

SCHOOLS OF CITY SHOW INCREASE

Total of 2,538 Children Enrolled to Date; Average Attendance for Past Month 2,005; High School With 216 Breaks All Records

CENSUS GIVE GAIN OF 255 DURING YEAR

Congested Conditions Indicate Wisdom of "Preparedness;" Teacher-Patron Club is Proposed; Marked Advancement in New H. S. Departments

By W. F. RAMEY, (City Superintendent of Schools.)

The summary of the reports of the different city schools for the fifth month ending January 25th, shows a total enrollment to that date of 1,242 boys, 1,296 girls, total, 2,538; average daily attendance of boys 1,012, girls 883, total 2,005. There were enrolled during the month as new pupils 119 boys, 166 girls, a total of 216. The extremely bad weather which has prevailed during all this month lowered the daily attendance.

There are now enrolled in the high school 226 pupils. This breaks all previous records on high school enrollment.

The report of the enumerators of the scholastic census for 1916 has just been received and shows the present school population to be, whites 1,296 males, 1,296 females, total 2,411. Of the negro children there are 212 males and 242 females, total 454. The grand total of all of school age is 2,865. The school census one year ago was 2,610. There is an increase of 255 children for the year.

This report on the school census shows very clearly what is causing the congested conditions in all our schools. It further indicates the wisdom of "preparedness" for more room next year. The enrollment of 216 new pupils during the fifth month of the present year and the increase of 255 scholastics since last January indicates that we are limiting our capacity in endeavoring to prepare room for 200 pupils in the new building.

The interest in the schools and the school work on the part of pupils and teachers was never more apparent. The teachers have the spirit of progress. There has been maintained in each of the schools a teachers' club for study improvement. This includes the high school and the negro schools. The teachers of the grades are making a study of "Froebel's Educational Laws," while the high school teachers are studying "Parker's Methods of Teaching in the High School." Every teacher in the system is a member of the club in his or her school.

The matter of organizing a teacher-patrons club is being agitated. Doubtless such an organization would prove very helpful in bringing patrons into a closer relation in the solution of the special problems of the home and the school.

The fact that we are to have funds for the equipment of our high school and the erection of an additional building to be used as a junior high school tends much encouragement to the situation and work of all the schools. When these things are done the efficiency of the whole school system can be greatly improved.

WOMEN FIGHTERS IN AUSTRIAN RANKS



These two Austrian women have served in the army of their country since the outbreak of the war and have been in many battles. One of them was a schoolteacher and the other a student in the University of Vienna.

BIG CHIEF ABOUT TO BREAK OUT

Blood in Eye; Again Declares He's Going to Make It Hot for Corner Cutters, Speeders and All Kinds of Reckless Drivers

Chief Phillips has blood in his eye and determination in his system. The determination has developed into an ingrown form which will require an operation and the jitney drivers, will be the ones who will be called upon to defray the expenses of the operation.

"I am getting tired of this reckless driving," said Chief Phillips this morning. "The drivers of autos in Chickasha seem to think we are passing ordinances up at the city hall just as a matter of amusement and that they are the ones to be amused. Well, I have got this to say right now. They may be right in the matter insofar as the idea that the auto drivers are the ones who will be amused may be concerned. Attention to the ordinances and obedience of the same regarding driving across and along the streets of Chickasha is going to be demanded right now, and the fellows who disregard and disobey in future will be 'amused' to the tune of good, stout, healthy, fully developed fines.

"Yes, I know that we have possibly been a little lax with drivers of autos—particularly with drivers of taxis. But that time has passed. The taxi drivers have got so they pay no attention to the crossing ordinances and rules and take corners on two wheels right before police officers. I have talked with Mayor Coffman on the matter and the mayor and myself have made up our minds that some one will have a lesson. The mayor says for the police officers to do their duty and he will do the rest. The duty of the police is to arrest every violator of the law and that duty is going to be done. We have issued warning after warning and warning on top of warning, all to no effect. Now, we are going to act.

"In this connection it might be well for me to say that it is time right now for all who have not taken out their drivers' licenses to appear at the city hall forthwith and procure these licenses."

VISIT SCHOOL AT VERDEN.

County Superintendent Shepard went to Verden this morning to visit the schools at that place. The Verden school is Mr. Shepard's old school and is said to be one of the best small town schools in Grady county. It is this year under the efficient supervision of A. C. Bray.

SIX PERISH IN BURNING MANSION

Home of Wealthy New York Widow is Destroyed; Atlantic City Hotel in Ashes; Canadian Capitol is Food for Flames

By United Press. NEW YORK, Feb. 4.—Early this morning a fire destroyed the fifty-thousand dollar home of Mrs. Casimir Tag, widow of the president of the German-American bank at Brooklyn.

Six persons are dead as a result of the blaze, while Mrs. Tag and one fireman are injured. The dead include Mrs. Tag's two daughters, a cousin and three servants. A woman who was a cook is missing. The bodies of all the victims were found in bedrooms on the second and third floors.

Atlantic City Blaze.

By United Press. ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Feb. 4.—Fire today completely destroyed the Hotel Overbrook here. The blaze broke out at an early hour this morning.

The fire resulted in the death of five persons and the injury of a dozen others.

Parliament Building Destroyed.

By United Press. OTTAWA, Feb. 4.—Six persons are known to be dead as a result of the fire which destroyed the Canadian parliament building here last night. The blaze started in the reading room of the house of commons, swept the corridors and leaped to the galleries. Within three minutes the whole wing was afire.

The origin of the fire is a mystery. Last night it was thought that it might be the work of German agents but officials say the police were guarding both doors of the room where the fire started. The police today announced officially that it was not of incendiary origin. The fire was under control at 3 o'clock this morning, but is still burning.

GERMANY IS BALKING AT DISAVOWAL

Press and Officials Declare America Must Recede from Demand in Lusitania Case, Otherwise Amicable Adjustment of Issue Impossible

OUTLOOK GLOOMY TO WASHINGTON

Next Two Days Expected to Determine Fate of Relations Between Two Nations; President Not Willing to Back Up

By CARL W. AKERMAN, (United Press Staff Correspondent.)

BERLIN, Feb. 4.—German officials and German newspapers are unanimous in the expression of the opinion that unless the United States government waives the demand for disavowal of the sinking of the Lusitania or agrees to submit the question to The Hague tribunal, an amicable adjustment of the controversy between Germany and America is impossible.

The Lokal Anzeiger says Germany has done her utmost to prove her friendship for America, but that she cannot admit that the sinking of the Lusitania was in violation of international law.

Officials here in endorsing this view, express the hope that Colonel House, who recently visited Berlin as the personal representative of President Wilson, will be able to present the German view to the president so correctly that a settlement will be reached.

By United Press. WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 4.—Deep pessimism prevails in official circles here over the latest communication from Berlin regarding the Lusitania case.

It is understood Secretary Lansing received a report from Ambassador Gerard and forwarded it to the president. It is said that the report covered what Gerard was able to learn concerning the official attitude of Germany.

It is believed that the next two days may hold the fate of the relations between Germany and America.

Coincident with the return of the president to the capital, the new German memorandum in regard to the matter is expected by Ambassador Bernstorff. Those in a position to know, assert that President Wilson will not yield in any particular to the demands of Germany.

NATION IS EXPECTED TO PREPARE

Persons Close to President Predict Defense Program Will Be Adopted by Congress; Chief Executive Suffers from Slight Cold

By United Press. WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 4.—President Wilson arrived here at 1:17 this afternoon.

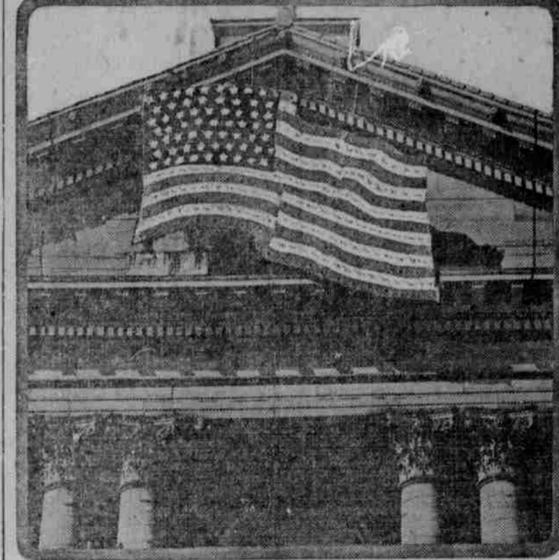
Those close to the president predict that his preparedness program will be adopted by congress before the close of March.

Whether this prediction is based upon the enthusiasm which the president met in the west, middle-west or expressed in the light of international developments could not be learned.

It is understood that the president feels that the people throughout the country are rapidly realizing that the administration's Mexican policy is the proper course. It is predicted that he will not discuss Mexico on his next trip if he takes one.

The president is suffering from a slight cold as a result of too much bathing in chilly air. However, Dr. Grayson expects to have him in fine fettle by tonight.

TOLEDO'S FINE ELECTRIC FLAG



The Toledo (O.) courthouse was one of the first public buildings in America on which was erected an electrically lighted flag to carry its lesson of patriotism by night as well as by day. The electric flag was originated by E. L. Frantz, of Cleveland, and a number of cities have adopted the idea.

H. S. STUDENTS MAKE A 'HIT IN "GIRL FROM OKLA."'

High school talent produced, in the high school auditorium last night, the "Girl From Oklahoma" to a large and appreciative audience.

The parts were well played, the acts well staged, the characters thoroughly rehearsed and every amateur perfect in his lines.

The following is the cast of characters: Miss Josephine Pool, Robin Weatherford, a typical American girl; Miss Claire Woodson, Priscilla Peabody, aunt of Robin Weatherford, who is anxious to see her niece married to an English nobleman; Miss Alberta Smith, Lady Violet Beauchamp, hostess to the American family; Miss Clarice Tatman, Ethel Osbourne, rival of Robin Weatherford; Mr. Arthur Griffin, Henry Weatherford, representative westerner of great wealth and father of Robin; Mr. Edwin Pool, Sir Blakesley Berford, nobleman, owner of a title and a multiplicity of debts, anxious to marry an American heiress; Mr. Norman Duncan, Alphy Winthrop, a civil engineer, with plenty of "pep" and a brilliant future, greatly disliked by "Aunt Priscilla" and prime favorite with Pere Weatherford; Mr. Dewey Luster, Geoffrey Carlye, an English gentleman; Mr. Earnest Raspberry, Wilson, the butler.

The play was in four acts, each act replete with thrilling denouements, the last closing with the climax of "Married at Last to the Right Man."

As an American heiress whose hand was sought by the impetuous scion of an old family and an empty title, Miss Pool showed rare histrionic ability and played well up to the situation to the last moment, when her father's fortune, having vanished the impetuous lordling broke the engagement, leaving her free to marry the man of her choice. Miss Woodson, as "Aunt Priscilla," who wanted her niece to become the "Lady Berford," was a happy and a pleasing character. Miss Smith, the "Lady Beauchamp," entertaining the wealthy American visitors, was an ideal hostess. Miss Tatman, as Ethel Osbourne, rival of the American heiress, was all that might be desired; her personality making her part a strong and pleasing one. Arthur Griffin, as Henry Weatherford, the wealthy man from Western Oklahoma, was a typical westerner of the most western type. He played his part well and carried all situations through with successful endings. Edwin Pool as Lord Berford, was all that critics might wish. He played the part of the stranded English peer—the man with the title and nothing else to commend—to perfection.

Norman was all in all in the character of Winthrop, the young American civil engineer who loved the heiress for herself alone. When the winds of adversity had swept away the wealth of the father of the girl he loved, Winthrop stepped forward and staked the old gentleman to a neat little sum of \$10,000 with which to lay the foundations of a recuperated fortune, specifying, however, that the lady whom he loved with an unselfish devotion should not be informed of his action. Of course Winthrop was greatly and heartily disliked by "Aunt Priscilla," the match-making aunt. Dewey Luster played the part of Geoffrey Carlye, the English gentleman, and played it well, while Earnest Raspberry made an ideal English butler.

The play was well received and the actors received numerous curtain calls. When the curtain descended for the last time, shutting from view the happy tableau of "love prevailing over intrigue of match-making and title-seeking aunts and money-seeking lordlings," the audience departed well pleased and satisfied.

The "Girl From Oklahoma" will be reproduced at the high school tonight.

WILL HEAR MOTIONS IN CASE HERE

Judge Cham Jones has notified the state's attorneys and the attorney for the defense in the case of the State of Oklahoma vs. E. P. Bradley, that he will be in Chickasha tomorrow evening and will hear all arguments on motions filed in the matter while here.

It had been the intention of the court that the attorneys should appear before him at Lawton tonight. Judge Jones will probably arrive over the Frisco tomorrow afternoon at 5:30 o'clock.

Bradley's attorneys, it is understood will appeal to the supreme court from the findings of the lower court in event Judge Jones denies the motion for a new trial.

EX-CLERK OF COURT DEAD

A telegram received by J. W. Speake this morning announced the death of Judge C. M. Campbell, of apoplexy at his home in Ardmore this morning.

Judge Campbell was clerk of the federal court of the old Southern district of Indian Territory and was well known to attorneys and all having dealings with the court here. He retired to private life when the court went out of existence at the beginning of statehood. For a number of years he had been vice president of the Ardmore National bank. His funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock.

DIVORCE GRANTED. Judge Will Linn this morning, sitting in chambers, granted a divorce to the plaintiff in the matter of Ace Andrews vs. Maude Andrews.

LEADER OF LABOR LIKE HONEST ABE

Will Crooks Lincolnlike Figure of England Rises from Plight of Pauper Boy to Position of King's Privy Councillor

COMPELLED TO DON TOGGERY OF COURT

Wife Takes Hand in Dressing Him; First Elected Mayor of London Suburb and Then is Sent to Parliament by Workers

By WILBER S. FORREST, (United Press Staff Correspondent.)

LONDON, Feb. 4.—England's most Abraham Lincolnlike figure is in the limelight. From the poor house to membership in the king's most honorable privy council is but part of the record of Will Crooks, labor member of parliament and champion of the common people.

On the front doorstep of a modest little cottage in Poplar, a London suburb, on New Year's day, a figure in shirt sleeves, colored shirt sleeves at that, stood greeting proud townfolk come to congratulate him. Messenger boys brought telegrams in batches and handed them direct to the only Britisher of the "masses" admitted to the king's inner council and privileged to bear the title of Right Honorable.

Inside the cottage, while Crooks did the honors on the doorstep, was Mrs. Crooks, a plump, wholesome English housewife, preparing the New Year's dinner. There are no frills or "swank" in the home of the king's latest privy councillor. That is why Mrs. Crooks was in the kitchen while Will, as he is known both in Poplar and parliament, was assuring his friends on the doorstep that being a Right Honorable made him feel no different.

"There's one thing I want to say," he told them all. "Because the king has deemed fit to call me his right trusty and well beloved or whatever the phrase is, I'm not going to become a party man. I'll be right with the workers. Tell them that the position gives me more power to work for them. I live with them and hope to die with them."

When the voters elected Crooks mayor of Poplar in 1901 he made a record that pleased the folk who had elected him over a more aristocratic opponent. He wore the traditional robes of office because Mrs. Crooks told him to and not because he wanted to. That is also why he's going to wear the elaborate court dress that is incumbent on a privy councillor.

"If they say Will's got to wear court togs, he's got to, that's all there is to it," said Mrs. Crooks. "Leave it to me. I'll see that he gets them. It was the same when he became mayor of Poplar. He wasn't going to wear the robes, but I made him."

When the workers of Poplar reviewed Crook's record as mayor in 1901, they immediately began to boost him for parliament in the Woolwich district of which Poplar is a part. He went to commons with an overwhelming majority and he's still there.

Fighting the battles of the common folks, the appearance of this medium-sized labor M. P. with his flashing blue eyes and iron gray beard on the floor of the house of commons, has long since, 1903, ceased to be a joke. Much credit for the strength of labor in England today goes to the "ordinary pauper boy" who dared to call a spade a spade while surrounded by his upper class colleagues.

The story of Garfield's boyhood days on the towpath; Lincoln's rail splitting and grocery clerk life or Ben Franklin's last penny for a bun in Philadelphia, do not outdo the boyhood vicissitudes of King George's new privy councillor.

When he was only 8 an accident to his father threw the support of himself and his six brothers and sisters upon his mother.

"I remember how she used to cry because she didn't know where the next meal was coming from," said Crooks today. When Will was 9, a neighbor who kept a shop in Poplar offered him 12 cents a week to do