

**Monroe Boy Makes Bolt Of Thunder**

Monroe.—William Rudge, Monroe boy, has been assigned by the General Electric company to carry out an experiment looking to protection of wires from lightning.

Mr. Rudge is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Rudge, has been with the General Electric company for a year and has been assigned by his department head, K. B. McEachron, to this exclusive field of electrical experimentation.

According to letters received here from Mr. Rudge, he says, that his work is nothing less than making a huge bolt of lightning. The purpose

is to find out how to protect electric light systems from thunder bolts. The experiments are being carried on in the Berkshire Mountains of Massachusetts. A thunder-bolt is made and caused to hit a transmission wire, so that the result may be studied.

Mr. Rudge says they have a portable apparatus, and from this "a low hum, that rapidly grows louder—a flash of intense blue between two shining brass spheres—a quick sharp report, as though a whip has been popped, and then back from the mountain sides, the rolling echoes bound and rebound, until they slowly die away."

**Good Bout Expected Here On Saturday Night In Trooper Clayton-Miles 10-Round Clash**

Fans Here Anxious To See If K. O. Foster Can Keep Dynamiting Opponents.

The main bout of the Legion boxing program at the Thompson building here Saturday night between Trooper Clayton, of Asheville, and Rufus Miles, "the Praying Pug" of Charlotte, promises to be the fastest-moving, most scientific boxing bout yet staged here by Promoter Arthur Sides.

Both boys are light and fast on their feet, and both have the reputation of not being hesitant about getting in and mixing things.

**Joe Is Boxing.** In the semi-finals Big Joe Singleton, the local pride who made such a good showing against Ralph Hood, will take on Kid Crosby, another hard hitter of the Hood type, and again the semi-final will give the main bout a run for the big interest of the evening.

**Watching "Dynamite."** All things considered, though, Shelby and Cleveland county boxing fans have their major interest centered in the K. O. Foster-Billy Davis bout. In Foster's first fight here he swung one of his long, loose jointed rights to his opponent's chin and sent him down for a count, whereupon the fans back of the ring dubbed Foster "Dynamite Dunn" after Joe Jenks' noted fighter of the cartoon page. Then in the second round here Foster came back and repeated the "Dynamite Dunn" stunt, putting his man to sleep, and well to sleep, in the second round. Whereupon Foster became "the dope toast at the Thompson building ringside. He has a hard rushing youngster to face here Saturday night and the fans are waiting, just like the comic page readers are waiting to see what "Dynamite" does to the mysterious Mike.

**How They Line Up.** The main bout, to outline the program, is the Clayton-Miles affair for 10 rounds. Singleton and Crosby to go the eight rounds in the semi-final. Johnny Fisher, of Lowell, and Watt Lay, of Belmont, meet in one preliminary. Boots Hall and the diminutive Stump Braswell, who has appeared here before, mix it in another. Jerome Spangler, a county leather-pusher, takes on "Babe" Carr, the Cleveland Cloth village battler, and Billy Davis, of Charlotte, will furnish the other side of K. O. Foster's exhibition.

Terry Roberts, the Jack Dempsey of these parts, will be the referee. All of which indicates a good evening being put on by the Legion and Matchmaker Sides.



**RAMBLIN' RUFUS MILES**  
"The Praying Pug" In the Main Bout Here Saturday Night.

**Big Increase Of Negro Farmers In County From 1910 To 1925**

The number of negro farm operators in Cleveland county increased 42.1 per cent from 1910 to 1925, according to statistics compiled by the University News Letter, and in 1925 negro farm operators in the county totaled 982.

**Sixty-five Increase.** Between 1910 and 1925 thirty-five counties in the state lost negro farmers, while sixty-five gained, the net gain being 15,310, as has been stated. The thirty-five counties experiencing decreases are eighteen mountain counties, seven tidewater counties and ten others in the western half of the state. These thirty-five counties had a loss of 2,061 negro farmers. The sixty-five counties in which negro farms increased had an increase of 17,871 negro farmers. The sixty-five counties experiencing increases almost without exception grow either cotton or tobacco, or both crops.

**North Carolina First.** During the 1910-25 period North Carolina, with a net gain of 15,310 farms operated by negroes, had the largest increase of negro farmers of any state.

**At The Theatres**

"Cheating Cheaters," a Carl Laemmle presentation, starring no less a popular favorite than Betty Compton, is the feature picture at the Webb today. It is a melodramatic crook play, of which a supreme example was offered at the Webb last night, in the German produced UFA. This oddly entitled "Cheating Cheaters" deals with lust, fear and love; a thrifty drama. Thursday brings "The Cat and The Canary" presented by an especially able cast including Gertrude Astor, Laura LaPlante, Arthur Edmund Carew, Creighton Hale, and Tully Marshall. It is a thrilling mystery picture—one of the best films of its kind, from one of the best stories of its kind, ever written.

"The Air Circus," described as a Fox de luxe special—meaning a special of specials—a thoroughly modern flapper—airplane drama, comes to the Princess for a two-day bill, Wednesday and Thursday. The cast is as peppy as the action, including Sue Carol, modern damsel extraordinary, Arthur Lake, Louise Dresser and David Rollins. Says the press sheet: See young America learning to fly—soaring to the clouds, plunging to the earth. See the breathless double parachute jump. See the rashes of planes, the miraculous escapes. It's all in the speed-picture of love and aviation—The Air Circus.

**Cotton Market**

(By John F. Clark and Co.)  
At noon today cotton was quoted on the New York exchange: March 21.10, October 20.45. Yesterday's close: March 20.89, October 20.22.  
New York, March 20.—Spot sales 7,000. Middling 1092 against 1095 yesterday. Moderate to light business. Worth street, prices firm. Memphis cotton review in Journal of Commerce says cotton sales smaller but better than same week in 1928. Merchants ease up on buying as commitments are filled for time being, foreign mills also less aggressive while domestic spinners continue to operate at a record rate. Farm work made little progress and is considerably behind the average for this date.  
CLEVENBURG.

**Curiosity In Tree Is Found In Stokes**

Seems To Be A Cross Between The Cedar And Weeping Willow.

Danbury.—A curiosity that has attracted a good deal of attention here, and which was accidentally discovered by a resident here, is a cedar tree, which in many respects resembles the so called "weeping willow." The tree, a young one, was located growing on a vacant field in town in a clump of old field cedars, and is claimed to be a rare variety.

Limbs on the tree grow out a few feet, and are covered with fine streamers which hang from the limbs to a length of two to three feet very similar to the streamers on the weeping willow. It is claimed that there is only one other tree of this variety in this section of the state, and it is located somewhere in Forsyth county.

The fact that the tree is a cedar makes it so much more a curiosity extraordinary. No explanation as to how it came to be located here has been offered. However it has been suggested that possibly it is an offspring from the old field cedars which are so common in this section of the state.

**W. O. W. Meeting.**

W. O. W. meeting Thursday night at 7:30 o'clock. Every member is requested to be present. We are making arrangements for the convention that will meet here in April.

It's a comfort to believe in evolution and assume that man isn't finished yet.—Fountain Inn Tribune.

A war in China usually appears to be a rough solution of the unemployment problem.—Washington Star.

**Peany Column**

FOR SALE: POLICE DOG puppies. O. A. Pendleton, phone 272.

FOR RENT—Modern Bungalow on N. Washington St. D. A. Beam & Sons, Phone 130. 2t-20c

STRAYED: BLACK HORSE mule, weighs about nine hundred pounds. Notify Doggett Bros, Shelby, N. C. 1t 20p

AN EXTRA FINE lot of Red Baby Chix on hand. Suttle Hatchery, Shelby. 1t-20c

**chic SPRING FROCKS**

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IT IS difficult to speak of the new Frocks of spring without beginning with their gay and brilliant colors. Gorgeous blues, flattering greens, yellows in all sorts of tints, lovely pastel shades, not to mention the all important prints. Slender silhouettes attain fullness by means of flares, circular cuts and pleats.

SIZES FOR WOMEN AND MISSES AND EXTRA LARGE SIZES.

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