

GROUND HOG DAY. Surprising Ignorance as Touching His Identity—Various and Contradictory Opinions About Him All Settled by Reference to Century Dictionary—He is Weather Wiser. This, he it turns out, is ground hog day, and will forecast the extent of the winter. Apropos of the preliminary note about the ground hog in yesterday's paper there were a great many inquiries on the street about what a ground hog is. An Observer reporter had the question put to him, and being ashamed of his ignorance, undertook to inform himself. "What is a ground hog?" he asked a grandmotherly lady. "I have been wondering," she replied. "All my life I have heard how he is a weather prophet, but I never knew of anybody's actually having seen him."

FARMERS MEET TO-MORROW. A Large Attendance Anticipated—Some of the Items to be Considered. At the county farmers' meeting to-morrow, several matters of unusual interest are to be considered. The Southern Cotton Association has declared for a 10 per cent reduction in acreage for the coming crop and ratification of this action is to be urged. The farmers are to be asked again to hold their cotton and to follow the instructions of the national organization. Mr. C. C. Moore is to tender, by letter, his resignation as president of the county association. His successor is to be elected. A number of the prominent farmers have been spoken of in this connection but nothing can be forecasted as to the result. The awarded candidates are Messrs. J. C. Reid; Former President H. K. Reid, Squire C. H. Wolfe, Messrs. Med. Watkins, W. A. Grier, L. H. Robinson and others. All farmers are urged to be at the court house to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock sharp.

THE SPEAKER SUNDAY. Prof. Preston W. Search Will Lecture on "The Building of a Life." The religious meetings committee of the Young Men's Christian Association, is planning for a great mass meeting for men only in the Academy of Music Sunday afternoon at 8 o'clock. This service will be the sixth of a very popular series and the coming meeting will, in no way be less attractive than those that have gone before. The speaker will be Prof. Preston W. Search, of Cincinnati, who is in the South delivering several lectures, his appeal appointment being the convention of city superintendents which will convene at Greensboro February 21st to 24th. He will also appear at Winthrop College, this week. Prof. Search has chosen for the subject of his address "The Building of a Life." These rather remarkable meetings are growing in interest and the second series promises to be even more popular than the first.

NOT HUNTING FOR WORK. Old Derby Declined Work Because the Sun Felt Too Good. "Uncle, you want to make a little money?" asked a small boy of an old derby at the square yesterday. "How?" "Well, there's a man over here wants you to do a little work." "But kind or work?" "He wants some one to cut the limbs that fall in his yard during the recent ice." "How much will he give?" "About a dollar to have the pile cut. I guess." "Ain't dere no dinner in it?" (It was about noon then.) "Well, I don't think so." "Master, you'll have ter 'scuse me dis mornin' fur it feels too good here in de sun. You'll please 'scuse me." The boy went his way, wearily, and the old negro resumed his easy pose against the telegraph post.

Blocked Street 17 Minutes. Engineer Nelson, on the Southern Ry., in the City Police Court for Violating a City Ordinance—Kicked Negro Into the Street—The 13th Gambler Sent Up.

Mr. J. A. Nelson, an engineer on the Southern Railway, was arraigned in the city police court yesterday morning on the charge of violating a city ordinance by letting his train stand on the track across East Trade street longer than the law allows. It was in evidence that Nelson's train consisted of 54 cars and that he was compelled to stop across the street. After he had stopped he could not move without a sign from the conductor, who, by accident had been left at the switch, a mile back. The conductor finally came up and the train moved on, after having kept a First Ward car and several vehicles waiting for 17 minutes. Recorder Shannonhouse dismissed Nelson because he was acting according to orders, but he warned him to not block a street again, whether or not he was acting under the orders of the conductor.

Mr. F. H. White, an East Trade street butcher, was charged with an assault on Church Barber, colored. The negro had been impudent and Mr. White simply kicked him out of the market. The recorder decided that the provocation warranted the kicking and he discharged Mr. White.

Jim McLaughlin, the 13th in the band of gamblers rounded in Tuesday morning before dawn, was arraigned yesterday morning. The same evidence that sent his brethren to jail was introduced against him and Recorder Shannonhouse decided that he should follow suit.

THE TRINITY CHRONICLE. The Latest Newspaper Enterprise in the State a Most Creditable One—Something About the Paper. The newest newspaper enterprise in the State is the Trinity Chronicle, a weekly newspaper recently started by the student body of Trinity College, at Durham. The Chronicle is a neat looking paper, exceedingly well gotten up, both from a typographical and literary standpoint. It is a five-column folio, with an attractive head and attractive headlines, and is a newsy sheet. Mr. H. G. Ford is editor-in-chief, with seven associates, and Messrs. W. J. Justice and T. S. Sten are business managers. The Chronicle, even in its youth, is one of the best looking and most readable college newspapers in the South, having an alumni department, equities, comments, society column, etc. It is a credit to the young men getting it out and to the college.

A RIVAL OF SALISBURY. Wadesboro Forging to the Front as a Liquor Dispensing Town—Charlotte a Patron. Wadesboro is a second Salisbury, if the statement of a well known traveling man may be believed. There are in operation in the town 9 saloons and one distillery. A second distillery is now being moved in from Advance so that in a few days there will be two distilleries in full blast in Anson's beautiful county seat. It is stated, and there is every reason to believe it, that vast quantities of liquor are being carried, carted and shipped out of the town weekly. The advantages of the town are just beginning to be recognized and the local patronage has been greatly augmented. Charlotte is coming in for a good share of this trade for many of the local inebriates are beginning to order from Wadesboro.

MR. ALLEN GRAY DEAD. Passed Away Suddenly at His Home at Danville, Va., Wednesday. Mr. Allen Gray, a native of Charlotte, died suddenly at his home at Danville, Va., Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Mr. R. H. Gray went to Danville yesterday to attend the funeral.

MR. GRAY WAS ABOUT 47 years old and is survived by a wife and four children, two daughters and two sons. He grew up in this city and was engaged in the mercantile business here before he moved to Danville. He was an estimable gentleman and had many friends here who will learn of his death with regret. Besides his immediate family Mr. Gray is survived by three brothers: Messrs. R. S. Gray and Robert W. Gray, of Charlotte, and Mr. James Gray, of Oklahoma.

The Button Holes Match. The neck bands, yokes and cuffs are never stretched, and the bosoms are never scorched or blistered when you do your shirt work. Our STEAM HEATED PRESSING MACHINES are perfect and do beautiful work. Compare our "faultless shirts" with those done by the old process—Gas Heated Rollers—and note the difference. When we do your work the saving of wear and tear on the linen will more than pay Laundry bills. And then, too, you know, it is freely admitted by all our customers that we do the most beautiful work in the South. Phone 160 to-day and one of our 5 wagons will call for your next package.

MODEL STEAM LAUNDRY. BRANNON'S LAVA LOTION WITH BENZOIN. Is a delicate, medicinal emollient—possessing sensitive, antiseptic and healing properties, combined with the most soothing agents, and a very refreshing and delectable odor. For healing, preserving and beautifying the skin it is matchless. For Chapped Hands and Face it is unequalled. It is a splendid household toilet article, useful to allay any irritation of the skin. It will keep the face and hands soft as velvet. It is perfectly harmless to the most delicate skin. Every bottle guaranteed to do all that is claimed for it. 25 CENTS AT HAWLEY'S PHARMACY. By mail post paid for 25 cents.

THE BUTTON HOLES MATCH. OLDEST LARGEST BEST. The Bachelor's Friend. Nothing is more annoying than to find buttons off and bursted button holes when you go to dress. We save you this annoyance—our seamstress looks after all such things, and also puts on new neckbands when needed. What's the charge, did you say? Nothing at all. CHARLOTTE STEAM LAUNDRY. Launderers, Dyers, Cleaners, 219 South Tryon street.

WE'RE Never at sea on Derbies—always make it a point to have so many different blocks that just the proper shape for you must be among them. \$3.00 to \$6.00. THE TATE-BROWN COMPANY. S/14323 5x1M. Bargains in Second-Hand Vehicles. We have 10 second hand Pneumatic Buggies, all in good condition and newly painted that we will sell cheap. Also a number of other second hand vehicles. J. W. WADSWORTH'S SONS CO.

Handsome New Line OF GO-CARTS AND CARRIAGES. We have always offered the best values in these lines, and we shall continue to do so. You can always come here with the assurance that you will secure the biggest bargains obtainable in Charlotte. We have just received and have on display, the finest line of Go-Carts we have ever shown. Carts from \$2.50 up to \$32.00. Your inspection of our superb new stock will convince you that there is not a similar line in Charlotte at our present prices. These nice, warm days your baby should go out for the sunshine and fresh air. Cash or Credit W. T. McCOY Cash or Credit.

IF YOU HAVE A Diamond to reset, we can do the work for you to your entire satisfaction. We carry a complete line of Ring, Stud and Brooch Mountings always in stock. Diamonds reset by an expert. We will gladly examine your Rings or Brooches at any time and let you know if they are secure. GARIBALDI & BRUNS.

STONE & BARRINGER CO. BOOK-SELLERS AND STATIONERS.

FURNITURE FOR THE Dining Room. Has a large place in the thoughts of a hospitable host. He wants his guests to be pleased as to the eye and person, as well as to the "inner man." You will find many beautiful designs in BUFFETS and SIDE-BOARDS at our place, and a price to suit almost any income. It goes without saying that we have an equally fine line of TABLES and CHAIRS for the dining room. We'll be pleased to show you any time. Lubin Furniture Company.

SEE OUR LINE OF FOUNTAIN PENS. A full assortment—all sizes and prices. Every one guaranteed. The best made. If you have ever had trouble with a Fountain Pen, give ours a trial, and we are sure you will be satisfied. THE PALAMOUNT COMPANY. FOR SALE. A bargain second hand 30 H. P. Swift Engine with extra shafting and pulleys, in first class condition, now located in Statesville, N. C. Will exchange for lumber. M. M. SMITH, Agent, North Rowanville, N. C.

A HEATED HOUSE. Is a great comfort. One of our Stoves in your hall would stop those cold draughts and aid materially in keeping you comfortable. All sizes, for wood or coal. J. N. McCausland & Co. Stoves, Mantels, Tiles, Grates. Phone 316, 321, 5 Tryon St.

"THE DUCETTE" "EXERCISER". The best on the market for only \$1.00. Armistead Burwell, Jr. Phone 343 North Tryon St. S. C.

THE PALAMOUNT COMPANY. GENUINE MAD STONE. A genuine Mad Stone. Will cure bites of rabid dogs; will cure hydrophobia; will cure bites of poisonous snakes; will cure lock jaw; will draw any poison from the system. I have treated hundreds of cases and every one has been cured. A. D. YELTON, Lattimore, N. C.

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BARGAINS IN GO-CARTS. WE have them at \$2.50 each. Good ones too. You will be surprised that you can buy them so cheap. Better ones of course at higher prices and the stock of them we show is over one hundred. We want you to see these special bargains we offer at \$7.50, \$10.00 and \$12.50 each. They can't be equalled for this money in any market. Very fine carts at \$20.00, \$25.00 and \$30.00 each. WE SELL THE CELEBRATED HEYWOOD AND THE WHITNEY CARTS. Some special good things in OAK BEDROOM SUITS we are offering this week at extra value prices. PARKER-GARDNER CO.

Spring Hats! Our advance showing of spring hats have never been in such high favor as they are this season. Everyone admires them and its an easy matter to fill completely everyone's desire. An assortment of colors; blacks, shapes, grades, etc., sufficient to fit and match all sizes and styles of men. ED. W. MELLON COMPANY. LEADING CLOTHIERS. MAIL ORDERS RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION.

Long-Tate Clothing Co's. Special Sale of Suits and Overcoats. 25 per cent off on all Clothing, Overcoats and Pants. \$25.00 Suits \$18.75 \$6.50 Suits \$4.88. \$22.50 \$16.88 \$5.00 \$3.75. \$20.00 \$15.00 \$4.50 \$3.38. \$18.50 \$13.88 \$4.00 \$3.00. \$15.00 \$11.25 \$3.50 \$2.62. \$12.50 \$9.38 \$3.00 \$2.25. \$10.00 \$7.50 \$2.50 \$1.88. You must be satisfied or your money back. No Goods Charged at this Sale. Long-Tate Clothing Co.

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