Tancy 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 Germany and England Willing 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 selec-

Pfafflin's Drug Store,

Patton Ave. and Church St.

Christmas Cooking

Will be made easier for the busy housewife if she has a

Universal Food Chopper

It chops meat without mashing or tearing; it is simply constructed and never gets out of order; it is easily cleaned: is heavily tinned and will not rust The price is only

\$1.50

Asheville Hardware Co. On the Square

Asheville Phone 87

Christmas

..IS...

COMING.

Be sure and look at our line of Sweaters, Smoking Jackets, Hats, Gloves, Neckwear, Shirts, Suspenders, Handkerchiefs, &c.

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Suitable for Presents for Men and Boys.

Whitlock's

41 Patton Avenue.

Roosevelt and Hay Working to Get Venezuelan Matter There.

REPLIES RECEIVED AS TO ARBITRATION

to Arbitrate, But Conditionally.

Washington, Dec. 19 .- Secretary Hay has received partial responses from the government of Great Britain, Germany and Italy respecting the proposal to arbitrate the Venezuelan difficulties. Great Britain is favorable to arbitration with proper safeguards. Germany accepts arbitration in prin-

ciple, but finds a multitude of small adjustments to be made before entering into the agreement. Italy, as the junior partner of the allies, declares that she is favorable

[DELAYED]

Placed on sale to-day for the first time.....

SPECIAL PRICES

J. H. LÁW, 35 Patton Ave.

A BEAUTIFUL LORGNETTE

In Sterling silver and heavily gold plated would make a splendid present

FOR MOTHER OR WIFE

Drop in and see what we have Our opera glasses are beauties, prices ranging from \$1.50 to

McKee The...
Optician

54 Patton Avenue

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.

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, 22 Patton avenue. Phone 107.

to arbitration, but will be bound probably by the action of the senior part-

The note to Ruter's Telegraph, annoncing that Great Britain had sent a reply to the United States is as for

"The statement issuing from Caraca to the effect that President Castro has empowered Minister Bowen to act as the representative of Venezuela is garded in London as open to question. Any such action on the part of President Castro would be considered whelly beside the mark. The powers concerned will deal solely with the United States in the matter of arbitration; The government of Venezuela will not be consulted in any form, not even as to the terms on which arbitration might be acceptable to the powers." To secure these results the American embassies at London, Berlin and Rome have been working energetically to tary Hay to ascertain how the proposal would be received.

cerns can be induced to enter the field, the United States will do what it can touched upon, although no confirmation faith of the company. can be had at this time.

The German position presents the bitration. And the danger of delay in the face of a blockade, which seriously workers. cripples neutral commerce and invites hostile collisions with the Venezuelans, cannot be overestimated. The efforts of the United States, therefore, must be directed toward hastening Germany's action on the arbitration proposal.

The French government has served notice that, without abating her of the points which is likely to lead by the strikers. to the consumption of much time and which must be disposed of before a final arrangement can be made to arbitrate the case.

BALFOUR ANSWERS QUESTION London, Dec. 19.-In a reply, made public today, to a question in parliament of Gibson Bowles, conservative, Premier Balfour says no intimation has been received from the government of the United States that it will object to American shipping being inade of the Venezuelan coast. The ob- fine business season. jections to the blockade which it is proposed to establish has been carefully considered. They cannot, however, be altogether removed, as some of them are inherent to that particu- Will Be Organized, Here in the Near lar class of naval operations.

Mr. Bowles also asked "whether in view of the destruction by the Germans of two gunboats and the consequent impossibility of holding them as pledges, the government proposes to continue joint action with Germany. The premier replied in the affirmative

VENEZZUELA'S ANXIETY. Caracas, Dec. 19 .- No reply has yet

been received to the proposal for arbitration of Venezuela's dispute with Germany and England and, the government is still anxiously awaiting the decision of the powers. The British warship Tribune has replaced the Indefatigable at LaGuayra. The Italian cruiser Giovanni and the Bausan and the American gumboat Marietta are also there.

THE HAGUE TRIBUNAL. Washington, Dec. 19.-Enough has been learned by the state department of the views held by Germany, England and Italy in regard to Castro's offer to arbitrate the claims against Venezuela to justify the administra-(Continued on fifth page.)

THE MANUFACTURERS Of the celebrated White Knight cigars have placed on sale at my store 200 bilt had passed a good night. boxes of their high grade cigars to be sold at 85 cents per box. A issued the following bulletin: on Christmas day. This supply will not last long, so buy today. J. B. Wells, Tobacconist, 14 Patton avenue. Mail orders 90 cents N. B.-These cigars are put up in a

special box for the Christmas trade. 3t

Biltmore Firewood. Phone 700.

Huyler's Candy

Best in the world. Entirely fresh, received today, in 1, 2, 3 and 5 lb boxes at

HESTON'S

Phone 183. 26 S. Main.

Is the Intimation of Justice Gray Chairman of the Strike Commission.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 19.-Chairman Gray, when the strike commission opened its session today, recalled the carry out the instructions of Secre-incident of Wednesday, when the accuracy of the wage statements of two men employed by the Pennsylvania As far as England is concerned, the Coal company was questioned. The safeguards referred to are believed lawyers for the miners challenged the to relate to the question of guarantee, good faith of the general manager of which is full of difficulties. The Unit- the company, and Chairman Gray said ed States government is determined that if the company could not show not to allow itself to be drawn into how many men figured in the wages provides that all adulterated food and the position of a guarantee in this handed to the commission, it might drugs shall be placed on the market case, for the precedent might require shake the faith of the commission in under their true names and under such the United States to become the finan- the wage statement. Chairman Gray cial backer of all South and Central said that he has since been informed America. However, if private con- that the auditor notified one of the assistant recorders when the figures were handed in that the company was to reduce their risks. Secretary Hay, unable to give in all cases the exact Sir Michael Herbert, the British am- number of men sharing in the earnbassador, and Senator Depew were in ings. The chairman said he did not conference today, and it is suspected wish to convey the impression that that this phase of the controversy was the commission impugned the good

called James Elias of Scranton, who the proposed department of commerce Jones were there was received, and no greatest difficulties, for not only does testified that an attempt was made the lighthouse board, the light board it involve a demand for apologies, to blow up his house. The building service, national bureau of standards, which are extremely repugnant to was considerably damaged and his coast and geodetic survey, bureau of Venezuela, but also presents so many wife was beaten by the wives of strik- immigration, fish commission, bureau points requiring adjustment that it is ers. Counsel for the non-union men of statistics of the treasury department evident that many days or weeks then submitted lists of boycotts bureau of foreign commerce of the will pass before the adjustment can be against merchants in and about state department, fur, seal and salwere instigated by the striking mine

Eight witnesses were called up to the noon recess. All of them were non-union men, who testified to the methods pursued by strikers during the suspension. One man said a union miner attempted to blow up his house, and another said he was beaten ficers: and was threatened with a ducking in the river if he did not stop work. Anclaims, the payment for which have other said his boy was laid off by the been arranged, she also claims the druggist he was working for because right to have the claims of French the druggist was warned his place citizens, which have arisen since the would be boycotted if he did not disadjustment spoken of, considered by miss the boy, and aonther man who the joint tribunal which will adjust was mistaken for a non-union man the Venezuelan debts upon a basis of and beaten so badly that he was laid equality with those of other nations. up for two months. Testimony also was This contention is strongly resisted by given that boycotts of all kinds, intimsome of the allied powers and is one idation and violence was committed

CHRISTMAS IN THE AIR

Evidences of It to Be Seen on All Sides Yesterday.

There was a real holiday feeling in And at the same moment the grand the air yesterday. There was quite a master at his distant home responds good deal of shopping and the streets "Sir Knights, may each so live and were gay with mistletoe, holly and act that we may exemplify the teachother evergreens offered for sale. Asheville merchants have bought heavily of all sorts of Christmas goods, terfered with in the event of a block- but all are confident that it will be a

NEW LUMBER COMPANY

The organization of a new lumber

William S. Thompson, who has, until recently been a partner in the W. B. McEwen lumber company, is at the head of the proposed movement and will likely complete the details of the organization within a few weeks.

company, to be located in Aseville, is

Northern capitalists will probably be interested in the enterprise. The title under which the firm will transact the business has not been chosen. Hardwood lumber will be handled almost exclusively.

Mr. Thompson, until the 15th of this month, owned a third interest in the W. B. McEwen Lumber company. His experience while with this firm has been along very practical lines.

HOPE FOR VANDERBILT

New York, Dec. 19 .- Cornelius Vanderbilt passed a fairly good night, and at 7 o'clock hope had not been abandoned. The presence of two doctors in the house throughout the night indicated that Mr. Vanderbilt's condition continued very grave, though a servant in the household said that Mr. Vander-

Dr. Austin Flint, jr., at 9:15 o'clock these excellent cigars "Mr. Vanderbilt had a fair night and be a very acceptable pres- has held his own. The fact that he is no worse this morning is encouraging." Drs. Flint, Janeway, Brown and Del-

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.

Afield held a consultation previo the issuance of the bulletin, 1 about twenty-five minutes. Dr.

"Mr. Vanderbilt is a very sick but there is hope, and he is not to die today.'

A rumor that Mr. Vanderbilt was dead was circulated shortly afternoon today. Inquiry at the sick man's home showed that the report was untrue.

This afternoon Reginald Vanderbilt and Miss Cathleen Neilson arrived at the house in a carriage. Mr. Vander- Bonnie May Jones and Marie bilt made inquiries and left his card, while Miss Neilson remained in the carriage.

A close friend of Mr. Vanderbilt who was in the house for a considerable time today said:

"Mr. Vanderbilt is very low. but there is hope."

THE PURE FOOD BILL

PASSES THE HOUSE

Washington, Dec. 19.-The house today passed the Hepburn pure food bill, by a vote of 72 to 12. The bill a manner as to advise the purchaser what he is getting.

The house committee on interstate commerce ordered a favorable report on the department of commerce bill. The vote on reporting it stood 5 to 3. The provision for including the bureau of labor in the new department was retained on a tie vote.

The bill as it will come from the The lawyers of the non-union men house committee will embrace within Marie Kuykendall and Bonnie May sus and three new bureaus-insurance, manufacture and corporations.

OFFICERS ELECTED

Cyrene commandery, No. 5, Knights Templar, has elected the following of-

Eminent commander-S. J. Cain Generalissimo-J. A. Mims. Captain general-Dr. C. P. Ambler Prelate-Rev. A. H. Stubbs. Treasurer-C. H. Miller. Recorder-M. W: Robertson.

The eminent commandery made appointments as follows: Standard bearer-W. H. Lord. Sword bearer-J. T. Bynum. Warder-J. H. Gorman. Sentinel-T. H. Wakefield.

Organist-J. P. Howatt. At noon precisely on Christmas day he commandery, assembled at its asylum, will drink in water this toast: 'To our most eminent grand master, Henry Bates Stoddard; may our order under his sway become the noblest champion of his Christian virtues.' ings of the Blessed Emmanuel.'

Leather Goods

Our stock of leather bags, prises only the most perfect arprise only the most perfect articles of the kind that we could

Every Piece is Reliable

And the prices are low for the

ARTHUR M. FIELD Company,

Leading Jewelers, Cor. Church St. and Patton Ave

For Sale or Rent

Large boarding house unfurnished, "The Brexton," 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

181/2 South Main street.

RUNAWAY GIRLS **BROUGHT BACK BY** CHIEF OF POLICE

FIVE CENTS PER COPY. FOUR DOLLARS A YEAR.

Kuykendall Restored to Their Parents.

WERE IMPRISONED IN PICKENS, S. C.

And Glad to Escape Fron Durance- N C. Hoyt Acquitted on Abduction Charge.

After being disappointed time and time again about the false reports as to the discovery of the missing girls, their parents' anxiety and the curiosity of the public was set at rest by the arrival of Chief Fullam with them in custody last evening. When the message from Pickens, S. C., that message from Chief Fullam came, many believed that the missing ones had again given the officers the slip, and doubted whether they would ever be captured; but his message to the Asheville officers yesterday afternoon had heralded his coming, and those at police headquarters were not surprised.

He at once gave a detailed account of his movements to a Gazette representative. He stated that the telegram received from the authorities at Columbia was correct in every respect but one-they had got the wrong girls. It will be remembered that it was on account of the information that two girls similar to Misses Jones and Kuykendall had been arrested there that Mr. Jones sent Chief Fullam. The chief says that the resemblance is very striking, and, like the Asheville girls, they were a runaway pair, supposed to be from Concord. He says that even after he realized that the ones arrested were not the ones he sought, he still had reason to believe that they were in the city and remained there another day. So, Thursday afternoon, he received the tele-(Continued on page four)

The Handsomest Place

On Montford avenue can be bought at a bargain on account of the owners having decided to leave town. The house has all modern improvements and the grounds are the handsomeest, for their size, in the city. Let us

show it to you. H. F. Grant & Son.

REAL ESTATE AGENTS, 48 Patton avenue.

PETRIE The Tailor

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

Phone 347:

Meerschaum **PIPES**

With amber mouth pieceswhere's the husband or brother but that would be proud to get one Christmas. They would also be delighted with a

Box of Cigars

MICHELSON'S

ON THE SQUARE.

COLD CREAM

Fresh cold cream, fine for skin and complexion, 15 and 25c per jar. HOLIDAY PERFUME.

We offer a choice assortment of holiday perfumes and sachet powders. They are of the best quality, daintify boxed and very reasonably priced.

Grant's Pharmacy

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