

# FALLS CITY NEWS

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## SOUTH AFRICA IS LAND OF PROMISE

British See Great Possibilities In Immense Territory.

### MINERAL RESOURCES RICH.

Diamond Fields Form Treasure House and Big Quantities of Precious "Stones of Fire" Still Lie in Sands of Namib—Copper and Copper Ores in Increasing Quantities.

Cape Town, South Africa.—Much speculation has been indulged in as to the value as a possession of the immense territory of German southwest Africa, wrested by the Union of South Africa forces, under General Botha, from the Germans, who had occupied it since May, 1883. Six times the size of England, being about 322,450 square miles in area and including Ovambo-land, Damaraland and Great Namaqualand and sparsely populated, it has been described as a wilderness, with a fertile tract only here and there.

A South African authority described recently in the Cape Times its dominant physical features as follows:

"A slowly rising, sandy coast belt; a high interior plateau, broken by isolated mountain ranges and stony kopjes, and a gently falling eastern strip of sandy country which merges in the level expanse of the Kalahari desert. The average height of the uplands is about 5,000 feet. The climate on the whole is healthful and eminently suited for Europeans, though malarial fever is prevalent in the subtropical north. Before the war it supported a white population of 14,830 people, with some 250,000 natives."

The territory's three great natural sources of wealth are minerals, pasture land and agricultural land.

Says the authority above quoted: "The mineral wealth has been the most considerable source of prosperity since 1908, and it is certain to be an

important factor in the future development of the country. The diamond fields form a rich treasure house, and immense quantities of the precious 'stones of fire' still lie in the sands of the Namib. The fields extend from Conception bay (100 miles south of Swakopmund) to Angras Juntas, a distance of about 200 miles, but they are intersected in many places by hills and ridges and tracts of worthless sand. The various producing companies, the great majority of which are German, hold a fifty years' lease from the German Colonial company, and together before the war broke out they employed about 5,000 natives and colored men. From 1908 to the end of 1913 gems to the value of \$35,522,000 had been recovered.

"How long will these fields last? The experts differ, as owing to the vast extent of the country over which the diamondiferous gravel is scattered and the varying depths of the deposits it is extremely difficult to estimate the life of the fields. The period has been variously put at eight, fifteen and twenty years. New deposits may be discovered, although extensive prospecting operations have not resulted in any finds for some time. Volcanic 'pipes'

containing the well known Kimberlite have been found in the Gibeon, Bethany and Keetmanshoop districts, but careful tests have shown them to be barren of diamonds."

Next to the diamond fields the copper mines rank in importance. The value of the copper exported in 1913 was \$1,982,180. In the opinion of experts there is no doubt that the country will supply copper and copper ores in increasing quantities for many years to come.

Prospecting work has been done in connection with gold, tin, iron, lead, sulphur, etc., but the results have been somewhat disappointing, although immense deposits of iron and tin ores are known to exist. A seam of coal has been found, and the Germans had begun to exploit immense layers of white and colored marble of excellent quality.

The second source of wealth in the territory is the pasture land. Dr. William Macdonald, the South African agricultural expert, who visited the colony a couple of years ago, described it as a land of enormous agricultural possibilities, destined to become one of the finest ranch countries in the world.

## WOMAN SEES A BABY FOR THE FIRST TIME

Born Blind, Thought It Package Until It Moved.

Berkeley, Cal.—There is a young woman in Berkeley who saw a baby for the first time only a few weeks ago. She thought it was a package from which the wrapping had been torn. When the "package" moved she was astounded.

She is Miss Tomsyna Carlyle, aged twenty-one. After darkness, due to blindness at birth, Miss Carlyle is able to see today. Her sight is the gift of a woman of means, whose name is withheld.

This woman was born blind, too; but, her sight having been restored by an operation, she has gone of recent years among blind institutions seeking young women afflicted as she was, furnishing money for the operations.

Miss Carlyle is a graduate of the Wisconsin normal school and is attending the University of California here, where six months' more work will bring her another degree.

Highly educated, she cannot read printed English, having heretofore studied the raised point system of the blind. She is taking lessons in reading.

The baby was one of the never ending series of wonders she saw after the surgeon's knife brought her from the world of darkness into the world of light.

Telling for the first time of her impressions when she saw objects previously known only by the sense of touch or sound, Miss Carlyle said:

"I was on a street car when a woman got on with a baby in her arms. I had never seen one before and did not know what it was. I thought it was a package from which the wrapping had been torn.

"When the baby moved I was dumfounded. But then I saw the face clearly and recognized the features of a human being. And I knew I was looking for the first time upon one of the most precious things on earth."

Her surprises, said Miss Carlyle, began immediately after the bandages were removed from her eyes following the successful operation. She saw fingers for the first time. They seemed much longer and fatter than she had supposed.

Colors made a great impression on her, and it required considerable instruction before she could distinguish them. Colors in foods rendered eating difficult.

"I had not seen different articles of food before," said Miss Carlyle. "For a time I hardly felt like eating as I seemed to be eating colors."

Nothing Club Wears a Smile. Cedar Grove, N. J.—A club has been organized here to give concerts and other entertainments at the county institutions. The badge of the society is "A Smile, to Be Worn on All Occasions." The organization is to be called Nothing club, because its members are pledged to give what they can to make people happy without any material reward.

## CANARY ISLANDS HARD HIT BY WAR

Exports Have Fallen Off at an Alarming Rate.

New York.—That the European war has proved a severe blow industrially to the Canary islands was the statement made by Homer Brett, United States consul at Tenerife. Mr. Brett, who has been transferred to La Guaira, Venezuela, was a visitor at the branch office of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce in the custom house.

"The war," said the consul, "has forced a great interest in the Canaries in everything American. Previous to the outbreak of hostilities the islanders bought practically all of their flour from England, most of the commodity being shipped from Liverpool. Now they have turned to the United States for this breadstuff, and increasing quantities are being received there. At present only American automobiles are being imported, and the natives speak highly of the makes already introduced.

"Up to the beginning of the war the Canary islands had an annual export trade of 7,000,000 crates of bananas, 5,000,000 boxes of tomatoes, 1,000,000 boxes of potatoes and 400,000 crates of onions. A large part of this trade went to southwestern Europe, but the war has placed a blight on all this business. Before the war the islanders depended upon the Scandinavian countries for all of the crate material used in packing the fruit and vegetable products. This wood is no longer available to any extent, and inquiries are now being made in the United States for shooks. The packers must have this material and are looking to this country to come to their aid.

"Another serious handicap in the islands is the shortage of fertilizers. Up to the start of the war the bulk of fertilizer was imported from Antwerp, and a lesser quantity from London. This was principally Chilean nitrate. This trade has, of course, been greatly upset, and when I left Tenerife they were negotiating with American firms for needed supplies. There is also a serious shortage in coal and cement. The Canaries are an annual market for 1,000,000 tons of coal, practically all of which before the war was supplied from Newcastle."

Deer Wrecks Hat Window. New London, Conn.—A buck deer appeared in New London and after doing much damage was killed. He jumped through a window in a millinery store and proceeded to wreck it. Two policemen and Eugene McCann, manager for Commodore Morton F. Plant's baseball team, followed it and attempted to "shoo" it out. Instead of being "shooed," the deer showed fight, and all three men were injured before it was killed.

## TREATMENT OF WAR SHOCK.

London Surgeon Addresses American Institute of Homeopathy.

Chicago.—Treatment of "war shock," one of the newest afflictions known to medical science, was brought to the attention of the American Institute of Homeopathy at its convention here.

Dr. James Pearson of London, a surgeon attached to the Anglo-American hospital, the homeopathic war base in Paris, in a paper on the work of physicians in the European war, wrote that "war shock" had caused much temporary insanity among the soldiers.

"One of the great problems has been the treatment of the new disease," Dr. Pearson wrote. "It is an undefined but real ailment, due in a large part to the terrible and incessant noises of gunnery and the generally acute excitements and emotions accumulating and impressing themselves on the nervous system. Quiet and sleep are the great need of these men, but it is hard to get them in a condition where they can sleep.

"A most remarkable medical development is the way soldiers are able to stand up to their waists in icy water for stretches of thirty-six hours without visible injurious results. 'Trench foot' has been much in evidence, but it is almost incredible how splendidly the mass of men went through the experience."



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## MODERN FABLES

### The Village Apollo Who Left Town

Once upon a time in a little 1906 model county seat there dwelt under the roof of his immediate paternal ancestor a gay and spritely youth named Ferdinand. And Ferd's name bore with it many tales of evil, for here, be it known, Ferd fit into an assignment of labor like a two hundred and ninety pound damsel fits into a twenty-four inch Spirella. The village sages figured Ferd as of no account, the business men wondered just how long the old man's bank account would hold out, and the young men secretly envied him and wondered how he continued to get by.

But the young ladies could see no alloy in Ferdinand and whenever the folks referred to him as a synonym of shiftlessness they arose to his defense with the declaration that he was a perfectly divine dancer. Now dancing was Ferd's long suit, his forte, his strong point. Bounded arterially by the latest model haircut, posteriorly by patent leather, and bodily by broadcloth, Ferd was nimble as a fly on a plate glass window. The Palace France, the Gander Glide, the Serpentine Slip, or any of the new gyrations that

draw the shekels into the coffers of teachers of modern dancing were as easy for him as lying in bed until ten in the morning listening to the sound of his father's axe dissecting logs into stovewood.

But one day Ferd's source of revenue died. After the funeral the executioners learned that the sole heritage of the legatee consisted of two hundred dollars in unpaid bills, mostly of his own contraction, and about seventeen dollars in real coin of the realm. Immediately the denizens begun to see strange illusions. They pictured Ferdinand in overalls and exercising at real labor. But Ferd had no such hallucinations. Immediately upon being informed of his financial status he spent six bones for a new pair of dancing kicks, and that night while the city slept Ferd beat it.

A year passed and none of his creditors heard from him. Even the Ladies Aid lost interest in him when the bolt fell. One morning as Deacon Simmons was secretly reading the theatrical page of a city paper, he saw Ferd's face smiling at him and below the picture the type said: "Brilliant Young Dancer Signs Vaudeville Contract at Monstrous Salary." The reverend gentleman at once circulated the news over town, always backing up with the words "I always told you he would succeed."

MORAL—You never can tell by the noise they make—sometimes.



Photo by American Press Association. GENERAL BOTHA.

Important factor in the future development of the country. The diamond fields form a rich treasure house, and immense quantities of the precious 'stones of fire' still lie in the sands of the Namib. The fields extend from Conception bay (100 miles south of Swakopmund) to Angras Juntas, a distance of about 200 miles, but they are intersected in many places by hills and ridges and tracts of worthless sand. The various producing companies, the great majority of which are German, hold a fifty years' lease from the German Colonial company, and together before the war broke out they employed about 5,000 natives and colored men. From 1908 to the end of 1913 gems to the value of \$35,522,000 had been recovered.

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