

# Asheville Daily Gazette.

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ASHEVILLE, N. C., WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 2, 1902

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Fresh shipment tomorrow morning.  
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2 residence properties on Biltmore road very cheap.  
1 9-room house, three acres of ground, beautiful lawn and shade trees. City water.  
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These properties are splendid investments. Apply to or address

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## THE CHRISTMAS REPORT INQUIRY

OPENING OF THE INVESTIGATION BEFORE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE.

Gron, Agent of "No Sale" Party State Library, Induced Richardson to Launch "Secret Report."

HE HAD FIRST TRIED TO SELL THE ISLANDS

GRON DENIES THAT HE, CHRISTMAS AND ROGERS WERE TO DIVIDE COMMISSION FOR THE SALE—BROKE WITH CHRISTMAS AFTER SOME DEALINGS.

Washington, April 1.—The investigation of charges made in connection with the Danish West Indies purchase was begun today before the special committee appointed by Speaker Henderson.

Mr. Gron was the first witness sworn by Chairman Dalzell. He said in February last parties in Copenhagen who opposed the transfer of the Danish West Indies to the United States conferred with him and brought to his attention the Christmas report. Mr. Gron said he was at present the representative in this country of these parties who were members of the Danish upper house.

Mr. Gron gave way temporarily to Representative Alexander, of Buffalo, who desired to make a complete disclaimer of any knowledge of Christmas or the Danish transaction.

Continuing his statement, Mr. Gron explained how the Danish parties opposing the sale of the islands had persuaded him to come to Washington and place the Christmas report before congress and the public, so that the facts would be known. He told of having secured a note of introduction to General Grosvenor, of Ohio, of arranging to meet the latter in Washington, his purpose being, he said, to carry out assurances given at Copenhagen that he would place the matter before influential men and thus bring it to the attention of congress and the public. Mr. Gron told in great detail of bringing the papers before Mr. Grosvenor, who at first seemed quite indignant.

Mr. Gron said and spoke of laying the matter before the proper parties in order that suitable action might be taken. The witness said that later Gen. Grosvenor concluded that it would be proper to lay the matter before the secretary of state. This was done and Mr. Gron said he learned that the state department held that it could take no action and that the authorities held that it could take no action and that the authorities here had in no way committed themselves to Christmas. Gron said that after Grosvenor had decided not to proceed with the matter he (Gron) had prepared a statement for Associated Press and had asked Mr. Crane, a newspaper man, to send someone from the Associated Press to him for the statement and also to Gen. Grosvenor for assurances as to Gron's standing. He learned later through Mr. Crane that Gen. Grosvenor said he knew nothing about it. He said he was informed the day after he submitted the statement that the Associated Press could not use it. Afterward, he said, he submitted his statement to several newspapers and more or less of it was printed.

The witness then detailed how he had placed the matter before Representatives Richardson and Underwood, who had gone over the papers. "What was your purpose in bringing it before members?" asked Mr. Dalzell. "To get it into the house before the American people," answered the witness.

In response to inquiries, the witness took up various branches of the case. He said he represented those constituting the "No sale" party in Denmark. He denied the reports that he (Gron) had himself been trying to obtain a commission for the sale of the islands.

A CHOICE LINE of Easter presents, Easter cards (Dutton's line), Prayer and Hymnal sets, Bibles. See the new children's Bible (illustrated). J. H. Law, 35 Patton avenue.

**An Eye Point**

There are many points about the eye that are important no matter how trivial they may seem. Have them attended to at once. We grind lenses to suit each individual case.



**McKee**  
The Optician.  
54 Patton Ave.  
Opposite P. O.

and that the whole matter was a quarrel between Christmas and himself, over the commission. He read a letter, stating that an old alliance between certain Danish men and Americans in the fall of 1890 was declared off eighteen months ago. He mentioned the names of H. H. Rogers, Charles R. Flint and himself as the Americans interested at that time in negotiating the sale of the islands.

Asked specifically regarding a statement in the Christmas report to the effect that Rogers had agreed to accomplish the sale of the islands for ten per cent of the purchase money, Mr. Gron declared that there was no such agreement. He described how the negotiations conducted by the committees in Denmark and in America had progressed almost to conclusion just before the Spanish war when they were declared off in Denmark.

Mr. Gron said he undertook to reopen the negotiations after the war. The committees in Copenhagen and America had not been dissolved. Christmas came to the United States in December, 1899.

Mr. Gron was closely questioned as to whether a proposition was made for Christmas and Rogers and himself to divide the commission. He replied that there were various propositions.

Asked as to the threat attributed to Rogers in the Christmas report (in which Rogers was made to say that he had twenty-six votes in the senate and could defeat the negotiations), Mr. Gron said he was never present at an interview between Rogers and Christmas. He had never heard Mr. Rogers make such a threat. He denied absolutely the statement that he (Gron) had signed a contract with Christmas by which he (Gron) and Rogers were to have two-thirds of the commission. He had never made over a power of attorney to him which later he (Gron) repudiated. Mr. Rogers saw Christmas, he testified, but once. After that Rogers refused to see Christmas, or answer his letters or telegrams.

As to the Christmas interviews, in which Christmas was made to say that he had negotiations with Abner McKinley, which Christmas in his report declared had been instigated by Gron, the witness said that he had no connection with them. Mr. Hill asked him specifically if he knew what press associations were referred to in the Christmas reports. "I don't know," replied Mr. Gron.

## MINERS' BIG STRIKE IS INAUGURATED

TEN THOUSAND GO OUT AND 10,000 OTHERS THROWN OUT OF EMPLOYMENT.

Altoona, Pa., April 1.—The strike of 30,000 miners employed by the Rochester & Pittsburg Coal & Iron company and consequent paralyzing of the freight traffic of the Rochester & Pittsburg road was inaugurated today. The tie-up is complete. It throws out of work 10,000 employes of the railroad. It was decided to keep the pumpers at work in order to keep the mines clear of water. The men say they would have accepted the Altoona scale if the company has signed in Altoona, but they now demand other concessions.

## POPULIST DELEGATES COMING IN SLOWLY

ABOUT FIFTY IN LOUISVILLE TO ATTEND THE NATIONAL CONVENTION.

Louisville, Ky., April 1.—The state populist convention, called to precede the National convention to be held tomorrow, met today. About forty delegates representing other states are here. The most notable arrival was George H. Shibley of Washington.

## 400 PERSONS PERISH IN A CHINESE THEATER

Victoria, B. C., April 1.—Oriental advices received today tell of the burning of 400 Chinamen in a theatre in the village of Kun Hu, China, March 4. Some miscreant set the building on fire. The victims were mostly women.

Chinese steamer bound from Nanchin for Hanoi foundered on the night of March 16 at Ninh. Two hundred and fifty persons were drowned.

**Millinery Opening.**  
On Friday, April 4th, H. B. Hood will have a display of trimmed hats. French models also shown. Room 17 Paragon building, first door at the head of stairs from Haywood street entrance.

Biltmore Firewood. Phone 700.

## Pure Sweets

When You buy confectionery you should insist that it be of good quality. Only the best sold

**At HESTON'S.**  
Phone 184 28 S. Main

## VOTE ON OLEO BILL TOMORROW

SENATE DEVOTED ALMOST ENTIRE DAY TO ITS DISCUSSION YESTERDAY.

House Resumed Consideration of the Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill.

ROBINSON DISCUSSES "PASSING OF THE HOUSE"

COMMITTEE ON TERRITORIES SUBMITS REPORT RECOMMENDING BILL TO GRANT STATEHOOD TO ARIZONA, NEW MEXICO AND OKLAHOMA.

Washington, April 1.—The senate further discussed the oleomargarine bill today, devoting almost the entire session to consideration of the measure. Galigner, Spooner, Money and Bailey were the principal speakers. Galigner said the bill was intended to prevent a "palpable and brazen fraud."

Spooer also argued in favor of the bill, devoting most of his remarks to refutation of the points made by the opponents of the measure. Money and Bailey opposed the bill. The latter, after speaking half an hour, complained of throat trouble and said he would finish his remarks tomorrow or Thursday.

It was agreed that voting on the bill and amendments should begin at 3 o'clock Thursday. The senate then adjourned.

**In the House.**  
Washington, April 1.—The house today resumed consideration of the sundry civil appropriation bill, with the understanding that general debate which formally closed yesterday should be extended to permit Mr. Robinson (Ind.) and Mr. Grow (Pa.) to address the house.

Mr. Robinson discussed the "passing of the house" as a deliberative body, to which Mr. Bell (Colo.) had addressed himself yesterday. The senate which now perfected legislation, he complained, was dominated by thirty senators representing fifteen states with less population than either New York or Pennsylvania. The present condition of affairs in the house, he said, was due to the concentration of all the power of the house in the hands of the speaker and the committee on rules.

Mr. Grow discussed the question of electing senators by popular vote. He favored a constitutional amendment for that purpose. At the conclusion of his remarks, the bill was read for amendments under the five minute rule.

Representative Dinsmore, of Arkansas, today received a telegram from Arkansas announcing that his renomination was assured. The first reports from Arkansas indicated that he had been defeated.

Mr. Sulzer (New York) offered an amendment to appropriate \$50,000 for lighting the torch of Bartholdi's statue of liberty in New York harbor. Mr. Sulzer said this light was put out March 1. He read a poem written by an anti-imperialist on the extinguishing of the light in Liberty's torch.

Mr. Cannon said that the pending bill carried \$1,900,000 for lights, the expenditure of which, he said, was entirely within the discretion of the lighthouse board. Mr. Cannon said the appropriation committee had made some investigation and had ascertained that the light on the Bartholdi statue was valueless for commercial purposes. On a rising vote the amendment was carried 43 to 33.

Mr. Cannon immediately demanded tellers and an aye and nay vote. Absentees were brought in and when the vote was finally completed the first vote was reversed and the amendment stood defeated, 61 to 57.

Clark (dem.) presented a substitute for the Chinese exclusion bill. The committee on territories submitted a report recommending the passage of the bill to grant statehood to Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma. The house then adjourned.

**ONLY ONE BID RECEIVED FOR FIGHT.**  
New York, April 1.—Only one bid was received in this city today for the Jeffries-Sitzsimmons fight. It was that of

the Charleston Athletic club, which offered the fighters 75 per cent of the gross receipts or a guarantee of \$25,000. The club agreed to hold the contest between May 15 and June 1 and offered to give the contestants the entire proceeds from the picture privileges. After the bid had been received a telegram was sent to San Francisco to ascertain if there were any bids for the fight received there and the matter was deferred until a reply could be received.

## BUT ONE BATTLESHIP CAN GO TO COWES

ILLINOIS WILL BE SOLE REPRESENTATIVE AT CORONATION DEMONSTRATION.

Washington, April 1.—The intention of the United States to send a squadron to the naval demonstration at Cowes in honor of the Coronation of the English king has been dispelled by England politely informing the government that the American naval representation must be confined to one vessel.

All the other naval powers have been similarly notified. The reason for this is not known, but it is believed that the English authorities cannot adequately provide entertainment for the great crowd of officers.

In view of England's action Secretary Long has assigned the battleship Illinois as our sole representative. She will sail from Hampton Roads for England next week. She will be the flagship of Rear Admiral Crowninshield.

## FOUR THOUSAND WITNESS A LYNCHING AT ROME

Rome, Ga., April 1.—Walter Allen, a negro, was lynched by a mob of four thousand whites tonight for criminally assaulting Blossom Adams, a 15 year old girl, a member of one of Georgia's most prominent families. The negro approached the girl in the street and told her a dressmaker in a certain house wanted her. She went and found the house vacant. The negro followed and choked her into insensibility. The negro was arrested. He was taken from jail tonight and hanged to a telephone pole in the center of the city and his body riddled with bullets. He protested his innocence although identified by the girl.

## RATHBONE ALLOWED BAIL IN SUM OF \$100,000

Havana, April 1.—The Supreme court today decided to admit ex-Director of Posts Rathbone to bail in the sum of \$100,000.

## Prizes and Loving Cups

For the use of clubs and all who may be interested. We have gathered together some unusually handsome pieces for prizes at a very large range in prices.

**Arthur M. Field Company**

Leading Jewelers

Cor. Patton Ave. and Church St.

## JEALOUS WATCH AMONG POWERS

SUSPICION AND DISTRUST OF ONE ANOTHER GROWS AMONG EUROPEAN NATIONS.

Germany Suspected of Being In Sympathy With Russia's Designs.

THEY WOULD EXCHANGE FAVORS IN CHINA

UNITED STATES' ATTITUDE ON CHINESE QUESTION UNDOUBTEDLY RESTRAINS CUPIDITY OF SOME OF THE POWERS.

Washington, April 1.—Never since the Chinese question became acute through the Boxers uprising have the great powers been watching one another more closely or jealously than at present. The administration has information that leads directly to the conclusion that suspicion and distrust of one another are growing among the European powers.

Germany now is the most uncertain quantity in regard to the Chinese situation. The suspicion is prevalent that she is actually in sympathy with the

(Continued on eighth page.)

## Sumner's

Spring Outfit,  
Stylish and Serviceable.

One Grenadine Dress Pattern ..... \$4.50  
One Wash Silk Waist Pattern ..... 1.37  
One Wash Corded Madras Pattern ..... 25  
\$6.12

Complete with a Handsome Pattern Hat

or a new outing hat, for one-half the usual cost of such goods.

Golf Gloves.  
Most elegant neckwear in the city

Shopping Bags and Purses  
25c to Genuine Seal \$3.98.

Boys Linen Summer Tam Caps 29c.

Golf and Steamer Rugs.

## Sumner's

Sale of odd pieces of China-ware, now less than one-half prices.

Mattings and Rugs.

## For Rent.

One of the most desirable residences on Montford avenue, 11 rooms, large stables and garden, all modern conveniences. Price \$40.00. One 7 room house on Grady street. In good repair, small stable on lot. Price \$25.00 per month. One 6 room house close to center of town. Price \$15.00 per month.

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We have a well selected stock of Wood's Seeds, Onion Sets and Lawn Grass. With few exceptions we sell at Wood's prices.

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## Investment Property.

We have on our list three residence properties bringing regular 15 per ct. to 20 per ct. on price we can name. We will cheerfully give interested persons full particulars.

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