

THE WEATHER.

Local rains today, somewhat colder; Wednesday fair, colder in east portion; moderate winds.

THE MORNING STAR

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WILMINGTON, N. C., TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 12, 1911.

TO SUBSCRIBERS
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WHOLE NUMBER 13,769.

PATHETIC SCENES
HOOD BRICEVILLE

There is No Hope of Life Entertained for the Entombed Miners.

WILL BE MANY GLOOMY DAYS

Of the Scores of Miners Enclosed in the Mine Only Twenty-two Bodies Have Been As Yet Recovered

Briceville, Tenn., Dec. 11.—Families of the one hundred or more miners entombed in Cross Mountain mine today began to realize that there was no chance of their ever seeing their loved ones again alive.

A day more gloomy or more in keeping with the feelings of the surviving inhabitants of this stricken village would be difficult to imagine.

From the little shacks in which the miners live came wailing sounds from women and children, thereby adding to the general gloom.

The rescue work has gone reluctantly on since the explosion occurred early Saturday morning.

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"POISONED PEN" CASE ENDS

Enforced Federal Rule Practiced in Courts for More than a Hundred Years—Accused Wrote Obscene Letters

Philadelphia, Dec. 11.—A technicality based on a Federal rule of practice in force for more than one hundred years brought to an abrupt end in the United States Court here today the "poisoned pen" case, in which Miss Harriet DeWitt, of Easton, Pa., was accused of writing anonymous obscene letters to an Easton clergyman, his wife and some of the neighbors.

The case was called before Judge McPherson, and when the government attempted to have admitted in evidence a sample of Miss DeWitt's handwriting the court ruled it out on the ground that under the Federal rule of practice a test paper cannot be admitted as evidence unless it has some other bearing on the case other than a mere test to show comparison of handwriting.

Judge McPherson therefore directed the jury to return a verdict of not guilty.

The "poisoned pen" case has attracted considerable attention. The letters were evidently the work of a jealous woman, according to the lawyers in the case and most of them were aimed at the Rev. Elmer E. Snyder, of Christ Evangelical Lutheran church of Easton.

He had received between 200 and 300 of pen-written anonymous letters, members of his congregation had received them, and his wife and some of the neighbors were also the targets of the letter writer.

The letters had been coming to these people for more than nine years and various persons in the church and in the community had been falsely accused of writing them and much ill-feeling had been stirred up.

Last summer the postal inspectors, who had been working on the case for several years, arrested Miss DeWitt.

Rev. Mr. Snyder, his wife and several other women drawn into the case through receiving anonymous letters, testified today to having received the defamatory communications.

The government then called Valentine Schoenberger, a postal inspector who investigated the case. He told the jury that he had seen the letters.

He sat for her and after getting her to pen print four lines with his dictation in the presence of her attorney, he said he accused her of writing the letters.

She denied it, he said, and she told him she also had received some of the letters. With this testimony the government offered the sample writing in evidence and the court threw it out.

Miss DeWitt smilingly accepted the congratulations of her friends who crowded about her when the jury rendered its verdict in accordance with the court's directions.

NOT AN EARLY END
Lorimer Bribe Case Will Extend Longer Than First Year

Washington, Dec. 11.—Whether the Senator Lorimer Investigating Commission will go into the alleged reasons why the International Harvester Company and the McCormick family were opposed to him, may not be decided for several days.

Chairman Dillingham said today that an examination of the record was necessary to decide the point.

Judge Haney, counsel for Mr. Lorimer, has indicated that he will fight hard to show what he claims is the inspiration of the charges against the Illinois senator.

LARGEST COTTON CROP ON RECORD

This is the Result of a Low Official Estimate.

NEARLY EVERY STATE GAINED

A Low Estimate is 14,885,000 Bales—All But Four States Made Gains Production by States—No Surprise

Washington, Dec. 11.—The greatest cotton crop on record, 14,885,000 bales, is the Department of Agriculture's estimate of the country's total production this year.

The merely general nature and character of the report in the Department of Agriculture is in conformity with the Supreme Court's decision in the tobacco case.

Every State in the cotton belt, except Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Oklahoma, established new records for production.

The total production for the season of 1911-1912 will amount to 7,121,713,000 pounds (not including linters) or 14,885,000 bales of 500 pounds, gross weight according to the first official estimate of the size of the crop issued at 2 P. M. today by the Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Heretofore the record cotton crop was that of the year 1904, when 13,438,912 bales, exclusive of linters, were grown.

Another matter discussed was gambling in baseball pools, upon which the members placed a ban. To correct this evil, the Commission adopted a resolution recommending to the National and American Leagues that they do all in their power in their respective circles to end the custom.

Conditions early in the growing season this year led to the belief that the crop would be one of record proportions.

Scorching hot and excessively dry weather during the middle of the summer caused considerable damage to cotton in many parts of the cotton belt.

The estimated production by States in 500-pound bales, exclusive of linters, follows:

Alabama, 2,300,000; North Carolina, 935,000; South Carolina, 1,480,000; Georgia, 2,560,000; Florida, 73,000; Alabama, 1,600,000; Mississippi, 1,195,000; Louisiana, 395,000; Texas, 4,280,000; Arkansas, 915,000; Tennessee, 420,000; Missouri, 83,000; Oklahoma, 915,000; California, 11,000.

KILLED BY ENGINE
Engineer and Fireman Met Death When Engine Fell From Chute

Greenville, S. C., Dec. 11.—Engineer Lawrence Maddox, of Columbia, and the colored fireman of a local freight train on the Southern Railway were instantly killed at Pelzer, S. C., today when their engine fell 20 feet off a coal chute.

A little factory girl was standing nearby when the accident occurred and was seriously scalded by steam and hot water from the burst pipes of the engine.

New York, Dec. 11.—The coffee exchange will be closed December 23rd, the Saturday preceding Christmas.

"The Panama Canal."
Realistic portrayal of stupendous engineering feats—Grand Theatre today.

COURT GIVES ITS REASONS

Supreme Court Assigns Three Reasons Why New York Tobacco Board is Not Entitled to Review Decree.

Washington, Dec. 11.—In refusing today the request of the Leaf Tobacco Board of Trade of New York to review the decree of the United States Circuit Court for Southern New York, which approved the re-organization plan of the "Tobacco Trust", three reasons were assigned by the Supreme Court of the United States.

These reasons which were set forth by Chief Justice White, were: "One who is not a party to a record and judgment is not entitled to appeal therefrom."

The Circuit Court's decree is in refusing to permit the movers to be come parties to the record is not susceptible of being reviewed by this court on appeal, or indirectly, under the circumstances here disclosed, by the writ of mandamus.

A bill was introduced today by Senator Cummins granting to the Independent Tobacco Company's right to appeal to the Supreme Court from the New York decree approving the tobacco company's reorganization.

The bill gives as the reason for review a desire to ascertain whether the Circuit Court's decree is in conformity with the Supreme Court's decision in the tobacco case.

THE BASEBALL SCANDAL
National Commission Issues Statement to Public to Get Proof

New York, Dec. 11.—The National Commission issued a statement tonight to the public to prove it if there was collusion between the New York National League baseball club or any of its officials, and ticket scalpers in the world's series last October.

Another matter discussed was gambling in baseball pools, upon which the members placed a ban. To correct this evil, the Commission adopted a resolution recommending to the National and American Leagues that they do all in their power in their respective circles to end the custom.

Incidentally, while the Commission was considering the request, the Eastern League meeting a few blocks away, approved it and voted to change its name to the International League.

OUTLINES
Briceville, Tenn., is a pathetic scene. Of the large number of miners who were in the coal mine at the time of the explosion which occurred Saturday morning, only 22 bodies have been removed.

CONSTRUCT INTERURBAN R. R.
Recent Grants Insure Line From Greenville to Charlotte

Greenville, S. C., Dec. 11.—The directors of the Greenville, Anderson and Spartanburg Interurban Electric Railway at a meeting here today accepted the franchise recently granted by the Spartanburg aldermen for the entrance of the interurban into the city.

MOVING WRECKED STEAMER
Navy Collier Stereering Being Moved Into Deep Water

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 11.—Wreckers have succeeded in moving about one hundred feet the Navy collier Sterling, which lies aground just inside of Cape Henry, where she had to be beached December 3rd to prevent her sinking, following a collision with the steamer Dorothy.

SOUTHERN FARMER BOYS AT CAPITOL

Receiving One of Their Rewards for Good Farm Work.

RAISED BANNER CORN CROPS

Twenty-one Boys From Southern States Taking in the Sights at Washington—Their Work Has Been Pleased

Washington, Dec. 11.—Twenty-one boys from the Southern States, who won prizes this year for raising banner crops of corn, arrived here today and will spend the rest of the week taking in the sights of the National capital, one of the rewards of their efforts.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson tomorrow will present each of the boys with a diploma in recognition of the good work done by them in the advancement of agriculture.

There were many who connected the open advocacy of Col. Roosevelt's nomination with the opposition to naming a committee of arrangements dominated by administration men.

Many conferences were held during the day and continue until the White House dinner tonight when President Taft was the host to a body far from united on the business which brought it to Washington.

THE SHERWOOD BILL
Will Increase Pensions—Will Probably Pass House Tonight

Washington, Dec. 11.—Sharp interchange between Representative Sherwood and Anderson, of Ohio, whose districts adjoin and who have rival bills before the House for the increase of Civil War pensions, characterized the House debate on the Sherwood Pension Bill today.

Friends of President Taft entered upon the work of the day, preliminary to the meeting tomorrow, thoroughly confident that there would be no opposition to Mr. New.

After this formal business had been transacted several members made impassioned speeches advocating opposition to preferment for any position of power of a man who had been a member of a State delegation that had voted solidly in the convention of 1908 to reduce the representation of the Southern States.

Rev. C. V. T. Richeson May Not Be Put on Trial in January.

Boston, Dec. 11.—An effort was made today by the attorneys for the Rev. C. V. T. Richeson, charged with the murder of Miss Avis Linnell, to have the trial postponed from January 15th until later in the Winter and on Wednesday next.

CHILD LABOR BUREAU.
Senator Bailey Objects to Bill and Gives His Reasons.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Vigorous protest that the bill creating a child labor bureau in the Department of Commerce and Labor was unnecessary interference with the home, was made today when the measure was called up in the Senate by Mr. Borah, of Idaho.

Mr. Bailey contended the present system had produced the greatest respect for people in the world's history and there was no need of invoking the government's aid.

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WILL ROOSEVELT BE THE MAN?

Republican National Committee Members at Oats—Some Oppose Candidate for Chairman—Many Conferences.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Hostilities of an unexpected character and from an unlooked for quarter developed today among members of the Republican National Committee and other prominent party leaders who are here in connection with the meeting tomorrow to fix the time and place for the Presidential nominating convention next summer.

Only less interesting than the unlooked for controversy over the control of the sub-committee in charge of the convention was the exploitation throughout the day of Col. Theodore Roosevelt as the possible candidate for the Presidential nomination.

There were many who connected the open advocacy of Col. Roosevelt's nomination with the opposition to naming a committee of arrangements dominated by administration men.

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CONVEY RECORDS TO U. S. OFFICIALS

Association Giving Government Light in Dynamiting Investigation.

EVIDENCE WILL BE PLENTIFUL

Officials of Iron Workers' Association Offer Testimony—Evidence From Several Sources—Burns Refrains from Talking.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 11.—That one or more officials of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers are surrendering voluntarily to the government, if needed in the investigation of an alleged nationwide dynamiting conspiracy against structural iron contractors who maintain the "open shop," was made known tonight in statements by representatives of the National Erectors' Association.

Officials of the Iron Workers' Association offered testimony—Evidence from several sources—Burns refrains from talking.

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