

NORTH CAROLINA MUST FACE FACTS

Boys and Girls Seeking Education Turned Away Because No Room in Colleges—It's Up to North Carolina

Greensboro, N. C., Dec. 27.—Specific figures on North Carolina's startling shortage of equipment to provide higher education for its youth is supplied for the first time in the opening gun of the advertising campaign undertaken by the Association for Promotion of Education in North Carolina, of which A. M. Scales, of this city, is general director. This advertisement is making its appearance in the daily press of the State on December 26 and 27. "Facing the facts" is the theme of this state-wide campaign on behalf of the State's institutions; and the opener discloses many facts calculated to bring the citizenship of North Carolina upstanding to action—and, the Association hopes, immediate action.

Perhaps the thing that will be of first interest to the people is publication of the number of North Carolina boys and girls who sought admission to various colleges this fall and could find no accommodations—"whose hopes," the Association declares, "for higher education were shattered." The list follows, the number opposite each institution representing the number who applied for admission and could not enter because of overcrowded conditions.

Normal and Collegiate (Asheville)	300
Flora McDonald	205
St. Mary's	200
North Carolina State College for Women	250
North Carolina State A. & E.	100
Salem Female College	100
Wake Forest	40
Meredit	100
Greensboro College for Women	100
Davidson College	175
University of North Carolina	250
Eastern North Carolina Training School	40
Trinity	75
Guilford	10
Elon	4
Rutherford	50
Weaver	10
Cullowhee	12
Oxford	40
Louisburg	10
Queen's	144
Davenport	71
Mitchell	22

Total 2308
The terrific crowding of the 9,500 who gained admission to these institutions is stressed, the point being made that in many instances these students are packed three and four to a dormitory room—a condition militating against good work, inducing discomfort and possible spread of disease. And yet the institutions were unable to receive at all one out of every five young men and women who applied for admission.

People of the state are urged to take immediate action in order that such conditions may be remedied by the next session of the General Assembly. The institutions are asking for approximately \$18,000,000 for a building program extending over a period of six years; and those who would plead state poverty as a bar to such an expenditure are put to shame by the figures gathered by the Association. These figures refer both to the untold wealth of the State and to the parsimonious policy that has always been pursued in the past in providing higher educational equipment—expenditures for the past two and a half centuries amounting to only \$14,000,000. Yet the people of the State paid over \$160,000,000 to the federal treasury last year, spent \$35,000,000 for new automobiles and \$20,000,000 more for gasoline and the upkeep of those already in use. And agricultural products alone for the year were valued at \$700,000,000.

The campaign, as it has begun, is pitched on a high plane, the appeal being made to the best motive ruling the hearts of loyal Tar Heels. And these North Carolinians are told in no uncertain terms that whatever is done about the situation is dependent upon them, upon their action. The General Assembly, they are told, is made up of men who represent them; whose will is to do theirs. And if these legislators fail to act in response to the State's educational needs it will be because the "folks back home" are indifferent to the matter—indifferent to the future opportunity that may be given their boys and girls.

NOTICE TO OUR CUSTOMERS

Due to an accident just occurred at our plant which blew out one of our generating machines, we are compelled to close our plant off for repairs. This will necessitate closing gas off town at 4 P. M. today. In the meantime we are making every effort to make the repairs and have gas back on by noon Tuesday or sooner if possible.

Southern Gas Imp't. Co.

IS NOT BLAMED FOR SHOOTING

Policeman Twiddy Freed After Investigation Into Killing of Henry Spencer in Raid For Bootleg Liquor

Officer George Twiddy of the city police force was exonerated of all blame at a coroner's inquest held Saturday afternoon at two o'clock to investigate the killing of Henry Spencer, colored, by Twiddy on Friday night, December 24th, at about 8 o'clock. Twiddy had given himself up to Chief of Police Holmes immediately after the negro's death, and had been technically under arrest until freed by the verdict of the coroner's jury. He has resumed his former place on the police force.

The killing of Spencer was the outcome of a raid upon his home on North Harney street by Federal Prohibition Officers Williams and Ferebee, accompanied by Policemen Twiddy and John Webb. The party surrounded the Spencer home, Williams, Ferebee and Captain Simmons going in by the front way, and Twiddy and Webb by the back, Twiddy being in advance of Webb. As Twiddy entered the back door, Spencer started toward him with the evident intention of making his escape. Twiddy ordered the negro to halt and throw up his hands, but the latter kept on advancing, and, according to one version of the affair, reached behind himself ostensibly for a weapon. When Spencer paid no attention to a second command to halt, Twiddy, who had retreated to the edge of the porch, fired at him. Spencer still came on, and Twiddy fired again, the negro falling to the floor. Spencer, with two bullets in his breast, died a few hours later.

Investigation of the Spencer kitchen revealed a ten gallon still boiling away merrily on the cook stove. It was a well-constructed outfit, with a copper worm, and is now being held at Marshall Williams' office.

According to local police officials, Spencer served a term on the roads several years ago for carrying concealed weapons, and was later arrested again for stabbing another negro to death. He was acquitted of intent to kill in the second instance upon his plea that the killing was accidental.

It was Spencer's son, Walter Spencer, then an employe of the Princes-Cole Company of this city, who departed simultaneously with the disappearance of a considerable sum of money from the company's safe last summer. He has never been apprehended. It is hoped that the death of Spencer and the circumstances surrounding it will serve to put a check upon the activities of bootleggers in this city and section.

MINISTERS TALK THROUGH DARKNESS

The beautiful Christmas cantata, "Star of the East," given at Blackwell Memorial church Sunday night under the direction of L. E. Skinner was interrupted, as it happened, just as one part had been finished, and during the interim the pastor, Dr. G. W. Clarke, and the visiting ministers, Rev. Frank Pool, Rev. Ambrose Ward and Rev. Elwyn Trueblood made short addresses. The musical program was continued as soon as the current came on again and was greatly enjoyed by a large crowd in spite of the rather stormy weather.

NOTED AUTHOR ILL

Chicago, Dec. 27.—Emerson Hough, noted author, is reported in a serious condition from pneumonia.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENT

A Board For Making Recommendations on Present and Proposed Improvements

John Elliott Wood, Assistant to the Engineer Commissioner, District of Columbia

As long as new projects are suggested, so will accompanying difficulties be found. Few great and worthy results were ever derived without the encountering of mighty obstacles; and the victory over these barriers sweetened the fruits thereof. By the same token, those who interest themselves in the gaining of a TOWN BEAUTIFUL must be prepared to face not only disappointment but also that greater bugbear to progressiveness—disinterest. If public interest could be worked up to the point even of criticism the realization would be half accomplished.

The study of Civic Improvement is seemingly embodied in a country-wide movement. This has reached its greatest realization and application in the national capital, where recently a set of Zoning laws recommended by the Commissioners of the District and adopted by Congress, has guaranteed the proper future development of the entire District of Columbia. The term "zoning" refers to the various subdivisions that have been arbitrarily established for regulating the respective heights of buildings, the proportion of property available for structures, and the nature of use of property—whether residential, commercial or industrial. Together with the regulations existing heretofore, the future orderly growth of Washington is assured. Only recently also the State of Wisconsin has passed legislative action authorizing each county to plan its future growth, each city therein to establish its zoning, etc., so that all effort may be co-ordinated for the entire state. And so it is true of cities and towns throughout the country; few of the more important ones that have not adopted vigorous schemes of a natural growth limited to and dependent on conformity to established ideas of taste and judgment.

Before legislation may be enacted, it is essential that the movement be inaugurated in towns—which is the unit where public spirit thrives. This movement is not merely a "hobby," but once started will extend like the ripples from a stone thrown in still waters. Perhaps the most effective as well as modest means of securing an organized attempt in the beautification of the town has been through a CIVIC IMPROVEMENT BOARD. These boards were the outgrowths of demands made on the city aldermen or councils for the appointment of the same from citizens qualified through good taste, sound judgment and public interest. There are dozens of such individuals in Elizabeth City from which three or five could be chosen; and the usefulness of this board would be found in the intimate study they would make, first, towards suggesting the development of present beauty and advantages; and second, recommendations on future development. Volunteer boards of this nature have been started, and have died for lack of support. It is for this reason that it would be highly preferable to secure agitation for the regular appointment of an official board, charged with the presenting of both periodic and special reports and recommendations.

Elizabeth City has always attracted visitors. The river, the clean streets, and the attractive homes have always impressed such people; the retail stores are on the par with those of any town in the State. But if one should look for some spot of beauty for which the town in general deserves credit, would it not be a difficult task? Is there any one thing in the town that one would immediately drive a visitor to? On the whole the town is one of the most beautiful; but is not this natural beauty? This suggests all the more reason why some uniform policy of civic improvement should be adopted.

In the consideration of the development of present natural beauty please consider the following: A. There is a prevailing tendency of removing fences and planting lawns, with astonishing results. What formerly was a series of fences varying in ugliness with each fifty feet of property front has been transformed into a beautiful lawn as long as the block and as wide as the distance separating the houses from the street. This should be encouraged, extended, and enhanced still more by subordinating the intervening walks. B. Parking spots have been left between the sidewalks and the curb; these would contribute materially to the appearance of the street if every neighbor would care for that in front of his property. C. Some residents have studied their back yards—a most estimable thought; and from this have grown spots that it would be sinful to hide. In any of these details, the attempts of one here and there—laudable as it is—cannot produce their best results unless commonly adopted; but an entire street working along the same idea—like Burgess street—produces real beauty.

Larger cities have not gained their beauty by accident. On the contrary, the smaller the city, the more beautiful it should be. Realizing their handicaps, the larger places have taken steps to overcome natural faults. Before any structure may be built, the plans of the project must be submitted to municipal inspectors. If the building is either public—or like a church, semi-public—it cannot be commenced until its relation to its surroundings and the town scheme has been approved by a Fine Arts Commission. This commission was the outgrowth of the civic improvement board, eventually developing to the point where professional criticism was available; its work, however, has not been commercialized, so that its recommendations are unreservedly in the interests of the town's welfare. This function, namely, of making recommendations on the plans of new public and semi-public buildings, would be included in the duties of the civic improvement board.

One of the features of zoning which is applicable to a place of any size is that of USE. Certain areas are limited to residences; others permit the conduct of business; the third district is unrestricted; so that one may build his home wherever he pleases, knowing from the zone his property is in whether a factory, or a stable may be built on the next lot. This is a slight consideration; but it is important to the prospective home builder, and compensates in that it enhances what might have been factory land.

When the new school is built there is going to be an important reason for the existence of a Civic Improvement Board. Shall this building, or group of buildings, be built without regard to any orderly arrangement—without any relation to its surroundings? How much better it would be to incorporate this proposition into some accepted scheme of future development. While the purpose of such a group demands certain qualities and conditions, there is much to be considered outside of the purely architectural merits. The building may be both beautiful and perfect in arrangement; and yet total failure result. It is imperative that the surroundings be studied—particularly in buildings of a public nature. This might even form the nucleus of the future civic center.

Contrary to general opinion, planning is not so dependent on professional architecture as upon only good taste. In truth, GOOD architecture—and it should not be necessary to use the adjective—is no more than taste and judgment combined, based on precedent. It is possible to reach a high point of usefulness in civic work, through a properly constituted medium composed of suitably qualified citizens, long before it would become necessary to employ professional advice. The fullest realization from the work of such a civic improvement board as suggested can only be derived from a faithful practice of unity in effort and uniformity of purpose.

J. E. WOOD.

Influenza Will Not Be So Severe

Washington, Dec. 27.—Influenza attacks carry a definite immunity to subsequent attacks lasting several years, according to a public health service announcement made today after intensive study.

The statement declares that since the epidemic of 1918-19 affected such a large proportion of the population, it seems reasonable to suppose that should the disease become prevalent this winter it would not assume the epidemic proportions of the last two years nor be in such severe form.

STORM WARNING

Washington, Dec. 27.—A storm from Cape Hatteras to New York increasing in intensity and moving northeastward will cause strong west and northwest winds and gales tonight.

FALL OF FIUME IS IMMINENT

Italian Government Troops Forcing D'Annunzio's Forces Back Into the Outskirts of the City Report State

London, Dec. 27.—Italian government troops are believed to be slowly closing the iron ring around Fiume, where D'Annunzio's forces are besieged.

Reports from Fiume are meager, but it appears that the soldiers have forced D'Annunzio's lines back into the outskirts of the city and the fall of Fiume will not long be delayed.

BLACKWELL MEMORIAL CHOIR SINGS CHRISTMAS CAROLS

According to their custom, the choir of Blackwell Memorial Baptist church, under the direction of L. E. Skinner, went about the city at midnight of Christmas eve singing the carols of the Christmas season and carrying the Christmas message of cheer to the pastor, members of the church and others. They especially visited those who have been sick or bereaved, and much appreciation has been expressed of the beautiful service of song so thoughtfully rendered.

DE VALERA NEAR N. Y.

Worcester, Mass., Dec. 27.—De Valera, president of Ireland, is not far from New York, according to his secretary, who says he hopes to arrive in New York tonight and see Valera.

NEGOTIATIONS BROKEN OFF

Copenhagen, Dec. 27.—A Warsaw dispatch says Russian-Polish peace negotiations have been definitely broken off, the head of the Bolshevik delegation declared today.

He said the international situation with Russia is so good that it is unnecessary to treat further with the Poles.

LIGHTS OUT SPOIL CHRISTMAS MUSIC

A large crowd had packed the First Methodist church Sunday night to hear the beautiful Christmas music, but the program had barely got under way when the lights went out and when telephoning to the electric light plant brought the answer that "the steam had just gone down and it would take half an hour to get it up again," the congregation went away sorrowfully. The pastor and people of the First Methodist church were particularly disappointed because they had invited the pastor and people of City Road Methodist church to be their guests at this special Christmas service.

The entire program, however, will be given at City Road church next Sunday night, and both congregations will attend this service.

FATHER DIES SUDDENLY

Mrs. L. D. Case received a telegram this morning stating that her father, Mr. Walter L. Pearce, of Chicago, died suddenly last night. Mrs. Case has but recently returned from a visit to him and other relatives in Chicago.

COLD WAVE COMING

Washington, Dec. 27.—Cold wave warnings were ordered today for the Ohio Valley, Tennessee, and the East Gulf states. The weather bureau said that much colder weather will spread over the country east of the Mississippi in the next thirty-six hours.

PARTY LEADERS CLASH ON BILL

Democrats Charge Republicans With Attempt to Rush Through House Emergency Tariff Bill

Washington, Dec. 27.—Republican and Democratic leaders in the Senate clashed today on the House Emergency Tariff Bill. Senator Hitchcock, Democrat, characterized the measure as an embargo bill and a proposition to restrict American commerce. He charges that the Republicans proposed to rush through the measure practically without consideration. Republican leaders today denied that the legislation contemplated embargoes for the restriction of commerce.

OLE SIS TURKEY HEN WAS DOING HER BEST

Henry Pool, proprietor of the Southern Hotel Barber Shop, tells a Christmas story that's most as interesting as Santa Claus himself, and it's really true, he says.

Pool got his Christmas turkey, a hen, from G. R. Harrell, a farmer living three miles from the city. Mr. Harrell brought the turkey hen to town about noon and Pool put her in a coop until next morning when to his astonishment he discovered that she had laid two eggs in that short time. When the turkey was killed two fully developed eggs were found inside and a whole setting of eggs coming on.

Now everybody knows that ole sis' turkey hen does her laying in the spring time and that she's never any too generous or accommodating about it, either, so it would certainly seem that Pool's turkey deserved a blue ribbon and victory medal instead of the tragic fate she met on Christmas Eve along with the rest of the ordinary turkeys.

PREMIERS MEET AT NICE NEXT MONTH

Paris, Dec. 27.—Newspapers here declare that the British, French and Italian premiers meet at Nice next month.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN OVERCOME BY FIRE

Cincinnati, Dec. 27.—A score of women and children were partially overcome by fire in the Burnett House after midnight last night. The flames were confined to the basement.

GERMANY CAN HAVE NO CIVILIAN GUARDS

Paris, Dec. 27.—A Mayence dispatch to the Petit Parisien states that the inter-Allied high commission has decided to break up all German military organizations such as civilian guards.

Bonus Bill Would Cost Billions

Washington, Dec. 27.—Passage of the soldier bonus bill would cost the government \$2,300,000,000, Secretary Houston estimated today before the Senate finance committee.

Firebugs Invade Uniontown, Penna.

Uniontown, Pa., Dec. 27.—Fears that Fayette County's arson ring has invaded Uniontown was expressed by the authorities today when fire in the business district destroyed it with a loss approximately of \$150,000.

The owner of the store was arrested, but was released after a hearing later.

SAVINGS BANK & TRUST CO. Elizabeth City, N. C.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Savings Bank & Trust Company will be held at its Banking House, Elizabeth City, N. C., Monday, January 10, 1921, between the hours of three and four P. M. for the purpose of electing Directors and for the transaction of such other business as may be brought before said meeting.

H. G. KRAMER, Cashier.
dec 27, 30 Jan 3, 7
Hunter Sawyer, of New York City, is visiting relatives at Wekaville.