

The Watauga Democrat.

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PUBLISHED ON THURSDAYS

Subscribers wishing their addresses changed will please favor us by giving the OLD as well as the NEW address.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: One Year \$1.50 Six Months .75 Three Months .40 Payable in Advance.

Advertising Rates on Application Cards of Thanks, Resolutions of Respect, Obituaries, etc. are charged for at the regular advertising rates.

Entered at the postoffice at Boone N. C. as second class mail matter.

THURSDAY FEB. 22, 1923

WELCOME TO OUR TOWN

By the extension of the corporate limits of the town of Boone has been acquired a citizenship of which any town or city might well be proud.

If there have been feelings wounded in the little fight for extension let us all strive to heal them by making them fully understand that they are now bona fide citizens of the town, and each home has its right to speak and be heard in any matters pertaining to the municipality.

FIX UP, CLEAN UP, STRAIGHTEN UP

Spring is almost here and to begin with the much needed town cleaning is imperative just as early as the weather will permit for there is much to do to Boone before she will present the inviting appearance she should be the many prominent visitors expected here this summer.

In this connection we think it is nothing but right to mention the condition of our county court house. The man who sweeps the auditorium for the church, preaching, etc. leaves his broom at the foot of the stairs in the hallway, right in front of the other doors to be carried therein by the many people who move business papers, etc. across the hall.

Most men when boys went barefooted and sh barefoot boys stamp their toes. Not once, but many times. The following lines, therefore, should serve to remind most men of their childhood days and may stir a feeling of sympathy for the man who has stubbed his toe.

North Carolina county agents helped to install 114 water systems 1355 lighting systems and 19 telephone systems last year.

PLAN TO CONTROL NORTH CAROLINA THE WEATHER MOST TALKED OF

PATENT WILL DISPEL CLOUDS AND CAUSE RAIN TO FALL

DAYTON, OHIO—Rainfall has been caused and clouds have been made to disappear in a series of experiments which are being conducted here at McCook Field according to announcement made today by the experimenter, Prof. Wilder D. Bancroft of Cornell University and L. Francis Warren. The successful experiments were made with the cooperation of the army air service.

Results of the experiments were described as "absolutely uncanny" by observers at the army field. In brief, the clouds were made to disappear and precipitate their moisture by the dropping of electrically-charged grains of sand upon them from airplanes.

Prof. Bancroft and Mr. Warren claim that the process will be of great value in the commercial world as fogs over cities, harbors and flying fields can be made to disappear, thereby insuring safety to travel and transportation.

The experiments have been in progress at McCook field here for the last year and a half and will be continued at Mountsville, Va. on the Washington-Dayton air route and possibly at Washington where fog conditions are more frequent and better than at Dayton.

In making the announcement of his successful experiments, Mr. Warren said that elaborate scientific researches have shown that a particle of atmospheric moisture, carrying an electric charge has a tendency to grow in size, even under conditions so adverse to enlargement as to cause uncharged drops to evaporate, the theory being that the electric charge diminishes the surface tension of the drops and thus facilitates further condensation and coalescence.

In the experiments, a plane in a Pore plane, carrying about 50 pounds of sand, of about 150 mesh with a wind-driven generator operating an electric equipment capable of charging the sand with high voltages either positively or negatively at the will of the operator, was employed. The sand was charged to approximately 100,000 volts, in a charge of the order of .0006 electric static units per grain, and was scattered through the action of the plane propeller at a height of about 500 feet above the tops of the clouds, the plane traveling at a rate of about 100 miles per hour.

The time taken to precipitate and destroy the clouds from the period of the first direct attack to the period of final disappearance in each case varied from ten minutes and in several cases was less than five minutes, Mr. Warren said. He pointed out that the temperature and general climatic conditions were variable as shown by the months of the recorded experiments: April 15, June 28, July 15, August 1, August 5, November 14 and other times as shown by affidavits of air service officers and others.

The clouds dealt with, Mr. Warren said, varied in from several thousand feet in length and breadth to several miles, the thickness from 500 feet to 1,500 feet, the altitude from 2,500 to 10,000 feet and partook for the most part of the nature of cumulus and stratus or base-like clouds which consists of fog in a horizontal stratus, all containing light moisture, which was quickly evaporated in the dry air below the clouds. Some of the experiments, Mr. Warren said, were followed by snow flurries over the flying field and light rainfall over the adjacent regions. Concrete sand that will fall readily over a definite locality, thereby producing quick results will be employed for fogs and mists, Mr. Warren announced.

Sand particles that will fall by gravity slowly through the varying winds and be widely dispersed, will be employed for artificial rain making. One or more tons of minute dust particles as fine or finer than talcum powder and having trillions of particles per cubic centimeter, that when scattered will cover enormous areas, will be carried by a plane flying 70 or 80 miles per hour and liberated as a catalytic agent, at the rate of about 25 to 35 pounds per minute.

Mr. Warren explained that scientists claim that with free electrons in a mass of air, each electron attaches itself to a certain number of molecules and so forms a gas ion, upon which moisture condenses, thereby making a cloud particle. Should the velocity of the electrons be very great he said they will combine with the artificially charged particles (as it has been noted that their fall strongly electrifies surrounding air) this will produce a so-called trigger action forcing the electrical charge in the cloud to change from a static to a kinetic state, that will rapidly spread or flash over the whole clouded area, from the spraying of only a few pounds of dust over a small part of a highly charged storm movement and force precipitation when the wet bulb conditions are favorable, over the dry sections where it is required in place of fallin gas it now does over oceans or large bodies of water where it is not required.

It was found in the experiments that wherever the charged particles of sand, in sufficient quantity, were released at the top of a cloud and the cloud was of opposite charge to the sand, a large hole, in a fraction of a minute, was made through the entire cloud from top to bottom.

No large scale attempts were made, Warren said, at artificial rain-making with nimbus, cumulo nimbus or other heavy rain clouds as the experiments were solely directed at the removal of mists and fogs covering areas extensive enough to justify the army air service in stalling the process over one of its foggy flying fields

"North Carolina is attracting more attention throughout the nation than any other southern state," according to S. H. Hobbs, Jr. of the editorial board of the University of North Carolina News Letter.

On the Pullman cars—in hotels at big conventions—in fact almost everywhere the Old North State is being discussed, according to the educator, who recently completed a three thousand mile trip.

"Twenty years ago a Tar Heel away from home kept the state of his nativity a secret," he writes. "Today he is proud of his home land, and people who meet him are anxious to hear about the marvelous achievements of the southern giant that has awakened to his vast powers, has taken stock of himself, and has decided to develop to full maturity his wonderful possibilities."

And why is the North Carolinian so proud of his state?

Mr. Hobbs gives the following as specific reasons: "North Carolina is a great agricultural state. She is not the agricultural state she should be, not the state she will be within a decade or two. But even today she is the Empire State of the south in agriculture. Texas produced larger crop totals, but Texas is an Empire in size, not a state. Only four states have more farms than North Carolina. Only four states have a larger farm population ratio. Only four states produce greater annual crop wealth totals.

"We rank first in the nation in the value of tobacco produced annually. "We rank first in cotton production and high in the total production of the cotton crop.

"We lead the nation in soy bean production, and are among the leaders in sweet potatoes and peanuts.

"The farmers of this state have an investment in lands, buildings, implements and livestock of one and a quarter billion dollars. This is an enormous amount of wealth taken totally but on a per farm basis we do not rank so well.

"We are the undisputed leader in the south in the field of manufacture. And our position is growing stronger.

"Our 150,000 farm workers produce about \$419,000,000 worth of farm wealth. Not all this is new wealth. For instance we spend \$50,000,000 for fertilizer alone. Our factory workers turn out a total product valued at nearly one billion dollars. Nearly a half billion dollars is the value added by manufacturer, a far larger amount than the grand total of all farm products, crop, livestock.

"Eighty thousand cotton mill operatives turn out \$318,000,000 worth of output. Of this total \$132,000,000 is created in the process of manufacture. "We have 18 tobacco factories, capitalized at about \$100,000,000. These concerns employ about 11,000 workers and the yearly output is valued at about \$26,000,000.

"Our 124 furniture factories are capitalized at about \$16,000,000. They employ more than 13,500 workers and the value of the yearly output is about \$35,000,000. This is factory values not the prices the consumer pays.

"Our rise to the 15th manufacturing state of the union has taken place almost entirely during the last 20 years. During this brief period the capital employed in manufacture has risen from \$25,000,000 to \$669,000,000. The value of the yearly output has risen from \$85,000,000 to \$394,000,000, while the value added by manufacturer has risen from \$40,000,000 to \$117,000,000.

"North Carolina leads the south in the number of factory establishments.

"She leads the south in the number of wage earners.

"She leads the south in capital employed. Texas, her nearest competitor is \$190,000,000 behind.

"She leads the south in the value added in the process of manufacture.

"She leads the world in concrete manufacture as well as in tobacco crop value.

Mr. Hobbs gives other reasons and concludes with: "Wealth and willingness are making North Carolina the Empire state of the south."

NEW TOY TO AMUSE CHILDREN IS NOVELTY

The children in many homes are finding amusement through various electrical inventions. There is, of course, the miniature electric train and the miniature electric range, appealing respectively to boys and girls.

Recently there has also appeared a simple but fascinating little toy consisting of a little balloon with a tiny trapeze suspended from it, to which is attached a dainty acrobatic girl. When held over the tube of the electric vacuum cleaner long enough for the current to be turned on the rush of air from the tube will both keep the balloon suspended in the air and will cause the little performer to whirl about on the trapeze to the great delight of small folk of 7 or 8 years. Little electric current is required for this amusement to keep a child pleased for a long period.

He said that all heavy rainclouds are highly electrified and it was not deemed safe to deal with them with high voltages until measures were taken to guard against possible accidents to the pilots and planes.

At its Mountsville, West Virginia field the army air service proposes to employ a captive balloon containing an electric equipment and anchored by cable to a truck. The balloon and equipment will keep the field and surrounding regions free from fog, and also serve as a beacon light and day during misty or foggy weather. At night the balloon will be illuminated so that it may be seen by flyers and the location of the open and free landing space determined.

WHEN THE CARIBOU TREK

By Stratford F. Corbett in the March Popular Mechanics Magazine

In the Yukon district of Canada and in Alaska there are thousands upon thousands of caribou, large splendid animals defiant of man's efforts to domesticate them. So many of them are there in fact, that herds swimming the Yukon have interferred with the progress of river steamers en route to Dawson City. Captains have found, that until they pass, it is useless to attempt going ahead—even though the delay might be a matter of hours.

During these stops many of the animals are shot by passengers, for a caribou in water is quite helpless. But in spite of relentless hunting by the white man and Eskimo alike the vast herds still continue to be the largest evidences of wild animal life in existence in the far north. As they trek, each year through forest and mountain stream on their long journey to new feeding grounds they present a strange and magnificent spectacle.

Another great migration of a slightly different nature but throwing interesting sidelights on the habits of the caribou recently took place under the direction of the Alaskan division of the Bureau of Education. The herd in this case was a band of 1500 reindeer owned by the government, and the route lay from Goodnews Bay, on the Bering Sea, to Cantwell Station in the Broad Pass district.

It is interesting to note that one of the principal reasons for this move was to take the reindeer herd, considered one of the finest in Alaska, out of the vicinity of the annual caribou migrations. The reindeer is closely related to the caribou, and if permitted, they will run together and interbreed. The offspring of this union however is no ta reindeer but a caribou with all the nomadic instinct of his prototype. Hence the precaution of the government agency.

The drive was over snowy tundra and mountainland, the herders native Eskimo. Near Bethel on the Kuskokwin River the first rest was made. Then the reindeer, foraging as they went were driven leisurely to the foothills of the McKinley Mountains, where another halt was called. After four months they continued to Mt. McKinley Park and thence on to Cantwell Station.

It was while resting near Bethel that one of the most exciting incidents of the journey occurred. Early one morning a passing herd of caribou was sighted. In a few minutes the entire herd of reindeer became nervous, restive, and eager to break away. The herders, working heroically, ran here and there, endeavoring to calm the animals and distract their attention. Yet, in spite of the best efforts, a hundred or more of the deer succeeded in breaking away and joining their wider brothers.

Then followed a strenuous chase across country, in which the guards, assisted by men from the reindeer station in the vicinity, recovered all but fifteen of the traitor deer. Throughout the rest of the drive the greatest difficulty encountered was in keeping the herd intact. That more were not lost was due entirely to the skill and watchfulness of the herders.

Now there is being developed the reindeer industry. Reindeer meat can now be purchased in many of the larger cities of the Pacific coast. In the expectation that it will be possible to slaughter the male reindeer of this and other herds, meat-chilling plants are being constructed at various points in Alaska.

WHAT CAUSES STUTTERING

Records show that fully four per cent of all the boys and girls born in this country are left-handed from birth. An English Scientist believes that the ratio in his country is much higher and around 10 per cent. The doctors are able to explain the physical condition of nerves which make it natural for a child to use its left hand in preference to the other, but as to the cause of this condition they can only say Nature willed it so.

However a most curious result has been discovered where attempts are made to force a left-handed child to use its right hand instead. Not infrequently it is found that as the investigation has gone a surprisingly large number of cases have been found where parents or teachers use severe methods to force the use of the right hand, in which the child became a stutterer or had an impediment of speech. These varied in degree from a few years to life, and from acute stuttering to an impediment quite slight and hardly noticeable in ordinary conversation, but greatly aggravated under excitement.

It has been interesting to me when coming in contact with people having impeded speech to ask them if they were originally left handed, and forced at home and in school to use the right hand. So far no one has been offended at so personal a question, but all have shown great interest. In the instance of the most acute case of stuttering I have ever known and whom I met daily for several months, the man could scarcely make himself understood and would appear at times almost to choke in the effort to articulate. Today he can shoot and throw a stone with unusual accuracy with his left arm and very poorly with his right. He told me that during six or seven years as a child he was severely thrashed almost every day, both at home and in school as his father was determined to "break him of the habit of using the wrong hand." In this case I judge the father and son both possessed the same unyielding spirit for the son has it now, and thinks acts and works with the speed of a hair trigger—but the father evidently dominated with his parental authority and strength.

Thus far nearly four out of five cases of impeded speech I have investigated turn out to have been left-handed in childhood. Several left-handed persons, on whom no special effort was made to change, show no evidence of retarded utterance.

Scientists declare that it is much better not to force a left handed child to become right-handed; that if he does not readily and easily ac-

cept the change, to let nature have wheels in their heads. Itinerant moves around the country, and that in reversing nature. A mental-nervous crash arises which is not little especially in North Carolina apparently in the majority of cases, and he never passes a day in shows its approval of such outsidegoing across the country but a new interference by a greater or less dis-sense of appreciation of what is the speaking functioning done in this commonwealth. In these days we are becoming more crowded in upon him. During the wet enlightened and considerate in such snowy weeks of the winter in the matters as compared with 30 or more sections of the hard surface or the years ago, but it is pitiful to reflect well kept sand clay roads business on the thousands of cases, probably has gone right on. Utterly impossible hundreds of thousands, were thought it for the sections mired down to less, though well meaning parents, keep up with these more progressive stilled and killed the natural incline-neighborhoods. The tendency is toward and individuality of promising, for the more progressive spirits to budding ambition, God-implanted, move out to the progress of finer products, it will be a greatly appreciated facilities, having the rest to struggle vor if any of our readers, knowing in a losing fight with untoward instances of people naturally left-circumstance. We scarcely realize the changes handed, would report whether the We effort to make them right-handed had that have come with the motor car. Any effect upon their speech or not. Once farmers spent all the day to go —H. H. Windsor in the March Popular Mechanics Magazine.

A PEOPLE ON WHEELS It has been said that the difference between China and America is the difference the wheel has made. This is an exaggeration and has but a semblance of fact behind it; still enough remains to occasion serious consideration, for a people with wheelbarrows on their feet, must be a different people from a people with wheels under them. The wheel enters largely into American life even though we ignore the number of Americans with

Arriving Daily my new spring line of Ladies' and Gents' Furnishings. You must see this new line to appreciate the Quality of this new merchandise. A complete line of Ladies' Suits, Dresses, Capes, Coats, and blouses called with a view to pleasing the most fastidious dresser. Miss McCampbell of Knoxville will take charge of my Millinery Department the first of March. This lady comes highly recommended having had several years experience in the largest department stores of the country. Don't buy your Spring Hat until you see this line. Also my line of Spring Oxfords arriving too. Come and see me. T. Hill Farthing

Now is the Time to make plans for your spring building. We are now prepared to make oak flooring, any kind of ceiling you want, do any kind of mill work, such as kiln drying, surfacing, etc., and can get your work out on short notice. Remember that our motto is "SERVICE" and we will be glad to have you call on us look over our stock, investigate our prices, and do some real figuring. We still have some sheetrock "The Fire-Proof Wallboard" so if you are thinking of remodeling, or building anew, it would be well to come around and examine this new wallboard. Watauga Fur. & Lumber Co.