

UNUSUALITIES

Empty pews up front are no problem to the Rev. Charles M. Jones, Pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Chapel Hill. When 1400 Presbyterian students flocked to the University of North Carolina this fall, he solved his seating problem by adding a second shift. The Rev. Mr. Jones preaches both sermons himself each Sunday morning, but still has an overflow problem in his church which celebrated its 100th anniversary on October 16th.

When you're in Greensboro, N. C., there's no use applying for a job as "wear-tester" for the Burlington Mills, though its a good deal. Some 400 persons all over America are shipped shirts, hose, suits, pants, slips, etc., constantly. All they have to do is to report back to the Mills how the garments survive the wear.

If you are traveling in the mountains of North Carolina and stop at Burnsville, you might be interested to know that Jack Dempsey's grandfather, Nathan Dempsey, lived there and established a reputation which, in that locality at least, may outlive that of his famous grandson.

A blacksmith, Nathan weighed over 250 pounds and stood six feet and six inches. He was famous as a weight-lifter, broad jumper and wrestler. Once, exasperated by a balky mule, he threw the critter out of his shop.

Only one time did he lose his temper. On market day, some rowdy mountaineers from a nearby community decided to beat up Dempsey. At the end of the melee, eight toughies were lying on the ground in various stages of physical discomfort.

Next meeting day, the town council passed an ordinance stating that Nathan Dempsey hereafter should not strike a man with his closed fist. It was classified as a "deadly weapon." The effect of such an ordinance was that any other person fighting with his fist would be guilty only of a misdemeanor; if Nathan so fought, he would be guilty of a felony, and liable to penitentiary punishment.

One of the rarest of relics left by the American aborigines are the trail-marking trees, of which only about a dozen examples are known.

At the river-mouth town of Southport, N. C., on NC 303 from Ocean Highway US 17, is a handsome example—a huge live oak, bent when young and lashed to the ground, so that it grows horizontal for several feet, before seeking its naturally vertical position. Indians are believed to have trained these trees to mark important turns in their trails.

If you are interested in supernatural yarns, and

EMPLOYEE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

CAFETERIA—AT SHIFT CHANGING TIME

Thursday, December 22nd—12:00 Midnight.

Friday, December 23---8:00 A. M., 4:00 P. M., 4:30 P. M., 12:00 Midnight

PROGRAM

- I. Selection of Christmas Carols....Ecusta Band
- II. Ave Maria.....Schubert
- III. Prayer.....Visiting Minister
- IV. O Holy Night.....Adams
- V. Silent Night
- VI. Christmas Message
- VII. Silent Night.....Ecusta Band and Audience
- VIII. Christmas Carols.....Ecusta Band



happen to be on US 501 in Chatham County, N. C., ask about the Devil's Tramping Ground. This is a hard-packed circular path about 35 feet in diameter, with Sandhill wire grass growing within the circle. Not a sprig of the grass grows outside the circle. Local superstition says the path was made by Satan and his followers during a midnight dancing orgy.

Skeptics say some peculiarity of the soil has preserved the ring. Plausible also, is the theory that the path originally was beaten by Indians in ceremonial dances. And ever since, they point out, visitors to the place invariably make a few turns around the path and thus keep it hard packed.

Incidentally, a somewhat similar phenomenon is "Devil's Hoofprints," near ancient Bath on the coast of North Carolina. Here eight depressions in the soil have persisted for over a century, despite all efforts to keep them covered. They reputedly were made by the last two desperate leaps of a horse in throwing and killing his blasphemous rider.