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YORK AND YORKVILLE

The Enquirer.

A farmer from up Filbert way stood on the courthouse steps, Monday. He held in his hand a tax receipt, having just paid his taxes for 1920. "Phew," he remarked, "they are just about twice as high as they were last year. I'll be blamed if it ain't rapidly coming to where it will be cheaper for a poor man not to own nothing at all."

Magistrate R. L. A. Smith, of Broad River township, and Messrs. Arch Steele, Haskel McKnight and Bile Hope composed a party who captured a big distillery on lands of Wilkerson Brook, in Broad River township, near Broad River, early Wednesday morning. A quantity of beer was poured out, but there was no liquor in sight. The plant was not in operation, but according to the raiders there was evidence that it had been doing business the day before.

According to B. B. Hare, agricultural statistician, Bureau of Crop Estimates, United States Department of Agriculture, there were approximately 15,000 acres of sorghum cane for syrup in South Carolina the past season, and the total production was placed at 1,483,000 gallons, the total value of which at 70 cents a gallon, was \$1,038,100. York county is credited with an average of 89 gallons to the acre and worth an aggregate of \$62,300.

Among the holiday callers on Views and Interviews was Mr. W. F. Wallace, formerly of York county, but for many years a resident of Garland, Texas, back on a visit to his brother, J. C. Wallace, and other relatives and friends for the first time since 1907. Mr. Wallace is a son of John R. Wallace, who was for eight years postmaster at Yorkville. He drifted to Texas, settled near Garland, bought a farm and is raising cotton for a living the same as so many of our own people. Mr. Wallace is well pleased with his Texas home; but has nothing to say in favor of the superior advantages of Texas over his old home. He sees hundreds of people doing as well here as they would be doing in Texas, and thinks one country is about as good as the other. Asked as to the general condition of the farmers out his way, Mr. Wallace said that considerable quantities of cotton had been sold at from 36 cents a pound down to about 22 cents; but there were many farmers who still have all last year's crop and all of this year's crop on hand. Also he said that there are large quantities of cotton in the field unpicked.

"That is all right about reorganizing our tax machinery so as to secure a more even and equitable distribution of the burdens," said Mr. J. E. Lowry, of Yorkville, in Views and Interviews; "but what I want is out in the appropriations. I want out of at least 25-33 per cent. I know that some people are paying more than they ought to pay and some are paying less than they ought to pay; but take it altogether we are paying too much. The aggregate appropriations are too heavy. I am not willing to approve the amounts for increased appropriations for any of our state-supported colleges. I know the way what they are getting. And I would not hurt the common schools, but let us remember that salaries have been raised and the flush times are over with the expectation that salaries will be raised again. These salaries are too high and must be reduced."

"What are the things that you would like to see done in our county from now on?" Mr. Lowry got me going to do about 20 things, but I will mention a few of them. He wants to see a better drainage system in the county, and a better road system.

"Well," said Mr. T. F. Smith, a well known farmer of York county, "I don't know whether my hands are going to take me up or let me down. I told you all the other day, 'You've got corn and you've got meat. You've got pretty good clothes yet. I've got plenty of wood to cut and if you want to work from now until planting time cutting that wood at 75 cents a cord will go to it.'"

"Yes, I believe things in our line are going to brighten up considerably in the next thirty or sixty days," said Sam C. Smith, well known carpenter and contractor when asked what he thought about the situation.

"Building materials and labor both of which have been too high," said Mr. Smith, "are now getting down to a reasonable figure. There are lots of people who have been calculating on doing this little repair job and that one who have been putting them off because they believed the cost was too great. But now they too, realize that building supplies

and costs are getting down to where they were in 1916, and they are going to have that work done. I am expecting to see lots of building started in the next sixty days."

A lady who lives in southwestern York county was telling Views and Interviews about the strange performance of her dogs a few days ago.

"The dogs," she said, "strayed off our place and went to the place of a neighbor. Some time later they came walking waddly back. I noticed that something was the matter with them, but I didn't know what it was. They lay right down in front of the barn door and they wouldn't move. We offered them corn, but they wouldn't eat it. We don't know but we have reason to believe they had been drinking still beer."

Did Pat Major, well known Rock Hill business man and farmer, who has been missing from his home for the past two weeks or more, meet with foul play?

That is the fear of some relatives and friends, according to information obtained by the reporter yesterday.

An Ebenezer township man who knew Mr. Major well and who was in Yorkville yesterday, said that friends of the missing man had raised a fund of \$500 to be used in conducting an investigation in the case.

When Mr. Major left Rock Hill several weeks ago, he is said to have borrowed \$3,000 in Anderson on some life insurance and so far as investigations have developed, he spent only about \$500 of that sum to pay some debts.

He was last seen at King's Mountain, N. C., and a number of his friends are of the opinion that he was probably murdered and robbed of the balance of the money he had on his person.

THE "BUMP" AT THE CROSSING.

Charlotte Observer.

Judge Brown recently made deliverance on the grade crossing tragedy and advocated enactment by the Legislature of a law making it a misdemeanor for any person to drive on a railroad track without first stopping and looking each way for a train. The law might make it a misdemeanor, but that is where it would stop. In order to bring about enforcement of such a law an officer would have to be stationed at every grade crossing in the State. There would be about the same degree of respect paid such a law as now paid the law governing speed and headlights. Physical means for bringing about safety at the crossing is the better hope. If all counties should build "bumps" at each approach to a crossing, we would soon see a marked subsidence in grade crossing accidents. The "bump" is the one thing that compels the respect of the automobile driver.

The Observer recalls that in the model town of Hays, the municipalities built one of the "bumpiest" thoroughfares in the whole country. They did not put up signs, "Schools, Drive Slow"—in warning to the automobile public, because they had no signs would be displayed. The signs designed to protect the immediate motorists are. What they did was to make "bumps" at each street crossing so to square against the wheels of the car and the car will have been forced to stop. The "bump" at the crossing is the one thing that compels the respect of the automobile driver.

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BIG TREE YIELDED TO AGE

Chestnut in Which Washington is Said to Have Hidden Collapses at Yonkers, New York.

Maybe there's no truth in the tradition that George Washington once hid in the hollow trunk of the great chestnut tree that until recently stood in the front yard of Charles F. Coy, Yonkers, New York. But folk there about believe he did just as they believe that the tree was 700 or 800 years old when it died a few years ago, and was the oldest and biggest tree of any variety not only in Westchester county but in New York state. The trunk, which was about 35 feet tall and about 35 feet in circumference, according to Mr. Coy, was cut down by the department of public works of Yonkers, and its dismembered remains carted away. Said Mr. Coy:

"Before it died that tree produced the biggest and sweetest-tasting chestnuts I ever saw. After its death a vine that covered it made it still an object of beauty, just as its vast size and age made it an object of admiration."

"The top was broken off about the time it died. I never knew its exact height. But I do know that a deal of tradition had grown up around it and that it commonly was rated the largest tree in this part of the country. I am sure it was the biggest in this county."

TO DESTROY INSECT PESTS

Two Forms of Insecticides Necessary for Successful Protection of Plants and Foliage.

Do not waste your time spraying Paris green on insects that suck the juices from plants and foliage, such as lice, green, black and white aphids or fly, mealy bug, red spider and scale, by thrusting their proboscis into the leaf or stem, for they are not affected by stomach poisons. They must be destroyed by contact insecticides. Those in powder form kill by closing the breathing pores in the insect's skin, or in fluid form by being absorbed through these pores, the American Forestry Magazine points out. The best contact insecticides in powder form are hellebore, slug shot and tobacco dust. The best in fluid form are apiline, black leaf 40, fish (whale) oil soap, nicotine (tobacco extract), kerosene, miscible oil and lemon oil.

Insects that eat plants, foliage, vegetables, fruits, flowers, etc., whether bugs, beetles, worms, caterpillars or slugs are more quickly and effectually destroyed with a poisonous stomachic insecticide such as arsenate of lead, Paris green or hellebore. These, if applied according to directions, are so diluted as to be harmless to vegetation and to animal life. Less poisonous stomachic and contact insecticides are kerosene emulsion, slug shot, etc.

Boy "Policeman" Gets Results.

Bill Zerbe, formerly of Indianapolis, is motorcycle policeman in the Logansport police department. Both the young and old know Bill because of his record as a tamer of speedsters.

A few days ago the driver of an automobile permitted the motor of his machine to run while he went into a store. When he came out he found a piece of paper in the front seat of the car. On the paper were these words: "You are pinched for permitting the engine of your machine to run over 15 minutes. Bill Zerbe."

The driver of the car went to police headquarters to pay his fine and exhibit the evidence that he had been caught. On being assured that the paper presented had not been prepared by Zerbe, the driver of the machine recalled that he had seen a small boy with a broad grin on his face standing near when he started toward the police station.—Indianapolis News.

Electricity to Locate Metal.

The idea of using current transmitted through the earth as a means of locating metal ores is familiar, the belief being that the greater conductivity of these metaliferous regions can be clearly indicated, and the area mapped out, says the Scientific American, which according to the Electrical Review is now being investigated electrically, presents a converse problem. In this case the insulating properties of the oil diminish the current, and oil-bearing regions are detected accordingly. In view of the great depth to which it is often necessary to bore for oil—all that only exists simultaneously with an almost oil-free area above the method would seem to have limitations, but it has doubtless possibilities in dealing with surface all areas.

That Decided Him.

George was in a despondent mood. "But, Mabel, dear," he said, "marriage is out of the question just now. You seem to have forgotten that I'm a poor clerk on a meager salary."

"Oh, George, don't let poverty interfere with our happiness. We can live on one meal a day, if necessary."

"But you know nothing of household duties, sweetheart. Why, you can't even cook."

"Indeed, I can, love. I have kept it secret from you but the time has come for my confession. George, dear, I got a certificate from a domestic science school three months ago."

The young man gasped. "My darling," he said, "come to my arms. It shall be as you wish—one meal a day will be more than enough."

"A POME."

Hartwell, Ga., Sun.
The following poem, from the pen of a citizen of Shady Dale, has created much amusement in Hartwell and the county. We publish it by request of several parties in both town and county—among them several who "rode":

Last spring when cotton
Was selling so high,
You could see some farmers
"Floating" in the sky.
(But they RODE!)

They rode in sun,
They rode in the rain,
Some even rode
In an airplane.
(But they RODE!)

They rode all night,
They rode all day,
They kept on "riding"
Till the devil's to pay.
(But they RODE!)

If it wasn't an auto,
It was a blamed old mule,
They kept on "riding"
Till they've cut the FOOL.
(But they RODE!)

Some rode hard,
Some rode well,
But they kept on "riding"
Till they've sure played hell.
(But they RODE!)

Some doctors spent the whole year
Distributing pills,
And can't collect enough money
To pay their gasoline bills.
(But they RODE!)

The real estate business
Was the best of all;
But blame my skin
If it didn't fail.
(But they RODE!)

Some bought Fords,
But carried them back,
And promised the difference
For a Cadillac.
(But they RODE!)

The farmers and merchants
Are broke, that's true,
And it looks mighty like
The banks are too.
(But they RODE!)

The always was written
Just for a joke,
But during my hole
If the country ain't "broke!"
(But they RODE!)

Swedish chemists, after long experimenting
Have succeeded in extracting
Wood alcohol from peat.

Hand operated, a tool has been invented
For truing up automobile crank shafts.

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