POLK COUNTY NEWS, TRYON, N. C.

And the set of the set of the



Folk who live in Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minn., know how to extract a lot of pleasure out of winter conditions. These photographs show horse racing on the ice; Bob Gray's motor ice boat making a turn at 70 miles an hour, and three daring girls who have hitched their toboggan to a fleet ice yacht.

Once Owned the Greatest Mine

Dapper Benny Hit Upon Six **Claims That Now Produce** \$1,000,000 a Month.

LADY LUCK TURNS HER BACK

Benny, Saved by Philosophical Slant, Settled Down to Simple Life-Heart Stops Beating While Saying a Prayer.

Luck smiles on this man and then deserts him. What do you think of his philosophy?

Timmons, Ont .- The gang in the mining around Cobalt. corner of the bar at Cobalt Camp was playing seven-up under a smelly oil luck. He had a hunch that Beuny's lamp. Jack McMahon was mopping luck had turned after seven years of the bar and mentally calling it a bad failure. Benny showed his samples. and dapper Benny Hollinger, the gen- | Benny to visit Cobalt-the thing to do | strike the second time. The whole tleman adventurer, was pushed in by the north wind.

most lost in low-lying spruce swamps. They staked twelve claims. Then they tossed a coin to decide which should take the six east and which the six west claims. Benny got the western ones.

Benny found a prospector's forge, overgrown with dank grass, on his land. Someone had given up there, years before. By- the side of those claims ran the portage trail, over which hundreds had passed. No one had found gold there, but you never knew your luck till you tried.

The dapper adventurer began digging, and he found quartz veined with what looked like gold. He filled a pack full, and started Cobalt way. Days later when he reached the edge of Cobalt he met Alphonse Pare, mining engineer, and nephew of the Timmons Brothers, former storekeepers, who had made a little money silver

Pare stopped Benny and asked what

word. But would Benny like to join the syndicate? He would be given some cash, and 50,000 shares-a twelfth interest-valued at \$3.50 a share.

Benny had dealt in shares before. He preferred all cash, but perhaps Jack McMahon might wish a say-so. Jack knew a nice piece of bar goods when he saw it, but little of gold mines. He decided that Benny should make the decision. Benny said, "all Benny gave half of it to Mccash." Mahon.

The syndicate eventually acquired Gillie's claims, but they couldn't budge Barney McEnaney. "Sure, it was Benny's gift, wasn't it? And its bad luck to give away a present, and that's what your asking me to do."

Begin the Mining.

Work began at the Hollinger mines. Benny went to Point Alexander, on the upper reaches of the Ottawa river, and took his parents from there to Pembroke, a pleasant little town that had grown from a trading post. Benny had always loved Nellie Hill; now he could afford to marry her. She had faithfully waited while he made his stake. They visited Toronto and other, cities, but the two decided that Pembroke was a friendly place, so they returned there.

Word came that the Hollinger mine -as they called the Porcupine claims -had become a bonanza. So Benny

ROWIE RA SENATOR PARKER ALONE VOTES AGAINST THE GENERAL REVENUE BILL BIL SUSE PASSES GRIST Provides For Popular Vote on \$2,000, 000 Bond Issue for Ex-Service Men.

Raleigh.

Voting down an amendment proposing a referendum to the people at the next general election, the senate passed the Bowie railroad bill on its third reading and the measure will be ratified and become law. It provides for \$10,000.000 for the construction of a trunk line railroad through the extreme northwestern counties and, in addition, for the participation of the state to the extent of 49 per cent of the cost of the building of five branch railroads in the northwestern portion of the state.

Shorn of all amendments which members of the senate sought to attach to the general revenue bill, the measure passed its second reading in the upper house by a vote of 47 to 1. The single negative vote was by Senator Parker, of Wayne, who stated that his vote was ' a protest over the defeat of the Varser amendment," which would have destroyed the exemption from taxation of stock in foreign corporations held in this state.

Disposing of the first of four special orders the house passed on second reading the Grist bill which would provide aid for ex-service men of the world war towards the owning and establishments of homes by a vote of 91 to 13.

The bill would provide a vote of the people on the issuance of \$2,000,000 in bonds from which sum derived exservice men would be entitled to loans. after proper investigation, to an amount not to exceed \$3,000 on interest of six per cent.

The bill was explained by Representative Grist, and after Representative Pruden, of Chowan county, opposed ment, it will be received in the instituthe bill, Representative Connor of Wil-

State's Fire Loss in January. North Carolina's fire loss in January was \$828,579, as compared with \$1,080,-325 for the corresponding month of 1922, according to the official report of Stacey W. Wade, state insurance commissioner, made public. The total number of fires was 236 against 217 in January, 1922. "The value of property immediately

at risk by fire last month was \$3,878,-875 with insurance aggregating \$2,382,-356," it was stated.

"Of the 236 fires reported, 141 were in dwellings, the total loss being but \$92,395, with values at \$626,579 and having insurance of \$373,895.

"The bulk of the big fire loss for January came from only 22 towns and county fires, amounting to \$780,555; the other 214 fires totaling \$48,024.

"Defective flues and shingle roofs caused 109 fires, with origins undetermined given as 49. With the exception of Fayetteville, Raleigh, Wilmington, Winston-Salem, Durham, Salisbury, Reidsville and Kinston, no other of the larger towns had as much as \$5,000 damage in a single fire. "The total loss for Greensboro was

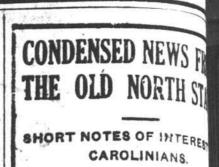
\$3,125; Asheville, \$1,888; Charlotte. \$3,635; Elizabeth City, \$3,045; New Bern, \$2,040; Monroe, \$130; High Point, \$906; Hickory, 105; Gastonia, \$56; Rocky Mount, \$20; Lexington, \$25; and Washington, \$10.

"The January fire loss for the United States and Canada is computed to have been \$36,614,850 as compared with \$38,663,000 for January, 1922. "The following towns in North Car-

olina reporting no fires, or no damage from fires, are placed on the department's honor roll: Bessemer City, Forest City, Pinehurst, Concord, Bethel, Pinetops, Mt. Olive, Carthage, Graham, Beaufort, Kernersville, Farmville and Huntersville."

Crippled Children to be Examined. The inauguration of a systematic examination of approximately 658 crippled children in North Carolina by the clinic of the Orthopedic hospital, at Gastonia, under the direction of Dr. Oscar Miller, superintendent, was announced by Miss Emeth Tuttle, of the bureau of child welfare.

Dr. Miller first is taking twelve counties west of Raleigh and will examine cripple children in these as rapidly as possible. Fifteen children in Cabarrus and sixteen in Gaston already have been summoned to appear at the clinic through letters written parents or guardians by hospital authorities. Whenever it is found a child may be relieved through treattion as soon as possible. The names and addresses of the cripples were obtained in a recent census conducted by the bureau of child welfare. Miss Tuttle stated that she did not believe the 658 cripples reported were one-third of the actual number in the state, but with present accommodations at the orthopedic hospital, the list now available will consume three years of the institution officials' time. She is writing county superintendents of public welfare to assist in securing further names and addresses of cripples and in seeing that children summoned are carried to the clinic for examination.



Orford.-The, three auction houses of Oxford have sold . pounds of tobacco this season average of \$27.72. It is expect the total for the season will very reach nine million pounds Dunn.-Duncan J. Parker Harnett county's oldest and most inent citizens, died at his home Dunn following an extended : His widow, who is also serione and several children survive

Greensboro.-A \$15,000.000 gage deed of trust was filed in here of the Guilford county . of deeds from the Armour F. Company to the Chase National of New York and George A r trustees.

Hertford .- T. B. Lockhart, and fireman on Norfolk Southern train No. 80 from Marsden, N. Berkley, Va., was instantly kill cars rolling down grade on the. track while the engineer and for were switching cars from the track.

Dunn .- For the first time since cotton sold on the Dunn marke thirty cents the pound. Approvi ly twenty-five thousand bales w ton have been sold on the Dunn ket from last year's crop and h tinues to come in at the rate of twenty-five bales each day.

Kinston .- Two instead of one school building will be erected this spring to care for the orm from existing buildings, according new plans of the board of true They will be of modern construand well equipped, according to g officials.

Charlotte .- Fire discovered 'br ployes of the Charlotte Waste pany, on West First street, that nated from sparks from one of cleaning machines in the building from \$20,000 to \$25,000 damage building and stock of the concen fore it was brought under contra

Winston-Salem .- Election of di clinics and the reading of papers tured the closing session of the Se District Dental society. Dr. C.C. ger, of Charlotte, was elected a Lent; Dr. G. C. Bernard, of Kannay vice president; Dr. J. M. Holland Statesville, secretary and treas While invitations were exten Soth Charlotte and Statesville. place of meeting next year wa with the executive committee. Durham .--- Moses Levy, a local chant, was placed under arrest charge of attempted arson, gro wyt of a fire which occurred at store one night last week. He was leased under \$2,000 bond. Wilmington.-Truck growers New Hanover county will realize profit of \$500,000 on their s crops, according to estimates by J. T. Herring, county farm as after a careful survey of the situr at the request of the railroads. Washington. - The Washing Chamber of Commerce will hold annual banquet on the evening March 5, according to arrangem completed by a comimttee of the ganization. J. H. Cowan, may Wilmington, will be the print speaker. Greensboro .- . The suit of Mrs. Morgan against the city of B Point for \$25,000. because of death of her five year-old son June, 1921, who fell from a br over a stream there, was comprom in Guilford Superior court for \$ Asheville .-- G. W. Justice has appointed forest warden of Hen son county, heading a force of men. The appointment was made the county board of commission following conference with C. H. B rage, of this city, Asheville .- The action of pian do es men, Hume Haris and Sam Jus in searching the apartments of Ethel Wilbanks for whiskey belie to have been stored there in 1920 approved by a Superior court F when it brought in a verdict in fat of the defendants. Kinston .- Prohibition officers raided a monster still at Wyse battleground. The plant was Jones' county soil near the Let line. It was in a building 25 by feet, apparently built for the purpe Woods surrounded the distillery. kettle was of 200 gallons capac Six thousand gallons of mash w found. Ahoskie .- Superintendent of Ros F. G. Hines has begun graveling first section of roads to be com in the county under the half mill dollar bond issue voted 18 mon ago. The Harrellsville-Cofield I reading to the county seat, will surfaced with the best available gr el. Several carloads have alre arrived at Cofield, and the road for has begun to spread it on. Winston-Salem .- Fire was discor ed here in the yards of the S Bound railroad as a result of why more than a dozen freight cars practically destroyed, one car be loaded with coal being entirely of Kinston .--- Nine arrests have

"'Lo everybody-luck to you all,' he shouted, as he peeled his mackinaw off and tossed it on the threelegged chair.

"Drinks for the gentlemen, Jack,' he ordered, stepping over to the Empire stove to thaw out.

Jack walked from behind the bar and poured three fingers for each card player. Fifteen drinks had to come from each quart, and he preferred to portion the liquid himself. But as for Benny, well, any one could see with half an eye that he was a gentleman, and therefore wouldn't take more than two fingers. So the bottle was placed beside a glass on the bar, and Jack said in his ingratiating manner, "Step up and pour for yourself, Benny."

Benny Pours.

Benny forsook the stove and poured. "Lucky, Benny," the gang wished, as the red-eye was washed down.

Benny leaned over the bar and whispered: "Jack, there's a gold mine waiting for you and me-up Porcupine way."

"So?" Jack queried. He had heard similar tales before.

"Gold, waiting to be picked up." Benny continued. "And what is more, my luck's just right now."

Jack had heard those stories of the Porcupine field, 150 miles north and 500 miles from Toronto. "But nobody's found any real pay dirt that I know," he interjected. "Seems that it's all talk and no dust."

Benny talked on. He knew the land and he knew men who had found gold there. What was needed was \$75 for a grub stake.

"We'll share and share alike," Benny urged, Finally Jack gave in. It was hard to hold out against Benny. He was such a pleasant, persuasive talker.

When Benny walked out with Jack's \$75 the gang in the corner roared. Benny had been grub-staked before and had never found his mine. They joked McMahon so much that he became doubtful of the whole enterprise. But one couldn't take a grub-stake back. It wasn't done.

But Jack McMahon had a brotherin-law, in Labine. He told Jim of the it would require much money to de-Porcupine's richness. One-half of his half in Benny's stake could be had for \$75-because he was in the family. They all had better get rich together. Jim paid his \$75.

Benny Goes Northward.

The next day Benny mushed northward. Somewhere along the way he met Alex Gillies on the same mission They joined forces as companions, not as partners. When they reached the Porcupine section-a wild bush land with bits of swamp-they found old Bill Davidson, veteran of British Co-

was to turn around and go back and talk business.

began to fall before they reached the Porcupine lands, but a providential rain washed it away the day before they reached the claims. That was the fall of 1909.

Gold Sticks Out.

Yellow gold of unusual richness was sticking out all over the white quartz. The rains had washed it clear. The two stood in an infinite solitude beside the ground which in 1923 was to be hailed as the world's greatest gold mine, with an output of \$1,000,000 worth of gold a month. Gillies was elsewhere, and the nearest neighbor was old Bill Daviason, laboriously panning gold beyond the hills.

Pare's trained eyes told him of the find. But Pare played the game squarely. He sat on a boulder, looked across at Benny nonchalantly packing his pipe, and asked him if he realized what he had found.

"I have found-some gold," Benny answered, gazing over the waste land. "You have found-much gold," Pare told him. Pare opened his wallet, took out \$2,000 in currency and laid it on the boulder.

"That's for the right to look in," he said succinctly. Benny accepted the money and continued smoking. Pare took his geological hammer and spent the rest of the day tapping rocks. When they started back to Cobalt Pare offered, in behalf of the Timmons-McMartin-Dunlap syndicate, \$330,000 for Benny's six claims if the samples assayed as high as he regarded them. Benny was satisfied.

To Give One to Pal.

But Benny made, one stipulation. That sum would purchase only five of the claims, for he was going to give one of them to his old pal, Barney McEnaney. Barney had befriended him, and it was only fair that he should share his prosperity. McMahon had agreed to this when he grubstaked Benny. To this Pare made no objection. Thus five claims would still be worth \$330,000.

When the assay was completed Pare called Benny in. The syndicate found velop those claims. Their original offer held good; they never broke their

************************ **Rang Town Fire Alarm** to Get His Witnesses

In order to subpoena 1.050 witnesses in the trial of two shop strikers who were accused of violating the industrial court law, the sheriff of Brown counlumbia mining camps, panning gold. ty, Kansas, rang the fire bells at Horton, Kan., where most of Yes, there was some gold there abouts. Of course the best land had the witnesses live, and when the all been staked out by Bill, but if crowd had assembled, virtually the youngsters would go some miles every person in it was notified "that way" they night find some to be in court at the next sesquartz veins there. sion. They found the designated spot, al

night. Then the storm door opened Pare decided there was no reason for hit the trail again. Maybe luck would countryside was willing to stake Benny, but he needed nothing. A few Pare made quick work with his pack miles from his great discovery he and the two headed northward. Snow found claims that seemed to have similar formations. He bought them from the discoverers, and organized a company called the Hollinger Reserve. But it takes money to do quartz mining. Money went and gold didn't come, though across the way the original Hollinger was paying thousands of dollars a day.

Eventually the Hollinger Reserve was put up at sheriff's sale. Benny was flat broke again. But in the few years that had passed Barney Mc-Enaney had been persuaded to sell his gift claim. He had received a price said to be \$500,000. Barney was present at the sheriff's sale, and bid in the Hollinger Reserve-for one good turn deserved another, you know. One couldn't see a pal go down in disgrace. McEnaney died a few days later.

In Other Ventures.

Benny went into other mining ventures with his retrieved stake. But lightning luck seldom strikes twice, he found. Finally he turned back to Pembroke. He had a pretty little home there, a wife who was a mate. and three youngsters who worshiped him as king of everything. He was happy. To while away the long winter months he opened a bowling alley-dapper Benny's place, it was known throughout the country.

Word came that the Hollinger mine was being called "one of the great gold mines in the world."

"Don't you wish you had swung on?" he was asked. "I see the stock they offered you at \$3.50 a share is selling for \$60."

Benny smiled and shook his head. "I'm glad they are making it pay," he said. "They deserve it; they played square with me. And I'm happy here. Suppose we go deer hunting tomorrow?"

They did. That was in the fall of 1919

A few days later Benny returned with a buck's antlers for the children. They saw him afar off, and ran to meet him. His wife came to the doorway, smiling. She had cooked just what he wanted-it was ready for him.

Benny, in the prime of health and feeling that the good God had been kind to give him so much happiness, went in and sat down at the table. He bowed his head in prayer. His heart stopped beating before he could reopen his eyes.

They have taken \$50,000,000 out of were placed in positions in North Car-Carolina during January and February the Hollinger mines. General Mana. olina during the week ending Februger A. F. Brigham announced this ary 24, by the State and Federal emhave shown a distinct improvement loaded with tobacco and two week that \$40,000,000 worth of ore had ployment bureaus, according to the over the same period in 1922, chiefly been charted out for the next three report of M. L. Shipman, commissionbecause of improvement in business sumed by the flames. years. Experts say there is another or of labor and printing. Wilmingand a decrease in the number of per-\$400,000,000 worth of gold waiting for ton, with a total of 140. led all other sons from other States asking for jobs ade in connection, with the alles them. A million dollars worth of ore bureaus in the state, while Charlotte here, according to a statement > wholesale larceny of automobiles " is being taken out each month, and was second, with 113. by M. L. Shipman, commissioner of and elsewhere in Eastern Carolina. one-half of that is net profit. Some The preceding week showed a tolabor and printing. of the members of the original syndi- tal of 531 persons placed in positions, was stated by George A. Evering cate are receiving dividends at the with Wilmington and Charlotte, each Building operations are expected to chief of police here. Evering rate of \$6,000 a day. It is the world's with 109, tied for the lead. absorb a large number of persons dursaid a number of other persons W ing the next several months, he said. greatest gold mine .- New York World under surveillance.

son, chairman of the house finance committee, pleaded that it be submitted to the people, said he thought the people were entitled to vote on the issue and predicted an overwhelming majority for it at the polls.

Representative Parker, of Alamance, also supported the bill and Representative Parker, of Halifax, attacked the measure_ declaring it dangerous and likley to set a precedent which would pave the way for raids on the state and national treasuries.

The record, in the first division of the regular army, of Mr. Grist, author of the bill, was cited by Representative Gaston, of Gaston county who declared Mr. Grist was one of the greatest soldiers North Carolina gave to the world war

Passage in the senate of the bill to make the state laws of prohibition conform to the Volstead act, with certain special North Carolina provisions retained, made this measure law. The senate action followed brief debate. started by a motion introduced by Senator Squires, of Caldwell, to re-refer the bill with instructions to the committee to draft it in exact conformance as the Volstead act.

The house passed a bill sent over from the senate repealing the Long usury act which the lower branch made a law. Representative Warren. of Beaufort. announced that Senator Long's bill went through the house without discussing and without having been referred to the proper committees and the repealing act was drawn by Senator Long who, Mr. Warren said, did not want legislation sponsored by him on the books of the state without first having followed the regular course to get there.

The farm loan bill, by consent of the author, was amended to limit the appropriation it carries to \$800.000, a reduction from \$2,500,000 originally provided for, and from the \$1,500,000 writ ten into the committee substitute.

By unanimous vote the house passed a resolution introduced by Speaker John G. Dawson, which would provide for the reimbursement of A. D. Watts, former commissioner of revenue, in the amount of \$5.200 which Mr. Watts paid into the state treasury on failure of the Commercial National bank of Wilmington where Mr. Watts had deposited that sum of state money.

The general education bill passed its chird reading in the senate and becomes law without having been subjected to amendment.

Employment Bureau Places 580.

Five hundred and eighty persons

Two clinics, established at strategic points in eastern North Carolina, probably at Wilmington and Wilson, it was stated, are being planned by the department of public welfare to examine children in this section of the state.

Eastern Training School Approved.

Establishment of an "Eastern Carolina Normal and Industrial Training School fir Delinquent Boys," similar in scope to the Stonewall Jackson Training School at Concord, was approved by the joint committees of the House and Senate on appropriations. The bill, which was introduced by Representative Fountain, of Edgecombe, carries an initial appropriation of \$50,000 for permanent improvements and \$5,000 a year for maintenance, but it is proposed that the institution shall eventually equal in scope the school already established at Concord.

Bill to Cut Pay of Officers.

Adoption of the Bowie resolution to provide for the extension of the legislative investigation of the state tubercular sanatorium which, he said, would extend until after the general assembly has finished its work; passage of a mass of local legislation, and consideration of public bills, with the passage of several, was the record of the house here in a long session.

New legislation introduced brought forth a bill by Representatives Sutton. of Wayne county, and Thurston, of Johnson county, which would provide for the reduction of the salaries of state officers and employes. The reduction would range on a scale providing that salaries of \$6,000 per year be reduced 20 per cent, salaries of from \$4.000 to \$6,000 per year be reduced from 10 per cent and salaries ranging from \$110 per month up to \$4,000 per year be reduced by six per cent.

Employment Conditions Better.

Employment conditions in North