

STATE AHEAD IN FIRE PROTECTION

NORTH CAROLINA 25 YEARS IN VAN OF MOST STATES IN PREVENTING FIRE.

Raleigh. North Carolina is 25 years ahead of most other states of the Union in the standard of fire protection, according to Stacey W. Wade, Commissioner of Insurance of this State. The commissioner stated that he based his assertion on the data displayed at the Fire Marshals' Association of America convention recently held in Detroit, and upon statements by fire marshals of other states who were present at the convention.

Not alone does North Carolina excel in the prevention of fire by natural causes, it was pointed out but also in the suppression of incendiary conflagrations. The department has prosecuted several cases within the past year and succeeded in finding the guilty parties. It now has several cases pending.

As a result of these standards, North Carolina, it was said, has a lower insurance rate than most States of the Union and her sister State, South Carolina, has ordered an investigation as to why there is such a difference in the rates of the two states. The authorities in South Carolina have recommended the State following such standards as are now maintained in North Carolina.

Boom Times in Furniture Trade.

North Carolina ranks tenth among the States of the Union in the manufacture of furniture, according to the biennial report of M. L. Shipman, Commissioner of Labor and Printing, which is now in process of preparation for presentation to the General Assembly and the Governor in January. The report on the advance of the furniture industry in North Carolina shows that it has made remarkable forward strides in the past two years until it has taken a rank of one of the leading industries of the State.

The manufacture of furniture in North Carolina as compared with all other furniture manufacturing states of the Union is set to rank tenth in number of establishments; eighth in the average number of wage-earners; tenth in the amount paid wage-earners; eighth in cost of material; ninth in the value of its products and tenth in value added by manufacture. Guilford, Davidson, and Caldwell are given as the leading counties in the State in which the manufacture of furniture is now being carried on. The City of High Point, being the center of this industry, has become known in circles of this industry throughout the United States. Mr. Shipman attributes the proximity of raw material as one of the main grounds for the rapid growth of the business in this State.

Capital stock invested in the manufacture of furniture in North Carolina in 1924 was given as \$12,734,849 for the 99 factories reporting, while in 1922 there were 107 factories reporting with an invested capital of \$5,525,102, an increase of almost 50 per cent in the past two years. The present value of the 99 plants is assessed at \$10,805,846, while the value of the 107 plants two years ago was given as \$5,384,550.

The yearly output of the combined products of these factories is now placed at \$41,619,806, showing an increase of more than eleven million dollars during the past two years as the value of the yearly output in 1922 was shown to be \$30,288,761.

Horse-power required to operate the factories has also increased. Methods used consist of steam, electricity and water power. Total horsepower in 1924 was given as 14,941 as compared with 12,791 in 1922.

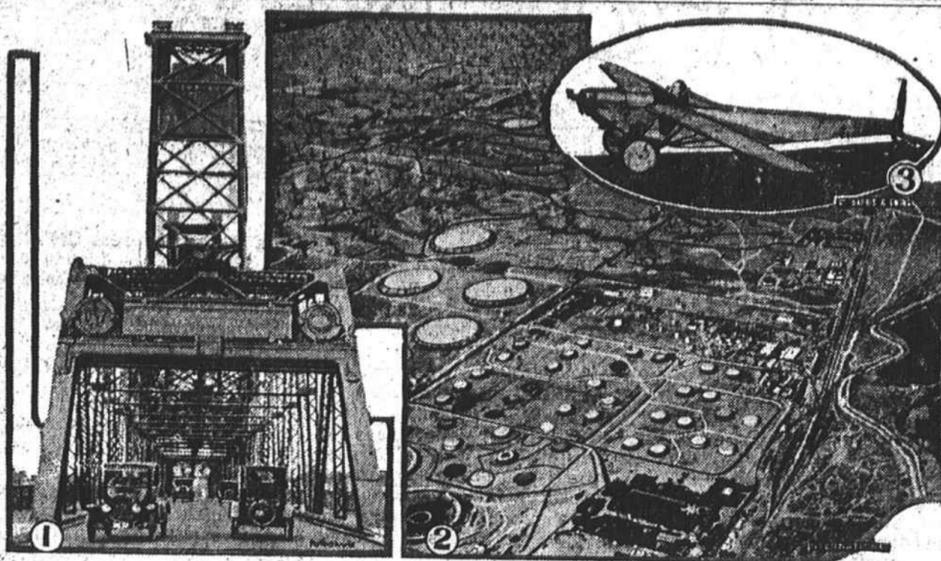
The employment situation is a key to the growth of the industry in this State. In 1922 the 107 factories reporting employed 8,697 persons, of which 8,334 were men, 274 were women, and 69 were children. In 1924 with eight less factories reporting the number of employees was set at 11,181 of which number 10,759 were men, 287 were women and 135 were children. This shows an increase in employment of 2,425 men, 13 women and 40 children.

Other indications of the growth of the furniture manufacturing industry in North Carolina are shown in the increase of pay. The total annual payroll is now \$7,799,901, while in 1922 it was \$5,467,614. The pay per day in 1922 for men was \$5 highest and \$1.91 lowest; for women \$2.58 and \$1.18; while today the pay per day for men is 5.75 highest and \$2.00 lowest and for women \$2.70 highest and \$1.92 lowest.

Complete Survey of Route.

Final surveys by the State Highway Commission on the Milburne Road for which the Wake county commissioners appropriated \$41,500 are being completed and the contract for paving the road will probably be let on the first letting following that on November 26, it was announced by Charles M. Upham, state highway engineer.

Approximately \$250,000 has been set aside out of the funds of the Fourth District to be used in the construction of the road under the present bond issue. It is understood.



1—\$2,000,000 bridge across the Piscaqua river, connecting Portsmouth, N. H., and Kittery, Me., erected as a memorial to the war dead of New Hampshire and Maine. 2—Aerial view of Elk Hills naval oil reserve in California, leases to which the government seeks to cancel. 3—E. F. Allen of Washington in his baby plane, weighing 205 pounds and capable of making 63 miles an hour.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

British Conservatives Win Big Victory—Laborites and Liberals Beaten.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

RAMSAY MACDONALD and his Labor government went down to defeat in the British parliamentary elections, and the Conservatives won a great victory. They have a decisive majority in the house of commons, and at this writing it is presumed that Stanley Baldwin, leader of the party will return to the office of prime minister. Mr. MacDonald was re-elected, however, and it is said he and his cabinet may carry on until the Conservatives defeat them in the house.

The Liberals were badly beaten, losing a lot of seats, and it is believed they will go out of existence as a separate party. Former Prime Minister Lloyd George was easily victorious over his Labor opponent, but Mrs. Asquith, leader of the other wing of the Liberals, was beaten by Mitchell, Laborite, in Paisley, which constituency broke its Liberal record of 92 years. This was a severe blow to the party and likely will result in driving its left wing into the ranks of Laborites. Other prominent men who won seats were Winston Churchill, Austen Chamberlain, C. P. Trevelyan, Attorney General Hastings, Philip Snowden, Sir J. A. B. Marriott and Sir Hamar Greenwood. Of the fourteen woman candidates only four were elected—Lady Astor, Conservative; Miss Wilkinson, Labor; Mrs. Phillipson and the duchess of Athol. The gains by the Conservatives were general throughout the country and even where they failed to elect their candidates they largely increased their vote.

On this side of the Atlantic, the Canadians were especially interested in the result of the British elections, and the victory of the Conservatives caused them to rejoice. This is because they expect a return of the McKenna duties by which Canada benefited greatly, and also because they think a policy of imperial preferences will be adopted, which will help the Dominion.

If the Laborites' defeat can be laid to any one thing, it is the fact that they had been showing too much favor to Soviet Russia.

SENATOR BORAH and his committee went right along probing into campaign contributions and expenditures, despite the fact that the campaign was closing. It is difficult to write about that investigation without voicing disgust at the trivialities on which time is wasted and at the pettifogging tactics of many of those taking part in the "exposures." Part of the committee returned to Chicago and there heard, among others, W. V. Hodges of Denver, treasurer of the Republican national committee. Being questioned about his connection with a sugar company and his advocacy of the present sugar tariff, he reiterated his belief that the tariff is all right, and produced letters to prove that this view was shared by Senators Ladd and Frazier of North Dakota and Senator Wheeler of Montana, third party men. Mr. Hodges said that to date the national committee had received \$2,750,000 and had collected \$750,000 additional which had been returned to the states.

Before the Washington part of the committee Attorney Frank Walsh brought out various charges of bribery, coercion and the hiring of labor men to speak for Coolidge and Daves, but showed nothing of especial importance except that L. K. Liggett, self-styled fiscal agent of the Republican party in Massachusetts, had written a letter to several chairmen stating there should be no limit to the size of contributions as "large contributions will be so divided as to meet the full observance of the statutes." The witness admitted the wording of the letter was unfortunate and that if he had known it would cause such a commotion he would not have sent it as written. He stated the plan was to accept large contributions, keep only \$1,000, as lim-

ited by law, for the state campaign and turn the rest over to the national committee.

About the only result expected from the investigation is a report from the committee recommending that congress pass legislation putting a limit to national campaign funds, the maximum sum probably being fixed at \$1,000,000 for any one party.

WITH General Feng Yu-hsiang in control of Peking, General Chang, his present ally, advancing toward that city from the north, and General Wu Pei-fu moving a considerable army against them along the road to Tientsin, the prospects for a great battle in the neighborhood of the capital were excellent. President Tsao Kun, seemingly, has neither resigned nor fled, but probably is helpless. The Manchurians scored by capturing the town of Lanchow and reported they had trapped the Chihli troops that Wu had left at Shanhaiwan. The British in Peking, however, received word that Wu's army at the great wall was intact. In one recent engagement it used poison gas for the first time, but the Manchurians had gas masks ready. One correspondent sends a story that General Feng—he is the so-called "Christian general"—has been promised soviet support against Tsao Kun and has received \$3,000,000 from Russian sources. Gen. W. D. Connor, U. S. A., became senior commander of foreign forces in Tientsin when General Yoshijoka of Japan developed a convenient illness. Therefore it was up to the American to see that there was no violation of the treaty obligation that there be no Chinese soldiers in that city.

NEITHER Great Britain nor Turkey was pleased with the decision of the League of Nations council in the Mosul dispute. The council ordered that the status quo be maintained pending a final settlement of the question next spring, when the rich oil territory will be permanently allocated.

OUR government is indignant because only one of the murderers of Maj. Robert Imbrie, American vice consul in Teheran, has been executed, and has sent to the Persian government a protest that is tantamount to an ultimatum, threatening that other measures will be taken unless the known assassins are executed.

PUBLICATION of income tax lists in various newspapers, which has aroused a storm of protests, will be carried to court by the Department of Justice, according to an announcement by Attorney General Stone. He has avoided giving a definite opinion as to the legality of such publication, but says it seems to be the duty of the department to obtain a judicial determination of the question. Whether a single paper will be singled out for the test, and where the case will be brought is not known at this writing. Officials of the internal revenue bureau doubt the legality of the publication in newspapers of the lists. The new law provides for public inspection of the lists and of the amounts paid, but congress also re-enacted the section of the old law making it a criminal offense to print or publish in any manner not provided by law any part of an income tax return.

FRANK O. LOWDEN of Illinois is being urged upon President Coolidge for the position of secretary of agriculture, made vacant by the death of Secretary Wallace. For the present Assistant Secretary Gore is acting secretary. He was the Republican nominee for governor of West Virginia but dropped all his campaign work to take care of his duties in Washington.

THE week's death list contained several notable names. Among them were James B. Forgan, dean of Chicago bankers and known throughout the world as an authority on finance; Percy D. Haughton, the famous football coach; Gen. W. B. Haldeman, commander in chief of the United Confederate Veterans; Edward Bell, American charge d'affaires in Peking, whose death was attributed to mental strain caused by the conditions in China; Frances Hodgson Burnett,

noted author and playwright, Laura Jean Libbey, novelist; W. E. Lewis, publisher of the New York Telegraph; Albert H. Loeb, Chicago capitalist; Thomas C. Harbaugh, writer of the "Nick Carter" tales, and Lew Dockstader, one of the most famous of American minstrels.

FRANCE has at last granted full recognition to the government of Russia, and the United States is now the only great power holding out against the soviets. Jean Herbet becomes French ambassador to Moscow and M. Rakovsky accepts the post of Russian ambassador to Paris, being transferred from London. It is believed either Krassin, Kamenoff or Litvinoff will be sent to England. Premier Herriot issued an order sequestering all Russian government real property in Paris to be held awaiting a settlement. This includes the palatial Russian embassy, with its store of art treasures which has been in the possession of Kerensky and his followers for seven years; and also stocks, bonds, consulates and other properties that have been held in the name of the former czar and of the Russian state.

RUSSIA is still furiously angry with Great Britain because of the publication of the alleged letter from Zinoviev telling English communists to prepare for a revolution. The letter is declared by Moscow to be a forgery and the soviet government has sent to London several notes demanding immediate apologies. The whole affair was closely connected with the politics of the British election, and it is likely it will put an end to the plans for an Anglo-Russian treaty. Another statement by Zinoviev, whose authenticity is not questioned, is a prediction that a proletarian revolution in Germany is approaching, "despite all the Dawses, Eberts and Noskes."

ECONOMIC evacuation of the Ruhr and Rhineland by France has been completed, every public building and public service has been turned over to the Germans and some 30,000 expelled German railway workers have returned to their jobs. The reparations commission declared that the last part of the Dawes program had been fulfilled. Financial experts of the allied countries began preparing for the conference to partition the reparations payments, and on America's request, her claims for the cost of the United States army of occupation were placed first on the agenda. Owen D. Young formally turned over to Seymour Parker Gilbert the office of agent general of reparations.

J. Pierpont Morgan and the French government signed an agreement for the floating of a French loan on the American market, the amount being understood to be \$150,000,000. From this the Morgan banking house will be repaid the \$100,000,000 credit extended by it for market operations to strengthen the French currency exchange value.

SECRETARY OF COMMERCE HOOVER has called a conference on street and highway safety to meet in Washington December 15. Representatives from all parts of the country will take part. In a statement explaining the purpose of the conference Mr. Hoover declared that the death of 22,600 persons, injury to 678,000 persons and property damage amounting to \$600,000,000 from traffic accidents in 1923 represent a national loss of so appalling a character as to warrant thorough consideration of the entire problem.

THERE are signs of hard times ahead for three of the "big men" of foreign lands—President Kemal of Turkey, Dictator Mussolini of Italy and Dictator Primo de Rivera of Spain. A powerful revolt against Kemal's leadership has started and its chiefs are the most influential diplomats and army and navy officers of the country. Many Spaniards have enlisted in a movement to destroy the dictatorship of De Rivera, and scores of prominent men were arrested in Madrid when the police broke up a great meeting of protest against his regime. Mussolini's position is not so weakened as those of the others, but that his power is waning was indicated by the relatively small numbers of Fascist who turned out on the anniversary of the society to take the oath of loyalty to the king.

TEN KILLED AS RESULT OF WRECK

TWO SCORE ARE INJURED WHEN TRAIN HITS STREET CAR.

Chicago.—Ten passengers were killed and two score injured, some seriously, when a Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad freight train, backing into the yards here, wrecked a crowded street car crossing the tracks. Most of the victims were neighbors returning from a Halloween party and many wore masquerade costumes.

The dead: Katherine Ruedhausen 21; Mrs. Mary Garrity, 35, and four-year-old daughter, Anna May; Mrs. Elizabeth Burns, 40; unidentified woman, 20; Patrick O'Malley, 57; Benjie Cadaller, 30; William Welch, 45; Dr. M. Shenkin, 70; and Elmer Galanfeith.

Mrs. Garrity and her daughter were suffocated and trampled in the panic which ensued when the street car was shunted across the street and crashed into a watchman's tower, corner's physicians said. Police squads and firemen who rushed to the scene found the passengers screaming and fighting in the darkness for the exits. Rescuers used saws, axes and crowbars to break away the wreckage and extricate the victims.

Joseph Brahe, 59, crossing watchman, was ordered held for the coroner's inquest after policemen found the gates, which protect the crossing intact after the accident, indicating, they said, that they had not been lowered to warn the car crew. Two physicians who examined him shortly after the wreck said he had been drinking, and detectives said an empty bottle smelling of whiskey had been found in the tower.

The crews of the street car and freight train also were questioned, but were released after car company and railroad officials promised Coroner Oscar Wolf they would have them present at the inquest. Carl Olson, conductor, and Robert Glenn, motorman, of the car, said the crossing gates were up as the car started across the railroad right of way.

Physicians expressed doubt of the recovery of six of the injured, among them two small children and several women. The unidentified woman wore a masquerade costume and had only an initialed ring as a clue to her identity.

Coroner Wolf and Morgan A. Collins, chief of police, took personal charge of the investigation. John Gaskett, a railroad switchman, told questioners the crossing gates had been lowered while some cars were switched on another track, but had been raised when the freight train was about 15 feet from the crossing. He said he shouted to the towerman to lower the gates and signaled to the engineer of the freight train to stop but the collision occurred before he made himself heard.

Olson, the conductor, said he saw the towerman raise the gates and ran to the crossing. He looked in both directions, he stated, but did not see the approaching train and signaled the motorman to proceed. The first two cars of the train were gondolas and bore no lights, investigators found. Walter Vincent and Nicholas Wiedel, engineers of the two locomotives of the train, said Gaskett had signaled for an immediate stop, but the momentum carried the train forward.

Drif Three Days in Storm. Norfolk.—Adrift for three days in a disabled launch off the Florida coast, at the mercy of storm and chilling night, clad only in palmbeach suits and without a compass to guide their tiny craft, M. J. Mabry, Miami newspaperman; C. C. Stewart, Miami engineer, and H. R. Cunningham, of Chicago, were picked up by the Italian ship, Valentino Coda Wednesday.

The three men were members of an ill-fated fishing excursion that nearly cost them their lives. Still showing the effects of two days and nights of terror and hardships, they were outfitted with new apparel at a local haberdashery. The original garments were in tatters when they were rescued and they donned clothing borrowed from the crew.

Indians Get Cash. Washington.—Approximately 1,226 Klamath Indians of Oregon will share about \$122,600 as a result of a per capita payment of \$100 authorized by the interior department to help tide them through the winter. The money is derived from sale of timber belonging to the Indians which it is estimated will yield them at least \$500,000 annually for the next 20 years.

Department Can't Prevent Location. Washington.—The department of agriculture has declared an opinion to the effect that it is without power to prevent the location in the South by the Chicago board of trade of official places for the delivery of cotton purchased on exchange.

Senator N. B. Dial of South Carolina contending that the establishment of Southern points of delivery would read deleteriously on the price of cotton, expressed to the department his contention that Southern delivery points could not be legally established.

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Dolls Resemble Owners. Dolls made to look exactly like the little girls who mother them are an innovation among this year's toys. Artists model the heads of clay, cover them with stockinette, paint them, and attach silky goat's hair.—Popular Science Monthly.

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Ask your druggist for genuine "California Fig Syrup" which has full directions for infants in arms, and children of all ages, plainly printed on bottle. Mother! You must say "California" or you may get an imitation fig syrup.

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Mrs. Benham—I suppose you thought I would borrow trouble today, but I didn't. Benham—Were the neighbors all out of it?

WOMEN NEED SWAMP-ROOT

Thousands of women have kidney and bladder trouble and never suspect it. Women's complaints often prove to be nothing else but kidney trouble, or the result of kidney or bladder disease. If the kidneys are not in a healthy condition they may cause the other organs to become diseased. Pain in the back, headache, loss of ambition, nervousness are oftentimes symptoms of kidney trouble. Don't delay starting treatment. Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, a physician's prescription, obtained at any drug store, may be just the remedy needed to overcome such conditions. Get a medium or large size bottle immediately from any drug store. However, if you wish first to test this great preparation, send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample bottle. When writing, be sure and mention this paper.—Advertisement.

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