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Pupils Act as Family.
CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—Ten pupils of her Sunday school class "gave away" Miss Mabelle Lillian Stone a few nights ago at her marriage to Walter W. McLeod in the First United Presbyterian church.

Miss Stone, who lived at 4129 Gladys avenue, has no relatives in Chicago and for a long time was perplexed to find a substitute for a "family." It was finally decided that the members of the class she had taught for many years should act in that role.

The members of the congregation attended the wedding, which was followed by a reception in the chapel of the church. The Rev. James E. Walker read the service.

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SPORT CHAMPIONS GET GREAT DOWNFALLS IN YEAR JUST CLOSING

FOOTBALL, FOR INSTANCE, PRESENTED MANY SURPRISES DURING THE SEASON.

Baseball, Also, Was Upset When Braves Grab Pennant in Four Straight Victories—Two New Boxing Champs Come to Front, While Boston Claims Golf Champion.

BY HAL SHERIDAN.
(Written for the United Press.)
NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—"The year of the Great Upset" is the epitaph upon the athletic year of 1914. Baseball, pugilism, golf, rowing, polo and tennis furnished new candidates for the public favor and the downfall of champions who were supposed to be entrenched in their positions. Football presented many surprises, although Harvard was able to repeat in the premier place.

With the Braves' great dash for the National League championship and the even more thrilling grabbing of the world's championship in four straight games the world is reasonably familiar. To analyze that double feat—walloping the haughty Giants and the peerless Athletics twice in the same year—is something which would be vain and profitless. Manager Stallings tried vainly to explain in his vaudeville engagement how his cohorts won. Perhaps the only explanation that can be made is that Stallings inspired his men to have confidence in themselves and the whole matter may be summed up in that little incident when he cancelled the Braves' hotel reservations at Philadelphia after the first two games and said that his team would not return to the city for his team would win the next two games at Boston, making a return trip unnecessary.

In football Harvard won again largely through the splendid coaching of Percy Haughton and such excellent players as Mahan, Bradlee, Hardwick, Penneck and Logan. Whether it was Haughton or whether it was the material at his command which brought impressive triumph will always be a mooted question. The effect of Brickley's absence must be considered in such a debate. Yale under the tutelage of Hinkey was a factor until the crushing defeat in the Bowl. Princeton with wonderful material was a disappointment. The surprise, however, came in the excellent showing made by Cornell and the army and the still more remarkable games played by Washington and Jefferson, Pittsburg, Williams and Rutgers.

Two new boxing champions came to the front in Kid Williams of Baltimore, bantamweight, and Freddie Welsh of England, lightweight. Williams knocked out Johnny Coulon in the third round at Los Angeles on June 5 and Welsh grabbed his claim to fame by outpointing Willie Ritchie in London on July 7. For those fans who crowd the fight clubs expecting to see a championship change hands, it may be well to point out that neither of these two fights was worth a lead quarter or a shilling to see. The remaining divisions of the pugilistic world have the same champions as they had a year ago. Johnny Kilbane is still featherweight champion, Jack Johnson is heavyweight leader and the others, with the above exceptions, are in doubt. The most interesting bid for leadership is in the middleweight class where four excellent fighters are neck and neck for the honors: Mike Gibbons, McGoorty, Clabby and Dillon.

Boston claims its third champion in Goller Oulmet who trimmed the veteran Jerry Travers after he himself had been beaten by Walter Hagen, a professional, for the open championship. Just what the distinction is between amateur and professional golf would be difficult to state but if a golfer may have amateur status young Oulmet is without doubt the leader of that class.

Maurice McLoughlin, for the third consecutive year, takes first rank as the best of American tennis players. Some question arose as to whether or not a time honored precedent should be set aside in order to give McLoughlin front rank, inasmuch as he had been defeated by Richard Norris Williams 2d in the final round of the national championship tournament. But precedent never stood a ghost of a chance with good old common sense and the ranking committee put the red-haired Californian in the premier position. Williams was placed second and Karl Behr third.

Columbia won the Poughkeepsie regatta, defeating the Cornell crew to everyone's surprise. Harvard's second eight went to England and defeated the best that England could send against them for the grand challenge cup at Hendey. Yale beat Harvard by a foot at New London which was a distinct blow at the granddoldope.

And last of all, small type, America's Big Four polo team was bumped out of the top position by the English quartet at Meadowbrook.

But there are times when it is better to leap before looking.

RESERVE BANK PLAN ONE OF NOTEWORTHY LEGISLATIVE ACTS

BUSIEST YEAR IN HISTORY OF CONGRESS CROWNED WITH LASTING SUCCESS.

Financial Legislation Makes Radical Reform in Country's Banking System—Another Important Act of 1914 Provides Railroad in Alaska—Legislative Session Reviewed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—One of the busiest legislative years in the history of American congressmen ended today with the recess of congress over New Year's Day. Except for a six weeks' adjournment, the national legislators were in continuous session from January 12, 1914, until today. This statement would not be fair, if allowed to stand, however, without the further comment that prior to January 12, congress had been in session continuously since the incoming of the Wilson administration March 4, 1913.

Perhaps the most important piece of legislation enacted during the year was the law providing for the new banking and currency system. Creating from 8 to 12 regional reserve banks (later fixed at 12) under the direction of a federal reserve board, and providing for the reserves of all national, and many of what had previously been state banks, to be kept with the federal banks, instead of with correspondent banks in central reserve cities, as previously, this was probably the most radical reform in the currency system of the country ever put into effect. The provision for the discounting of commercial paper by the member banks, and the issuance of new currency to cover this discounting by the reserve banks, provided what was thought to be a strong preventative of panics, and provided also a sure remedy against temporary stringencies in the amount of actual currency on hand, especially at such times as when the crops are moved.

Another act of the year, that providing for the construction of a railroad in Alaska at a cost of \$35,000,000, and its operation after completion by the government, was tremendously important from two different viewpoints. It provided for the opening up for use by the people, of what President Wilson is fond of calling that storehouse of riches. Incidentally, it is regarded by some as a long step toward government ownership of all of the railroads. Certainly, as it is operated year by year, it will form at least the basis of a comparison with the privately owned railroads in the United States.

One of the bitterest fights of the year was over the repeal of the tolls exemption clause for American owned coastwise ships passing through the Panama canal. The passage of this act means that every coastwise ship passing through the big ditch will have to pay its way, just as though it were an American ship in the foreign trade, or for that matter a foreign owned ship.

Two important measures of the so-called anti-trust program were enacted during the year. One of these created the federal trade commission, which will exercise much the same sort of power over industrial corporations as those exercised over the interstate commerce commission, thus bringing both sorts of companies under federal control.

A number of important bills were passed by the house which were not enacted because of the failure of the senate to pass them. These include the immigration bill, including the famous literacy test, which would restrict immigration and modify the rules regarding it to meet the opinion of a number of authorities on immigration. Two of the most important of the conservatin bills, that providing for the leasing of water power sites now withheld from entry and the general dam bill, were also passed by the house but not by the senate during the year, while one bill, the La Follette seamen's bill, passed both houses (the senate prior to this year, however) but in such different forms that no agreement was reached during the year between the two houses.

Congress passed a resolution justifying the president's action in ordering an invasion of Mexico at Vera Cruz following the insult to the American flag at Tampico by soldiers directly responsible to Huerta at that time.

Twenty six peace treaties, most of them the breathing spell variety, providing for one year to interpose after any overt act before any hostilities should occur, were ratified by the senate. The upper house also received more than 5000 nominations from the president and ratified most of them.

There were bitter fights over many of them, incidentally, especially, Paul M. Warburg and Thomas D. Jones, for the federal reserve board, the first of whom was confirmed and the second withdrawn; Attorney General McReynolds, to be justice of the supreme court, John Skelton Williams to be comptroller of the currency, Interstate Commerce Commissioner Daniels, and Henry M. Pindell, to be ambassador to Russia. Some of the most important pieces of legislation of the year were those resulting from the European war—the war emergency bills.

One of these put the government into the insurance business, that providing that the government should write war risk insurance when private corporations would not underwrite business at reasonable terms. This has proved a great boon to shipping since the outbreak of the war. Congress made two distinct appropriations to bring stranded American citizens home from war stricken Europe.

Another emergency war measure was that sweeping aside the tariff du-

ties and other restrictions which had hitherto prevented the placing of foreign built ships under the American flag. The same measure also lodged with the president discretion to waive the restrictions regarding all the officers of such ships being American citizens, thus laying the foundation during the war for an American merchant marine, which would carry American products abroad regardless of the war conditions.

Congress also amended the Aldrich Vreeland emergency currency act, during the early days of the war, but before the federal reserve bank-

ing system had gotten into operation as to make that workable, and it was availed of for the first time since its passage, years before. The senate passed a cotton warehouse bill, during the early days of the war, providing for government inspection and supervision of the warehouses but this was lost in the house. A tremendous fight to have the government buy cotton from the southern planters at 10 cents a pound was defeated and the bill voted down.

Another result of the war, and for its cutting down of imports from foreign countries, with accompanying

reduction in the tariff duties, was the war tax bill. This measure, providing for the raising of more than \$90,000,000 annually by internal taxation, was put through both houses only after a most bitter fight, virtually all the republicans voting against it. Supplementing the Alaska railroad bill, passed early in the year, another measure, passed late in the fall, provided for the leasing of government coal lands in that territory, and also for the government mining some of them itself, another instance of government ownership which pleased the socialists.

Prince May Ruled Fleet.
LONDON, Dec. 30.—A Berlin dispatch received by the Exchange Telegraph company by way of The Hague says that the German Emperor summoned Prince Henry of Prussia to his headquarters to confer with him and Admiral von Tirpitz, Minister of Marine, on the English raid on Cuxhaven. The conference lasted several hours, the Prince returning to Kiel by special train.
It is believed in Germany, the dispatch adds, that Prince Henry is to assume supreme command of the battleship fleet.

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