

Agnus Wilton McLean Inaugurated Governor North Carolina Today

Son of Robeson County Takes Oath as Chief Executive in Presence of Record Inaugural Gathering.

Rides Cowcatcher



Raleigh, Jan. 14.—Standing behind a bank of palms and in the presence of more than five thousand North Carolinians who filled the auditorium to capacity, Agnus Wilton McLean, of Lumberton, took the oath of office as governor of North Carolina today at 12:30 o'clock. He was sworn in by Chief Justice Heike after having been formally presented by Cameron Morrison, retiring chief executive.

Governor McLean's inauguration followed the formal installation of other state officials last November. While thousands packed the auditorium, hundreds of others stood outside the building, being unable to gain admittance on account of the vast crowd inside. Long before the hour for the beginning of the exercises, which was 12 o'clock, the streets leading to the auditorium were swarmed with people all going in the same direction.

This was the beginning of another quadrennium in North Carolina, a shifting of official scenes. The band played "America" as the officials filed down the aisle. Already all seats had been taken and the fight for standing room had begun. There was a demand for passage space for the approaching dignitaries of the state.

A clear burst forth. North Carolina that was represented, was welcoming its new chief.

When the minister who offered the invocation, the Rev. J. E. Parrish, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, Knoxville, Tenn., formally of Wilmington, and kinman of Governor Morrison, arose, he lifted his hand over a sea of bowed heads and invoked the presence of God on the inauguration ceremony.

The hundreds who came from these last night and this morning by train and through the country, occupied a section in the auditorium within easy hearing distance of the stage.

Senator Johnston, of Robeson county, who had presented the other officers to the associate justice, who swore them in, presented Governor Morrison, who introduced the new executive. As Governor Morrison responded he was greeted by prolonged applause, the audience standing.

The retiring governor in brief words presented the new executive.

Placing the chief justice, the man who was about to assume the obligation of state headship for four years, stood, his hand resting on the Holy Bible. Then the chief justice repeated the prescribed oath. Agnus Wilton McLean kissed the Bible and was governor of North Carolina.

Another round of applause rang out through the auditorium and Governor McLean delivered his inaugural address.

Raleigh, Jan. 14.—Education, agricultural development and rural betterment, economy in government and taxation, were the outstanding topics discussed by Governor McLean, in his inaugural address today. Definite recommendations to the general assembly were reserved for future messages to that body.

In respect to discuss other subjects of public concern in later messages, said the incoming governor. "Among the subjects which I have in mind are: The executive budget, administrative reform, the banking laws, the insurance and sale of stocks and other securities, conservation and the movement, freight rates and water transportation, reform in judicial procedure, the regulation of commercial banks on the highway, the regulation of the holding of primaries and elections, the treatment of liquor, the improvement of crime law enforcement, and other measures which may contribute to the stability and more effective solution of our economic and welfare problems generally."

In his address, Governor McLean stressed economy in government. He brought this principle into play in dealing with every subject he touched upon.

The speaker committed himself unambiguously to the cause of education. It was the first topic which he definitely discussed. He talked of the need for "moral improvement" and said that he would be glad to see every child in the state receiving a good education. "I believe it is the duty of the state to see that every child has a chance to go to school," he said.

He then mentioned some of the principles of economy he had in mind. "There are to be sure, two kinds of economy," he said, "one of present day profits and limitless use of the state's resources, including the taxing power, which I should call false and illusory, and another kind of economy, which is the economy of the state as a whole, the economy of the people, the economy of the nation, the economy of the world. I favor the latter form of economy, because I believe it is the only one that will bring about a permanent and lasting peace and prosperity for all peoples."

and practical agriculture. Furthermore, he made an urgent plea for continued equalization of school facilities among rural children. "I hope the day will soon come," he said, "when every boy and girl in the most remote rural sections of the state will have the opportunity for at least a high school education. We must constantly strive to reach this goal."

During his discussion of economy in government, Governor McLean declared that sound economic principles should be applied to government as well as to private business. He urged a policy that will call for the greatest service at a minimum cost. "The ultimate goal for which we should constantly strive," he asserted, "is to have the government in administration which is honest, efficient and economical."

The debt of the state and its subdivisions, individually and collectively, was discussed by the new governor to some length. He declared that it is time to call a halt, to take stock of the total debt of the state and all its subdivisions, he pointed out is now more than three hundred million dollars. "If taxes are too heavy," he warned, "the efficiency of government is destroyed." He continued: "Public service becomes first a hand-heap and then an intolerable burden. Confidence is weakened and co-operation made impossible. The wise traveler, he declared, rests a while at the wayside inn before continuing his journey. "Let us follow this example by resting for a little while on our journey for the purpose of refreshing ourselves and starting again with a fresh impulse and renewed strength in the form of increased wealth and tax paying power, in order that we may reach the end of the journey in safety."

Governor McLean was insistent in his praise of what the state has done in the construction of highways. He made it plain he does not want the state highway crippled. But he was not ready at this time to make definite recommendations as to the further financing of the state highway system. He reviewed several proposed plans and ventured the suggestion that under whatever future money-raising plan the state adopts, highways will be taken into full consideration.

During the course of his inaugural address, Governor McLean declared: "I am opposed to levying any tax for state purposes upon real estate or personal property. It must be applied to every thinking man that real estate, especially farm lands, is already bearing a heavy burden in many counties, a burden none the less heavy because incurred for local taxation and local schools."

Governor McLean declared that institutions for the unfortunate and defective must not be crippled. He urged the legislature to make a survey of the present system of local taxation and to meet general legislation looking toward the elimination of any inequalities that may exist.

"It is my earnest desire," said Governor McLean, "to give to the state an efficient business administration. But let me tell you what I think is the business of government and what I mean by business administration." He then mentioned some of the principles of economy he had in mind. "There are to be sure, two kinds of economy," he said, "one of present day profits and limitless use of the state's resources, including the taxing power, which I should call false and illusory, and another kind of economy, which is the economy of the state as a whole, the economy of the people, the economy of the nation, the economy of the world. I favor the latter form of economy, because I believe it is the only one that will bring about a permanent and lasting peace and prosperity for all peoples."

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READY TO OPERATE ROAD

Coast Line Expected to Put Lumber Road in Use at Once.

Rocky Mount, Jan. 13.—Inspection of the 22 mile stretch of road from Spring Hope to Rolesville, in Wake county, which was formally turned over to the Atlantic Coast Line on Saturday by the Montgomery Lumber company, headed by C. G. Sibley, superintendent of the Fayetteville district of the railway. In connection with the inspection, engineers are to survey the line and a blue print showing the curves of the tracks and grading will be prepared.

Following the completion of the blue prints and report of the inspection tour, it is thought that the railway company will immediately put the new line into use and arrangements made for compilation of schedule for trains to be operated over the system. A through freight from this city to Rolesville, it is understood, may be placed in operation as early as to reach the granite deposits in that section where important developments are expected in the near future.

No definite or official announcement has been made by the railroad company, however, as to the use to which the short line will be put, but a number of theories have been advanced locally.

ROTARY CLUB HAS PRESIDENTS NIGHT

of Club Were Principals of Entertaining Program

The president and ex-presidents of the Rotary club were principals of the entertaining program outlined by the program committee for Tuesday evening.

Among other points and talents it was discovered that the two ex-presidents, Paul Jones and George Wheeler, and the present incumbent, John Holmes, were marvelous whistlers and a trio, "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here," was tendered. There are whistlers and whistlers who can whistle tunes and those who cannot, but, not see, they were encored.

"High Spots in My Administration" was the subject given the speakers and this proved quite interesting.

Paul Jones put on a braggadocio air, placed both thumbs in his vest and spoke in eloquent terms of Farmville's visit to Winston-Salem, Petersburg, Raleigh, Wilson and Greenville during his administration and the capture of a cup at each place. Such a glowing account from the first president, intimidated the other speakers and their "High Spots" seemed lowly ones when recounted in a modest and unassuming manner. Among several interesting matters discussed was a suitable Norfolk-Southern station.

Relaxation enjoyed the splendid supper served by Jake and were delighted to have Jack Overman of Greenville as a guest at this time.

MISS BYNUM HOSTESS

Miss Nancy Bynum was hostess to the Young Peoples' Mission Study Class on Monday evening last.

Mrs. DeWitt Allen read the scripture lesson from Mark, eighth chapter, and conducted both programs for the evening. The last chapter in the book "Japan on the Upward Trail," was discussed by Misses Dorothy Williams, Hazel Williams and Edna Earl Lewis. This book has been most enlightening and helpful and it will be laid aside with regret.

Miss Edna Earl Lewis was elected secretary during a short business session.

The society was delighted to add eight new members to its list at this time: Mesdames Adkins, Sam Flanagan, Misses Lucy Johnson, Margaret Lewis, Christine Tyson, Lady Gold Flanagan, Alice Grey Flanagan and Nellie Rolloman.

FANTS CALL ON

Experience of a Kingston Youth Made Impression on Officials

Kingston, Jan. 13.—The experience of a youth named Johnson may not have been ordered by the authorities, but it was "very impressive" according to policemen who the other night heard Johnson call upon the Divinity to witness his innocence. A charge half uttered by officers who saw him fall in a dead faint the moment he had spoken.

The incident occurred at the police station. Five officials were filling the youth as to his possible part in a series of auto robberies. Instead of confessing, Johnson told them he had associated with other school boys until he had learned that they had "borrowed" cars, then showed them. There was no definite evidence against him.

"I hope God may strike me dead if I had anything to do with the present case," Johnson said. The next instant he swooned and fell.

The officials, including Inspector Frank Wooten, who is not superstitious in the least, were "stunned." "It was the most remarkable thing I ever witnessed," said one.

When Johnson had come around, pale and weak, he was dismissed and told to go home.

"I admire all these new ideas," said Uncle Ephraim, "but I don't know if I give them any more credit. I can't get over my sense of indignation to see a man 'way back in the woods' invited to fish hook."

Names of Contributors to This Fund to Be Placed Upon Tablet in Main Building.

The following letter of appreciation to the citizens of Farmville is self explanatory. This letter was recently received by Paul Hill, a local Greek, who was instrumental in securing this donation for the schools of his native home. The letter follows: "The Public School of Mavromation, Thessaly, Greece, to the Esteemed American Citizens of Farmville, N. C. Gentlemen: The public school of Mavromation, the home town of the greatest Greek hero, George Karaiskaki, who liberated the Turkish yoke Greece, the cradle of civilization, seems it its duty to express to the noble American citizens of Farmville, its deep gratitude for their valuable assistance in the improvement of its school and to assure them that it will exert every effort in the promotion of those ideals of the country of George Washington."

"It further states that it has named you benefactors of the school and that your names will be placed upon a tablet in the main hall of the building, in deep appreciation of your generosity. Three cheers for the noble Americans, the champions of Greek culture. A. SFETSOS, Principal of the School. Mavromation, Nov. 10, 1924. (Translation.)"

Church President

BOIL IT DOWN

If you've got a thing that's happy, Boil it down, Make it short and crisp and snappy, Boil it down.

When your brain its coil has mated, Down the page your pen has sprouted, If you want your effort printed, Boil it down.

Take out every surplus letter, Boil it down, Fewer syllables the better, Boil it down.

Make your meaning plain, express it, You'll know, not merely guess it; Then, my friend, ere you address it, Boil it down.

Get out all extra trimmings, Boil it down, Skim it well, then skim the skimmings, Boil it down.

When you're sure 'twould be a sin to Cut another sentence in two, Send it on and we'll beg to Boil it down.

—Exchange.

MILLIONS TO SEE ECLIPSE

Americans See on Saturday, January 24th the Total Eclipse of Sun.

Washington, Jan. 15.—Millions of Americans will see on Saturday, January 24, something they probably never will see again, total eclipse of the sun in some places and a partial eclipse over the greater part of the United States. There will not be another in more than a century.

Those who live within a belt 100 miles wide and 7000 miles long, ranging from northern Minnesota to across northern Wisconsin and Michigan, the Great Lakes to New York, Long Island, Connecticut and Rhode Island, parts of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Massachusetts, will see the flaming sun blotted out on the morning of the twenty-fourth. Those who live near this path across the country—a path that ends at sunset near the north of Scotland—will see the sun shadowed in part, the extent of depending on how near they live to this belt.

In Duluth, Buffalo, New York city, New Haven and many other larger cities the eclipse will be total; in some of the largest cities, including Boston, Providence, Albany, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, St. Louis and Omaha, the partial eclipse will be seen.

In most of the central states the sun will rise more or less eclipsed; but from Lake Erie eastward, all of the eclipse will take place after the sun has risen.

In New York city the total eclipse will take place about 9:10 a. m. and its time of the greatest eclipse, for most of the cities in the east that see the eclipse will vary but a few minutes from that. The partial eclipse will begin about 8 o'clock in the same section and the eclipse will be over about half-past ten.

THE CHAIR

Dr. McNairy of Caswell Training School Favors Abolition of Gallows.

Goldboro, Jan. 13.—"Every electric chair and gallows in the country should be abolished," said Dr. C. B. McNairy, of the Caswell Training School, at the regular meeting of the Kiwanis club last night, and the usual criminal ought to be treated for mental or physical disorders rather than sent to the penitentiary. "He added if every man who shouted for the execution of a criminal or the imprisonment of many of those convicted of lesser crimes than murder, would know the circumstances surrounding the defendant, or the heredity influences in his life, he would forever hold his tongue. "Instead of placing the average criminal in the penitentiary," said the doctor, "he should be sent to some institution where he could receive special examination by experts of the medical profession and the right sort of training."

WILL ENTERTAIN AT DINNER

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Smith will entertain the ministers of the town and their wives at a turkey dinner on Friday evening of this week in honor of their pastor, Rev. O. E. Fox, and Mrs. Fox.

Covers will be laid for twelve and those enjoying Mr. and Mrs. Smith's hospitality will be: Rev. and Mrs. G. E. Fox, Rev. and Mrs. B. B. Slaughter, Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Hayes, Rev. and Mrs. D. E. Hill and Rev. and Mrs. N. N. Fleming, Jr.

The Powers Formally Sign the Agreement In Financial Conference

Italy and Roumania Among Those Whose Limitation of American Damage Claims of \$350,000,000 Was Stricken Out.



Paris, Jan. 14.—The powers represented in the inter-allied financial conference today signed the agreement regarding the distribution of the Dawes annuities. Roumania and Italy signed with reservations. The limitation of the American damage claims of \$350,000,000 was stricken out. This was the only change made in the text of the agreement before the signature. The Roumanians "announced" they were making reservations "demanding an increased percentage of the reparations." While the Italians objected to the "falling of the conference on Italy's repayment of the excess she has received over the percentage to which she is entitled. These reservations, however, did not prevent unanimous agreement to the document.

Episcopal Auxiliary Holds First Meet of Year

The Women's Auxiliary of the Episcopal church held the first meeting of the new year at the home of Mrs. J. L. Shackelford on Monday afternoon of this week.

After prayer by the rector, Rev. Hayes, the president, Mrs. C. A. Jones, requested the secretary to read communications from Mrs. Stotom, diocesan president of the Women's Auxiliary, and Miss Lindley, head of the Women's Auxiliary to the National Council. These letters outlined plans and offered suggestions for auxiliary work during 1925. The secretary, Mrs. J. L. Shackelford, reported on the work of the auxiliary during 1924.

Officers for 1925 were then elected: President, Mrs. A. S. Bynum; Vice President, Mrs. J. H. Darden; Secretary, Mrs. G. A. Jones; Treasurer, Mrs. C. S. Rountree; United Thank Offering Treasurer, Mrs. J. W. Twiford; Educational Secretary, Mrs. J. L. Shackelford; Box Work Secretary, Mrs. C. T. Dixon.

Agent for Mission Herald, Mrs. W. Leslie Smith; Birthday Box Treasurer, Mrs. R. T. Martin; Rainy Day Fund Treasurer, Mrs. McD. Horton.

A short but splendid talk was made by the retiring president, Mrs. G. A. Jones, who thanked the members for their loyal support during her administration and promised her co-operation to the newly elected president in her labors.

Mrs. Jones much beloved and held in great esteem by her co-workers, made the auxiliary one of the most efficient leaders in its history. Ever faithful and zealous she took the keenest interest in its affairs and the organization has accomplished many wonderful and seemingly impossible things under her direction.

At the suggestion of the rector, who brought before the group the immediate need of a parish house, it was moved and carried that the auxiliary make its efforts during 1925 to the erection of a suitable structure. Mrs. J. H. Darden, who realizing this need, has been working towards this end for several months, was made treasurer of the parish house fund.

The meeting closed with prayer.

Says South Will Lead in Progress

And North Carolina Blazes Trail For South, States Pennsylvanian

Greensboro, Jan. 14.—America is entering on the greatest era of development in her history and the south will lead in this development in the belief of Edward J. Cattell, of Philadelphia, banker, author and public speaker, who addressed the local Chamber of Commerce tonight. In an interview, he declared that the south has tremendous reserves and splendid prospects. Several live presidents of the Pennsylvania Railroad, told him last Saturday night. Mr. Cattell said that North Carolina is leading great strides. Mr. Cattell expressed the conviction that North Carolina is blazing the trail for southern progress.

Tob. Barons Boycott Co-Op Assos.

Washington, Jan. 6.—Investigation of the big tobacco trade organizations by the federal trade commission was urged by Aaron Sapiro, of Chicago, in an address today on legislative and government aspects of the cooperative marketing associations.

The cooperative movement, he asserted, now needs the administrative support of the government rather than more laws. He expressed opposition to the Norris-Sinclair, McNary-Hughes, Curtis-Rowell and Copper-Williams farm price bills, and suggested a "farmers' economic" as well as political. The big tobacco organizations, he charged, have been

Thodore Price, of New York, editor of Commerce and Finance, advocated establishment of "house organs" for the separate commodity groups, and urged standardization of action and use of accountants to aid farmer members.

Standard Grades

Mr. Price asserted that the weakest point in merchandising cotton production in the south is the unwillingness to maintain standard grades and get spinners to rely on the quality as indicated. He urged uniform use of marks and the exact quality indicated by the grade. This, he said, slightly would increase the value of cotton bales; make sales easier and diminish the sending of sampler and types.

MERRY MATRONS ENTERTAINED

Mrs. M. V. Horton was charming hostess to the Merry Matrons on Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. Horton's attractive bungalow was never more inviting than it was on this occasion with its artistic decorations of winter greens and bowls of narcissus.

The secretary read several letters from Oteen thanking this organization for the stuffed stockings sent at Christmas time. Among several important matters discussed and decided upon at this time was a donation to the domestic science department of the high school to assist in the preparation of appetizing lunches for a number of pupils in attendance there. It was decided also to purchase books of fiction for the enjoyment of the members and it was moved and carried that one book be discussed at each meeting. This new feature will enliven the meetings to a great extent and add much to the pleasure and entertainment of the members.

A delicious sweet course luscious fruit with cream and caramel sauce was served followed by obese biscuit, hot coffee and stuffed dates.

The hostess had as special guests, Mesdames J. L. Rumley, B. B. Slaughter, Knott Proctor and Wesley Wilkin of Greenville.

LOYAL DAUGHTERS

Nine Loyal Daughters were present at the weekly meeting of that group at the home of Mrs. O. E. Fox on Monday afternoon. Industrious fingers worked vigorously on the new curtains for the choir hall and plans including the election of officers were made for the next meeting, which will be held at the home of Mrs. J. L. Rumley.

Delicious sandwiches and hot chocolate proved most appetizing and refreshing on this cold day.

Missouri Judge rules it is not reasonable for a wife to call her husband a liar and then expect him to hand out \$10 for a divorce. Probably she ought to wait until she gets the ten bucks before calling him a liar.