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BETTER BABIES IS AIM OF CONFERENCE

AT ILLINOIS STATE FAIR
 Plan for Two Thousand Entrants
 And Many Fine Prizes Are Offered; Value Shown in Health Gain

The combi better baby conference to be held in connection with the State Fair, promises to set a new record for statewide attendance and interest. Dr. Isaac D. Rawlings, director, Department of Public Health, is preparing to accommodate between 1,500 and 2,000 entrants.

Applications will be received from entrants up to August 13, one week before the opening of the State Fair, unless the capacity of the conference is reached before that date. Parents who are interested and desiring to enter their children for examination should apply direct to Dr. Isaac D. Rawlings, director, Department of Public Health, for information and registration forms.

Make Two \$50 Awards
 "An important change in the awards offered is that the grand elimination award of \$100 has been divided into two of \$50 each," says Dr. Rawlings. "This year the highest scoring boy and the highest scoring girl who is eligible to compete for grand elimination awards will each be presented with a savings bank account of \$50. Heretofore this grand elimination award was \$100 and was presented to one child, the highest scoring, regardless of sex."

Another change is that concerning families of six children who compete for the awards offered. Families with more than six children between six months and sixteen years of age may enter all of the children and the six highest scores will be computing results for the award.

Offers Gold Watch
 "The Illinois Watch company has again offered a lady's gold watch to the mother of the highest scoring child in the conference, provided the child is between one and five years old. This award, known as the "John Bunn Watch" has stimulated a tremendous amount of permanent interest in the conference. Of the ten watches presented to mothers at past conferences, three have gone to Sangamon county, two to Logan, and one each to DeWitt, Macon, McLean, Peoria and Shelby counties.

"The highest value of the conference is not in the awards, however, but in the scientific knowledge gained concerning the health of those examined. If medical science has taught us anything of everlasting importance it is that many of the physical and mental ills which beset humanity can be prevented provided we start preventative measures early enough."

TOO MUCH POLITICS IN MUSCLE SHOALS

Plant Costing Millions Useless Because of Political Wrangling Is Belief

Utilizing the water power at Muscle Shoals for useful purposes has been so long delayed by political wrangling, that according to an article in the Atlanta Constitution, the manufacture of nitrates there is no longer practical.

The article shows that contrary to general impression, coal and coke, under the latest scientific practice, and not hydro-electrical power, are the most important factors in nitrate "fixation" in these days.

The same writer says that a great chemical and dye corporation of New York has recently announced its plans to spend \$100,000,000 in the erection of a gigantic plant at Hopewell, Virginia, for the production of nitrates for fertilizer, extracted from the air by the synthetic process. The Hopewell plant will use fuel, not water power, to obtain its nitrates for fertilizer.

Thus we see some regrettable results of attempts to mix government and business, comments the Bloomington Post-Examiner. While congress wrangles from year to year, science, invention, private initiative and enterprise move on. The government has spent \$150,000,000 at Muscle Shoals. The usefulness of the water that goes over the great Wilson dam every minute is gone forever. In the meantime the people of the South are deprived of the benefits which might come from this great natural power if congress could come to some agreement to lease or otherwise use it. The Federal Water Power act would give ample scope for proper regulation.

FRENCHMAN WALKING AROUND AUSTRALIA

On February 1, 1924, J. C. de Lencourt, a Frenchman, began a walk around Australia, a distance of 15,000 miles, on conditions which confined him to a route within 10 miles of the coast line, and his return to Sydney by February, 1927. On this plucky and lonely trip de Lencourt has encountered conditions that might have turned back a less determined and courageous individual.

The traveler reached Perth on January 8, 1925 from Sydney, via Melbourne and Adelaide, and left for Darwin, by way of the spacious and empty North West, 11 days later. Although de Lencourt has already failed to meet the condition regarding the date of his return to Sydney, he intends to maintain his contract. He is now proceeding from Darwin to Queensland, and some weeks have elapsed since his whereabouts were reported.

GRADUATES' ATELIER AT ART INSTITUTE

To Be Conducted for the First Time During School Year of 1927-1928

The Graduate Atelier, which will be conducted by the School of the Art Institute, for the first time during the school year 1927-28, is attracting vigorous and widespread interest at the Art Institute and other art schools. The plan, a unique and logical one, is based upon a consideration of the classroom as a professional studio where advanced painting students are encouraged to develop their creative power and initiative in execution.

All applications for admittance will be passed upon by a faculty jury composed of painting instructors who will examine typical examples of the candidates' work, and who will also take into account the applicant's past record and his possibilities as a painter. A large new studio will be devoted exclusively to this class. Membership will be limited. Individual criticism will be given by instructors in the department of drawing, painting, and illustration of the Art Institute school upon personal request.

During the year several of the outstanding painters in the country will be invited to spend one-week periods in the school as visiting instructors, to criticize the accumulated work of this group and of other advanced painting classes in the school. Among the visiting artists who will appear for the year 1927-28 are Boris Anfeld, Daniel Garber, Charles W. Hawthorne, Henry G. Keller and Herman Dudley Murphy. The first appointments were made this week and comprise the following seven advanced students in the Art Institute school, Jaroslav Brosik, Francis Chapin, Davenport Griffin, Mildred Luthardt, Tunis Ponsen, Theodore Roszak, and Paul Winchell.

ILLINOIS LEADER IN CONSERVATION OF MINERAL RESOURCES

Provides for Intelligent Exploration and Recovery Also; Detailed Surveys Made

Illinois is the leader among the states which are providing for the intelligent exploration, recovery and conservation of mineral resources, and the preparation of authoritative base maps as aids to engineering and industrial enterprises, according to Dr. M. M. Leighton, chief, Illinois State Geological Survey, Department of Registration and Education. An article by Dr. Leighton, who is secretary of the association of American Geologists, in the current issue of the American Yearbook summarizes the accomplishments of the geological surveys throughout the country during the past year.

Detailed Surveys Made
 In Illinois during the past year, the State Geological survey carried on investigations of the oil and gas possibilities in central Pike county, the Centralia area, the Ayers anticline in Bond county, and new areas for prospecting near the Martinville pools in Clark county. It also prepared a report on the oil and gas resources of the Sumner and Hardinville districts. Detailed studies were made of the strip-mining territory in Marion county, and of the fluor spar deposits in Hardin county, and material was collected for a comprehensive bulletin on the Illinois coal fields.

Special studies were made of the geology and mineral resources of Alexis, Galesburg, Rushville, Beardstown and Harrisburg areas. Reports were prepared on the economic resources of the St. Peter sandstone, the fire clays, and the sand and gravel resources of the northeastern part of the state.

Bulletins Issued
 Recently issued bulletins deal with the limestone resources of the state the fossil plants of the coal beds, and the geology and mineral resources of the Dixon area.

Mineral resources of importance to future commercial developments are thus being systematically studied for the purpose of providing information to capitalists and engineers in exploring and developing these resources.

Somewhat more than one million dollars was appropriated by the SEPTEMBER-5
 general states for this purpose in 1926, and at least \$700,000 in addition was furnished by co-operating federal agencies, counties, local organizations and industries. About 350 technically trained men are employed in this work, operating in 36 states.

ED HOWE COMMENTS ON CAPITAL VALUE

It's a pity private business is not as well, as fairly, as expeditiously managed as the business of the public service corporations. What a lot of villainy goes on in private business: How little, in comparison, in the public service corporations.

One often hears of the great fight being made by Capital, and the interference is usually given that Capital is fighting for robbery, spoils. The truth is, the great fight of Capital is for the sacredness of obligation for industry. Capital is a thing that cannot prosper in a country where there is rioting and idleness.

Capital is not heard of among savages; it is an instrument of civilized and progressive peoples.—Ed Howe.

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