

Sylvan Valley News

ONLY NEWSPAPER IN TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY

A HOME PAPER FOR HOME PEOPLE—ALL HOME PRINT

VOLUME—XVII

BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 1912.

NUMBER—34

EXPRESSMAN TELLS WILD WEST STORY

AND IS THEN ARRESTED
FOR THEFT

Claims to Have Been Held Up
By Lone Bandit to Tune
of \$3,000.

Since the following story was written E. F. Carr has been arrested for the robbery of his car. The officers claim to have a strong case against the expressman:

Rivaling in its execution the chances taken by Jesse James and his band in frontier days and comparing favorably in desperateness with the actions of "Old Bill" Minor, was in the robbery of Express Messenger E. F. Carr on Southern passenger train No. 13 last Thursday night at 10:30 o'clock between Biltmore and Asheville, when a masked bandit, with a pistol in his hand, climbed into the express car, placed the barrel of his gun in the messenger's face and commanded with an oath that he "shell out." He followed the instructions and gave up approximately \$3,000, after which he was commanded to get into a chest in the car, in which he was locked, and where he was found when the train pulled into the local yards and members of the Southern Express company's force at the Southern station reported at the car to check up with the messenger.

Carr upon being let out of the chest told the story of the robbery to the expressmen at the station, and within a short time afterward members of the detective force of the Southern railway and the Asheville police force were making an effort to locate the bandit. However, at 2:30 o'clock Friday morning no trace whatever had been found of him and no idea is entertained as to his whereabouts or his identity. The messenger was unable to give a description of the express robber, as he stated that the man was wearing a mask and it was impossible for him to ascertain whether or not he is white or colored. His presence in the car was discovered within a few seconds after the train left Biltmore, where it had stopped for a few minutes, and it is presumed that the man who secured the money climbed into the car at that place. Before the train was making good speed from the stop, according to the messenger, the bandit was in front of him holding the point of a pistol beneath his nose, and commanding that all of the valuables in his possession be surrendered.

Carr, it is stated, promptly gave up the money and was commanded to get into the chest, being told that there was no time for delay and that he would do well to follow instructions. He did so, and after stepping into the chest he was commanded to lie down, the robber closing the door over his head, latching the chest and presumably swinging from the train as it pulled into the Asheville yards.

When the train arrived and Carr failed to report at the express office a search of his car was made and he was discovered in the chest. Upon being let out he told the story as outlined above and officers were dispatched on the case immediately.

Carr has been in the employ of the express company for several years, holding a position in the office at Marion. On July 21 he was transferred to a run between Asheville and Columbia, and it was in the performance of his duties on the run that he was robbed. He has a good record to his credit as a member of the Southern's force of employes and has a thorough knowledge of the workings of the express company. When he was removed from the chest into which

he had been locked he was suffering slightly from being cramped and from lack of air. However, he was refreshed when he had taken advantage of the cool breeze of the mountains, and told his story within a few minutes after the train had come to a stop.

EDUCATION DAY

The second annual fair of the Western North Carolina Fair Association will be held in Asheville on October 8th, 9th and 10th. Tuesday, the 8th, has been designated as Education Day.

The fair association proposes to make this the greatest day in the educational history of Western North Carolina. All school children will be admitted to the fair free of charge on Educational Day. Some of the features of the day will be a mammoth parade of school children, an educational address by P. P. Claxton, and an educational exhibit showing the progress of school work in this section of the state.

TOMATO BLIGHT AND ROT

The following communication from the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, department of plant disease, will be of interest to many of our our readers:

The tomato crop in Western North Carolina has been greatly injured by an epidemic of blight and rot that was favored by the very rainy weather of July.

The tomato leaves turn brown and wilt rapidly, finally looking as though scalded. In wet weather, or when diseased leaves are kept moist in a covered dish over night, a white downy fungous growth may be seen on the surface. The fruit may show anywhere, frequently at the stem end, large areas that are watery and turn brown. This rot is different from the common point rot of tomatoes brought on by dry conditions.

The fungus causing this disease is known as phytophthora infestans, and apparently is the same as the one causing late blight of potatoes. It seems, however, that potatoes have been affected only slightly in this epidemic.

This disease can be prevented by spraying with Bordeaux mixture, if the applications are begun in time. In an average season there will be enough at intervals of two weeks, the first one being made before the disease appears, which would probably be during the first half of July. When weather conditions are unusually favorable for an epidemic, as this year, five or six sprayings will be needed at intervals of a week.

To make the Bordeaux mixture, dissolve four pounds of bluestone in twenty-five gallons of water; slake five pounds of best quality stone lime and dilute to twenty-five gallons; pour these two solutions together, stirring meanwhile. Use within a few hours after mixing. Apply so as to reach all leaves thoroughly. Lime-sulphur preparations are not as effective as Bordeaux mixture for this disease.

This spray treatment will control two other leaf diseases of tomatoes, and usually will more than pay for itself even though blight does not appear. Spraying will not control root rot or either of the two root diseases causing wilt of tomato plants. This department will gladly identify specimens of tomato diseases.

H. R. FULTON.

PENROSE POINTERS

We have been having a great deal of rain lately.

There are several boarders at Penrose this week.

Ben Allison died at his home Saturday, the 10th, and was buried at Piney Grove the 11th.

Carson Woodfin is going to erect a dwelling on his place very soon.

ROBIN HOOD.



BREAKING IT OPEN AGAIN

—C. R. Macauley, New York World.

MANY ADVANTAGES OF THE COUNTY FAIR

PRESIDENT FINLEY WRITES
INTERESTING ARTICLE

County Fair Can Be Made Efficient Agency in Solution of Problems.

The president of a fair association in one of the progressive counties traversed by the lines of the Southern railway company has suggested that I write an article for newspaper publication on "The Advantages and Benefits of the County Fair."

It gives me great pleasure to comply with this suggestion for the reason that, in my opinion, the county fair can be made a most important factor in the progress and development of the locality in which it is held.

At the county fair the visitor sees what his own neighbors are doing where the conditions of climate and soils are similar to those on his own farm. The men who have attained the best results and carried off the premiums are known to him. He can talk with them, visit their farms, and learn just how they have succeeded. A county fair thus becomes a most efficient educational institution. This is especially true where, as at some of the fairs in the southeastern states, lectures are delivered by experts in different branches of agriculture, horticulture, live stock raising and dairying. While amusement features in connection with a fair aid in increasing the attendance, I believe that they should be subordinated and that the primary aim of the managers of county fairs should be to make them of educational value to the farmer in aiding him to solve his practical problems.

As a result of the study which I have given to agricultural conditions on the southeastern states in connection with the work for farm improvement being carried on by the Southern railway company, I have become convinced that the most important problem confronting the farmers of our section at this time is that of increasing their average yields per acre. This may be said to be an all inclusive problem for it involves not only cultural methods but questions as to the rotation of crops so as to get the best results as to raising live stock for manure as well as for direct profit, and as to the proper use of the right kind of fertilizers and the application of lime to soil needing a lime treatment.

We have just reached the time

in the United States when this problem of increasing average yields per acre is becoming acute. With the growth of population, demand for farm products of all kinds is increasing and there are no longer vast areas of productive lands in the west open to farm settlement. The growing demand must be met in larger measure than heretofore by the farmers of the older states, and there is no section which, by its geographical relation to the consuming centers and climatic and soil conditions, is better situated to profit by this condition than the southeastern states.

The county fair can be made a most efficient agency in the solution of the problem of increasing the yields of our southeastern soils. As a means to this end I would suggest to the managers of these fairs that they require exhibitors to attach to their exhibits or post up with them placards giving the most complete information practicable as to the conditions under which they were produced. For example, the educational value of a corn exhibit would be much increased if it should be accompanied by a placard stating the rotation of crops in which the corn had been grown, describing concisely the character of soil and the methods by which it had been prepared, the date and method of planting, the date and methods of cultivation, the amount of barn yard manure used per acre with the time and method of its application, the character and amount of commercial fertilizers used with the time and method of their application, the yield per acre obtained, and any other facts of an instructive nature relative to the production of corn. Similar placards with such changes as might be necessary to adapt them to the different exhibits would add greatly to the practical educational value of the fair.

In a brief article of this kind it is not practicable to discuss all of the ways in which a county fair can be helpful to a community, but I think there can be no question as to its great value and I should be glad to see an annual fair in every county in the southeastern states.

SCHOOL BEGINS SEPT. 2

The fall term of the Brevard graded school will open Monday morning, Sept. 2, at 9 o'clock. There will be special exercises for the opening and a full attendance of parents and friends is especially desired. It is very important that all pupils expecting to attend are present, if possible, on the first day. We earnestly request that parents keep this in mind.

We want to know that all children of school age in this district are in school, and the faculty of this school will make special effort this year to get them to come.

J. P. BENNETT, Principal.

DOMESTIC SCIENCE IN HOME-MAKING

SPECIAL EDUCATION IS
NECESSARY

No Education for Girls Is Adequate Which Neglects Responsibilities of Home

The public schools are established and maintained for the harmonious development of all the people, and and whatever these schools can do to aid in rightly developing the boys and girls in the homes, in making the homes more attractive and bringing them nearer a state of perfection, should be considered a part of their legitimate work. The public schools should not only train the pupils in reading, writing, arithmetic, and other subjects commonly taught in the elementary schools, but should also train the boys in agriculture and the manual arts and the girls in domestic science and domestic economy. "Girls of the intermediate and grammar grades have strong domestic proclivities, and they are easily interested in whatever pertains to the welfare of the home. Lessons in domestic science which are within their mental grasp enable them to make such a connection between the school and the home as will increase their interest in both their school work and their home duties," and help them to be more proficient in both. But we realize that all educational progress is and has always been characterized by a constant struggle between those who believe that the present order should exist forever without change, and those who believe that the educational institution should be so developed as to adequately meet the ever-changing life conditions.

As the various schools in our educational system have been organized, the results obtained have been too meager, too inadequate. But, as in all other kinds of work, before we can intelligently pass judgment on the work of the schools, we must have a standard of measurement. I know of no better test of the inefficiency of schools than what they do for life in all its phases; therefore real schooling is preparation for real living. Have our schools of the past had that influence for better living that they ought to have? What effect have they had on the home—the fundamental institution of society? Have our homes been made comfortable, convenient and beautiful? Have we had the proper regard for art, literature and all those other refining influences that make for the cultivation of the esthetic natures of the children? Yet these homes have been built and are being maintained by the products of the public schools.

The introduction of domestic science into the public schools of various sections of the country is an important move in the right direction.

The home, the problems of which command the interests of the larger per cent of women, is a great educational institution. Within it most of our ideals and tendencies toward right living culture are either fostered or smothered. A course in domestic science, or "home science," such as we should have given in our public schools, would be not merely a course in cookery or sewing, but would also embrace all the practical things of every day life that effect the individual, the home or the community; would improve sanitation and help stamp out disease; would, by enriching the course of study, make the school a brighter, more attractive, more interesting place; would reach out and help the homes and the community at large; and

Continued on page 6.