

Grits and Gravel

(By T. MOSES JONES.)

Moses, Jr., seems to be getting along nicely with his foot that the nail was stuck in last Friday. He still is in bed with a fresh flax-seed-meal poultice bound all around it. We hope he will be able to get out again in a few more days. Elwood, Jr., youngest son of Sheriff and Mrs. Elwood P. Davis, who lives across the way, came and brought him a carton of ice cream which he ate on short order. He has been reading and lying on the bed and trying to keep quiet, but it is a job for him just as it would be a job for me.

Had a nice ride in a couple of counties today with a friend who happened to be going to see about some business, and I happened to walk along just as he was leaving. It sure was a pleasure to ride leisurely along and look at the crops, and see what was going on, instead of "making ninety." And we got back the same day we left.

Mrs. J. J. Moore, of Nelson, Va. was over to our town lately with her two daughters, Rosa Lee and Dorothy May. Mrs. Moore was holding the prettiest, great, big, blue-eyed baby. And I didn't know that Joe had a fine baby at his house.

Lee Roy Jones, of near Chase City, had such a big dinner Monday that he chewed one of his tooth fillings out. He decided to come to town at once and get it fixed, so he brushed what was left of his teeth and actually brushed another filling out. If he hadn't come on to town as soon as he did, he would not have had enough teeth left to eat supper.

Just at this point I left my writing to attend lodge meeting. The I. O. O. F. is the only lodge I am a member of. Tonight was the date for the elec-

tion of officers for the next six months. No, I did not want an office nor did I get one. Last December ended up eighteen months of my being financial secretary, and it is a job to know that you have to attend a certain meeting once every week.

And when I returned home, I found John Watson Cannady and William Cherkas Jr., playing monopoly with Little Moses. No, I cannot say that, for though only just fourteen, Moses, Jr., weighs more than I do. Anyway, they had a good time playing until the rain ceased enough for them to mount their bicycles and ride home. And if you want to hear all kinds of foolishness and funniness going on, just get several boys that age together and tune in on them.

Johnnie Banks of Newton, N. C., a young friend of long standing, was in town for the week-end. Hadn't seen him for some time. Wish he would write us a letter and tell us the news of that section of the state.

Gave Buck Howell several sample copies until I finally landed his name on our subscription list. Buck likes to read the news.

Every time it rains until he cannot plow except from a boat, J. H. Fleming then comes to town. He lives way back, down over towards Franklinton, J. H. married Miss Susan Blackley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. (Charlie) Blackley. And when Mr. Blackley and all those boys of his come to town, I mean it is just like Franklinton set down right in the middle of Oxford.

And every week from one to ten times (but mostly about once) Early Williford and his son, Percy, from beyond Berea and up towards Rougemont, come to town. And somewhere near them lives a young man named E. Pluribus Williams. It seems that at the time he was born, his daddy just couldn't think of a name good enough for the baby. He didn't want to name him Tom, Dick, or Harry, or any ordinary name. Jim and Joe and John and Jake; Bill and Bob and Ben; Seth and Sam and Saul and Sol and a thousand other names weren't what he wanted to call his boy.

And about that time Mr. Williams happened to pull a silver dollar from his pocket and read the words, "E Pluribus Unum", so he named the boy E. Pluribus Williams. If any one can top that one, just send it in.

My own dear mama came over and spent the morning with us yesterday and we were sure glad to have her. She can get around on her crutches, which is lots better than having to stay in bed, since her right leg was broken in a fall last summer.

The operator said to me the other day, "Moses, you sure went back into some ancient history when you told about all those things that happened when you were a boy." Then I assured him that the best part of it was that not many who read it could dispute it, even though they didn't think it was so.

Jimmie Cash and Police Strickland fooled me worse than terrible yesterday. They told me to come on and go to ride with them. When I got in 'he car they turned around and proceeded about half a block and wound up at the garage. So that was the width, breadth, and length of my ride. I will know them better for next time.

That song, "Whispering", which was all the rage fifteen or twenty years ago, keeps running through my mind. It is just as pretty now as it was then and is often still heard over the radio. I some time ago read in a magazine that the writer of that song offered to go halves with another fellow for the sum of a hundred dollars, which offer the other fellow refused. The author finally got it started off and only cleared about seventy-five thousand dollars on it. Sometimes we all miss our once chance in life, and that chance never comes again.

And if I don't close this up to a finish, I will soon be getting more let-

ters as the one I received dated, "Late Sunday night," and written by some unknown friend saying, "We had much rather see a blank space in our much respected paper than your cheap, lousy column."

And close I will.
T. MOSES JONES.

CAN YOU ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS?

See Page Four

1. In which country is the export city of Cherbouq?
2. Who won the 1938 North and South Women's Golf championship, recently played at Pinehurst, N. S.?
3. Between which two cities was the first telegraph message sent?
4. If two children are born of the same mother a day apart are they twins?
5. Which state is called the "Apache State"?
6. Where is the native habitat of the chimpanzee?
7. Which state is represented in Congress by Senator Fred H. Brown?
8. Where in the Holy Land was the village of Bethany, referred to in the New Testament?
9. Who wrote the play "The Dreamy Kid"?
10. Name the capital of American Samoa.

Today's Church Message

By REV. J. EVERETTE NEESE.

THE LIGHT.

"Mind The Light" was the last message of an old lighthouse keeper to his wife. It was one which he had often repeated in life, and the words summed up his constant thought and daily duty. "Mind the Light."

Those words might well serve as a motto for ever Christian. Jesus calls us the light of the world, and at the same time warns us of the danger that our light may be dimmed or obscured. Men do not light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but too often in the Christian life they do that very thing. The light is there, sometimes hidden and obscured by some fault or defect that obstructs its full radiance. It may be some sin which should be destroyed. "Mind the Light."

Railroad Problem Of Recent Origin

(Continued from Page One.)

respondent, "is that much 'real' investment in railroad property is unprofitable. This is true of both remote and recent expenditures. Whether or not interest is a burden depends not so much on whether full value for the outlay was gotten at the time it was spent, but on whether the expenditure does any good now. The bystander can criticize the policies of some railroads as wise, and some as unwise.

"The American Association of Railroads and the brotherhoods both are right. The roads can show property values substantially in excess of their liabilities; the brotherhoods can show that a good deal of this property might just as well be water.

"My own opinion is that there was

a lot of foolishness in railroad capital expenditures, based on the careless assumption that things would go on forever as they were up to 1926. Still, it appears unfair for the brotherhoods to generalize loosely about watered capitalizations."

"Not Over-Capitalized." Second point: "The investigation sponsored by the late Senator La Follette," relates Mr. Shaw, "proved conclusively that the existing railroad plant could not be replaced by the expenditures of an amount equal to the total capitalization of the railroads."

"In other words, on a replacement-depreciation basis, the roads were not and are not over-capitalized.

"On a value-in-use basis, perhaps they are. So are a lot of businesses. "If the roads could have foreseen the severity of obsolescence to which many of their properties would be subject, they would have avoided many expenditures and written off many others. I readily can share criticism of them for not being more conservative on this score, but it hardly seems to justify name-calling."

Security Holders Loss. Third point: "Since no one," says Mr. Shaw, "can guarantee the profitability of a given investment, and since the roads must raise a certain amount of money from time to time (maybe not as much as they think) there always will be the innocent third parties—the bond holders.

"Mr. McKillops' attitude appears to be, toward all holders of marginal railroad securities. 'You must take the rap. We won't.' "In practice, the security holders will take, and, to a large extent, have taken the rap. About all that the managements are doing is to try to spread the rap around."

Sins In 1920-'30. In conclusion, observes Correspondent Shaw, "I must add an objection to your statement that the stock-watering and over-bonding date back a generation or two.

"There was plenty of it, but what is causing the roads' trouble today consists more substantially of bonds sold in the 1920-'30 period. Many roads did too much of a good thing and

some were plain foolish. The sins of earlier days were mostly washed out."

Republicans Will Fight For Office

(Continued from Page One.)

inconceivable that they will not equal that number this time and in some quarters there is a strong belief they'll carry a few counties captured by the Democrats last time. As an example, even staunch Democrats believe that Cherokee is likely to replace colorful Harry (Light Horse) Cooper, who got himself too good a job in Washington to bother his head about running again.

Cash Boy's Body Found, But Cause of Death Secret

(Continued from Page One.)

gust, was in a bad state of decomposition. An autopsy was cancelled when Dr. Thomas Otto reported the body was in such a state it would be impossible to determine the cause of death.

The body and ransom were found within a few miles of the Cash home at Princeton. The shoe box in which the 1,500 bills of small denomination were delivered also was found—the kidnaper had torn it to pieces and hidden it beneath a stone in a Palmetto swamp.

Hancock Talked For Post In RFC

(Continued from Page One.)


busing themselves with naming Lindsay Warren of the first district to the comptroller general's post.

The surprisingly heavy vote cast last Saturday is an encouraging sign of political progress. The more votes, the less chance there is for manipu-

tion of the election by unscrupulous politicians. Even now, however, North Carolinians don't use the ballot in anything like the numbers they should.

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