

Native Yadkin Man Home After Long Absence



HENEY L. YORK

Henry L. York, a native of Boonville, Yadkin county, who now resides in Free Water, Ore., is here on a visit with his nephew, H. Glenn York, and Mrs. York, at their home on Gwyn avenue.

Mr. York, who is 67, left for the west when he was about twenty years old, to join an older brother on a ranch there and has returned to North Carolina only three times, his last visit being in 1908. This is his first visit to Elkin. He states that so many changes have taken place since he left North Carolina in 1892 that he is unable to recognize any of the places familiar to his childhood and young manhood. He was born on the farm known as the "Deck Reece" place, near Boonville, a son of William York, a native of Rockford, Surry county, and Mrs. Mary Jane Myers York. His parents moved from Yadkin county to Pine Ridge, near Mount Airy, when he was about six years old. Mr. York has immediate relatives in Lexington, Thomasville and other Piedmont North Carolina towns whom he will visit while on his first vacation in many, many years.

If it's western thrillers—stories of adventure of any sort that you delight to hear—then Mr. York is one to seek for entertainment. His actual experiences would fill a volume of the size of "Gone With the Wind."

"Out Where the West Begins" whether it be in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana or the Dakotas—strange things with which Mr. York is keenly familiar have taken place since he deserted Tarheelia for what was then the Wild West in actuality. And if it, perchance, should be far-away Alaska that you are more vitally interested in hearing about, then he is one prepared to vividly picture its beauty, its contrasts; its climatic extremes.

And what is more, York can recite story after story of his own adventures in that country, that sound weirdly strange to the listener here in North Carolina.

The scene of one of the most thrilling adventures in the memory of York was in an isolated spot in Alaska, far from human habitation, where there are six months day and six months night. The story he relates of this adventure is that a stranger—a young fellow—who came into a shop he was operating in an Oregon town, seeking a job, made a proposal to him, offering him \$3,000 if he would go to a place which he designated in Alaska and recover for him 83 pounds of gold nuggets with a value of \$45,000, which, while engaged in mining, he had buried in the bottom of a deep lake.

He offered an extra \$600 for expenses of the trip.

"I dare not return for the nuggets in person," the miner said, "for there is a bounty upon my head." In other words, he admitted that he had put his part-

ner in the mining operation to death and dared not return to claim his treasure.

The proposition did not sound so unattractive in Oregon as it looked after York reached his destination without delay, with the aid of a correct map. He traveled from Skagway to White Horse, Alaska, by rail, then the remaining 43 miles on foot, making two trips. The lake in whose bed the treasured nuggets were buried wrapped securely in a heavy government blanket, was of far greater depth than in the season when the gold was hidden. The waters, icy cold, were up to his chin as he ventured into the depths, although it was in June.

But he promptly found and recovered the treasure—and set sail for home. His arrival home brought the unexpected information that the ex-miner and owner of the valuable nuggets had imbibed too freely of strong drink during the absence of York and had died in a spree of drunkenness. Therefore the treasure was the actual property of York. There was no other to claim it.

It was a quick way to earn a neat nest egg of \$45,000—but who could claim that it was an easy route to fortune?

Incidentally, he was quizzed sharply by railway men on the trips between Skagway and White Horse, concerning his mission. He told them he was seeking the whereabouts of an outlaw, which answer was sufficient and he was proffered a pass free of charge over the road.

York, while boosting the merits of the state he has so long called home frankly admits that North Carolina reigns supreme in the sphere of beautiful women. No place in his extensive travels has he observed women who would in any measure compare in beauty, modesty and the finer graces with the feminine population of North Carolina. "And I am a close observer," he added.

The "gentleman from Oregon" has been engaged in the fruit business and more recently in contracting. He has formerly been interested in extensive oil deposits, ranching, etc.

LITTLE ELKIN

Miss Nellie Laster, of Roaring River, spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Laster.

Mr. John Love, of Cornelius, spent the week-end with relatives and friends here.

Mr. C. E. Walls is confined to his home with influenza. His many friends wish for him a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. Preston Byrd and children, of Jonesville, spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Will Settle.

Prayer service was held Sunday night at the home of Mrs. Lillah Luffman.

Mr. and Mrs. George H. Sale and daughter, Barbara Jean, of Ronda, spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Key.

Pleasant Ridge

Due to bad weather and sickness, the Sunday school attendance fell to 72.

Rev. Frank Peeler filled his regular appointment Sunday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. Colonel Harris, of near Pilot Mountain, visited Mr. Harris' parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Harris, Sunday.

Among those on our sick list this week are Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Luffman and Mr. Edgar Carter.

Mr. and Mrs. Odell Walsh and daughter, Louise, and Miss Ruth Taylor, of Winston-Salem, visited Mr. Walsh's parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Walsh, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Royall, of Elkin, visited Mr. and Mrs. Lester Luffman Sunday night.

TO HOLD FOOD LEADER SCHOOL JANUARY 30th

Miss Sallie Brooks, assistant extension specialist in food and nutrition, will hold a Food Leaders school in the office of the home demonstration agent in Dobson, Tuesday, January 30, at 10 a.m.

Miss Brooks will discuss the garden and will assist the leaders in making garden planting schedules and in planning the family food supply for the year. Demonstrations will be given in making vegetable salads.

The presidents and food and garden leaders of all clubs in the county are asked to be present.

CHANGING

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