

ELIZABETH CITY

The Daily Advance

The Weather

Cloudy tonight and Sunday. Possibly thundershowers Sunday. Moderate southwest winds.

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Senator Williams Seeks Fairer Distribution Of The Equalization Fund

Threatens to Resort to the Courts in Matter That Is Arousing State-wide Dissatisfaction

CAMDEN AND DARE

W. I. Halstead of South Mills and S. A. Griffin of Manteo at Raleigh Also to Offer Protest

Raleigh, June 25.—(AP)—Report to courts to secure a more equitable distribution of the three and one-quarter million dollar school equalization fund is threatened by Senator Pat H. Williams, of Elizabeth City, who represented the First District composed of seven northeastern counties in the last Legislature, including Dare, Camden and Pasquotank counties. Senator Williams, was here to attend a meeting of the directors of the Atlantic Joint Stock Land Bank. Others, visitors, expressed themselves here today as opposed to the proposed distribution of funds under the Wolfe Act, including J. H. Alexander, Jr., of Scotland Neck. Mr. Alexander said he was at a loss to "understand how the schedules for distribution were arrived at."

Pasquotank and Halifax, two of the larger agricultural counties, received \$4,000 and \$4,500 respectively under the schedule of distribution announced by the board. Other counties, not heretofore receiving any money from the fund, received more than \$20,000, those protesting pointed out.

Other visitors in Raleigh yesterday to enter vigorous protest against the proposed distribution included W. I. Halstead, of Camden county, which had the \$10,000 paid last year cut to \$5,000 and Supt. E. W. Pearson and S. A. Griffin, the latter chairman of the board of education of Dare county. Mr. Halstead is a member of the Camden county board of education. Supt. M. P. Jennings, of Pasquotank, was also in Raleigh yesterday.

The allotment for Dare county was reduced from \$19,000 to \$18,000 this year, and the educational authorities are at a loss to understand how the allotment was made.

The valuation for Halifax county was fixed at \$43,000,000 for this year, an increase of three million dollars, when it is a safe estimate that the total taxable property will not exceed \$18,000,000, declared Mr. Alexander, who is president of the Chamber of Commerce of Scotland Neck, president of the Bank of Scotland Neck and member of the board of commissioners.

Norfleet Smith, editor of the Scotland Neck Commonwealth, who was with Mr. Alexander in Raleigh, endorsed what Mr. Alexander had to say, and declared that it was inexplicable to him that Edgecombe county with a total property valuation of \$35,000,000 and a tax rate of 80 1/2 cents received \$24,000 from the school equalization fund while Halifax with a tax rate of \$1.55 received only \$4,500.

Mr. Alexander had with him yesterday the issue of the University News Letter in which the counties of the State are ranked according to the aggregate of wealth listed for taxation on a per inhabitant basis for the year 1925, and the county-wide tax rate for that year.

Beaufort county with a tax rate of \$1.60 and aggregate taxed wealth per capita of \$912 received more than \$50,000 from the school fund. Mr. Alexander explained, while Halifax with a tax rate of \$1.55 and aggregate taxed wealth per capita of \$844 got \$4,500. Vance with a tax rate of \$1.45 and a taxed per capita wealth of \$854 got \$4,900. Camden with a tax rate of \$1.45 and taxed wealth of \$660 per capita received \$5,000.

"I do not say that the board didn't act in good faith and that it didn't do the best it could, but I am saying that I do not understand how it arrived at its conclusion, and such figures as are contained in this University News Letter do not help me to understand nor has anybody furnished me with information that did explain," said Mr. Alexander.

"So far as we are concerned, the \$4,500 allotted to us will do us no good, and if no more than this is to be provided, we might just as well have been omitted," said Editor Norfleet Smith.

Col. J. R. Young has advised the Vance county authorities not to accept the \$3,600 allotted to that county. Vance has a taxed per capita wealth of \$854 as compared with \$913 for Beaufort county, and \$814 for Edgecombe county.

If resort is made to the courts, it will have to be through securing an injunction to restrain the payment of funds by the State superintendent of Public Instruction.

HALSTEAD WANTS ADJUSTMENT OF FUND IN CAMDEN

South Mills Attorney to Request Consideration from Equalization Board; Camden Hit Hard

MAY GO TO COURTS

Delegation from Here Given Little Satisfaction on Visit to Governor and Supt. A. T. Allen

Steps to correct what they term gross inequalities in the \$3,250,000 State school equalization fund, as apportioned by the equalization commission appointed by the recent General Assembly, are to be taken by State Senator W. I. H. Williams, of this city, and by Attorney W. I. Halstead, of South Mills. Mr. Halstead will act in behalf of Camden County.

In discussing the proposed action, Mr. Halstead declared that he would first approach the commission itself with a request for a revision of the figures, as made public this week. In the event that failed, he said he intended to take the matter into the courts, probably through injunction proceedings.

Senator Williams, Mr. Halstead and Superintendent M. P. Jennings, of the Pasquotank County schools, returned Friday night from a trip to Raleigh, in an effort to obtain an understanding of the apportionments and in the hope of beginning steps toward a readjustment on what they believe would be a more equitable basis.

Camden County appears hardest hit of the Northeastern Carolina counties, under the plan of distribution. In determining property valuations, Camden's was increased arbitrarily from \$3,462,422 to \$5,286,839—a jump of 52 per cent, or more than half. According to Senator Williams, who is a native of the county, that increase is absolutely unjustified for the reason that there are many thousands acres of cut-over swamp lands in Camden, having almost no value.

On the basis of this new valuation, Camden will receive \$5,569,58 from the equalization fund in 1927, as against \$10,774.02 in 1926—practically a 50 per cent cut. Mr. Williams pointed out.

In Pasquotank, property values are increased approximately two million dollars. For several years past, this county has not shared in the equalization fund. For 1927, Pasquotank's allotment is to be \$4,953.51 whereas Superintendent Jennings states that he was assured, before the apportionment was made, that the county would receive at least \$10,000.

While in Raleigh, the delegation from here visited A. T. Allen, State superintendent of schools, and Governor McLean. They were able to obtain little information from either. Mr. Williams said, Mr. Allen informing them that he had nothing to do with the valuation of the funds, and the apportionments made, inasmuch as those tasks had been delegated to the equalization commission.

Mr. Williams advanced the argument that a definite basis should be set whereby the cost of operation of given types of schools should be taken as a standard in the apportionment of the State funds. At present, the distribution of the funds is based on a sliding scale whereby allotments are made in a ratio of \$4,000 to each million dollars' property valuation.

Mr. Halstead holds that the entire school system should be operated by the State. He makes the point that the agricultural counties lacking large towns or cities educate their boys and girls largely for the benefit of the other counties, inasmuch as many of them, after finishing school, are attracted to the cities, and thus become an economic asset to counties other than those in which they were reared.

GIVEN TERM ON ROADS

Braxton Barber, colored, known as "Rabbit" and a decidedly frequent guest in recorder's court, was awarded a 60-day road sentence Saturday morning by Trial Justice Sawyer on a charge of having beaten a feminine companion, one Bessie Armstrong, Friday night while under the influence of liquor.

In bringing such a proceeding, it must be alleged that the proposed distribution is illegal and contrary to law.

Byrd Takes The Postal Pledge



So that he might authoritatively carry the first trans-Atlantic aerial mail on his flight across the seas, Commander Richard E. Byrd was sworn in as an aerial pilot by Postmaster John J. Kelly, of New York, as picture here. He took the oath in the shadow of the broad wings of his monoplane "America" at Roosevelt Field, Long Island.

TWILIGHT BALL LEAGUE ENDED

Single Elizabeth City Team to be Formed to Play Various Visiting Nines

After an existence of four weeks, the Twilight League was disbanded officially Friday night at a meeting of the board of directors of the association, J. H. Wilkins, president, announced Saturday morning. In its stead, a single Elizabeth City nine will be formed to play games with outside teams. Steps were being taken Saturday to arrange for the first game to be played next Wednesday.

Lack of public interest, as evidenced by exceedingly scanty gate receipts, is given as the main reason for disbanding the Twilight League. There was little or no expense except for umpires, gate keepers and baseballs, but receipts were not even enough to cover these items, it is declared.

The league season ended with the County Club leading, the Cubs next, and the City Team in the cellar. All three teams, however, were close together in league standing. The winners won five games and lost three. The Cubs had a fifty-fifty break, with four won and four lost. The City Team won three and lost five games. Thus, it may be seen readily that a game or two might have changed the complexion of things.

Assurance is forthcoming that at least one game will be arranged for the Fourth of July, though it is still uncertain which opposing team will be pitted against Elizabeth City. Excellent entertainment was afforded the scattering of fans that attended the Twilight League games. Taken on the whole, they played exceptionally well, especially when it is remembered that there were no professional or semi-professional players. The fans who have been following the fortunes of the league will view its eclipse with real regret.

DAWSON WILL RESIGN AS DEMOCRATIC HEAD

Raleigh, June 25.—(AP)—John G. Dawson, of Kinston, announces his intention to resign as chairman of the Democratic party organization in North Carolina. He has served for four years. Mr. Dawson said he would resign in order to devote himself to personal business, at a meeting of the Democratic State executive committee which he will call at an early date. Ten days' notice is required by the rules of the organization.

SAWYER CHILD BETTER

Gradual improvement in the condition of Aubrey Sawyer, aged 9, son of Mr. and Mrs. McKinley Sawyer, West Cypress street, was reported at the Elizabeth City Hospital Saturday morning. The little boy sustained a fracture of the skull in a collision with an automobile driven by Dennis Sawyer, of this city, on Wednesday, June 15. It was learned at the hospital Saturday that he still was partially unconscious.

WORK ON SLIGO ROAD ADVANCES

Possibly Ready in Time for Use by Motorists Bound for Bridge Event

With every circumstance favoring, it is possible that the hard-surfacing of the Sligo-Moyle road, last unopened link in the highway running northward from this city to Norfolk, will be completed in time for use by thousands of motorists expected to journey through Elizabeth City to Edenton and Eden Harbor for the elaborate Chesapeake Bridge celebration on Wednesday, July 20.

This was announced Saturday by T. R. Wilson, resident engineer for the State Highway Department. Mr. Wilson stated that all except about two and one-quarter miles of the 16-foot concrete highway has been laid, and that the road probably would be finished in about three weeks, possibly in a little less time. The Sligo road extends ten miles from the Elizabeth City-Currituck road at Sligo to the Virginia line half a mile north of Moyle.

Mr. Wilson made it clear that, while there was a possibility that the road would be ready for use in time for the bridge festival, the probabilities were that it would not. With the George Washington Highway, from Portsmouth almost due south to Elizabeth City, already completed, he pointed out that no highway difficulties should be encountered by visitors from the Norfolk section bound to Northeastern Carolina for the celebration.

Tentative plans have been made for a huge motorday of many hundred cars to leave Norfolk early on the morning of the bridge event, headed by Mayor Truston, of that city, who is scheduled as one of the speakers at the event. The motorday, if arranged, will be sponsored by the Tidewater Automobile Association.

ALLEGED WIFE BEATER GETS SUSPENDED TERM

Charged with having beaten his wife with a stick in the course of a little domestic controversy, John Henry Boyd, colored, of the Weeksville community, was put under a suspended sentence of four months on the roads in recorder's court Saturday morning, and was required to pay the court costs in the case. Suspension was for two years, and was conditioned on good behavior.

NEGRO STILL LIVING

Little or no change was reported Saturday morning in the condition of Winfred Taylor, colored, who was taken to the Elizabeth City Hospital Friday morning, suffering from a fracture of the skull, above the right eye. According to reports from Belcross, where the negro was employed on the farm of T. C. Sawyer, State that another negro employed on the farm struck him over the head with a singletree.

A New York man holds more than 1,000 patents, but we'll bet they got in through his screen door just the same.

The Advance Boys With New Books Seek Co-operation

Carriers for The Daily Advance go out on their newspaper routes today equipped with new route books which afford them every facility for keeping careful and accurate track of money paid them for their paper. The carriers have all made new and complete lists of the subscribers on their respective routes and improved service as a result is expected.

In a contest in which cash prizes were awarded boys turning in the nearest and most accurate lists for their routes, first prize was awarded John Snowden; second, Roy Lane; and third, Wilbur Evans, Richard Thompson, Frank Snow and Francis Jennings were accorded honorable mention.

Advance carriers will be glad to show their customers how records of money paid by subscribers who take the paper on a weekly basis are kept.

COMBS GIVES UP SCHOOL POSITION

Will Become Assistant Inspector of State High Schools; Leaves Sept. 1

Announcement is made of the resignation of A. B. Combs, recently elected assistant superintendent of the Elizabeth City Graded Schools, effective immediately, to accept a position as assistant State inspector of high schools. Mr. Combs expects to go to Raleigh September 1 to take over his new work.

Mr. Combs' resignation came as much of a surprise to the Board of Graded School Trustees, from the fact that he had been elected for the term of 1927-28, and had accepted. He has been principal of the Elizabeth City High School for the last nine years, and is highly popular here.

In tendering his resignation, Mr. Combs explained to the board that the position tendered him was one that he had been desirous of obtaining for several years, since he wished to specialize in high school administration, and it would put him in immediate touch with the most modern schools in the State, and the methods they employ.

The School Board will take up the matter of electing a successor to Mr. Combs at its regular meeting on the second Tuesday night in July. It is announced. For the present at least, Mr. Combs' family will remain in Elizabeth City.

Striking Convicts In Mine Surrender

Lansing, Kans., June 25.—(AP)—A split in the ranks of hundreds of convicts in the State Penitentiary here following a fight among mine workers which resulted in the surrender of 228 prisoners barricaded for 77 hours in a coal mine, today prompted to speed investigation of the outbreak.

Precipitated by the convict ultimatum of "no cigarettes, no coal," the mutiny reached its climax Tuesday when the prisoners took possession of the mine and made 14 guards captives. Their companions above ground then started a riot. The riot was quickly quelled and the mine strike ended late yesterday when the leaders were overpowered and forced to abandon their efforts to gain more privileges before surrendering.

Town of Newton Wins Road Case

Raleigh, June 25.—(AP)—On appeal, the town of Newton today won its case before the Supreme Court to have the State Highway Commission construct a hard-surface road as soon as possible over the existing Southern route between Statesville and Newton on Highway No. 10.

State Supreme Court opinions: State vs. Evans, P.H., no error. Waters vs. W. F. Tel. Co., Carter, new trial. Pentoff vs. Park, Cabarrus, reversed.

JUDGE MEEKINS TO SAIL FOR EUROPE JULY 9TH

Raleigh, June 25.—(AP)—Federal Judge Johnson J. Hayes of the Middle North Carolina District, at Greensboro, will preside over the Eastern District during the absence this summer of Judge Isaac M. Meekins of Elizabeth City, notice of his appointment was received today from William Howard Taft, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

Judge Meekins, accompanied by his daughter, expects to sail for Europe July 9. He plans to return to his home in Fayetteville in September.

Fame Finds Him in Black Hills



Rolf Lium had no thought of fame when he accepted a \$50-a-month summer pastorate at Hermosa, S. D. But the first sermon the 20-year-old theological student preached in his new charge was heard by none other than President and Mrs. Coolidge. He is pictured here in his local pulpit.

Dr. Gaines Named Wake Forest Head

Raleigh, June 25.—(AP)—The board of trustees of Wake Forest College today named as president Dr. Frank H. Gaines, head of the English department at Furman University, South Carolina, to succeed Dr. William Louis Poterat, president emeritus.

FEREBEE AND COHOON SLOWLY RECOVERING

City Manager Miles W. Ferebee, whose right leg was broken in an automobile accident near Franklin, Virginia, Thursday, is showing steady improvement, and City Councilman E. J. Cohoon, whom he was accompanying on the trip, was a shade better Saturday. It was learned through a long distance phone call to Lakeview Hospital, Suffolk, where the two are under treatment.

Mr. Cohoon suffered a fracture of the skull. It was stated at the Suffolk hospital that he was showing signs of recovery from the condition of partial unconsciousness that resulted from his injury.

New Statistician Is to Make Survey

Raleigh, June 25.—(AP)—Park Mathewson, of New York, economist and statistician, has been selected to head the recently established statistical division of the State Department of Conservation and Development. It was announced today by Director Wade H. Phillips and H. L. McClaren, chairman of the industrial bureau of the department board.

An industrial and economic survey of the state will be one of the first duties of the new official when he assumes his new duties July 1.

Mr. Mathewson is a former director of the budget bureau of New York City.

Southern Railway Says Would Lose Millions

Charlotte, June 25.—(AP)—Operation of the proposed extension of the Piedmont & Northern Railway in the Carolinas by six years after completion would cause an established loss of \$63,581,335 in revenue to the Southern Railway. A. P. Plant, assistant to the president of the Southern, estimated in testimony today before H. C. Davis, Interstate Commissioner examiner.

He was testifying in a hearing being held on the petition of the P. & N. for permission to extend its lines from Charlotte to Winston-Salem and Spartanburg to Gastonia.

Approximately 25 per cent of the loss, Mr. Plant estimated, would be in net profit. The Southern, he said, paid in 1925 about seven per cent on its common stock. He said on questioning that should the Southern earn \$14 net per common share, \$7 could be carried to surplus and \$7 set aside for dividends.

WELFARE HEAD INSISTS SURVEY NOT BEEN MADE

Says E. F. Carter's Report Is All Right As Far As It Goes But Not What the Women Wanted

DEALS WITH LAWS

Report Shows Laws Regarding Women in Industry Enforced But Women Wanted Go Much Further

By J. C. BASKERVILLE

Sir Walter Hotel, Raleigh, June 25.—Has a survey of women in industry really been made by E. F. Carter, secretary of the Child Welfare Commission? Or has he merely tabulated some statistics dealing with certain phases of women employed in industry, in so far as they are governed by existing state laws?

According to Mrs. Kate Burr Johnson, commissioner of public welfare and chairman of the Child Welfare Commission, Mr. Carter has not made any independent survey of women employed industrially in the state, that might be called a survey that might be compared in any way to the survey which the women of the state have desired. And hence she stands by her original statement of several days ago that "if there has been a survey of women in industry made, I know nothing about it."

What has stirred up all the excitement is nothing more than the regular biennial report of the Child Welfare Commission, printed and distributed while the General Assembly was in session. But this report, covering the activity of the commission from July 1, 1924 to June 30, 1926, is more voluminous than usual, and besides detailing the activities of the commission, it also gives some rather detailed information pertaining to women in industry, in so far as they are affected by existing State laws.

The gathering of these statistics and data was authorized by the Child Welfare Commission back in 1923, when Dr. W. S. Rankin was state health officer and a member of the commission. And the data were collected by Mr. Carter as best he could in the course of his regular duties, being published for the first time in the biennial report some months ago. These facts pertaining to women industrially employed are not set forth in any particular section of the report, but are interwoven through it, as they become pertinent. "The report is an excellent piece of work, and of course, as chairman of the Child Welfare Commission, I approved it," said Mrs. Johnson. "But I do not consider it in any sense as presenting anything that might be considered to even approximate a survey such as the commission had in mind last summer."

All that this report contains that might be considered as resembling a survey of women who are employed, pertains entirely to the manner in which the laws regulating working conditions of women are enforced, and the manner in which they are being enforced. And about the only laws along this line are the new requiring seats for women employed in factories, those governing the number of hours they may work in specific occupations, and those governing sanitary provisions, such as separate toilets for the different races, and the specifications for them. Conditions regarding ventilation, temperature and drinking water are also under the control of the commission. So it is that the report of Mr. Carter deals with these questions, but no others.

Thus while it is admitted by Mrs. Johnson that as far as this report goes, it is a good report, she further contends that it is so limited in its scope that it can not in any sense be considered anything like a thorough survey of the working conditions of women in industry.

Wage Increase Is Denied Conductors

Chicago, June 25.—(AP)—A wage increase was denied nearly 65,000 conductors and trainmen on 55 western railroads by a board of arbitration today. They asked an average advance of \$1 a day. Yard men were granted a 7 1/2 per cent increase.

Sunday Baseball Is Illegal, Says Court

Philadelphia, June 25.—(AP)—The state Supreme Court today decided that Sunday baseball is illegal in Pennsylvania.

The decision was in the case of the Philadelphia American League Baseball Club against which the state filed quo warranto proceedings to prevent the Athletics from continuing to play Sunday baseball. The Athletics and the Chicago White Sox played a game here August 22 last, and the legal proceedings were immediately started by the state.

"Of course, it is not what the women wanted," said a high State official who has closely followed the controversy over the survey of women. "For they wanted a survey that would go into the homes, the offices, the department stores and every place that women worked, and note their physical and mental, and even financial conditions, almost even tabulating any pimples or moles that might be found on their bodies, and have the whole presented in one grand, final report. Some even advocated a physical examination of all women employed, to determine the percentage of venereal disease among women."

"But such a survey, with the funds in hand or contemplated was patently impossible, and from many other considerations utterly impracticable, since any survey that would contemplate the entering of private homes would be