

## SCHOOLS ASKED TO COMPETE

SEATTLE, Wash., March 18.—Invitations have been sent by the University of Washington to a score of colleges and universities located in many parts of the west to send their crack runners to an annual relay carnival to be held here April 24.

"Heck" Edmondson, Washington track coach, who will have charge of the carnival already has men working on the track getting it in shape for the dozens of athletes who are expected.

Among the schools invited were the University of California, Stanford University, University of Southern California, University of Oregon, Oregon Agricultural College, Washington State College, Whitman College, University of British Columbia, Utah Agricultural College and the Willamette University.

Several Olympic games stars may run at the carnival. On the team U. S. C. has announced it expects to send north will be Charley Paddock and Wilson Schiller, both of whom ran at Antwerp last summer. Pat Perrine, another Olympic team member probably will represent the University of Idaho. With him will be Neil Irvine who failed by a few points of making the American Olympic team.

Examination at the University of California and Stanford University may prevent athletes from those schools from attending, according to word received here from the south.

The program, as outlined by Edmondson, will include the pentathlon, consisting of the broad jump, javelin throw, 200-meter dash, discus throw and the 1500-meter run in the order named. A special 100-meter dash will also be staged. The rest of the program includes a mile relay, 100 yard dash, a freshman-high school half mile relay, two mile relay and varsity half mile relay.

On armistice day this year the United States army, which two years before had numbered more than 4,000,000 men, was still 70,000 short of its present authorized strength of 250,000 officers and men.

## California Shad Popular In Gotham

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., March 18.—California shad, caught in the San Joaquin river near Pittsburg, which sold in the New York market early last season for \$1 each, apparently are due to be just as popular in Gotham this year, according to Henry Florence, secretary of the Associated Trawlers company of San Francisco.

But the shad is without honor in his own country. Although gracing many a damask and silver bedecked eastern table, on a slab of wood, surrounded with mushrooms and a fence of crisp, crinkly mashed potato, and rejoicing in the title of planked shad, in California the same fish is a nobody. According to Florence, in the home markets the shad lie emphatically on the counter, mouths opened as if to say, "please come and buy me," but only a few customers can be coaxed into purchasing this eastern delicacy even at the low price of 25 cents a fish.

"Californians still think in terms of T-bone steaks," said Florence, "that is the reason fish and Friday are synonymous out here, whereas in the east, fish are popular on other days of the week as well."

## RACING PIGEONS TO MAKE LONG FLIGHTS

SEATTLE, Wash., March 18.—Air lines between Seattle and points along the Pacific coast as far south as Stockton, Cal., will be covered this summer by local racing pigeons, according to plans announced here recently.

Sixteen races for old birds are already scheduled and steps have been taken to arrange a number of events for young birds. Five trophies have been put up for the birds.

A cup offered by J. V. Fordon two years ago for the first Seattle bird to make a 500-mile flight in one day is still up, no bird having covered the distance in time allowed yet.

## CITY AUDITORIUM

STOCKTON, Cal., March 18.—Selection of sites for a new municipal auditorium and a city hall was made here today by the city council. The city hall will cost \$600,000.

Advertising brings efficiency.

## 250 ATHLETES WILL ENTER SCHOOL MEET

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 18.—More than 250 athletes, representing more than 50 high schools, have entered the Southern California interscholastic track and field championship meet to be held April 16 on the Los Angeles high school field.

Thirteen events have been arranged. Those on the track will be the 880-yard run, 100-yard dash, 440-yard dash, 120-yard high hurdles, 220-yard dash, 220-yard low hurdles, mile run and half-mile relay for four men. The field events will be the pole-vault, high jump, broad jump, discus throw and shot-put.

Four places will be counted in each contest, with five, three, two and one point, respectively. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded. A pennant will be given the school winning the relay, and a silver trophy to the one winning the meet.

The 40 best athletes will represent Southern California at the state meet at Berkeley April 30. The southern branch of the California Interscholastic Federation will bear the expense of the trip north, having already allotted \$1600 for that purpose.

## NATURE GUIDES TO DIRECT EXCURSIONISTS

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 18.—"Nature guides" working under direction of the federal government and the California Fish and Game commission will maintain offices in California during 1921 and answer questions propounded by enthusiasts of nature study, in accordance with a plan to broaden the work of the California Nature Study league, it is announced here. Nature study field excursions and bag sleeping trips into the high Sierras will be directed by these guides, according to the outlined program.

Watch for the opening day of the local auto show.

## ALASKA TO ENTER HER SILVER AGE

JUNEAU, Alaska, March 18.—Alaska has had her golden era and her copper days and now, according to Juneau mining men, is about to enter her silver age, when the precious white metal will take its place among the leading mineral products of the territory.

From many parts of the north-land comes reports that the present market price of silver has induced many prospectors to search the hills and valleys for silver ledges, which, in the fever of the old rich gold placer days, were passed up. And where promising silver discoveries have been made, capital has been obtained easily for their development.

Gold and copper have not ceased to be the leading Alaska productions, it is believed, but present conditions make it impossible to work for them on a large scale. Operating costs are still too great for any extensive workings in the gold fields and copper today is selling for less than the cost of production.

So to silver, the "white hope of the north," miners are turning. The Kantishna district of western Alaska and the Yukon valley district near Ruby are showing silver prospects and are being worked by Tom Aitken, prominent Alaska mining man. In the Ruby prospect the ore is said to run \$200 per ton in silver-lead. Another extensive galena showing, in which silver is found, has been uncovered in the "Silver King" property in the Wild River district of the Koyukuk country. Prospectors in the Broad Pass country, near the government railroad, and in the Alaska peninsula, have also found galena.

Across the Canadian boundary, in the Yukon territory, near Dawson the old capital, the Guggenheim mining interests are making extensive silver explorations at Mayo. Galena is being shipped regularly from Mayo.

Discovery of the silver-lead in Alaska is not a thing of recent date.

## Cal. License Plates Held Up By Fire

SACRAMENTO, Cal., March 18.—Burning last fall of the Los Angeles plant which manufactures automobile license plates for the state of California brought grief to the state motor vehicle department which, according to Charles J. Chenu, superintendent of the department, continues to grow in volume. Chenu each day is compelled to answer appeals of impatient automobile owners for their license plates by sending a card to the applicant stating that the card may be used in the license container as a license to operate until such time as the plates are received. Chenu hopes the traffic authorities will be lenient.

Forty thousand plates are tied up along the way to Sacramento, Chenu stated, and they will be forwarded to applicants as soon as received here.

## Cal. Auto Licenses Bring In \$4,883,200

SACRAMENTO, Cal., March 18.—Nearly two and a half million dollars will be apportioned among the counties of California of receipts from registration of motor vehicles for the calendar year 1920, according to Charles J. Chenu, superintendent of the state motor vehicle department.

Collections totalled \$4,883,202.90, Chenu stated, and of this the counties will receive \$2,441,601.45, just one half. Under the law this money can be used only for "road improvement and maintenance in the counties to which it is allotted."

The allotments vary from \$732,662.81 for Los Angeles county and \$247,519.57 for San Francisco county to \$156.74 for Alpine county.

An Ottawa, Illinois, banker was locked in his vault by a bandit. Failing to open the time lock, bank officials asked Joliet penitentiary to lend them an expert safe-cracker, but the warden was unable to find a graduate blower who felt capable of handling a modern safe.

The first white metal strike in Alaska of record was in 1886 on a tributary of the Kubuk river, north of Nome. Nothing has been done with this property in several years.

## GAS BEACONS FOR COAST

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., March 18.—Flashing traffic light signals similar to the beacons used on the Panama canal are being tested at Sloat boulevard and the Great highway on the beach here by the California State Automobile association. The beacons give 75 flashes a minute and are intended to warn traffic at highway intersections.

If successful, similar beacons will be established in northern California, it was announced recently. The beacons burn gas and operate continuously for nine months without refilling.

## SWANS DESTROYING BUTTE RICE CROPS

BUTTE CITY, Cal., March 18.—Rice growers in this region are suffering from the depredations of wild swans, it is stated here. The growers claim the birds, which are very strong, tear rice shocks to pieces, and as many shocks were left standing in the fields during the winter, the loss has been considerable.

Rice men declare that although the big birds are protected by the game laws, growers have been forced to shoot them in order to protect their crops.

## WILL ESTABLISH MEDICAL CORPS AT UNIVERSITY

BERKELEY, Cal., March 18.—Establishment of a medical corps unit of the reserve officers' training corps at the University of California here has been approved by the secretary of war, it was announced recently. The unit will work with the medical department in giving medicomilitary training.

## STATE COLONIES NEEDED

CHICO, March 18.—More state land colonies, such as those at Durham and Delhi, are needed, the California State Land Settlement board declared in its annual report made public here recently. The danger of "racial communities in the rural districts" was pointed out in the report.

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