

WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS

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WASHINGTON, N. C., SEPT. 4

LET THE NEWS FOLLOW.

Parties leaving town should not fail to let the news follow them daily with the news of Washington fresh and crisp. It will prove a valuable companion, reading in your office or at home.

MUST BE SIGNED.

All articles sent to The News for publication must be signed by the writer, otherwise they will not be published.

STREET IMPROVEMENTS

Our readers should not forget that there is to be an election held in the City of Washington on Tuesday, the 14th of September, for the purpose of deciding whether or not Washington shall issue \$25,000 worth of bonds to improve and better our thoroughfares.

One can hardly read a paper published in North Carolina today without noticing articles favorable to road betterment, both as to towns and country. There seems to be a popular wave all over the State in this direction.

Our people have at last awakened to the necessity of good roads. The citizens realize one fact, that good roads and streets play a conspicuous part towards growth and development in any community.

Good streets in Washington is a question every citizen should favor: all can rally around this measure, irrespective of party affiliations. No creed or faction should creep in, but all political bitterness and dissension can be eliminated and all personal animosities shelved in promoting this necessity.

No citizen of Washington, who has the welfare and future of the city at heart can oppose street improvements. If Washington is to be abreast of the times, if her reputation for progress is to continue in the outside world, the election must be carried—not only by a small margin, but by a good, safe majority. We as a community cannot afford to stagh this measure.

Our record is at stake, our future totters and staggers—how can we say to the other towns of North Carolina, you do what you please as to civic betterment, as for us, we propose to remain in the same old rut as we have for the last quarter of a century. Are we going to do this, are we going to allow a few chronic grumblers to stop us in our onward march? The News don't believe the town will. We, in the past, have always measured up to the line when the time presented itself and this paper anticipates no turning away from past history on September 4.

Some say it will increase taxes. Suppose it does, will not these improvements be the means through which more capital will come to us, more citizens of wealth anxious to share their lot with us, will it not be the avenue on which can be seen energy, push and progress? The benefits we shall derive from good streets will far outweigh the small additional tax entailed. Away with such argument, and let us do our best blood in our veins, dress in a new determination to be something not only as private individuals but as a community. We cannot afford to be behind the times. Every taxpayer should not only vote for street improvements, but should get out and work among those asleep on the fence. Get those to register and then vote for a measure that will be to them a lasting monument.

WHAT DR. COOK'S DISCOVERY OF THE NORTH POLE MEANS.

A strip of land 20,000 square miles in extent, inhabited only by polar animals, has been added to the area of the United States.

For the first time in the history of the world an accurate chart of the globe may now be made. Dr. Cook's discovery will finally settle the question of the earth's ellipticity—whether or not there is a flattening of the surface at the poles.

A vast field for meteorological, tidal, and magnetic research is opened by the discovery of the pole. Observations must be made there before a full comprehension of nature's laws and processes can be had.

The prevalent view among geographers has been that there was no land at the pole. Dr. Cook's effort apparently has disproved this theory. The value of the discovery in terms of money available is nothing. As a scientific achievement its value is incalculable.

And, finally, that the great goal which had defied the efforts of explorers through the centuries and whose pathway was strewn with the bones of the most intrepid travelers of all the great nations of the world should be first reached by an American is a triumph that will be patriotically acclaimed from the St. Lawrence to the Rio-Grande, and from ocean to ocean.

One of the most touching sights in the world is to see a father and mother laboriously and patiently and with great sacrifice sending a son or daughter through school or college, while they deny themselves of the comforts and pleasures of life to discharge the obligation which they feel themselves owing to the child. How often the great usefulness of the parents is unappreciated by the boy or girl! John frequently comes home a slave to cigarettes or baseball, and in no condition to either make a living for himself or pay the father back his advancements. Malinda, while possessing some vague ideas about botany and well-defined convictions touching basketball and frills and fineries of dress, is short on practical knowledge of life and duty toward parents.

That is a splendid and pathetic attribute of the human soul which leads a parent to observe: "I have nothing to leave my son but an education—this I mean to give him." He may never realize the worth of that priceless heritage. It should be more than gold to him. If he fails to take advantage of its value, the loss is his own. The parents' obligation is discharged in affording him the chance to equip himself for life's stern battle, where men run over and trample each other in the melee.

The way is broad. To some fortunate souls the path is lined with roses, while to others the trail must be blazed out with one's own axe, through the wood.

We all have power within ourselves to attain what we would. There is no such thing as luck or fate in these days of pluck, determination, and perseverance. In the will we can work and accomplish, chaining the very wheels of chance.

Glorious be the opportunities of youth.—Danbury Reporter.

ODDITIES IN THE DAY'S NEWS.

A pine stump 6 feet 7 inches through is a curiosity on a piece of land in Phillips, Maine. Augustus Vining says that his father and uncle felled the tree, sawed and bolted the butt of it and shaved 25,000 shingles and 1,000 feet of boards from it.

Because the fish are biting good the inhabitants of Venice, Madison, and Granite City, Ill., are so wrapped up in the gentle pastime that they refuse to be lured from the cool banks of the streams to the heat of the furnaces. Offers of \$6 a day each do not tempt the workmen. Consequently the mills are at a standstill.

MUCH IN LITTLE.

Smoking was a penal offense at one time in Turkey. Last year about 30,000 persons visited the birthplace of Shakespeare. It is said there are 1,000,000 Egyptians who can neither read nor write. Only 20 per cent of the inhabitants of Sicily are able to read and write. Daufusius has an electric tramway the daily receipts of which average \$176. Sketching in public places is prohibited by the police regulations of London. The Marconi system has been installed on more than 200 mercantile vessels. There are "blind spots" on the tongue which are insensible to certain flavors. The first pocket timepieces were called "Nuremberg eggs," after the city of their origin. Whiteboards are being substituted for blackboards in some of the English schools. Spanish women have the smallest feet, but those of the United States are the best shod. English agricultural societies have started a sparrow crusade. Bounties are paid for birds and eggs. The tungsten incandescent lamp is the first artificial light by which all colors can be distinguished. Miss Gertrude E. Currier, of Bradford, Pa., is said to be the first negro girl to become a dentist in the Eastern States. France has followed the lead of the United States in the establishment of a laboratory for the investigation of mine accidents. It has been placed at Lievin. The system of building embankments by running trains of loaded cars on rails hung from a suspension cable above the line of the embankment is being used with great success. What rice is to China and wheat to the United States corn is to Mexico. Good prices for hemp and good crops of corn mean much to Yucatan, and to the American merchants and importers who deal with Yucatan it means that very soon increased quantities of cement and lumber will be needed for construction and highway purposes.

WHEN WATERS RAN COLD

The month was January, and the winter was a blizzard cold one. We were living in Waterloo, Iowa, then, and father was driving a dray. Frank was only four years old at the time, yet some of the circumstances I am about to relate fastened themselves indelibly on my memory, and furnish a setting of remembrance round which the story of father's adventure, as I have often heard him describe it, gathered until it became one distinct whole.

THE BOY AND THE GIRL.

Father's dray was one of those two-wheeled vehicles still to be seen in the Eastern cities of our country, but now very rare in the West. "Old Frank," father's trusty dray-horse, was a large bay, intelligent, faithful and obedient.

The day was one of the coldest of that winter. The sky was cloudless, and a strong gale blew from the north-west. So piercingly cold was the day that no other legions had ventured out, and few pedestrians were to be seen.

Father was kept very busy throughout the forenoon. Finally but a single job remained to be done before Old Frank could be put in the barn and father go to a belated dinner. Some one wanted a job of ice.

The place where father went for his load was deserted by the ice-harvesters. The river here stretched away for a mile or two to the northwest, and down this stretch the wind, unimpeded, seemed almost to double its speed and keenness.

The bank sloped gently down to the edge of the water. Here father backed up his dray to within a few feet of the ice, and left his horse standing, while he prepared to cut and load the ice. It was but a few inches thick, where he began splitting off cakes or it with his axe.

He was making rapid headway with his work, and had secured and loaded nearly as much as he wanted, when a considerably larger piece split off than he had anticipated, including the portion on which he stood. Taken by surprise, he was precipitated into the water, which at this point was ten feet or more in depth, with a strong current.

He was clothed to the point of clumsiness. He wore a heavy overcoat, with a strap or belt tied round it, a heavy cap, and a pair of thick sheep-skin mittens.

He came up somewhat further out in the stream than where he had gone down, and near thinner ice. He soon succeeded in throwing his hands over the edge of the thin ice, his mittens freezing fast instantly.

Then he found that he could maintain himself in this position for an indefinite period, although the strength of the current constantly drew his legs down-stream and up under the ice to which he was clinging.

To have clung thus until help could arrive would have been a comparatively easy matter under ordinary circumstances.

But although he was in plain sight of the flouring mills on each side of the river, and within possible halting distance of the bridge which spanned the river below the dam, and in sight of perhaps a dozen houses, no person was visible. The small chance of any one appearing on this bitterly cold day was even smaller at this particular time as people generally were at their midday meal.

Several times, however, in the next few desperate moments did the splintering ice break his hold, and each time he was fortunate enough to get a new hold before being drawn under. While working thus he drew nearer, partly by design, to the river-bank, where the faithful old dray-horse was standing.

At last an inspiration seized him, and knowing how well the horse obeyed his least word, he called to Old Frank to back up. The old horse backed a few steps in a slow and deliberate manner. Father watched him with keen anxiety, lest he back too far, and dray, horse and all be precipitated into the icy stream. But his fears were groundless, for when the dray was as near the edge of the ice as father dared risk having it come, the horse stopped at a word of command.

So exhausted and chilled was he by this time that with the upper portion of his body resting over the edge of the solid ice and his hands holding to the wheel, he would scarcely have had power to draw himself out of the water. But taking as firm a grasp of the wheel as possible, he chirruped for the horse to go ahead, and again the animal responded, and father was dragged from his icy bath.

Summoning all his strength, and will-power, he succeeded in gaining his feet. Knowing that he must get home at once, and that if possible he must walk rather than ride, in order to avoid being utterly chilled and seriously frozen, he started the horse homeward and staggered along as best he could. I was at home, and happened to be anxiously peering out of the window in the hope of seeing father.

Up the street a block or two was Old Frank, coming home with the dray, and on the sidewalk came a man whom, in spite of his condition, I recognized as father. His clothing was frozen stiff, while from all over him hung icicles, literally by the hundred. He reached the house, and soon made a change of apparel. Remarkable as it may seem, he was not seriously frozen anywhere, nor did he suffer any particular inconvenience afterward as a result of his involuntary and somewhat prolonged plunge-bath.—D. W. McFERN.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

A man who feels his oats doesn't necessarily have horse sense. Occasionally a girl of the period brings a fast young man to full stop. A minister of the right sort is an expert condenser of the milk of human kindness.

WHEN WATERS RAN COLD

It makes you dull, stupid, peevish, sickly,—this dust, 'tis terrible. Better build in Washington Park, where 'tis different.

LOOK OUT! LOOK OUT! LOOK OUT!

The entire wharf property between the Buoy-yard and the extreme East end of town is owned by 14 people or companies, and excepting that I have for sale you can't buy an inch of it.

This I have to sell in the center of business; it's most desirably located, it's very valuable, and you in any business, who in any way can utilize this property should grasp and grasp quick. If you don't you will have to every few years pay more rent, or look out for another property.

Look to the future. If you study you will decide that the free inland water route will be granted us, and 'twill make every piece of water-front property in Washington worth double and triple the price of today.

Fortune goes to the man who looks and invests in real estate for its future. See me at once and secure a piece of this valuable water front. Will sell from 20 to 30 feet fronting on Water street. Come, get a piece now while you can, or later you'll regret. Only a little cash and long time notes required.

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