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FRIDAY, Jan. 1st, 1915.

Christmas Tree

The day was so bad that the Tree was not held on Christmas night and was postponed until Monday night. The evening was fair and everybody came out and a rousing crowd was in the Court House. The exercises were held there and the Program carried out as published last week with a few exceptions.

About 600 persons were present and all were delighted with the tree and its illumination. Good talks were made by Rev. Mr. Rexford and Rev. W. R. Beach. Great credit is to be given to the Woodmen for this enterprise and to the committees consisting of Messrs Smith, Brittain, Gilbert and Dodson, sure did their work well and deserve a great deal of credit. The star and Woodman emblem prepared by Mr. Bittain was especially attractive and the colored globes and lights were well placed.

We are sure that Marshall can feel justly proud of this enterprise and we hope that this will be but the first of many future efforts on which every one has a part. We are glad that the contributions that were made were as much as they were and in the future we are sure that many more will be made. Once the way is opened we feel that future accomplishments will be greater.

Although it was late for the tree The News-Record knows that it was well worth the effort. Thanks should be given to the Madison Power and Light Company for their aid in giving the electricity for the illumination of the tree and their aid. The Children sang well and the aid given by the Walnut Creek Class was great. We are especially glad that they came in and every one enjoyed the music that they gave. The addresses were in the true Christmas spirit and pleased every one. It is especially gratifying that every one felt they had a part in the tree and may we not hope that this is the beginning of a united effort to make Marshall, and surrounding districts united in their desire to push the community spirit and get together on many things which will make the town and county. Then here to the Community Tree and may it be but the precursor of greater and better ones in the future.

Street Cleaning

The late rains have made the roads almost impassable and the wagons that have come in have brought the mud into the streets until with the dirt that has come down from the hillsides have made our streets something that is hard to realize. We wish that a scraper might be passed along the streets so that the passing from one side to the other might be a thing easy to do. Why not put on some of the road sentence on the streets.

FOR RENT—I have for rent one good six room house, good garden, good spring, Spring house, Wood house, Cow Stable and Chicken house. Close to town.
J. F. REDMON,

The New Year

Time marks for each one of us and the years have come and gone and the number is piling up fast. First for those living it was 1800 and then it came 1900 and the years are going by and 1914 has about gone its course and 1915 is signed by every one. We wish that this new year may be the best of all for the subscribers of The News-Record and that the resolutions made may include amongst them the resolve to do something for the town and county. The News-Record has made the resolve to be a better sheet in the future than in the past and we hope to do still more for our community than we have ever done before. We have made the resolution to be a newsier paper than before and to stand for the right and not show partiality in anything.

We hope that many persons may resolve to subscribe for the paper and so make it possible for us to give them a better paper.

On this New Year's day we send out the wish to each of you and greet you in that desire to work with you in the development of our county.

Miss Missouri Cole is in the office of Mr. N. B. McDevitt.

Closing of Big Pine School.

The school at Upper Big Pine closed December the 18th. The Program given at the close was one of the best ever given in the history of the school. A part of the program which was very interesting to all was the contests.

The young men's contest was given in the afternoon and the young ladies at night. All these pupils showed that they had been most carefully trained.

Medals were given to the best speakers. In the boys Declamation contest, the medal was won by Mr. Howard Wild.

In the young Ladies contest the medal was won by Miss Helen Roberts.

A great deal of interest was shown in these closing exercises by the great crowds that thronged the school house and all greatly enjoyed the whole program.

The school was a success all the way through and much honor is due to the teachers who labored so faithfully for its advancement and upbuilding.

Miss Ethel Rector, who holds a position in the Quality shop at Spartanburg South Carolina, was up for a brief visit to her parents returning Sunday.

Miss Lula Rector leaves Friday for Wendell, N. C., where she is to teach school.

Children's Coughs—Children's Colds Both are Serious

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We hope that the New Year may be one full of everything that our subscribers desire and then some.

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Believes Mexicans Favor Annexation

Thomas S. Rollins Gives Out Most Interesting Interview Upon His Return.

VISITED JUAREZ, MEXICO, AND SAW BULL FIGHT

Mr. Rollins Visited R. J. Tighe and Family—Mr. Tighe is Doing Great Work, He Says.

Thomas S. Rollins returned yesterday afternoon from El-Paso where he has been visiting the family of Prof. and Mr. R. J. Tighe, formerly of this city, for the past two weeks. Mr. Rollins was accompanied to El-Paso by his father and sister, Major W. W. Rollins and Miss Myrtle Rollins, who will spend the winter there.

In an interview with a Gazette-News reporter today, Mr. Rollins spoke interestingly of his visit to El-Paso and Juarez, Mexico, which is just across the border from El-Paso. Mr. Rollins also visited several of the northern Mexican states, and says that, from conversations he had with several prominent Mexicans, he believes the northern states would welcome annexation to the United States. He says that there seems to be no end in view of the present trouble in Mexico as it is now developed into a factional fight between men who want to be president; that no principles are involved.

"El Paso is the most prominent city of the southwest," said Mr. Rollins, "and has a population of about 70,000. The scare due to the European war did not affect the southwest, until England declared that crude copper would be recognized as a contraband of war. This action on the part of England, unless it is rescinded at once will necessarily cause the closing down of all the gold, silver and copper mines of the southwest. The largest copper smelting plant in the world is located in El Paso, and if it closes thousands of men will be thrown out of employment.

"The chamber of commerce of El Paso last week passed resolutions protesting against the action of England in declaring copper a contraband of war and forwarded these resolutions to the senators and members of the cabinet, asking them to take immediate action on the matter.

"There are thirteen banks in El Paso and the First National has deposits amounting to \$6,500,000. This shows the wonderful prosperity of the city. The city is now constructing another high school, to cost about half a million dollars."

Professor Tighe, formerly head of the Asheville city schools, is now superintendent of the city schools of El Paso and is doing a great work there, being held in high esteem by the citizens of the city, Mr. Rollins said.

Mr. Rollins says that last Sunday he witnessed his first bull fight. The fight was pulled off in Juarez and four bulls and two horses were killed. He says that it was a great occasion and thousands of people attended. However, very few Americans were present, as it was rumored that General Salazar would make an attack on the city during the bull fight. In consequence of this rumor, Mr. Rollins says that 300 Villa troops were in attendance at the fight to protect the people from an unexpected attack.

"Juarez has been taken and retaken nine times within the last 10 years," Mr. Rollins said,

"and it has been captured four times within the past four years. General Villa capturing it the last time about a year ago. His brother is now in command of the city, I saw him and he is very much like the descriptions that have been given of him; tall, weighs about 200 pounds, dark hair and skin, and is half Indian. This Villa has charge of the Exchange, said to be the largest gambling house on the North American continent. I visited the Exchange while there and saw hundreds of men, women and children gambling at the wheels and tables.

"I visited the Careel Publica, or city jail in which so many persons have been executed during the past four years. It was indeed a pitiful sight to see the conditions of the poor people who had been placed there on various alleged infractions of the law. While I was there, which was Thursday of last week, two men had been sentenced to be shot for having stolen some small articles; but the soldiers refused to shoot them and the prisoners were sent to jail."

In speaking of the city of Juarez, Mr. Rollins said:

"The American consul has advised all Americans to stay out of Mexico, as it is regarded as dangerous to be found there. The present conditions in Juarez are chaotic. However, I managed to spend a few days there and in several northern states of Mexico without being molested as a spy or filibuster. During the various battles that have been fought at Juarez for the possession of the city, a large number of the houses have been shot to pieces. Especially is this true of that postoffice, which was shot away. The war now going on there is nothing but a guerilla warfare and the end is not in sight. In fact, it might last as long as the European war. The only hope for Mexico now lies in some relief from the United States.

"I feel confident that a large percent of the wealthier and more intelligent citizens of the northern states of Mexico favor annexation to the United States." While in El Paso Mr. Rollins was invited to attend a meeting of the Rotary club, an organization to boost El Paso, and delivered an address.

Mr. Rollins says that the Rio Grande, which is the international boundary line between this country and Mexico, is now not as large as the Swannanoa river and is getting smaller all the time. The river, at certain seasons of the year, dries up almost completely.—Gazette-News.

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Dec. 25, 11.

Keep in Mind The Fact

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