

STATE FIRE LOSS TAKES BIG JUMP

FIRE LOSS IN FIRST HALF 1925 AHEAD OF LOSS IN SAME PERIOD 1924.

Raleigh.

Fire loss in North Carolina during the past six months was \$3,533,146 or an increase of more than \$600,000 over the loss during the first six months of 1924 which was \$2,904,285, according to a report made public by State Insurance Commissioner Tracy W. Wade.

There were 629 dwelling fires during the first six months of 1925 with a loss of \$600,895 while in the same period in 1924 there were 697 such fires with a loss of \$821,857.

Total fire damage in North Carolina in June was \$202,174 with a number of fires of \$1,000 and above being reported. The report made public at the same time shows there were 114 fires reported during the month with a damage of \$1,000,000 or more.

Manufacturing fires took 130 of the loss of the entire year, with a damage of \$3,030,251, a loss of \$1,200,000 being reported in the month of June.

Of the total number of fires, 57 were urban dwelling fires with a total damage of \$25,872 and four were rural dwelling fires with \$1270 damage.

Many Counties Want New Loans.

Informal applications for loans amounting to more than \$1,000,000 have been made by counties desiring to borrow from the State Highway School Building Fund, which will be available on January 1, 1926.

Census of Highway Traffic.

From Asheville, to the Top of the Blue Ridge on Route 10, and from Raleigh to the Durham county line on Route 10 are the two points of heaviest traffic density on the State Highway System, according to a traffic census made on July 9 by the State Highway Commission.

On the road near Asheville 4222 vehicles passed on the date of the census while on the road near Raleigh 3470 vehicles were observed. The census covers a large number of points in each of the nine highway districts.

More foreign cars denoting tourist traffic were observed on Route 29 between Hendersonville and Asheville. More horse drawn vehicles were seen on Route 211.

Commissioners See Roads Oiled.

Highway Commissioners J. Elwood Cox and A. M. Kistler rode with their chairman, Frank Pace, over many miles of the asphalted oil roads of Lee and Moore counties and the three could almost decree that the state highway commission has found the secondary road for North Carolina.

No Pay for More Than 48 Drills.

No federal payment will be made for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1925, for any armory drills in excess of 24 drills per unit in the first half of the year, and 12 drills per unit in each of the third and fourth quarters, or a total of 48 drills per unit for the year.

Hydrophobia Cases on Increase.

Number of persons treated for rabies, or hydrophobia, in North Carolina has jumped from 157 patients in 1909 to 1,288 patients in 1924, according to Dr. A. C. Bulla, head of the Wake County Department of Health.

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In case a person is bitten by a dog or dog, Dr. Bulla gives the following advice:

If the animal killed and have the head examined and if traces of rabies are discovered take the Pasteur treatment.

Continues to Pile Up Debts.

The state prison showed an operating deficit of \$562,913.14 as of June 30, 1925, compared with an estimated deficit reported to the 1925 general assembly of \$1,318,312.13.

Admiral Durham also reported a deficit of \$1,582 by the Appalachian Training School, \$797.13 by the Steenwall Jackson Training School, \$11,000.10 by the Caswell Training School, \$29,456.96 by the Industrial School at Sumner and \$618.84 by the Morrison Training School.

Many Motor Trucks Used in Schools.

Public transportation of school children has been the subject of an extensive study made by W. H. Pittman, of the state department of public instruction, who has made public his findings.

Mr. Pittman gives figures to show the enormous increase in the public transportation of school children during the past few years.

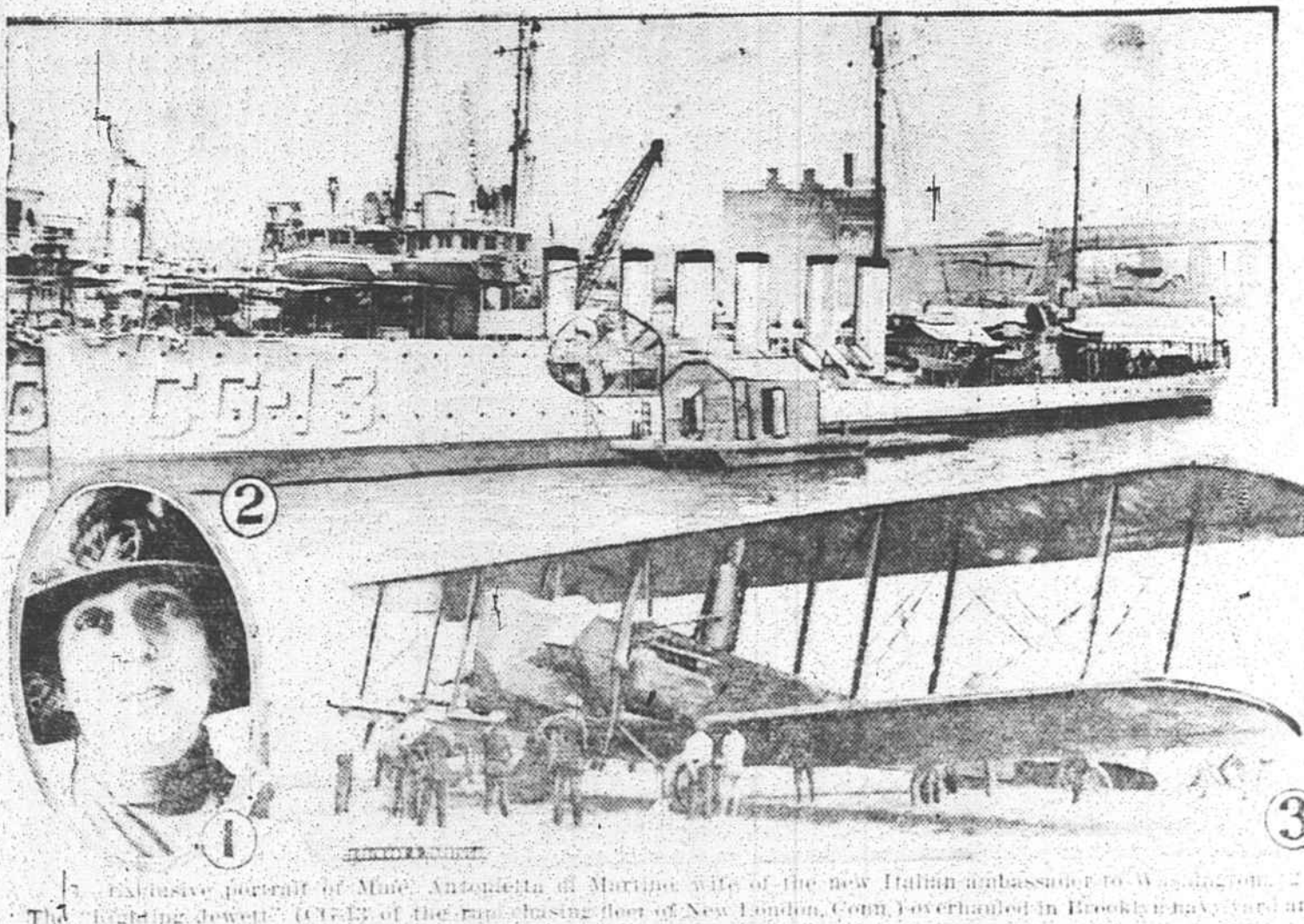
The state supervisor of elementary schools reported six vehicles in 1914-15, which transported 150 children.

In 1923-24, ninety-three of the 100 counties in the state were transporting children to the public schools. These ninety-three counties used 1,318 conveyances, mostly motor trucks, and transported 48,251 children to and from school.

Labor Situation in State is Good.

The general employment outlook in North Carolina for this period of the year is considered satisfactory, according to a report made public by the Employment Service of the United States Department of Labor.

The report states that in Raleigh with the exception of one closed cotton mill affecting about 225 workers, all industries are operating.



Exclusive portrait of Mate Antonella di Martino, wife of the new Italian ambassador to Washington. The airplane shown is the one in which she and her husband were nearly killed by the pursuit of the German planes.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

German Note Gives Hope of Restoration of Friendly Peace in Europe.

GERMANY'S reply to France on the subject of the security pact, in the opinion of official Europe, makes bright the outlook for peace in the old world.

The German government says that although it does not consider its position in the league as a necessary condition for the establishment of a security pact, it is willing to join the league, but with the express condition that article 16 does not apply to Germany.

Germany says in the note that it would not have equal rights as a member of the league until its own disarmament is followed by general disarmament. It denies any intention of trying to modify the treaties of peace, but adds:

At the same time it takes for granted that one must not forever exclude the possibility of adapting existing treaties to more friendly records.

Violent Attacks by the Rifians.

Violence broke the French lines along the Spanish coast, though some posts were abandoned, and at last reports the Moroccan Rifians were falling back on the center and apparently preparing to concentrate their efforts on the wings with the hope of taking the important towns of Taza and Quezzah, respectively about 60 miles east and northwest of Fez.

John T. Scoopes of Dayton, Tenn., Found Guilty of Violating State Law.

John T. Scoopes of Dayton, Tenn., was found guilty of violating the state law forbidding the teaching of the theory of evolution, and was fined \$1000 by Judge Radwin.

The fundamentalists are not satisfied with this victory. Walter White, Dayton's school superintendent and the prosecuting witness in the Scoopes case, proposed that a bill would be drawn up and introduced in congress, withdrawing all federal support from institutions in which the doctrine of evolution is taught.

The Scoops defense at the start of the week surprisingly put William J. Bryan on the stand, and he and Clarence Darrow engaged in a lively duel of question and answer.

Secretary of Agriculture Jardine has been spending some eight weeks touring the West, and on his return to Washington reviewed the agricultural situation as he saw it.

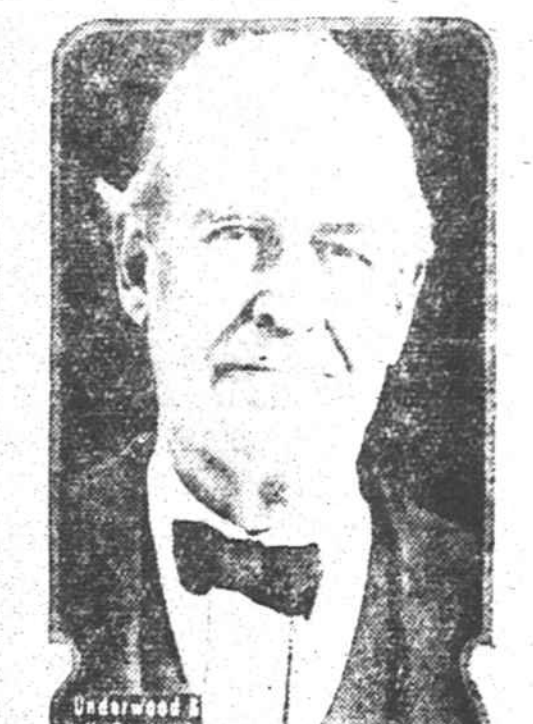
Conditions in the corn belt are reversed from what they were a year ago, when hogs were still cheap and corn a poor and expensive crop.

According to figures just made public by the Department of Agriculture, the farmers of the United States received a gross income of \$12,136,000,000 from agricultural production for the year ending June 30 last, as compared with \$11,288,000,000 for the previous year.

WILLIAM J. BRYAN DIES IN DAYTON

DISCOVERED DEAD IN BED AFTER EATING HEARTY NOON MEAL.

Dayton, Tenn., William Jennings Bryan three times presidential nominee of the democratic party announced the death of his wife, Mrs. Bryan, at the age of 72.



Portrait of William Jennings Bryan made during trial in Tennessee.

Mr. Bryan's death came on the eve of another crusade he had planned to carry before the American people, a battle against modernism. He returned to Dayton after having made addresses at Jasper and Winchester, Tennessee, and after having completed arrangements for the early publication of the speech he was to make.

Mrs. Bryan received a message from her son William Jennings Bryan, Jr., stating he was leaving Los Angeles immediately for the east. Mr. Bryan stated that she would inform him of the arrangements for the funeral en route.

Mrs. Bryan was preparing to leave Dayton in the next day or so for Idaho where she expected to spend the summer with her son.

Henry Ford's bid for the fleet of United States shipping vessels has been held up for the present, objections to it having been raised by unsuccessful bidders under the first advertisement.

The Van Sweringen Nickel Plate railroad merger project was still before the interstate commerce commission last week, and the most interesting incident was a hot exchange between O. P. Van Sweringen and H. W. Anderson, counsel for protesting minority stockholders.

Cleveland flags fly at half mast. Cleveland flags on all municipal buildings here will fly at half mast in honor of William Jennings Bryan, until after his funeral.