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TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE

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Liquor Is Responsible For Death Of High School Football Star

(By Associated Press, Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 5.—An analysis of the whiskey seized at the home of W. A. Smith will probably determine a substantiation or the abandonment of the charge of murder against both Smith and his wife as a result of the death Sunday of Russell Hicks, the nineteen year old high school football star. According to one of the seven boys with Hicks, he purchased liquor at the home of Smith and all were made ill. It is charged that the buckeye specie of chestnut was found in the liquor. Buckeyes are often used to flavor whiskey but chemists say it is a powerful poison.

AMERICAN WOMEN HOLD MANY WORLD ATHLETIC RECORDS

(By Associated Press) New York, Dec. 5.—American women athletes hold 21 of the 49 world records recognized by the International Women's Sports Federation for track and field events, according to the official list issued recently in Paris and which has just reached athletic authorities here. Besides holding the first time that so comprehensive a record of feminine performances has been put on the athletic books, the list reflects the rapid growth, especially in the last year, of women's activity in track and field sports. Twenty-nine of the records were established in 1922, a majority of these at the first women's Olympic meet held in Paris last August and won by England with America second.

Czechoslovakia ranks next to the United States in the number of individual and team record-holders, with ten. England has nine, France eight and Finland six. Listed separately by the Federation are five world records credited to German women athletes, three of which represent better performances than those recognized on the list which excludes Germany.

Three of the world records on the Federation's list, which included performances up to September 1, 1922, have since been broken by American stars in competition in this country, a fact which observers cite as proof of the rapidly developing aptitude of feminine contestants in track and field sports.

Miss Camelia Sabie, of Newark, N. J., one of the stars of the American International team, broke two of the marks, lowering the 60-yard high hurdle standard from 9 to 8 4-5 seconds and setting a new distance of eight feet 3 3-4 inches for the standing broad jump, as compared with the previous best mark of 2.50 metres (about 8 ft. 2 in.). Miss Eleanor Churchill, of Exeter, N. H., accounted for the other new record by throwing the baseball 224 feet, 2 1/4 inches, as compared with the old mark of 66.57 metres (about 218 feet.).

Analysis of the record list reveals the superiority of American girls in hurdle racing and jumping. Four of the five hurdle records and five of six marks for broad and high jumps, pole vaulting and hop, step and jump are held by representatives of the United States. England and France hold a majority of records for relays and distance running while Czechoslovakia in Mille B. Mezlikova, possesses a holder of four sprint records. Because most of the events have been adapted to feminine competition few of the perform-

NEW COUNTY OFFICERS SWORN IN YESTERDAY

Yesterday being the first Monday after election the officers elected at the November election were sworn in. There were few changes in the personnel. Two new Commissioners, Messrs. Waldo Whitaker, of Enfield and J. W. Pierce of Weldon, assumed office, one new Highway Commissioner, B. B. Everett, was sworn in and a new County Treasurer, Norfleet S. Smith took office. The Commissioners re-elected Mr. George L. Hayes, Jr., as chairman of the board and also re-elected Mr. George C. Green, of Weldon as County Attorney. The present officers will hold office for the next two years.

MEXICO LACKS 70,000 BALES OF COTTON

Mexico City, Dec. 5.—A deficit of 70,000 bales of cotton in the normal stock of 100,000 bales, usually kept in Mexico City, is reported in commercial circles. It is pointed out that at present at least 85,000 bales are in warehouses in Lower California, but are not available for Mexico City consumption because of lack of transportation facilities.

WEATHER REPORT

For North Carolina: Generally fair tonight and Wednesday. Fresh northwest and north winds.

CUBA CANDIDATES PREY TO PETTY GRAFTERS

(By Associated Press) Havana, Cuba, Dec. 5.—Efforts to abate campaign frauds were enlarged in scope, during the recent partial elections, to include the "selectionist" groups which have sprung up mushroom like during the last few years.

These organizations, fixing their headquarters at some popular cafe where their spokesmen holds court, and flaunting such names as "La Pimienta" (The Pepper), "El Perejil," (Parsley) and "Lois Corsarios" (The Corsairs), are alleged to offer candidates for public office the same sort of chance to win that the race track plunger gets from the bookie on combinations. The selectionist chief is said to swing his group at so much a head for a certain combination of aldermen, provincial councilmen and national representatives. On the basis generally quoted, it has been estimated that the cost of selectionist support for an alderman would be about \$2,000, a councilman \$5,000 and a representative \$25,000, if all the selectionists were properly salved.

All this, of course, subject to the generally understood peril of the double and triple cross. Attention was centered on the selectionists and their activities by Guy de Lugo Vina, candidate for alderman, who denounced their alleged activities to the Central Electoral Board, and by a public statement from Representative Gonzalo Freyre, a supporter of General Crowder, that he would not contribute a cent to ballot buccaneers. The latter, apparently, has been defeated for reelection.

ances can be compared with those made by men. The women's standard for the 100-yard dash is 11 2-5 seconds while the best time for men is 9 3-5 seconds. In the high jump, the women's record of 1.46 metres (about 4 ft. 9 in.) is nearly two feet less than the man's record of 6 feet, 7 5-16 inches.

LOCAL NEGRO GIVEN ROAD SENTENCE

OTHER CASES OF LOCAL INTEREST SCHEDULED FOR HEARING TODAY.

Judge Horton, presiding at the present term of criminal court yesterday passed a three months jail sentence on Garfield McDaniel, colored.

Several months ago McDaniel ran into a buggy driven by Mr. Larry Pitt, demolishing the vehicle and throwing the occupants into the road. The trial had been postponed from time to time but the trial was finally reached last week and sentence passed yesterday.

The cases of Willie Nick Smith, Ben Stator and Theodore Smith come up for trial today, the charge being that they knowingly received stolen goods.

GOVERNOR OF MISSISSIPPI MUST ANSWER TO CHARGES

(By Associated Press) Oxford, Miss., Dec. 5.—Judge E. R. Holmes overruled the demurrer of Governor Lee Russell asking that the petition of Miss Frances Birkhead be dismissed on a basis of no ground for action.

The governor's former stenographer is asking a hundred thousand dollars damages on a charge of seduction and breach of promise.

GRAVE ROBBERS OF VIENNA HUNTED WITH DOGS

(By Associated Press) Vienna, Dec. 5.—Ghouls have become so active in the great cemeteries of Vienna, according to the press, that police guards now patrol these resting places of the dead every night, accompanied by dogs.

The grave robbers are disintering newly buried bodies and robbing them of clothing, the little jewelry souvenirs that loving families have sent with dear ones to the grave, of gold filled teeth, and even shearing the tresses of women.

POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT AIMING TO BE EMPLOYER

(By Associated Press) Richmond, Va., Dec. 5.—Addressing a conference at the convention of postal employees in Virginia, John H. Bartlett, first assistant postmaster general, declared that "being the largest employer of labor in the world the Postoffice Department is aiming to become a model employer. This new labor program is a phase of more business in government policy of President Harding."

GOV. MORRISON MAKES VISIT TO NEW BERN

BEFORE LEAVING GOVERNOR MAKES APPEAL FOR SUFFERERS, AFTER LEARNING OF ACUTE STATE OF AFFAIRS IN STRICKEN CITY.

(By Associated Press) Charlotte, N. C., Dec. 5.—Governor Morrison left for New Bern to make a personal investigation of conditions there where thousands of people are homeless from fire.

Prior to his departure the executive appealed for aid for the sufferers, requesting that funds be sent direct to Major Edward Clarke, of New Bern.

The executive was told over the telephone by Adjutant General Metts that conditions in the fire stricken city are more acute than was first thought and that relief for the sufferers is pitifully inadequate.

SWEDISH FILM FIRES RESIST HIGH RENTALS

Stockholm, Dec. 4.—Swedish "movie-fans," who have paid more than 18,000,000 crowns for admissions during the last theatrical year, chiefly to see American films, rejoice at the news that hereafter the price of motion picture tickets may come down.

This hope is seen in the united front which Swedish film distributors are showing against foreign price policies. In the past the rentals paid for American films have been tremendous and in some cases ruinous. It has been complained that Scandinavia, with its population of 10,000,000 pays higher rentals for these films than does France, with a population of 50,000,000. A consolidation between the Swedish Film industries, Ltd. and the Film Central, went into effect November 1. It is believed this will result in more powerful resistance to the price policy of foreign film distributors. Another Scandinavian combine has been made with the object of organizing and controlling the purchase and import of German films, which are rapidly gaining a foothold in the Swedish market.

In the meantime the production of high-class Swedish films is being continued. These photographs and educational pictures are popular with the Swedish public, as well as in other European countries, especially England and France, and have even begun to make inroads in the United States.

Some alarm has been caused by the report that America may deprive Sweden of two of her most United States, Victor Seastrom and Goesta Ekman, who have received offers from one of the largest film companies in the United States. Victor Seastrom, besides being the best photoplay actor in Sweden, is a director and has been called "the Griffith of Sweden." Goesta Ekman is the favorite matinee idol of the Swedish stage, and is equally popular on the screen.

The Swedish government has derived about 2,500,000 crowns in taxes on motion picture admissions during the last film year.

COTTON MARKET.

TODAY'S MARKET

December	25.35
January	24.37
March	24.49
May	24.42
July	24.11

YESTERDAY'S MARKET

December	24.89
January	24.91
March	24.96
May	24.84
July	21.60

IRISH FREE STATE COMES INTO BEING

(By Associated Press) London, Dec. 5.—Without pomp or ceremony the Irish Free State will come into free being at midnight by special order in council.

The full administration of the country has been handed over to a provisional government and when the constitution comes into existence no ceremony will mark the fulfillment of a treaty between Great Britain and Ireland.

LUCKY PENNSYLVANIANS SHOVEL FREE COAL FROM RIVERS

(By Associated Press) Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 5.—The coal problem this winter is one of strong arm muscles and a vehicle—wheelbarrow, horse and wagon, or motor truck—for some of those Pennsylvanians whose homes are on the banks of streams which flow from the hard coal regions.

River coal—so-called because it is found in the beds of these rivers—is the solution. The coal, in the form of small particles, finer than the grade known commercially as buckwheat, has been used for years, largely by manufacturing plants, but the fear of shortage this year has increased household consumption and many persons living along the streams in which it is found are gathering their own supply with the use of a shovel and a cart or automobile for transportation.

The coal is mainly the product of culm or refuse banks in the vicinity of mines further up the streams. It is found in the Lehigh, Skunkkill and Susquehanna rivers down which it has been washed in the years since anthracite mining was begun in Pennsylvania. In many sections of these rivers beds several feet thick have existed, but commercial dredging and pumping operations combined with greater conservation on the part of mining companies is reducing the supply.

Householders who have gathered their own winter fuel from the rivers have found the coal frequently in eddies near the shore, where it has been necessary only to shovel it out. One man, living near the Susquehanna in the vicinity of Harrisburg, has obtained a complete winter supply at only the cost of transportation. Commercially the coal sells for about \$3 a ton. Forced draft is required for its use in household furnaces, and when so used it produces, it is said, as much or more heat than the grades commonly sold for household use.

More than a half-million tons of river coal, valued at nearly \$700,000 were recovered from the Schuylkill, Susquehanna and Lehigh rivers in commercial operations during 1921, state reports show.

DRY THROATS IN AMERICA REDUCE WINE PRODUCTION

(By Associated Press) Rome, Nov. 30.—Prohibition laws in America continue to have their effect on the production of wine in Europe, especially in Italy and Spain, the most important wine growing countries on the Continent.

According to the International Institute of Agriculture, the 1922 vintage in Italy is estimated at 726,000,000 gallons, or about 18 percent below the average of the previous five years. In Spain the yield of wine is expected this year to be 475,000,000 gallons, or eight percent below the last five years.

CLEMENCEAU VISITS PRES. AND EX-PRESIDENT

(By Associated Press) Washington, Dec. 5.—Former President Woodrow Wilson and President Harding

CHINESE BANDITS OCCUPY PORT

(By Associated Press) Tientsin, China, Dec. 5.—Reports received here say that Chinese bandits have taken control of Tsingtao, Shantung, the port whose stormy career in war and diplomacy was to culminate today in its return to China after twenty-four years of alien rule.

The population is reported as fleeing from the city.

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE ADDRESSES CONVENTION

(By Associated Press) Memphis, Tenn., Dec. 5.—After hearing the address of Secretary Wallace outlining the work which the Department of Agriculture was doing for the cotton growers of the South and plans for an extension of the work, delegates to the Southern Cotton Conference got down to a discussion of marketing and warehousing problems.

LET'S HEAR FROM YOU

By both, their words and their actions, several leading citizens of this community have said that The Commonwealth is a splendid daily paper. Our beloved statesman, Hon. Claude Kitchin, said sometime ago: "The Commonwealth is the best small town daily in America." Mr. Raymond Dunn, one of the State's ablest lawyers, said that there is hardly any estimate to be put on the value of The Commonwealth to Scotland Neck and community. Mr. Bailey, a merchant of Hobgood, said: "Don't let it miss a single train."

In fact, numbers and numbers of subscribers have paid The Commonwealth similar compliments, and our subscription list is growing daily. By the end of the year it will probably be twice as large as at the end of last year.

Are YOU reading your home town paper? If not, you should subscribe. The cost is small, payable in advance.

Mr. Dunn was right. There is hardly any estimate to be put on the value of your local daily to your town and community.

Perhaps you are reading this paper, but have forgotten to pay your subscription. If so, don't put off such a good thing any longer, for the expenses grow with the increased circulation and increased advertising and collections must be made. Let's hear from you.

CLEE VAUGHAN, Publisher.