



THE WEATHER

	Lowest	Highest
Asheville	34	46
Atlanta	40	50
Charleston	38	48
Charlotte	30	42
Jacksonville	30	40
Knoxville	36	44
Mobile	42	46
Montgomery	40	46
Portland, Ore.	40	44
Raleigh	28	48
St. Louis	28	34
Savannah	42	52
Tampa	50	62
Washington	28	38
Wilmington	30	50

Normal for this date: Temperature 36 degrees. Precipitation .14 inch.
Forecasts until 8 p. m. Thursday for Asheville and vicinity: Cloudy tonight and Thursday, probably rain.
For North Carolina: Cloudy tonight and Thursday, probably rain, light variable winds.
General Conditions (Past 24 Hours). A storm of great intensity is entering the north Pacific states and at Portland, Oregon, the barometer is below 29.30 inches. This storm has caused general rains in the Pacific states and the Plateau region. No

other storm of consequence appears upon this morning's map. Light precipitation has also occurred in Colorado, Tennessee and the south Atlantic states. It is warmer in the Plains states, the Rocky Mountain region and the Plateau district. The following heavy rainfall has been reported during the last 24 hours: San Francisco, 1.66. Cloudy weather and probably rain is indicated for this vicinity tonight and Thursday.

T. R. TAYLOR, Observer.

DOCTORS THINK PAINTER AT BELLEVUE IS LEPER

Brooklyn Man Suffered Fifteen Years From Strange Disease.

It is believed by physicians of Bellevue hospital that a man who applied for admission there Sunday afternoon has leprosy. The patient was put in the isolation ward. Tests will be made to determine whether or not he is a leper.

As the board of health has held that leprosy is not contagious the patient will not be confined if it is found that he has the disease unless he elects to remain in a hospital. In that case he probably will be sent to the leper colony at the north end of Blackwell's Island, where there are now four lepers under the care of the Metropolitan hospital. The patient is Joseph Gunther, a painter, 35 years old, of 237 Grove street, Brooklyn. He was accom-

panied to the hospital by his brother, Henry Gunther.

The two men were sitting in the waiting room of the admitting ward waiting their turn when Dr. Rutledge entered. His attention was attracted immediately to Joseph Gunther. He asked the man what the trouble was. Gunther replied that he did not know. Dr. Rutledge told him he thought he had leprosy and caused him to be sent immediately to the isolation ward, where other physicians examined him. They were of the same opinion.

Gunther said that he had been ill for 15 years and that he had been to various hospitals, but none had diagnosed his ailment as leprosy. He said that he spent some years in South America and that he believed that he contracted the disease, whatever it is, in that part of the world.

John S. Early, who was declared a leper by Washington physicians in the spring of 1908 and whose case caused a protracted discussion among specialists in skin diseases, is now living on a small farm near Tacoma, Wash. His wife received a divorce from him in October, 1912, on the grounds of "extreme cruelty" following her husband's agreement to care for an undoubted leper.

Physicians at Bellevue said that there were at least four or five cases of known leprosy at large about the city at present in addition to the four cases which are isolated in the small shacks at the north end of Blackwell's Island.—New York Sun.

DISCOVER IN PERU INCA CITY RUINS

Machu Picchu, Cradle of Ancient Empire, Is Found By Accident.

Washington, Dec. 31.—But for the accidental meeting with a Peruvian Indian, the discovery of the ruins of the city of Machu Picchu, the cradle of the Inca Empire, on the top of the Peruvian Andes in South America, by an expedition under the auspices of the National Geographic Society of Washington, D. C., and Yale University, probably never would have been made. Prof. Hiram Bingham of Yale, director of the expedition, in his preliminary report filed with the National Geographic society, states that the ancient capital, Machu Picchu, probably will prove to be the largest and most important ruin discovered in South America since the days of the Spanish conquest. While it not only is larger and contains more edifices than any other ruin discovered in Peru, except Cuzco, he points out also that it has the additional advantage from an archeological viewpoint of not having been occupied by their descendants, which accounts for its not having been torn to pieces by treasure hunters.

Prof. Bingham tells of having come across the Indian, who was selling food and pasturage for horses to travelers, on the mountain trail six days out from Cuzco. The man, when questioned, said that he believed there were signs of ruins on the top of the high and almost inaccessible precipices near by and offered to act as a guide if he were well paid, his idea of proper pay being 50 cents. Prof. Bingham became interested and took the Indian at his word. A few hours later the ruins were discovered, but their real importance was not fully realized until weeks later when extensive excavations were in progress.

The fact that one of the most important buildings was marked by three large windows, a rare feature in Peruvian architecture, and that many of the other buildings had windows, added to the significant circumstances that the city was located in the most inaccessible part of the Andes, inclined him to feel that there was a chance that Machu Picchu might prove to be Tampu Tocco, that mythical place from which the Incas had come when they started out to found Cuzco and to make the beginnings of that great empire which was to embrace a large part of South America," reports Prof. Bingham. "According to the old legend, the Incas became crowded in their mountain home, to which they had been driven by barbarian hordes, and eventually recovering their military strength, they left Tampu Tocco under the leadership of three brothers, going out of three windows, and started for Cuzco. The presence at Machu Picchu of three large windows in one of the most conspicuous and best-built structures led me to wonder whether it might not be possibly that the Incas had purposely deceived the Spaniards in telling them Tampu Tocco was southwest of Cuzco when it was actually north.

"Machu Picchu is essentially a city of refuge. It is perched on a mountain top in the most inaccessible corner of the most inaccessible section of the Urubamba river. So far as I know there is no part of the Andes that has been better defended by nature. Here on a narrow ridge, flanked on all sides by precipitous or nearly precipitous slopes, a highly civilized people—artistic, inventive and capable of sustained endeavor—at some time in the remote past built themselves a city of refuge. Since they had no iron or steel tools—only stone hammers—its construction must have cost many generations, if not centuries, of effort. Across the ridge, and defending the builders from attack on the side of the main mountain range, they constructed two walls. Within the outer wall they constructed an extensive series of agriculture terraces. Between these and the city is a steep, dry moat and the inner wall. When the members of an attacking force had safely negotiated the precipitous and easily defended sides of the moat, they would still find themselves outside the inner defenses of the city, which consisted of a wall from 15 to 20 feet high, composed of huge boulders, many of which weighed many tons.

"It is not very profitable to speculate on the habits of these ancient people until we have had more opportunity to study the finds made in the burial caves and to compare these with finds made in other parts of Peru. We know that they were masters in the art of stone-cutting, that they knew how to make bronze and that they had considerable artistic sense, originality and ingenuity. Their pottery is varied in form and attractive in ornamentation. They understood how to plan great architectural and engineering works and to carry them to a satisfactory conclusion."

Prof. Bingham's final report of the expedition, dealing with the scientific data obtained, will be made to the National Geographic society in the near future and through the society will be given to the world.

"PHANTOM BANDITS" PLAGUE THE RIVIERA ONCE MORE

Farmer, Near Cannes, Shot Dead Through Window While at Supper with Family.

(Cannes dispatch to New York World.) The people of the outlying districts are in a panic over what they believe to be the reappearance of the "phantom bandits" who terrorized the region for years by a series of murders and outrages which long baffled the authorities.

Last night a farmer was shot dead through a window while sitting with his family at supper. The night before another farmer was shot at but not hit. In both cases a thorough search of the surroundings failed to reveal the slightest clue to the perpetrators.

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This, Last Day of the Year, Your First Opportunity to Buy

"Peck Clothes" AT 20^{Per} Cent LESS

Our Semi-Annual Reduction Sale Offers the chance to Get that SUIT or OVERCOAT AT THE RIGHT TIME AT A SUBSTANTIAL SAVING.

See Window Display. Come in today, with the assurance of getting "Clothes Satisfaction at a Worth-While Saving."

The "Kimona" Overcoat—Illustrated—new, nobby. Was \$30. Now \$24. Other models now priced as low as \$12.



Since 1887
The Asheville Dry Goods Co.
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were engaged for months in running down the band of terrorists, and finally arrested several men as the leaders of the band and they are in jail awaiting trial.

Gendarmes and special detectives from Marseilles have been sent to the district to investigate the new series of outrages.

The Simpler Way.
"John, you will have to give up some of your clubs. We simply can't go on in this way. I must have more money to run the house."

"I hate to give up my clubs, dear. Can't you arrange it so that you can take your meals and sleep at one of your clubs? Then we can reduce expenses by closing the house."—Chicago Record-Herald.

The Wrong Chap.
"Young man, you call regularly to see my daughter?"

"I do."
"I want to know if your intentions are serious."
"You must have the wrong man, Mr. Wombat. I call to collect the payments on her piano."—Kansas City Journal.

You Never Can Tell.
William Tell and the Austrian governor were discussing the morrow's target practice.

"I can shoot that apple off with my eyes closed," said the Swiss hero confidently.
The Austrian smiled grimly.
"You never can, Tell," he answered dryly.—New York Sun.

Agreed With Him.
An old man said to a youth:
"My boy, when I was your age I thought, like you, that I knew it all, but now I have reached the conclusion that I know nothing."
The youth, lighting a cigarette, answered carelessly:
"H'm! I reached that conclusion about you some years ago."

The Paragon.
"Have you any employee who doesn't talk baseball, horse racing and prizing all the time, to the exclusion of business?"
"Yes."
"Where did you get him?"
"It isn't a him; it's a her."—Pittsburgh Post.

Was It?
"I gave Walter a beautiful necktie of my own make for a birthday present," said Mabel.
"Was he pleased?"
"Oh, yes; he said its beauty shall be for no other eyes than his own. Wasn't that lovely of him?"—Lippincott's.

Friendship is love without his wings.—Byron.

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Pneumonia

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Conveniently located, near depot. Accommodation: by day, week or month. Rates reasonable.
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Hearty Welcome To Be Given New Year at Grove Park Inn

The New Year will be celebrated at Grove Park Inn with a costume ball and dinner.

Reservations have been made for a number of dinner parties and we request that others who will dine at the Inn make table reservations as early as possible.

Special musical program during dinner. New Year's dinner will be \$2.00 per plate, instead of the regular rate of \$1.50.

Dancing begins at 9 o'clock.

GROVE PARK INN.

P. S.—Guests who desire wines or liquors served with dinner are requested to have same at the Inn not later than noon on Thursday if possible, so they may be given proper care and attention by the steward. We do not furnish wines or liquors but gladly serve them without extra charge to guests who supply them. Address packages care Steward, GROVE PARK INN.