

Concord's Fighting Rat Goes On Another Rampage in Fight

Concord.—Concord's most famous rat, conqueror of a three foot rattlesnake after a week's battle, is seeking new worlds to conquer. Inspired with a zeal uncommon in rats and charged with venom from the snake he killed after being bitten several times, the rat recently drove off a cat placed in the cage with him and today is the sole occupant of the cage originally constructed for his first victim.

Admirer of the rat's fighting qualities following his victorious bout with the rattler, wagged that it would be just as successful against a cat. The wagers were quickly called and a neighborhood cat placed in the cage.

Several persons who questioned the rat's ability to kill a snake were called into witness his second major battle within ten days.

The cat knew his business but no sooner was he in the cage than he made a lunge for the rat, which was quietly sheltered in a corner of the cage. The cat's paw found the corner of the cage but not the rat for with unusual speed the rodent shifted to the

back of the Tom, planting his teeth in the cat's neck.

The cat showed his surprise with convulsions of the body and shrieks of pain. He rubbed against the cage, shook his body with all his strength and sought his foe with the paw. Still the rat clung, on driving his teeth again and again into the neck of his would-be slayer.

For some time the battle went on, always with the rat on top. The cat stuck to his job for fifteen or twenty minutes, then began to tire of the jabbing in his neck. He forgot to use his paw as an offensive weapon and sought to locate with it some opening in the wire of the cage.

In his eye was the look of wonder. Why everyone knew he was supposed to kill that rat, seemed to say the expression on his face, yet here was the rat on his back fighting with the determination of a tiger.

Supporters of the cat finally took him from the cage, and the rat went back to his corner, with his fur still as new as the feathers of a frizzled chicken, the only mark he bears as result of the fight with the snake.

the night. As she went, she said, "He was wounded for my transgression. He was bruised for my iniquity." Finally she said, "I am going home." It was a long trip, but, finally, the final eight miles beyond the street-car. Just out to walk, she staggered on. At last on a little hill top, from which she could view her country home, she said, "I cannot go any farther, I am ready to drop in my tracks and die, yet I want to take one look at my girlhood home."

As she looked, she saw the lights shining from the windows. That cheered her on. Reaching the house she peered in through the window. Father and mother could not sleep that night, for it was just one year since Flora had left their roof, and gone out into the world of sin and woe. They were saying something like this: "Just a year ago Flora left." "Oh, that Flora might return. We have waited and waited and pled with God that she might come home." Finally the wife said, "Oh, husband, I saw Flora's face, as she looked in through the window-pane." He said, "No, darling, you did not see Flora's face on a wintry night like this. That is only the wind and snow brushing the branches against the window-pane." They talked on, rapt, and then the mother said, "Oh, look, look, I saw Flora's face!" The girl had peered in through the window and then turned from view. Flora dragged herself to the door, turned the latch, and as it flew open she fell across the threshold. The loving arms of father and mother picked her up and laid her on a lounge. As Flora regained consciousness, her sad eyes fixed on mother, then her lips began to move, and she said, "Mother, yes, Flora, dear, what is it?" "Mother, He was wounded for my transgression. He was bruised for my iniquities and the chastisement of my peace was upon Him, and mother, oh, mother, with His stripes I am healed." I tell you men and women, this Christmas-tide, let us say with the shepherds—

"Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass"; and they went, and they found it even as the angel had said.

mixed with nitric acid to form nitrocellulose while corn, after being distilled into duty alcohol, is used as a solvent. The result is that today thousands of bales of cotton lint and millions of bushels of corn are being consumed by the du Pont Company in the production of Duco, which is unlike paint, varnish and enamel in that it contains no oils. Thus, as a new by-product of agriculture, it has opened new markets for the farmer.

In Mark Twain's days on the Mississippi no one had an automobile and no one dreamed that cotton and corn would some day be used as a finish for automobiles and still this year this chemical achievement is arousing more interest among the farmers than any other feature of the auto show.

The exhibit of the Chevrolet Company contained many new and beautiful Duco color combinations which can also be seen at the local show room of Arey Bros Garage.

Can't might have been worse. He didn't claim he was doing it to protect his rights.

COUNTRY WEEKLY BEST SOFT DRINK AD MEDIUM

A representative of the St. Louis office of the Green River Bottling Company recently told a representative of the United States Publisher that he believed country newspapers to be the most effective form of advertising for bottles of carbonated beverages. He said that advertisements of such a product as soft drinks brought relatively better results in country papers than in city papers.

"The people in the city skim through the paper until they find the particular thing they are looking for," he said, "but the people who read in it."

Paris.—Madame Louis Cognard, who with her husband 53 years ago started a little shop that became a great department store and brought her an immense fortune is dead. For 50 years neither took a vacation.

If only the school histories wouldn't make one country's pet hate another's pet hero.

Sometimes kills 'em. Walker had been going about for two days with a worried look on his usually smiling face. A friend stopped him and asked the reason for the sudden change from joy to bloom.

"I fear my wife is going insane. It's those people next door," Walker said.

"What have they done? What's the trouble?" the friend asked.

"She can't bear a sound of them all day long."

Persistent. A certain actor gave a gratuitous performance at one of the big hospitals, and after the show the students tried to press all sorts of refreshments on him.

"Have a whiskey and soda, Mr. . . ."

"No thank you very much."

"Well, have a cigar, then?"

"Don't smoke them, thanks."

"Oh, I say do have something," pro- tected one student. "Look here; have a leg of?"

Preparation for a New Day

A Sermonette

(Rev. H. W. McDiarmid.)

Notwithstanding the extreme cold weather and the Christmas holiday changes good interest was manifested in the Presbyterian services last Sunday. At the evening service the pastor, Rev. H. N. McDiarmid, preached a most unique sermon from the subject, "Preparation for a New Day," using as his text, Luke 3:14, "What Shall We Do?"

In part the pastor said, "when John the Baptist the fore runner of Christ came into the regions round about Jordan announcing the coming of the Messiah, and preaching the baptism of repentance, he aroused the interest of three classes, the common people, the publicans and the soldiers. One hearing John's message and the character of the Savior to come, and the nature of his mission, these three classes came to him asking the same question, 'What Shall We Do?'"

To the common people John replied "Him that hath two coats let him impart to him that hath none, and he that hath meat let him do likewise," impressing upon them that the possession of these things implied an obligation upon them. To the publicans who were guilty of exacting more taxes than the law allowed and eroding themselves with the same, John answers their question by saying "Exact no more than that which is appointed you" thus showing that the Savior expected to establish principles of honesty in business. To the soldiers who were guilty of intimidation and robbery in the regions in which they camped, John replied to their question and said, "Do violence to no man neither accuse any falsely and be content with your wages." In answering these three classes, announcing the first coming of Christ, John was making known the manner of living which Christ expected to characterize citizens in his kingdom. As we today are closing an old year looking forward to the opportunity of a new year and anticipating the second coming of Christ, when he shall come in power and great glory, these same principles of charity, honesty and righteous living should characterize all the activities of God's people. If these principles are not already established in our conduct, the most important thing for us to do is to see that they are established before the New Year dawns upon us, and before Christ comes an expectedly.

At the morning hour Mr. McDiarmid used for his text, "Let us Now go Even into Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass." And they went and found it even as the Angel had said. Speaking of this resolution of the shepherds, attention was called to the fact that these shepherds were abiding in the same country where Abraham journeyed and toward which Daniel faced and three times a day prayed to God while in exile in Babylon, and where God had effused to build up a righteous nation. Attention was further called to the fact that God first made known the Savior's birth to Shepherds rather than to merchants, bankers or men of any other trade, because the shepherds in caring for their flock represented the care which Christ was to exercise for

his people. This announcement was also made by night to emphasize the fact that Christ was to be the light of God in a dark world.

On hearing God's voice through the Angelic Hosts these shepherds did differently from what men are doing today, not questioning the fact of Christ's birth and of his divine origin, but said, "Let us go even into Bethlehem and see, and when they went they found even as the Angel had said." If men will search as earnestly today for the divinity of Christ and his virgin birth as these shepherds did their search will like wise be rewarded.

In view of God's offer to the world of a Savior and especially at this season when we have just celebrated his birth, all people should come from the ways of sin and dedicate themselves to God in Christ. In illustrating this point the pastor told a touching story as given by Dr. R. E. Neighbour, the whole of which is worth repeating:

"Once upon a time there was a girl that went far away from her home. She ran away, and lived in sin. Soon the roses left her cheeks and the light went out of her eye. She became sick, and was carried to the hospital. There she hovered between life and death for two or three months. She was turned out of the hospital on Christmas Eve. She said to herself, 'I am not fit to go home to my father and mother. I will not go on in my life of sin. There is no place to go. I will go out yonder and drown myself.' She was strolling along the street that wintry night, that Christmas Eve. As she passed a church she heard music, and so she just slipped in, and took a back seat. The minister stood up, Bible in hand; he read for his text, these words: 'He was wounded for our transgression, He was bruised for our iniquities, the chastisement of our peace was upon Him and with His stripes we are healed.' When Flora heard these words of the text, she dropped her head over on the bench in front of her, and there, with her face buried in her hands, she thought of those matchless words. She did not hear the minister's sermon, she did not hear the choir singing, nor did she hear the benediction. She thought only of Christ and His Cross and of her own sins. Finally the hand of the sexton touched her, and he said, 'Woman, are you going home to-night?' She looked up, startled, and staggered out into

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Union Trust Company of Shelby, for the election of directors for the ensuing year and any other business coming before the meeting, will be held Tuesday, January 12th, 1926 at 11 o'clock a. m. at their banking room in Shelby.

FORREST ESKRIDGE, Cashier.

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank of Shelby for the election of directors for the ensuing year, and for any other business coming before the meeting, will be held Tuesday, January 12th, 1926 at 11 o'clock a. m. at their banking room.

FORREST ESKRIDGE, Cashier.

ECK & STEPHENS
Certified Public Accountants
Gastonia, N. C.
Systems — Audits — In-
vestigations.
Income Tax Specialists.

STOCKHOLDERS MEETING.
Notice is hereby given that the annual stockholders meeting of the Cleveland Bank and Trust Co. will be held in the director's room of the bank on Tuesday January 12th, at 11 o'clock for the election of officers and the transaction of any other business that may come before the meeting. This December 29th, 1925.

J. J. LATTIMORE, Secy.-Treas.

**COME IN NOW
AND JOIN OUR
1926
CHRISTMAS CLUB**
**CLEVELAND BANK
AND TRUST CO.,**
Shelby, N. C.

Farmers Interest In New York Auto Show

Farmers throughout the land are more interested in the 1926 Automobile Show than ever before, according to W. G. Arey of the Arey Bros Motor Company, in this city. Mr. Arey declared today that the feature of this year's show is the beauty and variety of Duco colors seen on the new cars exhibited by the Chevrolet Motor Company.

The agricultural interest in these colors comes from the fact that two of the largest crops grown in the United States are combined by the chemists in the manufacture of Duco. Cotton, in the form of inters, is

BILIOUSNESS

Retired Minister Tells How He Keeps in Good Form With the Assistance of Black-Draught.

West Graham, Va.—The Rev. Lewis Evans, a well-known retired minister, now past 80, living here, has a high opinion of Black-Draught, which he says he has taken when needed, for 25 years.

"For years, I had been suffering with my liver," he says, "Sometimes the pain would be very intense and my back would hurt all the time. Black-Draught was the first thing I found that would give me any relief."

"My liver has always been sluggish. Sometimes it gives me a lot of trouble. I have suffered a lot with it—putns in my side and back, and bad headache, caused from extreme biliousness."

"After I found Black-Draught, I would begin to take it as soon as I felt a spell coming on and it relieved the cause at once. I can recommend it to anybody suffering from liver-trouble. A dose or two now and then keeps me in good form."

Made from selected medicinal roots and herbs, and containing no dangerous mineral drugs, Black-Draught is nature's own remedy for a tired, lazy liver. NC-166



NOTICE SALE OF \$5000 ELECTRIC LIGHT BONDS OF TOWN OF WACO, N. C.

The town of Waco, in Cleveland county, N. C., will at two o'clock p. m. on Thursday, December 31, 1925, at the town office in Waco, N. C., sell \$5000 electric light bonds of said town and sealed bids are solicited for said bonds up to the time of sale. The bonds will be dated January 1, 1926, and bear interest at the rate of 6 per cent, per annum, payable semi-annually, and the principal will mature \$200 per annum on the first day of January of each year, 1929 to 1933 inclusive.

Bidders, when making their bids, must deposit a certified check upon an incorporated bank or trust company payable to the Town of Waco for two per cent, of the face amount of the bid to secure the town against any loss resulting from a failure of the bidder to comply with the terms of the bid.

Bids could be filed with undersigned mayor or clerk and treasurer. This December 19, 1925.

U. L. BLACK, Clerk and Treasurer Town of Waco, N. C. 21-21c.

SCHEDULES

INTER-CAROLINAS MOTOR BUS COMPANY

Leaves Shelby for Charlotte 7 a. m., 9 a. m., 11 a. m., 1 p. m., 3 p. m., 5 p. m., 8 p. m.—Leaves Charlotte for Shelby 8 a. m., 10 a. m., 12 Noon, 2 p. m., 4 p. m., 6 p. m.

SCHEDULE LINCOLN-TON-SHELBY BUS

Leaves Shelby 7:20 a. m., 10 a. m., 1 p. m., 4:30 p. m.—Leaves Lincoln 8:30 a. m., 11 a. m., 3:00 p. m., 6:30 p. m. ZEB COSTNER, Manager.

SCHEDULE SHELBY-RUTHERFORD-TON BUS

Leaves Shelby 8 a. m., 1 p. m., Leaves Rutherfordton 9:55 a. m., 2:15 p. m. Z. V. COSTNER, Manager.

SCHEDULE SHELBY-ASHEVILLE BUS

Leaves Shelby 10 a. m., 12 Noon, 2 p. m., 4 p. m., 6 p. m. RED TOP CAB CO., and BLUE RIDGE LINES, Owners, Asheville, N. C.

For Information Phone 450—Union Bus Terminal, Shelby, N. C.

Announcing

Blue Ridge
Ice Cream

To be Manufactured in Shelby, Beginning at an early date.

**WATCH FOR
OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT
SHELBY ICE & FUEL CO.
Shelby, N. C.**

THE SOUTHERN SERVES THE SOUTH

A day's work on the Southern

When a railroad system extends for 8,000 miles across eleven states and employs 60,000 workers, it does a big day's work.

Here are the figures of an average day on the Southern Railway System:

Trains operated	1,270
Passengers carried	50,000
Carloads of freight loaded on our lines and received from other railroads	8,000
Ton-miles produced	32,000,000
Tons of coal burned in locomotives	14,000
Wages paid	\$220,000
Materials purchased	\$135,000

It takes management, and discipline, and a fine spirit of cooperation throughout the organization, to do this work day after day, and maintain the standards of service that the South expects from the Southern.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY SYSTEM

SERVICE THAT SATISFIES
— AT THE —
DRIVE IN FILLING STATION
TEXACO GAS AND OILS
We have a few Tires for Fords at a VERY LOW PRICE

DRIVE IN FILLING STATION
JAMES F. ROBERTS, Proprietor

GENERAL REPAIRING ON ANY MAKE OF AUTOMOBILE

Wrecker Service — Road Service

THE SERVICE GARAGE
B. F. Spangler
Phone 371. — Shelby, N. C.

**---HOME BUILDERS---
---CONTRACTORS---**

FOR
— HIGHEST QUALITY —
— QUICKEST SERVICE —
— LOWEST PRICES —

ON
SASH — DOORS — FRAMES
SIDING — FLOORING — CEILING
And All Other Building Material
SEE

Z. J. THOMPSON
North Washington St., Phone 107.
NEAR SEABOARD DEPOT

WE SPECIALIZE ON CYLINDER BLOCKS CUTTING, WELDING, BRAZING

PHONE 237

SHELBY WELDING PLANT

Coal AND DRY WOOD

Ideal Ice & Fuel Co.

PHONE 250
NIGHT OR DAY
WE NEVER CLOSE.