CIRCULATION MONDAY

3,158 Copies

The Daily Advance

THE WEATHER

Generally fair and colder tonight and Wednesday. Fresh northwest winds.

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Currituck Commission Authorizes Bond Issue For Proposed Highways

County Will Lend State $200,000 on Cost of Hardsurfaced Roads to Courthouse and Virginia

PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Hart Promises Completion of Both During Coming Year, Solving This Section's Road Problem

Definite promise of a concrete highway 16 feet wide from Elizabeth City to Currituck Courthouse, on the one hand, and to the Virginia line, on the other—both to be completed during the coming year—was given by Highway Commissioner W. A. Hart yesterday upon authorization by the Currituck Board of County Commissioners of a $200,000 bond issue partially to finance the two projects.

The two roads, both of which will be built from the Sligo end of the State highway now being built across Camden and Currituck counties from Camden Courthouse, will cost about $275,000, it is estimated. The State Highway Commission will put up $75,000 of the money outright, under the agreement, and the $200,000 to be furnished through the Currituck County bond issue will constitute a loan to the State highway body.

When this money is repaid to the county, it is to be re-loaned to the State Highway Commission for construction of a paved highway southwardly from Currituck Courthouse to Coinjock. When it is repaid the second time, it may be re-loaned again for additional mileage to the southernmost tip of the Currituck mainland.

Vote Is Unanimous

Decision to authorize the issuance of the bonds was arrived at by the Currituck Commission with the unanimous concurrence of the crowd present at the hearing, which was held in the courthouse. The auditorium was crowded, and everybody rose in a standing vote in favor of the measure, according to news received here.

At their regular meeting the first Monday in December, the commissioners voted to invite Commissioner Hart to the courthouse for a discussion of the proposal. The commissioners then recessed, instead of adjourning, and thus the meeting yesterday was a continuation of the regular session. In this way, any legal obstruction to the action taken was avoided.

Consummation of this project, which is regarded as the most important now under way, from the standpoint of the northeastern part of the State, was brought about largely through the activities of the Elizabeth City Chamber of Commerce, co-operating with Representative E. R. Johnson, of Currituck, and other forward looking residents of the county.

The matter first came up some four weeks ago when Secretary Job, of the local Chamber, paid a visit to Mr. Hart at his home in Tarboro with a view to ascertaining the status of the Chowan bridge letting, scheduled for today. In the course of the conference, Mr. Job asked Mr. Hart about the prospect for hardsurfacing the roads from Sligo to Currituck Courthouse and the Virginia line, respectively. Mr. Hart told him there wasn't sufficient money available.

"How about Currituck County lending the State the money for these roads?" Mr. Job asked.

Mr. Hart Won Over

Mr. Hart agreed to take the matter under consideration, and Mr. Job departed. That night, according to Mr. Job, the highway commissioner called him by long distance telephone and assured him that if the county would lend the money, he would build the road.

Armed with this assurance, Mr. Job appeared before the Currituck County Commissioners at their December meeting, at which it was decided to invite Mr. Hart to Currituck Courthouse for discussion of the proposal. The action taken yesterday was the outcome.

Representative Johnson presided at yesterday's meeting, which opened at 11 o'clock. Commissioner Hart motored through from Tarboro, coming by way of Norfolk.

At the opening of the meeting, strong sentiment was manifested by residents of the lower part of Currituck for a bond issue sufficient to build ten miles or more of hardsurfaced highway southwardly from the courthouse. Mr. Hart inquired what the county's total property valuation was. Upon being informed that it was about $5,500,000, he counseled against

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You Can Be A Santa Claus This Christmas

Do you know of a family that Santa Claus is likely to overlook when he makes his rounds on Christmas Eve night?

Would you like to provide Christmas cheer for some family which but for you might go without it?

In either case, you should get in touch with Rev. A. H. Outlaw, County Welfare Officer, who just now is quite busy in an endeavor to make sure that no single family is overlooked.

"I thought until this morning," Mr. Outlaw told The Advance today, "that I had baskets and stockings promised in sufficient number to take care of all the families that were on my list. I find now that more baskets and more stockings are needed.

"I hope that any one who would like to have a part in making Christmas bright and happy for the less fortunate families of our community will communicate with me promptly for particulars. And if there are any needy families for whom no provision seems likely to be made, I would like to hear of those also."

FISH NOW HAVE OWN ELEVATORS

Whisked Over Power Company Dam on Their Journey Upstream

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Seattle, Dec. 22.—"Top floor please" Mr. Salmon is expected to say, casting an indifferent fishy eye over the interior of a brand new elevator the United States government is having installed to whisk him up over power company dams so he can continue his important yearly journey up stream. Mr. Steel head trout is to be another passenger to ride comfortably up over falls without flipping a fin or wiggling his tail.

After much work and research by biologists and other men of science, a wire basket elevator has been perfected so that fish and factories can occupy western streams at the same time. They are now being installed, to be ready for the big salmon run next spring.

Heretofore thousands of fish have been sacrificed so that the wheels of industry might turn. It is impossible for fish on their way up stream to spawning waters to climb over the big dams erected by power companies. If electric lights were to blaze in cities and villages along the banks dead fish had to litter the streams. But now learned professors have solved the problem. The fish will ride. Before their gills have time to gasp surprise they are to be swung into the air and safely landed in the quiet waters above the dam.

Dr. John N. Cobb, director of the College of Fisheries of the University of Washington, invented the new fish elevator. While others were angling in shady streams last summer Professor Cobb was climbing steep embankments and peering over dams studying the habits of fish and their reactions to riding in elevators.

Dr. Cobb has received inquiries from all over the world concerning the salmon lift. Preserving fish and at the same time encouraging hydro electric progress constitutes a world problem. Power companies and government officials are anxiously awaiting the spring run to see how the finny travellers in general take to the new invention.

Besides getting adult fish upstream, the elevator is expected to to save the lives of many young fish traveling down stream.

WIFE OF SECRETARY RETURNS TO CAPITAL

Savannah, Ga., Dec. 22. — Mrs. Dwight F. Davis, wife of Secretary of War, has been forced by ill health to give up the inspection tour she was making with her husband and will return from here to Washington today.

FIRST SHOW DOWN ON PROHIBITION TODAY

Washington, Dec. 22.—In the first showdown on prohibition this session the House Drys today swept aside, by a vote of 139 to 17, a proposal to restrict the use of funds for the purchase of liquor was evidence. The amendment was offered by Representative Tucker, Democrat, of Virginia, a dry, and was defeated by a rising vote.

FRANK MUNSEY WORLD FAMOUS PUBLISHER, DIES

Peritonitis After Operation Proves Fatal to Man Who Hewed Way From Poverty to Great Wealth

HAD MANY REVERSES

Found Himself $100,000 in Debt After Eleven Years of Bitter Struggle; Then His Luck Turned

New York, Dec. 22.—Frank A. Munsey, newspaper publisher, died shortly before 7 o'clock this morning in the Lenox Hill Hospital. Mr. Munsey had been suffering from peritonitis which developed following operation for appendicitis on December 13. Up to the last his physicians held out hope for his recovery but early today he suffered a sinking spell and the end came shortly.

Frank Andrew Munsey was 28 years old and a telegraph operator when he arrived in New York one cold, bleak day in the winter of 1882. He had come down to the metropolis from Maine, bringing all his property with him.

It consisted of a grip-full of manuscripts, the clothes he had on, and $40 in cash. He was going to start a publishing business.

Seeking a focussing point for what he felt certain, even at that time, would one day be a great enterprise, he engaged a little room for an office, bought an $8 table and a couple of cheap kitchen chairs, some pens and a bottle of ink, and the $40 was gone. Frank Munsey was broke in the world's greatest city, where even the mighty must fight to hang on.

Alger Was Contributor

With all his troubles ahead of him, he started to work, and two months later appeared the first number of the Argosy Magazine—then an illustrated weekly paper of eight pages for boys and girls. Horatio Alger Jr., was one of the contributors. This was the beginning of a struggle which has had few if any parallels in the publishing world.

Forty years later, after one of the most remarkable demonstrations of hewing success out of failure ever seen in that particular business. Frank Andrew Munsey had become one of the foremost publishers in the United States, numbering his newspapers and magazines by the score and his wealth by millions. It had been a fight every step of the way, and not once did luck lend a hand with the burden.

His most notable achievement in the newspaper field came in February, 1920, when he acquired the New York Herald, one of the oldest newspapers in the country, and merged with it the New York Sun, the Herald's senior by two years, which Mr. Munsey had purchased in 1916 and consolidated with the New York Press. The elder James Gordon Bennett had founded the Herald, and Charles A. Dana developed the Sun. The merged publication was called The Sun and the New York Herald for a time, and then changed simply to the Herald. At the same time the Evening Sun, another Munsey newspaper, was changed to the Sun.

The early life of Mr. Munsey, as he forged gradually ahead in spite of countless disappointments and bitter reverses, was not unlike that of an Alger hero, though his ultimate success outdid the imagination of even that famous writer.

Born in the little town of Mercer, Maine, August 21, 1854, he has been described as "one of those many bare-footed country boys who start life with more in their heads than in their pockets." He attended the public school of Mercer for a while, but soon felt the urge to make money. His first job was in the country store, where he served as general utility boy.

Hated Telegraphy

From there he went to a telegraph office, learned to handle a key, and was sent to Augusta, then an important publishing center. His work became an obsession, and he hated it. He knew he could do big things. The four walls of a telegraphic office, he wrote years afterward, "were to me as the cage to a tiger yearning for the boundless freedom of the jungle."

"I was so sure of myself," he continued, "that I would willingly have given 10 years of my life, without compensation, for a chance with some of the big concerns of the country—railroading, steel - manufacturing, shipping, banking, or any of the great staple industries."

Gradually the publishing germ entered his blood. He drew up elaborate plans for a magazine and submitted them to various persons with money, but "an enterprise so hazardous as publishing, and managed by a man who had no practical experience, did not appeal to them."

Finally, his scheme was laid

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Deputy Sheriff Loses Quarry and Temper on Camden Jaunt

Deputy Sheriff Lem Pritchard, good natured officer of the law and assistant to Sheriff Charles Carmine, of Pasquotank County, is not only good natured, he is obliging, as well. But after a little experience that befell him Monday afternoon, he is less inclined to be obliging than he was. In fact, Tuesday he was decidedly hard boiled, as the slang phrase goes.

It all came about this way. Lloyd Mitchell, son of the proprietor of the Carolina Hotel, went to the Savings Bank & Trust Company just before closing time Monday with a check drawn on a resident of Camden County. Somehow, the check didn't appeal to the bank's force as exactly everything that a check should be. In other words, they were doubtful about cashing it.

While they detained Mitchell, bank attaches sought to obtain a policeman. None was available at that corner at the time, but just about then Deputy Sheriff Pritchard strolled along. They called him in, and turned Mitchell over to him.

"If you'll come with me, I'll take you right straight to the man who gave me that check," Mitchell is quoted as having told Mr. Pritchard. The latter, always ready to do a fellow mortal a favor, agreed to go. Mitchell led the way across the Camden bridge. When they had crossed the Camden County line, Mitchell turned to the officer.

"All right, you can go on back to Pasquotank. You've got no jurisdiction over here. Good by."

With that, he strolled serenely away, headed toward Camden Courthouse, leaving the nonplussed officer flat in his tracks. Hence it was that Mr. Pritchard's usually genial smile lacked something of genuineness Tuesday morning.

Hotel Thief Raids Bride and Groom In Washington

"Unavoidably on our part, with doors locked, someone stole from our room my handbag with most everything in it, also Frances' suitcase with all her dresses and many other things. Willard Hotel will make everything satisfactory, have been assured. Leaving for New York late tomorrow."

The foregoing telegram received Tuesday morning by Mrs. P. H. Williams, of this city, relates in brief how misfortune swooped upon Mr. and Mrs. L. Curtis Baum, Jr., in the Willard Hotel, in Washington, D. C., the day before. Mr. and Mrs. Baum were married here Saturday night, and are on their honeymoon. The wire was from Mr. Baum. His bride was Miss Frances Williams, daughter of Senator and Mrs. P. H. Williams, of this city.

Thieves show little consideration for honeymooners, and few hotel rooms are secure from an expert with a passkey. First word of the misfortune was received by Senator Williams in a telegram Monday night, indicating that the couple had lost considerable of their funds along with their other valuables.

Aside from the loss of a trousseau running high into dollars and cents, the young bride, after having most carefully chosen her wearables for the trip, now must go through the whole bothersome process again. But even though she has lost many valued articles, it may be that little Mrs. Baum, as is the way of her sex, can find a thrill in picking out a new traveling outfit of pretty dresses and the many other mysterious articles—from a masculine viewpoint—that must be included in a girl's wardrobe.

Organize To Fight Rubber Combine

Washington, Dec. 22.—A movement to cut down the American consumption of rubber has been organized with the backing of Secretary Hoover and representatives of the principal rubber consuming trades.

The secretary declared today that nearly $700,000,000 a year has been exacted from the rubber using public by the British East Indian rubber combination.

Prices have been raised to three times the original figure by successful methods of the scheme to restrict production, Mr. Hoover said.

FORD HAS PROJECT FOR POLAR FLIGHT

Washington, Dec. 22.—A project for polar flight has been presented to the War Department by William D. Mayo, chief engineer for Henry Ford, but officials have decided that congressional authority would be necessary for Government participation.

Wants Investigate The Cotton Tariff

Washington, Dec. 22.—Investigation of cotton tariff schedules was proposed in a resolution today by Representative Oldfield of Arkansas, chairman of the Democratic Congressional Committee.

He stated that the resolution was prompted by the situation in New England where he said profits in the textile business had been increasing while wages were decreasing.

COTTON MARKET

New York, Dec. 22.—Cotton futures opened today at the following levels: Jan. 18.39, March 18.70, May 18.42, July 18.11, Oct. 17.75.

New York, Dec. 22.—Spot cotton closed quiet, middling, 19.15, a decline of 15 points. Futures, closing bid: Jan. 18.35, March 18.66, May 18.39, July 18.06, Oct. 17.64.

POOR COLONEL PROBABLY WILL GET HIS MONEY

President Coolidge Preparing Remit That Part of Mitchell Sentence Pertaining to His Pay

Washington, Dec. 22.—President Coolidge is prepared to remit that part of the sentence of Colonel William Mitchell which would deprive the one-time assistant chief of the aviation section of the Army of his pay during the five years of his suspension from the service.

This statement has been made in quarters so authoritative that it is assumed the War Department itself may suggest this course to the President.

There is plenty of precedent for such an act of "clemency" on the part of the commander in chief of the Army and the Navy, and there is virtually no precedent for continuing Colonel Mitchell on the Army rolls for five years without pay.

The court martial which imposed the unusual sentence upon Colonel Mitchell—unusual in its suspension from pay and allowances for so long a term—had no right to take cognizance of the fact that the colonel is independently wealthy and that his present wife has a fortune in her own right. Colonel Mitchell appeared before the court as just an ordinary officer of the Army, theoretically dependent upon his pay and his allowances for the support of himself and his two families, for the colonel still is under heavy alimony obligations to his first wife and the children by that marriage. It is quite evident that the court either did not or could not divest itself of the knowledge of Colonel Mitchell's worldly goods and therefore made its sentence as severe financially as it could.

With the exception of the deprivation of pay and allowances, the sentence of the court generally is approved in higher Army circles and these circles will have telling influence with President Coolidge. Many officers who sympathize with the aims and intent of Colonel Mitchell have been his harshest critics for the manner in which he went about his task of attracting public attention. Inasmuch as Colonel Mitchell can make no headway with his program for a unified air service without the aid of Congress, it is held he should have made his attack through Congress rather than by rising from the ranks, as it were, and denouncing all of his superior officers as well as the constituted authority of the War and Navy Departments.

President Coolidge is a stickler for orderly procedure and there is no chance that he will upset the Mitchell sentence further than to remit the loss of pay. This will be done on the ground that if a man is to be kept on the Army rolls for so long a time and is to be held subject to Army discipline during the term of his suspension, he should not be deprived of his pay.

Colonel Mitchell has no other appeal than the one to the President. The civil courts cannot take jurisdiction of his case, especially if his pay is not withheld. In the latter event he might obtain a mandamus to test the Constitutionality of being held in the Army without compensation.

Naturally the assumption is general that Colonel Mitchell wants to resign as soon as his case is disposed of by the President. It is said that members of his family had indicated his purpose to resign if he had been acquitted by the court martial.

Here again the case comes squarely up to the President. He will determine whether the colonel shall be allowed to resign.

If Colonel Mitchell is "good" he may be allowed to quit. If he "acts up" before resigning he can be held in the Army indefinitely and be held responsible for anything he may say. The chances are, however, that he will be a civilian before many months have passed.

CLUB BOND ISSUE IS AUTHORIZED IN SPECIAL SESSION

Additional $20,000 Made Available for Improvements on Property; Plan to Erect Pier Is Opposed

WILL PAY UP DEBTS

Only a Few Bonds to be Sold at Present; Remainder Will be Held in Treasury for Later Needs

A bond issue of $20,000 for additional improvements was authorized last night by the stockholders of the Elizabeth City Country Club at a combined business and social session at the new club house. Immediately after the stockholders' action, the board of directors passed a resolution officially ordering issuance of the bonds.

The bond proposal was carried with a stipulation that no part of the money to be derived from it shall be used for construction of a pier from the property, except upon ratification by the stockholders at a subsequent meeting.

Only a small part of the bond issue will be sold at present, W. P. Duff, president of the club, stated today, explaining that enough bonds would be disposed of to meet several thousand dollars' outstanding indebtedness, and that the remainder of the issue would be placed in the club's treasury, to be used later for such improvements as may be decided upon.

The action of the stockholders last night raises the club's total authorized bonded indebtedness to $50,000, a bond issue of $30,000 having been sold last summer to provide funds for erection of the club house and for other improvements. The club also raised $25,000 by the sale of 200 memberships at $125 each. All funds obtained have been invested in the property, it is explained, and hence the total bond issue of $50,000 will represent a lien against an investment of $75,000.

With an indicated income of $10,000 to $12,000 annually, members of the club, as a rule, express the opinion that no difficulty will be encountered in retiring the bond as they mature, and meeting operating expenses.

The business meeting last night was followed by a social session, at which dancing was enjoyed. Music was furnished by the Carolina Merrymakers, an eight-piece orchestra. More than 100 club members and guests were present at the event, and a large number not on hand were represented by proxies at the business session. The night was stormy, and members of the club expressed the opinion today that if the weather had been better, at least three-fourths of the membership would have turned out for the occasion.

The house committee of the club has been instructed to arrange a social function of some sort at least once a month during the coming year.

SEEKS HAVE AMERICA ENTER CONFERENCE

Washington, Dec. 22.—Participation by the United States in the forthcoming League of Nations disarmament conference would be authorized in a resolution introduced today by Senator King, Democrat, of Utah.

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE WORKING ON REPLY

Washington, Dec. 22. — President Coolidge is working on a reply to the League of Nations invitation to the preliminary disarmament discussion in an effort to find a way to accept.

A. C. L. COMPLETES DOUBLE TRACK SYSTEM

New York, Dec. 22.—The Atlantic Coast Line today announced completion of the double track system from Richmond to Jacksonville, the main project in the $101,000,000 improvement program.

BRITISH OFFICIALS SAY IT'S NONSENSE

London, Dec. 22.—Officials of the Government denied that the British Government has been "manipulating" the prices of crude rubber and said that the suggestion in the United States is pure nonsense.

ONLY 2 MORE

Yule Shoppers Throng Streets As Old Santa Fills His Pack Here

NORTH CAROLINA IS DRYEST STATE IN THIS DIVISION

Charlotte, Dec. 22.—Bootleg prices over Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina were quoted at from $12 to $20 a gallon for corn liquor, according to a statement today from the Federal headquarters for the division here.

North Carolina is the dryest state of the division, the statement declared.

POOLROOM RAIDS NET EIGHT BOYS

Minors Fined Dollar and Costs Each at Recorder's Court Session

Eight offenders who landed in a police roundup of minors in white and colored poolrooms in the city paid fines of $1 and costs each in recorder's court Tuesday morning. The police showed no partiality on the ground of race, nabbing four white and four colored boys.

Under the law, it is a misdemeanor for a youth under 21 years of age to loiter in a poolroom, and the officers are determined that the law shall be enforced here. Proprietors of poolrooms explain that it is difficult for them to handle the situation through the natural tendency of the violators to stretch matters a bit when asked their age.

The law requires also that every individual who enters a poolroom shall write his name and address in a book provided for the purpose. This phase of the law, strictly observed at first, has been neglected somewhat during recent months, officers say.

Ed. Roughton, in court on a charge of forcible trespass, was let off with a suspended judgment conditional upon payment of the costs and the return of a horse cart which he had sold to one Josh Zachary, colored. Zachary was ordered to pay Roughton a balance of $3 which both agreed was still owing on the cart.

Witnesses testified that Roughton had sold the cart to Zachary for $15, to be paid at the rate of $5 a week, but that Zachary failed to meet the third week's payment in full. After some delay, Roughton saw an opportunity to regain possession of the cart, and took advantage of it. Subsequently the colored man brought a charge of forcible trespass against him.

In passing upon the case, County Judge P. G. Sawyer reminded Roughton that, from a strictly legal standpoint, he had no right to take the cart, without due process of law.

William Jones, colored, charged with failure to list his taxes, was required to pay the taxes due and the court costs.

Mayor Objects To "Resigned Officer"

Philadelphia, Dec. 22.—Brigadier General Smedley Butler today announced that he had resigned from the Marine Corps in order to remain in Philadelphia as Director of Public Safety, and an hour later Mayor Kendrick made it known that he would not accept the General in the position of "resigned officer of the Marine Corps."

DOWAGER PRINCESS OF MONACO DIES SUDDENLY

Paris, Dec. 22.—The dowager princess of Monaco, who was Miss Alice Heine of New Orleans, died suddenly here today. She was married to the prince of Monaco in 1889 and their marriage dissolved in 1902.

FUNERAL MISS DeLON

Burial services for Miss Bettie DeLon, who died Monday morning 7:10 o'clock at her home on Cedar street, were conducted at the grave in Hollywood Cemetery at 3:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon by the Rev. J. W. Harrell, pastor of City Road Methodist Church.

The pallbearers were: J. W. Shannonhouse, W. E. Dunstan, W. C. Sawyer, H. W. Sanders, J. B. Ferebee, George Wood, J. K. Wilson, and J. H. Wilkins.

Miss DeLon was 83 years old and is survived by three sisters, Mrs. Penelope Davis of Newport News, Mrs. A. L. Aydlett and Miss Linda DeLon of this city, by a brother, Jesse DeLon of Baltimore, by four nieces, Mrs. J. R. Harrell of Norfolk, Mrs. Walter Johnson of Weeksville, Mrs. Winifred Gregory of Rocky Mount and Miss Bruce Davis of Newport News and by a nephew, Lawrence Aydlett, of this city.

Merchants Offering Exceptionally Attractive Holiday Wares; Cheery Crowds Making Purchases

BUYERS CONSERVATIVE

Trend This Year Apparently Toward Serviceable Goods; Gray Skies Not Keeping the Folks Away

Christmas shoppers are thronging the stores of the city this week, as the Yule holiday approaches, and Santa Claus is rapidly filling his capacious sack with presents for most everybody in the Albemarle. Elizabeth City stores have never offered more attractive holiday wares, patrons agree, and Old Santa is having no difficulty in finding a wide enough variety to suit the most capricious taste.

Generally speaking, Friday and Saturday were busy days for merchants here, but yesterday eclipsed them. Crowds thronged the stores all day, despite a light, misty rain which began falling toward nightfall. Facetiously minded ones ascribed the rain to the Country Club's business and social session last night, declaring the weather man and the club officials were 100 per cent at odds. Thus far, it has rained almost every time there was a special function at the handsome new club house.

"Weather or no," yesterday's trade in Elizabeth City was good enough to cheer the merchants measurably. Buyers, in the main, were showing a decided predilection for reasonably priced, serviceable goods as against gaudy, showy things of little intrinsic worth. The Christmas shopper this year is a careful buyer, and keen after full value for his dollar. Incidentally, he seems to be getting it. Everywhere, prices apparently are cut to a minimum.

Open After Christmas

Indications are that the merchants have decided against a suggestion that the stores be closed the day after Christmas, in order to give employers and employes a three-day vacation. This suggestion was prompted by the action of four of the banks in closing that day.

"It wouldn't hardly be fair to our patrons," one merchant said, in discussing the matter. "The day after Christmas always is a busy one with us. There are the inevitable exchanges of merchandise which isn't exactly the right size, or color, or style. There are many folks who receive money for Christmas, and usually they've picked out something they want, and hurry down the day after Christmas to buy it.

"Then, too, there are many people who receive unexpected Christmas gifts. Wishing to reciprocate as promptly as they can, they come down next day and make their 'emergency' purchases. All in all, we wouldn't be doing our duty by our patrons if we closed for the day."

Two merchants volunteered the information yesterday that their December business thus far has exceeded last year's. One has advertised in every issue of both the city's newspapers during the year just closing. The other hasn't missed half a dozen issues.

When It Pays Best

"We find that our advertising during the dull seasons pays us the biggest dividends," one of the two commented. "For instance, we can trace many of our holiday sales to advertisements we ran during the quiet midsummer season. I guess it's because people read newspapers more completely then. We're convinced that it pays to advertise the year around."

Christmas trees in many homes in this city and section this year will have come from far-off Maine, thereby counteracting to a large extent the annual slaughter of young trees in this part of the country. Symmetrical young balsam furs cut in the snowy wilderness north of the Kennebec are offered on the local market in considerable quantities. Lending themselves admirably to decoration, they are proving popular with the trade.

Early today the streets were thronged with fresh cohorts of holiday buyers, and everywhere, on their faces, was reflected something of the glad spirit which makes Christmas undisputed king of all the year's holidays. Gray skies, expected at this time of the year, obviously did not prove a deterrent to out of town shoppers. It takes more than a hint of rain to keep away folks bent on gladdening the hearts of ones near and dear on Christmas Day.