

THE PRESIDENT AND HIS PARTY

Just Where Mr. Taft Stands as to the Republicans of This State, and the Factions, is Rather Difficult to Say.

HIS BUTLER AFFILIATION IS MOREHEAD'S HANDICAP

Administration Seems to Be Judging Him by the Company He Keeps, and Has Given Him Little Comfort.

Gazette-News Bureau, Hotel Hamilton, Washington, Dec. 26. SINCE coming here the writer has received some letters of inquiry from republicans in the state who are seeking more light upon the attitude of President Taft toward the North Carolina wing of his party, and particularly as respects the president's attitude toward the Duncan and Butler factions of party. Those making inquiry apparently assume that things are known here which have not as yet been published.

A Pacific Policy. It is true that one gets a perspective from this point of vantage which may be considered more illuminating and dependable than can be had at long range. To approach the subject in the abstract, the events of the past few weeks have left little doubt that Mr. Taft has hit upon a course which he doubtless hopes will have the effect of turning away the ill will or displeasure of men identified with all elements of his party. It is a pacific policy which seems at times to include even the democrats, to say nothing of LaFollette and other senate insurgents, and it has been applied to North Carolina. Opinions as to this effort to please all men, without reference to their political affiliations or their previous condition of servitude, are varied. In so far as the republican party in North Carolina is concerned, there are good politicians who do not think the president's blanket beneficence will result in pleasing anybody. At this moment everybody except the democrats, who score a point now and then and count it just so much gained, is up in the air. The friends of Mr. Duncan have received considerable recognition, while the Butler-Morehead forces have received enough encouragement to keep up the scramble. The president's political advisers appear to have little liking for the Morehead-Butler faction, while the attitude assumed by the president himself is not wholly dissimilar.

Before the Greenboro convention the supporters of Congressman Morehead ceased to report to be circulated that the president wished a change made in the party leadership, a report turned to good account by the opponents of Mr. Duncan. But in the light of current events it does not seem possible that the report could have had any foundation in fact. It is not of record that the president has ever gone a step out of his way to consult the friends of any matter relating to federal patronage, much less to matters of party policy. Not a great while ago Mr. Taft asked what he could do but recognize the new organization, measurably, as though he took no great pleasure in the thought of doing so, and as though somewhat perplexed. Morehead has been the flying squad, supported by his flying squad, seeking the favors which he undoubtedly felt at one time would come to him automatically. For one thing President Taft is probably judging Mr. Morehead by the company he keeps, and it is well understood here what the president thinks of Morehead's Butler connections. There has been talk in the state of a possible break between Morehead and Butler. Here such talk is regarded as idle. When the president asked his callers on the flying squad about the Butler finance Morehead said nothing, because he had nothing to say.

They Are Close Friends. Mott was speaking for Butler in the presidential race, and it was to Mott that the president said that Mott was there. It is not merely that Butler and Morehead have thrown their political fortunes together, but they have been intimate, bosom companions. While Butler was engaged in the preliminaries of the campaign, they made Morehead and his friends the very inseparable, and when the state of activity was shifted to the state of the train took them to Morehead city, and the same roof covered them when they got there. Their stay at the seaside at an end, the same Pullman conveyed them to Greensboro, where, in the same hotel, Butler's light refreshments could be found in a room in close proximity to Morehead's heavier refreshments. Appeared to several times during the campaign Morehead would never utter a word that might be construed as a recommendation of his creator, and now, all these things being true, how North Carolinians here inquire, could Morehead deny his friend without exhibiting the same rank ingratitude toward the man who made him chairman, as he did toward the men who helped to send him to congress? Not is there any indication that

A DOUBLE TRAGEDY IN SWAIN COUNTY

D. J. and J. P. Calhoun, Brothers, Were Slain by Oscar Clark on Saturday Evening.

GUILTY MAN HAS ESCAPED TO TENNESSEE, IT IS THOUGHT

One of the Calhouns Brought to Asheville, Dying Here—Each of the Brothers Leaves Family.

A double tragedy was enacted at Dorsett's postoffice in Swain county, several miles from Bryson City Saturday evening when Oscar Clark shot and almost instantly killed D. J. Calhoun and then turning his pistol on the slain man's brother, J. P. Calhoun, shot him twice, inflicting wounds from which he died at the Mission hospital here last night.

According to the best information obtainable today a number of men had gathered near the postoffice where there was some drinking and carousing, among the number being Clark, an unmarried man probably 30 years of age. It is said that Clark was amusing himself by standing on a porch and with revolver in hand shooting over the heads of some men not far distant. D. J. Calhoun, familiarly known in that section as Dan Calhoun, a married man 25 years of age, went to Clark and remonstrated with him, insisting that he stop the shooting. The two men became involved in a wordy battle when Clark suddenly drew his pistol and shot Dan Calhoun, the wound causing almost instant death. J. P. Calhoun, known as Phil Calhoun in Swain county, went to the scene, when Clark turned the weapon on him, shooting him twice through the abdomen, Clark then, it is said, turned and made his escape. A message today stated that Clark had not been captured, that it is thought he has escaped to Tennessee. Philip Calhoun was brought to Asheville yesterday morning accompanied by his father, W. I. Calhoun, and a cousin. The wounded man was operated on at the Mission hospital yesterday by Dr. L. B. McFrayer and Dr. W. P. Whittington of this city. Mr. Calhoun lingered until midnight last night when death ensued. The body was taken to Wayside this afternoon for interment. J. P. Calhoun was 29 years of age and was also married and had a family. It is said that Oscar Clark has been in trouble at different times in Swain county and although he and the two brothers that he slew had always been good friends, he was known as a reckless sort of fellow and a man who would use a gun. It is said that he has been in trouble heretofore for carrying a concealed weapon and for disturbing religious worship.

FOUR MAIL CLERKS ARE KILLED IN TRAIN WRECK

Cars Piled up at Mouth of Tunnel on N. & W.—Passengers Escaped Injury.

Rosnoke, Va., Dec. 25.—Four mail clerks and helpers were killed and several men were injured in the wreck of passenger train number 16 of the Norfolk and Western railway in tunnel number 6 near Williamson, W. Va., at 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon. The train left Columbus, Ohio, at 8:10 o'clock yesterday morning en route to this city and Norfolk, Va. The locomotive, tender and the baggage and mail cars were thrown from the tracks. The mail car was badly wrecked. At work in the mail car on the heavy Christmas mails, the clerks had no chance of escape. Four of them were killed and one seriously hurt. Engineer Robinson and his fireman, whose names is not known, were both slightly injured. Baggage-master R. H. Edwards of this city sustained serious injuries, and Charles N. Davidson, of Columbus, O., was badly hurt. The wreckage choked up the tunnel and it will be some time before the debris can be cleared away and traffic resumed. None of the passengers on the train is reported injured.

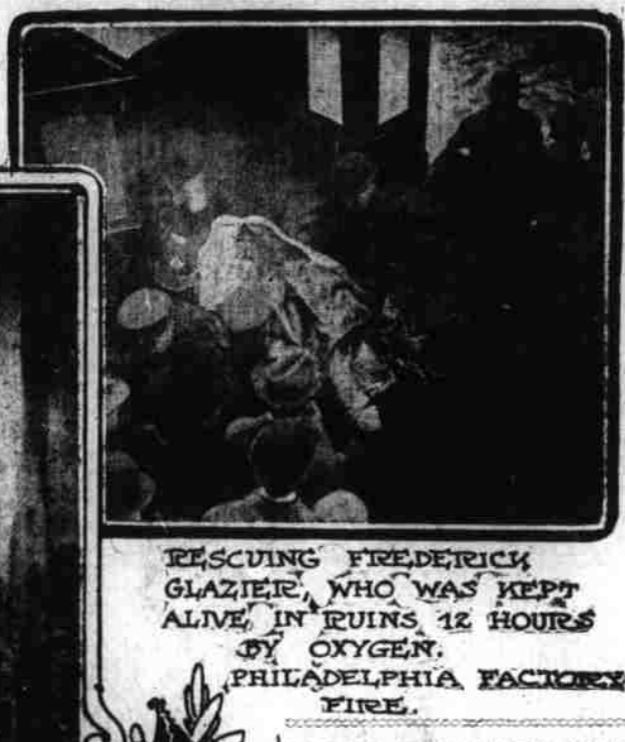
The dead, employees of the railway service, are: James B. Herndon, of Rosnoke, Va.; Carl C. Goode, of Mechanicsville, W. Va.; Howard K. Bell, of Franklin, Ohio; Lama W. Dowdy, of Pearisburg, Va. The train was being drawn by two engines which left the track at the entrance to the tunnel. Mail Clerks Dowdy and Herndon have families and had anticipated being at home for their Christmas dinner. Admiral Dewey 73 Years Old Washington, Dec. 25.—Admiral George Dewey, the hero of Manila Bay, is celebrating his 73rd birthday anniversary today. The admiral continues his active work in the navy each day as head of the general board.

Spectacular Scenes at the Big Philadelphia Fire

FORTY-EIGHT lives are known to be lost, three firemen are missing, and more than 30 lie injured in hospitals as the result of two fires, one in Chicago and one in Philadelphia. Thirty-one, all of them firemen, and including the fire marshal and one of his assistants, were killed in Chicago. Of the dead in Philadelphia, some are firemen and some policemen. Great valor marked the sacrifice in both instances. Fire Marshal Moran in Chicago had warned the city council of his fear of a stock yard holocaust only the day before it came.



RESCUE PARTY AT WORK IN RUINS OF PHILADELPHIA FIRE.



RESCUING FREDERICK GLAZIER, WHO WAS KEPT ALIVE IN RUINS 12 HOURS BY OXYGEN. PHILADELPHIA FACTORY FIRE.

WAGE DISPUTE HAS ALL BEEN SETTLED

Engineers on Western Roads Accept 10 per Cent. Increase and Strike Is Called Off.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—"No strike" on the railroads west, north and south of Chicago by the engineers. This announcement was given out at the close of the conference Saturday afternoon between the railway managers and engineers, represented by Chief Warren S. Stone of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Mediator Charles F. Neill. Mediator Neill's plea that each side contribute more of their claims and offers to the common cause of peace was successful and each side agreed that the claims originally set up would be modified to enable a settlement. The engineers sought practically 17 per cent. increase in the old pay. The railroads had agreed to a raise approximating 9 1/2 per cent. and there the matter hung until settled Saturday afternoon. The engineers under the terms of the agreement get an average increase in wages of 10 1/3 per cent. of their 1910 wage scale, an average of approximately \$192 for each of the 33,000 men involved, for each subsequent year. Specifically the agreement provides for a raise of 40 cents a day for all engineers, with a differential of 75 cents a day for the smaller Mallet engines and a differential of \$1 a day for the heaviest Mallets. In a letter Grand Chief Engineer Warren S. Stone of the Brotherhood gave as the reason for accepting the terms offered the suffering and loss which would attend a general western strike. Numerous specific working conditions improved by the agreement signed formally late Saturday, and engineers are given control of electric and gasoline motor cars used as locomotives with an increase of 50 cents a day in present wages. Hostile under the protection of the engineers get an increase of 25 cents a day. The new rate was effective with the signing of the agreement Saturday.

GRADY WOODSON IS DANGEROUSLY CUT

In a Row at a Dance Near Alexander Saturday Night He Was Slashed With Knife.

As the result of a general row at a dance Saturday night, near Alexander in which knives and knuckles were said to be much in evidence, Grady Woodson, a young man about 17 years of age, a son of Jim Woodson of Alexander, lies in a critical condition, his abdomen having been cut open by one of three Roberts brothers—Harland, Canary, or Wayne. It is not known which one did the cutting. They were all three arrested yesterday afternoon by Sheriff Williams, who hurried to the scene of the fight and brought them to Wayville, where they gave bond and were released. A little later in the afternoon Billy Woodson, an uncle of the wounded boy, who was said to have been implicated in the fight, came in and gave bond—at the same time disclaiming any connection with the row except to try to part the men. What started the row could not be learned. The parties implicated had gathered at the home of a neighbor for a dance when the trouble started. It seems that a dance was in progress when a blow was passed and from that the fight began which resulted in the cutting of young Woodson. Woodson is a young giant, weighing, it is said, about 190 pounds. When the physicians were called in they found about six feet of the bowels protruding from the wound, and it was necessary to make the aperture larger before the bowels could be replaced. Although many blows were passed and "knucks" were used, it seems that no one else was injured to any great extent. It is thought that young Woodson will recover.

BIGGEST BUSINESS IN CITY'S HISTORY

That Is What the Postoffice People Say—Everything Cleaned-up—Town Takes Holiday.

Asheville is taking Christmas today. There has been a general suspension of business in the entire city and everything has a holiday appearance. The Asheville postoffice made the regular morning delivery and cleaned up all of the Christmas mail that had arrived up to the time of delivery. This was only made possible by the large number of people who yesterday called for packages during the morning and afternoon window services. The postoffice people feel that they have done splendidly in handling the biggest Christmas business that was ever handled here. Everything went along in splendid manner and although the clerks had to work long hours overtime they did so with a very commendable spirit. The Southern Express company had a tremendous business but Manager James and his assistants have handled it in a commendable manner. They have cleaned up all of the rush packages and were making the rounds today with the matter which arrived late. The Christmas travel was especially heavy this year and all trains have been crowded to overflowing for several days. The traffic was handled in a fine manner; the trains holding to their schedules even better than in former years. At all of the churches yesterday there were the regular Christmas services. There was quite a large attendance at the services. The merchants of the city seem well satisfied with the sales of Christmas wares. It is believed that when the sales are totaled up by the merchants they will find that the holiday trade this year has surpassed previous records by a good margin. There seems to be a very prosperous outlook for the new year, and with such a feeling "in the air" the people of Asheville are pausing in the mad rush of life long enough to enjoy a little rest at Christmas.

A HOMICIDE DONE ON CHRISTMAS DAY

One Negro Shoots Another, Here, and Is Captured Aboard Passenger Train, Near Tryon.

During the progress of a drunken row, it is said, amongst a congregation of 15 or 20 negroes on Sycamore street yesterday afternoon about 12:20 o'clock, Henry Lyles was shot and instantly killed by another negro named Will McDonald. It is said that the gathering was at the home of a negro woman named Leona Hill and that much liquor was in evidence. McDonald, it is alleged, became abusive and cursed not only Lyles but others about the place. The crowd became more and more rowdy as the liquor began taking effect and finally, it is said, as Lyles was in the act of placing a bottle of whiskey in his pocket McDonald drew his pistol and shot the man through the side of the head. McDonald then ran and made his way toward the mountain east of the city. The police were informed of the tragedy some 20 or 40 minutes after it occurred and several of the police officers on duty at that time hurried to the scene. They found the dead negro on the floor and a crowd of 50 or 60 people congregated around the place. The Hill woman declared that she did not hear the shot; that she was upstairs and knew nothing about the killing until after McDonald had fled. The officers went toward the mountain in the hope of heading off McDonald but the man eluded them and later boarding a train started for South Carolina. A complete description of the negro was sent out and the conductor on passenger train No. 12 recognized McDonald aboard his train and near Tryon, placed the man under arrest. McDonald was brought back to Asheville and is now in the county jail. Coroner Morris is this afternoon holding an inquest over the remains to determine the manner of death. The inquest is being held at the Starline undertaking establishment and had not been concluded at 3:30 this afternoon.

MURDERER OF SHERIFF RIDDLED WITH BULLETS

Oscar Chittwood, Who Killed Sheriff Houpt, Taken from Officers Near Hot Springs, Ark.

St. Louis, Dec. 25.—Oscar Chittwood, charged with having killed Sheriff Jake Houpt in Hot Springs, Ark., last August, was taken from the county jail at Hot Springs early this morning and shot to death, according to a telephone message received here. His body was riddled with bullets. Chittwood was being spirited away from the county jail to police station in Arkansas to be taken to Benton, Ark., today.

FIVE WOMEN DIE ON CHRISTMAS DAY FROM HEART FAILURE

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 25.—Five women were found dead in bed Christmas day in this city by other occupants of houses where they lived. Death in each instance was due to heart failure.

FEDERALS REPULSED; SAN CARLOS IS TAKEN

Col. Durante of Federal Army Slain by Insurrectos at Mulato—Federals Injured.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 25.—A special from Marfa, Tex., from a correspondent in communication with the Mexican federal headquarters at Ojinaga, says Col. Durante, of the federal army, was killed yesterday in a fight with insurrectos at Mulato. The federal were repulsed and the city of San Carlos captured. Many federals wounded.

SIX OF THE BALTIQUE'S CREW ARE STILL MISSING

Antwerp, Dec. 25.—The Red Star liner Finland, which sank the Belgian steamer Baltique yesterday, suffered severe damage necessitating docking at Southampton for examination. Six of the Baltique's crew are missing. Others were picked up by the liner and a pilot boat.

STRANGER SENDS DOLLAR TO EASE HIS CONSCIENCE

It Is "Stolen Goods" He Informs J. A. Guffey, in a Letter Sent from Canton.

That "little spark of celestial fire called conscience" will sometimes permit human beings to stray from the paths of honesty, but after one has strayed, he or she cannot find peace of mind until some act is done to atone in a way for the misdeeds. It is really a psychological study; one becomes so over-mindful of something that the little incident haunts him in his very sleep. Christmas is a season of "Peace on earth, goodwill towards men," and sometimes during this season those who are worrying find occasion to relieve their minds by some act of rectification. When he opened his mail this morning, John A. Guffey, of the Ladies' outfit, found in it a letter from Canton, a \$1 bill, and the following note: "Enclosed you will please find \$1 for stolen goods. God in His great mercy has forgiven me and I hope that you will do the same thing." (Signed) "A STRANGER."

REVENUE CAPTURE STILL

Newton, Dec. 25.—Deputy Collector J. S. Bandy, of this county, and D. A. Kanipe of McDowell county, reported the capture of a still, one mile southwest of Denver, a copper outfit of 65 gallons capacity, together with 1500 gallons of beer and four hundred fernets. There was evidence that the plant had been operated extensively. The officers did a pretty piece of work in seizing the distillery.

STATE TREASURY DEFICIT \$349,345

Report and Estimates Submitted by Treasurer Lacy—Recommendations to General Assembly.

W. J. DAVIS IS APPOINTED TO STATE ELECTION BOARD

J. M. Gray of Macon County Is Made Second Assistant to Demonstrator T. B. Parker.

Gazette-News Bureau, Chamber of Commerce Rooms, Holleman Building, Raleigh, Dec. 26.

In his showing of North Carolina state finances made in his biennial report to the governor and general assembly that meets January 4, Hon. B. R. Lacy, state treasurer, explains that he has been forced to draw on 1911 advance payments to the amount of \$12,118 to meet current demands for on the general fund, there being no balance to the credit of the state for the biennial period closing November 30. Also that there are outstanding obligations against the state amounting to \$337,267 that runs up the deficit for the two years period between legislatures to \$349,345. He attributes the deficit to the failure of the last legislature to give due attention to the estimates he presented two years ago for the ensuing biennial period and to the passing of appropriation bills for various purposes without reference of the bills to the appropriations committee. Therefore he urges that the approaching legislature pass no appropriation bills whatever without their being first referred to the appropriations committee.

Estimates for Two Years. Mr. Lacy submits an estimate of the receipts and disbursements for the next two years—1911 and 1912—based on the income and expenses for the past two years with due allowance for various increases and shows probable income of \$4,652,824. In his estimated expenses and disbursements, without any allowance for permanent appropriation for the three improvements for any of the state institutions except the perpetual building normals, he shows an aggregate of \$5,051,235, which includes taking care of the present deficit of \$349,345. This shows a probable deficit for November 30, 1912, of \$387,411 and includes \$103,000 of stock in the Matamoras railroad and Eikin & Allegheny railway that will be due the state's prison; also the overdraft of \$12,118 on 1911 receipts is deducted from \$70,004 that has been paid in by sheriffs on 1911 taxes.

The treasurer asks the approaching legislature to provide for payment of \$550,000 in short term bonds falling due January 1, 1912, before a succeeding legislature meets. He pays high tribute to the bankers and other business men of the state for taking care of the \$3,430,000 bonds they took care of with the aid of two out-of-the-state bidders, last July, when advertisements for general bids had failed. He asks that there be made no radical changes in the present revenue and machinery act of which the sheriffs and other officers have now gotten a good working familiarity.

Davis Succeeds Freeman. In the place of A. H. Freeman of Hendersonville, resigned as a member of the state board of elections, Governor Kitchin commissions W. J. Davis of Hendersonville. Both are republicans.

Three pardons were issued today by Governor Kitchin. J. C. Harrington, serving six months in Harnett county jail for assault with deadly weapon, is pardoned on petition of the prosecuting witnesses, county officers, all the lawyers of Lillington, the physicians and ministers of the Gospel and many, if not all, the business men of the place. The pardoned man cut the prosecuting witness while the latter was beating another man whom he had knocked down with a beer bottle. He has paid damages to the man cut, all lawyers fees and other costs amounting to \$750, taking about all the property he had to do this, the governor says.

George Brummel, Guilford county, gets a pardon from six of 12 months on the roads; is pardoned on account of advanced age an previous good character. He was sentenced for selling whiskey. Mary Barefoot (Sni'ies) is pardoned from six months' sentence in Wayne county for selling whiskey. The governor states that the prisoner has married since her indictment and promises to leave the county if pardoned. She is pardoned on condition she remain law abiding, abstain from the use of intoxicants. W. A. Graham Clark, son of Chief Justice Walter Clark, of the Supreme court, is here for the holidays and is being heartily congratulated on his promotion in the government service to membership on the tariff board of the United States to give special attention to the tariffs on textile products. He has traveled into many parts of the world for the government making special investigations bearing on textile matters and his reports have attracted very general attention, his promotion coming as a recognition of his very efficient services in the past. Mrs. Virginia C. Pool, widow of the late S. C. Pool, for many years a prominent shoe merchant here, died yesterday after a brief illness at an advanced age. She was the daughter of the late William C. Spenser and leaves a large circle of relatives. (Continued on page 4.)