

Merry Christmas

COUNTY IS HELPED BY SCHOOL LAWS

Supt. Hawfield Points Out Benefits To Hoke Under Recent Legislation; All Salaries Paid.

County Superintendent of Schools, W. P. Hawfield, when queried Tuesday about the operation of the schools under the recent legislation, said that Hoke County was reaping decided benefit from the new system of operation. His statement follows:

"There has been a good deal of discussion pro and con as to the State supported school system. There may be some justifiable criticism, but as the plan advances it is evident that some mighty good work was done by the last legislature especially for counties like Hoke. The patrons of the schools should be pleased in spite of their likes and dislikes, for the white schools have had three months and the colored and Indian schools two months with full payment made up to the Christmas holidays. This has been paid entirely by the State and without any cost to any one in the county. Some payment from the county has been made of around \$900.00 on the 15c levy for schools, but this went in after the last allotment was made from State funds. It is certain that if there had not been outside help the schools would have closed for good at this time, if not before this. There will not be as much to operate the schools with as heretofore, but the Board will live within the allotment without any serious handicap. Some cuts have had to be made, but in most cases those effected have taken it in good spirit. There are some who still persist in wanting the same advantages although there is less to do with. To date the State has forwarded the county the sum of \$24,133.94 and from this there has been an expenditure of \$23,643.55 including the checks that are now being issued at the end of the third month for the white schools and the end of the second month for the colored and Indian schools. During these times it should be counted a good thing that all have had the privileges of the schools without any cost to the people of the county so far, and it is certain that the doors of the schools will remain open for the remainder of the term with very little cost to any one. The schools closed on the 22nd and will open on January 4th."

Superintendent Hawfield also said that the school officials desired to take this opportunity to extend to all, parents, pupils, and teachers, a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

CHRISTMAS IN 1066

The most tragic Christmas day in English history was that of 1066, when William the Conqueror was enthroned. The Saxon archbishop, Eldred, before placing the crown on William's head, asked the Saxon if the congregation would have William for their king. Their "yea," uttered in a hoarse roar, made the Normans fear that they were about to kill William, and they drew their swords and attacked. On that dreadful Christmas day the Abbey pavement ran red with blood.

CONGRESSMAN LAMBETH AIDS HOKE RELIEF FUND

Hon. J. Walter Lambeth, popular Seventh District Congressman, who read in the News-Journal of the appeal for funds to aid in relief and re-employment in the county, has sent his check for \$25 to the county chairman, Dr. W. M. Fairley, to aid in the work. Congressman Lambeth's letter to Dr. Fairley is in part as follows: "I certainly hope that your committee will be able to deal adequately with the situation in your county. As Chaplain Montgomery said in the House yesterday, 'In a time like this, an ounce of selfishness is too much, while a pound of generosity is not enough.'"

The donation was divided among the county district organizations.

What Christmas Means

By CHARLES FREDERICK WADSWORTH

LITTLE SISTER

When Betty awakens on Christmas at dawn,
And pops out of bed without murmur or yawn,
To scamper barefooted the chilly house through,
In search of the place little dreams all come true,
And finds by the fireplace such big heaps of things
That once in each year good old Santa Claus brings
With reindeer and sleigh and his big coat of fur—
That is what Christmas-day means to her!

BUDDY

Though Jack may receive Christmas presents galore,
And some of them just like he saw in the store,
He's happy, and counts on a big lot of fun,
To get at their innards and see how they run!
But dinner-time captivates every small boy—
It's not just a pleasure but positive joy
To eat, eat and eat till he's full to the brim—
That is what Christmas-day means to him!

MOTHER

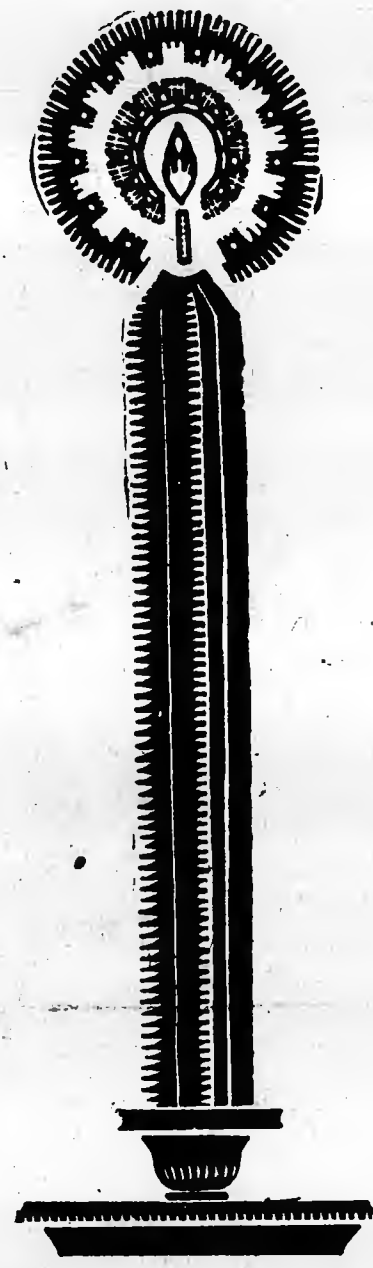
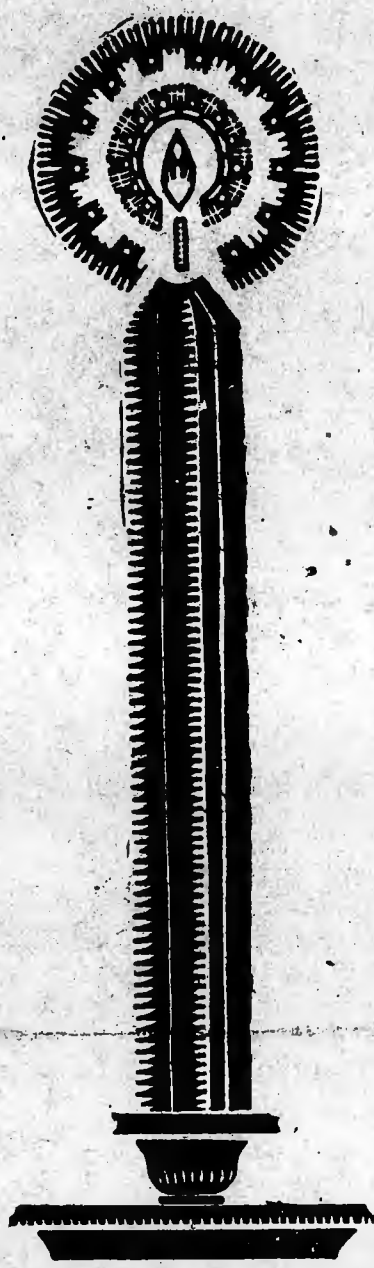
When Mother starts in on the day's biggest chore,
Preparing to entertain nearly a score,
With turkey to roast and the gravy to make,
And cranberry sauce, doughnuts, mince pie and cake,
With scarcely a minute to say "Howdy do,
A big merry Christmas and glad New Year, too!"—
Or undo her presents to see whom they're from—
That is what Christmas-day means to Mom!

FATHER

Though Father's not much of a chef at the most,
He peels the potatoes in time to play host,
And welcomes the guests with a gesture that's grand,
And puffs his seegar with the nifty gold band;
He just likes to give folks a mighty good time,
Though it take every dollar and 'most every dime;
Yes, he wants every one to be happy and glad—
That is what Christmas-day means to Dad!

ENVOI

Whatever glee there is brought by the toys,
Whatever things give most pleasure to boys,
Whatever cheer comes from feasting and mirth,
Christmas means Jesus and Good-Will to Earth!



LARGE CROWD SEES CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Relief Committee Pleased With Quantity Of Food Brought As Admission Charge; Pageant Well Gotten Up.

A crowd that entirely filled the school auditorium saw the Christmas pageant presented by the children of the first seven grades, last Friday evening.

A chorus composed of pupils from the sixth and seventh grades opened the program on the stage beautifully decorated with pines and lighted candles. They were followed by fourth and fifth grade pupils singing "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day." After this Miss Margaret McKenzie, of the school faculty, spoke briefly on the meaning of Christmas, and asked the audience to join in the singing of the carols.

First grade students singing "If You Want to Be Happy on Christmas Day," drew considerable applause from the audience. Several Christmas poems were read and another chorus number presented by the smaller children.

The Scripture reading came next, and then all the lights were switched off as members of the Junior Music Club entered from the rear of the hall, bearing lighted candles and singing "O Come All Ye Faithful."

The pageant that followed opened with the Annunciation and followed the Christmas story on through the coming of the Magi with their gifts for the new-born Savior. At the close of the pageant a member of each grade came to the stage, knelt before the manger, and said a prayer.

Many of the audience commented favorably on the program, and generously complimented those who directed the pageant and the singing.

No admission was charged for the entertainment, but everyone who came brought food in some form, to be distributed at Christmas by the Committee on Poor and Unemployment Relief. A large stock of food for this purpose, was brought by those who came. Members of the committee expressed pleasure at the generosity of the public.

On Christmas day all should be welcomed with good cheer and true hospitality.—Charles Dickens.

BIBLE SCENES INSPIRED THE WRITING OF CAROLS

The influence of the constant visualization of Bible scenes, of which people were accustomed to think vividly, inspired the writing of Christmas carols. They began to make their appearance about the year 1400. This was a new music in what was still almost a new language, of minstrel, literary and folk poetry. The ballad was one of the forms in which many of the traditional carols were cast.

The Christmas tree had its origin in Germany and is of comparatively recent adoption in other countries. It is regarded by many as one of the number engrafted upon Christianity and Christian festivities. The worshipers of the Norse gods, before the adoption of Christianity, had a place in their scheme of things for Yggdrasil, the tree of the world, which, with its roots and branches, was believed to bind together heaven, earth and hell. The Christmas tree is believed to be related to this tree in its origin. It became associated with the Christian holiday at some unknown time in the Middle Ages.

In the United States the Christmas tree custom is probably less than a century old. Up until the time of the Civil war it had not yet become a popular custom, although it was observed by a large number of the German immigrants. Since then it has been generally adopted in this country and Canada, and is familiar in England and other countries.

GREETINGS SENT TO DISABLED VETERANS

President Hoover Dispatches To Disabled Veterans Thru-out Nation Message Of Christmas Cheer.

Washington, Dec. 19.—In the spirit of an approaching Christmas and the turn of a new year, President Hoover today dispatched to disabled veterans throughout the country a greeting and a "renewed assurance" of the nation's appreciation of their service.

The brief message was distributed through various veterans' organizations and hospitals, and was addressed "to all disabled veterans."

"It is my privilege to convey to you at this holiday season the nation's tribute of remembrance and gratitude for your service in defense of our country."

"Your sacrifices and sufferings have called forth the solicitude of the nation expressed in the services which have been established to minister to your needs."

"In extending to you a greeting of good cheer at Christmas I express my earnest personal wish and that of all our people that the new year may bring to you abundant blessings of contentment, health, hope, and restoration. I send you renewed assurance of the nation's gratitude and devotion to your needs. (Signed),

"HERBERT HOOVER."

CHRISTMAS CANTATA ON SUNDAY EVENING

The choirs of the three Raeford churches will unite Sunday evening, December 27, in presenting a Christmas cantata, "The Light of the World," at the Presbyterian Church. The program will start shortly after seven o'clock.

The singers have been practicing for some time on the cantata, which presents the beautiful Christmas story in music.

Ex-Governor McLean To Speak At Dedication Of McLauchlin Bust

CHRISTMAS IN COLONIAL DAYS

Excerpts From Washington's Diary Given By Bicentennial Commission

Christmas in Colonial Virginia was a gay and festive period. Fun began a week before Christmas and continued for a week afterward with a round of house parties, balls, dances, dinners, and hunting, which would have taxed the energy of any modern debutante. The young people went into the woods for holly and greens which, fashioned in wreaths and garlands, adorned the stately drawing-rooms of the manor houses of the Potomac. Fowls were fattened for the table. Forest, field and stream contributed their succulent share to tempt the appetite of host and guests.

The United States George Washington Bicentennial Commission informs us that for days the frosty winter air rang with the glad shouts of welcome as each newly arrived coach emptied its load of happy visitors. The clatter of hoofs on the hard highway announced the coming of nearby neighbors who would dismount, come in for a hot toddy and a chat with the members of the household before mounting and clattering away again, to repeat the jolly encounter at the next estate.

We have no records of how Christmas was spent at Mount Vernon but we know that it was always festive. There were long years when the master was absent for this holiday, gone to the wars to endure the rigors and dangers of winter campaigns. Perhaps one of Washington's happiest Christmases was in the year 1783. On December 23 Congress assembled in the State House at Annapolis where Washington arrived four days before, and was met by Mrs. Washington. Congress was to receive the General's resignation as Commander-in-Chief. (Continued on page six)

Ceremony To Take Place At Courthouse At Eleven O'clock Wednesday, December 30; Large Crowd Expected To Attend Exercises.

Preparations for the presentation of the bust of the late J. W. McLauchlin to Hoke County are about complete and as previously stated in these columns, the exercises will be held on Wednesday, December 30th, at eleven o'clock in the courthouse here. People from throughout the county and from a greater distance, are expected to be present.

Ex-Governor, A. W. McLean, of Lumberton, a warm friend of Mr. McLauchlin, and a co-worker in educational matters, will be the principal speaker of the occasion, and his address is looked forward to by those who know his outstanding ability for thoroughness in every undertaking.

It is unique that the bust of Mr. McLauchlin was made by another warm personal friend and co-worker, W. T. Covington, who is forging ahead in this art and whose work has received favorable mention from some of the country's most capable critics. Previous pieces done by Mr. Covington have won him this praise away from home but those who have seen the bust of Mr. McLauchlin are unanimous in pronouncing it his greatest work.

The exercises next Wednesday will be presided over by Dr. Watson M. Fairley. Mr. Covington will present the bust to the county and Clerk of the Court, Edgar Hall, for twenty years an officer of the county, will receive it for Hoke County. It will be unveiled in the court room and later placed in a niche in the lobby of the first floor of the building, the space having been provided by the county commissioners. On a slab which forms the base of this niche are carved the following words: "John W. McLauchlin—1846-1931." (Continued on back page)

DOCTOR ORDERS STEVENS HOME

American Legion National Commander, Near Break-down, Cancels All Engagements; 9 States in 3 Weeks.

Griffin, Ga., Dec. 19.—Quimby Melton, commander of the Georgia department, American Legion, announced tonight receipt of a telegram from national commander Henry Stevens at Mobile, Ala., cancelling all of his engagements for next week.

"The national commander stated in his telegram," Melton said, "that he had been ordered home from Alabama, where he is scheduled for two cities, by physicians who fear a physical breakdown."

"Stevens was to have addressed a rally of south Georgia legionnaires at Albany Monday night and a north Georgia Legion rally Tuesday night at Athens."

"Stevens said in his wire he would come to Georgia for two days in January and visit the same two posts he was scheduled to speak. "He had covered nine states in three weeks, speaking two and three times a day, he said, and was near a physical breakdown, and physicians at Mobile ordered him home to Warsaw, N. C., immediately."

One trouble with our banks is that they have been susceptible to the human touch.

FURTHER CASH GIFTS ANNOUNCED FOR RELIEF

Messrs. R. B. Lewis and T. B. Lester, who are receiving cash contributions for the committee on unemployment and relief in the Raeford district, announce further cash contributions as follows: Previous reported, \$69.00; Mrs. J. W. Walker, \$2; J. A. Desorme, \$1; Congressman Walter Lambeth, \$5; Edgar Hall, \$5; Aberdeen & Rockfish Railroad Co., \$15; total \$97.00.