

**SOVEREIGN CIGARETTES**

**Good Tobacco never harmed anyone**

**5¢**

A national silk flag in each package for the ladies

QUALITE SUPERIEURE (NEW YORK U.S.A.)

**MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION HAS PLANS**

President J. W. Cuthbertson, of the Charlotte Merchants' Association, will call a meeting of the new board of directors of the association within a short time to consider the work which will be done during the present year.

At the regular meeting of the association last Monday night Mr. Cuthbertson was elected president to succeed Mr. Ralph W. Miller. Mr. J. G. Garibaldi was elected vice-president, Mr. E. W. Berryhill, treasurer and H. E. Pell secretary. Mr. Cuthbertson is president of the Little Long Company.

**The New Board.**

The new board of directors, as chosen at the meeting is composed of the following named merchants:

Messrs. Ralph W. Miller, S. R. Lentz, J. T. Porter, Charles Nuchels, J. N. McCausland, W. T. McCoy, Chas. W. Parker, James A. Fore, M. C. Mayer, C. S. Stone, L. P. McKinzie, H. C. Long, T. M. Shelton, J. P. Hackney and Charles R. Moore.

Mr. Garibaldi is absent from the city and will be for some days and it is the desire of Mr. Cuthbertson to postpone the meeting of the board of directors until his return.

"Retail" is dropped.

Secretary Pell calls attention to the fact that the word "retail" has been dropped from the name of the association, there being a large number of wholesalers who are now members of the organization.

At the coming meeting the matter of a large electric sign to advertise the city of Charlotte throughout the surrounding country will probably come before the board for consideration and discussion into action.

**The Big Sign.**

Recently Mr. O. Kuester, president of the Greater Charlotte Club, suggested the erection of an immense electric sign on the highest building in the city of Charlotte, carrying a legend like "It Pays to Trade in Miles and Miles over the country."

The merchants of the city will consider the proposition, looking to starting the work of erecting and maintaining the sign. The matter is at this time merely in its embryonic state and may not be put into operation but the idea appeals to at least some of the merchants and the outlook is that it will be given careful consideration to say the least.

It is the intention of the Merchants' Association to broaden its work this year, to accomplish more along a number of different lines. The meeting of the new board will be devoted to the considerable extent, to outlining the methods which will be followed in this work.

**Many Old Fiddlers Coming On 22nd.**

The managers of the Old Time Fiddlers' Convention on Washington's birthday, February 22, have planned a straw ballot for president of the United States and also for United States senator from North Carolina. On the back of each ticket is the following:

- Open to qualified voters.
- For President: DEMOCRAT, Clark Underwood Wilson
- FOR REPUBLICAN, Roosevelt.
- FOR UNITED STATES SENATOR: Ex-Gov. Aycock Judge Clark Gov. Kitchin Senator Simmons

If it is impossible for the purchaser of the ticket to be present, the ballot may be sent to the convention. The result of the straw ballot will be announced to the audience during the performance.

**Many Fiddlers Coming.**

The management of the Old Fiddlers' Convention, which is to be given as a benefit to the charity patients of the Presbyterian hospital, is signing contestants from every section of the state. Two of the most celebrated fiddlers of North Carolina, Dr. L. H. Hill, of Germantown, and Prof. H. C. Hill of Rutherford College, will be present at the convention, but will not be contestants.

**List of Prizes.**

The following prizes will be given: First prize—\$10.00 for the best string band consisting of three pieces or more. (Other instruments included if desired.)

Second prize—\$5.00 for the best duet consisting of two stringed instruments.

Third prize—\$5.00 for the best fiddle solo.

4th Prize—\$5.00 for the best banjo solo.

Each contestant will be expected to play at least two selections. Members of bands and duets will be allowed to contest for the solo prizes also.

The committee will make arrangements for the accommodation of the out-of-town contestants.

Ladies are especially invited to enter the contest.

All professionals are debarred from the contest.

For further information, address Mr. A. M. Gray, Charlotte, N. C.

**Mr. Probert To Lecture At Brevard St. Church**

Mr. David L. Probert is to give a lecture on "The Life of Jesus," illustrated with 65 slides from the world's greatest artists tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock at Brevard Street Methodist church. Silver offering for the benefit of the Boy's Baraca class.

The entertainment will take place rain or shine.

The scarlet fever quarantine has been lifted at the residence of Mr. W. W. Johnson, on Phifer avenue, and the family are again enjoying freedom of act as well as speech.

**REMEMBER---IT IS FREE!**

At Your Retail Grocers

**"Sweetheart Toilet Soap"**

**Monday, February 26th**

On the above date we will print a Coupon in every Charlotte News. Cut it out, sign your name, address and present it to any retail grocer handling Sweetheart Toilet Soap. He is authorized to give you a full sized cake absolutely free.



**Manhattan Soap Co., N. Y. City**

**NOTICE TO RETAILERS**

When you give away a cake of Sweetheart free, tear off the end of each carton with diamond "S" on it same as cut shown and turn it in to your jobber along with coupon. He will allow you 5cts cash for them.

**Hot Controversy Over Question Of Importing "Colored Tea" is Most Recent "Tea Party"**

(By RODERICK CLIFFORD.)

Washington, Feb. 18.—The nearest approach to an American "Tea party" in the historical sense of the term, which has been given in this country since the famous ones of Boston and Annapolis is the controversy over the question of the importation of "colored" tea which is still raging as hotly as words can make it between American tea associations and importers of teas, which are colored so as to represent a higher grade product than they really are.

The controversy has been of long standing. Tea of an inferior quality can be so cleverly colored and waxed before exportation to this country from the lands where it is grown, that it passes the customs inspections and is sold here at a price exorbitant when its real value is taken into consideration. The firms sending these teas to the United States are being bitterly fought by the New York tea merchants and those of other cities who desire to maintain high standard of tea for the American market. The New York Tea association has put up an unusually strong fight against the importation of the alleged spurious products, sending delegations to Washington repeatedly to take up the matter with government officials having to do with that branch of the service.

Secretary of the Treasury Franklin MacVeagh handles a great deal of the matter in an effort to bring the long drawn out controversy to a speedy close.

The present tea board consists of Charles A. Atwood, a Chicago merchant; Edward E. Brandenstein, of San Francisco, who handles a great deal of the Chinese tea imported through the Pacific coast ports and is an expert on the Oriental product; George Hewlett and Oliver C. Macey of New York city; Frederic Hellyer of Chicago, A. P. Irwin of Philadelphia and Herbert G. Woodworth of Boston.

This board of seven members has numerous duties in connection with the tea trade. Its chief duty is to set the standard of importation. The board selects samples of teas of various grades which may be imported. The tea importers are informed of the nature of the samples which are exhibited to them and they are supposed to conform to them. The samples are also used at all the customs houses at the ports of entry on every coast of the United States and the products passing through the ports must come up to the standard of the samples exhibited to them and they are supposed to conform to them. The samples are also used at all the customs houses at the ports of entry on every coast of the United States and the products passing through the ports must come up to the standard of the samples exhibited to them and they are supposed to conform to them.

The board has been active for many years and has been doing its duty according to most of the importing merchants. The New York Tea Association, which is leading the fight for a higher standard, and the other aggressive organizations of tea importers and dealers in the interior, do not impeach the board but declare the standard they are required by law to set is not high enough, primarily, and that the inspection of the imports is not as rigid as it should be to properly protect the market.

Last December a committee headed by Lloyd Griscom was delegated by the New York Tea Association to wait on the secretary of the treasury and ask him to raise the standard of the samples. The committee came to Washington, saw Secretary MacVeagh, Assistant Secretary Curtis, Director Halstead of the Customs Division of the Treasury Department, and later the president of the United States, but failed to get more than a promise that an investigation would be instituted.

Tea was investigated up and down and in and out, but the treasury department would authorize no change in the standard, as such an authorization would be an admission that the department did not know what sort of standard to set in the first instance.

The department absolutely refused to rule against its previous judgment in the matter, and then the president again was appealed to.

The president, in accordance with time-honored custom, replied to the pleasure of the New York association et al., that he would see that the matter was referred to the proper department. The result, of course, was the reference of the matter to the treasury department with the further result that the treasury department in turn referred the matter to the "proper department," which was the customs division. The customs division glanced at "the matter" and noting that it had all been thrashed out before, stood firm on its first negative decision and the tea merchants received word from the president that after referring "the matter" to the "proper department," he had received a report of the investigation made and that the president did not think it advisable to authorize any change in the existing regulations.

The only concession which the treasury department tendered the tea men, was to order that the regulations such as they are, be strictly enforced, and this was done grudgingly, as it implied the infallibility of the department and the possibility that sometimes its regulations were not strictly enforced.

There "the matter" rests but the merchants have been so insistently clamorous that Secretary MacVeagh has announced his intention to appoint a new tea board, none of the members of the present board to be reappointed.

The process of "coloring" tea is said to be very common. Inferior tea leaves

are taken into a factory in the country in which the tea is grown and a bluish, waxy substance is spread on them in such a way as to give them a gloss which makes them look like the leaves of the highest grade tea. This substance is hard to detect and is not so injurious from a chemical point of view as to bring down the wrath of the bureau of chemistry of the department of agriculture upon it.

The new tea board is expected to thrash "the matter" out to a finish when it is appointed. If it fails, the alternative will probably be the appointment of still another board. Meanwhile, the tea merchants are making it hot for the customs divisions.

**SUMMARY OF PRIZES OFFERED BY NEWS**

- One White Steamer Model O Equipped .....\$20.25.00
- One 1912 Everitt, fully equipped .....\$1200.00
- One 1912 Buick, fully equipped .....\$1110.00
- Two Parker-Gardner Pianos .....\$700.00
- Two Euclid Pianos .....\$600.00
- Four Furniture outfits .....\$400.00
- Four Bank Accounts .....\$200.00
- Four Gold Watches .....\$100.00
- Four Jewelry Credits .....\$50.00

\$6485.00

**Y's Victors in The Championship**

The championship of the local Y. M. C. A. league was won Saturday night by the Y's by the score of 23 to 29. The game was one of the most interesting and exciting ever played on the Y. M. C. A. floor. The first half ended by the score of 25 to 12 in favor of the Y's. In this half the Y's had everything their own way, playing ring around the A's, but in the second half the A's found themselves and made things warm for their opponents. For the Y's, E. Stewart played stellar ball scoring 25 points. For the A's Rodgers and Alexander were their several sensational shots.

The Intermediate League game between Baird's and the Y. M. C. A. team ended in a tie, 15 to 15. In the play-off after a number of playing Long scored the necessary two points by a field goal. This game was one of the best played during the season between two Intermediate League teams. Millersham, for Baird's, scored two hair raising shots, while Long and Carr as forwards for the Y. M. C. A. team played good ball.

Saturday night's games ended two very successful basketball seasons at the Y. M. C. A.

Personally, the sort of man we are not congenial with is the one who buys his underwear on account of its beauty.

**Some RUG Facts**



Do you know where to find the weak points in a Rug? Better trade with a firm that will tell all. We show you every feature. We tell you exactly what you are getting and we certainly know Rugs. Some makes are a great deal better than others. We handle the best known brands in the cheaper as well as the finer qualities and are prepared to furnish you anything in a rug from a cheap matting to the highest grade Wiltons. We show you. We guarantee everything to be as represented.

A large shipment of Crex just received. Come and see for yourself.

**Lubin Furniture Co.**

**DAILY BALLOT**

TEN VOTES FOR

Address.....

District.....

Subject to Rules of The Charlotte News Contest. Must be Received at the News Office by March 1, 1912.

**Clergy and Religious Press Endorse**



The following ministers of the gospel have used MILAM with beneficial results, and believe it to be a valuable remedy, authorize the publication of their endorsement:

Rev. J. Cleveland Hall, Rector Church of Ephiphany, Danville, Va.  
 Rev. R. L. McNair, Pastor Presbyterian Church, Charlotte C. H., Va.  
 Rev. W. W. Royal, Secretary Board of Foreign Missions, Va. Conference M. E. Church South, Norfolk, Va.  
 Rev. Nathan Maynard, Returned Missionary from Japan, Roanoke, Va.  
 Rev. L. C. Douthitt, Walthalla, S. C., State Evangelist for Wesleyan Methodist Conference of N. C.  
 Rev. J. C. Holland, Pastor Keen St. Baptist Church, Danville, Va.  
 Rev. H. D. Guarant, Methodist Minister, Danville, Va.

"The Methodist" endorses Milam. The Methodist has never taken any stock in, or pinned its faith to, patent medicines. Indeed, many of them are fakes of the highest order. Revenue for no real cure has been the policy of the promoters of these "cure-alls." There has been introduced in Danville recently a medicine that, if the testimony of some of our best citizens can be credited, has real merit. It is known as the Milam cure.

The effect of this medicine upon some of those who have seen it, to try it has been marvellous as a restorer of health. The company who manufactures this remedy is the head of the company, manufacturing this medicine can be relied on.—Rev. J. E. Hicks, in the Baptist Union. 62

Buy 6 bottles for \$5.00 and get your money back if not benefited.

ASK YOUR DRUGGIST OR WRITE

**The Milam Medicine Co. Inc.**

DANVILLE, VA.

**MONEY SO FAR SPENT IN THE STREET WORK**

According to the figures on file in the office of City Engineer Firth a total of \$34,890.31 has been spent on paving projects which are now under way in this city. This is not so confused with the work to be done in a large number of permanent improvement districts which have been created but for which no appropriation has been made by the board of aldermen or the executive board.

The West Trade street work is nearly done while that on North Tryon is reported to be within 25 per cent of completion. The East Trade street work is not as far advanced as the other streets, only a comparatively small amount of money having been expended there.

About one half of the curbing and drains and the sewers have been placed on Elizabeth avenue from McDowell to Hawthorne Lane, and the continuation of this district is now in the hands of the contractors, the sewers and drains being placed as rapidly as the weather will permit to allow the street paving work to start.

**The New York.**

The new work, which will be undertaken as soon as the funds are appropriated, will cost, in round numbers, in the neighborhood of \$200,000. City Engineer Firth is now preparing as rapidly as he can, plans for these improvements in order that there may be no delay in the work when the money is once in hand.

The contractor who is laying the sewers and placing the drains started to work last August and will finish shortly. The West Contracting Company, which is laying the paving, started to work later, having been on the contract some three and half months.

The weather has interfered seriously with the work of the contractors, otherwise the greater part of the improvements now under way would have been complete.

The street improvements now in course of construction follow:

- Work Under Way.
- East Trade street from Mint to the railroad. The outlay at this time on the paving is \$12,414.23 and for sewers and drains \$5,493.75.
- North Tryon street from sixth to the Seaboard Air Line depot. For paving \$17,162.75 has been spent and for sewers \$5,675.75.
- East Trade from McDowell to Boulevard the sewers and drain and part of the curb has been set. The amount spent on this sewer amounts to \$1,184.00.
- Elizabeth avenue from McDowell to Hawthorne Lane about one half of the curb and drains has been set and the sewers have been laid at an

outlay of \$6,402.26.

Hawthorne Lane from Elizabeth to Seventh street, all the curbing and drains has been set at a cost of \$1,121.06.

Seventh street from Hawthorne Lane to Pekin avenue, all is ready for the paving, outlay \$1,343.44.

Third street from Tryon to College, \$1,997.42.

A total of \$23,127.31 has been spent for this work.

**The New Work.**

A large number of permanent improvement districts have been created but not yet made an appropriation thereof of \$3,1763 has been paid.

Among the more important are the following districts:

- South from Morehead to Bland. Morehead from South Tryon to Boulevard.
- South Boulevard to East Boulevard.
- Park avenue from Boulevard to Euclid avenue.
- Kingston avenue from Lindhurst avenue.
- Cleveland avenue from Park avenue to Boulevard.
- East Boulevard from South Boulevard to Avondale avenue.
- Worthington avenue from South Boulevard to Avondale avenue.
- North College from Fifth to the Seaboard Air Line.
- North Church from Fifth to Seventh, and from Eighth to Tenth.
- Belmont avenue from Pegrum street to the creek.
- Harrill street from Belmont avenue to Jackson street.
- West Cedar street to Victoria avenue.
- Victoria avenue from Fourth to Grove.
- South Clarkson from Trade to Fourth.
- North Cedar from Trade to Third.
- North Poplar from Trade to Tenth.
- North Graham from Fifth to the Southern Railway bridge.
- Belmont avenue from Seventh to the city limits.

**"O'er All The Ills Of Life Victorious"**

Work on the interior of the new bank building will commence soon. The flooring on the ninth floor is being laid and it will only be a short time until all of the floors are laid. The iron workers move their trip-hammers to some other enterprising city this week.

This building has been built under difficulties—difficulty in securing a foundation, then bad weather. The building will be an ornament to Charlotte and the state. The front is to be marble and the sides of white pressed brick.

—For an indefinite time the pastor of the Second Presbyterian church will lecture on the Sunday school lesson at the Wednesday evening prayer meetings.