and the property of the second

Society

The Epworth League of the Grace Methodist church will hold their regular monthly meeting in the lecture rooms of the church tonight at 8 o'clock.

Mrs. C. F. Norwood and daughter Dorothy left this morning for Chester, Pa., where they will join Mrs. Norwood's son, Mr. Allen Norwood.

* * * Mr. Martin Willard and his bride, who was formerly Miss Martin, of Virginia, have returned from their extended bridal tour which included trips to Cuba and the Panama Canal.

An attractive collection of cards and News of his passing has caused a church.

The Luther league of St. Matthew's the Luther League of St. Paul's Lutheran church this evening at 8 o'clock. All members of the League are cordially invited, together with their friends.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Huntington and children, and Miss Rose Grant have, gone to Charlotte to spend the Christmas holidays with Mrs. Huntington's and Miss Grants' sister, Mrs. A. M. Sinclair.

secretary of the Epworth League of the North Carolina Conference, will deliver an illustrated lecture at the Acorn Branch Methodist church tonight at 7:30 o'clock. His subject will be, "The League's Work in

ENGAGEMENT OF MISS WISE ANNOUNCED.

It will be of much interest, not only where, to learn of the announcement of the engagement of Miss Louise Ir. and Mrs. Thornton Lewis, of Cininnati, Ohio, which was made by Mrs. J. K Wise here yesterday.

ton on several occasions. The wedding will take place next May.

WOULD CUT OUT THE BOOZE MAIL

It is aimed at the so-called mail order! Wilson and Otto Jordan. liquor business in dry territory.

WILL SOON GIVE FORMAL APPROVAL.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 15 .- Formal approval of the selection at Annapolis of the site for the five milion. dollar naval laboratory as recommended by the sub-committee of the civil- visiting members are cordially invited ian advisory board, will be made by to meet with us. Secretary of Navy Daniels in a few

The Store That

Sells Wooltex

Prominent and Progressive Citizen Passed Away Suddenly About Noon.

Southport, N. C., Dec. 15 .- Mr. W II. Pyke, one of Southport's leading citizens and one who for over a score A box bountifully filled with Christ- of years had been most active in evmas gifts was sent to the Lutheran erything pertaining to the progress Orphanage at Salem, Va, by the con- and welfare of this town and section, gregation and Sunday School of St. died at 11:45 o'clock this morning. done. Matthew's Lutheran church yesterday. Death came in a few hours afterward he was taken sick and was due to Miss Thelma Brooks is here to acute indigestion. Mr. Pyke apparentspend the holidays with her parents, ly had been enjoying his usual good day every able-hodied man is carried Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Brooks, at Caro- health until this morning, when he off, pell-mell, assembled in freight lina Place. Miss Brooks is a student complained of feeling badly, remained cars, and carried off to unknown medical aid was helpless and he passed away a few minutes before noon.

booklets are being offered for sale at shock to this community and filled W. M. Otersen's store, corner Foutrh every heart with sorrow, because Mr. and Campbell streets, by the Mission- Pyke was both loved and admired. He from Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he had been a prominent business man. He at once became interested in the Lutheran church will be entertained by development of Southport and Bruns wick county and was identified with every move looking towards such end. He had been a successful merchant and real estate man, and had served ings ably as an aldermn of the town. At the time of his death he was city tax of this town and county, and had proand had been instrumental in securing his card from the Meldeamt. Mr. I. W. Medlin, of New Bern, field a number of big enterprises. He was

> and his death is generally mourned. Pulliam, of Easts Orange, N. J., is heavy fine and to long imprisonment. and push them forcibly into freight being communicated with, but until "Ecclesiastics, physicians, lawyers cars; the locomotive is under preshe has been heard from the funeral arrangements cannot be made. Mr. Pyke was about 67 years of age.

TREASURE HUNT.

to her many friends here, but else- Scores Will Look for "Y" Membership

The second annual treasure hunt Wise, the heiress to the Flagler mil- for membership tickets in the boys' ions, to Mr. Lawrence Lewis, son of division of the Young Men's Christian be performed on Belgium soil the oc-Association will be held at 1 o'clock tomorrow. Cards have been given out in the schools and among the The groom-elect is a young man en- business boys for those who wish to gaged in the coal mining business. His onter the hunt to sign up. These father, who is a director of the Ches- cards are already being turned in and apeake & Ohio Railroad, is well the prospects are that a large numknown here, having visited Wilming- ber of boys will be running up and down the streets searching about the curbing of the streets, around the old trees and among the rocks and in every available place that a mebership ticket could be hid.

This very novel part of the Decemher program of the boys' division is Washington, D. C., Dec. 15.-A open to every boy in the city between bill prohibiting the transmission of 12 and 18. The two membership tick liqour advertising by mail to any one ets will be awarded to the boys who except a licensed liquor dealer or an find them, and will entitle them to agent was favorably reported today a year's membership. The tickets by the House Postoffice committee. Just year were found by Clarence

> ORIENT LODGE, NO. 395, A. F. & A. M.

An emergent communication of this lodge will be held this (Friday) evening at 8:00 o'clock, for work in the Fellow Craft Degree . A full and prompt attendance requested. All

By order of the W. M.

C. C. BROWN, Sec'y.

CARDINAL MERCIER'S STRONG PROTEST

cier's protest against the deportation now reached the su mof one billion of Belgians to Germany, only brief francs, and are still mounting up at excerpts of which came in the cable the rate of forty millions a month; dispatches, has been received here we might have been spared those by the Associated Press in its full requisitions in kind, which amount to ext, as follows:

"Malines, Nov. 7th, 1916.

"At the time of our protestation, the orders of the occupying power threatened only the unemployed; toemy proceeds by regions. Vague rumors had come to our ears that arrests had been made in Tournau, Ghent and Alost, but we were no: aware of the conditions under which they had been made. Between Octoary Society of St. Matthew's Luthern moved to Southport in 1888, coming ber 24th and November 2nd, it oc curred in the region of Mons, Quievrain, Saint Guislain, Jemappes, in bunches of 800 to 1,200 men a day. The next, and the following days, it | occurred in the Arrondissment of Nivelles. Here is a specimen of the announcement concerning the proceed-

"'By order of the Kreischef every male person over 17 years old, shall moted many important realty deals, his identification card and eventually the husband from his wife, the fath-quieting the disturbance caused by

"'Only small nandbaggage is per-Mr. Pyke leaves no relatives in this will be forcibly deported into Ger- last farewell to them; they align the drop in at the Grand tomorrow, where night, a laughable farce comedy en-

rection. A brother-in-law, Mr. J. A. many and will besides be liable to a captives in groups of forty or fifty and teachers are exempt from this sure, and as soon as a trainload is order.

habitants.'

"Under pretext of public works to cupying power had attempted to obtain from the communities the lists of working men out of work. Most of the communities proudly refused.

execution which is in force today.

of imprisonment and fine, forced work butchers, bakers, tailors, brewery on the idle, but adds that the work workers, electricians, farmers; they is to be executed in Belgium, and that even take the youngest men, college non-compliance will be adjudged by and university students, or young the Rat. Big Moe's to be arraigned this Belgian tribunals. "A second decree, dated May 2nd,

idle and threatens a fine of three erty of our compatriots.

man tribunals.

arrondissements to order that the I asked Governor von Huene to con- ta croak me sure! although in Belgium.

man press, both in Germany and Bell in the army or for forcible employglum, on these two preferts: the un- ment.'

would support you spontaneously (Continued on Page Three.) were it in danger.

" 'The unemployed are not a burden on official benevolence, it is not from your funds that they receive assistance.'

"In his reply the governor-general no longer urges these two first con-siderations, but he alleges that 'doles regular Saturday record, and will as she passed him, hurrying down the men to lose their technical proficever seen in a single release. dustry.'

protected. We might have been Charlie is surrounded by all those old-

New York, Dec. 15.—Cardinal Mer-1 spared those war levies which have several thousands of millions, and are exhausting us.

"Every day the military authorities | "There are other ways of providdeport from Belgium into Germany ing for the maintenance of profesthousands of inoffensive citizens to sional skill among our work people, oblige them there to perform forced such as leaving to Belgian industry its machinery and accessories, its "As early as October 19th we sent raw materials and its manufactured to the governor-general a protest algoods, which have passed from Belcopy of which was handed to the rep- gium into Germany. And it is neithresentatives of the Holy See, of er to the quarries nor to the lime Spain, the United States and Holland, kilns to which the Germans themin Brussels, but the governor-general selves declare they will send our unreplied to it that nothing could be employed, that our specialists will go to complete their professional educa-

"The naked truth is that every deported workman is another soldier for the German army. He will take the place of a German workman, who will be made into a soldier. Thus the sitat the Beachwood School, Pennsylva-home and sent for a physician, but parts, like a herd of slaves. The enilized world may be reduced to these terms: Four hundred thousand workmen have been thrown out of work by no fault of their own, and largely on account of the regime of the occupation. Sons, husbands and fathers of families, they bear their unhappy lot without murmuring, respectful of public order; National solidarity provides their most pressing wants; by dint of unselfish thrift and self-denial they escape extreme destitution, and they await with dignity and in a mutual affection which our National sorrows have intensified, the end of our common ordeal.

> (Central Time), bringing with him ple out of the arms of their parents, takes a hand on several occasions in features, just for good measure. er from his children, at the point of the Night Owls in their tours around the bayonet they block the entrances the great white way. to the homes preventing wives and If you want to laugh and laugh Castle's Casino Girls at the Victoria "Schultz," with Bill Bailey in the rol-"Those not presenting themselves mothers from rushing out to say a heartily, for a full half hour, just will go on for this afternoon and to- of "Mike McCarthy." This couple ready an officer gives the signal and "'The mayors will be held respon- they depart. Thus another thousible for the proper execution of this sand Belgians reduced to slavery, order which must be brought imme- without previous trial, condemned to diately to the knowledge of the in- the penalty which comes next in cruelty to the death penalty; depor-"Between the announcement and tation. They don't know how long the deportation there is an interval of their exile is going to last, neither do they know where they are going. Copyrighted, 1916, by Kalem Company. All they know is that their work will benefit the enemy. Several of them have been brought to sign-by coercion or by threats-an engagement which they dare to call 'voluntary.'

"While they certainly take the un-"Three decrees from the general employed, they also take a large numgovernment prepared the way for the ber-in the proportion of one-quarter for the Arrondissement of Mons-of "Under date of August 15th, 1915, men who were never out of work and a first decree imposes, under penalty belonging to diversified professionsmen from other high schools.

morning and will undoubtedly get out on bail. You know all that, of course, but "This in spite of the fact that two what I'm getting at is what's going to 1916, reserves the right of the Ger- high authorities of the German em- happen, once he is out? If I don't show man authorities to supply work to the pire had formally guaranteed the lib- up this afternoon it'll be because I'm busy,

years' imprisonment and 20,000 "The day after the capitulation of marks impossible on anybody execut. Antwerp, the frightened populace Grant nodded and hurried over to the ing or ordering to be executed work asked itself what would become of police court, where Myers had evidently not approved of by the general gov. the Belgians of military age or those to be called. He was a big, surly, flashily which would arrive at that age be- dressed man, and he still bore evidence of "Under the same decree, the right fore the end of the siege. Baron von several strenuous minutes during the raid to judge infractions which had re- Huene, military governor of Ant- herded for appearance's sake among the mained with the Belgian tribunals, werp, authorized me to reassure in others taking in the raid. passes from the Belgian to the Ger- his name the frightened parents. However, as rumors were running "A third decree, dated May, 1915, that in Antwerp, Liege, Namur and ed, "is dat clock right?" authorized the governors, the mili- Charleroi, young men had been seized | While the reporter was glancing at his tary commanders and the chiefs of and forcibly carried off to Germany, watch Benny sibilated from the corner of his mouth: "Moe's wise t' me. He's goin' unemployed be conducted by force to firm to me in writing the verbal guarthe places where they must work, antees which he had given me. He right. You ought to stay home out of This was already forcible working, replied that the rumors pertaining you. I've got to keep my eye on Mr. to deportations were without founda- Myers." Which the stoolpigeon translated "Now it is no longer a question of tion, and he gave me without hesi- gratefully as a warning to remain under forcible working in Belgium, but in tancy the written declaration which Germany, and for the benefit of the was read on Sunday, October 18, 1914, stood for law and order, and Grant would in all the parochial churches of the do his best to protect him. "To give an appearance of plausi- Arrondissement of Antwerp: 'Young ticians, bustled in, and Big Moe's bail was bility to those violent measures, the men need not fear of being carried quickly arranged. The gambler hurried occupying power insisted in the Ger- off to Germany, either for enrollment out, giving Benny a venomous glance as

employed constitute a danger to pub- "Immediately after the arrival of lic order, and a burden on official Baron von der Goltz in the capacity of detectives, also for appearances' sake. of governor-general at Brussels, I "To this we replied in a letter ad- went to ask him to ratify the guar- gambler was cunning. But at last by dint dressed to the governor-general and antees given by Governor von Huene of using store windows across the street to the head of the political depart- to the Province of Antwerp, extend- and to ring bells when Myers looked his ment, on October 16th, as follows: ing them to the whole country, with- way, he trailed him finally to a cheap "'You are well aware that public out any time limit. The governor- restaurant. order is in no wise threatened and general retained my petition in order served, Tommy glanced in through a side that all influences, moral and civil, to consider it at his leisure. The fol-window. Myers was sitting at a table in earnest confab with a somewhat loudly dressed young woman.

The reporter's lips formed a soundless whistle. "I know that girl." he muttered.

THEATRE

to the unemployed from whatever present another new Charlie Chaplin street. source they may come at present, comedy scream. This one, the latest saw Moe becken with a sidewise nod to must finally be a charge upon our out is called "The Night Owls," and a young tough sitting across the room. finances, and that it is the duty of a denicts Charlie on a night rampage The latter conferred a moment and hurgood administrator to lighten such with a bunch of "the boys" and is abthe watched long enough to see the gamfor murder," he told Mansfield briefly. charges'; he adds that 'prolonged un- solutely full of the most ridiculously bler served with a substantial lunch, then employment would cause our work- laughable situations the you have gave chase to the tough.

ciency and that in the time of peace Two solid reels are taken up with returned presently with an innocent look- to balt a trap to catch Benny. But cats to come they would be useless to in- Charlie's escapades as a "night owl," ing dinner pall, which he gave to a small don't always scratch. She used to be Bendustry.'

and that he is excruciatingly funny "True, there were other ways in in every scene goes without saying. which our finances might have been And the pretty part about it is that over. The trail was setting hot indeed:

which our finances might have been And the pretty part about it is that over. The trail was setting hot indeed:

She must have loved the Rat after all!"

SHE WOULD LIKE



No doubt you have already racked your brain trying to answer this question and many of you have not decided just what it will be. But to our minds nothing could be more appropriate than a camplete Toilet or Manicure Set.

Colonial Ivory

We have just received a new assortment of these sets ranging in price from \$3.50 to \$12.50 and every one is beautifully packed in a handsome cabinet.

She could not fail to appreciate one of these. Come in today and look them over.

Belk-Williams Co.

time Keystone stars of fun, includ- you will be treated one of the biggest titled, "The Barnstormers," which is

THE TIGER'S CLAW

An Adventure of

Grant, Police Reporter

By Robert Welles Ritchie

Story by Redfield Ingalls

revolver!

city editor of The

Chronicle, as Tom-

my Grant paused

The young police

raided Big Moe

Myers' stuss game

yesterday," he said

slowly, "thanks to

a tip from Benny

Mansfield whistled softly. "H'm, that's

of the day before. Benny, too, was there,

Without giving the slightest sign of rec

ognition Benny the Rat caught Grant's

sleeve as he passed. "Say, Jack," he ask-

"Yes," said Grant coldly, "the clock is

trouble, young fellow. I can't bother with

he went, whereat the stoolpigeon turned

a pasty white, and Grant followed him

He knew that the Rat would be released

It was no easy matter at first, for the

as mirrors and pretending to light cigars

There, making sure that he was unob-

whistle. "I know that girl," he muttered. "Now Benny's goose is cooked sure, un-

marks became more and more earnest and

sinister, and finally the young woman nod-

worth thinking about. Go to it!"

beside his desk.

"Groups of soldiers introduced ing Ambrose, Walrush, Fatty, Mabei, comedies of the year, and then, after said to be the very biggest bill procollector. He was an ardent "boost- Nivelles, on November 8th, 1916, at 8 themselves forcibly in the homes of and all the rest of them. Even the it is all over, you will be given two sented by this musical comedy agent, and then, after said to be the very biggest bill proo'clock (Belgium time), 9 o'clock these people, tearing the young peo- inimitable and great Mack Sennett or three additional reels of dramatic gregation.

NEW BILL AT VICTORIA.

The third bill to be presented by role he has yet essayed, that of

It was a simple matter to follow the boy

back to the restaurant, where he handed

in the dinner pail at a side door. He

might have been "rushing the growler"

for his father or mother in contravention

of the "selling liquor to minors" law, were

it not for the fact that he took to his heels

at once, leaving the pail behind. That set-

tled Tommy's doubts. He was sure now

that he knew what the pail contained-a

York gunmen dodge the Sullivan law.

which makes it a serious offense to have "We firearms upon the person without a li-

If Big Moe could be arrested now he

would be harmless for a few days at least.

But there was no time to get in touch with

Cadogan, chief o' detectives and Grant's

friend. It was imperative to watch the

showed him opening the dinner pail with

a satisfied and very evil grin, and Tom-

He slipped across the street. A moment

later Big Moe came out of the restaurant

and walked briskly away with his right

hand thrust carelessly into the side pock-

Again the reporter took up the chase

It led to a cheap apartment house. Some tuilding operations were going on in the

rear, Grant noted, and then, as Myers let

himself in with a latchkey, Grant hur-

ried to the drug store on the corner. At

In a few tense sentences he acquainted

the chief of detectives with the situation.

giving the address of the apartment house,

which his eyes had never left. He had

barely finished when he saw something

cried. "Here's Benny now, walkin' right

It was locked securely. He shook and

pounded and kicked unavailingly and then

ran down to the sidewalk and around

through an alley behind. He must get

a more pretentious building, which was

evidently being renovated as to its upper

stories, for on the reof was a light crane

with a rope hanging from it. No work-

men were about. It was the noon hour, and they were probably eating lunch. He

dashed upstairs as hard as he could pelt

And there, clearly to be seen, was Big Moe Myers, ugly automatic in hand,

crouched behind some heavy curtains in

a window with his back to the reporter! Not a moment was to be lost. Grant ran

like a squirrel up a set of cleats on the

swinging arm of the crane, caught the rope and slid down. Opposite the window

all probability get shot for his pains, and

Then suddenly Myers leaded out of sight

into the room from behind the curtains.

the same moment came the short, ugly

bark of an automatic and a piercing

Half an hour later, pale and somewhat

shaken, Grant hurried into the city room

of the Chronicle. "We've got Moe Myers.

"You don't say! The stoolpigeon, after

scream. He was too late!

into the building somehow!

"For the love of Mike, chief, hurry!" he

last a chance to telephone Cadogan!

my dared risk no more.

that made him jump.

into the trap!"

less"— He left the thought unfinished and if he got there too late it was Benny's

This time the trail led to a tenement building. The young man went in and the name of Nell Brady. Myers used her

watched surreptitiously. Big Moe's re- life that would be lost.

et of his coat.

gambler like a hawk. Another glance

For this is one of the ways that New

In "The Barnstormers," Ben Has-

sen, the inimitable comedy star of the company, will be seen in the greatest laugh heartily, and receive good support from the balance of the organ-Lottie McCree, as Miss Footlights,

the soubrette, does some good work. and is supported by the nifty singing and dancing chorus, which, by the way, contains seven real pretty girls, and some nifty costumes. Billy Morrell will present as one

of the specialty acts that great coon shout song hit, "Pray for the Lights to' Go Out," with novel stage settings which will go to make this one of the most pleasing numbers of the bill. Brand new scenery will be seen as a background for today's show.

Comedy Roles In

A Scream For Every Foot-With

Ambrose, Walrus, Fatty and ne dashed out of the booth and across the Mabel. street. But already Benny's companion, the girl, had unlocked the front door, and they disappeared inside. It shut with a

VICTORIA

NEW SHOW TODAY:

Castle's

Present

"The Barnstorm-

Hear Billy Morrell's Inimitable Rendition of That Great Coon Shout Song, "Pray for the Lights to Go Out."

> ALL NEW SCENERY NEW SONG NUMBERS.

NO EXTREME STYLES.

1-4th

Nozv Is Your

Opportunity Wooltex

Suits

Prices Reduced

A Wooltex Suit is Guaranteed to Give Two Full Season's Satisfactory Service.

A. D. Brown