

Chowan Bridge Letting Marks Culmination Of Long Fought Campaign

Contract Let by State Highway Commission for Structure to Link Albemarle and Rest of State

Chowan Bridge Cost \$432,422

IS LONGEST IN EAST

Will Cross Mile and a Half of Navigable Waters, and Is Important Link in Atlantic Coastal Route

Culminating a campaign that has stretched over three years, and in which the people of Elizabeth City, Hertford and Edenton have co-operated as never before in their history, contract for construction of the Chowan Bridge was let Wednesday morning by the State Highway Commission. The successful bidders were Sanford & Brooks, of Charleston, South Carolina.

Raleigh, Dec. 23.—Contract for construction of the Chowan Bridge was let today to Sanford & Brooks Company, of Charleston, S. C., at \$432,422.75, or considerably below the State Highway Commission's estimate of \$525,000. The bridge will be about a mile and a half long, with a swing span of 200 feet. Bids were opened yesterday.

Bids on a bridge in two sections connecting Morehead City and Beaufort were received also. The low figure was \$612,256.

ROADS ARE GOOD BUT BOYS FIRST

Edgar Bundy Tells Rotarians Should Not Neglect Boys for Roads

Boys, boy life and boy problems have been topics of discussion at meetings of the Elizabeth City Rotary Club for the last four weeks. Next week's meeting, in view of the fact that many boys are home with their dads for the Christmas holidays, will be a father and son day for the club with every Rotarian entertaining as his guest his every son of 11 years of age or older. Rotarians who have no sons of their own, such as, for instance, as Howard Smith, Julian Selig and Sam Parker, will have the privilege of entertaining somebody else's son for the occasion. Tom Nelson, Southern Hotel manager, expects to be called on to lay covers for close on to 100 at next week's Rotary meeting.

A most enjoyable feature of this week's Rotary luncheon at the Southern Hotel on Friday were several selections from the Rotary quartet, Kennedy Houtz, Miss Jeanne Houtz, Hugh Sawyer and Francis Jacobs, who have not appeared at a Rotary luncheon in some time because of the fact that one member has been away at school.

Speakers for the day were Edgar Bundy of the Perquimans County schools, A. B. Combs of the faculty of the Elizabeth City High School, and Rev. J. W. Harrell, pastor of City Road Methodist Church.

Secretary Job of the Elizabeth City Chamber of Commerce read the telegram from Highway Commissioner Hart announcing the letting of the contract for the Chowan River bridge.

It was Mr. Bundy, speaking immediately after the reading of the telegram, who struck the key note of the program.

"Your roads are fine, and the building of this bridge across the Chowan River is fine, and your country club is something to be proud of," he declared, "but unless you give some time and attention to your boys and provide them a place to play and afford them some outlet for their activities your automobiles and your good roads and your bridge across the Chowan River will bring you only sorrow and anxiety and anguish, for they will only serve to hasten your boys to destruction. Our fathers and mothers had no automobiles and no paved roads, but they had time to give their children and to gather with them around the family altar, and the training they gave us has been of incalculable value. But I know folks right over in my own town of Hertford who are neglecting their children and permitting them to stray into vicious habits and practices simply because they have an automobile and a little cotton."

"The suggestion of a bridge across the head waters of Albemarle Sound has been agitated for many years. At one time serious consideration was given to a proposal to combine the Norfolk Southern Railroad trestle from Edenton to Maceys with a vehicular bridge. This, however, was abandoned largely on account of the excessive cost it would involve.

Desultory agitation for a bridge gained strong impetus after Secretary Job, of the Chamber of Commerce here, while at a rate meeting in Goldsboro some three years ago, learned of the existence of the South Atlantic Coastal Highway, then running from Washington, D. C., to Florida. This highway was to follow Route 40 through North Carolina.

Route 40 runs through Weldon, Rocky Mount, Wilson and Goldsboro, in the Piedmont section of the State, many miles from the coast, and then swings eastward, terminating at Wilmington.

Route 30, on the other hand, passes through the Albemarle counties, Washington and New Bern, all in the coastal country, and ends also at Wilmington. Secretary Job and Harry Barlow, then secretary of the New Bern Chamber of Commerce, conceived

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Dixie To Have A White Christmas

Atlanta, Dec. 23.—Dixie today was preparing to spend the kind of Christmas often read about but experienced about once in a blue moon, a white Christmas. Snow flurries are reported from several points, while one or two told of heavy falls. A variety of temperatures ranging from 14 degrees at Louisville to 35 at Miami was unofficially tabulated at 1 o'clock this morning.

AMERICA LIKELY TO PARTICIPATE

Indications That Nation Take Part in League Conference

Washington, Dec. 23.—President Coolidge has progressed so far in his effort to find way to accept the league invitation to the preliminary disarmament discussion that he has asked Congressional leaders whether an appropriation would be necessary.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Developments here today pointed with increasing definiteness to American participation in the preliminary League of Nations disarmament discussions, if a feasible way can be found.

Both Secretary Kellogg and Chairman Borah of the Senate foreign relations committee conferred with President Coolidge today and there were indications that a decision virtually had been reached although the American reply to the League invitation would not be forwarded until after the holidays.

Senator Borah said as he left the White House that he was in complete accord with the President's views but he did not indicate definitely what those views were.

In other quarters it was suggested that Congress probably would be asked to express its opinion on the subject, at least to the extent of making an appropriation to defray the expenses of the American delegation.

LEAVE CAR HOME CHIEF COUNSELS

Holmes Asks Local Residents to Help Relieve Parking Situation

Anticipating the usual Christmas Eve crowds here tomorrow, Chief of Police Holmes requested today that all Elizabeth City residents who could get along with out their cars leave them home tomorrow morning, in order to leave as much parking space as possible for the use of visitors from out of town.

This is especially important, the chief reminds, because of the number of streets torn up in connection with the laying of water pipes. At best, there is but little room to park cars. In parking, all motorists are urged to drive as closely as possible to the next parked car in order that no space may be wasted. A careless parked automobile often takes up space that might be sufficient for two cars instead of one.

Chief Holmes asked also that patrons of the movies on Christmas Day, which falls on one of the Fridays on which free tickets given by local merchants will be much in evidence, line up on the east side of McMorris street from Main street to the Akraam entrance, in order to avoid confusion. Persons leaving the theater are directed to turn to the right and proceed to Matthews street. Thus, the lines of those going and those departing will not conflict.

"If the public will follow these suggestions, there should be little difficulty," Chief Holmes declared. One or more members of the police force will be on hand to assist in maintaining order, the chief stated.

INCOME TAX RUINED SUCCESS OF ONE GIRL

London, Dec. 23.—Eighteen-year-old Marian Wilson made \$85,000 on her production of "The Beggar's Opera" and lost it all, and more too, on "The British Ballet."

The income tax got the girl producer, while money was rolling in from "The Beggar's Opera," she forgot all about the income tax and did not lay any of her money aside. Instead she put it into a new production which was not a success and when the tax collector came round she faced disaster.

So the ambitious producer went back to work as an actress. She danced for a time in a cabaret at Nice, then joined up with Ben Green's Shakespearean players and has been playing all over provincial England.

It is her ambition to become a comedienne. She never wanted to be a producer, but her father objected to her acting and gave her \$5,000 to use in producing.

HOLIDAY EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR NEXT FEW DAYS

Christmas Carols to be Sung Tomorrow Night by Massed Choir in Front of Elks' Home Here

BIG DOINGS FOR KIDS

Members of Fraternity Busy Preparing for Celebration for Youngsters Christmas Morning

Two big holiday events are scheduled for the Yuletide here, and both will be pulled off at the Elks' Home, at Martin and Fearing streets. The first will be the singing of Christmas carols by a massed choir tomorrow night, the night before Christmas, from 9 to 9:30 o'clock. The second will be a gay celebration for the children on Christmas morning, at which gifts and confections in wide variety will be distributed.

The massed choir which will sing the old time carols on Christmas Eve will be made up from the choirs of all the churches in the city. Those in charge of the event have broadcast an invitation to everybody to take part—at least, all those who have even a remote suspicion that they can sing. Choir leaders from six of the city's leading churches will direct the program, and assurance is given that there will be an abundance of leaflets bearing the words of the eight carols to be sung. All will be old, familiar Yule airs, of the kind that hold an enduring place in the hearts of folk.

The Rev. G. F. Hill, rector of Christ Church, and chaplain of the Elizabeth City Lodge of Elks, with the assistance of the Rev. A. H. Outlaw, County Welfare Officer, has collected a list of about 200 children in this city and vicinity who might otherwise not have had a very merry Christmas. Members of the Elks' Club were busy today touring the city, inviting their prospective young guests and notifying them where to assemble on Christmas morning.

When the glad day arrives, the Elks will assemble in automobiles at the club and drive to the various gathering places designated. The cars will assemble at the club at 8 o'clock in the morning, and all Elks have been asked to be on hand with their machines at that hour. The children will be transported to the club home, and when the celebration is over, they will be taken back to their own homes.

Members of the Christmas tree committee of the club have checked and re-checked their lists in the hope of including every underprivileged child in the city. They ask, however, that if anyone knows of youngsters who should be added to the roster, the names and addresses of these be given Mr. Hill or Mr. Outlaw.

HOUSE BOAT FOUND

West Palm Beach, Florida, Dec. 23.—North State, the house boat belonging to F. H. Seely, manager of Grove Park in Asheville, North Carolina, reported missing in Miami, is anchored in Lake Worth here, having arrived two weeks ago.

LOWLY DESTINY IS AWAITING MUSTANGS

Portland, Ore., Dec. 23.—Out of the glories of mountain range and plain into the soap vat or fertilizer bin is the ignominious destiny that seems in prospect for the western mustang—small, mostly useless, and numerous. For those in the Pacific Northwest, this lowly end approached appreciably close when a Portland company began the construction of a plant in which this rendering will be done.

The sturdy, roving bands of unbridled horseflesh out of the range that is needed by stockmen and upon which depends, to a large extent, the game in the Western States. In Montana alone it was estimated that there are 250,000 of these wild horses. Other thousands perplex the livestock interests of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Nevada, and Colorado, swelling the total to a million or more for which no literary commercial market exists, except for the leather and by-product value.

Dr. E. E. Chase, Portland city veterinarian, has added to the indictment against the mustang a charge that it spreads contagious diseases among cattle and sheep.

GIVEN JAIL TERMS

Unable to pay small fines, William Jasper and Clarence Hawkins, both colored, were sentenced to 30 days in jail each in recorder's court this morning. Jasper had been fined \$10 and costs Monday morning on a charge of being drunk and disorderly. Hawkins was fined \$1 and costs in recorder's court yesterday morning for frequenting a poolroom while out of age.

Stacy Wade Gives Warning About Holiday Accidents

Emphasizes Danger Allowing Children to Have Fireworks, Mentions Christmas Candles, and Makes Suggestion for the Prevention of Fire

Raleigh, Dec. 23.—A plea for the use of caution during the Christmas holiday season in order that "fires and resultant tragedies" may be prevented was voiced here by Stacy W. Wade, insurance commissioner of the State.

Mr. Wade emphasized the danger of allowing children to have fireworks, pointed out the danger of candles and combustible material on Christmas trees, and made suggestions for safeguarding the and property during the season.

"Candles on Christmas trees, always combustible decorations, and fireworks have all turned Christmas mirth and merriment into sorrow and gloom by causing fires during the Yuletide of the past."

To what extent and where fires will be in 1925 depends on each one of us all of us. Will you do your part to prevent it?

"Electric lights are far better than candles, but if a long string is used, have the wiring inspected by a competent person before attaching. This will eliminate overloading the wires and fuses. It is dangerous to use lighted candles on cedar and holly trees. If there is an open fire or stove in the room where the tree is, it would be best to protect it with metal screens and be very, very particularly when the little flames in water pajamas and nighties run in Christmas morning, and do not let them get close to the top of the tree. If the tree is so dressed, as the electric might catch fire, they will be highly soiled, so you must look after them."

"Take care of the paper and other inflammable wrappings when taken from around the packages when opened, and do not let this accumulate anywhere. In the house, if you have a fireplace, it is not made a receptacle for such wrappings and keep it clean and clear of all rubbish during this season, when you will have big fires going."

"It all means have the Christmas tree erected by a grown person and made secure, the falling of Christmas trees being the great danger, and as far as possible, let grown persons detach the presents. Instead of letting the children dry and snatch at the tree, let them help you to decorate it. After all the warning you have had, you still persist in using lighted candles, do not let the children light them, and do not leave the room while they are lit."

"Under all circumstances, have a fire extinguisher or bucket of water with a dipper and a broom handy, so that if the tree catches fire, you will be ready instantly. Place the tree near the center of the room, so that you can get to all sides of it, and be certain that it is away from any open fire or stove."

"Keep decorations away from all lights and fires and remember that an electric light bulb will not ignite paper on fire. Do not wrap the clothes. Let 'em shine. Let there be light."

"Carelessness promotes happiness."

Mayor Dismisses Butler As Director Christmas Holiday

Philadelphia, Dec. 23.—Mayor Kendrick today formally dismissed General Butler as Director of Public Safety, effective at noon.

DECISIVE VICTORY FOR THE WAR LORD

Tokio, Dec. 23.—Vernacular newspaper and war office advices from Mukden today stated that Marshal Tsolin, war lord of Manchuria, has defeated General Kuroki and occupied Pailin and other positions near a Siam-French border.

EXPLOSION WRECKS RAILROAD BRIDGE

Clarksville, W. Va., Dec. 23.—An explosion damaged the Western Maryland Railroad bridge at Binzang Junction early today. The blast was set off near the middle of the span which crosses West Fork River and caused damage estimated at several thousand dollars. Large pieces of steel were hurled a great distance while windows in nearby dwellings were shattered. Railroad officials expressed the belief that nitroglycerin had been used.

PROHIBITION AGENTS WARNED BE THRIFTY

Washington, Dec. 23.—Prohibition agents were warned today that "reckless, unjustifiable expenditures" during their work in the future would cause their dismissal from the enforcement service.

FUNERAL OF MUNSEY THURSDAY MORNING

Los Angeles, Dec. 23.—Funeral services for Frank A. Munsey, veteran publisher, will be held in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, Thursday morning.

THREE CHILDREN ARE TRAMPLED TO DEATH

Erie, Pa., Dec. 23.—The laughter and mirth of 5,000 children attending a pre-Christmas performance in the Erie Arena late yesterday suddenly changed to cries of fear as a small bench on which three of the youngsters were seated broke, causing a pile in which three children were trampled to death and seven injured, one seriously.



BIG CHAIN STORE WILL ENTER CITY

McClellan Company Rents Large Floor Space in Hinton Building

Lease of two stores in the Hinton Block to the McClellan Stores Company, of New York, for conversion into a single large establishment was announced Wednesday by the Carolina Banking & Trust Company, present owners of the building. The McClellan company runs a system of chain stores dealing in a wide variety of merchandise in a price range of five cents to a dollar.

The stores to be combined and used by the new company are the present stand of the Duff Piano Company and the adjoining one formerly occupied by the Spencer Walker Company. The lease is to run for a ten year period, with privilege of renewal when it expires. In commenting upon the transaction, bank officials stated that the rental was substantially higher, even though on a long term basis, than that paid by other stores in the block.

Opening of the first music department store in Elizabeth City by the Duff Piano Company about February 1 is announced by W. P. Duff, president of the company. The new store will occupy the Flora building on Fearing street, between Poindexter and Water streets. This structure will be remodeled entirely. Mr. Duff announces, adding that an exceptionally wide and attractive range of things musical will be carried in stock.

The McClellan Stores Company will spend about \$10,000 on a modern lighting system and other improvements in the quarters they will occupy, it is announced. Their store will occupy a floor space 50 by 105 feet, or about 5,250 square feet in extent. The company operates 20 of the kind in North Carolina, and others throughout the country. It is, in a sense, a home company, in that it was formed several years ago by a group of North Carolina capitalists headed by J. Elwood Cox, of High Point, and E. B. Adams, operator of extensive cotton mill properties in Central North Carolina.

Congress Takes A Christmas Holiday

Washington, Dec. 23.—Congress began its 12 day vacation today, closing a busy two weeks in which it laid much of the ground work for a four and spirited session.

PRISONER AWAITING BIRTH EIGHTH CHILD

Raleigh, Dec. 23.—Jesse H. Wyatt, former captain of detectives of the Raleigh police force, was yesterday granted a stay of prison sentence from January 2 to March 15, to await the birth of his eighth child. Wyatt was sentenced to 18 months in the county jail after killing Stephen Hill, Smith's attorney, whom he mistook for a run runner.

Four Volunteer Firemen Killed

Waynesburg, Pa., Dec. 23.—Four volunteer firemen were killed and five others were injured, two seriously, during a fire which swept the business district of Waynesburg early today.

Several buildings were destroyed and a number of others damaged, the total loss being estimated at \$1,000,000. The firemen were crushed under a falling wall.

COTTON MARKET

New York, Dec. 23.—Cotton futures opened today at the following levels: July 18.31, March 18.55, May 18.40, July 18.91, Oct. 17.70.

New York, Dec. 23.—Spot cotton closed steady, middling 19.40, an advance of 25 points. Futures, including bid: Jan. 18.50, March 18.88, May 18.54, July 18.24, Oct. 17.88.

LEADING FIGHT MAN CAME NEAR THE PRESIDENCY

Senator Lenroot Working for Coolidge's Plan for World Court After Cruel Turn of Fate

ALL BUT SETTLED

Harding Was Nominated and Lenroot Expected to Be Vice President When Coolidge Name Proposed

Washington, Dec. 23.—Leading the fight for President Coolidge's world court plan on the Republican side of the Senate chamber is a man buffeted by one of the most cruel turns of fate that ever befell a human being. This man is Irvine L. Lenroot, Senator from the state of Wisconsin, who by all the rules and orders of the G. O. P. should today be the occupant of the White House, formulating his own international plans and policies rather than attempting to carry out the dictums and dictates of another.

Fortunately for Senator Lenroot he does not appear to be a strongly introspective man. He seems to shake things off rather easily, and yet, as he sits there in the Senate, day after day, one cannot help but picture the thoughts that must go through a head which is called by some one of the ablest in the upper house of Congress.

American memories are not very long, but there are still plenty who recall that at the Chicago convention of the Republican party in 1920 Senator Lenroot was "slated" to be the vice-presidential candidate with Senator Harding of Ohio. The slate had all been arranged. Supposedly it was copper riveted, as things generally are at a Republican convention once the "steam roller" has been wheeled into action and the organization whistle is tooting its signals to stop and go.

Mr. Harding had been nominated after a somewhat hectic struggle between Former Governor Frank G. Lowden, of Illinois, and Major General Leonard Wood. The Wood and Lowden forces actually had docked the convention and there was no indication of surrender on either side. Both of these aspirants were given every opportunity to demonstrate their strength and neither had sufficient. Therefore at the end of the week, the leaders got together and agreed upon Senator Harding as the compromise candidate. At the same time it was agreed that Senator Lenroot of Wisconsin, representing a supposedly liberal wing of the party, should be the vice-presidential candidate.

The Harding nomination went with a whoop. Tired with their all-night and all-forenoon conferences, the G. O. P. leaders drifted out of the convention hall. It was supposed everything was "fixed" for Senator Lenroot. There was no need to wait for that part of the plan to be executed. Vice presidential nominations never receive a great deal of consideration from the delegates on the floor. Everybody is anxious to go home.

The honor of nominating Senator Lenroot had been placed in the hands of the late Senator Medill McCormick of Illinois. Medill for some reason unexplained, it was quite a few minutes late in reaching the platform and the delegates were a bit restless. Medill made a more or less perfunctory speech and then stepped aside to let the voting begin. Somehow or other the situation was bungled. There was no spread of Lenroot wildfire on the floor.

Then came the memorable incident when Wallace McCamant, a delegate from Oregon, stepped to a chair on the convention floor and placed the name of Calvin Coolidge in nomination. Up to that moment there had been no thought of Coolidge for vice-president. The Massachusetts delegation had been backing him in a more or less desultory manner for the presidency, but it never occurred to a single member of the Bay State delegation to propose him for second place on the ticket.

The rest is history. Mr. Coolidge was nominated. Mr. Harding died in his third year at the white House. Mr. Coolidge stepped into the American hall of the Presidents.

Mr. Lenroot might have had all this if something had not gone wrong with the "machine." Mr. McCamant has been appointed a federal judge in California. Mr. Lenroot has the right to come back on his hands to try to come back to the Senate next year.

POPULATION BIGGER IN NEW YORK STATE

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 23.—The population of New York state is 11,162,151, according to totals of 1924, the state census bureau announced today.

This represents a gain of 764,000 since 1920.