

THE ALAMANCE GLEANER.

VOL. L

GRAHAM, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1925

NO. 50

MEMORIAL FOR WAR PRESIDENT

Wilson Dam Engineering Project Second Only to the Panama Canal.

Washington. — America's wartime President is to have an enduring memorial in Wilson dam at Muscle Shoals, to be commissioned late in the summer of 1925.

The project, deemed an engineering achievement second only to the Panama canal, was 82 1/2 per cent completed October 1, the date of the latest formal report. An appropriation of \$7,000,000 more will be required from congress.

The total cost, with eight generators installed, will be \$45,800,000, and the dam will be capable of producing power some time next summer. It will have an ultimate capacity of 600,000 horse power, over the disposition of which a bitter controversy is raging in congress.

Creates Artificial Lake.

Wilson dam will eventually create an artificial lake, extending upstream in the Tennessee river about eighteen miles, with an average width of three-quarters of a mile.

The dam proper is considered the largest in the world and is a mile long, 137 feet high and covers 20 acres. The work is under the general supervision of Maj. Gen. Harry Taylor, chief of army engineers, with Lieut. Col. George R. Spalding in immediate charge of the construction forces.

Some 230,000 horse power of hydroelectric generating apparatus will be ready by next summer. A powerhouse, 1,250 feet long, 160 feet wide and 134 feet high will be in use. A two-stage lock for navigation, with a total lift of 93 feet, forms one of the features in connection with the project.

Surplus waters during flood periods in the river will be passed through 58 steel flood-control gates, each 38 feet long and 18 feet high. The dam or spillway section is 3,050 feet long, 95 feet high from the river bed and is 105 feet thick at the base. Thirteen special spillways equipped with butterfly valves will pass surplus water during normal flow on the river.

Wilson dam is officially known as "Dam No. 2" and is one of three projected in the Tennessee river at Muscle Shoals. Dam No. 1 is a small navigating dam, not yet authorized, to be two miles below Wilson dam.

River Can Be Used.

After all proposed improvements are completed, engineer officers point out, the Tennessee river will be navigable from the Ohio river to Knoxville, Tenn.

The district through which this river flows is rich in mineral, timber and agricultural resources, declares Major General Taylor, and would be greatly benefited by adequate river transportation facilities. The principal obstructions to navigation are the shoals in the Muscle Shoals area, and completion of Wilson dam will be the first great step toward opening up that region to water development.

Museum Gets Fossils of Dwarf Camel and Horse

Washington.—Fossil bones of a dwarf camel and a three-toed midget horse, which are believed to have roamed western North America until some 4,800,000 years ago, are the latest addition to the collection at the National museum. They have just been brought to the museum by Dr. W. F. Foshag, assistant curator of mineralogy, among other fossils remains found in the rock formations of Nevada during a five-months' field study there.

The horse, apparently about two and a half feet high, and the camel, three or four feet, are believed to have been evolved out of the processes of nature during the last days of the Neocene age, or some 4,000,000 or 5,000,000 years ago, according to Dr. J. W. Grildley, assistant curator. They supposedly were still in existence when the highest peaks of the Rocky mountains were being pushed up.

Charge Account

Another time man gets the last word is when he says: "All right! All right! Just tell 'em to charge it!"—Duluth Herald.

Culinary Note

Many a young man poses as being hard-baked when he is only half-baked.—New Orleans Times-Picayune.

Lion Dislikes Men's Hats

Caroline, the lioness in the London zoo, always snorts angrily at any man wearing a light gray hat.

Giant Australian Tree

A tree recently felled in Australia was nine feet in diameter and weighed seven tons.

Genius Seldom Seeks Its Intellectual Mate

Why do clever women marry stupid or insignificant men? Catherine de Medici married weak Henry II of France; Mary Stuart chose Darnley. Even Elizabeth, that haughty virgin, lost her heart, it is said, to Leicester, who lacked great qualities.

Capable men, of course, are proverbially fascinated by "stuffy" women. Complete and utter ignorance, expressed through the medium of an ethereal beauty, has invariably proved an irresistible attraction to men of genius. Does this infirmity of great and many minds also afflict clever women? I have heard cynics say—and so probably have you—that only a peculiarly stupid man will put up with a too brilliant and capable woman and play second fiddle to her lead, says a writer in the Washington Post.

Clever women and clever men are notably lacking in a discriminating love instinct. They have not time for these "lighter" matters—and often repent at leisure for their hasty selections. Even Wordsworth could accuse his wife of no rarer charm than that of being "not too good for human nature's daily food."

Yet these unequal marriages do not always end in disaster—or boredom. They can be absurdly happy and successful. Stupid men and butterfly women are usually likable enough—so delightfully noncommittal, so lavish with admiration.

Literature for the most part leaves this phenomenon alone. Shakespeare approaches the subject in "The Merchant of Venice"—and then obscures the problem in a wealth of plot and ingenuity. I cannot think that it will long escape the psychoanalytical novelists of today.

The more prosaic explanation, however, and possibly the truer one, is that clever women marry stupid men for precisely the same reason that clever men marry silly wives—because they feel so utterly complete in themselves but for the element of love in their lives—and this the insignificant provides.

The Hissing Iguana

In the Pacific ocean, about 500 miles off the coast of Ecuador, lies a group of desert volcanic islands, known as the Galapagos archipelago. Here, among many creatures that have never heard the voice of man, says London Tit-Bits, the dominant sound of life is the hiss of the sea iguana, a giant marine lizard that exists nowhere else in the world.

Darwin visited four of the islands in 1835 and found wonderful material for his "Origin of Species." The great marine iguana grows to a length of four feet and looks like its prehistoric ancestors, some of which were 80 feet long.

It lives about the seashore and feeds on seaweeds. At night it sleeps in a burrow of the earth or in a lava crevasse, while in the daytime it comes out and at low tide makes its way to the edge of the surf to feed. It will not live in captivity.

Old Church Doctrine

The Thirty-nine Articles were the points of doctrine agreed upon by the archbishops, bishops and clergy of the Church of England, at the convocation held in London in 1562, under Archbishop Parker. They received the royal authority and that of parliament in 1571.

These articles related to the doctrine of the Trinity, the rule of faith, the doctrine concerning sin and redemption, the general theory of the church, and the doctrine of the sacraments. The Thirty-nine Articles were preceded by the Forty-two Articles, prepared in 1531, and set forth in 1553. In November, 1871, the Thirty-nine Articles were ordered removed from the curriculum of studies at Oxford.—Kansas City Star.

Swell's Museum's Exhibits

After more than a century of oblivion, the Marquesas island ground dove comes to swell the ranks of birds in the United States National museum at Washington. It has not been collected since it was first described in 1814. Another new specimen, the Rapa island pigeon, is a fit mate for the ground dove, as it has previously been known by only one specimen, says Science Service. The birds are a part of the collection made by the Whitney South sea expedition, and have been forwarded to the National museum by the American Museum of Natural History.

Match This for Twins!

"If any school principal has more pairs of twins in his or her school than Miss Mary F. Latchford of the Midland street school, Worcester, please raise your hand," says the Boston Globe. "Miss Latchford has eight pairs, and if the Brunell twins and the Tahanto road twins had not moved out of the district just before school opened this fall there would have been ten. At present there are two pairs of twins from one family in the school, the Mullan twins."

True Poetry

The only true or inspired poetry is always from within, not from without. The experience contained in it has been spiritually transmuted from lead into gold. It is severely logical, the most trivial of its adornments being subservient to, and suggested by, the dominant idea; any departure from whose dictates would be the "falsifying of a revelation." It is unadorned with worldly wisdom, deference to prevailing opinions, mere talent or cleverness. . . . Its music is the expression of the law of its growth; so that it could no more be set to a different melody than could a rose-tree be consummated with lilies or violets.—James Thomson.

Eccentric English Duke

The duke of Bedford's gold plate at Wolvraun abbey is among the most magnificent collections of its kind in the world. So lightly, however, was it regarded by the eighth duke, that on his death in 1872 gold plate worth tens of thousands of dollars was found strewn about the floor of his house in Belgrave square in such a deplorable condition that it narrowly escaped being consigned to the dustbin as worthless metal.

Indian Tribal Language

American Indians are divided into groups and the languages of the various groups are found to differ to such a degree that one is not intelligible to another. Often within the same linguistic family different tribes speak radically different dialects. This is the case of the Pueblos in the Southwest. Inhabitants of villages only 100 miles apart cannot understand each other's native tongues.

Women in Business

A recent gathering of business women in London included, among others, advertising agents, agricultural engineers, architects, a dental surgeon, a lawyer, a publisher, a florist, a taster, a horse breeder, a surveyor, a theatrical manager, a color consultant, an automobile saleswoman, a pearl stringer and two members of parliament.

To Tell Weight of Coal

A solid cubic foot of anthracite weighs about 93 pounds. When broken it weighs about 54 pounds. Bituminous coal when broken up averages about 50 pounds per cubic foot. Therefore, simply find the contents of box or bin in cubic feet and multiply by one of these numbers, according to kind of coal.

Turquoise's Odd Use

A fourteenth-century authority states that turquoise protected horses from the ill effects resulting from drinking cold water when they were overheated. It is said that the Turks often attached these precious stones to the bridles and frontlets of their horses as amulets.

Honor for "Unknown"

The decorations awarded the Unknown Soldier were: Croix de Guerre, France; Legion of Honor, France; gold medal for bravery, Italy; Virtute Militari, Rumania; war crosses, Czechoslovakia; Virtuti Militari, Poland; Congressional Medal of Honor, United States.

Gale Plays Queer Prank

When a gale struck the home of George Nelson in a small New England town, it ripped off one chimney on his house and blew a hole through the other, leaving a stable stall and in no way disturbing the top layers of brick or other parts of the building.

Great American Surgeon

The father of American surgery is a title sometimes given to Philip Syng Physick, a Philadelphia surgeon and physician, born in 1768, died in 1837. His name and profession made him a butt of the punsters.

Thing That Really Hurts

Says the Osborne Enterprise: "We don't mind having a man lie to us once in a while, but the thing that gets irksome is the balance of the lingo he puts in for good measure."—Atlanta Constitution.

Opals and the Hair

Beautiful blond maidens of the Middle ages valued nothing more highly than a necklace of opals. Wearing of these ornaments was supposed to keep their hair from losing its wonderful color.

Gray Eyes and Sin

Among the Arabs there is a popular superstition that gray eyes are a sign of sin. The belief is founded on a passage in the Koran which classifies them as a possession of the wicked.

Would Be Wasted Time

"Of Satan don't have to set traps for sinners," said Uncle Eben, "owin' to his havin' his hands full tendin' to dem as is standin' in line to buy tick-ets."—Washington Star.

EFFECT OF ARTIFICIAL LIGHT ON PLANT LIFE

Tests Confirm Experiments With Rays in Development of Normal Growth.

Washington.—The discovery that the seasonal blossoming and fruiting of plants is caused by the length of day, made a few years ago by investigators in the United States Department of Agriculture, has been completely confirmed by experiments with artificial light and colored light. Previous to these investigations, which were carried on by W. W. Garner, H. A. Allard and R. A. Steinberg of the bureau of plant industry, normal plants never had been fully developed under artificial light, but it has been shown that under such conditions plants can be grown normally and will produce normal seed.

Among the more than 60 species of plants which have been grown under these conditions are lettuce, celery, spinach, morning glory, Rudbeckia, Godetia, cypress vine, soy bean, bidens, chenopodium and poinsettia.

With all these plants the response to the length of day has been the same as in sunlight. The "short day" plants, the characteristic autumn and winter-blossoming plants, blossom when exposed to the short artificial day. The summer-blossoming plants blossom when given a long day under electric lights.

Practical conditions, say the investigators, preclude the use of artificial light in place of daylight, but it will be possible in growing some greenhouse plants to extend the natural day by use of electric lights to speed up blooming. Obviously this practice will be useful in case of "long day" and "indeterminate day" plants. A relatively low-power illumination can be used, extending the length of day from 16 to 18 hours for many plants. Intense lights have been found unnecessary and wasteful. It is said that for commercial use engineers and greenhouse men must work out the particular requirement of special crops.

Experiments have shown the fallacy of a rather widely accepted view of plant physiologists, particularly those in Europe, that certain wave lengths of visible light are essential to normal development of green plants. Healthy normal seed has been produced with wide variations in composition of the light used.

Brooklyn Now Has Woman Dog-Catchers

This goes into the tank which catches the fish and allows the water to run off. The method is simple and extraordinarily efficient, for if the boat passes through a shoal, more than two tons of fish a minute may be caught.



The first lady dog-catchers recently made their appearance on the streets of Brooklyn. They are in the employ of the Brooklyn Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Mrs. B. M. Freeman, left, and Miss J. Snyder are shown handling their first canine prisoner.

Gems Used as Playthings

The first large diamond discovered in South Africa is said to have been found in the leather bag of a sorcerer. Several authorities state that in the early days in South Africa highly valuable diamonds were frequently the playthings of the Boer children.

Claimed Prophetic Gift

Joanna Southcott, a domestic servant, aroused all England about 1814, with her pretended supernatural gifts and her claim to be the woman mentioned in Apocalypse, chapter 12. She gained over 100,000 followers.

Papuan Mourning Customs

In Papua, widows mourn for a deceased husband for more than a year, and it is a custom for them to remove all their clothes and cover themselves with white pipe-clay. The costume consists of a grass skirt.

Laughs at Idea That Modern Pace Is Swift

When I was a kid doctors never spoke. They grunted. A sick man never gave up hope until the doctor abandoned his bedside manner and began to cheer him up. But nowadays doctors are as glib as English sparrows. One of 'em got to talking the other day about angina pectoris, the most painful disease, perhaps, that has ever been inflicted upon defenseless humanity.

"It is primarily a disease of the strenuous," he said.

Whereupon one of the leading applicators of our Business Men's club took up the sweet refrain.

"We must moderate our pace," said he, wisely. "We must slow down a bit. The pleasure of modern life is too much for us."

Then Doc Heckerberry and I looked 'em over and laughed out loud. There they were, a double row of business men, all nodding their heads like these Chinese toys with rounded bottoms you buy for a nickel, and pretending to be strenuous. All acting serious, too, as though they believed themselves when they talked about the pressure of modern life and the horrid pace of this generation. Shucks!

This only goes for our town, of course, because I am not competent to speak for other towns. These business men who pretend to be so strenuous are for the most part rich. At the very least they are making money, because they could hardly have helped it in the last decade. And—

They get to work at 9:15 a. m. They dictate to stenographers. Three days they go to lunch at one o'clock and come back at three, just in time to see the late afternoon mail. The other three days they play golf. If they are sleepy in the morning it is because they have been playing bridge—and not business.

Strenuously—shucks! Look 'em over. Observe their rounded contours. The curse of American business men isn't the pace. It's the apple pie.—J. P. in Kansas City Star.

Pumping for Fish

Since the Stone age the accepted method of catching a fish has been to inveigle it onto a hook. Catching fish in a net is also a method of considerable antiquity.

It has been left to the Americans to evolve the latest method of catching fish—that of sucking them up with a pump!

A tube running for and aft of the fishing vessel empties into a tank, and an eight-inch motor-driven centrifugal pump at the forward end sucks in about 14 tons of fish and water a minute.

Fresh-Water Mussels

In recent years there has been a great shortage in the supply of fresh-water mussels. Pearl buttons are made from the shells of these mussels, and the gathering of them for button factories is one of the important industries of Iowa, especially that part of the state bordering on the Mississippi. Extensive experiments dealing with this shortage are now being conducted at the University of Iowa, and Miss Sara Lewis of the department of biology is developing longer mussels. In the course of a few months mussels under her care have developed from one-half to one inch. These mussels will be placed in beds in the Mississippi but will not be ready for harvest for five years. In the meantime the experiments will continue.

Lodge Emblem as Weapon

Owing to the frequency of holdups an ingenious inventor has worked out an idea that may be useful. It is to make lodge pins and other coat-lapel adornments carry charges of red pepper, which will be discharged whenever the wearer meets a "hands-up" operator on a dark night. The mechanism connects the spring to the coat sleeve, so that whenever the arms go above a certain level the pepper will be discharged. Strapangers in street cars would have to be careful.

Practice Kindliness

How easy it is for one benevolent being to diffuse pleasure around him, and how truly it is a kind heart a fountain of gladness, making everything in its vicinity to freshen into smiles!

Old Custom Retained

"Great Tom," Oxford university's famous bell, booms 101 notes every day to proclaim the number of foundation scholars. This custom dates back to Henry VII.

Mature Slowly

Natures that have such heat, and great violent desires and perturbations are not ripe for action till they have passed the meridian of their years.—Bacon.

Many Use Hudson Bridge

The first vehicular bridge over the Hudson south of Albany was recently opened to the public, and it is estimated that about 4,000 automobiles crossed. The bridge spans the river from a little above Peekskill to Bear Mountain park, says the New York World.

Although there was a constant procession of automobiles in both directions, there was little congestion. Guards and special police were stationed on the bridge and at the approaches to regulate traffic. The toll for an automobile and driver was 75 cents and 10 cents additional for each passenger. Pedestrians paid 10 cents each.

Improvement in Spelling

Nine-year-old pupils today spell better than pupils of the same age 45 years ago, according to reports from studies made by Boston University. A survey conducted in 1879 in Norfolk county, Massachusetts, included three words common to those of the recent survey, says School Life. The average spelling scores of nine-year-old pupils on "which," "whose" and "too" in 1879 were 69, 54 and 23, respectively. A spelling contest recently conducted in 78 Massachusetts towns and cities showed that pupils of like age scored 76, 60 and 70, respectively, on the same words.

Manila to Be Great Port

When Manila's great shipping terminal known as pier 7 is completed, the Philippine capital will have one of the finest cargo and passenger terminals in the world. The new pier will be 1,200 feet long and will have latest equipment in electric hoists. Two vessels the size of the President liners can berth at once on each side. The pier is of solid concrete construction and will involve an expenditure of \$3,000,000.

Where Designs Come From

Designs that fascinate the eye of embroidery lovers do not just grow in the mind of the designer or the factory girl who makes them. They are nature's handwork. Growing plants provide the motif for much needlework, whether done by hand or on machines and the natural form assumed by a plant shooting into growth or a snowflake falling upon a black background are but examples of them.

Wife Understands

A husband often thinks that the reception is being given to celebrate the eighteenth anniversary of their wedding, observes H. R. H., but the wife is perfectly clear in her mind that the affair was planned to convince him by sheer force of numbers that at last they simply must have a sun-room built off the living room to the south, with French doors between.—Kansas City Star.

Chinese Dancing Rules

In China, the ballroom floors are divided into squares, each of which bears a sign of a bird, fish, or some other form of nature. Dancers must keep to their own squares and if they fall to do so are stamped with a colored disk. Three failures to keep within the square assigned results in the penalty of leaving the place.

Early "Rubber Stamps"

Rubber stamps were first used for signature facsimile during the Civil war, around 1860. Prior to that time impressions were made in engraving. Wood cuts were made, and then ribbons, similar to the ribbons used on our typewriters, were used, and the name stamped through them.

Honesty

Honesty does not merely mean that you will not lie with your lips or take somebody's money or property. It also means that you will do your very best in everything, do every task to a complete finish, and stamp each job you do with the trademark of your character.—Kiel Kraftsman.

Jap Colony for Brazil

Tokyo.—A Japanese emigration association operating in Brazil has purchased a tract of about 30,000 acres in Sao Paulo state on which it plans to establish a village of Japanese emigrants, according to a cablegram received here from the company's agent in Brazil. The company will assist emigrants to go to Brazil.

Clock Ticks 200 Years

Marysville, Cal.—Mrs. W. H. Crook has in her possession a clock which has ticked off the hours for 200 years, with a cessation only when it was packed and shipped from the East 45 years ago by John Swift, father of the late Supervisor Clarence E. Swift.

Huge Saw Installed

Hoglam, Wash.—Big timber requires big saws, and that's why a shingle mill here has installed the largest circular saw in the world. It is more than twelve feet in diameter and travels at enormous speed.

HAVE WE LOST ART OF "GOING TO BED?"

Here's Writer Thinks So, and States His Case.

The modern world does not understand the art of going to bed comfortably. The proceeding has degenerated into a mere act of domestic routine. We just go to bed. Of the seductive pleasure, the enjoyment of doing that comfortably, we have not the least conception. Bed waits. Nature insists that we shall go to it, either late or early, so we bend to her will and "turn in" perfunctorily. So far as we are concerned, going to bed comfortably counts among the lost arts. And for our ignorance of it we pay forfeit in the shape of insomnia, neurasthenia, slumpness and the various other forms of mental trouble that plague us.

Our forebears, in many ways more skilled in the art of good living than we are, knew the recuperative value of restful sleep, and they coaxed this boon by providing conditions that induced it to visit them—they knew how to go to bed comfortably.

For them there was no stripping of warm clothing to plunge in between ice-cold sheets; no such abominations as hot-water bottles that heat only a small patch of glacial surface and thereby make the rest of it seem colder to the shivering limbs of a would-be sleeper. When they warmed a bed they warmed it to an even temperature all over, making it a delightfully cozy retreat for the weary to creep into.

If a modern house possesses a warming-pan it is hung on the wall as a precious antique that must not be touched lest the shining luster of its polished copper should be dimmed by inquisitive fingers. But our forebears invented warming-pans as accessories to bed comfort and used them to promote it. Filled with glowing embers and wrapped round with a piece of blanket to prevent burning the sheets, the warming pan was thrust into the bed and moved slowly up and down until every inch had been so perfectly heated that when a tired mortal rolled in between the sheets he, or she, would snuggle gratefully down into their caressing embrace and go luxuriously to sleep.

And what jolly beds the old folks had! Not the hard, bone-torturing mattresses stretched upon iron frames that we use, but stout "ticks" stuffed with live goose feathers and pillows filled with down. One lay softly upon them and felt at ease. In an old "four-poster," with its curtains closely drawn, all outside distractions were excluded—one could not help but sleep. Real bed comfort vanished with the four-poster on "tent bedstead," as it was sometimes called. One still finds examples of these preserved in museums. But they have been ejected from homes in which they once held pride of place among the most cherished household goods.—Exchange.

Cupid Pitching

Judge Sumnerfeld was deploring the lightness with which people marry and separate. It's getting to be nothing but a game and a fast-played game at that. One of these days I expect we'll have a matrimonial world series.

"Only the other day a young friend came to me all radiant, crying: 'Betty has accepted me; Betty has accepted me.'"

"The following day I met him again and noting the downcast look asked what was the trouble."

"She changed her mind," he explained. 'I asked her why and she wouldn't give any reason and then she said:

"Tell you what! Propose to me again, and we'll make it the best two out of three."—Los Angeles Times.

Napoleonic Mementoes

Napoleon's birthplace, the house at Ajaccio, Corsica, has been given to the French government by Prince Victor Napoleon, who, in return, has received the Roman sword of honor presented to Napoleon when he was First Consul, and the superb clock by Clodion. These formed part of the personal estate of Napoleon III and were the object of litigation for years between the late Empress Eugenie and the French government. Prince Victor inherited this litigation with the rest of Eugenie's property, but by the present arrangement it is definitely settled. The sword and clock are now in the Decorative Arts museum.

Foe of Telephone Poles

White-headed woodpeckers are blamed for ruining annually hundreds of telephone poles in the state of Washington. They fill the cedar poles full of holes to make storage places for their food, it is claimed.

Why Amber Mouthpieces

It was an early belief that amber had the power of preventing the spread of infection if held in the mouth, and from that belief it became the custom to fit amber mouthpieces to pipes.