

THE GOLDSBORO NEWS

GOLDSBORO IS THE GATE CITY OF EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA

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McLEAN SENDS NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS TO STATE

With Young Raleigh Man Surrounded By Mystery

Spirit Of Optimism Prevails In Messages From State Officials

Continuation of Growth and Prosperity of Past Year Is Predicted; Governor Urges Thanks To The Lord

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 31. (AP)—State department heads tonight joined with Governor McLean in reviewing the past year as one of progress and achievement, and in predicting even greater progress and an increased prosperity for North Carolina during the year 1926.

New Year messages to the people of the state from the chief executive and the heads of the various state departments differ, of course, in language and idea but through them all runs a vein of gratification and pleasure over accomplishments of 1925, and a note of buoyant optimism for the year just ahead.

Almost without exception they express confidence of a greater material growth and prosperity in 1926 than any ever experienced in the past by this state, and most of them are equally hopeful for progress in other than purely material lines.

The prophetic optimism of most of the department heads is based to a large extent upon their observations and experiences in their peculiar lines of work during the year 1925, and most of them review the work along their particular lines during the past year, and make some comment on what may reasonably be expected during the New Year. But the spirit of optimism runs through them all.

"In North Carolina, progress and prosperity during the past year have been steady and permanent," declared Governor McLean tonight. And he added that "the new year is pregnant with even greater possibilities. Wonderful possibilities present themselves on every hand."

"We can and must achieve greater results during the year 1926. We must go forward along every line of endeavor."

But, with all the state's optimism, it "must not forget" to render humble thanks to the Giver of all good for the manifold blessings we have enjoyed in the past, as well as the blessings we believe are in store for us in the near future.

"We stand and look forward into the coming year with every assurance that we are facing probably the greatest era of prosperity that the state has ever known," declared State Auditor Baxter Durham.

State Treasurer B. R. Lacy believes "that 1926 is going to be one of the best years North Carolina has ever had."

From the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction comes the prediction that "the people of North Carolina are justified in looking to 1926 with an increased confidence and a new hope."

Attorney General Dennis G. Brammitt declared that "we have every reason to expect greater progress and prosperity" in the coming year. He expressed the hope that 1926 "North Carolina may set the pace for the nation, not only in material progress, but in law enforcement and law observance as well."

Commissioner of Agriculture William A. Graham extended a greeting to the farmers of the state, and suggested that, despite the handicaps of agriculture during the past year, "we have had our blessings, too."

Frank D. Grist, commissioner of Printing, renewed his prediction recently that North Carolina's industrial, agricultural and general business conditions next

PROSPERITY TO CONTINUE SAYS HOOVER

Commerce Secretary Optimistic Over Outlook for 1926; Caution Urged, However

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 31. (AP)—The prosperity of 1925 should continue through 1926, in the opinion of Secretary Hoover unless "reckless optimism" is permitted to outweigh ordinary caution.

Economic prospects both for this country and the rest of the world, he believed, now are more favorable than for a long time past. In a statement the Secretary pictured fundamental conditions as favorable but he expressed concern over others, including the possibility of extension of speculation into commodities and the extortion by foreign government-ferred monopolies dominating over raw material imports.

Encouraging Outlook
The most encouraging factor in the outlook, he declared, to be "our increased productivity, due to fundamental and continuing forces—such as the accumulation of education, the advancement of science, skill, and elimination of waste."

Other favorable indications he listed were that stocks of commodities are moderate; there is employment for practically every one; real wages are at a high level; savings are the largest in history and capital is therefore abundant and the whole machinery of production and distribution is operating at a higher degree of efficiency than ever before.

Big Production
"The United States has produced and consumed more goods in 1925 in production is population than ever before in its history," he said, adding that the country's foreign trade was "exceptionally satisfactory." He predicted that exports for 1926 would total around \$4,000,000,000 or about 7 per cent more than for 1925, with imports approximately \$4,200,000,000, about 17 per cent higher.

The Secretary judged agriculture as improved over the condition of two years ago, but still leaving farmers with much accumulative debt and lacking stability because of unsolved market problems. Also, he said, it suffers from continued dislocation in price relationship of the Middle West to the competing foreign countries because "our transportation costs to seaboard have had to be increased more than those of its foreign competitors."

Heavy Demand
Promise of continuing demand for heavy construction was found in increased national and local public works programs for 1926, and the Secretary declared the textile and shoe industries as a whole also were running at high levels of production. Mr. Hoover believed prospects were favorable also for the automobile and tire industries and the railways, with some improvement being shown in shipping.

FIRST BABY OF NEW YEAR TO RECEIVE MANY GIFTS

The first child to be born in Goldsboro or Wayne County during 1926 will indeed be a lucky baby. Merchants of the city have joined together and prepared a royal welcome for the first newcomer of the New Year. He (or she) will be showered with gifts of many descriptions, and the parents of the fortunate baby will also be liberally remembered under the terms of an announcement made in a double-page advertisement in this morning's issue of the NEWS. As soon as the new arrival makes his or her appearance, it will be duly noted in the NEWS. Turn to the advertisement and see for yourself just what the lucky baby will receive.

P. B. Rogers Found With Bullet Wound Through Forehead

Youth Dies in Hospital Four Hours After Being Found In Room

NO KNOWN MOTIVE

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 31. (AP)—Four hours after he was found lying on the floor of his room with a bullet hole in his left temple, Preston Rogers, aged 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. B. Rogers, of 1106 Glenwood Avenue, died Thursday morning about 8 o'clock, in Rex Hospital. There was no known motive for the shooting. Rogers was well-known and popular among the younger Raleigh social set.

Went Through Head

The bullet sloughed entirely through the front part of the head, and was found on the floor of the room. It entered the left temple, took almost a straight course, and came out on the right side just above the ear.

Immediately after being notified of the young man's death, Coroner L. M. Waring took charge of the case and began an inquiry to determine if the wound was self-inflicted, or whether death was caused by foul play. Circumstances and the nature of the wound influenced him in deciding on a detailed inquiry, stated the coroner.

A preliminary investigation by the coroner disclosed that the young man was shot by a 32 calibre Smith & Wesson pistol loaned him several months ago by L. M. Waring, Jr., son of Coroner Waring, listed as lost at sea by the sinking of the Cotopaxi. This pistol had been in the custody of Mrs. Rogers, who explained that she handed it to her son Wednesday night, after the boy inquired for it.

Found by Stenographer

The fatally wounded young man was found by his mother lying on the floor with his head in the lap of Mrs. Lolita Clark, a stenographer, who roomed at the Rodgers home. She stated the coroner, Mrs. Clark explained that she heard a pistol shot about 4 o'clock, ran to the room occupied by the young man, and lifted his head into her lap. She first realized that something had happened when she saw blood on her hands. "I then screamed and called for Mrs. Rogers," she is quoted as telling the coroner.

Partially Clothed

When an employee of Brown's Undertaking firm reached the room, in answer to a call for the ambulance, he found the boy's head still lying in Mrs. Clark's arms. He was partly dressed, wearing his underwear and trousers, stated the ambulance driver. P. B. Rogers, father of the dead boy, was not at home at the time of the shooting. He was sleeping in the adjoining home of John P. Swain during the absence of the Swains. Coroner Waring stated he learned that the boy's father was not informed of the shooting until after the young man was carried to the hospital.

No Known Motive

The young man's father could not furnish any known motive for the shooting. Young Rogers had been employed as clerk in his father's place of business, Rodgers' Gift Shop, located on Wilmington and Hargett streets.

Young Rogers retired about 11:30 o'clock Wednesday night, after going to the door of Mrs. Clark's room and bidding her goodnight, according to a statement Coroner Waring declared. Mrs. Clark gave him "Bohemian Girl" from "Bohemian Girl" (Balfour) by John McCormack.

"Patotere" (Sentimental) tango (Romery-Jones), and "Little Dandel" (Ivor Novello), by Madame Bori. "C'avee fanciulla" from "Bohemian Girl", duet by Madame Bori and McCormack. (Continued on Page Four)

NEGRO HELD FOR JANUARY GRAND JURY

Probable Cause Found Against Cheatham Jones in Connection With Williams Death

A coroner's jury yesterday ordered that Cheatham Jones, colored, be held for the action of the January grand jury of Wayne County Superior Court, on a charge of causing the death of Roy Williams, also colored. The verdict was that Williams came to his death by gunshot wounds at the hands of Jones.

Several witnesses, including Dr. H. B. Miller, who performed an operation on the wounded man after he was shot Christmas night, were heard by the jury. Dr. Miller stated that Williams was shot in two places—a shotgun wound in his stomach, which also tore his hipbone to pieces, and a scalp wound caused by a bullet from a revolver. Dr. Miller said the negro told him two persons shot him. Williams died early Wednesday morning.

Contradictory evidence was submitted by the witnesses, some declaring that Williams shot first at Jones, and others denying that statement. One witness stated that Jones took a pistol from Williams. Another witness testified that after hearing a shot, he heard Jones tell Williams to "drop that gun," afterwards seeing Williams run from the porch of the house where the affray took place, crying "don't shoot me any more." This witness, Elbert Reid, also stated that he saw Williams shoot first at Jones. It was stated by another witness that he heard two pistol shots, and one discharge of the shotgun.

The coroner's jury, after hearing the evidence, felt justified in holding Jones for the action of the grand jury. The house at which the shooting occurred, located near the city limits on the Mount Olive highway, is said to be occupied by Ossie Green, a sister of the Jones negro, against whom it is alleged Williams made threats.

DAWES SAYS OUTLOOK FOR PEACE BRIGHT

Vice-President, in New Year's Statement, Declares World Turning To Peace Paths

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—The outlook for the political and economic peace throughout the world formed the burden of a New Year's statement given to the Associated Press tonight by Vice President Dawes.

"The advent of 1926," he said, "finds the world turning more eagerly and more definitely toward the paths of real peace than at any time since the end of the world war."

"The conclusion of hostilities in 1918 found the desire for peace widespread; but the fires of hate had not died down. It has been seven years for this desire to assume a position of dominance over all other considerations, and to render important international demagogues and the nationalistic politician to fan the embers of the past into new conflagrations."

"The great League conference of the year just closing accomplished much. As we enter the New Year, we see all about us evidence of the desire for political and economic peace. It is a most hopeful and gratifying sign."

Fire at Raeford Causes Heavy Loss

FAYETTEVILLE, Dec. 31. (AP)—Fire believed to have started from a defective stove rose in the store of Nesbitt and Howell at Raeford, late last night, caused a loss estimated at \$200,000.

HEADS COUNTY FAIR

President of the Wayne County Fair Association

AGED MAN MAY ESCAPE PRISON TERM

"Uncle Ann" Patterson Re-Arested December 24 for Crime Committed 44 Years Ago

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 31.—"Uncle Ann" Patterson, who was given a life sentence 44 years ago on a murder charge in Pickens county, escaped and was not taken into custody until December 24, last, while on his way to a Christmas visit to his son.

Patterson, now 79 years old, was arrested after he had been in the Georgia state prison for 44 years, and during the last 44 years he had lived in the mountains of Tennessee and North Carolina.

He was captured on Christmas night and yielded to the long-armed men of the Georgia state prison, and his son, who had been in the prison for many years, was released.

Frank D. Grist, commissioner of Agriculture during the past year, "we have had our blessings, too."

Printing, renewed his prediction recently that North Carolina's industrial, agricultural and general business conditions next