

CITY'S FIREMEN CALLED TO MANY MORNING BLAZES

Two Houses on York Street Reduced Quickly to Ruins as Firefighters Battle in Ice and Cold

OTHERS ARE DAMAGED
Loss Estimated at \$10,000 Partially Covered by Insurance; Hose Lines Freeze When Uncoupled

As the chimneys of the two oldest homes of the winter fires, the fire department was called out four times in rapid succession this morning between daybreak and 8:20 o'clock. The only important call, however, was from York street, in what is known as Sawyertown. This fire resulted in the total destruction of two houses and damage to two others, all occurred in the families.

The home of Ben Johnson, colored, was ablaze from first floor to parrot when firemen arrived in response to the summons. All hydrants were frozen, and by the time the fire fighters were able to begin playing a stream on the fire, the house next door, owned and occupied by Ed Blanchard, was ablaze also. The home of William Holloman, next to Blanchard's, was damaged by water, and considerable of the furnishings were wrecked. All are on York street. Another house across the street from Johnson's was scorched badly.

Before the fire was brought under control, two nearby houses on Hargett street caught on sparks. The flames were extinguished before serious damage resulted. The firemen were called back to the York street blaze shortly after they returned to headquarters, the fire having flared up again in a threatening way.

The scene of the fire was one of desolation today, the charred remains of the Blanchard house and trees, sidewalks and in fact everything about the place being sheeted in ice. Firemen declared their hose lines froze solid when they uncoupled them after the blaze had been brought under control. The fire trucks were coated in ice and footed in ice when they returned to headquarters.

The damage on York street was estimated roughly at \$10,000. Blanchard's house was almost brand new, having been built in the fall. The loss is understood to have been covered partially by insurance.

Firemen were summoned to the First Methodist parsonage, on East Church street, this morning at 5:35 and again at 8:10 to extinguish blue flames. There was no damage.

Shortly before 8:20 o'clock two calls came in quick succession, one by phone and the other from Box 31, at Leucht and Parsonage streets. The first turned out to be a fire in a woodbox at the home of W. J. Broughton on West Main street. This was put out with inconsequential damage. The second was a false alarm.

Firemen were called to the home of J. J. Topping, 9 East Burgess street, today shortly before noon to put out a chimney fire, and for another chimney blaze at the residence of George Haskett, on North Dyer street, at 1:58 in the afternoon. Neither resulted in damage. In all, the smoke eaters had answered eight calls before 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

This morning at daybreak the mercury stood at seven degrees above zero at fire headquarters, firemen reported. At 8:20 the thermometer in front of the Standard Pharmacy, on Main street, was at 17, and had been a steady rise as the sun climbed higher in the sky.

Firemen this morning were receiving calls from all parts of the city for assistance in thawing out frozen water pipes, and dozens of automobile owners reported exceptional difficulty in starting their cars.

The morning before, however, was harder on the auto owners. Descending suddenly late Saturday night, the cold snap caught many unprepared. These in numerous instances paid the penalty of frozen radiators. Garagemen were kept busy through the morning "thawing out" cars and starting them.

Yesterday was extremely cold all day long. Even well toward noon, there was little perceptible moderation in the temperature, and folks who depended on wood fires to keep them were busy all day refilling their stoves.

Big Fire Loss For N. C. Furniture Co.

Hickory, North Carolina, Dec. 28.—Fire had wrought approximately \$175,000 damage to the N. C. Furniture Co. building here today, and was still raging at 10:15 this morning, threatening nearby structures.

Later the fire was brought under control with no additional losses.

Jipped



Mrs. Floy Cobb is tired of being the silent partner in a one-way partnership, so she has asked the Seattl (Wash.) courts for a divorce. Her husband made her help him in bootlegging grade, she testified, while the profits were \$3000 a month she only got \$38 in 18 months.

A WILSON YEAR SAY ADMIRERS

Point to Progress Toward Peace Honoring Memory War President

New York, Dec. 28.—Calling 1925 a "Woodrow Wilson year" because of the progress made toward international peace, his admirers are marking the time today, which would have been his sixty-fourth birthday, as a national event by dinners and other testimonials in his honor.

Joe Daniels a Speaker
Charlotte, Dec. 28.—Joseph Daniels, war time Secretary of the Navy, is the principal speaker on the program here tonight at a dinner in memory of Woodrow Wilson.

WILL RENEW EFFORTS TO END COAL STRIKE
New York Dec. 28.—Representatives of the anthracite operators and miners were quartered in separate hotels here today preparing programs for a joint meeting tomorrow when another effort will be made to reach agreement in the hard coal controversy.

It's Bitter Cold In Florida Today

And in North Carolina Believed New Low Levels of Century Reached

Atlanta, Dec. 28.—A decidedly unfriendly blast from the frozen north prevailed today in the usually balmy and pleasant Dixie. The entire South was affected by chilly breezes even to sunny Florida, which boasts summerlike weather the year around.

Zero At Asheville
Charlotte, Dec. 28.—Tarheel folk snapped about to probably the coldest late December wave of the twentieth century today when near zero temperatures prevailed over the State. Asheville found rock bottom at 5 o'clock when the thermometer read zero. Hickory was the next coldest at four above zero at 6 o'clock.

MRS. FRANK UPTON DEAD
Funeral services for Mrs. Frank Upton, formerly of this city, who died suddenly Saturday night at 8:30 o'clock at her home near South Mills, Camden County, were conducted at the First Methodist Church here Monday morning at 11 o'clock. The Rev. F. S. Love, the pastor, officiated. Mrs. J. Wesley Foreman sang "In the Hour of Trial" by special request, and the First Methodist choir sang, "Abide With Me" and "Asleep in Jesus." Burial was in Hollywood Cemetery.

Before her marriage, Mrs. Upton was Miss Mary West, and for a number of years she was employed in the department store of McCabe & Greig, in this city. She was deeply interested in church and Sunday school work, and had been long a member of the First Methodist Church.

Besides her husband, Mrs. Upton is survived by three small children, Helen, Robert and Thomas Upton; by her mother, Mrs. Amariah West, of Richmond; by a brother, Lee West, of Norfolk; and by five sisters, Miss Ida West, Mrs. J. D. Dolan and Mrs. Helen Zirkle, all of Richmond, Mrs. Annie Steele, of Norfolk, and Mrs. William Doxey, of Tuttle, Coltrick County.

Mrs. Upton had appeared to be in her usual health Saturday night, and had attended to her usual household duties before she became suddenly ill and died in a few minutes. She had suffered from one or more heart attacks earlier, however, relatives stated. Mrs. West and Mr. and Mrs. Dolan came from Richmond to attend the funeral.

SUPERIOR COURT OPENS FOR TRIAL OF CIVIL CASES

Many Actions Scheduled for Disposal During Two Weeks' Term, with Judge Grady Presiding

DRAINAGE CASE IS UP

Present Commissioners Suing Predecessors in Office; Mrs. Penelope Lyon Seeking Reward

A crowded docket greeted Judge Henry A. Grady, of Clinton, Monday at the opening of a two weeks' term of Superior Court here for the trial of civil actions only. From the standpoint of public interest, the most important cases to be taken up are actions by Mrs. Penelope Lyons against the Fidelity & Deposit Company, of Charlotte, and of the commissioners of Pasquotank Drainage District No. 1 against J. N. Williams and others, who were the predecessors in office of the present commissioners.

The Lyon case is the outgrowth of the arrest and conviction of J. D. Sykes, Jr., formerly employed by the First & Citizens National Bank here, in connection with the alleged embezzlement of some \$30,000. Sykes' arrest in Montana some two weeks ago is said to have resulted from information given by Mrs. Lyon, and her present suit is for the recovery of the \$1,000 reward offered by the Fidelity & Deposit Company, a bonding firm.

The action against the former drainage commissioners is being brought in connection with an allegation that they made unauthorised expenditures from the funds entrusted to them, and that they failed to comply with certain legal technicalities during their tenure in office. They are not charged with any criminal irregularity.

After having chosen a jury and disposed of a divorce suit, Judge Grady Monday morning adjourned court to 2 o'clock in the afternoon with the intention of taking up the drainage case as the first on the docket. In the divorce action, Andrew Eason, colored, was granted a decree of absolute separation from his wife, Bettie Eason, on statutory grounds.

The members of the jury empaneled this morning are G. L. Saddy, J. B. Anderson, E. A. Hurdle, R. W. Pool, A. F. Miller, J. C. O'Neal, J. A. Williams, J. D. Hastings, E. L. Waller, Paul J. Brothers, L. E. Old and W. D. Saunders.

Additional cases set for trial at the present term of court today were: H. H. and J. I. Perry vs. Matthew Perry, scheduled for Tuesday morning; DeLong & Sons Company vs. C. D. Bell and others; Auto & Garage Works vs. Charlie Long; H. and W. S. Newbern vs. W. H. Mathews; Farmers' Ginning & Produce Company vs. John Butt and others; W. W. Woodley vs. Caleb Walker; Farmers' Ginning & Produce Company vs. O. A. McPherson; J. E. Lane vs. J. E. Provo; M. C. Love vs. American Railway Express Company; set for Tuesday; Spence-Holloway Company vs. Williams & Stafford; B. A. Gibbs vs. A. G. Forbes; L. B. Perry vs. Olive Rogerson; F. H. Zelig vs. I. F. Leigh; Albemarle Fertilizer Company vs. O. E. Lane and others; William Bundy vs. Albemarle Fertilizer Company; M. B. Simpson vs. F. V. Scott and N. Thomas Baker vs. Kramer Brothers, this last case having been set for next Monday morning.

Actions by Swift & Company against nine residents of Currituck County in connection with the alleged failure of a quantity of fertilizer to come up to specifications were scheduled as not to come up for trial before Thursday.

PICTURE BRACELETS ARE SOMETHING NEW

Paris, Dec. 28.—"Picture bracelets" with the pictures formed of diamonds, rubies, emeralds and sapphires, were the finest and most expensive gaud of fashion for the 1925 gift season.

Some of these bracelets are an inch and a half to two inches in width, set solidly with small diamonds, surrounded by platinum, with designs formed of rubies, emeralds and sapphires.

For the narrower bracelets a slender Greek figure is the favorite device and for the broader ones Egyptian scenes, some times comprising two or three figures.

Some of the extremely elaborate ones are composed of a succession of small pictures, telling a story, with the various episodes being separated by bars of platinum.

Better Understanding Something New In Weeks

By CHARLES P. STEWART
Washington, Dec. 28.—To a considerable extent individuals of diverse races, national origins, religions, politics and walks in life can unite for certain purposes which all recognize as good. Generally, however, there are a few elements which refuse co-operation with some other few, upon any terms or on any end, no matter how desirable.

It is a commonplace that a period of intolerance has prevailed in this country, perhaps throughout the world in recent years. The Little Rock (Ark.) Ministerial Association attributed it to a lack of mutual understanding among differing racial, national, religious, political and social groups. With a view to remedying this state of affairs, the association induced the then governor, T. C. McRae, to proclaim a state-wide "Better Understanding Week."

As the "Week's" chairman, the association chose Rabbi Emanuel J. Jack, as its secretary, Father James P. Moran. The former was in Washington to attend the recent Red Cross conference, and while here, by the way, set the record of being the first rabbi in history to deliver the prayer which opens every session of the United States Senate.

"Father Moran, myself and all the rest agreed," related Rabbi Jack, "that the Ku Klux must be represented on our general committee. We felt it would be the height of inequity on our part to preach 'better understanding' after having shown, right at the outset, that we ourselves didn't mean a 'better understanding' all around."

Arkansas' first "Better Understanding Week" was in 1924. It had a second one, proclaimed by Gov. Tom Terral last May. This "Week" is a regular annual institution now. Rabbi Jack believes, however, "Better Understanding" activities aren't confined to the official "Weeks," but go on all the time. "They're doing a great deal," said the rabbi, "toward eliminating feelings of religious bitterness, in particular, which previously was pretty prevalent in Arkansas, as elsewhere, since the war."

Dry Week-End Indicated In Morning Court Session

A docket jammed to the eyebrows, figuratively expressing it, but without a single liquor case, that was the unusual record for an after-Sabbath session of recorder's court set here Monday morning. It appeared to bear out, in a degree, current rumors that the Christmas supply of "moonshine" had been exceedingly short; in fact, had dribbled away to practically nothing.

Charlie Bell, colored, convicted of assault on a young girl, paid a fine of \$10 and costs. It was in evidence that she had been a bit inclined to insubordination, and he had torn away a fence-paling and had "padded" her thoroughly with it.

John Warren, clearly negro, paid a fine of \$25 and costs on a charge of violating the carcass-law by feeding the carcasses of dead animals to hogs intended for slaughter. Warren is declared to have been in court twice before on similar charges.

Guy Langley, white youth charged with assault on George Laticus, employed in the White House Cafe, and with trespass, was fined \$10 and costs.

Sam Sawyer, convicted of having operated an automobile without proper license, was fined \$5 and costs.

Edward Daniels, charged with disorderly conduct, paid a fine of \$5 and costs.

Continuance to Wednesday morning was granted in cases against Graham Moore, charged with assault on Costas Maroulis and Danis Paulos, at the Red, White and Blue Cafe, and against Graham and Edward Moore and David Saunders, charged with disorderly conduct.

W. W. Dudley, Claude Harris and Clinton Rindick submitted a charge of exploding fireworks in the city on Christmas Eve, in violation of a city ordinance, and were fined \$5 and costs each. A second fireworks case against Dudley and against Norman Trueblood and Will Temple was continued to Tuesday morning.

Mrs. Perry Had Very Narrow Escape When Her Stove Exploded

Mrs. J. W. Perry of Oakley, wife of Pasquotank Highway Commissioner Perry, had a narrow escape from death or serious injury between 7 and 8 o'clock Monday morning when the water-bank of her kitchen stove exploded, scattering the stove in a thousand fragments, blasting a large hole through the ceiling and shattering 20 panes of glass in various parts of the Perry residence. Yet Mrs. Perry, standing within two feet of the stove when the explosion occurred, escaped without a scratch.

She will not, said Mr. Perry, who was in the city with J. T. Perry, an attorney, making arrangements to have the damage repaired, Monday morning shortly after the accident, "was trying to escape and had just turned away from the stove to the table when the whole stove, almost, went through the ceiling in an explosion that shook the house and jostled the earth. Had Mrs. Perry not turned away from the stove when she did or had the fragments been blown outward instead of upward, I don't like to think of what might have happened. The stove is a wreck, we haven't had a bit of breakfast, and there is some little other damage besides the broken windows and the hole in the ceiling, but I am being mighty lucky that nobody was hurt."

Atlanta, Dec. 28.—Death cut a wide swath over Dixie over Christmas holidays. Three score and ten persons in the South met death through traffic accidents involving automobiles, motorcycles, trains and trolleys. In addition 475 persons were hurt. These figures were revealed by a survey of the Associated Press.

Florida led the South with 13 deaths. North Carolina had seven deaths and 61 injuries.

Holidays Exact Big Death-Toll In State

SAY COLUMBUS ALSO DISCOVERED BEANS
Paris, Dec. 28.—A new claim to immortality has been discovered on behalf of that great discoverer, Chris Columbus, and should rebound greatly to his fame in Boston, Columbus, among other cities, discovered America and her beans. The former has been a matter of common knowledge for some time; the latter discovery has just been rediscovered by Henri Leclere and placed before the world in an article in the Press Medicale.

Before the '90s of the fifteenth century, Mr. Leclere says, the civilized world had mimicked the broad beans of the pea, but knew nothing of the haricot bean of Boston. Then Columbus went west and found the haricot growing near Novitas in Cuba, where the natives considered it a delicacy and called it "ayacolt." Incidentally he discovered America and started the train of events which led eventually to the union of Europe and beans in one of America's best known dietetic affinities.

POPULARITY TANGO MAKES NEW COSTUME

London, Dec. 28.—The popularity of the tango in London has brought into vogue a new dancing costume for women, which is something like silk "plus fours." These are replacing the former "health-like dance frocks. The long steps of the tango demand freedom from the restrictions of the narrow skirt, and have brought in the "plus four" gown. When the wearer stands still the effect is merely that of a full skirted frock but immediately she begins sliding over the floor the divided effect is seen.

When Night Brings Out the Lights

PREMIER BRIAND IS VERY FOND FISHING
Paris, Dec. 28.—Fishing, just plain ordinary river fishing with hook and line, is the only sport practiced by Aristide Briand, premier of France, for the eighth time. In that he displays a spiritual kinship with the President Benjamin Harrison.

President Briand avers his addiction to the Isaak Walton club has helped him out in the game of international diplomacy. "Give your opponent a little bit of bait," he advises, "but not too much. If you overfeed him you will never be able to hook him."

His entrance in diplomatic dealing, he asserts, has been vastly enhanced by the long hours he has had to put in waiting for a nibble. The only time he ever deserted his favorite recreation for another was on an memorable occasion when he played golf with Mr. Lloyd George at Cannes during the famous conference there. That day's sport cost him his seventh presidentialhip.

BUTLER WITHDRAWS HIS RESIGNATION

Washington, Dec. 28.—Brigadier General Smedley D. Butler today withdrew his resignation from the Marine Corps. Although the leave under which he had been serving as Director of Public Safety of Philadelphia would not expire until December 31, General Butler reported immediately for duty. Late in January he will go to San Diego to take command of the marine base there.

PEOPLE'S ARMY HAS EVACUATED TIENSIN

Tientsin, China, Dec. 28.—Most of the National Peoples Army, recently defeated in fighting around Tientsin, has evacuated the city.

Another Christmas Rush Begins After Holiday In Elizabeth City's Stores

Many Folks Exchange Gifts That Fail to Fit; a Few Buy Presents for Friends Overlooked; Merchants Tackle Annual Inventory

Congress Sighs For Better Pie Era At Capital

By CHARLES P. STEWART
Washington, Dec. 28.—Pie, the problem with which Congressman Clarence MacGregor of Buffalo, N. Y., is faced to face, seems about the hardest to solve or any at the capitol this winter.

MacGregor, as chairman of the House of Representatives committee on accounts, in supreme arbiters of the destinies of the two house restaurants, the one in the office building and the one in the capitol. And in his opinion their pies are not what they ought to be.

The trouble is, not so much that the pies aren't pretty fair, but that old-timers say they don't equal the quality of those served in the Senate restaurants in the long ago when Senator Frye of Maine, as chairman of the committee on rules, shaped their policies. Senator pie, in those days won repute as the best in the United States.

Determined to bring his 69th Congressional pies up to the level of any in the past, MacGregor spent much of his last summer's vacation in consultation with experts. He thought for awhile he had done pretty well.

When Congress convened early in December the first thing he did was to invite some of the oldsters, who still hark back wistfully to the Frye era, to try his pies.

The oldsters dined with them listlessly.

"Ah, yes, very nice," they sighed, damning with faint praise, "but you should have tasted those pies of Frye's."

RED GRANGE AND COOLIDGE ARE EVEN

London, Dec. 28.—Red Grange and President Coolidge have been breaking about even in the British press in regard to the space devoted to their respective activities.

The President's brief answers to his wife's questions about the "sin sermon" were quoted extensively, and his attitude on tax reduction also has attracted much attention. Numerous stories are recalled pointing only to his economy in words but money as well, and both these attributes draw admiration here.

Grange's meteoric rise to football fame and the comment thereon have given the impression that he easily entered the millionaire class within a few weeks.

PERSHING SOON TO COME BACK HOME

Washington, Dec. 28.—Because of falling health General John J. Pershing is expected to return here in the next month from Africa, Chile, where he is representing President Coolidge on the Chilean-Peruvian arbitration over Tacna Arica. Details of his illness are not known here.

THREAT OF BIG FIRE HANGS OVER MIAMI

Miami, Dec. 28.—Fire of unknown cause, starting in tar on the Bletcher wharf off Miami Bay at noon today, was threatening adjoining harbor craft loaded with gasoline and building materials. All available fire apparatus was fighting the flames.

FREIGHTER RAMS A PASSENGER LINER

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 28.—In a heavy fog 30 miles north of here the Lady Cynthia, a passenger liner, last night rammed and sank the Cowichan, a freighter. The Cynthia picked up her 14 passengers and crew of 31.

ANDREWS AND PARTY ON WAY TO KEY WEST

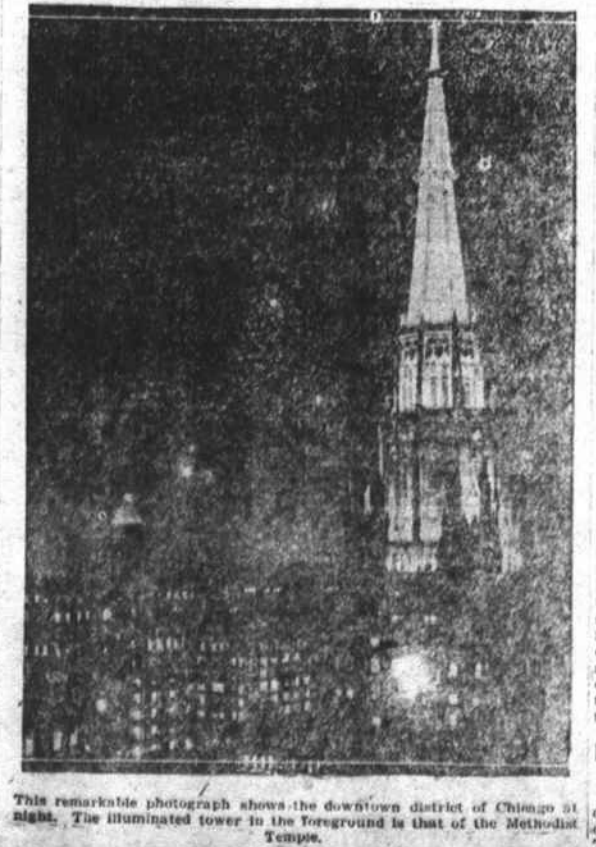
Savannah, Georgia, Dec. 28.—Having completed inspection of the customs ports of entry and the Coast Guard prohibition units on the South Atlantic Seaboard except Florida, Assistant Secretary Andrews and party left here early today for Key West and Havana.

HERE FROM NEW YORK

Mr. and Mrs. Fleetwood Dunstan of New York City are the guests of Mr. Dunstan's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Dunstan, at their home on West Church street.

SHERIFF'S SON DEAD IN SHOOTING SCRAPE

Bishopville, S. C., Dec. 28.—Fazwell Scarborough was killed and his brother, Robert, perhaps fatally wounded in a shooting scrape with a number of negroes in a store near Manville street, miles from here last night. Both are sons of Sheriff Scarborough of Lee County.



This remarkable photograph shows the downtown district of Chicago at night. The illuminated tower in the foreground is that of the Methodist Temple.