

The Charlotte News

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES... Year Six Three One... Six Months Three One... Three Months One Six

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1937

In Case of Doubt

Police Chief Pittman doesn't want to arrest anyone for shooting firecrackers, and hopes he won't have to. But the law is the law, and the Chief appeals to all law-abiding citizens, parents especially, to observe it. If they don't, the police will have to "bring in all those who are apprehended."

The Rambunctious Rowboat

Our admiration for the Fanny amounts steadily. She was not, according to the registry reports, exactly a fearful ship. She drew a measly 300 tons. She carried 200 passengers and crew, and some 200 or so elsewhere. She had no armor plate capable of stopping anything larger than a rifle bullet.

To Prose Nothing

Offhand, it might be easy to jump to the conclusion that the action of the House in sending the wage and hour bill back to committee is a straw indicating the growth of Congress in independence and horse-

Visiting Around

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with the industrialists without running much danger of seriously offending labor and without much risk, either, of being punished by loss of patronage at the hands of the administration.

A Magnificent Gift

Perhaps the happiest person in North Carolina today is Dr. Carl V. Reynolds, head of the State Board of Health. Who wouldn't be in his shoes? Thoroughly aware of the extent and prevalence of syphilis in North Carolina—the estimate is 300,000 infected persons, many of them children—eager to eradicate it, as it could be eradicated, but not without a limited outlay of a part of funds at his disposal, Dr. Reynolds has received in the name of the State a handsome present Christmas gift which, you may be sure, precisely what he wanted.

One Thing Overlooked

The only thing Sergeant S. D. Moore of the State Highway Patrol neglected was to haul out his gun and shoot. That way, his contribution to making it practically suicide for the citizens of our town to venture into the streets would have been practically perfect.

For a Hard Winter

In the first place, the hard, nipping cold, which has been abroad in the last few days, makes me believe it besides that I have faith in signs. You're curious as to what I believe, it is that we're headed for a heavy winter.

Retreat Strategic

Way back yonder when the sons and daughters of temperance were very active and thinking that a Baptist deacon or a Presbyterian elder ought to be church for making brandy, a good brother was reported to the church conference on account of his activities in that direction.

Twenty Cents a Mile

Yessir, twenty cents a mile is high class travel and no doubt about it, but that's what our Congressmen voted to themselves for getting to and from Mr. Roosevelt's special session.

Earlier Days

DECEMBER 19, 1863... REPORTS FROM NEW ORLEANS... A dispatch from Mobile mentions a report which had reached that city that Butler's brother, who had been in co-partnership with Jacob Barker in New Orleans, recently abandoned with a large amount of money.

IN DEFENSE OF PERSHING

NEW YORK CITY—The Washington Tribune has a General Pershing for this ride—friendly, but man-biggest Federal salary, except the President, \$22,000—\$600,000 in salary since the Armistice? (Arithmetic) —

ON THE RECORD

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Yule Eve Is Best Time To Go Shopping

Then The Pests Have No Time To Paw Things, And Business Is On Serious Basis.

Dear Sir: I had planned to write you before this about Christmas shopping, but after all isn't it more appropriate to write about it as one practices it; that is, late?

One of those who believes in efficiency, I think Christmas shopping is better practiced late. There are several reasons for this. From 2 P. M. to 9 P. M. on December 24 the shopping crowds are really serious. They are not wasting any time, their own or that of anybody else. The people who like to look about, to examine, to go away and come back, to look and to smell the things on display, are through. They have worried the clerks, their husbands and one another for the last time. They have borne their burdens home, brought them back for exchange time and gone home again for the last time. Not again until next year, from November 1 to December 24, will they come out, looking around for the sake of Aunt Minnie, for Cousin Hector and for their friends who may or may not forget to remember.

That large woman with unrubbed heels who makes a specialty of turning from one store to another without looking where she's going, treading on people, bumping into people, and then glaring at the victims,—she, too, will soon be in seclusion, probably addressing Christmas cards to people who won't send her any and neglecting those who will send her presents.

In late shopping, a determined man can take a \$20-bill and easily get through in an hour. He can storm a counter and come away with plenty of loot. He will service and the clerks want to give him service. Both sides know what they want and no fooling. There is no noisy question, no examination of goods, no consultation, no "I'll probably be back" and no "I like it, but —" Shopping on Christmas Eve is coldly serious, plainly practical and wonderfully efficacious.

But I hear, "You get things that have been already picked over." I doubt that. What you get is things from the bottom of the pile, where they have been preserved from the paws of the holiday picking-over experts. Besides, most of the Christmas gifts have gone. You have only a few left, nothing to distract your attention. You don't have to pick over a pile of goods, you have to take it. You're curious as to what I believe, it is that we're headed for a heavy winter.

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BELIEVE IT OR NOT By Ripley

On request, sent with stamped, addressed envelope, Mr. Ripley will furnish proof of anything depicted by him.



LONGEST STREET IN THE WORLD... WATLING STREETS IN NATION WIDE! RUNS ACROSS THE ENTIRE BREADTH OF ENGLAND... BEGINS IN GINGER-RUNNERS LONDON TO CHESTER AND CARDIFF

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