

### DRAGGING CREEK FOR AN OLD BRASS CANNON

#### New Bern People Trying to Recover Civil War Gun for Brass

(Special to The Dispatch.)  
New Bern, Feb. 15.—During the days of the Civil War there was sunk at a point up Jack Smith's creek a vessel which had been used in some of the naval battles in this section and on board this boat was a long brass cannon which at that time was a regular "bear cat" of a gun.  
This cannon has for many years been lying somewhere at the bottom of the creek and since the price of brass has jumped to unusual heights, there have been a number of attempts made to locate and take it from its watery bed.  
During the past week there have been at least a dozen parties who have taken oyster tongs or some other implement and prodded the bottom of the creek for a mile or more around the spot where the boat is supposed to have gone down.  
The old cannon is supposed to weigh something like four or five hundred pounds and the man who finds it will be able to dispose of that much brass at a price which will pay him for the trouble he has gone to in locating the lost piece of armament.  
If there is more than one cannon buried there, as many say is the case, their gain will be further increased.

If plans which a number of the retail merchants in New Bern now have under consideration are put into effect, the residents of this city will soon be carrying their own bundles and paying cash for the goods which they buy or it may be that they can purchase their goods for cash and leave them to be delivered at one or two delivery periods during the day.  
The merchants claim that by cutting out their delivery system and selling for cash that they can reduce their prices in some instances as much as fifteen per cent, and that even if they can cut their delivery system down and make two deliveries daily that they will save money.  
This plan could not be successfully carried out unless every merchant in the city or at least those operating on an extensive scale agreed to the proposition and this is now being put before them and their decision is awaited, after which some action will be taken.  
It is believed that the cash and two deliveries each day system will prove to be the best plan and that is the one which is being agitated the most.

Unless some unforeseen circumstance occurs and if the present plans of the agriculturists in Craven county and the surrounding section materializes, the crop of Irish potatoes which will be produced in this section during the next few months, is

### AUSTRIANS RESUME ATTACK ON ITALIANS

#### Battering Ram Tactics Again Used Against New Line of Defenders.

Rome, Wednesday, Feb. 13.—Although Austrian press recently has been referring to preparations for an offensive which they say the Italians are making as justification for the assertion that it is impossible to withdraw either men or guns to help Germany in France, the Austrian commander apparently wishes to bring an end to the period of inactivity. He is resuming his battering ram tactics in the mountain section.  
In the last three days the Austrians have attacked the new Italian line in the Frenzels and Bella Valleys where important positions were wrested from the Austrians a short time ago. The enemy preceded his attacks by violent bombardments, but when the Austrian infantrymen attempted to press forward as they did in the Bella valley by advancing into the Sella and Vall-etts woods, they came under the fire of Italian artillery and machine guns which compelled them to beat a retreat with enormous losses before even reaching the Italian trenches.  
The Austrians met with another and equally severe check in the Frenzella valley yesterday.  
In the course of this fighting Lieutenant Ranza, an aviator, brought down two enemy airplanes, increasing the number of his victories in aerial encounters to 16.

#### Dave Robertson Quits Baseball.

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 15.—Dave Robertson, outfielder of the New York National league team, has accepted the position of athletic director and coach of the Norfolk high school. He declared he had retired from baseball and returned his contract unsigned to Manager McGraw, owing to a disagreement as to salary.

destined to break all previous records and will bring the growers an even larger amount of money than was the case last year.

"We are going to plant Irish potatoes and plant much of our acreage in them" is the answer every farmer makes to the query as to what he is planning to do in regards to growing that particular crop.  
While thousands of acres will be devoted to the growth of the "spuds," other produce will by no means be forgotten. Early peas and cabbage are to be raised in large quantities; in fact it is predicted that these two crops will also be larger than has ever been known.  
Taken as a whole Craven county and the surrounding counties are looking forward to a Spring and Summer crop production that will help greatly in feeding the world and which will bring much money into this section.

### TO DRIVE SUBMARINE FROM MEDITERRANEAN

#### There is Much Speculation Over Admiral Sims' Visit to Rome

Washington, Feb. 15.—The presence of Vice Admiral Sims at Rome is regarded here as not having to do with any proposed assault on the Austrian naval base at Pola in the Adriatic as has been stated in some published reports, but is more likely connected with plans for cleaning up the submarines in the Mediterranean.  
Naturally navy officials here are not discussing such plans as they may know of, but the suggestion that a naval drive on Pola is in contemplation meets with a cold reception. The Austrian base is well located and flanked by land defenses of the strongest character. It is very doubtful that a proposal to storm those defenses from the sea without land support would be favored by any power.  
There seems no doubt, however, that Admiral Sims' visit to Rome was connected directly with plans mapped out by the naval section of the supreme war council. It is certain that a definite part in whatever is in prospect has been reserved for the American naval forces.  
One object sought by any plan that may have been laid by the naval strategists necessarily is the elimination of the submarine in the Mediterranean.  
In a general way, naval opinion here appears to favor bottling up campaigns against submarines in the Adriatic rather than assault by sea on the bases. Wynn's men of carrying out such a plan depend on many factors not available for discussion.

### NEW YORK LETTER.

By O. O. McIntyre  
Special Correspondent The Dispatch.  
New York, Feb. 15.—The spin of the roulette wheel is to cease in Gotham under the new Police Commissioner Enright, who was himself a copper. The word has gone out to the big hotels where all the high stake gambling was played to cease.  
It has been a blow to the gamblers who have been flocking into New York expecting an open town. All of the tough resorts—that moved from the Bowery since that thoroughfare became an artery of commerce—are also to be closed.  
There remains only one resort that smacks of the old days of Suicide Hall, Annette Lane and the Haymarket. It is on the fringe of the Tenderloin a short way from the theatrical district.  
It is one of those places that has been the fly in the ointment for social workers. It has for years been a cesspool of depravity. The crooks of the town could be seen there nightly.  
Subway dips, cocaine sellers, till tappers, pocket slashers and porch climbers collected there in a putrescent brotherhood of abomination. The

rak-faced cadets, in their loud cheap silk shirts, held their daily conferences of crime over the beery tables.  
Tallow-faced women, with lips heavy with rouge and unsteady hands indicative of needle pumping, made it their rendezvous. The underground wires gave the message that the new commissioner meant business and in a few hours the place was almost lifeless.  
The proprietor knows that he is under the ban and that there is nothing else left to do but put up the shutters and wait for something to turn up.  
The last person to leave the place was a flaccid blonde, burdened with cheap jewelry. She stood in the entrance way and looked back. "I'm glad," she said; "maybe now I can go to the country for awhile and get some fresh air."  
And she coughed a racking sort of cough that left her flushed and trembling and on the handkerchief she put to her mouth was left a stain of pink.

Amelita Galli-Curci's triumph was the most thrilling spectacle New York has witnessed since Caruso won his spurs. For two years the little Italian singer had knocked at the austere portals of New York and her success in Chicago made her face a critical audience. The praise that followed after her rendition of her first song was the most agonizing period I have ever witnessed. When the applause started it was deafening and the entire audience—a billowy sea of white shirt fronts and a dazzle of diamonds—rose to cheer in unison. There were in all 65 encores. The lyric stage lives off glamour, for glamour, by glamour, and when a new singer swims into New York's ken opera receives a new lease of life. Seats for Galli-Curci for her second performance sold as high as \$250. Among those I saw in the boxes were W. R. Hearst, Rex Beach, the writer, Louis H. Chalfi, the Russian dancer; Geraldine Farrar, the singer; Otto Kahn, the banker, and Rol Cooper Megrue, the playwright.

Spanish dancing seems to have swept the town. A well known Broadwayite was talking about the new dancers in a cafe the other night. "Those Spanish dancers simply fascinate me," he said, "by the way they use their cascarats."  
Down in the Dutch Oven an observer saw a woman smoking and knitting furiously between puffs. And there was a fire in the Bronx the other night caused by a woman knitter permitting fire to fall from her cigarette onto the sweater she was knitting. It is evident that something has got to be done to prevent smoking from interfering with knitting or vice versa.  
A lightweight named Morris Lux is showing his wares in and about Kansas City. Lux is no doubt a clean boxer.

Quite an array of amateur boxing talent is expected to be displayed at the big simon-pure tournament to be held in Pittsburgh next week.

According to winter dope, George Sisler, the Browns' star, was offered to the New York Yankees for \$50,000, but the Yanks wouldn't dig that deep.

### TWENTY YEARS SINCE THE MAINE DISASTER

#### Anniversary of Sinking of the American Warship in Havana Harbor

Washington, D. C., Feb. 15.—The 20th anniversary of the destruction of the battleship Maine in Havana harbor was made the occasion of several notable patriotic demonstrations here today. Patriotic and military organizations and representatives of all branches of the regular military service participated in the exercises at Arlington National cemetery, where many of the sailors and marines who perished in the disaster are buried. Floral tributes from President Wilson and the President of Cuba were placed on the Maine anchor and mast in the cemetery. His afternoon the memory of the Maine dead was further honored with impressive exercises held in the riding hall at Fort Myer under the auspices of the District of Columbia branch of the Spanish War Veterans.

The blowing up of the battleship Maine in the harbor of Havana on Feb. 15, 1898, resulted in the loss of 266 officers and men of the United States Navy, and suggested the cry of "Remember the Maine," which became the slogan of the Spanish-American war.

The battleship had been in Havana three weeks at the time of the disaster, having been sent there on a friendly visit and at the same time to protect American interests and residents at a time when the Cuban revolt against Spain had reached a critical stage. The Maine was in command of Captain Charles D. Sigbee. She was moored in a berth assigned by the naval authorities of Havana. It was at the least used buoy in the harbor, one that had not been previously occupied by a war vessel for many years. The Spaniards at Havana resented the presence of the American man-of-war and threats were uttered against the ship and her crew.  
At 9:40 o'clock on the night of February 15, while the majority of the crew were asleep, a double explosion occurred forward directly under their quarters, which rent the ship in two, causing her to sink almost instantly. Out of a complement of 360 souls, two officers and 264 men were killed by the explosion or drowned, and 60 were taken out injured.  
The first explosion, according to the statements of those on board, lifted the forward part of the ship perceptibly. After a short interval the second explosion occurred, being more open and prolonged. The forward part of the vessel was shattered, while the after part was left practically intact. It was shown in reports by the officers that the temperature of the vessel was normal at 8 o'clock and the condition of the coal bunkers, storage compartments and boilers such that the hypothesis of an internal explosion was absurd.  
The Spanish authorities at Havana reported that the disaster was due to an internal explosion and proposed a joint inquiry by representatives of this government and those of Spain. The government in Washington rejected this proposal and appointed a naval board of inquiry to investigate. These officers examined the wreck and found the bottom plates bent upward, forming a great arch, and a portion of the forward keel blown through the body of the ship and protruding above the deck 36 feet in vertical distance from its original position. Underneath the arch was a hole in the mud 15 feet in diameter and seven feet deep.  
The conclusions of the court of inquiry were that the loss of the Maine was not in any respect due to fault

or negligence on the part of any officers or crew; that the ship was destroyed by the explosion of a submarine mine, but that no evidence had been found to show who exploded the mine.  
Congress appropriated \$50,000,000 for national defense shortly after the sinking, and President McKinley, on April 20, dispatched an ultimatum to Spain. Spain declared war on April 24, and the United States on the following day.  
When the Maine was raised and examined in 1912 proof was found that she had been sunk by a submarine mine. The identity of the individual guilty of blowing up the Maine has never been disclosed.

Mel Coogan, the welterweight boxer, now at the Newport, R. I. naval station, has been showing 18-K goods in his recent bouts in Newport.

#### Quarantine Raised.

Orangeburg, S. C., Feb. 15.—The quarantine that was put on the State College, January 25, on account of the development of a case of meningitis in the student body was raised Monday morning. Owing to strict regulations and the splendid discipline exercised not a single additional case developed among the body of over 700 students.

### WHAT HAS WINTER COST THE NATION

#### Damage To Transportation Alone Will Run Into Many Millions

It would be interesting, if it were possible, to scan a table of figures showing the total cost of the damage wrought by the abnormally severe winter through which we have just passed. The damage to railroads and other transportation companies would run into many millions, and the loss sustained through the interruption of traffic would amount to even more.  
Another great loss, which cannot be figured, or even estimated, is the damage wrought by this winter on the national health. There is no doubt that the season now ending carried with it a new and extremely tenacious form of cold, which successfully resisted all efforts to check. This form of cold has not been honored with a name, as medical science weasels christening these colds after the advent of "Influenza" or "La Grippe." However, it is quite unnecessary in this case, as this new cold hangs on and soon grows into something that was a name and is easily recognized—Catarrh.  
As a direct result of this season's colds fully fifty per cent more people are suffering with catarrh today than one year ago, and the impairment of the health and efficiency of the nation has been enormous. The cold that cannot be shaken off is the forerunner of catarrh. It may be in the nose or throat; mucous accumulates and passes down, infecting every membranous surface to eventually lodge in the stomach. When catarrh puts this organ out of commission the general health of the victim quickly declines.  
To successfully combat the ravages of catarrh the system must be built up and strengthened and here is where Peplac has demonstrated its value in the treatment of catarrh. This great remedy will put the stomach in better condition, tone up the system and enable the body to throw off this dangerous malady.  
Anyone who has catarrh, or is being dragged down by a cold, would do well to get a bottle of Peplac today at Bellamy's drug store. It is sold there and at all leading drug stores in Wilmington and vicinity.—Adv.

#### CREAM FOR CATARRH OPENS UP NOSTRILS

Tells How To Get Quick Relief from Head-Colds. It's Splendid!

In one minute your clogged nostrils will open, the air passages of your head will clear and you can breathe freely. No more hawking, snuffling, blowing, headache, dryness. No struggling for breath at night; your cold or catarrh will be gone.  
Get a small bottle of Ely's Cream Balm from your druggist now. Apply a little of this fragrant, antiseptic, healing cream in your nostrils. It penetrates through every air passage of the head, soothes the inflamed or swollen mucous membrane and relief comes instantly.  
It's just fine. Don't stay stuffed-up with a cold or nasty catarrh—Relief comes so quickly.—Adv.

### WELL AND STRONG--- WAS A WRECK

#### 'Tis a Very Interesting Story Louisiana Lady Tells About Did For Her

Echo, La.—"For sixteen years, until a year ago," writes Mrs. J. O. Gueringer, of this place, "I suffered and suffered from all kinds of pain, until I got so rundown and weak I couldn't walk across the room... I was a physical wreck... confined to my bed for three months... Then some friends of mine advised me to try Cardui. After using three bottles... I was much improved... In a month I was able to get up... and do a little work, and soon after was built-up, well and strong... I used 13 bottles of Cardui all together. Have been well and strong ever since. I am giving Cardui now to my daughter. It did me so much good. I want her to try it.  
I am glad to be able to make this statement so other sufferers may be benefited. I can never be thankful enough for what Cardui did for me."  
Many thousands of women have had similar experiences with Cardui, the woman's tonic.  
Try it, if you suffer pain, feel rundown and weak.  
Cardui, taken in time, when you feel the first symptoms of trouble, may save you a long spell of sickness.  
At all druggists—Adv.

### A Mother's Love

Through all the ages, a mother's love has been the most beautiful sentiment ever expressed. It is the most pathetic, the most joyful and the most wonderful feeling mortals have ever felt. The mother who does not want her child to be perfect is yet unborn. The strongest characteristic of womanhood is a mother's love and pride for her baby.  
The external application, "Mother's Friend" is prepared especially for expectant mothers. It relieves the pain and discomfort occasioned by the stretching strain upon the ligaments and the skin of the abdomen, when baby is born. It makes elastic those muscles which nature is expanding and soothes the inflammation of breast glands. The expectant mother remains a pretty mother by using "Mother's Friend". Her form is preserved and danger is avoided.  
"Mother's Friend" is to be had at your drug store. Write the Bradford-Regulator Co., Dept. E, 290 Lamar Building, Atlanta, Ga. They will send you a most valuable and interesting book without charge, "Motherhood and the Baby". "Mother's Friend" makes it possible for you to add stature yourself in the wonderful work to be done, and no woman should go a single night without using it.

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Before going home tonight to mother or wife, or to contemplate for tomorrow "drop" in and slip a "surprise joy" in your pocket. There will be smiles for the giver and a treat for the recipient.  
Fresh Shipment of Delicious... Whitman's Candies Just in...  
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### South Carolina News Items

#### GROWING PURE BRED HOGS.

#### Rock Hill Bank Puts Effective Plan in Operation.

Rock Hill, S. C., 15.—In view of the interest being aroused throughout the South in the raising of pure bred hogs, the plan recently adopted by the People's National Bank of this city is of general interest. Under this plan already several scores of registered brood sows have been placed on farms in this community and several dozen more have been ordered. The plan is one whereby every farmer who so desires can stock his farm with pure bred hogs at no cost, except the feeding and care of the sows.  
The plan is for each farmer to take a registered brood sow, either a Duroc Jersey or Berkshire. When the first litter of pigs is four months old, two sow pigs are returned to the bank. When the second litter is four months old two sow pigs are returned to the bank. The sow is then the property of the farmer without cost. If the sow dies meantime, the bank sustains the loss. The bank maintains a registered boar for breeding purposes. The second phase of the plan is known as the endless chain proposition. The sow pigs secured from the distribution of sows are distributed among the boys of the country, each boy agreeing to return to the bank two four months old pigs in payment for his pig. These pigs are in turn distributed to other boys and on and on until the entire country is stocked. The registered boar will be at the service of all members of the club. Already quite a number of the first who secured these brood sows have fine litters of pigs, some of which will soon be old enough to begin placing in the end less chain plan among the boys. Scores of banks in this and adjoining States, have written for information regarding the plan.

#### ARMY'S SMALLEST MAN

#### Lumberton Soldier at Camp Jackson is Five Feet One.

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 15.—Camp Jackson claims the distinction of having the "shortest" soldier in the entire American army in the person of Private Gatewood Smalls of Three Hundred and Twenty-first Field Hospital. As "Shorty" Smalls is but one-half inch over the required height of five feet it is highly probable that he is the shortest in stature of any of Uncle Sam's warriors. Only since the declaration of war has it been the policy of the war department to accept for the army men of that height, the minimum height up to that time having been five feet four inches.  
"Shorty" Smalls hails from Lumberton, N. C., and has been at Camp Jackson since September 5. Despite his lack of inches he is a splendid specimen of manhood, tipping the scales at 150 pounds. Withal he is very much of a camp "character" and is a favorite with all the boys of the camp who know him.

#### Oswego Store Burned.

Sumter, S. C., Feb. 15.—The general merchandise store of S. M. McCoy at Oswego was destroyed by fire and nothing was saved from the building. Only partial insurance covered the loss, which was estimated to be more than \$4,000.

#### Teachers Meeting Postponed

Rock Hill, S. C., Feb. 15.—On account of the meningitis situation it has been deemed unwise to hold the meeting of the State Teachers' Association in March as had been planned. J. P. Kinard, president, and R. C. Burts, secretary, of the association, acting upon the advice of the executive committee and other members of the association, reached this conclusion.

### Ugly, Unsightly Pimples Are Signals of Bad Blood

Give Heed to the Warning.  
Pimples on the face and other parts of the body are warnings from nature that your blood is sluggish and impoverished. Sometimes they foretell eczema, boils, blisters, scaly eruptions and other skin disorders that burn like flames of fire.  
They mean that your blood needs S. S. S. to purify it and cleanse it of these impure accumulations that can cause unlimited trouble. This remedy is the greatest vegetable blood purifier known, and contains no minerals or chemicals to injure the most delicate skin.  
Go to your drugstore, and get a bottle of S. S. S. today, and get rid of those unsightly and disgusting pimples, and other skin irritations. And it will cleanse your blood thoroughly. If you wish special medical advice, you can obtain it without charge by writing to Medical Director, 29 Swift Laboratory, Atlanta, Georgia.

### THE BIG BIG PICTURE PRODUCER



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