

THE WEATHER

(Today.) North Carolina: Rain Saturday; colder near the coast, with moderate to brisk north winds; Sunday fair.

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(Yesterday.) Highest temperature, 49 degrees; lowest temperature, 32 degrees; average precipitation for 24 hours ending 8 p. m., 1.08 inch.

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UNCLE SAM'S FIRST WITNESS AGAINST THE MEAT TRUST

Of the 300 to be Put on the Stand by Government, He Will Appear Next Tuesday

U. S. COURT AT CHICAGO ADJOURNS UNTIL THEN

The Decks Were Cleared Yesterday For the Most Important Legal Battle in the Interest of the People of This Country in Years—Defense Completes Its Presentation of Case to Jury and All is Now in Readiness for the Taking of Testimony—It Will Require Several Months to Examine the Army of Witnesses Summoned by the Government—Other Particulars.

(By the Associated Press.) Chicago, Ill., Dec. 22.—Counsel for the Chicago meat packers charged yesterday with combining to control the price of meats in violation of the criminal sections of the Sherman law concluded their opening statements to the jury today and United States District Judge George A. Carpenter adjourned court until next Tuesday morning. At that time the first witness for the government will take the stand.

First Witness Will Tell Story of the Packers' Pool. The government will present its case in chronological order. The first witness will tell the story of the old packers' pool which it is charged was in existence prior to the organization of the National Packing Company in 1922 and which held weekly meetings at which the government charges prices were fixed. Later conditions which led to the formation of the National Packing Company then will be detailed and in concluding its case, the government will endeavor to prove that the National Packing Company was the instrument of the packers used to continue the old pooling arrangements.

300 Witnesses for Prosecution. Three hundred witnesses will be called by the government and it is believed it will take several months to present their testimony. In addition to the hundreds of documentary evidence which is offered by the prosecution.

Case Watch to be Kept on Jury. The jury will be closely watched during the adjournment of court and the twelve men, all of whom are married, will be obliged to eat their Christmas dinner at a downtown hotel.

Attorney John Barton Payne, who appeared for the National Packing Company today read voluminous extracts from the report of former U. S. Commissioner of Corporations James H. Charlesfield on the packing industry made in 1905, to refute the allegations of the government against the packers.

Statement of Counsel for Packing Company. Attorney Payne, in his opening statement said in part:

"As I view this case, it is not the indictment of a defendant but an indictment of a great business. The effect of this trial will be felt all over the world.

"For that reason I regard this matter as of international importance. Chicago's commercial supremacy has always been closely linked with the meat packing industry.

"The growth and development of the country made big business enterprises necessary and the packers were no exception to the rule." (Continued on Page Eight.)

HOW DO YOU LIKE REINDEER STEAK?

Dwindling Beef Supply Expected to Induce Shipment of Reindeer Meat From Alaska—The Prospect Explained.

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, Dec. 22.—Reindeer meat from Alaska may be a food common to the American table in the near future to supplement the dwindling beef supply. This was the opinion expressed today by William F. Lopp, in charge of the Government's reindeer service who has just returned from a 14,000 mile tour of inspection through Alaska on behalf of the United States Bureau of Education.

"A commercial shipment of reindeer meat, the first made into this country, has just been received at Seattle," said Mr. Lopp. "In 25 years from now at the present rate of increase there should be 2,000,000 prime beef reindeer in Alaska on which the people of this country can depend for their fresh diet.

"Reindeer raising" Mr. Lopp explained, "was introduced into Alaska about 20 years ago by the Government originally as a benevolent and educational enterprise, to raise the civilization of the natives from the hunting to the pastoral stage. There are 22,000 of the animals there of which 20,000 belong to the natives."

THIS IS A CALL TO SAVE OUR NATIVE BIRDS

Diminishing in Such Great Numbers, Effort is Making to Re-Stock the Woods

AN EXPERT'S TALK ON INTERESTING SUBJECT

To Save Many of Our Native Species of Birds From Threatening Extinction States Are Called Upon by Nation to Co-Operate in Efforts Planned—Chief Biologist Henshaw Makes Interesting Statement That Will Interest Many.

(By THOMAS J. PENCE.) Washington, Dec. 22.—Bird fanciers and those interested in biological studies in this country bemoan the fact that year by year our native birds appear to be greatly diminishing in numbers. In fact this situation has become so apparent recently that many State organizations have been called upon to co-operate with the Federal authorities in the effort to stock the woods and fields with the many kinds of birds which formerly made them their habitat.

Henry W. Henshaw, chief biologist of the Department of Agriculture, speaking of this condition, said today: "It is doubtful if, taking the country as a whole, any of our native species are increasing, except perhaps in restricted localities. This is the more deplorable, inasmuch as now, more than ever, there is pressing need of the services of insectivorous birds to hold in check the constantly increasing numbers of insects imported from abroad or that cross our borders from adjacent territory. As these destructive foreign insects are rarely accompanied by the enemies which check their increase, in their native habitat, they soon multiply until they become veritable pests.

"Nature has provided in this country a sufficient number of species for the work of keeping insects in check, including the various swallows, flycatchers, thrushes, woodpeckers, sparrows and others, and it remains for us by vigorous and concerted effort, not only to protect the useful species, but to enable them to so increase that their warfare against the insect hosts shall be thoroughly effective. This can be effected in four ways: (1) by providing artificial nesting sites for the species that nest in hollow trees or in the cornices and (Continued on Page Eight.)



"I'M COMING! MERRY CHRISTMAS!" IS WIRELESS MESSAGE FROM SANTA CLAUS.

[North Pole (by wireless), Dec. 22.—Am having a little carburetor trouble with the Reindeer, but shall reach your city about midnight Dec. 24. I wish a Merry Christmas to all children. SANTA CLAUS.]

DEAD FROM AN OVER DOSE OF MORPHINE

Margaret Horton Potter, Novelist, Found Dead in Her Apartments—Prominent in Literary Circles

(By the Associated Press.) Chicago, Dec. 22.—Margaret Horton Potter, a novelist, was found dead today in her apartments from an overdose of morphine, which a coroner's jury found was accidentally taken.

For a time it was reported that death was from heart disease. Testimony at the inquest was that she had long been addicted to the use of drugs and a few months ago was permitted to leave a sanitarium to which she had been committed. She complained of illness two days ago and her friends believe that the drug was taken by her in an effort to relieve her suffering.

For many years she had been prominent in literary circles and her novels were popularly supposed to reveal thinly veiled phases of society life in Chicago. In 1922 she was divorced by John D. Black and was divorced by him in 1919, shortly before she was sent to the sanitarium. (Continued on Page Two)

DENSE FOG STOPS ALL NAVIGATION

In the Newport News Section of Chesapeake Bay and Along the Virginia Coast—No Accidents Yet

(By the Associated Press.) Newport News, Va., Dec. 22.—Shipping in this section, Chesapeake Bay and along the Virginia coast has practically been at a standstill for the past twenty-four hours owing to the dense fog that has enveloped the entire eastern portion of the State. Since early Thursday night, but few steamers have moved and a number of foreign steamers as well as American steamers anchored for safety in Hampton Roads or lower Chesapeake Bay. No accidents have been reported up to this time and may not be as the greatest possible caution is being used in navigating.

PLANS OF CHINESE POLITICIANS FAIL

Alleged Scheme to Put up Job on Manchu Dynasty Apparently Goes Awry

PREMIER STILL AGAINST REPUBLIC PROPOSITION

How Each Member of Yuan's Entourage Came to be "Self-Deceived"—It is Suggested That An Agreement is Yet Possible Between the Premier and a Number of the Rebel Provinces, But the Representatives of Other Powers at Peking Do Not Venture a Prediction Yet of the Probable Solution.

(By Cable to News and Observer.) Peking, Dec. 22.—Yuan Shi Kai, the premier, evidently still remains steadfast in his decision not to accept a republican form of government for China as the price of peace within the empire.

Members of the premier's entourage reiterated today that Yuan never will advise the abdication of the emperor and thereby become a traitor. They say that if the formation of a republic is unavoidable he will resign as prime minister. It had been suspected that Tang Shao Yi, the representative of Yuan and the imperial government at the Shanghai peace conference, and Tan were playing a pre-arranged game with the intention gradually to shear the Manchus of power and thereby prevent a Manchu rising in Peking; but the fact that Tang has telegraphed friends here, asking them to endeavor to persuade Yuan of the necessity to accept a republic, seemingly indicates that Tang and the premier are not in accord.

After many conferences prior to his departure for Shanghai, Tang evidently believed that Yuan had been won over to the republican idea while on the other hand, Yuan thought Tang had been brought around to see the necessity for the continuance of the monarchy. Members of Yuan's entourage declare in these beliefs each man was self-deceived. Foreign Legations Will Not Hazard a Prediction. Though no member of the foreign legations will venture a prediction on the outcome of the situation, there is a feeling that an agreement is possible between Yuan and a number of the rebel provinces, perhaps not immediately but after renewed armistices. Yuan, it is thought, may (Continued on Page Eight.)

UNEARTHED A BIG LOTTERY SCHEME

Arrest of Woman in Kansas City on Charge of Shop-Lifting Brings About Disclosure of Tickets

(By the Associated Press.) Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 22.—Through the arrest of an alleged woman apolifter here today the police say they have learned of the extensive sale of Santo Domingo lottery tickets in Kansas City and throughout the middle West. Fremont Weeks, an employee of an express company, is being held by Federal authorities at the Kansas City agent of the lottery.

Cash prizes of about \$40,000 are said to have been offered by one company involved in the disclosure today. The same promoters, it is believed, are conducting several other lotteries of equal proportion.

The disclosure came about through the arrest of a woman giving the name of Mrs. Ella Weeks, charged with stealing kid gloves in a department store. The police searching Mrs. Weeks' apartments said they discovered hundreds of lottery tickets in a suit case. The woman's husband, Fremont Weeks, was then arrested and turned over to the United States Marshal. The tickets are said to have been sold as coupons of the International Mining and Investment Company of Santo Domingo. Each bore a number and sold at 50 cents or one dollar.

ROOSEVELT ASKED HIM TO WRITE IT

Sheldon Tells Why Harriman Campaign Charge Came to be Aired Again—Teddy Not Candidate

(By the Associated Press.) New York, Dec. 22.—Gorge R. Sheldon, treasurer of the Republican National Committee, commenting today upon the publications of correspondence between himself and Theodore Roosevelt, relative to the Harriman campaign contribution in 1904, and alluding particularly to his letter to the Colonel, said it was written at Colonel Roosevelt's request. Mr. Sheldon took exception to the inference (Continued on Page Two)

SHORT SENTENCE FOR BIG SWINDLE

Four Promoters of a Stock Swindle by Mail Receive One Year Sentence Each

FLEECE VICTIMS OUT OF MILLIONS OF MONEY

The Scheme They Engineered Continued for Two Years, Being Conducted in Handsome Offices in a Prominent Broadway Skyscraper, When Thirteen Months Ago They Fell Within a General Drag-Net Spread by Postal Inspectors for a Number of Mail Swindlers—Who They Are.

(By the Associated Press.) New York, Dec. 22.—A punishment for carrying on a stock swindle by mail, alleged to have extended over a period of two years and to have netted millions in profits, four promoters of the firm of Burr Brothers, Inc., were each sentenced today to a year's imprisonment on Blackwell's Island.

The prisoners are Shelton C. Burr, president of the corporation, his brother Eugene H., who was secretary, Eugene H. Tobey, vice-president, and Edwin Wesley Preston. Expectedly they offered pleas of guilty before Judge Holt in the criminal branch of the United States Circuit Court today. The indictment upon which they were called to face trial specifically charged a swindle involving \$4,000,000 in connection with the sale of the stock of the People's Association Oil Company, but the Government alleged that this was but one of a continuing series of frauds estimated to have involved nearly \$50,000,000 with \$15,000,000 profit to the promoters.

Counsel for the defendants declared that rather than involve the expense of summoning witnesses from distant points it was decided to plead guilty to the specific indictment. The minimum sentence possible on this charge is 18 months and counsel for the defendants urged clemency. United States District Attorney Wise opposed the plea for clemency. Judge Holt pronounced sentence as a year each and the men were taken to the island tonight. A little over a year ago the four men were prospering, occupying expensive offices in a Broadway skyscraper. On November 29, 1919, Federal (Continued on Page Eight.)

OLD HAYSEEDS AND RUBES ARE IT NOW

Government Records Show That Agricultural Element is Fast Forging Ahead

FINE WORK FARMERS INSTITUTES ARE DOING

Remarkably Gratifying Facts Shown by Compilations of Records For Last Ten Years in United States Department of Agriculture—Women Who Study Agriculture—Uncle Sam's Efforts Now Able and Extensively Seconded by Many of the States—Thirty-nine Legislatures Last Year Made Appropriations For Institute Work—Other Details.

(By THOMAS J. PENCE.) Washington, Dec. 22.—The day when the farmers of the country were considered "rubes" and "hayseeds" is fast passing into history. Records of the Department of Agriculture compiled for the last ten years indicate in most unmistakable language that the agriculturist far from being backward and out of date, is rapidly becoming one of the most enlightened of all classes of citizens.

One branch of farmers' work alone shows what they are doing. During the past year Secretary Wilson received reports from forty-four States giving data regarding institute work. In forty-one of these more than 5,500 institutes were held; the total number of sessions reached more than 15,000; and the total attendance something like 1,000,000.

Great Work of Farmers' Institutes. The special institutes are rapidly growing, both in importance and interest. One hundred and fifty movable schools is the record of attendance for the year with a total of 40,000 persons visiting them. Sixty-two railroad instruction trains were run, covering more than 25,000 miles, with nearly 200 expert lecturers and with 22,000 persons visiting them. In addition to this 453 independent institutes were held with an attendance of more than 130,000, and fifteen round-up institutes, continuing through 153 sessions, attended by 22,000 persons. There were more than 200 picnics and conventions, and these were attended by an aggregate of 120,000 industrious, ambitious farmers, who were eager to learn all the Government could teach them. Women Who Study Agriculture. But men are not the only ones who (Continued on Page Eight.)

PERSIA YIELDS TO RUSSIAN DEMAND

Persian Charge D'Affaires Formally Announces Fact to Russia's Foreign Secretary

ALL POINTS MENTIONED IN ULTIMATUM CONCEDED

Telegram From Teheran Announces Dismissal of W. Morgan Shuster, Treasurer-General of Persia, and Persian Local Authorities Notified to Cease Hostilities—What the Terms, Now Accorded to, and Contained in the Russian Ultimatum, Consist of—Normal Conditions to Be Restored.

(By Cable to News and Observer.) St. Petersburg, Dec. 22.—The Persian Charge d'Affaires called officially at the foreign office this afternoon and announced that Persia had yielded to Russia's demand. He had an audience with M. Sazonoff, the foreign secretary, and in the name of the Persian government formally declared that Persia would concede all the points mentioned in the Russian ultimatum.

A telegram received here from Teheran says that W. Morgan Shuster, the Treasurer-General of Persia, has been notified of his dismissal and that the Persian government has instructed the local authorities to cease hostilities and enter into negotiations with the Russian consuls to restore normal conditions.

Terms of Russian Ultimatum. St. Petersburg, Dec. 22.—The Russian ultimatum to the terms of which Persia has now acceded, was delivered to the Persian government by the Russian Minister at Teheran on November 29. It demanded, besides the dismissal of Mr. Shuster, an apology from the Persian government on account of its interference with the property of Persians under Russian protection and also the payment of an indemnity to Russia for the expenditure she had incurred in sending troops into Persian territory. The National Council declined at first to comply with Russia's demands although the cabinet was inclined to do so. Yesterday Russia threatened to order the advance of 4,000 troops of all arms from Kabul, unless Persia acceded within twenty-four hours. A further discussion of the question at issue between the members of the Persian cabinet and the National Council evidently led the latter to see the advisability of yielding to Russia's demands.

Fuller Statement of Developments. London, Dec. 22.—Persia today yielded to the demand of the Russian ultimatum that W. Morgan Shuster, an American who holds the post of treasurer-general in the Persian government, be dismissed from the service of the Persian government. The Russian ultimatum also calls for the payment of an indemnity, which is to reimburse Russia for money expended in sending an armed expedition into Persia to enforce her demand. Mr. Shuster's administration of Persian finances has been displeasing to Russia from the start and when he caused Russia to pay for money belonging to the brother of the ex-Shah, over the protest of the Russian vice-consul, Russia at first demanded an apology and as this was not forthcoming called for the dismissal of Mr. Shuster. This has finally been acceded to.

The Persian charge d'affaires at St. Petersburg called at the Russian foreign office late today to announce officially his government's decision to abide by the terms of the ultimatum. Up to a late hour tonight, however, (Continued on Page Two)

COMPEL RESPECT FOR THE JACKIES

Navy Department Suggests Enactment of State Laws--Sailors Themselves, by Their Conduct, Can do More

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, Dec. 22.—In an attempt to have States which have not as yet placed such laws on their statute books and which have naval establishments within their borders, enact legislation to prevent discrimination against the uniforms of the men of Uncle Sam's service, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Beekman Winthrop has addressed letters to the Governors of Massachusetts, Maine, California, Illinois, Virginia, Colorado, Washington, South Carolina and Maryland.

The States of New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Minnesota already have such laws and Mr. Winthrop has forwarded with his letters copies of the laws now in force in these States. He urges the Governors to prevail upon their legislatures to enact the proper legislation which would insure respect for the uniform of the United States.

COLLEGE SCORES IN CHESS TOURNEY

Columbia and Harvard Maintain Their Respective Positions as Result of Play in Second Round

(By the Associated Press.) New York, Dec. 22.—Columbia and Harvard maintained their respective positions in the twentieth annual inter-collegiate chess tournament as a result of the play to-day in the second round. Columbia defeated Princeton by the score of 3-1-2 to 1-2, while Harvard accounted for Yale by precisely the same score. The tie between Harvard and Columbia was therefore unbroken; each University being credited with totals of 7-1-2 point-out of a possible 8. The final round tomorrow, in which Columbia must encounter Harvard, will determine the championship for this year.

WITNESSES IN THE RICHESON CASE

Room-Mate of Miss Linnell and Theological Student Placed Under Bond to Guarantee Their Appearance

(By the Associated Press.) Boston, Mass., Dec. 22.—Following the holding of Charles S. Pierce, a Newton Theological Institution student, in \$500 bond yesterday as a witness in the trial of Rev. Clarence V. J. Richeson, charged with the murder of Miss Linnell, it became known today that another witness had furnished bonds for appearance at the trial. Miss Lucille J. Zeigler, room-mate of Miss Linnell at the Young Woman's Christian Association dormitory, was held under \$500 bond.

Although Richeson's counsel, William A. Morse, after visiting his client in jail today, said he appeared very well, Dr. Howard A. Lothrop, who performed the operation on the prisoner after Richeson had mutilated himself Wednesday, said that the patient was "getting along as well as could be expected under the circumstances" and that unless unforeseen complications developed he should be able to attend the trial on January 15th. Attorney Morse said the defense had no plans to announce yet and could do little until Richeson regained sufficient strength to enable his counsel to converse with him at length.