

240 HIGH SCHOOLS ENTER IN CONTEST

MOST SUCCESSFUL YEAR IN HISTORY OF THE UNION IS EXPECTED.

ENTRANCE RULES OUTLINED

Allied War Debts Will Furnish Topic For the Speakers This Year.

Chapel Hill.—Exactly 240 high schools have been enrolled so far this year in the North Carolina High School Debating Union...

The annual extension circular announcing the query and eligibility rules for the contests has been issued...

The query this year will be, "Resolved, That the inter-allied war debts should be cancelled."

Any secondary and any high school in the state is eligible to compete. The schools will be grouped in triangles...

Durham has been the only school to win permanent possession of the cup. In 1922 it won the Aycock Cup for the second successive time...

Beach is Becoming Winter Resort.

Wilmington.—That Wrightsville beach is slowly but surely becoming a winter resort is attested to by the fact that there are more families spending this winter at the popular seashore than during any other winter in the history of the beach.

Approximately 20 families who summered there are remaining there throughout this winter. Four years ago but one family spent the winter at Wrightsville beach...

Radio For Tubercular Patients.

Greensboro.—Dr. J. L. Sprull, superintendent of the Guilford county tuberculosis sanatorium, believes that radio is a valuable aid in the treatment of tuberculosis...

Dunn to Get Water From Cape Fear.

Dunn.—Indications are that Dunn will go to the Cape Fear river, four and a half miles away, for its water supply. Heretofore the town has depended upon deep wells to rit's water.

Graham Resigns as Trustee.

Durham.—Major John W. Graham has resigned from the board of trustees and the executive committee of the University of North Carolina.

Spencer Boys Skate 16 Miles.

Spencer.—Skating over the National Highway from Spencer to Lexington, a distance of 16 miles, was the record of half a dozen Spencer high school students on Saturday.

Physical Training Not Neglected.

Durham.—In round numbers 400 students of Trinity are taking or will take part in major athletics as try-outs for the various varsity teams during the present year.

Plan Activities For Coming Year.

Meeting with Director B. W. Kilgore and the several specialists employed by the State College and Department of Agriculture...

Among the more important things that will be pushed during 1924 is the "Live-at-Home" idea. In 1923, farmers of North Carolina came more nearly to living at home than during any previous time in the history of the State.

All phases of agricultural work in the State have received attention during the past week and the district agents will return to their stations with definite program to present to the county home and farm agents under their direction.

Distributes Money Among Counties.

North Carolina is distributing this year \$1,250,000 among 68 counties to supplement their county school budgets...

Three-fourths of the equalizing fund has already been distributed by the State Department of Education. The remainder is withheld until the end of the school year...

Distribution of the equalizing fund is based on the amount of money raised by the counties themselves for the support of the six months term. Counties unwilling, or unable to maintain a school system on the basis of the State standard are provided with assistance not to exceed the per capita cost of maintaining a pupil in two counties as compared with the average cost among the counties.

The State average for maintaining a pupil in a standard high school for six months is \$33.75. In the white elementary school, \$18.49; in negro schools \$10.41. State aid stops short when a county goes beyond that average in the cost of its school.

Amounts distributed among the counties range from \$1,194.56 given to Chowan to \$74,397.41 that goes to make up half the school budget in Wilkes. Computation of the amount due each county has required the services of an expert staff of accountants for three months.

Many Die With Tuberculosis.

That more women than men die with tuberculosis in North Carolina, and more negroes than whites, and that over one-half of all the deaths occur during the productive period of life, between 29 and 40 years, are some of the facts brought out in a statistical study of tuberculosis in North Carolina by Dr. F. M. Register, deputy State Registrar of Vital Statistics.

Receive Income Tax Blanks.

About 60,000 income taxpayers have received returns to be filled out for both the Federal and State Governments while each agency has its separate list due to the fact that employees of each branch of the Government are exempt from the income tax of the other.

New Charters Issued.

Bryan-King Motor Company, Inc., Jacksonville, with authorized capital \$20,000, and \$2,000 subscribed by W. T. Bryan and Cleora F. Bray of Jacksonville and V. H. King and L. R. King, of Folkstone.



1—J. Ramsay MacDonald, Great Britain's first Socialist prime minister. 2—Edward W. Bok before the senatorial committee investigating his peace plan contest. 3—The Kashiko-Dokoro shrine in the Imperial palace at Tokyo where the prince regent of Japan and the Princess Nagako were married.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Socialist Government Is Installed in Britain and Has Strike to Settle.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

GREAT BRITAIN is now ruled by the first Socialist government in her history. Before the great war such a condition would have been almost unthinkable. Today the British people contemplate it without fear, almost with complete equanimity.

MacDonald, in addition to the premiership, holds the post of minister for foreign affairs; Philip Snowden is chancellor of the exchequer; Arthur Henderson is home secretary; J. H. Thomas is secretary for the colonies; Thomas Shaw is minister of labor; Viscount Haldine is lord chancellor; Sydney Webb is president of the board of trade, and J. R. Clynes is lord of the privy seal and deputy leader of the house of commons.

NICOLAI LENIN, creator of the Russian soviet government, died on Monday after an illness that had kept him from his official work for many months.

The Red followers of the premier mourned him deeply, passed by tens of thousands before his body where it lay in state in the House of Unions in Moscow, and laid him to rest in the Kremlin. At this writing it is not known who will succeed the arch Communist who was abandoning Communist principles in his rule of Russia because, as he bluntly admitted, they would not work. Probably the new premier will be Stalin, minister of nationalities, but the place may go to Zinoviev or Kamenev. However, there is said to be a serious split in the ranks of the bolsheviks, one group wishing to continue the modified policies of Lenin and the other favoring a return to the old plan of Communist propaganda abroad and efforts to bring about a world revolution.

Large Garnet Quarry in Adirondack Mountains

Tucked away in the heart of the Adirondack mountains, near beautiful Thirteenth lake, and about three and a half miles to the south and west of the village of North River, Warren county, New York, are the plant and the associate properties of America's largest producer of abrasive garnet.

SENATOR KING OF Utah, who recently visited Russia, told the senate Tuesday that he believed the country under proper guarantees would help the Russian people in their efforts to oust the bolshevik regime.

The conditions he suggested were that American claims of \$37,000,000 against Russia be validated and that the United States be protected against hostile propaganda by the bolshevik government and its agents and the Third Internationale. The reality of such propaganda was further established by quantities of documents submitted by the State department last week to the senate subcommittee.

TEAPOT DOME was the center of great excitement all last week. The senate investigation into the lease of the naval oil reserve there by Albert B. Fall, then secretary of the interior, to Harry Sinclair brought out sensational testimony; and the end is not yet.

Senator Walsh informed the senate that he would propose a resolution authorizing the President to institute suit to annul the leases and to secure an accounting of all oil taken from the reserves. He declared that he would seek to have such proceedings conducted independent of Attorney General Daugherty. He asserted that there were some features of the Teapot Dome affair "in connection with which the attorney general himself is under some degree of suspicion and criticism."

Interviewed in Paris, Harry Sinclair said the whole affair was bunk and politics, that he got the Teapot Dome lease honestly and squarely and that the government received more than its full due for it.

The list of congressional investigations we now come to that conducted by the senate committee on propaganda which is trying to find out whether or not the Bok peace plan contest was designed to influence the senate to vote in favor of American participation in the League of Nations or in the world court.

GEN. LEE CHRISTMAS, one of the western continent's most picturesque characters, died last week in New Orleans of pernicious anemia.

An engineer on a fruit company's road in Honduras, he was forced to take part in a revolution there in 1897, and liked it so well that he became a soldier of fortune and devoted his time thereafter to the frequent upheavals in Central America. He was wounded seven times and escaped assassins a score of times.

requirements for different grades of abrasive papers. Therefore, a laminated garnet, which will break up into relatively sharp, angular grains is most to be desired. It is the sharp cutting edges of the abrasive that do the work for which garnet papers are employed.

HEEDING the firm admonitions of the Washington government the Mexican rebels decided to abandon their contemplated blockade of the port of Tampico, and also they began the removal of the floating mines they had placed in the Vera Cruz, Frontera and Puerto Mexico harbors.

The revolutionists claim the occupation of numerous towns, but in the main operations it seems the federal forces are scoring successes. They have so far prevented the capture of the oil fields and they are reported to be advancing steadily on Guadalajara, whose occupation is expected soon. In an address in New York Secretary of State Hughes defended the administration's policy in the matter of the Mexican rebellion, declaring it to be "the greatest contribution directly within our power, and in accord with our established traditions and manifest interest, to the cause of world peace."

SECRETARY HUGHES and Ambassador Geddes signed on Wednesday the treaty concerning liquor search and ship liquor stores, and it will go into effect without waiting for the formal exchange of ratifications.

Under the agreement suspected liquor smuggling craft flying the British flag are subject to search and seizure anywhere within one hour's sailing distance from shore. Vessels improperly detained will be compensated for loss or damage. The United States grants to British ships the right to carry sealed stores of ship liquors into American ports.

WITH the opening of the annual convention of the United Mine Workers in Indianapolis the old struggle between the conservatives led by President John L. Lewis and the radicals met defeat. The text came on their proposal to reinstate the deposed district officials of Nova Scotia, which was rejected.

Mr. Lewis contended that all the officers of the Nova Scotia body had given adherence to the "red internationale of Russia" rather than to the United Mine Workers of America. Again the radicals were beaten in the matter of recognition of Russia, the convention voting for recognition in accordance with the policies enunciated by Secretary of State Hughes.

IN THE wheat states of the Northwest and especially in South Dakota the financial situation is becoming so serious that government agencies are moving to the rescue.

A number of banks have closed their doors. Eugene Meyer, Jr., managing director of the War Finance Corporation, went to Minneapolis to confer with Twin Cities bankers, and the corporation prepared to open a branch immediately in Sioux Falls. Mr. Meyer said: "Fundamentally, the economic conditions in South Dakota warrant absolute confidence in the future of the state."

President Coolidge, in a special message to congress, presented his program for relief for the wheat farmers. His recommendations include: Passage of pending legislation embodying the so-called Couter plan for a \$50,000,000 fund for loans to assist wheat farmers to diversify their activities.

Extension of the War Finance Corporation, which under present law can make no loans after March 31, until December 31.

Refunding of the pressing past due indebtedness of farmers in the territories most severely affected through co-operation of creditors.

Restoration wherever helpful of impaired capital of banking institutions in the distressed sections.

Creation by private capital of a substantial financing corporation to assist in the plan of reorganization.

Scotland Neck.—An explosion from an old Civil War bomb shell which was being used as an andiron in a building in the colored section here resulted in the death of Arthur Smith, nine-year-old child of John Henry Smith, colored. There were four persons in the building, which was used as a storage house for tobacco. The child, who was fatally injured, was sitting nearest the fireplace when the explosion occurred. He was rendered unconscious and died three hours later.

War Shell Explodes, Killing Child.

Washington.—Fire completely destroyed the Washington and Norfolk Steamboat company's wharf, office building, several adjoining structures and the steamboat Midland, with an estimated loss of \$750,000.

Washington Fire Causes Big Loss.

A high wind drove the flames beyond control of the Capital's entire fire department, summoned by five alarms, for more than an hour. At one time, he fire threatened destruction to the whole water front.

BELIEVE 40 WERE KILLED BY BLAST

SEVENTEEN BODIES ARE REMOVED FROM THE LANCASTIRE MINE.

JOHN RICO SAVES 9 LIVES

Coffee and Sandwiches Served to Relatives Throughout the Night; Women Comforted.

Shanktown, a.—Forty men lost their lives in the explosion which wrecked the Lancashire mine of the Barnes and Tucker Coal company here according to the best estimates obtainable.

Seventeen bodies have been brought out, and nine miners, who were saved by the prompt efforts of another miner, are in hospitals recovering from the effects of shock and gas. Experienced rescue crews, led by J. B. Parker of the Pittsburgh station of the bureau of mines, are working in one hour relays to penetrate the workings and reach the entombed men. All hope that any is alive he been abandoned.

"While no one is quite sure," said Engineer Parker, "there is every reason to believe there are 40 victims of the mine disaster. Seventeen bodies have been located, and there is hardly a possibility that the 23 other miners escaped. The rescue work is proceeding favorably. The main heading has been explored to the face of the mine, and the crews are now going into the side entries. We expect to have the mine completely explored.

The women and children who stood in the bitter cold and blinding snow awaiting vainly for some news from the workings, were induced to go to their homes by the Red Cross nurses and the Salvation Army workers. They served sandwiches and coffee to the emergency men during the night, and comforting the stricken women and children, finally led them home. The nurses were then sent to the emergency morgue at Starford, a neighboring village, where they took charge of the bodies.

John Rico, a miner, was on his way to work in the night shift shortly before 4 o'clock when he saw a great volume of smoke burst from the pit. Without hesitation, he ran into the mine and almost immediately came upon a broken pick and a smashed dinner bucket. Tearing all along for almost a mile, he shouted at the mouth of every gallery, but got no response, until he was near the sixth heading. Here a faint cry answered him, and his search was rewarded by finding nine men alive, but some of them bordering on unconsciousness.

Rico induced them to soak their handkerchiefs in water and tie them about their faces. He quickly found an air passage, and leading the weak and staggering men along its entire length, he finally came to a point where he knew the earth had fallen in from above. He then helped them one by one to climb to the surface and safety.

U. S. Warships Quit Tampico.

Tampico.—The United States war craft, which compelled the rebels to call off their blockade of Tampico, have departed. The destroyers Cory and Hull sailed for Vera Cruz, and the cruiser Richmond for Galveston. The Rebel gunboats Zaragoza and Tampico remain outside the port but are not interfering with the movements of merchant ships in and out of the harbor.

Federal troops under General Cordoba have defeated the rebels in the Juan Castano-Los Naranjos region, forcing them to fall back upon Loteone, halfway to Zazamtlie, where they are retrenching.

Federal troops are assembling machine guns and cavalry equipment received from the United States.

Admits Murder of Wife and Brother.

Aurora, Ill.—Cast in a block of concrete, the heads of Mrs. Lina Lincoln and Byron Shoup, her brother, were found in a dump heap here by the authorities working under the direction of Warren J. Lincoln, eccentric lawyer and horticulturist, who is accused of their murder.

Making his fourteenth statement and his fifth confession in as many days, Lincoln told his questioners that he had shot both his wife, and her brother, hacked their bodies to bits and buried the pieces, sealed their heads in a block of concrete which he used for a time as a support under his porch, and then threw in the city dump.

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DOINGS IN THE TAR HEEL STATE

NEWS OF NORTH CAROLINA TOLD IN SHORT PARAGRAPHS FOR BUSY PEOPLE

Washington.—Mr. Doughton announces the appointment of John Baylock Boyett, of Albemarle, to the Naval academy; and Ernest Schley Austin, of Taylorsville to West Point.

Gastonia.—The Gastonia Woollen mills is the name of the county's newest textile corporation, chartered to spin and weave woollen fabrics. The incorporators are John E. White, K. M. Glass an dothers.

Wilmington.—A resurvey of the ocean bottom about Frying Pan Shoals has just been completed by the Goddetic steamer Lydonia, which removed her base from Wilmington to Charleston.

Hickory.—City council instructed the city manager to advertise for bids for a new 750-gallon motor truck pump and a hook and ladder service truck to be added to the present equipment of two motor trucks of the Hickory fire department.

Asheboro.—Tuesday evening six negro prisoners overpowered Jailer Lowe and made their escape from the Asheboro jail. Large parties of men searched in every direction all night and again all day Wednesday, but as yet none of the negroes have been captured.

Wadesboro.—Much interest is felt here in the proposed bridge to be built over the Pee Dee river, thus connecting more closely Anson and Richmond counties. The new bridge will be one of the longest in the state and will serve a highly useful purpose.

Durham.—Appointment of a board of censors for local moving pictures and theatrical productions here was authorized at a recent meeting of the city council, by City manager S. W. Rigby. This board will comprise five persons who are to be named by Mayor J. M. Manning.

Raleigh.—Damages in the sum of \$100,000 are sought by L. S. Smith, administrator of Andrew L. Smith, in a suit against the Carolina Power and Light Co. in Wake County Superior Court Monday. Andrew Smith, a 19-year-old boy from Vanceboro, was killed while riding on a street car during the congested traffic of last Fair Week.

Durham.—Plans and the profile for the spur track to be laid from a point near Bahama to the site where the big dam which is a part of the water and hydro-electric development the city has started, have been received. They will be sent to the Norfolk and Western railroad for the consideration of the road's officials and for a proposal on the laying of the track.

Hickory.—Crashing through three floors, smashing ceilings and large timbers as it coursed upward, a small 150-pound boiler used by the City Pressing Club in the basement in the Palace Barber Shop on Union Square, exploded and caused property damage estimated at near two thousand dollars.

Greensboro.—The biggest suit ever brought against the Southern Railway in Guilford Superior Court has been instituted by Mr. and Mrs. E. Colwell, Jr., and their daughter, Miss Dorothy Colwell, of this city, the result of a train striking an automobile in which Mrs. Colwell and her daughter were riding on September 7, 1921, at a street crossing here. The three suits total \$162,750.

Southern Pines.—B. J. Christmas, aged 49, veteran peachman, died at his home here of double pneumonia. Mr. Christmas was general manager of the Sandhills Peach Growers Association and was possibly one of the ablest sales directors in the county.

Wilmington.—The three-span truss steel bridge across Brunswick river, two miles west of Wilmington, has been completed by C. W. Lacy, who held the contract under the State Highway Commission. The bridge cost approximately \$75,000 and represents the last link in the New Hanover-Brunswick causeway.

Raleigh.—Vaille Page, 38-year-old driver of 208 Maywood avenue, Raleigh, was instantly killed when the Hupmobile automobile which he was driving was demolished by Norfolk and Southern train Number 30 at the railroad crossing east of the treatise between the Raleigh Fertilizer Works and the Caraleigh Cotton Mills.

Chapel Hill.—A total of 436 adults in all walks of life studied in their homes courses given University professors last fall, according to a report made by Prof. George B. Zehmer, director of Extension Teaching, to Chester D. Snell, director of the Extension Division.

Wilmington.—During 1923 about \$11,000,000 of treasury savings certificates were sold in the fifth federal reserve district, nearly \$500,000 more than in 1922, according to Howard T. Cree, director of treasury savings organization, in a statement to Postmaster Warren G. Elliott.

Asheville.—During the past three years Asheville's population has increased 40 per cent, or 10,461 persons, according to figures compiled by the local Chamber of Commerce, 288 persons have moved to Asheville each month during the period, according to the figures.

New Bern.—Craven county's birth rate in 1923 exceeded the death rate by 36, according to figures contained in the annual report of L. H. Cannon, mortality statistician. There were 292 births reported during the year against 256 deaths, and Mr. Cannon stated that a number of deaths were of non-residents.

Fayetteville.—Susan Butler, negro woman, charged with firing the random shot that caused the death of Josie Harrington, a negro girl, in the New Year's celebration here, was convicted of manslaughter in the superior court.