

The Gazette-News

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Monday, December 18, 1911.

AS TO THE RUSSIAN TREATY.

That the protest of Republican Leader Mann of the house against the adoption of the Sulzer resolution in its original form for the abrogation of the Buchanan treaty, coupled with the declaration that such action by any other legislative body than the house might mean war, was not without basis is shown by the attitude of Russia and the announced determination of President Taft to veto the measure, should it pass the senate. Aware of the popular support of the measure, house members, according to press dispatches last week, were confident the President would not dare disapprove of the resolution. Mr. Taft has not only made plain his intention to do so if needful, but has indicated that he would no longer consider the house at all in his dealings with the treaty situation.

The administration is disposed to abrogate the 1832 treaty, but objects to a resolution which bluntly criticizes a friendly power as violating its treaty obligations. Many members of the senate are said to be inclined to concur in the view that the expressions of the Sulzer draft are ill chosen. Although the vote was overwhelming, a number of house members evidently were of the same opinion.

The hasty adoption of the resolution would seem to warrant the implied criticism of the lower branch of congress in Mr. Mann's statement. The house assumes so little responsibility in foreign affairs that its actions in regard to them have often been notoriously indiscreet. The Sulzer resolution action does not add to its dignity; it contrasts unfavorably with the responsible and guarded course of most other great law-making bodies on similar occasions.

NO MORE SANTA CLAUS LETTERS TO BE PUBLISHED.

Years ago some journalist was inspired with the idea of inviting the children to write letters to Santa Claus, and of publishing them in his paper. Our morning contemporary adopted this idea, to which we, of course, had no objection, as it did not appear to be any of our business. This paper said nothing about it, one way or another, but the idea began to invade the families of our subscribers, and a few letters drifted in—which were published, it being a small matter. Year by year the number increased, and it was not long before the composition and space began to be a serious consideration. The past year for two the publication of the Santa Claus letters has become an actual embarrassment. The volume of holiday business is always heavy, and it is now found necessary to discontinue the publication of the letters to Santa Claus. Those received will be forwarded to him direct. We wish to call the especial attention of parents to this to the end that none of the little hearts may be wounded.

BRITAIN'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE SITUATION IN PERSIA.

An explanation is to be found for the apparent complacency with which the British government views the confessedly arbitrary policy of Russia in Persia in the relations between Great Britain and Germany. Indeed the imminence of a rupture between those two countries is emphasized, many hold, by the Persian difficulty as never before. England regards the friendship of Russia as useful in case of war with Germany and to retain it seems even to be going so far as to change her eastern policy.

Persia is a sort of buffer state and England has ever regarded with jealousy the slightest evidence of an aggressive Russian policy in that quarter. British students of the subject appear to think their government is being a momentous crisis to the east.

Move we go to war with Russia about it. Russia has no navy, and our ships cannot get to her ports, or vice versa; nor to her ports. We

possible to Russia, double dash her to knock the chip often our shoulder; she not appearing, the umpire would declare the official score 3 to 0 in our favor. Great scheme; thousands more veterans of the war with Russia to pay pensions to form an argument for more high tariff—and nobody hurt except by accident.

The New York Sun has changed hands, and will join the uptown procession of New York Journalism. William C. Relek, formerly of the New York Times, is the purchaser, and the property has been leased in West Forty-sixth street for establishment of a plant. A change in ownership had been anticipated since the death of W. M. Laffan, in 1909.

We note that the usual stocks of fireworks have been laid in. Well, fireworks are no more pagan than many other things connected with Christmas observances; but they are more objectionable and more dangerous.

We have a suspicion that this Stokes-and-the-Girls story could have been keyed a little lower in the news scheme without loss to the general public.

Furnish the Greater Western North Carolina association with the sinews of war, and let them go forth, conquering and to conquer.

Consternation in New York—city is being depopulated. We've noticed heavy travel into Asheville lately.

You have just five shopping days, no more, no less; and you'll have to hurry if you wish to avoid the rush.

It would be a horrible thing in Ambassador George What'sname should get mad and go home.

Of course, those who would just as lief or a little liefer had John G. are not complaining.

Many a mis'toe the mark under the chandelier in the parlor.

The city of Asheville's Santa Claus this year is E. W. Grove.

Bet old Winter is planning for the lap of Spring, again.

Aw, Father, you might as well look cheerful about it.

MRS. T. C. SMITH

Well Known and Highly Esteemed Asheville Lady Passes to Rest, After Brief Illness.

Mrs. T. C. Smith, 87, one of the most esteemed women of the city, died this morning about 1:30 o'clock at her residence, 184 Chestnut street, at the age of 82 years. She had been ill about a week. Many of her friends did not know that she was seriously ill, but her death was not entirely unexpected to the members of the immediate family.

The deceased was of strong and noble character and held the love and respect of a large number of people. She was an active church worker, having been a member of Central Methodist church for many years.

Surviving are the husband, Dr. T. C. Smith, two sons, Frank and Thomas C., Jr., and three daughters, Misses Alice, Daisy and Gussie. The funeral services will be conducted tomorrow morning at 10:30 o'clock at the residence by Rev. C. W. Byrd, D. D., and the interment will be at Riverside cemetery. The following will be pallbearers: J. A. Nichols, P. M. Weaver, W. R. Whitson, Dr. R. H. Reeves, E. L. Nash and Major White G. Smith.

FORM REALTY COMPANY

Asheville Men Incorporate Today to Market Valuable Holdings in Birmingham, Ala.

Gazette-News Bureau, The Hotel Raleigh, Raleigh, Dec. 18.

A charter was today granted by the Birmingham Realty company of Asheville; authorized capital \$10,000; subscribed \$1500 by Phillip R. Moale, J. M. Chiles, J. M. Stoner.

When asked about the purpose of the incorporation of the company today, Dr. P. R. Moale stated that the company was formed for the purpose of putting on the market real estate, which the incorporators have secured in Birmingham, Ala., about two and a half miles from the center of the city. The organization is to be perfected soon and the land is to be marketed shortly after the first of the year.

ARMY WANTS CANTEN

Chief of Staff Wood Also Makes Recommendations for Garrisoning Panama Forts.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Major-General Leonard Wood, chief of staff of the army, favors the restoring of the canteen to army posts. He declares in his annual report that the consensus of opinion in the army is that the canteen should be re-established.

General Wood also makes some recommendations for the garrisoning of Panama canal forts. He says it is necessary to provide garrisons to protect the canal and insure its neutrality and for that recommends twelve companies of coast artillery, four regiments of infantry at full strength, one squadron of cavalry and some auxiliary troops.

In recommending short term enlistment that men would not return to the colors in time of war is "an unwarrantable reflection on the patriotism of men who have served the colors and returned to private life."

Half a Million Christmas Trees for Gotham.

New York, Dec. 18.—New York city will use nearly half a million Christmas trees this year. Consumers will pay for them a quarter of a million dollars. An average of 45 cents each. What street, where New England Christmas trees come from, has been known these days for the

Wachovia Bank & Trust Company

Capital and Surplus, \$1,610,000.00
Resources \$6,250,000.00
Trust Assets \$1,400,000.00

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Surplus and Profits \$100,000

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"THE LARGEST FURNITURE ESTABLISHMENT IN THE SOUTH"

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DONALD & DONALD

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Mountain City Steam Laundry
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BEAUMONT
FURNITURE COMPANY

"How'er it be, it seems to me. 'Tis only noble to be good."

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And for Christmas giving B. M. S. Co. Shoes are ideal, because they combine, beauty, goodness, usefulness.
Great variety of felt and leather slippers from \$1 to \$2.50.

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Seawell's Drug Store

The Brown Book Company



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Store open to 10 o'clock every night this week.

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December 18th and 19th

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Goods that have no wearing properties we do not carry; we do not care to sell such merchandise even if they seem to be bargains. Our stuff is the kind that wears and wears—and that causes you to return regularly for more of the same kind.