

COUNTY CORRESPONDENTS

Items From Our Regular Correspondents and Neighboring County Papers.

Hudson

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Adler, of Missoula, Mont., are expected here this week on a visit to relatives. Mrs. J. F. Deal and little son, are spending a few days in Hudson. Mrs. C. H. Thronburg spent several days in Charlotte last week buying her millinery supplies. Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Query and child drove on a visit to relatives. What has become of the Poultry Association? We expected last week's papers to contain an account of its organization. Some new books have been added to the Hudson Public Library. The Main Chance, Nicholson, Lords of High Deceit, Nicholson, From Jest to Earnest, E. P. Roe, Knight of the 19th Century, E. P. Roe, His Soubise Rival, E. P. Roe, Near to Nature's Heart, E. P. Roe, Spectre of Power, Craddock, Tempest and Sun Shine, Holmes, How He Won Her, Southworth, The Masquerader, Thurston. T. March 18th, 1912

Hatland

The Hatland school closed Friday, March 15, and the closing exercises consisted of a program which originated with, and was well carried out by the school. The patrons, pupils and teacher, all feel the need of bringing the country schools more closely to home life on the farm. The program was arranged with a view to stressing the importance of the farmer among his fellow men, and thereby increase the interest of the pupils in the farm life. It was decided that each pupil in the two highest grades should write a paper on some subject covered during the term of school. These subjects were to be taken from history, geography, physiology, hygiene and agriculture, and to increase the interest in the program, the classes were allowed to designate the subject for each of their members to write on, while the 1st, 2nd and 3rd grades were to select pieces from their readers. By the teacher offering a few suggestions as to the general plan of the program and rendering a little help to each pupil occasionally, the following program was well carried out:

1. "Christopher Columbus," by Naomi King.
2. "The Cabots, Ponce de Leon, Balboa, Magellan and De Soto," by Lizzie Clay.
3. "Sir Walter Raleigh," by Zora McColl.
4. "U. S. History to Close of the Revolution," by Annie Clay.
4. First grade pupils reading selections copied by themselves.
6. "Who Stole the Bird's Nest," by Herbert Clay.
7. "Caldwell County," by Lizzie Arney.
8. "Soil Improvement," by James Kincaid.
9. "A Single Recipe," by Panzy Mabe.
10. "Fruit and Vegetables," by Alma Teague.
11. "Stock and Poultry," by Ansel Mabe.
12. "To-day," by Ophie Kincaid.
13. "The Child's World," by Gertie Kincaid.
14. "Hygiene," by Wavie Arney.
15. "Corn," by Willis Clay.
16. "Importance of Agriculture," by Beecher Anderson.

In addition to the above a splendid map of North Carolina and Caldwell County were drawn on the blackboard, and a display of letter writing, landscape drawing, etc., was made.

The preparation of this program took only one half day from the daily routine of school work, yet we feel that it will do much towards accomplishing the purpose for which it was prepared, and our school believes that similar programs in the rural schools of our County would certainly result in the improvement of all farm products, both in quantity and quality, which, in turn, would result in longer and better schools, better roads and a splendid county fair each year, and thus place Caldwell County in the high rank to which her delightful climate and fertile soil so justly entitle her.

W. H. VANNOI, March 19th, 1912

Kings Creek

We are having some beautiful Spring weather for a few days. The farmers are preparing for a crop and the ladies are gardening. We guess the ground hog came out all right this time, but according to the old people's rule the nights being on equality, we will have some rough weather yet. Mr. W. L. Ernest and family are preparing to move to Lenoir to a nice dwelling they have erected there and Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Laxton will occupy the house they vacate. We are sorry to give these good people up and wish them success. A lot of Kings Creek people are attending the funeral of Mrs. Hamp German, of Boomer, today. Miss Addie Laxton has been visiting at Dudley Shoals. Miss Cora Greer will close a successful school at Beach Hill Friday night, the 22nd, with appropriate exercises. A good time is anticipated. Little Misses Ethel and Minnie Laxton spent the day with their uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Dula, last Sunday. In the afternoon other little folks came in and a most enjoyable evening was spent playing games. These old people love to be remembered by the young people. Mr. Hill Livingston and Miss Edie McGee was married last Sunday at the home of the brides parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. McGee, Rev. George McGee officiating. The boys gave them a two-night serenade. N. Y. Z. March 19th, 1912

Little River

Our farmers are taking advantage of this good weather and doing much work on their lands. Mr. Moses Pennell died today at his home near Draco. He was about 60 years old and leaves a widow and seven children, three boys and four girls. The body will be buried Friday at the family burying ground near the home. Mr. Jim Smith while chopping a few days ago had the misfortune to receive a severe cut on the head by his axe "glancing." Dr. Kent, of Lenoir, dressed the wound. Mr. William Brotherton has moved his family to Lenoir, where he has secured work. We understand that Mr. Z. V. Johnson is making an effort to organize a stock company to build a roller mill at his place. We hear that Deputy Sheriff Bolick captured a "moonshine" distillery recently near Dudley Shoals. There was some litigation over land before Squire Sims recently and Messrs. J. N. Harshaw, of Lenoir, and J. H. Burke, of Taylorsville, represented the parties to the suit; Messrs. Daniel Sipes and Parks Mooney. Uncle Charley Lawrence, colored, asks if any one ever heard of a negro committing suicide. If he could read the papers he would know that they do so occasionally. One recently killed himself in this State. There is to be a ball game tomorrow afternoon between the Oak Hill boys and the Camp Ground boys. H. March 20th, 1912.

ALLENS MURDEROUS FOES.

An Interesting Sketch of the Men Who Shot-Up Hillsville Court.

By H. E. C. Bryant, Hillsville, Va., March 17

The controversy between the Allens and their friends and the courts of Virginia dates back twenty years. It became very acute about four years ago when Judge Robert Jackson declared that he would drive the whiskey makers and sellers out of the Fancy Gap region in Carroll and other mountain counties. The Allens were born and reared in the Fancy Gap section. Their father was Jerry Allen, who was considered a very good man and a substantial citizen but dangerous when wrought up. The mother of the Allens was a Miss Combs, the daughter of another well known mountain family. Jerry Allen had the following named sons: Victor, Floyd, Jack, Sidna and Garland, and one daughter, Mrs. Alberta Edwards.

The Allens are considered well-to-do, thrifty, honest, but bold, daring, fighting men when mad. Some of them have made and sold liquor in violation of the laws of the state, but they have never been of the regular moonshining and blockading class. Some of their neighbors in the Fancy Gap section are typical Southern illicit whiskey manufacturers and dealers.

About 4 years ago, when Judge Jackson came on this circuit, he made it known that he was going to force the Fancy Gap lawless element into court and deal out justice to it. Although the Allens did not belong to the liquor-making faction they objected to interference on the part of the court. They believed that they had a right to do about as they pleased without molestation. One of Judge Jackson's first moves was to have Rev. Joseph Easter, a Dunkard minister, to appear before the grand jury and tell what he knew about lawlessness in Fancy Gap. The day that Mr. Easter testified the grand jury found a true bill against George Peters for moonshining. That night Mr. Easter was called out of his home in Fancy Gap community and shot to death with slugs. Later George Peters was arrested and tried, convicted and executed for murder. On the scaffold he said to the crowd: "If you had stood by me I would not be here today. My friends and neighbors went back on me."

This was the beginning of a serious effort to break up the lawless gangs of Carroll county. Immediately after the conviction and execution of Peters, Judge Jackson began to receive threats against his life, and within six months he resigned from the bench and Judge Massey was appointed.

It is generally believed in Carroll that the Allens sympathized with Peters.

The Allen gang after the assassinations in the Hillsville court house rode to the Devil's Den country on the top of the Blue Ridge mountains near the North Carolina line where they are now entrenched. They will get supplies until captured at either the home of Sidna or Floyd Allen. They are well armed with automatic pistols and well supplied with cartridges. Detective Felts, with about one hundred and fifty men under him, is determined to get them dead or alive. Two of the

indicted men, Floyd Allen and Sidna Marion, are in the Roanoke jail tonight. Victor Allen, the best arrested, is not considered one of the desperados. Floyd Allen is a son of Jerry Allen who did not have anything to do with the court house affair.

All mountain passages leading from the crest of the Blue Ridge to railroads in Tennessee, North Carolina and Virginia are carefully guarded by officers to prevent any of the Allen gang from escaping.

Ninety five per cent of the white people in this section of the country are in sympathy with the detectives and will help in every way to bring the Allens to justice.

The story of Floyd Allen and his boisterous and overbearing way of dealing with persons he did not like is illustrated by the following stories which serve to give a good idea of the character of men who did the shooting at Hillsville last week.

Monroe Ward, a citizen of Galax, drove up behind Floyd Allen one day and punched his buggy with the tongue of his rig. He did not know Allen but begged his pardon. Allen drove to a close place in the road, jumped out of his vehicle, drew a pistol from his pocket and threatened to shoot Ward to death. Ward had to beg for his life. Later Ward was induced to report Allen to a grand jury. The judge of this district at that time, knowing the Allens and fearing trouble, persuaded Ward to stop the prosecution.

Seven months ago Floyd Allen had a fight on the streets of Mount Airy, North Carolina, and was arrested charged with an affray, by Chief of Police Cody. Allen paid the small fine and went home. Three months later Cody passed the Allen residence and was stopped by Allen and invited into dinner but Cody declined. On his way back Cody was stopped by Allen, dragged from his buggy and beaten unconscious. Having beaten his man he put him in his buggy, started the horse on the road. Later he telephoned a neighbor some distance away to inquire if Cody was still in the buggy. Cody had not arrived at that point and Allen told his friend to look out for him and if he was in the buggy and all right to let him go along but if the buggy was empty to stop the horse.

The next time Allen went to Mount Airy Cody shot at him and would have killed him had the ball not struck his pistol in his vest pocket near the heart. The ball broke the cylinder of the pistol so that the weapon could not be used. Seeing that his gun was injured Allen rode out of town and has not been back since.

Jack Allen, a brother of Floyd while blockading whiskey, was overtaken one day by an officer who said he was going to search Allen's wagon. Allen promptly told him that he could not keep him from going in the wagon but he could keep him from coming out. That meant, of course, that he would kill him if he did enter the wagon.

The Allens are men of wealth. They have small fortunes for their community. Floyd is worth about ten thousand dollars and Sidna about fifteen thousand dollars. Sidna conducts a country store where does he from thirty to forty thousand dollars worth of business a year.

Various members of the Allen family have terrorized Carroll

NEWS ITEMS OF INTEREST. Three Wadesboro People Are Killed.

Interesting Reading Matter of Local and National Affairs, in Condensed Form.

Wilson Foreman was arraigned in court Thursday and pled not guilty to the charge of murder. The judge ordered the sheriff to summon a venire of one hundred men to be present Monday, from which a jury will be selected to try his most important case on the docket at this term. Morganton Messenger.

It is said that Floyd Allen, the man who was the cause of the outbreak at Hillsville, Virginia, recently, is very penitent and asked for advice of a Baptist minister. It is no unusual thing for men when they are caught and see the electric chair or penitentiary staring them in the face, to become penitent and very sorrowful. This kind of play has some effect upon the public and frequently is the cause of the miscarriage of justice.

The Watauga railroad surveyors started surveying a line on the south side of the Yadkin last Saturday, crossing the river from North Wilkesboro about the mouth of Cub creek to Wilkesboro going with the course of the creek south of the town through the Call place to what is known as Pole bridge and the J. M. Wellborn place again reaching the river, up the south side towards Goshen, it is reported. The survey corps hauled out Wednesday morning moving headquarters from hotel in North Wilkesboro expecting to pitch tent and camp a few miles up the river on the line designated, Wilkesboro-Hustler.

Charlotte, March 20. Cree Medlin, a young white man who came to the city about four weeks ago from Atlanta, Ga., and has since been working in a Charlotte cotton mill will probably be given a preliminary hearing today, charged with the theft of a thousand dollars worth of jewelry from the Little Long Company's store Monday night. When arrested, as he alighted from a car at the Square, he denied all knowledge of the affair. Protesting his innocence, he was taken to the Police station, and a search revealed that he had several watches in his pockets, and twenty rings in his socks and shoes, which were later identified as part of the missing jewelry.

county for thirty years. They have beaten, cut and shot men whenever their anger arose. They are polite men, of good address, pleasant manner, sensitive, proud and daring.

They are too proud to submit willingly to imprisonment. Floyd Allen had boasted that he nor any of his family would go to jail if he could prevent it. Last Wednesday when Judge Massie told the sheriff, "to take charge of the prisoner," Mr. Allen and his friends yelled. After being shot and disabled and arrested the humiliation of being placed in a prison cell forced Allen to attempt suicide.

W. G. Baldwin, one of the detectives at Hillsville, dropped his pistol and it was accidentally discharged in the hotel last night and immediately a hundred guns were drawn. If some one had shouted "There come the Allens" no telling what would have happened.

Subscribe for The News \$1.

Wadesboro, March 20. The three men killed in the explosion at the Wadesboro Hotel on Monday, 19th, were: Dr. W. J. McLendon, Dr. W. J. McLendon, Jr., and Mrs. J. M. Covington, Sr., wife of Dr. James M. Covington, is seriously injured.

From the best available sources of information it seems that the owner of the building, Dr. W. J. McLendon, had recently decided upon the improvement of the building, a two-story brick structure located at the corner of the square. Work men were excavating in the cellar of the building this morning when without warning the walls collapsed. In the building at the time were a number of persons, employes and customers. Misses Marion and Lora Little, with Mrs. Dr. James Covington, Sr., and the child, Virginia Mae Covington were standing close together.

Train Robbers Get \$60,000 in Currency.

Corinth, Miss., March 20. Mobile and Ohio passenger train No. 1, northbound, was held up and the express safe dynamited and robbed seven miles south of here early tonight by four men heavily armed and masked. After the robbery the men fled toward the Tusculum river bottoms. A posse was organized to go in pursuit.

Washington, March 19. The house today passed the rivers and harbors appropriation bill, carrying upwards of \$26,250,000. Twenty of the appropriation items and an equal number of the survey items are for work or investigation in Florida.

We note that a farmer in Irwell county proposes that all the farmers in the vicinity of Mooresville, and that town by hauling in sand to put on the streets of the town. He says that any time the people of the country call on the townpeople for assistance in building churches, schools, roads or anything else, they always get liberal help and it is only just that the country folks also help the towns when occasion offers, as they have this winter. This gentleman proposes that every farmer who goes to town with an empty wagon, put on a load of sand to be used on the streets and thus aid in improving the streets of the town of Mooresville. We think the man deserves commendation for his proposal and aside from that the proposition to put sand on the streets shows that this mode of improving the streets is being considered and is being urged by people in various parts of the country.

Only married men think seriously of marriage, for then it is no joke.

Though his business is flourishing, the expert penman may deny that it is shady, even though you are on to his curves.