



J. R. JORDAN & CO.
MONUMENTS
Forest City, N. C.

WORLD COURT TO BE DISCUSSED BY N. C. HIGH SCHOOLS

Triangular Debate Subject Announced by University of North Carolina

Chapel Hill, Dec. 17.—Rules and regulations have just been announced here for the seventeenth annual contest of the High School Debating Union of North Carolina, to be held in the spring of 1929, by E. R. Rankin, Head of the Bureau of High School Debating and Athletics of the University Extension Division, which with the Dialectic and Philanthropic Literary Societies sponsors the annual contests for the state high school debating championship.

The query will be "Resolved, That the United States should join the World Court," and essentially the same plan will be followed in this year's contest as was used last year.

Schools will be divided into groups of three for triangular contests, and those who have both affirmative and negative teams victorious will meet here at the University to determine by a process of elimination the state championship team, to which will go the Aycock Memorial Cup, which has been given the winning team each year since the beginning of the contests in 1913.

One hundred ninety-five schools entered last year's contest, and an even larger entrance list is expected this year. Fifty of the schools won both the affirmative and negative sides of the question, and in the final contests here Washington Collegiate Institute, represented by Henry Roper and Hal Hooper, was adjusted the winner.

It was estimated that more than 60,000 people heard the discussions of last year's query.

MR. L. E. BLACKWELDER DIES AT BOSTIC

Bostic, Dec. 17.—Mr. L. E. Blackwelder, age 78, died at his home here Tuesday morning, December 11, at 9:15 o'clock after a brief illness. He fell and broke some ribs the previous Friday night. Pneumonia developed and he gradually grew worse.

Funeral services were held at the home here Wednesday morning at 9:30 o'clock with Rev. L. R. Rouark in charge. Burial followed at Old Fort, his former home.

Mr. Blackwelder leaves a widow and four children, Mrs. S. P. Kirksey, Bostic, Mr. Huga Blackwelder, Birmingham, Ala., and two others.

The deceased was an active member of the Presbyterian church and was unusually active for one of his age, until his fall Friday, December 7. He has been making Bostic his home for several years, where he was held in high esteem.

We can make you loans on improved property or farms. Chas. Z. Flack. Phone 40, Forest City. 1-tf

The Weekly Papers

A group of superior minds recently made a "survey" of the weekly press of North Carolina, and of course the editors of these publications got a good deal of advice as to how to do it. There are always some people who know how to run newspapers better than the men on the job. The general opinion of the survey gave the weeklies rather an indifferent standing. Some "rural sociologists" hold the weekly papers in high esteem, while others consider them "of little worth," seldom read by any one except "the small town and open country dweller." There was a careful classification of contents "into 10 categories, with several subdivisions in each category." The analysis was that the weekly papers of N. Carolina "give too much space to gossip about persons and to syndicate magazine matter," and too little to "economic, political and sporting news." Not a word about the service these papers are rendering for education, agriculture and general rural welfare. The Observer, not being a highbrow, might be arraigned for failing in appreciation of the aesthetic opinion of the weekly papers of the State, but the estimate of the ordinary minds to which they cater might be that the average weekly paper is just the thing the clientele desires.

What would a weekly paper be without the neighborhood gossip, the items that give account of the movement of neighbors and the doing of the community? It is through the pages of the weekly papers that The Observer keeps posted on what is going on over the State. It finds these weekly exchanges valuable as news purveyors of a kind only the weekly papers could give. It finds, also, that the majority of the weeklies in the State have taken advanced position as agricultural promoters, in domestic enterprise, in the work of women, girls and boys and that in a general way they operate as the State's most resourceful educational agencies.

The Observer has often remarked that while North Carolina has no great city, it has an aggregation of the finest towns of any State in the country. Its strength is located in the town citizenship, and the strength of this citizenship is largely developed by the high character of the papers that serve it. In towns and in weekly papers, The Observer believes North Carolina can establish another "first," and a first of abounding importance. For years past we have stood in admiration of the enterprise and resourcefulness of the North Carolina weekly newspapers, and particularly of the ability and intelligence with which they are edited. If we were on the jury of appraisement, we would vote the North Carolina weekly newspapers among the most highly prized assets of the State.—Charlotte Observer.

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