

NEED COUNTY AID TO PREVENT FIRES

GOVERNOR URGES COUNTIES TO CO-OPERATE IN FOREST FIRE PROBLEM.

Raleigh. — Counties of North Carolina will be urged to co-operate with the State in prevention and control of forest fires by Governor McLean in a letter which was mailed to every county commissioner in the State.

This matter of helping the farmers and other owners of woodland to increase the value of their property and secure larger revenue from it by protecting it from fire, is very close to my heart," Governor McLean states in the letter. "In fact I consider it one of the most vital questions in the State today."

The Governor's letter follows: "The damage resulting from the devastating forest fires which have recently occurred in all regions of North Carolina makes it advisable to carefully review the situation and see if each section of the community is doing its part to protect our forest lands from this scourge."

The State, with the assistance of the Federal government, has, through the Department of Conservation and Development, offered to the counties expert help and financial assistance on a 50-50 basis in the prevention and suppression of forest fires, but too few of the counties have realized the value of this help. Instead of promptly requesting an adequate share of the funds which are available, the time of the forestry officials has in many instances been taken up in trying to persuade the counties to begin, continue appropriations, to be matched by State funds for this important work.

The forest lands located in your county are owned by the taxpayers who contribute to your county revenue. Not only are these taxpayers entitled to some measure of protection to their property, but you must realize that the taxable value of the wooded land varies with the value of the timber crop which is growing upon it. The finances of the county therefore would be improved and the prosperity of your people enhanced by your actively taking part in such opportunities for protection which are available. The State Forest Service is anxious to extend its co-operative protection work to additional counties but only a limited number can be helped until the General Assembly makes further provision for this work.

This matter of helping the farmers and other owners of woodland to increase the value of their property and secure larger revenue from it by protecting it from fire, is very close to my heart; in fact I consider it one of the most vital questions in the State today. Let me urge you to take such action as is possible without delay."

Fire Prevention Week Oct. 4-10.

Governor McLean issued a proclamation calling upon the people of North Carolina to observe Fire Prevention Week which has been designated for the week of October 4 to 10.

"The State of North Carolina has for years led in efforts to reduce fire waste and its attendant loss of life and property. October 4th to 10th inclusive has been designated as Fire Prevention Week throughout the United States, and I appeal to our citizenship who are so familiar with the destruction of fire to become vitally interested in this great economic waste.

"The fire loss in the United States last year (1924) was more than five hundred and fifty millions of dollars with more than 17,000 persons killed and a vastly larger number crippled and maimed for life. North Carolina's share in this loss was more than five million three hundred and twenty thousand dollars, with 343 lives and hundreds of our people maimed. It is well known that carelessness and ignorance of fire hazard go hand in hand as the chief causes of our great national bonfire.

"I, therefore, urge that the week of October 4th to 10th be set aside as Fire Prevention Week in accordance with Section 6180 of Consolidated Statutes, which provides that the Governor of North Carolina shall, each year in October, issue a proclamation urging the people to a proper observance.

"During this week I also urge that fire drills be held in schools, factories, and stores, and that they be continued at regular intervals.

Notaries Public Commissioned.

The following notaries public were commissioned by Governor McLean: Miss Vera Albertson, of High Point; P. B. Burke, of Roseboro; T. W. Chambliss, of Raleigh; Miss Johnnie Garvis, of Arden; C. T. Gillkin, of Morehead City; D. K. Helsebeck, of Stoneville; A. E. Jones, of Thomasville; C. S. Noble, of Winston-Salem; H. V. Rose, of Smithfield; Walter J. Chaffner, of Asheville; J. A. Thomas, of Charlotte; J. G. Williams, of Lilesville, and Elbert G. Weston, of Washington.

Good Cheap Road Now Great Need.

Research to provide moderate priced highway which will meet the demands of traffic is being carried on by the Highway Research Board of the National Research Council through S. S. Steinberg, field representative, who is now in North Carolina making a study of the earth roads of the State.

Charles M. Upham, State Highway engineer and director of the Highway Research Board, declares that a cheap serviceable road is the most important problem now confronting highway engineers.

Only 15 per cent of the highways of America are of hard surface construction, according to Mr. Steinberg, while the other 85 per cent are roads of cheap construction. Since this is so it is manifestly impossible to build hard surface roads to all communities and opening up all territory in this country, he declares.

By building good moderately priced roads the mileage for any expenditure will be vastly greater than if expensive hard surface roads are constructed, he declares. The highway Research Board is seeking to determine the best moderately priced roads. Mr. Steinberg is conducting the "Earth Road Investigation" of the board.

"The research work that has been done in North Carolina under the direction of Mr. Upham leads the whole country," declared Mr. Steinberg.

More Births in State Than Last Year.

The number of births in North Carolina continues to grow, while the deaths are on the decrease.

This is shown by figures compiled by the state bureau of vital statistics. The first six months of this year showed an increase of births over the same period in 1924, and the comparative figures for the two periods show that there were fewer deaths in the state during the first half of this year.

The bureau's figures show a total of 42,030 births in North Carolina during the first half of 1924 as compared with 42,197 for the same period this year, the increase being 167.

The deaths during the first six months of 1924 numbered 17,746. Deaths the first half of this year totaled 16,828, a decrease over the same period last year of 918.

Of this number of deaths—for both periods—the bureau estimates that 3,000 were infants, that is, babies under one year. In other words, of the 42,030 babies born during the first six months of 1924, 3,000 of them are dead now.

And not less than 250 of the mothers of these 42,030 children born during the first six months of last year, have died during the year, the bureau figures show.

Pou Makes Second Appeal.

George Ross Pou, superintendent of the State's prison, issued his second letter to the chairmen of the boards of county commissioners of the hundred counties of the State in an effort to secure orders for convict clothing for county convicts, which is now being manufactured at the prison.

Fall convict clothing for the Wake County prisoners was made at the State's Prison, and the Wake County road officials state that they are much pleased at the saving effected and the quality of workmanship, according to Mr. Pou. Clothing made by the prison is sold by the Rosner Sales Agency, of Charlotte.

In his letter to the county officials.

Mr. Pou states that there are now convicts at the State's Prison, gainfully employed and "unless the prisoners are placed upon a revenue producing basis," he declares, "the prison cannot be self-supporting."

Will Teach About North Carolina.

That teaching North Carolina is being to be quite popular in the public schools this season is indicated by numerous requests for maps and information about the State received by the Department of Agriculture in the past few days. Numerous teachers have applied for copies of agricultural map distributed by the department and of "North Carolina the Land of Opportunity."

Teachers throughout the State are interested in teaching the rising generation facts about North Carolina with especial emphasis on the agricultural opportunities. However, number of calls have been received for "anything of interest about North Carolina."

Cotton Association Wants Crop.

State prison directors at their meeting in Halifax county on the Tiller Caledonia farm, will be asked to let the state farm's cotton through the Co-operative Cotton Growers' association with headquarters at Raleigh.

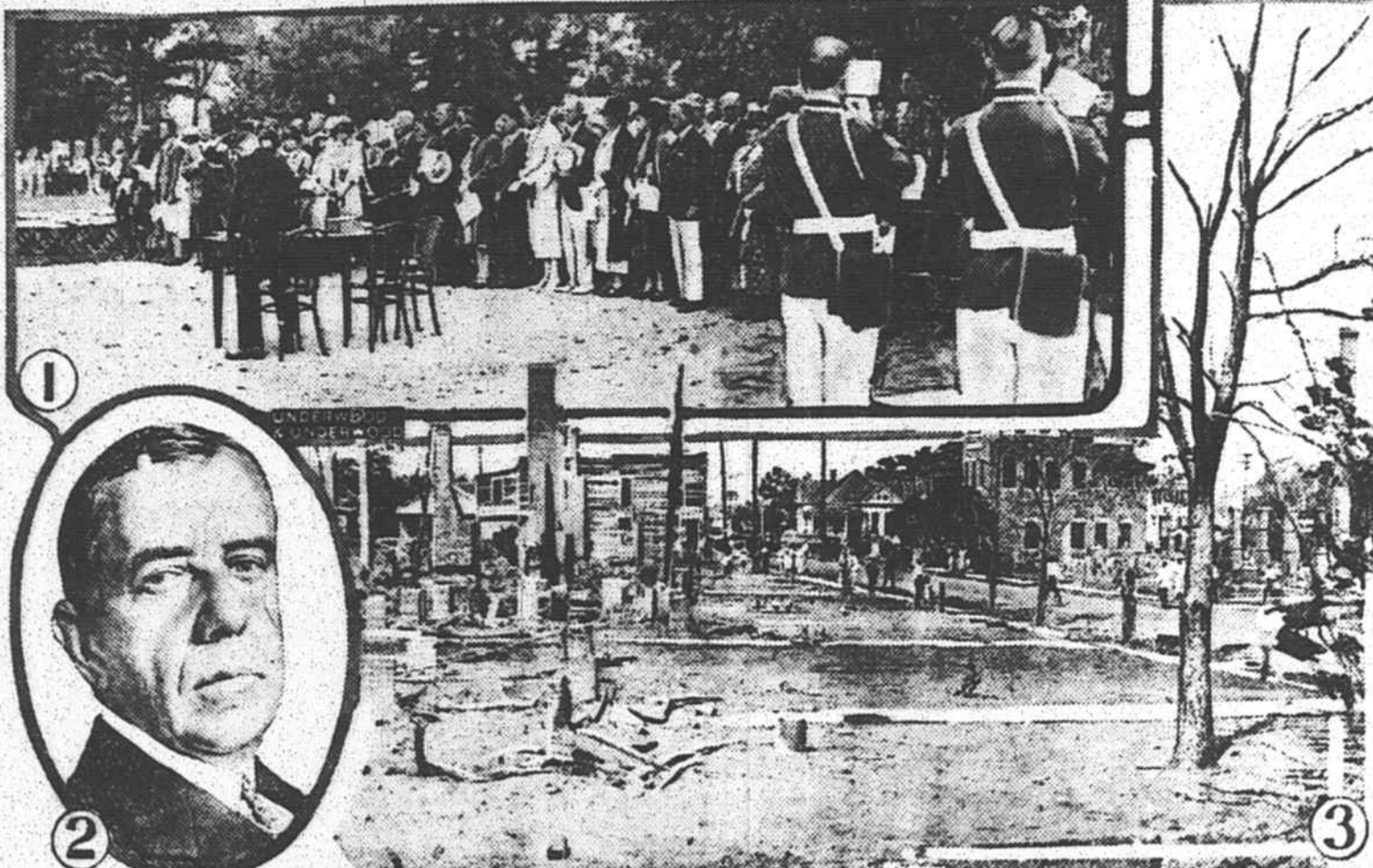
The state will raise from the Halifax farms upwards of 400 bales of promise of today holds.

New Corporations.

The following certificates of incorporation were issued:

Amendment to charter of the Pennsylvania Lumber Company, increased authorized capital from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

Highland Realty Company, lotte, with authorized capital \$100,000 and \$25,000 subscribed by Cuthery, T. B. E. Spencer, John Durham, Jno. C. Shepherd and Southernland, all of Charlotte.



1.—Lafayette birthday exercises at West Point military academy when all stood silent one minute in honor of the victims of the Shenandoah. 2.—Gen. John H. Russell, American high commissioner to Haiti, in Washington for conference. 3.—Scene in Shreveport, La., after conflagration that made 1,000 persons homeless and did \$500,000 damage.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Honolulu Flight Aviators Are Found Alive Near Island of Kauai.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

WHEN hope for their survival had been almost abandoned, the five men who comprised the crew of the Honolulu flight plane PN-9 No. 1 were found on Thursday afternoon, afloat on their plane and all well. Capt. John Rodgers and his four companions had been at the mercy of the sea for ten days when they were picked up by the submarine R-4 fifteen miles east of the Island of Kauai. This was considerably outside of the zone previously searched; the plane had drifted about 200 miles, passing to the north of Oahu Island on which Honolulu is situated. Lieutenant Osborne, commanding the submarine that found the aviators, at once notified the naval authorities at Honolulu, and a later message said the crew and plane were being taken to Nawiliwili on Kauai Island.

The members of the plane's crew, besides Captain Rodgers, are: Lieut. Byron T. Connell, assistant pilot, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Skiles N. Pope, aviation pilot, Jackson, Pa.; William H. Rowlin, aviation chief mechanic, Richmond, Ind.; Otis G. Stantz, chief radio man, Terre Haute, Ind.

SOMEbody is due to get a sound thrashing in Morocco within a short time, according to current dispatches. It may be the Riflians, against whom the French and Spanish forces are starting a great offensive squeeze movement whose objective is Adjir, the capital of Abd-el-Krim. Or it may be the Spaniards in the west sector, for it is reported that the Riflians have them almost surrounded at Teruan and that the capital of the Spanish protectorate is in danger of

being cut off from the sea. The Italian and partly to keep the Italians from aiding Great Britain in the Mosul dispute. Sheikh Ahmed, the Senussi chief, is likely to be made caliph of Islam and leader of a general uprising of Mohammedans against Christian domination.

IN OPENING the annual assembly of the League of Nations, Paul Painleve, its honorary chairman and premier and war minister of France, made an eloquent plea for world disarmament, urging the delegates of the fifty-four nations represented to prepare a call for a conference as soon as the European security pact and other regional agreements are concluded. By some this was looked on as another attempt of the league to forestall President Coolidge's plan to call another disarmament conference in Washington, but Mr. Coolidge at once let it be known that his chief concern was that such a conference should be held, that its place did not matter so much, and that he would wait to see if there was any chance for the league conference to materialize.

Paul Loebe, president of the German Reichstag, warmly approved of M. Painleve's suggestion but said it did not take the initiative from President Coolidge and he believed the crucial time had come for the latter to carry through his plan.

Senator Dandurand of Canada was elected president of the league for the ensuing year.

Delegate Zahle of Denmark made a proposition that if adopted might increase the opposition in America to adhering to the international court of justice. Briefly, he proposed the creation of a special committee of conciliation, officially attached to the world court, to which all states adhering would be obliged to submit "all disputes without any exception."

THAT quarrel over the Mosul vilayet with its rich oil wells is a hard one for the League of Nations to settle. While Foreign Minister Tewfik Ruzhdi Bey of Turkey, now in Geneva, is justice in his talk, the Turks generally are freely predicting war if Mosul is taken from them and

had been correctly quoted, a necessary step preliminary to possible trial by an army court. Secretary of the Navy Wilbur has made no representations to the War department on behalf of the navy. He did, however, reply to one charge made by Mitchell. The secretary said the Shenandoah had not been sent on her western trip in an effort to make up for failure of the polar flight and the Hawaiian flight. A western voyage had been planned months ago, he said, before the Hawaiian flight was arranged and about the same time that the Arctic expedition was agreed upon. Other of the Mitchell charges were denied by army officials, but the rampant colonel reiterated them, and added, "If the War department doesn't like the statements I make, let officials take any disciplinary action they want."

IN THE best of health and thoroughly rested, President Coolidge brought his vacation to a close last week and returned to the White House in Washington, which in his absence had been entirely renovated. Within a few hours of his arrival he plunged again into the business of running the country, holding a cabinet meeting and taking up, among other matters, the distribution of anthracite coal during the strike, the final preparation of the budget estimates and the selection of an ambassador to Japan. It was rumored that Undersecretary of State Joseph C. Grew would be offered the Tokio post. The day he left Swampscott the President received a visit from Nicholas Longworth, speaker of the next house, who told Mr. Coolidge it would be easily possible to pass the tax reduction bill in the house before Christmas. He said it might be possible to cut taxes more than \$400,000,000.

NEW YORK'S mud-slinging mayoralty primary campaign is about over, which should be a relief to the metropolis, whatever the outcome. The fight between Tammany and the Hyman-Hearst combination degenerated into a contest between Governor Smith and Publisher Hearst as to which could say the meanest things about the other and the other's candidate. Last week odds of four to one were offered that Walker would beat Hyman for the Democratic nomination, and there were few if any takers. It is taken for granted that Hyman, if defeated, will run as an independent candidate, and on this largely the Republicans base their expectations of electing their nominee, probably Mr. Waterman.

CHAIRMAN AITCHISON of the interstate commerce committee has been holding hearings in Chicago on the question of increasing freight rates on the western railroads. Fred W. Sargent, president of the Chicago and Northwestern, said the unfortunate conditions under which the western railroads are laboring have a direct and depressing relation to the prosperity of the communities served. A reasonable increase in rates will correct this situation, producing greater general prosperity.

Mark W. Potter, one of the receivers of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, proposed there be a 5 per cent increase and that its benefits be pooled among the western roads. Charles Donnelly, president of the Northern Pacific, opposed this as "socialistic, impossible, unworkable and in effect a long step toward government ownership. However, it was said Charles Evans Hughes would support the Potter plan in final arguments before the full commission in Washington.

FRANCE lost one of her most eminent statesmen in the death of Rene Viviani, former premier. He was at the head of the government when the war broke out in 1914, and a year later became minister of justice. In 1917 he accompanied General Joffre to the United States, and in 1921 he came with M. Briand to the Washington conference, in which gathering he was an important figure. He was a moderate Socialist and an anti-clerical, and had much to do with the separation of the church and the state a quarter of a century ago. M. Viviani was premier three times and a minister five times. His ability and his patriotism were of the highest order.

Icy Touch of Death Not Always Terrible

"There are few men in this world to whom death holds no terror, who can meet it fearlessly and unflinchingly when not hypnotized by the excitement that goes with battle," a clergyman is reported to have said when speaking of the death of Mr. Bryan and the sentiments the Great Commoner is said to have held on the subject. Yet history abounds with instances of men, who seemed not the least perturbed about the imminence of the Grim Reaper. Take among the kings alone: Frederick I had his coffin carried in a few hours before he died and had a grenadier lie down by it to see if it was comfortable and then suggested that some pillows be placed at the head. Louis XIII, of France, racked by pain, suddenly straightened up and gave orders that a section of the St. Denis road be paved at once. "I don't want my body to be jostled like a bale of hay in those ruts on the funeral procession," he said. Frederick the Great ordered all the clocks in the old palace wound, so that there would not be any "foolish and superstitious people" say that they had stopped when the king died. Napoleon, when his eyes were already glazing, calmly turned down the page in "Plutarch's Lives" he was reading and smilingly questioned when he should continue the narrative. William of Orange, mortally wounded and certain of death, suddenly dropped his head while a reader recited the Twenty-third psalm. And Edward VII of England asked that the White Chapel band of the Salvation army come and play as usual under his window while he lay dying. And who can count the thousands, unknown and unrecorded, who met death without the slightest tremor of fear?—Pierre Van Passon, in Atlanta Constitution.

His Inquiry

"The city council got busy last week after the fishing season was about over and ordered barrels filled with cement located in the middle of the intersections of Broadway, Grand avenue, Throgmorton and Zizzle streets, for motorists to drive around," related Constable Sam T. Shackpeter, the faithful guardian of the peace and dignity of Pontonia. "Then they had signs painted on 'em, fixing the speed of cars at 18 miles an hour. Aw, I tell you, our progressive little city is going ahead by leaps and bounds." "Eh-yah," returned City Marshall Grabbitz of Poo-wee-silly-lump, who had come over for a fraternal call. "But how can them fellows drive 'round and 'round them barrels at that rate of speed?"—Kansas City Star.

Butter in Coffee

"It's old about folks and their coffee, isn't it?" remarked a waitress in a city hotel. "Some drink it with cream, some without. Some take sugar and no cream and some take both cream and sugar, in various amounts. Only a few drink it plain and black. One man will sip his when it's piping hot, another wants it lukewarm. But the prize eccentricity came to my attention when a salesman came in, ordered his coffee and asked for an extra piece of butter. He put the butter in his coffee, waited until it had melted, and then drank it. All folks are funny about their coffee, but this one was the most funny in my experience."

Tree Named for Secretary

In honor of Secretary of Agriculture William M. Jardine a giant Juniper tree, recently discovered in Logan canyon, near Logan, Utah, and said to be the oldest and largest one of its kind in the world, has been named Juniper Jardine. The tree has a circumference of about 28 feet and is asserted by local residents to be the oldest living thing with the possible exception of the redwood trees in California. Secretary Jardine was present at the naming, which took place at a reunion of the class of 1904, Utah Agricultural college, of which he is a member.

Talk 600 Years a Day

The daily average of local and long-distance telephone conversations in the United States is about 60,000,000, or 22,000,000,000 a year. As a basis for estimating we will assume that the length of the average conversation is five minutes—it may not be so long in the very large cities, but in small cities, towns and in the country districts the average conversation extends five minutes. On a basis of 60,000,000 five-minute talks per day, the nation would consume 300,000,000 minutes, 5,000,000 hours, more than 205,000 24-hour days or about 650 years. Thrift Magazine.

Measuring Blood Corpuscles

The bureau of standards in Washington has attained the finest of measuring devices—a mechanism by which blood corpuscles are enumerated. The blood corpuscles count, which has become an increasingly important aid in diagnosis and treatment of diseases, has hitherto been a somewhat inaccurate enterprise.

Odd Sale "Caught On"

When the owner of an Indiana store left on his midsummer vacation last year, the clerks held what they called "the boss is gone sale." This unconventional name attracted much attention and drew business to the store.—The Progressive Grocer.

Timber Harvest Vast

Thirty-seven billion feet of lumber were cut in the United States in 1924.