

THE DURANT WEEKLY NEWS

VOLUME XXIII

DURANT, OKLAHOMA, FRIDAY, APRIL 30th, 1920.

NUMBER SEVENTEEN

MUST VOTE THE LIMIT TO RUN CITY SCHOOLS

SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD HERE ON FRIDAY, MAY 7, TO VOTE AN ADDITIONAL TEN MILL LEVY.

If Durant's public schools are to run for the full nine months the coming year, the voters in the district must, by their favorable vote, authorize the existing board of the county to levy the tax, an additional ten mills for school for the ensuing year. Special elections have been necessary each year for many years past, the five mills levied without special election, never being nearly adequate for the needs of the school. The voters have responded overwhelmingly to the need. The same situation has obtained in every other city in the state and in a large number of the rural districts of this and other counties.

The Board of Education has set next Friday, May 7, as the day for holding the election, and the call for special election is now being officially published, in which call the places for holding the election and the names of election officials are set out as is required by law.

Every voter in the Durant district votes for his children, and his neighbors' children, and the community's interest, both now and in the future, to go to the polls and vote for the levy necessary to operate the schools on the standard nine months basis.

No opposition of any importance has developed to the levy, and what little opposition there is, is apparently unorganized.

BUYING UP BREWERIES.
Edward Landsberg, Chicago brewer, has invested millions of dollars in the purchase of brewing establishments, and gives as his reason the belief that the United States will not remain as it is now.

TWICE A DESERTER HOT CHECKS GET HIM

Julie Crider Deserted Navy And Army Both Under Assumed Name. Forged Check His Undoing.

Had Julie Crider, of south of Mead, been more discreet about the passing of worthless checks, he might have been still enjoying his liberty, but he couldn't resist the temptation and as a result is now back at Camp Travis, and must face court martials for twice deserting the colors, once from the Navy and again from the army.

Crider joined the Navy in 1919 under the name of Chas. S. Briggs. He didn't like it, so he deserted in February this year. In the same month he volunteered in the army, using the same name but he didn't like that either, and deserted the army in February.

He had made it back to south of Mead, where his father lives, and was apparently free from molestation, but it was rumored around that he was a deserter and officers had their eyes on the young fellow, who is but nineteen years of age.

Sunday he came into Sheriff Wright's office, with a check purporting to have been signed by Joe C. Crider, who is the lad's father, which he wanted to get cashed for the alleged purpose of taking medicine home to sick folks. He had written a very large number up in the corner of the check where the number is placed, and this made Mr. Wright suspicious, and he was picked up immediately after he had succeeded in cashing the check. He admitted that earlier in the same day he had cashed one for the same amount at Mead.

Meanwhile the sheriff has a circular with the usual reward offered for a deserter named Chas. W. Briggs, and the lad at once admitted that he was the right man.

Military police arrived Wednesday and took the boy to Camp Travis for trial by the military authorities.

MEXICAN SUGAR COMING.

Three hundred carloads of Mexican sugar, refined in Sonora, will be released in the United States and imported immediately for domestic consumption, as a result of the revolution in the Mexican State, it has been announced.

INTEREST BIG IN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS HERE

ELECTIONS MAY BE HELD SHORTLY WITH VIEW TO FOUR CONSOLIDATIONS AND ONE UNION GRADED DISTRICT IN COUNTY.

County Superintendent L. Lee Cunningham is just closing an intensive campaign over the county in the interest of consolidated schools and union graded schools, during which he has either held meetings in every district in the county or has carried the work on in them by correspondence, and he reports that he is gratified beyond expectation by the response he has received to this modern plan of bettering rural schools.

Briefly, under the consolidated plan, several districts combine their resources, select one common central site, where pupils of all the districts attend a modern school, being transported back and forth at public expense. Under this plan the resources of the several districts are pooled to secure one first class graded school, instead of each of the several districts having its separate short term, ungraded school of very limited line of instruction.

The union-graded plan is very similar to the consolidated save that under its provisions, the public does not pay for the transportation of pupils to and from school.

To secure consolidation of several districts, an election must be held, and a majority of those voting must favor the proposal. Before an election can be held, petitions must be circulated in each of the interested districts separately, and fifty per cent of the electors must sign the petition calling for the election.

At present, four consolidated districts and one union graded system are in course of preparation. Petitions are being circulated in one, and are expected to be circulated in the others in a few days.

The proposed consolidated districts are:
(1) Kemp, Center and Liberty.
(2) Mead, Center, Kelsey, Blue Ribbon and Thomas Chapel.
(3) Colbert, Center, Mulberry, Pearson and Needmore.
(4) Ury, Center, Veach Grove, Bethel, Cox's Chapel and Folsom Grove.

The proposed union graded school is to embrace two schools of Yuba, two schools of Yarnaby and Connelly, with Yuba as the center of the district.

This consolidated school movement has made great strides in the older States and is rapidly gaining headway in this State.

The plan is not a theory nor an experiment but a practical way of giving the boys and girls in the country the same educational opportunities that the boys and girls of the towns and cities have, which under present plans they do not have.

GOMPERS OPPOSES NONPARTISAN LEAGUE POLITICAL MOVEMENT

Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, criticizes the Workers Non-Partisan League movement in Colorado, and took labor leaders in Colorado to task for furthering its aim. He openly insinuates that the league smacks of the Soviet idea. A plank in the league platform declares its purpose "is taking control of the law-making and administrative power of Colorado and administering that power in the interests of the heretofore always neglected working men and women."

CAILLAUX NOT GUILTY.

Joseph Caillaux, former Premier of France, who has just been tried in the French courts on the serious charge of treason, has been found not guilty. The vote of the French Senate stood 215 for acquittal and 28 for conviction.

The former premier, however, was convicted on a charge of corresponding with the enemy, and sentenced to three years in prison.

SENATE ADDS TO NAVY BILL.

The U. S. Senate this week liked the Naval appropriation bill of the house, adding more than \$10,000,000 to it. Immense fortifications are provided for the Pacific coast, and \$25,000,000 is included for naval aviation.

LOCAL SCHOOLS TO GRADUATE EIGHTY-FIVE

SOUTHEASTERN NORMAL LEADS WITH FIFTY-FIVE. PUBLIC SCHOOLS 16, OKLAHOMA PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE 14.

The educational institutions of Durant will graduate eighty-five young men and young women this spring, which is the greatest number yet graduated from the city's various schools in a single year.

The Southeastern State Normal School leads with fifty-five graduates; the Public Schools will graduate sixteen and the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Girls, fourteen, in all the departments.

The Baccalaureate sermon to High School Graduates will be preached at the First Christian Church, this coming Sunday morning at eleven o'clock by the pastor, Rev. Charles M. Schooner.

Monday night, May 3, the ward schools will give their cantata at the Liberty Theatre.

Wednesday the various public school class contests will be held. Thursday night, at the Liberty Theatre, the high school play, entitled "Son John," will be staged.

Graduation exercises and presentation of diplomas will be given high school graduates, Friday night, May 7. The Normal's graduation week festivities are farther off and as yet are not completed, save that the Baccalaureate sermon will be preached at the Normal Auditorium on Sunday morning, May 16, and graduation exercises and presentation of diplomas on the night of May 19.

The closing week's events of the Presbyterian College, are also as yet incomplete. The Baccalaureate sermon will be preached at the Presbyterian Church, on the morning of Sunday, May 16, and it is thought likely that Dr. C. T. Caldwell, of Waco, Texas, will deliver the address. Graduation exercises are to be held on the night of May 20, and the graduation probably will be made by State Senator Luther Harrison of Ada.

The College will have numerous other events for closing week, including the individual recitals of graduates in voice and piano, but these are yet to be dated.

FIRST STEP MADE TO CLOSE INDIAN AFFAIRS.

The first step toward finally closing the tribal affairs of the Five Civilized Tribes is taken the past week, when the announcement is made that all claims against the Creek and Seminole nations must be in by June 30. All claims and affairs of the Cherokee nation have already been wound up.

WANTS STEEL SUIT RE-OPENED.

The Government has asked the Supreme Court to re-open the anti-trust suit against the U. S. Steel Corporation, which was dismissed by the Court on March 1. The request is based upon the Court's action in ordering a dissolution of the Reading Company and its subsidiaries.

FIGHTING AT JAUREZ.

Fighting is reported at and near Jaurez, Mexico, between rebels from Chihuahua and Carranza forces. The rebels have started a sortie in an attempt to swing the Juarez garrison into the rebel ranks. The Mexican Government is preparing to defend the city against attacks, and all customs money has been transferred to banks at El Paso, Texas, just over the border.

PUBLIC UTILITIES ASSESSMENT.

The State Board of Equalization has fixed the assessments of a number of Public Service Corporations in Oklahoma. Some of the assessments as fixed are as follows: American Express Company, \$530,000; Pullman Car Co., \$1,194,500; Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railroad, \$5,921,855; Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway, \$33,554,467.

ROTARY CLUB MEETING.

The Rotary Club held its regular weekly luncheon at the Fish & Oyster Parlor at noon Tuesday with a large attendance of members. An interesting program was given.

HOLDING COMPANY TO BUILD DORMITORY

Reynolds Property at Sixth Avenue and Normal Boulevard To Be Enlarged To Furnish Student Quarters.

The holding company, organized here several months ago with the intention of acquiring property and providing a large dormitory for the use of Normal students, has this week just about completed its stock subscriptions and plans at once to provide the needed quarters.

The Reynolds property on Sixth Avenue and Normal Boulevard, adjoining the campus has been acquired, and this house, already a large one, will be doubled in capacity to provide rooms for a number of pupils. Arrangements are to be made to furnish the roomers with their meals as well.

The intention will be to care for the housing needs of a number of out of town students who otherwise would have difficulty in securing quarters, if at all. The charges for rooms and meals will be very reasonable.

END SUGAR SPECULATION.

Department of Justice officials, and the big sugar refiners of the country have come to an agreement under which speculation will be eliminated from the sugar business, and the refiners will sell direct to the jobber, cutting out entirely the broker who has served as a go-between the jobber and refiner, and who is held largely responsible for the high price and shortage of sugar. 71,254 bags of sugar were unloaded from ships at New Orleans Tuesday, which will tide over the situation, it is claimed.

JUDGE PAULLIN RECOVERING.

County Judge Lewis Paullin, who had his left foot amputated recently at Sherman Hospital, is recovering from the operation and expects to be able to come home the last of this week or the first of the coming week.

REVOLUTION IN JUGO-SLAVIA.

Revolution is reported to have broken out in the new European country of Jugo-Slavia, and heavy fighting is reported in the city of Belgrade in which machine guns were used with deadly effect, many hundreds of people being slain.

A MIRACULOUS ESCAPE FROM CAVED IN WELL

FIFTEEN YEAR OLD SON OF JEFF HEAD, UNHARMED AFTER REMAINING UNDER CAVE-IN IN FOOT WELL FOR FIFTEEN HOURS

After remaining at the bottom of a forty foot well for fifteen hours, with the walls of the well caved in on top of him, the fifteen year old son of Jeff Head, living on the Ed Levee place five miles south of Mead, was dug out at three o'clock Thursday morning and found to be unharmed. Save for fatigue and perhaps a scare for his long danger, the young man was apparently no worse off for the experience.

Wednesday, Mr. Head, sr., decided to clean out his well, which had gotten some trash in it. Putting a rope around the boy's body he was let down to the bottom of the well, forty feet deep about noon. He had been down but a little while when the well's walls caved in to within six or seven feet of the top and it was supposed that the boy was crushed to death, and if not killed in that way, surely would die of suffocation.

The father, and neighbors dug feverishly to get the body of the hapless boy, and the word spread through the neighborhood that a boy was imprisoned in a well and a large crowd soon gathered, all eager to help. The work was done in shifts without ceasing until three o'clock Thursday morning, when the rescue party finally got to the bottom, expecting to find a mangled and lifeless body, when to their surprise and delight he was not scratched or harmed in the least.

It seems that a large rock of part of the well's wall had lodged above the boy and kept the weight of the rest of the cave-in off of his body. Enough air had seeped in through cracks to sustain life.

The affair is regarded by all who were on the ground as almost miraculous, for not a man expected anything else than to discover a lifeless and mangled body at the bottom.

Democrats in the U. S. Senate have selected Senator Oscar Underwood of Alabama, as Democratic leader in the Senate. He was not opposed.

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We Have For This Weeks Special Selling
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There's a lot of satisfaction in knowing that you look fit—that you are tuned up in looks to the friend that accompanies you, no matter whether to theatre, party, dinner, church, outing or commencement exercises. Many young fellows are now thinking of their graduation togs and what they will wear this spring. Slip into one of our new

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and take a look in the glass and see the way these clothes set on you, blend into your lines and personality. Some of these may be seen in our windows. Prices range from \$35 to \$75.

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