

PENSION SYSTEM OF LAST FISCAL YEAR COSTS \$255,201,000

Number of Pensions in the Country Is Rapidly Diminishing

73 MEXICAN WAR "VETS" URGES EXTENDED CREDIT

There Are Also 49 Widows of Soldiers of the War of 1812 Who Are Receiving Pensions

(By The Associated Press)

Washington, Dec. 7.—The American Pension system cost the public \$255,201,662 during the fiscal year ended last June 30, according to the annual report of the commissioner of Pensions sent today to President Harding. Of this amount \$259,807,583 was paid out for pensions, the cost of maintenance of the system being \$1,394,079.

That the number of pensions in this country is rapidly diminishing is shown in the statement that \$4,908,259 less was paid in pensions during the past fiscal year than during the previous year; that 29,082 Civil War veterans died, as against 24,775 for the previous year, and that 21,259 widows died as against 19,451 the year previous.

The number of pensioners on the rolls June 30, 1922, was 547,016 as compared with 566,053 on June 30 of the previous year. Of these, 193,881 were Civil War veterans; 272,194 Civil War widows; 45,955 veterans of the Spanish war; and 9,198 widows of Spanish war veterans. There were 73 soldier drawing pensions for service in the war with Mexico, and 49 widows of soldiers of the War of 1812.

Several important modifications of the practice of the Pension Bureau were brought about during the year by departmental decisions. One decision held that a person who enlisted in the Regular Army subsequent to April 22, 1898, and was discharged on or before April 11, 1899, or who enlisted in the Navy or Marine Corps after May 4, 1898 and was discharged prior to April 11, 1899, could be considered a "volunteer." This holding favorably affected hundreds of claims filed by widows and minors of soldiers of the Spanish War.

Instructions approved in August, last year, provided a more liberal system of rating claims of Spanish war soldiers under the act of June, 1920.

Civil War Claims

The practice originally laid down under the act of May, 1920, made the \$72 rate for helpless Civil War veterans commence from the date of medical examination of pensioners by a surgeon or a board of surgeons of the Pension Bureau. More than 52,000 claims for the \$72 rate have been allowed and 34,537 were drawing that rate per month on June 30, 1922.

In the past fiscal year, 130,736 pension claims were disposed of and 2,269,767 checks prepared and sent out. At the close of the year 82,615 claims under various pension laws were pending.

Under the act of May, 1920, providing for the retirement of civil service employees, there were 7,567 annuitants on the roll, of whom 6,667 were retired for age, the remainder for disability. The retirement law, with several broadening and liberalizing acts has been in operation for two years, the Commissioner declared, and experience indicates it needs but few changes.

It was suggested that employees eligible for retirement at the age of 70 should have the option of retiring at 65; that retention beyond 65 should be by agreement between the employe and head of his department; and that no employe should be retained beyond the age of 70. Sim-

ANNUAL MESSAGE TO CONGRESS WAS DELIVERED TODAY

President Harding Delivers Message in Person This Morning

URGES EXTENDED CREDIT DEALS WITH NEARLY SCORE OF SUBJECTS, INCLUDING PROHIBITION AND CHILD LABOR PROBLEMS

Deals With Nearly Score of Subjects, Including Prohibition and Child Labor Problems

(By The Associated Press)

Washington, Dec. 8.—President Harding, in his annual message to Congress, delivered in person this morning, dealt with nearly a score of subjects, chief among them being prohibition, farm credits, the transportation problem, child labor and immigration.

He also announced his intention of inviting the governors of the several states to an early conference with the federal authorities, with a view of adopting a definite policy of national and state cooperation in the administration of prohibition, saying that the day is unlikely to come when the amendment will be repealed and that the nation should adapt its course accordingly.

The President proposed that the railroad labor board be abolished, with the substitution of a labor division in the Interstate Commerce Commission, with ample power to require that its rulings be accepted by both parties in any disputed question. He urged the coordination of all transportation facilities, including not only the inland water way, but the motor truck as well. A more extended credit for farmers is strongly advocated by the chief executive, who declares that the very proof of the helpfulness that has already been given is the strongest personal argument for the permanent establishment of widened credits.

He also proposes two constitutional amendments, one giving Congress authority over child labor, and the other would restrict the issues of tax exempt securities.

PEANUT GROWERS TO CHOOSE NEW DIRECTOR

A most important meeting of the members of the Peanut Growers Association in Edgecombe county will be held next Tuesday, December 12 at 11 a. m., in the court house at Tarboro, for the purpose of nominating a successor to the late M. C. Braswell as our representative on the board of directors. It is very necessary that all members be present for this election and other business of importance for our consideration.

R. V. KNIGHT, County Sec.

FOUR MILLION DOLLAR FIRE IS RAGING IN OREGON TOWN

Portland, Ore., Dec. 8.—A fire is today raging in Astoria, Ore., near this city. Six blocks in the business district have been burned and the entire town is threatened to be wiped out.

The Portland Fire Department has responded to the call for help. The police here estimate the losses so far, to be four million dollars.

Similar provisions were suggested for those eligible for retirement at 62 and 65 years of age. The present scale of annuities should be enlarged to provide a somewhat large annuity for all classes, the commissioner said, and particularly, for those receiving less than \$30 per month.

SOLICITING FUNDS FOR FIRE VICTIMS

Committee From Tarboro Fire Company Began Drive This Morning

PEOPLE VERY LIBERAL

The Tarboro Fire Company sent out this morning a special committee, composed of the following firemen: J. H. Jacobs, P. L. McCabe, and George Pennington, to solicit funds for the fire sufferers of New Bern.

Early this morning they reported a most liberal response from our people and hope to be able to send in, in a few days a goodly sum.

The Union Colored Baptist church of Tarboro has sent in a nice sum already and they are to be commended for their prompt action.

Now, this special committee cannot possibly see everybody and those who wish to make contributions can take their money to the City Hall, where it will be received.

Scores of towns all over the state have been busy in giving help and from what Governor Morrison says in the papers of today, it will take a quarter of a million dollars to supply the needs of the sufferers at New Bern.

VALENTINO'S NEW PICTURE

Rudolph Valentino, star of "Blood and Sand," a Paramount picture, which proved to be the most brilliant success of the decade, has another screen triumph in his latest starring vehicle, "The Young Rajah." The success achieved not only by "Blood and Sand" but by "The Shiek," is bound to be duplicated by the "Young Rajah," which indisputably presents Mr. Valentino in perhaps the greatest characterization ever essayed by that popular star. The picture, directed by Philip Rosen, the scenes beautifully photographed, the action as rapid as it is dramatic, and a practically all-star supporting cast headed by Wanda Hawley and Charles Ogle, should and doubtless will, win the plaudits of Mr. Valentino's admirers wherever it is displayed.

Mr. McCabe informs the Southerner that this is the last picture Valentino will produce. He has married a very rich girl and will retire.

WITH IRELAND IS IT NOW WAR UNTO DEATH

(By The Associated Press)

London, Dec. 8.—Irish Republicans, says a Dublin dispatch to the Evening Standard, have issued a manifesto, describing Timothy Healy the governor general of Ireland, as a life-long enemy to the nation and the dispatch add, "The Fight will go on as long as there is a man in Ireland. It is a war to the death."

TWO MAIL CLERKS HELD UP BY UNMASKED MEN

(By The Associated Press)

St. Joseph, Mo., Dec. 8.—Three unmasked men, armed with pistols and shotguns held up two mail clerks at the Union Station here and escaped in an automobile that was waiting for them. They got away with a registered package and five packages of first class mail. The amount of the loss is unknown.

NO CLUE TO WHEREABOUTS OF MRS. CLARA PHILLIPS

(By The Associated Press)

Los Angeles, Dec. 8.—Officials here are quoted today as saying that they hardly know in what direction to look for Clara Phillips, the hammer murderer, who sawed her way to freedom from the county jail here last Tuesday. So far the scores of tips that have come to them have proved to be worthless.

Kiwanis Ladies Night A Brilliant Success

Hundred And Ten People Sat Down at Banquet Table

TURKEY SUPPER SERVED

The Guests Were Royally Entertained by Instrumental and Vocal Music

LADIES DRAW THE PRIZES

Mr. Burt James, Lieutenant-Governor of This District Made a Short Address

Possibly the very biggest and most enjoyable time the Kiwanians have had in their hall for this year was last night.

The Kiwanians were there in full force, and as their guests they invited the ladies, and these together had a most glorious time.

While the crowd was gathering and after they had taken their seats at the table, things looked somewhat cold, but when Kiwanian Haynes got up and told everybody to stand and announce their names and then after they had taken their seats to speak to the one next at the table, the air seemed to have cleared of its impetrate offishness and every body and everything became very social, and thereafter when the crowd did turn loose and began to enjoy themselves, they reminded one of a lot of grown up children, and after the distribution of the little favors, to one who had just come in, it might have sounded like Christmas morning, and while the tiny horns were sounding and the roll of confetti was flying in the air, it really looked like an old time carnival.

Songs by Mrs. Farrar and Mrs. Lang

Mrs. Farrar and Mrs. Lang sang two beautiful songs each. Our people always enjoy hearing these two ladies sing. They were loudly applauded.

Six ladies were initiated into the mysteries of Kiwanis, or rather, they thought they were going to receive this initiation. Out of a hat wherein had been placed the names of all the ladies present, six names were drawn for initiation into the Kiwanis Club of Tarboro.

The following names were drawn: Mrs. Irving Morris, Mrs. L. D. Pender, Mrs. B. B. Slaughter, Miss Lila Rosenbaum, Miss Lillian Pitt and Mrs. C. W. Wilson.

In the absence of Mr. Henry Bourne, the reception of these ladies into the club fell to the lot of Kiwanian Brown. The candidates with their hands extended at arms length towards him and there to remain until they were ordered to lower them.

Kiwanian Brown, after he started, forgot something and out he went still instructing the lady candidates to remain firm and steady. In a short while some of the ladies began to waver and twist their heads and show signs of unrest, and about that time Kiwanian Brown very politely and gracefully stated to the candidates that inasmuch as the book containing the obligation could not be found this very formal initiation would have to be postponed to the next annual meeting one year hence and when these ladies sat down every body shrieked and Kiwanian Brown simply smiled and took his seat.

Lieut. Governor James Speaks

Kiwanian ames was very neatly introduced by Kiwanian Haynes.

Kiwanian James is now the lieutenant-governor of this district, having been elected to this position at the recent Kiwanis Convention at Asheville.

He spoke briefly, stating that the Kiwanis was not a religious nor a sectarian, nor a church, nor a fraternal, nor political organization but

was an organization whose main purpose was to make this world a better world to attain swiftness and speed in the world in which to live. He urged all Kiwanians to be punctual in their attendance upon the regular meetings of the Kiwanis, for if a man puts anything into the Kiwanis he would surely get something out of it.

Flower and Lemon Stunt

This was a stunt that put all to thinking for it was something new and unknown to all present.

Kiwanian Beck had charge of this stunt. He at first arranged all the ladies together around the table, the men going to the other side of the hall. Kiwanian Beck had two carnations in his hand, and this is what he said: "I will pass this white carnation to the first lady and then she will pass it down the line. Two minutes will be allowed to pass the carnation along its way, but after two minutes have passed the last holder will step to the front."

This was repeated with a white carnation, and the way those carnations went down the line was a sight for no lady wanted to get caught for the next stunt on the program.

However, someone had to be caught and it fell to the lot of Mrs. Slaughter and Mrs. Edgar Harris to take the stunt. Kiwanian Beck gave them a pair of boxing gloves and told them to "get to it," but just then, after the two ladies had looked "kinder curious," he very politely informed them that he had something better for them than boxing gloves and he presented them with two beautiful gifts. To Mrs. Slaughter he presented a silver picture case, given by M. Heilbroner. To Mrs. Harris he presented a silver pin, given by Bell's Sons.

Ladies Prizes Drawn

After all the names of the lady guests had been placed in a hat, two little girls, Page Howard and Eleanor Rosenbaum drew out the names, and here is how the prizes went:

Mrs. C. B. Keech, prize given by W. L. & J. E. Simmons; Mrs. Vinton Fountain, prize given by T. T. Cherry; Mrs. W. J. Tihgpen, prize given by Fineman Music House; Mrs. H. P. Foxhall, prize given by the Tarboro Bakery; Mrs. W. O. Howard, prize given by First National Bank; Mrs. Anne art, prize given by R. B. Peters Cash Store; Mrs. Ella Lang, prize given by D. P. Store.

Miss Boston, prize given by Austin Hardware Co.; Mrs. Lyn Bond, prize given by R. B. Proctor; Mrs. F. L. Sledge, prize given by Pender Hardware Co.; Mrs. L. H. Beck prize given by A. & P. Stores. Mrs. J. Rosenbaum, prize given by the Mary Marshal Shop. Mrs. J. L. McGehee, prize given by R. E. L. Cooke; Mrs. A. C. Spiers, prize given by P. Shugar o.; Mrs. B. E. Brown, prize given by E. V. Zoeller & Co.

Mrs. L. W. Shook, prize given by R. B. Peters Grocery Co.; Mrs. L. M. Epps, prize given by McNair Bryan Drug Co.; Miss Mary Powell, prize given by Bells Sons. Mrs. W. G. Clark, prize given by the Thomas Co.; Mrs. T. J. Farrar, prize by the Bryan Novelty Shop. Mrs. Brooks Peters, Jr., prize given by Edgecombe Drug Co.; Miss Donnall, prize by Benjamins; Mrs. Sam Carlisle, prize given by E. Saied; Mrs. L. D. Pender, prize given by the McCrory 5 and 10 Cent Store; Mrs. Raby, prize given by Rosenbloom and Levy; Mrs. E. Y. Lovelace, prize given by S. W. Clark & Sons.

Miss Mabel Norfleet, prize given by W. R. Worsley; Mrs. H. I. Morris, prize given by R. W. Jones; Mrs. E. Frank Andrews, prize by Cash Stores Co.; Burt James, prize given by Creech the Florist; Mrs. Ditto,

CHAPEL EXERCISES TO BE CONTINUED THE NEW BERN FIRE COMPANY DENIES REPORT

Children of the Central School Look Forward to Thursday Morning Exercises

YESTERDAY'S PROGRAM

The children of the primary department at the Central School look forward with pleasure to the Chapel exercises every Thursday morning at 8:45.

These exercises are under the supervision of Miss Mary Bridgers, the Primary Supervisor, and they are always interesting. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Last summer, parents and teachers heard with regret that the course of study this year would not include Public School music. The trained teacher is missed, but Miss Patterson, teacher of 2-B grade and Miss Lytch, of the music department, gladly give of their talent at the piano, and leading in singing. Every teacher has put her shoulder to the wheel, and little children in every grade enjoy singing songs and hymns that they love.

On December 7th, the following program was a credit to both the teachers and children:

Song: "Swing the Shining Sickle," Grade 2-C, Miss Wilson, teacher.

Dramatization, Grade 2-A, Miss Paddison, teacher.

Making the First Flag Eugene Brooks—George Washington Ruth Corbett—Betsy Ross.

Eth Braswell—Maid, Leonard Raby—Colonel Ross. Harris King—Mr. Morris.

2500 BALES COTTON STORED IN TARBORO

Mr. Arthur Bass Has Charge of the Edgecombe Bonded Warehouse

800 BELONG TO "CO-OPS"

Mr. Arthur Bass, who has The Edgecombe Bonded Warehouse in charge, says that at the present, there are stored in this warehouse 2,500 bales of cotton.

Of this number, eight hundred bales belong to the Cotton Cooper-County.

O'CONNOR AND MELLOWES ARE EXECUTED

Dublin, Dec. 8.—Rory O'Connor and Liam Mellowes, with two other Irish rebels were executed in Mount Joy prison today. These two men were taken prisoners after a three day's siege of the Four Courts building in June and their companions were shot as reprisals for the assassination yesterday of Dean Hales, deputy speaker, the report states. prize given by O. O. Boykin.

Stunts For The Men

A lemon was passed along a row of men and when the two minutes had passed, Mr. L. M. Epps had the lemon and for his splendid luck in getting it, he was presented with a large package, which when opened, proved to contain a tin, little puny banana. He was told to eat it but he bucked.

Dr. Glazebrook was called on for a few remarks and his address was short, very neat and to the point. Our people are always glad to hear from Dr. Glazebrook, as he has made many very warm friends in Tarboro and the county.

About this time Kiwanian Bond announced a new song, called "Polly Woodie, Do It Now," or something like that and after this song, the Kiwanis adjourned after a night of fun and amusement that did everybody good.

Chief of Fire Department Says Report About Wrench Is Untrue

OFFICIALS ARE INDIGNANT

Other Parts of Report So Inaccurate As To Be Amusing to New Bernians

New Bern, Dec. 7.—City officials were manifesting great indignation here this afternoon over the report submitted to the state insurance department by W. A. Scott, deputy commissioner on the New Bern fire in which he criticised the work of the local fire department and mentioned other matters in connection with the conflagration.

The following statement was given out by James S. Bryan, chief of the New Bern Fire department:

"It is true as Mr. Scott says that there was no nozzle on the fire wagon which was first at the scene of the fire. The delay resulting from this did not exceed three or four minutes. The statement that Mr. Scott makes concerning the wrench is absolutely untrue. I made the connection myself and the wrench was on the wagon. There were only three hoses ablaze when the fire department responded and not five as Mr. Scott says.

"With reference to the couplings at the local mill it is true that the coupling there differs from the standard size but as we had the proper connection on our truck there was absolutely not a second lost in this respect."

Mr. Scott's statement relative to the insurance on the devastated property being only \$35,000 is meeting with much amusement on the part of insurance men here. One company alone has policies amounting to \$150,000, according to W. H. Henderson, a local bank official.

The comment of Mr. Scott relative to explosives being found in some of the houses will be investigated by officials. A report by Lieutenant Hartz, of Fort Bragg, said only a few shells were found in one or two houses. Several citizens have ever, according to the police, claim that they heard bullet popping in several homes, including the church mentioned by Mr. Scott.

TWO IRISH DEPUTIES ATTACKED IN DUBLIN

(By The Associated Press)

Dublin, Dec. 7.—President Cosgrave announced to Parliament today that Deputy Sean Hales had been shot and killed and that Deputy Patrick O'maille, deputy speaker, had been wounded while on their way to the Parliament session.

NEW RULING BY THE TURKISH NATIONALISTS

(By The Associated Press)

Angora, Dec. 7.—The Turkish Nationalists have decided that it cannot accept the continuance in Turkey of consulates or postoffices of any power at war with Turkey.

BAZAAR BY THE LADIES OF THE BAPTIST CHURCH

The ladies of the Baptist church will have a bazaar Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 12 and 13th, at Mr. R. C. Josey's office on Main street.

There will be beautiful Christmas presents there and everybody is invited to look them over and buy.

Pay up your subscription to The Southerner.