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Wise buyers will stop here where their Christmas dollars will go farthest! Gifts of substantial character offered now in almost unlimited variety will bring Christmas happiness to many—and special values prevailing throughout this great Christmas store enable you to give most generously for a modest expenditure. Take advantage of these wonderful Christmas savings while selection is still at its very best!

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Where you will find a large assortment of articles suitable for presents for any member of the family. Goods purchased now will be delivered in time for Christmas.

SHOP NOW—PAY LATER

Concord Furniture Co.

THE RELIABLE FURNITURE STORE



BUSINESS AND THE OUTLOOK.

Philadelphia Record. Judge Gary, chairman of the board of the United States Steel Corporation, is a pretty good barometer of business. It is not only what he says, but how he says it. When he says that "the demand for iron and steel products is large and increasing; it promises to be fully up to and perhaps in excess of manufacturing capacity," and that "prices have been too low and that they will soon be high enough to allow all the producers some profit, as the figures show they have been operating at a loss," surely he says a mouthful. The Judge believes in "live and let live."

December is coming in with indications of definite improvement in business, as shown by the reports to the agencies. Dun's review says that "there is more confidence now and more disposition to increase commitments, with large buying both to fill immediate needs and to make provision for future requirements. The change for the better, alike in sentiment and in actual transactions, is evident in all sections of the country, reports generally indicating a distinct gain in activity, and these from the West, reflecting the special stimulus of the higher prices for agricultural staples. Except in a few instances there has been no rapid expansion of operations; but the current movement is the more wholesome on this account, and the sound basic conditions are regarded as foreshadowing a continuance of the commercial recovery along conservative lines. As demand enlarges, manufacturing capacity is being more fully utilized, and employment of workers is increasing. The greatest activity will be seen in the retail establishments and in the department stores, where trade inducements will result in large purchases during the coming few weeks.

The steel industry will begin the new month with an operating rate above 70 per cent. At this time of the year there is no surplus in production, due to the general desire to hold down inventories. There has been, however, buying for early deliveries in anticipation of price increases foreshadowed by Judge Gary's statement. Advances in some steel products are announced and accepted as a natural thing in the lines where prices had declined from last year's quotations.

In reviewing the soft coal market The Black Diamond says that the coal trade as a whole is marketing time and waiting for the developments which should lead to increased prosperity. None of the spectacular boom which visited Wall Street on November 5 has been felt in coal and, to be strictly truthful, there has hardly been a flicker of change, east or west, in either strength of demand or in price.

Cotton trading begins today in Chicago under the Cotton Futures act and will be under the same inspection rules and regulations as on the New York and New Orleans Cotton Exchanges. Law cotton at something under 25 cents seems to keep the mill operating on a basis of at least some profit. Crop estimates put out privately indicate a crop of from 13,250,000 to 13,410,000 bales in the Government's year-end report due on Wednesday. The approximate size of this year's yield then will be settled definitely. Last week witnessed a recession in the cotton manufacturing industry after active trading for several weeks past. Firmness in quotations has been a factor in curbing sales. The report of the Massachusetts Department of Labor and Industries covering the New Bedford operations for 1923 shows surprising results. In the 30 cotton goods plants of that city the product was valued at \$120,000,000, as against a value of \$106,000,000 for the preceding year, and this in spite of the adverse conditions prevailing in the New England industry for part of that period.

Wool continues on a high level in both domestic and foreign markets. Contracting in the West is reported quite, due to the higher prices growers are asking. An opinion is expressed in the trade that there will be a curtailment of operations as soon as the wool bought at lower prices than the present is consumed. It is also predicted that the present high wool prices will be reflected in sharp advances in price for fall fabrics next year.

Grain markets in Chicago were unsettled at the close of the week, advancing and reacting in Saturday's quotations. Australian exportable surplus of wheat is estimated at around 80,000,000 bushels, of which 40,000,000 bushels has been sold already, according to a private report. No rain has fallen in parts of Nebraska and Kansas, which are suffering from drought. Sentiment on corn is rather bullish on reports from the West that the crop may be smaller than had been anticipated.

A big feature of a musical gathering held last week in the R. J. Reynolds memorial high school auditorium at Winston-Salem was the singing of about 600 negroes of that city under a director of their own race. The immense chorus gave a number of negro spirituals and old southern melodies. The school has a stage big enough to seat this large crowd.

Queen Mary is making a personal effort to bring about a revival of the lace-making industry in England.

GETTING SKINNIER EVERY DAY

Something Must Be Done and Done Darn Quick, Too.

Tens of thousands of thin, run-down men—yes, and women too—are getting discouraged—are giving up all hope of ever being able to take on flesh and look healthy and strong.

All such people can stop worrying and start to smile right now for McCoy's Cod Liver Oil Tablets, which any druggist will tell you all about, is putting flesh on hosts of skinny folks every day.

One woman, tired, weak and discouraged, put on 15 pounds in five weeks and feels fine.

We all know that Cod Liver Oil is full of flesh producing vitamins, but many people can't take it because of its horrible smell and fishy taste, and because it often upsets the stomach.

McCoy's Cod Liver Oil Tablets are as easy to take as candy, and if any thin person don't gain at least 5 pounds in 30 days your druggist will give you your money back—and only 60 cents a box. Ask the Pearl Drug Company or any live pharmacist anywhere.

"Get McCoy's, the original and genuine Cod Liver Oil Tablet."

ORPHANS REMEMBERED ON THANKSGIVING DAY

Presbyterians in North Carolina Awake to Needs of Little Children. Barium Springs, Nov. 30.—The Thanksgiving returns at the Presbyterian Orphans' home are much larger than usual at this stage of the season. For the past three days, since Thanksgiving day, every mail has brought messages of good cheer and congratulations that gladden the hearts of all members of the orphanage household. The Men's Bible class of the Greensboro First Presbyterian church, having paid in \$1,000 leads in the size of single contributions thus far received; and \$416 from Statesville First church and \$375 from Maxton Sunday school, are outstanding gifts.

Substantial contributions of various kinds, including chickens, flour, fruits, etc., have been coming in freely. The two churches leading in the amount of good things to eat that have been sent in so far are Steele Creek, rated as the biggest country church in the state, and Thyatira, claiming to be the oldest Presbyterian church in North Carolina, thus demonstrating the fact that churches do not get too large or too old to remember the little ones in a most generous and substantial manner.

BUTLER REPORTS G. O. P. EXPENDED ONLY \$3,000,000

Chairman of Republican Committee Gives Cost of Campaign. Washington, Nov. 30.—The recent campaign cost the Republican national committee \$3,063,952, Chairman William M. Butler announced tonight, adding that a surplus of \$355,204, which compares with the deficit of about \$2,400,000 incurred in 1920, remained in the treasury after all expenditures had been met. "The campaign was financed by 90,005 individual contributors," said Mr. Butler. "Of this number, 83,299 made individual contributions of less than \$100." While the total amount collected was \$4,359,478.82, approximately a million dollars of this amount, \$956,525.11, was collected by the national committee in certain states, but only in its capacity as agent for the local state committees, and this money was immediately returned to the committees in the states in which it was collected, no part being available for the national committee budget expenditures.

WIRELESS CARRIES PICTURE OVER OCEAN

All-American Invention Demonstration on London to New York Loop. New York, Nov. 30.—A portrait of the President of the United States was put on the air in London today, and 20 minutes later was reproduced in New York.

As the finished picture was removed from an oscillating cylinder in the offices of the Radio Corporation of America, the jiggling stylus which had drawn it remained poised for a moment. Then there was a buzz, the stylus perked its head this way and that, and putting its snaky nose to the paper, traced out a panel in which it embroidered these words from an old Chinese proverb: "One picture is worth 10,000 words." Radio corporation officials, announced at the end of the demonstration that the all-American invention for radio transmission of photographs, paintings and printed messages was a complete success.

A feature of the apparatus is that it operates as a simple accessory to the system of radio transmission now in commercial use. Thus, while a picture was being sent today, the London operator would "cut in" to send a news dispatch and the picture-making would be arrested. When the dispatch was "clear," the stylus would resume its bobbing and reproduction of the picture would continue.

To send one picture required about 20 minutes. Computing the cost on the basis of the number of words that could be sent at toll rates during that time, General Harbord figured the cost of transmission per picture at \$30 to \$40. This sending time is expected to be considerably reduced. A second apparatus which will reproduce messages, advertisements or pictures on an endless spool, instead of on a limited panel, is being perfected.

Money From Chickens

Gastonia Gazette. A Beaufort county woman realized the neat little sum of \$350.66 in nine months from chickens. Pure bred flocks are profitable even as a sideline on farms. Mrs. P. A. Burbage is the woman, and the home demonstration agent of Beaufort county, Miss Violet Alexander tells the story as follows: "Mrs. Burbage has a 200-egg capacity incubator which she set twice in addition to setting about fifteen or more hens. She was also one of the 300 farmers and farmers' wives who sold on the first co-operative car lot shipment of poultry from Beaufort county and was very proud to receive the largest individual check amounting to \$123.26 for 90 cull hens and 10 old roosters."

Besides supplying her table, Miss Alexander states that Mrs. Burbage also sold the following surplus products for the first nine months of the year.

630 dozen eggs since last 1924 for	\$141.05
125 young chickens sold for	78.25
100 old chickens sold for	123.26
2 turkeys sold for	7.50
Total for 9 months	\$350.06

"In addition to this neat little bank account Mrs. Burbage has supplied her table throughout the period," says Miss Alexander. "She also has a source of egg supply for the winter and the basis for a larger flock for next year." She now has 125 old and 175 new Barred Rocks and 16 young turkeys. What Mrs. Burbage has done this year she can double next year and any other farm woman, if she is interested, can do the same."

The process of manufacturing calcium carbide, which is a mixture of lime and coal, involves the use of the hottest furnace yet made. Over 5,400 degrees Fahrenheit are required to produce the carbide and to get this degree of heat over 3,000 horsepower of electrical energy is used.

A NEW PAVED ROAD OVER THE MOUNTAINS

Wonderfully Fine Scenic Highway From Asheville to Old Fort. Asheville, Dec. 1.—The road over the mountain—from the Buncombe-McDowell line at the top of the overhead bridge just west of Old Fort, which has been under construction for more than a year, has been completed and last Friday was thrown open to the public. The road is a magnificent piece of engineering and construction. With the exception of possibly 2,000 feet near the top of the mountain the 18-foot highway is entirely complete. Near the top the concrete was laid nine feet wide and thrown open for use while the remaining nine feet is now being laid with concrete and the entire 18-foot wide stretch thrown open as quickly as the newly laid concrete has hardened.

With the opening of the new mountain road automobilists may now travel on a hard-surfaced road from Asheville to near Old Fort where a well-graded and smooth sand-clay type of road has been built. There is also a mile of concrete road on either side of Old Fort on route No. 10. From Old Fort to Marion the sandclay or topsoil road has been treated with a mixture of tar or tarriva and gravel and traveling is almost as enjoyable as over the concrete or blacktop road. Work is still in progress on the project between Bridgewater and Glen Alpine. This is a concrete job and will probably be completed this winter.

The new hard-surfaced road on the mountain from Ridgecrest makes traveling across the mountain less dangerous. It also makes it possible for automobilists to travel the road at all seasons of the year and during all sorts of weather. The old topsoil road over the mountain was fair in fair weather but miserable in rainy or snowy weather and well nigh impassable after a few days or weeks of rain. Now all fear of the mountain road has vanished. The concrete road is well graded; the curves while naturally sharp on so steep a mountain side, are graceful and one may drop down the mountain at a speed of 15 to 20 miles an hour in perfect safety.

SEWER RAT INVADERS DWELLING AND PUTS UP EXCITING FIGHT

Sends Battling Cats on Retreat and Sinks Teeth Into Fingers of Overseas Veteran. Chester, Pa., Dec. 1.—There was some excitement when a large sewer rat gained an entrance to the home of Jacob Deitch, No. 115 East Fourth Street, and temporarily took possession of the dwelling. Besides robbing the Deitch family of a night's sleep, the rodent attacked and sank its teeth in several fingers of the hand of Harry Lynch, of No. 222 West Fifth Street, who made an unsuccessful attempt to kill or capture the animal. Lynch had his wounds dressed by a local physician and the animal made its escape down a drain after it had been imprisoned in a bathroom.

The front door of the house happened to be open when the rat straggled along the pavement. It was not discovered until a neighbor made a call and informed Deitch that she had seen it enter the front door. A search was instituted and the rat was located in the bathroom. The family cat was placed in the room, but absolutely refused to engage in a battle with the sewer denizen, almost as large as the feline, and a second cat, that had the reputation of being a fighter, was substituted. Then followed a real skirmish until the second cat was driven into the hallway and the rodent held the fort.

Lynch, an overseas man, said he would make short work of the pest, and forced it under a washstand, seized it by the rear legs and was certain of victory, but the rat turned upon him viciously and wounded his fingers so that a physician had to be consulted. The rat then disappeared.

Jail Sentence For 'Ruin of Girl in Wayne County

Goldsboro, Dec. 1.—Wayne Mitchell, formerly a school teacher in the Wayne county schools, was yesterday sentenced to serve not less than four nor more than five years in the state penitentiary, having been found guilty on the charge of ruin of a girl under a promise of marriage. The jury was out for over four hours, one of its members holding out for acquittal until after 10 o'clock Friday night. Miss Bessie Wright, the prosecuting witness, proved a good character, and Judge Barnhill, in passing sentence, lauded the jury for its verdict. His honor stated that it was one of the clearest cases of "seduction under promise of marriage" that he had ever seen. Mitchell filed an appeal to the supreme court and he is out under a bond of \$5,000 pending action by the higher court on his appeal.

Action has been brought against the estate of the late Sheriff John Griffith, of Union county, for the recovery of sums alleged to be due the county. It is claimed that a discrepancy of \$11,000 was found in his account for 1919 and \$3,000 for 1920.

Alda Wilson, a graduate engineer, is in charge of the drafting room of the Iowa State Highway Commission.



"Now That's a Real Present"

Do you really know Mother's mind? Perhaps something that you'd never dream of giving her for Christmas—some good, practical, gas appliance—is just what Mother really wants and most urgently needs.

Fine enough for anybody's present—White Enamel Gas Ranges

One of these beautiful ranges will be a lifetime joy to Mother—so clean and new, so up-to-date with all its labor-saving devices—such an inspiration in the daily round of meal preparation.

Come in and make your selection early. Deliveries any time later.

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An assortment of Silk Dresses in the season's best styles. A variety of silks, most of them silk crepes, are shown in the wanted shades. Sizes for women and misses.

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Never before have we been able to offer such a complete display of quality jewelry so admirably suited for Christmas giving. Come in early and view this wonderful showing. And remember that a small payment now will reserve any article you may select.

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