

WILL DEMAND EQUAL TREATMENT IN DEBT FUNDING QUESTIONS

Is Understood France Wants to Settle With England and the United States Settlement, Then.

PREFERENCE IN THE MATTER

Officials See No Reason Why England Should Be Paid First, as American Debt Is the Larger of the Two.

Must Complete THE STATE HIGHWAYS

Is in Favor of Another Issue of Bonds.

Too Perisopes to Watch Husband.

Parke-Bell Company states in a report today that they are making a reduction now.

Charlotte Has 64,873 People, Says Survey.

WHAT SMITTY'S CAT SAYS

Jackie Coogan's Brother.

STATESVILLE SENDS THANKS TO MR. DUKE

Rotary Club Passes Resolutions of Unanimous Approval of Gifts to Education. Statesville, Dec. 17.—The Statesville Rotary Club passed resolutions today, the members voting unanimously their approval of James B. Duke's singular philanthropy toward the colleges, churches and hospitals of North and South Carolina.

In seconding the resolution, William Wallace related an incident which reveals the effect of Mr. Duke's philanthropy upon the outside world. In discussing the progress of North Carolina recently with a traveling man who resides in New York city, Mr. Wallace suggested that the Duke gift would tend to bring people here from other states to avail themselves of the educational advantages.

SHOOTS ANOTHER GIRL IN MISTAKE FOR WIFE

Miss Moore, Killed by Roark, in Atlanta, Was a Sister of Asheville Woman. Asheville, Dec. 17.—Miss Vera Moore, Western Union telegraph operator, who was shot and killed in the Western Union office at Atlanta last Saturday night by Claude Roark, night supervisor, was a sister of Mrs. J. B. Smith, 8 Richmond avenue, this city.

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IS SLIGHTLY INDISPOSED

Slight Cold Made It Necessary For Him to Postpone Departure For Florida. New York, Dec. 18.—A slight cold caused John D. Rockefeller to cancel his plans to start for his winter home at Ormond Beach, Fla., this morning it was announced from the Standard Oil Company offices here. It was emphasized that his indisposition was only slight.

Plague Germs Found in New Orleans

Washington, Dec. 17.—A request for an immediate appropriation of \$275,000 to be used in controlling the reported outbreak among rats of bubonic plague at the port of New Orleans and vicinity was forwarded to Congress today by the treasury department.

Undelivered Mail Ten Years Old Found in Dead Postman's Home.

Belfast, Dec. 18.—More than 1,000 undelivered letters from all parts of the United Kingdom, including registered packets as well as ordinary mail, were found hidden in the home of Thomas S. Keady, a postman, who died here recently.

Salisbury School Contract Awarded.

Salisbury, Dec. 14.—Contracts totaling \$425,000 were let here Saturday for the new high school building for the city. L. S. Bradshaw, local contractor, was awarded the contract for the erection of the building. It is planned to have the building ready for use by January 1926.

Don't put Christmas seals of any kind on the address side of letters and post cards. To do so makes them unmailable.

LONGEST TRIAL IN AMERICAN COURT HISTORY IS ENDED

Verdict of \$10,543,109.07 Is Given In Case of Willett Against Herrick and Group of Bankers.

TRIAL CONTINUED FOR MANY WEEKS

Took 184 Days to Dispose of Case—Verdict Returned by Jury Which Consisted of Only Eleven Men.

Dedham, Mass., Dec. 18.—A verdict of \$10,543.07 for the plaintiff was returned today by the jury in the \$15,000,000 damage suit brought by George F. Willett against Robert F. Herrick and a group of Boston bankers. The trial of the case in Norfolk superior court lasted 184 days. The jury had been deliberating since Monday.

THE COTTON MARKET

Opened Steady at Decline of From Five Points to an Advance of One Point. New York, Dec. 18.—The cotton market was nervous and irregular in today's early trading. A tendency to take profits on recent purchases after the advance of the past two or three days was promoted by relatively easy Liverpool cables.

Christmas Dishes of Old.

London, Dec. 18.—Of the dishes with which John Bull in days of old was wont to make merry over at Yuletide, the place of honor must be assigned to the boar's head.

SOVIET GOVERNMENT CRITICISED BY POPE

Russian Government Condemned in Pope's Abolition Delivered at Secret Consistory. Rome, Dec. 18.—(By the Associated Press)—Strong condemnation of the Russian soviet government was voiced in Pope Pius' allocution delivered at the secret consistory today.

Yuletide Decorations.

New York, Dec. 18.—Why are holly and mistletoe used as Christmas decorations? In olden times holly was regarded as a sacred plant. The red berries were associated with drops of holy blood, and spines on the leaves, with the thorns composing the Crown of Thorns. The beasts of the field would not touch the tree, but treated it with the greatest respect.

Seaboard to Take Off Two Trains January 1.

Raleigh, Dec. 17.—The Seaboard Air Line yesterday was granted a petition by the state corporations commission to discontinue the trains number 31 and 34, operating between Charlotte and Rutherfordton, the order becoming effective January 1, 1925.

DUKE CHAIRMAN OF TRUST FUND

(By the Associated Press). New York, Dec. 18.—James B. Duke, tobacco and power magnate, who recently established a \$40,000,000 endowment for educational purposes, has been elected chairman of the trustees who will administer the fund, it was announced here today.

KREISLER GETS DEATH THREAT

Fifty Million Kronen Is Demanded of Famous Violinist. Vienna, Dec. 16.—Seven hundred dollars or your life. This was the demand in a letter written in elegant stationery in a fine hand which was delivered to Fritz Kreisler last night, after his Vienna concert.

COLD WAVE INVADING MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

Northwest Experiencing Coldest Weather of Winter—Will Be Felt in the South. Chicago, Dec. 17.—The most severe cold wave of the winter swept through the northwest last night and rapidly was spreading south and east with forecasts indicating that by tonight the entire Mississippi and Ohio Valley will show temperatures hovering near the zero mark.

QUAKE WAS OF SEVERE NATURE IN SURIGAO PROVINCE ON MINDANAO ISLAND

Manila, Dec. 18.—(By the Associated Press)—Twenty-four persons were killed Monday when a severe earthquake rocked Surigao province on Mindanao Island. The quake destroyed 28 houses on four small islands situated near the northern coast of the province. Forty-seven persons were injured. Although the quake occurred on Monday, the first news of the situation was received here today by the American Red Cross.

Christmas in Mid-Summer.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 18.—Strange as it may seem to people who have always been used to keeping Christmas on December 25, this was not always the date for Yuletide rejoicings. It was once a movable feast, which different churches kept on the day they thought best. An old writer tells of one which used to observe the festival in June, or even as late as the dog-days of July.

Greene County Man Kills His Own Son

Kinston, Dec. 15.—A report to the sheriff's office here today said Ed Goff, Greene county man, shot and killed his 17-year old son at their home near the Lenoir county line. The cause of the shooting was not stated. Goff was jailed at Snow Hill.

President's Views on Naval Building

Washington, Dec. 16.—Naval building by the nations of the world on a competitive basis promises little hope for the future, in the opinion of President Coolidge. Simultaneous with the statement of the President's views, the Senate naval committee postponed action on the resolution of Senator King, democrat of Utah, for an inquiry into the status of the Navy.

Garner President of State Fair.

Raleigh, Dec. 16.—O. Max Gardner, of Shelby, was elected President of the North Carolina Agriculture Society at its annual meeting here today. He succeeds Mrs. Edith Vanderbilt, who retired after serving three years.

FUNERAL SERVICES IN NEW YORK CITY FOR GOMPERS TODAY

After Services, Which Were Held In Elks Home, Body Was Carried by Automobile To Tarrytown for Burial.

HUNDREDS PRESENT FOR THE SERVICES

Men High In State and Nation In Attendance Along With Labor Leaders From All Parts of the Nation. New York, Dec. 18.—Impressive funeral services were held today for Samuel Gompers at the Elks Club, after which the body was taken by automobile to Tarrytown for burial in the historic Sleepy Hollow cemetery.

WARRANTS FOR FORMER ATLANTA PRISON OFFICIALS

Officials Charged in Warrants With the Acceptance of Bribes. Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 18.—Warrants charging the acceptance of bribes by A. E. Sartain, deposed warden, and L. J. Fletcher, deputy warden of the federal prison in Atlanta, were sworn out in U. S. District Court here today. Both men were waiting in the clerk's office to make bond.

ANOTHER CHARGE FOR SENATE TO WORK ON

Alleged That Employee of Senate Committee Accepted Money to Use His Influence For Proposed Bill. Washington, Dec. 18.—The Department of Justice has begun an investigation into charges that an employee of a Senate committee has accepted money to use his influence in aiding in the passing of legislation.

Dies Kneeling as Though in Prayer.

Durham, Dec. 17.—In an attitude of prayer, his head bowed upon his clasped hands, his hands upon the seat of a chair before which he knelt, the oldest citizen of Durham, J. G. Loeffler, was found dead in his rather bare apartment above Main street store this morning at 8:15 o'clock.

Charlotte to Invite Coolidge.

Charlotte, Dec. 17.—President Coolidge was asked to deliver an address in Charlotte should he come south after Congress adjourns in March, in a telegram sent yesterday by President Kirkpatrick of the Charlotte chamber of commerce. Senator Overman has been asked to arrange an audience for a group of Charlotte citizens who will go to Washington soon after the holidays to press the invitation to the President.

Test for Drivers' Eyes.

All traffic violators at Richmond must have their eyes examined. Apparatus for a medical examination is installed in a room next to the police court and all offenders must submit to the test. Those with defective sight are warned to have it corrected and their failure to do so will result in increased fines on their second appearance.

ROTARY MEETING

Concord Rotarians Hear Hurley and Indorse J. B. Duke's Big Gift to the Carolinas. A speech by James F. Hurley, editor of the Salisbury Post and prominent Rotarian, and a resolution indorsing Mr. J. B. Duke's recent gift of forty millions of dollars to education, religion and public health in the Carolinas, featured the regular weekly meeting of the Concord Rotary Club at the Y. M. C. A. yesterday.

AMERICAN-JAPANESE RELATIONS DISCUSSED

Era of "The Most Cordial Relations" Predicted by Secretary Hughes. Washington, Dec. 18.—(By the Associated Press)—The Washington government, whose officials have been puzzled and somewhat disturbed by agitation over the American-Japanese relations, took occasion today to formally bespeak an era of "the most cordial relations" between the two countries.

JOHNSON STILL HAS SOME FRIENDS LEFT

President of American League Is Deported by Two Major League Club Owners. Chicago, Dec. 18.—(By the Associated Press)—Clark Griffith, president of the Washington Club, declared today that he and other friends of Ban Johnson, president of the American League, who was rebuked yesterday in a letter read at the joint meeting of the major leagues, still will support Johnson as president of the league.

Charge Against Dry Agents Investigated.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—Charges by Cole Finch that his father, Homer Finch, a hotel keeper, was shot to death a week ago by three federal prohibition agents because he failed to pay them a bribe when they found him selling alcohol wholesale, were being investigated by federal and state authorities today.

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