

# Daily News Letter

Group of Staff Correspondents & World Centers of Population

By Paul E. Brokaw  
International News Service Staff Correspondent

(By Miller Holland INS. Staff Correspondent.)  
Los Angeles.—Hollywood has just about become the fashion center of America, and there simply isn't any doubt about it. Ask anyone in Hollywood and they'll tell you.

Paris had better look to its laurels.  
Gowns worn by beautiful screen stars and players are being copied the world over and come to the small towns, via the screen, long before the latest Parisian models have had time to reach the outlying districts.

Each year various stars start new fads that are instantly adopted. This year, for instance, will probably see the following contributions carried into full effect by spring:

Claire Windsor, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, player, contributes her bit to fashion by making a fad of blue. Many of her gowns are entirely of this color and not a single hat, frock or coat in her wardrobe is without a touch of blue as a trimming.

Norma Shearer has begun the fad for halo hats. All of her day time chapeaux are brimless with very tight bands across the forehead and with large, pancake shaped crowns.

Lon Chaney, when he isn't acting before the camera, likes to study words, especially words contributed to the English language by motion pictures.

At least twelve popular words have been added to the language by the screen in the last decade, according to Chaney—a feat which he claims no other industry, custom or phrase in modern life has done.

The twelve words are:  
Closeup, fadeout, cutback, lap dissolve, sun arc, registering, emotion, vamp, sheik, sceriarist, continuity, projectionist and fadein.

"Take the word 'vamp' for instance," he says. "It has gone beyond the slang stage, and is in effect a regular word in the English language. It was created by the screen. Theda Bara's pictures started a vampire craze, and this led to the verb 'vamp,' meaning to employ the blandishments of a vampire. It is a perfect example.

"Another case in point is the word 'sheik.' It started through a role Rudolph Valentino played—and now any one a hundred thousand young men in America and England are referred to every day as sheiks, their clothing is termed sheikish—and it is also becoming a verb, 'to sheik' meaning to employ the tactics of a sheik or a Valentino.

"Thus Valentino's monument is a word contributed to the dictionary."  
"Ordinarily it takes a hundred years to popularize a new word. The screen has done it—many times—in ten."

They're going barefoot in Hollywood these days.  
Mary Astor, beautiful screen actress, began it last week when she introduced the evening barefoot sandal at a motion picture dinner dance.

Miss Astor's novel footwear was a combination of gilded leather and frosted silver kid, medieval in its inspiration and brought up to 1927 with high, spiked heels. The slippers which adorned her feet were cleverly contrived of wide thongs extending from the toe and side foot to meet an instep strap and a clasp of brilliants.

"One could wear stockings with them," Miss Astor explained.  
"But really, even the sheerest hose would snarl the effect a trifle and with silk hose what is in color and texture, what's the use?"

## "Spuds" Damaged By Cold Period

Elizabeth City.—(INS)—Considerable damage to the Irish potato crop in this section has been caused by recent snows.

It was estimated that from 10 to 25 percent of the seed would rot in the seedage of melting snow. Many of the early varieties of potato had been planted before the snowstorm which lasted here for more than 18 hours and held the city snowbound for three days.

The stork visited Mr. and Mrs. William Storck, of Delavan, Wis., for the 17th time in 22 years.

Winter Unger of Berkeley Springs, W. Va., killed a hog with two hearts, one normal and the other about the size of a chicken's heart.

## RUTHERFORD WILL HAVE LINCOLN DAY

Rutherford.—(INS)—Rutherford county, which lays a claim to being the birthplace of Abe Lincoln, is planning a big celebration in commemoration of the former president.

The celebration, which was originally postponed on account of unfavorable weather, will be held at Lincoln Hill, near Bostic on March 12, according to present plans.

One of the leaders in bringing about the celebration was Dr. J. C. Coggins, author of a recent volume on the life of Lincoln which attempts to prove that he was born in Rutherford county.

## Tree Expert Of County Relates About Tree Care

Dear Mr. Editor:  
If you will allow me space in your paper I'll write you a few lines in regards to shade trees and their care.

You have a bunch of fine shade trees in Shelby and they should be cared for. Strangers are always delighted to visit a city whose streets are lined with fine shade trees. A tree shouldn't never be topped. It is not only a hideous sight, but is destructive to the tree. It ruins the geometrical form of the tree and the stub that remains will take water and decay.

The comfort to be derived from shade trees has long been recognized. The advent of such civilizing agencies as the telegraph, the telephone and the electric lights have added each its share toward the mutilation or destruction of the good trees. Faulty methods of pruning also have caused much disfigurement and ruin.

To this mutilation has been added the unnecessary destruction of many trees in center of business because they exclude a little daylight or made a store less prominent, or were some what in the way of using the side walk for merchandise.

In spite of all these troubles tree planting has continued because people love trees, enjoy well shaded streets, and are willing to make efforts to get them. The trees on well shaded streets are not only pleasing, but also contribute toward the health of the community by transpiring moisture into the atmosphere and by producing a restful effect on eyes and nerves.

Good shade is so appreciated that its presence adds a value to adjoining properties. Real estate men recognize this factor and plant shade trees as early as practicable on land which they develop. That the beauty of a city is improved by good shade trees is becoming recognized more and more and is finding expression in the desire of garden clubs, civic improvement associations, and boards of trade for information on this subject.

Success in planting shade trees can be attained only by planning and controlling the planting as a whole, by selecting the most suitable varieties, by securing trees in the best condition and planting them properly and by giving the necessary later care.

It is very little trouble to trim a tree into a good shape by using the pruning knife while the limbs are small, but it is usually difficult to reform a tree after it has grown to maturity. One who understands tree growth, however can often reshape the top of a neglected tree to advantage, though many who make a business of trimming trees know so little about it that they do more harm than good. More mature trees have been hurt by severe pruning than have been helped. Of course dead or dying wood should be removed whenever it is found, no matter what the age of the tree. This should be done by cutting off the limb back to the nearest healthy crook. A limb should not be cut square across unless the tree is in apparently dying condition and the whole top is treated thus in an attempt to save its life. In such a case, a second pruning should follow within two years, at which time the stubs left at the first trimming should be cut off in a proper manner near the newly started limbs. Healthy silver maples and willows are frequently cut in this way. But the maples in particular would better be cut down at once than to subject the public to the dangers of the insidious decay that almost always follows such an operation on these trees and completes their destruction promptly.

Yours truly,  
FRAY B. PUTNAM  
Lawndale, March 1, 1927.

Johnny Mack Brown, hero of Alabama's Crimson Tide in its 1925 victory over the University of Washington at Pasadena, is now a dashine cavalryman in a new movie. Reports from Hollywood that he is doing nicely, except for a little soreness here and there—mostly there.

Mrs. Harriet Thayer of London spent \$2,500 for a radiophone conversation with her son in New York.

## ADVENTURE OF LADY DETECTIVE

Thrilling Moments In Eventful Life Of Mrs. Sherlock Holmes.

By C. Francis King in Pennsylvania Grit.

"There I sat looking down the barrel of a revolver, and in my own office, too. It was an awkward situation. I could not get to my own gun, which I always kept in my desk drawer. So I set out to soothe the intruder. This was a bit difficult, especially as I could detect a strain of insanity in the eyes squinted at me down the barrel of that gun.

"A member of my staff came in from an adjoining room. Taking in the situation at a glance he asked in a casual way if I had called him. I just said 'Please show this gentleman out!' And out he went!"

The incident occurred in the office of Miss Maude West, who lives in London, and who has been aptly called "Mrs. Sherlock Holmes." In disguises ranging from a Salvation army lassie to a sailor, from a nurse to a gipsy, she has tracked some of the world's most dangerous criminals.

Specialty Of Shoplifters.  
Under her is a Miss Gertrude Hunter, lady detective extraordinary, who in the last five years has caught 778 women shoplifters in London's most active department store district. She detects them by instinct, according to her own words, and with Miss West has enjoyed very remarkable success at criminal detection.

"The gentleman who leveled his pistol at Miss West," said Miss Hunter, "was a friend of a girl I had arrested for stealing silk stockings. But he lost his nerve when it came to a show down.

"Professional thieves," she continued, "always specialize. Sixty-seven yards of ribbon were found on one thief I caught. Eighteen silk dresses were packed in a bag carried by another. I've come to be so expert at this game that I can tell when a woman intends to steal the instant I put my eyes on her."

Then I turned to Miss West, eager to learn why and how these two women came to be engaged in this novel business for women.

"How did I come to take up detective work? Well, it was this way," related Miss West.

"I have always been interested in crime, and once did a little private work for a firm where I was employed as a typist.

"Some one had a duplicate key to the strong-box. Several robberies had taken place. Attempts to solve the mystery had failed.

"I made a device like a mouse trap, so constructed that when the mechanism was released a gun was fired. The shell was a blank cartridge, and the whole apparatus was concealed inside the cash box.

"Hiding in the corridor one night I waited with several officials of the firm. Presently there was a loud report. We rushed into the room and in front of the safe found a woman lying unconscious. The sudden report of the pistol had caused her to faint.

Attacked By Appaches.  
"One of my earliest cases took me to Paris. I was on the trail of a man who was defrauding a London wholesaler. He was believed to be living in the underworld of Paris. I disguised myself as a man, but in time was recognized and in the slum district was held up at the point of a revolver by two apaches.

"They were desperate men and I was thoroughly frightened. I feigned ignorance of French and pretended to be a tourist. Finally they grew tired of questioning me and began to argue with each other. I seized the opportunity and escaped. Later I found both the man and merchandise for which I was searching."

On another occasion Miss West told of an instance when she was employed to keep watch on a mansion where burglars were expected. It was night and she waited in the shadow of some trees. Suddenly a twig cracked. Then she was seized from behind by a man who pinned her to the ground.

In the struggle that followed she succeeded in drawing her automatic, fired and wounded the fleeing man in the leg. He was carried into the house and identified as the suspected participant in the anticipated robbery.

Continuing her narrative, Miss West told of an elderly man, well known, who had fallen in love with a beautiful young girl and was engaged to her. After a few months he met an older woman and decided she was better suited to him.

"But the girl would not release him from the engagement," said Miss West. "That is, unless he paid substantial damages. She knew he occupied a prominent public position and that publicity of such an affair would do him harm. Suspecting that the girl had played the same game before, the man came to me.

"A few days later I met the second woman at his home and recognized her immediately as a daring adventuress and a crook of international reputation. It was she and not the girl who was behind the blackmailing scheme. Need-

less to say, the pretty romance ended abruptly.

## DOLDRUMS

While the newspapers of North Carolina lead the way in telling the world of North Carolina "firsts" the general public isn't being told that right in the newspaper game of this state is an assemblage of feature writers that few states can boast.

The Hearst newspapers, experts of the Fourth Estate opine, built their big circulation around two things. The first sensational news played in a sensational style, and second because of an unexcelled staff of feature writers. Despite the objections of some folks to the Hearst news pages there is no way to get around the fact that the editorial and feature sections of those papers offers a daily education in life and modern events. Glance over the feature writers of a Hearst editorial page—Brisbane, Norman Haggood, Robert Quillen, Roy K. Mouten, Winifred Black, The Spectator, S. E. Kiser, K. C. Beaton, Bugs Baer. Add to that list the feature writers of the other pages—Damon Runyon, on sports; Dorothy Dix, on love problems; Cholly Knickerbocker, on society; and Harry Action, the gangplank columnist.

But, perhaps, the reader inquires what has that to do with North Carolina newspaper writers? Nothing more than a mere introduction to several feature writers the state over, who, if combined on any one newspaper, could dish out a feature page with practically as much interest as the Hearst notables.

How would you like to pick up a North Carolina newspaper with this run of feature writers: Philosophy and Satire by Eugene Ashcraft, of the Monroe Enquirer; Incidentally by Nell Battle Lewis, Raleigh News & Observer; Shucks and Nubbins by Oscar J. Coffin; Features by Ben Dixon MacNeill, News & Observer, and W. O. Saunders, Elizabeth City Independent; Humor Stories by Carl Goerch, Washington Progress; Barbs and Paragraphs by Ye Paragrapher of the Greensboro News and Don Laws, the Yellow Jacket stinger; Sermonettes by Tom Bost, Raleigh Political writer; and Ins and Outs by Otto Wood.

Few writers can outclass Ashcraft in homespun philosophy and his satire is deadly. Nell Battle Lewis, one of the few outstanding feminist writers in the state is a free thinker as well as a free lance writer. The punch of Oscar Coffin packs in a verse of seemingly innocent fun is deadlier than that wafted in his heyday by Dempsey the Man Mauler. As for features Saunders ranks today as one of the outstanding feature contributors to popular national magazines, while MacNeill is in a class by himself in digging up historical sketches. Goerch, the Columbus of Reuben Bland, champ dad, compares, and frequently excels, the regular Sunday humor by Lardner and Nina Wilcox Putnam. The Paragraphies of the Greensboro News offer sufficient proof that it doesn't take a column to say something, and Don Laws although in an opposing field can out-entertain Mencken himself with bitterness and subtle slaps. Tom Bost, an interesting political writer, is a better sermon writer than a lot of bishops—and Otto apparently should know what he's writing about.

There are eight columns to the page of a modern newspaper. Think what a page that would be with a column under the eight heads and by the writers just mentioned.

Still Lodie Graves, the chaff blower of the Chapel Hill Weekly, and that Kinston writer of freaks in the animal kingdom would have to break in the page somewhere.

The North Carolina Press association could well do a little boosting of it's own talent.

—R. D.

## FORMER SOLON IN KLAN TALK DENIAL

Dunn, N. C.—(INS)—Ex-Congressman H. L. Goodwin, of Dunn today branded as false reports that he had been offered the office of grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan in North Carolina following the resignation of Judge Henry A. Grady of Clinton who held the office for four years.

The Ex-Congressman who has been particularly active in the Klan campaign now going on in the state, declared in a statement to International News Service that no selection of Judge Grady's successor would be made "until the field is thoroughly organized."

Morgan S. Belsers of Washington now temporarily in charge of the Klan affairs in North Carolina and it will be several weeks or a month probably before Imperial Wizard Hiram Evans sees fit to name a new grand dragon for North Carolina according to Godwin.

Godwin led the fight in the North Carolina legislature last week against the Johnson bill to outlaw the hooded order from the state in the General Assembly.

## ALABAMA QUILTS ROPE FOR CHAIR OF QUICK DEATH

By International News Service Montgomery, Ala.—The gallows as a means of legal execution in Alabama went out March 1 and a new electric chair was installed in its place at Kilby prison here.

The change was authorized by the legislature which recently passed a bill ordering that electricity shall take the place of the old gallows with its sinister rope and hangman.

Behind the wall of the prison, a silent stolid prisoner has been constructing the "chair" which is made entirely of wood. He is an expert cabinet maker, an Englishman—Ed Mason now serving a long sentence.

Mason acknowledged that his was no pleasant task. He claims he was promised an early parole as a reward for his work but the pardon board recently turned down his application. Several years ago he carved the frame for the Sasan-tan of painting "The Madonna and the Child," which hangs in the prison chapel and critics have pronounced it a masterpiece.

Unless Governor Bibb Graves intervenes, the first man to die in the chair will be Virgil Murphy, who has been sentenced to pay the supreme penalty for "slaving his wife, April 23. Friends believe the governor, an ex-service man, will commute the sentence of Murphy who also served overseas.

## New Gold Finds To Enrich Osage

Tulsa, Okla.—Gold has been found in the Osage hills of Oklahoma and the Osage Indians, already fabulously wealthy from oil royalties, are opening their coffers to receive new riches.

Reports of rich veins running through its rocky fastnesses have once more made Osage hills a mecca for adventurers and prospectors and the color of frontier days has returned. Where once poured wealth in the form of "Black gold" to beckon seekers of riches, yellow gold now lures an eager, varied throng to the hills of the Indians.

A. Bahl is the prospector credited with the discovery. Formerly a railway roadmaster, he dreamed of gold winding through the hills on trains.

"There is gold in those hills," he once remarked. "Gold and minerals worth far more than any Oklahoma oil pool are hidden there."

Two years ago he disappeared

into the hills and began to dig. A few days ago he emerged.

"There is gold out there and I have found it," he announced. He carried specimens of earth and rock, in which he said were not only gold, but iron, soda and aluminum as well.

Government assay reports, exhibited by Bahl a few days later, showed gold ranging from \$50 to \$1,000 for each ton of earth in his shaft. He claims his holdings will produce as high as \$2,000 a ton.

## Penney Sales Make New High Records

The sales of the J. C. Penney company throughout the United States were \$7,424,926.20 in February against \$5,476,384.34 in 1926, an increase of \$1,948,541.86

or 35.58 per cent.

For January and February of this year the sales were \$13,622,214.04 against \$10,443,435.06 for the corresponding period in 1926, an increase of \$3,218,778.98 or 30.82 per cent.

According to Mr. E. E. Scott, manager of the Shelby Penney store, the local sales increase for January and February of 1927 over the corresponding months of '26, was a trifle over forty per cent.

## Barnyard Golf Ahead

Kinston.—(INS)—Horse shoe pitchers of several eastern counties will compete in a championship tournament which will be sponsored here next fall by the local fair association, it was announced by Plato Collins, secretary.

**4-M HOTELS—WASHINGTON, D.C.**

OPERATED BY MASON, MARSHALL, MOSS AND HALLORY  
ON THE PRINCIPLE OF  
COURTEOUS AND EFFICIENT SERVICE—EXCELLENT GALLURRY

Always a room with running water \$2

Always a room with private bath \$3

CAIRO HOTEL  
MARTINIQUE HOTEL  
ARLINGTON HOTEL  
COLONIAL HOTEL  
THE FAIRFAX  
TILDEN HALL

HEART OF THE NATION

RATES PER DAY—NOT HIGHER  
ROOMS—FOR ONE PERSON—2.00-2.50—FOR TWO PERSONS—2.50-3.00  
ROOMS WITH PRIVATE BATH—FOR ONE PERSON—3.00-3.50—FOR TWO PERSONS—4.00-5.00

## SCHEDULES Inter-Carolina Motor Bus Company

Shelby to Charlotte—7, 8, 11, 1, 3, 5, 7:30—Charlotte to Shelby—8, 10, 12, 2, 4, 6.

Kings Mountain to Charlotte—7:30 9:30, 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 8:30. Direct connection made in Kings Mountain for Spartanburg and Greenville in the morning—One hour layover in the afternoons.

Bessemer City to Charlotte—7:45, 11:45, 1:45, 3:45, 5:45, 8:45.

Gastonia to Charlotte, leaves every hour on the hour, from 7 a. m. to 8 p. m. Connection made there for Rock Hill, S. C.; Spartanburg, Greenville, Crumpton, Lincolnton and Cherryville, York and Clever S. C.

Gastonia to Shelby—On the odd hours, making connections for Rutherfordton, Hendersonville, Asheville and Statesville.

Gastonia to Cherryville—8:30, 12:10, 4:10, 8:10.

Cherryville to Gastonia—7:15, 10, 2, 6 p. m.

Charlotte to Rock Hill—8, 10:30, 4:15.

Bus leaves Spartanburg 6:15 p. m. Connection at Kings Mountain, Charlotte.

Telephone:  
Charlotte 2671; Gastonia 1051; Shelby 450; Shelby to Rutherfordton—8 a. m. and 1 p. m. Rutherfordton to Shelby—9:45 a. m. and 2:15 p. m.

Shelby to Asheville—10:30 a. m., 12, 2, 4, 6, p. m. Asheville to Shelby—8, 9 and 11 p. m. and 2, 4 p. m.

Shelby—7:20 a. m.; 10:00 a. m.; 1 p. m.; 4:30 p. m.

Lincolnton—8:30 a. m.; 11 a. m.; 3:00 p. m.; 6:30 p. m.

Schedules Subject to Change.

# TO EVERYONE WHO EXPECTS TO BUY A CAR THIS SPRING: CONSIDER OLDSMOBILE

When you buy your car this spring... select.

Select in the fullest literal meaning of the word, which is "to choose by comparison"... just as you do with other things you buy.

Single out the cars that suit your tastes and meet your needs... compare their prices... then make selection on the basis of relative values.

By all the standards of modern engineering, there is a definite limited number of known factors of motor car merit. Compare the list of these features as in

**STANDARD COACH**

**\$950**

P. O. S. LANSING

any other car—no matter what its price. Check these known factors of motor car merit in Oldsmobile and you will immediately be impressed with how emphatically it is qualified to gratify your finer tastes as well as satisfy your every need.


Go over Oldsmobile features, one by one. Come to your Oldsmobile showroom and see this car. Drive it... and thrill to its brilliant performance.

Then, and only then, can you select with justice to yourself, your purse and your sense of satisfaction.

## Hawkins Brothers

# OLDSMOBILE

PRODUCT OF GENERAL MOTORS



# IF

You are the average man or woman

You spend eight hours of each day in bed. One third of your entire life. If you live to be seventy you will repose upon your downy couch exactly 23 1-3 years.

And now the point is, is yours a downy couch?

If not, you're out of luck.

If I, said the late Elbert Hubbard, had to spend 23 1-3 years in one given spot for a dead certainty, I'd arrange to make that spot the most comfortable spot on the face of the earth.

JOHN M. BEST sells mattresses and springs from which the maximum comfort can be secured.

Do you know the real difference between a comfortable bed—meaning chiefly springs and mattresses?—If not, go to BEST and learn about it.

Nothing so rare, says the old ad.—as resting on air.

BEST sells 'em that make you feel the next morning as though you had rested upon the soft cushion of the atmosphere.

There's the KINGSDOWN—pure staple cotton felt mattress—firm, soft and fine. Also beautiful to the eye, as harmonizing to the body.

\$23.50—and worth every cent of it and more.

DOUBLE DECKED SHANNON SPRING, guaranteed for a quarter of a century.

\$16.50. And others at \$14.50 and \$9.50.

BEST announces a special 10-PIECE DINING ROOM SUITE of walnut—beautiful, durable and new—\$165.00.

BEAUTIFUL EXTENSION TABLE BREAKFAST ROOM SET in walnut—Something especially fine and serviceable—\$67.50.

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GO TO BEST'S FOR THE BEST.