

PRESIDENT WORRIES OVER WHAT IS WHISKY

Will Settle Question Troublesome Matter Arises Under the Pure Food Law—Renders His Holiday Anything But a Care Free Occasion.

HAS A WHITE CHRISTMAS

Washington, Dec. 25.—From the President of the nation to the humblest resident, the citizens of Washington enjoyed one feature of this holiday in common—a glorious white Christmas.

President Taft and his family spent Christmas in no different manner from that of thousands of others. Charlie, the youngest member of the President's household, was the busiest person at the White House.

President Taft remained indoors all day working on the problem, "What is Whiskey?" This mooted question, raised by distillers under the pure food act, has been pending for some time and the President has determined to settle it as soon as possible.

Vice President and Mrs. Sherman spent the day at their home in Utica. A family gathering was a feature of the day at the home of Secretary Knox.

Secretary Dickinson took his Christmas dinner on board the Mayflower en route to Porto Rico. Secretary Meyer spent the day with his family.

Secretary and Mrs. MacVeagh, Secretary and Mrs. Ballinger and Attorney General and Mrs. Wickorham celebrated Christmas here.

EXCELLENT MUSIC.

The Washington Concert Band Makes Melody.

The Washington Concert Band serenaded the citizens Saturday night and the music they rendered would have done credit to Sousa himself.

BOOZE BUT IT'S WORTH THE PRICE



NEGRO BELL BOY SHOT BY WHITE MAN

Had Been Insulted Employe of Norfolk Hotel is Wounded By J. Johnstone, of North Carolina—No Arrests Have Been Made.

MATTER HAS BEEN HUSHED

Norfolk, Dec. 25.—An air of mystery surrounds the shooting of a negro bellboy, named John Bowling, at the Hotel Noddo early yesterday morning.

Johnstone whipped a revolver from his back pocket and took a shot at Bowling, who was running down the hallway as fast as his legs could carry him.

In some manner, possibly by Johnstone's friends, the matter has been hushed up, and it is said that a sum of money was paid to Bowling for him to keep quiet about the matter.

WHO HOLDS COUPON?

The Lucky Number of Doll at Sparrow's Shown in Window. The coupon drawing the lovely doll at the store of H. G. Sparrow was drawn Christmas eve night at 11:30 o'clock.

LESS DRUNKENNESS.

There was too much drinking this Christmas season, but there was less drunkenness than in any previous Christmas in the history of North Carolina.

CHRISTMAS IN CITY.

Washington certainly enjoyed a pleasant, profitable, and what was best of all, a quiet Christmas. Although the weather man gave us weather we did not desire, being a rather raw deal, still we are thankful there were no calamities to befall.

CHRISTMAS IN CITY.

The Christmas spirit was in the air and the holiday was altogether thoroughly enjoyed, the noise having been kept to a minimum.

THE GOVERNOR DISCUSSES THE SHEMWELL CASE

One Protest Received This Was From a Person Who Did Not Believe in the Granting of Pardons—Two Other Letters Received.

THE RECORDS ON FILE

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 25.—Governor Kitchin, in talking tonight on the Shemwell affair, stated that the bulk of adverse criticism in regard to his action in the matter of the reprieve from the sentence imposed by the court had been made since the reprieve was granted.

That protest came in this way. A citizen addressed a letter to the Governor enclosing a newspaper clipping containing notices of applications for the pardon of three different parties.

Received Anonymous Letters. The Governor stated further that since the reprieve was granted that he had received two anonymous communications, one coming from Asheville, the other from Lexington.

The governor stated that the names of the physicians who made affidavits as to the physical condition of Mr. Shemwell were: Dr. Millinder of Asheville, Dr. Garnett of Hot Springs, Ark., Dr. Vestal of Lexington, who stated in the affidavit that he was a brother-in-law of Mr. Shemwell, and Dr. Buchanan, chief of the hospital.

Visited By Son. "After the hearing and while I was at Scotland Neck, Mr. Dermot Shemwell came to me there, which was on Friday before the opening of Guilford superior court, and on this Friday asked me for the reprieve, stating that unless he could get a reprieve, he would have his father at court if he had to be brought there on a cot.

Mr. Shemwell stated among other things the facts set out in his affidavit. I told him that if those matters were stated in a proper affidavit filed in the case, I would grant his father a reprieve until the first of April.

As I could not return to Raleigh until after the beginning of the Guilford court, he requested me to give him a letter for use in Guilford court. I wrote a letter to Mr. S. H. Gattis, solicitor, stating that I had told Mr. Shemwell that when a proper affidavit was filed, setting out the facts, repeating them, which he said was true, that I would reprieve his father.

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A NEW EPOCH OF INLAND WATERS FOR AMERICA

A Representative Body Recent Convention of the Rivers and Harbors Congress Marked Beginning of Development of the Inland Waters.

THE NEEDS ARE DISCUSSED

Washington, D. C., Dec. 27.—From whatever angle the recent convention of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress is viewed but one conclusion is inevitable that it marked the beginning of a new epoch looking to the development of the inland waters of the United States.

Never in the history of Washington has there gathered together so representative a body of men and the work accomplished was of such a character that cannot help but be felt in future legislation looking to a comprehensive policy in the treatment and the improvement of our rivers, harbors and canals.

Not since the organization of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress has there been such intense interest shown as was displayed during the three days of the convention and the resolutions which were unanimously adopted were the result of careful, conservative deliberation.

The remarkable feature of the convention outside its distinguished membership was the distance the delegates traveled to be present and assist in bringing to the attention of the law makers of the nation the imperative needs for a broad and liberal policy toward the great national highways of the country, the rivers and canals.

Nearly a hundred delegates came from the Pacific coast, crossing the continent to participate in a great national movement having for its slogan a yearly river and harbor bill carrying \$50,000,000 and if current revenues are not sufficient to warrant the appropriation of this sum then a bond issue of fifty millions per year for the space of ten years in order that the projects which have the endorsement of the

Round for Salina Cruz. Zelaya, ex-president of Nicaragua, has taken himself out of the country and is now aboard the Mexican gunboat General Guerrero bound for Salina Cruz.

Under the cover of darkness Zelaya, accompanied by a heavily armed guard, proceeded to Corinto, in which port the Mexican warship has been lying for several days close to the United States protected cruiser Albany. Other American warships swung at anchor in the harbor with marines aboard, hastily awaiting instructions.

A GOOD RECORD FOR THE CITY

Number of Cases Before Mayor Smaller Than Last Year. The record of the police court for December, this year, is certainly a vast improvement over that of the corresponding month last year. The record shows that the department of the city is on the up grade.

CHRISTMAS GERMAN.

Takes Place Tomorrow Night at the Elks Hall. The Halcyon Club wishes to announce that its annual Christmas german will take place Tuesday night, December 28. As has always been the custom, the children's dance will begin promptly at 8 o'clock and will last until 10 o'clock.

OUR SYMPATHY.

The sympathy of the whole civilized world goes out to Samuel L. Clemens in the affliction which has been visited upon him. It is especially sad that it should have come at this time of rejoicing and good cheer. What a sad Christmas this one is to the aged father who has thus been so deeply stricken.—Charlotte Observer.

DEPOSED RULER FLEES FROM HIS COUNTRY

Former Ruler of Nicaragua Republic Finds an Asylum on a Little Mexican Gunboat -Boards Her By Permission.

DESTINATION UNKNOWN

Mexico City, Dec. 25.—Jose Santos Zelaya, as a private citizen, tasked and was granted an asylum aboard the Mexican gunboat General Guerrero, according to the officials of the Department of Foreign Relations here tonight. Knowledge of his ultimate destination or of his plans for the immediate future was denied.

Both Minister Ignacio Mariscal and Sub-Secretary Federico Gamboa declared that they anticipated no conflict with the State Department at Washington as a result of having permitted Zelaya to go aboard the Mexican warship. No official opposition to such a proceeding, they asserted, had been made to this government and in the absence of any objection the act was such as any nation would have performed under like circumstances.

Zelaya took advantage of the presence of the Guerrero in Nicaragua waters, asked this government through our minister at Managua, Bartolome Carbajal, for asylum aboard the Guerrero and was granted it, said Senator Mariscal.

Zelaya is a private citizen now since he has resigned the presidency of Nicaragua, and as such had a perfect right to make the request. At what port he expects to land or where he intends to go we have not been informed. According to our advice, the United States vessels which were there and could have opposed his embarkation made no effort to do so.

The United States government, which is a prudent government, cannot object to our course and we do not expect that it will. Mr. Mariscal reiterated his previous disclaimer of intention to take Zelaya aboard when the Guerrero went to Corinto and said that it was "only within a day or two that he had asked to be allowed to board the vessel."

STRONG SERMON.

Rev. A. McCullen Charms his Audience Last Evening. A large congregation greeted Rev. A. McCullen at the First Methodist Church Sunday evening, the occasion being the first quarterly meeting for Washington station for the coming year. The discourse was much enjoyed. The music was one of the features.

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BACK TO THE GRIND AGAIN



DIRECTOR NAMES FEBRUARY 5 AS DATE

The Test Is Very Easy The Scandal Revived

Any Person of Good Judgment, of Ordinary Education Can Readily Pass the List for Census Enumerators.

PUT IN YOUR APPLICATION

Washington, D. C., Dec. 27.—Any person of good judgment, who has received an ordinary common school education, can readily and easily pass the test to be given applicants for census enumerators' places on Saturday, February 5, the date finally set by U. S. Census Director Durand, according to an announcement from the Census Bureau today.

HEADED OFF INVESTIGATION

Norwich, Conn., Dec. 25.—George Preston Sheldon, the deposed president of the Phoenix (Fire) Insurance Company, of Brooklyn, under indictment for grand larceny in connection with financial irregularities in the company recently exposed by the State Insurance Department of New York, died at his home here today.

HEADED OFF INVESTIGATION

Sheldon had been president of the Phoenix (Fire) Insurance Company, of Brooklyn, for twenty-one years prior to his removal and was one of the most prominent residents of Greenwich. The report of the investigation made by William H. Hotchkiss, State superintendent of insurance of New York to District Attorney Jerome, of New York, declared that the company had for years evaded an official investigation, at Sheldon's dictation, and that by consent of the directors he had pledged the securities of the company for loans.

CHRISTMAS TREE.

At Payne Memorial Church, Nicholsonville, Friday Night. The Sunday school of the Payne Memorial Presbyterian church was given a Christmas tree at the church last Friday night. There were 124 presents on the tree. Several of the scholars recited and the occasion was a most pleasant one to all. Mr. C. M. Brown is the efficient superintendent.

GARDEN OF THE GODS

SOLD FOR \$200,000. Colorado Springs, Col., Dec. 25.—The gift of the late Charles E. Perkins, became today the property of Colorado Springs. Comprising 489 acres

SECURE A COPY.

Any citizen wishing a copy of the report of the expert accountant, Mr. Hillton, and published last week, can secure one at the city hall.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

- in Today's News
Knight Shoe Co.—Shippers.
H. B. Goldstein—Good Tailor.
E. B. Mison & Co.—"44" CL.
Capodias.
Gem Theater.
Galaxy Theater.

MACKAY GIVES GREENSBORO

HOSPITAL CHECK FOR \$250. Greensboro, N. C., Dec. 25.—Clarence H. Mackay, president of the Postal Telegraph and Cable Company, who has a summer lodge near High Point, has sent Lee's Hospital in this city, a check for \$250 as a Christmas gift.

On Wednesday, December 23, Mr. Harmon Hill, of Chocowinity, killed a deer with a grubbing hoe. The deer was seen in a wire fence on Mr. Hill's farm. The doe was being run by the hounds and in attempting to jump the fence she got her head caught in the wire and was killed.

holiday season in Washington was ever carried out in better form by old and young. The department of the city was commendable and praiseworthy.

A Christmas party will be given the Sunday School of St. Peter's Episcopal Church at the Washington Light Tower, Saturday this evening.