

Kings Mountain Democrat

A Clean Local Newspaper For All The Family

VOL. 11, NO. 4

KINGS MOUNTAIN, N. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1919

\$1.50 A YEAR IN ADVANCE

COUNTY TAX ERROR RECENT DISCOVERY

QUICK ACTION IS NECESSARY TO PREVENT CURTAILMENT OF SCHOOL TERMS.

INITIAL LEVY OF 32 CENTS

A Number of Counties Have Grievously Miscalculated Amount of Levy Required to Insure State Aid.

Raleigh. Information is coming to the state department of education that in the levying of the school tax in some of the counties a serious error is being committed that will either curtail the school terms to three or four months or cause immediate and radical readjustment of the school tax levy.

State Superintendent Brooks is calling on the county superintendents of schools to investigate as to their counties at once and see that there are readjustments on proper basis where the error that is causing the trouble has been committed.

The state law provides a 32-cent tax for schools and then enables the counties to levy an additional county tax up to 35 cents, whatever is necessary to meet the requirements and assure the county's share so that the state tax can be paid over in prescribed ratio. The reports to the state department indicate that numbers of the counties have made the mistake of only levying a county school tax that will make the whole school tax, state and county 35 cents, instead of the possible 67 cents.

North Carolina Casualty.

In the casualty list released, among the casualties reported by the commanding general of the American expeditionary forces occurs the name of Private Wm. E. Baker, of Hamilton, N. C., died of disease.

Total number of casualties to date:
Killed in action 34,571
Died from wounds 13,954
Died of disease 23,660
Died of accident and other causes 5,292
Wounded in action (over 85 per cent returned) 214,412
Missing in action (not including prisoners released and returned) 2
Total to date 291,891

Webb Sure of Judgment.

Washington (Special)—While the report of the inspector has not been made public, Senator Overman has been apprised that the Department of Justice has completed its investigation into the competency and fitness of Judge James E. Boyd, Federal Judge in the western district, and that as a result of this investigation there is no longer any doubt about the appointment and confirmation of Representative E. Yates Webb.

Enrollment May Reach 1,200.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina, held in the governor's office, President Chase stated that 415 new students had already presented certificates for entrance this fall. He anticipates a total enrollment of something more than 1,200 at the opening on September 30th.

Check for Inheritance Tax.

A check for \$26,334.84 inheritance tax has been received by the State of North Carolina from a non-resident who held property in the form of corporation stock in this state. The Corporation Commission got on the trail of the big tax money when a transfer of stock was asked for and Mr. R. O. Self, now chief clerk of the commission, dug up the coin for the state.

American Legion Sunday.

Sunday, November 9, will be American Legion Sunday, on which ministers all over the country will be asked to devote a part of their sermons to the work of this legion.

Want Phone Rates to Stand.

The Corporation Commission set September 30 for a hearing of the representatives of the Southern Bell Telephone company on petition for a formal order to continue in force rates allowed by government, under government control. The hearing will take place at 3 o'clock.

Another hearing is to precede the Southern Bell appointment for the day. At 11 o'clock Black Mountain people will be here before the commission on the matter of telephone and electric light rates.

Epidemic of Typhoid.

Thirty-one cases of typhoid fever near Denver, Lincoln county, called Dr. F. M. Register, epidemiologist, there to take charge of the first real outbreak of typhoid fever reported this summer.

The physician's facts are meager, but the reports show the stricken men to be all in a close community 13 miles from a drug store and poorly fixed for treatment. The outbreak is traced to a spring in the vicinity. No deaths have been reported, but it is very probable that some have occurred.

Lincoln put on its vaccination campaign this year and 1,000 were immunized. But this was a very small percentage of the population. Dr. Register will put on anew the vaccination campaign and see if the number vaccinated cannot be quadrupled in a short while.

Similarly, he hopes that other counties, which constitute a small percentage of the whole, will renew their fight. Substantial results have been gained in the reduction of the typhoid death rate. This was to have been the banner year and the health department hopes to make it so in the face of epidemic.

School of Fertilizers.

It is claimed that the Southern Fertilizer Association is the first industry in this country to send its entire sales force to college for the purpose of special training in service to their customers. The North Carolina Agricultural and Engineering College at Raleigh has been selected as one of four agricultural institutions of the south to which fertilizer salesmen will be sent for a week's short course. All salesmen from Virginia and North Carolina are to attend this school, and hear lectures from the members of the staff of the agricultural college, also addresses from visitors from other agricultural colleges in the territory.

Poor Pay and Slow Promotion.

Washington (Special)—After fifteen unbroken years—quite a span where fidelity to duty and loyalty to an individual are interwoven—John W. Brown has resigned as clerk to Senator Lee S. Overman.

Effective October 1, Mr. Brown returns to his home in Salisbury as secretary to the Brown Realty and Insurance Company. Inadequate pay for government clerks and a future where promotion is uncertain are reasons assigned for his resignation.

Better Pay for Postoffice Clerks.

Washington (Special)—A measure of financial relief for postoffice clerks and postal employees throughout North Carolina is promised following the visit to Washington of a committee representing the North Carolina Postmasters' Association. Senator Townsend, chairman of the senate postoffice committee, informed the Tar Heel delegation that his committee would move to give salary increases to the lower paid employees.

May Retain Employment Service.

Commissioner of Labor Shipman, just back from Baltimore where he attended the Sovereign Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows, in its 100th convention, and Washington, where he conferred with the department of labor and census bureau, says he is assured that his department of labor will have the advantages again this year of co-operation with the federal census bureau in the gathering of industrial statistics and that, in his capacity as federal director in this state for the employment service, he will be able to maintain the branch offices.

Paying War Risk Claims.

Washington (Special)—North Carolina families are being paid \$24,322,160 in war risk insurance claims by Uncle Sam. He is making restitution to those whose sons and husbands died in the service of their country during the greatest war of all times.

There are 2,784 insurance claims being paid in North Carolina through the bureau of war risk insurance to beneficiaries named at the time application for insurance was made by soldiers, sailors and marines, now dead. The average policy carried by these 2,784 men was \$8,740.

District Offices Organized.

With the establishment of the district headquarters offices of the Internal Revenue Department at Washington, Wilmington and New Bern, the organization of the ten districts in the state has been completed and the task of collecting the government's revenue systematized. Supervisor A. D. Watts was in Raleigh from these three offices where he had been to assist District Supervisors Rodman, of Washington; Emerson, of Wilmington; and Woodley, of New Bern, to complete their organization.

Two Standards Of Life

(By Rev. H. B. Schaeffer, Lutheran Pastor)

Outside of God life has no revelation, no standard, no inspiration, no future. We are confined to the words God delivered to prophets and apostles for the explanation and the meaning of life. Just try to consider life and the world without the knowledge and truth of the Bible.

There are set forth before men by God two standards for life. The one standard is declared in the truth and character of Jesus, the other spread abroad in the world through the fallen angel rebel, the devil. Of his own free will man in the beginning (and continued to do so) chose the standards of the devil. All men abide in the devil until through the power of God they freely choose to abide in Jesus.

These are the only two standards for life. There is no third one. And the two do not mix. Man cannot serve both God and mammon. He cannot eat his apple and have it too. He cannot straddle the fence.

The one outstanding distinction between these standards is selfishness and unselfishness. Selfishness is the basis of the devil's standard. In Jesus the standard is unselfishness. In Jesus the world loses many attractions and gains in attractiveness. The sordid pleasures of the world and the flesh, the tempting offers of the devil, lose their charm and are despised. The passion to thrive and grow and indulge regardless of other men and the world is burnt out. The near-sighted glasses that enable men to see no farther than their own interests, their own family, their own lusts, are exchanged for glasses that enable the needs of men and the community to be seen and appreciated, make God near and dear.

Men living by Jesus' standard of life see the world not as a field for self-gain, but as a field for love and service. Instead of seeking to get as much out of the world while there is life, the desire is to put as much (of joy, of purity, of beauty) into the world as possible while there is life.

Accounts in earthly banks grow as men save; accounts in the Bank of Heaven grow as men give unselfishly. "Lay not for yourselves treasures upon earth . . . but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven."

Next week Rev. Fred J. Hay, Presbyterian.

LARGER AND BETTER COUNTRY SCHOOLS.

The popular cry, "Back to the Farm," when traced to its origin sounds much like the cry of "Wolf," in the fable. It comes usually from those comfortably domiciled in the city. It is restful to the tired nerves to sit in an armchair and read farm literature and look at farm pictures. There is no guess work or surmise about people leaving the farm. There are fewer people living on the farms in the United States now than there were ten years ago. Are we drifting toward the time when all the people will live in towns and villages.

What put the notion into peoples heads any way to leave the farm? Ask any man who has left the farm and he will stop after naming three reasons: First, to educate the children; second to escape hard work; third, to be where there is more social life.

The greatest cause why boys and girls leave the farm is, because they get their high school training in the town and village high schools. The number of tuition pupils this year in Cleveland county is around 600. These are the sons and daughters of farmers, not merely country boys and girls, but the cream of the farming community. When these have finished their high school course they will go back to the farm. A few of them will perhaps, two or three in ten. Their high school life has given them a taste of town life. They have become like town boys and girls. Is it to our best interest to educate away from the soil? If it is then we are on the right road. If it is not, then our only chance is to build up big, strong country schools. Our lowest aim should be the three-teacher school. A school where at least two or three grades of the high school can be taught. We have 1 one-teacher schools in which no high school work can be done. All teachers recognize the failures of the one-teacher school and all try to dodge them. There are three of these schools that have first grade teachers, six of them have second grade teachers, and nine are unable to get teachers of any kind. Is that the best that these children deserve? These people pay taxes as we all have to do, and yet they are getting the poorest kind of school advantages. Who is to blame for this condition.

We find it much harder to enforce the compulsory school law in these small schools than in the larger schools. For the simple reason that there are not enough pupils to keep up interest. The law requires that pupils between the ages of eight and fourteen attend for the entire term of school. In some of these schools pupils are required to go to school to girls who ought to be in school themselves.

J. Y. IRVIN.

Asheville.—Plans are about complete for the dedication and formal opening of the new \$300,000 Asheville High School.

Franklin.—Ex-Sheriff Henry Crawford Kearney, one of Franklin county's oldest and most esteemed citizens, died at his home here.

Gastonia.—October 6 and 7 is the date for the annual meeting of the Seventh District Medical society which will be held in Gastonia.

Winston-Salem.—The leaf tobacco sales on the local market this week aggregated 1,613,504 pounds. It brought an average of \$8.70 per hundred pounds.

Washington.—The war department informed Representative Godwin that it would be impossible to furnish aircraft for Dunn, Lumberton and other towns that desire them for fairs and other public gatherings.

Greenville.—The friends of F. C. Harding, of this city, will be glad to know that he has at last consented to allow his name to be used in connection with the office of lieutenant governor.

Monroe.—Monroe is endeavoring to organize a housing corporation to supply the demand for houses now existing. The plan is to raise \$50,000, form business men to finance the operations.

Wilmington.—The magnificent \$20,000 pipe organ of the First Presbyterian church, presented to the institution as a peace gift by Dr. James Sprunt, was used for the first time. Dr. Sprunt is a leading elder of the church.

Asheville.—The completion of the five mile timber and lumber flume by the R. J. Noyes Lumber company on Curtin's creek makes 40,000 acres of virgin timber land available to the markets.

Wilmington.—William P. Emerson was installed as chief collector of the Wilmington division for the collection of internal revenue in this district, which comprises nine counties with this city as headquarters.

Taylorsville.—O. F. Pool sustained the loss of his barn at All Healing Springs, two horses, three cows, 50 bushels of wheat, a quantity of fodder, a buggy, a number of farm implements by fire.

Lumberton.—Whether one or several cotton storage warehouses will be established in Robeson under the law as provided by the last legislature will be determined within the next few days.

Rocky Mount.—O. A. Snipes, for seven years postmaster of the local office, has resigned. The act upon Mr. Snipes' part was occasioned by a decline in health and the increasingly arduous duties.

Greensboro.—Vice President Thos. R. Marshall will speak in Greensboro early in November. It is announced by M. R. Vickers, of Durham, provided tentative plans which are now being developed may be carried to fruition.

Wilmington.—A general strike of skilled workmen went into effect at the plant of the Carolina Shipbuilding Corporation when over 1,000 men quit work as a protest against alleged discrimination in favor of negroes.

Selma.—Plans and arrangements are being made by several of the manufacturing enterprises in Selma to come to the state fair in October and be represented in the parade with floats. The chamber of commerce, the merchants' association, and the school will be well represented.

Hickory.—Although heavy rains have fallen along the Catawba river from Marion down to the lower end of Catawba county, this section has been missed, with one slight exception, for the past six weeks, and everything is drying up.

DEVELOPMENTS IN THE GREAT STRIKE

DEFINITION OF STRIKE ISSUE AS TO RIGHT OF EMPLOYEES TO BE HEARD.

CONDEMN FOREIGN AGITATOR

Apparent Deadlock by Lack of Violence Apparently Prevailing in Chief Steel Centers.

Washington.—The chief developments of events in the great steel strike are as follows:

Definition of the strike issue as the right of employees "to be heard, to organize and to have some voice in determining conditions under which they labor"—made by Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, before the senate labor committee in Washington.

Announcement that John D. Rockefeller, Jr., principal owner of the Colorado Fuel & Iron company, will take no part in the strike of 6,000 workers at the Pueblo plant.

Claim by union officials that workers in the Youngstown district, at a meeting held to vote on the question of returning to work, had decided against such a move.

Condemnation of "foreign agitators" and commendation of Sheriff William Haddock, of Allegheny county by a coroner's jury in Pittsburgh which returned a verdict of "death from gunshot wounds inflicted by persons unknown" while an attack was being made on deputy sheriffs during a riot in the case of a woman organizer and striker.

Apparent deadlock, marked by lack of violence apparently prevailing in the chief steel centers.

DENIES WILSON MEDDLED IN FIUME CONTROVERSY.

Rome.—The Stefan agency, the semi-official Italian news agency, denies that President Wilson has demanded the expulsion of Gabriele d'Annunzio from Fiume, or threatened an economic blockade of Italy.

The news agency add that President Wilson sent two dispatches, one of them reaching the American delegation in Paris, and the other arriving in Rome. Both of them were without menace, according to the news agency and expressed the most cordial sentiments towards Italy.

NAVY DEPARTMENT PLANNING TRANS-PACIFIC AIR FLIGHT.

Washington.—Tentative plans now under consideration at the navy department call for a seaplane flight from San Diego, Cal., to the Philippine islands sometime this winter or in the early spring. Stops will be made at Hawaii, Wake Island and Guam under present plans.

The total distance to be covered in the flight will be more than 7,000 miles or twice the distance covered by the NC-4 in flying across the Atlantic.

TWENTY MILLION FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION HERE.

New York.—A gift of \$20,000,000 from John D. Rockefeller for the improvement of medical education in the United States was announced by the general education board.

The official announcement of the gift says that the income of the \$20,000,000 is to be currently used and the entire principal is to be distributed within 50 years.

BRITISH RAILWAY STRIKE TAKES ON SERIOUS ASPECT.

London.—The Associated Press learns authoritatively that the government takes the view that the railroad strike must be fought with every facility at its command, even to the employment of armed forces if necessary. The war office announced that it would be necessary to suspend demobilization of the army and cancel all leaves of absence forthwith.

PRESIDENT WILSON CANCELS BALANCE OF SPOKING TOURS

Wichita, Kan.—President Wilson cancelled the remainder of his tour under orders from Admiral Cary T. Grayson, the president's physician and will return to Washington direct from Wichita.

Although it was said, there was nothing critical about the president's condition, Dr. Grayson, his physician declared a nervous reaction affecting the digestive organs made suspension of his trip imperative.

STRIKE AND TREATY PARAMOUNT ISSUES

EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT INTERVENTION BY PRESIDENT WILSON MAY BE MADE.

BRINGING MATTERS TO HEAD

The Side of Capital in the Controversy Will be Heard by Committee Through Chairman Gary.

Washington.—The German peace treaty and the steel strike remain the engrossing affairs of Congress.

Prospects of a vote on the amendments to the treaty, proposed by Senator Fall, republican, of New Mexico, and providing for elimination of virtually all American representation on international commissions together with President Wilson's return to the capital, is expected to bring to a head the vital issues in the treaty contest.

Industrial unrest emphasized by the steel strike will share attention in the senate with the peace treaty. Hearings in the labor committee's investigation of the steel strike will be resumed, when Chairman Gary, of the United States Steel corporation, is to give capital's side of the controversy. Later the committee plans to hear Secretary William Z. Foster, of the strike committee and other witnesses and it would not surprise many observers if efforts to bring about intervention by President Wilson would be made.

Whether President Wilson will continue the fight against all reservations, "mild" or "strong" interpretative or definite, or will make known a disposition to accept ratification of the treaty with some sort of reservations, may be decided this week, it is believed in both democratic and republican quarters.

PESSIMISM IN WASHINGTON OVER UNREST CONTINUES.

Washington.—There is pessimism here over the industrial unrest. It is feared that a world-wide panic may come if the treaty is not ratified.

Senator Oscar W. Underwood, who is a very level-headed man, and a statesman, thinks that the business people of the country favor the league of nations. He believes that it is absolutely necessary at this time to stabilize the world. In a conversation he said that if we expect to sell our products to foreign countries, and maintain our export trade credits must be extended. He explained that the government had extended about all the credit it can afford to at this time, and that American business men and concerns must take it up now. But before this can be done or will be done the war must be declared off.

FAMOUS HOWITZER MILL HAS BEEN NATIONALIZED.

Vienna.—The famous Skoda arms and ammunition works, near Pilsen, have been nationalized, according to messages reaching here. A national council has been named to conduct the works composed of six Czechs and three Frenchmen.

The last previous advice regarding the Skoda works were that their purchase was being negotiated for by an American syndicate. A Geneva dispatch on August 31, however, said there was a hitch in the negotiations because of a difference on the question of the price to be paid.

The Skoda works produced the famous Austrian howitzers, one of the most effective heavy artillery weapons used by the central powers.

BRIEF REST WILL PUT THE PRESIDENT IN FINE SHAPE.

Washington.—President Wilson will be all right in a few days. He was threatened with serious illness, but Dr. Cary T. Grayson has brought him around all right. A brief rest will put him in fine shape.

POINDEXTER SAYS WILSON IS GREATEST MENACE TO WORLD

New York.—President Wilson was characterized as "the world's greatest menace" in an address by United States Senator Miles Poindexter at a mass meeting of Queens county Republicans in Long Island City. The meeting was held to celebrate the 65th anniversary of the founding of the Republican party.

The senator from Washington said the president was "the greatest pro-German in the country."