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PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 24, 1903.

Father was a grand old man—when he coughed up the Christmas coin in compelling quantities for the boys' and girls' holiday buying.

Buy Red Cross stamps and help a noble cause that has no limitations of creed or race, but don't put them on as postage. Uncle Sam demands that the conventional postage stamp goes on every letter he carries.

A white Christmas, the Atlanta Journal thinks, is preferable to a blue one, and in this respect Hoke Smith's paper is telling the truth; but the Pensacola Journal does not expect to see either kind in Pensacola.

What a pity that the African Hunter will not be in the country in time to hear the Congressional investigation of this long-protracted row between Ballinger of the Interests and Pinchot of My Policies!

Mr. Roosevelt punctured 6862 skins during his African trip, not to mention the shots that did not hit.—Birmingham Age-Herald.

When! One more undesirable citizen and member of the Ananias club must now be credited to Alabama.

Fyffe, the new chief of police for the Panama canal zone, was a lawyer and a newspaperman for quite a spell, but, better still, he was once a deputy sheriff assigned to the job of quelling the feud fracas in the Breathitt mountains of Kentucky. He'll do!

Twenty-cent cotton? The South doesn't exactly need it on the threshold of this coming year of grace 1910, with more money than at any time since the war; but there's no gainsaying the statement that the South could use even the proceeds of 20-cent cotton.

"Republicans are uneasy about Ohio and Indiana" runs a headline in the Birmingham Age-Herald. Correct; the Ohio situation has for some months been worrying the Taft camp, and Indiana—well, that Hoosier state is always doubtful. Thirty-eight debatable votes in the Middle West is a good beginning for 1912.

In a North Carolina court Mrs. Laughter is suing Dr. Hill because Dr. Hill, she avers, publicly proclaimed his belief that Mrs. Laughter was "hopelessly bughouse." If the plaintiff has so good a case as she tells the newspaper interviewers she has, the ultimate outcome of the litigation will be no laughing matter for the medical man.

"Sunny Jim" is nothing if not forgiving, even unto the limit. For all the president refused to put one of Mr. Sherman's Utica heelers on the Supreme bench, where Judge Lorton is to sit, the former will give his chief a nice little banquet, just to show him, possibly, that the vice-president has no sore spots in memory for the man who turned him down.

The Lakeland Sun is among the papers that recognized the Christmas season by appropriate enlargements and ornamentation. Under the administration of Brother Hetherington this little sheet is climbing higher and higher on the journalistic ladder. The Sun is always full of news and, what is likewise good, the Sun's news is comprehensively written, while the pen which makes the editorial page is clean-cut, fearless and capable.

Jackson and Calhoun counties, two fertile localities that have had inadequate railroad facilities until now, are gratified by the progress of the Marianna & Blountstown railroad, which is about to put on a passenger train to Altha—something that long has been needed. Western Florida is picking up pretty well and the day is not far in the woods when transportation to all its important points will be substantially direct and speedy.

One Way to Boost The Waterways.

The Apalachicola spirit in regard to the Florida division of the inland waterways is the right and at the same time the practical spirit. Acting on the advice of Congressman Mays, the citizens of Apalachicola held a meeting and drew up a memorial to Congress calling attention to the benefits their town and the whole Gulf coast of Florida would derive from the waterways, and this will be sent to Washington in time for the reconvening of the federal lawmakers on Jan. 4.

This is the best way to impress upon the mind of Congress as a whole the demand that given localities make for the deep channel. Every Gulf town near enough to the canal across the Florida peninsula to claim any definite right to consideration in regard to this valuable commercial project would do well to follow the example of Apalachicola, one of the most ambitious small ports in the South.

It will take much more of the rubbing-in process to make the men in Washington realize that Florida, in common with all the Atlantic seaboard and Gulf states, is extremely in earnest about this matter and does not propose to let it drop. The waterway is coming, but it will come sooner, we reason, by virtue of repeated local pushings similar to the one at Apalachicola and likewise a corresponding effort made this month at St. Andrews.

It's hard for sure, this job that "Billy" Loeb is trying, of teaching the New York 400 to be honest about the luxurious stuff they bring over from the other shore.

Cook and Copenhagen; Case Seems Settled.

News dispatches from over the sea seem to indicate at last that Dr. Cook has sorely imposed upon his backer and his friends. He made them for a time believe he had at length completed the first white man's journey to that long-elusive pole and the University of Copenhagen, which was counted a Cook partisan, practically took his word for it and signally honored the explorer before his "proofs" had been submitted for dispassionate scientific analysis; but now that the doctor's Arctic data has been carefully threshed over in detail, it appears to the Copenhagen rector and his able associates, admitted even by Cook's brother to be unpurchasable men, that Cook did not go to the pole. Copenhagen finds that he turned over for his inspection mere records of observations, not proofs of these observations; that the data forwarded by his secretary with so much blare of press agent and elaboration of newspaper puffery, was a mere mass of diary words that might have been written at the north pole or at the south pole, in Copenhagen or in London, in a New York hotel or in the fly of a lecture platform.

There will, beyond question, be much sharp newspaper condemnation of Dr. Cook, and not the whole of this will come from the supporters of Commander Peary, not all of whose friends are caustic or intemperate critics of the man who seems, from the investigations thus far, to have lied so monumentally; but the fairest and at the same time the most logical presentation of the Copenhagen finding that has thus far fallen beneath the eyes of this paper, heretofore a Cook advocate, is that which appears in the editorial columns of the Asheville (N. C.) Citizen, a paper which never knocks and seldom exaggerates. It says:

What the announcement of that tribunal will be accepted as conclusive by the scientific world is another question.

mains to be seen, but the chances are against Dr. Cook at the present time. The Citizen has always been, and is yet, a staunch believer in Dr. Cook, and it will not desert him until the last vestige of truth is stripped from him, if it ever should be. We doubt very much, however, if the undoing of Cook would place the stamp of veracity on Peary's claims. Indeed, the discovery of the north pole should hereafter hold little attraction for explorers, for the reason that such discoverers will be classed as liars and frauds unless they can furnish proofs which to our mind now seem impossible.

The pole searcher of the future will be required to take notaries public along with him, and every latitude crossed will have to be placed on affidavit. That the world should in the future grow skeptical of polar discoveries lies at the door of Lieutenant Peary, for the words "liar," "fraud" and "faker" found ready place in his mouth when he heard of Cook's alleged success.

Peary has quieted down since those days; the disgust of the public was too apparent to be overlooked when he put himself on the level of a cad; but it was his rancorous voice which set the wheels of malice in motion against Cook. What guarantee has the world that Peary is not the cheat and fraud he says Cook is? His chief witness as to his (Peary's) arrival at the pole is a negro. Beyond that it is impossible to go. But backed by all the machinery of the army and navy, Peary was apparently immune from attack, if any had been attempted.

Cook never doubted Peary's claims; at least he never expressed himself, but the word "liar" swept down from the frozen north before Peary had any conception of the nature of Dr. Cook's claims. Cook may later be impeached, but if there had never been any challenger but Peary, the doctor would have been honored by abuse coming from that source.

Our chief disgust with Dr. Cook, however, is the cheap politronery the man showed when, apparently realizing that his story was to be discredited, not only by much of the American and European public but by the very authority in a neutral nation on which he had almost boasted reliance, he packed up his bag and baggage and, without one syllable of explanation or without one whisper of farewell to the man who had supplied him with the sleds of war for his journeys poleward or to the hundreds of loyal sympathizers in this country who had buckled him against the verbal and written onslaughts of his detractors, he beat it out of the country and remained in seclusion on a foreign shore full 30 days before he permitted his whereabouts to be discovered—and then only by an accident.

Some days ago we said, as nearly as we can recall our language on that occasion, that "Dr. Cook must ultimately stand revealed as the greatest fakir or else as the most persecuted great man this continent ever produced." We thought at the time that the latter situation was not only possible but logical; that scientific criticism and newspaper as well as personal attack had broken the man's nervous spirit down and that he had dropped out, health seeking, for a season. Now we doubt it.

The egotism of Commander Peary is as disagreeable to us as it ever has been, and we are not yet by any means persuaded that the Cook and Peary acrimony is anything more than a case of pot and kettle; but we are forced to say that Dr. Cook's unceremonious exodus, after he had earned some hundred thousands of dollars by lecturing and writing about his ostensible polar discovery, looks as though he had deluded himself with the notion that the American people, at least, unable to either prove or disprove his fallacious story, would promptly give the explorer the benefit of the unreasonable doubt and declare him the discoverer of a spot of earth which we are not sure has ever been visited by anybody.

VOX POPULI.

MR. ANDREWS SAYS HE OPPOSED ACCEPTING SEWER

Pensacola, Fla., Dec. 23, 1903. Editor Pensacola Journal. The "sewer matter" is a serious affair for the city, as it is going to be a difficult thing to put it in good condition. I did all I could to keep the council from accepting it when I was a member of that body. I told them of the breaks in the pipe and the rough patches that were put on, and I did not think the work was in condition to be accepted by the city, the report of Mr. Halton to the contrary notwithstanding. Respectfully, J. N. ANDREWS.

BOGALUSA TEAM THE CHAMPIONS OF SOUTH

Editor Pensacola Journal. I am enclosing you several papers on the different games we have won during the season. You will note that we have taken the independent championship of three states, namely, Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi. By defeating the Rooters of New Orleans on Thanksgiving we won the championship of Louisiana outside of the game with L. S. U. the Saturday previous to Thanksgiving the team has not been scored on. All this you understand is just simply explaining why I am sending this request to you.

Our quarterback is a Pensacola boy, and he intends returning home on Christmas, and I think intends trying to play in the game between the alumni of P. H. S. and P. C. S., as he is an old High School man. You will note that the Picayune claims Childers to be one of the best quarterbacks

Angels Sang



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In the South, and the Times-Democrat said that he played all over the L. S. U. quarterback and was far above Tulane's man in that position. By referring to the papers enclosed, you will note that we were considered the strongest independent aggregation in the South, having men on the team that had played with the 'varsity' of several of the largest colleges in the North, so you will readily see that it is a big thing for a Pensacola boy to make this class of team.

Scores of Our Season's Games.

Bogalusa Collegians 12, Rugby Academy 0.

Bogalusa Collegians 15, Tulane Sophomores 0.

Bogalusa Collegians 10, Jackson 0.

Bogalusa Collegians 15, Tigers 0.

Bogalusa Collegians 15, H. S. O. Scored, 108; scored on, 0.

L. S. U. College Team 25, Bogalusa 0 (the only team that scored on us, and we, of course, did not miss ourselves with L. S. U. and Sewanee).

BOGALUSA COLLEGIANS.

Bogalusa, La., Dec. 21, 1903.

The following is one of the articles referred to. It is from the New Orleans Picayune.

The Bogalusa Y. M. C. A. football team defeated the Rooters, of New Orleans, Sunday at Bogalusa, by a score of 11 to 0. The Bogalusa team out-weighted and outclassed the Rooters.

In the first half the Rooters played better ball than they did in the second, although the Bogalusa goal was never in danger at any time, while the ball was in the Rooters' territory throughout the game. Bogalusa, by winning this game wins the independent championship of Louisiana. They also hold the championship of Mississippi, they defeating the Jackson team two weeks ago in Jackson. The Rooters are without doubt the fastest independent light team in New Orleans, they having defeated all of the best and fastest teams throughout the state, and the Bogalusa team deserves a great deal of credit in defeating this team. Sadler and Worth made touchdowns. Gillis kicked one goal.

FLORIDA POLITICS AND POLITICIANS.

"Senatorial Sidelights."

At the historic Leon hotel in Tallahassee there met a few days ago two candidates for the senatorship. They engaged in a rather remarkable exchange of views, considering

"Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men"



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they are candidates for the same office. It is usual for rival candidates to pass only the most perfunctory platitudes when they meet.

But this exchange was different. Mr. L'Engle told Mr. Blount that he was going to use the latter's connection with the Louisville and Nashville railroad against him in the canvass, and Mr. Blount replied that he supposed that Mr. L'Engle would attempt to mislead the people in this manner. Then the conversation turned on more pleasant subjects, being the meagre prospects that Judge Reeves had of capturing the nomination.

Mr. Blount here observed that he understood Judge Reeves was using the same weapon against him.

Mr. L'Engle responded that Judge Reeves should know about it, because Judge Reeves had handled some railroad cases himself. Here Mr. Blount said that this was undoubtedly true, because Judge Reeves had frequently taken cases from him—matters that he (Mr. Blount) had no time for. The incident was humorous. It shows that even the strong fail to get very far above childish weakness and retort.

Mr. Blount, while not admitting that his railroad attorneyship in any manner impeded him to be a representative of the people, does not refrain from thrusting the same imputation at Judge Reeves with the boyish suggestion, "if that upsets me, why he

is in the same boat, and no better."—Miami Metropolis.

Reeves is Confident.

Judge Reeves, one of West Florida's senatorial candidates, has been making a preliminary tour of the state, and reports from points that he has visited state that he has made a very favorable impression. He is an able man and his friends confidently expect him to be a leader in the first primary.—Punta Gorda Herald.

Col. Blount's Pace.

Col. W. A. Blount is now letting the postage stamp convey his messages to the people regarding his candidacy for the United States senate. Other candidates had better get a move on them, or the brilliant Pensacolian will have such a lead on them that they will be unable to overtake him. He is certainly setting the other candidates a hot pace.—Gainesville Sun.

TAMPA'S APPRECIATION.

The Pensacola Journal's Christmas edition was, as was to be expected, a notable newspaper, with the holiday spirit pervading every page and with a number of unusually interesting special features. Articles were contributed by some of the most prominent men in the state, Gov. Gilchrist having a timely expression on the convict camps. The paper was a credit to the able staff of The Journal and the ad-

vertising patronage accorded it speaks well for the enterprise and prosperity of the Pensacola business men.—Tampa Tribune.

PRESS OF SOUTH.

The change in the date of inauguration day has been presented to Congress. This is a much-needed reform and the more easily carried into effect because it will cost nothing but precedent. It is about time that the civilized world shook off the old heathen idea that human sacrifices must accompany every great public ceremony. And inauguration day hath its victims no less than other fatalities of the times.—Baltimore American.

Everybody likes Mr. Taft as a man but as a president he is very much on trial. The public is more doubtful about his measuring up than it was when he entered the White House. He has shown serious signs of weakening in several instances. He has bowed to reactionaries, but has humiliated progressives. He has stood by Loeb in the sugar trust scandal; but he opposes any Congressional investigation of this corruption, the existence of which former Secretary Shaw says was known to himself and preceding secretaries of the treasury. The country is waiting, with growing concern, to see whether President Taft is a progressive or a reactionary.—Norfolk Landmark.

FIRE DAMAGED AN OLD-TIME RESIDENCE

Fire last night at 8:35 o'clock damaged the old-time residence at the foot of Cavallos street formerly occupied by the deceased mayor, Chas. H. Bliss, and now occupied by Mr. Whiddon, the sidewalk contractor. The fire started in the attic and was burning fiercely when the department arrived. Mr. Whiddon was very sick at the time, but the fire was extinguished without the necessity of removing him from the residence. The department was delayed in reaching the scene on account of several streets being opened and impassable.

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Got 'Em Yet?

What? Why, that pair of Shoes or house Slippers for a Christmas Gift. Just think how much more sensible it is to give something that's useful, and a fine pair of Shoes or Slippers are certainly worth while! And it shows real good sense and judgment to get 'em at The Boston.

Then, too, we have ladies' slippers for evening wear, and kid slippers in white, blue and pink at \$3.50 pair, together with Satin Slippers to match your dress. "She" would appreciate a pair of these some.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

BOSTON SHOE STORE
Christmas Shoes.

Beautiful Mission Rockers, weathered oak, leather seat, at \$12 and \$15

We have many very pretty rattan Rockers that ladies especially like. Priced from \$5.00 to \$10.00

Just the thing for "Him."

Handsomeness Davenport Beds, in oak or mahogany finish, best tempered steel springs, leather upholstered, for \$45

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