

Operations Of Big Automobile Theft Ring Uncovered By Officers Of Law

Wholesale Thefts Engineered From Headquarters In Randolph County.

Gang Did Business In Several States

36 Cars Recovered With Leads To As Many More—Several Arrests Made.

When a charge from a saved-off shotgun laid "Bad Charlie" Culler in the woods of Union township Monday night, December 12th, it was if a signal gun had been fired for the unfolding before the eyes of the officers of the law the operations, it is claimed, of one of the boldest and largest rings of car thieves which has ever operated within the confines of the State of North Carolina. So much have the officers found out about the unlawful trade in stolen cars by a ring of which Culler is a confessed member that the shooting of Culler has become a mere incident in the sordid business which is now being ferreted out.

Officers from the motor vehicle bureau of the North Carolina Department of Revenue have been in Asheboro for the past ten days joining hands with local officials and officers of the law in adjoining counties and at least two other states in uncovering some of the operations of this car stealing ring. Thirty-six stolen cars have been recovered to date and definite leads have been obtained as to many more, and nobody seems to know where it will end. Fourteen cars were recovered at Hemp where Larkin Pressnell, brother of Ben Pressnell, who is free under \$3,000 bond to answer to charge of shooting Culler and for car theft, is said to have operated a garage. Larkin Pressnell was arrested at the time the cars were seized and lodged in jail at Carthage. Seven cars were recovered in the lower edge of Randolph, five in Asheboro and others at different places throughout this section of the State. Boyd Pressnell, brother of Ben and Larkin Pressnell, surrendered to Sheriff Brady last Saturday and is free under \$3,000 bond on charges growing out of alleged car theft and disposition of stolen automobiles, all the result of investigations by officers during the past ten days.

Culler's Confession

The real hunt for stolen cars and the members of the Culler gang started and selling ring began shortly after "Bad Charlie" Culler made, in Memorial hospital, in Asheboro, what, it is stated, he thought was his death-bed confession. He had a hole in the side of his head made by the charge from the shotgun and one eye was shot out. There seemed little chance for him. According to information obtained by Dr. Hayworth from Elsie Cox, who brought the wounded man to the hospital, Culler had been shot about 11 o'clock Monday night, or five hours before he was brought to the hospital. He had lost much blood and the shot had gone so deep into his head that it could not be probed out. So Culler ceased swearing and started to pray. The information has been given out that it is believed he wanted to get something off his mind before he passed away into the uncertainties of the next.

Few know the details of the confession Culler made—only the officers, perhaps, know all he told. But he told enough to justify the sheriff to get in touch with the motor vehicle department of the Department of Revenue. Culler claimed that the shot which caused the ugly wound in his head was fired by Ben Pressnell, of Seagrove, and that it was fired in the woods near High Pine church, in Union township. The two, Culler claimed, had quarreled over the proceeds from the sale of a Chrysler roadster, which "Bad Charlie" had disposed of in Florida. This car is believed to have been the Chrysler stolen from the street in front of the Ashlyn hotel, in Asheboro, several months back. The car so stolen belonged to a brother-in-law of Drs. Demsey and Tiffany Barnes. Mrs. Demsey unfolded a story of the inside operations of a car stealing ring, a story which seemed incredible to the officers until they began to delve into the details of it.

The gang, of which Culler claimed he and Ben Pressnell and others were leaders, operated in North Carolina, Tennessee, Florida and Georgia. Cars stolen in North Carolina were disposed of in Florida when they were not sold in North Carolina. It was an easy matter, Culler explained, to change the numbers, and obtain a State license for it. Culler claimed to have a set of tools with which the stolen cars were changed.

Gigantic Explosion Will Destroy Earth

Says College Head—Other Planets Will Pass Out In The Same Manner.

"The old world will come to an end some time—date not named—in a gigantic explosion. This is the theory advanced by Dr. Dimmore Alter, head of the University of Kansas. As the world grows old, says Dr. Alter, giant cracks will appear on the earth's surface, gradually widening until the entire globe will be rent asunder by a colossal blast which will scatter the fragments through space. Before this happens, according to Alter, the moon will have disappeared in the same way, and many other planets will have ceased to be through the same means. There are many small planets now revolving around the sun, which, Dr. Alter says, are parts of larger planets that have exploded in years past.

Three Fire Alarms In Asheboro During Holidays—Little Damage Done.

Let the fire siren sound once in Asheboro and in the course of a few days it will sound twice more. This is an old saying on the streets of the town. "Troubles never come singly," and fires in Asheboro are in the same category. The fire siren sounded thrice in Asheboro during the Christmas season, but the loss each time was negligible. On Friday the shrill siren called the fire company out to quench the fire in an open field in the northern part of town. Monday the fire truck was again called—a chimney was burning out. And Tuesday shortly after the noon hour fire was discovered in the servants quarters in the Ashlyn hotel where two beds were found on fire. The only loss, and that very small, was in the fire at the hotel.

Celebrate Golden Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Williams celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at their home near Staley on December 18th. Six of their eight children, together with a number of grandchildren and other relatives and friends, were present to celebrate with them. A large table was placed in the yard and filled with many good things to eat, which all enjoyed to the utmost.

Moves To Randolph

Mr. W. L. Martin has moved to Randolph county and purchased the tract of land known as the Sillas Pressnell Place on Highway 70 near Seagrove. Mr. Martin will raise tobacco principally. He has been living in Summer township, Guilford county, for the past few years but saw greater possibilities in Randolph county. Mr. Martin is already living up with the citizenship of the county planning to attract other farmers to this section.

Personal Mention In Randleman Community

Randleman, Dec. 28.—Mr. Alf Parsons and Lawrence Lineberry have returned to Monroe, Va., after spending Christmas in Randleman with their parents.

Mr. Worth Lineberry, of Winston-Salem, spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Elliot.

Messrs. Alf Parsons, Lawrence Lineberry and Charles Lineberry, Jr., spent Monday in Winston-Salem with Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Lineberry.

Miss Tinsley Bryant, of Elon College, is at home to spend some time with her parents here.

Miss Ruby McElhamon has finished her business course in Greensboro and is at home at present.

Miss Margie Lee Vestal spent Monday visiting friends at High Point.

Miss Vera Rosemond has returned, after spending a few days in Greensboro.

Miss Henry Millikan, of High Point, spent Tuesday afternoon at home.

Mrs. G. W. Elliott, Charlie Lineberry, Jr., Clifton Hunt, and Worth Lineberry spent Tuesday afternoon in High Point with Mrs. Elliott's mother, Mrs. J. A. Finch.

Miss Pauline Williams Is Bride Of Thad Swain

One of the outstanding social events of the season was last Thursday afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Williams, when Miss Pauline Williams became the bride of Thad Swain. The ceremony was performed in the presence of a few relatives, with Rev. J. S. Tillman officiating. Mrs. Swain is the popular daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Williams, of this city. The bride was especially attractive in her pink georgette evening gown with harmonizing accessories. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Swain, of Mountain Park, but has been making his home here for the past few months.

The home was beautifully decorated with holly, mistletoe and other appropriate decorations. After the ceremony a delicious five course wedding supper was served.

After spending a few days at Mountain Park, the young couple will make their home here, where they have a beautiful new bungalow on South Cox Street.

Child Struck By Auto And Killed

Tyson G. Trogdon, Jr., Only Six Years Old Fatally Injured Sunday.

Playing On Street

The only fatality in Asheboro during the holidays was the death of Tyson G. Trogdon, Jr., who was fatally injured Sunday afternoon when struck on the street in front of his home in South Asheboro by a car driven by Carl Steed, Asheboro resident. The little boy, only six years and five months old, was struck while he was chasing a football, a Christmas gift. He was taken immediately to Memorial hospital, but died within ten minutes. The accident was held unavoidable.

The child was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Tyson G. Trogdon, formerly of the New Salem community, but for the past two years residents of Asheboro, making their home on South Fayetteville Street.

Funeral for the little child was held Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock from New Salem church, north of Randleman, by Rev. Joel B. Trogdon, assisted by Rev. W. F. McDowell, and the body laid to rest in the church cemetery.

The pallbearers were Hugh T. Brown, R. S. A. O. and E. L. Ferree, and Daniel and John Trogdon. Flowers were borne by Mrs. R. D. Lowdermilk, Mrs. Ben Morgan, Miss Edith McDowell, Mrs. Gurney Nance and Mrs. Yow and Mrs. Smith, of Randleman.

Burns Are Fatal To Little York Child

Clara May, the three-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Everette York, of Rameur, died in Memorial hospital Tuesday night from effects of burns. The little girl and her baby sister were playing in the room where there was an open fire. While the parents were out about home duties on the premises late Tuesday afternoon when her clothing caught on fire. She was burned badly but was brought to Memorial Hospital, with the hope she might be restored to health. Her parents and a baby sister survive.

Bird Dog Killed When It Jumps From Moving Car

Dr. C. A. Hayworth lost a very valuable bird dog in an unusual manner last Friday while on his way to Seagrove in his car to take Mr. E. B. Leach home from the local hospital. The dog was tied with a rope and was in the rear compartment of the doctor's Chrysler coupe. At some point on the way the dog jumped out of the car while it was in motion and was dragged some distance at the end of the rope to which it was tied. When Dr. Hayworth discovered the dog's predicament the animal was already dead, having either been choked to death by the rope, its neck broken in the jump or having been dragged to death on the road.

Handle 10,000 Turkeys

One firm in Wilkes county handled 10,000 pounds, or 10,000 head, of Thanksgiving turkeys past season, according to information given out by the Department of Agriculture. In addition the firm handled 43,000 pounds of chickens, and the total amount involved was approximately \$50,000.

Announce Marriage Miss Wright To Mr. H. O. Horne

The announcement of the marriage of Miss Mabel Claire Wright to Mr. Harvey Otis Horne July 31st was received by the many friends of the bride in Asheboro Christmas eve. Miss Wright is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Wright, of Asheboro. She has been teaching at Franklinville this year and will continue the school year. She was educated at Elon College and is an attractive and charming young woman. The groom is among the enterprising young business men of Burlington being connected with his father in the Foster Shoe Company. Mr. and Mrs. Horne are spending their honeymoon in Florida.

Married On November 27th—Wedding Announced Christmas

The secret marriage of Miss Mattie Cagle to Mr. James Houston Elliott, which was solemnized in High Point November 27 at the home of the officiating minister, Rev. Davis, was announced in Asheboro Christmas eve with the following:
"Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Cagle announces the marriage of their daughter, Mattie Lee, to Mr. James Houston Elliott on Sunday, November 27th, 1927, High Point, North Carolina.
At home after December 25th, 604 Cox Street, Asheboro, N. C.
The bride is daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Cagle, who have resided in Asheboro a number of years. She is a capable, splendid young woman who has a host of friends who will read the announcement of her marriage with interest. She has held a responsible position in the Acme Hosiery Mill for several years.
Mr. Elliott, also a citizen of Asheboro has many friends here. He is connected with the local Standard Oil Company.

Only 2 More Days In Which To Get Car License Plates

Revenue Commissioner E. A. Doughton has sent out word from Raleigh that no extension of time will be granted for the purchase of 1928 automobile license plates. These license plates must be purchased and fastened on the automobile before January 1st. This means that only two days remain in which to obtain these tags—Friday and Saturday of this week. After that time it will be too late. License plates may be obtained in Asheboro from Miss Irene Kearns who can be found at the Ingar garage annex on North Fayetteville street. If you wait until the last minute, there will be a long line ahead of you and you may miss getting your license plate. Time to obtain your automobile license is now. These license plates are for the year 1928, those which were purchased last June being for the half year only.

Mrs. Susan Kearns Dies In High Point

Widow Of Rev. Franklin Kearns And Was Well Known In Randolph County.

Mrs. Susan Jane Kearns, widow of Rev. Franklin Kearns, died at home of her son, Robert F. Kearns, in High Point, yesterday morning following an illness of several weeks. Mrs. Kearns was born in Rowan county May 18, 1838, a daughter of the late Colonel Jasper and Jane Hayden Smith. She became a member of the M. E. church, South, in early womanhood and at the time of her death was a member of the Wesley Memorial church, in High Point. Mrs. Kearns had been a resident of High Point 15 years, having gone there to make her home with her son following the death of her husband. Rev. and Mrs. Kearns lived in the Caraway section of Randolph county at one time, but moved away about 25 years ago. She was well known in Randolph county and was always a regular attendant at the Kearns-Wood annual family reunion. Funeral will be held this afternoon at the church of which Mrs. Kearns was a member.

Knew What She Wanted And Also How To Get It

Mrs. Humphrey W. Chadbourne, wife of a New York mining engineer, when she decided the first of this week to rent a winter home in Miami, Fla., didn't trust to a long correspondence through the mails with a landlord to find the house she wanted. She assumed the latest mode of travel by making the trip by airplane, rented her house in a short while and went back to New York by the same mode of travel. Her stops on the way were made at Fayetteville, N. C.

Nance Says That New Chevrolet Is A Great Automobile

Was Present At Advance Showing In Charlotte—New Car Out First Of Year.

"Never before during the course of my experience in the automobile business has a new car so completely captivated dealers as did the new Chevrolet, which was shown to over 100 Chevrolet dealers from all over the Old North State in Charlotte Tuesday," stated E. E. Nance, of the Nance Chevrolet Co. Inc., local Chevrolet dealer, who has just returned to the city after attending this pre-showing. Without disclosing details, Mr. Nance declared that the new car embodies the results of the 13 years experience and progress in the building of low-priced transportation, and heralds it as the greatest automobile by a wide margin ever offered the public by Chevrolet.

Unofficial reports from the Chevrolet office say that the new car will embody many improvements in design and construction. New standards of beauty are promised. Easier handling and smoother riding qualities are heralded as some of the outstanding features of the new Chevrolet line.

Many unlooked for changes have been made in the appearance of the car, according to reports, providing the new Chevrolet with a beauty and style equal unexampled in the low-price field.

Shipments of the new cars to dealers have been leaving the various assembly plants since December 15 so that the vast country-wide dealer organization may be prepared for the introductory showing on New Year's Day. Practically every dealer in the United States will have cars ready for inspection on that date.

News Of Week In Brief Paragraphs

Short Mention Of Important Happenings In State Aid Nation For Busy Reader.

A survey made by the Motor Magazine shows 23,226,121 motor vehicles registered in the United States, or an increase of 1,224,798 over last year. Passenger cars now in use number 20,282,000 and trucks 2,994,000.

James W. Pegram, Guilford county ex-soldier, was surprised Tuesday to find his name carved on the bronze tablet at the memorial stadium in Greensboro as one of the county's heroic dead. Pegram is very much alive, and it was through an error that his name was listed among those killed in action during the world war.

J. Pierpont Morgan, of New York, international banker and head of the great financial house of Morgan, has been named chairman of the board of directors of the United States Steel Corporation to succeed Judge Elbert H. Gary, who died some months ago. James A. Farrell continues as president of the steel company.

J. B. Summey, 68, ex-sheriff of Transylvania county, was killed Saturday when he lost his balance and fell over a 150-foot cliff at Maiden Hair Falls, five miles east of Brevard. He was accompanying the county sheriff in search of a still when the accident happened.

Fire breaking out in a hardware store early Thursday morning of last week destroyed an entire business block in Monroe, causing a loss of approximately \$350,000. Among the business houses destroyed were the Monroe Enquirer, a drug store, hardware store and retail dry goods store. Fire fighting equipment was rushed from neighboring towns to the stricken city and only by heroic efforts was the loss kept down.

Information coming through the State press from Washington has it that E. L. Gavin, Sanford attorney, has the inside track for appointment as district attorney for the middle district of North Carolina to take the place of Frank A. Linney, of Boone, formerly attorney for the western district but prosecuting in the middle district since the formation of this new judicial group for central North Carolina. Linney was candidate for the judgeship but was defeated for the appointment by Johnson J. Hayes.

Ninety-four prisoners were received into the State penitentiary at Raleigh during the month of December, the largest number to be incarcerated there any one month of the year.

Census estimates of population of large cities as of July 1, 1927, give Winston-Salem 77,100 people, enabling it to retain its hold on first place among cities in North Carolina. Charlotte is estimated to have 59,900 people; Durham, 45,700; and Wilmington, 38,400. Population of New York City is estimated at nearly six millions.

According to J. K. Dixon, assistant director of the department of conservation and development, in charge of the fish hatcheries in the State, approximately four million fingerlings will be available for distribution during 1928, or approximately twice as many as were distributed in 1927. Two new fish hatcheries were completed during the present year.

News comes from Raleigh that ex-Governor Cameron Morrison may receive the support of the North Carolina delegation to the national convention. Morrison, his friends contend, is the most popular man in the State and should be so honored as Carolina's "favorite son" in the national Democratic meeting. Governor McLean has also been mentioned as a "favorite son" candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination.

Sixty-seven persons were killed in automobile accidents in North Carolina during the month of November and 406 persons were injured, according to figures released by the motor vehicle bureau of the Department of Revenue. Carelessness and recklessness were assigned as the main causes of the 399 accidents which produced this big toll of dead and injured.

North Carolina has 400 cotton mills, employing 80,000 workers, and operating more than six million spindles. Charlotte and Gastonia are the centers of textile manufacturing in the State.

Although Brazil furnishes the largest supply of diamonds, the Popular Science Monthly is authority for the statement that diamonds are found in thirteen states in the United States, among which are included North and South Carolina.

Thousands of pounds of bombs and hundreds of shells fired by heavy artillery were used last week by the United States army in destroying the Swift Island bridge. Sounds of the explosions of the bombs and shells could be heard a distance of fifty and sixty miles, many persons in Randolph county having reported hearing the noise. This bridge would have been covered by the waters of the new High Rock dam and was destroyed by the army for purposes of obtaining valuable war-time information.

Native Randolphian Dies In Twin City

John C. Steed, Born Near Farmer 75 Years Ago, Died Friday Afternoon.

John C. Steed, 75, native of Randolph, but for the past 25 years a resident of Winston-Salem, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Charles J. Haynes, in the Twin City, Friday afternoon following an illness of two weeks. Mr. Steed was born in the Farmer neighborhood, Randolph county, August 7, 1852, a son of the late Jesse and Lena Steed. For several years after he married in early manhood he lived within a mile of Farmer. He moved to Winston-Salem a quarter of a century ago.

Surviving Mr. Steed are three daughters, Mrs. Charles J. Haynes, Winston-Salem; Mrs. J. N. Turner, Thomasville; Mrs. Leo Surratt, Denton; and a brother, Alex Steed, of Asheboro. Another brother, Robert Steed, died at his home in the Farmer community several years ago. Mr. Steed was an uncle of Mr. F. E. Steed, formerly of Asheboro, but for some months past resident of Trinity. Mr. Steed has a host of relatives in the western part of Randolph county where he was born and reared.

People Donating To Near East Relief

State Chairman Says Quotas Are Coming In Fast—Pritchard Local Chairman.

Lieut. Governor J. Elmer Long, of Durham, State Chairman of the Near East College Association in North Carolina, has just notified Rev. J. E. Pritchard, of Asheboro, who is chairman of the campaign in Randolph county, that the campaign is getting under way and that North Carolinians are responding very liberally to the funds now being raised in this State to provide for the educational needs of thousands of needy boys and girls in the Near East who are not able to help themselves.

Chairman Long points out one fact in connection with this appeal which is most worthy of thought and attention by all. "For years," says Mr. Long, "America has been sending money into the Near East that thousands of orphaned boys and girls might have food to eat and clothes to wear, the adult refugee problem too has been a very serious one for the world to contend with and solve. Says Chairman Long: "The work of the schools included in this appeal is of such character that they are training men and women for leadership, natives who have the confidence of their own people and who alone can stabilize these lands known as Bible Lands to the world." Mr. Long states that in order to help these people in the Near East we have spent many millions in relief and make them self sustaining, it is necessary that they be fitted for leadership. This will mean that in a very short time the need for further relief work will be unnecessary.

Al who read these lines will be delighted to have this information and those in charge of the campaign in this county feel sure that the response to the campaign which the local committee is conducting will be more than produce the desired results.

Buys Farm In County

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Lane, of Greensboro, have moved to their farm near Staley which they purchased recently. They united with the Baptist church, at Staley, recently, and have begun to take an active part in the life of the community in which they have chosen to make their home.

Miss Betsy Ross Hostess

Miss Betsy Ross delightfully entertained with four tables of bridge at her home on Sunset Avenue Tuesday evening. After a number of interesting progressions the high score ladies' prize, handkerchiefs, was awarded to Miss Betsy Arnfield and the boys' high score prize, also handkerchiefs, went to Mr. Paul Wood Redding. The hostess served pineapple salad, sandwiches and coffee.

With The Churches

At the M. P. Church

The congregation of the local Methodist Protestant church are so well pleased with the Vesper services that it has been decided to continue them through next Sunday at least. The service is at 5 p. m., and the public is cordially invited.

Services At The M. E. Church

Sunday school at 9:45 a. m. Mr. L. D. Williams, superintendent. Preaching at 11:00 a. m. and 7:00 p. m. by the pastor.
Morning subject: "Jesus With The People."
Evening subject: "A Call To Larger Life."
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be administered at the morning hour. The table will remain spread through the evening service for the benefit of those who can not be present at the morning service.
The Epworth Leagues will meet at 6:15 p. m. All children and young people are invited to attend.
The Mid-week Service will be held Wednesday at 7:00 p. m.
A warm welcome awaits you at our services. Come and worship with us.

Native Randolph Man Amasses Big Fortune In Ill.

A. E. Staley, President Of Company Bearing His Name, Makes Good.

Is Worth \$8,500,000

Started Out In Starch Packing Business With Only \$1,500 Capital.

Few people in Randolph know that one of the native sons of the county is eight times a millionaire. This man is A. E. Staley, born and reared in Providence township, Randolph county, founder and head of the A. E. Staley Manufacturing Company, of Decatur, Illinois. According to latest available figures, Mr. Staley's personal fortune is placed at \$8,500,000.

A copy of the Decatur, Ill. Herald, of Dec. 17th, which has come into The Courier office, tells in front page headlines that on the morning of the 17th stock in Staley's company was selling on the stock exchange at \$340 a share and that in all probability it would go to \$400. The stock will soon be placed on the New York Stock Exchange. Of the 21,102 shares of common stock in the company, Mr. Staley owns 16,118. He owns also \$2,000,000 of the preferred stock in the company. Recent improvements in the Staley plant and new changes in business are said to account for the phenomenal rise of Staley stock, which before the spectacular rise on Dec. 17th had been selling around \$200 per share. Bonds recently sold by the company were over subscribed in 24 hours, attesting the confidence of the investing public in Mr. Staley.

The A. E. Staley Manufacturing Company makes starch. The business was started 29 years ago by Mr. Staley on \$1,500 capital. How Mr. Staley started the business and the story of its growth was told in the American Magazine about two or three years ago and reprinted in The Courier. It was a remarkable story of the evolution of American business. Mr. Staley himself is known to thousands of Randolph county people. He began his business career by peddling produce in Randolph county. Early in his business career he was employed by Odell Hardware Company, Greensboro, but remained there only a short while.

Mr. Staley is a brother of Mr. Arthur Staley and of Mrs. M. E. Wacker, both of Providence township, Randolph county. Arthur Staley lives on the old Staley homestead. Another sister is Mrs. S. E. Coble, of Guilford College, wife of Randolph county's first farm demonstrator and owner of Oakland farm near Franklinville.

Card Of Thanks

We are indebted to our neighbors, relatives and many friends for the many kindnesses extended in our sorrow, over the tragic death of our dear little son. Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Trogdon, South Asheboro.

Honoring Miss Whitfield

Honoring Miss Allie Morris Whitfield, of Charlotte, Misses Marjorie and Dorothy Whitaker and Margaret Hammond gave a delightful dinner party at the home of the Misses Whitaker, last Saturday evening. The house was effectively decorated with Christmas evergreens, the dining room being especially attractive with the sixteen guests were served the delectable four course dinner. Following the dinner bridge and dancing was enjoyed for a while.

7 Superstitions Often Disregarded

But Potency Of Each Is Vouched For—Nine Out Of Ten Are Superstitious.

It is stated on good authority that nine out of every ten people are superstitious. There are said to be more horseshoes hanging about in American homes than there are horses in the country to wear them. Wonder how many Courier readers have odd horseshoes about as good luck tokens? Br'er Rabbit's foot, just which one is not recalled, is great demand for keeping off the evil spirits.

R. N. St. John, director of the home safety bureau of a lumpy company, in making a survey of several hundred American homes, found just 304 distinct superstitions dealing with either good or bad luck. But there are seven superstitions, which St. John says, are often disregarded, but he vouches for the potency of each of them. They are:

- A large crack in your chimney is a sure sign you are going to move.
- A fire-hole covered with wall paper is a definite indication of impending loss.
- If you smell gas and look for it with a lighted candle or match, it is a sure sign you are about to start on a long journey.
- Dropping a lighted lamp means you are about to be stuck with a large hospital bill.
- When the wind whistles it is bad luck to burn trash near the house.
- Unlighted cellar steps forewarns the downfall of one of the members of the family.
- Exposed electric light wires indicate someone will receive a great shock.