

CLOSING EXERCISES CROUSE SCHOOL

Splendid Program of This Successful School, Beginning Tuesday and Closing Next Friday—Sermon by Dr. Vines of Charlotte.

The commencement exercises of the Crouse High School will be held this week, beginning Tuesday and lasting through Friday. A splendid program has been prepared and a large crowd is expected to be present.

There are no graduates in regular course this year, the eleventh grade having been added for next year, and there will be eight pupils in this grade, Miss Jennie Warlick, Prue Heafner, Emma Clark, and Masters Claud Warlick, Lee Beattie, Lawrence Carpenter, Arnel Heafner, Kosey Stover, Miss Prue Heafner graduates in music this session.

The faculty is composed of Prof. A. S. Ballard, principal, Misses Clara Smyre, Lulu Beam, Bessie Heafner. The enrollment is 165 pupils.

The program for the entire commencement follows: Thursday, May 13th, 8:30 p. m. Exercises by School.

11 a. m.—Sermon by Dr. W. M. Vines, of Charlotte.

Chorus, Red, White and Blue—By School.

Drill—Primary and Intermediate Grades.

Chorus—I'm Afraid of the Big, Big Moon.

Piano—Rough Riders—Beulah and Connie Heafner.

Drill—Gardian Girls—Girls.

Vocal Duet—Nellie Hoover and Mabel Carpenter.

Piano duet, Danae Rustique—Miss Prue Heafner and Mabel Carpenter.

Operetta—Flower Nymphs Surprise—Primary and Intermediate Grades.

Wednesday, May 12th, 1915, 8 p. m. Graduating Recital, Miss Prue Heafner.

11 a. m.—Musical Durand de Grav—Miss Prue Heafner.

Vocal duet, The Thrush, Rich—Ruby and Yates Heafner.

Piano, Rondo Capriccioso, Mendelssohn—Miss Prue Heafner.

Reading, The Little Boy that was Scared O'Dying—Miss Nell Rudisill.

Piano, Davenport Medley, Bessie Heafner—Miss Prue Heafner.

Vocal Solo, Lillies, Johns—Ruby Heafner.

Instrumental duet, William Tell, Rossini—Miss Prue Heafner and Mrs. Ballard.

Reading, After Whiles, Riley—Miss Nell Rudisill.

Piano, Magic Fire, Wagner—Miss Prue Heafner.

Tuesday, May 11th, 1915, 8:00 p. m. Contest and Recital by Music Class.

Polonaise, Flagler—Miss Alma Hoover.

Gentle Shepherdess, Englemann—Miss Ruth Shephardess.

Miss Ruth Shephardess, Englemann—Miss Ruth Shephardess.

Valse Rustique, Kern—Miss Mabel Carpenter.

Alla Tarantella, Poldini—Miss Nellie Hoover.

Love's Response, Morrison—Connie Heafner.

Fifth Nocturne, Leybach—Miss Beulah Heafner.

Rondo Capriccioso, Mendelssohn—Miss Prue Heafner.

Recital.

Vocal Trio, The Spring, Christiani—Mr. and Mrs. Ballard, Miss Beam.

Military March, Christiani—Misses Ruth Heafner and Nellie Hoover.

Feathered Songstress.

Misses Adele McClure and Lillian Heafner.

Allegretto, Altman—Jessie and Harlen Heafner.

Song, A. B. C.—Avis and Winnie Sue Sullivan.

Second Valse, Godard—Connie and Ruth Heafner.

Reading, Maria's Mo'nin—Miss Jennie Warlick.

Marche Hongroise, Kowalski—Misses Joyce and Mable Rudisill.

Napoli, Parker—Misses Beulah Heafner and Alma Hoover.

Friday, May 14th, 1915, 11:00 a. m. Literary Address, Prof. N. W. Walker.

2:30 p. m. Declamation Contest and Awarding of Medals and Prizes.

Death Bed of Benedict Arnold—Claud Warlick.

Music at Play—Mabel Carpenter.

My Country! My Mother! My God—John Stroup.

Gipsy Flower Girl—Jennie Warlick.

8:00 p. m.—Play.

Song, Tinting Tonight on the Old Camp Ground.

Play, Face at the Window, Four Boys, Four Girls.

Cast of characters: Reginald Spofford—One of New York's 400.

Chester La Grange alias Second Story Bill—Of Unsavory Reputation.

Mose Johnson—Who Refuses to Work.

Henry Smartwood—A Detective.

Vers Stanley—Wronged but Forgiving.

Mrs. Spofford—Mother of Reginald.

Lillian Stanhope—Her Niece.

Dinah—A Domestic.

A Number of Villagers, etc.

Synopsis.

Act I. The unprotected home, the rejected suitor, The Salvation Army man. The letter, The secret of a life. The attempted robbery. The recognition. The fight against odds. Reginald to the rescue.

Act II. Continued persecution. The refusal. The reformed burglar. The hearse. Plot and counter plot. The photograph. Reunited school girls. Courting under difficulties. The discovery. The robbery. The interrupted murder of the wrong party. The Face at the Window.

Act III. The lonely rocky pass. Raking up old occurrences. Seeing things in new light. The explanation. The slippery rocks. The clandestine meeting. The rejected proposal. The use of force. The battle on the rocks. The right wins. "Free at last."

BIG STEAMER LUSITANIA SUNK BY TORPEDO

Steamer Carrying Nearly 2,000 Passengers is Sent to Bottom—Many Prominent Americans Among Passenger List—Washington Officials Say Incident is Gravest Faced Since Beginning of War—Passengers Had Been Warned Not to Sail On Ship.

London, May 7.—The Cunard liner Lusitania, which sailed out of New York last Saturday with more than 2,000 persons aboard, lies at the bottom of the ocean off the Irish coast. She was sunk by a German submarine, which sent two torpedoes crashing into her side while the passengers were at luncheon.

A ship's steward, who landed with others at Queenstown, gave it as his opinion that 900 persons were lost. There were dead and wounded among those brought ashore; some since have died. But not a name of rescued or lost, or dead or injured, has been listed officially.

The Lusitania was steaming along about 10 miles off Old Head Kinale on the last leg of her voyage to Liverpool when about 2 o'clock in the afternoon a submarine suddenly appeared and so far as all reports go, fired two torpedoes with warning at the steamer. One struck her near the bows and the other in the engine room.

The powerful agents of destruction tore through the vessel's side, causing terrific explosions. Almost immediately great volumes of water poured through the openings and the Lusitania listed.

Boats which were already swung out on the davits were dropped overboard and were speedily filled with passengers who had been appalled by the desperate attack. A wireless call for help was sent out, and immediately rescue boats of all kinds were sent both from the neighboring points along the coast and Queenstown.

Within 15 minutes, as one survivor estimated, and certainly within half an hour, the Lusitania had disappeared.

Where Great Britain's fastest merchant vessel went down—Old Head Kinale—was a landmark that has brought to joy many travelers, as it always has stood as the sign from shore that the perils of the voyage across the Atlantic were at an end.

The line whose boat that it has never lost a passenger in the Atlantic was the ship that dodged the lurking enemy off Nantuxet Light the day after war was declared and later started the world by flying the Stars and Stripes.

New York, May 7.—The first news of the torpedoing and sinking of the Cunard liner Lusitania came shortly after 1 p. m. today. The publication of the news created tremendous excitement in Wall Street and a violent decline followed in both the stock and cotton markets. Under an advance of greatest volume during the last hour of trading stocks fell from 8 to 30 points and cotton \$2.50 a bale.

The Lusitania, with a total of 1,251 passengers aboard, of whom 185 were women, and with a crew of 916, sailed from here last Saturday in the face of a warning published on the day of her departure by the German Embassy, which asserted that travelers intending to embark on British ships did so at their own risk, the ship's being destroyed in accordance with the German war zone decree.

This warning published as an advertisement, did not result in the cancellation of a single passage, nor did any anonymous notes of warning, said to have been received by some passengers just before the big liner left her pier, deter any one from sailing.

Reports from Washington that it was privately known in official quarters that the Lusitania was to be torpedoed at the last opportunity gave color to the opinion expressed in shipping circles tonight that the Embassy's warning was intended to apply particularly to the Lusitania.

Travelers intending to embark on the Atlantic voyage, read the advertisement, "are reminded that a state of war exists between Germany and her allies and Great Britain and her allies; that the zone of war includes the waters adjacent to the British Isles; that in accordance with formally notice given by the Imperial Government, vessels flying the flag of Great Britain or any of her allies are liable to destruction in those waters, and that travelers sailing in the war zone on ships of Great Britain or her allies do so at their own risk."

This afternoon and tonight anxious friends of the Lusitania's passengers besieged the Cunard offices and the scene recalled those when the Titanic sank three years ago.

Among the well known passengers on the Lusitania are Alfred Gwynn Vanderbilt, Charles T. Bowering of New York head of the firm of Bowering Brothers, Alexander Campbell, general manager for John Dewar & Sons, London; Elbert Hubbard, publisher; D. A. Thomas, the wealthy Welsh coal operator and his daughter, Lady Mackworth, an English suffragette, and the Rev. Basil W. Maturin, Oxford, England.

Mr. Vanderbilt was one of those credited with receiving anonymous letters of warning. All deprecated the possibility of danger to the ship and Charles P. Sumner, general agent of the line announced at the time that the Lusitania's speed of 25 knots made her immune from submarine attacks.

The Lusitania's cargo was valued at about \$750,000 and contained a large quantity of war supplies.

The ship's manifest included 280,000 pounds of brass and copper wire, \$66,000 worth of military goods, and \$471 cases of ammunition valued at \$200,024, all of which was contraband of war.

The news created perhaps the greatest consternation in exporting circles where the question arose as to the probable course of the steamship companies in maintaining future schedules.

There was no cancellations announced today and despite the fact that the Lusitania was torpedoed, the Cunard Line permitted the Anchor Line Transylvania to sail tonight for Liverpool. Out of her 879 passengers only 12 cancelled their passage.

The Lusitania is the third big trans-Atlantic liner lost since the war started. The others were the White Star liner Oceanic, wrecked off the coast of Scotland, September 8, last, and the North-Germer-Lloyd steamer Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, converted into a German auxiliary cruiser, which was sunk by the British cruiser Highflyer August 27.

Washington, May 7.—Destruction of the British liner Lusitania with the loss of many lives shocked officials of the United States government and spread profound grief in the national capital.

Although it was not known how many, if any, of those lost were Americans, the view was general that the most serious situation confronted the American government since the outbreak of the war in Europe.

The warning of the United States that Germany would be held to a strict accountability for the loss of "American lives," irrespective of whether the vessels were belligerent or neutral vessels when attacked, focused attention on the White House where President Wilson until late in the night read the dispatches with grave interest. The President made no comment.

Officials said facts and circumstances would have to be obtained by careful investigation during the next few days before any announcement could be made by the American government.

The disposition among high officials was not to take any action until they await the British admiralty's report and results of the investigation of Ambassador Page.

Although Congress is not in session Chairman Stone of the senate foreign relations committee and other members of the committee are now in the city. It is expected they will be consulted by President Wilson before he decides on the policy to be pursued by the United States.

German Submarine Warfare.

The Lusitania was the twenty-ninth vessel to be sunk or damaged in the first week of May in the German war zone about the British Isles.

Most of these vessels were torpedoed by German submarines although in some cases it has not been established whether the damage was inflicted by mines or underwater boats.

During the last fortnight, German submarines have carried on the most active campaigns of any time since the war began.

There were four British and one French merchantmen in the list. The other vessels of neutral nations.

A MENACE TO THE WORLD.

The Horrible Conditions As a Result Of The Epidemic Of Typhus Fever In Serbia.

The Rockefeller Foundation War Relief Commission has made public a report on a devastating disease in Serbia, in which it is stated that on March 10 probably from 25,000 to 30,000 persons were suffering from typhus in Serbia, and that this and other epidemics were "swiftly enveloping the entire nation."

The report was transmitted from Berlin. Cholera was at that time expected with the arrival of warm weather and no preparation had been made to combat it, the report said. Probably 300,000 persons were destitute. Neither the Serbian government, absorbed in the war, nor the people themselves were able to control the situation, which the commission described as not only a menace to the health of the Serbian people but of the whole world.

It was upon this report that the Rockefeller Foundation, at the invitation of the Serbian government, joined with the American Red Cross in sending to Serbia the American Sanitary Commission, which left here April 10 under the leadership of Dr. Richard P. Strong, of the Harvard Medical School. The commission proposed as its first step in controlling the epidemic the isolation of the infected.

Other than that in Constantinople, six Turkish transports have been sunk by the Russians off the Bosphorus and two others have been sunk in the sea of Marmora.

Paris, May 9.—According to news from a reliable source in Constantinople, says a Havas dispatch from Athens, six Turkish transports have been sunk by the Russians off the Bosphorus and two others have been sunk in the sea of Marmora.

Teutons Rolling up a Hostile Battle Front By Flanking.

Vienna, May 9.—The strategic achievement of rolling up a hostile battle front by a flanking attack, which Chancellorville is one of the few successful examples in modern history is in full progress in West Galicia. Favored by continued good weather, mile after mile of the Russian Carpathian front has been rendered untenable by the steady unchecked Austro-German advance.

The Russian forces have been in full retreat since dawn of May 5 and being closely followed by the Austrian Carpathian army according to official advices reaching here. More than 50,000 prisoners already have been captured by the Austrians in West Galicia.

The heaviest artillery was employed in these operations. The 42 centimeter mortars in action, however, were not the noted German guns, but of Austrian make. They were designed originally for coast defense purposes, but have been found exceedingly valuable for land warfare. They fire projectiles 650 pounds heavier than the German mortar and are understood to be comparatively mobile and quickly set up.

The effects of these mortars during the artillery preparations for battle is described as overpowering. Shells from them have reached the supply depots behind Ternov. The Austrians also are equipped with highly effective smaller howitzers of a new type which were put into the field during the latter stage of the war.

London, May 9.—"I think the Lusitania has been torpedoed deliberately, for the purpose of making the United States declare war," said Lord Charles Beresford today. "I foretell the whole present situation in February and give my reason for thinking Germany must bring America into the war."

Germany Gives Her Reason For the Sinking.

Berlin, May 9.—Germany today took official cognizance of the sinking of the Lusitania. An official statement was issued explaining why it was sunk.

The Lusitania not only was armed with a full complement of guns, but carried large quantities of munitions. The owners, therefore, knew the dangers. They alone bear the responsibility. Germany left nothing undone to protect passengers. Strong warnings were repeatedly published, but the English press sneered, relying upon the protection of the British fleet."

President Studies Grave Question.

Washington, May 9.—President Wilson upon the eyes of the world were focused at the present moment, studied in quiet seclusion today the aspects of law and fact in connection with the sinking by a German torpedo of the British liner Lusitania with consequent loss of many American lives.

The great human tragedy coupled with the responsibilities of the hour caused the President to deny himself all amusements, even to members of his official family, while he turned over in his mind the course to be pursued by the United States Government in one of the most serious crises in its history.

The only glimpse of the workings of the President's mind was given when the White House tonight issued its first formal comment on the disaster. The announcement was made that the President realized the country expected him to deal with the situation "with deliberation as well as firmness."

The statement follows: "After a conference with the President at the White House this evening, Secretary Tumulty said: 'Of course the President feels the distress and the gravity of the situation to the utmost and is considering very earnestly, but very calmly, the right course of action to pursue. He knows that the people of the country wish and expect him to act with deliberation as well as firmness.'"

SURRENDER OF NO RIGHTS.

Washington, May 6.—The following statement was issued tonight at the state department after a conference between President Wilson and Secretary Bryan:

"In order that there might be no misunderstanding of the position of the United States in reference to the negotiations pending between Japan and China the following announcement is made:

"At the beginning of negotiations the Japanese government confidentially informed this government of the matters which were under discussion and accompanied the information by the assurance that Japan had no intention of interfering with either the political independence or territorial integrity of China, and that nothing that she proposed would discriminate against other powers, having treaties with China, or which all the leading nations are committed.

"The government not only has no thought of surrendering any of its treaty rights with China but it has never been asked by either Japan or China to make any such concession."

STUDENT DROP DEAD WHILE PLAYING BALL.

Chapel Hill, May 5.—Augustus Tompkins Graydon, a Greenwood, S. C., a law student in the University of North Carolina, dropped dead from heart trouble at 3:20 o'clock this afternoon. He was participating in a light form of baseball practice for exercise on the plot between the library and the row of fraternity halls when he suddenly sank to the ground. He was removed to a nearby fraternity hall and within five minutes breathed his last. The efforts of three physicians who arrived in two minutes after the stroke failed to revive him.

At Wilmington the explosion of a carbonator of a soda fountain fatally injured Geo. Lyons, white, and Jim Carr, colored.

Policeman Emery of Old Port, who has been in jail at Marion for killing Claud Terrell, is to be released on \$5,500 bail.

FROM THE WAR ZONE

Italy Has Army of 600,000 Near Border.

Geneva, Switzerland, May 9.—An Italian army of 600,000 fully equipped and ready for the field has been concentrated at Verona.

Verona is a fortified Italian city at the base of the Tyrolean Alps, 25 miles from the frontier of Austria-Hungary.

London, May 9.—The Copenhagen correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph says:

"A private message from Berlin states that Italy yesterday called to the colors all infantry classes from 1876 and that many trains loaded with troops are proceeding to the front."

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FATHER KILLS BABY.

Was Chastising Ten-Year-Old Son When Whip Slipped From His Hand—Pierced Infant's Skull.

Spartanburg, May 3.—The handle of a small whip, which Wm. Johnson, a farmer residing on the farm of Mr. B. M. Anderson, near Reidville, wielded in administering a chastisement to his 10-year old son, slipped from his hand and going like an arrow penetrated the skull of his infant child, held in the arms of its mother, who stood near the door of the room, killing the baby almost instantly.

The mother screamed, "Will, you have killed our baby, and drawing the stick from the child's brain saw that the wound had proved fatal. When Johnson saw what had happened he fainted and remained unconscious until revived by neighbors. The accident is one of the most singular in the annals of the county.

The coroner's inquest held today returned a verdict to the effect that the death was accidental. Johnson however, was committed to the county jail to await an investigation. He was released on bail tonight.

The whip used by Mr. Johnson had a short leather thong on the end of it, and as he drew it back to strike the boy, the leather came off so that when he made the lick the boy was missed and the handle slipped readily from his hand, going, small end foremost, into the baby's brain.

To make any surrender of these rights. There is no abatement of its interest in the welfare and progress of China and its sole interest in the present negotiations is that they may be concluded in a manner satisfactory to both nations, and that the terms of the agreement will not only contribute to the prosperity of China, but maintain that cordial relationship so essential to the future of both, and to the peace of the world."

THE GERMAN GAS.

London Dispatch to New York Sun.

The official press bureau gave out today the following dispatch dated May 3, from Field Marshal Sir John French, regarding the employment by the Germans of asphyxiating gases:

"The gases have been ejected from pipes laid into the trenches and also by the explosion of shells especially manufactured. The German troops who attacked under cover of these gases were provided with speciality designed respirators issued in sealed covers. This points to long and methodical preparations on a large scale. Since the enemy first made use of this method of covering his advance with a cloud of poisonous air, he has repeated it for offense and defense whenever the wind has been favorable.

"The effect is not merely disabling and, if fatal, painless, as suggested in the German press. The victims do not succumb in the field. They are brought into the hospitals suffering acutely and a large proportion die a painful, lingering death. Those who survive are little better off. The inhalation of the gases appears to make them invalids for life.

"These effects are known to the German scientists who devised the new weapon and the military authorities who sanctioned its use. I am of the opinion that the use of these gases is to be the normal procedure of the enemy and that protests are useless."

H. J. Tennant, Parliamentary Secretary of State for War, announced in the House of Commons this afternoon that Great Britain has undertaken consideration of the question of "employing similar expedients" against the use by German troops on the battlefield of asphyxiating gases.

The War Office was informed as far back as April 5, Mr. Tennant said, that the Germans were preparing to make use of asphyxiating gases, but the authorities hesitated to believe the report, Germany being signatory of that part of the Hague convention which explicitly forbids the use of such chemicals.

WHAT GERMANY'S "ZONE" WARFARE HAS COST THE UNITED STATES.

From The Philadelphia Public Ledger.

On March 28 Leon C. Thresher, an American was killed when the British liner Falaba was torpedoed and sank in St. George's Channel by a German submarine.

The Philadelphia oil ship Cushing bound for Rotterdam, was attacked by a German airman in the North Sea last Wednesday. Mr. Tennant, which was flying the American flag, was damaged by a bomb, but no lives were lost.

Last Saturday the American tanker Gulfport from Galveston to Roven France, was torpedoed off the Scilly Isles. The captain died of shock and two men who jumped overboard were drowned.

On February 11, a week after Germany had declared the waters around Great Britain would be regarded as a "war zone" beginning February 8, the United States Government made public a note to Germany, which contained the following warning:

"If the commanders of German vessels of war should act upon the presumption that the flag of the United States was not being used in good faith and should destroy or the lives of an American vessel or the lives of American citizens it would be difficult for the Government of the United States to view the act in any other light than as an