

## REGISTRANTS CITY SCHOOL ARE BANQUETED EXERCISES TO BY PYTHIANS START TONIGHT

EMBRYONIC SOLDIERS DELIGHTFULLY ENTERTAINED AT BELL CAFE.

## LINCOLN PRESIDES A FINE PROGRAM

Addresses Delivered by Lieut. Hogg, Mr. P. W. Maer and Mr. J. I. Sturdivant.

Members of Tombigbee Lodge No. 12, Knights of Pythias, who have been active in patriotic movements of various kinds since the United States severed diplomatic relations with Germany, gave a banquet at the Bell Cafe Monday night in honor of the 51 local registrants who left Columbus Tuesday and Wednesday to go into training preparatory to leaving for France to join other American soldiers who are there fighting as gallantly for a world-wide democracy and for the freedom of mankind.

Maj. B. A. Lincoln, past chancellor of the local lodge and now an officer of the grand lodge, officiated as toastmaster and presided in his usual manner, having introduced the speakers including Hon. P. W. Maer, editor of the Columbus Dispatch. Hon. J. I. Sturdivant, a prominent member of the local bar, and Lieut. W. B. Hogg, chaplain of the 312th Engineers, now stationed at Camp Pike. All three of the speakers made forceful talks and the address of Lieut. Hogg was especially interesting, as he is in close touch with conditions at military posts and imparted to the registrants a great deal of valuable information concerning the new life upon which they are about to enter.

The banquet was in charge of a committee consisting of Maj. B. A. Lincoln, Messrs. H. E. Holseapple and Arthur Stansel, and was a success in every respect. An elaborate menu was temptingly served, while the music, which was furnished by the Princess orchestra, added materially to the pleasure of the occasion.

The first contingent of 28 men left for Camp Pike Tuesday, having been in charge of Mr. Pope Reeves, while the second contingent of 23 men left for Camp Shelby yesterday in charge of Mr. Zack P. Landrum.

The two contingents were made up of the following registrants:

- Camp Pike.**  
George Constantine.  
Howard Jewell.  
Glen D. Atkins.  
John Samuel Kilne.  
Lester Friday.  
Floyd L. Honnoll.  
Rush K. Robinson.  
Nathaniel B. Thornton.  
Jeff D. Jordan.  
Charlie A. Bain.  
Samuel L. Dunkin.  
Henry Grady Cox.  
Erwin C. West.  
Julian Sherrod.  
George L. Andrews.  
Arlo C. Ridgeway.  
Ernest L. Stanley.  
Jesse N. George.  
T. B. McCrary.  
Dupree Harris.  
Lindsey Kennedy.  
Pope Reeves.  
Piez A. Winn.  
Thomas M. Dickerson.  
Garland Lindamood.  
Blanche Eubanks McCrary.  
Harvey F. York.  
Alternates:  
W. D. Egger.  
Joe Evans.

- Camp Shelby.**  
James C. Smith, Jr.  
Allison Campbell.  
Walker C. Myrick.  
Morris Brooks Dress.  
Willie Earl Prescott.  
Kelvin Wooten.  
Samuel B. Jones.  
John M. Reeves.  
Carl Tesch, Jr.  
William C. Gray.  
Joel F. Smith.  
Foster Griffin.  
Zack P. Landrum.  
Walton Young.  
Robert Luther Locke.  
Charlie E. Ott.  
Jack Tankerly.  
John P. Hill.  
John Q. Jones.  
Joseph H. Alford.  
Henry G. Nunnally.

CLASS EXERCISES TO BE HELD AT S. D. LEE HIGH SCHOOL.

## A FINE PROGRAM

No Diplomas Will be Awarded, but There Will be Interesting Features.

Commencement exercises incident to the close of the public schools of the city will be inaugurated tonight when students of the eleventh grade will hold class exercises, and will end tomorrow night, when students will appear in a delightful dramatic program. Both entertainments will take place in the auditorium of the new Stephen D. Lee High School.

Owing to the fact that another grade has been added to the curriculum, there will be no graduating exercises this year, but students of the eleventh grade will hold their class exercises tonight and the program will include the installation of new officers, the presentation of medals and other interesting features.

The session which is so rapidly nearing its close has been a very successful one, an important event having been the opening of the new Stephen D. Lee High School, which is one of the most modern and best equipped buildings of its character in the state. It also marks the conclusion of Prof. J. C. Meadows' incumbency as superintendent, and that his work was satisfactory is evinced by the fact that he was re-elected for another year.

The program for Thursday night follows: Invocation; Address of welcome—Theodore Patton, president of senior class; Chorus—Senior class; Address to the class; Debate: Resolved that the Monroe Doctrine as a feature of our foreign policy should be abandoned. Affirmative, Clarence Bradley, James Lee. Negative Frances Woodward, Atwell Williams; Delivery of Wildie Billups Morgan, D. A. R. medal; Delivery of W. L. Lipscomb medal.

The program for Friday night follows: Dear Old School Days; The Ruggles Family; Song—When Yankee Doodle Learns to Parlez vos Français; Look out for Hezekiah; Henry's Trouble; Scat; Song—The Call of the Flag; Have you ever noticed that; Jean desprez; Song—When the Boys Come Marching Home; The Stars and Stripes in Flanders; Debate between Bookertea College and University of Africa; Song—With a Tear in One Eye We Will Tell You Good-Bye.

## The Princess Airdome Opened to Big Crowds Monday Night

The popularity of the Airdome was proven Monday night by the large crowd that attended the opening for the season.

For the information of the public Manager Kuykendall wishes to make it understood that until further notice the first show at the Airdome will start every night at 8:30, and that all who come not later than 9:30 will see a complete show. However on Friday and Saturday nights there will be two complete performances, starting at 8:30 and 9:30. The daily matinees at the Theatre will still start at 3:30 and 4:45, as in the past.

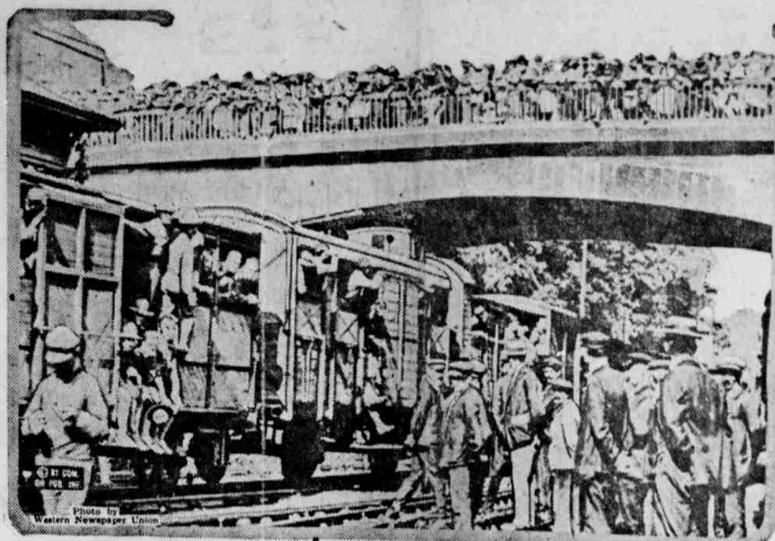
Mr. P. G. Hogan has resigned his position as manager of the commissary of the Columbus Lumber Company and goes about the first of the month to Orange, Tex., to accept a position with a large lumber company.

Mrs. Alfred Hume and son, Prof. Leland Mume, of the University of Mississippi, are the guests of Prof. and Mrs. Dabney Lipscomb. Prof. Hume is to teach in the high school here next session.

Mrs. James Duggan of Mobile, Ala., is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Owen.

Samuel L. Goodman, Grant Hall.

## FRENCH VILLAGERS GREET OUR SOLDIERS



The inhabitants of the villages of France turn out in full force when news of the arrival of our troops from across the seas spreads through the town and crowds of enthusiastic men, women and children greet our boys at every station on the trip from the seaport to their training camps.

## TO OBSERVE DAY OF PRAYER HERE

MAYOR McCLANAHAN ISSUES PROCLAMATION DECLARING TODAY PART HOLIDAY.

President Wilson has issued a proclamation setting aside this Thursday, May 30, as a special Memorial day and has requested the people throughout the country to assemble at their various places of worship and pray for the success of the United States and her allies in the great world-wide conflict which is in progress. The day will be observed in Columbus as well as in other patriotic cities throughout America, the pastors of the various local churches having arranged to hold special services and Mayor McClanahan having issued a proclamation declaring the day a partial holiday. Business will be suspended from 10:30 a. m. until noon, and the mayor requests all merchants to close their places of business during that period, so that employers will be able to attend divine services. The proclamation follows:

"Whereas, The President of the United States has set part Thursday, May the 30th as a Memorial Day, when the people of the country are invited to assemble at their respective places of worship to pray for the success of the cause of the Allies, and

"Whereas, The ministers of the city request that the people of this city earnestly and devoutly observe this occasion in all of its meaning and significance, now therefore this is to give notice that, Thursday, May the 30th, 1918, will be a partial holiday from 10:30 a. m. to noon of the same day that proper observance of Memorial Day may be had by our people.

"It is requested that every place of business and every manufacturing plant in Columbus will close promptly at half-past ten next Thursday and that their operations may cease for one and a half hours that all of the people of Columbus may attend the Memorial exercises to be held at the First Methodist church. Done in the City of Columbus, Miss., Saturday, May the 25th, 1918. By order of D. S. McCLANAHAN, Mayor."

## RED CROSS RETURNS.

The Red Cross fund for Lowndes county continues to grow and last night the total reports amounted to \$14,491.64. This is more than double the county's quota of \$5990. Of this amount the ladies of the city and county raised over \$3,000 according to the latest returns. The campaign closed Monday night.

Mrs. Nellie Tucker and her little granddaughter, Miss Nell Kennedy, are spending several days in Birmingham the guests of relatives.

Miss Virgie Innes of Memphis is spending several days with her parents Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Innes at their home on Main street.

Mr. Marshall Kennedy, son of Mr. J. D. Kennedy, of this city, has enlisted in the Marines and is now at Paris Island, S. C.

## WORKERS FOR RED CROSS ENTERTAINED

MRS. SANFORD ENTERTAINS ASSISTANTS AT TWENTIETH CENTURY CLUB ROOMS.

The Ladies who rendered valiant service for the Red Cross during the recent drive were entertained by Mrs. J. T. Sanford, who directed their work, at the rooms of the Twentieth Century Club last Friday. The ladies secured about \$3,000 during the drive, a largest amount having been collected in ward 1 and the second largest in ward 5.

Mrs. M. M. Green made an interesting talk and the following delightful musical and literary program was rendered: Patriotic recitation, Miss Roper, song, "Joan of Arc," Mrs. T. B. Hardy; reading, Kipling's "Lost We Forget," Mrs. R. Excell Frye; song, "Keep the Home Fires Burning," Miss Grace Wright.

Mrs. Sanford was assisted in entertaining by Mesdames M. M. Green, Z. P. Landrum, S. B. Street, Jr., and T. C. Baird and refreshments were served by Misses Martha Seary, Frances Woodward, Marie Street and Elizabeth Kennedy.

## MACON PREACHER DIES SUDDENLY

DR. J. E. JONES CALLED DEATH ON TUESDAY.

Many friends in Columbus of Dr. J. E. Jones, the much beloved pastor of the Presbyterian church in Macon are pained to hear of his sudden death Tuesday afternoon caused by apoplexy. The remains will be taken to Cedartown, Ga., for interment.

Dr. Jones, who was well known in Columbus, was in charge of the installation of Rev. R. Excell Frye as pastor of the First Presbyterian church here a few weeks ago. For the past five years he has been resident in Macon, and prior to that time for twenty years was pastor of a Presbyterian church in Meridian.

## Automobile Burns.

A Ford automobile owned by Gunter Brothers was practically destroyed by fire about 9 o'clock Tuesday night in front of Wright's Auto Sales Company's garage. The fire department was called out.

## Piano Bargain.

We have a fine upright piano, which we will sell you for unpaid balance due on it.

Terms can be arranged to suit you. A. Gressett Music House, Columbus, Miss., Box 223.

Will coach pupils who want to make up or begin any studies from primary to the sixth grade. Phone 184.

Miss Alice Halbert is visiting friends in the Dunbar neighborhood.

Mr. T. W. Lewis, Jr., spent Monday at Sheffield, Ala.

Patronize our advertisers.

## BLAME GERMANY FOR POOR PAPER

MACHINE INVENTED BY TEUTON RESPONSIBLE FOR SCARCITY OF NEWS TODAY.

While we have entertained a bitter hatred toward Germany and every thing pertaining to that country ever since the United States entered the war, this hatred has never been so fierce as it is right now, for a breaking down in a machine invented by a Teuton is responsible for the scarcity of reading matter in this issue of the Commercial.

Our linotype machine, which, as most people know, is a German invention, is totally out of commission, had it not been for the kindness of the management of the Dispatch in permitting us to use their machine we would have been unable to issue a paper of any character.

Operators are also scarce, and it developed upon Mr. Jack Senter to manipulate the machine. He is naturally a cautious man, and he naturally caused him to make some errors, so we trust that our readers will not view this issue with hyper-critical eyes.

Like the Texts organist, we "did the best we could," and sincerely trust that we will be able to get out a better paper next Sunday.

## FIRST THOUGHT IS ISOLATION

Aviator Longs for Sound of Human Voices When He is Soaring Far Above the Earth.

I became conscious of a feeling of loneliness, writes James N. Hall, in the Atlantic. I remembered what J. B. had said that morning. There was something unpleasant in that isolation, something to make one look longingly down to earth; to make one wonder whether we shall ever feel really at home in the air. I, too, longed for the sound of human voices, and all that I heard was the roar of the motor and the swish of the wind through wires and struts—sounds which have no human quality in them, and are no more companionable than the lapping of the waves would be to a man adrift on a raft in midocean. Underlying this feeling, and no doubt, in part responsible for it, was the knowledge of the fallibility of that seemingly perfect mechanism which rode so steadily through the air; of the quick response which that ingenious arrangement of inanimate matter would make to an eternal and inexorable law, if a few frail wires should part; of the equally quick, but less phlegmatic response of another fallible mechanism, capable of registering horror, capable, it is said, of passing its past life in review in the space of a few seconds, and then—capable of becoming equally inanimate matter.

## Goes to Louisville.

Dr. Dunbar H. Ogden, a former Columbian, who for a number of years has been pastor of First Presbyterian church in Atlanta, has accepted a call to Louisville, Ky., and will go there soon to reside.

An order for 8,000 three to five-ton motor trucks has been placed with fifteen automobile manufacturers, the War Department announced Friday. This is in addition to 10,000 similar trucks now being delivered.

## B. A. WEAVER & HIGH SCHOOL J.B. LOVENAMED TITLE CLEARED AS COUNCILMEN BY HIGH COURT

WIN OUT OVER MESSRS. JAMES McCASKILL AND T. W. HARRIS.

## ELECTION WAS QUIET

School Board Consists of Messrs. Banks, Puckett, Moore and Pullen.

In the Democratic primary held here Tuesday to nominate officials to serve the city of Columbus during the two years beginning January 1, 1919, Messrs. B. A. Weaver and J. B. Love were named as councilmen and E. S. Moore, W. N. Puckett, G. Y. Banks and T. M. Pullen as public school trustees. Mayor D. S. McClanahan, Council L. W. Stevens, L. A. Vaughn, E. E. Chappell and S. M. Nash had no opposition and had already been declared officially nominated by the Municipal Democratic Executive Committee. There were five candidates for positions as school directors, with four to be nominated. Mr. Warren M. Cox having received the smallest number of votes and having therefore failed to secure nomination.

The votes received by the different candidates were as follows: For councilman, ward 1, B. A. Weaver, 267; James McCaskill, 213; ward 5, J. B. Love, 255; T. W. Harris, 228; for membership on board of public school trustees, G. Y. Banks, 405; E. S. Moore, 353; W. N. Puckett, 363; T. M. Pullen, 333; Warren M. Cox, 216.

The primary was conducted by the following officials: Messrs. J. R. Huddle, R. A. Mann, J. S. Marx, judges; Messrs. F. D. Ellis, E. A. Tarkley, Clerks.

## DEATH OF MR. W. F. STANLEY.

Death came to Mr. William F. Stanley Tuesday morning at 8 o'clock at his home on Military and Twelfth streets. Mr. Stanley was seized with an acute attack of nephritis Monday night about 11 o'clock. His health had not been good for some time and he failed to rally from the attack which was in an acute form. Mr. Stanley was a native Mississippian and had lived in this city for a long number of years. He was 64 years of age at the time of death, and is survived by three sons, Messrs. John, Jim and Capers Stanley and two daughters, Miss Lucy Stanley and Mrs. H. W. McCowan.

The funeral was held yesterday afternoon at the Rowan cemetery conducted by Rev. T. L. Holcomb, pastor of the First Baptist church.

Mr. C. L. Lang, the popular superintendent of the Refuge Cotton Oil Company for the past fourteen years is resigning his position on the first of June to accept a position as superintendent with his friend Mr. L. J. Frank of the Rolling Fork Cotton Oil Company. It is with regret that Mr. Lang's many friends see him leave but all wish him success in his new position.

An American escadrille composed of aviators chosen from among the best American pilots in the future will help to defend Paris against the enemy air raids. Offer of this help was made spontaneously by the chief of the American aviation service and accepted by the French government through M. Dumennil, minister of aviation.

The funeral of James Gordon Bennett, was held Thursday in Trinity Church. It was attended by members of the government and the diplomatic corps, including the American ambassador, William G. Sharp; the Spanish ambassador, Senor Quiñones, and the French foreign minister, Stephen Pichon.

More than 2,000,000 members of American fighting forces are now insured by the United States government, and approximately 11,000 applications are being received daily. Application for insurance must be made within 120 days after joining the service.

SUPREME COURT RENDERS DECISION IN IMPORTANT CASE.

## VERDICT IS UPHELD

Litigation Regarding Stephen D. High School Site is Brought to an end.

By its recent action in affirming the case of Randle Blewett Schlater vs. Blewett Lee et al., which was appealed from the chancery court of Lowndes county, the supreme court has lifted the cloud which rested on the title to the lot on which the new Stephen D. Lee High School was recently erected and has effectively ended all litigation regarding the property.

The suit involved not only the lot on which the Stephen D. Lee High School is located but 300 acres of land near the city which was sold some time ago to the Mobile and Ohio Railroad company. It was shown that the late James T. Harrison, grandfather of Mr. Lee, had prior to his death legally acquired title to all property involved, and that this property had in due course been inherited by Mr. Lee.

Mr. Lee was represented by Messrs. Sturdivant, Owen and Garnett of this city and Mr. Schlater by Messrs. Grenada and Grenada of Chatham, Ala.

## Mr. J. S. Slaughter Dies.

The many friends of Mr. J. S. Slaughter were pained to hear of his death, which occurred at his home five miles west of Columbus Monday afternoon, after an illness of several weeks. Mr. Slaughter was stricken with paralysis some time ago, and he gradually grew worse until the end came.

Funeral services were held at the Christian church yesterday morning at 11 o'clock conducted by Rev. M. H. Armour of Baldwin, and the members of Tombigbee Lodge No. 12, Knights of Pythias, attended in a body. The following gentlemen acted as pall bearers: Messrs. Sam Wilder, E. A. Stanley, J. A. Perker, George O. Senter, K. J. Harrison and Frank D. Ellis.

Mr. Slaughter, who was about 58 years of age, was for many years a truck grower in this county, and he was a friend of all who knew him. Besides his wife he is survived by five sons: Messrs. Hugh, Edgar, Steve Amory and Armory Slaughter.

## NEGRO TROOPS ARE HOLDING SECTOR WEST OF VERDUN

With the American Armies in France, May 25.—American headquarters has officially confirmed the report that American negro troops are now holding a sector west of Verdun, in conjunction with the French. They are making exceptionally good showing in the trenches, it is stated.

It is with pleasure we reproduce anything commending and praising our colored troops. They too have kindred and friends who are here, anxious and solicitous about their sons and brothers and we want them to know we will publish all that comes relating to them, as this is their reliance to hear about them.

## AIRDOME OPENED.

The Princess Airdome opened for the season Monday night. A large crowd was present on the opening night and enjoyed a fine program and the delights of an open air theatre. Patrons of the theatre welcome the opening of the Airdome as it is much more comfortable on warm sultry nights. The Airdome shows begin at 8:30 o'clock.

A German division at Dvinsk, Russia ordered from the east to the western front refused to proceed and 50 men were executed and 1,000 imprisoned, said a Russian wireless dispatch Friday to the State Department. Other German troops in the vicinity held demonstrations in favor of the division.