

# YORKVILLE ENQUIRER.

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## IEWS AND INTERVIEWS

Brief Local Paragraphs of More or Less Interest.

### PICKED UP BY ENQUIRER REPORTERS

Stories Concerning Folks and Things, Some of Which You Know and Some You Don't Know—Condensed For Quick Reading.

"The best stove wood that is to be found in any section of York county comes from the New Zion section and that territory around Smyrna," said an old head who was talking about wood the other day. "While occasionally one runs across people in other sections who have good stove wood for sale, most of it comes from the western side. I have had lots of experience and I know."

**Shipments Slowing Up.**  
"Shipments are getting slow again," marked the furniture salesman the other day. "Back in the summer we could order stuff by freight from houses some distance away and receive them in short order. But since about the first of September I have noticed a big change. Business has picked up. Freight takes longer to reach you. Railway freight cars are getting scarcer and all people concerned say that the situation is going to grow worse."

**Two at One Shot.**  
"It's squirrel hunting time. I know, because Old Man Coot Blair, leading squirrel hunter of our section, has started to hunting squirrels," said a Bullock's Creek township man the other afternoon. "Mr. Blair is more than 72 years old; but he can still see a squirrel up a tree twice as quick as you or I could see him. Understand he killed two at one shot the other day. The squirrels were frolicking around pretty close together and locating two of them that way he blazed loose. He hardly ever misses."

**Friendly Warning.**  
Two popular county officers walking up Congress street, Yorkville Saturday to the post office.  
"By the way," said one, in a confidential tone that seemed to carry a note of warning. "From what I have been hearing during the past few days, I feel like I ought to tell you that you had better keep your eyes open."

"Why, what's the matter?" asked the other.  
"Well, if you don't, people might think that you are not real bright."

Upon the telling of the story by the first man the other said that he had put it backward, and now nobody is able to say positively which one got it off on the other.

**Looking Ahead.**  
"It's high time the banks and the merchants and other business interests were looking ahead and trying to do something toward organizing the farmers in this county with a view to helping them out in the pinch that is going to confront them next year," said Dr. J. B. Johnson of Rock Hill, who was discussing conditions the other day. "The boll weevil is here and lots of farmers right here in York county are going to be up against it another year. If the banks and the merchants don't show more interest in the farmer now and begin helping him plan for the future you are going to see lots of little banks become little banks and little banks go out of business and more merchants become bankrupt than you can imagine. The handwriting is on the wall and these interests that I have mentioned had better be starting something."

**The City of Constant-nople.**  
"Read an article in 'The Yorkville Enquirer' the other day written by some journalist, in which he described Constant-nople, Turkey, as being one of the dirtiest, filthiest cities in the world. All I've got to say is that the fellow who wrote that article didn't know but very little about Constant-nople and I doubt if he had visited any parts of the city," remarked Paul D. McGinnis, young man of Yorkville the other afternoon. "I've been to Constant-nople while in the United States navy. McGinnis went on to say, 'The visit of a good many cities of the world and I don't know a prettier and more sanitary city than Constant-nople. I'd like to be back there right now and there's a feeling in my bones that I'd going back there one of these fine days. Of course Constant-nople's a beautiful city judging by the appearance of the wharves. No scum or other looks good at the harbor, but the Turkish officials take great pride in requiring cleanliness of premises and property owners take great pride in keeping everything in the shops. Constant-nople has some of the finest hotels in the world and it is from every standpoint a most delightful city. I think the fellow who wrote the article I mentioned must have been looking for only the ugly side with a view to writing a book or something.'"

**"Guts."**  
"I'm rather proud of myself," said a wealthy citizen of Rock Hill Saturday in talking about the Gypsy Smith meeting. "The other night I went up to the evangelist following his sermon and at his invitation gave him my hand and promised to try to live a better life."

"Pardon a vulgar word, won't you which I use because it expresses what I mean more perfectly than any other word I know; but it took real guts for me to do that."  
"I deliberated a long time before I did. Yes, I am a church member—a Presbyterian church member. I give pretty liberally to the church and have done so for years. I've gone to services regularly; but I have done so all these years more as a matter of form than for any other reason. My church membership has been a matter of policy and convenience with me—my religion—well I haven't any!"  
"But that fellow's sermon got next to me. He'd get next to a wooden Indian. I hesitated about going up and promising to go the straight and narrow. I'm getting along in years—more than 50; but I've been a hard old sinner. I've gambled and drunk liquor and raised the devil generally. But I told that fellow I was going to try to quit it all and go straight. I'm going to try hard. I may fall down; but if I do why I'll try again."

There was a smile on the fellow's face that had not been noticed before, following his little confession, as he sauntered down the street.

## PEACEMAKER STEVENSON

Representative From the Fifth Finds His Level.

### HELPS HOUSE DEMOCRATS TO SEE

New Man in the House Comparatively Speaking; But Had Lots of Valuable Experience to Begin With, and Now Uses the Brains and Ability Necessary to Apply it at the Right Place.

Washington, Oct. 15.—The little band of Democrats in the house now shows as tenacious front as the Light Brigade at Balaclava. But it has not always been so at this session of congress. There has been more than one occasion when the leadership of the Democrats has been a matter of adroit compromise. The difference between the two factions led by Finis Garrett of Tennessee and Jack Garner of Texas, on the question of retaining the excess profit tax in voting to recommit the Fordney revenue bill was so radical that the house Democrats caucused for four days in the middle of August before they reached an agreement. Claude Kitchin had written from his sick bed in North Carolina to his fellow Democrats that the leader's counsel be followed but the Garner-Crisp faction contended that this tax must be thrown overboard before they would vote to recommit the bill.

For a time it looked as if this serious factional difference on a fundamental principle of legislation would destroy all real team work in the minority party in the house. But in the caucus sat one man who was able to gauge the true situation and strike a balance between the factions. This was William Francis Stevenson of the Fifth South Carolina district. Mr. Stevenson is still a comparatively new man in the house now serving out his third term but he is one of the ablest lawyers in the entire body. To begin with he was one of the best trained students in mathematics and the technique of language ever turned out from Davidson College, N. C. Besides he had sat in the South Carolina legislature and in the council of his party for many years where he became a past master at framing legislation and writing caucus resolutions. Mr. Stevenson is used to differences among Democrats. In South Carolina there are no Republicans.

So he was at home in this wrangling session of fellow Democrats in Washington. He was there with his pen as well as with his tongue. When the caucus seemed about to end its first meeting in dismay and dissolution, Mr. Stevenson with his first prepared resolution was recognized and mounted the platform. He has what his friends in South Carolina call a sword fish voice—if a sword fish had a voice. If he had had a voice like most of the other men who had been talking his words might not have so instantly captured the attention of the assembly but this voice cut its way through every obstacle.

The remarkable discovery made by the caucus was that when it heard Mr. Stevenson's resolution, it found that it was nearer together than it had thought possible. This master of party peace and concord had seized on to the word "temporary" as the time element in the life of the excess profit tax in the bill. He had dexterously dropped this word on the middle of the table between Garrett and Garner who had been staring at each other in defiance. The word instantly stretched forth a hand to grasp each faction. It danced up and down the room inviting both factions to come back the next day and see the performance again.

On the following day at the suggestion of many members a meeting was held of about a half a dozen leaders and among them Mr. Stevenson. Many members had in the meantime given proposed resolutions to acting leader Garrett for this conference and he had presented them. Mr. Flood of Virginia, Chairman of the Democratic Congressional Committee offered one. Mr. Stevenson offered his final draft and after a short discussion, on motion of Mr. Flood, Mr. Stevenson's resolution was unanimously adopted and Mr. Garrett was directed to present it to the caucus as the unanimous action of the committee and on his doing so it was unanimously adopted, placing every Democrat to vote against the tax bill and a solid front was thus obtained for the first time in several years.

Mr. Stevenson is such an adept in achieving harmony among contrary minds and partisan opponents that he has beguiled a majority of the Republicans on the banking and currency committee to vote with him on important measures. The committee had on the basis of reporting out a bill to reorganize the war finance corporation and to authorize it to finance agricultural products. The night before the bill was reported out he won over one of the Republican members and broke the tie.

After the bill to make \$50,000,000 deposit in the farm loan banks to enable them to go on last spring had failed in committee by a tie vote, in which the chairman of the committee had cast the vote that tied Mr. Stevenson induced several of his Democratic colleagues who had voted present because they wanted \$100,000,000 instead of \$50,000,000, to change their votes next day and report out the bill with \$50,000,000—being the best they could hope for. He stands for practical results. If you cannot get all you want and need—take what you can get, is his policy—and it accomplishes things. Mr. Stevenson has made two speeches in the house that have attracted the favorable attention of the country, one exhorting Ambassador Harvery for his attempt to make a patrolroom of America in the World war. He found that the doughty colonel had received his military title at a banquet in Charleston years ago where he boasted that his New England ancestors had "lain in the woods" during the war between the states. Mr. Stevenson's other speech dealt with Attorney General Daugherty's allowing Debs to come from the Atlanta penitentiary to Washington some time ago in citizen's clothing and on that fact he bases the prediction that Debs and all the other instigators of treason and sedition during the World war, will be pardoned soon after the German treaty is signed.

Mr. Stevenson is now working on a bill to grant equal compensation to officers in the national army who were disabled in the World war with officers in the regular army. As it now is a first lieutenant who was in the national army who lost a leg would get only \$30 per month, while a first lieutenant in the regular army would get \$157 per month. He proposes to wage war on such gross discrimination and injustice.

David F. St. Clair.

**PITILESS PUBLICITY**  
Here is the Best Means of Curing Tax Slanders.  
The tax problem will not down. The people are determined to reform our tax laws and the indications are that it will be a "burning" issue in the next primary. Various remedies are being suggested. Some of them are good while others are bad. The Yorkville Enquirer, which has a way of going right to the bottom of things suggests publicity—and plenty of it—as the surest and quickest way of bringing about tax reform. The Enquirer says:

There has been more or less private talk among members of the general assembly as to the effect of publicity in securing a fair equalization of the burdens of taxation in accordance with ability to pay. It is a well known fact that the books of every county auditor in the state show fearful inequalities in the matter of bearing tax burdens. In some cases poor men struggle along under burdens that mean much to them, while in other cases men worth ten times as much as those referred to pay less taxes. This situation comes about largely through the state's miserable system of assessing valuation. Each taxpayer is supposed to fix his own assessments; but the law as to the matter is so mixed as to mean nothing in that it tells the taxpayer to return his property according to actual value, and then goes on to give him to understand that he is expected to pay, only in proportion to what other people in like circumstances with him pay. Some taxpayers give in their assessments as nearly as possible on a basis of actual value and others, taking the other suggestion make returns as small as they can get by with. The inequality of assessed valuation is due partly to ignorance and partly to design. Some of the legislators have an idea that if they should pass a law requiring all assessments to be published in a newspaper, the result would be to secure more equitable returns; but they have not been willing to go that far yet, because among other things, they fear disturbance almost in the nature of insurrection. Along about 1859 the general assembly passed an act providing for the publication of the poll list of each county in a county paper. The act provided for publication once a week for three weeks, where one week would do, and make it quite expensive; but in York county, alone something like 700 names were added to the poll tax list.

## ROCK HILL NEWS BUDGET

Enthusiasm and Interest in Gypsy Smith Revival Growing Daily.

### EVANGELIST IS POPULAR LOCALLY

Major John D. Frost Will Address Veterans—Local Moose Lodge Is Reorganized—Little Child is Burned to Death—Cool Weather Helps Business—Other News and Notes of Metropolis of York County.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)  
Rock Hill, Oct. 15.—This town is in the uplift of the greatest religious revival in progress that it has known in years, perhaps the greatest it has ever known. Everybody is talking about the powerful sermons that are being preached by the noted evangelist and almost everybody is hearing him preach at some time or the other. Services are held every night and the meeting is to continue through next Sunday night and possibly longer, it was stated today.

Gypsy Smith, Jr., is "getting next to lots of Rock Hill people who have never been touched before. The other night a prominent farmer who is 64 years of age and who has never joined a church nor made any profession of religious faith, went up at the close of the service and gave him his hand and told him he was going to quietly join the church. A number of well known "liquor heads" and gamblers and sports of Rock Hill who have never had time for God Almighty because of stud poker and South Mountain corn liquor, have hit the religious trail since Gypsy came to town.

Attendance on the services is not confined to Rock Hill alone. People from all sections of York county come over for the sermon every night. Many people come from Lancaster. Scores come nightly from Chester. Gypsy conducted a campaign in Chester last year and he made many friends who would ride hundreds of miles to hear him.

The revival is having great effect upon people of all conditions and stations. It is having an effect—a good effect on business. A Rock Hill merchant told this correspondent today of a man who had been owing him \$50 for years and who was perfectly able to pay but wouldn't. The man had recently been attending the Smith services and something the evangelist had said about debts made him come across.

"Things are quieter in the Rock Hill underworld since Gypsy Smith came to town," said Assistant Chief of Police Merritt today. "I really would be surprised. We officers have had comparatively little to do since the meeting began. If you knew the town like I do you would be surprised at the number of suspected blind tigers and other crooks who are lined up at preaching services night after night."

**Personal Mention.**  
Mrs. J. A. Shannon and little son of York No. 4 were in Rock Hill today. Messrs. R. R. and Rodney Love of York No. 3 were in Rock Hill today. Mr. L. G. Thompson and daughter, Miss Fannie Belle, of Yorkville, were in Rock Hill today.

Mrs. Jas. D. Grist and Miss Elizabeth and Fannie Grist of Yorkville were among the visitors here today. Miss Alice Garrison, who is teaching at Philadelphia spent today with the family of her father in the India Hook section.

### DISTRESS IN ENGLAND.

**Business Depression Is Sorely Felt by All the Poorer Classes.**  
London, October 13.—The West End of London was kept in a ferment all afternoon by the marching and counter-marching of large bodies of foot and mounted police, owing to an announcement of the Daily Herald that the unemployed planned to hold a demonstration in Trafalgar Square at 2.30 o'clock.

Similar demonstrations occurred at Sheffield and Manchester, but were said to be orderly. At Sheffield a gathering of 10,000 demanded increased doles. At Manchester the jobless sang the "Red Flag" and a delegation waited on the lord mayor.

The police measures prevented the unemployed from actually holding a meeting, but their manoeuvres on such a large scale caused no little excitement.

There is a rule against meetings in Trafalgar Square except on Saturday and Sunday, but the unemployed have maintained that processions and meetings on these days have no moral effect, as the streets are empty and the shops closed.

About 20,000 jobless formed at the Thames embankment, but the heavy police force prevented them from getting into Downing street or Trafalgar square and eventually most of them marched to Hyde Park, shepherded by the police all the way until they dispersed quietly.

A fair proportion of the marchers were dressed respectably and apparently were not suffering, but the majority bore signs of want and destitution and were pale of faces. Undoubtedly the unemployment problem is causing keenest apprehension here, especially as there is no sign that the government, despite conferences and consultations, has any plan to cope with it or to offer parliamentary aid to the unemployed. All trade portents and predictions by industrial leaders point to unemployment growing worse owing to the steady decline of business and pessimism prevails everywhere.

## CHILD BURNED TO DEATH.

The Little Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Crawford Neely who Live on O. S. Pice's place near Rock Hill died in the Pennell Infirmary here Friday evening from burns received Friday afternoon when she accidentally fell into the fire at her father's home. Nobody was present at the time of the accident and it is not known exactly how it occurred. The little girl who was about 1 year old was horribly burned and although everything possible was done to relieve her suffering no hope was held out for her recovery from

### Major Frost to Speak.

Announcement was made today that Major John D. Frost of Spartanburg, will be the principal orator on the occasion of the celebration of Armistice Day in Rock Hill on November 11. An effort will be made to have ex-service men from all parts of York county come to Rock Hill to celebrate the occasion and a most interesting and attractive programme is being arranged.

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the time her burned body was found. Many visitors in the city today from various parts of the county. They came mostly for shopping purposes and Rock Hill merchants sent out lots of packages. Since the advent of the present cool spell business has picked up wonderfully with the merchants of Rock Hill and the merchants are hopeful that the cool weather will continue.

**Sickness at Winthrop.**  
Several hundred Winthrop students are either sick now with bad colds and coughs or else have been during the past couple of weeks, according to reliable sources. Reports are out that the girls are suffering from a mild form of influenza; but it was learned today that such is not the case but that the sickness is in the form of bad colds. It is said that the infirmary has been more than crowded since the college opened and that a number of the girls have been very sick. Most of those who have been sick, it is said, are freshmen.

**Moose Lodge Reorganized.**  
Rock Hill Lodge Local Order of Moose is now in process of re-organization which step was necessary according to members because of the fact that the lodge had gotten into financial difficulties. About fifty members have been received since re-organization began and the membership is growing every day. Rock Hill Moose Lodge has one of the finest fraternal club rooms in South Carolina and members of the order are expecting it to grow and flourish now as never before.

**Scott's Coyote Caught.**  
That coyote that Mr. J. B. Scott recently turned loose near his home on York No. 3 and then turned it over to J. R. Barnwell who gave it to Cottrell Thomason was caught in the Edgemoor section of Chester county last Friday, according to F. H. Moore, most enthusiastic fox hunter of Rock Hill, who was talking about it today. The coyote recently broke out of the cage in which young Thomason had it fastened at his place of business in Yorkville, and hunters near Yorkville had quite a chase out of it. "I heard that the coyote was near Rock Hill from several sources," said Mr. Moore. "and finally one man told me he had it spotted and that he would sell it to me for \$10. I told him to bring it along. Then he learned that it had been caught by a man near Edgemoor who sold it to a traveling salesman from North Carolina and who carried it to the Tar Heel state on Friday afternoon.

Speaking of foxes Mr. Moore said that he had eight foxes turned loose in the vicinity of the home of W. A. Blalock on Catawba river in York county, and that he and his friends were expecting lots of fine sport during the coming winter.

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## NEWS ABOUT SHARON

News of Tragic Death of Ervin E. Ratchford Is Received by Relatives.

### DISEASE BREAKS OUT IN SCHOOL

Citizens Are Worried Over Unsafe Condition of Bridge—Case of Scarlet Fever Develops in School—Other News and Notes of Metropolis of Western York County.

(By a Staff Correspondent.)  
Sharon, Oct. 17.—Relatives in this section on Thursday night received intelligence of the death of Ervin E. Ratchford, 23, who was killed at a grade crossing one mile below Carlisle, S. C., when an automobile in which he was riding with Laurence J. Welsh of Herberts, S. C., was struck by a Southern railway engine. Mr. Welsh died on the way to a hospital at Union while Mr. Ratchford lived until about 6 o'clock Thursday afternoon. The funeral of Welsh was held Friday afternoon at Kelly's Chapel near Carlisle while Mr. Ratchford was buried Saturday afternoon at Union.

A freight train was derailed at Herberts just after the train had crossed Broad river. When the southern passenger train arrived in Carlisle, the locomotive was uncoupled and was driven to Herberts to bring to Carlisle a number of freight cars. A string of these cars had been drawn to Carlisle and the locomotive was making another trip to Herberts when the accident occurred.

Both of the men were prominent in their respective communities. Mr. Welsh was about 35 years old and is survived by his wife, who was Miss Louise Bates of Carlisle and a son four years old. He attended A. & F. college at Raleigh. Mr. Ratchford was 23 years old and unmarried. He was a graduate from Davidson college last June.

Both Mr. Welsh and Mr. Ratchford were of prominent Union county families and were both born and reared at Carlisle. Several years ago after the death of his father, Mr. Welsh moved to Herberts, which is only a few miles from Carlisle, where he successfully engaged in planting.

Both men had attractive personalities and many fine traits of character. They were personally acquainted with practically every person in this section of Union county and therefore the double tragedy came as a great shock to the entire Carlisle-Herberts community.

**Disease in the School.**  
Real, genuine unadulterated itch is said to have broken out in the Sharon school and according to some of the local wags, quite a number of pupils are getting considerably behind with their scratching. How it started, nobody knows and just how many pupils have it nobody knows, but lots of little school children are asking lots of other little school children "have you got it?" It is said that a number who stop to scratch whenever they can find cover deny it but the more practical parents are making no denial and are doing everything to cure their children and the hunt throughout the community for "pokeberry root" is a big hunt while the local drug store is having quite a run on the purchase of sulphur and the grocers notice increased sales of lard. It is reported that there is one case of scarlet fever in the school and the trustees and teachers are just a little apprehensive lest it be necessary to close the institution for a while.

It is said that some of the school children have been suffering with the itch for a number of weeks but being reluctant to say anything about it, kept going until others became infected. But nobody knows, definitely where it had its origin and nobody but the doctors and the parents know just what little boys and girls have it.

**Building Potato House.**  
Mason H. Blair, R. M. Mitchell and other farmers living in the Blairsville community have just completed a sweet potato storage house with a capacity of 1,500 bushels. They say that they are going to make plenty of sweet potatoes to fill the storage house and in fact there is need in that community and in other communities around Sharon for several more storage houses of equal capacity.

Farmers in Bullock's Creek and Broad River townships have paid unusual attention to the cultivation of sweet potatoes this year it is said, and a bumper crop is now being dug.

**Many go to Circus.**  
Sharon was well represented at the circus that exhibited in Yorkville today. Monday is usually an off day for business in Sharon and numbers of Sharon people took advantage of the opportunity to go to the county seat and see the big show and incidentally to transact such business as they might have found necessary.

**Worried about Bridge.**  
Numbers of Sharon citizens are talking about appearing before the county board of commissioners at their regular meeting for November and making an insistent request that the bridge over "Little Branch," between Turkey Creek bridge and the corporate limits of the town be widened and equipped with a rail on each side. The bridge is very narrow and there is a deep and dangerous hole at each approach increasing the chances of throwing an automobile or other

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