The News Has the Largest Circulation of Any Afternoon Paper Published in the Two Carolinas

FOUR O'CLOCK EDITION.

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS.

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THE ONLY EVENING ASSOCIATED PRESS NEWSPAPER IN CHARLOTTE.

ESTABLISHED 1888. CHARLOTTE, N. C, THURSDAY EVENING DECEMBER 24, 1908 PRICE 5 CENTS

Cabman on The Witness Stand In Hains Trial

Martin Skura, Who Drove Hains Brothers to Yocht Club on Fatal Day Gives His Testimony.

Swears That Thornton Ordered Him to Get as Close as Possible to the Club Stage Containing Mrs. Annis.

By Associated Press.

Flushing, N. Y., Dec. 24.—In the trial of Thornton J. Haines in connection with the killing of William E. Annis, Martin Skura the cabman who drove the Hains brothers to the Yacht club on the day of the shooting was a witness this morning. He testified that on the way to the club he was directed to let the club stage which was ahead of them pass them.

"Did you hear the defendant say something when the stage went by?"

"Yes, some one said" 'we'll go him now!'

The cabman said he saw Mrs. Annis alight from the stage at the club. The witness said the defendant and the other man left his cab at the club and the two men entered the club house.

Skura said that about ten minutes after the two men entered the club house they came out and went down to the dock.

"Did the defendant tell you how far you were to drive behind the stage?"

"The defendant said," 'keep behind the stage about one hundred feet.' Near the club house grounds he told me to get as close to the stage as I could, which I did."

FIGHT FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD

By Associated Press.

Sydney, N. S. Dec. 24.—The fight on Saturday for the heavy weight weight championship of the world between "Tommy" Burns, heavy weight pugilist, and Jack Johnson, the colored fighter is today the chief topic of conversation in Sydney.

The betting on Burns is a point stronger. Four days ago it favored Burns at 5 to 4, and a large amount had been placed at these figures.

McIntosh, the promoter of the contest has finally agreed to be referee at at the request of both fighters.

GLENN PROCLAIMS A DOUDLE HOLIDAY

Raleigh, Dec. 24.—At the urgent request of the business men of the state Governor Glenn issues a proclamation declaring Dec. 26 as well as Christmas day a legal holiday and on these two days instead of one the people may observe the usual Christmas custom.

"BATHHOUSE" HARD TO TRY

Jury Not Complete for Chicago Alderman's' Ball Assault Case.

Chicago, Dec. 24.—After almost an entire day's work, 11 jurors were obtained today in the case of Alderman John Coughlin, known as Bathhouse," who is charged with assault and battery in trying to keep Lyman Atwell, a newspaper photographer, from taking pictures of the crowds at the First ward ball last week. Several veniremen were excused on the ground that they had attended the ball. It is expected that the trial will begin tomorrow.

Heavy Christmas Travel.

The railroads are coming in for their share of the Christmas rush. Every one of the trains are running late and it is with no little difficulty that schedules are being maintained. No. 36 came in this morning four hours; No. 37 nearly two hours late and No. 11 two hours or more.

ABE ATTEL AND "BIG" MACKEY

New Orleans, La., Dec. 24.—Abe Attel, the former champion featherweight fighter, and "Biz" Mackey, of Cincinnati, have been engaged to furnish the main bout at the boxing show to be pulled off at the Southern Athletic club tomorrow night. The articles call for ten-round contest, the men to weight at 122 pounds at the ringside.

Adams Actively In The Race

Special to The News.

Greensboro, N. C., Dec. 24.—From the article in the Industrial News, Judge Adams's organ yesterday morning it would appear that this gentleman was actively in the race at last for the Judgeship of the Eastern District. The coming here yesterday of Col. Skinner, in quest of the same position evidently caused the "receptive candidate" in the Western District to become a real live one. A. H. Price, of Salisbury, former Assistant District Attorney, and a strong rival of Thomas Settle in their recent contest for a Florida United States Judgeship, was here last night, and is a heavy Adams boomer. He had a conference with Judge Adams and quasi interview in the organ this morning is the first gun in the coming battle for place between the State Chairman and the Eastern District Attorney.

There is no doubt about the Eastern man's having got the jump on the Western man, so far a official endorsement and judicial approval is concerned, but the chairman can easily down the other should it come to question of party political endorsement, for he controls the machinery.

Chicago After.

By Associated Press.

Chicago, Dec. 24.—In the struggle to secure a fair portion of the business of the southeast for Chicago, the Chicago Association of Commerce has received material aid from the Illinois Central, and the Nashville, Chatanooga and St. Louis Railroads.

These have just established a new fast freight service which will bring Chicago a full 24 hours nearer in point of delivery to many of the markets of the southeast.

This service is said to excel anything which is given the southeast by the railroads which connect them with New York, Boston and Philadelphia.

Castro States His Position

While Doubting Accuracy of Reports, is Resolved to Place no Difficulties in Way of New Government.

By Associated Press.

Berlin, Dec. 24.—Cipriano Castro this morning gave a statement to the Associated Press which virtually amounts to an abandonment of his present claims to the presidency of the Venezuelan republic. The statement follows:

"After taking cognizance of everything printed in the newspapers from Venezuela, I doubt the attitude therein attributed to the present government at Caracas. But I will have more to say on this subject when I am in better health and when I have full knowledge of what has occurred.

"In any event I shall place no difficulties in the way of the present administration of Venezuela in settling the pending controversies with foreign governments, even if this should involve my own withdrawal from activity in the affairs of the nation.

For Masonic Home for Aged And Indigent

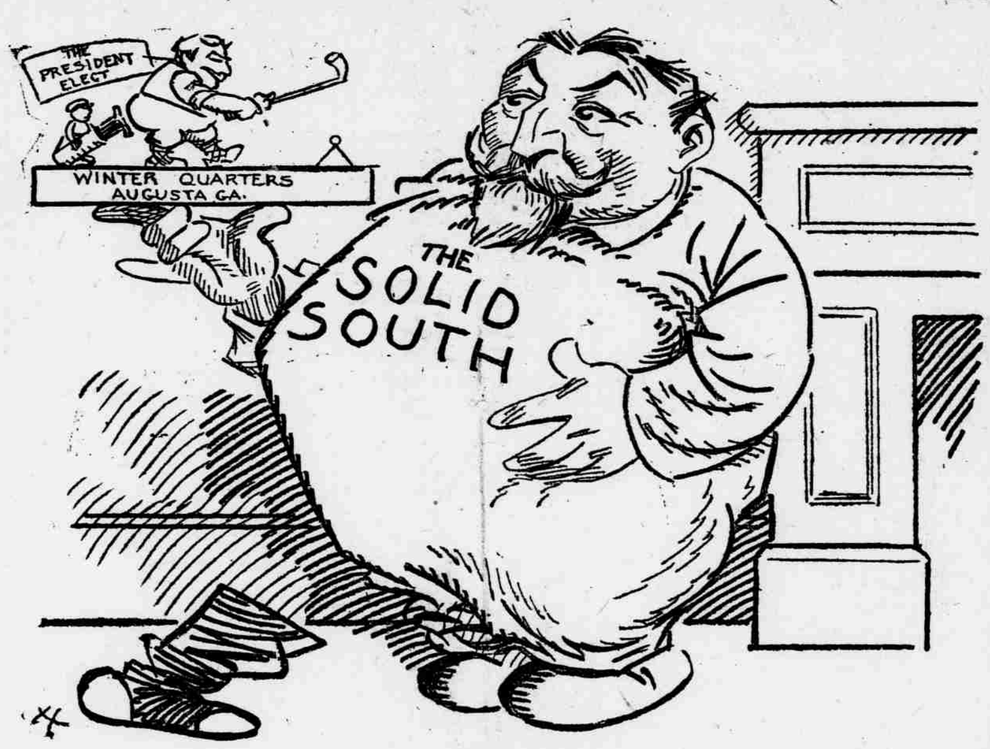
Special to The News.

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 24.—Grand Master S. M. Gattis, Hillsboro, of the North Carolina Grand Lodge of Masons, who is here preparing for the annual session of the Grand Lodge, January 12 to 15, predicts that within less than five years the grand lodge will establish its long dreamed of home for aged and indigent Masons, leading in this work just as North Carolina Masonry led thirty odd years ago in the orphanage work of the state. He believes that within five years the finances of the Grand Lodge temple will be so adjusted as to admit of opening the home with proceeds from the temple rentals. Grand Master Gattis is expecting distinguished Masons from all parts of the country for the ceremonies dedicating the temple at the approaching session and says information from lodges in every part of the state indicate that by far the greatest gathering of Masons ever brought together in the state will be here for the formal opening of the tmple by the Grand Lodge.

BROKE HIS LIQUOR.

So That He Didn't Have 2 1-2 Gallons When Arrested.

A nice question came before the Recorder this morning. Albert Blair, colored, was charged with retailing. He got off the train, acted in a suspicious manner and before Officer Pitts could arrest him he broke some of his liquor bottles—enough to make the quantity he had less than 2½ gallons. Mr. Newell argued that he was not guilty under the statute The Recorder sent the case up.



THE SOUTH'S CHRISTMAS!

Mail Boxes Are Clogged

A Package in The Post Office for Everybody in Town — Nothing Remains But Pop—Sticks and Cap Pistols.

This is the day before Christmas, and a glorious one it is. It marks the end of Christmas shopping, and the beginning of the small boys' delight.

The pleasant task of mailing Christmas presents is over and nobody is any happier than Uncle Sam's post office clerks and the men in the express office. Everybody waits for to-morrow.

It cannot be denied that Christmas shopping this year was the greatest ever known in Charlotte. Those who have mingled with the crowds and who have been told by merchants that shopping this year was the heaviest on record have never disbelieved it, but if there had been any doubting Thomases a visit to the postoffice would remove every shadow of doubt.

Mr. W. B. Bradford, assistant postmaster, slipped out of the office this morning long enough to visit the newspaper offices and ask the reporters to say that Sunday hours will be observed to-morrow. All windows except in the money order department, will be opened from 12 to 1 o'clock. The carriers will make no deliveries during the day and those who are expecting something in the mails will not get them until Saturday unless they get in line to-morrow at noon.

Mr. Bradford was asked how the postoffice rush compared with that of last year.

"I don't believe the office has ever handled so great an amount of business," he said, "and I believe there is a package there for everybody in town but me."

Yesterday was "mailing day" and besides the tremendous pile of incoming bags the clerks handled during the day and night just as many bags of outgoing mail. Everybody who made purchases weeks and even months ago tried to crowd their dainty Christmas-decorated packages in the big mail boxes on the streets all at the same time. The result can well be imagined. In a few minutes they were overflowing and scores of packages were carried to the postoffice.

The postal carriers made extra trips throughout the day. It was with the greatest difficulty that the boxes were kept empty, and occasionally they would be refilled before the carrier could make a trip to the office and return again.

But the joy and delight that awaits the arrival of the hundreds and hundreds of presents that will be delivered in Charlotte to-morrow is nothing as compared with the thousands that old Santa Claus will place in stockings to-night. The old fellow starts on his rounds just after the sun sets, when the little folks begin going to bed, and will have about all he can do until the chickens crow in the morning.

The little boys, some of whom have just passed into their teens and some who have not, who have awaited with almost unbearable suspense the time when they will be allowed to use their pop-sticks and toy cap-pistols, are joyous to-day. At 8 o'clock to-night they can pop and shoot just as much as they please, anywhere and everywhere, and they may continue to do so until 12 o'clock to-morrow night. The city officials had an informal conference yesterday afternoon and named the hour.

Hundreds of pop sticks and pistols have been sold all with an abundant supply of ammunition, and it is needless to say that there will be plenty of noises from these instruments as well as every other kind of a noise making machine, in Charlotte to-night and to-morrow.

Mr. Ted Wylie, of New York, son of Dr. W. Gill Wylie, president of the Southern Power Company of this city, has arrived in the city and wil be here for a few days.

Santa Claus For the Needy

Following is a list of additional contributions to The News' Santa Claus fund. The money received is being spent to the very best advantage:

Cash	$2.50
Cash	1.00
Miss Jeane Parks Wolfe	.50
Charlotte Hardware Store	1.00
Cash	.25
Cash	.25
Cash	.25
Cash	.25
Cash	.25
Cash	.50
Cash	.25
Cash	.50
Cash	.25
Cash	.25
Cash	.50
Cash	.50
Cash	.25
Cash	.50

Arkansas Teachers to Meet.

Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 24.—The best program ever prepared for a metting of the Arkansas State Teachers' association is that arranged for the annual convention to be held in this city next week. President J. B. Aswell, of the Louisiana State Normal School, Chancellor Kirkland of Vanderbilt University, Dr. Russell, of the University of Wisconsin and several other educators of national prominence will be among the speakers. The local committee of arrangements is in receipt of advices indicating that the convention will be well attended by teachers from every county of the state. The session will begin Monday and continue four days.

Hargis Case Goes to Jury

By Associated Press.

Irvine, Ky., Dec. 24.—The closing argument in the trial of Beach Hargis for the slaying of his fathtr were made this morning and the case is expected to go to the jury this afternoon.

Christmas Cantata.

The children of the First Baptist church will give a cantata tomorrow night at the church at 7:30. The title is "The Interrupted Program," and was published in full in yesterday's News. These children will give presents instead of receiving them.

Cotton Recipts.

The receipts of cotton today at the local platform amounted to 58 bales at 8½ cents. Onthe same date last year not a single bale of cotton was sold.

BELL'S REPORT CRITICISES ARMY ORGANIZATION

By Associated Press.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 24.—The most urgent need of the United States is an adequate remedy for the evils resulting from the detached service of officers, says Gen. Bell, chief of staff in his annual report.

Gen. Bell says it is a discouraging fact that in case of a sudden outbreak of hostilities with a first class nation there are not sufficient regular troops in the country, even when reenforced by the National Guard to form an army after deducting the necessary force to provide small garrisons at our permanent posts and the necessary infantry supports for our sea coast fortifications. The infantry arm is referred to as to weak, numerically, for the services required of it even in a time of peace. He also criticises the cavalry organization.

SCIENTISTS MEET IN CONFERENCE

Santiago, Chile, Dec. 24.—Everything is in readiness for the opening of the fourth anual international American conference, which will begin its session in this city tomorrow with an attendance of distinguished delegates representing practically all of the counties of the three Americas. The Government has extended a cordial welcome to the visitors and will leave nothing undone to make the conference the most successful of its kind that has yet been held.

The purpose of the conference, as set forth in the official call for the gathering is "to co-ordinate the action of the various American states in the direction of material undertaking and sympathetic relations." Many questions of an international character are to be considered, such as hygiene, quarantine, commerce between the nations on the high seas and by overland routes and the political rights of citizens of each in relation to the other.

The United States has sent a distinguished delegation to the conference. Includedamong its members are Dr. Leo S. Rowe, of the University of Pennsylvania; Professor Archibald C. Coolidge of Harvard University; Professor Hirm Bingham of Yale University; Professor Paul S. Reinsch, of the University of Wisconsin; Professor Bernard Moses of the University of California; Col. William C. Gorgas, of the United States army, and chief sanitary officer of the Isthmian canal commission; William H. Holmes, of the Smithsonian institution, and Geo. M. Rommel, representing the United States department of agriculture.

Retirement of Veteran Officer.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 24.—After more than thirty-one years' service, Major Francis G. Irwin, 2d Cavalry, one of the best known officers in the army, will be retired from active service tomorrow upon his own application. Major Irwin is from Kentucky and was graduated at the United States Military Academy in 1882. He reached the grade of major several weeks ago and has been stationed recently at Fort Des Moines.

GOMPERS AND HIS FRIENDS TO MEET EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

By Associated Press.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 24.—The whole question of the sentencing for contempt of court of President Gompers, Vice President Mitchell and Secretary Morrison of the American Federation of Labor will be thrashed over at a meeting of the executive council of the Federation to be held on January the 11th.

Secretary Morrison said: "We purpose to exnaust every effort to sustain every right to a free press and free speech. I believe and I am confident that the position taken by the Federation is right."

It is not likely that the argument on the appeal will be heard in the court of the District of Columbia until March.

DISTRESSING SUICIDE.

Aged Man Takes His Own Life On Account of Grief at Sons' Intoxication.

Special to The News.

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 24.—Bennett Wall committed suicide this morning by blowing off top of his head with a shotgun.

Two sons had slipped three gallons of whiskey into the home and tanked up. The aged father, beside himself with grief took his own life.

That Buick Car Will Be Yours If You Try

Gallant Veteran Passes Away in Green Old Age

Special to The News.

Asheville, N. C., Dec. 24.—Jonathan Nowell, aged 88 years, veteran of the Mexican and civil wars, and who sought to enlist for the Spanish-American war, died at the home of his son, Charles Nowell, at West Asheville, Tuesday morning. He retained full possession of his faculties up to a short time before his death.

Mr. Nowell was a deputy sheriff of Wake county, this state, when troops were mustered in for the Mexican war, and enlisted in Company I, of the Twelfth regiment, composed almost entirely of North Carolinians, and saw much active service during the campaign in Mexico. He participated, with General Scott's army in the attack upon the walled heights of Chapultepec, and was one of the intrepid detail which hewed a hole through the castle walls through which te troops entered the fortifications. In speaking of this incident the old veteran related that many men were shot down by his side while they were working on the walls, adding "the Mexicans stopped shooting when our men began to pick them off every time they poked their heads over the wall to shoot at us."

When the civil war broke out Mr. Nowell enlisted in the Fourteenth North Carolina regiment and served throughout the war, seeing much active service with his regiment.

When war was declared against Spain, the doughty old veteran, still full of fight, again sought to enlist for active service in Cuba, but was rejected on account of his age.

Mr. Nowell was born in Wake county, North Carolina, on August 3, 1820, but for many years past had been a resident of Buncomb county. He was the last of the Mexican war veterans in this county.

Guilford Good Road Bonds

Special to The News.

Greensboro, N. C., Dec. 24.—The Guilford County Highway Commission has advertised for sealed bids for board construction bonds of $55,000 to be opened January 18, 1909.

This series is the last of the $300,000 of good roads, authorized by the people of the county at an election held here six years ago. These bonds constitute the only debt the county has, and this issue of $55,000 will no doubt bring a big premium. When used, the county will have about 100 miles of macadam roads to show for the investment, which is now generally realized to have been the wisest the county ever madt.

Sportsmen's Show Opens in Boston

Boston, Mass., Dec. 24.—The annual sportsmen's show of the New England Forest, Fish and Game Association opened in Mechanics Building today for practically a two weeks' session. The interior of the big building has been transformed into a bit of woodland surrounding a lake where the aquatic performances are to take place.

All the features of the previous years are retained, while a number of novelties have been added. Among some of the principal features of the show will be an indoor rifle shooting tournament, under the auspices of the National Rifle Shooting Association of America; an athletic carnival, a fly and casting tournament and a new series of moving pictures of fishing, hunting and outdoor scenes.

DR. WHITE'S SCHOOL.

Rev. D. A. Tedder Enthusiastic in Its Praises.

Rev. Daniel Allen Tedder returned last night from New York city, where he has been studying at the Bible Teachers' Training School. This is the Bible school of which Dr. Wilbert W. White is president. Dr. White recently delivered a series of lectures in the First Presbyterian church, of Charlotte. He formerly taught the English Bible in Princeton Theological Semninary and at the Moody Training School, and is the author of perhaps a dozen books relating to the best methods of Bible study.

Mr. Tedder speaks enthusiastically of the work which Dr. White and his large corps of assistants are doing. He considers the school much superior to other theological seminaries because, in addition to the usual courses, it lays special emphasis on the study of the English Bible and on actual practice in Christian work. Nearly all of the students teach or preach in or near New York city. Among the alumni are missionaries to at least seventeen foreign countries, and perhaps fifty or seventy-five of the students expect to work in the foreign field. The school is co-educational and interdenominational.

In connection with the school, which is located at No. 541 Lexington avenue, is a large hotel where the students; friends, and hundreds of other Christian people throughout America are accustomed to board while visiting in New York.

Many Making Their Getaway Before the Holidays — Vote Increases New Nominations Pouring In.

Remember the Contest is Just Under Way—Why Not Make One of The Dozen and Half Costly Prizes Yours.

The Christmas rustle, hustle and bustle is catching, and all the "Daily News" auto contestants have it, and have it bad.

The intense interest manifested by citizens in general surpasses all expectations. The girls mix "Contest Talk" with their Christmas shopping; and the young fellows exchange it at the candy and cigar raffles. Already many thousand votes have been polled for the various candidates in this Great Contest; for the valuable and costly prizes and for the great honor conferred upon the winner of such a race.

The valuable prizes offered by The News are so liberal in nature that the most ambitious and wide-awake men and women in Charlotte and vicinity are rapidly seeing that it is to their interest to get in and make a painstaking effort to win. While the Contest Man was out calling on contestants Wednesday afternoon, one charming young lady said: "Oh, how I wish I were a man. Why, I wouldn't hesitate a moment, but jump into the race and win it as a business venture. But I don't care if I am not a man," she continued after a minute's pause, "I am going to enter the contest and get the auto anyway, and what's more I am going to start bright and early tomorrow morning so that I can get the promise of all the renewals due the first of the year. You know I would really rather have the lot," she confided, "but it would sound so much better to win the auto." This young lady had the right idea and is sure going to be a leader of the lists.

Now is the time to start out and see your friends before the other fellow has a chance to see them. Let every citizen of Charlotte know that you are in The News' "Great Tripple Prize" contest and that you are expecting their support. You will get a renewal or new subscription from most of them.

It is a worthy ambition to get to the top of the list but it is also a good idea to start a reserve fund of votes, to drop into the ballot box at some future date when you think its necessary and also to have a bunch in reserve for the concluding night when the real strength of contestants is shown. Why show your hand to the other fellow? It will just make him work the harder if you keep a slight lead. Later on in the contest of course it is good judgment to maintain the lead of your district as many who have no direct interest in the contest will cast their votes on what they believe to be the winning side.

The new nominations keep pace with the old votes and the list grows rapidly from day to day. The slight advantage gained by some can be readily overcome by any new nominee who will devote a few hours to seeing their friends.

Following is a list of the contestants and their standing up to 2 p. m. Wednesday afternoon:

Phone for the Contest Man.

There is an idividual now connected with The News office whose business it is to talk to interested parties and explain all about the details of the contest. That's what he is here for so don't hesitate but come right down to the office and take up as much of his time as you like. He will tell you everything about the contest that you care to know and answers all questions—regular contest encyclopedia. Come in and let him tell you how to win.

How to ecure otes in News' Great Contest.

In addition to the ballots published daily in The News, votes may be secured by turning in paid-in-advance subscriptions, which will entitle a candidate to votes according to the following schedules:

Old Subscribers.

$5.00, One Year	5,000 votes
$2.50, Six Months	2,000 votes
$1.50, Fifteen Weeks	1,000 votes
$1.00, Ten Weeks	600 votes
$10.00, Two Years	15,000 votes
$1.00, One Year, Times Democrat	600 votes
$2.00, Two Years, Times-Democrat	1,500 votes

New subscribers will be entitled to double the above number of vote.

Awarding of Prizes.

First Grand Prize—The candidate securing the greatest number of votes in the entire contest, regadless of district, will be awarded the first

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