

Letters To Santa Claus

Charlotte, N. C., Dec. 18. My Dear Santa Claus: Am going to write because so many girls are writing letters to you. Hope you will not be too busy to read mine. I am a cripple and have been since my birth, but I am happy and do not think of my lameness. Won't you send me a pretty work box, some nice books and plenty of nuts and candy. My ma says ask Santa to send her some of the good Louisiana syrup they call Velve. It makes such good peanut brittle. With love I am your friend, Mabel Brown. Charlotte, N. C., Dec. 18. Dear Santa: Please bring me a big doll and a go-cart and a cook stove, candy, apples, and oranges. From your loving friend, Iola James. Charlotte, N. C., Dec. 18. Dear Santa Claus: I am a little boy 2 years old. I want you to bring me a little street car and a nice little drum and cymbals, nigger toes and fruit. Your little friend, Harvey McCready. Dear Santa: Please bring me a little train and a little drum and candles, nuts and fruits. Your little friend, Paul Hubert McCready. Charlotte, N. C., Dec. 18. Dear Santa: I am a little girl 15 years old and I want you to bring me some candy and nuts, oranges and apples and a doll that will go to sleep and a go-cart to

Cupid Asleep in Iredell County

Special to The News. Statesville, N. C., Dec. 20.—Cupid and the "match-makers" have evidently gone to sleep in Iredell and unless they get busy there are going to be some old maids and bachelors. According to the records in the office of the county register at Statesville, who issues the matrimonial permits, marriages are on the decrease in the county, despite the fact that the population of the county is on the increase. Register Boyd has just made out his report of the marriages during the fiscal year ending the first Monday of this month and it is found that there were only 302, compared with 309 last year and much larger numbers in previous years. Had the "sets" of license issued served their purpose the record would have almost come up to that of the preceding year, but during the past 12 months three "sets" were returned unused. In one case the prospective groom admitted that the marriage had been called off on account of the interference of the bride-to-be's parents, but in both other instances the groom "that was to be" had the nerve to say that he had "gone back on her" at the last minute before the ceremony. Last year every license was returned properly signed by some person duly authorized to perform the marriage ceremony and the fact there were three failures this year is not encouraging. This year's record doesn't begin to come up with that of the banner year, 1907, when there were 355 licenses issued, and used, neither does it compare favorably with the record of 1905-347. A glance at the first pages of the old marriage license book shows that the records of several years in the past almost come up to this year's, there having been almost 300 of the happy events to the year almost a decade ago. Of the licenses issued during the past year 87 were secured from the deputy register at Mooresville, a decrease of an even dozen compared with the preceding year, and the remainder were secured from the register here. About 30 per cent of the couples were negroes. While the majority of the grooms were between the ages of 20 and 25, the average being about 22, there were several 18-year-olds, some who reached the bachelor age and a few grandfathers, so to speak, there being one or two had about lived their allotted three score and ten. The brides ranged in age from 15 years to past a half hundred summers, though most of them were less than 21 years of age, the average being about 19. There were quite a number of people residing outside the county married within its bounds during the year, but the number of Iredell people wedded elsewhere will more than likely tally with the number of outsiders married in Iredell. The high cost of living, of which we have heard so much and experienced not a little during the past few years, may or may not have had something to do with the decrease in the number of couples deciding to unite their destinies, but there are many who will argue that this is one of the causes, if not the principal one, and there is ground for the argument. There are some who are cruel enough to say that the girls do the courting these days, and that next year, which is "leap year," will be a busy one for the man who issues the marriage contracts. It is also predicted by some that there will be no danger of any of the "permits" being returned unused; that in every case the jumping of the hoo-m stick will be a certainty because those of the fairer sex are given authority in such matters during leap year. Sillicus—"I told her she was my life." Cynicus—"Well, you know how uncertain life is."

After Supper Specials TONIGHT -AT- Miles-Nix Company's SALE STARTS AT 7:30 P. M. HAND BAGS LOT NO. 1. Assorted Leather Hand-Bags, 75c. 89c and 98c values, on sale tonight for... 48c each LOT NO. 2. This lot consists of all Leather, Velvet and Suede Hand-Bags, values \$1.00 to \$1.50, in a variety of colors and styles at 8 o'clock tonight, choice of lot... 89c each LOT NO. 3. Consists of Velvet and all Leather fitted Bags, the usual \$2.00 to \$2.50 values, in tonight's specials at just... \$1.48 RIBBONS About 50 pieces wide fancy Ribbons in Persian stripes and floral designs, the usual 25c and 35c values, but in tonight's specials at... 15c yard

UNDERWOOD DEFENDS OUR FORM OF GOVERNMENT New York, Dec. 19.—Representative Oscar W. Underwood, of Alabama, chairman of the house committee on ways and means, was guest of honor at a dinner of members of the Catholic Club here and as principal speaker he delivered an address declaring his opposition to movement toward a more direct form of government. "If there are evils in our government as it exists today," he said, "it is not in its organic form. It is due to the failure of those in office to honestly, fairly and justly perform the duties imposed upon them." He pointed to the failures of direct democracies and drew the contrast between them and the successes of a representative democracy responsive to the will of the majority, but checked by the constitution from exercising a brutal force which might destroy the liberty and property rights of the individual. "The proposal to abandon in part this scheme of the revolutionary fathers, with a tendency to place the power of law-making in the hands of all the people, would place constitutional guarantees of individual liberty subservient to the will of the majority through political compulsion, he said. "Those who urge a change, he argued, do not reflect that at times they may misjudge real public sentiment, that the representative who acts as the instrument of the government is at fault and not the basic principle of the government itself. "My experience as a legislator," he continued, "leads me to believe that the congress of the United States will ultimately respond to the enlightened and matured sentiment of the people." He pointed to instances wherein it had done so—in railroad rate legislation, pure food laws, campaign fund publicity, national quarantine, irrigation of the arid west and the buildings of the Isthmian canal. "The response may not be rapid," he said, "but it is probably more permanent and there is certainly not as much danger of enacting hasty, ill-considered or half-baked legislation. "Cannot a committee of the congress, composed of representative men, initiate legislation, within the limitations of the constitution, guard against excesses and abuses, protect the rights of the minority, voice the wishes of the majority, as well or better than the partisan friends of a measure who in order that they may accomplish one result are tempted to reach so far that they leave a wake of destruction as to collateral matters the measure touches? "If there are evils in our government as it exists today, it is not in its organic form. It is due to the failure of those in office to honestly, fairly and justly perform the duties imposed upon them. The remedy is plain and the way is clear. The people should drive from the places of power and responsibility the unfaithful servant and elect those who will be faithful and true to the trust imposed upon them. "You tell me the people cannot elect honest and faithful servants. I tell you that the masses of three people are far better judges of men than they are of measures, and are farnore likely to select an honest man than an honest measure. "When you say that the voter cannot select a public official who will reflect the will of the people in his office and be faithful to the constitution of his country, I say you reflect on the very first principle of free government and misjudge the honesty and the intelligence of the American people. "Let us elect honest men to public office, men who have the courage to stand for the true interest of the constitution they represent regardless of what effect it may have on their personal fortunes. There then will be no demand for a change of the fundamental principles of our government. Vaudeville audiences are quick to insist that one good turn deserves another. A DREADFUL WOUND from a knife, gun, tin can, rusty nail, fireworks, or of any other nature, demands prompt treatment with Bucklen's Arnica Salve to prevent blood poison or gangrene. It is the quickest, surest healer for all such wounds as also for Burns, Bolls, ores, Skin Eruptions, Eczema, Chapped Hands, Corns or Piles. 25c at W. L. Hand & Co.

OIL INSPECTION LAW BEFORE SUPREME COURT Special to The News. Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 20.—There will be argued this week before the supreme court of the United States the noted case of the Red Oil Company against the North Carolina state board of agriculture, in which the plaintiff attacks the constitutionality of the North Carolina statute regulating the testing and the sale of illuminating oil in this state and imposing a tax of one-half cent per gallon on all oils. Judge R. W. Winston, of Aycock & Winston, counsel for the Red Oil Company has gone to Washington to represent the oil company. Attorney General T. W. Bickett is leading counsel for the state department of agriculture. In the trial below Judge H. C. Conner sustained the constitutionality of the North Carolina act and the work of the oil division of the department of agriculture.

SOUTHERN Ry "Premier Carrier of the South." N. B.—The following schedule figures published only as information and are not guaranteed: 3:30 a. m.—No. 23, daily, Birmingham special for Atlanta and Birmingham. Pullman drawing room sleeping cars, observation cars and day coaches to Birmingham. Dining car service. 3:30 a. m.—No. 8, daily, local for Danville, Richmond and all intermediate points. 5:10 a. m.—No. 31, daily, the Southern's Southeastern Limited for Columbia, Savannah, Aiken, Augusta and Jacksonville. Pullman drawing room sleeping cars, observation cars and day coaches to Jacksonville. Day coaches to Jacksonville. Dining car service. 6:30 a. m.—No. 44, daily, local for Washington, D. C. 6:40 a. m.—No. 25, daily, local train for Columbia and intermediate points. 7:15 a. m.—No. 39, local for Atlanta. 7:50 a. m.—No. 16, daily, except Sunday, local for Statesville and Taylorsville, connecting at Mooresville for Winston-Salem. 8:30 a. m.—No. 37, daily, New York, Atlanta and New Orleans Limited. Pullman drawing room sleeping cars and observation cars. Local for New Orleans, Atlanta and Mason. Dining car service. Solid Pullman train. 10:15 a. m.—No. 36, United States fast mail, for Wilmington and points North. Pullman drawing room sleeping cars, New Orleans and Birmingham to New York. Day coaches to Washington. Dining car service. 10:20 a. m.—No. 28, daily, for Winston-Salem, Roanoke and local points. 11:10 a. m.—No. 11, daily, local for Atlanta and intermediate points. 2:55 p. m.—No. 46, daily, local for Greensboro and intermediate points. 4:35 p. m.—No. 27, daily, for Columbia and intermediate points. 4:50 p. m.—No. 41, daily, except Sunday, local for Seneca and intermediate points. 6 p. m.—No. 12, daily for Richmond and New Orleans Limited cars, Charlotte to Richmond, Charlotte to New York and Salisbury to Norfolk. 6:30 p. m.—No. 24, daily, except Sunday, local for Mooresville, Statesville and Taylorsville. 7:30 p. m.—No. 38, daily, New York, Atlanta and New Orleans Limited for Washington and points North. Drawing room sleeping cars, observation cars to New York. Dining car service. Solid Pullman train. 9:30 p. m.—No. 35, daily, United States fast mail, for Atlanta, Birmingham and New Orleans. Pullman drawing room sleeping cars, observation cars to New Orleans and Birmingham. Day coaches Washington to New Orleans. Dining car service. 10:00 p. m.—No. 32, daily, the Southern Southeastern Limited, for Washington, New York and points North. Pullman drawing room sleeping cars for New York. Day coaches to Washington. Dining car service. 10:00 p. m.—No. 43, daily, for Atlanta and points South. Handles Pullman sleeping car Raleigh to Atlanta. Day coach Washington to Atlanta. 11:20 p. m.—No. 30, daily, Birmingham special for Washington and New York. Pullman drawing room sleeping cars, observation cars to New York. Day coaches to Washington. Dining car service. All New York trains of Southern Railway will arrive and depart from the magnificent Manhattan terminal of the Pennsylvania Railroad, Seventh and Eighth avenues. Thirty-first to Thirty-third streets, and will be composed of modern electric lighted, steel constructed Pullman cars. R. H. DEBUTTS, T. P. A., Charlotte, N. C. H. L. VERNON, D. P. A., Pullman cars, Charlotte, N. C. R. F. CARY, G. P. A., Washington, D. C. S. H. HARDWICK, P. T. Mgr., Washington, D. C. E. H. COADMAN, V. P. & G. Mgr., Washington, D. C.

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Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA



MRS. WILFRED ISAACS. Mrs. Wilfred Isaacs, formerly Miss Florence Kearney, formerly a Washington telephone girl, and the stepdaughter of a barber who was secretly married to Mr. Isaacs, a London banker, to whom she was introduced by Sir Wilfred Egerton, son of Lord Ellamers. When a woman begins to show her age she also begins to show her rage.

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S. A. L. Ry. SCHEDULE JAMES KER, Jr., T. P. A., Selwyn Hotel. J. B. WILHE, T. A., Selwyn Hotel, Charlotte, N. C. Trains Leave Charlotte—Effective Nov. 24, 1911. NO. 40—5:00 a. m. through train for Wilmington with parlor car attached. Connects at Hamlet with No. 33 for Portsmouth and Norfolk. No. 68 for Raleigh, Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York. Dining car service and vestibule coaches to Washington. Pullman sleeping cars to Jersey City. NO. 48—7:30 a. m. for Monroe, connecting to all points South. NO. 133—10:10 a. m.—Local for Lincolnton, Shelby and Rutherfordton. NO. 47—4:45 p. m.—For Lincolnton, Shelby, Rutherfordton and points North. NO. 44—5 p. m.—For Wilmington and all local stations. NO. 45—5:20 p. m.—Handles local sleeper to Portsmouth, Norfolk; connects at Monroe, with No. 41 for Atlanta and Southwest with through sleeper to Birmingham; at Monroe with No. 32, fast train with sleeper to Portsmouth and Norfolk and Jersey City. Connects at Hamlet with No. 34, with through vestibule coaches to Washington. Dining car Richmond to New York. Pullman sleepers to New York. Trains Arrive at Charlotte: NO. 133—10:10 a. m. from the East. NO. 46—12:10 p. m. from the East. NO. 46—9:55 a. m. from the West, and all local stations. NO. 132—7:05 p. m. from the West. NO. 49—7:25 p. m. from the East. NO. 131—10:50 p. m. from the East. C. B. RYAN, G. P. A. JAMES KER, Jr., T. P. A., Selwyn Hotel, Charlotte, N. C. H. S. LEARD, D. P. A., Raleigh, N. C.

N. & W. Railway Schedule in Effect Nov. 11, 1911. 10:10 a. m. Lv. Charlotte for N. W. 10:15 p. m. Lv. Winston N. W. 2:05 p. m. Lv. N. W. for Charlotte. 4:25 p. m. Ar. Moore's N. W. Lv. 8:15 a. m. Additional trains leave Winston-Salem 2 a. m. daily. Connects at Roanoke for the East and West. Pullman sleepers, Dining cars. If you are considering taking a trip to California or the Coast, get our valuable Round Trip Ticket. Information is yours for the asking, with one of our complete Map-Folders. W. E. BEVILL, M. P. BEAGG, Gen. Pass. Agt., Trav. Pass. Agt., Roanoke, Va.