GOSSIP OF THE HOTEL LOBBIES

STORIES OF HUMAN INTEREST FROM EVERYWHERE.

Col. J. Hamilton Lewis Handed Out All the Advice That Gov. Wilson Could Digest for a Long Time in a Recent Interview With the President-elect—Peril of an Ignorant Vote.

"Great light has been revealed to Woodrow Wilson through the conferences he has had with some of the stars of Democracy, but not one of the visitors to Trenton has ever been in it with Col. Jim Ham Lewis, of Chicago," said ex-Judge Howard Catesby, of Seattle, at the Stafford.

"Whereas most of the advisers of the President-elect imparted perhaps some smattering of information, our esteemed hero of the pink whiskers handed it out in chunks that never went under 16 ounces to the pound. The finest chunk of all was one that nobody else but James Ham could have extended. He alone could have got by with it, which proves what I have all along maintained, that as a diplomat Colonel Lewis has no living peer.

"The special nugget of wisdom to which I refer was the admonition that a little liberality and trading disposition on Woodrow's part would result in the election of one (certainly), and, maybe, two Democrats from Illinois to the United States Senate. The one sure Democrat would be Jim Ham himself, who had been indorsed by his party for senatorial honors in a preferential primary.

"With his suave smile and delicious Southern accent, J. Hamilton, the while he fondled his roseate whiskers, told Governor Wilson that the Democrats in the Illinois legislature were six votes shy of enough to send him to Washington, but that it was a snap to pick up a half dozen Progressives who would turn the trick. Of course, it would be right to reciprocate by taking care of these patriots by giving them some soft federal offices. No doubt if the gallant Colonel could go to Springfield and hear the assurance of having consummated such a deal the six Progressives would jump to the rescue and speedily a toga would be enveloping the dapper form of J. Ham. It was gracious and subtle counsel and most seductively spoken, but how it struck the Wilsonian ear is a matter of conjecture.

"If some low-browed boss or machine politician had put this up to Woodrow in the coarse and crude fashion of his tribe, I have no doubt he would have been shown the door even as James Smith was, but as I intimated in the outset Colonel Lewis can get by with things for which most men would go to jail."

Peril of an Ignorant Vote.

"It is conceded that but for the almost solid support of the workers in the cotton mills of South Carolina Cole Blease would not have won a re-election to the governorship," remarked Charles D. Jones, an influential young lawyer and banker of Lancaster, S. C., at the Belvedere.

"This factory vote even now constitutes the balance of power in a good many of our counties, and some see in it an element of peril. It is largely an ignorant vote and can be influenced by designing demagogues who know how to appeal to the passions and prejudices of the unthinking masses. The commonest kind of a third-rate politician who poses as the special champion of the wage-earner is hailed as their hero, and they cheer him lustily whenever he exerts the pardoning power to turn loose upon society a fresh batch of penitentiary birds.

"Aside from the Blease regime the old Palmetto state is in excellent condition and the prospects for the new year are inspiringly happy. Many of your leading Democrats are hoping that the incoming president will offer a cabinet place to Editor W. E. Gonzales, of The State, though Mr. Gonzales is in no sense a candidate for any office, local or national. He is, however, one of the most loyal and useful sons of South Carolina and he and his brother have done a magnificent work in its upbuilding."

Successors to King Solomon.

"One of our guests boozed a bit too much, as is natural at this time of the year with gentlemen of convivial temper, and was arrested for disturbance," said an employe of one of the leading hotels of Baltimore.

"The misconduct, if any, was slight, but he was taken to the police station, and would have been locked up for the night if he had not been able to put up $101 in cash for his appearance the next day. The next day he was fined in the paltry sum of $2 by a magistrate, who evidently was not impressed with the enormity of his guilt.

"Here is a man who is at the worst guilty of but a minor infraction of the law, and yet if he had been unable to produce $101 it would have been a case of sleeping in a cell. What a glorious intelligence, what enlightenment is revealed in requiring a stranger to put up 50 times the amount of his fine before he can be freed to go back to his room at the hotel. People who imagine Solomon to have been the wisest man will have to recast their opinions when they ponder on modern police methods."

Rescued by Mountain Air.

"My father was an army surgeon who became a victim of tuberculosis, and was looked upon as almost ready for the grave," said John De Witt, a good-looking young man from Colorado Springs, at the Belvedere.

"He didn't think much of his own prospects of further existence, but he took a chance on going to Colorado to live, and purchased a home in Grant county, where he started in to raise Hereford cattle, both for amusement and profit. Today my father looks like he was fit to go into the ring; the wonderful climate and the mountain air brought back his former strength, and he wouldn't swap his ranch in the hills for a palace in the East.

"I can't tell you much about the ranch, except that it is a financial success. Personally I prefer golf to punching steers or riding herd, and about the only time I care to go to Grant county is for the autumn shooting. The entire country around our place is well stocked with deer and antelope, and hunters often get a good-sized black bear. Of the feathered tribe grouse and sage hens predominate."

Thinks Manners Show Decline.

Senator Henry Cabot Lodge's magazine article, contrasting the difference in the manners of this generation and of his early days, is a most interesting contribution to current human-interest literature," remarked Dr. J. Stephen Cloud, of New Orleans, a gentleman of the Old School, at the Rennert. "Senator Lodge refrains from saying that there has been a decadence in manners since that distant day when he first took note of the social demeanor of his contemporaries. I do not mind expressing myself on this point. I declare emphatically that there is nothing like the good breeding and the gentility shown nowadays that were so much in evidence 50 years ago. The treatment of women in our big cities is proof enough without going into a long argument.

"In Senator Lodge's day, as he states, it was considered vulgar to discuss diseases and operations in company where both sexes were represented and equally ill bred to talk of lost of personal belongings. He is qurect as to that; it was a mark of ity to thus trespass then and it oo be now."

BOARDERS FROM FIRE

Mrs. Milke Badurned—Others Escape—De $5,000.

At an early mo fire yesterday at the home, store a rding house conducted by Augus ke, 1702-04 East Fort avenue, his Mrs. Annie Milke, was badly burned it the face, arms and hands and the es of 10 persons, who were asleep the upper floors, were endangered. The house was wrecked and the ge is estimated at about $5,000, pa overed by insurance.

The fire broke a few minutes before 6 o'clock.

Mrs. Milke w eparing breakfast on a gas stove e kitchen for her family and board Her attention was distracted for a ent by a customer coming into the e and, in turning, a fascinator, w she wore on her head, became ig Mrs. Milke pulled the blazing piece oth from her head and threw it to oor. She then tried to extinguish the, which had spread, and by the tim r husband came to her assistance as burned about the face, arms and s, and her hair was scorched. Tog the two tried to fight the rapid reading fire, and seeing that it useless, they turned their attention the sleepers in the rooms above.

An alarm en sounded from box 549, Fort ave and Garret street, in the meantime by the time the fire engines began rrive the occupants of the double h were emerging from both the fron rear doors. Some of the inmates o house climbed out on a porch in thar of the house at 1704 and then walk own the stairway leading to the gri.

Those in the uble-house at the time of the fire w Mr. and Mrs. August Milke, their children, Albert and Louise Milke, of whom occupied the corner house, the following from the house adjoin Albert Chapman, John L. Burke, Ste A. Bidel, Walter Hoppe and two trant boarders, who did not leave their ns. While some had time to catch up few garments, all personal propert the way of extra wearing apparel, was lost. The furniture in the o houses was consumed, as was the s in the grocery and tobacco store.

Neighbors d for the occupants yesterday. Mr. d Mrs. Milke and their two children ll board in the neighborhood until damage has been adjusted.

TO ACT (EXCHANGE RULE

Meeting of learing-house Association Ced for January 7.

It is undeod that a meeting of the Baltimore Cing House Association has been called r the 7th of January, at which time is expected that the amendment to the nstitution of the association, provid for a change in the existing exche rule, will be put to a vote of the embers. This amendment, which was repared some weeks ago, has been bore the executive committee of the Cleng House Association, and copies of th amendment were also forwarded to the various association members, so th they could become thoroughly acquited with its provisions.

One of th striking paragraphs in the amendment s originally prepared is as follows: "O and after January 1, 1913, all banks, embers of this association, shall be reqred to charge their respective depositors, mi cled within the corporate limits of Baltimore city, such a rate of exchange o all checks, drafts and notes at points feign to Baltimore and deposited in ocashed by any member bank for liquidatn, as may be recommended by the exange committee, in accordance with th provisions of article 21 and approved by the Clearing House.

Another aragraph states that each member bai may at its option waive the requirement of section 2 of this article in connectio with accounts received from the followi class of depositors, to wit: United Stats government, State of Maryland and cy of Baltimore and their respective breaus; transportation companies engage in interstate or foreign commerce; saings banks without capital stock whe such banks do not accept from depositors checks payable at points foreign to Baltimore and issued in liquidation of business accounts due to local merchants; personal accounts from individuals, residents of Baltimore, into which shall enter only the private items of such individuals not derived from business transactions, surety and guarantee companies, when not engaged directly or indirectly in banking, accounts from local agents of nonresident firms or corporations, when deposits in such accounts are subject solely to checking by the principal or controlling office of such nonresident firm or corporation.

Avalon Chapter Musical.

Avalon Chapter, Daughters of the Revolution, Mrs. Frank Onion regent, has issued over a hundred invitations to a musical to be given next Monday at 8:15 P. M. at the residence of Mrs. George Ludington, 1918 Mount Royal Terrace. The performers are to be Mrs. Jenny Lind Green; Mrs. William S. Gibson, soprano, and Miss Eva Adams, contralto. The proceeds are to be devoted to the patriotic work of the chapter.

Progress of National City Bank.

The National City Bank of Baltimore has made remarkable progress since its organization, particularly during the past six months, which have been excellent. Notwithstanding the declaration of its usual semiannual dividend, it has added a substantial amount to its undivided profits at the close of this six months' business. This bank has now established an assured future.

THE PEOPLE'S LETTER BOX

TOPICS DISCUSSED BY READERS OF THIS PAPER.

The Business Outlook for 1913 Cheerful—Our Prosperity Rests on a Substantial Foundation—Activity in Trade and Manufacing Circles, With Labor Contented and Employed.

Letters designed for publication in this column must be indorsed with the name and address of the writer.
Anonymous communications will not be considered.
When the writer so prefers his name will not be published.
Letters should not exceed 500 words.

To the Editor: With the exception of the possible action to be taken by Congress on the tariff, little uncertainty exists among business men with regard to the outlook for business. Practically all of them are optimists, and especially here in Baltimore, and they believe that, in many respects, 1913 will be a record-breaker. When one studies conditions carefully, there doesn't seem to be much cause for worry so far as the future is concerned.

The country has been blessed with bountiful crops, which have yielded good prices, and manufacturers have many orders ahead which will keep their plants in operation at full time for months to come. This, of course, means that there will be employment for people at good wages. Our prosperity rests on a solid foundation, and it is the sort of prosperity which is being participated in by all sections and all classes. The new year holds out much encouragement to the business world, and when one scans the situation there is no reason for being other than an optimist.

BUSINESS MAN.

Baltimore, December 31.

More Monumental Eggs.

To the Editor: Seeing in your paper of the thirtieth an account of some large eggs, I beg to say I have a Barred Plymouth Rock 15 months old which laid last week three eggs measuring as follows: One 8⅛ inches by 6⅝, weight, 4 ounces; one 7¾ inches by 6¾ inches, weight, 3¾ ounces, and the third 7½ inches by 6, weight, 3 ounces. They can be seen at 2331 Eastern avenue.

OWNER.

Baltimore, December 31.

Reassessments.

To the Editor: The members of the Appeal Tax Court should be commended for the stand they have taken in the matter of a reassessment of a large portion of property in the city and especially in the residential sections. It shows that the judges of the court do not desire to burden the taxpayers of the municipality with excessive assessments on their property. No doubt if a reassessment were made the assessors would find that residential property in some sections has depreciated in value because of the movement toward the suburbs and in justice to the owners of this property the assessment in such instances should be reduced. A reassessment of property would be a popular move on the part of the Appeal Tax Court. True, it might result in increased valuation on some holdings, but in others it might be cut down. In any event the fairness of it should appeal with force to the general public.

TAXPAYER.

Baltimore, December 31.

Future of the M. A. C.

To the Editor: Since the destructive fire at the Maryland Agricultural College an impression has gotten abroad that the institution is to be located in another part of the state, and several enterprising communities are bidding for it. Frederick and Baltimore counties would like to have it, and schemes by which their desire may be obtained are being considered. But why should there be a change of site? The college now is located in a fertile section of Prince Georges county. Nobody ever suggested its removal before the fire. Attached to the institution is a large farm, connected with which is the government experiment station. If the college should be removed, will Uncle Sam follow with the experiment station?

Does superstition enter into the matter? Is it thought by some that it is bad luck to build on the ashes of the old buildings? No good reason has been given why the institution should not remain at College Park. It has been there all its life. There is no objection to the soil or to the topography of the country. The health of the students has been excellent. It is convenient to both Baltimore and Washington, and I believe the sentiment of all who have been educated there is decidedly against its removal.

T. H. S.

Towson, Md., December 31.

The Right to Hasten Death.

To the Editor: Under the headline Scientific Kindness, there is published in your paper a dispatch from Atco, N. J., in which the old lady who is dying asks these questions: "Why do we use artificial means to keep up life when we know it can't be done beyond a certain brief period? Why do we insist upon the cruelties of science instead of on its kindness?" Then she says: "It holds the secret of everlasting sleep, and because we are not educated we will not permit the opiate that will bring it to those who crave it."

If the old lady gave utterance to the above, she is worthy of the cloak of charity on the assumption that accompanying the gradual disintegration of her body is the inability to weigh values clearly. Perhaps, in a case like hers, there is a providential veiling of the awfulness of death, so as to allow her to make the terrible passage practically unconscious of the journey.

"Thou shalt not kill!" is a commandment so plain that it needs the interpretation of no court. So are all of the commandments of the Almighty. This law may be violated in two ways—by commission and omission. If it is in your power to save a life and you neglect to exercise that power, you are morally guilty. Life is not yours. It is the exclusive property of Him who gave it. When you take it, you take that which belongs to God. When you hesitate or neglect to save it, you allow that which belongs to God to perish. It will not do to say that if He wants it preserved He will preserve it Himself. He has planted in your breast something that tells you plainer than words what you are required to do.

Medical science has not as yet arrived at a point where it will presume to tamper with the commandment "Thou shalt not kill!" It had better not get that far.

C. E. H.

Baltimore, December 31.

AN EYESORE REMOVED

Huge Pile of Rock Replaced by Cement Sidewalk.

That huge pile of rock which was an eyesore to persons living on Wilkens avenue, in the vicinity of St. Mary's Industrial School, and which was among the earliest memories of even the oldest residents, has been removed. Two hundred feet of gnarled, mud-covered rock, extending in a pyramid over 15 feet high, has been swept away, and in its place is a modern cement sidewalk with grass plats on each side.

Although this rocky obstacle to pedestrians was an eyesore and known as a dangerous spot, more accidents having occurred there than at any other point of Wilkens avenue, it was also one of the landmarks of that section of the city. It had risen in silent objection to all efforts toward improvement so long that the residents had come to look upon it as an institution. It rose directly in the middle of the sidewalk. Upon arriving at this obstruction pedestrians were forced to leave the paved footway and walk in the muddy streets.

To remove the rocky formation it was necessary for those carrying on the work of improvement to blast it. Drilling into this solid rock to place the charges was tedious work, and it was necessary to exercise great precaution to prevent accidents, due to falling particles of earth and stone.

This is only one example of the improvement being made in the southwestern section of the city at the present time. Cement footways have been laid on Wilkens avenue, on both sides of the thoroughfare extending from Bentalou street to the St. Mary's Industrial School. Altogether more than 30,000 square feet of cement sidewalks have been laid on this street. The culverts over Maidens Choice Run have been extended at the ends and put in a safe condition.

These improvements, which will add greatly to the value of property abutting on Wilkens avenue, were carried out under the direction of City Engineer McCay. Already the good which this section will derive from these improvements alone has manifested itself in the number of buildings being erected.

A Male Zebra Wanted.

William S. Manning, superintendent of parks, is looking for a male zebra. For sometime he has kept in touch with circus managers and owners in an attempt to purchase such an animal. So far, his quest has proved futile. At the City Hall yesterday he told of the difficulty he has encountered in securing a male zebra. There is a female zebra at the zoo in Druid Hill Park, which was purchased by the Park Board about a year ago. It cost the city $750.

ARUNDELL CLUB EVENTS

Calendar for the Month of January Announced.

The Arundell Club's calendar for the month of January, 1913, is ready for publication. The annual New Year's reception and luncheon today, from 1 to 2 o'clock, at the clubhouse, 1000 North Charles street, is the first meeting of the new year.

It is not exactly a meeting, either, for the affair is too informal. The officers and board of directors act as a receiving party. The luncheon guests come and go. The lunch is served at small tables, and after 2 o'clock the guests remain to talk among themselves and give each other New Year greetings.

Miss Alice Tiffany is president of the club, Miss Charlotte S. Perkins, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. John R. Cary, treasurer.

The remaining events of the calendar for the month are for Saturdays, January 11 and 25, at 4 P. M., table discussions. Tea will be served promptly at 4 o'clock and informal talks will be given at each meeting by special speakers. The speaker for the first meeting is to be Miss V. A. Goodenow.

Saturday, January 9, at 3 P. M., the Home Economics Section of the State Federation will hold its Round Table on Weights and Measures. It will be led by Mrs. J. J. Abel.

Saturday, January 18, the club will have a musical at 4 P. M. The performers will be S. Taylor Scott, barytone, and Edward Hargrave, pianist.

The section meetings are as follows: Education Section meeting to be announced later by the chairman, Mrs. John Wesley Brown.

German Section, Wednesday mornings, at 11 o'clock, excepting January 1. The readings are to be Das Madchen von Treppi, by Paul Heyse, and Wilhelm Meister by Goethe, Miss Emma Weber is chairman.

The French Section meets on Mondays, January 6 and 20, at 3 P. M., for reading and conversation. Mrs. Mark O. Shriver is the chairman.

The Whist Section meets on Tuesdays, at 2:30 P. M. The directors regret to announce that in accordance with the ruling of the Public Service Commission the unlimited telephone service must be discontinued after January 1. The members will find the usual form of automatic telephone installed in the present booth.

Cabaret Dinner for Engineers.

A cabaret dinner was given at the Hotel Rennert Monday night to the engineer corps of the Pennsylvania Railroad in charge of the construction of bridges over Gunpowder and Back Rivers by Henry Steers, Inc., and Brann & Stuart Co., Inc., contracting engineers. William M. Laverty, secretary and general manager of Brann & Stuart Co.; Frank Leonard and David Bonner, Jr., were guests, and in their after-dinner speeches thanked the engineers for the assistance and courtesy extended in the work.

Can Keep Sober in Jail.

Justice Supplee, at the Central Police Station, obliged Luther Whitt, a painter, who has been arraigned in the Central Court several times recently, and who told the Justice yesterday morning that he wanted to spend the first of the New Year in jail so that he would stay sober. Whitt was charged with disorderly conduct. Magistrate Supplee imposed a fine of $25 and costs on Whitt and the latter went to jail in default.

RAILROAD HEADS EXPECT BIG YEAR

WILLARD AND FITZGERALD TALK OPTIMISTICALLY.

Though Admitting There Is Feeling of Uncertainty With Tariff Legislation Pending, Presidents of B. & O. and Western Maryland Look Forward to Continued Prosperity in 1913—As to Safety Appliances.

Both President Daniel Willard, of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and President John M. Fitzgerald, of the Western Maryland, are optimistic in their views on the prospects of their respective roads for the coming year, and feel that in spite of the change of administration, which always affects business to a certain extent, that the year will be successful from every point of view. President Willard also discussed the matter of safety appliances for railroads, which, in view of the many recent accidents on railroads all over the country, is of particular interest. The optimistic views of President Willard are shared by Third Vice President A. W. Thompson, of the Baltimore and Ohio, who has charge of the road's operation and is in a position to judge prospects by his intimate knowledge of prevailing conditions.

President Willard, in discussing the outlook, said:

The present condition of the road is good, and I see no reason why conditions should change. Of course, with a change of administration a period of readjustment always follows, and with tariff legislation pending there is always a feeling of business uncertainty. Nobody believes, however, that the legislators at Washington would do anything wittingly to injure the business interests of the country, and no grave apprehension is felt on this score. This is the only thing which I can see that might prove a hindrance to the prevailing conditions of prosperity, but I do not think that it will materially affect them.

In speaking of the much-discussed question of the adoption of improved safety devices for the railroads, Mr. Willard remarked:

There is absolutely no difference of opinion among railroad officials on the matter of having safe roads. Every one of them wishes the road with which he is connected to be as safe for passengers and employes as it can possibly be made. There are many people, however, who insist that the roads move faster in the direction of adopting new appliances and safety devices than they can possibly go. The installation of such devices requires considerable sums of money and the railroads are not always in a position to adopt them immediately.

Speaking of past legislation on the subject of such devices, Mr. Willard said:

Although many of the legislative acts looking to the safety of the roads have been excellent, still, in many instances, I believe that the roads have been forced to spend sums of money out of all proportion to the increase of safety which has been gained.

President John M. Fitzgerald, speaking of the coming year, says that the only thing that need be considered in estimating its prospect for prosperity is the possible action of Congress.

"We cannot predict what will transpire at the national capital," said Mr. Fitzgerald, "and this naturally causes a certain timidity and uncertainty among the country's big business interests. Business is now in a healthy state, and I can see no obtacles in the way of a healthy expansion."

Vice President Thompson, of the Baltimore and Ohio, said:

My estimate of future conditions is based almost wholly upon my observation of present conditions, and I cannot see anything ahead that is likely to interfere with these conditions. The present business of the Baltimore and Ohio, both in respect to through and local freight, was never better. The movement of grain for the past three months has been record-breaking, and the coal and coke outlook is most promising. The statement of the road for this December shows that it is far in advance of the preceding December, and with this steady growth, and apparently no deterring influences, 1913 should prove one of the most successful years in the history of the road.

WILLARD'S GREETING TO MEN

New Year Wishes Wired to 60,000 B. & O. Employes.

President Daniel Willard, of the Baltimore and Ohio system, extended his New Year greetings and good wishes for the coming year to the 60,000 employes of the company through the following telegraphic message which was sent last night over the railroad wires to all stations and division headquarters to reach the men in every grade of service:

To all employes of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad system:

I would like to shake hands with each of the 60,000 employes of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad system on this first day of the new year and extend at the same time my congratulations and best wishes, but as this is not possible, I wish to convey the same sentiments by means of this message to each of my fellow employes in the Baltimore and Ohio service.

There is one request which I wish to make at this time of all Baltimore and Ohio system men, and that is this—that during the year just begun they keep constantly in mind that the most important policy of the company is clearly expressed in the words, "safety first." Railroading as an occupation is and always will be hazardous at best, and I wish to remind each one in the service that he owes to himself, his family, to his fellow employes and to the public, the duty of doing at all times all that he reasonably can to make his employment and the operation of the system's trains as safe as is possible. If this thought is kept in mind by each employe and is permitted to exert as it should, a constant and controlling influence over his actions, it is certain to result in greater happiness and greater prosperity for us all.

May I not hope to have during the coming year the hearty and active cooperation of all Baltimore and Ohio system in support of this policy?

(Signed) DANIEL WILLARD.

WEATHER OBSERVATIONS

UNITED STATES WEATHER BUREAU.
Washington, December 31.

Forecast for Wednesday and Thursday: For Maryland, South New England, East New York, East Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and the District of Columbia, cloudy Wednesday; Thursday, fair; moderate southwest winds.

For Western Pennsylvania and Western New York and Ohio, generally fair Wednesday and Thursday; moderate southwest winds.

For Virginia, cloudy Wednesday, preceded by rain in southeast portion; Thursday, fair; light south and southwest winds.

For West Virginia, generally fair Wednesday and Thursday.

For North and South Carolina, cloudy Wednesday, preceded by rain; Thursday, fair; light to moderate variable winds.

Weather Conditions and General Forecast. Pressure is low over North districts and relatively high throughout the South and off the Pacific Coast. This pressure distribution has caused a continuation of moderate temperatures and generally fair weather over the greater part of the United States.

There were, however, rains along the South Atlantic and East Gulf Coasts and on the Pacific Slope.

The indications that the weather will be generally fair Wednesday and Thursday over all districts east of the Rocky Mountains except that there will be rains Wednesday on the South Atlantic Coast. The weather will be unsettled, with local snows Wednesday, followed by fair weather Thursday in the Rocky Mountains and Plateau Regions.

Moderate temperature will continue throughout the country, except in the Northwest States, where it will be colder Thursday.

Storm warnings are displayed on the North Pacific Coast.

The winds along the New England and Middle Atlantic Coast will be moderate southwest; along the South Atlantic and Gulf Coast, light variable; on Lake Michigan, moderate south and southwest.

Steamers departing Wednesday for European ports will have moderate south and southwest winds and cloudy weather to the Grand Banks.

Daily Report.

Custom-house, Baltimore, December 31.

Time.	Thermometer.	Relative Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Velocity of Wind.	Precipitation.	State of Weather.
8 A. M.	34	90	SW.	3	.00	Cloudy
8 P. M.	45	65	S.	3	.00	Cloudy

Normal temperature 34 | Highest temperature.... 48
Mean temperature.. 41 | Lowest temperature.... 34

Maximum velocity of the wind, 12 miles per hour, from the south.

Record of Temperature.

The following table gives the maximum temperature for the past 24 hours at the stations named and the state of the weather at 8 o'clock last night:

Atlantic City, cloudy	38	Montgomery, pt. cldy.	42
Bismarck, clear	24	Montreal, pt. cloudy	34
Boston, cloudy	42	Nantucket, cloudy	40
Buffalo, cloudy	36	New Orleans, clear	48
Charleston, rain	62	New York, cloudy	56
Chicago, clear	38	Oklahoma, clear	36
Cleveland, cloudy	34	Pittsburgh, clear	36
Corpus Christi, clear	48	Philadelphia, cloudy	36
Denver, partly cloudy	18	Portland, Me., clear	40
Detroit, clear	34	Portland, Ore., clear	42
Duluth, clear	20	Providence, cloudy	36
Eastport, clear	38	Quebec, cloudy	30
Galveston, clear	50	Raleigh, rain	48
Green Bay, pt. cloudy	30	Salt Lake City, snow	26
Hatteras, clear	48	San Francisco, cloudy	44
Havre, cloudy	22	St. Louis, clear	40
Helena, cloudy	22	St. Paul, clear	22
Jacksonville, rain	58	Scranton, cloudy	36
Kansas City, clear	36	Shreveport, clear	36
Knoxville, clear	36	Spokane	36
Louisville, cloudy	38	Tampa, cloudy	66
Marquette, cloudy	32	Washington, cloudy	37
Memphis, clear	38	Winnipeg, clear	10

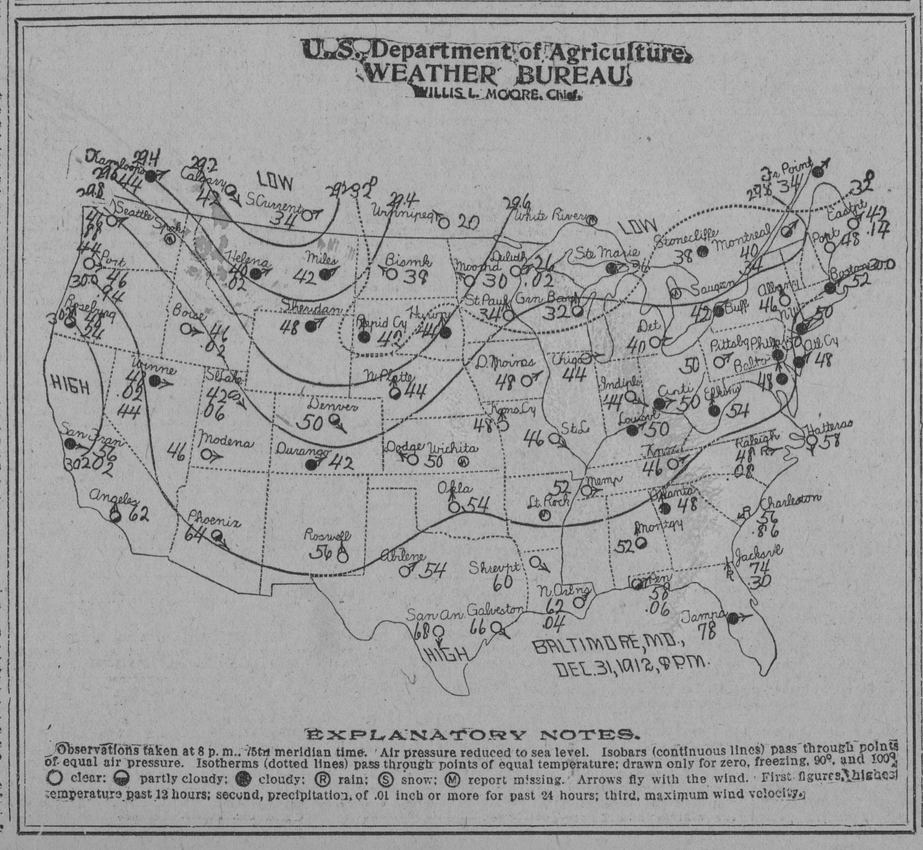
Almanac for Today.

Sun Rises.....7:17 A. M. | Sun Sets.....4:54 P. M.
Moon Rises.....2:18 A. M.

HIGH WATER.

1:02 A. M.....0.8 Foot | 2:15 P. M.....1.2 Feet

[Calculations expressed in Eastern Standard Time.]



EXPLANATORY NOTES.

Observations taken at 8 p. m., 75th meridian time. Air pressure reduced to sea level. Isobars (continuous lines) pass through points of equal air pressure. Isotherms (dotted lines) pass through points of equal temperature; drawn only for zero, freezing, 90°, and 100°. ○ clear; ◒ partly cloudy; ● cloudy; Ⓡ rain; Ⓢ snow; Ⓜ report missing. Arrows fly with the wind. First figures, highest temperature past 12 hours; second, precipitation, of .01 inch or more for past 24 hours; third, maximum wind velocity.

B. & O. PROMOTES THREE OFFICIALS

ANNOUNCED BY THE GENERAL FREIGHT TRAFFIC MANAGER.

H. R. Lewis Made General Freight Agent, to Succeed Late Thomas W. Gallagher—W. R. Askew Will Take His Place—Archibald Fries in Charge of Pittsburgh General Freight Agency.

Three important promotions in the Baltimore and Ohio system were announced yesterday afternoon by General Freight Traffic Manager C. S. Wight.

H. R. Lewis, division freight agent at Baltimore, has been promoted to the office of general freight agent, to succeed Thomas Wheeler Gallegher, who died recently, and W. R. Askew, chief clerk in the local general frieght department, will be advanced to succeed Mr. Lewis. Archibald Fries, assistant general freight agent at Cincinnati, has been promoted to the general freight agency at Pittsburgh, to succeed D. G. Gray, resigned. As general freight agent Mr. Fries will have charge of the Baltimore and Ohio territory in the Pittsburgh district and west of the Ohio River. All of the promotions become effective at once.

Mr. Lewis was born March 25, 1872, at Mattoon, Ill., and entered the service of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad on August 12, 1896, as a clerk in the freight traffic department. He was promoted to chief rate clerk of the general freight department on March 1, 1898, and became chief clerk of that office on February 1, 1907. His appointment as division freight agent at Baltimore became effective April 15, 1912. Mr. Lewis is regarded as a thorough railroad man in every sense of the term, possessing a broad knowledge of the structure of railroad rates and other traffic subjects. He has a wide circle of friends in railroad and other business circles throughout the country.

Mr. Askew, who becomes division freight agent at Baltimore, was born November 20, 1873, at Baltimore. He began his railroad career in January, 1888, as a messenger in the freight offices of the Baltimore and Ohio at Camden Station, Baltimore. Having filled various positions in the general freight department, he became a rate clerk in September, 1899, and chief rate clerk on February 1, 1907. Mr. Askew succeeded H. R. Lewis as chief clerk of the freight department on April 15, 1912, which position he leaves owing to the present promotion.

Mr. Fries first entered the service of the Baltimore and Ohio August 1, 1880, as entry clerk in the general freight offices at Cincinnati. Janury 1, 1886, he was made chief rate clerk, and was advanced to freight and claim clerk of the Continental Line January 1, 1890. January 1, 1892, Mr. Fries was promoted to chief clerk in the general freight offices in Cincinnati, becoming general agent October 15, 1898. On the first of the following year he was again promoted, being made assistant general freight agent.

Money for Chinese Missions.

F. W. Paap, an evangelist of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in this city, has just received word from the General Conference, the headquarters of the denomination in Washington, D. C., that $12,500 has been given through the recent special donation for the building of homes for missionaries in China. The Sabbath-school department, which sent out a call for the donation, had hoped to collect enough to construct nine homes for the workers in the new republic of Asia, and not only will these be built, but also three additional ones.

This money was given in voluntary contributions by members of the Sabbath schools throughout the denomination in the United States and Canada on a particular day set apart for that occasion, and the sum has been forwarded to China where the homes will be put under way the early part of the new year. The local Sabbath school contributed $25 toward the fund.

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