

## STATE READY FOR REAL LAW

Supervisor of Adult Schools Says South Carolina Now Ready For Compulsory Education Law.

Columbia, Dec. 18.—South Carolina is now ready for an effective compulsory education law, it was declared in the annual report of Miss Wil Lou Gray, supervisor of adult schools of the state board of education, given out for publication late today.

Only through the passage of an adequate law of this kind can the growth of illiteracy be stopped, it was stated. The matter has been discussed with influential citizens, it was said, and without exception they expressed a desire for a better law.

"County trustees realize their schools can not hope to do thorough work so long as the pupils are permitted to come and go at will," the report asserted. "Night school pupils attribute their present condition to the absence of a compulsory law. . . . It is ardently hoped the legislature will remedy this condition."

During the year, South Carolina has made "commendable progress" in the reduction of illiteracy, the supervisor declared. Statistics show that the number of adult illiterates has been materially reduced.

While last year the appropriation made for the adult schools was \$35,000, or 16 cents per illiterate, the supervisor pointed out that this amount is inadequate for the needs of the people, that it limits the number of schools that can be run, and that it is unfair to certain communities.

"It would be cheaper and easier to eliminate illiteracy from the state in five years than in ten," Miss Gray declared, "if the schooling given the 97,673 pupils last year increased their efficiency represented by earning capacity, thrift, and attitude, exceeds in money the state's appropriation by \$57,430."

A comparative report on illiteracy in 110 counties in the United States in which over 25 per cent of the citizens are illiterate, showed South Carolina to have six counties, as compared with Mississippi, eleven; Georgia nine, and Louisiana 35, among the Southern states. While fifteen counties appeared on a list of those containing more than 40 per cent illiteracy, and three counties with over 50 per cent. South Carolina did not appear on either list.

South Carolina led the union in the rate of decrease in illiteracy in the period of ten years ending 1920, it was pointed out, but, notwithstanding this rapid decrease, the state still maintains the next to the bottom place, ranking below every state save Louisiana. In white illiteracy, this state stands sixth from the bottom; in negro illiteracy, it ties Louisiana for third place from the bottom.

Three aims of the supervisor were set out: (1) To educate the literate public to recognize the need for the work so as to provide sufficient financial support; (2) To train teachers to sustain interest in the summer schools and (3) To gain the confidence of the pupils themselves and restore their faith in their ability to learn.

A glowing account of the work done by the lay-by schools during the summer was contained in the report. The schools were in session two weeks, during which hundreds of adult illiterates were taught reading, writing and arithmetic.

Intensive campaigns were waged in Aiken, Allendale, Anderson, Chesterfield and Greenville counties, it was stated, while schools were opened in 38 counties.

There were 1,105 white and 700 negro pupils taught to read, while 1,261 white and 842 negro pupils were taught to write. The average amount spent per pupil was \$4.23.

## POOR PEOPLE TO BE REMEMBERED

Dr. Dudley Jones Will Collect Christmas Gifts For Inmates of County Home.

The inmates of the County Home have always been of interest to the people of Clinton at this season. It will be recalled that Mr. Tom Scott would visit them at Thanksgiving and Christmas, as the bearer of gifts from the town.

At present there are thirteen inmates, five white women, four white men, two colored men and two colored women. While they may have sufficient support and ordinary comforts administered in a kindly fashion by Mr. Satterwhite and his wife, still it is desirable to show the spirit of sympathy and good-will to these aged and feeble people. If anyone wishes to make a donation of fruits and other Christmas goodies, or to give money to purchase such things, Dr. Dudley Jones will be glad to collect and deliver the gifts. His telephone number is 216.

## AIR MAIL PILOT MEETS DEATH

Clarence Gilbert Killed When Parachute Fails In Snow And Dark.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—Trusting his life to a few yards of silk composing his parachute, after his airplane failed to function in a blinding snow storm, Clarence Gilbert, air mail pilot, last night leaped into space high in the clouds over the little town of Kaneville, Ind., and lost his gamble with death.

His body, with strands of the parachute which failed to operate still attached to his belt, was found near Kaneville today shortly after farmers had found his wrecked plane with its burden of mail after a 15 hour hunt along the air mail route.

His death marked the first fatal accident to that little band of transcontinental birdmen, who for six months have been winging their way across the continent in good weather and bad, maintaining schedules almost to the fraction of a minute with their cargoes of mail.

Gilbert, who entered the air mail service last August, left here last night shortly after 7 o'clock to wing his way through a snow storm in near zero weather. He was guided only by the blazing beacon and signal lights that mark the path of the air mail carriers on the night route to Omaha.

Five minutes later a second mail plane west bound too the air here, and the pilot in this machine, maintaining a lonely vigil as he rushed through the night, reported upon reaching Iowa City, the first stop, that he had seen the lights of Gilbert's machine far below him through the snow at Kaneville, 50 miles west of Chicago. When Gilbert failed to arrive at Iowa City, farmers were aroused from their beds by telephone operators an dscoured the country for miles about.

First intimation of the fate of the los tairman came at 10 o'clock this morning when his plane was found about a mile from Kaneville. An hour later the body was found half buried in a snow drift.

The body was literally broken to pieces. Farmers, who during the last few nights of intense cold, had scanned the skies each night to see whether the intrepid men of the air would still maintain their schedules, gathered up the body of the fallen airman and hastened to the nearest telephones to spread the news. Shortly before the body was found another plane sent out on a searching expedition, had picked up the mail from the wrecked plane and was rushing it onward toward the West.

Fliers expressed the opinion that Gilbert had trouble with his plane in the snowstorm and, believing a crash to be imminent, leaped for his life, trusting that the parachute with which all the fliers are equipped, would open as he hurtled through the swirling snow. For some reason it did not.

Gilbert was 26 years old and came from Plainsville, Kan. He had been on relief schedule flying between Chicago and Iowa City. He was trained in the army aviation camp at Fort Riley, Kan. A widow, at present visiting relatives at Junction City, Kansas, survives.

## STREET PAVING PROGRAM ADOPTED

Newberry Plans To Spend \$150,000 For Street Improvement In Near Future.

Newberry, Dec. 23.—The city council met Friday night, December 19, and decided at that time to make the issue of \$150,000 bonds that were voted some time ago for street improvement, in 5 per cent serial bonds, maturing \$5,000 each year for 30 years. These bonds will be given to the bond commission of the town and they will sell same, the proceeds to be disbursed by the bond commission to the contractors as the work on streets progresses. It is hoped that the council and the bond commission can take care of the principal and interest on this issue with a levy of 4 mills, and of course as these bonds are paid off \$5,000 each year, the levy will be reduced.

As to the deferred payments on paving assessments of individuals, the council decided to make these payments over a period of ten years, and it is hoped that the interest can be made not to exceed six per cent.

The council has thoroughly investigated different civil engineers to have charge of the paving and have selected the Harwood-Beebe Engineering company of Spartanburg, S. C., who have had years of experience.

The streets to be paved have been designated by the city authorities and it is expected to begin the program in the near future.



## THE CHRONICLE'S GREETING TO ITS SUBSCRIBERS—

Christmas is the season when hearth calleth unto hearth. "Amidst the general call to happiness, the bustle of the spirits, and stir of the affections, which prevail at this period, what bosom can remain insensible?" said the poet.

It is one day at least when suspicion, hate and gloom find but little space for lodgement in human nature; when people forget the things that worry and fix their minds upon the many things for which they may be thankful; when the spirit of cheer exists in sufficient bounty to reach us all.

Any unhappiness, any sense of the thorns of life, may be sunk in contemplation of the joy which the day brings to so large a part of the world, especially to the children of our immediate world; for the day was born with a Child and has remained largely a festival of the young, its sanctified ideals strengthened by childish purity, recreating faith, hope and charity in their elders.

Then, let us make this Christmas purposeful; a season of regenerated feeling, of love, peace and good will. Let us hang the holly and the evergreen; let us promote the surge of joy.

Our greeting to you is one of kindness in return for your many courtesies and the good-will you have displayed towards us. Our wish is that you may be filled with the fresh, clean joys of the season and receive a liberal endowment of that spirit which at this time rises like a mighty flood over the world.

## LAURENS TO HOLD REVIVAL MEETING

Ham-Ramsay Party Accepts Invitation To Hold Evangelistic Campaign in February.

Laurens, Dec. 20.—According to information given out by local church leaders, the Ham-Ramsay evangelistic party has accepted the invitation of two of the local churches, Baptist and Presbyterian, to hold a revival meeting here in the near future.

The Rev. Mr. Ramsay has written that it will suit the party to hold a special revival in Laurens, beginning about the middle of February and continuing for six weeks.

A large wooden tabernacle will be erected in the city for the meeting, and it is suggested that if volunteer workmen can be secured the cost of building will be reduced. The cost of erecting the tent will be borne by the Ham-Ramsay party, it is stated, and local people will be asked to make free-will offerings toward this part of the enterprise.

The co-operation of all the churches of the city and county will be sought, thus making the revival county-wide in its scope. At the Baptist Ministers' conference, December 15, a resolution was adopted, endorsing the party and pledging hearty support.

## XMAS PLAY AT TRAINING SCHOOL

"Cinderella and Her Cat" To Be Presented By Pupils Next Monday Night.

On next Monday evening, December 29th, at 7:15 p. m., the pupils of the State Training School will present a Christmas operetta entitled, "Cinderella and Her Cat," to which the public is cordially invited. The play is quite appropriate to the holiday season and promises to be an enjoyable event of the week. Dr. B. O. Whitten, the superintendent, extends a most cordial invitation to the friends of the institution to be present, and it is hoped that there will be an unusually large attendance. The entertainment will begin at 7:15 and will be staged in the community hall.

The institution had its Christmas tree celebration last night. A collection of gifts secured through the efforts of the Commercial Club, added to the stockings and the enjoyment of all the inmates.

## ORPHANAGE RECEIVES GIFT

Mrs. Mary Eagan, of Atlanta, Ga., Remembers Local Institution In Her Will.

The will of Mrs. Mary Vincent Eagan, of Atlanta, filed for probate a few days ago, carries generous bequests to the Thornwell Orphanage of this city, as well as several other institutions, friends and relatives of the deceased. The executor of the estate notified Dr. L. R. Lynn yesterday that the orphanage will receive approximately \$6,000 a year for a period of 25 years, which is the equivalent to an addition of \$100,000 to the institution's endowment fund.

Mrs. Eagan, widow of the late Mr. John M. Eagan, a life long friend of the orphanage, after disposing of certain specified sums in the will, provided that until her two grandchildren become thirty years of age, the income from her estate shall be divided equally between the Berry school at Rome, Ga., the Central Presbyterian church of Atlanta, and the Thornwell Orphanage of this city.

When the said grandchildren become thirty years of age, the estate is to be divided equally between the grandchildren or their heirs. Should the grandchildren not be living and leave no heirs, the estate is to be divided equally between the church and two institutions designated.

The gift of Mrs. Eagan will be applied to the endowment fund of the local institution.

## CHRISTMAS MUSIC PLEASES MANY

Methodist and Presbyterian Choirs Render Special Christmas Programs.

The North Broad Street Methodist church and Sunday School auditorium were filled to overflowing Sunday afternoon for the rendition by its choir of a Christmas vesper program. Fifteen voices made up the choir and the service was quite impressive and appropriate to the Christmas season.

The program, arranged by Mrs. J. F. Jacobs, Jr., directress of the choir, consisted of a Christmas cantata, entitled, "The Herald Angels," the text arranged and music composed by Carrie B. Adams, and was enjoyed by every one.

In the evening, an unusually large crowd attended the cantata at the First Presbyterian church, headed by W. P. Jacobs, director of the choir. "The Beautiful Prince of Peace" was the attractive selection presented and all taking part in the program did their parts well. Both of the special programs were thoroughly enjoyed by the music lovers of the city.

## AMERICAN BEAUTY WINS OVER FRENCH

First Time In History Former Follies Girls Have Place on Bill in Opening of New Theatre.

Paris, Dec. 22.—French beauty surrendered to America for the first time in the history of this country when the long-heralded opening of the Moulin Rouge Theatre, built since the fire of 1915, took place Saturday night. Establishing an astonishing precedent, Henri Letellier, Jean Foucrete and other proprietors of Montmartre's latest and biggest house, decided to hire only American girls. As a result about 90 per cent of those in the show are Americans.

A revue which was staged by Jacques Charles, husband of the world famous nude beauty, Dherlys, displayed the charms of Broadway to Paris as never before.

Primarily, there were seven former Follies girls—Doris Lloyd, Nina Byron, Yvonne Hughes, Ruth Fallows, Grace Girard, Sybil Wilson and Pat Coleman, while the eighth in the parade of beauty was Helene Macdonald, formerly in "One Kiss" and other Dillinghamshows.

Then there were the eighteen Hoffman girls, whose acrobats amazed and enchanted the most blasé audience ever known here.

Henri Letellier, in a stage box, got so excited that he offered to take the whole chorus out for supper afterward and registered disappointed amazement when the eighteen Hoffman girls unanimously refused to go out with a millionaire. A chorus girl who will not go out to supper is a novelty in Paris. However, Letellier, who besides being France's richest man, once was a fiance of Peggy Hopkins Joyce, and is a former husband of the late Peggy Gillespie and is owner of the Deauville Casino, managed to acquire eight Follies girls in a party of which Paris talked for a time in hushed whispers.

The American mannequines in Paris dressmaking establishments and American chorus girls at the Moulin Rouge, Paris is coming to resemble Broadway of the old days.

## THE TRUE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

By Rev. Alan Pressley Wilson. Written for Western Newspaper Union.

"At Christmas be merry, and withal, And feast thy poor neighbors, the great with the small."

So wrote the poet Tusser many years ago, but the suggestion is just as pertinent today as it was then. If anything, we need to be reminded of our duty to our fellowman more today than our fathers did—more today, indeed, than ever before. This is true because the need for brotherhood is even more patent than at any other period of the history of the world.

We live in an age when we think solely of ourselves and our immediate families and we should have brought to our attention the fact that we owe a debt to our neighbor and that that debt must be paid. The story is told of a rich man who prayed— "Oh, Lord! bless me and my wife, My son, John, and his wife; Us four And no more!"

We blush for shame that there could be found one who is so narrow, yet I am assured that such people exist today. There are those who, when they have satisfied the needs of their own, assume a self-satisfied air and say that they have done their whole duty. Approach such a person and remind him of the need of a friend or a neighbor and he will ask the time-worn question: "Am I my brother's keeper? Haven't I enough to do to look after my own family?" The teachings of Jesus Christ answer the first question in the affirmative (and the latter in the negative) (with even more emphasis than God answered Cain when he originated the selfish inquiry. Jesus taught us in the greater commandment—"Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself," and His definition of "neighbor" is any one who needs our help. Territorial or other limitations do not apply when the case of one in need is before us.

There is no geographical limitation when we are extending the hand of assistance to one who needs our help: wherever there is found one or more whom we can (and should) assist, there neighborliness must begin.

A minister once approached one of his parishoners with the request for a contribution for the purpose of doing Christian work abroad. The particular field he had in mind was China. The man replied that he was willing to help his neighbors but did not think he was called upon to help those as far away as China.

"Whom do you consider your neighbor?" asked the minister. "The man whose farm adjoins me," was the prompt reply. "How far down into the earth does your land extend?" was the next question and the farmer just as promptly answered: "To the center!" "Very well," said the minister quickly, "there is a man down in China whose land joins yours at the center of the earth; he is therefore your neighbor and needs your help." This was a new thought to the slow-going church member. He learned his lesson and we need to learn the same. Only as we do so will we be able to broaden our lives into the fullness of the life of Jesus the Christ.

The application of the teaching of Jesus to business and society would produce a perpetual Christmas season; a time of peace and joy and happiness lasting throughout the year.

The giving of cheap presents or money, however, does not constitute Christmas; as well expect a bouquet of flowers (however lovely) to constitute summer! The Christmas spirit, rather than the Christmas show, honors Him whose birth, no less than His life, was the greatest Christmas gift the world has ever received. The Christmas spirit brings us into closer touch with Him whose very life was an exemplification of the precept: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

As we celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Jesus let not the going down of the sun mark the decline of the Christmas spirit, but, as the days come and go, and we enter the new year, let us each one reach out the loving hand to the sick, the unfortunate, and the outcast, remembering that Jesus the Christ said: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of one of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto Me."

## BANKS OF CITY TO TAKE TWO HOLIDAYS

The banks of the city will take today and tomorrow for the Christmas holidays, opening again for business Saturday morning at the usual hours.

Miss Ada Holmes Davis, of Winthrop College, is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Davis.