

# The Polk County News.

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## BRIEF CULLINGS OF NORTH STATE NEWS

News of Interest Gleaned From All Sections of the State and Arranged For Busy Readers

### DESTRUCTION OF TERRAPIN BUG

Kill the Pests Before They Multiply  
—How to Do It.

The following information issued from the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station is of decided interest and importance to those in the line of its beneficence.

The annual loss caused by terrapin bugs sucking the life out of collards, cabbages, turnips and allied plants is difficult to estimate accurately, but certainly amounts to thousands of dollars in North Carolina. A large proportion of this loss may be prevented if farmers, gardeners and truckers will take the trouble to collect or in some way destroy the bugs that first appear this spring. We have conclusive evidence that such work may be made a paying investment. We cannot, however, continue to wait, as is usually done, until the bugs become so numerous as to cause very noticeable injury in gardens or fields, but on the contrary they must be destroyed before they commence to lay eggs; otherwise the annual loss will remain the same or will increase.

In November last this Station published a press bulletin urging farmers to immediately collect and kill the terrapin bugs, then in their fields, to prevent their living in such numbers through the winter. Now it seems advisable to urge the equally important work of destroying those individuals that escaped last fall, and which will soon commence to come out from their winter hiding quarters.

**Only Adult Bugs Survive the Winter.**  
Eggs and young bugs do not live through the winter in this State; hence it is only full-grown, strong, adult males and females which survive by finding favorable hibernating quarters under rubbish around the gardens, under stones, in fence corners and similar places, where they are protected from the weather. As this has been a mild winter, they are liable to appear in greater numbers than usual in the spring.

**When Egg Laying Commences.**  
We could not consistently urge the task of destroying the overwintering bugs if they commenced to lay eggs upon their first appearance. Careful observation has shown that at least two weeks' time elapses after the bugs appear before the first eggs are deposited. During this period they are very actively feeding and mating, and the majority will congregate on the few old plants left from last season's wild mustard and turnips, which are favorite food plants, and collards, with their broad leaves, often harbor a large number of them.

The prime object of this article is to emphasize the fact that the farmer or gardener who watches closely for the first terrapin bugs to appear has about two weeks' time to kill them and still prevent the majority from laying eggs for the first generation.

### Rate of Increase.

Have you ever considered the actual benefit that results from killing one female terrapin bug when she first appears in spring? Observe the following statements: The average number of eggs laid by each bug varies from eighty-four to ninety-six—that is, seven or eight masses of twelve eggs each, deposited over a period of from four to eight weeks. There are three full generations each year. Suppose we kill a single terrapin bug and thus prevent ninety-six

### Victim of Curious Accident.

Gastonia, Special.—Mrs. Eugene Ratchford, who lives three miles east of Gastonia, was perhaps mortally wounded by a bullet from a stray cartridge, which she had swept into the fireplace. The cartridge exploded before the woman completed her task, the bullet entering her right breast. The case was said to be very serious.

### Two Homicides in Madison.

Asheville, N. C., Special.—News has been received here by telephone from Marshall, Madison county, of two homicides occurring in that county last week. One of the killings occurred Saturday night about 7:30 o'clock on Bailey's branch, when Harry Bryan shot and killed Zeb Brooks, the slayer of Brooks using a shot gun. The other homicide on the Tennessee line, Wednesday, when W. M. Andrews was shot and killed from ambush by Elias Pate.

### young for the first generation, of which one-half might be females. If these forty-eight females reproduced at the same rate, the second generation would number 4,608 individuals. Counting only one-half as females, each capable of producing ninety-six young, the third generation would reach the enormous number of 221,184, the progeny of one female in a single year. We can divide this number by one hundred and still have over 2,200 as the number of bugs prevented by killing one individual when she first appears.

During the warm summer months a minute parasite in the form of a tiny black fly destroys a large percentage of the eggs, but as a general thing these parasites do not become abundant until the first generation is well developed so that the destruction of the bugs that produce the first generation is more essential than the death of bugs later in the year. Another point in favor of early destruction!

Are not the above facts sufficient to impress farmers with the importance of spring destruction of terrapin bugs?

### How to Destroy Them.

**Hand Picking.**—This is probably the most valuable method of killing terrapin bugs at any season of the year. The work can be done rapidly by children. The bugs are inclined to hide on cold, windy or dark days; so that warm, sunny days should be selected for this task. We cannot expect to find all the bugs in one day, or even the majority of them. A good plan would be to collect two or three times a week, but be certain to commence within a few days after the bugs first appear. They may be killed by crushing or by dropping in a little kerosene.

**Spray With Pure Kerosene.**—When the bugs are abundant on worthless plants they may be killed with pure kerosene. With the aid of a small spray pump a large number of bugs may be killed in a few hours.

Arsenical poisons are not effective against this insect, which feeds by sucking the plant juice.

Kerosene emulsion of 15 or 20 per cent concentration is used with success for killing small or half-grown bugs, but this treatment will not kill many adults. By following the suggestions made above, the young bugs will not become numerous, but whenever spraying does become necessary kerosene emulsion is the best remedy to use.

R. I. SMITH,  
Entomologist.

### Mountain County Enterprises.

The Watauga Turnpike Company has leased the convict force from Watauga county and the first work will be to construct turnpike roads from Edgemont to Linville, Blowing Rock and Sholes Mill. It is stated that a narrow gauge railroad is contemplated from Edgemont to Boone.

The idea is that the County of Watauga and private citizens and other interested parties will put up \$100,000. If this road should be built, it will have a station very near Blowing Rock. The resources named are considered sufficient if they can be gotten together. It is expected to get 150 convicts from the State. Talk is also heard of extending the Linville River narrow gauge road which runs from Cranberry to Pinola to a junction point with the proposed Watauga road, either in the Carey Flat's neighborhood or at Edgemont. So far all these plans are simply being talked of but it is hoped that out of the talk something will come.

### Clayton Man a Suicide.

Clayton, N. C., Special.—David W. Avery committed suicide Monday morning about 10 o'clock. No special reasons can be given for his act. He was suffering some slight depression but no fears of such an outcome were entertained. He used his shotgun with which he went out ostensibly to kill a bird for a sick father.

### Moonshine Still Destroyed in Alexander County.

Statesville, Special.—Revenue Officer Davis, of Statesville, was in Alexander county last week looking after the moonshiners of the Brushy Mountains and during the latter part of the week he and Sheriff Adams, of Alexander, found and destroyed an illicit distillery near the corner of the three counties—Iredell, Alexander and Wilkes. The 65-gallon still and other fixtures showed that the still had been in operation only a short time before the officers arrived, but no one was on the premises when the officers arrived.

## SEABOARD TRAINS COLLIDE

Colored Firemen the Only Victim of Head-On Crash Between Freight and Passenger Trains at Colon.

Sanford, Special.—Seaboard passenger train No. 32, southbound, and a northbound freight ran together head-on Saturday morning about 4:30 o'clock at Colon, a small station about 35 miles south of Raleigh. Hassey Lindsay, the colored fireman of the passenger train was killed, and the engineer, Ed Robertson, of Raleigh, was badly hurt.

The engineer, M. J. Eisenhart, of the freight, and his fireman jumped and neither was hurt. Capt. W. C. Cox, conductor on the passenger train, had a leg broken; Ernest Daval, baggage master, was hurt in the back and internally. W. R. Lamb, a merchant of Hamlet, was badly bruised; John Newton, colored, of Hamlet, had a leg crushed; W. S. Rowe, express messenger, was badly cut; Sam Wicks, colored, of Charlotte, was badly cut. Others received minor injuries.

The injured were taken to Raleigh for treatment.

The engineer of the freight train misread the orders. He thought No. 33 was an hour and a half late, when it was No. 32 that was late. The trains were running at full speed and engines were practically demolished. The baggage and express cars and first passenger coach of the passenger train were splintered.

## WAR ON "BLACK HAND."

Brutal Murder of Italian Detective Stirs New York Police—Other Cities Asked to Aid in the Extermination of the Criminals.

New York, Special.—Relentless warfare will be waged against the "Black Hand" societies by the police of this, and it is hoped, other cities as a result of the murder of Lieutenant Joseph Petrosini, the noted detective of New York, in Palermo, Friday night. For years Petrosini had been active in his work to bring to justice members of his own race who carried on blackmailing operations in this country through threats of murder made in the name of the "Black Hand." It is believed here that his murder was the result of a plot that had its inception in the United States and that the persons indirectly responsible for his death are still within the reach of the American police. If so, every effort will be made to bring about their arrest and conviction, and with this end in view Inspector McCafferty, head of the New York detective bureau, sent telegrams Saturday to the authorities in the principal cities of the country asking that increased activity be exerted against all "Black Hand" suspects. Immediate orders were given to arrest at once all men in New York City who are believed to have connection with "Black Hand" operations.

Petrosini's murderer, who was a member of the "Black Hand," fired four shots from a revolver. Petrosini arrived in Sicily only a short time ago and was engaged in conducting an investigation regarding Italian criminals.

Inspector McCafferty said Saturday that he was anxious to know whether Petrosini had been robbed after being shot. He intimated that Petrosini had some papers valuable to the police here in running down Black Hand and other Italian offenders.

A cablegram from Palermo (Italy) says: The assassination of Lieutenant Petrosini has stirred the police to unprecedented activity. Many arrests already have been made, including a number of Italians with criminal records, lately returned from the United States.

## Great Floods in the South.

A special from Montgomery, Ala., says the Alabama is 51 feet above normal and is slowly rising. It is expected to be 55 feet. No great casualties have yet occurred as fair warnings were given and residents from the lower districts moved to the higher parts. The Coosa at Rome is 31 1-2 feet, and 29 feet at Gadsden. The Tallapoosa is a raging torrent.

## South Pines Chosen.

Fitzgerald, Ga., Special.—The Blue and Gray Association at its annual encampment here Saturday selected Southern Pines, N. C., for the next reunion. The following officers were elected: Commander in chief, Major B. F. Dixon, North Carolina; senior vice commander, Capt. William M. McCormick, Georgia; junior vice commander, Capt. Joseph Price, Florida; chaplain in chief, Rev. W. S. Harden, Georgia; judge advocate general, O. S. Deming, Warren, O.; quartermaster general, C. H. Worth, Texas.

## MATTERS OF CURRENT NEWS

Items of Interest Gathered By Wire and Cable

### GLEANINGS FROM DAY TO DAY

Live Items Covering Events of More or Less Interest at Home and Abroad.

By an act of Congress on Feb. 1st the windows of President Harrison and President Cleveland may use the mails free of postage for the balance of their lives if their autographs be placed on the letters.

The annex for the demented at the county home of Rockingham, N. C., was burned on Tuesday and two aged inmates were burned to death.

The State of Washington has local apion. Every incorporated town and every country district is a unit.

When Mr. Fairbanks was Vice-President he had an elaborate inkstand made for his desk. On hearing complaints of extravagance he sent in his check for \$200, which covered the cost and took it with him when he retired.

The federal grand jury in New York found a true bill for slander against the New York World in the Panama affair.

South Carolina makes it bad on the man that drums for liquor orders.

Diplomatic relations with Nicaragua were practically broken off Friday by the State Department, which ordered Secretary of Legation Gregory at Managua to return home, leaving the legation in charge of the consul, who will have no diplomatic capacity.

Six persons were hanged in Louisiana for murder and one for criminal assault March 5th.

Maj. Hale, editor of the Fayetteville Observer, presented to the N. C. Supreme Court last week an oil painting of Jno. De Rosett Toomer, who made the speech of welcome to Gen. Lafayette when he visited Fayetteville. Editor Hale also published the speech and the General's response.

At this writing Gen. Butler of South Carolina, and Hon. Cyrus B. Watson of North Carolina, seem to be in the power of fatal sickness.

Preparations are being pushed for the 12th conference for education in the South to be held in Atlanta, Ga., on April 14, 15 and 16.

Telegrams received from Carinthia, Austria, report that a series of devastating avalanches have occurred there and that numbers of houses have been swept away. It is already known that ten deaths have resulted.

Hirschel Hogg, a confessed member of the band of night-riders who murdered Captain Quentin Rankin at Walnut Log in October, escaped from jail at Dresden Sunday night.

It is said that there are 32,000 cases of land frauds for the Attorney General to see to as soon as practicable.

Mrs. Ruth Bryan Leavitt has won her divorce suit and is now free from her husband.

Miss Jennie Reed and Joseph Mueller were strolling in Baltimore a few nights ago when she was shot and killed. Mueller raised the cry that a highwayman had held him up and gotten his valuables and on approaching her received a slap in the face, whereupon the robber shot her. Mueller now says he himself shot her accidentally.

Bib Springs, Texas, had a fire Wednesday that destroyed a number of business blocks entailing a loss of \$100,000.

Lewis Nixon, the shipbuilder, predicts a great future for aeroplanes and airships.

Michael Donnelly, judge of Third District, Ohio Circuit Court, is charged with imbezement of funds belonging to the Ohio German Insurance Co. to the extent of probably \$300,000. The company has failed.

A tornado struck Brinkley, Ark., last Sunday night and killed 35 persons, demolishing most of the houses and leaving few fit for habitation.

Charles M. Schwab said the Bethlehem Steel Company would not reduce wages.

The Standard Oil Company won its suit that relieved it from paying the \$29,240,000 fine imposed by Judge Landis.

The United States District Court at Kansas City declared the 2-cent railroad rate in Missouri confiscatory and illegal.

Dr. W. D. Crum has resigned as collector of the port at Charleston and it is understood that Mr. Edwin W. Durant will become his successor.

The technical high school of Munich has conferred the honorary degree of doctor of technical sciences on Wilbur and Orville Wright, the American aeroplanists.

## PAVING THE WAY FOR ROOSEVELT

"Darkest Africa" Will Welcome the Ex-President With Open Arms.

### Mombasa, East Africa, By Cable.

Mombasa is preparing already to welcome Theodore Roosevelt when he lands here the latter part of next month on his much-heralded African trip, and the coming of the former president of the United States has given a decided impetus to the interest in the present hunting season. The governor of the protectorate, Lieut. Col. Sir James Sadler, is getting up entertainment for the distinguished visitor, but in spite of these arrangements, the greeting to Mr. Roosevelt will be more to the great sportsman whose fame is well known to local hunters than to the former president.

East African sportsmen were highly gratified to learn that Mr. Roosevelt had refused the offer of the authorities to grant him a special hunting license that would have permitted him to kill game to an unlimited extent instead of confining himself to the two elephants, two rhinoceroses, two hippopotami, etc. Lions and leopards are classed as vermin and consequently no license to kill them is required.

The white population of Mombasa has heard much of Mr. Roosevelt's personality and in a joking way frequent references to the "big stick" are being made.

The prospects for good hunting this season are considered excellent. Many settlers in the outlying districts, realizing the increasing interest in the prospects for good sport because of the coming of Mr. Roosevelt, are voluntarily sending in information about the movements of game. According

to a dispatch received here a month ago a group of lions, numbering 32, was seen on the Nandi plateau Tuesday at a point about 50 miles north of Florence. (The Nandi plateau is on the west side of the great Rift valley.) Among them were three large males.

### Giraffes Seen.

Four families of giraffes have been seen at Makindu, 200 miles inland from here, on the line of the Uganda railroad, and elephants have been seen at Elburgon, 475 miles inland on the railroad and along the Sabaki river, not far to the north of Mombasa.

R. J. Cunningham, the noted English big game hunter and naturalist, who is to be guide to and general manager of the Roosevelt party, has been here for some time completing the preparations for the trip into the wilderness as well as the shooting and collecting excursions along the line of the railroad. He is selecting and hiring native porters for the excursion. He takes only experienced men who are known to be courageous and to possess great physical strength. The safari kit, in other words, the equipment for the work in the open, is to come from London and will be in readiness when Mr. Roosevelt arrives.

Everything points to a successful stay in British East Africa and Uganda for Mr. Roosevelt; the natives are peaceful; game is plentiful and the people of Mombasa are waiting eagerly to extend him a welcome.

## DECISION IN FAVOR OF THE OIL COMPANY

Chicago, Special.—The Standard Oil Company, of Indiana, found not guilty of accepting rebates from the Chicago & Alton Railroad on shipments of oil from Whiting, Ind., to East St. Louis, Ill. The verdict was returned by a jury in the Federal Court on instructions of Judge A. G. Anderson, who averred that he followed the Circuit Court of Appeals' decision as to the verdict returned at the former trial of the same case and on which verdict Judge Kennesaw Mountain Landis assessed a fine of \$29,240,000.

Judge Anderson's decision was not unexpected as he had Tuesday told the government prosecutors that the proof relied on in the first trial was incompetent and that it must be complemented or fail. It was with something of an air of hopelessness that District Attorney Edwin W. Sims and

his assistant attempted to show the advisability of the Illinois classification to prove the existence of a legal rate of 18 cents, which was a vital point in the government's contention.

### Attorneys Threw Up Case.

It was after Assistant District Attorney James H. Wilkerson had argued for two hours and in the end admitted that the prosecution could not furnish the further proof deemed necessary by the court for a continuation of the case, that Judge Anderson announced his decision. Mr. Wilkerson said that the government could proceed no further and suggested dismissal of the case. Attorney John S. Miller, chief counsel in the case for the oil company, immediately moved that there be an instructed verdict of not guilty. The court so ordered, and the jury, which had been excluded during the arguments by the attorneys, was called in and charged.

## GEORGIA TOWNS SUFFER FROM STORMS

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—With the completed death roll of Sunday night's Arkansas tornado just coming in, the tail end of the Arkansas storm which Tuesday night swept across Alabama and south Georgia Wednesday set in motion a new death count for the latter two States. This count was ten, five negroes killed in Cuthbert, Ga., and three whites and two negroes drowned at Montgomery, Ala., the latter deaths a result of high water following a record rainfall for the past 20 years.

Cumming, Ga., Tuesday got into tephatic communication with the outside world and sent word that a tornado ploughed through miles of timber, farm yards and valuable property in that vicinity besides destroying half a dozen farmers' homes and seriously injuring a young man and a young woman.

Cuthbert Hard Hit.

Cuthbert, Ga., reported the damage at \$500,000 and Mayor D. A. McPherson issued an appeal for aid.

Nearly half of the main business block of Cuthbert was demolished. Every store on Depot street was blown down, filling the street with piles of brick and timbers. Homeless persons wandered through the town searching for household possessions which the wind had scattered for blocks in all directions.

The whites dead at Montgomery are:

William Dillard, 20 years old.  
Thomas Harper, of Atlanta, 23 years.  
Unidentified white man.

### Floods at Montgomery, Ala.

Montgomery, Ala., Special.—Heavy and continuous rains wrought great damage here and the situation was made serious Tuesday. Several homes in north Montgomery were abandoned and inmates carried to places of safety in boats.

The Grand Theatre, a handsome new structure, was flooded and the damage will be heavy.

## SHIPS COLLIDE ON MASSACHUSETTS COAST

Chatham, Mass., Special.—The steamer Horatio Hall of the Maine Steamship Company, from Portland, New York and H. F. Dimock, of the Metropolitan line, from New York to Boston, collided at 7 o'clock Wednesday morning and the Hall went to the bottom in half an hour and the

Dimock ran ashore six hours later on Cape Cod beach, where the passengers and crew of the Hall were landed unharmed. Wireless calls were made but the position of the ships was not well stated and in the dense fog assistance failed to reach the point of disaster.

## MUST NOT PLACE ON THE "UNFAIR LIST"

Washington, Special.—The American Federation of Labor hereafter may freely refer to the boycott against the Buck Stove and Range company of St. Louis, except by inclusion in the "We don't patronize list." This in substance of widespread importance to the labor world, generally, is the sweeping decision handed down Thursday by the court of appeals of the District of Columbia in the noted injunction case of the Buck Stove and Range company against the American Federation of Labor, which has been before the

courts of the District of Columbia in various phases for months. In a recent decision by Justice Gould of the supreme court of the District the American Federation of Labor and the officers, Messrs. Gompers, Mitchell, Morrison, and others were enjoined from conspiring to boycott the Buck Stove and Range company and from printing or publishing or distributing, through the mails or otherwise, any copy of The Federationist or other publication referring to the complainant, its business or products in the "We don't patronize" or "Unfair list."