

# The Polk County News.

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NO. 50.

## TERRIBLE WORK OF MT. VESUVIUS

### Thousands Are Engulfed By Rivers of Molten Rock and Earth

#### THE END OF THE WORLD

**Roars Like a Titan Possessed With a Legion of Devils, Vomiting Rivers of Fire on Cities Within the Reach and Terrifying Naples. Across the Bay, With Violent Earth Shocks, Hot Ashes and Stifling Fumes.**

Naples, By Cable.—The hope that Mount Vesuvius was becoming calm was dissipated Sunday when the volcano became more active than ever. The panic has spread to Naples. A strong earthquake shocks, which shattered windows and cracked walls in buildings, were experienced. The population rushed to the streets in terror, many persons crying: "The volcano has forsaken us; the end of the world has come."

No trace remains of Boscareaz, a hamlet on the southern declivity of the mountain where up to 15 hours ago 1000 persons lived; and Torre Annunziata, on the shores of the Gulf of Naples, one mile to the southward, almost surrounded by the invading lava and has been evacuated by its 1000 inhabitants. The people were brought to Naples by trains, street cars, military carts and steamships. Similar means of transportation are being employed to bring away the people from Torre del Greco. The police and carabinieri are guarding the abandoned houses and several members of the government also are there.

#### Work of Succor Difficult.

A telegram received from the mayor of San Sebastiano, a village near the observatory on the northwest declivity of Vesuvius, says the lava is approaching rapidly and the people are panic-stricken. They have been fighting without sleep, he says, are desperate, and beg that assistance be given them.

The work of succor is hampered owing to the railway service, which is interrupted by red-hot stones thrown to a height of 3,000 feet falling on the tracks.

#### Lightning Flashes Blinding.

As yet it is impossible to count the waters that have opened and from which streams of lava have flooded the beautiful, prosperous and happy land lying on the southeast shores of the Gulf of Naples. The atmosphere is heavily charged with electricity and now and then the flashes of lightning are blinding, while the detonations from the volcano resemble those of terrible explosions. The churches were open all Saturday night and were crowded with panic-stricken people. Members of the clergy are doing their utmost to calm their fears, but the effects of their arguments for almost naught when renewed earthquake shocks are experienced.

#### Roaring and Smiting.

With the danger and horror of the

situation aside, Vesuvius presents one of the most splendid sights imaginable. The mountains of fire, whose speech is by detonation and whose acts are destruction, seem like an enraged giant determined to make the pigmies of earth feel the might of his wrath. Here and there on the mountain side stand the blasted trunks of pine trees, their bare branches outstretched as though in protest against the devastation the volcano has wrought.

The Duchess of Aosta, who always is to be found where misery exists, is not sparing herself in her efforts to alleviate distress. The people call her an angel of mercy. Sunday she took several children from their weary mothers and in her carriage conveyed them to the royal palace, where they will remain until conditions are bright.

#### Hard to Breathe in Naples.

Breathing is momentarily becoming more difficult because of the poisonous fumes and smokes, while the hot ashes, which are still falling, tend to make life a burden.

The observatory has been destroyed and Signor Matteucci, the director, and the employees had narrow escapes. They passed last night in the darkness, save for the frequent flashes of lightning, as the gas works and electric lighting plant were destroyed. The restaurant of the funicular railroad, too, has been obliterated.

Prisoners in jails on the mountain side went mad with terror and mutilated and were only partially quieted by being brought here. But their fears have been communicated to the prisoners here, who may rebel at any moment. The situation is critical.

#### Sea Not Yet Affected.

Contrary to expectations, the sea has not yet shown signs of being affected by the phenomena, but fears are entertained that tidal waves may yet come and many crafts have put to sea. Visitors to Naples are avoiding the hotels on the sea front and those living there are beginning to leave for higher altitudes.

Though there is much misery, up to the present time there have been no fatalities, except at Portici, where an old woman died, supposedly from fright.

#### To Roast Yellow Magazines.

Washington, Special.—President Roosevelt will deliver his Decoration Day address this year before the Army and Navy Union at Norfolk, Va. The ceremonies there will be held at the navy yard and in the sailor's cemetery. The address of the President will be practically a repetition of the address he delivered at the dinner recently given by Speaker Cannon to the members of the Gridiron Club and other guests. The text of the speech was "The Man With the Muck Rake," in which the President compared some of the publishers and writers of the present day with the famous character in Pilgrim's Progress, and he scolded some of the sensational magazine writers without mercy and expects to repeat his statements in the Norfolk speech. While the Norfolk speech will contain much that is new, it will follow closely the lines of the original address.

#### English Spinners in Texas.

Houston, Special.—H. W. McAlister and party of Manchester spinners arrived here to look into the Texas cotton trade and were cordially received. Asked as to whether it was proposed to invest in Southern concerns Mr. McAlister stated that there was now under way a study of the American lien land laws but he could not go further than that.

#### Young Girls Taken in Raid.

Richmond, Special.—Ada Gordon, the young girl who was a victim in the notorious Dela Haynes case and who was found in the house of Mollie Perkinson, which was raided by the police, was turned over to the Children's Home Society Tuesday. She is a mere slip of a girl, not more than 15 years of age. Effie Goodman, the pretty young woman who caused the raid, was not convicted. She left the courtroom arm in arm with her brother and brother-in-law and will return to her home. She is 17 years of age.

#### The Berwind Mutineers.

Washington, Special.—The Supreme Court of the United States took up the case of Robert Sawyer and Arthur Adams, who are under conviction on the charge of murder on the high seas. They are two of the members of the schooner Berwind, whose four officers were murdered off the North Carolina coast last October. They brought the case to the Supreme Court on writs of error alleging irregularities in their trial, which was conducted at Southport, N. C., by the United States Circuit Court

## NORTH CAROLINA AFFAIRS

### Items of Interest From Many Parts of the State

#### MINOR MATTERS OF STATE NEWS

##### Happenings of More or Less Importance Told in Paragraphs—The Cotton Markets.

#### Charlotte Produce Market.

Chickens—Spring	12	@25
Hens—per head	35	@40
Ducks	25	
Eggs	13	
Rye	80	
Oats—Feed	45	@50
Corn	66	@68
Cotton Seed	22 1/2	
Oat—Seed	50	@55

#### Cotton Market.

Galveston, firm	11 3/8
New Orleans, firm	11 3/16
Mobile, steady	11 1/2
Savannah, steady	11 1/8
Charleston, firm	11
Wilmington, steady	11
Norfolk, steady	11 1/2
Baltimore, nominal	11 1/2
New York, quiet	11.70
Boston, quiet	11.70
Philadelphia, steady	11.95
Houston, steady	11 3/8
Augusta, firm	11 3/8
Memphis, steady	11 1/4
St. Louis, quiet	11 1/4
Louisville, firm	11 5/8
Charlotte	11 1/2 to 11 1/4

#### Poe Will Get \$47,000.

Winston-Salem, Special.—John W. Poe, who received over \$900 from the city of Winston for the killing of his wife in the reservoir break in November, 1904, announced that he is in receipt of a message from Washington advising him that the government has recognized and decided to pay his claim of \$47,000 for cotton destroyed in Guilford county during the Civil War by Federal troops. Mr. Poe says that several hundred bales of cotton owned by him were burned by Northern soldiers. He has decided to let District Attorney Holton collect the claim.

#### Union Depot at Goldsboro.

Goldsboro, Special.—A site has been selected for the union depot at Goldsboro by the railroads interested in the matter, and the corporation commission officially notified of the choice of location. This site is at the western terminus of Mulberry street, running south to Walnut, and it is believed that the intention is to remove the tracks from Center street and belt the city. The Atlantic Coast Line authorities have the drawing of the plans for the handsome structure which is to be reared here for the accommodation of the traveling public and as soon as these designs are complete work on the building will begin.

#### The Abels Furnish Bond.

Waynesville, Special.—The verdict of the coroner's jury in the case of the killing of Sam Ray here three days ago was that the dead man came to his death at the hands of either Policeman Abel or his brother, Dr. J. F. Abel. The Abels were then arrested on a bench warrant and tried before Judge G. S. Ferguson, for the killing of Sam Ray. He bound them over to court in the sum of \$1,500, which they promptly gave.

#### North State Brevitates.

Mr. L. A. Dods-worth, of the Charlotte Cotton Exchange and Board of Trade, has secured an itemized list of all goods that were shipped, either in or out of Charlotte in car load lots, during the past month. During March, 1,681 cars of commodities, all classes, were shipped out while 2,618 were shipped in, making a total of 4,299 cars handled during the month.

The North Carolina Christian Advocate says that a letter from Dr. Lambeth, secretary of the board of missions, announces that Rev. Stephen A. Stewart, a member of the Western North Carolina Conference, now at Harvard University, has offered himself to the board for work in the foreign field. Mr. Stewart is a son of Mrs. S. M. Stewart, of Monroe.

Mr. P. H. Elkins has purchased the Siler City Grit and will edit it, succeeding Mr. W. E. Lawson, who has made it good exponent of Western Chatham.

## BANKERS, FARMERS, COTTON

### The Acreage May be Slightly Increased This Year Over Last But Not Over 1904.

A special to the Columbia, (S. C.) State from Baltimore says:

Summarizing 15 pages of letters on the cotton acreage outlook from several hundred bankers in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Indian Territory, the States practically embracing the cotton belt of the South The Manufacturers' Record says this week:

"The replies indicate a tendency toward a slight increase in acreage for the cotton belt as a whole, an increase, however, not overcoming the decrease in 1905 from the acreage of 1904, and a tendency to be restrained by certain natural factors. The replies show steady advance in diversification of crops, a firmer purpose than ever on the part of bankers and farmers to stand together for the common good and a greater degree of comfort among the growers.

"There is a general purpose apparent all along the line for the bankers and growers to continue, even with greater zeal, the policy of cooperation which worked so successfully during the past season. This does not, of course imply less acreage as a whole in 1906 than in 1905, although such a reduction in promised in a number of localities. Nor does it imply that the acreage in some States will not be increased. New lands in Texas, Oklahoma, Indian Territory and Arkansas, and, indeed, in such older States as Georgia, South Carolina and Mississippi, are being opened up and are going into cotton. In sections like the delta of Mississippi, where no fertilizer is yet used, or where it is really cheaper to buy supplies than to raise them with cotton at 10 or 12 cents, a moderate increase in acreage may be expected and many individuals will plant from 5 to 10 per cent wider than last year. But in the main the bankers are not encouraging any great expansion, but, on the other hand, are standing by the wisdom of the past 12 months and are receiving from the farmers hearty support. Some farmers are still holding, not because they expect much better prices, but because they do not need the money, and those who may not be satisfied with the price at the time they gin the coming crop are assured that they will have no difficulty in obtaining accommodations from the banks and merchants who are backing up the growers in legitimate plans to make their crop a paying one. At the same time a voice of caution is raised against any combination to get excessive prices, that being held as censurable as are efforts of Wall street bears to depress prices. Here and there, where experience has not taught wisdom, the all-cotton idea is abroad, and some few planters really favor a permanent 8-cent basis for the staple.

"The readiness with which the growers favor conservatism in planting this year and their determination to work along with the banks are due to the steadily increasing comfort of the many. The day of the old credit system is passing, and now the growers are found in various stages of prosperity, from ability to pay off old debts and to lift mortgages to ability to lend money themselves. Their bank accounts are greater than ever before and they are investing their surplus in permanent forms. They are buying more land and bringing the present holdings to a high state of cultivation. New homes with modern conveniences are being built and old ones are being improved. Up-to-date implements and machinery are being purchased, a better grade of live stock is appearing, some farmers are investing in town property and moving in so that their children may enjoy better school facilities, the farms being rented, and more bank stock and cotton mill stock and cotton seed oil mill stock are being held by the farmers, while better school buildings and better churches in divers country neighborhoods bear witness to prosperity growing out of better prices for cotton, and to the increasing ability to maintain a policy insuring even greater prosperity in the future.

"Necessarily to diversify, to divert some energies from cotton-growing into the raising of other crops, is giving place to deliberateness in following the policy as this stronger financial condition of the farmers permits them to enlarge upon the wisdom of not depending upon one crop. Diversification, which implies more fertilizing and greater attention given to the crops, began primarily for thousands of growers in carrying out a 'hog-and-hominy' campaign—that is, in living on one's own farm, in making supplies at home. The growing in certain favored sections of early vegetables and fruit for Northern markets,

the tobacco crop, as much a staple in some sections of the South as cotton is in others, and rice and sugar planting have, of course, engaged the attention of many persons for years. New tracts once devoted to cotton, or that ordinarily might have been planted in cotton, are being given over to a greater amount of cane, tobacco and rice, while in many localities more and more attention is being given to peaches, cantaloupes, melons, tomatoes, potatoes, peanuts, alfalfa, corn, wheat, hay, grapes, oats, pears, apples and berries more cows chickens and hogs are being raised, more mules and horses and more live stock generally for home use or for the market, as immigration is becoming more needed to meet the demand for labor and as a larger and larger number of farmers are perforce driven to handle crops that they may work themselves.

"Everywhere there might be a desire to depart from the safe and sure policy of last year and to yield to the temptation to plant more cotton, under the impression that a greater crop would not affect the price, it faces the possibility that the supply of labor will be insufficient to make even a crop equal to that of last season. From every one of the States comes complaints of a scarcity of farm labor, Oklahoma joining in the chorus. The younger negroes especially are loath to follow in the footsteps of their parents, and are either rendering inferior service or are quitting the farms entirely for idleness or disreputable work in the towns and cities. Lumber mills, the naval store industry, mining, railroad building, dam construction and building operations generally offer higher wages than the farms, and, in the case of whites, the demands of the cotton mills are having somewhat similar crippling effect upon farm operations, in spite of the inclination noted here and there for operations under the spur of fair prices for cotton to attempt to make a little crop of their own. Indeed, such is the activity in lumbering that not a few farmers, as is reported from Louisiana, are following the field hand to the lumber camp and are turning out their own cotton ceregrage for the year.

"Another influence against extensive expansion in acreage is the backwardness of the season in the Carolina and Georgia, as well as in Texas and Oklahoma, the ground being still wet and cold, or the crop of corn, the success of which will largely determine the acreage of cotton, not being sufficiently advanced to give a basis for any estimate. In a few spots, too, the boll weevil is regarded as a deterrent, though one correspondent takes a jocular view of the power of the cotton-boll weevil against the cotton bear."

PERSONAL GLEANINGS.

Ex-Mayor Van Wyck of New York sailed to make Paris his permanent home.

When Secretary Root makes his trip to South America next summer he will go on the cruiser Charleston.

Jean Baptiste Millet, the artist brother of Jean Francois Millet, the famous painter, died recently at Paris.

E. S. Curtis, of Washington, has been making an exhaustive study in photography of the American Indian.

Andrew McConnell, a practical philanthropist, of Washington, will attempt to place libraries in all the small towns of the South.

William H. McDonald, the actor and singer, who was one of the founders of the original Bostonians, died at Springfield, Mass., of pneumonia.

The presidency of the Rhode Island Agricultural College has been accepted by Professor Howard Edwards, of the Michigan Agricultural College.

The Rev. Dr. John Watson (Ian MacLaren), of Liverpool, England, will be the lecturer extraordinary in the Western Theological Seminary next year.

The Rev. William Howe, a Baptist clergyman, will be 100 years old on May 26, 1906. He is the founder of Tremont Temple, Boston, and lives in Cambridge.

James M. Breslin, widely-known hotel man, for years identified with the business at New York, Chicago, St. Louis and other cities, died at New York, aged seventy-two.

Senator Allison, of Iowa, senior Senator in point of service, is seventy-seven. He has been in Congress forty-three years, thirty-three of which have been spent in the Senate.

Dr. Paul G. Wooley, director of the serum laboratory of the Bureau of Science, in the Philippines, has accepted the directorship of the pathological laboratory which Siam proposes to start.

FOR LADIES ONLY.

Irate Guest—Say, young man that age-telling slot machine in the parlor is a rank fraud. I dropped a nickel in it and received a printed card giving my age as forty, while I'm a trifle over sixty.

Hotel Clerk—I beg your pardon, but that machine is for ladies only.—Chicago News.

Living is 40 per cent cheaper in London than in New York.

## The Irish Sentry.

An Irish soldier on sentry duty had orders to allow no one to smoke near his post. An officer with a lighted cigar approached, whereupon Pat boldly challenged him, and ordered him to put it out at once. The officer with an air of disgust threw away his cigar, but no sooner was his back turned than Pat picked it up and quietly retired to the sentry box.

The officer happening to look around observed a beautiful cloud of smoke issuing from the box. He at once challenged Pat for smoking on duty.

"Smoking, is it, sur? Bedad, and I'm only keeping it lit to show to the corpora when he comes as evidence agin' you."

## Time Lost by Spectacles.

Dr. Abraham Huntsinger has just given out a table relative to the time lost by persons wearing glasses. He says it's mostly time wasted, and costly time to some. Dr. Huntsinger bases his figures on the study of mankind for years.

He says the people who wear spectacles remove them and put them on again at least five times a day, and figures that 20 seconds are required for each such operation.

The man or woman who carries glasses for a period of twenty-five years (the period being placed low by the doctor) will lose thirty-two days of eight hours each as a result of the habit to take off and replace eyeglasses.—Indianapolis News.

## As He Was Told.

"What was the cause of that awful racket and disturbance in your office just before you came this morning?" asked one lawyer of another.

"You know that young farmer's son who came yesterday to begin the study of law with me?" said the man addressed.

"Yes."

"Well, I thought he might as well begin at the bottom of the ladder, and I told him that when he arrived this morning the first thing for him to do would be to clear out the office. He found there half a dozen people waiting to see me on business, and he bundled out the lot!"

## GETTING RED OF MOTHS.

Upholstered furniture can be kept free of moths by taking the furniture out doors once a month and beating it thoroughly with strips of ticking about an inch wide attached to a piece of broom handle. Should one hit the hard wood with this it will not mar it, while the regular rattan and wire beaters mar more furniture frames, ruin more covers and break up more inside fillings than a dozen children could do. The main reason we have moths is we are always going to beat out our upholstery furniture, but rarely get around to it. Clothing, including furs, to be stored in the wardrobe during summer, can be kept entirely exempt from attack if put into new flour sacks, linen sacks or anything of that nature and tightly tied so that a moth can not enter at the mouth. Chests serve the same purpose when tight enough to prevent moths from entering.

The boilers of the battleship Virginia have been changed and improved at the Newport News yards.

Generally speaking the smaller a man is the larger his troubles seem to be. So. 15-'06.

## DECAYED STARCH.

### A Food Problem.

"An Asheville man tells how right food did that which medicines had failed to accomplish:

"For more than 15 years," he says, "I was afflicted with stomach trouble and intestinal indigestion, gas forming in stomach and bowels and giving me great distress. These conditions were undoubtedly due to the starchy food I ate, white bread, potatoes, etc., and didn't digest. I grew worse with time, till, 2 years ago, I had an attack which the doctor diagnosed as appendicitis. When the surgeon operated on me, however, it was found that my trouble was ulcer of the pancreas, instead of appendicitis.

"Since that time I have had several such attacks, suffering death, almost. The last attack was about 3 months ago, and I endured untold agonies.

"The doctor then said that I would have to eat less starchy stuff, so I began the use of Grape-Nuts food for I knew it to be pre-digested, and have continued same with most gratifying results. It has built me up wonderfully. I gained 10 pounds in the first 8 weeks that I used Grape-Nuts, my general health is better than ever before, my brain is clearer and my nerves stronger.

"For breakfast and dinner, each, I take 4 spoonfuls of Grape-Nuts with cream, a small slice of dry toast, an egg soft boiled and a cup of Postum; and I make the evening meal on Grape-Nuts and cream alone—this gives me a good night's rest and I am well again." Name given by Postum Co., "Battle Creek, Mich.

There's a reason. Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs.