

THE WEATHER.

Rain Saturday, Sunday generally fair and somewhat colder.

WILMINGTON THE MORNING STAR

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CHRISTMAS.

The Star wishes its friends each and every one a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

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WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 25, 1909.

WHOLE NUMBER 13,174.

BULLS CONTROL COTTON MARKET

Favored During Week by Reports of Better Spot Demand, Etc.

SIXTEEN CENTS COMES TRUE

Situation Does Not Appear to Manufacturers—Some of the Influences at Work for Higher Prices of Staple.

New York, Dec. 24.—The bulls have made good their prediction that 16 cents would be reached by Christmas time.

Certainly the sentiment here has been generally bullish. Believers in higher prices date on the fact that the spinners' takings of late have exceeded the receipts.

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With their fair, expectant faces and eyes with light aglow they await the anxious moment when all of them shall know who is to be the favorite of fortune and whose choice is sure to bring fulfillment fit to make the heart rejoice.

'Tis then the fateful wishbone, kept over from Thanksgiving day, is brought to light and broken in the traditional way.

TRADE EXCEEDINGLY BRIGHT

Cotton Goods Advancing in Price—Record Broken in Cotton Goods Trade With South America and Philippines.

New York, Dec. 24.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly Review of Trade tomorrow will say in part:

Holiday trade has been on the whole, very satisfactory. The colder weather has contributed to more wholesome trade conditions in several lines.

The recent advance of cotton to above 16 cents for the May option was one of the incidents of the week and is in line with the general tendency of higher prices.

Conditions in iron and steel remain somewhat mixed, dullness and weakness still being apparent in the pig iron markets, whereas, on the other hand, there is quite and active demand for steel products generally.

The best export business in cotton goods is reported with the Philippines and South America.

Holiday quiet prevails among New England wear manufacturers, most of whom are now taking inventory of stock, while the jobbing trade generally is dull.

MILL OPERATIVE ON RAMPAGE.

Ran Amuck Yesterday Afternoon in Mill Village at Fayetteville. Fayetteville, N. C., Dec. 24.—Until he ran afoul of Magistrate McMillan at his home, Albert Melvin, an operative at the Holt Morgan cotton mill, went on a rampage of the village settlement this morning, visiting the houses of several people, cursing and abusing them disgracefully and drawing a knife upon several women who dared to remonstrate with him about his conduct.

FIFTY WERE INJURED IN WRECK.

Train Conveying Christmas Travelers Went Into Ditch. Winnipeg, Mann., Dec. 24.—A spreading rail caused a Canadian passenger train of twelve coaches, four of them sleeping cars, to jump into a ditch near Chapiteau, East of Fort William, Ont., today and fifty persons were injured, none seriously.

Cars to the Beach. Today cars to the beach every half hour in the afternoon.

FLEEING FROM NICARAGUA

Ex-President Zelaya Departed From Capital Under Cover of Darkness—Was Accompanied by Body Guard Heavily Armed.

Corinto, Nic., Dec. 24.—Jose Santos Zelaya, who three days ago relinquished the presidency of Nicaragua to Dr. Jose Madriz—the same day his army met defeat by the revolutionists at Rama—has fled the capital and to night is in Corinto surrounded by his body guard and a few faithful friends.

Zelaya departed from Managua under cover of darkness, escorted by fifty of his guard of honor, and a squad of artillerymen with a Maxim gun just at 3 o'clock this morning the party quietly left the former President's home and half an hour later went on board a small steamer which sailed immediately for Momotombo on Lake Managua.

The trip was made without special incident. There were no demonstrations along the line, the population generally being unaware of the identity of the passengers or the special train. All the members of the party, including Zelaya himself, were heavily armed. Zelaya appeared calm and quite cheerful.

Food For Starving Soldiers. Washington, Dec. 23.—To relieve the starvation of the captured soldiers of the Zelayan army at Rama and furnish much needed aid to soldiers of both the Nicaraguan government forces and the insurgents who were injured in the battle near Rama, the United States government today ordered the cruiser Prairie, now at Colon, to take on board \$5,000 worth of staple supplies secured by funds of the American Red Cross society and proceed with all possible haste to Bluefields.

Mysterious Movements. San Juan del Sur, Nica., Dec. 24.—The United States gunboat Princeton arrived here today from Corinto.

A dispatch dated Corinto says the Princeton was reported as having gone to the Gulf of Fonseca. No explanation has been offered concerning her presence at the place. This action on the part of the American government was taken at the urgent request of Captain Shipley, of the United States ship Des Moines now in Bluefields, who reports that the captured Zelaya army is actually in a state of starvation.

The actual situation at Bluefields is explained in a telegram received by the Secretary of the Navy from Captain Shipley, under yesterday's date received here today. It says in part: "Splendid work is being accomplished by our hospital service on shore. Seventy-five seriously wounded men were treated last night. So far, one hundred and fifty wounded have arrived. Hospital facilities assure adequate care for the present.

Nearly one thousand men were killed but the number may total more. I witnessed the arrival of prisoners, whose condition was pitiable. They were lame and near starvation. Many were boys 11 to 12 years old. Some women and small children were among the prisoners. There are not enough food supplies in Bluefields to supply the revolutionists and prisoners. The situation is critical. Starvation or epidemic may occur." This telegram was preceded by one from U. S. Consul Moffat, at Bluefields, which indicated that a desperate situation existed among the prisoners, which called for immediate action. To this Acting Secretary Shipley replied by sending the following instructions to Captain Shipley via (Continued on Page Eight.)

MARK TWAIN'S GREAT SORROW

Tragic Death of His Favorite Daughter Upon the Eve of Christmas—Attack of Epilepsy in Bath Tub.

Redding, Conn., Dec. 24.—Mark Twain's invalid daughter, Jean, met death tragically this morning while at the bath, bringing poignant grief at Christmas time to Stormfield. She was his youngest daughter, endeared to him not only by long companionship, but by her frail health caused by recurrent attacks of epilepsy. Her death leaves Dr. Clements without kin in this country to share his sorrow.

Jean Clemens died probably of strangulation due to an attack of epilepsy, or from heart failure. The body was found in the bath tub with the head only partly submerged.

Miss Clemens had evinced physical weakness of late, but yesterday afternoon she rode her favorite horse to the postoffice to get the early Christmas mail, and last night she cheerfully prepared a Christmas tree which she had planned to distribute gifts this morning.

When she arose this morning she went to the bath room where her lifeless body was found later. Her failure to respond to the maid's knock led to the door revealing her death.

With characteristic philosophy, Mark Twain is bearing up bravely. Hundreds of messages of condolence are arriving from throughout this country and abroad. Death has already taken from him his wife and his daughter Susan.

Jean Clemens was about 30 years old, and was her father's close companion. (Continued on Page Eight.)

INDICTMENT FOR MURDER

Wardlaw Sisters Must Answer for Mysterious Death of Young Woman—Evidence of Suicide Compact Discovered.

New York, Dec. 24.—Gruesome phraseology in the indictments against the Wardlaw sisters, charged with the murder of Ocee Snead, was made public today in the arraignment of Mrs. Caroline W. Martin, the victim's mother and Mrs. Mary Snead, an aunt, in the Tombs police court when they were re-committed to the Tombs for 30 days, pending extradition to New Jersey.

AWFUL TRAGEDY IN OKLAHOMA

Five Killed and 17 Injured by Locomotive Explosion.

Shawnee, Okla., Dec. 24.—Five workmen, it is believed, were killed and 17 others were injured today by the explosion of a locomotive boiler, which wrecked the repair shop of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad.

Though railway officials say that only two are dead, fragments of bodies found in the wreckage make it almost certain that five were killed. Employees say that twenty are missing. The known dead are:

Robert Kerr and John Johns. Five of the more seriously injured are in a hospital. Company C. of the Oklahoma National Guard is on duty by order of Governor Haskell to preserve order. The shop yards are strewn with fragments of human flesh. The body of Kerr was found three blocks away from the shop. Fragments of the body of Johns were gathered from roofs of adjoining buildings. Windows all over town were shattered tonight.

EUROPE STORM SWEEPED.

All of Southwest Suffered Heavily by Winds and Floods. Paris, Dec. 24.—All southwestern Europe was swept by destructive storms and floods today. In southeast France forests were devastated, buildings demolished and lines of communication were interrupted. Belgium suffered heavily from wind and flood, many factories being forced to close down on account of the inundations.

Madrid reported the most disastrous floods in 50 years. Many towns suffered serious damages, but no loss of life is recorded. The rivers of Portugal were raging torrents from an extraordinary rainfall. Although the material damage is considerable no loss of life has been reported.

BRYAN GOES TO SOUTH AMERICA

Democratic Candidate Better on Way to Cuba. Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 24.—Hon. William J. Bryan, who has been ill for several days at the home of his cousin, ex-governor William S. Jennings here, left at 4 o'clock this afternoon for Miami, Fla., from which point he will board a steamer for Cuba, later going to South America. Mr. Bryan was feeling very much better when he left the city, but was still suffering from a severe cold.

W. GOULD BROKAW STILL LOVES WIFE

Is Willing to Take Her Back to His Arms and Forgive.

SHE PREFERS \$60,000 A YEAR

In Divorce Case Husband Declares He Had Only One Week of Happiness in Married Life—Desires Conciliation.

New York, Dec. 24.—One week of happiness in two years of married life, was the best W. Gould Brokaw could get out of his bargain, he testified in court today. And yet he is willing to take his wife back. She, however, seems to prefer separation and \$60,000 a year alimony.

"I bear absolutely no rancor towards my wife," he volunteered in his testimony today, "and if she will promise to be good, I will take her back in my arms. All I want her to promise is that she will not accuse me of going with other women and that she will stop calling me names. If she makes that promise I will wish her a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

Mrs. Brokaw was not present to hear her husband's offer of reconciliation. A severe cold kept her hoarse today. But her counsel was dismissed to credit Mr. Brokaw's sincerity. "If Mr. Brokaw means what he said," commented Mr. Baldwin to the court, "there is no reason why they should not be reconciled, but I believe it is nothing more than a well planned scheme to create favor for the defendant."

At the resumption of hearings today Brokaw was asked to describe the single week of wedded bliss he would allow. He was sick at the time and quarrels and worry were not good for him, he said. His physicians advised him not to see Mrs. Brokaw but he insisted and won.

"I could not seem to get Mrs. Brokaw off my mind," he explained, "and finally the doctors said she could visit me. I drove half way to meet her and for a week she was very loving and affectionate. Everything was lovely."

Mr. McIntyre, Brokaw's counsel, brought out details that Brokaw ever set his servants to spying on his wife or that he was jealous of her physicians. He never suspected, he said, that Mrs. Brokaw would elope with one of the doctors whose name has figured in the suit, because, Brokaw said, the doctor was too effeminate.

He never heard his wife mention the name of "Bunnie" Wells, whose presence in a house party at Great Neck, L. I., precipitated the final estrangement. He only knew that a man had slept in his bed—that man he could not find out.

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GRAND BOUNCE FOR DR. COOK

Fake Explorer Expelled From Explorers' Club in New York.

VOTE TAKEN WITH BOWED HEADS

Board of Managers Declares Explorer Unworthy of Belief—He Deceived and Falsified About Ascension of Mt. McKinley.

New York, Dec. 24.—The board of governors of the Explorers' Club met today in executive session and, standing in silence, voted with bowed heads that Dr. Frederick A. Cook be dropped from the rolls of the club for frauds practiced on its members and on the public.

Coming hard upon the heels of the crushing verdict lately rendered by the University of Copenhagen, the action of the Explorers' Club today is the result of independent investigations which in no way touch upon the polar controversy and the weight of its disapproval thus becomes cumulative.

Preliminary to its vote of expulsion, the board met to pass upon the report of its committee which has been investigating the validity of Dr. Cook's assertion that he reached the summit of Mount McKinley.

This committee in concluding an exhaustive report, recommended that "Dr. Cook's claim that he ascended the summit of Mount McKinley in 1906 be rejected by the explorers' club as unworthy of credence."

The committee's recommendation was based on its finding that "Dr. Cook had repeatedly made statements that have not been in accord with the facts, and that he had entered into agreements which he has failed to keep and that the misstatements and broken agreements deal not only with the matters appertaining to discovery, but to ordinary financial transactions, so that no credence can be given to statements made by him."

Among the seven signatures appended to this arraignment are those of Casper Whitney and Anthony Flaia, polar explorer of note, both personal friends of Dr. Cook. The committee is further backed, although such testimony was before them, because it wished no cloud of partisan contentions, or question of financial interest to dim the integrity of its verdict.

In addition to the findings of the committee as a whole, individual signed reports are submitted by Herschel C. Parker, professor of Physics at Columbia, and Belmont Brown, both of whom were members of the Cook-McKinley expedition; and by Charles Sheldon, who had recently returned from a year's residence on the slope of Mount McKinley, where he went for the express purpose of studying the configuration of the mountain, with a view to the possibility of its ascent.

Professor Parker reports that he was a partner with Dr. Cook in the McKinley expedition, both physically and financially. Dr. Cook assumed the lead with a plan which proved unfeasible and the party escaped with their lives. "It was perfectly understood," says Professor Parker, "that after the misadventure all further attempts were abandoned for the season. Otherwise Professor Parker would not have left the expedition."

Instead of this, Dr. Cook, it is charged, side-tracked all members of the expedition until there remained only Cook, his guide Barrill and one packer, who was subsequently got rid of alive. These defections left Dr. Cook, says Professor Parker, no instruments capable of measuring the altitudes he says he attained. Moreover, he adds, the Summer's experience had shown that of all the party Dr. Cook and Barrill were the least fitted physically for arduous mountain climbing.

Belmont Brown, in the main confirms Professor Parker and says also that in Dr. Cook's book there is not one date given from the time he left the Chullitai. This makes intelligent criticism impossible, he declares. He asserts further that he never saw Dr. Cook make a single aneroid barometer reading during the whole trip.

Confirming a charge that has previously been made, he says Dr. Cook was known to be in serious financial straits and would have had great difficulty in getting out of Alaska if he had not reported that he attained the summit of Mount McKinley. Furthermore, in none of the pictures published in Dr. Cook's book does a climbing rope appear.

Brown and Sheldon also represents various photographs in Dr. Cook's book do not represent the peaks they are said to picture; and Sheldon denies that he is the author of the appendix C. in the book which Dr. Cook credits to him. The committee as a whole, therefore, concludes in part that "Dr. Cook's account not only such as to be unconvincing to the experienced mountaineer but that under analysis it becomes incredible." That he entered into a secret financial agreement with a publisher which