GOVERNOR COOPER STANDS FAST FOR REAL PROGRESS

Inaugural Address Emphasizes Necessity For Development and Conservation of Natural Resources

EDUCATION OF ALL THE PEOPLE MOST IMPORTANT

Bold Stand Against the Clamor For Ruthless Reduction of Taxation and Abandonment of Progressive Policies

Columbia, Jan. 18.—Pleading with the general assembly for liberality in making appropriations for education, and for a total for the state department of education of approximately two million dollars, Governor Cooper today delivered to the joint assembly of the legislature his second inaugural address, on the subject of education, and he took the oath of office the second time, standing at the threshold of his second term in office. The oath was administered by Associate Justice Watts, of the supreme court. In his address, which was a strong essay on the educational system of the state, the governor urged education as the first necessity for any high achievement in life. "Our fundamental need is education," he said.

"There are millions of idle acres in this state," he said; "there are vast other natural resources undeveloped. There are hundreds of thousands of acres of cut-over lands that show the ruthless hand of one who cuts in the absence of intelligent forestry laws, there are possibilities for diversified agriculture which are untouched, there, there are chances, almost without number, for making this state a place that will lure the best class of settlers, a place where many may dwell in the midst of smiling plenty, where home owning will become far more general, where the common level of happiness will rise high above its present plans. But it is idle, my friends, yes, it is idle to attempt to achieve the highest life of which we are capable unless we first have education."

In his address Governor Cooper repeated his desire for relieving the people "of all possible financial pressure." "But we are not so poor," he added, "indeed we could never be as poor as to justify us in taking away from our people the one thing most necessary for the accumulation of wealth."

The governor stated that compulsory education, in its first year, 1920, increased the school attendance by 89,000, bringing the total school enrollment to a half million. Approximately a thousand school districts voted special school levies last year, he said, leaving only a handful of districts not doing so.

The governor asked for the appropriation of $600,000 to carry out the state's contract under the high school act, declaring that there should be 30,000 boys and girls in high school, instead of the present 14,000.

He asked for $525,000 to carry out the law guaranteeing seven months of school term to weak schools.

He asked that $970,000 be appropriated for the provisions of the equalization law and the rural graded school law. He asked that $100,000 be appropriated for the building program called for under the act of 1920. He urged also liberality in appropriations for the fight against illiteracy among adults; for the betterment of negro schools; for rural school supervision; for mill schools, and for the expenses of the educational department. The cost of administering the school funds in 1920, he said, was less than two per cent. "Retrogression should now be unthinkable," he said.

Four and a Half Mills.

The governor told his hearers that the tax necessary to produce the funds asked for public education this year would reach a total of four and a-half mills, or possibly four and three-quarter mills. "A quarter of a century ago it was thought that the constitutional three mill tax would be sufficient," he commented.

The governor suggested that the office of county superintendent of education be put on a professional full-time basis. He said no person should be allowed to hold this office unless possessing the necessary qualifications. The governor expressed the view that the county board of education should be elective by the people, and that this board should employ the county superintendent of education.

The Colleges.

The governor also urged that the colleges be given careful consideration when the legislature came to the matter of appropriations. "I beg of you that in curtailing, as we must," he said, "you consider the whole of the educational system in the light of the public good."

Other Officials.

Lieut. Governor-elect Wilson C. Harvey, of Charleston, was also sworn into office today, as president of the senate, Walter E. Duncan, of Aiken, was the only other new state official to be sworn into office. He today assumed the office of comptroller general, to which he was elected last fall, without opposition.

The inauguration ceremonies took place before a distinguished audience, state officials and a number of ladies being in attendance. Members of the United States congress were also invited. There were many

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...eling of profound grate... ...with a deep sense of re... ...come before you to de... ...liver this, my second inaugural address. In return for the distinguished honor bestowed upon me I desire, above all other things, to render real service to the people of South Carolina.

For many years I have given my best thought to the problems affecting our inalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and during all these years the conviction has grown upon me that our fundamental need is education. Hence it comes about that I have selected education as my theme today. Going up and down the state, and to and fro therein, there have come to my attention many great needs, many things which are essential to a high level of common happiness. I see clearly our fine accomplishments, and no man is prouder than I am of them. Yet it seems to me that we should address ourselves to doing tasks that are needed, rather than lauding tasks that have been done. It is unpleasant, sometimes, to be a realist; and perchance it will be irksome to you for me to dwell upon our deficiencies. How, though, are we to correct conditions unless we first look them squarely in the face? On the promise that we must see clearly things as they are before we can take steps to effect remedies, I shall proceed in this brief talk.

Why is it that we lay waste our forests with so little thought for the future? Why is it that we deplete, rather than develop, our coastal industries? Why do we so often till our fields but indifferently, and provide so inadequately for marketing of diversified agricultural products? Why do we worry along under an outworn tax system, splash and jolt over bad roads, leave undeveloped our potential resources? In short, why have we, to some extent, at least, pitched our lives upon a plane not commensurate with the lavish generosity nature has displayed? Surely God has vouchsafed to us every opportunity to help ourselves. It is not that we are sluggards, and it is not that we lack the urge begot of devotion to a great state. The answer, my friends, is that we lack information. Putting it differently, we lack education.

One who is familiar with our history will understand why we dropped behind other states in the matter of education. Hard hit by the war of secession, and still harder hit by the dark days that ensued, we became a people who were, relatively speaking, without money. I shall not recount all the factors which enter into a proper explanation of our present condition, for explanations are of secondary importance. Elimination of retarding forces is the thing we want.

Among the many principal elements essential to a happy democracy are native mental ability and information. We have the former in as full measure as any people; but the latter we have not made available to all the boys and girls who reside within our borders. The time was when those who made laws and those who executed them could forget the man who throughout the sultry days followed the plow up and down the furrows, and also the man who in other ways toiled with his muscles. But that time is happily passed forever. The structure of society rests upon the man who toils, he is of primary importance. He must, regardless of cost, be given the education which is required in order to enable him to understand his work and to do it in the most telling fashion.

In the modern world one's innate mental strength and one's muscular energy are not sufficient to meet the everyday needs of life. The mind must be trained; ideas and information must be implanted in it. This can be done only through a system of schools. A democracy can travel no faster and no further than the average man. The way to advance, in a democracy, is to afford a higher degree of mental training to the average man and average woman. Let education be general and efficient, and then will we see progress in all other worthy lines of human effort. Our fields will be better cultivated, our homes more attractive, our churches more inspiring, our thrift more pronounced, social legislation will go forward with great bounds. But let education be lacking, and we shall behold a dismal society, clogged and stagnant. Our idle water powers, our devastated forests, our diminishing fish and game, our whole economic life, and more important still, our boys and girls cry out aloud for enlightenment, and woe betide that man who does not lend a helping hand to the removal of our greatest stumbling block—an inadequate educational system.

It is little more than idle to attempt progress by following any path save that which leads through the school. We can never hope to achieve economic independence, social improvement, freedom of effort, self-expression and the like until we have first given to every one the mental equipment necessary to cope with present day life.

One hears much talk now of relieving taxes, and very sincerely do I desire to relieve our people of all possible financial pressure. But we are not so poor, indeed we could never be so poor as to justify us in taking away from our people the one thing most necessary for the accumulation of wealth. The more difficult we find the economic and social conditions, the more do we need education. No, my friends, we must not hurt the schools. We have started in the right direction: we should increase the speed with which we are traveling. In the days to come, blessed will be the name of the men who, through sacrifice on their part gave birth and strength to an educational awakening in this state. Cut somewhere else, if you must, but touch not with penurious hands the foundation of successful living.

Taxation is nothing more than a method of securing to all the people at the lowest cost by responsible agencies the benefits of common action and common institutions. Public expenditures for such institutions are an investment. In a democracy such as ours public education is today the chief object of expenditure. The public school is perhaps the most distinctive of American institutions. The maintenance of public education is guaranteed in the constitutions and laws of the forty-eight states. The fifty-second year of South Carolina's educational system, embracing elementary schools, secondary schools and institutions of higher learning, closed June 30, 1920. The progress achieved during this period not only proves the worth of the system, but the necessity for improving it.

During the year 1920 (the first year of compulsory attendance) school attendance in this state was increased by more than 89,000, making the total enrollment approximately 500,000. The expenditure for education was greater than ever before, and the results more satisfactory. Approximately one thousand school districts have voted additional school levies since January, 1920, leaving only a handful of districts which still decline to vote extra money for schools. Ninety-eight per cent. of the districts in the state are now paying local school taxes.

State appropriations for elementary and secondary schools in the year just closed amounted to approximately $1,000,000.00. For the year now beginning the state appropriation must be approximately $2,000,000.00, if progress is to be maintained as it should, and if all laws now on the books are to be complied with. It is of no value to enact a law which costs money, and then fail to make the appropriation. The laws are good. The demand that they be put into effect is based upon interest in the common weal. For every dollar supplied from the state treasury to the schools, the local patrons are supplying three. These state subsidies, which furnish such great impetus, are regulated by thirteen acts of the general assembly, relating to high schools, overcrowding in elementary grades of secondary schools, to the guarantee of a seven months' term, to rural graded schools, to buildings, to vocational training, to term extension, to school attendance, to the teaching of agriculture, industry and home economics, to the certification and examination of teachers, to libraries, to local school improvement work and to the placement of teachers. Each statute is based on the principle of self-help; that is, before state aid is granted, the district must levy a local tax.

To illustrate how favorably these laws are reacted to, I cite you to the fact that four-fifths of the high schools of the state have voted levies of ten mills or more. In order to carry out the state's part of the contract under this high school law, at least $600,000 will be needed in 1921. If any of my hearers are astounded at that figure, I beg that they bear in mind the number of boys and girls now being trained in high schools of this state, namely, 14,000. But that is not all of the picture. Before South Carolina reaches the general level of the nation in secondary schools, at least 30,000 pupils must be enrolled in high schools, sometimes called, and very properly, the "colleges of the people." And let us reflect that some sixty per cent of those who go to high school, prusue their studies no further. We must train them well in these secondary schools, or forever lose our chance. And then let us reflect again that less than seven per cent., barely half the average for the United States, of our total white enrollment enters high schools. So we must train the great majority as well as we may in the elementary schools, or forever lose the chance to give them a fair start and fair opportunity to achieve a successful life.

South Carolina is distinctively an agricultural State. Our people and our interests are predominantly rural, and our educational problem is essentially rural. For years we struggled along without any semblance of a standard in rural education, but in recent years the General Assembly has wisely emphasized and aided rural school development. The act guaranteeing a seven months' term and providing an adequate teaching corps in country districts is a landmak in the history of rural education. Along with this, the act to encourage consolidated and graded schools, better known as the Graded School act, has for the first time brought moderately efficient schools to our country districts. Neither of these laws, however, has reached the ideal. The school term is fixed at seven months for the one reason that we must go up by progress. The average term now in rural schools is only six and three-tenths months. To be content with anything less than seven months is to deny to helpless, hopeless childhood its birth right and opportunity.

In 1920 an appropriation of $140,000 was made under the law guaranteeing a seven months' term. This was disbursed to 418 districts on the basis of forty-seven cents on the dollar. To carry out this law in the current year $525,000 will be needed. Failure to maintain the standard set by this law will inevitably mean retrogression and reaction.

Half the boys and girls of the State are beneficiaries of the Equalizing law and the Rural Graded School Law. The appropriation asked under these two statutes totals $970,000, a figure larger than the combined totals for the public schools in 1920. The prosperity of last year made a progressive and forward looking program easy. The depression of the present time will compel economy and curtailment along many lines. Abbreviation of the seven-months' law, however, should not be contemplated for a moment. Economy, so-called, at the expense and sacrifice of boys and girls, would be little less than criminal negligence. Rural South Carolina must not be condemned to ignorance and illiteracy.

The enactment of the compulsory attendance law was a great step forward. But we cannot stop with merely passing the law. Forcing children into school rooms carries with it the responsibility to supply adequate physical equipment and a sufficient number of competent teachers. More school buildings are required. The building act of 1920 will require $100,000 in 1921.

Seven appropriations have been granted heretofore for special needs not covered by statute. These are the appropriations for the removal of illiteracy, for the betterment of negro schools, for the salaries and operation of the state superintendent's office, public school printing, rural school supervision, mill school inspection and a small sum for per diem and expense of the state board of education. These minor items are also important. The administration of state funds is 1920 cost less than two per cent. of the amount provided. Outsiders are now contributing more for the maintenance of the State superintendent's office than the state itself contributes. To cripple this office by withholding necessary funds would be most unwise.

I have not recounted all of the items recommended for appropriation this year, but have selected a few so as to give you an idea of what the increase are needed for. The total for elementary and secondary education, as I have said, must be approximately two million dollars, if the program authorized by law is to be carried forward, as it unquestionably should be, and as I sincerely hope it will be. Retrogression now should be unthinkable.

A quarter of a century ago it was thought that the constitutional three mill tax would be sufficient. Now that tax, though its results have increased with advancing assessments, supplies only fifteen per cent. of the public school revenue. We have grown rapidly, my friends, and must continue as we have started. The amount recommended this year for common schools can be raised by a State tax of four and one-half or four and three-quarters mills. Remembering the importance of the cause, this statemen should alarm no one. The tax would be amply justified by the results. Without it, the state, and particularly the children of the poor and but moderately well-to-do, will suffer irreparable injury.

I wish to suggest to you that the office of County Superintendent of education should be put on a professional, full-time basis. The educational leadership of the county depends upon the personality and equipment of the county superintendent. Every increase in school support, from whatever source, adds to the work and responsibility of the county superintendent. School statistics are compiled by him. Students of education, both in and out of the state, base their conclusions on his data. It is widely published that South Carolina stands at the bottom in the list of states in educational efficiency. This standing can scarcely be improved until the facts are properly collected and collated. This matter of reputation is the least argument for the improvement of the status of the county superintendency. It is, however, one that must appeal to men who love the good name of South Carolina. The county superintendent should be able to supervise intelligently and direct the teaching in all the schools of the county, and no person should be allowed to hold this office unless he or she possesses the qualifications necessary for the efficient administration of the office. My own view is that there should be a county board of education, elected by the electors of the county, and that this board should employ the county superintendent, just as the Boards of Education do in our city schools. My chief concern is not, however, in the method of selection but rather in the qualifications of the Superintendent.

So far I have said nothing about the state institutions for higher learning, except as they are included under the general discussion of educational needs. My neglect to mention them specifically does not imply in the least that their value is not recognized. They are essential part of the educational system. Without them, our efforts would be incomplete. They and the common schools are mutually dependent. In the budget which I submit to you this year, I have cut the state colleges everywhere I could without disrupting their activities. I have stressed in this address the elementary and secondary schools because they are the foundation of our society, and without a foundation, no structure can be erected. With the development of common schools will come an irresistible demand for enlargement of the colleges. Indeed, there is already a great demand for enlarging them, and for equipping them to do their maximum amount of work. Just as no one can travel over the state and fail to see the need for graded and high schools, so no one can go about and fail to see the need for the state colleges. They are an incalculably valuable part of the whole, and one cannot hurt a part of such a firmly welded system without hurting the whole. So I beg of you that, in curtailing, as we must, you consider the whole of the educational system in the light of the public good.

Allow me a moment for repeating an idea already advanced. There are millions of idle acres in this state. There are vast other natural resources undeveloped. There are hundreds of thousands of acres of cut over lands that show the ruthless hand of one who cuts in the absence of intelligent forestry laws, there are possibilities of diversifide agriculture which are untouched, there are chances, almost without number, for making this state a place that will lure the best class of settlers, a place where men may dwell in the midst of smiling plenty, where home owning will become far more general, where the common level of happiness will rise above its present plane. But it is idle, my friends, yes, it is idle to attempt to achieve the highest life of which we are capable unless we first have education.

CONGRESS FOR SMALLER ARMY

Washington, Jan. 17.—Congress voted today to limit the size of the regular army to 175,000 enlisted men.

The senate by a vote of 41 to 33 set aside its decision of last week to reduce the army to 150,000 men and then without a record vote adopted the original joint resolution of Senator New, Republican, Indiana, directing the secretary of war to stop recruiting until the army is cut to 175,000 men.

The house ten minutes later adopted a joint resolution sponsored by Chairman Kahn of its military affairs committee also directing the secretary of war to cease enlistments until there are not more than 175,000 enlisted men in the regular establishment. The house vote was 285 to 4, only Repreesntatives Bee, Texas, Blackmon, Alabama, and Coady, Maryland, Democrats, and Cramton, Michigan, a Republican, standing out against the reduction.

The resolutions adopted by the two houses are almost identical in their provisions, each providing that the 175,000 limit shall not prevent the reenlistment of men who have served one or more enlistments in the military service. The language of the two measures, however, differs somewhat and either the senate or house will send its resolution to conference for rearrangement. Action by the joint conference committee of the two houses is expected to be taken speedily and the resultant measure sent to the president.

The action of the two houses was taken against the recommendations of the war department heads and General Pershing. Secretary Baker in appearing before the senate military affairs committee advised against an army of less than 250,000 men after the "present necessity of economy had been relieved." General Pershing told the same committee that an army of 200,000 men constituted a safety margin.

MR. MOISE TAKES OATH

Columbia Jan. 18.—Representative D. D. Moise of Sumter was today sworn in as a member-elect. He was absent all last week on account of his wife's illness.

At a regular meeting of the Board of Health held Monday, Mr. S. O'Quinn tendered his resignation as chairman of that body owing to his acceptation of the office of City Manager. Mr. Quinn will begin his duties in capacity of city manager on the twentieth of this month.

Mr. H. L. Tisdale has been elected as chairman of the Board of Health to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Quinn's resignation.

Mr. W. O. Courtright, of Columbia, who has formerly lived in Sumter and worked here for about four years as Manager of the W. H. Cobb C., Cor. Main and Liberty will return to Sumter on next Thursday and open this store under his own name, he having made the necessary negotiations and purchase of this business. The new name for the business will be the W. O. Courtright Co.

Ecuador at the time of the Spanish conquest was a part of the great empire of the Incas.

Alexander the Great was prevented by his death from carrying out his plan of restoring Babylon to its former splendor.

MINE WORKERS ASK FOR TROOPS

Washington, Jan. 18.—Request for federal troops to be sent to the mine strike district of Alabama to replace the Alabama militia was received at the White House from the United Mine Workers of Alabama. The request was referred to the war department and it is said officials there have decided to honor the request if it should come from the governor, if the situation warrants their presence.

Montgomery, Jan. 18.—Governor Kilby today said that state troops are able to cope with the situation and he had no disposition to entertain the request to ask for federal troops.

Jasper, Ala., Jan. 18.—Under a heavy military guard the six witnesses examined today by the special grand jury inquiring into the lynching of William Baird, miner, and eleven members of the National Guard under arrest in connection with the lynching of Baird was in jail charged with killing the guardsman, when a small mob took and lynched him.

TROUBLE BETWEEN FRENCH & RUSSIANS

Constantinople, Jan. 18.—French black troops turned machine guns on mutinous Cossacks of Wrangel's army. The former's army was encamped twenty-five miles from here Saturday night after the Cossacks had disarmed their officers. The Russians returned fire, killing ten Senegalese and wounding twenty others and two French officers.

Scout News.

The scouts of Troop 1 had their regular meeting on last Tuesday night at the scout room at the Y. The members o fthe troop committee, J. Y. Todd, chairman; Dr. D. W. Green and Scoutmaster W. M. Levi were present with the boys and conducted examinations.

Scouts Harry Ryttenberg, Sammy Harby and Blanding Upshur, passed all tests necessary to become first class scouts and were officially awarded their first class scout badges.

The following scouts passed the tests to become second class scouts and were awarded second class scout badges, William Bryan, Jr., Willard Mims, James Blanding, Charles Cutino, Robert Eultman, J. C. Copper, Jr., Perry Moses, Jr., and Lorraine Dwyer.

There will be great deal of rivalry between all of the patrols composing troop 1, as to which patrol will make the best record for the next three months.

Cash prizes have been offered by the scout committee to the three scouts who make the largest number of points under the new point system which is to be put into effect at once.

Scout Randolph Guthrie has recently been presented with a gold first class scout pin from Scoutmaster Levi in appreciation of the good and faithful work which he has done in his patrol known as the Stags.

Scoutmaster W. M. Levi is in receipt of the following letter which was greatly appreciated. The money will be used to very great advantage by the scouts:

Mr. W. M. Levi, Scout Master,
Sumter, S. C.

Dear Sir: Enclosed please find check for $30.00, which the Sumter Shrine Club desires to contribute to the Boy Scout organization of Sumter in recognition of the valuable services rendered by fifteen scouts during the recent meeting of Omar Temple.

Very truly yours,
R. L. McLeod,
Secretary Sumter Shrine Club.

Marriage Licenses.

The following marriage licenses have been issued to the following colored couples:

Clarence Miller and Emma Young of Rembert.

Aaron Johnson and Bertha Munton of Sumter.

NEILL O'DONNELL
President

O. E. PATES,
Cashier

The First National Bank

Extends to all its friends and patrons a very happy and prosperous New Year.

The National Bank of South Carolina
of Sumter, S. C.
Resources $2,600,000.

Strong and Progressive
The Most Painstaking SERVICE with COURTESY
Give us the Pleasure of Serving You

The Bank of the Rank and File

C. G. ROWLAND, President
EARLE ROWLAND, Cashier