brought a gift in the way of provisions for the poor of the town. Quite a supply of provisions brought and a committee from the Sunday school will distribute these among the poor today.

Every one present enjoyed the beautiful Christmas spirit shown.

THE SOUTHERNER'S SATURDAY SERMON

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward men.—St. Luke: 2:13.

There are two Christmas thoughts in this verse that have marked the day from that time till now:

1. Heaven came down on earth on the first Christmas day. God took on Himself human flesh, and began to live a human life. Angels sang songs audible to human ears, and the hosts of heaven talked with men engaged at their daily labors. Stars moved and guided men to the place where they wanted to go. That means that the dwellers in the spirit world and men who live yet in the world of matter, got friendly on the first Christmas, and took notice of each other, and best of all, God Himself became man's own familiar friend and partner.

So it is a poor Christmas for anybody now, if it does not waken in him thoughts of God, and open to him the gates that if shut, hide from him the spirit life around him, in which walk the holy Saints, and the angel messengers of God, and the souls of the blessed dead. God came into human life that day; let Him come into your life tomorrow.

2. Peace on earth was the burden of the angels' song. No man has even entered into the outer suburbs of the spirit of Christmas, if he is not filled with a kindly feeling for all his fellow-men, rich and poor, good and bad, friend and enemy, kinsman and stranger. God thought enough of even the least of men, to leave heaven, and forget their sin, and humble Himself, and exalt humanity, for their sake. Who are we to set a lower estimate on mankind than God did? Let us love all men, overlook their faults, forgive their wrongs, be patient with their foolishness, tolerant towards their vexatious ways, tender with their sufferings, helpful towards their needs. Let us make the song of peace and goodwill a real prophecy for us this Christmas day.

CONETOE NEWS ITEMS.

Misses Sue White Ellis, Lorna Thigpen, and Elizabeth Thigpen, students at the State College for Women, have arrived home for the holidays.

Miss Edna Long has gone to Seaboard to spend the holidays with her parents.

Dr. and Mrs. Williams have gone to Rose Hill to visit relatives.

Miss Pearl Sutherland left last Thursday for her home in Teachey.

Misses Elizabeth Tolbert and sister have gone to Greenwood, S. C.

NO ISSUE OF THE DAILY SOUTHERNER MONDAY

Following the lead of the business houses of Tarboro, The Southerner will not publish Monday, December 26, as the town generally will observe the double holiday, allowing the working people a week-day holiday.

The Southerner will again appear Tuesday, Dec. 27.

FREE ADMISSION TO MONKS CAUSE RIOT

RANGOON, Dec. 24.—In the course of a Buddhist festival on the slopes of the Shwe-Dagon pagoda 200 monks were admitted to a theatrical performance free of charge, whereupon another 150 demanded the same privilege on the ground that monks never paid. On being refused, because, so they were told, there was no room for them, the monks tore down the fencing and turned out the audience.

The police were summoned and temporary quiet was restored, but the dissatisfied monks and their sympathizers rapidly increased to a crowd of 3,000. The arrival of 40 Gurkhas to keep order was the signal for a fresh outbreak and for three hours there were continuous free fights on the slopes of the pagoda. Eventually the rioters were dispersed, after one Burman had been killed and 11 injured. Two of the Gurkhas were also injured.

GINGER MURRAY AND HER SYNCOPATED 8 TO TARBORO

The music lovers of Tarboro will have an opportunity of hearing one of America's greatest orchestras on January 2, when the Syncopated 8 from the Million Dollar Pier, Atlantic City, appear in Tarboro for an entertainment at the Colonial theatre and also for the big Kiwanis dance.

This orchestra comes from the Shrine exposition, Durham, to Tarboro, and is one of the highest recommended jazz orchestras in the country.

In order to have this orchestra play for an entertainment at the Colonial and to cut the heavy expenses, the Kiwanis Club has decided to give a big New Years dance with this orchestra on January 2 at the Kiwanis Hall.

PARIS, Dec. 24.—Paris milliners have gone down to the sea for their latest inspiration. Toques of sea shells and with just enough black felt to provide a band for the head, are the newest creations of the modistes. Iridescent shells are used to produce unique effects while red coral also forms part of the trimming.

N. C. ATTAINS PEAK IN XMAS DRIVE FOR NEAR EAST RELIEF

RALEIGH, Dec. 24.—With the knowledge that it cannot fail without jeopardizing the lives of thousands of helpless children, the North Carolina division Near East Relief today is at the peak of its Christmas drive for a portion of the state's \$200,000 annual quota in the national campaign to provide food and clothing for 110,000 destitute children under its care in Armenia and Turkey this winter.

In the next few weeks many Sunday schools of North Carolina will take up special collections for the Near East Relief, it was announced today by Col. George H. Bellamy, state chairman. More than 100,000 personal appeals and letters to Sunday school superintendents have just been sent out by Josephus Daniels, honorary state chairman, asking the good people of North Carolina to remember the orphans of Armenian martyrs who are not asking for toys but for food.

Of the 110,000 destitute, underfed waifs, orphaned through the devastation of their nation, the destruction of their homes, the murder of their fathers and the abduction of their mothers to Turkish harems, who are now under the care of the Near East Relief, North Carolina is being asked to care for 3,334 during the coming year. The plight of these children was caused solely by the refusal of their parents to renounce Christ and become Mohammedans.

These children are being taken care of in 229 orphanages in the Bible lands supported entirely by the money given by generous hearted Americans. North Carolina is supporting five of these institutions in Trebizond, a port on the Black Sea.

ARGENTINE FAILS TO FIX PRICES ON LIVESTOCK

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 24.—The Argentine congress has ended its regular sessions without taking any action on the bill introduced to fix a minimum price for livestock.

The measure was accompanied by charges that the British and American meat packing companies operating in Argentina were making excessive profits and had caused the slump in livestock prices. The bill failed in committee following a report on the meat trade situation, made at the committee's request by the Argentine Rural Society, a national agricultural organization. The report opposed the bill.

The Rural Society, which held a hearing at which the managers of the packing establishments and representatives of the livestock industry gave their opinions, held that the fixing of a minimum price was uneconomic and that the charges that the fall in price of livestock was "the result of the interested maneuvers" of the packers, had not been proved. It was "not the consequence of a certain factor but of a worldwide situation," the report said.

The society advised that the meat trade should be left to the regular action of supply and demand.

Regarding what were referred to as the meat trusts, the report said: "If the existence of 'noxious trusts' had been proved, the Argentine Rural Society would condemn them and claim the guarantees of laws against them. But before reaching this point a better knowledge of the situation is necessary. Those who make an industry of wheat should be those principally interested in the course of their business being perfectly known to the cattle raisers. In this respect the Argentine Rural Society will bring all its influence to bear in order to obtain detailed information of the accounts of these companies.

NATIVES OF PERU NOT AFFECTED BY HIGHER ALTITUDES

LONDON, Dec. 24.—Many of the natives of Peru, it is stated, are less affected by the rarified air at high altitudes than are ordinary men of other races who are accustomed to hard labor. It is declared that at an altitude of 16,000 feet they can carry loads of 150 pounds up a steep incline where the ordinary person would find it all he could do to drag his own boots up.

The Royal Society is going to try to find out what is the secret that enables them to perform such feats of physical strength under condition that would render the task an impossible one for the average man. Three scientists have just gone to Peru to investigate the phenomenon. They were Professor Meakins, J. L. Barcroft and J. H. Duggart, the two latter of Cambridge University.

Five other scientists from Canada and New York will join them in Peru. Mr. Barcroft told an interviewer that the purpose of the expedition is to test the strain to which the heart and lungs are subjected by carrying heavy loads at such great height, and to endeavor to discover how the natives can stand it.

RUNNYMEDE MILLS DO A GRACIOUS ACT

The Runnymede Mills a year or two ago established at their mills in Tarboro a large store for the sale of general merchandise to their operatives.

This business enterprise has been of great convenience to the mill people and has been the means of saving them much money in their purchases.

I was informed by Mr. George Howard, secretary and treasurer of these mills, that the Runnymede Mills Company, after taking an inventory of their business for the past year had a profit of \$523, after deducting all expenses.

This amount has been distributed back to the operatives, the individual subscriptions ranging all the way from fifty cents to \$20 to each person engaged in the mill.

This was a splendid way for the mill owners to express their gratitude and thanks for the good services rendered by the operatives during the last year.

If the relations between employers and employees were the same the world over as they exist in the Runnymede Mills, and the Hart and Fountain Mills in Tarboro, there would never be any occasion for strikes and lockouts. It is the history of strikes that the employers and employees fail to understand each and grasp the meaning of the old saying "Live and let live."

The Southerner can not let this matter go by without heartily commending the owners of the Runnymede Mills for their most gracious act in thus dealing with their operatives.

That this kindness is earthly and greatly appreciated by the recipients goes without saying.

We wish these mills a happy and prosperous year, which they richly deserve.

WEATHER FOR YULETIDE WILL BE FAIR AND COLD

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Generally fair and much colder weather will prevail Christmas day in states east of the Mississippi river, except in the Florida peninsula and along the South Atlantic coast, where rain is probable, the weather bureau announced last night.

The disturbance in Arkansas will move rapidly northeastward, attended by general precipitation tonight. Cold wave warnings have been ordered for Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama.