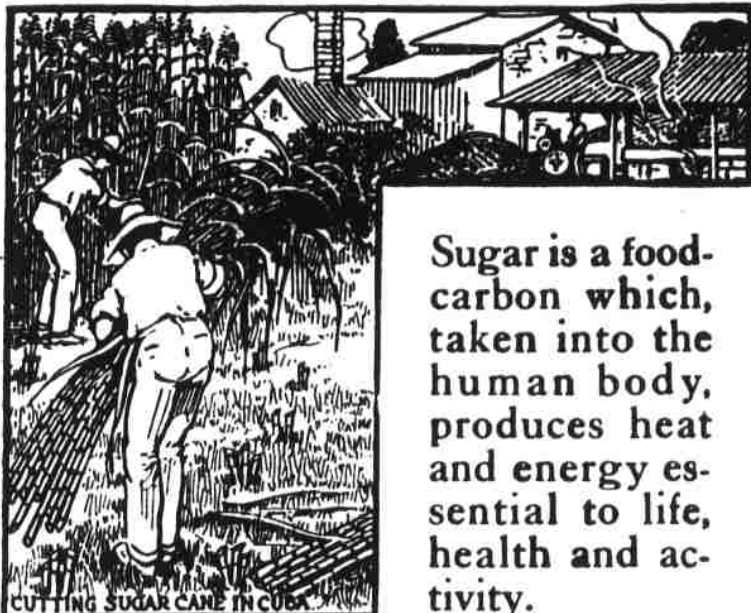


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WAYNESVILLE, N. C.

### OUR RALEIGH LETTER.

(By M. L. Shipman.)  
Raleigh, N. C., October 26.—The contest between employees of the State and the Salary and Wage Commission was the center of interest in Raleigh during the past week. The horrible tragedy at Rex Hospital which took the toll of a baby's life by burning also was the object of sympathetic interest. The Governor made addresses during the week to the Negro State Fair at Raleigh and the Railroad Trainmen at Charlotte and then departed for Washington to appear before the Ways and Means Committee of Congress and oppose the inheritance taxes. The will of J. B. Duke made public interested North Carolinians because of the large sums which were added to Duke's endowment fund. The will also made further provisions for charitable and religious objectives in North Carolina.

The Salary and Wage Commission withdrew from its stand abolishing six of the holidays established by the Legislature when the Attorney General advised the body it had no power to undo what the General Assembly had done. The commission got back at the employees however by stating that it was considering cutting the annual holidays to six days unless the department heads co-operated with it in reducing the number of legal holidays. The matter is still at issue. The commission had a hearing on salaries and classifications last week and decided to give consideration to a few appeals, but denied the great majority. The State Highway Commission estimates it will lose 100 trained engineers who had been promised salary increases, but which were denied by the wage body.

The tragedy in which the ten hour old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Smith was burned to death aroused Raleigh citizens. The child was placed in a receiving basket at Rex Hospital immediately after birth and died a few hours later. It was discovered that a heating pad had been left in the basket, and that death had resulted from burns. The coroner's jury held that the cause of death was negligence and carelessness at the hospital, but did not file any criminal charges against any one. Two nurses who had charge of the child are under suspension at the hospital pending investigation.

The Governor's address to the Negro Fair applauded the great progress accomplished by the race since the days of slavery. The Governor however expressed the idea that the further progress of the negro was dependent on the continuance of a state governed by white men. The fair was said to be a wonderful exhibit and the negro officials deserving of much credit.

Governor McLean travelled to Charlotte the middle of the week where he addressed the Railway Trainmen in session there. The Governor lauded the progress made by labor and also commended the trainmen for their devotion to duty which he said had been the means of making the American railroads "one of the wonders of the world." Friday Mr. McLean appeared in Washington to urge abolition of the Federal tax on inheritances as unfair and an attempt on the Federal government's part to take one of the state sources of taxation. He appeared with several other governors to support the stand in the matter taken by Secretary Mellon and they appear to have been successful for the committee will recommend a bill about in line with what the governors desired.

The will of James B. Duke takes another opportunity of making this great business man and philanthropist secure for time to come in the regard of his fellow men. Mr. Duke left another \$17,000,000 to Duke University which already will benefit handsomely by the income from the \$40,000,000 Duke foundation. The additional money will be used in part, according to the will, for the creation of a great medical school and hospital as a part of Duke University. He also left additional sums to the Duke Foundation, the income from which goes for charitable, religious and educational purposes in North Carolina. Mr. Mr. Duke also remembered his personal employees at his various estates and in his official household they all receiving legacies of from one year's salary to \$40,000 to his secretary. A number of others employed in his various enterprises will get handsome sums and the young 13 year old daughter Doris is the chief beneficiary, his wife having been already provided for in gifts before his death. Should the daughter die without children the Duke

Foundation will come into the major portion of the income from the estate of about \$150,000,000.

George Ross Pou, superintendent of State prison, has adopted a new honor system at the prison whereby convicts will be let out to road work contractors and receive a daily stipend to be held at the prison for them. A feature is that the men will be on their honor and should any escape a certain portion of the funds of the others will be used to pay expenses of recapture. The convicts thus will pay to have their fellows recaptured. This system is calculated to cut down escapes.

Grand Master David Caster of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows concluded a tour of the state in the interest of the order at Henderson or last Thursday evening. The Grand Master has held private conferences and public meetings in seventeen of the nineteen districts which afforded an opportunity to touch elbows with the membership from the mountains to the sea and secure first-hand information on the progress of Odd Fellowship in various sections of the state. Grand Secretary John D. Berry and the Grand Treasurer accompanied the Grand Master to practically all of the points visited and report that the order is on the upward trend. They are especially pleased with the interest manifested in all of the district meetings. The tour recently completed by the Grand Master is said to be only the beginning of the forward movement he had planned to inaugurate when elevated to that position.

The registered electric rates of Wake county voted on last Tuesday to loan the State Highway Commission the sum of \$1,300,000 for the purpose of paving important roads leading out of Raleigh. The majority was decisive and it is said that Route 50 from Cary to Apex will receive first consideration.

If the Legislative Committee of the North Carolina Education Association has its way about it a constitutional eight month minimum school term will be provided for by the General Assembly of 1927. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction backing the suggestion to the limit and educational leaders generally are in hearty sympathy with the movement. It is said that more normal colleges for training teachers will be advocated.

Henry L. Stevens, State Commander of the American Legion, in Raleigh, recently to appear before the Salary and Wage Commission, let it be known that the Legion is not going into politics while he is at the head of the organization. He assumed this attitude during the pre-convention campaign and is said to have won over John Hall Manning on that issue.

The surcharge on Pullman passenger fares is to be reinstated on December 10th, according to a ruling of the Interstate Commerce Commission, which means that a berth within the State now costing \$2.50 will draw \$3.75 on and after the date mentioned, the opinion of the North Carolina General Assembly to the contrary notwithstanding. The decision is in line with the general policy of the Federal Commission's policy of fixing rates applicable to all the states.

The "official organ" of the State Department of Education is authority for the statement that in three years there will be no teachers in the public schools who have educational qualifications of less than graduation from a standard high school. This opinion is based on the present rate of decrease in the number of these non-standard teachers now employed in these schools which has prevailed during the past five years. In 1920 there were 5,668 non-standard white teachers of county and city schools. Late statistics indicate the employment of only 1,720 thus showing the "good old-timers" are passing off the stage.

Dr. Chas. E. Maddy, executive head of the Baptist Board of Missions of North Carolina, sounds an encouraging note on the financial status of that denomination at this time. The statement is based on the partial report of Walters Durham, treasurer of the State Convention, showing that \$350,000 has been received dur-



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### MONOPOLIZING THE EARTH.

We have been wondering what will become of the vast multitude of good Old North State citizens if the the dreams and imaginations or wild ideas coming out of the mountain Metropolis were to become a reality: A Great Lake covering all of lower Transylvania and part of Henderson counties; a National park taking a large slice of Jackson and Haywood counties and plans for another Western North Carolina Chamber of Commerce, contributed to by the other fellow and with headquarters in Asheville. Of course the folks in these parts affected could move to the many restricted sub-divisions.

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