

THE MARKET
Cotton, spots 6c and up
Cotton Seed, ton \$11.00

Cloudy And Colder.
Today's North Carolina Weather Report: Cloudy and colder tonight preceded by rain. Tuesday partly cloudy and colder.

Only One Escapes.
Leavenworth, Kans., Dec. 15.—A 65-year-old desperado, only one of seven Leavenworth prison convicts who made good an escape from poses that brought back three dead, one wounded and two unscratched, was still at large Sunday. United States penitentiary guards have given up organized search for Earl Thayer who was serving a 25-year sentence for an Oklahoma mail train robbery when he and the other six prisoners made a sensational dash for liberty Friday with Warden Thomas B. White as hostage.

Cleveland Has Tax Reduction Among Leaders

County-Wide Rate Is Down 23 Cents

General Rate 50 Cents Now, Was 73 In 1930. Eighty-Two Counties Cut Taxes.

(Special to The Star.)

Raleigh, Dec. 14.—Eighty two of the 83 North Carolina counties reported have decreased their county-wide tax rate this year under last year for an average of 3 cents on the \$100 property valuation, or from a rate of \$1.39 in 1930 to a rate of \$1.06 in 1931, a reduction which is reflected exactly in the reduction of the county-wide rate for the six months school term, figures compiled by Dr. Fred W. Morrison, secretary of the State Tax Commission, show.

The county-wide tax rate for support of the six months school term has been reduced an average of 33 cents on the \$100 valuation, or from 70 cents in 1930 to 37 cents in 1931, while the county-wide rate for purposes other than school remains at 69 cents this year, the same as last year. On the other hand, the average rate levied for debt service, which includes interest, repayments of principle, deposits in sinking funds and other costs paid on money borrowed, increased 16 cents on the \$100, or from 31 cents in 1930 to 47 cents in 1931, as an average.

Brunswick, the only county with a county-wide total tax rate of as much as \$2, was the only county making no reduction. Eight counties, Ashe, Bladen, Chowan, Swain, Forsyth, Martin, Randolph, Dare, reduced the total county-wide rate 10 cents or less. Thirteen counties reduced this rate 50 cents or more, including Camden 56, Currituck 80, Davidson 70, Halifax 50, Henderson 30, Hertford 63, Madison 50, Rutherford 62, Scotland 58, Tyrrell 71, Union 83, Wilkes 54 cents. Thirteen counties have additional county-wide levies for extending the six months school term, including Avery, Carteret, Currituck, Greene, Guilford, Henderson, Jones, New Hanover, Northampton, Pamlico, Perquimans, Vance and Washington.

Cleveland county's total county-wide rate for 1931 is \$0.50, as compared with \$0.73 in 1930, a decrease of 23 cents. Of this the county-wide rate for school is 25 cents in 1931 and was 54 cents in 1930, or a decrease of 29 cents, and the county-wide rate for purposes other than the six months school term is \$0.25 in 1931 and was \$0.19 in 1930, an increase of six cents. The county-wide rate for debt service in 1931 is five cents, as compared with nothing in 1930, an increase of five cents.

Cleveland Produce Company Is Robbed

The robbery wave last Thursday night in this section included one robbery that The Star did not learn about until the week-end. The Cleveland Produce company headquarters, at the rear of the Chocolate shop, on South LaFayette St., was entered and robbed of a pistol and a .22 rifle. Entrance was made by tearing the heavy screen from a rear window and raising the window.

9 SHOPPING DAYS 'TIL CHRISTMAS



VOL. XXVII, No. 149

SHELBY, N. C.

MONDAY, DEC. 14, 1931

Published Monday, Wednesday and Friday Afternoons.

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Carrier, per year, (in advance) \$3.00

Shelby Opens \$10,000 Charity Drive Today; All Urged To Help

15 Group Captains Lead Campaign

Every Person With Job Is Asked To Contribute Something To Help Needy.

Fifteen Shelby business men today headed a dozen group committees in opening the city's whirlwind drive to raise \$10,000 for charity relief work in the city and surrounding territory.

This morning these group captains began their canvass of all business houses and firms in the city and were making good headway despite the inclement weather.

The heavy rains of the week-end have added to the calls for aid as many people are without proper clothing and shoes and sufficient food and the weather is of such a nature to bring on illness among the undernourished and poorly clothed.

The dozen canvassing committees were being directed in their drive by O. M. Mull, chairman of the charity finance committee, and by J. D. Lineberger, general chairman of the relief work. The groups have so mapped out their canvass that they will not conflict with each other. Every business firm and organization is being visited and pledge cards left with the owner or manager, who in turn will distribute them among employees. Every person with a job is urged to give something as such will be necessary to care for the needy during the four winter months. One plan suggested is that every employed person give a certain amount each week or month to the fund. This will enable the charity committee to know just how much is coming in, and when. A distribution system has been worked out in a systematic manner and only actual necessities will be turned over to the poor.

"We should be able to complete the drive and have our \$10,000 in by Wednesday," Mr. Mull said this morning. "It may seem to be a large sum, but if every person in Shelby who has a job will pledge something, to be given by the week or month, it can be raised without much difficulty and without handicapping anyone. Some may be able to give only a little, because of their own decreased income, but even those smaller gifts will help to build up the main sum. If proper cooperation is shown, and I believe it will, two days work should see the entire amount pledged. It is not necessary to remind of the needy conditions. They are evident to every one. Each day for some time there has been a steady stream of callers at the charity distribution office in the basement under the Woolworth building. There are pleas for help from people who are sick and have nothing at all with which to call in a doctor and secure medicine, and on top of that they must have something to eat and fuel to keep warm. It is an excellent time for Shelby to show what she is made of by putting over something that must be put over."

Anyone who may not be reached through their place of employment, may secure a pledge card at the charity headquarters or mail their contribution or pledge to the General Charity Committee.

Do G. O. P. Postmasters And Officeholders Pay Levy To Campaign Fund To Hold Their Positions?
District Attorney Investigating Contributions Made To Party Expenses.
Greensboro, Dec. 14.—Possibility that the federal grand jury of the middle district will be called upon this week to investigate evidence purporting to show that James S. Duncan, chairman of the Republican state executive committee, and W. H. Foster, secretary-treasurer have been soliciting monthly contributions for the Republican party from federal officeholders in violation of a federal statute, looms with announcement by District Attorney E. L. Gavin that the allegations would be thoroughly probed.

Al's Missing Son

The disappearance of Walter Smith, youngest son of ex-Governor Alfred E. Smith, of New York, from Manhattan college, where he was a student, is believed to have the fine Italian hand of little Dan Cupid behind it. The young man is shown in a photo made last summer at Southampton, L. I. with Florence Watson, in whom he was unusually interested.

Hord Head Of Charity Drive

Welfare Work Being Organized. Subscriptions Through Churches.
(By E. R. GAMBLE.)
Kings Mountain, Dec. 14.—At a special meeting of the Associated Charities of Kings Mountain held at J. R. Davis's office Thursday afternoon, D. F. Hord was elected chairman to succeed J. R. Davis, who resigned because of a lack of time to devote to his cause. Charles F. Thomason was elected treasurer and E. R. Gamble secretary. The following committee was appointed, one from each of the up town churches: H. W. McGinnis, J. R. Davis, W. K. Mauney, R. C. Gold, G. W. Allen and R. D. Goforth.

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Fourth Of Class Gets Merited Honor

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Cleveland Man Killed As Gun Fires On Hunt

Ed Metcalf Dies In Hunting Accident

Was Squirrel Hunting Late Friday When Gun Was Accidentally Discharged.
Ed Metcalf, middle-aged farmer of lower Cleveland, was the first victim of this season when he was accidentally shot to death while out squirrel hunting late Friday afternoon.

Mr. Metcalf, who was a native of the Bessemer City section of Gaston county and a cousin of the Metcalfs of the Shelby section, had been living for a year or so on the M. D. Hopper place near the South Carolina line. The fatal accident took place near his home there.

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