

VOL. XXI

SYNTHETIC CHILDREN

I am mighty glad so many people in America are taking up the children work. I used to think there might be some chance of getting our Government interested in it, but that was hoping too much. Being a Ranchman and Farmer and also a child owner, I have often wished that when one of my children got sick I could wire or call up some Government expert and have him come look after them. Like I can do if one of my cows, or pigs get some disease.

If your fertilizer is not agreeing with your land the Government will send a specialist, but if the food is not agreeing with the baby, why we have to find out what's the matter ourselves, and lots of times Parents mean well but they don't know much.

So I am glad that you people are interested in Children. Course they are a lot of trouble but we just don't seem smart enough to find something that would be less trouble that would replace them.

That's the only thing we are shy now is synthetic Children.

It's not a bad idea whoever thought of doing something for the children.

If it works and you improve them, I will send you mine.

(Yours,) WILL ROGERS.

MADISON BOY SHOT IN ARM

BENNIE SHELTON IN MARSHALL HOSPITAL; RECOVERY EXPECTED

Bennie Shelton, 12-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Levi Shelton, of the Big Laurel section of Madison County, was reported as resting well at the local hospital here, following serious injuries received early Monday when a shotgun which he was carrying became accidentally discharged, the load striking the right arm and almost severing it.

The boy's father stated here this morning that while hunting near his home, his son placed the gun beside a log, and that a stick or other object caught the trigger, discharging the gun.

Although his injuries are very painful, physicians at the hospital here reported that chances for his recovery are good.

NEW YEAR USHERS IN SECOND RADIO FARM SCHOOL

With the slogan "More Money From Farming In 1928," the second annual Radio Farmers' Short Course will be broadcast from the Atlanta Journal Station WSB, for two weeks, Jan. 2-14, at 5:30 central time, each evening. A group of the South's leading farm authorities will discuss important farm problems of the New Year. It is estimated that over 110,000 radioized farm homes in the Southeast will be tuned in to get first hand farm information on the short course, which is sponsored by the Soil Improvement Committee of the National Fertilizer Association and the Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation. Printed programs and enrollment details will be mailed on request to the latter organization.

Experiment station and college workers, business men and practical farmers will speak during the short course. Among problems to be discussed are: the cotton farmers' outlook, dairying and livestock raising, food and feed crops, pasture problems, most profitable cotton varieties and fertilizer recommendations for cotton, corn, fruit, truck and garden crops. A special feature will be a mock court, "The Trial of a Landlord."

An examination will be given to all enrolled students and over \$200 in prizes will be given for the best reports of the course. Copies of short course talks will be sent to all high schools and individuals who enroll.

Four states are represented on the short course faculty, as follows:

Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama, Tennessee and North Carolina.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IS MUCH FAVORED

The proposal for the creation of a Department of Education is meeting with growing approval as the people throughout the country realize the needs of the schools and the part that such a department would play in fulfilling these needs. The Education Bill introduced before the present Congress includes the features of the Curtis-Reed Bill introduced in the Sixty-ninth Congress, with the additional provision for a council of state superintendents of education or of the highest elected or appointed state school officials (in some states the highest school officer is a superintendent, in others a commissioner) to meet annually in Washington at the call of the Secretary. This serves as a further safeguard from any possible tendency towards federal control or interference with States' Rights, practically the only ground on which the measure has been opposed.

It has been apparent from the first that the major part of such opposition did not come from those who are intimately connected with the public schools but rather from outsiders. Moreover they have made the old bones of contention, States' Rights and Federal Control, the main points in their dissertations against the measure, when there is no part of the bill which could be interpreted by unbiased minds as in any way threatening the rights of the states or fostering federal control. Gradually, the public is awakening to this fact and the present trend is towards country-wide approval of such a step.

Excerpts from an editorial in an Oregon paper, commenting upon the creation of a Department of Education and the Curtis-Reed Bill, read as follows:

"The teachers of the country have set out to obtain recognition of the importance of education and its relation to other aspects of human activity, through the creation of a Department of Education with representation in the President's Cabinet.

"The pending measure," the writer states further, "is sound for several reasons. If it did nothing more than consolidate the various agencies which, attached to several departments, are productive of duplication involving unnecessary expense, it would be justified. The Government is now engaged in fostering vocational education for veterans, it has extensive responsibilities in association with its colonial affairs, it is immediately interested in the education of the Indians, and in the District of Columbia it has certain activities which might properly be transferred to the new department. But these are in all probability secondary issues by comparison with the equalization of opportunity for education which is sought in the provision which relates to federal initiative in research covering the entire field.

"It is finally to be considered," it was said in conclusion, "that while a federal department might in theory accomplish no more than could be done by a 'bureau' of the government under ideal conditions, it would in practice give dignity and effectiveness to a principle deeply ingrained in the American political system, which is predicted an equality of opportunity for the enjoyment of which education is indispensable. It is true also that a considerable number of agencies, most of them competent and all of them sincere, are engaged in research into educational problems. But there would be no interference with private scholarship if a federal department were authorized. The status of these would remain precisely as it is now."

Dr. William M. Davidson, Pittsburgh superintendent of schools, at a recent meeting of the Education Association of the District of Columbia, said that as one of the big businesses of America, education merits a departmental "clearing house" for educational data, with a secretary in the President's Cabinet. He also commended President Coolidge for including in his message to Congress a request for such a department, and declared that there is no reason for the fear that a Department of Education would "control" the courses

of study prescribed in the states, stating that its function would be one of scientific analysis and distribution of educational information.

The District Teachers' Institute of Nevada passed a resolution heartily endorsing the Education Bill and proposed that a copy of this resolution be sent to their Representatives in Congress.

A communication recently received from Mrs. Geo. R. Felter, Superintendent of Schools, Travis County, Texas, states that they heartily endorse a Department of Education with a secretary in the President's Cabinet, and that the phrase "equal opportunities for all" was especially appealing in respect to rural children. She said also that it was a wonder that the "largest business in the world" has been so long without a representative in the President's Cabinet. "Do we need," she concluded, "to discover that children are our country's biggest asset?" H.

SERGEANT L. K. MOORE VISITS MARSHALL

Editor, Madison County News, Marshall, N. C.

Dear Sir:

Sergeant L. K. Moore, from the recruiting office, Asheville, North Car., visited Marshall on December 23rd, 1927, and will be there for ten days canvassing for recruits for the army.

We have several attractive vacancies open at present time, including Infantry, Field Artillery, Infantry, Fort Benning, Ga., Infantry Fort Moultrie, S. C., and Engineers Corps, Fort Bragg, N. C.; also quite a few vacancies for musician at Fort Benning, Ga.

Yours truly,
L. K. MOORE, Sergeant D. E. M. L. (RS)

ORIGIN OF CHRISTMAS

The celebration of December 25 in memory of the birth of Christ dates from the fifth century, before which time it was observed conjointly with the feast of the Epiphany on January 6.

Inasmuch as the exact date of Christ's birth, or even the year, is unknown, the annual observance, in commemoration of the event rather than as the anniversary of its actual occurrence.

The Christmas tree, now an almost universal symbol, is derived from the Egyptian use of a palm branch of twelve shoots to signify the completed year, a custom which prevailed long before the Christian era. Its present significance is by some thought to have originated in Germany.

The use of evergreen decorations, particularly mistletoe, has been observed since the time of the Druids. In the Middle Ages the festivities incident to Christmas were marked by wildly hilarious proceedings. These called forth remonstrances from the church authorities, who deplored the tendency to stress the festive rather than the serious significance of the Christmas season.

The mythical Santa Claus has been known by many names—Kris Kringle, St. Nicholas, Knecht Ruprecht, Robin Goodfellow, and others. In Germany an ugly hunch-backed dwarf known as Grampus was supposed to carry off naughty children instead of rewarding them with presents.

Although it draws its symbolism from many sources, both Christian and pagan, Christmas remains one of the most important and widely observed festivals of the year—a season of "Peace on Earth; Good Will Toward Men."—News-Herald.

Tom Tarheel says he gives thanks for good crop yields, for plenty of home grown food and for the health and happiness of his family.

MADISON COUNTY'S CREDIT FINE

RECENT SALE OF 5 PER CENT BONDS BRINGS BIG PREMIUM

The credit of Madison County is splendid in the bond market as shown by a recent sale of bonds on Dec. 19, 1927. The \$33,000 Madison County Refunding 5 per cent Bonds sold for \$34,310. Experts tell us this is equal to a rate of .0455 instead of 5 per cent.

The \$58,000 Funding Bonds sold for \$59,957.38. This is equal to a rate of .0454 instead of 5 per cent. Quite a number of bids were received, says Mr. Hendricks, County attorney, but the best and successful bidder was Spitzer, Rorick & Co., of Toledo, Ohio. The \$33,000 Refunding Bonds were sold to take care of former maturing bonds, but the \$58,000 was to take care of the school deficits for the past years.

Mr. Roberts Says New Chevrolet Is 'Peach'

Visits Charlotte Last Tuesday For The Purpose of Securing Much Talked of New Car.

"Never before during the course of my experience in the automobile business has a new car so completely captivated dealers as did the new Chevrolet, which was shown to over 100 Chevrolet dealers from all over the Old North State in Charlotte on Tuesday," stated Mr. Roberts of the Marshall Chevrolet Company, local dealer, who has just returned to the city after attending this pre-showing. Without disclosing details, Mr. Roberts declared that the new car embodies the results of the 13 years experience and progress in the building of low-priced transportation, and heralds it as the greatest automobile by a wide margin ever offered the public by Chevrolet.

Unofficial reports from the Chevrolet office say that the new car will embody many improvements in design and construction. New standards of beauty are promised. Easier handling and smoother riding qualities are heralded as some of the outstanding features of the new Chevrolet line.

Many unlooked for changes have been made in the appearance of the car, according to reports, providing the new Chevrolet with a beauty and style appeal unexampled in the low-price field.

Shipments of the new cars to deal-

ers have been leaving the various assembly plants since December 15 so that the vast country-wide dealer organization may be prepared for the introductory showing on New Year's Day. Practically every dealer in the United States will have cars ready for inspection on that date. From Bangor, Me., to San Diego and from Miami to Vancouver there will be simultaneous exhibitions of the new car that has caused so much discussion in the last few months.

Cars will be ready for the boulevards and highways immediately after the first of the year. Production at the various plants throughout the United States is racing along as fast as precision manufacturing will permit. Never before in the history of the industry will so many new models of one make have been placed in dealers' hands in such a brief space of time.

Over 5,500 newspapers across the country will assist in broadcasting the announcement, which will take the form of one of the most comprehensive advertising campaigns ever attempted during the entire history of the automobile industry.

FROM A MADISON COUNTY GIRL

Dear Editor:—My paper has expired so I am sending you \$1.00 for the next six months. Your paper is just like a visitor to me, it gives me all the news from around my old home. I was born and raised in the hills of old Madison County between the mountains and the only way you could see out was straight up, but still and yet I love old Madison and my home place too, if I did not have anything but a big trail to travel I have always loved my county and am glad of the opportunity to get to visit my home place that I left about four years ago. There is one spot in old Madison in the edge of the woods under a dogwood bush that is sweeter to me than any place on earth I used to always kneel there three times a day and talk to God, the rain or snow did not get too deep for me to go and talk to God and I know He has heard and answered my prayers under that bush. I thank God for letting me live and being able to talk to Him. I professed religion in the Bull Creek Church under the preaching of Rev. Mr. J. M. Pickens. I have tried in my humble way to live it. I have two sweet children and a sweet husband and I never do close my eyes to sleep without thanking God for letting me live with my dear husband and children and asking Him to let me live and raise my children and raise them right.

May God bless the News-Record and its readers.

A SUBSCRIBER.

MARSHALL BAPTISTS TO HONOR STUDENTS WHO ARE AT HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

ONE OF THE MOST interesting programs that has been planned for some time will be given at the Marshall Baptist Church Sunday evening. There are few communities that have as many young men and women in college as does ours. We have more than twenty in school in our various colleges and universities. You could not pay them greater respect than to come with us Sunday as they render the following program:

Hymn _____ By Congregation
Prayer _____ By Pastor
Offertory _____ By High School Students
Introduction of Students. Each student giving name, college and class.
Recognition of all teachers present.
Special Music—
"What I Missed and What I Found Helpful at College" Edna Gage Morrow, N. C. C. W.
"Keeping Fit Spiritually While at College" Selwyn McDevitt, Carson-Newman.
"The Religious Emphasis as Promoted at My College" Gladys Farmer, Mars Hill College.
"College Friendships" William West, Jr., Wake Forest C.
"Violin Solo" Edna Wiedman, Anderson College, S. C.
"What Messages from Home Mean to Me" Edna Rice, N. C. C. W.
"College and Preparation for Life Work" Gladys Tweed, Cullowhee Normal.
"How I Expect My Fellow Students to Know I Am a Christian" Raymond Robinson, Mars Hill College.
"The Change Mentally and Spiritually from High School to College" Madge Tweed, N. C. C. W.
"My First Year Out of College" Wayne Farmer, U. of N. C.
"Twenty Years After Graduation" Dr. W. A. Sams.
Hymn _____ By Congregation
Closing Prayer.
Prepare a three to eight minutes talk on the topic assigned you for the date mentioned above. We are counting on you.
YOUR PASTOR,
HORACE L. SMITH.

NEW HOTEL FOR MARSHALL

MODERN 32-ROOM BUILDING

Marshall's new hotel, known as the New Central Hotel, located on Main Street, adjoining the postoffice and opposite the Masonic Temple, will open on New Year's Day, Monday, January 1st, under the management of Mr. and Mrs. John G. Ramsey, it has been announced.

The hotel is modern in every particular and contains 32 guest rooms, in addition to other rooms, and is a five-story brick structure, fire-proof, and equipped with hot and cold water baths and other conveniences, in addition to a steam heating system which has just been completed.

Mr. and Mrs. Ramsey are well known here, Mr. Ramsey having been in business for twenty-four years. Before her marriage to Mr. Ramsey some months ago, Mrs. Ramsey was the owner of the Roberson Art Shop which was located in Asheville.

Although the hotel will open Monday, other valuable improvements are to be made next Spring.

The opening of the New Central Hotel gives Marshall four hotels, the other three being French Broad Hotel, The Rector Hotel and the Montezuma Hotel. All these establishments are under good management and the visitors to Marshall will be treated to good beds and eats at either place.

Rev. W. L. Briggs Is To Speak Before Mars Hill Board

The mid-winter session of the board of trustees of Mars Hill College will be held Tuesday morning, January 10, starting at 10:30 o'clock, in the college chapel, according to word sent out this week to the trustees appointed by the Baptist state convention in November. The Rev. W. L. Briggs of Charlotte will be the chief speaker.

There are 492 students enrolled at Mars Hill College. Of this number 246 are first year students.

Seventy-one North Carolina counties are represented, including 75 from Madison and 39 from Buncombe counties.

FORMER STUDENTS OF BEREA COLLEGE MARRY AS A RESULT OF ROMANCES BEGUN ON COLLEGE CAMPUS.

Mr. Bates Henderson, of Walnut is One of Contracting Parties.

Berea, Ky., Dec. 26—Friends and neighbors of Mr. Bates Henderson of Walnut, Madison county, North Carolina will be interested in the beautiful double wedding which occurred here yesterday afternoon at the home of Dr. William J. Hutchins, President of Berea College. Mr. Henderson and Miss Eleanor Knight of Ripley, N. Y., were united in marriage by President Hutchins, and in the same ceremony Mr. Henley Wright of Boaz, Ala., and Miss Thekla M. McClure of Chattanooga were happily united.

Mr. Sam S. Hughes of Green Mountain, N. C., played the role of best man with Mr. Henderson, and Miss Mary Lois Taylor of Princeton, Ind., was the bridesmaid. For the second couple Mr. Harry Beecher of Cleveland, Ohio, was best man, and Miss Thekla Jones of Tishomingo, Oklahoma was bridesmaid.

Mr. Henderson is now studying in the Medical School of the University of Cincinnati. Miss Knight taught during the autumn at Smith, Ky. Mr. Hughes is taking his third year in the Harvard Law School, and Miss Taylor is teaching in the City Schools of her home city.

The weddings are the result of romances begun here on the campus during student days at Berea College. Their attendants were also college friends. The ceremony took place in the presence of a considerable group of invited guests, many of them being members of the Berea College Faculty.

The boll weevil has knocked so many home runs as Babe Ruth this season and he will have good quarters for winter training if the cotton fields are not cleaned and the stalks plowed under.