

NOVEMBER EXPORTS HIGHEST FOR YEAR

Department of Commerce Shows Exports for Last Month Totalled \$383,000,000, High Record for Year.

TOTAL IS GREATER THAN LAST NOVEMBER

In Comparison With November, 1913, the Increase Was More Than \$138,000,000 the Report Shows.

Washington, Dec. 18.—American exports in November reached the highest point of the year, according to official figures...

A brief statement by the department declared the November returns showed that American agriculture and industry generally benefited from the increasing export business...

A CHARMING PARTY

Engagement of Miss Ona Harry and R. V. Caldwell, Jr., Announced. One of the most charming of the early holiday parties...

BANDITS SECURED ABOUT \$200,000 IN DENVER RAID

Rob Messenger in Front of Federal Mint and Escape in Automobile. Denver, Colo., Dec. 18.—Three bandits today shot and probably fatally wounded Charles Linton...

Prohibition Booms Trade in Pocket Flasks

New York, Dec. 18.—If the Christmas rum fleet reported to be bound for New York from the Bahamas succeeds in running the blockade of the dry navy...

Christmas at Keller Church

The Christmas exercise at Keller Reformed Church will be held December 26th at 6:30 o'clock. Following is the program:

Song—"Joy to the World"—Choir. Declaration—Charlie Brantley. Scripture Reading and Prayer—Pastor, Rev. W. C. Lyerly.

Resolution—Grace Brantley. Exercise—"Christmas Acrobatic"—Nine small children.

Song—"Ting-a-Ling-Ling"—Junior Girls. Recitation—"Nannie Cline. Play—"Two Views of Christmas."

Recitation—Hilda Cooke. Song—"Away in a Manger"—Five Small Girls.

Play—"Why Christmas Was Late." Exercise—"The Monks"—Twelve Small Children.

Play—"Two Girls and Santa Claus." Song—"Choir. Recitation—Lillian Brantley.

Talk—Rev. W. C. Lyerly. Solo—Ethyl Cooke. Declaration—William Cooke.

Play—"Why Santa Clause Comes in December." Benediction.

Ladies to Give Money to Church Building Fund. The Ladies' Aid Society of the First Baptist Church has turned over to the building committee the sum of \$3,100...

Christmas Exercises of Gilwood School. There will be a Christmas tree at Gilwood schoolhouse on December 22, beginning at one o'clock.

No Fireworks Allowed in City. Chief Tablitz this morning declared that the police were going to enforce the law in regard to shooting fire-crackers in the city during the Christmas period.

Weather Forecast. Rain on the coast and rain or snow in interior tonight and Tuesday; somewhat colder tonight.

WALLACE REID NEAR DEATH

Famous Motion Picture Star—"How Did It Happen?" Says Actor. Los Angeles, Dec. 18.—Wallace Reid, motion picture star, is on the verge of death, and for several days has not been expected to live...

One of the physicians, according to the Examiner, corroborated Mrs. Reid's statements saying: "Mr. Reid has been near death for the past five or six days. His temperature has repeatedly reached 103, and his pulse 120."

The physicians describing the illness, according to the Examiner, said: "His present illness has no connection with over-indulgence in alcohol or narcotics, although such indulgences have undoubtedly undermined his system in months gone by."

Mrs. Reid in describing his condition just before the breakdown said he wept and said: "How did I happen to let myself go? Why couldn't I stop long ago? I thought I was strong. I thought I knew myself so well; I can't understand it."

Indignant denials of the published reports of "orgies" in the Reid home were made by Mrs. Alice Davenport, mother-in-law of the actor, to whom those reports had been credited.

"I know there are dope parties in Hollywood—everyone knows that," she said. "And I suppose Wally has attended some of them. I don't know. I do know that I have talked with him after he returned from parties at the homes of some of the people in Hollywood, and I have seen him sadly shake his head and say: 'Mother, I don't like it. That isn't the way to have pleasure. It's all so false, so artificial!'"

Rob Messenger in Front of Federal Mint and Escape in Automobile

Denver, Colo., Dec. 18.—Three bandits today shot and probably fatally wounded Charles Linton, a Federal Reserve Bank guard, and escaped with about \$200,000 in currency of \$5 denominations, which was being loaded into a Federal Reserve truck in front of the Denver mint.

The money was being transferred from the mint to the local reserve bank. The robbers seized the money and sprang into an automobile. As their car sped away the armed government guards inside the mint building fired at the robbers at the corner.

Denver police force quickly was called into action in an effort to apprehend the robbers. While the robbery was going on, according to witnesses, a second automobile loaded with masked men, armed with shot guns and rifles, stood 200 feet from the bank car, apparently ready to give aid if needed.

Sheriffs in nearby counties were quickly notified by the police in an effort to apprehend the robbers. Several manufacturers today declared that the demand for flasks had tripled since the advent of prohibition. Shop windows with their Christmas decorations, feature clandestine drinking vessels which it "wet" days brought a shudder from society.

Stores are selling thousands of flasks—large ones for rookey coat pockets and small ones gracefully curved for the hip; expensive containers covered with imitation leather. Flasks are not the really drinking apparatus on display. Shown in abundance are hollow canes, decanters, glasses never blown for milk, and elaborate cocktail shakers.

Tchitcherin Makes a Proposal. Lausanne, Dec. 18.—By the Associated Press.—Foreign Minister Tchitcherin, of Russia, proposed today to the Near East conference a commission studying status of the Turkish Straits, a plan providing for international board of control on which United States, France, England, Italy and eleven states bordering on the Black Sea.

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FRIENDS OF SHIPPING BILL WIN FIRST POINT

Bill Will Not Be Sidetracked in Senate For the Norris Agriculture Financing Bill. Washington, Dec. 18.—Proponents of the administration shipping bill won the first victory in the jockeying in the Senate today over the more of the opponents to displace the bill with the Norris agriculture financing measure.

When the Senate met it had pending before it the motion to displace the one bill with the other, which was made Saturday by Chairman Norris of the agriculture committee. While supporters of the Norris motion were attempting to get the floor Senator Ransdell, of Louisiana, a democratic supporter of the ship measure, claimed recognition in accordance with a motion given last week, and launched into a speech in behalf of the bill.

Butler Gets Approval by Senate Committee. Unanimous Approval of His Nomination as Member of Supreme Court Given by Senate Committee. Washington, Dec. 18.—The nomination of Pierce Butler, of Minnesota, to be an associate justice of the Supreme Court, was ordered reported to the Senate by a unanimous vote of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The committee acted after receiving a report from a sub-committee which inquired into the nomination and recommended favorable action. Chairman Nelson announced that he would make the report on the nomination at the first legislative session of the Senate and call it up at the first opportunity.

Senators LaFollette, of Wisconsin and Norris of Nebraska, republicans, have indicated that they will fight confirmation. The fire was believed to have originated in the furnace room of the Trust building and had gained great headway before it was discovered.

Save for one or two minor injuries to firemen, there were no casualties in the fire which attracted hundreds of people to the scene. The fire was under control.

Had it not been for the heavy rains of the last week which left nearby buildings soaked and the aid given by the torrents of rainwater that fell this morning, Fire Chief Wallace said the blaze might have proved as disastrous as the recent one at New Beach.

Tons of water were thrown into the smoking ruins throughout the day and South Tryon street was blocked to traffic until the late afternoon as parts of the front wall of the Trust building fell into the street. The scene of the fire was between Third and Fourth streets, on the west side of South Tryon, within a block of where the famous Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence is said to have been signed.

In addition to the losses to business men and others whose offices and equipment were destroyed, the lodge room of the Dramatic Order Knights of Khorassan, which were in the Piedmont building, were water soaked. The Trust building, which also was known as the Academy of Music, had nothing left tonight but tottering walls, the front part of which had partly fallen out. It was erected 18 years ago and was a brick structure. Within recent months it had been purchased by C. W. Johnston at a price said to be \$255,000.

Total loss in the building occupied by Brockman's store and offices was placed at more than \$100,000, while thousands of dollars of damage was done by water in the Piedmont building. Other nearby structures escaped with a few panes of broken glass or scorched awnings, from the flames, which were discovered about 4:30 a. m. The losses generally were said to be well covered by insurance, although there were numerous individuals who had no such protection against fire.

Mayor Walker announced today that he would turn the city auditorium over to those whose offices were destroyed and would erect temporary partitions in the main hall of the buildings. A check-up of injuries tonight showed that Captain Al Moody of the fire department suffered painful cuts from falling glass and that K. W. Stokes was knocked down, apparently by contact with an electric wire, but not seriously hurt. Electric light and power were turned off in downtown Charlotte for several hours during the fire.

Survey of Prohibition Enforcement Conditions in West. Washington, Dec. 18.—Plans have been completed by the prohibition bureau for a survey of enforcement conditions in the far western states similar to that just completed by Commissioner Haynes in the south. Mr. Haynes accompanied by several of his Bureau chiefs will leave here on January 18.

Community Christmas Tree. A community Christmas tree will be erected on the lawn of the Y again this year. The tree will be erected in time for the exercises, which will be held on Saturday evening at 7 o'clock. For the past several years the community tree has been erected on the lawn of the Y, and the program rendered has been greatly enjoyed. The public is invited to attend the exercises this year.

Dead Body of Robert Malone Found. Statesville, N. C., Dec. 18.—J. Robert Malone, 36, disappeared from his home in Shiloh township December 9, and nothing had been heard of him until his body was found in a branch near his home late yesterday afternoon, with a gash in his throat. Malone was in same, and application had been made to have him admitted to the state hospital. He leaves a wife and three children.

BIG CHARLOTTE FIRE STARTS FROM FURNACE

The Six-Story Trust Building on Tryon Street Was Destroyed Early Sunday With a Loss of \$440,000.

KEITH VAUDEVILLE HOUSE IS RUINED

Fire Was Burning Fiercely When Discovered.—Fire Started in Furnace Room of Trust Building.

Charlotte, Dec. 17.—The six-story Trust building on South Tryon street containing the Keith vaudeville theater and a large number of offices was destroyed and two other structures seriously damaged by fire early today with a total loss estimated at approximately \$440,000.

The fire was believed to have originated in the furnace room of the Trust building and had gained great headway before it was discovered.

Save for one or two minor injuries to firemen, there were no casualties in the fire which attracted hundreds of people to the scene.

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SPECIAL CENSUS WILL BE OFFERED FARMERS

Consensus in Fruit and Vegetable Growing to Be Offered at State College. Raleigh, Dec. 18.—Special censuses in fruit and vegetable growing at the North Carolina State College, January 8 to 10, will embrace "new and timely features of interest to progressive farmers," according to an announcement today by Professor Z. P. Furbush, head of the department of horticulture.

As outlined, the work will be offered in the form of three two-hour demonstration lectures during the forenoon, and by demonstration and practice in grading and packing later.

Rolling Hill, of Waynesville, will be in charge of the work with fruits during the first week. It was stated that the grading and packing of vegetables to be given the second week of the short term, will be under the direction of Gurrell Shumaker, of the bureau of markets.

The demonstration lectures of the first week will cover such timely subjects as improvement of farmsteads; choosing varieties for the orchard; orchard planting; establishing the orchard; peach problems; pruning apples; peaches, grapes and small fruits; peaches and fig culture, and farm woodland management. It was stated.

The second week will be devoted chiefly to vegetables and will include the following topics: Truck crops for the North Carolina production problem; with the Irish potato, sweet potato, lettuce, tomato and onion crops; diseases of vegetables, irrigation, and marketing. A packing and judging contest, open to all who attend will be held at the conclusion of the course.

MORE TEACHERS NEEDED IN NORTH CAROLINA

Mid-Year Resignations and Other Causes Have Resulted in Shortage. Raleigh, Dec. 18.—Mid-year resignations and other causes have resulted in a serious shortage of teachers in North Carolina, resulting in a demand for well-qualified instructors for the opening of the new school year in January, according to an announcement made today by officials of the placement bureau of the Education Association.

There is an unusually heavy demand for teachers at this season of the year, reads the statement. "Some of these vacancies are occurring in the larger school systems of the state, but there are many openings in the rural sections of different counties.

The fact that many of the mountain schools, which opened early in the fall or late summer, are completing their work at Christmas time will help relieve the situation, but even with these additions there still are vacancies which cannot be filled with the registrations with the bureau at present.

Well-qualified teachers can secure places through the placement bureau. Teachers holding lower grade certificates can find places also, if they have had successful teaching experience. Prospective teachers who do not hold certificates should take up with the certification bureau of the state Department of education the matter of what certificates they will be entitled to before they begin looking for work.

Superintendents and school committees are not willing to employ teachers who have not had the training and this is one of the causes of the shortage," the statement concludes.

DAN O'Rourke TELLS HIS STORY IN THE TRIAL OF THE MEN AT HERRIN, ILL.

Marion, Ill., Dec. 18 (By the Associated Press).—Shot down and left to die on a lonely roadside, Dan O'Rourke returned today to tell his story at the trial of five men charged with murder in connection with the Herrin riot.

That O'Rourke, who still bears the scars left by his injuries, had come back from the very shadow of the grave to testify for the prosecution was announced by the counsel of the state at the opening of court this morning.

MARK FELL FROM 8,300 TO 5,600 IN THE COURSE OF THE LAST FIVE DAYS

Berlin, Dec. 18 (By the Associated Press).—In the midst of their Christmas shopping German consumers of the trial of five men charged with murder in connection with the Herrin riot. That O'Rourke, who still bears the scars left by his injuries, had come back from the very shadow of the grave to testify for the prosecution was announced by the counsel of the state at the opening of court this morning.

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Malone was in same, and application had been made to have him admitted to the state hospital. He leaves a wife and three children.

INFLUENZA CASES ARE REPORTED AT TRINITY

School Will Close Today Instead of Wednesday—Thirty-Six Cases Reported. Durham, Dec. 18.—It was announced today that Trinity College would be closed this afternoon for the Christmas holidays, two days earlier than usual, because of a number of cases of influenza among the students. A total of 36 cases had been reported on the campus today.

Christmas Play. "Up the Chimney" is the title of the play to be given by the children of the Second Presbyterian Church on Christmas morning at 6:30 o'clock. A large junior choir will sing carols, and there will be special numbers between the acts. The usual tree and "treat" will be given at this time.

Some years ago there was a craze among the women of Berlin for dyeing the hair queer colors. Purple, blue, green, and mauve were favorite shades. Fortunately the craze did not last very long.

LIST OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHRISTMAS CHARITIES

Forty Needy Cases Discussed in City by Committee of King's Daughters and Elks. Forty "Opportunities" have been found in Concord, and the people of the city are asked to adopt them for Christmas. The "Opportunities" represent needy families and persons in the city, and the following list has been submitted by members of the committees investigating the situation in the city.

Opportunity No. 1.—Two children who would appreciate toys and confectioneries. Boy 10 and girl 6 years.

Opportunity No. 2.—Father in three months. No support. Mother and baby 4 years. Girl 7 years. New Year, food and Xmas things for children. Taken.

Opportunity No. 3.—Mother sick to bed, father in jail, baby 2 years, boy 7 and girl 9 and 12 years. Fuel, food and Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 4.—Mother and father 4 years. Little crippled girl 8 years, girl 14. Fuel, food and Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 5.—Colored woman has tuberculosis, ill for a year. Fuel and Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 6.—Mother and father, boy 12 years and grandmother who has tuberculosis. Fuel and food needed. Young girl 17 years old has tuberculosis, in bed three months. Flowers and fruit. Taken.

Opportunity No. 7.—An ex-soldier has tuberculosis, confined to bed. Fuel and Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 8.—Grandmother 60 years old, has cancer, care for two grandchildren. July 3 years, little girl 12 years. Fuel, food and Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 9.—Father sick. Mother works in mill. Boy 7, girls 8, 12 and 18 years. Fuel and Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 10.—Father and mother, girl 11 years, boys 13, 9 and 1 years. Fuel, food and Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 11.—Widowed mother, 2 children in orphanage, 1 boy 4 years old with his mother. Fuel and Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 12.—Old lady 70 years old. Fuel, food and confectioneries.

Opportunity No. 13.—An old lady with orphaned grand-daughter 13 years old. Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 14.—Mother and father, baby 2 months old, boy 13, 6 and 1 years. Girl 9 years. Fuel, food and Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 15.—Widowed mother works in mill. Girls 10 and 4 years. Boy 13 years. Fuel, food and Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 16.—Old lady 80 years old, alone in the world. Fuel and confectionaries.

Opportunity No. 17.—Father sick, mother works in mill, boy 4 years old. Fuel, food and Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 18.—Widowed mother, has tuberculosis, daughter 16 years, baby 9. Fuel, food and Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 19.—Widowed mother, daughter 14 years. Boys 16 and 11 years. Fuel and Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 20.—Father sick, mother works, Boy 5 years, girl 4 years and baby 2 years. Fuel and Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 21.—Two crippled boys in Orthopaedic Hospital, 8 and 4 years. Toys and confectioneries.

Opportunity No. 22.—Crippled girl 6 years old. Toys and confectioneries.

Opportunity No. 23.—Crippled boy 6 years old. A Christmas remembrance.

Opportunity No. 24.—Widowed mother, boys 6 and 15 years. Girls 10 and 12. Fuel, food and Xmas things. Taken.

Opportunity No. 25.—Mother and father, mother, Boy 7 and girl 2 and 5 years. Fuel and Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 26.—Little boy 10 years. Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 27.—Little girl 8 years. Xmas things.

Opportunity No. 28.—Father in hospital, mother who has tuberculosis. Fuel and Xmas things.

LAKE SUPERIOR NOW SAVERS WHO ARE TRYING TO BRING BACK TO SAFETY BOATS ON THE LAKE TAKE GREAT RISK WITH LIVES

Forty Persons So Far Have Perished. And Before Last Ship is Carried to Port or Given Up For Lost, the Total Will Be Larger.

Chicago, Dec. 18 (By the Associated Press).—Building fast by fast through towering waves and freezing spray, the men who go down to the sea in ships were fighting a battle against the ice today on Lake Superior.

Already the fight has claimed its toll of lives and before the war ships have been rescued for ice have given up the last—last that may be given.

Nearly a dozen died a few days ago when Canadian steamer was dashed to pieces within a stormy chase of safety at the mouth of the Portage Lake Ship Canal.

Saturday night 27 men were added to the prodigious death roll when survivors of the tug Hercules, wrecked Wednesday on Lizard Island, reached port. Six Marie were almost irretrievably perished.

South St. Marie, Ont., Dec. 18.—Twenty-two of the 27 persons who have been missing since the tug Hercules struck on the rocks of Lizard Island last Wednesday have been saved, according to report from the tug Grey, which reached the wreck today.

INADEQUATE DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES FOR FARMERS. In the Cause of Their Troubles, Says Former Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Distribution facilities and not inadequate results have caused the present trouble of the farmers, M. C. Ladd, former assistant secretary of the Treasury, declared today at the Senate Banking Committee's hearings on farm credit proposals.

Including that there is no such thing as a completely successful farmer, he declared that the farmer's troubles were largely traceable to purchases made by them of farm equipment and other supplies at inflated prices.

Orphan Children Brought Back to North Carolina. Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 18.—Homes are being sought for five children, who were brought from Virginia, when an orphanage there was abolished owing to alleged irregularities, by the North Carolina Bureau of Child Welfare.

The children now are being held in the detention home of the bureau and originally came from this state. The orphanage, which was located in Virginia, formerly was located in this state, but was moved when North Carolina officials, according to Miss Elizabeth Tuttle, of the bureau. Two of the children are boys and three girls.

Servants Order Consuls to Leave. Vladivostok, Dec. 18 (By the Associated Press).—The soviet government of Vladivostok, which recently took over the administration of the city and surrounding territory, known as the Primoria, today ordered the consuls of France and ten other countries to leave their consulates and leave the Primoria within a week.

Houston F. Fible and Company Fails. New York, Dec. 18.—Announcement was made today by the New York Stock Exchange of the failure of Houston F. Fible and Company, of Kansas City. The firm which was admitted to the exchange in 1900 consists of W. R. Houston and W. M. Fible.

The Lithuanian is Reported Aground. Copenhagen, Dec. 18 (By the Associated Press).—The Danish steamship Lithuanian, which left New York December 6 for Danzig and Lissa with a cargo of passengers, is reported aground on Bernholm Island in the Baltic Sea.

this is impossible, the committee, in charge will deliver. Also, when a person wants to take a part of an opportunity and does not feel they can furnish fuel, that will be looked after by the committee.

Bags of confectioneries will be furnished to 80 men on the chain gang, 50 persons of the county house, and 14 in the county jail, and all children needing clothing will be cared for also.

ONLY 5 DAYS TO SHOP MORE