

Fancy Lamps

Just arrived.

Biggest sales on record in Cloak, China and Holiday Goods Departments.

5, 10, and 25c tables down stairs full of goods worth double.

Handsome Music Rolls 75c and 98c.

Store open until 10 p. m. during holidays.

Sumner's

Leather Goods AT COST

We are selling our entire line of leather goods at cost. Pocket Books, Card Cases, Purses, Cigar Cases. Now is the time to make your Christmas selections.

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

Take the item of pocket knives—just because we sell some beauties at \$2.00 and \$2.50 is no reason why we haven't the

Best Quarter Knife in Town

On the other hand you'll find that our quarter knife—knife for knife—is the best you ever saw for that money, and for Christmas gifts for the boys they are just the thing.

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 Avenue.

Just Received

A car load of Flower Pots and owing to delay in shipment from factory will sell at greatly reduced prices. If interested call at once as they are bound to go. The I X L Department Store, 23 Patton Avenue. Phone 107.

THE TARIFF ON PHILIPINE GOODS REDUCED

House Passes Bill to Lower the Rates to 25 Per Cent of Dingley Scale.

THE HOUSE ASKS FOR VENEZUELAN NOTES

Correspondence Relative to the Present Imbroglia Called For—Pure Food Bill.

Mr. Hitt, of Illinois, from the committee on foreign affairs, reported back to the house today the DeArmond and McCall resolutions, calling upon the secretary of state for the facts with relation to the claims of Great Britain and Germany against Venezuela, and generally for a statement of the diplomatic situation with reference to the Monroe doctrine.

The report recommended that the DeArmond resolution lie upon the table and that the McCall resolution, which called for the correspondence in the case, be accepted.

Mr. Richardson of Tennessee asked why Italy and other European countries which were figuring in the controversy were not named in the resolution. Mr. Hitt replied that he was advised.

You should surely visit the ART DEPARTMENT at LAW'S.

All the newest Pictures, and the prices are always right.

These Grand Old Mountains

are Nature's gift to us. If you cannot go out and climb the mountain sides, you can bring them close to you with a pair of our

Field Glasses

These glasses are fitted with achromatic lenses, the bars, drawn tubes and trimmings finished in black, and body covered with leather. Prices range from

\$5 to \$20

McKee The... Optician
54 Patton Avenue

GENTLEMEN

Sometimes take a practical view of things and give their wives Christmas presents of value. Boyce's Perfect Steel Ranges are leaders in this line. We also have Coal Vases, Fire Sets, Andirons, etc., all very acceptable at this season.

W. A. Boyce

11 South Court Square.

For Sale Or Exchange.

A beautiful modern country home near Bingham school. House 9 rooms, 10 acres of land in high state of cultivation. 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.

Venezuela Notified that Blockade Of All Ports Will Begin Tomorrow

The Notice Sends Up Prices of Merchandise in Venezuelan Towns.

BOWEN IS NAMED AS INTERMEDIARY

To Represent Venezuela if Arbitration Plan Can Be Arranged.

Caracas, Dec. 18.—At one o'clock this afternoon the German cruiser Falke, which was cruising outside the bar at the entrance to the harbor of Maracaibo, seized the Venezuelan schooner Victoria bound for Maracaibo. The Germans compelled the schooner's crew to abandon the vessel, after which they dismantled and abandoned her. The president of the state of Zulia in which Maracaibo is situated protested to the German consulate of Maracaibo against the action of the warship.

The foreign consuls, at La Guayra have advised the government that the commanders of the allied fleet have notified them that the ports LaGuayra, Puerto Cabello, Cora, Maracaibo, Barcelona and Carupano will be blockaded from Saturday afternoon. This news has caused a bad effect here, one of the results is an announcement of an immediate advance in prices on all kinds of merchandise.

BOWEN AS INTERMEDIARY.

Caracas, Dec. 18.—The Venezuelan government today conferred on American Minister Bowen full power to do what he can to secure arbitration of the Venezuelan difficulties and appointed him its representative on any board of arbitrators that may be selected. Replies to the proposition forwarded by Venezuela, through Washington, to London and Berlin asking that the questions at issue be submitted to arbitration are awaited with intense anxiety.

FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS NOTIFIED.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Secretary Hay today received a cablegram from Minister Bowen giving the text of a formal communication from President Castro and the Venezuelan foreign minister in which full powers to adjust the pending differences between Venezuela and the European allies was conferred on Bowen. After a long conference with the president on the subject Hay sent instructions to the American embassies at London, Berlin and Rome, to communicate to the British, German and Italian governments the fact of Bowen's designation as the Venezuelan representative and to request those governments to state whether he is acceptable in that capacity. Hay will probably also send similar instructions to the American diplomatic representatives of other countries which may have claims against Venezuela. This indicates that the settlement in which Venezuela has interested Bowen will embrace all pending claims of foreign nations against the South American republic. According to the state department Bowen's status is that of an intermediary and not a mediator or arbitrator.

DEWEY'S ITINERARY.

Washington, Dec. 18.—A cablegram

THE MANUFACTURERS

Of the celebrated White Knight cigars have placed on sale at my store 200 boxes of their high grade cigars to be sold at 85 cents per box. These excellent cigars will be a very acceptable present on Christmas day. This supply will not last long, so buy today. J. B. Wells, Tobacconist, 14 Patton Avenue. Mail orders 90 cents per box.

N. B.—These cigars are put up in a special box for the Christmas trade. 3t

SPECIAL ATTENTION TO LADIES

Calling in my store purchasing holiday presents for your husband, brother or friend. Courteous treatment to all.

Bloomberg Leading Cigar and Sporting Goods Store, Patton Ave.

Tenny's Peanut Brittle at Lee's. 1t

Biltmore Firewood. Phone 700. 1t

FIREWORKS!

at Heston's—the best kind. Fire Crackers that we warrant every one to explode. Roman Candles, Sky Rockets

HESTON'S
Phone 133. 26 S. Main.

from Admiral Dewey, made public today, announcing the proposed itinerary of the vessels of his fleet during the Christmas holidays, clearly shows that the plan provides for no undue concentration of ships along the Venezuelan coast, and so prudently and advisedly have its details been drawn up that Secretary Moody today cabled the admiral the department's approval of his orders. This will set at rest the rumors that the United States contemplates complicating the Venezuelan situation by dispatching the large naval force to LaGuayra as an offset to the allied fleet.

Admiral Dewey's cablegram, dated San Juan, December 14, is to this effect: Proposed itinerary of vessels for Christmas holidays: Kearsarge, Alabama, Massachusetts, Iowa and Scorpion to Trinidad; Illinois, Indiana and Hist to St. Thomas; the Texas to Pointe-A-Pitre; Chicago, Newark and Eagle to Caracas; San Francisco, Albany and Wasp to Maguey; Cincinnati, Atlanta, Prairie, tugs and torpedo boats to San Juan; Culgoa to Mayaguey and San Juan; Olympia, Nashville and Machias to St. Kitts; Detroit to Antigua; Mayflower and Vixen to Porto Rican waters and vicinity, and Dolphin to Antigua and vicinity.

In reply Secretary Moody sent the following cablegram: "Carry out proposed itinerary. Merry Christmas."

GERMANY'S DEMANDS.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The state department has learned that, as reported in the Berlin dispatches, a mere money payment will not meet Germany's desires. Count Quadt, the German charge, had a long interview with Secretary Hay today touching Venezuela, and the fact is now apparent that while money will satisfy Great Britain and Italy, Germany must have an apology. The difference between her case and that of the other powers is that the German legation at Caracas was attacked, its windows broken, the minister's sick wife terrorized and the German national honor otherwise touched in a manner that cannot be healed by money. Touching the question of a guarantee of any obligations assumed by Castro as a result of Mr. Bowen's good offices, it is suggested that the United States being without power to assume directly any responsibility for the execution of Castro's pledges, it is still possible for the state department to give assurances to any parties who might be induced to produce money to pay the judgments against Castro, that when the time comes for repayment, the United States would exercise its good offices to see that the obligations were kept. It is distinctively stated, however, that no pledges will be made on the part of the United States to forcibly collect any indebtedness of this kind.

"DIPLOMATIC INSULTS."

Berlin, Dec. 18.—Aside from the financial claims mentioned in her ultimatum, Germany expects some form of apology from Venezuela for the "diplomatic insults," which the foreign office says are more serious and more gross than those of which Great Britain complains. The foreign office officials point out that Premier Balfour's remark yesterday evening in the house of commons about Germany having other financial claims must be understood as applying to diplomatic reparation for the insults and not to a material indemnity, like money or territory.

The foreign office is again calling attention to the suspicions in the United States lest Germany effect a landing in Venezuela. It says a refutation of such suspicions ought to be perceived in the slender forces at the disposal of Germany. There are scarcely three hundred men who could be spared from the squadron.

FRANCE IS NOW IN.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 18.—The government of France has now entered the field as an active party in the trouble. Through its ambassadors and charges and ministers it served notice upon the governments of Great Britain, Germany and Italy, and by way of information has also told Secretary Hay that any provision made for the settlement of the claims against Venezuela must recognize the pre-eminence of French claims. France received assurances from the other governments named that any arrangements made

Choice Lots

On Charlotte Street For Sale.

Opposite the Manor and Albemarle Park property. The owner has heretofore refused to sell these desirable lots, but we can now name a very reasonable price, either as a whole or divided into four lots. Total frontage 252 feet; depth 194 feet.

Wilkie & LaBarbe
SOLE AGENTS.
No. 23 Patton Avenue. Phone 661.

would provide for the security of the French interests in the Venezuelan customs.

MISS KATIE BRIGGS IN CUSTODY HERE

Rumors That Everything will Be "Fixed Up."

Yesterday Captain Jordan returned with Miss Katie Briggs, the alleged mother of the infant abandoned here. She was arrested at Tryon Thursday night under the instructions of the Asheville officers. Upon the arrest of the two in Asheville the Tryon officials were immediately wired to and arrested Katie Briggs without much difficulty. Captain Jordan stated that she had made no statement to him, as he had forbidden her. She was at once taken to the city hall, where the others were.

In the afternoon the trio walked over to the office of their attorneys, Luther & Wells, where they remained in consultation throughout the afternoon. Neither the attorneys for the defense nor Messrs. Carter and Chedester, for the prosecution, would make any statements for publication. However, they were in very earnest consultation and the wires were kept hot for a while. It is known that they were trying to arrange a compromise and the terms were even rumored, with what authority it is not known. It is said they agreed to pay all costs and keep the child on condition that no charge is pushed.

They were given permission to stay at the Windsor hotel last night, a patrolman keeping guard. The Miss Briggs arrested here Wednesday was dismissed, there being no charge against her. She has returned to Hendersonville.

It will be remembered that the immediate occasion of their arrest was some alleged shoplifting done in Redwood's store. Mr. Luther says that the one released has no connection with that, and that many people misjudge her. A person at the store said that Mrs. Henderson seemed much agitated when accused of stealing. It is asserted by several people that Mrs. Henderson is entirely innocent of the charge of larceny to the amount of \$24.50, but the people at Redwood's have their own views about it. Anyway, Captain Jordan gets the reward of \$50, offered by Captain Patton.

PRESIDENT DIAZ INJURED

City of Mexico, Dec. 18.—President Diaz is suffering from the effects of a recent fall at the Loyal theatre. He sustained a sprained arm and slight bruises. No serious result is feared.

A Christmas Gift of Worth

—One that will prove useful and a frequent reminder of the giver is

A... Good Umbrella

Our assortment is large and the variety, shapes and styles will prove a very interesting feature to the prospective giver.

Your inspection is solicited

ARTHUR M. FIELD Company,
Leading Jewelers,
Cor. Church St. and Patton Ave

For Sale or Rent

Large boarding house unfurnished, "The Buxton," No. 11 Starnes Avenue, \$50.00 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.

30,000 STRIKERS CHARGED ON BY COSSACKS

300 Reported Killed and a Thousand Wounded in a Russian Town.

WOMEN PIERCED BY COSSACKS' LANCES

Strikers Barricaded the Streets and Fought Fiercely Against the Troops.

Vienna, Dec. 18.—Bloody fighting occurred at Rostoff, Russia, today between strikers and troops. Thirty thousand strikers, making a demonstration against an obnoxious employer, were charged by Cossacks. The mob attacked the Cossacks, unarming and beating them until they cried for mercy. Reinforcements were sent. The mob barricaded the streets and repulsed the troops six times. There was terrible carnage. It is reported that 300 were killed and a thousand wounded. Two thousand women fought in the strikers' ranks. Many of them were pierced by the Cossacks' lances.

EARTHQUAKE AT ANDIJAN KILLS 155, INJURES 300

Tashkend, Asiatic Russia, Dec. 18.—Three officials, two soldiers and 150 natives, mostly children, were killed by the earthquake which destroyed the town of Andijan, Russian Central Asia, Tuesday. In addition 300 natives and 17 soldiers were injured and 9,000 houses of natives and 130 Russian residences were destroyed.

NON-UNION MINERS TELL OF ILL TREATMENT

Scranton, Dec. 18.—The strike commission today listened to a continuous rehearsal by non-union miners of assaults on men, women and children by strikers during the recent strike.

If you want a genuine BARGAIN

Call at our office and let us show you a 7 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. Gentlemen's Riding, Breeches and Livery a Specialty.

Young Ladies Can Give

Their gentlemen friends for a Christmas present one of our

HANDSOME Meerschaum Pipes

with genuine amber mouthpieces. We have lots of them.

MICHELSON'S
ON THE SQUARE.

COLD CREAM

Fresh cold cream, fine for skin and complexion, 15 and 25c per jar.
HOLIDAY PERFUMES.
We offer a choice assortment of holiday perfumes and sachet powders. They are of the best quality, daintily boxed and very reasonably priced.

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