

FREAK NEWS ITEMS.

Odd and Curious Happening Through out the Country.

Eighteen hundred sheep, owned by a resident of Stanfield, Ore., contracted pneumonia and died while being driven in for wintering to a range on Salmon river near Lewiston, Idaho.

Geraldine Henrietta Peterson, two and one-half years old, gave a piano recital in Portland, Ore., on March 16. On the programme were "Der Erste Waltz," by Biederman, and "Bluettes," by Grieg.

Thirty-six rabbits and chickens were lost and two buildings were burned in Columbus, O., when a rabbit with his fur on fire ran into his nest. The rabbit caught fire when near an oil stove that exploded.

Trunch, a small agricultural village in the north of England, has sent all its men, 65 out of a population of 300 to the front, which is said to be a higher per centage than any other town in Great Britain can boast.

Every man in Coram, Cal., will hold a city office after the coming municipal election in April. Coram, once a populous mining camp, is now the smallest incorporated city in the state, with a population of 24, only 9 of whom are men.

May 1 will be bargain day for bachelors in New Brunswick, N. J. City Clerk McLaughlin has announced that on that day he will pay the license fees for all those who wish to be married, taking the money out of his own pocket. McLaughlin is a bachelor.

Policeman Edward Maher, of Chicago, tripped and fell down a flight of steps, picked himself up, brushed his clothes and walked a square to the station. Later it was found that his right leg had been broken above the knee and his left leg fractured at the ankle.

Realizing that he was gradually dying Karl Kellams, of Evansville, Ind., three days before his death, asked his wife to buy a black mourning dress and veil so that he could see her as she would appear at his funeral. To satisfy him, Mrs. Kellams dressed in mourning and stood at his bedside.

"I love you and I want to get married, but I'm too busy," wrote John F. Higgins, a business man of Star City, W. Va., to Miss Ina Birt, of Billings, Mont. "Well, this is leap year and I'll go to you," Miss Birt wrote back. So said, so done. The girl traveled 2,000 miles and the couple were recently married.

Mrs. Sid Collins who came from Australia to erect a monument over the grave of her husband at Waterloo, Ia., swore out a warrant for his arrest instead, having learned that he was not dead but had been living with another woman somewhere in Indiana. Mrs. Collins was on her way to the United States when she received a letter, stating that her husband had died and had been buried at Waterloo.

William Handaber, 26 years old, of Wilmington, Del., is charged with the murder of Percy G. Mattson, at whose funeral he officiated as a pallbearer. His arrest followed a statement to the police by Mrs. Mattson who said Handaber admitted that he had attacked her husband, carried his unconscious form to a river and held the head submerged until he was sure his victim was dead. Handaber denies the murder.

Veterinarians were unable to diagnose the illness that recently resulted in the death of a cow owned by T. W. Withrow, a farmer living near Beckley, W. Va., so a post-mortem examination was made. Enough nails, tacks, pieces of wire, and odds and ends were found in the animal's stomach to start a small hardware store. It was believed that the junk was collected while the cow foraged in the community garbage pile.

The Summit Lake school district near Olympia, Wash., has registered 100 per cent in attendance for several months. There's a reason. The district has only three pupils, all in one family. The teacher is paid \$75 a month. The mother of the three pupils is president of the Board of Education, the father is secretary of the Board, and the schoolteacher lives with the same family. During a recent cold spell school was held in the parlor of the pupil's home.

"He is entirely too nice. I know he is a model husband. He has no bad habits and he always stays at home nights. He treats me just beautifully. He smiles and kisses me whenever I say anything mean and nasty. I simply can't stand it. If he would bully me or threaten to abuse me I would like him far better." So testified a 17-year-old bride the other day in the Hamilton county (O.) Domestic Relations court when she was called to explain why she had run away from her husband. The young man admitted that he could not say a harsh word to her. Whereupon the probation officer advised him to bully his wife for a while and all the trouble would end. He promised to try, and the bride said she would give him another chance.

PERSHING HOLDS RECORD.

Was Promoted by Roosevelt Over the Heads of 862 Officers.

Brig. Gen. John J. Pershing, who is in command of the American expedition into Mexico, has had a brilliant career. Ever since he came out of West Point in 1886 as senior cadet captain, the highest honor in Uncle Sam's military academy, he has been a man marked for distinction.

Gen. Pershing was ten years in the Southwest, fighting Geronimo and his Apaches. He was in the Spanish-American war with a negro regiment and was called by his colonel the bravest and coolest man under fire he had ever seen. Moreover, he accomplished the remarkably difficult task of subjugating the Moros in the Philippines.

It was for all of these things, but chiefly for his work in the Philippines, that President Roosevelt, in September, 1906, promoted the then Capt. Pershing to the rank of brigadier general, jumping him over the heads of 862 other officers—the record jump in the history of the United States army.

Gen. Pershing's first duty after graduating from West Point was to plunge into the campaigns that destroyed the power of Geronimo and opened the Southwest to a tardy civilization. For ten years he engaged in these desperate clashes in the department of Arizona.

His next post was back at West Point as tactical officer. But in 1898 he rejoined his regiment, the Tenth cavalry at his own request, and went to the Spanish war. He was promoted for gallantry at the battle of El Caney.

In 1899 he was assigned to duty in the Philippines. There he destroyed 40 forts of the Moros and placed the island of Mindanao under subjection, with a loss of only two of his soldiers. Later he was appointed military governor of the island.—Ex.

Disguise Failed.

Houston, Texas, March 28.—When a false mustache, with fierce bristling points, worked loose on the upper lip of John Homer, an applicant for enlistment at the local United States Marine Corps recruiting station, it was discovered that Homer was a runaway, 17 years of age, and had hit upon the mustache disguise to add age and dignity to his appearance.

But "cruel" Sergeant Robinson of the Marines shattered the boy's romance with the announcement that he'd have to wait until he was 21, or else get parents' consent, and now young Homer is inclined to the belief that there is little efficiency in the borrowed movie plot when applied to life's stern realities.

"I'll come back some day with a real mustache of my own and then you'll be glad to accept me as one of Uncle Sam's brave Marines," were Homer's parting words.

Villa Knew.

Decatur, Illa., March 28.—After waiting on the Mexican border for three years and never once seeing the active service his heart longed for, a former private of the 13th U. S. Cavalry was recently accepted for enlistment in the United States Marine Corps.

"I have been waiting down there on the border expecting trouble to break out," he told Sergeant Frank E. English, in charge of the local Marine Corps recruiting station, "and I began to think that Villa would never start anything. And now a day or two after I'm discharged, my old outfit is in the very thick of it."

"Villa wouldn't start anything so long as you were there," English comforted the ex-trooper. "But when he heard that you had been 'paid off' he knew that the psychological moment had arrived and that it was safe to commence hostilities."

Twin Calves.

L. Strauss has a cow with new twin calves, and J. S. Eubanks has a cow with twin calves a few weeks old. This is said to be quite unusual.—Pee Dee Advocate.

It seems that this freak of nature is about to pass out of the unusual class. Hattie McCall, colored, who lives in the upper edge of Marlboro, near Gibson, has a fine Jersey cow with twin male calves, now about three months old and doing well. This The Advocate failed to get. And that's not all. Last Friday a fine cow belonging to our popular chief of police, Mr. J. C. Baldwin, presented him with twin calves. Next.—Piedmont Dispatch.

Jack Allen, brother of Sidna Allen and Floyd Allen, famous leaders of the gang that assassinated officials of Carroll county court, was killed Saturday at the home of Mrs. Birt Martin, seven miles from Mt. Airy, N. C. Will MacCraw, who was with Allen and who disappeared immediately after the shot was heard, is believed to have committed the crime. MacCraw has been arrested.

TAR HEEL TOPICS.

Happenings Throughout North Carolina Told in Brief.

Goldsbore, April 1.—A little child aged five years, of Goldsbore, was severely burned last week and little hope is now entertained for his recovery. The mother had poured some boiling water into a tub in the dining room, and in playing around the room the child fell backwards into the tub of water and before being rescued its body from the back of the neck down, hands and arms, were almost cooked. A report today says blood poison has set in.

Mr. W. F. Ellington, who lives in the Zion section of Lee county, recently cut a poplar tree, on his place, from which he sawed three cuts which measured, all told, 50 feet in length. Above these cuts the tree measured 40 inches in diameter. Mr. Ellington got 3,040 feet of veneering from the tree which brought him \$60.80.

Friday afternoon near Farmville in Greene county a young negro named Black, about 18 years old, committed a criminal assault on a seven year old white girl named Tyson. The girl's screams brought her mother to the rescue when the negro knocked the mother unconscious and escaped. The alarm was given and the sheriff with a posse was soon hunting the negro. They located him hiding in the woods. Black fired on the posse, hit Deputy Sugg in the legs and ran. The posse opened fire and hit the negro three times. The doctors say the little girl is in a serious condition, but is expected to recover.

During the closing exercises of school at Smith's school house, nine miles east of Lumberton Friday night William Nance, who is said to have been badly intoxicated, became angered when refused the loan of money to bid on articles offered for sale, and began shooting a pistol in the crowd with the result that one man, one married and two single ladies, were wounded. The man and the two single ladies are in a hospital at Lumberton one of the ladies being seriously injured. The man was held under guard until Sheriff Lewis and his deputies arrived on the scene and carried him to jail.

Early one morning last week the 13-year-old son of Mrs. J. B. Thompson of Greensboro was striking a match to light a fire in his mother's kitchen stove when he was struck by a bolt of lightning which tore into shreds the felt slippers he wore and hurled him over the stove to the other side of the room, where he lay for a time. He was not seriously hurt and there was no other person of consequence.

In a report made last week by the grand jury of Mecklenburg county the Court says "we find immorality and vicious practices existing around or within hotels or lodging houses of our county. The grand jury recommends that the Charlotte aldermen and the Mecklenburg commissioners co-operate in building a home for fallen women."

Cards have been issued for the marriage of Miss Katharine Kitchin, daughter of Mr. Lewis B. Suiter, the ceremony to take place in the Baptist church at Scotland Neck April 12th. The bride is the daughter of Congressman and Mrs. Claude Kitchin.

A Washington dispatch says: A. W. McLean, of Lumberton, said tonight that he would be glad to have the Democratic National committee place made vacant by the resignation of Secretary of the Navy Daniels, provided he can get it without entering into a contest for it. "I would be very glad to have the place," said Mr. McLean, "provided the Democratic party desires to honor me with this high place. I do not care, however, to enter into a contest for the position."

Mr. E. M. Johnson delivered an address at the closing exercises of the Marietta colored school Robeson county recently. For making this speech Mr. Johnson received 173 hen eggs. Each pupil was requested to bring one egg to pay the speaker. The average attendance for the term was 118.

Fair View Farm kannels, the country estate of W. G. Brokaw, located seven miles from High Point in Randolph county, has been sold. The deal was closed Friday by local agents, the purchaser being named as a "syndicate." The price paid was not stated, although it is said to be around \$500,000. The estate is said to be one of the finest in the South. There are 2,500 acres and a mansion which is said to have cost \$250,000. It contains a deer park with thirty head of deer and as many elk.

Notice of criminal and civil actions were Friday served on the News and Observer Publishing Company, of which Secretary of the Navy Daniels is president and Edward E. Britton editor, by former United States Senator Marion Butler, for alleged libel contained in a published letter of former Judge Ewart, of Hendersonville, N. C. The News and Observer and Editor Britton say they will not retract or apologize.

Essex Womble, of Chatham county, a negro 72 years old, committed suicide Wednesday afternoon by hanging himself with a short piece of rope fastened to a rafter in his barn. The old man lived within 200 yards of the Moore and Chatham line about three miles west of Goldston. His health had been bad for several years, and his mind was off at times. He bought the rope with which he hung himself Tuesday morning from a store in the neighborhood, "five cents worth is a mighty little rope to get," the merchant remarked, and the negro said, "I have another piece to put with it," and about five hours after his body was found hanging in the barn.

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Buy your high grade flour, the cream of the mills, here and save money through our low price for quality.

Buy your salt and smoked meats here. They are cured by the latest scientific methods, and therefore are firm and entirely without waste. No advance in price—and another saving.

Buy your beans, peas, rice, etc. here. They are carefully culled and free from imperfections, of the most famous varieties, and retailing at very low prices.

Buy tea, coffee, sugar and spices here. They, too, are extra quality articles sold at popular prices, thereby saving you something on every purchase.

Buy your canned and bottled goods here. They are put up from the choicest of fruits, are absolutely the best obtainable, go farther than ordinary fruits, and hence again you save.

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We are emphasizing the merit of but a few of our leaders, but as a matter of fact our entire stock is on exactly the same basis—the highest grades of goods at the lowest prevailing prices. And every housewife knows that "quality" goods last longer than inferior ones.

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Laurinburg, North Carolina

Steers and Fortunes

An uneducated boy of Wake County began after the war to save his nickels to buy a steer. He died a few years ago leaving an estate worth \$100,000.00. At first he was the butt of witticisms, but he died the giant of his community. He accomplished this by saving his nickels.

If you hope to attain unto business recognition, you must save your money. Who will trust you with much if you will not keep a little? The best way to save, is to put it in a bank; A good place for you to bank is here.

Large and small accounts welcomed.

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Remember that I buy no seed. I grow all that I offer for sale, and when you buy seed from me, you get quality seed on which no middleman has secured a profit.

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