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Saturday, December 23, 1911.

The Gazette-News wishes, for all its readers, everywhere, a merry, merry Christmas and a happy New Year. It is a time of immeasurable happiness in the world. There is enough of the precious commodity to go around. There is some for the suffering, the distressed. It penetrates prison walls and is found in the hospital ward. There is a share for the lowly, the needy. The true joy of Christmas cannot be bought, it depends on no condition or state. There is enough for all; and may everyone, high and low, rich and poor, throughout all the world, have his share of the blessed Christmas cheer!

SYMPTOMS OF A NATIONAL DISEASE.

In a speech which President Taft, one of his hearers, described as "full of force, imagery and poetry," Senator William E. Borah made one of the most notable analyses which has appeared recently of a great problem with which the American people and government are grappling. Tongue-lashing the McNamara plotless for their awful disregard of rights guaranteed by law, he does not spare another class whose lawlessness has been productive of conditions which he thinks threatens its very existence, nay that of the republic itself. Some of his words are winged. He says:

But now shall we excuse or long sympathize with the man of influence and position, of wealth and prestige who still by work and deed teaches disrespect for or defiance of the law? Does he not know that it is useless to long expect law and order in the common walks of life when lawlessness reigns supreme in the upper air?

Let us not trifle too long with that widespread passionate sense of wrong even among the more conservative, arising out of the belief that large fortunes have been built up at the expense of the poor, and that men, women and children go hungry while others revel in waste and luxury. It is possible to go on until the soldier called into the street to save property will fraternize with the mob.

Less picturesquely phrased, perhaps, but going further toward the root of the matter are his expressions deploring the widely prevalent tendency among the American people of all classes to ignore the law where it operates adversely to their desires, to nullify it at convenience. He says:

In no other first-rate nation, is law so disregarded as in the United States. There is no place where life is so insecure against bomb or bullet, where criminal laws are so ineffective, where the law is so generally enforced, where corruption is so little condemned in public opinion and where defiance of law in the highest walks of business life so generally prevails.

This is a frightful indictment to be drawn against any people, but a just. Our high murder rate, our lynchings, our half-hearted criminal court procedure, our dynamite wars, our predatory wealth—all are symptomatic of a national disease. No lesson could more profitably be inculcated than that the will of all the people as expressed in the law of the land should and must be obeyed.

SATISFACTION FOR ALL.

All concerned in the Harriman 1904 campaign contribution incident, then or now, ought to be satisfied, and most who were not concerned.

Harriman wanted Higgins and Higgins wanted a job. So Higgins got the benefit of \$100,000 of Harriman's money.

Col. Roosevelt's friends ought to be able to view the situation with a measure of complacency. The hands of that tribune of the people, worn with unceasing labors for the public welfare, were not defiled with Harriman's tainted gold, that hallowed head never was baptized with polluted Alton water.

election, so needful to the welfare of the country from their viewpoints, was assured. But poor Higgins, whose election also was needful, was in trouble; Harriman earnestly hoped that his friend Roosevelt would divert a part of the national committee's funds to where it would do the most good—to the New York State ticket.

As to the inwardness of the revelation of the transaction at this opportune moment, that also should be gratifying to the nation at large. Col. Roosevelt's opponents see confirmation of their suspicion that he is angling for the Presidential nomination; his supporters hope he will angle for the nomination.

So much for the Sheldon correspondence. But there is a phase of the matter which may trouble skeptical minds. Harriman, in a letter to Sydney Webster, said Roosevelt approached him for funds. Now it is said Mr. Bliss approached Harriman. Harriman is dead; Webster is dead; Bliss is dead. Bliss died last October, ten days ago Col. Roosevelt suggested that Sheldon give his version of the affair. Taft was in New York this week lining up "the boys." Col. Roosevelt reiterates, he has no third-tier aspirations. Here is a queer concatenation of circumstances, so to speak.

The Gazette-News force expect, as is customary, to observe Christmas as a holiday. However, all day will be dog watch, and if any event of a startling nature should occur Monday at home or abroad, to warrant it, an extra will be put on the streets.

North Pole, Dec. 23, '11.
 The Gazette-News,
 Asheville, N. C.
 Tell the little folks of Asheville I am all ready to start.
 S. CLAUS.

You old grouches get in the habit of smiling while the Christmas contagion is on—maybe it will fasten itself on you.

It's getting so that when a respectable person is mysteriously murdered, suspicion naturally falls on the family.

And think how happy next Christmas will be, with the new hotels full of guests.

One lady says she is expecting a door bell, with best wishes from the family.

Winter began at 5 o'clock yesterday. Can you feel the change?

Jupiter Pluvius wishes to get into the Christmas picture, evidently.

Don't you wish you'd done it early? Told you so.

Who would care to live in a world that had no Santa Claus?

Statement From Western Carolina Auto. Co.

Editor of The Gazette-News: There appeared in the Citizen of this morning, under the caption "Tausal Assault Charged to Him," this publication cites the incident as taking place at the garage of the Western Carolina Auto. Co., which is absolutely untrue. The principals named by the Citizen as involved in the affair were not in our place and we have no connection with the incident whatsoever.

Yours truly,
 WESTERN CAROLINA AUTO. CO.
 By A. H. McCormick,
 Asheville, Dec. 23, '11.
 (Enclosure).

Paul Smathers was arrested last night charged with committing an assault "with an electric current" on Robert Taylor, who it is alleged was called into the garage of the Western Carolina Auto. company last night and was knocked to the floor by an invisible force. A copper man had been arranged near the door of the garage. It is said, to which had been connected ten batteries which were controlled by a push button. When Taylor stepped on the mat, to say that he was shocked would be expressing it mildly—he was highly shocked, or rather shocked so highly that he hit the earth and was unable to rise, an irresistible force having commanded that he remain seated. He grabbed the first thing in sight. It is said, but did not turn it loose for it, too, was charged with the current of the ten batteries. He made an effort to yell, but it is said that instead of a sound, sparks issued from his mouth. This is merely reported and may be exaggerated. The fact remains that when the button was pushed, by Smathers, according to allegations, Taylor struck the floor and when Smathers ceased to push Taylor arose, although he left the skin of the palm of his hands in the floor. It having been burned off by the severe shock, it is said. The joke was considered an excellent one, it is reported, until a policeman appeared on the scene. Then, it was Paul's time to be shocked, although no one accused the bluecoat of pushing a button or placing Paul on a copper mat. However, the young electrician was shocked just the same and if he recovers he will be called upon by Judge Adams this morning in police court to explain how he came to get the mat that he was a penitentiary warden and that Taylor had been sentenced to the chair.

The case is an unusual one, and will doubtless cause no little interest when it is called this morning.

HAIR WON'T FALL OUT

If You Kill the Dandruff Germ With the New Treatment.
 John N. Fuller, a well-known citizen of Colfax, Wash., says: "I had dandruff so badly that it itched on my scalp. Herpicide completely cured me." George H. McWhirter, of Walla, Walla, Wash., says: "Herpicide completely cured me of a bad case of dandruff of 20 years' standing." They took the only really sensible treatment, a remedy that destroys the dandruff germ—Newbro's Herpicide. Stop dandruff, hair won't fall out, but will grow naturally, luxuriantly. Allays itching instantly and makes hair glossy and soft as silk. One bottle will convince any doubter of its merits. Sold by leading druggists. Send 10c in stamps for sample to The Herpicide Co., Detroit, Mich. One dollar bottles guaranteed. Smith's drug store, special agents.

pious of old sought Him, calling upon His name, and He answered them. The whole earth is the Lord's and all fulness thereof belongs to Him. O let all His saints be agonized with love before His secret presence. He rules in truth and equity.

For the Lord preserveth the faithful; be of good courage, and he shall empower your heart; all ye that hope for His coming be silent unto God; for the Lord preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud workers, who glory in their own strength.
 For the word of the Lord is right; and all His works are done in truth; He loveth righteousness, and judgment: The whole earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.
 A glad heart is good medicine for all; on Christmas day.
 S. A. TEMPLETON.

A NEW WATER COMPANY FOR WEST ASHEVILLE

Talk of Procuring an Additional Supply from the Asheville System.

Some of the citizens of West Asheville, most of them living in that portion of the town toward Asheville, are proposing the promotion of a water company in addition to that they have now, the Buckeye Water company. A prospectus has been issued and it is proposed that the company be capitalized at \$25,000. The prospectus sets out that it seems essential that the town have a larger supply of water and the opinion is expressed that it would be well to get the supply from Asheville by tapping the main at Avery street. It is also proposed that stock of the company be sold or bonds issued for the construction. If enough stock is subscribed to install the system the bonds will not be issued. According to the prospectus, if the town is ever incorporated the company will sell the system to the corporation for the amount it cost and 6 per cent. interest. It has not been long since the Buckeye Water company, brought water to the town from Yader mountain but it seems that the system does not reach some of the property owners who want water in their houses. Those that have the present service appear to be very well pleased with it, so far as could be learned from inquiries today.

NEGRO BOUND TO COURT FOR MISTAKE IN DECIMAL

Said Check Was For \$20, But It Was Meant for Only 20 Cents.

Ed. Goodrum, colored, was in Police court this morning on the charge of obtaining money and merchandise from Sam Finestein on false pretenses. The evidence introduced was rather damaging to the defendant and he was bound over to the February term of Superior court under a bond of \$100.

A clerk in Mr. Finestein's store was the principal witness for the prosecution and he stated that Goodrum came into the store to buy some clothes and offered a check in payment, which he said was for \$20. The amount of the purchase, he said, amounted to \$7 and he gave the negro \$13 in change. When the defendant left the store the check was examined and was found to be for 29 cents instead of for \$20.

Goodrum went on the stand in his own behalf and made the statement that he had taken the check to a man in Biltmore and asked him how much it called for and was told that it was for \$20. When asked by the court if he could read, he said that he could read a little but it was hard for him to make anything out of "white folks' writin'." The court held that he ought to have known how much time he was getting paid for in the check as it was for work, and so refused to believe the story. The defendant was therefore bound over for probable cause.

France is not only of all countries in the world the largest consumer, producer and exporter of wine, but also oddly enough, the largest importer.

A single field of sugar cane in Grand, Georgia, yielded seventy thousand gallons of syrup the past summer.

Officers in the Italian army are not allowed to marry until they are 25 years old and then only with the consent of the king.

GIFTS OF REAL WORTH FOR WOMEN

A beautiful oriental Pearl Opera Glass, Gold Eyeglass Chains, Gold Spectacles and Eye Glasses, Fancy Cases, Pretty Automatic Eye-Glass Holders.

FOR MEN

High Power Field Glasses, Non-Leakable Fountain Pens, Thermometers, Readers, Automatic Eyeglass Holders, Paper Weights, Auto Goggles, Interesting and Instructive Gifts.

FOR BOYS

Comprises Pedometers, Magnifying Glasses, Telescopes.

CHAS. H. HONESS

Optometrist and Optician
 Manufacturer of Spectacles and Eyeglasses
 54 PATTON AVENUE.

Our prices on opera and field glasses cannot be equalled.

HOT WATER BOTTLES

We are agents for the Kant-leek Water Bottles and Fountain Syringes. They are made of Para rubber and guaranteed for two years.

GRANT'S PHARMACY,
 Agency for Wood's Seeds.

2 DIAMONDS SET AS ONE

The size, brilliancy, beauty and appearance of a \$300 solitaire diamond can now be produced for \$60 or less, and other sizes in proportion! By a new process seven full-cut genuine pure white diamonds are mounted so that only diamond surface is exposed, reproducing in effect the large solitaire. The famous

Solitaire Cluster

is a magnificent cluster of real diamonds. It is mounted in Tiffany rings, pendants, scarf pins, earrings, etc. of most artistic and beautiful designs, costing but one-tenth to one-fifth the price of solitaires. This is the greatest value in diamond jewelry ever produced. Call and examine it—then judge for yourself. Mail orders attended to promptly.
 C. E. Henderson,
 52 Patton Ave.



Biltmore Estate Industries

No. 8 Plaza, Biltmore.

Christmas gifts in articles of Woodcarving, Homespun Fabrics, and the Handicraft of the region.

Many useful and inexpensive presents of exclusive design and workmanship, hand-carved furniture, etc.

Our salesroom is bright with attractive goods, and we extend a cordial invitation to Christmas shoppers to view the products of our shops.

Everything offered is made under our especial direction—is sold for its value by our own salespeople—is offered only at our sales-room, as we employ no agents or representatives.

Biltmore Estate Industries

No. 8 Plaza, Biltmore.

J. L. SMATHERS & SONS
 11 NORTH MAIN ST.
 ASHEVILLE, N. C.
 THE LARGEST FURNITURE ESTABLISHMENT IN THE SOUTH



Last Call Shoes and Slippers Make Ideal Christmas Gifts
 Merry Christmas to All.

Brown-Miller Shoe Co.

Show Folks

We carry a complete line of Steins make-ups, liners, greese points, cold creams, etc. Take advantage of Seawell prices and Seawell skill when you have a prescription. Prescriptions sent for and delivered.

Seawell's Drug Store

15 So. Main St.

Cor. Patton and Asheland Ave. TO EXCHANGE
 11-Room House, 11 acres of land in West Asheville for Improved City Property. Also 6-room cottage.
 S. D. HALL,
 32 Patton Ave. Phone 91.

CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

Buy your Christmas Candles at Karres Bros. Candy Kitchen. Prices 50c Boxes special 25c; 25c Boxes special 15c. Also special prices on Fruits and Ice Cream during the Holidays. 11 North Main Street. Phone 1417. All orders delivered.

Fine Rugs

Bon Marche

Dolls Reduced

The Christmas Store Will be Open Tonight

The last day to shop before Christmas. We will be open tonight for the benefit of those who cannot get off to shop in the daytime. Our superb lighting on all three floors make shopping especially attractive at night.

Rain, hail and slush have failed to mar our Christmas business. The people of this section knew where the best of merchandise was kept and came here. We have given values that will make new customers and the old ones even more staunch than before.

There are a hundred articles we might suggest for Christmas giving. Among the most appropriate, USEFUL GIFT-THINGS are: Furs, muff and neckpieces; Fur coats; tailored suits long coats; bath robes; hosiery; handkerchiefs; umbrellas; neckwear; dolls and others.

We want to break every Bon Marche record for selling today. Will we do it? Watch the Christmas Store today.

Wachovia Bank & Trust Company
 Capital and Surplus, \$1,610,000.00
 Resources, \$6,250,000.00
 Trust Assets, \$1,400,000.00
 NORTH CAROLINA'S OLDEST TRUST CO.—STRONGEST BANK.
 T. S. MORRISON, V. Pres. W. B. WILLIAMSON, Cashier.
 S. M. HAINES, Asst. Cashier.

BATTERY PARK BANK
 ASHEVILLE, N. C.
 J. P. SAWYER, President E. SLUDER, V. Pres.
 T. C. COXE, V. Pres. J. E. HANKIN, Cashier
 Capital \$100,000
 Surplus and Profits \$100,000
 TRANSACTS A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS.
 Special attention given to collections. Four percent interest paid on time deposits.

Store Open To-Night Till 12 O'clock
Brown Book Co.
 Oppo. Post Office Phone 29

DON'T MISS THE BIG SAMPLE SALE NOW GOING ON AT THE GLOBE SAMPLE CO. 30 S. MAIN.

Cadillacs and the Automobile
 GUARANTEED FOR LIFE
 We have also some unexcelled bargains in second-hand cars.
 Western Carolina Auto. Co.
 Walnut and Lexington.

Prospective tenants, nine-tenths of whom read advertisement, will begin too "look up" your property the day you begin to advertise it.