

# SOCIAL and PERSONAL

## RINGING UP SANTA CLAUS

Funniest thing at our house about the telephone—  
We hear a little tingle, then a giggle and a groan,  
And then a little titter, and a wee voice tries to say—  
"Hello! Mister Santa Claus! How do you do today?"  
Hello, Mister Santa Claus! and, somehow, though it's queer,  
There always comes an answer that is very full of cheer.

That telephone of Santa Claus must be a busy line  
If every feller calls him up like this dear tike of mine—  
With "Hello, Mister Santa Claus! How you do today?"  
And Santa always hears him though he's very far away,  
And there's miles of snow and blizzards and chimneys, roofs and spires  
To where he sits and warms his toes beside his open fires!

First he weedles round my chair, and then he strokes my chin,  
And then his pleading eyes look up with such a light therein,  
And then he says he guesses he will telephone again,  
And I hear his little "Hello!" and I lay aside my pen,  
And my busy thoughts are mingled in his childhood thoughts the while,  
As he keeps on ringin' Santa Claus with his little heart a-smile.

Every thing as silent as a tombstone oftentimes,  
Till suddenly the tingle of the telephone outchimes,  
And it's "Hello, Mister Santa Claus, How you do today?"  
And wonderful that echo that seems borne from far away—  
That merry, merry laughter that comes o'er the telephone  
To the answer of the tinkle, and the giggle, and the groan!  
—BALTIMORE SUN.

Mrs. F. Rheinelt and son, Lieut. Sidney Rheinelt, of New York, are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. Blumenthal, No. 501 Dock street.  
Mrs. James H. Cowan and son, John Cowan, have returned from New York where they went to consult a specialist about the leg which was injured in an explosion last summer. The expert gave an encouraging opinion about the injury.

**Junior Auxiliary Meets.**  
The Junior auxiliary of Grace Methodist church will hold its quarterly meeting this afternoon at 4 o'clock. All members are urged to attend and bring their mite boxes.

**Ladies' Aid Society Meets.**  
The regular monthly meeting of the Ladies' Aid society of St. Matthew's Lutheran church has been postponed until tomorrow afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. All members are urged to attend at that time.

**Missionary Society Meeting.**  
The Junior Missionary society of Trinity Methodist church will hold its regular meeting this evening at 8 o'clock. An interesting program has been prepared and the public is cordially invited to be present.

**Junior League Meets.**  
The Junior league of Fifth Avenue Methodist church will hold a social meeting at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon and a full attendance is desired. An interesting program has been arranged and the meeting will be presided over by Miss Elizabeth Schaefer.

**Bridge Tables Will Be Handy.**  
Bridge tables will be available for those attending the dance to be given in Harmony hall on the evening of December 27 by the Ministering Circle of the King's Daughters, who do not care to dance. There will be something to entertain everyone. The purpose of the dance is to raise funds to carry on the work of the circle which consists partly of the maintenance of two of the five district nurseries of the city. Tickets which will sell for \$2 each, and will entitle one to partake of the sumptuous turkey dinner that will be served, may be secured by applying to any member of the circle.

**Double Birthday Celebration.**  
Mr. and Mrs. F. M. King, of Philadelphia, arrived this week and will spend the holidays at the home of J. A. Springer, Fifth and Princess streets. It was a happy coincidence that Mr. King and Mr. Springer timed their visit to have a double birthday celebration, which both observed with mutual congratulations and many happy felicitations from their friends here and elsewhere on Monday. Many friends of Mr. Springer, whose health has not been good for some months, were delighted to see him looking exceedingly well on the anniversary of his birth and many joined him in wishing very many happy returns.

**Her Fifth Anniversary.**  
Little Miss Doris M. Council entertained a number of her friends Monday afternoon from 3 until 5 o'clock.



The best restaurants and hotels in the South serve  
**MAXWELL HOUSE COFFEE**  
because they are the best because it is the best.  
**CHEEK-NEAL COFFEE CO.**  
Nashville, Houston, Jacksonville, Richmond

at a party in honor of her fifth birthday. A number of children's games were played, after which the guests were shown into the dining room, where refreshments were served. The table was decorated with pink roses and pink candles, the color scheme also being carried out in the less and mints. There was a candelabra on either end of the table, each having five pink candles projecting from its branches, while in the center was a massive birthday cake bearing the name of the birthday girl. The little guests declared little Miss Council a most charming hostess and wished her many happy returns of the day.

**Mrs. Motte Hostess to Circle.**  
The ladies of Circle No. 1, of Fifth Avenue Methodist church, were most pleasantly entertained from 3:30 to 5:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon by Mrs. Leon L. Motte at her beautifully appointed home, 507 South Fifth avenue. After the regular business meeting a beautiful recitation, "Willie's Christmas Prayer," was given in a most pleasing manner by Miss Brynne, a member of the circle, following which Miss Ida M. Fleet sang "At Twilight," in her usual charming manner. Among other numbers included in a well arranged program were readings by Miss Seitzer and Mrs. M. J. Fowler, which were greatly appreciated. At the conclusion of the program luncheon was served.

## Picked Up Around Town

**Today N. S. A. Chicken Day.**  
Today's contributions to the penny fund of the National Special Aid will be used to purchase eggs and chickens for France where the poultry stocks have been practically exhausted during the more than four years of war, it is said. Efforts are being made to re-stock the country from America.

**In Recorder's Court.**  
There were a number of defendants before Recorder Harris yesterday morning but none was charged with committing any serious offense. William Taylor paid the cost for feeding his team on the street; William Walker paid the cost in two cases for an assault on a female; James Gore was dismissed on a charge of slander, but another case against him charging an assault with a deadly weapon was continued until today. W. L. Boggan, charged with violating the driving ordinance was found not guilty. This case was continued from Monday.

**George Brunson Here.**  
Embracing the opportunity of a business trip through the south to visit members of his family and old friends in Wilmington, George W. Brunson, Jr., in charge of the Chicago offices of his firm, Bryant, Griffith & Brunson, of which he is a member, spent yesterday in the city. Mr. Brunson is now with one of the biggest publishers' advertising representatives' agencies in the country and he is doing exceedingly well in the advertising field. He was once a member of the staff of this newspaper and for a time was editor of The Dispatch, later owner and editor of the Greenville, S. C., Daily News. He expects to leave this afternoon to join Mrs. Brunson in Camden, S. C., and later to visit his father, South Carolina before returning to Chicago.

## DEATH OF INFANT

**Son of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Wells Died at 12 O'clock Last Night.**  
The friends of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Wells, 302 North Second street, will deeply sympathize with them in the death of their infant son, W. A. Wells Jr., which occurred at the family residence last midnight following an illness of only a few days. The arrangements for the funeral will be announced later.

## MR. WILSON IMPRESSED WITH HIS RECEPTION

(Continued from Page One)  
arising from the war and the president virtually told Count Celleri the extent to which he was willing to support them during the forthcoming informal conferences with entente government premiers.  
After the drive the president and Mrs. Wilson returned to the Murat residence for luncheon. With them at the table were Miss Margaret Wilson and Admiral Grayson.

## ECONOMIC QUESTIONS BEING GIVEN A PROMINENT PLACE

Paris, Dec. 17.—Economic questions are coming prominently to the front in the discussions now going on behind the scenes preliminary to the assembling of the inter-allied conference and the peace congress. The main point hinges on the appointment of Herbert C. Hoover, the American food administrator, as director general of relief for all the allies and the United States. An amendment to this has now been suggested from allied quarters by which an inter-allied commission would control for the period of one year the distribution of raw materials to various countries.

The American plan for relief was presented in writing to the recent meeting of the supreme war council in London, but action on it was postponed. The arrival of Premier Lloyd-George and Premier Orlando in Paris next Thursday will again bring these premiers together, this time with President Wilson, and the deferred relief project again will come up for discussion and decision.

An amendment concerning raw materials, which has been proposed, promises to be the main subject of discussion. A number of other questions also are involved in the appointment of a director general of relief, particularly the use of merchant shipping now in German ports for the prompt movement of relief and also the prompt movement of American troops back to the United States.

## Belgian Peace Delegation.

Brussels, Dec. 17.—The Belgian government announces that its delegation to the peace conference will be composed of Paul Hymans, minister for foreign affairs and former minister in London; Emile Vandervelde, minister of justice and socialist leader, and Baron van Den Heuvel, minister at the Vatican and former minister of justice.

Today's Patriotic Pennies Will Be Given to Buy Chickens for France.—Ad.

## RED CROSS DRIVE GOES ON UNABATED

More Than 1,700 Members Have Been Secured.

This Total Has Been Reached With Several Committees Not Reporting—Membership by Sunday Will Exceed 6,000.

The second day's canvass for the Red Cross Christmas roll call ran the total number of members to above 1,700 with reports missing from several of the committees. While this was indeed gratifying to those in charge of the prospects last night for a banner day today.

At 6 o'clock last night W. A. McGirt, acting chairman, reported to the division headquarters in Atlanta, 1,505 members, but the telegram has hardly been dispatched when a committee chairman reported 163, while a little later other chairmen reported sufficient numbers to carry the total well above the 1,700 mark. Those reported late will be included in today's official report.

This total has been reached without any reports from either the shipyards or the industrial committee. While reports are apparently slow in coming in, it is no indication that the members are not working, it was stated by an official of the organization on last night. On the other hand the view was taken that workers are too busy engaged to get to headquarters before closing time and when they do turn in their membership cards and cash it will send the total way up.

The actual number of paid memberships up to last night were conservatively estimated at 2,000. At this rate, and the roll call organization is expected to get a better average for the week, the actual number of members of the Wilmington chapter by the close of the drive Saturday night will have passed the 6,000 mark, which is 1,000 more than the goal fixed at the outset. With 6,000 members the actual cash paid in the Wilmington chapter by the close of the drive Saturday night will have passed the \$7,000 mark, a great many are subscribing for \$2 and up. The official reports of the chairman to Atlanta headquarters are: Monday, 766; Tuesday, 738.

The committee asks the public, in joining this, the greatest organization engaged in work of mercy, not to wait until the last days of the campaign to enlist their support but to respond to the appeals at the first opportunity, and without waiting to be called on by some member of the canvassing committees. The chairmen are also asked to report more promptly in the afternoon so that results may be made up and forwarded to headquarters in Atlanta at 6 o'clock each day. Each chairman is requested to report today not later than 5 o'clock regardless of what he has on hand.

The campaign will continue until the remainder of the week without the slightest let up, regardless of whether or not the goal is reached. What is wanted is members and more members, dollars and more dollars for the association may extend its work to all parts of the world, and especially to the European countries which have been devastated by the war and their populations left to starve or freeze during the cold winter.

Between 75 and 100 boys on bicycles paraded the streets yesterday afternoon between 3 and 4 o'clock in the interest of the roll call work. The bicyclists were members of the Red Cross bicycle corps, organized by J. Shepard Bryan, principal of the Hemlock school, to assist the Red Cross by running errands, and doing other tasks which otherwise would be done by members of the Red Cross bicycle corps at a much greater cost. The members participating in the parade reported to Mrs. A. H. Harris, in charge of the Junior Red Cross for orders, receiving instruction to parade the business streets of the city. Every bicycle bore the emblem of the association.

**PROBE PROFITEERING CHARGES**  
District Inspector Nash is Here For A Thorough Investigation.  
M. W. Nash, district inspector for the United States food administration, arrived in the city this morning on an early train for the purpose of thrashing out alleged profiteering charges by local retail food dealers. Mr. Nash will be in the office of County Food Administrator J. G. McCormick from 10 until 1 o'clock today and will be glad to have anyone who knows of overcharges to call and give him the name of the merchant and the evidence in his possession against the accused.

What Mr. Nash wants is specific charges, as these are all that can be used as a basis for an investigation. If there is any profiteering in Wilmington Mr. Nash expects to see that the guilty parties are singled out and properly dealt with.

It will be remembered that Mr. Nash has held a couple of conferences with local dealers in foodstuffs in Wilmington recently, at the latter giving warning that the food administration regulation prices must be more strictly adhered to.

There have been enough of general charges and assertions, it is pointed out; what is desired is definite complaints. Blanket statements hit all dealers, regardless of whether they are guilty of high prices or not. It is to give everybody another chance to make specific complaint that Mr. Nash is here, and unless something definite is given him, it is likely the food administration folks will conclude that "profiteering" in Wilmington doesn't exist and that there is no reason for complaints.

**Revolution in Bulgaria.**  
Amsterdam, Dec. 17.—A revolution has broken out in Bulgaria, according to information received by the Lokal Anzeiger from Bulgaria by way of Hungary.

It pays to use the best. Blue Ribbon Vanilla and Lemon. Pure, strong and delicious.—Ad.

## RUSSIAN PRISONERS STARVING TO DEATH

Die At Rate of Six or Eight Daily at Rastatt, Germany.

Repatriated Americans Tell of the Bad Situation Existing There—Relate Stories of Hun Barbarism.

Berne, Dec. 17.—Lieut. James Duke, of Washington; Lieut. Cassius Styles, of Willsboro, N. Y., and Lieut. Robert Raymond, of Newton Centre, Mass., have arrived in Switzerland from a German prison camp on their way to France. These officers are attached to the American aviation service.

Lieut. Styles told the Red Cross that his pilot, Lieut. Wister Morris, had been killed. Although dying and unable to see, Morris said to him: "You there, Styles? It was my fault that we smashed. Hope you are not hurt. Good-bye."

The Americans informed the Red Cross that the Russians at Rastatt, Germany, were dying at the rate of about six or eight daily from starvation. The Americans were given rifles by the German guards to protect their food stores from the Russians who threatened to raid the American compound, they said.

The American cemetery at Rastatt now has nine graves.  
The German guards left the gates of the camp open for the Americans to escape, but an American sergeant posted American guards around the compound and compelled the prisoners to await the arrival of the Red Cross and American sanitary trains from Switzerland.

Herbert Jones, of the 110th infantry, declared to the American Red Cross that a German sergeant major at Langosalsa camp struck American prisoners on the face with the flat of his sword without reason after lining them up for roll call. Jones himself was kicked by a guard until the lower part of his body was temporarily paralyzed.

Langosalsa is the German prison camp where a considerable number of French prisoners were killed or wounded by guards several days after the signing of the armistice.

## PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

—Dr. Charles P. Bolles, who entered the medical corps of the army some months ago, is at home for the holidays, 119 Nun street. Friends are very glad to see him again.  
—Their friends will learn with interest that J. L. Solomon and his sons, Bernard and Louis, who have been confined to their homes with influenza, are convalescing rapidly and expect to be out again in a few days.

—Private Jos. C. Johnson, Company K, 321st infantry, Wildcat division, writes his brother, Assistant District Attorney Oscar Johnson, that he is O. K. and that everything is "calm" on that side. "You know," he says, "that it is all over, over here."

Today's Patriotic Pennies Will Be Given to Buy Chickens for France.—Ad.

**Fine Diamonds**  
A. O. SCHUSTER,  
JEWELER  
FRONT AND PRINCESS

**BICYCLES!**  
Cash or Weekly Payments.  
"PAY AS YOU RIDE."  
New and Used Machines.  
Wilmington Cycle Co.  
215 Market St. Phone 526



The showing of models for immediate and winter wear is calculated to be the most artistic of any yet exhibited.  
Prices Most Moderate.  
Taylor : Ladies' Hatter

**JANUARY**  
Butterick Patterns and Delineators have arrived

Store open until 9 o'clock tonight

**BROWN'S**

### The Christmas Store of Ten Thousand Useful Gifts

Nearly fifty-five people are here to give you service. All organizations when pushed to the utmost of their capacity will make mistakes. Ours is no exception. However, we are always glad to correct them and all criticism or complaints will be handled in a pleasing manner.

Everyday new merchandise puts in its appearance. Every gift-seeker should visit here at least once a day to keep in touch with the new things that are constantly going on display.

## Open Evenings. Beginning Thursday Night

Tomorrow evening, in conjunction with the other merchants of the city, we will remain open until 9 p. m.

This is done to accommodate the many people who find it impossible to shop in the day-time.

Let us urge you to shop early in the mornings. You'll find much less congestion and get better service.

Phone 2500 **Bon Marche** Check Your Grip Here

**A GOOD VALUE**  
Mission Stewed Prunes, 12c per Can. Phone your orders early.  
**FRANK M. ROSS.**  
Phones 108-100-110.

**"Say it with Flowers"**  
Christmas and New Year's Price List  
American Beauties, per dozen, \$12.00 to \$25.00  
Mrs. Chas. Russell, per dozen, \$5.00 to \$15.00  
Red Roses, per dozen, \$5.00 to \$15.00  
Pink and White Roses, per dozen, \$4.00 to \$10.00  
Polanettias, each, 50c, 75c and \$1.00  
Carnations, per dozen, \$2.50 to \$4.00  
Double Violets, per 100, \$5.00 to \$6.00  
Orchids, each, 75c to \$2.50  
Easter Lilies, per dozen, \$6.00 to \$8.00  
Calla Lilies, per 100, \$6.00 to \$8.00  
Corage Wreaths from \$2.00 and up  
Galax Wreaths from \$2.00 and up  
Shipments forwarded at buyer's risk.

**Since 1867**  
**The Display Unique**  
The individuality of design which Honnet's suggestion strives to attain, lends an added attraction to the wares of this shop.

**HONNET**  
Conservative Progress.  
The individuality of design which Honnet's suggestion strives to attain, lends an added attraction to the wares of this shop.

**Beaufont Winner At the Club!**  
Last night I went into the "used-to-be-bar" and asked the waiter for the best drink he could serve me—reached for the brass rail while waiting for him to get it, but it wasn't there. However, the coldest bottle I've seen in a long time was set down in front of me and say friend, the amber fluid that flowed from that bottle was the finest I've ever tasted—all the snap and zest that any man could want with a little more added. Of course you have already guessed what the name of that drink was—BEAUFONT

Beaufont every time is my newest resolution, but it's not going to be the usual kind I make every new year. Beaufont Ginger Ale is real Ginger Ale.  
Yours truly,  
Jack Wiss