"Why do a ground hoz do as he do?" is one of those questions that remain undisturbed in the category of the unanswerable. The only excuse available for making mere mention of this insolvable problem at this date is the fact that this is the reigning day of this varmint. Ground hog day, in the minds of a certain class of citisens, marks a distinct epoch in the passing of a year, classifies the weather for the remaining winter and accomplishes other, such iconoclustic stunes as seemeth to him good. In setting forth the significance of day, It is centrary to custom and beyoud the authority of the newspaper writer to color the story, and hence in justice to the ground hog, what is to be written will be absolutely with-

out prejudice, fear or favor, and with-out any attempt to clarify the enig-ena of the ground hog's habits. Such a discussion falls above the pale and province of the local force. If tradition be credible, on this day the ground hog pokes his nose from the earth for the first time in months, and his opinion of the pretrudes over term firma will determine the character of the winds and rains and other happenings generally in the mystic mechanism of the spheres for the next 40 days. If the animal sees his shadow to-day, he will quickly remove his tabernacle back into the

month and ten days, it will be foul weather, consisting of an intermixture of rain, sleet, snow, and other formulas of ice.

If, on the other hand, he falls to see his shadow when he comes to surface to-day, which is a supposition contrary to fact, or at least, to the prophecy of the weather man, he will out upon the earth, and shortly fair weather will prevail. This is according to the tradition of the elders and with all the light of 20 centuries of civilization in the progression of which there is ever-increasing enlightment, there has come no contradiction or attempted explosion of this theory.

The science of things animate, the

science of life, technically known as biology, falls flat in its effort to account for the existence of the ground hog, or to explain with any degree of adequacy why he plays a part so important in determining the func-tions of the weather just at this time of the year. In this respect, the varmint assumes the nature of a genius, a term which is a worthy subterfuge for an inability to describe a man's distinction or account for the exquisite adaptation of his powers to things surrounding. Let it be known far and wide that the ground hog exists, and let it, too, be thoroughly understood that an explanation of his powers is just as impossible as a literal account of earth in its nebulous, primordial condition.

some light There is, however, thrown upon the animal's person in Chambers' Encyclopedia of Universal Knowledge which may be of advan-

It is this: The woodchuck, to which the name of ground hog is sometimes givspecies of marmot, inhabiten, is a species of marmot, inhabit-ing North America from Hudson's Bay to South Carolina. It is from 15 to 18 inches long, blackish or grisfled above, chestnut red below; form thick, the head broad and flat, with almost no apparent neck, the legs short and thick, the feet large, the tall bushy. The hair is rather animal digs deep holes in fields, on the sides of hills, or in woods under rocks; its burrow slants upward so that water may not enter and within are several compartments; it passes the winter in the burrow in a lethargic state. The food of the wood-buck is vegetable, and it is particularly destructive to crops of red clover. It is easily tamed and may be Its flesh is sometimes eaten, but is

THIS IS ALSO CANDLEMAS DAY. This is likewise what is known as Candlemas Day, a Catholic feast ocbeen against us in the past to forget all differences for the public good and enter this contest. It is a contest against the saloons, distilleries and casion, in honor of the presentation of the Christ Child in the temple and the purification of the Virgin Mary. The time of the origin of this cusremains in doubt, some holding that it was instituted as early as the fifth century, others arguing that it was even earlier. Its first observ-ance was in the East. The feast assumes its name directly from the custom of bearing lighted candles in procession in celebration of the words of Simeon at the infant Christ's presentation, "a light to lighten the General Expert Engineer Who Has Been in the sentation, "a light to lighten the General City For Several Days Says That tiles, and the giory of thy people Is-rael." On this occasion the Catholics consecrate the candles and tapers to be used in their services during this year. The bleming of the candles at St. Peter's church in this city will be fittingly observed this morning.

In Scotland this date is made one of the quarter days for receiving and paying rents, interest, school taxes, All in all, and from a standpoint of notability, this day is not of mean

proportions. ALDERMEN MONDAY NIGHT.

The meeting of the aldermen tomorrow night is sure to bring to pass some interesting enactments, it being the general understanding among the members that the body will be asked to deliberate over a number of weighty subjects. The normal interest which an aldermanic meeting always generates will be fertilized in this instance by the submission of several reports of a recommendatory muture ad the arguments which these will admit promise to be of some warmin. A good deal more will be done to mor-row night than the granting of a li-cense to peddle hides to John Squeedunk, or the authority divested some commission to place a light on some street corner. This forecast is made, not purposely to arouse any wide-spread fear less the city fathers ove in channels hitherto untried, or enact radical measures, but merely grip.

from sure knowledge of the fact that Grip claims Mr. Perry McGian for the meeting will be more than interseveral days' seige. He is ill at the several days' seige.

Neighborhood Favorite Ariginorhood Pavorite

12. D. Churies, of Harbor, Maine, and of Electric Eliters, says: "It neighborhood favorite here with it describes to be a favorite every-a it gives queck relief in dyspensin, complaint, kidney derangement utriffen, hervonsness, weakness and al debility. Its action on the blood, thorough purples makes it especialiseful as 8 moring medicine. This daherative tonic is sold under guares at W. L. Hand & Co.'s drug store.

Prohibitionists Recite the Net Results of Their Efforts With the Special Session of the Legislature, Award Praise to Those Who Alded Them, and Urge the People of the State to "Work, Watch and Pray," ANDMAL OF FAR-FLUNG FAME.

The following address to the people of North Carolina has been issue by Chairman John A. Oates, of the executive committee of the North Car-olina Anti-Saloon League; Heriot Clarkson, its president, and R. L. Dais, its State organizers

loon League called the temperance of forces together in convention at Raise of Legislature to give the State a stratutory law against the manufacture and sale of liquor at the present season, but a majority of the members of the Legislature, after considering the matter decided to submit the question to a vote of the people. Although we did not get what the temperance forces asked for, yet we did get the question considered at the extra session of this Legislature, this concern that the present season of this Legislature, this concern that the present season of the Legislature, this concern that the present season of the Legislature and who will be perhaps more than and who will be recalled that they frequently develop into pseumonia. The Lady of the Decoration has been one of the most popular of the cough but heals and strengthens the been one of the most popular of the cough books, and the presentation of the character parts will attract a wide patronage, especially since it will be given in the presentation of Charlotte worked in concert last year to secure the assembly for this get the question considered at the extra session of this Legislature, this favors, and was chosen. A disastrous We, and others of the Anti-Sa-loon League called the temperance posite bill, prepared by the best thought of the temperance men in the State. It is not as stringent as some of us would like it to be, but it is an extension of the Watts and Ward bills to the whole State. Tuesday, May 25th, the issue will be presented.

May 25th, the issue will be presented to Messrs. bills to the whole State. Tuesday, May 25th, the issue will be presented to the people of North Carolina. "Are you for or against the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors?" The praise for this issue being submitted accomplished, to the people in North Carolina is due This will m

to the people in North Carolina is due to the great heart of the masses of its of a fine body, numbering something of the State, the educators of the the whole country will be called here merely indulged in an informal bowels of the earth, and for the next us Daniels, Hugh G. Chatham, S. Mc-Intyre, J. A. Hartness, Henry A. Lon-don, G. W. Watts, J. H. Vanderford, J. J. Rogers, Henry A. Page, Frank R. McNinch, W. C. Newlands, A. D. Watts, H. G. Fennell, J. H. Tucker, G. McCall, Settle Dockery, A. D.

Ward, James H. Pou, W. N. Jones, L. L. Smith, N. B. Broughton, W. H. Sprunt, E. T. Cansler, James I. Johnson, George P. Pell, R. B. White, W. L. Everett, Cameron Morrison, E. F. Everett, Cameron Morrison, Aydlett, A. M. Scales, R. Lee Wright, J. W. Bafley, W. B. Smoot, W. F. Snider, R. L. Madison, W. P. Shaw. W. B. Cooper, Virgil S. Lusk, and others too numerous to mention. The bill leaves intact the higher local prohibition laws now in force in the sev-

we have We have patiently borne for years the galling yoke of the saloons, distillery and dring evils saloons. with all their attending curses and woes. The time has come when this enemy to the human family must be destroyed. No family, high or low, rich or poor has not felt the awful curse of the drink habit. It is a canker worm which has eaten into the heart of the body politic. It has made the sweet water of life bitter. The est bud the eating canker dwells." called upon to do battle in a righte-ous cause. Be not deceived with false les." arguments. The business men orporations no longer want one who drinks in their employment. mill and manufacturing towns in the State have refused to lighten the traffic fraught with such evil to the mor- ments and are busy speculating. soft, the whiskers long and stout. This al and material prosperity of the com-animal digs deep holes in fields, on the munity. How wonderfully they have munity. How wonderfully they have prospered by so doing! This issue appeals to men of all parties; to men of all creeds; it is above party, above creed—above nationality. It is a matter of conscience. With malice towards none and with an eye single to the public good we call upon all to join with us in the contest. If any have made wittingly, or unwittingly, entangling alliances, hurtful to themselves, or the good of the human family, we appeal to them to sever their bread, milk and vegetables. It fights entangling alliances, hurtful to them-successfully with a dog of equal size, selves, or the good of the human famlly, we appeal to them to sever their connections with the "body of this death," re-assert their freedom and manhood and enter the contest. We especially appeal to those who have

and pray!

City For Several Days Says That About \$6,000 Will Have to Be Expended on the Two Septic Tanks to Put Them in Proper Condition.

drink evils, and not against the man;

and an issue of merit and morals and

not of men and politics. Friends of temperance, organize, work, watch

If this is done, victory

Civil Engineer J. L. Ludlow, of Winston-Salem, one of the noted fol-lowers of his profession in this part of the country, has been spending several days in the city, making a thorough and complete examination the city's sanitary needs, especially in regard to sewerage pipes, and the two septic tanks, which were placed some years ago at a cost of about \$60,000. In the report which Mr. Ludlow has filed with Mayor T. S. Franklin, he calls attention in an exhaustive docu-Matters of Paramount Interest to the ment to the unantisfactory and unsanitary condition of some of the sewer lines, and the septic tanks in particular, and advises that as much as \$5,000 or \$5,000 be expended at once in

rehabilitating these tanks.

The board of aldermen will be asked to consider this matter at the meeting to-morrow night and to take some formal action thereupon. It is believed likely that the aldermen will order that the money he expended for this purpos, as no more suits, such as was brought against the municipality some months ago by Mr. J. S. Myers for alleged injuries to his lands by improper sewerage construction, are desired.

Grip Sufferers. Mr. Murray Long is a shut-in and offerer with grip at his room in the

Miss Mamle Miller, who is employed at Hand's drug store on East Trad-street, is confined to bed with the

several days' seige. He is ill at the nome of his sister, Mrs. John Porter, on Liberty street. Mr. John F. Dye is ill with grip and is confined to bed at the Belmont.

Receping Open House Everyhody is welcome when we feel tood; and we feel that way only when ar discrive organs are working property. Iv. Kina's New Life Pills regulate he action of stomach, liver and howels a perfectly one can't help feeling good when he uses these pills. So, at W. Le land so's drug store.

THIS IS GROUND HOG DAY ANTI-SALOON LEAGUE ADDRESS TEACHERS' ASSEMBLY TOO THOMPSON ORPHANAGE BENEFIT COMMITTEE NAMES CHARLOTTE

inducements might be held out for Mr. D. A. Tompkins sold to Messrs, this year's assembly. All former W. E. and J. E. Snell for \$1,050, a part guarantors signified their immediate of the old Schiff property, on the willingness, and the thing was thus Monroe road.

citizenship demanding this reform, more than 1,000 men and women from the ministers of the gospel of peace all parts of North Carolina. In addi-ing of the farmers yesterday. About and good will towards men, those tion to the educational workers of a dozen leading members of the for-Senators and Representatives who North Carolina alone, many of the voted for the bill, most of the press beggest brained professional men

F. M. Simmons, Judge Jeter C. Les of work in all ways as they touch tion of delegates to the big convention.

Pritchard, ex-Governor Thomas J. school work, Kindergarten and prischool work. Kindergarten and pri- of the farmers at Dallas, Tex., Febru-Jarvis, Governor Robert B. Glenn, ex-governor Charles B. Aycock, Joseph-exponents, and each of the depart-executive committee, of which Mr. B. ments in education will have repre- T. Price is chairman, sentative and renowned exploitation

The assembly held in Raleigh during the summer of 1906 was eminently successful in every detail, and it is feature of their vacation time work. The people of Charlotte will take as only one bale was marketed, cleasure of the host of such visitors. In the midst of all such labors of delighted at the choice of the execufive committee and will enjoy to the fullest the combined intellectual and social privileges to be afforded by the

EXTENSION AND REVENUE.

aldermen, "is extension of the water mains, not, of course, that I mean a best?" Priscilla—"It speaks for ittears that have been shed by an mains, not, of course, that I mean a army of mourners speak to our heads wholesale extension, for I have to as well as our hearts. "In the sweet-think with regard to the financial end to the cather and the eating canker dwells." of the city's region to the financial end to the financial end to the city's region to the city region to the city's region to the city region to t of the city's affairs. I do think that No race is exempt; especially is it in there should be such extended pipe jurious to that child-race, the nee laying at a slight cost that will bring gro. The people of the State, in the in immediate and considerable reve generations gone by have resisted to mue from water consumers. For the the last ditch tyranny and oppression, expenditure of \$280 just 27 families cruelty and wrong. The powers are could be supplied with water, and for with them and they are once more \$175 or \$180 the water privileges

rterest a great number of the citizens and tuxpayers of Charlotte, who are watching all municipal condition-

The Jumping Off Place.

The Artistic Stieff Piano

is used exclusively in homes where art and musical refinement are cultivated to the highest degree. Only artistic standard sold direct from factory to home.

Chas M. Stieff

Self-Player Pianos.

Southern Wareroom: 5 West Trade St., CHARLOTTE, N. C. C. H. WILMOTH, Mgr.

Guild Members of St. Peter's Episco-pal Church Will Present "The Lady of the Decoration" Next Week!

The people of Charlotte and the Miss Thomson, who is one of the teachers of Meckienburg county are South's best reputed kindergartners,

get the question considered at the ex-tra session of this Legislature, this favors, and was chosen. A disastrous concession being a great victory for fire interfered with the plans of the the temperance forces. The Long-bowd bill is now a law. It is a com-powd bill is now a law. It is a com-

Farmers Failed to Meet.

Owing to the fact that a quorum was not present, there was no meetcal association breasted the weatherand came to the court house, but they

Cotton Drops a Little.

There was an appreciable drop in the purpose of the committee to go the price of cotton prevailing yesterfurther than ever this year with each day, but it made little difference to the owners of the staple in this county prideful interest in attending to the bringing 11.75. On the same date last year 25 bales were sold for 10:65. Since September 1st there has been sold at the local platform a total of mind there will also be no want for sold at the local platform a total of great courtesies to the men and women who have given their lives to the work of education. So, everybody is delighted at the choice of the executions are receipts amounted to 1,615 bates this year against 2,485 last year.

Returns to Charlotte.

Mr. J. J. Wootton, who has been associated in business with Mr. R. M. Johnston, in Gastonia, has returned to Charlotte, where he will reside per-Alderman Believes in Placing Water
Pipes—Expenditure of \$450, Would
Make Patrons of 20 December 19 Market Patrons of 20 December 20 Process of 20 December 20 December

Make Patrons of 30 Families,
"What I believe in right at this best?" Priscilla—"Go-tees, some, but me," said one of the active Charlotte Rocky Mountain Tea best." John—



ALAGA Ribbon Cane Syrup

If you want to begin the day right insist on having this wholesome delicacy, ALAGA, for your breakfast. It antici-pates and delays muscu-lar weariness. It's easily digested—it aids diges-tion. Supplies energy tion. Supplies energy and heat to the body to start the day's work.

All the delicious prop-erties of the famous Alabama-Georgia Ribbon Cane

are preserved in this Syrup. Put in cans di-rect from the evaporator and hermetically sealed, which guarantees that it will keep indefinitely in any climate.

All the leading grocers sell it. Don't take any other kind. If your gro-cer doesn't have it, write

Alabama-Georgia Syrup Company Montgomery, Ala.



DR. JOHN R. IRWIN NO. 21 SOUTH TRYON ST., Woodall & Sheppard's

Good Samaritan Hospital. nurse paid 2 charity visits to one pa ANNA ROBINSON.

Following is the report of the Good Samaritan Hospital for January, 1908: North Carolina's Important Educational Body Will Meet Here in July

—Earnest Endeavors Crowned and Necessary Fands All in Hand—Will Attract More Than 1,000 State Teachers—Programme Will Be Specific and Wide in Range—First Meeting in Two Years.

Of the Decoration? Next Week!

The ladies of Thompson Orphanage patients admitted during January, 5: patients in hospital January 1st, 3: million of the ladies of Thompson Orphanage patients admitted during January, 5: will entertain in a happily novel manner next Saturday afternoon in the ball room of the Sciwyn Hotel, when they will present "The Lady of the days of treatment in hospital January 1st, 3: patients in hospital January 1st, 3: patients in hospital January 1st, 3: patients admitted during January, 5: deaths. 0: operations, 7: number of deaths. 0: operations,

PLEXIBLE

PADS

Don't warp-Don't scratch-

Stay flat.

EXCELSIOR DESK PAD

With the lid onl-desirable

or good looks as well as utility.

NO. 5 DESK TRAY

The tray with the clip—guar-anteed to interfere with the frolics of a March wind and to

tached to any desk-made to fit

regularity in the disputch

The above are only a few of our Desk Specialties-but they

Stone & Barringer Co.

Booksellers and Stationers.

f business correspondence.

are all leaders.

GLOBE SWING-ING DESK

SHELF

Basily at-

PORT.

old the papers down.

Handy when

and made to wear.

wanted, out of the way when not.



Get a can of JAP-A-LAC to-day at our Paint Department, and see for yourself how wonderfully it will rejuvenate an old chair, or in fact any piece of furniture that is badly marred.

It comes in 16 colors and has a hundred uses:

Oak, Dark Oak, Walnut, Mahogany, Cherry, Malachite Green, Ox-blood Red, Brilliant Black, Dead Black Natural Gloss White, Flat White, Ground, Blue, Gold and Aluminum.

> All sizes from 15c. to \$2.50. CALL FOR FREE SAMPLE CAN.

Torrence Paint Company

Interior Decorators. 10 N. Tryon.



The Shape of Your Head or the Size of Your Brain

Makes no difference to us now-we are PREPARED. Can fit every head with one of the new Spring Styles in SOFT AND STIFF HATS-the good ones just put out by Stetson and other leading manufacturers.

Look at the samples above.

Now come in and see the correct colors and some other shapes.

Always ready to show whether you buy or not.

Mail orders filled on day of receipt.

Ed. Mellon Co.

Remember, Mellon's Clothes Fit.



To Continue Monaay

Owing to the inclement weather of Saturday, we will continue the sale of Fancy Negligee Shirts to-morrow. Many of our customers were kept at home and we are anxious that all should have an opportunity of securing a supply of these elegant Shirts.

\$1.50, \$2.00 and \$2.50 Shirts thrown into one lot at......... 95c. each Although this is the beginning of the end of this sale, quite as good

bargains and choice patterns are here for your selection.

THE TATE-BROWN CO.