

# DAKOTA COUNTY HERALD.

Motto: All The News When It Is News.

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## VISITS RUSSIAN DUMA MAY BE IMPEACHED

CZAR'S PRESENCE HAILED AS AN IMPORTANT EVENT—IS HIS FIRST VISIT.

### TOKEN OF A CLOSER UNION

First Case on Record Where a Russian Ruler Has Entered Legislative Body or Has Recognized It as One of Parts of Government.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Petrograd.—The presence of Emperor Nicholas at the opening of the duma February 22 is hailed by the press and public as one of the most important events in the whole political history of Russia. It is pointed out that the appearance of the emperor in the house has emphasized in the most striking manner the increasing disposition of the government and people to lay aside internal politics and devote all their energy to a concerted effort to bring the war to a successful issue.

The event is referred to by prominent members of the duma as "the beginning of a new era" and likened in its far reaching significance to the emancipation of the serfs and the manifesto of 1905.

This was the first time that a Russian emperor had ever visited the legislative body, or in this formal way had recognized it as one of the parts of the government. It bears upon importance of the political crisis through which Russia has been passing. Critics of the government have protested that since the last adjournment of the duma the government has not shown any increased tendency to reflect the desires of the populace or yield to the demands for internal reform, and that a successful prosecution of the war was impossible without some real understanding between the government and the duma.

### NEW CABINET POST.

German Blockade Will Be Handled by One Man, Lord Cecil.

London.—The government, through the marquis of Lansdowne, announced in the house of lords that it had decided to turn over all matters connected with the blockade of Germany to one man, who would rank as a full fledged cabinet minister. It is understood that the new post will go to Lord Robert Cecil, who, since the formation of the coalition government, has been under secretary for foreign affairs. He will retain this post, joining the cabinet as blockade minister.

The new minister will be charged with the administration of the order in council regulating the blockade, as well as responsible for the general policy and practice of the government with respect to the trade passing to or from neutral countries.

Lord Robert Cecil is a lawyer of wide experience and a young man, as members of the British cabinet go.

### Honored in Capital.

Washington.—Every agency of the American government paused to pay homage to the memory of George Washington in the capital which bears his name. President Wilson, Secretary Daniels, Ambassador Jusserand and other national figures gathered at a celebration at Continental Memorial hall, under the auspices of associated patriotic societies. Both houses of congress suspended business, while Senator Johnson, of Maine, and Representative Raker, of California, read Gen. Washington's farewell address, with its poignant phrases, warning against "insidious wiles of foreign influence," "mischief of foreign intrigues" and "the impostures of pretended patriotism." The farewell address has been read in congress every year for generations, but probably never before were Washington's words so closely applied to present day conditions.

### Nine Dead; Fifty Injured.

Milford, Conn.—Disregard of a cautionary signal probably was responsible for the rear-end collision on the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad near here, in which nine persons lost their lives and fifty were injured, according to Charles C. Elwell, of the Connecticut public utilities commission.

### Special Agent to Mexico.

Washington.—James Lynn Rodgers, consular general at Havana, has been selected to act as special agent of the state department representing the United States for the Carranza de facto government pending confirmation by the senate of Henry Prather Fletcher's nomination as ambassador to Mexico.

### Lumber Mill Plant Destroyed.

Bay City, Mich.—The International Mill and Lumber company's plant was destroyed by fire of undetermined origin. The loss is placed at \$250,000.

### Omaha, Neb.—The case against John K. Woods, of Omaha, charged with white slavery by his daughter, Hazel Woods, of Sioux City, was completed in federal court late Monday afternoon and given to the jury, which is composed entirely of fathers of large families. After three hours' deliberation, the jury found Woods guilty on all three counts. Sentence will be passed later.

### Washington, D. C.—The supreme court has upheld the corporation tax as imposed upon mining companies.

STOCKHOLDER OF ROCK ISLAND ASKS ACTION AGAINST JUDGE CARPENTER OF CHICAGO.

### HOUSE BODY GIVEN CASE

Representative Tinkham of Massachusetts Acts at Request of Boston Man—Green of Iowa to Ask Inquiry of Charges.

Washington, Feb. 22.—A petition asking the impeachment of Judge George A. Carpenter of the United States court at Chicago has been filed with the house judiciary committee by Representative Tinkham of Massachusetts.

Mr. Tinkham filed the petition on Saturday at the request of Christopher P. Sweeney of Boston, one of his constituents, who charged Judge Carpenter with improper practice in connection with the Rock Island railroad receivership. Mr. Tinkham has told the members of the committee that he is not sufficiently informed in the Rock Island case to say whether or not he believes the committee should act on Mr. Sweeney's petition.

The petition, however, has been referred to Representative Green of Iowa, who said that the questions in it were of sufficient importance to command the attention of the house committee. Mr. Green intimated that he probably would take charge of the case and ask the committee either to investigate Judge Carpenter or the present receivership of the Rock Island or both.

Mr. Sweeney in his petition says that in 1907 he bought \$10,000 worth of Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railroad 4 per cent bonds, paying \$8,900 for them.

The complainant's principal contention is that Judge Carpenter knowingly appointed as receivers men who were friendly to the Moore-Reid group, which had been charged by the interstate commerce commission with exploiting the Rock Island.

The petition also draws attention to the fact that a receivership was asked on a claim of \$16,000 in the case of a property worth anywhere from \$400,000 to \$500,000,000.

It is charged that there is a plan on foot to bring about foreclosure on the company's stock and restore control to the Moore-Reid syndicate.

### FIVE ARE KILLED IN WRECK

Six Others Injured When Northern Pacific Limited Collides With Train No. 42.

Spokane, Wash., Feb. 22.—Five persons were killed and six injured, three seriously, on Sunday, when Northern Pacific passenger train No. 2, known as the North Coast Limited, eastbound, crashed into the rear end of Northern Pacific Burlington train No. 42, eastbound, at South Cheney, Wash., 17 miles from Spokane. The dead and injured are all from the Northwest. The cause of the accident has not been ascertained.

The dead and injured were brought to Spokane. The dead are: Elton Fulmer, state chemist, Pullman, Wash.; I. J. Minnick, deputy grain inspector, Spokane; B. L. Berkeley, J. J. White, Lee M. Conroy, traveling passenger agent.

On the body of Professor Elton Fulmer was found an accident insurance card, providing for \$25,000 insurance in case of death on the trip. The policy was obtained just before he boarded the train at Pullman, Wash.

### RATIFIES NICARAGUAN PACT

Canal Route and Naval Base Treaty Is Approved by the Senate, 55 to 18.

Washington, Feb. 21.—The senate on Friday by a vote of 55 to 18 ratified the long pending and persistently opposed Nicaraguan treaty, whereby the United States would acquire a 99-year option on the Nicaraguan Canal route and a naval base in the Gulf of Fonseca for \$4,999,000.

Included in the ratification resolution was a provision declaring that the United States in obtaining the naval base does not intend to violate any existing rights in the Fonseca Gulf of Costa Rica, Honduras and Salvador, which had protested against the proposed acquisition.

Immediately after the senate had acted, Senator Chamorro, the Nicaraguan minister, said he expected ratification of the convention by his government would soon follow.

### U. S. Refuses New Sea Order.

Washington, Feb. 21.—All diplomatic and consular officials abroad have been notified in a circular communication from the state department that the position of the United States is that merchant ships have a right to carry defensive armament.

### Admiral Saved From Death.

Paris, Feb. 22.—As the result of intercession by King Alfonso of Spain the emperor of Russia has commuted the sentence of death passed on a German admiral named Von Mauler to one of imprisonment.

### American Eagle for Wilson.

Washington, Feb. 22.—A full-grown American eagle several feet high is on exhibition at the White House and attracted considerable attention. It is the gift of Judge G. F. Patrick of Colorado to President Wilson.

## ENOUGH TO SHOCK 'MOST ANYBODY



## RUSS TAKE ERZERUM GIVES DATA ON MEXICO

### GRAND DUKE REPORTS GREAT VICTORY OVER TURKS

More Than 40,000 Made Prisoners—Two German Commanders May Be Lost.

London, Feb. 18.—Led by Grand Duke Nicholas, the Russian army of the Caucasus has captured the great Turkish fortress of Erzerum, in eastern Asia Minor.

The following official statement was given out on Wednesday in Petrograd:

"Grand Duke Nicholas has telegraphed to the emperor as follows: "God has granted to the brave troops of the army of the Caucasus such great help that Erzerum has been taken after five days of unprecedented assaults.

"I am inexpressibly happy to announce this victory to your imperial majesty."

More than 40,000 Turkish troops were captured in Erzerum with the investment of the fortress, according to Tiflis dispatches. Two noted German leaders, Field Marshals von Goltz and Limon von Sanders have recently been reported at Erzerum. It is not yet known whether they escaped.

Erzerum is the chief town in Armenian Turkey, and as the center of important roads and strategic lines is of vast importance. Its capture opens a new road to Constantinople. It has a population of about 45,000, and lies at an altitude of 6,250 feet in the Caucasus mountains.

### LUSITANIA CASE HELD UP

Lansing Satisfied With Revised Agreement, But Wants Assurances on Liners' Safety.

Washington, Feb. 18.—The Lusitania case is held up and the entire question of submarine warfare reopened as a result of the German and Austrian declarations that armed merchantmen shall be sunk without warning, it was declared on Wednesday by a high official of the state department. After a conference with Count von Bornstorff, the German ambassador, Secretary of State Lansing announced that the Lusitania case depends "upon how submarine warfare is to be conducted in the future." The revision of the Lusitania answer, submitted by the German ambassador, is satisfactory to the administration, and it was admitted that it would be formally accepted, provided the administration is told that passenger ships are not to be sunk without warning.

## FLASHES OFF THE WIRE

Mombasa, British East Africa, Feb. 21.—The Union Castle mail liner Comrie Castle has gone ashore on a reef at the entrance of the harbor. All the passengers were taken off.

### Rome, Feb. 21.—Durazzo, the capital of Albania, has been surrounded on three sides by Austro-Hungarian troops, and it is feared that the city will soon fall beneath the pounding of heavy artillery which the invaders are moving to their front.

### Conquest of Kamerun Complete.

London, Feb. 22.—The British conquest of Kamerun is now complete, it was officially announced at the colonial office on Saturday. The German stronghold at Mora has just been captured.

### Kills Mother at Dinner Table.

Frankfort, Ind., Feb. 22.—Harry Oliver shot and killed his mother, Alice Oliver, and then attempted suicide with a razor at the family home. The tragedy was enacted as the family sat down to dinner.

### SENATE LEARNS OF CONDITIONS IN THE SOUTHERN REPUBLIC.

Secretary Lansing Says That Government is Military Rather Than of a De Facto Character.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Part of the state department's data on the Mexican situation, asked for by Senator Fall, were transmitted to the senate on Thursday by President Wilson. Under motion of Chairman Stone of the foreign relations committee the records were ordered printed as a public document.

Americans killed in Mexico from causes that can be attributed to the revolutionary disturbances during 1913, 1914 and 1915 were placed at 18; those who had disappeared in Mexico and who were probably killed from causes that can be attributed directly to the revolutionary disturbances, 6; those killed, apparently through motives of robbery by bandits or others (not including those killed by Indians), 10; those killed by Indians, apparently through motives of robbery or revenge, 12; those killed from miscellaneous causes and causes not definitely stated, 30.

The total number of Mexicans killed in American territory as a result of border trouble other than those resulting from firing across the border, the report says, in 1913 to 1915 inclusive, was 89. Mexicans killed in American territory as a result of firing across the international line during engagements in border towns in the same period was three, a total of 92.

In a letter from Secretary Lansing accompanying the report it is said that 76 American citizens were killed in Mexico in the years 1913, 1914, 1915, as against 47 in the three years preceding it, and that 26 civilian Americans and 16 soldiers were killed on American soil in the same three years as a result of Mexican troubles.

Accompanying this letter are numerous departmental reports favorably describing conditions in Mexico.

### 3, DIE IN RAID ON ENGLAND

German Seaplanes Drop Bombs on Walmer and Lowestoft—Church Service Is Halted.

London, Feb. 22.—"Te Deum laudamus! We praise, Thee, Oh God," sang the congregation of a church at Walmer, a little town on the Kentish coast five miles north of Dover, toward the close of the service Sunday morning. Suddenly a loud explosion just outside the edifice interrupted the singing of the hymn of thanksgiving and threw the congregation into a panic. Every window in the church was blown in.

"The Zeppelins!" was the cry among the church people as they rushed into the street. Soaring overhead were two German seaplanes, less than two-thirds of a mile high, dropping bombs on the town at intervals of a few minutes. Before the raiders turned back over the channel they had killed two men and a boy and wounded a British marine.

Beside the raid on Walmer and an attack on Lowestoft, on the Suffolk coast, by two other German seaplanes half an hour earlier, in which 17 bombs were dropped without casualties, one German flier dropped bombs on Dunkirk.

### Willis Heads Insular Bank.

Manila, Feb. 22.—The Philippine commission has named H. P. Willis as president of the new insular bank, the founding of which with a capital of \$10,000,000 was authorized by the last legislature.

### Put \$2,000,000 in War Zone.

New York, Feb. 22.—Nearly \$2,000,000 has been sent from the United States for the relief of Jewish sufferers in the war zones. It was announced by the joint distribution committee of the Jewish Relief fund.

## EASTLAND MEN FREE NAMES ASSISTANTS

FEDERAL JUDGE AT GRAND RAPIDS ABSOLVES OWNERS INDICTED FOR MURDER.

### TO ESCAPE TRIAL AT CHICAGO

Jurist Clarence W. Sessions Rules Accused Men Need Not Leave Michigan and Asserts Charges of Conspiracy Were Not Proved.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Feb. 21.—Six men charged by the government with responsibility for the loss of more than 700 lives in the Eastland disaster do not have to go to Chicago to stand trial.

This decision was handed down on Friday by Federal Judge Clarence W. Sessions, sitting as a commissioner in the district court here. He denied the government's application for a warrant of removal for the defendants, all of whom live in Michigan.

The finding of the court means practically that none of the defendants will ever be placed on trial by the government. There is a possibility that if any of them journey into other states than Michigan they may be seized and another attempt at extradition made, but it is declared to be a remote one.

The men, indicted here, who fought extradition and defeated the government are William H. Hull, president of the St. Joseph-Chicago Steamship company; George T. Arnold, general manager; Harry Pedersen, captain; Joseph M. Erickson, chief engineer, and Robert Reid and Charles C. Eckhoff, federal inspectors.

Judge Sessions, in his opinion, said the government had failed utterly in all attempts to show conspiracy and negligence.

In making his decision the judge said:

"The dead cannot be restored to life. The sorrows of the living cannot be lessened by claiming other victims. The majesty of the law cannot be upheld and vindicated by taking men from their homes to stand trial among strangers upon accusations which there is barely a scintilla of proof to sustain. The evidence in this matter wholly fails to establish the probable cause for believing any of these defendants guilty of any crime charged in the indictments."

### HANS SCHMIDT IS EXECUTED

Former Priest Pays Penalty for Slaying Girl in Sing Sing Prison.

Ossining, N. Y., Feb. 21.—Hans Schmidt, the unfrocked priest who murdered his sweetheart, Anna Aumuller, was put to death in the electric chair in Sing Sing prison on Friday. His last words were:

"I send a hearty greeting to my mother. My last thoughts are of her. Good-by, all friends."

With a firm step he walked to his death, and on his way to the chair he asked forgiveness from all he had "offended or scandalized," and in turn forgave all who had offended him. Three shocks were necessary.

It is believed Anna Aumuller was murdered on September 2, 1913. It was on September 5, 1913, that part of her body was found floating in the river off Woodliff, N. J.

When he was arrested the priest made a full confession. He said he had killed the girl and that he had cut her body into nine pieces.

### SWEDEN ASKS U. S. TO HELP

Formal Note to Washington Accuses Britain of Violating Law and Insists on Freedom of Sea.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The first definite international action looking to the co-operation of neutrals for the common purpose of preserving their rights under international law against violation by belligerents became known here on Thursday with the receipt of a formal note from Sweden to that effect.

The note accuses Britain of willful violations of international laws, particularly in the seizure of mails, and asks the United States government to co-operate with Sweden and possibly with other countries in upholding their mutual rights.

### NINE DIE IN THEATER FIRE

School Children Lose Lives During Panic in Opera House at Mexico, Tex.

Mexia, Tex., Feb. 18.—Nine persons were burned to death and fifteen people injured when a fire here destroyed the opera house, where the public schools were holding an art exhibit. Several other stores and residences were destroyed by the flames which originated in a grocery store recently closed.

### \$30,000,000 for Hungary.

Berlin, Feb. 21.—The Hungarian minister of finance has concluded arrangements with a group of German banks for a loan of \$30,000,000. The loan will be covered by 5 per cent treasury bonds.

### Relief Sent Flood Towns.

Natchez, Miss., Feb. 21.—Partial relief for the situation at Newellton, La., where 2,500 persons, mostly colored, had been marooned by the flood for forty-eight hours or more, was reported here.

## THE STATE PRIMARIES

LIST OF SUPERINTENDENTS FOR STATE FAIR.

### LEGISLATIVE LEAGUE BANQUET

Items of General Interest Gathered from Reliable Sources Around the State House.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Secretary Mellor of the state board of agriculture has announced the following list of superintendents for all departments of the 1916 state fair: Amphitheatre—J. E. Reynolds, Indianapolis. Auditorium—C. G. Crews, Culbertson, Bands—W. W. Cole, Neigh. Boys' Encampment—Charles Strader, Lincoln. Camping Ground—V. Arnold, Vardon. Coliseum—Z. T. Lettwich, St. Paul. Congress—Hiram Meyers, Lincoln. Food and Forage—H. Harms, Upland. Fish Exhibit—W. J. O'Brien, Grotto. Gates—E. B. Purcell, Broken Bow. General—William Foster, Lincoln.



F. C. CROCKER of Filley, prominent stockman and farmer, and president of the State Swine Breeders' association.

Guards—Adjutant General P. L. Hall, Lincoln. Newspapers—Peter Youngers, Geneva. Sanitation—J. H. Taylor, Waterloo. Tickets—Joseph Roberts, Fremont. Transportation—W. B. Schermerhorn, Lincoln. Class A—Horses, L. W. Leonard, Pawnee City. Class B—Cattle, G. E. Hall, Waterloo. Class C—Swine, O. G. Smith, Kearney. Class D—Sheep, W. C. Caley, Creighton. Class E—Poultry, A. H. Smith, Lincoln. Class F—Agricultural products, T. H. Keeble, Minden; assistant, John Haak, Abie. Class G—Dairy, W. C. Andreas, Beatrice. Class H—Domestic products, Mrs. E. E. Brown, Central City. Class I—Bees and honey, William James, Decatur. Class J—Textiles, Mrs. J. P. Masterman, Lincoln. Class K—Fine arts, Mrs. Mae Morley, Lincoln. Class L—Educational, Lulu Wolford, Pawnee City. Class M—Machinery grounds, W. B. Banning, Union. Class N—Machinery hall, Jacob Saxe, Chalco. Class O—Better babies, Mrs. C. L. LeMay, Gosport. Class P—Speed, H. V. Rison, Beatrice; assistant, James Lamb, Nelson.

### Rural High Schools Multiplying.

State Superintendent Thomas is exhibiting considerable pride in the progress made by rural schools during the past year. In this time 191 new high schools have been established in the country for the exclusive benefit of rural pupils. Twenty-one are schools, nine of which are operating high schools exclusively. Six are county high schools. There are still eighty-four uncompleted consolidations. These will be ready to begin operations next year. The new schools place within the reach of 10,000 rural school children at least ten grades. There have been 160 new rural school buildings built. Forty-three towns and cities have built new high school buildings at a cost ranging from \$15,000 to \$60,000.

Capt. H. E. Yates, formerly commandant of cadets at the university of Nebraska, now stationed at Plattsburg barracks, N. Y., with the Thirtieth infantry regiment of the United States, has been appointed as one of ten American military attaches and observers assigned to posts in different European countries during the great war. He will sail on February 22, to join the American legation at Bucharest, the capital of Rumania, on two years' detail.

### The Legislative League

Governor Morehead will occupy the toastmaster's chair at the banquet of the Nebraska Legislative league on the evening of February 25, according to announcement made by Henry C. Richmond of Omaha, secretary of the league, Friday morning. Mr. Richmond called upon the governor at his office and obtained his consent to officiate at the head of the speakers' table. The banquet will take place at the Lindell hotel, starting about 6 o'clock. Among those who are expected to talk are John M. Thurston of Omaha, H. B. Windham of Plattsburgh, T. J. Majors of Peru, W. J. Taylor of Merma, John Mattos of Nebraska City and W. R. Patrick of Bellevue. Secretary Richmond hopes also to secure Marsh Elder, the famous populist speaker of the house in the 1891 session, for a toast.

University of Nebraska students through Chancellor Avery have accepted an invitation from the board of publicly to visit Omaha in May for an inspection of the various industries of the metropolis.

## THE STATE PRIMARIES

Tuesday, April 18, is Day Set By Law.

Governor Morehead has issued his proclamation for a primary election to be held Tuesday, April 18, for the following purposes:

To express a preference for candidates by each of the political parties for president and vice president of the United States.

For nomination-at-large of two candidates at large and one from each congressional district in the state for presidential electors by each of the political parties.

For the election of four delegates-at-large and two from each congressional district in the state to the national convention of the respective political parties and for a like number of alternates.

For the election of one national committeeman for each of the said political parties.

For the nonpartisan nomination of two candidates for chief justice of the supreme court to fill vacancy and six candidates for judges of the supreme court.

By each political party, the nomination of one candidate for United States senator.

One candidate for congress from each of the six congressional districts.

Also candidates for the following offices: One governor, one lieutenant-governor, one railway commissioner, two regents of the state university, one state auditor, one state treasurer, one secretary of state, one attorney general, one commissioner of public lands and buildings, one superintendent of public instruction, thirty-three state senators in twenty-eight senatorial districts, 100 representatives from the seventy-seven districts. District judge.

### Objects to Commissioner's Figures.

The figures cited by the Nebraska railway commission to prove that the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad passenger rate over its Nebraska lines and still realize a fair profit are not at all satisfactory to the Rock Island. The company has a lot of figures of its own showing that the rate is unreasonable and unfair.

In a thirty-page statement filed with the clerk of the federal court Thursday afternoon E. H. Smith, an accountant and rate expert employed by the Rock Island, makes an exhaustive review of the "volume of exhibits" prepared by U. G. Powell, rate expert for the state railway commission, and details wherein he believes Mr. Powell and the commission have erred in preparing their side of the case in the suit brought by the Rock Island to bring about a higher passenger rate. Some of the commission's figures, Mr. Smith maintains, should not be given serious consideration. Others, he argues, were reached without apparent basis of fact.

### Form of Primary Ballot Uncertain.

Secretary of State Pool declines just at present to make any official ruling on the form of the ballot to be used in the state primaries, April 18. The last legislature changed the ballot law for general elections so as to have the names of the candidates and propositions printed in three columns, instead of one, thereby cutting down the length and increasing the width of the sheet. Mr. Pool is personally of the opinion, however, that the Blausser act relating to the ballot for general elections does not apply at the primaries, and that the party tickets should be made up according to the old style. Others at the capitol take a different view, pointing out that the legislature never intended to have two different ballot forms in use, that the primaries are governed by the general election law, except where there is a specific provision to the contrary. An opinion from the state legal department will probably be secured by the secretary of state for his guidance.

### Secretary Allen Resigns.

Secretary E. Allen of the state railway commission has announced his resignation from that position. Simultaneously he announced the appointment of Thorne A. Brown of Lincoln as his successor. Mr. Allen will retire to a farm which he has purchased in Johnson county, near Tecumseh. He will leave about April 1, and Mr. Brown will assume the full duties of secretary of the commission at that time. The retiring secretary was state oil inspector under Governor Sheldon, and was private secretary to Governor Mickey.

### For Rural School Improvement.

With the object of making rural schools more efficient, a state conference of county superintendents and rural school board members will be called in the near future by State Superintendent Thomas. He has been asked to do this in a resolution adopted by the Farmers' Grange organization at Merma, and has replied that he will be glad to act on the suggestion when those who made it shall indicate what would be the most convenient time for people directly interested in the rural schools to attend.

### Deputy Attorney General Barrett

has written County Attorney Don C. Founts, county attorney of Adams county, that a consolidated school district becomes liable for the debts of the various districts forming the consolidated district. School district 48 of Clay county had a bonded debt of \$3,000 when it consolidated with district 84 of Hamilton county, and district 52 of Hall county. Districts 58 and 59 also figure in the matter, but just how is not explained in the attorney general's opinion. He holds that the new absorbing district assumes the liability of the old districts.