

THE WEATHER.

Partly cloudy and warmer Sunday; Monday fair and cooler; moderate southwest winds becoming northwest.

ADVERTISING.

What would this city be like without its stores? What would this newspaper be like without its store-ads? One would be about as interesting as the other.



FUNDS TO FIGHT THE STEEL TRUST

Officers of American Federation of Labor Issues Call to Members.

GOMPERS' BITTER CHARGES

Corporation is Termed "A Bold and Daring Violator of the Law"

Washington, Jan. 1.—Officers of the American Federation of Labor tonight issued a call to the 1,540,000 members of the organization...

The corporation, the call sets forth, is inimical alike to the interests of labor and to the country at large...

This action was taken as the result of the conference held in Pittsburgh on December 13th and 14th, between the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers...

In his statement Mr. Gompers, in unsparring language, assails the so-called "steel trust" for its aggressions on labor and charges it with conspiring against production...

But, President Gompers continues, "the crowning criminality of the trust is its attitude toward labor..."

This plan, Mr. Gompers contends, is a transparent device through which a small minority of its employees...

The labor leader furthermore intimates that these profit sharing employees are carefully selected and that they are in nearly every case men who are given to discouraging the agitation of their fellows...

The steel corporation at Christmas was reported to having given away \$1,000,000 in gifts to its employees...

EGAN BEST GOLF PLAYER. Foremost Among Amateurs in United States—Sixteen Next in Rank.

Chicago, Jan. 1.—H. Chandler Egan, of Chicago, is the foremost amateur golf player of the United States for 1909...

The rating follows: H. Chandler Egan, Chicago; W. J. Travis, New York; Charles Evans, Jr., Chicago; Robert Gardner, Chicago; Albert Sechel, Chicago; J. D. Travers, New York; Mason Phelps, Chicago; W. C. Fowkes, Jr., Pittsburg; Fred Hereshoff, New York; H. G. Legg, Minneapolis; Findlay S. Douglas, New York; Thomas M. Sherman, Utica; H. H. Wilder, Boston; P. W. Whittemore, Boston; H. B. MacFarland, Philadelphia; and Paul Hunter, Chicago.

RIVER VESSELS IN DANGER. Fear That Gorges in Mississippi Will Fear That Gorges in Ohio Will Break.

and every type and kind of craft on the Ohio river in the vicinity of Louisville, representing a value of hundreds of thousands of dollars are in danger today.

SWANSON'S LAST LEAVE. Governor of Virginia Greeted Officials and Visitors.

Richmond, Va., Jan. 1.—Governor Swanson and Mrs. Swanson tonight held their last levee in the executive mansion. Justices of the State courts, Confederate veterans and State officials were in the line of visitors.

EARLY ACTION ON HARBOR BILL

Congressman Godwin Advised January 10th is Limit—Stewart Case Again.

(Special Star Correspondence.) Dunn, N. C., Jan. 1.—Representative Godwin, who is at home for the holidays, has received a letter from a friend who is on the Rivers and Harbors Committee of the House stating that before the committee adjourned for the holidays it was decided that the committee would have no more public hearings after January 10th, 1910...

Mr. Godwin is much interested in the Rivers and Harbors work of his district and has on hand some very important projects which he confidently expects to put through the present session of Congress.

Mr. J. H. Ballance has purchased the C. B. Aycock residence on Cumberland street and has presented it to the Mrs. John C. Wilson, as a Christmas gift, making a present valued at about \$4,000.

In the case of Mrs. Rebecca Stewart, widow of W. A. Stewart, vs. H. C. McNeill, Ex'r., the Clerk of the Superior Court of Harnett county on last Monday handed down an order refusing to remove Mr. McNeill but requiring him to give a bond in the sum of \$50,000...

On the 18th of December Mr. M. C. Treat, of Washington, Pa., offered Rev. J. A. Campbell, superintendent of Blue's Creek Academy, \$1,000 to be the money to defray the cost of a dormitory building at that place.

BROKAW DECLARES HE'S POOR. Announcement of Defendant Caused Laugh in Court Room.

New York, Jan. 1.—"I am a poor man," was the announcement made by W. Gould Brokaw, on the witness stand at Mineola today.

The hearing today was for the purpose of receiving this statement which the court had ordered in view of Mrs. Brokaw's Mrs. Brokaw's alimony demands.

It is generally believed that only the question of alimony remains a factor in the case, on which Justice Putnam is expected to give his final decision after he has scanned the briefs of the attorneys to be submitted within the next two weeks.

ARGUMENT OVER N. & S. To Delay Confirmation of Receiver's Sale Concluded Yesterday.

Richmond, Va., Jan. 1.—Argument of the injunction proceedings brought by the Zell-VanDyke Syndicate to delay confirmation of the receiver's sale of the Norfolk and Southern Railway was concluded in the United States District Court here today.

Judge Waddill announced that he would give his decision sitting in Norfolk January 12th.

The North and South Carolina Co. has built during the year from Gibson to McCall connecting for Dillon, S. C. The Laurinburg and Southern has constructed ten miles of road to Raeford that promises to be an important link in that section of the State.

YEAR'S PROGRESS IN NORTH STATE

Fine Showing of Industrial Conditions in 1909 Reflected in Reports.

RAILROADS AND COTTON MILLS. Banking Interests Have Grown Large—Manufacturing Interests Have Not Suffered—New Lines Being Built and Projected.

(Special Star Correspondence.) Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 1.—A showing of industrial conditions in North Carolina highly gratifying is reflected in the Department of State, the Corporation Commission and the Department of Labor and Printing here, these being the State offices into which come during the year reports from corporations and industries, generally indicating the commercial progress of the State.

The records in the office of the Secretary of State show that during the past twelve months there have been issued 978 charters to new industrial corporations, 542 of this number having been granted within the past six months.

Mr. J. H. Ballance has purchased the C. B. Aycock residence on Cumberland street and has presented it to the Mrs. John C. Wilson, as a Christmas gift, making a present valued at about \$4,000.

In the case of Mrs. Rebecca Stewart, widow of W. A. Stewart, vs. H. C. McNeill, Ex'r., the Clerk of the Superior Court of Harnett county on last Monday handed down an order refusing to remove Mr. McNeill but requiring him to give a bond in the sum of \$50,000...

On the 18th of December Mr. M. C. Treat, of Washington, Pa., offered Rev. J. A. Campbell, superintendent of Blue's Creek Academy, \$1,000 to be the money to defray the cost of a dormitory building at that place.

BROKAW DECLARES HE'S POOR. Announcement of Defendant Caused Laugh in Court Room.

New York, Jan. 1.—"I am a poor man," was the announcement made by W. Gould Brokaw, on the witness stand at Mineola today.

The hearing today was for the purpose of receiving this statement which the court had ordered in view of Mrs. Brokaw's Mrs. Brokaw's alimony demands.

It is generally believed that only the question of alimony remains a factor in the case, on which Justice Putnam is expected to give his final decision after he has scanned the briefs of the attorneys to be submitted within the next two weeks.

ARGUMENT OVER N. & S. To Delay Confirmation of Receiver's Sale Concluded Yesterday.

Richmond, Va., Jan. 1.—Argument of the injunction proceedings brought by the Zell-VanDyke Syndicate to delay confirmation of the receiver's sale of the Norfolk and Southern Railway was concluded in the United States District Court here today.

Judge Waddill announced that he would give his decision sitting in Norfolk January 12th.

WAR CONTINUES IN NICARAGUA

Last Vestige of Zelayanism Will be Blotted Out of Government.

NEED TWO MORE BATTLES. Feeling of Gratitude Toward United States For Aid to Suffering—Insurgent Forces Are Disappointed.

Bluefields, Nic., Jan. 1.—Hope that the war would be brought to an end through the recognition of the provisional government by the United States has been abandoned. Many believe that two more battles must be fought, one in the State of Chontales and the other near Managua.

There is a popular feeling of gratitude toward the United States because of the attention given the wounded by physicians from the American cruisers and the supplies sent for the relief of the half starved prisoners of war. There is, however, some disappointment that the United States has not formally recognized the government of Estrada.

The impression was strong that Secretary Knox would only give a decisive victory by General Estrada before giving him the moral support of the Washington government. Such a victory was won more than a week ago and still no encouraging word is received from Washington.

A defeat in battle could not depress the insurgents more than has the fact that Washington has lost interest, seemingly in the cause of the revolution. If another battle is fought, it is likely that no less than 12,000 men will be engaged.

The American gunboat Eagle has gone to Bocas del Toro to make observations. The British cruiser Scylla, which brought a duplicate of the letter sent by Madrid to Estrada on December 22nd, also has departed from this port.

CHALLENGED THOMAS WATSON. Excluded by Protestant Churches of Georgia for Public Debate.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 1.—Thomas E. Watson, one time candidate for the presidency and recently a critic in the public print of foreign missions, today was challenged to a public debate by representatives of the various Protestant churches of Georgia.

The Blkin & Alieghen is building rapidly from Elkin to Sparta, the progress in the past several months having been quite rapid.

The Southbound. Winston-Salem to Monroe, backed now by the Norfolk & Western and the Atlantic Coast Line, has been reorganized for the most rapid possible progress in construction during the past few months.

The Raleigh & Southport has under way an extension of its Raleigh-Fayetteville line to Hope Mills looking to ultimate through train service Raleigh to Georgetown.

At Zoeren, on the Murphy branch, the Southern Railway has constructed seven miles of road out to the Cherokee Indian school.

Engineering corps have made extensive surveys for the projected road from Holly Springs to Raleigh that is designed to give Raleigh direct connection with the Atlantic Coast Line at Rocky Mount.

PRISONERS LIVED LIFE OF HORROR

Former Overseer of Atlanta Stockade Tells of Conditions.

WAS OVERRUN WITH VERMIN. Food Was Unfit for Lowest Animals—Witness Produced Diary Covering Events—Corroborates Stories of Brutality.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 1.—John W. Dodd, former overseer at the city prison or stockade, was the principal witness heard by the council committee investigating conditions at the stockade, when that body resumed its sessions today.

In addition to corroborating the stories of cruelty to prisoners and filthy and unsanitary condition as told by other prisoners, he produced a diary covering events which transpired while he was employed at the stockade.

Dodd testified that the food served the prisoners was unfit even for the lowest kind of animals. Prisoners frequently brought him bread containing flies, he said, and one man brought him a piece of bread containing a spider. He declared the place was overrun with vermin of all kinds.

Asked what proportion of the prisoners were whipped, Dodd replied: "I heard them whipped nearly every morning. Some times there were two or three whipped and again there would be as many as half a dozen beaten." The witness stated that he kept a diary because he thought the people of Atlanta were ignorant of conditions at the city prison and he intended to make it public at a later date.

Pearl Bryan, one of the three white women, who was hung up by the rings while at the stockade, also was a witness. She said she was strung up nearly 45 minutes and was taken down when they saw blood running down her arms.

Dr. W. W. McAfee, who was sentenced to the stockade for violation of the prohibition laws, also testified before the committee at today's session. Among other things he testified to seeing a 13 year old negro girl whipped in the bucking chair.

After the first they took her out in an hysterical condition and when she made some remark to the guard, Superintendent Whiting ordered her back again for another whipping.

He said the child was so small that she slipped her arms down through the machine and tried to take some of the blows on her hands. When finally she was taken out her hands were raw and blood was oozing through her clothes.

MORSE STILL HAS HOPE. Counsel for Convicted Banker Will Continue the Fight.

New York, Jan. 1.—Charles W. Morse, the former banker, passed New Year's quietly in his cell in the Tombs today. Mr. Morse's visitors declared that the prisoner was facing calmly the prospect of his early removal to the Federal prison at Atlanta to begin serving his 15-year sentence on conviction of violation of the National banking laws.

The Federal authorities announced that it was proposed to start the convicted banker on his journey south some time on Sunday. All hope of freeing Charles W. Morse, the convicted banker, has not yet been given up, according to Martin W. Littleton, his counsel.

There are two or three things that can yet be done," said Mr. Littleton today, "but they have not quite satisfied themselves yet."

TWELVE MEN OF CREW LOST

Grim Sea Tragedy Told by Rescued Captain of British Schooner—Occurred in November—Details of the Disaster.

New York, Jan. 1.—Such are the fortunes of those who go down to the sea, that twelve men who were lost on Thanksgiving Day, when the British schooner Johanna went down not 150 miles from the Delaware Breakwater, were not even known to be missing until the survivors were brought to port here today from St. Thomas, Danish West Indies, by the steamer Korono.

"The Johanna was bound for the Breakwater from the Philippines for orders," said Capt. C. A. Nickerson today. "When she became unseaworthy in howling weather, two life boats were put out—one with thirteen men aboard, of which I took command, and the other with twelve men. There was a howling wind, a blanket of driving sleet over the face of the sky and a gray, mountainous sea. My boat was put out last. From moment to moment we saw the other boat heave up against the sky line on the crest of a wave, and then, presently, we saw her no more."

"We were picked up by the Nova Scotian schooner E. A. Sabean and carried to the West Indies. I hoped the others might be equally fortunate but, since you tell me nothing has been heard of them in all this time, they must undoubtedly have been lost."

It was 5 o'clock in the morning of Thanksgiving day that the ship's carpenter reported that the ship's port seams were opening up fast. All hands were ordered to the pumps. The men heaved like rowers at the pump handles, but no water came. For a moment the captain was puzzled, and then he remembered his cargo—the Johanna was laden with sugar.

It was clear enough what was happening. Down in the ship's hold, the sugar bags were swelling to the bursting point with sea-water and as they burst, they filled the hold with a thick treacle that clogged the pumps. With the pumps disabled, the fate of the schooner was foregone.

Colored Training School—New Year. Condition of Mr. Dortch.

(Special Star Correspondence.) Goldsboro, N. C., Jan. 1.—Prof. W. C. Chance, principal of Higgs Industrial Institute, at Farme, N. C., is in the city looking after the interest of that institution, which opened October 12th last, and has for its purpose the industrial and domestic training of the colored race in this and adjoining States. Although established only a short time ago, the school has met with wonderful success and has large enrollment, with many applications now on file.

The usual demonstrations of screaming whistles and tolling bells marked the dying of the old year last night. And the beauties of the world—the stars—looking wistfully in their dazzling and varying colors, together with the beautiful blaze of the rising moon, gave a most picturesque effect to the last scenes of the old year as it lay dying.

Reports from St. Luke's hospital in Richmond, Va., are to the effect that Mr. William Dortch, of this city, who was operated upon in that hospital for appendicitis, has successfully rounded the danger point. His condition at one period was reported as critical. The young man is a student at Chapel Hill and is very popular in this city, where he has many friends, who are greatly rejoiced to learn that he passed through the ordeal safely.

AFTER WOULD BE ASSASSIN. John Armstrong Chaloner Offers Reward—Attempt Upon His Life.

Denver, Colo., Jan. 1.—John Armstrong Chaloner, former husband of the novelist Amelie Rivers, now Princess Troubetskoy, has written Chief of Police Armstrong, of this city, asking that he give aid in capturing the man who attempted to assassinate him in his own country home, near Cobham, Va., on last Thanksgiving Day.

Chaloner writes that he has information that the would-be murderer is a foreigner and that he is at present employed as a coal miner in this State. Chaloner offers the man a reward of \$1,000 if he will divulge the name of the person who according to Chaloner's letter hired him to take the life of the Astor family and is a millionaire.

CLYDE LINER IS DISABLED. Apache is Towing the Algonquin—Reported by Wireless.

NEW YEAR LEVEE AT WHITE HOUSE

President Taft and Cabinet Greeted Thousands of Visitors.

GAY AND IMPRESSIVE SCENE. Government Officials, Ambassadors, Congressmen and Poor and Humble Passed in Review—Received Taft Smile.

Washington, Jan. 1.—President and Mrs. Taft held their first New Year's levee at the White House today. Although Mrs. Taft has not yet regained her full strength and seemed rather pale in a gown of white silk, she carried out her original intention of remaining in the receiving line until all of the members of the Cabinet circle, the foreign Ambassadors, Ministers and members of their households and the Justices of the Supreme Court had paid their respects.

At the end of 20 minutes, Mrs. Taft retired. The Vice President and all of the members of the Cabinet with the exception of Secretary of State Knox and Secretary of War Dickson, remained in the receiving party until the last of the general public had passed.

The reception began promptly at 11 A. M. and ended at 1:55 P. M., when the White House doors were closed. In the two hours and 55 minutes that he held his position at the portal of the famous Blue Room, President Taft shook hands with exactly 5,575 persons. This number fell considerably short of the figures during the last years of the Roosevelt administration. The day overhead was well light ideal, but melting snow made conditions underfoot anything but desirable. The average time of passing was 40 seconds to the minute. Although they were not scheduled to enter the White House grounds until 1 o'clock.

President Taft began and ended the reception with a smile. For his personal friends among the diplomats, the government officials and members of the army and navy contingents, Mrs. Taft had hearty words of greeting. Occasionally a citizen had a word to say to the President and the latter listened attentively until his aide hurried the visitor along to make room for the crowds in the rear. The President stood the ordeal splendidly. The average time of passing was 40 seconds to the minute. Although they were not scheduled to enter the White House grounds until 1 o'clock.

Although the usual precautions were taken the reception passed off without incident. The diplomatic display this year rivalled any in the past. Practically every member of the corps was in the city and each ambassador and minister was attended by a brilliantly uniformed staff of aides and secretaries. The new Chinese minister and his staff, in heavily embroidered robes and hats, attracted the usual amount of attention.

The marine band rendered music during the reception. The band was divided into two sections and when one air was finished by one section a new tune was begun by the other section. The President's reception at the White House today took on a new interest, as it was the first public reception planned for the administration of Mr. Taft.

The White House doors swung open to all the world and during the appointed hours for the reception of citizens, the poor and humble passed in review and received the clasp of the chief executive on equal footing with the richest of the community.

Some idea of the magnitude to which the New Year's reception at the White House has grown can be had from the fact that President Roosevelt, during the last two or three years of his term, attained a high water mark of shaking hands with more than 8,000 men and women.

The early period of the reception was made gay and impressive as usual today by the appearance of the diplomats in the full dress uniforms of their rank and distinction in the countries from which they are accredited. This year there were many new faces in the diplomatic line which was headed by Baron des Planches, the Italian ambassador, dean of the corps in Washington.

President Taft's military and naval aides did much of the planning for the reception and took their places along the receiving line to help facilitate the handling of the guests. The introductions were made by Colonel Cosby, of the army, Major Domo, of the White House, assisted by Captain Butt, and Lieutenant Commander Palmer.

The White House today was elaborately decorated with cut and growing flowers and during the reception the marine band played patriotic airs. During the diplomatic portion of the reception the greatest interest was attracted to the four young daughters of the new Chinese minister, who, in Oriental robes of white, and pink ribbons on their dark hair, added a most picturesque tinge to the scene.

Speaker Cannon was half an hour late.