

DEATH TOLL AT CATHOLIC HILL SCHOOL MAY BE EIGHT CHILDREN

COLORED SCHOOL HOUSE WIPED OUT BY FLAMES; FIVE KNOWN TO BE DEAD

Flames Sweep Building While Teachers Battle Bravely to Get Their Small Charges to Safety, and Delay In Turning In Alarm Allows Fire Great Headway Before Firemen Are Able To Reach the Scene.

THREE MORE BODIES ARE BELIEVED IN THE RUINS

Most Disastrous Fire In the History of Asheville, From the Standpoint of Lives Lost, Visits the Catholic Hill School.

THE DEAD:

Identified:
Henry Thompson
Elsie Thompson.
Mary Jamison.

Unidentified:
Two children.

MISSING:

Addie Logan
Hazel Harris—went back to recover her new coat.
Inez Davis
Hannah Simolton
Daisy Dobbins.

THE INJURED:

Beatrice Henderson—Mission hospital—jumped or pushed off fire escape; back hurt, burns on face and hands.
Helen Davis—Mission hospital—serious burns about head and body.
James Henry—Mission hospital—jumped from third floor window to board walk—injury to back.
Annie Walker—taken to home—slight burns.
Katie Shuford—slight burns—taken to home.
Ernest Ingram—treated on scene—injury to foot in using fire escape.
Vivian Sargent—taken to home—jammed on fire escape—injuries slight.

In what has been the most disastrous fire from the viewpoint of loss of life in the history of Asheville, the Catholic Hill school, an institution given over to the education of colored children, was totally destroyed yesterday, and from five to eight of the children were burned to death. The fire, which started in or close to the furnace room of the school, had gotten well under way before it was discovered, and by the time the various classes had been warned, the smoke was belching through the hallways and the flames making headway up the main avenue of escape, the central stairwell, which serves for all three floors of the building, and faces the front doorway. Splendid discipline was responsible for the saving of the majority of the 300 children in the school at the time, the teachers coolly guiding their children out, and only one serious case of panic being reported. This occurred when the children in the 3B grade, located on the third floor, became frantic over the suffocating clouds of smoke that were sweeping into their room, and in spite of the efforts of the room teacher to keep order, swept her aside and bolted for the halls and the fire escape. Five of the identified dead and missing were from this class. The charred bodies of the five little ones were carried to Murrrough's Undertaking establishment before darkness ended the searching among the smouldering ruins last night; and at a late hour three of these children had been identified by grief-stricken parents. Besides the five bodies already recovered, it is expected that three others will be found among the soaking ashes and charred timbers that are all that is left of the Catholic Hill school house.

Started in Furnace Room.

The fire is reported to have started in the furnace room of the building, which is located in the basement of the school house, a three-story brick building, erected on a steep hillside, so that in the rear the second story opened out on the ground level. The building had been improved only last spring, to make it as safe as possible in case of fire; an outside fire escape with a double stair being built on the front and in addition to this escape, there were three regular exits. Repairs had been made in the furnace room, the brick casing of the boiler having been put into good condition, a new lining having been applied to the firebox, and new grates and doors installed. In spite of

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO.)

RADICAL ACTION NECESSARY TO AID RAILROADS OF U. S.

So Declares Frank A. Vanderlip, Called as Expert in Rate Cases.

RATE INCREASES ONLY TOUCH SURFACE

Government Must Take Over Roads or Take Some Other Action.

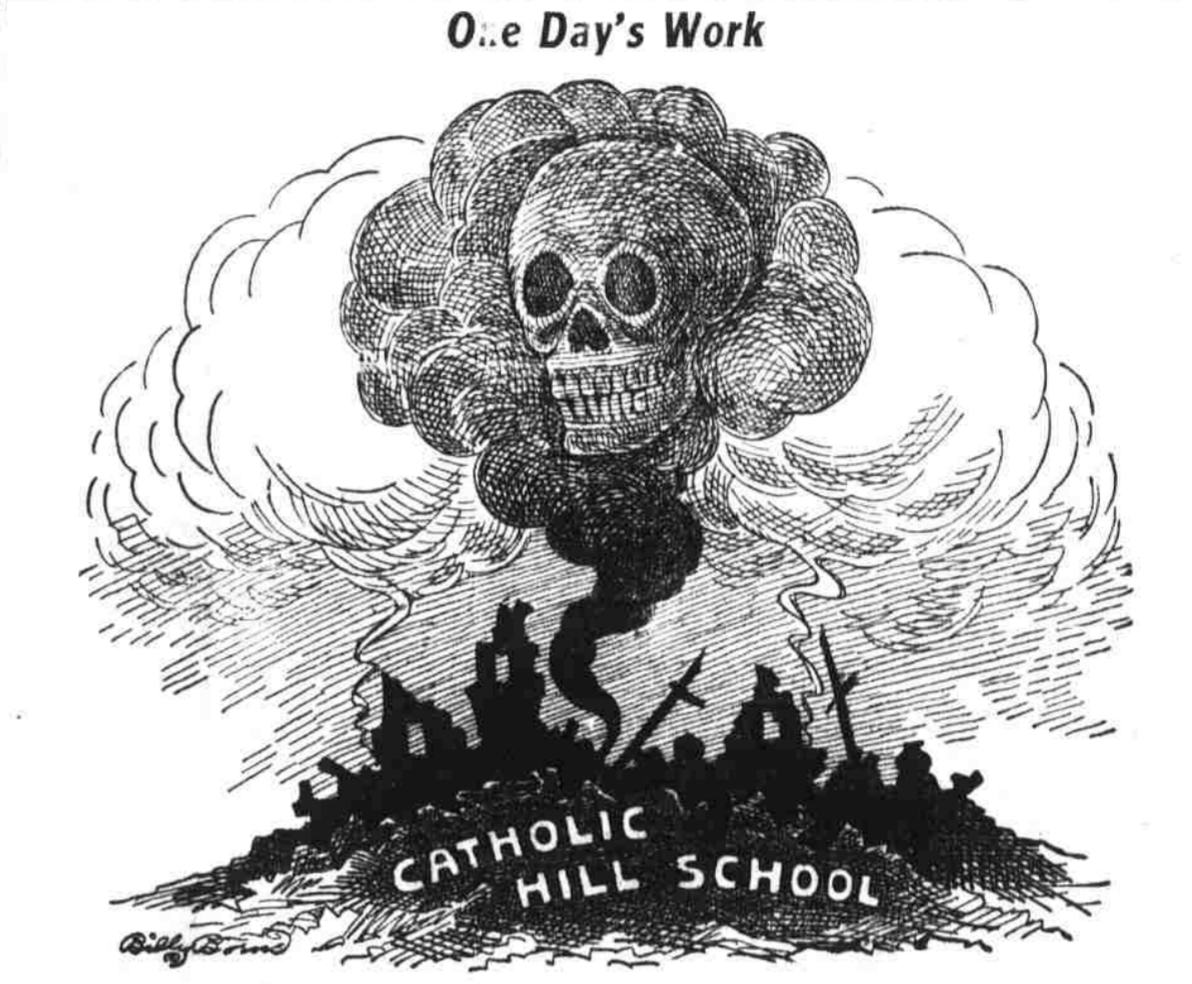
WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—Frank A. Vanderlip, New York banker and chairman of the government's war savings committee and Paul M. Warburg, vice-governor of the Federal Reserve board, called by the interstate commerce commission today as expert witnesses in the fifteen per cent advance rate case, testified that radical action was necessary to remedy the railroad financial situation. Mr. Vanderlip was of the opinion that the proposed rate increase only touched the surface of the situation, while Mr. Warburg declared that should it be granted its effect from a psychological standpoint in restoring confidence among the investors would be a greater advantage than the immediate financial situation.

DAUGHTERS WILL DEVOTE ENERGY AND RESOURCES TO PROBLEMS OF THE WAR

Resolution to This Effect Meets With Universal Approval.

WILL ADJOURN TODAY.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Nov. 16.—Devotion of its energies and resources to the pressing problems of the war in preference to ordinary activities as suggested by speakers, met with approval at today's session of the annual meeting of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. Action toward this end was proposed in resolutions which will be acted on tomorrow. The spirit in which the suggestion was received was given expression by Mrs. F. N. Williams, of Newton, N. C. "It is no news to you to hear of war," she said. "You all know that thousands of our boys are mobilizing for service on the fields of France; that women and children of Belgium and portions of the allied nations are dying of hunger; that today's paper brings news of American soldiers killed and wounded on the firing line. With women and children calling for bread, with our boys calling for Red Cross supplies, I urge that until this war is over the United Daughters of the Confederacy excepting the educational fund and that for the needs of the women of the boys, spend its entire fund for the sixties at the front and for the needs of our allies. When women and children ask for bread, shall we tell them that we have to build monuments and memorials?" Action on all resolutions presented was postponed until tomorrow when the convention will adjourn. Miss Mary Custis Lee, daughter of General Robert E. Lee of Virginia; Miss Mildred Rutherford of Athens, Ga., and Mrs. G. A. Sullivan of New York were elected honorary presidents of the organization. This afternoon's session was taken up in the hearing of reports of various standing committees, the introduction of resolutions and announcements. A reception closed today's program.



UNUSUALLY LARGE CLASS OF YOUNG M. E. MINISTERS IS RECEIVED INTO THE WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE

Impressive Scene as They Step Forward to Fill up the Ranks and go Where They May Be Needed—Lay Delegates to the General Conference of the Methodist Church Are Elected—Business of Session Proceeds Smoothly.

(By Rev. W. A. Newell.) An unusually large class of young ministers was received into the Western North Carolina Methodist conference at the regular meeting of the conference at Central Methodist church yesterday. Reception of these young men, stepping forward to fill the vacancies in the ranks of the ministry, is always an impressive event of the conference, and the reception of yesterday's class was no exception. In addition to the large class of young ministers received into conference, six lay delegates to the general conference were named, and one clerical delegate, the remaining five clerical delegates to be elected today. The election brought forth keen rivalry, and several ballots were cast before the result was finally announced. Conference work is proceeding with the regularity of a well-oiled piece of machinery, with Bishop Atkins as the presiding genius of the organization. Many problems have come up, as is usual at sessions of the conference, but all have been met and handled with expedition and dispatch. Conference Convocations. The conference convened at 9 o'clock and the Bishop James Atkins requested Rev. H. M. DuBose to conduct the opening exercises. The class is as follows: G. W. Clay, D. A. Clark, G. M. Ervin, J. B. Fitzgerald, J. W. Fitzgerald, C. O. Kennerly, J. H. Lanning, F. H. Price, E. L. Shelton, R. H. Kennington, C. G. Williams, H. R. Deal, D. G. Wilson, T. P. Jimison, R. L. Foster, M. W. Heckard, J. F. Stillwell, M. B. Woosley, John Cline. A class of seven young men was received into full connection at 10 o'clock. The bishop read the disciplinary questions that the world may know the obligation assumed by a Methodist preacher. Have you faith in Christ? Are you going on to perfection? Do you expect to be made perfect in love in this life? Are you groaning after it? Are you resolved to devote yourself wholly to God and his work? Are you willing to conform to the discipline of the church? Will you diligently instruct the children in every place? Will you visit from house to house? Will you recommend fasting and abstinence, both by precept and example? Are you in debt so as to embarrass you? Will you especially observe the following directions? 1. Be diligent. Never be unemployed. Never be triflingly employed. Never trifle away time; neither spend any more time at any place than is strictly necessary. 2. Be punctual. Do everything exactly at the time. And do not mend.

SWEEEPING QUARANTINE PLACED ON CAMP SEVIER

Soldiers Forbidden to Leave Reservation or to Receive Visitors.

GREENVILLE, S. C., Nov. 16.—Major L. D. Gasser, acting chief of staff of the Thirtieth division, authorized the statement tonight, that Camp Sevier would go under a sweeping quarantine tomorrow morning, due to an epidemic of measles and some cases of pneumonia and meningitis. The men will not be permitted to leave the reservation. They also are prohibited from visiting Paris and Camp Sevier, two small towns in the reservation. All theatres, Y. M. C. A. buildings and other public buildings in the camp will be closed. Men will not be permitted to enter the post exchanges, though they may be served on the outside. Visitors will be permitted to enter the camp, the object of the quarantine being to prevent the men from gathering in closed buildings. Major Gasser stated that the situation was not considered serious and the quarantine is purely a precautionary measure.

Y. M. C. A. WAR FUND DRIVE SHOWING GOOD RESULTS

Total Subscriptions for Country Over Twenty-six Millions.

NEW YORK, Nov. 16.—With two week days remaining in the \$25,000,000 war fund drive of the Young Men's Christian association, it was announced from the headquarters of the national war work council that the grand total of subscriptions raised throughout the United States totalled tonight \$23,880,450. George W. Perkins, chairman of the finance committee, sent broadcast yesterday to the army of 200,000 workers in the campaign an appeal for extra efforts. The result was a general increase throughout the United States and in particular a close race between the eastern department, with headquarters here, and the central department with headquarters at Chicago, for the honor of leading. The eastern department now stands first with a total of \$11,206,889 against \$9,876,426 for the central department. The other departments reported as follows: Northeastern, Boston \$2,912,885; western, San Francisco \$984,400; southwestern, Dallas \$808,000; and southeastern, Atlanta, \$529,048. The council announced that every member of the faculty of a large negro college in Alabama has subscribed to the fund and that the workers in a saw mill in Alabama and the employees in a match factory in California will give a day's pay.

WAR TAXES MADE EXCUSE FOR BIG PRICE ADVANCES

Department to Investigate Excess Profit Taking With Tax as Excuse.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—War taxes have been made the excuse by many retailers for price advances far in excess of the taxes and in many cases for making additional charge for articles not subject to tax, according to reports from many localities reaching the internal revenue bureau. The legal division today was asked to investigate and determine whether the practice can be stopped by legal means. C. B. Hurrey, supervisor of business co-operation in the bureau, announced he would welcome reports of similar overcharges. Talking-machine, cigarette and confectionery dealers and moving picture houses were reported especially having raised prices unduly, attributing the increases to war taxes. WILL VISIT AMERICA. LONDON, Nov. 16.—Premier Venizelos, of Greece, who is here conferring with the British government and will also have a conference with Colonel E. M. House, head of the American mission, regarding the war, announced today his intention of visiting the United States next spring. He will be accompanied by M. Venizelopoulos, manager of the Orient bank in Athens, and expects to visit the cities of America.

BOLSHEVIKI ARE HOLDING FAST TO RUSSIAN CAPITAL

In Command of Petrograd Latest Dispatches From Russia Declare.

COSSACKS CONTROL KIEV, IS REPORTED

Italians Are Holding Their Lines and Growing Stronger Daily.

LONDON, Nov. 16.—The first word received direct from Petrograd for several days with the exception of the brief daily wireless statements announcing the absence of communications from army headquarters, came today in the form of an official wireless message mentioning Colonel Mouravieff, the Bolshevik military leader, as in command of the Petrograd military revolutionary district. The message says that Colonel Mouravieff has commanded the Kishinov (Kishinev?) soldiers and workmen's council to take the most energetic steps to liberate their comrades in the Kishinov prison who are serving terms at hard labor for revolting against "the deposed provisional government."

COSSACKS HOLD KIEV.

PETROGRAD, Tuesday, Nov. 13.—Dispatches from Kiev say that the Cossacks and military cadets are in control of that city after considerable street fighting. The Bolsheviks made a stand at the government palace, where later their leaders were arrested. Moscow advices are to the effect that the government troops control the central portion of the city and the Bolsheviks the outlying districts, where there is much disorder. The (Continued on Page Two)

NEW FRENCH MINISTRY PRESENTED BY PREMIER TO PRESIDENT POINCARÉ

M. Clemenceau Has Completed His Task of Forming Cabinet.

SETS NEW RECORD.

PARIS, Nov. 16.—M. Clemenceau presented the ministry to President Poincaré this afternoon. The new ministry follows: Premier and minister of war, Georges Clemenceau. Minister of foreign affairs, Stephen Pichon. Minister of justice, Louis Nail. Minister of interior, Jules Pains. Minister of agriculture, Deputy Cailliard. Minister of marine, Georges Leygues. Minister of commerce, Etienne Clementel. Minister of public works, Albert Claveille. Minister of munitions, Louis Loucheur. Minister of instruction, Louis Lafferre. Minister of colonies, Henri Simon. Minister of agriculture, Deputy Cailliard. Minister of labor, Victor Boret. The rapidity of the formation of the ministry establishes a record in French politics. Premier Clemenceau began his task at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon and completed it within twenty-four hours. A committee of radicals and radical socialists, by a vote of fifty-nine to twenty-six, approved of members of the party participating in the ministry. The attitude of the socialists after the resignation of Premier Poincaré however prevented Premier Clemenceau from inviting any member of that party to hold office.

THE ASHEVILLE CITIZEN
Circulation Yesterday
City 4,234
Suburban 4,562
Country 2,010
Net paid 10,806
Service 196
Unpaid 167
Total 11,169

THE WEATHER.
WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—Forecast for North Carolina: Fair Saturday and Sunday, little change in temperature.