

Today is "ground hog day." If the pesky little critter even as much as pokes his snout from the confines of his lair he will be annihilated instantly.

Joseph Daniels of News and Observer fame, says that as soon as he gets through cleaning out and increasing the navy, he's going back to Raleigh and spend the remainder of his life in roasting public officials. Josephus has certainly been handed some hard knocks since becoming secretary of the navy and if he believes in reciprocity, there are a whole lot of people who have something coming their way when he again picks up the pen.

If there is any one set of men who deserve real credit for what they do, the risk they take and the lives and property they save, it is the officers and crews of the revenue cutters. These men do not seem to know the meaning of the word "danger" and but for them the loss of both life and property on the seas and smaller bodies of water, would each year be larger. Too much cannot be said in their praise.

The Raleigh News and Observer has been receiving a number of communications of late signed by "tax payers," "Citizen" and other similar non de plumes and (as is the case in all good newspaper offices) these missives have been consigned to the waste basket. The Journal has the same trouble as the News and Observer. Each week we receive communications of real merit which were forced to throw away on account of the fact that the writers did not furnish their names. It is not necessary to publish the name of the writer but as an evidence of good faith, the editor of this paper insists that all communications be signed.

The Charlotte Observer tells us that Simmons and Overman stood by the administration in the fight in the ship purchase bill. Naturally, this might have been supposed. North Carolina's peerless sons always stand by the right thing.

Over in New York, man by the name of T. Roosevelt says country going to bow work. Same man once had a vision in South Africa and saw a river running up hill. His latest mirage is just another slight affliction of his optical nerves.

Says the Rocky Mount Telegram: "We acknowledge with thanks an invitation from the New Bern chamber of commerce to attend the international dinner which is to be given at the Gaston hotel in that city Thursday, February 11. Secretary of Agriculture David Houston, Senator Simmons, President Young of the Norfolk Southern, and others have consented to be present, and the occasion in New Bern will be just another step in that great campaign for a greater New Bern. Such a move is quite the thing, and we are ready to doff our hats to New Bern."

It will give us the greatest pleasure imaginable to greet Col. Horne on the night of the dinner, and in fact we assure him that it will not be complete unless his is present.

Whether old man G. Hog saw his shadow yesterday is a matter of doubt and we will be compelled to await subsequent events, or rather weather, to give an authoritative assertion on the matter. Just at the time the critter was scheduled to appear old Sol was not in evidence, but a dispatch from the sanctum sanctorum of the Raleigh Times was to the effect that the arrival had been delayed for an hour or two. This being the case it is possible that the varmint issued forth, saw his shadow and crawled back in, pulling the hole in after him.

"Morgan Does Not Know His Wealth" says a headline. The most of us can tell right offhand, even to the fraction of a penny, what our financial assets are and old man Morgan is to be pitied for being so much like that old pirate Croesus.

Like a drowning man grasping a straw, Col. Horne of the Telegram, published over in that city which old Sol but seldom smiles on (Rocky Mount), clutched at the following remarks from these columns: "Quoting from that cheerful little city 'somewhere in this world the sun is shining.' Col. Al Fairbrother queries 'Where?' That's easy to answer: In New Bern, declares the New Bern Journal. But whom? Is what we would like to know? We haste to remark 'Always' is it shining, its needed."

Pou and Gatling won in the Raleigh postoffice fight and the atmosphere up around the State capital will now begin to clear up. It was a warm fight and "large quantities of ammunition were brought up to be used by both sides in the fray."

**ROPER'S PLANT  
 BEEN SHUT DOWN**  
**"For Thirty Days Only"**  
 Say The Officials

The local plant of the John L. Roper Lumber Company, one of the largest manufacturing plants in the South, was yesterday closed down for a period of thirty days. A statement given out from the local office of the company is to the effect that the close down was for the purpose of giving the plant a thorough overhauling and making a number of repairs and improvements and that work would be started up again on the first of March and that the full force of men would be employed. While the plant has closed down, the company will continue to fill its orders, having a large supply of lumber on hand and this will give employment to a number of men. Coming just at this period, the closing down of the plant will work a great hardship on the men who have been employed there and who are dependent upon their wages for support. However, there are other plants in operation in and around New Bern and these will give temporary employment to many of those who have been thrown out of work.

**DIVERSIFY THE CROPS**

Will you tell us how to diversify, we cannot grow live-stock on account of ticks, cholera and free range, and if we could grow it, we cannot sell it to outside markets, on account of the filthy, fevered tick. Will the newspapers, politicians, and business men open up the way to diversify. We are too stupid to see it.

Does your business men feel any real interest in successful diversification?

**HARLOWE NEWS**

**Citizens Down There Looking for  
 the Ground Hog**

Harlowe, Feb. 1—Here's hoping the ground hog won't see his shadow tomorrow.

Mrs. Jennie Bell, who has been on a visit to her daughter, Mrs. J. G. Taylor has returned to her home at Goldsboro.

J. R. Mason was in New Bern Friday last week on business.

Mr. J. G. Taylor is attending court in New Bern today.

Miss Nettie Oglesby of Newport, has been appointed to finish teaching the public school term at this place, and will begin her work this morning.

Mr. Roy Taylor spent Saturday and Sunday at Newport.

Mr. W. C. Williams returned Saturday morning from a business trip to Vaneboro.

The maiden run of the "Reyno" from New Bern to Clubfoot Creek was two and one-half hours instead of three and a half, as published in Friday's news from this place.

Quite a number of people from this section are attending New Bern Court this week, among them are: Claud Taylor, W. L. Harris, J. H. Elliott, F. S. Becton, J. A. Morton and others.

Messrs. Raymond and George Ball, of Merrimont, are visiting in the neighborhood.

Miss Myrtle Mountain and sister, of Windsor, N. C., are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Morton.

**ROOK PARTY**

**Mr. and Mrs. O. K. Howard Entertain Friends**  
 Vaneboro, Feb. 1—One of the most enjoyable social events of the season was the rook party given Wednesday evening by Mr. and Mrs. O. K. W. Howard, at their lovely home on West College street, in honor of their house guest, Miss Clara Lambert, of Norfolk, Va. The home was artistically decorated with cut flowers and potted plants, and a delicious salad course was served by Mrs. Howard, assisted by Miss Lillian Smith.

After the games were over, Miss Corinne Tucker, the accomplished music teacher of the farm life school, rendered several choice selections on the piano, followed by two vocal selections, very beautifully rendered by Mrs. George L. Pritchard and Mr. Geo. O. Marshall. These added much to the pleasure of the evening, and when the "wee small" hours were fast approaching, the guests very reluctantly bade Mr. and Mrs. Howard good night. Mrs. Howard is a charming hostess on all occasions, but seemed to have surpassed all other occasions last evening. Among the invited guests were Dr. and Mrs. Geo. L. Pritchard, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Harvey, Misses Elizabeth Moore, Vivian Dillon, Florence Wetherington, Connie Tucker, Lillian Smith, and Messrs. Geo. O. Marshall and Claudius L. Ives.

Edwin G. Hill, of Mullen S. C., arrived in the city yesterday morning and will spend some time visiting his brother. United States Commissioner Charles B. Hill. Mr. Hill is engaged in the lumber business in South Carolina, but for the last few months he has been in poor health, and while here he will consult a local physician.

G. S. Dennis, of Grand Rapids, Mich., who has been spending a few days in New Bern, left yesterday morning for a visit to Beaufort.

**CHANCE FOR SOME  
 GIRL TO MARR.**

**Here's a Farmer in Virginia  
 Who Wants a Better  
 Half.**

(From Greensboro Everything)

The Mayor of Baltimore receives a very interesting letter from a farmer in Virginia who wants a wife. He wants a cook, but he imagines it is a wife. He says he is tired of cooking his own dinner and sewing on buttons, and therefore he appeals to the Mayor of Baltimore to help him out. This is a part of the letter he wrote:

"I am a man thirty-three years of age. My former home was Richmond, Va. Two years ago I suffered a breakdown in health, caused by too close confinement, having been a clerk in the retail grocery business for twelve years. I decided to go to the country home of my father, an old farmhouse built in the year 1681, and through it, hoping thereby to regain my health. I am of the opinion that I have succeeded in so doing."

Following an explanation of his efforts, single-handed, to improve the farm, Mr. Lee writes:

"My dwelling-house consists of four large rooms and a kitchen. I have it well furnished and comfortable, but lacks the main thing necessary—a good housekeeper. I've been cooking my meals and sewing my clothes quite a while."

"My father counsels me to marry. I want and need a wife, and as I am not in a position to seek, must advertise. I'd prefer a woman between twenty-six and thirty. Have read and heard quite much concerning the appearance and qualities of the Baltimore ladies, which fact resulted in my turning to you for assistance."

"That looks like a hundred girls in Baltimore would answer that appeal for help, and some of them would go the first train with a cook book and a box of buttons. When a man feels that it is not best that he should remain alone when there is some cooking to do, and appeals to the Mayor of a great city, it does look like there was a way out of the wilderness for him."

**HERTFORD GOES FORWARD,**

Hertford, N. C., Feb. 1—Local boosters are working hard to make the coming chataqua in Hertford a success, and the big advance sale of season tickets has been very encouraging. Contracts have been signed with the Radcliffe Attraction Company of Washington, D. C., booking the mid-winter festival for three days, February 8, 9, and 10th, and an attempt will be made to conduct a farmers institute and a big educational rally during the week.

The entertainments, which will include lectures, vocal and instrumental music, impersonations, readings, etc., will be given in the graded school auditorium every afternoon and evening during the festival.

The following committee in charge of the arrangements, and the members are acting as guarantors for the attractions:

George E. Major; Rev. F. M. Shamburger; W. R. White; J. R. McMullan; W. T. Brown; J. L. Tucker; Dr. Robert W. Smith; Wm. B. Hudson; R. L. Knowles; W. F. C. Edwards; Dr. Thos. S. McMullan; B. F. Bray; W. E. White; D. M. Field; Wm. Madre; L. R. Crawford; Wm. G. Gaither; and Dr. Geo. E. Newby.

**NOTICE TO MARINES.**

**Frying Pan Shoals Gas and Bell  
 Buoy Reported Extinguished**

The following local notice to Mariners sent out from the office of light-house inspector for the Sixth District at Charleston will be of much interest to mariners along the North Carolina coast:

North Carolina seacoast—Frying Pan Shoals gas and bell buoy 2A, "FP" reported extinguished January 25, 1915, will be relighted as soon as practicable. By order of the commissioner of lighthouses, Washington, D. C.

TOM H. GREGG, Superintendent.

**GATLING WINS.**

**Pou Succeeds in Landing His  
 Man.**

Raleigh, Feb. 2—Friends of Bart M. Gatling today showered congratulations on him over his good luck in being recommended by Representative Pou for postmaster of Raleigh. It was expected that the news of his recommendation would be flashed from Washington at any hour today, Mr. Pou having announced last night that he would stand for Mr. Gatling. It was not expected that the fight would be prolonged further, although Secretary Daniels might endeavor to thwart Representative Pou and Senator Simmons.

**NEW BERN COTTON MARKET**

(By G. W. Taylor & Son.)  
 Middling..... 7 5/8c  
 Strict Middling..... 7 7/8c  
 Good Middling..... 8 1/8c  
 Receipts yesterday, 25 bales.

Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Garris, Dr. G. M. Smith and J. R. Reeves spent last night in the city en route from Newport to Vaneboro.

**RAVENS SCHOOLS  
 FORGING AHEAD**

**Reports From All Parts of  
 The County Are  
 Encouraging**

S. M. Brinson, superintendent of the public schools of Craven county, is in receipt of reports from the schools in all parts of the county, which are most encouraging, and which have brought forth much praise from him for the efficient corps of teachers employed at each of the various institutions. In the local schools, both white and colored, the attendance is large and the pupils are making great progress in their work. A new building has recently been thrown open, and the addition of this improves the facilities for accommodating a larger number of children, and this is just what has long been needed.

Down in No. 7 Township where the only "central school" in this part of the State is located, great progress is being made. Children for miles around Thurman attend this school, and are transported to and from their homes in large busses. At the public school at Vaneboro, and also the Farm Life School at that place come excellent reports of large attendance and much progress and the same thing is reported from every section. According to Supt. Brinson's statement, the people of Craven county are taking more interest now in education than ever before.

**SCORES AFFECTED  
 BY LATEST ACT  
 OF CONGRESSMEN**

Combining of Revenue Cutter and Life Saving Service of interest.

**5,000 ARE AFFECTED**

Life Savers Don't Seem to Take Much Interest In New Order.

Some scores of men along the North Carolina banks thirty miles east of here are vitally affected by the passing last week by Congress of the act combining the revenue cutter and life-saving services.

Reports from the isolated stations along the shore of the Atlantic indicates that, although they are to be converted from ordinary civilian employees into enlisted servants of the government, the life-savers are socially indifferent to their "fate," those who do not openly welcome the change. This is as would be expected, since when it gets down to a little matter of passing the physical examination necessary for entry into the enlisted service there is hardly a man-Jack among all the surfmen who wouldn't grin in contentment of it; and besides, the men who patrol the beach in all kinds of weather and risk their lives to save others are famous for their patriotism.

**Fight ?Sure**

The fact that in war they would be turned over to the navy and would bear arms doesn't matter a whit to them. Between four thousand and five thousand men in the former revenue cutter and life-saving services are combined under the act into one corps, scattered in crews of from eight or nine to a hundred men all along the harbors and shoreline of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, the Gulf of Mexico and in the Philippines and other dependencies. Two revenue cutters are stationed in North Carolina water, many stations sheltering life-savers dot the barren sand waste separating the sounds from the sea.

**SLCUMBS CREEK ITEMS**

**Rainy Weather Down in That  
 Section**

Slcumbs Creek, Feb. 1—We are having some rainy weather now for the past week.

Dr. M. W. Ball was a business visitor at the home of Mr. C. C. Cannon's Tuesday night.

Miss Mary Ives is the guest of Miss Sallie Russell for the past week.

Mr. Fred. Bryan was a visitor at Mr. J. I. Russell's Wednesday night.

Mr. John Pittman is spending some time with his sister, Mrs. C. C. Cannon.

Mr. George Midgett and Mr. Karoon was visitors at Mr. C. C. Cannon's Tuesday night.

Mrs. J. I. Russell was the guest of Mrs. Willie Pittman's Tuesday night.

Mr. John Pittman was a welcome visitor at Mr. J. I. Russell's Wednesday night.

Mr. W. N. McGowan of Croatan was a welcome guest of Mr. C. C. Cannon Tuesday night.

Mrs. J. I. Russell and Miss Sallie Russell was visitors of Mrs. K. Powell Wednesday night.

Miss Ester Cannon was visitor of Mrs. Willie Pittman last night.

Mr. J. H. Oliver was a visitor at Mr. C. C. Cannon's Wednesday night.

Mr. W. S. Emery was the guest of Mr. C. C. Cannon last night.

Valentine greetings!

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. J. Simpson, Misses Florence Wetherington, Lillis Smith, Mrs. Kelley Howard, Mrs. D. G. White and Miss Dillon of Vaneboro, arrived in the city last evening to attend "Shepherd of the Hills."

The funeral of Mrs. Sidney Arthur who died at Askin last Saturday at the age of seventy-five years, was conducted from her home yesterday at noon and the remains interred in the family burying ground at Askin.

**EDITOR FOY IS  
 AGAIN ON JOB**

**Eastern Carolina Men  
 Wilds Pen Up In  
 Hilly Country**

Mebane, Feb. 1.—Mr. J. O. Foy is again editor of the Mebane Leader, our local weekly. Last fall he sold the paper to other parties here, feeling that his health forbade his being confined as closely as office work required. Since that time several have taken their stand at the editorial wheel only to yield it to other hands after the voyage through one or more issues. During the absence of the old pilot a variety of talent has been called upon news-craft: pedagogical, legal, business, political, etc., none of which stood the strain, of whatever kind it was for many weeks. Your correspondent has not been giving an authoritative statement of the reasons for relinquishing hold on the steering wheel of the Leader, but several suggestions have been made. It has been hinted that perhaps the steering gear was out of order; that possibly enough oil was not furnished the machinery—whatever that may mean—or may be, enough fuel was not put into the engine—whatever that indicates; that a teacher can handle a school, and a lawyer can lead after his practice, and an insurance man can work insurance, and a real estate man can manage houses and lands, and a politician can direct municipal affairs, each with more ease and a greater advantage than either can run the editorial page of a weekly paper. These street comments may be mere products of the imagination. The fact remains that several wrote and then stopped writing; that Mr. Foy is again editor, though he is a weak man physically still. The general hope is, that he may grow stronger till health and strength have been fully restored. The community looks to him again to do his part in boosting Mebane, "the biggest little town on earth."

With drag nets, chains to which hooks are attached, oyster tongs and almost every other conceivable instrument for dragging the bottom of a river, searchers have for several days been making a search for the body of Stephen Smith who fell from the gas boat "Carl T" enroute from New Bern to points in Carteret county on January 20th. Mr. Smith who was engineer on the vessel, had been called forward by the captain and returning to resume his duties in the engine room, lost his equilibrium and fell into the river. The vessel was brought to a stop as quickly as possible, and then there search for the body was made, but it was not located. On the following day, and every day since then, this search has been kept up, but without avail. It is rather mystifying to the searchers, that they cannot find the body and it is believed that it has been carried by the tide to some distant point and it may be several weeks before it is located.

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**Farmers Attention !!**  
 WE ARE STILL SELLING GOODS TO FARMERS AT FARMERS UNION PRICES  
**Farris Nassel** 66-68-70 Middle St.  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**C. L. SPENCER**  
 Hay, Grain, Feedstuffs, Etc.  
**New Bern, N. C.**

.. THE ..  
**BEST SHOE .. FOR .. BOYS .. IS THE .. WALTON**  
 "It Will Wear."  
**RING THE CHILDREN**  
 And let US fit them with The Celebrated **WALTON SCHOOL SHOES** Full Line Dry Goods and Clothing for the whole family.  
**A. B. SUGAR**

**To Our Out-of-Town Customers**  
 You are cordially invited to make our stores headquarters when in the city and when in need of anything usually carried by a first class drug store send us your order we will give it prompt attention and mail it to you on the first outgoing Parcel Post.

**Bradham Drug Co.**  
 The [Rexall Stores  
 Cor. Middle & Pollock Cor. Broad & Middle

**TEACHERS TO MEET HERE SATURDAY** \$2,500 AWARDED BY THIS JURY

An All Day Session to Be Held—Dr. E. C. Brooks Coming

Roper Lumber Company Loses In Craven Superior Court

It is the custom of the County Teachers Association to hold an all-day meeting once in each year, at which an address is usually made by some prominent educator. The date for the meeting this year has been set for Saturday, February the sixth, and Dr. E. C. Brooks, of Trinity College has accepted an invitation to make the principal address.

Dr. Brooks is one of the most noted educators in the State and is an orator of great ability, and there is every reason to believe that his address will not only prove of a most interesting variety but will also be highly beneficial. When the teachers assemble for the meeting they will be divided into two sections, the primary section will be in charge of Miss Mollie Heath of the local school, and Prof. W. G. Gaston of the Dover high school will have charge of the grammar grades. In each section matters of various importance to the teachers will be discussed. At the conclusion of the morning exercises the teachers will be served lunch in one of the school buildings, after which they will assemble in Griffin auditorium and will listen to an address by Dr. Brooks.

The case of Taylor vs the John L. Roper Lumber Company which was taken up Monday morning when Superior Court convened, came to a close yesterday afternoon, when the jury awarded the plaintiffs the sum of twenty five hundred dollars. The plaintiffs were suing for three thousand dollars for damage, which they alleged was done to their property by a fire originating from a spark from a stove of the defendant company.

Another interesting case was taken up yesterday, this being J. B. Barrow against the Philadelphia Life Insurance Company. The plaintiff in this action is suing for the payment of a three thousand dollar insurance policy. W. M. Bagley had a policy with the above named company made to Barrow, but at his death the company refused to pay the policy. Their defense is, that Bagley secured the policy by fraud. There is an able array of legal talent representing both the plaintiff and defendant company.

**HEAVY RAINS UP AROUND RALEIGH**

Predicted That Waters In All of the River Will Rise

Raleigh, Feb. 2.—It is predicted that sharp rises will occur in practically all the rivers of Eastern North Carolina as the result of the heavy rains which occurred from the Piedmont section to the coast Monday afternoon and night. The heaviest precipitation occurred at Neuse, N. C., where 2.52 inches fell. The rainfall in Raleigh amounted to 1.72 inches. Other stations reported to Section Director Denson at Raleigh as follows: Nashville, 1.10 inches; Rongomont, 1.83; Graham, 1.16; Randleman, 2.51; Reidsville, 1.34; Louisburg, 1.67; Monroeville, 1.59; Tarboro, 1.20 and Enfield, 1.25. These rains will affect the Neuse, Roanoke, Cape Fear, and other rivers running from the Piedmont to the coast.

A. Marens, of Patterson, N. J., has returned home after spending several weeks in the city visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. Coplon in.

**NORFOLK SOUTHERN WANTS PROTECTION**

Say That Local Waiting Room Is Hangout of Loafers

T. H. Bennett, Ticket agent for the local office of the Norfolk Southern Railway Company is in receipt of a letter from H. S. Leard, General Passenger agent of the same company stating that he has received information and complaints from patrons of the local waiting rooms that boys congregate in the waiting rooms, especially on Sunday, gamble, smoke and general act disorderly and has asked that the matter be taken up with the city officials.

Mr. Bennett has written a letter to Chief of Police Lupton, stating facts in the case, telling of an instance where the matron employed in the waiting room had been threatened with violence and asked that the company and their patrons be given better protection.

The Norfolk Southern Railway company is anxious to do everything possible for their patrons and hope, with the aid of the police, to "clean-up" the crowd of loafers who have nothing better to do than hang around the waiting room and see the trains come in.