

The Charlotte News

Published Daily and Sunday by THE NEWS PUBLISHING CO. W. C. Dowd, President and Gen. Mgr.

Telephones: City Editor 277, Business Office 118, Job Office 1530

J. C. PATTON, Editor; Mrs. J. F. CALDWELL, City Editor; A. W. BURCH, Adv. Mgr.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Daily and Sunday.
One year \$6.00
Six months \$3.00
Three months \$1.50
One month .60
One week .12

Sunday Only
One year \$2.00
Six months \$1.00
Three months .50
Times-Democrat
Semi-Weekly.
One year \$1.00
Six months .50
Three months .25

ANNOUNCEMENT.
The attention of the public is respectfully invited to the following: In future, Obituary Notices, in Memoriam Sketches, Cards of Thanks, communications espousing the cause of a private enterprise or a political candidate and like matter, will be charged for at the rate of five cents a line. There will be no deviation from this rule.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1912.

FERTILIZER FROM THE AIR.

Transmutation of air into fertilizer, the erstwhile mad dream of the nineteenth century alchemist, is so near an accomplished miracle that its commercial application is to be undertaken within the present month at Nitrolee, S. C., U. S. A. The name Nitrolee suggests the essential characteristic of the process, which is, in brief, energizing the inert nitrogen of the atmosphere by means of the electric arc. The electric energy employed in this process will be derived from the two mammoth stations of the Southern Power Company at Great Falls and Rocky Creek, located a few miles distant from Nitrolee.

Southern Electro-Chemical Company is the caption of this most recent experiment on the part of the Southern Power Company. It owes its conception to the desirability of utilizing the variable surplus, and at present waste, horsepower of the Great Falls and Rocky Creek stations. These power stations have a generating capacity of 80,000 electric horsepower. The actual amount of power generated, however, is a variable, depending upon the seasons which influence the fall of water, and other factors. On this account the maximum of power which can be contracted for by the power company is far below the rated capacity of the station. Furthermore the demands made upon the contracted power vary between wide limits for the twelve hour periods. These considerations have led to the provision of a consumer of power for the entire twenty-four hour period. Accordingly the contemplated fertilizer plant will be in operation continuously.

That the building of this fertilizer plant is little more than an experiment on the part of the Southern Power Company is indicated by the size of the plant which they are building. Only four thousand horsepower will be utilized, representing an output of five tons nitric acid daily, or, in terms of nitrate of lime, which is the available chemical form in which the essential nitrogen is fed to the plants, about eight tons. Depending upon the success of the first plant, a second plant with a utilization of twenty thousand horsepower daily will or will not be constructed. Everything is in readiness for the arrival of the immense "blower" from Europe, when it will be installed and operations begun. Not only this "blower" but every part of the machinery and material used in construction, even the brick used in construction of the absorption towers, had to be imported from Europe. There are no establishments in this country capable of turning out the articles desired. For example no brick of American manufacture could be found of the right quality to withstand the vitriolic effects of the nitric acid.

It is scarcely fair, in fact, to the success of the commercial manufacture of nitric acid from the atmosphere, as carried out in Europe for several years, to call the process an experiment. At present the only factor in the commercial application of the process is the supply of immense electric power at small cost. The details of the process are easily understood even by those not familiar with chemical terms and reaction. It is a matter of common education that the atmosphere is composed approximately of four-fifths nitrogen and one-fifth oxygen. Oxygen is the element essential to animal life, while nitrogen is an essential plant food. Nitrogen as it exists in the atmosphere, however, is said to be inert and the only function hitherto attributed to it is the dilution of the oxygen. In other words the atmospheric nitrogen is chemically inactive, unassimilable by growing plants. In contrast with the nitrogen in chemical combination in Chili saltpeter which is used on so enormous a scale for fertilizer that it is calculated the entire supply in the

world will be exhausted within the next twenty-years. It has been, therefore, for many years a matter of the greatest importance to discover some method whereby the inexhaustible supply of nitrogen in the air could be made assimilable for plants. Within the last few years a method has been devised and successfully applied commercially. In this method a blast of air is blown across an electric arc between two carbon electrodes. In the intense heat of the electric arc, a heat which is as high as thirty-five hundred degrees centigrade, the nitrogen, inactive at ordinary temperatures, becomes active and combines with the oxygen present to form oxides of nitrogen. The further stages of the process are concerned simply with the absorption of these oxides, which come from the arc in the gaseous condition, in water thereby forming the nitric acid, and later treating ordinary limestone with the acid when the desired nitrate of lime is obtained.

The most serious drawback to the commercial success of the process is the immense disproportion between the amount of acid procured and the amount of electric energy employed. It is only where the electric power is much cheaper than can be furnished by steam generation that the process can be employed. Hence the process is carried on only where the source of electrical energy is water power, and only then when there is more power than can be disposed of in other fashion.

In the instance of the Southern Electro-Chemical Company the demand for the process has been created by the very surplus power at hand. A fortunate circumstance, also, is a supply of limestone at hand in the nearby hills. The Southern Electro-Chemical Company was organized several years ago in New York when the patent rights of Dr. Albert Paulding, a noted continental scientist were acquired. The officers of the company are: A. H. Burroughs, president; R. B. Arlington, secretary and treasurer. When the plant is put into operation it will have the novel distinction of being the first and only one in America. The growing demand for fertilizer is rapidly exhausting the supply of Chili saltpeter, hence the peculiar importance attached to the success of the present experiment.

CHARLOTTE'S BUILDING RECORD.

In its compilation of buildings statistics for the year The Georgian of Atlanta, makes the following terse report on the records of leading Southern cities.

"That Atlanta is the fastest growing city in the South is shown by the fact that in 1911 it led its growing rivals in Dixie in building construction. Atlanta permits reached \$6,215,892, which was \$1,190,058 less than in 1910.

Richmond, Va., was second, its building running to \$6,900,000. "Birmingham shows only \$3,651,880. "Memphis permits totalled \$3,539,346. "Nashville was in the ruck in the race with but \$1,209,979.20. "Dallas led the Texas cities with \$5,184,422. Fort Worth had a total of \$2,919,942. Houston shows up with \$2,195,235, and San Antonio \$1,813,174. "Jacksonville's permits represented an expenditure of \$3,590,8905. "Little Rock was in the rear with \$1,582,949. "Atlanta has it by a shade on Louisville, Ky., with \$6,126,240, and yet 1911 was said to have been Louisville's best building record. "Perhaps the most phenomenal showing made by small cities in the Atlanta territory was at Charlotte, N. C., where the permits for the first eleven months aggregated \$1,060,756. "Macon was right there with nearly \$2,500,000 for building."

The special mention of Charlotte's record above was indeed merited. While small compared with Atlanta, New Orleans and several other cities of the South, in so far as population goes, Charlotte has made a record of substantial growth during the past twelve months which shows up creditably with the best. It will be remembered, too, that in point of population Charlotte outstripped all other Southern cities in percentage of increase during ten years past, save Birmingham, outdistancing even Atlanta.

The building record of last year is almost up to Nashville, and is much better than that made in a number of Southern cities having larger population. And last year's record will be beaten by the building operations of the present year—beaten by far. Not only does 1912 start off with better prospects of building activities, but other tremendous developments are promised, including the completion of the Interurban and the coming of the Norfolk Southern Railway. It will be a good idea for the South to keep its eye on the Queen City of Tar Heels.

FROM OTHER SANCTUMS.....

Very Appropriate. Just to show the fitness of things, on the very day that Dr. Cook lectured in Charlotte the secretary of state issued a charter for the North Pole Ice Cream Freezer Co. of that city. It is to be hoped this new enterprise will not have as rough sledding as Doc Cook has had.—Salisbury Post.

Blow to Dipping. At a recent meeting of the traveling



It Never Flickers

The long winter evenings give a woman a splendid chance for sewing or embroidery; but her eyes suffer from the strain unless she has a good light. The Rayo is the best lamp made.

It gives a strong, diffused light that is remarkably easy to the eyes. There is no glare to it; no flicker. It lights up a whole room. The Rayo is an economical lamp, too. You get the most possible light-value for the oil burned; and the Rayo itself is a low-priced lamp. Yet it is a handsome lamp—an ornament to any room in the house. The Rayo Lamp is easily lighted without removing shade or chimney; easy to clean and rewick. Made of solid brass, nickel-plated; also in numerous other styles and finishes.

Ask your dealer to show you his line of Rayo lamps; or write for descriptive circular to any agency of the

Standard Oil Company
(Incorporated)

men in Charlotte the "tipping" of servants and the "American plan" of running hotels in the Carolinas and Virginia received solar-plexus blows. The action was taken at a meeting of the tri-state conference of hotel manager and managers. A report of the meeting says:

"At the two days' meeting at the Selwyn the hotel men of the states of North and South Carolina and of Virginia, discussed management plans, help and how to get the best service, and adopted strong resolutions calling on the traveling public to 'cut out' the habit of 'tipping' servants, every member of the convention endorsing the anti-tipping resolution. 'The public, even including some traveling men, appear to have an idea that hotel men pay their servants a modicum of wages expecting the public to pay them the remainder. There never was a greater error. All hotels especially those in the first class, select their help carefully, require the best that can be procured and pay employees as well or better than the same class of employees draw in stores, factories and offices. 'Another thing, that the meeting went on record as strongly favoring, was the European plan of managing a hotel. It was pointed out and unchallenged that the 'European' was the only method that absolutely guaranteed a square deal to both the guest and to the hotel. Under that method the guest pays for just what he gets, no more or less. Under the American system, so-called, the guest registers and as long as he is not checked off he pays the hotel for three meals a day and for room rent, regardless of whether he occupies a room or eats a meal in the house during his stay in the city. The European method is coming and it is coming rapidly, because it is a fair and square method and it shows up that way to both the hotel man and his guest at a glance. 'The tipping' nuisance, it was said, made servants lazy, sullen, and derelict in their services to their employer.—High Point Enterprise.

FIVE NEW CIRCUIT JUDGES.

IN SOUTH CAROLINA. By Associated Press. Columbia, S. C., Jan. 13.—The South Carolina general assembly yesterday elected five circuit judges to fill vacancies occasioned by death, resignation and expiration of terms. Hayne F. Rice of Aiken, was elected from the second circuit to succeed the late Judge Robert Aldrich. Thomas H. Spain of Darlington was elected Judge of the court's circuit to succeed Judge R. C. Watts, elevated to the supreme court bench. Frank B. Gray of Abbeville was elected in the eighth circuit, succeeding the late Judge J. C. Klugh. Judges W. W. Devore and S. S. G. Shipp were re-elected in the eleventh and twelfth districts respectively.

Death of Rev. Dr. Morgan.

By Associated Press. Paris, Jan. 13.—The Rev. Dr. John B. Morgan, rector of the American church of the Holy Trinity on the avenue de L'Alma, died suddenly today.

THE DANGER OF LA GRIPPE

Is its fatal tendency to pneumonia. To cure your la grippe coughs take Foley's Honey and Tar Compound. R. E. Fisher, Washington, Kas., says: "I was troubled with a severe attack of la grippe that threatened pneumonia. A friend advised Foley's Honey and Tar Compound and I got relief after taking the first few doses. I took three bottles and my la grippe was cured." Get the genuine, in the yellow package. Do not allow your kidney and bladder trouble to develop beyond the reach of medicine. Take Foley Kidney Pills. They give quick results and stop irregularities with surprising promptness. Charles Durham, Lovington, Ill., has succeeded in finding a positive cure for bed wetting. "My little boy wet the bed every night clear thro' on the floor. I tried several kinds of kidney medicine and I was in the drug store looking for something different to help him when I heard of Foley Kidney Pills. After he had taken them two days we could see the change and when he had taken two-thirds of a bottle he was cured. That is about six weeks ago and he has not wet in bed since."

Only One "BROMO QUININE" That is LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE. Look for the signature of E. W. GROVE. Used the World over to Cure a Cold in One Day. 25c.

White Pine Cough Syrup With Tar

A reliable combination of stimulating expectorants for the relief of coughs and colds, bronchitis and hoarseness.

Tryon Drug Company
11 N. Tryon.
Phone 21 and 1043.

COMMISSIONER'S SALE

Under and by virtue of authority of the Superior Court of Mecklenburg County in the case entitled "C. H. Duls, Administrator with the will annexed of Charlotte Brewer, deceased, Plaintiffs, vs. Josie Mickelson and husband, Ed Mickelson and others, Defendants," the undersigned Commissioner will on Monday, the 12th day of February, 1912, at 12 o'clock M., at the County Court House Door in Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, N. C., sell to the highest bidder at public auction, the following described real estate, lying and being in Charlotte Township, Mecklenburg County, N. C. The certain lot of land in Square No. —, Ward No. 3, of the City of Charlotte, located at the Northeast intersection of South Mint and West Vance streets, bounded as follows: Beginning at an iron stake at the corner of said two streets and running with Mint street (East side), 145 feet and 1 inch Northeastwardly to Turner's corner; thence with his line, 104 feet Southwestwardly and nearly parallel with Vance street to a stake, a corner of the Old Blind Dick lot; thence with three lines of said lot, first Southwestwardly and nearly parallel with Mint Street, 50 feet to a stake; thence Southeastwardly and nearly parallel with Vance Street 2.7 feet to a fence; thence Southwestwardly, 86 feet to a fence post on Vance Street, and thence with said last named street, 92.1 feet to the beginning corner, and upon which lot are located two dwelling houses and a combination store and dwelling house. Bidding will start at \$3900. Terms of Sale—One-third cash, balance on a credit of six and twelve months, deferred payments to be secured by notes or bonds bearing interest from date of confirmation of sale, with leave to purchaser to anticipate payments at any time and title reserved until purchase money is all paid. This the 11th day of January, 1912. C. H. DULS, Commissioner.

Below Zero Things For Everybody

Charlotte atmosphere makes one hunt warm Underwear, warm Clothing, warm Shoes, warm Headwear. Our immense stock is complete in any of the above lines, and we satisfy you in price and quality. Having finished our stock taking we have a number of lots to close out at once. A picnic for hungry shoppers.

Shoes, Clothing and Gents' Furnishings

All To Go at Special Prices.

Big Job Lot Rubbers

Women's 38c, Men's 48c, Children's 6 to 10 19c. Another fresh lot of Rubbers just in from the best manufacturer of Rubbers in the United States. Price as usual will be in keeping with our policy of selling at the one short profit added and stop.

1,500 Cases Shoes

Representing all the leading and most popular shoes made from the cheapest to the best. Men's Shoes from 98c to \$4.00 Women's Shoes from 75c to \$3.00 Children's Shoes from 25c to \$1.00 Job Counter of Shoes to be sold for at least one-half their value.

\$8.75 Clothing Sale

Window Men's all pure Worsted Suits in plain and fancy colors, regulars, stouts, silms, double breasted, \$12.50 values at Men's and Boys' \$1.25 to \$1.50 Sweaters Men's \$2.00 to \$2.50 Sweaters Men's \$1.00 Underwear Men's 50c Fleece Underwear Men's and Youths' Overcoats Men's Gloves 25, 48 and 80

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BLAKE'S DRUG SHOP
On the Square,
Prescriptions Filled Day
and Night.

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We have several of the best known 5c and 10c Cigars put up in small packages that cost no more and fill a long felt want for Sunday smokers.

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Every Saturday at

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NORRIS Exquisite Chocolates and Bon-Bons

ARE RECEIVED EVERY FEW DAYS. Reese & Alexander
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Our method of laundering sheets and all other household linen, insures absolute cleanliness and perfect finish, with the least possible wear and tear. Our service is prompt. TRY US.

Sanitary Steam Laundry
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Special Values For Friday and Saturday

Two Extra Special Values in Boys' Dept.

No. 1. All Boys' 25c Phoenix Mufflers at 15c. All Boys 50c Phoenix Mufflers at 25c.

No. 2. All Boys' 75c Gloves will be on sale Friday and Saturday at 50c a pair. We handle nothing but new, clean first quality merchandise.

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