

ALLEN URGES BIG SUMS FOR SCHOOLS

ASKS MORE THAN \$2,500,000 FOR EXPANDING STATE SCHOOL SYSTEM.

Raleigh. Recommendation that the benefits of the state equalization fund for education purposes be extended to at least 90 counties of the State and that \$2,650,000 be appropriated for this purpose by the 1925 General Assembly, as included by Superintendent of Public Instruction A. T. Allen, in his public report to the Governor and General Assembly. Mr. Allen sketched the progress made during the past five years in education in North Carolina and declared that this program should be continued through the coming biennial period. He divided the appropriation requested into three parts: \$3,200,000 for teachers' salaries, \$250,000 for transportation and \$200,000 for a stimulating fund. The last amount would be used in carrying forward the work in the counties, of providing a minimum school term of eight months in the schools of the 90 counties. Citing the progress made in the State during the last five years along educational lines, Mr. Allen stated that the value of school property had increased from \$24,057,838 in 1920 to \$60,514,130 in 1924; total per annum expenditures for public schools purposes increased from \$12,214,250 in 1920 to an estimated amount of \$35,000,000 in 1924; total per capita cost moved from \$17.67 in 1920 to \$44.27 in 1924; total number of teachers employed increased from 16,854 to 21,408; and total public school enrollment increased from 691,249 in 1920 to 793,406 in 1924. Some of the definite things which had occurred as a result of the widening scope of the educational program in the five year period, 1920-1924 inclusive, were given by Mr. Allen in his report. He declared that the use of the high schools was shown by the increase in white enrollment from 29,294 to 67,707; the increase of white high school graduates from 2,999 to 7,023; total number of five-room and larger consolidated rural schools increased from an unestimated number.

Good Road Bonds Issued.

With bonded obligations of the counties and municipalities, now standing at \$184,625,473, and those of the State, at \$98,487,600, government indebtedness in North Carolina has amounted to \$283,113,073. Highway construction has claimed the greater portion of state and county bond money, taking \$65,000,000 for the state highway system and \$58,417,768 for county road building, a total of \$123,417,768, while the cities have built up the larger part of their bonded indebtedness by investments in lighting, water and sewerage systems and paved streets. All but about 11 millions of the state government has been incurred under legislative authorizations of the last four years for financing the "program of progress." While the dates of all the various issues by the counties and municipalities are not available, it is evident that these units of government have likewise issued most of their bonds in the last four or five years.

Bonded indebtedness of the cities and counties has increased in the last 12 months \$14,000. The total as reported to State Auditor Baxter Durham June 30, 1923, amounted for the cities and counties to \$134,443,715.92. And new bonds issued during the year ending June 30, 1924, the date of the latest available report, bring the total to \$184,625,473.05.

County bond issues have been issued for the following purposes: Schools, \$14,568,902.80; roads and bridges, \$58,417,768.09; courthouses, jails and other county purposes, \$7,729,468.50; railroads, \$966,217.75; funding bonds, \$5,380,000—total county bonds, \$87,062,358.14. Municipal bond issues have been for these purposes: Schools, \$15,618,850; lights, water, sewerage, streets and fire fighting equipment, \$66,529,764.91; public improvements, \$8,000,000; railroads, 209,200; funding bonds, \$7,203,300—total municipal bonds, \$97,563,114.91. A check on municipal and county bond issues, incidentally, was not kept by the state until about three years ago, when the legislature passed an act directing the counties and municipalities to report all bond issues to the state auditor. Since then the state auditor's office has kept a record of the issues, making available information on the financial condition of the various units of government.

Infant Deaths Increase.

The percentage of deaths among infants in North Carolina increased from 79.1 per thousand in 1922 to 81.5 per thousand in 1923, according to the annual report of the Bureau of Vital Statistics of the Health Department. In 1923 the total number of infant deaths in North Carolina were 6,865 while there were 649 maternal deaths or a ratio of 6.5 per one thousand births. Washington county had the highest infant mortality rate.

DOINGS IN THE TAR HEEL STATE

NEWS OF NORTH CAROLINA TOLD IN SHORT PARAGRAPHS FOR BUSY PEOPLE

Greensboro.—Invitation was extended to David R. Crisinger, Governor of the Federal Reserve Board, to speak here on January third at the annual meeting of the chamber of commerce.

Asheville.—Electrical property of the Black Mountain Telephone Company has been purchased by the North Carolina Electrical Power Company as another step in the plan to furnish this section electric power in keeping with its development in other directions.

Greensboro.—New cotton transit privileges have been granted Greensboro and will become effective about February 1, according to information received here by J. R. Burch, traffic manager of the Bradshaw Robertson Cotton Company.

Gastonia.—At a meeting of the board of directors of the Art Cloth Mills, Inc., at Lowell the resignations of R. L. Stowe, president and E. T. Switzer, secretary and treasurer, were accepted. B. E. Geer, Greenville, S. C., was elected president and A. C. Lineberger, Jr., of Belmont, secretary and treasurer.

Greenville.—Fire originating in a trash pile under the platform of the Norfolk and Southern passenger depot at Farmville destroyed the depot and the freight warehouse with all the contents. Two box-cars on a siding near to the warehouse also were destroyed. No estimate of the loss has been made.

Edenton.—J. A. Fritchett, secretary of the new Chamber of Commerce of Windsor, writes that the Bertie county barbecue will be held at Windsor the 31st of December. The object of this affair is to boost the Chowan bridge project. A general invitation has been extended to the people of Chowan county.

High Point.—The executive committee of the North Carolina department American legion, will hold a meeting in this city on January 3, Wade H. Phillips, of Lexington, the state commander, will preside over the sessions.

Salisbury.—The Rowan county school board has let the contract for another modern school plant in the county. The new school will be at China Grove and will cost \$53,315 exclusive of equipment and site. It will contain sixteen class rooms and an auditorium that will seat 900. It will be two stories high and of brick construction.

Durham.—Miss Elsie Parrish, young white woman, received a painful cut on her right cheek, in addition to being badly frightened when the automobile in which she was riding with Leon Roberts, of the Bragtown section, was hit by a Ford touring car, driven by James S. Hicks, of Briggs avenue, East Durham.

Winston-Salem.—Parties here from Danbury stated that nothing has been heard from Rice East, who on Tuesday of this week shot and killed his father-in-law, Frank Joyce, in Stokes county. The officers have made a diligent effort to secure some clue regarding the whereabouts of East, but so far, all efforts have proven futile. Some are of the opinion that he has left the state, going to either Virginia or West Virginia.

Gastonia.—Edith Mae Frady, two-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Frady, as a result of burns sustained later in the day. She was burned while near an open fireplace. She and her small brother were playing and the boy threw an open newspaper into the fire. The paper caught fire and fell out of the grate causing the girl's clothing to become enveloped in flames.

Asheville.—Efforts are being made to determine the cause of the fire which last night damaged the stores and offices in the Miles Building on Haywood street to the amount of thirty thousand dollars. The flames were discovered in the basement of the building. Firemen fought the flames until early morning. The local office of the Postal Telegraph Company was damaged and a temporary office had to be secured.

Snow Hill.—The 14-year-old son of Ed Goff was killed by his father at the family home about six miles from Snow Hill on the old Kinston Road. A jury impaneled by Dr. W. E. Dawson, coroner, found that the boy was killed by his father and directed that the father be held for the grand jury.

Wilson.—Miss Mary Louise Stubbs, former Wilson high school girl and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Stubbs, has received a complimentary letter from Fannie Fern Andrews, secretary of the American School Citizenship League of Boston, stating that she won first mention in an essay contest on "preparing the World For Peace."

Charlotte.—A modern Job turns up in Charlotte in the person of Margaret Nash, five-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Nash, 501 East Twenty-first street, who in the last 34 days has had double pneumonia, diphtheria, scarlet fever and mumps.

THREE CHILDREN ELECTROCUTED

FALLING WIRE HITS AND KILLS BOY WHO FIRED RIFLE.

Hamlet, N. C.—Three children were electrocuted by an high-power transmission wire which broke and fell as the result of a rifle shot, at Roberdell, a small town four miles from here.

The dead are Arthur, aged 16; Ethel, aged 11 and Willie, aged 9, children of Mr. and Mrs. Pearl Martin of Hamlet.

Reports reaching here are that Arthur was shooting at targets with a 22-caliber rifle, and that one of the bullets hit a high-power wire under which they were standing.

The impact of the bullet was sufficient to break the wire which fell upon the boy, entangling him and holding him helpless.

Ethel and Willie, seeing his plight, rushed in to extricate him and were themselves caught. It is supposed that they were killed almost instantly. Neighbors discovered the three dead children, according to reports, within a few moments after the last shot of the rifle. Information here is that there were no eye-witnesses to the accident.

The brothers and sister left home to spend the day with their grandparents in Roberdell. The mother and father supposed them to be in safety until the news of their sudden death was borne to them here.

The county coroner was notified, but on a brief investigation decided an inquest was not necessary and released the bodies to the relatives.

The occurrence caused a sensation in Hamlet, where the children lived and went to school. It is not recalled that such an accident, with its peculiar circumstances, has ever happened in this section before.

Sees Europe Making Forward Moves.

Washington.—President Coolidge is confident that a satisfactory arrangement will be reached by the allied nations and Germany with respect to evacuation of the Cologne bridgehead.

This confidence on the part of the President is based on the ability shown by the European governments within recent months to reach agreements affecting their own welfare, beginning with the arrangement to submit the reparations problem to committees of experts, the general adoption of the report of that committee, and the willingness to begin payments under the Dawes plan.

The American government has no official interest in the question of the Cologne evacuation, and consequently no action by the United States is required or contemplated in the matter. The United States, however, has a general interest in anything affecting the welfare of Europe, and accordingly officials in Washington will give attention in an official way to the action to be taken by the council of ambassadors at its meeting in Paris and to the forthcoming final reports of the military control commission concerning the status of German disarmament.

Will Urge Laws For Mine Safety.

Washington.—President Coolidge expects in the near future to call his conference on governors of the coal producing states to consider promotion of mine safety.

The program for the conference, to which about 10 states having extensive coal mines, will be invited to send representatives, has been completed by the department of interior and its bureau of mines. It is the intention of the President to hold the conference at an early date so that governors desiring to seek legislation along lines agreed upon by the conference can do so at the forthcoming sessions of the various state legislatures.

The department of the interior reported that accidents at coal mines in the United States during November caused the death of 157 men, a fatality rate for the entire industry of 3.26 per million tons of coal produced.

Powder House Blows Up.

Scranton, Pa.—The powder house at the Underwood Mine of the Pennsylvania Coal company exploded here. No one was injured. The explosion occurred near the Underwood breaker. Police are trying to find out the cause of the blast. Employees of the Underwood mine have been on strike for nearly four weeks. The shock was felt 15 miles away.

Blind Audience Sees Pictures.

New York.—Twelve hundred blind men, women and children sat in a darkened theater and "saw" their first motion picture. The reading of an atmospheric narrative, with a rhythmic arrangement, together with special music, enabled the audience to conceive the story as it was unreeled on the screen.

The hero of the screen story was a blind lighthouse keeper. The company which produced it intends to make another picture which will be arranged especially for blind audiences

The American Legion

(Copy for This Department Supplied by the American Legion News Service.)

CARE FOR ORPHANS AND DISABLED MEN

The American Legion will raise a fund of \$5,000,000 or more for orphaned children of the World war and indigent and disabled former service men in a nation-wide campaign to be launched soon, it was announced at national headquarters of the Legion recently. President Coolidge, at the request of National Commander James A. Drain of the Legion, accepted the honorary chairmanship of the Legion's national committee to raise the fund. The endowment fund program was given authorization by the sixth national convention of the Legion at St. Paul, pending approval of the plan by the finance committee, which was given at a meeting of the committee at national headquarters.

The urgent need of raising the fund immediately was pointed out by Mark T. McKee, Detroit, Mich., who is a member of the Legion's child welfare committee. He declared that the existing facilities of the Legion for caring for the orphaned and helpless children of former service men who were killed or died as a result of their war service are overcrowded. At this time the Legion maintains a children's billet at Otter Lake, Mich., and has one under construction at Independence, Kans.

"There are 5,000 children of dead World war veterans who need care right now," Mr. McKee said, "out of a total of 35,000 war waifs. As time goes on there will be more. These are veterans' bureau figures. Just the other day a man left four children at the veterans' bureau, children of a deceased war veteran, with a request that they be cared for. The bureau turned the children over to us. Somehow we will provide for them, yet our present facilities will stand for no expansion."

In referring to the proposed fund, Commander Drain declared: "The Legion's endowment fund campaign will be a success; we will raise more than the set amount and the campaign will have a greatly beneficial effect upon the morale of the Legion and increase our membership for the coming year to a million members. We must look close to home and see the great underlying misery caused by the great conflict. We must help the disabled man. He is our first obligation and he needs us now. The American Legion must keep faith with its fallen comrades by seeing that the helpless children are not deprived of the opportunities that are rightfully theirs, because their fathers were killed fighting for their country. 'Bind up the wounds of the disabled and care for the widows and orphans' must be our slogan."

The Legion will petition congress to make a technical change in the recently passed adjusted compensation act to the effect that former service persons may allot their compensation to patriotic organizations chartered by congress, the money to be used for child welfare and disabled veteran care. The Legion would use such a fund toward their endowment program if congress sanctions the proposal, Legion officials declared.

Trophies Not Removed From School Grounds

When the local school board proposed that captured war trophies presented to the city of Montclair, N. J., in 1920 by the government be removed from the school grounds as "unfit objects for the children to see," American Legionnaires voiced objection to the proposal to city commissioners, declaring: "These trophies were presented to Montclair in memory of 69 Montclair men who fell on the battlefields of France; they are a lesson in patriotism to the school children who pass them daily. If these trophies are removed, remove the busts of Washington and Lincoln from the schools and take down the flag that waves above them." The commission ordered the trophies left on the school grounds.

Proper Use and Honor to Flag to Be Urged

Defenders of the flag in '64 and '17 will introduce a bill in the next session of the legislature of Connecticut making compulsory the teaching of the proper use and respect of that flag, it was revealed when representatives from both the American Legion post and the G. A. R. post met and framed a bill to that effect. A resolution concerning the bill was passed at the last state convention of the Legion which extended an invitation to their venerable comrades to include their sentiments in the flag etiquette legislation.

Aiding Foreigners

Aiding foreigners to study for citizenship is one of the activities of the Golden Gate post of the American Legion in San Francisco, Cal. "Our method is simple and direct," said Miss Myrtle R. Saylor, in charge of the activity. "We get a list of prospective citizens from the naturalization bureau, look them up, and send them to the nearest place where English and other naturalization requirements are taught.

STATE COMMANDER BUSY LEGION MAN

Plattsburg was a name to conjure with in the early days of the World War. And its fame has been added to since that first gridding for the struggle with the Central Powers by the activities of the men who were trained there. One of the lads who entered the first training camp at Plattsburg—he was a law student of barely twenty-four years on that May day in 1917—was Harold K. Davison of Woodsville, N. H. Commissioned a second lieutenant on August 15, 1917, he reported for duty with the One Hundred and First infantry in the Twenty-Sixth Yankee division on September 1. Five days later he sailed for France.



Harold K. Davison.

For nineteen months he saw active duty in that war-torn country. He was at Chemin des Dames, at Chateau Thierry and at Verdun. He was gassed slightly in the Toul sector. On March 6, 1918, he was awarded the Croix de Guerre by the French government. Three times he was cited in division orders. He was promoted to first lieutenant on August 13, 1918, and recommended for a captaincy before his discharge at Camp Devens on April 23, 1919.

Returning home, he studied law for a year, supplementing the two years he had had at Harvard Law school following his graduation at Dartmouth in 1915. He is a practicing attorney at Woodsville. For four years he has been a member of the New Hampshire legislature.

Mr. Davison was one of the organizers and also first commander of Tracy Ross Post, No. 20, of the American Legion in Woodsville. He has served on various state committees. He was elected senior vice commander for 1924 and in May was chosen as commander to succeed a commander who had resigned. He was unanimously re-elected at the annual state convention. He has attended as a New Hampshire delegate the national conventions at Minneapolis, New Orleans, San Francisco and St. Paul. "I am already planning," he says, "to attend the next convention at Omaha, which I anticipate will be the biggest convention yet."

Post Disapproves Plan of Disabled Veterans

Mayor Baker was advised recently by the executive committee of the American Legion post of Portland, Ore., that the organization opposes the granting of permits to veterans to sell postal cards on the streets, even if those veterans are disabled. The stand of the post was taken when Mayor Baker referred the application of three disabled veterans, who were traveling about in a car designed like a locomotive to attract attention, to the local post of the Legion for consideration. The post explained that the American Legion will make every effort to get compensation for disabled veterans, will pass their cases through the United States Veterans' bureau and will find jobs for men who need them, but it does not approve of methods of this kind for raising funds.

Would Name Dirigible for American Legion

"American Legion" is the name suggested to Secretary Wilbur of the Navy department for the German built dirigible ZR-3, by the American Legion post at Bellmore, N. Y. In regard to the naming of the giant dirigible, recently arrived in this country, as part of the reparations program, a Legion official here declared: "In the name 'American Legion' for our newest air acquisition there would be no regional dissatisfaction inasmuch as the Legion is a national organization extending from coast to coast. The name is especially fitting when one considers that both the ZR-3 and the American Legion are the outgrowth of the World war."

Will Locate and Mark Illinois Heroes' Graves

The military and naval department of the state of Illinois is compiling a record of the burial places of all soldiers, sailors, marines and army nurses of all wars who are buried in Illinois. The plan is to mark every grave appropriately and to aid patriotic organizations to locate and dedicate graves on memorial days. The American Legion, department of Illinois, has been asked to assist in locating unmarked graves of veterans and to send in the locations of all marked graves so that the exact spot of every ex-service person's grave in the state may be charted. The United States government furnishes headstones for graves of its war dead upon request.

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Height All May Achieve

All the possible charities of life ought to be cultivated, and where we can neither be brethren nor friends let us be kind neighbors and pleasant acquaintances.



Can a Cake Walk?

No—but the men folks can make it disappear quickly—especially if it's made with Snow King Baking Powder.



Fruit to Be Avoided

The fruit of the choke cherry is generally inedible, although now and then a large-fruited variety is found that is fit for eating. The leaves of the common choke cherry contain prussic acid and both fresh and wilted leaves are poisonous.

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DREADFUL PAINS

Georgia Lady, Who Had Lost Too Much Weight, Was Advised to Take Cardui and Is Now Well.

Columbus, Ga.—Mrs. George S. Hunter, of this city, writes:

"After I married, thirteen months ago, I suffered with dreadful pains in my sides during... My side hurt so bad it nearly killed me. I had to go to bed and stay sometimes two weeks at a time. I could not work and I just dragged around the house.

"I got very thin—I went from 125 pounds down to less than 100. My mother had long been a user of Cardui and she knew what a good medicine it was for this trouble, so she told me to get some and take it. I sent to the store after it and before I had taken the first bottle I began to improve.

"My side hurt less and I began to improve in health... The Cardui acted as a fine tonic and I do not feel like the same person. I am so much better. I am well now. I have gained ten pounds and am still gaining. My sides do not trouble me at all.

"I wish every suffering woman knew about Cardui." NC-160

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