

STATE EQUALIZING FUND APPORTIONED

MONEY DISTRIBUTED TO COUNTIES WHEREBY SCHOOL TERMS ARE LENGTHENED.

DISPATCHES FROM RALEIGH

Doings and Happenings That Mark the Progress of North Carolina People, Gathered Around the State Capital.

The apportionment of the \$447,432.85 State Equalizing Fund among the counties of the State to bring the school terms up to the limit required was approved by the State Board of Education. The apportionment was worked out by Mr. A. S. Brower, statistical loan clerk of the State Department of Education. Each county was apportioned sufficient funds to bring its school term up to four months and then each county, including those with less than four months term and those with a four months term or more were apportioned an amount sufficient to extend the term for 15.2 days.

The apportionment thus arranged, showing the number of days by which the term was extended follows:

Alamance, 15.2 days, \$4,752.28; Alexander, 42.2 days, \$7,743.70; Alleghany, 43.95 days, \$4,873.45; Anson, 15.2 days, \$3,448.50; Ashe, 43.9 days, \$11,457.90; Avery, 50.7 days, \$6,413.55; Beaufort, 15.2 days, \$5,525.50; Bertie, 15.2 days, \$4,351.00; Bladen, 20.1 days, \$5,512.12; Brunswick, 15.2 days, 2.660; Buncombe, 15.2 days, \$8,140.36; Burke, 15.2 days, \$2,815.80; Cabarrus, 15.2 days, \$4,537.20; Caldwell, 17.2 days, \$4,153.80; Camden, 23.7 days, \$1,800.92; Carteret, 15.2 days, \$2,644.80; Caswell, 15.2 days, \$2,135.80; Catawba, 15.2 days, \$5,447.30; Chatham, 15.2 days, \$4,130.98; Cherokee, 15.2 days, \$2,530.80; Chowan, 15.2 days, \$1,697.27; Clay, 15.2 days, \$5,624.40; Cleveland, 15.2 days, \$6,117.24; Columbus, 15.2 days, \$5,943.20; Craven, 15.2 days, \$3,838; Cumberland, 15.2 days, \$4,995; Currituck, 36.2 days, \$4,175.62;

Dare, 60.7 days, \$8,520.60; Davidson, 15.2 days, \$5,445.40; Davie, 15.2 days, \$2,271.20; Duplin, 15.2 days, \$4,931.64; Durham, 15.2 days, \$6,177.05; Edgecombe, 15.2 days, \$4,277.66; Forsyth, 15.2 days, \$8,240.44; Franklin, 15.2 days, \$3,733.50;

Gaston, 15.2 days, \$7,256.80; Gates, 19.7 days, \$2,703.82; Graham, 15.2 days, \$845.50; Granville, 15.2 days, \$4,290.20; Greene, 15.2 days, \$2,205.90; Guilford, 15.2 days, \$11,859.80; Halifax, 15.2 days, \$4,995.10; Harnett, 15.2 days, \$4,753.80; Haywood, 15.2 days, \$2,933.60; Henderson, 15.2 days, 2,758.80; Hertford, 15.2 days, \$2,667.90; Hoke, 15.2 days, \$1,503.66; Hyde, 33.2 days, \$4,382.40;

Iredell, 15.2 days, \$6,479; Jackson, 19.4 days, \$3,210.70; Johnston, 15.2 days, \$6,472.54; Jones, 15.2 days, \$1,787.90;

Lee, 15.2 days, \$2,287.60; Lenoir, 15.2 days, \$4,411.80; Lincoln, 15.2 days, \$3,504.36;

Macon, 15.2 days, \$2,093.80; Madison, 15.2 days, \$3,028.60; Martin, 15.2 days, \$3,062.80; McDowell, 15.2 days, \$3,178.70; Mecklenburg, 15.2 days, \$10,749.44; Mitchell, 31.2 days, \$4,005.30; Montgomery, 15.2 days, \$2,473.80; Moore, 15.2 days, \$3,957.70;

Nash, 15.2 days, \$4,660.70; New Hanover, 15.2 days, \$4,112.90; Northampton, 15.2 days, \$4,081.20;

Onslow, 15.2 days, \$3,678.40; Orange, 15.2 days, \$3,325;

Pamlico, 47.5 days, \$1,210.62; Pasquotank, 15.2 days, \$2,234.70; Pender, 15.2 days, \$2,707.12; Perquimans, 15.2 days, \$2,979.80; Person, 15.2 days, \$2,648.80; Pitt, 15.2 days, \$7,144; Polk, 26.2 days, \$2,744.45;

Randolph, 15.2 days, \$4,507.56; Richmond, 15.2 days, \$8,515; Robeson, 15.2 days, \$7,660.80; Rockingham, 15.2 days, \$6,752.60; Rowan, 15.2 days, \$7,068; Rutherford, 15.2 days, \$5,318.10;

Sampson, 15.2 days, \$5,236.40; Scotland, 15.2 days, \$2,371.20; Stanly, 15.2 days, \$4,039.90; Stokes, 29.2 days, \$7,467.90; Surry, 15.2 days, \$5,321.78; Swain, 15.2 days, \$2,310.40;

Transylvania, 18.1 days, \$2,045.30; Tyrrell, 15.2 days, \$1,010.80;

Union, 15.2 days, \$6,184.50; Vance, 15.2 days, \$3,235.70;

Wake, 15.2 days, \$10,347.50; Warren, 15.2 days, \$3,222.40; Washington, 15.2 days, \$1,679.60; Watauga, 22.7 days, \$3,387.97; Wayne, 15.2 days, \$5,833.50; Wilkes, 28.5 days, \$11,784.73; Wilson, 15.2 days, \$4,797.50;

Yadkin, 32.3 days, \$5,163.15; Yancey, 41.95 days, \$6,418.35;

Total \$447,432.85.

New Enterprises Authorized.

Donnell Farm Company, of Washington, to do a general real estate business. Authorized capital \$120,000 with \$10,000 paid in. Incorporators N. L. Simmons, H. C. Carter, Jr., and Harry McMullan of Washington; R. R. Grant, of Swan Quarter, and J. W. Ferrall, of Petersburg, Va.

Proctor Long, of Cornelius, amends its charter by cancelling \$1,000 of treasury stock and thereby reducing the capital stock of the corporation from \$5,000 to \$4,000.

Bickett at Kinston. "No nation is fit to endure upon this earth which does not stand ready to lay its all of today upon the altar of tomorrow," said Governor Bickett in a war address here. Hundreds of a crowd which greeted him were turned away. Several of the hearers and would-be auditors were women.

The governor, speaking for over an hour, touched upon the sins of Germany, the steps this nation has taken for the prosecution of the war, the debt to France and other phases of the "great enterprise." He told of what kind of soldiers North Carolina is furnishing and declared he is proud of them.

He characterized the selective draft as the fairest thing of its kind ever conceived. It is not right that any man should demand equal rights and oppose equal duties, he asserted. When the coming draft is finished there will not be a loafer between the ages of 21 and 31 left in North Carolina. He issued an invitation to women claiming worthless husbands to notify him on the quiet, guaranteeing that any such women should immediately face to the world "another chance."

Maternity Deaths Reduced. Three hundred mothers and three hundred new born babies saved last year as a result of a public health nursing service among policyholders, is an accomplishment to which a large life insurance company points with pride. According to Miss Irene R. Foote, field supervisor of the nursing service for this company, the maternity period for the average woman is one fraught with many unnecessary dangers. One of the chief sources of danger, according to Miss Foote, comes from carelessness and ignorance on the part of the midwives in many sections of the country. Where physicians are in attendance, according to Miss Foote, many of the dangers, complications and ill effects following child birth never occur.

As a direct result of only one year's activity along this line, this company reports a decrease in the mortality among policyholders who became mothers of eight and one-half per cent, while in the general registration area of the United States there has been found an increase in the mortality of mothers of 1.9 per cent among such cases.

Stirring Up Trouble for Themselves.

The attention of the Food Administration has been called to the fact that in spite of the high price of cotton seed during the past two or three years there are farmers in North Carolina who persist in the once profitable custom of composting cottonseed with their manure. Farmers who pursue this course this year may be stirring up trouble for themselves in addition to refusing to hear the cries for food from famished millions abroad.

The situation is this: Cotton seed may be exchanged for cottonseed meal of three times their value for fertilizer purposes. Cotton seed contains approximately 320 pounds of fats per ton. This fat or oil is absolutely worthless as fertilizer while it is desperately needed as fats by our armies and by millions of people who are famishing for fats and other food products in Europe.

New Insurance Company.

A new North Carolina fire insurance company received its charter, the authorized capital of the new company being \$250,000. The company is the North Carolina State Fire Insurance Company, with its home office at Rocky Mount. The authorized capital of \$250,000 is divided into 2,500 shares of the par value of \$100 each, the charter providing that the shares shall be sold at \$125 each in order to provide a surplus of \$62,500 in addition to the capital. The company is authorized to begin business when a total of 500 shares of the capital stock is subscribed.

Among the incorporators are some of the leading business men of the Twin-City county, these being Messrs. W. S. Wilkinson, George L. Wimberly, Jr., Frank S. Spruill, George S. Edwards, M. R. Braswell, Blake Williford, W. H. Newell, D. J. Rose, James C. Braswell and J. P. Bunn.

Charlotte Leads in Recruiting.

The recruiting stations and the stated number of men accepted for the army at each follows: Charlotte, 548; Asheville, 526; Raleigh, 375; Greensboro, 350; Gastonia, 296; Winston-Salem, 196; Hickory, 163; Durham, 151; Lumberton, 146; Salisbury, 122; Kinston, 55; Reidsville, 14; Forest City, 13.

Agent for Pamlico County.

The county commissioners at their meeting at Bayboro decided to employ a home demonstration agent for Pamlico county. The importance of employing such an agent was presented to the board by Mrs. Sue Hollowell, of Goldsboro, and Miss C. C. Coble, of Edenton, working under the State department.

J. D. Dawson Company, of Belhaven, authorized capital \$50,000, with \$7,500 paid in, to conduct a wholesale grocery and mercantile business. The incorporators are C. P. Aycock, of Pantego; J. D. Dawson, of Belhaven; C. C. Jackson, of Yeatesville, and J. F. Bishop, of Belhaven.

The Kenilworth Company, of Asheville, amends its charter reducing the guaranteed interest on preferred stock from seven to six per cent, and providing that in the event of the liquidation of the corporation the preferred stock must be paid off first.

GOVERNOR BICKETT IN STRONG ADDRESS

DECLARES DOUBLE STANDARD OF MORALITY DAMNABLE—NATURE KEEPS BOOKS.

HOLD SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING

His Address Before Conference for Social Service Wins Wide Commendation.

"The double standard of morality is damnable. The colossal folly of the ages is the belief that a man may sin against his body, and then about face and wipe it all out with a sigh and a tear. He can't do it. Nature keeps books, and with a heavy hand collects every debt contracted by sin or folly. In the economy of nature there is no pardoning power; we may look for mercy beyond the grave; here there is none."

So declared Governor Bickett speaking before the North Carolina Conference for Social Service, his subject being "State and National Efficiency." Expressing the belief that the object of the Conference is to get results rather than to confine itself to the realm of purely academic discussion, Governor Bickett spoke straight from the shoulder in language that could not be misunderstood, his address being the outstanding feature of the first day of the Conference.

For one of the few times in his career the Governor read his speech from carefully prepared manuscript, delivering the words slowly and with impressive forcefulness, the while his audience sat tense in silence unbroken until the round of applause that greeted his conclusion. He said in part:

"The Athenians were not a peculiar people in their fondness for new gods. The Israelites revealed a trait of character common to mankind when they shifted their religious allegiance because as a war measure the food administrator ordered them to substitute manna for onions and garlic. In the presence of discomforts and disappointments it is hard for men and nations to hold to the faith that the sources of power and joy are simple and the same yesterday, today and forever. To power add joy and there is wholesome efficiency. The unflinching source of this combined happiness and force is the home builded in the fear of God and on the unselfish and unbounded love of a good man and a good woman. The anchor and the hope, the sword and the shield of civilization are found in

"The wee cott and the cricket's chirr, The love and the smiling face of her."

"Destroy or in any way discount the power and the joy of the home, and the devil will find a world plastic to his touch."

"The most powerful incentive to a man to be clean and strong, to be and do his level best is the perfect love and perfect faith of the woman who walks by his side, and the finest force in the life of the woman is born of such perfect love and perfect faith. Such faith, like mercy, is twice blest. It blesses the woman who believes and the man who is believed in. Whatever tends to conserve and to justify this boundless love and boundless trust, this relationship of mutual helpfulness and mutual dependency between the man and the woman at the head of the home protects and promotes personal and public efficiency. Any fact or fancy, reform or revolution, that tends to discount this basic relation and send the man and the woman along separate ways in quest of happiness or of the fullest and finest expression of their lives undermines the foundations of all life, of love of law, and is costly at any price."

Double Standard Damnable.

"Every child has a God-given right to be the final expression of a great love, and not a mere by-product of a heartless convention. The vigor and the purity, physical and spiritual dynamics of those who make marriage vows fix the measure of personal and ultimately of a national efficiency. The double standard of morality is damnable."

State Convention April 10.

The Democratic State Convention will be held in Raleigh this year on April 10, according to a decision of the Democratic State Executive Committee in session here recently. The session itself was a model of brevity, and except for the adoption of a few changes in the plan of organization made necessary by the primary law, the meeting was devoted to the routine of selecting dates for precinct, county and State conventions. March 30 was determined upon as the date for the precinct meetings.

On Way Seventeen Years.

Kinston.—It took a postcard mailed at Dover, nine miles from here, nearly seventeen years to reach Mr. Lovitt Hines, whose street address is not necessary on his mail. Where the card was all those years is not certain. Apparently it was lost in some crack or crevice of a postoffice or mail car. The writer did not live to get a reply. He was Seth West. The card contained terms in a minor business deal in which the two men were interested. It was written March 26, 1901, and delivered to Mr. Hines a few days ago.

ASKS GODWIN TO SPEAK OUT

Wants to Know Why Shipyards Are Located in North When We Have Such Ideal Climate.

WILMINGTON

Wilmington.—In an open letter to Congressman Hannibal L. Godwin, copies of which were furnished the press, Walter H. Blair, former city tax collector, a successful student at the Oglethorpe training camp and a former campaign manager of Mr. Godwin, has asked Godwin to come out flat-footedly and say so without continuing to beat about the bush if there is any particular reason why Wilmington and North Carolina generally has been passed up whenever government appropriations were to be expended. Mr. Godwin is told that North Carolina has been considered a mere strip of land lying between Virginia and South Carolina sufficiently long and it is either up to him to do something or come out and say why he hasn't, hinting at a possible reckoning in time to come. Mr. Godwin is told that there has been only six days during the winter too cold to permit outdoor work while government shipbuilding in the east and north has been deadlocked because of the extremely cold weather that forbade outdoor activities.

Added to this, are statements continually emanating from Morehead City relative to the activities going on there in the government shipyards while the state's chief port gets nothing but 18,000 bales of cotton moved through the port.

Appoints Good Roads Delegates.

Governor Bickett appointed eighty-five delegates from North Carolina to attend the sixth annual session of the United States Good Roads Association which will be in Little Rock, Arkansas, April 15-19.

The delegates are: Hon. E. Y. Webb, Shelby; W. A. Mauney, Kings Mountain; R. L. Stowe, Belmont; A. G. Mangum, Gastonia; A. M. McDonald, Charlotte; Col. A. L. Smith, Charlotte; Thomas H. Webb, Concord; Hon. J. P. Cook, Concord; Hon. Archibald Boyden, Salisbury; E. E. Grey, China Grove; W. E. Holt, Lexington; G. W. Montcastle, Lexington; J. W. Lambeth, Thomasville; C. M. VanStory, Greensboro; Clem Wright, Greensboro; Robert Brockett, Higa Point; A. W. Harper, Elon College; Ernest Holt, Burlington; R. L. Holt, Graham; W. S. Crawford, Mebane; Shepherd Strudwick, Hillsboro; Paul C. Collins, Hillsboro; S. W. Andrews, Chapel Hill; E. L. Buggs, Durham; John Sprunt Hill, Durham; J. M. Broughton, Jr., Raleigh; E. C. Duncan, J. M. Allen, Lenoir; H. G. Cooper, Oxford; R. S. McCain, Henderson; J. M. Deaton, Statesville; Hon. W. D. Turner, Statesville; E. H. Yount, Newton; J. D. Elliott, Hickory; J. H. Pearson, Morganton; J. Ernest Erwin, Morganton; W. S. Butler, Glen Alpine; P. H. Washburn, Old Fort; N. Buckner, Asheville; W. E. Johnson, Asheville; C. P. Ambler, Asheville; C. E. Chambers, Asheville; Gallatin Roberts, Asheville; Plato Ebbs, Marshall; Guy V. Roberts, Marshall; E. Rumbough, Hot Springs; T. L. Gwyn, Canton; Kelly T. Bennett, Bryson City; S. W. Black, Bryson City; T. C. Bowie, Jefferson; Gov. R. L. Doughton, Spartanburg; H. A. Chatham, Elkin; Meriwether Lewis, Mt. Airy; Senator J. L. Nelson, Lenoir; W. C. Ruffin, Mayodaa; R. L. Mitchell, Yanceyville; Dr. E. J. Tucker, Roxboro; Tasker Polk, Warrenton; Lunsford Long, Roanoke Rapids; Frank Wood, Edenton; Francis D. Winston, Windsor; T. I. Bland, Rocky Mount; C. M. Parks, Tarboro; P. M. Pearsall, New Bern; W. D. Pollock, Kinston; Nathan O'Berry, Goldsboro; Wm. Hill, Warsaw; W. A. McGirt, Wilmington; J. D. McNeill, Fayetteville; T. Y. McAllister, Fayetteville; Samuel Strange, Fayetteville; Leonard Tufts, Pinehurst; H. E. Stacy, Lumberton; W. N. Everett, Rockingham; W. S. Falls, Raleigh; Alfred McLean, Lillington; Walter Woodard, Wilson; J. W. McQueen, Pinehurst; P. H. Hanes, Winston-Salem; W. D. McMillan, Wilmington.

Never Misses Sunday School.

Gastonia.—Miss Madge Hanna, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Hanna, of Chester street, has made a record of having not missed a single meeting of the First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Sabbath school for more than 11 years.

NORTH CAROLINA BRIEFS.

The Jury in the case of Mrs. George M. Spittle, administratrix, against the Southern Public Utilities Company, Charlotte, awarded the plaintiff \$11,500 damages. Mrs. Spittle was suing the company for \$40,000 damages for the death of her husband.

Five members of the same immediate family bought \$1,000 worth of savings stamps each. They were F. H. Fairley, Mrs. F. H. Fairley, F. H. Fairley, Jr., J. M. Fairley and Mrs. Fairley, all of Monroe.

Preparations are being rapidly completed for the meeting of the Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, which will be held at the First Baptist church, Raleigh, for four days, beginning Tuesday, March 26. More than 500 delegates are expected at the meeting, this number having attended the Goldsboro meeting a year ago.

Max Levin, of Raleigh, formerly traveling passenger agent of the Seaboard, is now in France.

A whole keg, containing about 10 gallons of ink, was received at Camp Greene, Charlotte, by the Y. M. C. A. to be used by the soldiers.

SECRETARY BAKER IS NOW IN FRANCE

HIS VISIT TO FRENCH SOIL IS PURELY MILITARY AND NOT DIPLOMATIC.

EAGER TO GO FOR SOME TIME

Thinks Trip Will Better Fit Him for Meeting the Many Needs of General Pershing.

Paris.—The American secretary of war, Newton D. Baker, has arrived at a French port.

Washington.—Upon hearing of Secretary Baker's safe arrival in France through the Associated Press dispatch from Paris, the war department announced that the secretary's visit is purely military and not diplomatic, and is for purposes of inspection and personal conferences with military officials. Mr. Baker is accompanied by Major General William M. Black, chief of engineers; Lieutenant Col. M. L. Brett and Ralph Hayes, his private secretary.

No official report on the secretary's arrival had been received. The department issued this statement:

Sailed February 27. "A cable dispatch from Paris to the Associated Press announces the arrival at a French port of the secretary of war.

"For some time Secretary Baker has desired to visit the headquarters of the American expeditionary forces. He sailed from an American port about February 27.

"Secretary Baker has not determined the length of time he will remain in France but his stay will be long enough to enable him to make a thorough inspection of the American forces abroad and to hold important conferences with American military officers.

"It is expected that not only will Secretary Baker visit the American headquarters, but his inspection tour will cover construction projects, including docks, railroads and ordnance bases, now under way back of the American lines.

"The secretary's visit is military and not diplomatic. It is essentially for the purpose of inspection and personal conference with military officials.

Secretary Baker plans to spend a brief time in France, inspecting in person the concrete results already achieved in the efforts of his department to place in the field this year an army that will be a factor in the campaign. On the eve of his departure, Mr. Baker told members of the press who had been in the habit of seeing him every day that he did not expect to be away for any considerable length of time.

The secretary and his party left Washington without any other attempt to conceal their movements than a request that the press refrain from reporting his departure. The newspapers again worked in hearty co-operation to make the journey as safe as possible from German submarines for the party. No hint of the trip has been printed.

TORNADO TAKES TOLL OF LIVES—WRECKS HOMES

Lima, Ohio.—Five persons are known to be dead, several other are reported killed, scores are injured, scores of homes were completely or partly demolished and hundreds of barns and outbuildings were razed by the tornado which traveled across northwest Ohio. Estimates of property damage was one to five million dollars.

No serious damage was done in any of the larger cities, most of the destruction having been reported from country districts. The tornado began in Van Wert county, on the Ohio-Indiana state line, and traveled in a northeasterly direction, lessening in intensity until it died out east of Tiffin. Towns suffering the most were Van Wert, Middleport, Convoy, Lima, Deshler, Hamler, Continental, Ottawa, Findlay, Napoleon, Holgate, Miller City and Tiffin.

SAYS WE TALK TOO MUCH INSTEAD OF GETTING TO WORK.

Daytona, Fla.—America's reasons for entering the war were outlined by Vice President Thomas R. Marshall, in an address here before the community forum in which he criticized Americans for "talking too much instead of getting to work and winning the war. Don't talk about what you are going to do after winning it. I believe I am about the only man who has kept silent."

DEPARTMENT STANDS FIRM ON CASUALTY ORDER.

Washington.—The war department gives no indication of yielding in its determination to withhold the home addresses of soldiers killed or wounded, or who die of other causes in France. Basing its position on the objections the French government made to General Pershing against the American method of issuing casualty lists, the department intends to meet objections with the answer that the system betrays military information.

BOY SCOUTS

(Conducted by National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.)

WORK OF A SCOUTMASTER

A big work, this being a master scout. What manner of man is needed to do it?

First of all, the scoutmaster must be a real man himself, the kind of a man boys will naturally follow, admire, respect, emulate and obey. No amount of book knowledge, no degrees in pedagogy will avail if he doesn't impress the boys as the "real stuff."

He must possess that indefinable quality we call personality or "personal magnetism." He must be a man of proved worth of character. He must stand four-square to the scout principles in practice as well as in precept.

To be a successful boy leader, a man must know human nature in general and boy nature in particular. He must be able to remember back to his own boyhood clearly enough to be able to get the boy's viewpoint. He must be enough of a boy himself, whatever his years, to put himself into a relation of sympathetic comradeship with boys, and at the same time be enough of a man and a master to keep sufficiently aloof, so that his boys will recognize his authority and accept it as final.

He must possess tact, initiative, power of quick decision and action, for almost any emergency calling for the practice of these qualities may arise at any time in his work with boys.

The scoutmaster is also expected to get in touch with such experts as his community offers, and enlist their services in scout training.

Boys have an immense respect for anybody who can "do things." The wise scoutmaster frankly owns himself an amateur, and a learner if necessary, at the same time keeping himself in so far as possible ahead of his boys.

Three hours a week is probably the minimum time required. Nevertheless it is true that some of the best scoutmasters are otherwise the busiest men. Just because they are busy men, they are apt to be efficient men, men of power and personality, accustomed to putting their margins of leisure to profitable use. Certainly no better use could be found for the spare hours of a good citizen and patriot than to help in the process of making men, men who are to be the hope and salvation of our war rent civilization.

MINUTE SCOUTS IN THE SOUTH.

Birmingham (Ala.) boy scouts have an organization known as "Minute Scouts." They are selected with a view to service entirely, the rank of the scout not being taken into consideration.

He is first recommended by his scoutmaster. His parents and the school authorities certify as to whether the boy is keeping up his studies to such a point that he will be excused at any time for scout work.

The organization is limited to 100, divided into four divisions. Each member wears the gold 100 per cent duty badge procured from national headquarters, and this is the only excuse he needs from school when an emergency call is sent in for any work connected with wartime activities.

If a member of the first division falls down in his studies or in his home duties or in his service or in his troop, he is dropped and a member of the second division fills his place.

NEED OF SCOUT LEADERS.

The special drive for more scoutmasters to head troops for the many boys who want to join the Boy Scouts of America but cannot have special significance because of the need of offsetting the increase in juvenile crime.

Massachusetts has an increase of 65 per cent in crime among the boys within the last twelve months. Detroit reports an increase of nearly 50 per cent. Newark and Toledo boys' courts have noted a large access of mischief due to the war excitement and the lack of proper direction for their activities.

The Scoutleaders Reserve corps offers opportunities for men of high ideals to lead American boyhood in national service, as commissioners, as scoutmasters, assistant scoutmasters, members of troop committees, special instructors, examiners or lecturers.

SCOUTING ACTIVITIES.

Scouting activities during the year 1917 set a new high-water mark in the history of scouting.

There were 27,041 merit badges issued as compared with 19,047 in 1916. Two hundred and nineteen boys qualified as eagle scouts as compared with 99 in the year before.

Five hundred and twenty-nine life scout badges and 508 star scout badges were also issued.

SCOUTS ARE CIVIC WORKERS.

Two boy scout troops in Birmingham, Ala., are connected with the Chamber of Commerce and the Civic association, each constituting a junior membership in the organization to which it is attached.

These troops are specializing in civic matters and are destined to be very keen rivals. One will receive no boy under sixteen years of age and the other will receive no large boy at all, and when it comes to a question of "pep" the little fellows are right there.