

PERSONS IN WILMINGTON DESERT MERGED HOMES

Blocks in the Ten- Capital Covered by Overflow From Cumberland River.

LOSS OF LIFE REPORTED SO FAR

in Flood Area Were in Time and Are Occupying All of Homes.

Wilmington, Dec. 30.—(P)—Fifty city blocks and fifty city blocks of persons have been housed today as a result of the overflow of the Cumberland River.

Persons in the flood area were in time and are occupying all of homes.

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SAYS MR. PHARR WAS EXPRESSING HIS OWN OPINION

Did Not Speak for Commission in Saying Term Is Not Ripe for Action for Longer School Term.

THE COMMISSION TO MEET JANUARY 3RD

Then the Report of Dr. Morrison as to His Investigations Will Be Heard by Commission.

Wilmington, Dec. 30.—(P)—The Educational Commission will meet on January 3rd.

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TRAGEDY REFUSES TO LOSE GRIP ON BANKS OFFICIALS

Memphis, Tenn., Dec. 30.—(P)—Harry Cohn, president of the American Savings Bank & Trust Company which recently closed its doors, collapsed in the bank today and died within a few minutes.

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NORTH CAROLINA WILL KEEP PACE

With the Gigantic Expansions of Electric Power Development.

Raleigh, Dec. 30.—With expenditures totaling millions of dollars in electric power development planned for the year 1927, North and South Carolina will keep pace with the gigantic expansions forecast for the industry throughout the United States.

According to a statement received here today from R. F. Pack, president of the National Electric Light Association, new capital to the amount of \$900,000,000 will be needed during 1927 for the expansions contemplated by industry.

In North Carolina there are at present under way three major power developments which are expected to be completed approximately within the twelve months. They are:

The Pigeon River hydro-electric plant of the Carolina Power and Light Company, west of Asheville, at a cost that has been estimated at from \$13,000,000 to \$14,000,000.

The Norwood hydro-electric plant in Stanly county by the Carolina Power and Light Company at an estimated cost of \$10,000,000.

The High Rock development on the Yadkin River in Davidson county by the Tallahassee Power Company and the Southern Power Company, jointly, at an estimated cost of \$15,000,000.

On the Savannah River in McCormick county, South Carolina, the Southeastern Power and Light Company plans an ultimate expenditure of \$20,000,000 for hydro development.

The year just closed saw the completion by the Southern Power Company in record time of the 100,000-horsepower steam plant at Dukeville, near Salisbury.

Mr. Pack, in his statement, calls attention to the completion of three great "super power" interconnections in the west and the northwest. During 1927, the two Carolinas, which for four years have been included in the great southeastern "super power" system will be connected with the east and the northwest in an unbroken connection from the Great Lakes to Florida and Texas.

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Movement For New Library Here Is Sponsored By Rotary Club Members

Club Members at Weekly Meeting Endorse Bond Issue Proposal as Best Means of Giving City Library Facilities Needed.

A movement for a modern public library in Concord started Wednesday by Concord Rotarians at their weekly meeting and other civic organizations will be asked to lend their cooperation and support.

Following an address by L. T. Hartsell, chairman of the board of trustees of the library, Rotarians at the meeting pledged their support to a bond issue which was deemed necessary as a means of securing money with which to build and equip such a library as is needed in Concord.

"Concord people are tired of drives; they have been about driven to death," Mr. Hartsell stated, "and I think the library should be supported by taxation, with every one paying his or her proportionate share."

An unanimous vote of the club endorsed this suggestion, appointed a committee to draw up a bill which would be presented at the next session of the legislature, and named representatives to put the proposition before the Kiwanis and Woman's clubs at early meetings.

North Carolinians like to talk about the biggest toll mill in the world being in Kannapolis, about the biggest denim mill in the world being at Greensboro and the biggest aluminum plant in the world being at Badin.

Mr. Hartsell said in opening his address, but they don't like to talk about public libraries.

"They shun this subject," he said, "because we are not doing anything for our libraries. North Carolina and Arkansas rank at the bottom of the 48 states in library support and in the number of books per inhabitant there is no one to dispute the lowest rung on the ladder with North Carolina."

"Massachusetts has two and a half books per inhabitant in libraries. North Carolina has less than one-third of one book per inhabitant. As a matter of fact we would have to increase the state's total ten times to be even an average state."

Mr. Hartsell stated that he discussed the library subject in general just to lead up to his real subject—an adequate library for Concord. "The present library was established thirteen years ago," he continued, "and showed a slow growth for many years. We are all back now because of lack of money. There is just as much interest as ever on the part of the public, but that public has not been satisfied because there were no new books available. In 1922 at the library 51,000 books were borrowed. This year the total has fallen to 37,000, not because the public was tired of reading but because there was nothing new to be secured at the library."

"All of the money secured from the city now is needed for small salaries, heat and other necessities. There

WANTS MORE HOSPITALS FOR DISABLED VETERANS

Bill Carrying \$16,000,000 Appropriation Drawn Up For Congressional Action.

Washington, Dec. 30.—(P)—A veterans hospital construction program calling for appropriations of \$16,000,000 for new structures or additions to existing ones, is asked in a bill drawn up by chairman Johnson, of the House veterans committee.

It would authorize 5,000 additional beds, and with a few exceptions they would be used for world war veterans suffering with mental disorders. The measure follows recommendations made at the Philadelphia American Legion convention.

"The additional hospital facilities," Mr. Johnson said today, "have been found necessary because the number of former service men suffering from mental diseases attributable to the war has increased at the rate of 1,000 a year for the past four years. Under special treatment the government may be able to cure a substantial number of these, but existing hospital facilities are not able to meet demands placed upon them."

OBJECTS TO POISON IN DENATURANTS SO CHANGE IS ORDERED

In the Future Government Will Not Use Poisons, Under Order Made by Secretary Mellon.

NEW PLAN WILL BE USED SOON

Objects to the Practice of Poisoning Persons to Keep Them From Drinking, Secretary Asserts.

Washington, Dec. 30.—(P)—On the theory that no effective prohibition enforcement is bound to drive drink-drinkers to the use of industrial alcohol, Secretary Mellon announced a determination today to eliminate the use of poisons in the use of denaturants.

The secretary's attitude, made known today at the treasury, is that he does not conceive it as a duty of the government to permit poisoning of citizens in order to enforce the law. He expects government chemists soon will be able to denature alcohol so that it will be too distasteful to drink rather than too dangerous.

When the new government denaturing formula goes into effect January 1st certain poisonous substances previously included in it will be eliminated.

The four per cent. of wood alcohol provided for in the formula will remain, however, as Mr. Mellon does not think that percentage injurious. Under the old formula two per cent. of wood alcohol is used.

The decision not to use poisons in dangerous quantities is based on a conviction on the part of Secretary Mellon that complete prohibition enforcement is impossible. He thinks that as enforcement grows stronger bootleggers and drinkers will turn to alcohol and other substitutes. He is not willing that the government should poison these substitutes to enforce the law and believes that concoctions can be placed in them to prevent their use.

Improved prohibition enforcement under the administration of Assistant Secretary Andrews is believed by Mr. Mellon to have resulted in use of industrial alcohol by bootleggers, and in the consequent poisoning of some drinkers. He does not believe, however, that any portion of the numerous holiday alcoholic deaths resulted from use of poisoned alcohol, and believes excessive drinking was a more likely cause.

The secretary declared today that smuggling both along the coast and on the Canadian border had been greatly diminished, if not almost eliminated. Domestic liquor leaks also have been stopped to a great degree, he said, through the concentration in fewer distilleries of the medicinal liquor stock. As a result bootleggers, he understands, are to use industrial alcohol.

THE COTTON MARKET

Opened Steady at Advance of 7 to 10 Points, With January Selling Up to 12.95.

New York, Dec. 30.—(P)—The cotton market opened steady at an advance of 7 to 10 points in response to relatively firm Liverpool cables and reports that while the weather was clear in the South it was too cold for much progress in picking.

Additional January notices were issued, causing a little liquidation and a slight widening of the difference between January and later months, but the general market held steady.

There appeared to be a little trade buying here for continental account. January sold up to 12.95 and July to 13.27 and prices held within 2 or 3 points of these figures at the end of the first hour.

Cotton futures opened steady: Jan. 12.74; March 12.92; May 13.10; July 13.27; Oct. 13.41.

Fenner and Beane's Cotton Letter. New Orleans, Dec. 29.—The cotton market was a small affair today owing to the approaching holiday. Sentiment was generally reactionary but there was no selling of consequence and the market was steady throughout a shade lower. The weather continues bad with rains in the east and cold in the west. The forecast is for fair weather and rising temperatures but the map indicates another rainy spell is on the way into the belt. Exports continue to run heavy but spot demand is light and shipments from interior points are less than last season. Sentiment is generally reactionary but the steadiness of the market and cheapness of cotton is restricting selling for the short account.

AMERICA DECLINES TO CHANGE POLICY IN NICARAGUA NOW

Standing Pat in Face of Battering Rain of Far-flung Protests and the Divergent Opinions.

SACASA TROOPERS HAVING SUCCESS

It Is Said American Forces Will Stay Where They Are to Protect American and Property.

Washington, Dec. 30.—(P)—While the Sacasa liberals continue to forge ahead into the interior of Nicaragua, threatening the vital portions of the conservative forces of President Diaz, American government officials in the face of a battering rain of far-flung protests and widely divergent opinions are standing pat on their announced policy of protection for American lives and property.

While conferences continue today between high officials in Washington, late dispatches from the war zone in Nicaragua told of the retreat to El Bluff from Las Perlas of the Diaz troops; their disarming in the neutral zone, and the dispatch of 200 conservative soldiers to Monkey Ridge to save that strategic point from falling into the hands of Sacasa's army.

President Diaz, who has been recognized by the United States, is reported to have asked the American minister at Managua to have the Escondido River established as a neutral zone, in view of his inability to guarantee protection to foreigners. Several neutral zones already have been established on the east coast, and whether additional ones will be created rests with Rear Admiral Julian Latimer, American naval commander in Nicaraguan waters.

OLD MAN MOORE PREDICTS 1927 AS 'NO BETTER'

Famous Astrologer Fears the Coming Year Will Teem With Agitations.

London, Dec. 30.—Those who imagine that 1927 will be a better year than 1926 are doomed to disappointment, according to "Old Moore," who, through the medium of the famous "Old Moore's Almanack," annually brings the said tidings to a sorrowing world that "next year will be no better."

"Old Moore," who bases his predictions on the influences exercised by the stars, opines that Neptune is going to cause this old world a good deal of trouble next year.

He signs his predictions "Francis Moore, physician." It is only fair to the inhabitants of the various countries said to be going to be affected, however, to point out that as this Francis Moore was the original "Old Moore," the astrologer, his vitality must be enormous, for he lived in the reign of King William the Third of England.

Fears Crime Waves

The old god has apparently been bitten with the popular socialist bug, and this issue of his almanack literally teems with "bolshhevik attack," "crimes against law and order," "socialistic agitation," "strikes," "unrest," and so on. As a gloomy prophet "Old Moore" easily ranks with Dean Ingle in this issue.

For instance, he foresees in next February that: "The position of Neptune in the sixth square to Mars and opposition to Venus denotes troubles among the workers, bolshevik tendencies, immorality, and danger of strikes."

Apparently Neptune is in disgrace with the venerable astrologer, for in March he tells us that "the position of Neptune in the eleventh house denotes socialistic disorders in the English House of Commons."

Then in April we read that "the position of Neptune denotes double dealing among the powers," and in May "the rising position of Neptune shows unrest among the people of the world."

Neptune's appearance in June denotes strange deaths, drowning, druging and heart failure. Indeed, whatever this unfortunate planet does is wrong.

Generally, 1927 will be a bad year for the world, according to this incurable pessimist.

JUDICIAL MATTERS ARE DISCUSSED AT CONFERENCE TODAY

State Judicial Conference Meets to Discuss Problems Confronting Courts of the State.

EMERGENCY ACT NOT ADEQUATE

It Is Proposed That Several New Districts Be Created for the Trial of Civil Cases Only.

Raleigh, Dec. 30.—(P)—Creation of judicial districts for the trial of civil cases only, and new laws covering the selection of jurors are among legislative proposals made today.

The judicial conference met in the Supreme Court room with Chief Justice Stacy presiding for hearing reports in the judicial system.

Associate Justice Adams recommended an amendment to the state constitution, to permit the forming of the proposed superior court districts. The effect would be to permit the naming of Superior court judges, without naming of solicitors in similar proportion. Appointment of emergency judges would be done away with. The present emergency judge laws were termed inadequate.

Appeals to the Supreme Court at present may be made only through superior courts from inferior ones.

The jurist committee headed by Judge Frank Daniels, proposed a jury commission of five members in each county to purge the jury of all names except those properly qualified; abandonment of peremptory challenges except in capital felonies; and placing authority in judges to remove jurors for cause.

Each side in a legal action would be permitted to strike three veniremen from the panel list of 18, remaining after the judge had passed on objections for cause.

The committee on trials headed by Judge Devin proposed a bill to give Superior judges the right to limit argument in misdemeanor cases to not less than one hour, and to not less than two hours in felony cases, except for capital offenses.

Committees on process and pleading, appeals and rules of practice also reported.

\$30,000,000 MORE FOR THE STATE HIGHWAYS

This is the Amount the State Highway Commission Will Recommend.

Raleigh, Dec. 30.—Thirty million dollars—enough greenbacks for any "Dad" to pay up his Christmas bills—is the amount that the North Carolina State highway commission will recommend for additional highways in a bond issue to the January legislature.

This amount was announced here recently following a session of the commission and a conference with Governor McLean.

The amount agreed upon by the commission was not unexpected—as the bond issue had been mentioned variously from \$20,000,000 all the way to \$40,000,000—so it was thought the commission would probably "split" the two figures. They did. And it is for "additional" highway construction, too!

Washington, Dec. 30.—The White House expects a large crowd for the New Year reception. President and Mrs. Coolidge will shake hands with thousands of men, women and children beginning at 11 o'clock with the diplomats.

After the Diplomatic Corps has passed out of the White House, Cabinet members, Justices of the Supreme Court, members of Congress and other officials will greet the President and Mrs. Coolidge.

After lunch general public will be received.

New Year's Day is the one day of the year that all citizens feel free to see the President.

Purnell Must Stand Trial.

Benton Harbor, Mich., Dec. 30.—(P)—Benjamin Purnell, leader of the House of David Colony, was bound over today for trial in circuit court on charges of criminal assault made by Mrs. Bessie Woodworth, of Benton Harbor, a former member of the Colony.

Winston-Salem's Building Record For Year \$5,583,000.

Winston-Salem, Dec. 29.—Winston-Salem's building record for 1926 is \$5,583,000, according to figures compiled today by the city building inspector. This represents an increase of more than a half million dollars over the total for 1925.

Earthquake Felt in Washington State.

Wenatchee, Wash., Dec. 30.—(P)—A pronounced earthquake was felt at 10.05 a. m. today. Buildings shook and many occupants ran into the streets. One old citizen who has felt them before, said it was the most pronounced in the seventeen years he has resided here.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Fair tonight, slightly colder on the coast; Friday fair, rising temperature. Moderate to fresh northwest and west winds.

One of every three persons in New York City is a Jew.

Nearly five hundred whales were taken in Alaskan waters last year.

Mrs. B. S. Templeton and four children, and Miss Janie Kelly, of near Mooresville, spent Wednesday with Mrs. Roy C. Crooks.

Mr. White was 56 years old. He was a descendant of William Penn.

President Back Home.

Washington, Dec. 30.—(P)—President and Mrs. Coolidge arrived home early today from Trenton, N. J., where the President spoke last night at the Battle of Trenton celebration, and were driven immediately to the White House.

Killed in Freight Wreck.

Summersfield, Pa., Dec. 30.—(P)—An engineer was killed and his fireman is believed to be dead under the wreckage, the result of one freight train running into the rear of another on the Legh-Valley railroad here today.

The engineer was John Johnson, of Swyre, Pa. His fireman is Michael Langan, of Pittston, a junior at Lafayette College.

With Our Advertisers.

The J. C. Penney Co. led all other chain stores in the amount of sales. Read about this in their new ad. today.

Thrifty women are taking advantage of the pre-inventory sale at Fishers.

The banks of the city will be closed Saturday, January 1st.

Fliers Leave for Vera Cruz.

Galveston, Texas, Dec. 30.—(P)—The Pan-American fliers hopped off from Tampico at 11 a. m. Tampico time, to Vera Cruz, a message received here from Tampico by the American Cable office here said.

Mayor of Augusta Dead.

Augusta, Ga., Dec. 30.—(P)—William Penn White, mayor of Augusta, died this morning at 11:30 o'clock. He became ill at the city hall Monday after having been in failing health since beginning of his second term as mayor two years ago.

Mr. White was 56 years old. He was a descendant of William Penn.

Fallen in Battle.

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Find Whiskey Still in Public Square.

Charlotte, Dec. 29.—Local police today were endeavoring to figure out whether some moonshiner took a New Year resolution to quit making "white lightning" or merely lost the tools of his trade.

Roy Biggers, negro caretaker, who works on the city hall lawn, walked into police headquarters this morning with a five gallon still. He said he found it on the city hall square about a half block from the police station.

One of every three persons in New York City is a Jew.

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