

LOOK!

For the Big
Bargains in
5c, 10c and 25c Department
..NOW..

Crepe Paper, all colors, 8c
roll.
50c and \$1.00 Work Boxes
and Writing Desks, 25c.
Five-drawer Chiffoniers and
Bureaus, 25c.
Three-drawer Bureaus, 5c.
25c Vases and Rose Bowls, 10c.
\$2.50 Large framed Pictures,
\$1.49.

Big crowds ev-
ery day getting
these big values.

Sumner's.

Leather Goods
at Cost

We are selling our entire line
of leather goods at cost. Pock-
et Books, Card Cases, Purses,
Cigar Cases. Now is the time
to make your Christmas selec-
tions.

Pfafflin's Drug Store,
Patton Ave. and Church St.

Give Your
Husband a Razor

For a Christmas gift. You
will be surprised at his look of
pleasure when he receives the
Razor, particularly if it is a

..Claus Razor..

They are undoubtedly the
best in the world and prices are
\$2.50.
He might like a good pocket
knife, too. We have an abun-
dant of good ones at from 25
cents to \$2.50.

Asheville Hardware Co.
On the Square
Phone 87 Asheville

Christmas
..IS...

COMING.

Be sure and look at our line of

Sweaters, Smoking Jackets,
Hats, Gloves, Neckwear,
Shirts, Suspenders,
Handkerchiefs, &c.

Suitable for presents for Men and Boys.

WHITLOCK'S

41 Patton Ave.

A MYSTERY THAT
BAFFLES POLICE

Or Rather a Whole Nest of Mys-
teries Connected With Dis-
appearance of Two Young
Girls, a Forged Check, etc.,
etc.

When seen by Officer Hall at an
early hour this morning Mr. Luther,
the ticket agent of Biltmore, stated
that veiled women, mentioned in yester-
day morning's Gazette, had not left
from Biltmore station. They bought
their tickets to Greensboro from that
office, however, paying for them with
the forged check. Night Operator
Weldon stated that he recognized one
of them as an Asheville girl, and,
with the consent of Mr. Luther, re-
ceived the check in payment for the
ticket.

"Mr. Jones, the father of one of the
girls, who are missing, passed these
women near the Biltmore station
without recognizing either as his
daughter. "They did not board the
eastbound passenger," said he, "but
walked toward Azalea, where they
probably got on a freight." His reason
for this is that Conductor Rickett,
conductor of a freight train, saw,
while passing Azalea, two women
there on board the eastbound freight.
Officer Hall also received information
last night that they were seen near
Azalea, but could learn nothing
definite. Efforts were in vain made to
locate Conductor Jones of the train
on which it is supposed they left.

Officer Hall also interviewed Con-
ductor Parker of train No. 12, on which
it is thought they left. He stated
that two women, rather small, dressed
in black with light colored cloaks,
boarded his train at Biltmore station
on Wednesday morning. He thought
they were veiled, but was not positive.
They rode on his train as far east as
Salisbury. The colored porter also
made the same statement.

On Tuesday afternoon two young
women bought veils and two black
skirts on approval at the Palais Royal.
The buyers did not pay for the ap-
parel and have not yet returned with
the goods. A woman was seen stand-
ing in front of the Swannanoa hotel
Tuesday evening looking upward.
Presently a kid glove was thrown
(Continued on page four)

We've that Christmas gift
you've been looking for.

at Law's,
35 Patton Avenue.

McKee THE
OPTICIAN

Why not give your father or mother
or friend a nice pair of glasses for an
Xmas present. We will examine their
eyes and change the lenses to suit
them afterwards, without extra
charge.

Field Glasses, Opera Glasses, Tele-
scopes and Lorgnettes
All make nice holiday presents.

McKee, The
Optician
54 Patton Avenue.

Warm
Weather

is a long ways off. You
have several months
of winter before you.
If you would be com-
fortable buy a

Wilson Heater

They are economical
fuel users. We will
put in a

Hot Air Furnace

that will burn either
soft coal or coke. Call
and get prices.

W. A. Boyce

11 South Court Square.

Just Received

A car load of Flower Pots, and owing
to delay in shipment from factory will
sell at greatly reduced prices. If in-
terested call at once as they are bound
to go. The I X L Department Store, 22
Patton avenue. Phone 107.

For Sale Or Exchange.

A beautiful modern country home
near Bingham school. House 5 rooms,
10 acres of land in high state of out-
standing. Will sell or exchange for city
property. We are offering splendid
value in two business properties on
Patton avenue and Main street. These
are all choice values.

Natt Atkinson & Sons Co.,
Real Estate Dealers.

CASTRO'S DEFIANCE CAUSES
SURPRISE THROUGHOUT EUROPE

Venezuelan Government Issues a Decree Calling to Arms All the Able Bodied Men of
the Republic—British and German Residents at Curacao Imprisoned—American
Consul Ignored—English and German Squadrons to be Reinforced.

London, Dec. 11.—President Castro's
defiance of England and Germany is
causing general surprise in Europe.
The situation is regarded as serious.
The newspapers are frankly puzzled
as to the probable outcome in spite
of published assertions of the indif-
ference of the United States. So long
as territory cannot be annexed there is
evident anxiety as to how far the
Washington government will allow the
coercers to go.

A dispatch from Paris says that a
Caracas dispatch to the Matin says
that preparations are being made to
withstand those who are already called
the enemy. A government decree
has been issued summoning to arms
all able bodied men. Deputations have
been sent to the revolutionary gen-
erals still in the field to negotiate an
understanding with Castro in order
that the Venezuelans may meet the en-
emy as a united people. All available
troops are going to Lagunayra from
Caracas.

Kingstown, St. Vincent, Dec. 11.—
The British cruiser Alert has captured
the Venezuelan troopship Zamora, and
a coast guard vessel in the Gulf of
Paria. The Alert took the prizes to
Port of Spain, Trinidad, today.

Willemstad, Curacao, Dec. 11.—The
Venezuelans are fortifying Puerto Ca-
bello, on the Gulf of Triste. British
and German residents of the port
have been imprisoned, including the
British and German consuls.

The Venezuelans seized the property
of these residents, also a British steam-
er. The American consul tried to in-
tercede but was ignored.

London, Dec. 11.—The admiralty has
ordered a certain warship belonging to
the first class reserve to be in readi-
ness to depart in 24 hours notice. Rum-
ors connect these orders with the
Venezuelan imbroglio.

A despatch from Berlin says it is re-
ported that the ministry of the ma-
rine is preparing to reinforce the Ger-
man squadron at Venezuela.

PREPARATIONS TO RESIST.
Laguaira, Dec. 11.—The British
cruiser Indefatigable arrived here at 6
o'clock this evening from Guanta, the
port of Barcelona, where she is be-
lieved to have been in search of the
Venezuelan gunboat Restaurador.

The German cruiser Vireta and the
British cruiser Retribution left here
at 6 o'clock this evening. It is sup-
posed they have on board Venezuela's
answer to the demands of the foreign
powers, which arrived from Caracas
on a special train at 2 o'clock.

The German charge d'affaires, Herr
Von-Pilgrim-Baltazzi, the British min-
ister, Haggard, and the personnel of
the British legation are still on board
the warships.

What is termed an inopportune de-
monstration, and the strange method
resorted to in the remittance to the
Venezuelan foreign minister of the de-
mands of Great Britain and Germany
are freely criticized here.

The government has sent 2,000 men
and 18 guns from Caracas to La Gu-
acira. These troops are camping tonight at Cuara-
cuti, distant one hour from La Guacira.
All day and all night ammunition has
been carried to Port Lavigia, which
crowns the harbor, and preparations
are being made to resist the foreign
forces. Volunteers to the number of
250 men, all from La Guacira, have been
armed today and more are requesting
arms. It is asserted here that the
government can find sufficient men to
resist the foreign forces, as the move-
ment is peculiar. Everywhere one
meets men of all classes and conditions
carrying Mauser rifles.

The news of the capture at the port
of Spain of the Venezuelan gunboat
Bolívar by the British cruiser Charybdis
was communicated to President
Castro. The event created intense ex-
citement.

Laguaira, Dec. 11.—All British and
German subjects arrested yesterday
were released this afternoon.

Berlin, Dec. 11.—The German for-
eign office officials are much pleased
at Minister Bowen's energetic action
at Caracas, resulting in the release of

Watch Blomberg's cigar and sport-
ing goods large ad in next Sunday's
paper, the 14th. It will interest you.

Tenny's Peanut Brittle at Lee's.

Biltmore Firewood. Phone 700.

VELOCIPEDA

For a Christmas Present will
please your boy more than any-
thing you can get him, at

H. HESTON'S

Phone 188. 26 S. Main.

most of the Germans imprisoned there
and by his efforts to obtain the liber-
ation of the others. Full advices on
the situation have been received from
Washington. The direct dispatches
received from Venezuela by the for-
eign office here say that Venezuelan
naval vessels have not yet been seized,
that only her revenue cutters were
captured, but that the seizure of the
former is ordered immediately.

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

London, Dec. 11.—In the house of
commons today Under Foreign Secre-
tary Cranborne confirmed the reports
of the capture of three Venezuelan
vessels at Laguaira and the disab-
lement of a fourth vessel without re-
sistance, and also confirmed the cap-
ture of the gunboat Bolívar at Port
of Spain, Trinidad. Two of the prizes,
he added, were sunk. The under se-
cretary also said that the release of the
British subjects arrested at Caracas
had been demanded, but that up to
that time the government had not
been informed that the demand had
been complied with. The government
had no official information of the re-
ported arrest of the British consul at
Caracas. The latest information re-
ceived was that he left Laguaira yester-
day evening. The British subjects
arrested have not been harmed.

VENEZUELAN TROOPS ARRIVE.

La Guayra, Venezuela, Dec. 11.—
General Ferrer, the minister of war,
has arrived here with 2,000 troops.
Eight hundred under President Cas-
tro's brother are expected here at 10
o'clock. Only the British cruiser In-
defatigable is now here. She is at
anchor in the middle of the harbor.
All the other warships have left La
Guayra.

Minister Haggard and Herr Von Pil-
grim-Baltazzi, it was learned today,
left here last night. The former was
on board the Retribution and the
latter on the Vireta, which sailed for
Trinidad.

PEACEFUL BLOCKADE.
Washington, Dec. 11.—Minister Bow-
en, at Caracas, in a cablegram to the
state department, dated today, con-
firms the press reports that all the
German and British prisoners have
been released.

This was the only advice that came
to the state department over night as
to the situation in Venezuela, but it
was welcome for the officials felt that
by releasing these civilians President
Castro had diminished greatly the
most dangerous factor in the prob-
lem. Had he insisted on retaining
them in jail, the allies must have
dispatched a force to the capital of
Venezuela, and war outright would
have ensued. As it is, the officials
here prefer to regard the status as
not one of war, providing the allies
adhere to their original program of
a "peaceful blockade," perhaps fol-
lowed by the temporary seizure of
Venezuelan custom houses.

Details of the sinking of the Vene-
zuelan navy by the allied naval forces
are awaited with interest here, and
the officials could not but express
their regret and surprise that it had
been found necessary to proceed to
such extremes.

ROOSEVELT INTERESTED.

Nothing has yet occurred to induce
the state department to change the
policy of non-interference which it has
adopted. The president is showing
particular interest in the situation,
and this morning he called Secretary
Hay away from his regular Thursday
diplomatic reception to confer re-
specting Venezuela. The chairman of
the two congressional committees,
charged with the cases of foreign
agreements, all called at the state de-
partment during the forenoon to talk
over the Venezuelan developments.

Senator Cullom, chairman of the
committee on foreign relations, ex-
pressed regret that England and Ger-
many had destroyed, by breaking up
or sinking, the Venezuelan war fleet.

"They might better have been kept
for toy houses, as against a formid-
able squadron they were fit for little
else," he remarked. He believed that
if it were considered necessary to
seize the vessels, they could have been
kept intact until after the present
trouble was settled and then restored
to Venezuela.

NOT TO ACQUIRE TERRITORY.
Senator Cullom expressed the opin-
ion that the United States would not
become involved seriously in the pres-

ent disturbance, as he was satisfied
that neither Great Britain nor Ger-
many had any intention of acquiring
Venezuelan territory.

The state department is, so far, well
pleased with the energetic, yet dis-
creet, manner in which Minister Bow-
en has acted. There have been no
orders issued to any of our naval ves-
sels to repair to Venezuelan ports, and
it is not intended to issue such or-
ders unless an emergency should arise,
as the presence of men-of-war in such
cases as this is apt to cause useless
friction. There is, of course, always
danger that the attempt of an Amer-
ican vessel to pass the "peaceful
blockade" may, in the end, call for the
appearance of American men-of-war
upon the scene.

ISLAND DESERTED ON
ACCOUNT OF EARTHQUAKE

San Francisco, Dec. 11.—Advices
from Samoa say the island of Savai
has been deserted because of the vio-
lent earthquake and volcanic eruptions.
The inhabitants have taken to other
islands. Thirteen shocks occurred in
Savai November 7. Not a single
stone house was left standing. Great
chasms were opened of unknown
depth and great strength.

FOUR MINERS KILLED;
THE TOW ROPE BROKE

Kingston, Pa., Dec. 11.—Four min-
ers were killed this afternoon in mine
No. 3 of the Kingston Coal company.
The men were on their way up the
slopes of the mine when the rope haul-
ing a train of 12 coal cars broke. The
cars rushed down the slope and be-
fore the four men could jump aside
they were crushed to death.

COMMERCIAL TREATY
WITH CUBA SIGNED

Havana, Dec. 11.—Palma gave a
dinner at the palace tonight, the
guests being the American minister
and General Bliss. The commercial
treaty between Cuba and the United
States will be signed tonight.

EX-PRESIDENT CLEVELAND
AND BOOKER WASHINGTON

Philadelphia, Dec. 11.—Ex-Presi-
dent Cleveland and Booker T. Wash-
ington addressed a mixed meeting of
whites and negroes here tonight.
Cleveland dwelt upon the duty of the
whites toward negroes. He said more
should be done to improve their con-
dition.

THE BICYCLE RACE

New York, Dec. 11.—The bicycle
contest took on the character of a
hard struggle tonight. From early
evening the pace was a hot one. The
Garden was crowded and the excite-
ment caused by frequent sprints was
raised to fever heat. Maya had a fall
this afternoon, but was not hurt.

Score of the five leaders at 1 a. m.:
Newkirk and Jacobson, 1,721 miles and
four laps; Leander and Floyd Krebs,
1,721 miles and four laps; Butler and
Turville, 1,721 miles and three laps;
Stinson and Moran, 1,721 miles and
three laps; McFarland and Maya,
1,721 miles and three laps.

How Cut Glass
Graces the Gift
Days

Cut Glass adds a touch of re-
finement to the table which no
other table requisite can do.

You are especially invited to
see out stock of cut glass—it
comprises a wide range of de-
signs—and all very beautiful.
The cutting is mathematically
correct, and the price is pleas-
ingly low.

Arthur M. Field
Company

Leading Jewelers
Cor. Church St. and Patton Ave.
Asheville, N. C.

Wilkie & LaBarbe

SOLE AGENTS.

No. 23-Patton Avenue. Phone 961.

A BIG RAID
ON MOONSHINERS

Six Alleged Offenders Brought
to Jail.

All Caught on Head Waters of
Reems Creek.

Officers Had No Trouble in Tak-
ing the Men

One of the most successful "moon-
shining" raids made in some time
took place Wednesday evening, head-
ed by Deputy Marshal T. C. Israel.
W. P. Jarvis, deputy collector; R. M.
Jarvis, deputy sheriff, and R. H. Lee,
special deputy, assisted in the capture
of six offenders of the revenue laws.

Wednesday afternoon the officers
started on a 15 miles journey with
warrants and weapons enough, it ap-
peared, to arrest a whole regiment.

The captured and imprisoned are:
"Squire" Sullivan, John Killebey,
Arch Davis, Jasper Morrow, Alf Da-
vis and Will Sullivan.

These men all live on the headwa-
ters of Reems creek.

The raid was made at 10 o'clock in
the evening and resulted most satis-
factorily. No trouble was experi-
enced by the officers who guarded the
doors of "Squire" Sullivan's house
while the warrants were read to the
"squire" and his son. The "squire"
said: "I ain't runnin' no still. I nev-
er saw a still in my life. Thar ain't
nary bit o' use in 'reitin' me."

Some of the prisoners were hand-
cuffed. All of them were found at
their homes, which were located with-
in 100 yards of "Daddy" Sullivan's
home.

The still was a new one of 20 gal-
lons capacity. It had been in opera-
tion only a short while, as the new-
ness of it was quite evident. A very
small quantity of whiskey was found.

The officers loaded their prisoners in
a wagon and drove to town the night
of the capture. The roads were rough,
but no accidents were encountered un-
til the party arrived near to Ashe-
ville. A wheel broke down, spilling
men, still, trap and worm, all on the
ground. The broken parts were re-
paired and a successful completion of
the trip was made.

On John Killebey was found a pair
of "knucks." The entire layout of
captured men are "old timers" and
have been, according to Deputy Israel,
notorious in their section of the
country for a long time.

COLD WAVE COMING

To keep from freezing get spare-
rib and kroust. You can get both at
Zimmerman & Whitehead's, City Mar-
ket.

If you want a genuine
BARGAIN

Call at our office and let us show
you a room cottage, not far from the
center of town or on street car line
which we can sell you for \$1,100.00.

H. F. Grant & Son,
REAL ESTATE AGENTS,
48 Patton avenue.

PETRIE
The Tailor

Phone 347:

Come and inspect my line of
Imported and Domestic Suitings
before buying elsewhere. Gen-
tlemen's Riding Breeches and
Livery a Specialty.

For Sale or Rent

Large boarding house unfur-
nished, "The Broom" No. 11
Starnes avenue. \$40.00 per
month, recently painted, good
condition.
For sale: beautiful suburban
house, with 60 acres of land.
Water and sewerage.

Aston, Rawls & Co
18 1/2 South Main street.

Seeds and Bulbs

Wood's Lawn Grass. 25c
Wood's Lawn Emichener. 25c
Wood's Lettuce Seed in bulk.
Hyacinth Bulbs. 5 and 10c
Narcissus Bulbs. 2 for 5c
Crocus Bulbs, per dozen. 10c
Calla Lily Bulbs. 10c
Easter Lily Bulbs. 10c
Potato Onion Sets, quart. 15c

Grant's Pharmacy

Grant's No. 24 cures cold, 25c.