

## WHO ARE THESE POKER PLAYERS?

BELIEVED THAT PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING WAS ENTERED BY UNKNOWN MISCREANTS SEVERAL NIGHTS AGO AND USED AS POKER OR CRAP JOINT.

Is there a crowd of miscreants using the rooms of the public school at night as a poker or crap joint? Certain conditions found during the past week have led to that belief, and to the discovery that there is somebody with that much nerve. Several nights ago a person passed the school house and saw a light shining through one of the windows. Next morning four or five chairs were found arranged around the table used by the teacher of the room, just as they would be placed if that many people had played cards or dice thereon. The teacher asked who had arranged the chairs but no one knew, and the incident of the appearance of the light was connected and the conclusion was arrived at that the building was being used by unknown parties for the nefarious purpose indicated.

The possibility of such a thing was easily understood but the very nerve of it was astounding. The building is well lighted and many of the numerous windows cannot be fastened, making such an entrance easy to any one so desiring. Some one has been known to go in Sundays and rummage around, and probably at night also, but so far as is known, never before recently have they gone in, placed a light on the table and "played" at their leisure.

It is expected that the school committee will at once take the necessary steps to render the building proof against such invasions.

Through the fault of nobody, the building and grounds are entirely unprotected at night and the police could get in some good work by keeping it under watch to a degree.

It is said that tough characters infest the grounds at night and to remedy this the aldermen were asked to have a number of lights placed on that section of the street, which, had they done it would have undoubtedly been judicious expenditure. Though nothing whatever has been announced, it is also expected that the school committee will take up the matter of having the lights placed on the street with the board of aldermen.

## MAKING GORGEOUS CHRISTMAS DISPLAYS

The merchants are now making gorgeous displays of Christmas goods, with the usual handsome complements of holly and mistletoe, and the shops are very attractive. Every store that will handle Christmas goods at all have now received a full stock and are displaying them to the best advantage. The Fair, the Bee Hive, McCabe and Grice, Melick, the two five and ten cent stores, Rucker & Sheely, the E. S. Chesson Co, Lewis Sellig and Kight and Bright, the two jewelry dealers, and many grocery stores have made the most elaborate preparations for handling the holiday trade, which they have ample reason to believe will be the largest in a number of years.

The holiday trade has already commenced and people from all parts of the surrounding country are here every day trading extensively.

## Two Years For Killing Brother

Greensboro, N. C., Dec. 14.—Roscoe Hornady, who killed his brother three weeks ago, pleaded guilty of manslaughter, today, and was sentenced to the penitentiary for two years. The widow of the deceased brother testified that they were devoted to each other, and said the killing was accidental.

## ANOTHER STORM SWEEPING COAST

FERCE NORTHEAST GALE, EQUALLY AS SEVERE AS THAT OF SATURDAY AND SUNDAY HAS RAGED SINCE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AND REPORTS OF WRECKS ON COAST ARE EXPECTED.

True to government weather reports sent to the displayman here late yesterday afternoon, another typical northeast storm swept over the section last night, equalling in severity the hurricane of Saturday and Sunday, when three large ships went ashore between Capes Hatteras and Henry. Thick weather was predicted yesterday morning, but later came the storm warning saying the winds would attain a high velocity.

No reports have been received here from the coast yet, not a boat having arrived from any part of the lower sounds region, but assurances are felt that there have been more wrecks and loss of life and the messages to be received later over the coast telegraph are expected to announce calamities.

It is a seldom thing that two such heavy storms sweep the coast so close together and experienced watermen say this morning that it is very probable that many ships were surprised on this account, and the Diamond Shoals at Hatteras and the various other points of danger along Carolina's coast, are likely to have made new victims.

With the exception of a few to pass on through the canal to Norfolk this morning, not a boat has left port since yesterday afternoon. During the night two big lumber barges cast anchor just beyond Goat Island, where they will remain until the storm abates.

**Stranded Boats Going to Pieces.**  
The last report from the boats stranded in Saturday's storm are to the effect that they are being pounded to pieces on the sand reefs, from which the wrecking crews have not been able to haul them to deep water. At all times the position of the barge Godard has been considered hopeless. It was thought at first however, that the Aragon could be saved, but the sand gradually washed away from her and she is now lying broadside on the beach and that she will go to pieces seems certain.

**Devastation on the Coast.**  
During the weeks accounts have been received of the damage to property along the coast effected by the storm Saturday and Sunday. Houses were practically wrecked, live stock perished and in some instances, the residents were compelled to abandon their homes and move further inland. At Kennekeet the conditions were especially bad, the loss was considerable. As on many previous occasions the water of the ocean and sound nearly met over the narrow strip of land separating them. It is feared that these conditions are being repeated, as the storm is exactly like the other.

## HE MAY BECOME REGULAR PASTOR

Rev. Murray, of Lincolnton, N. C., will arrive in the city tomorrow and Sunday will occupy the pulpit of the Presbyterian church both morning and night. It will be his first appearance in Elizabeth but an account of his excellent qualifications as a minister have already been received and he will no doubt be heard by large congregations.

The principal object of his visit here is to look over the field with a view to becoming the regular pastor of the church and that he will accept the charge is confidently expected.

He is a man of long experience and is known as a most able and polished speaker and an energetic church worker.



The Senate and Representatives—We hope you won't find as much to do around here as you did the last few trips.

## 300 MEN WORKING ON NEW ROAD

TWO GANGS OF 150 EACH ENGAGED BETWEEN MACKEY'S FERRY AND COLUMBIA—EXPERIENCED ENGINEERS IN CHARGE AND ARE RUSHING MATTERS.

Mr. A. B. Walston, of Weeksville was in the city today having just returned from a trip through Hyde, Tyrrell and Washington counties. He gave out some interesting information concerning the construction of the new railroad, a matter in which the whole of this end of the State is deeply concerned. Mr. Watson traveled on a line of the new railroad from Fairfield to Mackey's Ferry and said the company has caused the building of an excellent roadbed. The surveyors are now working in the vicinity of Kilkenny, on the Alligator river and the right of way is being marked out rapidly. At the present time there are over 300 men working. They are in two gangs of about 150 each, one of which is at Mackey's Ferry and the other at Columbia. They are working towards each other and will meet in the near future. They are clearing the right of way and building the road bed.

The whole work is under the supervision of experienced engineers and everything is being rushed as rapidly as if there were a big cash forfeit up guaranteeing the completion before a stipulated time.

Without any delay after the road bed has been made, the tracks will be laid and trains will soon be running between the different towns along the route. As stated before the people of that section are very enthusiastic concerning the road and the privileges and advantages it will open to them, and they are not opposing its rapid construction in any manner. In the building of a new road there are nearly always one or more to contest the right of way, but the first case of this has yet to be reported from the section in which this road is being built.

It will operate trains through one of the richest farming sections in the South and phenomenal success is predicted for it by those understanding the conditions.

## BAD WEATHER DELAYED FUNERAL

On account of the bad weather prevailing today, the relatives of Mr. Ellisha Harris, who died Wednesday at his home near Corinth, have decided that the funeral and interment will not take place until Sunday morning at 10 o'clock. It was to have taken place this afternoon at three o'clock.

As previously stated the ceremonies will be in charge of the Mason who will assemble at their hall this morning and proceed to Corinth in carriages.

### CONFESSED ROBBERY.

Winston-Salem, N. C., Dec. 14.—Geo. McMahon, a young man, who enlisted in the United States army a few months ago and later deserted, returning to his home in Davie county, surrendered yesterday, and confessed that he was a member of a band that robbed the Southern Railway depot and several merchantile stores at Advance a few days before he entered the army.

McMahon was taken to Charlotte today and turned over to the office in charge of the recruiting station there. He has told the office the names of his associates in the Advance robbery. McMahon will not be tried until he completes his term in the army.

Concluding a visit here to relatives and friends, Mr. William Morgan returned today to Oriental where he is engaged in business.

## ENTERTAINMENT IS POSTPONED.

On account of the greatly inclement weather it has been decided to postpone the entertainment to have been given tonight by the music, elocution and physical culture departments of the Albemarle High School, until Tuesday night, Dec. 19th, when the general public will be invited to attend. In the meantime the rehearsals will go on and the program to be rendered will be much nearer perfection by the delay.

That it could not be given tonight is disappointing to the many who intended going no matter how the weather was. However, they will now look forward to Tuesday night with even greater anticipation.

## Mangled By A Saw.

Mt. Airy, N. C., Dec. 14.—A shocking accident occurred at Jno. Cox's saw mill in this county, near Dobson, today when Kitt Jervis lost his life. He was carrying slabs from the saw when in some mysterious way he was thrown in front of the saw and in an instant horribly mangled. He did not live but a few minutes. He was twenty six years old and leaves a wife and one child.

## Suffering From Assault

Richmond, Va., Dec. 14.—Mrs. Maggie B. Chappelle, living with her husband on the outskirts of Church Hill, lies today in a precarious condition at her home, due to an alleged criminal assault attempted upon her by her next door neighbor, A. L. Johnson. The attempt is said to have been made during the absence of Mr. Chappelle from the house.

Johnson was arrested December 8 by County Officer C. W. Vincent, and has since been detained in jail awaiting a hearing of the case, which was today postponed until December 21 on account of the illness of Mrs. Chappelle.

## ABLE ADDRESS ON EDUCATIONAL WORK

MR. GEO. B. HODGE, OF NEW YORK, DEEPLY INTERESTED AUDIENCE AT Y. M. C. A. LAST EVENING IN PICTURING DEVELOPMENT OF Y. M. C. A. WORK.

The rain prevented a large audience from attending the illustrated lecture at the Y. M. C. A. last night. Those who went were delighted with what they saw and heard. Mr. Geo. B. Hodge of the international committee was present and lectured first before the Board of Directors, and afterward before the public. He showed a large number of pictures prepared by members of various associations. These pictures illustrated especially the work being done in the educational department throughout the country. It was a surprise to those present to learn that the work had assumed such great proportions. Some of the associations supplement the work done by the public schools. There are departments of civil-engineering, mechanics, textile work, drawing, architecture, economics, civil reform and many other industries too numerous to mention. The remarkable fact was brought out that the tuition paid by members of these study classes more than balances the expense of conducting them.

Mr. Hodge showing how the Association is becoming a mighty factor in the uplift of the world. It raises the educational standards and moral character of men and boys of all the races, and lessens idleness and crime. In conclusion the speaker appealed to the business men of Elizabeth City to erect a Y. M. C. A. building worthy the name, that would tend to foster all of the best interests of the city. It was a great pity that every man and boy of the city was not there.

All pork country sausage can be had at the Olive Grocery—15c per pound.

## PENSION CHECKS HAVE ARRIVED

Clerk of Court W. H. Jennings is now in receipt of pension checks for the Confederate Soldiers and their widows, of Pasquotank county, whose names appear on the pension rolls, and announces that they can secure the same by calling at his office at the Court house.

There are quite a number in Pasquotank county who draw pensions and following the announcement of the arrival of the checks there is likely to be a considerable run on the Clerk's office.

## Reported Death Of A Former Resident

It was reported here yesterday on information claimed to have been received on good authority that Mrs. John J. Lawler, at one time a resident of this city, died one day this week at Kinston, N. C. to which city Mr. Lawler and family moved when he closed out business here. Notice of the death was secured by letter but the exact details and the time of the demise were not given.

For a year or longer Mr. Lawler was engaged in the plumbing and steam fitting business here, coming originally from Norfolk. He and Mrs. Lawler made many warm friends who receive the report with deep regret.

### FLAGMAN INSTANTLY KILLED

High Point, N. C., Dec. 14.—Belated No. 30, north-bound train, which passed here this afternoon at one-thirty, struck and instantly killed Bruton Green, white, of Pilot Mountain. Green was flagman on a local freight and was near a switch with his back towards the approaching train when the accident occurred. He was struck in the head and whirled around by the force of the engine striking him the second time. The remains were sent to Pilot Mountain tonight.