ANNUAL MESSAGE
OF
RICHARD I. MANNING
GOVERNOR
TO THE
General Assembly of South Carolina
AT THE
Regular Session, Beginning January 14, 1919
ANNUAL MESSAGE

Gentlemen of the General Assembly:

Under the Constitution it is my privilege and duty to submit to you my annual message. We are more interested in the future than in the past, but, in view of the fact that I am now nearing the close of my second term, I trust you will pardon me for making a partial review of the progress of the past four years. To note what has been accomplished will aid and encourage us with respect to the future. I desire at the outset to acknowledge the cooperation and assistance of the Legislature, the pulpit, the press, and all other agencies that have contributed to these results. I have earnestly striven to select men solely with a view to their character, fitness and efficiency, and it is a source of pride to me that the men appointed to serve on the different boards and commissions have performed the work so efficiently and thoroughly.

When I assumed the office of Governor four years ago, you will recall the fact that the party rules and the laws governing primary elections were loose, and were conspicuous by lack of safeguards which would guarantee to every man qualified to vote the right to vote once, but only once, in an election. Now the party rules have been strengthened, and the laws governing primary elections have been tightened. As far back as 1894 I introduced in the Legislature a bill to provide the Australian Ballot system. The Australian Ballot system has now been enacted into law, and has been found a safeguard and guaranty for the free and untrammeled expression of the popular will.

Four years ago the law was a by-word and reproach. The verdicts of juries and the sentences of the Courts had been ruthlessly set aside; bar-rooms were in operation in violation of the law; gambling was openly practiced, and the race-track crowd had free swing to operate as they pleased. Other lawless and immoral acts were committed without concealment, and without punishment. These conditions had so much encouragement that they were regarded as almost irremediable. Criminals claimed a vested interest in crime, and regarded themselves as secure from punishment. Violations of law were committed with the certain knowledge that pardons would be forthcoming. During the four-
year period preceding the beginning of my first administration, one thousand seven hundred and eight pardons and paroles were granted, an average of more than one convicted criminal a day released upon society.

In my campaign I had promised the people of South Carolina to correct these evils. I put my hand on the situation, relentlessly and without discrimination. Today the situation is changed: good citizens respect and criminals fear the law, and there is no longer any one community that can be held up as an example of lawlessness. Grand juries, from the force of public opinion, now bring in True Bills, and petit juries bring in verdicts of guilty where guilt exists. Certain local authorities which formerly flagrantly violated the law now faithfully and efficiently support the law. Public sentiment is healthy, and this public spirit has strengthened our Courts and the hands of officers of the law.

In the enforcement of the prohibition laws the work of the State Constabulary must be given recognition. The Constabulary has taken the initiative in keeping down violations, and in rigid enforcement, and while the cooperation of county and municipal law officers has been given, I am convinced that without the State Constabulary violations of the liquor laws would again multiply. I consider the Constabulary essential to enforcement of the prohibition law.

Throughout the State I advocated local option compulsory school attendance. The opposition to compulsory attendance was vigorous. I believed then that such a law would be the opening wedge for a State-wide compulsory attendance law, and public sentiment would demand increasing school facilities until such a law would become a necessity. The Legislature enacted the local option compulsory attendance law, and it has been put into operation in two hundred and thirty, or one-eighth of the school districts of the State. It has been demonstrated that it is practicable and workable. It has therefore achieved its purpose, and has blazed the way for an expansion of that principle, so that today there is an insistent and strong demand for a State-wide compulsory law.

A distinct advance has been made in legislation affecting education. Placing the insurance of school houses under the Sinking Fund Commission has meant a great saving. Provision for a Supervisor of Mill Schools has proven of distinct benefit. There has been a large growth in the number of school districts which...
have levied local taxes, and today eight-ninths, or one thousand six hundred and fifty-nine school districts have voted local taxes for school purposes. Night schools were inaugurated in 1916. The Act of the General Assembly providing for longer terms required a term of seven months, where the local levy was as much as eight mills and twenty-five pupils attend a school. This was marked progress. Notwithstanding war conditions and the scarcity of labor, enrollment and average attendance have been maintained. There has been an increase of about twenty per cent. in the salaries of teachers, especially the women teachers, and the State appropriation for education during 1918 is more than double the appropriation for 1914.

Eighty-five per cent. of the population of South Carolina is engaged in agriculture. The necessity for greater skill and science in this important industry has been felt, and it is a matter of gratification to me that agricultural training in the schools has been instituted. Later I shall submit to you a recommendation on vocational training in agriculture, industry and home economics.

The creation of the Board of Conciliation was another wise step which the Legislature took to settle the disputes between employer and employee. In many instances it has performed this function, and has brought about a peaceable settlement of disputes which promised to be serious.

The Highway Commission was created in 1917, with the idea of giving to the State a comprehensive and scientific system of roads. The Commission has not been able to accomplish what was desired, because of the inadequacies of the law under which it operates, but a valuable start has been made which promises well for the future.

In 1915 the age limit for child labor in South Carolina was raised to fourteen years; and again in 1916 the Legislature very wisely raised the limit to sixteen years. This is of the greatest importance, since it affects the whole fabric of our social and economic life.

The Torrens system of land registration was enacted into law by the Legislature during my first administration, but in my judgment a prerequisite to the practical application of this law would be a complete survey of the land tracts in each county.

In 1916 the debt of the State was refunded at the rate of four per cent. instead of four and one-half per cent., as in the former
issue. The saving in interest resulting from the reduction in the rate, and retiring a part of the principal of the State debt, will be $36,754.76 annually. The refunded bonds have not the tax deduction feature as did the old Brown bonds, and this has added to the taxable property of the State a million and a half dollars which before escaped taxation, and which will increase the revenue of the State about thirty thousand dollars annually, making a total saving each year of over $66,000.00.

The credit of the State stands high, as is attested by the fact that money for the current expenses of the State Government has been borrowed at a lower rate of interest than other States have obtained. In one year money for this purpose was borrowed at two per cent.

HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

From the beginning of my administration in 1915, and, indeed, for years before that, the unfortunate in our State—the poor, the mentally defective, delinquent boys and wayward girls—have had my constant concern, and so ever since I became Governor I have encouraged and helped progressive measures along these lines in every way I could.

During the several years before my election there developed a widespread disapproval of the conditions in the State Hospital for the Insane, but repeated and urgent recommendations by the governing bodies had secured little legislative response. I found the physical condition of the institution was intolerable if we were to consider the treatment of the unfortunate patients as a solemn duty dictated by humaneness and charity. Their treatment was custodial rather than remedial, and even this treatment was under wretched conditions.

Therefore, before my inauguration, I asked Dr. Thomas W. Salmon, Medical Director of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene, to suggest a man well versed in the modern treatment of the insane, to study the hospital in detail, and advise as to its reorganization along the best lines. Accordingly, Dr. A. P. Herrick, Secretary of the Lunacy Commission of Maryland, made such an investigation and report, which I transmitted to the Legislature during its session in 1915. A few days thereafter the Legislature, in a body, visited the hospital and saw for themselves the condition disclosed in the report. Before the Legislature adjourned they projected a four-year program of reorganization, to cost six hundred thousand dollars.
The Legislature found scattered through the four separate buildings more than eighty separate dining rooms, with accompanying kitchens. There were in the white women's ward alone ninety-two violent patients, confined in cells. They were restrained by the use of leather straps, which were attached to the wall. The fire hazard was tremendous, and the protection absolutely inadequate and inoperative. The fire hose could not be attached to the hydrant because they did not fit, and it was appalling to think what a terrible disaster could occur were a fire to break out in the nighttime. With an average population of one thousand, seven hundred and thirty-eight the year before, the regular physicians who were giving all their time to the care of patients numbered only three, while three others had been serving on a part time basis.

In the men's ward I could enumerate numbers of cases of violent patients confined in cells too filthy to describe. The diet of the patients was not suitable for sick people and was often served cold for lack of facilities. I need not lengthen the recital of the fearful conditions existing there.

Since that visit the four-year program of reconstruction has been carried out as fully as war conditions would permit. Two congregate dining rooms and a central kitchen have been constructed; the wards have been rebuilt, and the fire hazard reduced to a minimum; the fire-fighting facilities are modern, and exterior exits shut off by the fireproof screens have been built on the ends of the wards. Mechanical restraint in the treatment of violent patients has been eliminated, and every piece of such apparatus removed from the wards. Hydrotherapy, warm packs and other rational methods are now used instead. Occupation is furnished to the patients equal to it; exercise and plenty of fresh air allowed, and diversion and entertainment furnished. The number of nurses has greatly increased, and besides the Superintendent, who is himself a physician, an adequate number of physicians give their entire time to the care of the patients, while several specialists serve a part of the time. Helpful recreation has been scientifically encouraged, and diversional occupation has been developed until a large per cent. of the patients are now being so treated. The large savings affected through better business management, have been put into improved medical and nursing services and diet. The effect of these and other improve-
ments is seen in the fact that the death rate has been reduced to about one-half.

The State has not completed its task at its Hospital for the Insane. Much remains to be done for the hospital, whose patients now number over two thousand, and whose admissions average nearly one hundred a month. The work is progressive and is in reality never finished. But we can now point to our State Hospital with pride, for we have made a wonderful advance in providing a modern plant adapted to the needs of the patients. The remodelling of the hospital would have been much further advanced and at much less cost had not the work been retarded and prices of material affected by war conditions.

For the management of the hospital, the Board of Regents, and Dr. Williams, the Superintendent, I have nothing but the highest praise. These men have given their best to the institution in a spirit of self-sacrificing devotion and consecration, and in the utmost loyalty to their unfortunate wards and the interest of the State.

The welfare of the inmates of the State Hospital for the Insane weighs heavily upon my heart, and I commend them to your earnest and abiding consideration.

STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTIONS.

I wish to call your attention, with the utmost earnestness, to the work of the State Board of Charities and Corrections, which was created in 1915. This board is composed of five unselfish, unpaid, public-spirited men. It has been generously and worthily supported. Like similar agencies in other States, it is wisely without administrative authority. It is purely visitorial and advisory, with general supervision over the prisons, jails, chain-gangs, reformatories, poor houses, other charitable institutions and work throughout the State, whether they are supported by public funds or private philanthropies. In the beginning the board announced, and has ever since maintained, the policy of sympathetic cooperation with officials in bettering conditions. It has studied the problems of its field in South Carolina. It has informed itself of the best means and methods employed in other States to meet similar difficulties, and with intelligence and devotion it has exhausted every effort to apply to our needs such remedies as are proved to be the best. It has worked with tact and restraint.
The people of the State and the Legislature have responded in a striking manner to their leadership. It witness thereof I point you to the Act creating the State Training School for the Feeble Minded, passed a year ago. This institution has secured a splendid site of about 1,200 acres, on the Seaboard Air Line and the Columbia, Newberry and Laurens Railroads, near Clinton, largely the gift of the people of Clinton. Construction is under way. It will care for the mentally defective of both sexes and both races.

I wish to call your attention to the Act creating the State Industrial School for Girls, an institution which will care for delinquent white girls. I hope you will make similar provision for negro girls. The Federal Government has helped the State to the extent of forty thousand dollars, and has given wise and expert counsel. Girls are being cared for in a rented building at Campobello, in Spartanburg County, until the State building, now under construction, is completed.

Again, the Legislature divorced the State Reformatory for Negro Boys entirely from the State Penitentiary, of which it had been a part. The South Carolina Industrial School at Florence for white boys, and the State Industrial School for Girls, and the State Reformatory for Negro Boys are now under the management of one board.

In taking over the Doctor John De La Howe Industrial School, near McCormick, the bill for which was drafted by the State Board of Charities and Corrections, the State has expressed its appreciation of this valuable property, virtually given it more than a hundred years ago, but never developed, and has begun a system of State care for a certain type of unfortunate children for whom there is no adequate provision otherwise in South Carolina.

A proposition from the Federal Government to provide a building on State lands for the establishment of an Industrial Prison for Women, contingent upon provision being made by the Board of Directors of the Penitentiary for maintenance of the women prisoners, was accepted after the Board of Directors of the Penitentiary had agreed to the proposal. I have received the assurance of the authorities at Washington that the building will be erected at a cost of between $35,000 and $40,000. This matter has been held up, however, pending amendment to the bill in Congress providing funds. I am assured that the amendment will be adopted.
These are but some of the steps that have been taken under the constructive leadership of the board. The board, itself, has been of financial profit to the State, for the total amount appropriated for its maintenance is $46,670, while through its work in investigating applicants for free tuition in State Colleges, and free treatment in the State Hospital for the Insane, it has effected an increase in the financial income of these State institutions, totaling $146,035.37, of which about $90,000 has been actually collected. In other words, the State Board of Charities and Corrections has produced a revenue of $43,330 in excess of appropriations for its maintenance. In view of its constructive work already accomplished, and of the approval of its plans by the people thus far, its recommendations for comprehensive legislation in this field in our State is worthy of your thoughtful consideration.

SOUTH CAROLINA TAX COMMISSION.

The inadequacy of our tax system is generally recognized. Inequalities in assessments in all classes of property before the organization of the Tax Commission were glaring. In 1915 the Legislature created a Tax Commission, for the purpose of equalizing assessments, and to discover property subject to taxation which had heretofore escaped it. This was an enormous and most important work. Such a work could not be popular, because the pocket nerve is sensitive, and such a reform affected many persons whose property was not bearing its just proportion of taxation, and much of it had escaped taxation altogether. It was impossible for the Tax Commission to assess and equalize all taxable property throughout the State at once. Real estate could not be assessed until 1918, as the statutes provide for the assessment of real estate once every four years.

The commission selected banks as the first class of property, as the facts regarding them were easily obtainable. As it was impossible to equalize all classes of property at one time, it was deemed best not to disturb the relative assessments of banks and other property, and in order to do this the commission ascertained what the average assessment of banks was at the time it began its work. This average was found to be forty-two per cent. of the actual value of the shares, and the commission applied that percentage to bank shares throughout the State. Before this was done the assessed value of bank stocks in the same county ran from less than twenty per cent. to more than sixty per cent. of
their value. The average assessment of bank shares in one county was as low as twenty-nine per cent., while in another county the average was as high as ninety per cent. of the actual value. It was found that one bank was assessed as low as nine per cent. of its value. Now bank stocks are uniformly assessed throughout the State at forty-two per cent.

The Tax Commission then took up the equalization of the assessment of livestock. The assessment of mules varied from twenty-eight dollars to one hundred dollars. The assessed value of horses varied from an average of twenty-seven dollars in one county to ninety-two dollars in another county; cattle from an average of seven dollars in one county to an average of fourteen dollars in another. The effort of the commission has been to put such livestock on a forty-two per cent. basis, taking each county as a whole—but equalizing the value of such stock among individuals has not been effected because many of the local assessing authorities have not carried forward that work.

The Tax Commission next took up the assessment of cotton mills, which varied from twenty per cent. of their value to seventy per cent. All cotton mills have now been placed by the commission on a forty-two per cent. basis of the actual value. The result has been that some mills have been increased from twenty per cent. to forty-two per cent., while other mills have been reduced from seventy per cent. to forty-two per cent. The net result has shown an increase in the taxable value.

Similar discrepancies existed in fertilizer plants and oil mills. These have all been placed on a forty-two per cent. basis.

In the case of power plants it was found that the average assessment of such property was about twenty per cent. of their value. The commission by increasing the same to forty-two per cent. added more than six million five hundred thousand dollars to their assessed value. In one case a power plant was assessed at less than ten per cent. of the value thereof. The commission increased the same to forty-two per cent. Street railways are included under the head of power plants.

In 1918 the commission took up the assessment of farm lands, which, as I stated, could only be reassessed once in four years, the four-year period having been reached in 1918, that is the first time that real estate could be assessed since the creation of the commission. This was the most difficult task the commission had yet undertaken. The commission ascertained the average
value of farm lands in each county from all available sources of information. The United States census figures for 1910 were examined. The price paid for land through judicial sales and private sales was also scrutinized. After thus ascertaining the average value of lands by counties, forty-two per cent. thereof being the basis of assessment for all other property which the commission had equalized, the same percentage was applied to the value of farm lands. The result was that in some counties no increase in the average assessed value of farm lands was made, while the general increase ranged from ten per cent. to one hundred and fifty per cent. of the former average assessment.

For illustration, $7,070,720, the assessment for Union County in 1917, at 9½ mills, would be $67,171.84. $7,807,420, the assessment for 1918, at 8¼ mills, would be $64,411.21, which means that Union County, under the reassessment by the Tax Commission, will contribute to the support of the State Government $2,760.62 less than it would have had there been no reassessment.

Equalization of farm lands as between individual owners has been left to the local county authorities. In some of these counties this work has been reasonably well carried out, but in others it would seem that no effort has been made toward equalizing farm lands among individual owners, and that the law requiring such equalization has been wholly disregarded in some instances, and largely so in others. The remedy for such failure to carry out the law rests with you. In many cases individual taxpayers have appealed to the Tax Commission, complaining of excess assessments made against their property by local boards. In the majority of the appeals the commission has granted a reduction, but in other instances the action of the local boards has been sustained.

Appended hereto is a comparative statement of assessments in 1914 and 1918, showing the result of the work of equalization by the Tax Commission. This shows a net increase in 1918 over 1914 of $70,911,153.00. The equalization and reassessment of farm lands shows an increase of $47,087,415.00 in 1918 over the assessed value in 1914. I append a statement showing the assessments for these years.

As a result of the reassessment of farm lands in 1918, and equalization in assessments of other classes of property, giving a large increase in the taxable property of the State, the Comptroller General has been able to reduce the State levy from 9½
mills to $1\frac{1}{4}$ mills, and it is shown further that even with the reduction in the State levy to $1\frac{1}{4}$ mills a larger amount of money has been raised than would have been raised with the $9\frac{1}{2}$ mills without the equalization. In other words, a $9\frac{1}{2}$ mill levy on $32,000,000$, the taxable property for 1917, would raise $3,040,000.00. Eight and one-fourth mills, the reduced levy on $376,176,581.00, will raise $3,103,452.00.

It will be seen, therefore, that the Tax Commission has made substantial progress in the equalization of assessments, and at the same time has placed on the tax books much property which formerly escaped taxation altogether. Further means are needed to require the local authorities to perform their duties under the statutes. This work is never ending. It requires constant scrutiny and vigilance in order to maintain equalization of assessments, and to see that no property is lost sight of and does not escape taxation.

Total assessed value of all property in South Carolina:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1910</th>
<th>1914</th>
<th>1918</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$279,755,349.00</td>
<td>$307,178,882.00</td>
<td>$376,176,581.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net increase 1918 assessment over 1914 assessment is $69,000,000.00.

Comparative Assessments of Corporations for 1914 and 1918:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1914</th>
<th>1918</th>
<th>Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Banks</td>
<td>$13,044,635</td>
<td>$14,155,171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textile Plants</td>
<td>30,564,424</td>
<td>36,504,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton Oil Mills</td>
<td>1,680,390</td>
<td>2,012,410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fertilizer Plants</td>
<td>1,325,042</td>
<td>3,660,257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Express, Palace Car, Telephone and Telegraph Companies</td>
<td>2,820,661</td>
<td>3,241,526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street Rys., Light &amp; Power Cos.—</td>
<td>4,443,434</td>
<td>10,982,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Railroads</td>
<td>42,837,042</td>
<td>51,598,172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust Companies</td>
<td>446,284</td>
<td>446,284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance Companies</td>
<td>496,240</td>
<td>496,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>$96,715,628</td>
<td>$123,456,107</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above increase on corporations named includes increased assessment on real estate owned by them. This increase on real
estate is also included in the total increase on real estate throughout the State.

Comparative statement showing assessment of farm lands, with buildings and real estate in cities and towns:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1914</th>
<th>1918</th>
<th>Increase 1918</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farm Lands</td>
<td>$74,959,152</td>
<td>$110,919,002</td>
<td>$35,959,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buildings</td>
<td>$17,999,525</td>
<td>$23,507,568</td>
<td>$5,508,043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate in Cities and Towns</td>
<td>$67,694,579</td>
<td>$73,314,101</td>
<td>$5,619,522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$160,643,256</td>
<td>$207,740,671</td>
<td>$47,197,415</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above increase on real estate includes the increase on lands owned by all corporations throughout the State, as well as the increase on farm lands. The lands owned by corporations are entered on the Auditor’s books as farm lands, and there is no way of ascertaining what the exact increase on farm lands have been.

The appropriations for State purposes were made and levy placed to raise such appropriations, based on valuation of approximately $320,000,000.00, that being valuations for 1917. The increases in valuations show as below:

9½ mill levy on $320,000,000 would raise $3,040,000.

8¼ mill levy on $376,176,581 will raise $3,103,452

**THE NATIONAL GUARD.**

Before I assumed the office of Governor an order had been issued disbanding the National Guard. Among the first of my official acts was the issuance of an order declaring the previous order null and void, and re-establishing the National Guard of South Carolina. Whatever difference of opinion may exist as to the character of the organization of the United States Army, the fact remains that the National Guard of South Carolina played a part in the great war in Europe which has established for all time a record for that organization. In the Thirtieth and the Forty-Second Divisions South Carolinians played a conspicuous part by their courage, daring and effectiveness as fighters, and when the history of this war is written these two divisions will be placed in history among the immortals.

Under the Act of the Legislature and by authority of the War Department, sixteen companies of State Reserve Militia have
been organized in South Carolina since the National Guard has been absorbed into the National Army, the Federal Government furnishing arms and ammunition and certain equipment, and the State supplying such additional equipment as is necessary.

The War Department has not promulgated its plans for the reorganization of the Federal Army. In my judgment, this army should be unified into one United States Army, and all distinctions between the Regular Army, National Guard and National Army should be abolished. But, from my experience as Governor, I know that there is a necessity for State troops to maintain order, suppress riots, invasion or insurrection, should these occur within the State.

STATE OFFICES, DEPARTMENTS AND SALARIES.

The several State officials and departments of the State government will submit their reports. These I commend to your careful consideration.

Permit me to make a definite recommendation for your immediate action, which is simply a matter of right, and a recommendation which, since I am retiring from office, I can appropriately make.

The salaries of the State officials are inadequate. The Governor and other State officers cannot live on the salaries now fixed by law. The Constitution provides that the salaries of certain officers shall not be increased nor decreased during their term of office. The State officials elected at the last election will not assume office until January 21. Salaries paid officials of South Carolina are the lowest, with one exception, of any State in the Union. I urge that you take up immediately the consideration of a bill to provide adequate salaries for State officials, and that this measure be pressed through so that it will take effect by the twenty-first of January, 1919, when the newly-elected officials will assume their duties.

SOUTH CAROLINA IN THE WAR AND IN THE FUTURE.

My administration of four years can be divided into two distinct phases. The first two years were taken up with measures of a constructive nature. The second half covers that period in which South Carolina was called upon by the National Govern-
ment to mobilize for the war, and during which the strain of the
war's heavy requirements was borne by the people of the State.

The State Council of Defense, organized in the national emer-
gency immediately after the United States entered the war, at
the request of the Council of National Defense, was conducted
without State appropriation for several months, until the Gen-
eral Assembly, in 1918, provided for its maintenance. Previously
I had named a Commission on Civic Preparedness, which had
perfected organization and begun upon its work. This prelimi-
nary work was of value in paving the way for an effective organ-

The State Council of Defense has been a most important factor
in awakening the war conscience of our people, in organizing the
resources of the State for war, and in its primary functions, serv-
ing as a link between the State and the Nation and coordinating
State efforts with those of the Federal Government. The State
Council of Defense has, during the entire period of the war,
maintained a State-wide organization, and local councils have
performed their functions in every county in South Carolina.

As a war time organization, the State Council of Defense has
attained an extraordinary degree of efficiency, its activities cov-
ering a wide range of subjects, including executive and finance,
publicity or propaganda, auditing, research and education, co-
operation of activities of patriotic organizations, military mat-
ters, production and conservation of foodstuffs, transportation,
industries, the public health, alleviation of distress caused by en-
listment, sanitation, etc. The officers and members of the coun-
cil, the county chairmen and all who have been associated with
the organization deserve the highest commendation. Because
of their efforts the organization has been recognized by the Sec-
retary of War as one of the most efficient in the United States,
and, in fact, has been regarded as a model. The Secretary of War
recently said:

"The South Carolina Council of National Defense is ranked
by the State Councils Section of the Council of National Defense
as among the very first of the entire Union, because of the va-
riety and value of its activities, the closeness of its cooperation
with the National Council and the thoroughness of its local or-
ganization."

Conspicuous patriotic service has been rendered during this
period by the women whose activities, through the Red Cross,
the Woman's Committee of the Council of Defense, the National League for Women's Service, and other organizations have constituted a contribution towards the victory that has been attained which can not be estimated or measured. With whatever organizations they have been associated the women of the State have worked intelligently, untiringly and devotedly.

Under the Selective Service Act, South Carolina was called upon by the National Government to furnish its quota of men for the fighting forces, which rendered it necessary that the State be thoroughly organized in order that the machinery of the draft might be operated in the manner intended, in fairness, equality and justice to all. To that end, only men of character and integrity and unquestioned and proven loyalty and patriotism were appointed to administer the draft. I can not too highly commend Major Richard E. Carwile and those men, who in a spirit of patriotism and devotion to arduous duty, have served as members of the District Boards and the Local Boards and as Government Appeal Agents and Inspectors. They have given themselves unselfishly to their tasks, which have, by the nature and volume of the work and its duration proven onerous and requiring sound judgment, tact and discrimination. The heaviest burdens and most difficult tasks of the war have fallen on these men. Their work has met with the commendation of the Federal military authorities.

South Carolina furnished to the Army upwards of 53,000 men, and to the Navy and Marine Corps 5,718 men, of which number 5,011 entered these latter branches of the service after the United States entered the war. These figures include officers and enlisted men. South Carolina's total of fighting men, in service during the war, was, therefore, nearly 60,000.

To all of the Liberty Loans the people of South Carolina responded generously, subscribing to a total of $80,465,950, which is sixteen times the amount of the State debt. To the third loan there were 87,905 subscribers in South Carolina, and the State's quota of $14,625,000 was greatly oversubscribed. The percentage of the State's subscription, based upon the quota, was 132.8. In the fourth loan the people of South Carolina oversubscribed their quota of $32,452,000 by nearly $5,000,000, or 114.4 per cent., and there were upwards of 114,000 subscribers.

As an indication of the splendid work of the women, in the fourth loan campaign, the women's committee reported $9,992,750 subscribed through their efforts, with 41,089 subscribers.
In addition, the people of South Carolina has responded to the appeals of the National Government and have bought unsparingly of War Savings Stamps, pledging themselves to the amount of $13,745,249, of which the negroes of the State have pledged to buy more than a million and a quarter. There are 296,253 individual pledges, of which 220,188 are white people. The pledges made total $8.30 per capita, which applies in proportion to the races $16.06 per capita as to the whites, and $1.48 as to the negroes. Of the population of the State 17.8 per cent. are pledged, but analysis of these figures will show that 28.5 per cent. of the white population is pledged as against 8.7 per cent. of the negro population.

In both the Red Cross campaigns, of 1917 and 1918, the people of South Carolina oversubscribed their quotas, giving a total of $1,500,221 in the two campaigns.

Not in dollars alone, however, can the Red Cross work of the State be measured. In South Carolina there are 61 organized chapters, with a total membership of 90,647, covering every county in the State. The Red Cross workers in South Carolina have 10 men and 20 women in overseas work. No account is here taken of the Red Cross Christmas Roll Call of 1918, the figures for which are not available.

To the welfare work among the soldiers and sailors—the Young Men’s Christian Association and other agencies—the people of South Carolina have also given liberally, both in men and money. There have been eighty-odd South Carolinians in the Y. M. C. A overseas service and 72 South Carolinians engaged in this work in camps and cantonments in this country. To the two Y. M. C. A. campaigns $187,606. was given. South Carolina was asked for $905,730 in the United War Work Campaign, which came on after the armistice was signed, and gave $1,146,000, oversubscribing the State’s quota by nearly a quarter of a million dollars.

Summing up these figures, it will be seen that South Carolina’s contribution in money towards financing the war, through Liberty Loans and War Savings Stamps, and to the humanitarian and welfare work, incident to the war, through the Red Cross and the Y. M. C. A., Knights of Columbus, Y. W. C. A, the Jewish Welfare Board, the Salvation Army, War Camp Community Service, and other agencies, has been $95,840,541, a financial burden which has been borne without hardship by the people, although in some instances involving patriotic sacrifices, and,
undoubtedly, accomplished only through a quickened sense of the obligations of citizenship and splendid determination to live up to them in the fullest measure.

The war is over and won. Victory has been achieved and the enemy has surrendered under the most humiliating and stringent terms that history records. But it is more than the mere winning of the war which causes us to exult and, although millions of men have died and millions more have suffered permanent invalidism, to glory in the final result of the conflict, not only between nations of peoples, but of opposing and irreconcilable ideals. Civilization has been saved by the crushing of the Prussian theory that might is right, and a new era has been ushered in by the heroic sacrifices made by the American and their comrade soldiers of the allied armies to establish forever that truth and justice are the essential foundations of that which shall prevail as the mighty. President Wilson has given expression to our position as we stand on the threshold of this new era in the world's history: "What the world is now seeking to do is to return to paths of duty, to turn from the savagery of injustice to the dignity of the performance of duty." Unless we, as a people, are able to consecrate our best efforts, our highest ideals, our unselfish endeavors and our moral, spiritual and material forces to the ways and the purpose of peace as we have dedicated these to the winning of the war, we shall fail to hold and retain much of that for which the war has been fought; but the splendid accomplishments of the people of South Carolina in their unstinted and wholehearted support of the war leads me to believe, as I have said, that they have grasped the vision of the higher citizenship and a clearer understanding of its obligations. This must survive the treaty of peace; it must be applied to our National and State life and in our relations one with another. Upon the leaders of our people rests the responsibility of shaping new world thought and moulding into permanency this awakened consciousness, that both may be translated into action.

For our returning soldiers we must find places, else their welcome will be meaningless.

We must concern ourselves also with the welfare of those about us less fortunate than ourselves. Employers must awaken to a sense of the justice of more adequate pay in order that their employes may meet and solve their problems which multiply with the high cost of living, and selfish interest must give way to
appreciation of faithful service. The preacher, the teacher and
the clerk, all salaried men and women as well as the laborer, to
be able to keep their ideals clearly before them must receive com-
penation based upon fairness and in proportion to the services
they perform. The hardships of farm life with its isolation and
drudgery for men and women must be recognized by city dwellers,
that good roads may be extended throughout the rural sections,
to relieve isolation and to cheapen transportation, to facilitate
travel and to give opportunity for social gatherings and social
pleasures. Together we must work to afford the opportunity to
every boy and girl an education that they may make better and
more efficient citizens. Better housing conditions for the poorest
mill worker and tenant farmer must be provided. Into the
isolated rural sections the doctrine of sanitary living must be
introduced and the people taught to prevent disease and to treat
it when it falls upon them. Our teachers must be trained to lead
the people of the communities in which they live along these lines.
Economy must necessarily follow after such tremendous and
unprecedented expenditures as have been made during the war, but
this should be the economy of thrift, applying to peace the lessons
we have learned individually during the war, and not an economy
which will tend to retard or block progress or the development
of the American character as it has been given expression on the
battlefields of France and in every city, town and hamlet and
rural community in this country during the period of the world
war.

I have pointed to the accomplishments of the people of South
Carolina during the war as an indication that they have grasped
this vision of higher citizenship. Our deficiencies and our ability
to remedy them have been revealed to us by war's requirements
and the manner in which we have met them, and to retain the
lesson of sacrifice and service and duty and to usher in a day of
broader hope and higher living by applying them to our State,
some clear tasks lie before us. These we may face with courage
and with confidence in ourselves and in our ability to accomplish
big tasks which hitherto may have appeared impossible.

South Carolina remains almost at the foot of the ladder in
point of illiteracy—the forty-seventh State in the Union. The
one State which by its position saves South Carolina from being
at the very bottom—Louisiana—is already taking serious and
far-reaching steps to climb to a higher plane. This blot must be
removed from the fair name of our State, and South Carolina must not longer occupy this degraded position. She must in education and efficiency be fully abreast of her sister States. We have demonstrated to ourselves what we can do if we but possess the courage to go forward. The amount given by the people of South Carolina for humanitarian and relief purposes during the war is almost four times the amount appropriated for educational purposes by the State during the past four years.

Automobiles and heavy trucks have multiplied. This heavy traffic has cut up our roads and now they are a disgrace. A make-shift system of road work will not longer suffice. South Carolina must adopt a modern, practical and effective system of highways. The civilization of the State cannot progress without good roads.

The time has come to stop and take an accounting. Can we, the people of South Carolina who have raised nearly a hundred millions of dollars for the war, do the things which lie before us in the broad path of duty? There are to my mind but two essentials—the vision and the willingness to go forward. Such a program as our vision of a better State outlines will require as a primary and fundamental means the expenditure of more money than the State has heretofore appropriated for education, highways, public health, humanitarian causes and other purposes, and larger and adequate appropriations mean increased taxation.

South Carolina's per capita tax is $2.05, the lowest of any State in the Union save one, and this is just one cent lower. Our assessments are low. We can well afford to increase our taxes in order to advance and go forward with the march of an enlightened world and a civilization which has been made secure by the sacrifices of millions of heroic and unselfish men who were not afraid even to die for their ideals. If there be those who would oppose these forward measures which our awakened public conscience dictates because of higher taxation, they are, I hope, that small minority who have failed, perhaps, to catch the vision and to learn the lessons of the war. They have failed to grasp the meaning of the new Americanism, which is closely allied with Christianity.

May God give us the wisdom and courage for these tasks.