THE MAN WHO KNEW SANTA CLAUS BEST

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

VISIT FROM ST. NICHOLAS

'Twas the night before Christmas when all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that Saint Nicholas soon would be there.
The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of sugarplums danced through their heads;
And Mama in her kerchief and I in my cap
Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap;
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter
I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash;
The moon on the breast of the new fallen snow
Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below,
When what to my wondering eyes should appear
But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer,
With a little old driver so lively and quick
I knew in a moment it must be Santa Nick.
More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
And he whistled and shouted and called them by name,
"Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer! and Vixen!
On, Comet! on, Cupid! on, Donder and Blitzen!
To the top of the porch! To the top of the wall!
Now dash away! dash away! dash away, all!"
As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly
When they meet with an obstacle mount to the sky,
So up to the housetop the coursers they flew,
With the sleigh full of toys and Saint Nicholas too.
And then in a twinkling I heard on the roof
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof—
As I drew in my head and was turning around,
Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.
He was dressed all in fur from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot.
A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,
And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack;
His eyes—how they twinkled! His dimples, how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!
His droll little mouth was drawn up in a bow,
And the beard on his chin was as white as the snow;
The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath;
He had a broad face, and a little round belly
That shook when he laughed like a bowlful of jelly.
He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself.
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk,
And laying his finger aside of his nose
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose.
He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle;
But I heard him exclaim ere he drove out of sight,
"Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night."

Don't Fail to inspect our large assortment of HOLIDAY GOODS

Gifts suitable for all

Come Now and get First Choice Bring the Children to see the

DOLLS, TOYS Etc Etc

City Store

CHAPPELL & TUNE

Opposite Depot

CHRISTMAS GIFTS THAT MEAN SOMETHING

Whether you spend little or much for Christmas it is important that your gifts have lasting value. You receive a gift or two every year that gives you more pleasure than all the others because of its perfect usefulness. Make all your gifts useful, no matter how low the price. The price of everything in this store makes it a worthy gift, whether the price you pay is large or small. The entire range of your family needs is covered by the articles you find here whether they be big or little.

Here Are A Few Suggestions

For the Best Girl in the World
A Mirror, A Music Cabinet, A Statue, A Rocker, A Dresser, A Pedestal, A Bookcase, A Parlor Table.

For Sister
A Pretty Chair, A Princess Dresser, A Music Cabinet, A Writing Desk, A Book Case, A Rug, A Picture.

For Brother Jack
A Chiffonier, A Morris chair, A Large Rocker, A Chiffonette, A Pipe Rack, A Smoker Stand.

For Mother or Wife
A Comfortable Rocker, A Parlor Stand, A Pedestal, A Library Table, A Music Cabinet, A Buffet, A Dresser, A Kitchen Cabinet, A Davenport, A Carpet Sweeper.

For Father or Husband
A Morris Chair, A Large Leather Rocker, A Smoking Stand, A Chiffonier, An Office Chair.

For Grand Mother
A Jardinier Stand, A Sewing Rocker, A Morris Chair, A Work Table.

For Grand Father
A Large Comfortable Rocker, A Genuine Leather Rocker, A Book Table, A Foot Stool.

For The Kiddies
A Wagon, A Doll Buggy, A Piano, An Auto, A Velocipede, A Tool Chest, A Desk, A Trunk, A Hobby Horse, A Sled.

So many men buy Christmas gifts for their wives here, that we have made a special study of helping men with careful suggestions. Often we can tell you the very article your wife has looked at and wanted. Come in and examine the hundreds of beautiful and useful gifts we have for the entire family.

TAYLOR & HOWE,

The Men's Store Is The Proper Place To Find His Gift

As we have made a carful study of what a man wants, and selected our Holiday goods accordingly. Below will be found a few suggestions:

Christmas Clothes

How about Father, Son, Brother or Cousin—or a friend—wouldn't he appreciate a good serviceable Suit or Overcoat?

Probably you do not know his size. That makes no difference. Even tho he does not like the style or design, he can have it changed.

Try it for this Christmas

$10 to $25

Christmas Suggestions

Suits, Overcoats, Raincoats, Sweaters, Smoking Jackets, Bath Robes, Fancy and Dress Vests Umbrellas, Canes, Gloves, Handkerchiefs, Neckwear, Underwear, Hats, Caps, Shirts, Pajamas, Silk Socks, Combination Sets, Stick Pins, Cuff Buttons and Everything a Man Wears.

50c. and Up

ROSS & FREY

THE CARLISLE MERCURY.

ESTABLISHED 1867--OLDEST NEWSPAPER IN NICHOLAS COUNTY

VOL. XLIX CARLISLE, NICHOLAS COUNTY, KENTUCKY, THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 1914. EIGHT PAGES—NO 1

COMMENT.

The present session of the State Legislature promises to be a most interesting one. There is much work to be done, many knotty problems to be met and solved. Chief of these, probably, is the enormous deficit which burdens the Commonwealth. Whether this unfortunate debt has been the logical outgrowth of our antiquated system of taxation, or whether the creation of a multiplicity of offices is responsible is to be determined. Both, we believe, were contributory causes, which may be removed, in a measure, by thoughtful legislation.

* * *

Whether it be just or not, much blame for the condition of the State's finances is being laid at the doors of the present Administration. It would be well for the Democratic members to bear this in mind throughout the session, giving their best thought and energies to the formulation of economic measures, the accomplishment of which will serve party and State alike, minus the claims of extravagance being made by the opposition and destroy the only available "thunder" of the Republicans.

* * *

At the risk of being deemed a "calamity howler" we predict that any failure of the Democratic Legislature to accomplish needed reforms will make rough sledding for the party in the next gubernatorial race. We hope that every member, regardless of party, will realize his responsibility to the State; we trust that every Democratic member will rise first, to promulgate wise legislation; he will be serving the Commonwealth and his party as well.

* * *

Lexington is suffering from a nickel famine. "The reason given at the banks for the shortage of nickels," says the Lexington Leader, "is that they are being saved up for Christmas and Santa Claus contributions." We should like to see that bunch of white-aproned dispensers of the foaming Lager corralled in a Sunday School.

* * *

The "waterwagon" with the S.H.O. sign out leaves countless cities and hamlets this morning on its annual trip. Like W. W., is a splendid vehicle though the riding is sometimes rough and a majority of the occupants show a distressing tendency to fall off and get all tangled up in the running gear before the first milestone is reached.

* * *

We surmise that it was not the "runs" words that President Wilson and Secretary Daniels objected to in the Carabao song, but the fact that the gallant defenders of our country should be guilty of such wasteful prodigality as firing at a whole broadside of the choicest expletive in the English language in one line.

* * *

We never will believe that a gift's foot is as bony as a thin black hose makes it look—Bath County World. Information gathered from a trip to the seashore or shoe store, Brother Nelson? Or do the maidens of Sharpsburg dip it in their sock feet this frosty weather.

* * *

That one-inch-ad-dollar-contract Lexington advertiser has been sending out more "grasshopper" advertising to the country papers, proceeding on the theory, doubtless, that Christmas is the time of giving.

* * *

The trouble with swearing off smoking today is that it will take a month of over-doing it to make up for the two score of abstemiousness you endured January first and second.

* * *

The weight limit on parcel post packages will be increased today in the first and second zones from twenty to fifty pounds, and in the remaining zones from eleven to twenty pounds.

* * *

An organization "for the suppression of atrocious manners of men" has been organized by young women at Butler College, Indiana. Oh, slush! Likewise, piffle!

* * *

The "cool gray dawn of the morning after" is often more effective in producing temporary Christians than is a big revival!

* * *

1913 was a "hoodoo" year in many ways. Here's looking at you, 1914!

BUILD NEW LINE

SOUTHERN MAY BUILD SHORT LINE RAILROAD TO ELKHORN COAL FIELDS.

Plans For Other Roads Through Pike and Letcher Counties Said To Be Well Under Way.

Western Newspaper Union News Service

Whitesburg, Ky.—The announcement of an important short line railroad to penetrate into the Elkhorn and Boone's Fork coal fields of this county it has just been made by the latter state owned and operated by the Southern Railway terminating at Norton in the coal fields of Virginia. The extension as announced will pass through the headwaters of Goose Creek and the Pound river important coal and timber districts of Wise county, following the route of the Indian creek and Pound river road in part of the distance, and so get through Pound Gap on the border into Kentucky. It will be about twenty-five miles long, and from a coal and timber standpoint will be an important line. Several years ago upon the completion of the road into Norton a suit was brought against it by the Louisville & Nashville and Norfolk & Western over rights of way, over wise the road would have been extended into the coal fields of this county at that time. The construction of the road will be started within the next sixty days. Ample capital is behind the road to make the extension come up.

Close upon this announcement comes a reliable report from a syndicate at Baltimore headed by John T. McGraw of his intention of building a line of railroad from Booneville, W. Va., through the coal fields of Pike county into Letcher county, a distance of about seventy-six miles, connecting on Elkhorn with the Baltimore & Ohio Sandy Valley and Elkhorn road, which will be an important line from a coal and timber standpoint. The Baltimore syndicate is said to have acquired some rich coal properties in Pike and Letcher counties, and immediately gave out the information that they would build a line into the property. The survey of the new road is being rushed, with the task of a permanent log at the Baltimore & Ohio along Sandy Valley and Elkhorn, and the Chesapeake & Ohio is surveyed, and it is said that preparations are being made for the early construction of the road. It is also said that the Sandy Valley coal tonnage of the Upper Big Sandy river and its tributaries.

ABANDON COUNTRY BUSINESS.

Hopkinsville, Ky.—As a result of the decision of the highest court of appeals, affirming the Christian county court in declaring that Charles Todd Telephone Co. must purchase a franchise to continue business outside of the towns in which it holds franchises the company may abandon its country business, which it is said has never been profitable. This statement is made on authority of a high official of the telephone company. The plan may be adopted of requiring the county lines, which it is said are owned for the most part by farmers to pay for connection with the town's exchanges. It is said that the poles, wires and other paraphernalia of the country lines will be confared at a figure approximating cost of the farmers' subscription.

WILL BE ADVISORY COUNSEL.

Louisville, Ky.—The law firm of Hines & Norman will be dissolved January 1, and E. W. Hines, senior member of the firm will accept a position with the Interstate Commerce Commission as an attorney. The position is a newly created one by reason of the large duties and powers conferred on the commission by recent enactments. The commission is overwhelmed with work and is in need of additional assistance. Hines will act in an advisory capacity and will do much investigating of large cases.

EDITOR'S WIDOW WINS SUIT.

Lexington, Ky.—The suit brought by Mrs. Anna Trout Bristow, widow of Samuel Judson Roberts, editor of the Lexington Leader, to recover on an accident policy her husband held in the Fidelity and Casualty Co., has been decided in favor of Mrs. Roberts receiving practically the full amount she claimed, $5,000. Roberts' death was due to blood poison following an injury in cutting a toe nail.

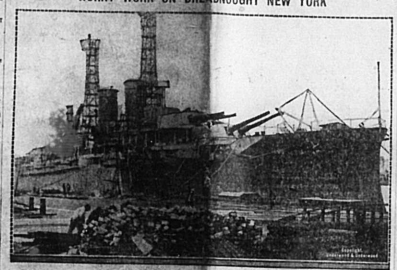
CLEARINGS SHOW INCREASE.

Paducah, Ky.—Clearings of five local banks for the year ending 1913 are $6,231,281.81, an increase of $6,807,081 over 1912, or an average increase of $128,021 each week over 1912. The 1912 increase over 1911 was $1,230,651.

ADDRESSES INDIANA BREEDERS.

Louisville, Ky.—Abram Renick, of Kentucky, general manager of the American Shorthorn Breeders' Association, will make the principal address at the annual meeting of the Indiana Shorthorn Breeders' association, in agricultural hall, Purdue university, Wednesday evening, January 14. At the same hour the annual meetings of the Angus and Hereford breeders' associations will be held, each addressed by persons prominent in the breeding industry of the state.

HURRY WORK ON DREADNOUGHT NEW YORK



The Dreadnought New York, now in the Brooklyn navy yard, New York, which is being rushed to readiness for any possible trouble with Mexico. The New York was launched October 30, 1912. The 14-inch guns which she will carry are the largest guns carried by any of our fighting fleet. Her dimensions are 562 feet length on water line, 95 feet 3½ inches beam, and her displacement is 27,000 tons. She has a speed of 21 knots, and 61 officers and a crew of 1,000 men are necessary to man her.

Daugherty Lodge Installs Officers For 1914

The installation of officers at Daugherty Lodge F. & A. M. was held the past week. The following Master, Mr. Howard Veech, was presented with a handsome watch charm by the lodge. The installation ceremonies were in charge of Ex-Grand Master Dan K. Veech. The following were installed:

W. T. Morton, W. M.
U. M. Swinford, S. W.
Perry McClanahan, J. W.
James Dudley, Treas.
L. S. Hinkle, Sec'y.
W. G. Cifford, Chaplin
Howard Veech, Master.
H. C. Norton, J. D.
N. EEron and Herman Cheatham, Stewards.
J. A. Day, Tyler.

Craycraft Lodge, No. 65, F. & A. M. elected the following officers, Dec 27:

Sherman J. Fryman, W. M.
J. Luther Mastin, S. W.
M. Dora Ward, J. W.
John H. Florence, Sec'y.
John W. Harding, Treas.
Dr. J. F. Wyatt, S. D.
Dow McCauley, J. D.
W. Sherman Harney, Tyler
T. S. Wagoner and John Gilvin, Stewards.
D. E. McCauley, Chaplain
Otis McCauley, Marshal.

Novel Feature At Beef Cattle Meeting

A novel feature will be introduced at the annual meeting of the Kentucky Cattle Association, which will be held at Elmendorf January 16. On this occasion a prime steer and a common, rough steer will be judged on the block, after which they will be slaughtered and a comparison made of the carcasses, as well as a comparison made of the wholesale cuts of meat from these steers. Professor Louis D. Hall, of the Illinois Experiment Station, will carry on this demonstration. Prof. Hall attended the entire time at the Illinois College of Agriculture in investigating and teaching the subject of meat, and he is recognized as an authority on this subject. His writings along this line have been extensive.

Mr. Charles H. Berryman, manager of Elmendorf, purchased one of the finest steers at the International Live Stock Exposition and will provide the suitable steer to represent this grade. Dr. Joseph H. Kastle, director of the experiment station will give a fitting piece to the farmer who comes the nearest to estimating the average percentage of meat these steers will dress out.—Lexington Herald.

Value of L. & N. Franchise Fixed By State Board

Frankfort, Ky., December 29.—The value of the franchise of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company for taxation in Kentucky for 1913 was made final today by the Board of Valuation and Assessment at $45,650,650. To this sum must be added $9,500,772, the value of the tangible property, making $75,189,422 the total assessed value, which is by far most of the actual value of the road in Kentucky, which is $94,500,000. This is a boost of $1,600,000 over last year.

Postoffice Receipts Largest In History Of Carlisle

250 sacks of parcel post matter were sent out from the local postoffice Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Over 200 sacks were received at the office.

Four carriers made 23 deliveries on Christmas day.

The receipts at the Carlisle postoffice for December were the largest that have ever been known in the history of the local office. Patrons are wondering at the number of the parcel post, and the rapid [illegible] gone into effect. Harold [illegible] weight limit from 20 to 50 pounds, [illegible] the first [illegible] materially increase the [illegible]

P. O. Department Self-Supporting For First Time

The official report of Postmaster General Burleson for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1913, has just been issued.

For the first time in thirty years the Postoffice Department's audited expenditures and receipts for the year show an actual surplus of over $4,500,000. This is the fact that caused Mr. Burleson more real joy than any fact he set forth. After a long struggle, made by both Democrats and Republicans, to put the Postoffice Department on a self-sustaining basis, Mr. Burleson reports at the end of the first year of his incumbency that the department is not only paying its expenses, but is making money.

"The dominant policy of the present administration," continues the Postmaster General, "will be to conduct the postal service for the convenience of the public and not for profit."

The most interesting paragraphs of Mr. Burleson's report perhaps relate to the parcel post system, which has revolutionized the method of handling express companies almost out of business so far as the handling of small packages is concerned.

On January 1, 1913, the system was inaugurated and in the first six months of its life approximately 300,000,000 parcels were handled.

Ex-Nicholas Boy Accidently Shot By Playmate

The Turon Weekly of Turon, Kansas, under the date of December 25th gives the following account of the accidental shooting of Harold Talbert, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Talbert, formerly of Carlisle:

"One of the saddest accidents that ever happened in Turon vicinity was last Tuesday morning when little Hubert Forsey accidently shot Harold Talbert. Hubert had spent Monday night with the Talbert boys and Tuesday morning they were playing with an "unloaded 22 rifle," taking turns pointing, but not supposing it at all dangerous. Harold was standing [illegible] three times at Hubert, when Hubert took the gun and snapped at Harold.

To the child's horror and the sorrow of the entire community the gun fired and Harold fell prostrate on the floor.

The ball took effect in the right corner of the left eyebrow and burned an almost straight course toward the back of the head.

The doctor's probed something more than two inches for the bullet but failed to locate it.

We are sorry to report that at present writing it seems the chances are against Harold's recovery.

The Press extends sympathy to the bereaved family."

The latest report says he is still living but with slight chances for recovery.

Beckham Resigns His Position With The L. & N.

Frankfort, Ky., December 29.—Former Governor J. C. W. Beckham, candidate for the Democratic nomination for United States Senator in the August primary election, will never be connection with the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company. His resignation to on January 1. Guy H. Briggs, of Louisville, attorney for the Central Kentucky Traction Company and other public service corporations, will succeed the firm of McQuown & Beckham as representatives of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company in Franklin County.

1913 Breaks Record For Bumper Crop

Washington, December 29.—All past records in crops have been exceeded by 1913, according to the annual crop report of the Department of Agriculture today. The total commodity production value of American farms is set ahead at $5,320,000,000. This is nearly $500,000,000 more than the crop value for 1912, itself a record year. Of this huge sum products of the soil amounted to $6,103,000,000, while the total farm values of live stock amounted to $1,650,000,000.

CANNIBALS DEVOUR 16 PERSONS.

Brisbane, Australia.—Cannibals in Bougainville-kleinburg, an island in the Bismarck archipelago, captured and massacred Dr. Behrigor and another German scientists, together with 14 natives who accompanied them. The camp of the scientists was attacked and the 16 men captured. All were marched to the village occupied by the cannibals, and were murdered one by one. Before the slaughter the prisoners were tortured, and fires were built under huge pots, allowing the prisoners to see what was in store for them.

HASTEN THE REALIZATION OF AUTOMOBILE PLEASURES

NEW IN NEWSPAPER GAME

Progressive Young Kentuckian Quits Mercantile Business and Buys the Franklin Favorite.

Franklin, Ky.—In producing the likeness of Nall La Rue, owner and editor of the Franklin Favorite, a new face is placed in the gallery of newspaper men, his first publication making its appearance in September, when he purchased the plant subsequent to the death of its former owner, S. Walker Bryan. Prior to that time Mr. La Rue, who is a native of Franklin, was engaged in the mercantile business, be-

Nall La Rue, of Franklin, Ky.

ing secretary and treasurer of La Rue Malone & Durham, clothiers and furnishers.

Mr. La Rue is among the progressive young business men, having been successful in all his former business undertakings, and in acquiring the Favorite, one of the oldest publications and best advertising mediums in Southern Kentucky, we can see nothing in store for him but continued success.

HEAVY COAL TRAFFIC

L. & N. May Double-track Entire Cumberland Valley Division.

Barbourville, Ky.—It is reported that the Louisville & Nashville railroad is considering estimates on the cost of double-tracking the entire Cumberland Valley division, due to the heavy coal traffic that has grown up in the new Harlan county field in the last year. The Harlan mines, although most of them are new, are averaging an output of 160 cars of coal daily. This large amount is said to be giving the operating department of the L. & N. much trouble to handle. About 600 cars of coal daily are passing this point bound for Corbin, where they are transferred for movement north or south. This great growth in coal traffic is not only fating the motive power of the L. & N. but it is interfering with the speed of passenger trains.

It is likely that the work of double-tracking the division will begin next spring. Nearly all the increase in this coal traffic comes from the new fields in Harlan field, and the double-track miles have been maintaining a large output.

CONGRESSMAN'S EXPERIENCE.

Winchester, Ky.—A thrilling escape from death was experienced in this city by Congressman Flats J. Garrett, of the Ninth Tennessee district. Congressman Garrett was en route from Washington to his home in Dresden, Tenn. He got off the train in this city to send some telegrams. When he came out of the station the train had started. Mr. Garrett ran a record sprint distance and was able to catch on the railing of the rear coach, which he swung, by one hand. He was dragged past Main street.

KENTUCKY TO BE REPRESENTED

Lexington, Ky.—The Kentucky Conference of Seventh Day Adventists will be well represented at the biennial session of the Southern Union conference which will be held in Nashville, Tenn., January 1 to 11. Elder B. W. Brown, of Louisville, president of the conference, will head the Kentucky delegation, which will be composed of practically all of the clergymen and Bible teachers of the church.

Difference.

To men a man pretends he is a fellow; to women what a bad man he is.

Send in your nomination today so it can be published in next week's issue. Special prizes offered for the best work up until January 17. Be a hustler and win a prize.

AMBITION WILL DRIVE A FORD HOME FOR YOU

Read full explanation of the contest on back page this issue, then send your name in so we can send you the necessary supplies. See the list of magnificent prizes.

Already the MERCURY'S big subscription campaign is making a decided hit. Several nominations have already come in and we expect to receive before next week's paper goes to press. Next week we will publish the list of those nominated and send the necessary supplies to those who have requested them. From the way nominations are coming in we are under the impression that we will have a pretty large list of names to publish next week, but we know by experience that not every one we send at them will start and that there will not be more than six or seven who will stay until the finish.

The first prize is a dandy, and a little more than a dandy, when you are thinking it over that there's going to be six grand prizes, and that every candidate who stays to the finish and does not win a prize will get ten per cent of the amount he or she has turned in. You absolutely cannot lose on this proposition. You are assured of compensation for your time. We have explained everything pretty well in our display advertisement on the back page of this issue. Read it over carefully and then send in your nomination.

THE PRIZES

For first prize, as you all know by this time, is a four 1914 model five passenger, fully equipped Ford touring car. We don't have to go into detail regarding the Ford, because everyone knows of its excellent qualities. Suffice it to say that the Ford will go any place that other, and more expensive, cars will go, and get there just as quick, too. We purchased our first prize of The Carlisle Auto Co., THE FORD MEN, of this county.

For second prize we are going to award a beautiful diamond ring. This is something that most everybody wants and good reason they have for wanting one. Diamonds are steadily increasing in value and are generally conceded a good investment.

Our third prize is a scholarship in one of the leading business colleges in Kentucky.

Our fourth, fifth and sixth grand prizes will be three beautiful gold watches, either lady's or gent's. These watches will be on display very soon in one of the jewelry stores in Carlisle.

Other prizes will also be awarded and every candidate who does not win a prize will receive ten per cent commission on the amount turned in by them, providingthey make a cash report each week during the contest.

You could hardly ask for a fairer proposition than we are offering, so get busy with that nomination blank right now and let your name be among the nominees in next week's issue. You want an automobile, and here is your chance to get one.