

The Asheville Gazette News.

LAST EDITION. 4:00 P. M.
 Weather Forecast: Cloudy and Warm.

VOL. XIV. NO. 279. ASHEVILLE, N. C., FRIDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 31, 1909. 50 PER COPY

PASSENGERS ARE BURNED

Fearful Wreck on Rock Island Road Today, Which Has Cost Several Lives.

ANOTHER FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE NEW YORK CENTRAL

Latter Was a Collision; in Former, Cars Jumped from Track, and the Cause Is Not Known.

Trenton, Mo., Dec. 31.—The Chicago Rock Island Pacific passenger train, No. 3, a California special which left Chicago at 9 o'clock last night for California points, went into a ditch three miles north of Trenton this morning. The engine and all cars turned over.

Trenton, Mo., Dec. 31.—Five persons are known to be killed, and nine injured in a Rock Island wreck. Three cars were burned. The cause of accident is not known. The train was running at a high speed. The heavy engine jumped the track, the cars following all left the track, and the Pullman cars broke away, and caught fire.

The crash came without warning and the passengers were unable to extricate themselves. It is believed most of those in the blazing Pullman car were burned to death. The scene of the wreck is in the country. Neither apparatus to fight the flames, nor aid for the injured, was at hand. The ground was covered with snow and ice, causing suffering to passengers, and interfering with rescuers.

A late message is to the effect that the twelve occupants of the tourist sleeping car were burned to death. Two unidentified women's bodies. Topeka, Kans., Dec. 31.—General Superintendent Small reports that the bodies of two unidentified women have been taken from under the Pullman car at the Trenton wreck. The body of the fireman has been recovered.

SPENCER TRASK, THE BANKER, KILLED ON N. Y. CENTRAL

Three Others Reported Killed, and Several Were Probably Fatally Injured.

New York, Dec. 31.—Spencer Trask, the New York banker, was killed in a rear-end collision on the New York Central, at Croton, today. A southbound freight ran into a Montreal express, telescoping the last sleeper of the express. Several other passengers were injured.

Three other passengers are reported killed. Several persons were injured, probably fatally. The victims were in a rear sleeper of the Montreal express, which had been halted by signal, when the freight crashed into it, telescoping the sleeper.

COW HELD AS ABETTOR IN MOONSHINE BUSINESS

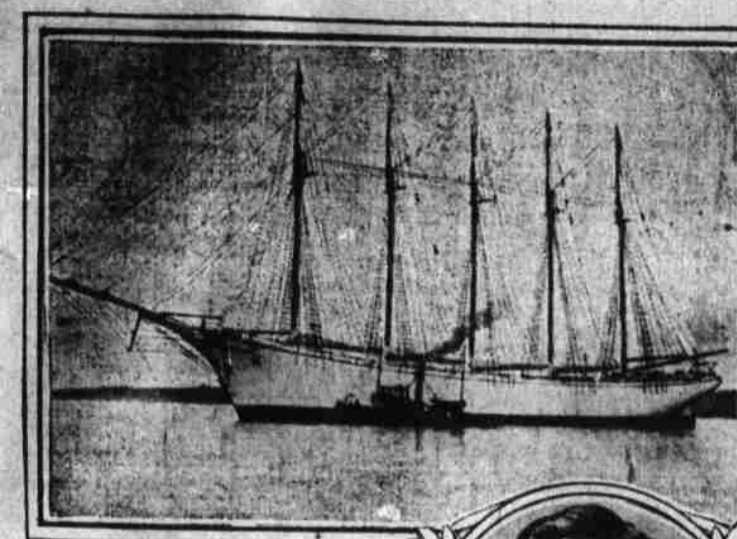
Seized Along With Still and Other Things—She Aided by Drinking the Slop.

Revenue Agent R. B. Sans today received notification of the destruction of an illicit distillery in Franklin county, Va., by Deputy Collector Gray and the capture of a large amount of collateral property.

Among the things captured along with the distillery were two lots of "moonshine" whiskey, two wagons and teams and a yoke of oxen and a cow. Asked why the cow was captured Revenue Agent Sans replied: "She was aiding and abetting in the operation of the distillery by drinking the still slop."

THE WEATHER:
 Forecast until 8 p. m., Saturday, for Asheville and vicinity: Fair to night; Saturday increasing cloudiness; decidedly warmer.

SCHOONER DAVIS PALMER LIES IN 42 FEET OF WATER



THE DAVIS PALMER

Wreck Discovered in Broad Sound by Captain of Steamship Belfast.

Boston, Dec. 31.—All doubt as to the fate of the five masted schooner the Davis Palmer and her captain, Leroy McKown, and crew of eleven men, has been set at rest. The schooner lies in broad sound on her side and at low tide the five masts project above the water about 15 feet. She is two and a half miles from the shore and in 42 feet of water. The sea was smooth and was swept by glasses for miles from tugs that cruised about the wreck, but no bodies were seen.

Captain Frank Brown of the steamship Belfast, of the Eastern Steamship company, when entering the harbor from Winterport, Me., saw the five masts protruding from the water near Commissioner's Ledge, and brought the news to the city. There are two theories as to the cause of the wreck. One is that the Davis Palmer in rounding into the harbor was driven upon the outer course and then drifted to where she lies, and the other is that she was at anchor, and, drawing 30 feet of water, pounded the rocks until she sank.

INDICTMENT AGAINST THE TOBACCO TRUST

The Attorney General Is of the Opinion That the Scope of the Prosecution Should Be Broadened.

Washington, Dec. 31.—In a printed brief of 268 pages Attorney General Wickersham and his special assistant, J. C. Reynolds, has presented to the Supreme court the case of the government in the famous tobacco trust cases, which will be argued next week at that court. The attorney general takes the position that these findings, sweeping as they seem to have been, were not broad enough and asks the Supreme court to extend them as to so widen their scope as to take in the foreign companies and some individuals who were relieved from the operation of the verdict.

After showing that in 1890 competition was free the various conditions are traced in the document and facts are given to show that the combination has grown until its combined assets amount to \$400,000,000. It is asserted that the combination manufactures all of the cigarettes for export and almost three-fourths of the smoking tobacco and cigarettes for domestic sale, more than three-fourths of the plug and twist and fine cut tobacco and almost all of the snuff and cigars that are made. It is asserted that the "defendants have persistently exercised duress, have practiced wicked and unfair methods, and used their great power in oppressive ways." Further, it is asserted that they have been actuated by a fixed purpose to destroy competition and obtain monopoly. "Competitors have gradually disappeared and the combination now strongly entrenched, unduly restricts the business of those in the trade and prevents others from entering."

Coming to specific instances relative to the operations of the trust, it is declared that substantially all established jobbers in New England were induced to throw out independent products, as were those of Philadelphia, New York and many other specified places.

Prospects Bright for 1910.
 New York, Dec. 31.—Despatches to Dun's Review indicate a temporary lull in trade activity, owing to the inventories customary with this season, and the recent storm interfered with the distribution of merchandise, but in every direction prospects for 1910 exceedingly bright.

Mother of Four Burned to Death.
 Battle Creek, Mich., Dec. 21.—Mrs. Chas. Spencer, the mother of four children, was found burned to death today, after fire had destroyed a shed at the rear of her home.

"KING ZERO" TAKES HIS TOLL

Several Persons Are Dying in Pittsburg and Section of Pennsylvania from Effects of Blizzard.

ORANGE TREES BELIEVED TO HAVE ESCAPED FREEZE

Asheville Weather Moderated Rapidly This Morning While Forecast Is for Warmer Tomorrow—Other Sections.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 31.—"King Zero" took a large toll in Pennsylvania last night, several persons dying from the effects of the blizzard, which swept the Allegheny mountain and the Ohio valley.

It Is Getting Warmer.
 Washington, Dec. 31.—The extreme cold spell which gripped almost the entire east and south is on the verge of being broken, according to the government forecast. By tonight the temperature will have greatly moderated. "Warmer, tonight and Saturday" is the general prediction for the two sections.

The cold wave in the south continues today. In Florida, the temperature was below freezing this morning, but the forecaster predicted a moderation before night.

The Oranges Safe.
 Louisville, Ky., Dec. 31.—The cold wave is central today over Florida, with Tampa showing a temperature of 25 degrees, and Jacksonville 28. It is believed that no damage has been done to the orange crop, as the low in the trees. Warmer weather is promised for Florida tomorrow.

While the north and the west and even portions of the south are still held firm in the grip of the storm king Asheville today came into being with the weather moderated rapidly after daybreak, the sun came up bright and cheerful and at 11 o'clock the thermometer indicated a maximum temperature of 28 with continued rising temperature. The lowest the mercury fell last night was seven degrees above zero, four degrees better than was shown yesterday. In Wilmington the minimum temperature was given at 18 above, Jacksonville 28, Montgomery 26, Meridian 26, Portland, Me., was the coldest place in the country last night with a minimum temperature of two degrees below zero.

The weather bureau today gives out the pleasing information that it will be decidedly warmer here tomorrow with increasing cloudiness. In referring to general conditions during the past 24 hours the bureau says: "An area of high barometric pressure has advanced from the middle Mississippi valley to the Florida peninsula, with freezing temperature reported southward to southern Florida. Fair, cold weather is now general throughout eastern districts, with the exception of the lower lake region, where light snow continues. A storm of some intensity has appeared over northern Montana and in consequence of its probable eastward progress the temperature will rise decidedly in this vicinity. Fair weather will continue tonight, followed by increasing cloudiness Saturday." R. T. LINDELEY, Observer.

JAIL TERMS SHORTENED IN SHIPP ET ALS. CASES

The Tennesseans Will Get Usual Commutation Allowed for Good Behavior.

Washington, Dec. 31.—Although a little late, the Supreme court of the United States has made a Christmas present to the Tennesseans confined in the jail of the District of Columbia on a charge of contempt of that court. In consultation today the court decided that the men were entitled to the five days a month commutation allowed for good behavior under the code of the District. This will result in reducing the terms of the two months' prisoners to the extent of ten days, and will insure their freedom next Tuesday, January 4.

The three month men will each receive a reduction of 15 days, terminating their sentences on the first of February. The men who will be liberated on Tuesday are Jeremiah Gillson, the deputy sheriff; Henry Padgett and Richard Mayo, Sheriff Shipp, Luther Williams and Nick Nolan, the 90 days men, will be required to continue in prison until the first of February.

Bacon Presents Credentials.
 Paris, Dec. 31.—Robert Bacon, former secretary of state, who succeeds Henry White as United States ambassador to France, presented his credentials to President Fallieres this afternoon.

NIECE OF PRESIDENT TAFT, WHO WEDDED YESTERDAY



W. HEN George Hong Snowden, now a millionaire lumberman of Seattle, was in Yale he had as chum, Walbridge Taft, the brother of Miss Louise Walbridge Taft. He thus became acquainted with the young lady, who is the president's niece, frequently visiting the Taft home at vacation time. That is how the story, of which yesterday's wedding was a feature, began.

PRESIDENT TAFT BACK IN WASHINGTON.
 Washington, Dec. 31.—President Taft returned to Washington at 8 o'clock this morning from New York, where he went to attend the wedding of his niece, Miss Louise Taft. He traveled in a private car attached to the second section of the regular midnight train from New York. Also aboard the train were Vice President and Mrs. Sherman, J. Pierpont Morgan and Postmaster General Hitchcock.

Madriz Government Needs Money Badly

A Loan Considered—Madriz People Expect Zelaya to Attack Managua—Prisoners Being Fed from U. S. S. Prairie—Status of New Regime.

Washington, Dec. 31.—Reports concerning the pressing need for the Madriz government to obtain a loan have been received in Washington. The state department itself is in receipt of a dispatch from Vice Consul Caldera stating that a loan is being given consideration by the Nicaraguan government. The vice consul adds that military preparations continue to be made in Managua, indicating the evident belief on the part of Madriz and his followers that General Estrada will attempt, in the immediate future, to capture the city. Dispatches from Commander Shipley at Bluefields continue to portray strenuous efforts being put forth to relieve the suffering of the captured army of Zelaya. One dispatch states that 1000 loaves of bread are taken daily on the United States cruiser Prairie to feed prisoners. On account of unfavorable weather conditions difficulty has been encountered in landing Red Cross stores sent to Bluefields from Panama, aboard the Prairie. The state department will refrain for the present from recognizing the Madriz government. Should Senator Lodge's return to Washington, he is expected to be the plan, it is understood he will be received informally exactly in the same capacity as that Senator Salvador Castrillo, representative of Estrada, is received—as the agent of a faction. Consul Olivares left Washington last night for Managua, to take charge of the diplomatic situation there. He is expected to arrive at Salina Cruz, on the southern coast of Mexico, January 7, and will be taken to Corinto on board a naval vessel.

WITNESS TELLS STORIES OF REVOLTING CRUELTY

Ugly Facts Brought Out in Investigation of the City Prison in Atlanta.

Atlanta, Dec. 31.—Stories of inhuman cruelty to prisoners were told today to the committee investigating charges against the management of the city prison, or stockade. Hatched Ivy, a former guard, swore that Moses Johnson, a negro, told Superintendent Vineing that he was too ill to work. Vineing is said to have ordered him whipped. After the whipping the negro collapsed and was sent to a hospital, where he died a week later. The witness said he saw a young white girl, Ruby Gaidler, chained to the wall by her hands until she fainted. Witness said she was left there unconscious 30 minutes. She went into convulsions and frothed at the mouth. White women, he declared, were fed from scraps.

Distillers and Brewers Are To Test the Liquor Law

Nashville, Dec. 31.—Distillers and brewers must close down their plants at midnight tonight, as that time the new Tennessee law forbidding the manufacture of intoxicating beverages in this state becomes effective. The whiskey manufacturers say the law will be tested in the courts.

1500 POSITIONS IN THIS STATE

That Many Enumerators Will Be Appointed for Taking the Census—68,000 in All to Be Chosen.

EXAMINATION OR "TEST" TO BE GIVEN FEBRUARY, 5

Applications Must Be Filed by January 25—Scarcity of Applicants in Cities Indicated.

Special to The Gazette-News.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 3.—Fifteen hundred census enumerators are to be employed for the taking of the census in North Carolina, and those who desire these positions must have their applications on file with the supervisors in the respective congressional districts by January 25. Only residents of congressional districts in which application is made will be chosen. The examination or "test" for enumerators will be held February 5th. Those applicants who give notice of their candidacy prior to January 25 will receive cards from the supervisors informing them of the date of the "test." Trouble is being encountered in obtaining applicants in the cities, although such conditions are not anticipated in rural communities. There are 68,000 enumerators to be chosen. They will begin their count of the people of the nation next April. The employment of enumerators will last for two or three weeks.

Need Not Fear "Test."
 Census Director Durand emphatically states that persons desiring to hold such positions should not stand in fear of the "test" to be made. Any person of average public-school education who can write plainly and reasonably fast will go through the "test" with "color" in it. In fact, the "test" is intended simply to help the supervisors pick suitable persons and to enable the director of the census to exercise intelligently his power of approval of those whom the supervisors designate for appointment. It will involve the filling in of either a sample population schedule, by those who will make the count in the cities, or of both a sample population and agricultural schedule, by candidates who will enumerate the country.

To prepare the way and to insure every applicant being given a fair chance, the supervisors will send in advance to each and every candidate a set of printed instructions for filling in these sample schedules. "We will make the choice of appointment depend upon that study than if they were appointed first and had to do the studying afterwards. You will see, therefore, that this test is not an appalling thing. It is not for the purpose of keeping people out of the places. It is applied simply to enable the director to eliminate those who are plainly incompetent. Any person of good judgment and ordinary common school education—for the work requires some little thinking power—can easily pass the test."

Jobs Will Be Given By March.
 Between February 5 and February 22 the supervisors will go through the "test" papers, satisfy themselves as to the qualifications of those who have passed, and make their designations or recommendations to the census director. The next step will be the director's approval, and then the supervisors will issue the commissions to the enumerators. Director Durand expects to have the army of 67,000 or more enumerators picked, tested, designated, and commissioned by the middle or latter part of March. From then on until April 15 the supervisors will send the enumerators circulars and books of instructions concerning the meaning of the schedule questions and the way the enumerators should write in the answers obtained from the people of the country.

It is very probable that census special agents may be assigned to certain supervisors' districts for the purpose of meeting the enumerators personally and giving them additional information concerning the character of their duties. Application forms, with complete directions concerning the method of preparing them, can be secured by writing at once to the supervisor named in the list appended whose district embraces the place of residence of the applicant.

North Carolina—First district, Jeremiah C. Meekins, sr., Columbia, Tyrrell county; Second district, James M. Mewbourne, Kinston, Lenoir county; Third district, Henry F. Brown, Concord, Jones county; Fourth district, William C. Pearson, Raleigh, Wake county; Fifth district, David H. Blair, Winston-Salem, Forsyth county; Sixth district, Irvin B. Toeber, Whiteville, Columbus county; Seventh district, Continued on page eight.

Office of American Express Company Destroyed and Many Parcels Go up in Smoke.

New York, Dec. 31.—Valuable express parcels in large number went up in smoke today, in a fire that destroyed the American Express company's office, near the Grand Central station, causing a loss estimated at \$200,000.

AN OFFER TO BUY PEARY'S ARCTIC STEAMER DECLINED.
 Treasury Department Holds on to Vessel in Which Polar Journey Was Made.

Washington, Dec. 31.—An offer to purchase the steamer Roosevelt, in which Commander Peary made his last trip to the Arctic regions, preparatory to his dash to the north pole, has been declined by the treasury department.