

**OESTREICHER & CO**  
 28 S. Main St.  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
**Easter Shopping**  
 Is now the order of the day. Our preparations for an increased trade are now complete. We have provided a grand choice of the newest things to be found in the leading markets;—a correct description of the many novelties we offer is simply impossible. Come and see them.

**Fancy Silks** Exclusive styles from  
**For Waists** the sedate black and white effects to the largest fancy plaids.

**DRESS GOODS** Entire new stock of black and fancies. All wool goods from 20c per yard to the finest imported Silk Crepons at \$2.50.

**ORGAN-DIES** If you are an admirer of textile art you will find them a purely artistic treat; they are also the most correct thing of the styles to be in vogue for summer gowns.

**WHITE GOODS** Plain and figured Nainsooks, Dimities, Pianos, India Linen, Linen Lawns, White Organdies, several qualities of English Longcloth, etc.

**BELTS** From 10c to the exquisitely jeweled-studded at \$2.75.

**Ready Made Suits;** a choice dainty line that for nobby styles, natty fit, choice and elegance leaves nothing to be desired;—Oestreicher prices (always right)

**Caramel Cereal.**  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 A mixture of Cereals so prepared as to constitute a wholesome substitute for coffee, the only preparation manufactured by the Battle Creek Sanitarium and Health Food Company. All others are imitations.

**G. A. GREER.**

**Little Midget Pickles**  
 40c Per Qt

**Sweet Mixed Pickles**  
 25c Per Qt

**Chow Chow Pickles**  
 25c Per Qt

**Apple Butter**  
 3 lbs for 25c

**BYARD'S**  
 Pure Food Store,  
 Phone 49 19 Merrimon Ave.

A young lady formerly with Hayles, and experienced in dipping bon-bons, has taken a position with the Candy Kitchen. Bon-bons and candies are made fresh daily. Fresh strawberries and orange creams made daily.

CANDY KITCHEN,  
 Phone 110.

**PRESIDENT'S PROGRAMME**  
**Latest Statement Concerning His Intentions.**  
**New Revenue Bill May be Sent to Congress.**  
**Board of Inquiry's Report Expected to be Sent in Monday.**  
**Closing Work of the Board at Key West and Havana.**  
**Great Secrecy Regarding the Movements of the Fleet—A Statement by Senator Mason—Breaking up the Wreck of the Maine.**

Washington, March 16.—President McKinley has decided upon a programme he will follow when the report of the board of inquiry is received. If it will state that the explosion came from outside, as it undoubtedly will, McKinley will at once demand an indemnity from Spain. He will then promptly forward the report of the board to congress with a statement of the proposition made to the Spanish government for reparation. He will also submit a consular report showing the condition of Cuba and demonstrating the failure of autonomy. No action by congress would be advisable or proper, as the only course left would be wait until Spain's reply was received. A reasonable time will be given for an answer to the demand, and the president is hopeful that in the meantime congress will have adjourned. There is nothing to keep either the house or senate in session, as the joint resolution annexing Hawaii can be passed soon.

**PROBABLY MONDAY.**  
 Washington, March 16.—It is understood here in official circles that the report of the Maine court of inquiry will not be delivered in Washington before Monday next. This information is probably based on authentic devices, the source of which cannot be ascertained. The board, it is reported, has completed its work, with the exception of making a review of the testimony. Influential senators and representatives have been informed of the fact that the report is looked for Monday, and they are assured it will establish the fact of an outside explosion, although admitting the fact that the responsibility cannot be fixed directly upon Spain, the president will claim that Spain is legally responsible through contributory negligence for the destruction of the battleship.

**THE BOARD OF INQUIRY.**  
 Key West, March 16.—The Maine board of inquiry returned from Havana this morning. It is authoritatively stated that the board will continue its sessions from day to day here in order to go carefully over the large amount of evidence before it. The board will not, it is said, begin to formulate its report for some days yet. Some of the surviving officers of the Maine are to be called before the board for further examination, and it is not impossible that the board will return to Havana once more to further verify certain details.

Greater secrecy is now maintained in regard to the movements of the fleet than at any time since the trouble began. It is impossible to get anyone in authority to tell anything about even so small a matter as the trip of a torpedo boat to Dry Tortugas. It is surmised that all this means still further preparation for an emergency.

**MASON'S STATEMENT.**  
 Washington, March 16.—Senator Mason has given out the following signed statement: "Much, but not all, depends upon the report of the board of inquiry. It may free Cuba without war. The Maine disaster is a separate matter. If it is an accident we ought not to ask an indemnity; if it was blown up from the outside we cannot in honor demand a cash indemnity. The

Spanish flag would be humiliated by yielding territory, not to us, but to Cubans. Leaving the Maine out we have sufficient reasons for demanding the freedom of Cuba. There need be no war if the Maine incident is eliminated. Cuba will be free of itself if we grant belligerent rights so they can trade with us, borrow money, make seamen sailors instead of pirates and stop interfering. Recognizing the independence of Cuba will solve the question."

**IS THE PRESIDENT WEAKENING?**  
 New York, March 16.—A Washington special to the Evening World says: President McKinley is seemingly weakening before the money power. The impression is growing that we are going to have peace if we have to crawl on our knees before Spain to get it. The "peace-at-any-price" crowd has apparently captured him. There is now unhappily ample reason to look for a fulfillment of the deep-rooted misgivings as to the form in which the president will "intervene" in Cuba.

The utterance of General Grosvenor, in which he says there will be no war with Spain, and that he believes that Spain will make compensation if she is liable for the Maine disaster, is now accepted as inspired by the president.

**BREAKING UP THE MAINE.**  
 Havana, March 16.—The sudden departure of the Maine court of inquiry has given rise to all sorts of comment here. It was generally believed that the Iowa would come to take the members of the court back.

The men at work on the wreck are now trying to break the hull of the ship in order to be able to remove the cannon and the engines.

**A NEW REVENUE BILL.**  
 Brooklyn, March 16.—A Washington dispatch to the Eagle today says that if the more money is voted for war preparations a new revenue bill will be put through congress. It is said to be the plan of the leaders to increase the duties on tea and coffee and the internal revenue tax on beer and impose a stamp tax.

**YESTERDAY IN CONGRESS.**  
**THE QUESTION OF EARLY ADJOURNMENT.**  
**Administrations Attitude on the Cuban Question Criticised—Speeches on Hawaii**

Washington, March 16.—General Grosvenor's declaration that the president has no plan looking to an early adjournment of congress was a most interesting, if not an important, contribution to the miscellaneous discussion that occupied five hours of the time of the house today under the freedom permitted in committee of the whole on the general appropriation bill. Several democrats criticised the administration's attitude toward and action upon the Cuban question.

Speeches in favor of the annexation of Hawaii were made by Adams, Pennsylvania, and Berry, democrat, of Kentucky, and one against it by Williams, of Mississippi. Relating to matters in the postal appropriation bill, nominally before the committee, some time was consumed in the discussion of the use of the pneumatic tube system. A vote on the passage of the bill is expected before the hour adjourns tomorrow.

Washington, March 16.—Speaker Reed said today that congress would adjourn by the middle of April. Arrangements are making to that end. The appropriation bills are well under way now and several have already passed. The deficit has gone forth that there will be no currency and river and harbor bills nor bankruptcy legislation at this term. There is nothing congress can do after passing the money bills if Cuba is sidetracked.

**YESTERDAY IN THE COURTS.**  
 The case of Rogers vs. Jewett is still in progress in the superior court and will probably occupy all of to-day if not longer. The taking of testimony has not yet been completed.

The Haywood mandamus case of Tate vs. the commissioners was taken up in the afternoon and argued at some length by Geo. H. Smathers. W. T. Crawford, for the commissioners, will begin his argument at 1:30 to-day.

ESTABLISHED 1886.  
**THE WINYAH SANITARIUM,**  
 A Special Private Institution for the Treatment of Lung and Throat Diseases.  
 HAMBEL von EUCK, M. D., Medical Director.

RATES, \$25.00 PER WEEK and upward, according to the room selected, including everything excepting medicines, which are supplied at cost. A certain number of rooms are reserved at a lower rate for patients whose financial circumstances require it, and to such the medicines are also furnished. Patients can enter and leave at any time. Advanced cases not admitted.

Winyah Hotel and Sanitarium Co.

**THE MILITARY MOVEMENTS**  
**Alger Given Funds to Purchase Army Supplies.**  
**Seaboard Air Line Moving Artillerymen.**  
**Alarm in Cuba Over a Rumored Plan of Invasion.**  
**Polo Asked to Take Steps to Prevent it.**  
**Large Quantity of Shells Sent to Norfolk—Winchester Arms Factory Working Day and Night.**

Washington, March 16.—The president today decided to grant Secretary Alger's request that \$2,500,000 of the \$50,000,000 appropriation be used for the purchase of small arms, ammunition and general ordnance supplies. Secretary Alger also asked \$5,000,000 for immediate expenditure on seacoast defenses and this may be granted tomorrow, especially if the naval department is unable to purchase warships, which President McKinley regards as the first need.

The army department has ordered a large quantity of mortar projectiles.

Navy officials are disappointed with the slow enlistment of seamen and marines, the strict requirements shutting out most of the applicants.

**SHIPPING TORPEDOES.**  
 Newport, R. I., March 16.—The ordnance bureau shipped twenty Whitehead torpedoes from the Bliss works, Brooklyn, to the torpedo station here today, and a similar consignment will be made daily. A basket of carrier pigeons from the training station left have been shipped to League Island for the cruisers Minneapolis and Columbia.

**FEARS INVASION OF PORTO RICO.**  
 Havana, March 16.—Dispatches from Madrid and New York received here today have caused a great sensation. It is reported that the Spanish government has learned from secret agents in New York that Cuban residents in the United States and some Cuban officers, who have recently arrived from Garcia's camp, are planning an important expedition to invade Porto Rico. Senor Guin, Spanish minister of foreign affairs, sent to Minister Polo y Bernabe in Washington today a long dispatch instructing him, according to the Madrid correspondent of La Lucha, to make all efforts to prevent the departure of such an expedition. The correspondent in Havana of the Madrid Herald sent a dispatch yesterday saying that great uneasiness prevails on account of the warlike preparations of the United States.

**THE ST. LOUIS SAILS.**  
 New York, Mar. 16.—The American liner St. Louis sailed for Southampton today on her regular schedule. The board for the inspection of auxiliary cruisers has decided that they would not require the steamer for armament at present.

**TO RUN NIGHT AND DAY.**  
 New Haven, March 16.—The Winchester Repeating Arms Company will run a part of their factory on a night and day schedule to fill government orders.

**MOVING ARTILLERY.**  
 Norfolk, March 16.—Sixty-five tons of shells will be brought here by a Washington steamer tomorrow. They are consigned to the Fort Norfolk magazine.

The Seaboard Air Line has been awarded the contract for transporting three companies of artillerymen from Fort Monroe to points nearer the scene of action, one to Fort Morgan, near Mobile; one to Fort Caswell on Cape Fear river, and one to Fort Tybee, near Savannah. The troops will probably leave Fort Monroe tomorrow.

**MICHIGAN TROOPS.**  
 Grand Rapids, Mich., March 16.—The first symptom of war, so far as Michigan is concerned, came today when the state military board received a request from the war department that each company of Michigan troops be divided into squads of eight men, each in charge of corporals, and that a complete list of these divisions be reported at once to the secretary of war, thus insuring the calling of troops out in the shortest possible order.

**FRENCH FLEET PREPARING.**  
 Paris, March 16.—The Aurore affirms that the French fleet is being prepared for mobilization, adding that a feverish anxiety prevails at the arsenals and shipyards. The mobilization is connected with preparations to support Russia by a naval demonstration in the far east.

**MOVING WAR MATERIAL.**  
 Fayetteville, March 16.—A special train of thirty-six cars, carrying war material, passed over the A. C. L. yesterday going south.

**WATSON NOMINATED**  
**CANDIDATE OF THE POPULISTS FOR GOVERNOR.**  
**Middle of the Roaders Control the Georgia Convention—The Ticket in Full.**

Atlanta, March 16.—Amid a whirlwind of enthusiasm, and in spite of numerous protests which he has made, Thomas E. Watson was nominated for governor of Georgia by the populist state convention today. Monday Mr. Watson made a final declaration that he would not attend the convention and would decline the nomination, but 235 delegates paid no attention to the assertion and the only discord in the

**U. S. PRISON AT ASHEVILLE**  
**Matter Favorably Reported in the Senate.**  
**A \$100,000 Appropriation Provided for As an Amendment to the Sundry Civil Bill.**  
**Prospect that Asheville Will Win the Coveted Prize.**  
**Attorney General Joined with Pritchard and Pearson in Urging the Advantages of this City as the Site.**

Washington, March 16.—Amendments to the sundry civil bill were favorably reported today from the senate committee on public buildings, appropriating \$2,000 for the public buildings at Greensboro, N. C., and \$100,000 for a federal penitentiary near Asheville, N. C. The latter amendment was offered and urged by Senator Pritchard, who was seconded in his proposal to locate the prison at Asheville by a favorable opinion from the attorney general.

The movement to locate a United States prison in the south has been under consideration for several years, and efforts have previously been made to bring the matter before congress. Atlanta has been a strong competitor for the site of the prison, but the claims of Asheville have been strongly urged by Senator Pritchard and Representative Pearson.

The overcrowding of the prisons at Albany and Columbus is a strong factor in urging the necessity of establishing a prison in the south, and the first step toward this end was the recent action in utilizing the state penitentiary at Raleigh as a temporary quarters for United States prisoners.

**THE EWART INQUIRY.**  
 Special to the Gazette.  
 Washington, March 16.—The Ewart investigation is not yet finished, but it is expected that a report will be made within the next few days. Many of the reports given to the press emanate from those who are opposing a confirmation. The friends of Judge Ewart, however, are not alarmed and confidently expect a favorable report.

**A STEAMSHIP SUNK**  
**Went Down with all her Crew After a Collision.**  
 London, March 16.—The British bark, British Princess, was towed into Lowestoft today with her bow stove, she having been in collision early this morning with an unknown steamer in the North sea. The steamer was so badly damaged that she foundered, carrying down all hands aboard.

**NORTH CAROLINA GEMS.**  
 The rare beauties of nature, so well represented in Western North Carolina, are becoming better known every day as people who are better educated in the formation and utility of minerals have from time to time shown their appreciation of these gems by using them in all kinds of adornment.

We have decided to close out some of these gems and offer them at prices that should make them all sell in a very few days.

WE OFFER:  
 One lot of 41 gems at 50 cents each.  
 One lot of 40 gems at 60 cents each.  
 One lot of 169 gems at 75 cents each.  
 One lot of 40 gems at \$1.00 each.  
 One lot of 32 gems at \$1.25 each.—Sold  
 One lot of 5 gems at \$1.50 each.  
 One lot of 3 gems at \$2.00 each.  
 One lot of 5 gems at \$2.50 each.—Sold  
 One lot of 3 gems at \$4.00 each.  
 One gem for \$5.00.

ARTHUR M. FIELD,  
 LEADING JEWELLER,  
 Church street and Patton avenue, Asheville, N. C.

**At This Season**  
 of the year you need something to build you up, to insure a healthy appetite, and to bring refreshing sleep. Then why not try

**Pabst Malt Extract.**  
 the "Best Tonic." It is a tower of strength to the convalescent and a Malt Extract without an equal.

**ASHEVILLE DRUG CO.**  
 East Court Square and College Street.  
 DAVID WAY, Manager.

**Health is Wealth!!!**  
**Knowledge is power!!!**  
 Therefore: Buy your Hygienic Health-Foods  
 -- AT --  
**SNIDER'S Arch Front.**  
 Use the Celebrated Kneipp Remedies  
 -- AT --  
**MRS. THOMAS,**  
 28 Patton Ave.  
 Take the famous Kneipp Cure over Redwood's, 7 and 9 Patton Avenue



deliberations was in the selection of running mates for Watson.

The ticket stands: For governor, Thomas E. Watson; for comptroller, Benjamin Miniken; for secretary of state, L. M. Jackson; for treasurer, J. H. Taylor; for commissioner of agriculture, W. L. Peck; for attorney general, Cary Thornton; for the supreme court, W. B. Hill, prohibitionist; Leakin, republican, and Lewis, democrat.

It is thought Watson will accept. The middle-of-the-roaders controlled the convention and platform.