

ESTABLISHED 1861.

## HORROR OF STARVATION AND FEAR OF GREAT PESTILENCE ADD TO THE TERRIFYING SPECTACLE OF DEATH IN ITALY

### BANKS ARE PROSPEROUS

Dividend Checks Are Mailed to Shareholders of Institutions.

### SURPLUS FUNDS GROW

Deposits Are Also Greater Than They Were This Time Last Year.

The various banks of the city have closed the year's business, which has been the best within local banking history and is an emphasis of the constant growth of the community. With the ushering in of new year the bank shareholders will receive dividend checks with best wishes from the officials of the banks.

The Merchants National Bank declared two dividends during the year of four percent each and added \$17,500 to the surplus fund, besides placing a like sum of undivided profits. The deposits at this time show an increase of \$75,000 over the same time last year and the business of the bank is in fine shape. The year was a good one for the Merchants and bank officials and shareholders are pleased.

Two dividends of three percent each were declared by the Empire National Bank \$10,000 was added to the surplus fund for the year. The deposits increased \$150,000 over last year and the year is ending in the best in the five years' history of the institution. All connected with and interested in the bank are highly gratified over the splendid patronage and the progress made.

The Union National Bank declared two dividends during the year after declaring two semi-annual dividends of three percent each and placed about \$175,000 of undivided profits. The deposits at this time are \$100,000 more than at the end of last year. The business of the year has been highly satisfactory and the Union is proud of the record made.

The West Virginia Bank declared the usual dividend and carried a substantial amount to its surplus account. There has been a pleasing increase of business there and the year's record shows an increased business to an extent that establishes the fact that that institution is sharing in the growth of the city.

The Lowndes Savings Bank & Trust Company has lost none of its popularity for savings deposits as its ledgers show and business there is growing constantly. It is one of the most popular and best paying financial institutions in the city.

The Farmers Bank declared an annual dividend of 6 percent and its net earnings for the year were nearly 14 percent, which amount was added to the surplus fund. The year has been highly successful there and the bank officials and stockholders are gratified.

The Home Bank for Savings, though but three years old, is going along nicely under excellent management, and during the year declared two dividends of three percent each and added twenty percent of its earnings to the surplus fund. The year ending in the best in its history.

### NEW CONSTABLE

Will Enter Upon His Official Duties in the City Tomorrow.

Marcellus McClung, constable-elect in Coal district, will enter upon his duties as constable tomorrow. Mr. McClung has served in that capacity before and his experience will serve him well. Besides giving his attention to his official duties as constable he will make a specialty of collections.

Mrs. Bias and daughter, Goldie, of Huntington, who have been the guests of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Parrish for the past few days returned home this morning.

Mrs. Samuel B. Sullis is here from Parkersburg visiting friends.

Lloyd Duff is here from Pine Grove on business.

Samuel Pittro, of Wilsonburg, spent Thursday here.

A. L. Husband, of Sardis, was here Thursday.

Deputy Sheriff W. E. Leonard, of Salem, spent Thursday in the city.

W. A. Meredith, editor of the Salem Herald, was here today from Salem.

T. J. Parrish went to Pittsburgh Wednesday.

### TAFT WITHDRAWS FROM OHIO RACE

In Favor of Congressman Burton for the United States Senatorship.

COLEMBUS, O., Dec. 31—Announcement was made today from his headquarters that Charles P. Taft has withdrawn from the senatorial race in favor of Burton.

Senator Foraker at noon today issued a statement formally withdrawing from the senatorial fight.

### NEW OFFICIALS

Will Enter Upon the Discharge of Their Duties Tomorrow Morning.

There will be several changes in the offices at the court house tomorrow morning, as that is the time all county officers-elect enter upon their duties.

Homer W. Williams will retire as circuit clerk and be succeeded by I. Wade Coffman. Sheriff John M. Flanigan will retire and be succeeded by Michael J. Francis. Jefferson D. Bessel as a member of the county court will be succeeded by John B. Strother. Guy Tretick will continue as county clerk and Will E. Morris as prosecuting attorney.

### BRILLIANT COACH

Is Secured by the Marcato Musical Club for the "Geisha" Play.

The success of the "Geisha," which will be presented at the opera house here probably the nights of January 11 and 12, under the auspices of the Marcato Musical club, is assured by the fact that Donald McDonald, of New York, has been secured to put the piece on. Mr. McDonald arrived here last night from Detroit, where he was successfully engaged in coaching a performance, and entered upon his duties in the city at once. At tonight's rehearsal of the play by the exceptional local talent engaged in it, Mr. McDonald will be present and give directions.

Mr. MacDonald is one of the most brilliant young dramatic coaches of the country. He has risen very rapidly in his profession in the three years in which he has been before the public. He was graduated from the Stanhope Whatecroft Dramatic School with first honors in his class and his professional life since then has been signally successful. The procurement of his services is regarded fortunate by the members of the Marcato club.

### DIES SUDDENLY

Father of Carlton Smith of This City Expires at Belpre, O.

John H. Smith, one of the best known citizens of Belpre, O., died quite suddenly last night at his home. Death was due to neuralgia of the heart. The deceased was 62 years of age and had lived in Belpre for the last sixteen years.

Mr. Smith is survived by his wife, two daughters, Mrs. Walter E. Riblett and Mrs. H. S. Curtis, both of Belpre, and one son, Will Carlton Smith, of Clarksburg.

The funeral was held this afternoon at 2 o'clock and interment was in the Rockland cemetery.

### WEDDING AT ELKINS

ELKINS, Dec. 31—Miss Mary Rose Kople, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kople, and Mr. Goldie Edward Bringer, were united in marriage at St. Brendan's Catholic church at 8 o'clock Tuesday. Rev. Father John Daily officiating.

J. W. Wheeler was here Thursday from Parkersburg looking after business.

T. S. Haymond was here today from Fairmont on business.

General W. W. Scott of the West Virginia national guard, was a prominent visitor here today, enroute from Parkersburg to Washington, where he holds a government position.

### Burton

Is Now Unanimously Decided On for the United States Senatorship.

COLEMBUS, O., Dec. 31—Congressman Burton was decided upon today as the next United States senator from Ohio.

Charles P. Taft, Burton's most formidable opponent, withdrew from the race during the forenoon, and ex-Senator Foraker issued a statement later admitting for the first time since the attacks made upon him during the recent national campaign, that his defeat for re-election was certain. All minor candidates have either withdrawn already or will get out of the race during the afternoon so that the naming of Burton in the party caucus will be but a formality.

The end of the stirring campaign came suddenly. The beginning of the end was forecasted with the return from Augusta, Ga., yesterday of Wade H. Ellis, who had been sent by supporters of Editor Taft as an emissary to the President-elect.

Following a conference with Ellis, in which the President-elect's wishes were outlined, Taft sought a conference with Burton and it was held last night.

An agreement was reached whereby Taft withdraws the strength of the Hamilton county delegation which was the backbone of Taft, to be delivered to Burton.

By the terms of the settlement it is said Taft will remain in virtual control of the state Republican organization and have the united support of the party for the senatorship in 1911, if he desires to become a candidate at that time.

The federal and state patronage will be divided. The election of Burton, it is said, will eliminate both Senator Dick and Myron T. Herrick from the 1911 senatorial situation. Foraker may again oppose Taft in 1911 but some political leaders here are inclined to interpret Foraker's statement issued today as in the nature of a valedictory.

### ALMOST FINISHED

Within Less Than Fifteen Days the Last Rail Will Be Laid.

BLUEFIELD, Dec. 31—In less than fifteen days the Virginian railway will be finished. According to the present plans and the promises of the contractors the railroad will be ready to carry passengers and freight from Deepwater to Norfolk by the 12th of January. On that day the last rail on the New River bridge will be laid and trains will be able to make the trip. A big celebration is planned for Norfolk on that day and Roanoke will have a celebration in a smaller way.

### NEW STATE PATENTS

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 31—Patents issued: W. L. Collins, Calro-swingle tree; B. O. Coach, Charleston, and C. A. Cabell, Carbon, loading device; A. Nordun, Gassaway, current motor; E. H. Smith, Ceredo, can opener; A. Palmros, Fairmont, trolley switch; H. Walker, Sistersville, music roll perforating mechanism.

### OPERATION SUCCESSFUL

Jackson Fletcher, of Lynch, who was operated on for appendicitis recently in a local hospital, has returned to his home, the operation having been successful.

### ONE ELECTED.

The Woodmen of the World at their meeting last night elected Hunter Parker to membership. They will install officers next Wednesday night.

Clifford Hill will go to Steubenville shortly to make an extended visit.

Allen D. Fitzhugh was here last night from Bridgeport on business.

C. L. Felton is here from Parkersburg, representing Smoot's advertising agency.

Mrs. George T. Porter, of Washington, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. Lowndes, returned home Wednesday morning.

### BIG VESSELS TO THE SCENE

An Army of Twenty-Five Thousand Needed to Care for Living.

### CLAMORING FOR FOOD

Shelter and Medical Attention Are Countless Thousands of People.

ROME, Italy, Dec. 31—Slowly the measure of the disaster that depopulated Calabria and eastern Sicily is being taken and as the reports accumulate it is seen that the first estimates did not exaggerate the extent and horror of the situation.

An official estimate places the dead at 115,000, but there is reason to believe this may be greatly exceeded.

Today the pitiable plight of the survivors claims universal attention. Relief for their suffering calls for the concentrated efforts of all Nations.

Countless thousands of half-decimated, naked and starving survivors, some wounded and some injured, are crying piteously for food, water, clothing, shelter and medical attention.

### No News From Americans

No news has yet been received of any Americans though there have been some in the devastated district.

It is estimated that 100,000 people fled from the desolated territory in fear of further convulsions.

It is declared an army of twenty-five thousand men will be needed to rescue the living who are still entrapped in the ruins and to bury the dead.

At Reggio the bodies of persons killed are being burned and strong disinfectants are being strewn among the ruins of the city as a precautionary measure against an outbreak of pestilence. Troops are baking bread in the streets for the hungry.

ROME, Dec. 31—To the terrifying spectacle of death caused by Monday's earthquake now have been added the horror of starvation and the fear of a spread of pestilence.

In the ruins of Messina, Reggio and various towns in Sicily and Calabria lie the bodies of the dead which it is impossible to extricate, while every where thousands of homeless and hungry persons through the littered thoroughfares.

Troops are distributing rations to starving people to the utmost limit of their resources.

As yet it is impossible to obtain any news of the fate of little villages along the coast, many of which it is believed were entirely wiped out. The king and queen of Italy visited both Messina and Reggio and their coming aroused widespread enthusiasm.

The waters of the Strait of Messina are covered with floating bodies of men, animals and all kinds of wreckage. The shores of the strait are completely transformed in appearance.

### Battleships to Rescue.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 31—The matter of dispatching the sixteen battleships now making their way through the Red Sea to Messina and other Italian ports on a mission of mercy is under consideration by the American government.

The warships should arrive at Port Said by Sunday and by that time it is expected a decision to favor such employment will be reached.

### TRIAL THIS AFTERNOON.

The trial of Charley Black of the Reynolds addition, charged with stealing turkeys from Hugh Lyon, near Hepzibah, a few days ago, is set for Thursday afternoon, before Magistrate P. M. Long. A number of witnesses have been summoned and the trial promises to be interesting.

Ernest Harden, of Fairmont, visited friends in the city Wednesday evening.

Col. Thomas H. Miles, of Greenville, S. C., is spending the holidays with his sister, Mrs. J. W. Traver, 182 Steel street. Col. Miles is a great admirer of President-elect Taft and says he will accomplish greater things for his party in the South than any president heretofore elected.

### ALABAMA SALOONS PLACED UNDER BAN

### Religious

Tolerance in Prussia is Both a Political and Economic Necessity.

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 31—Prof. O. H. Richardson, of Yale University, before the American Historical Association, discussed "Religious Tolerance in Brandenburg, Prussia, under the Great Elector and its Material Rewards."

"In the development of the Prussian state," said Mr. Richardson, "religious tolerance was both a political and economic necessity. Annexations of territory and their assimilation would have been impossible without it; it alone rendered feasible that policy of inner colonization which became in such abundant measure the source of the material power of the state through increase of population and the development of agriculture, industry and commerce. The total result was increased political power. The adoption of the Reformed creed by the Electors is the decisive factor in this evolution; for it alone insured the employment of permanence of a tolerating policy. The Great Elector is the central figure, for he became the founder of the tolerating state, thereby securing for all time the possibility of the colonizing policy, and he gave the initial impetus to that great movement."

The first part of the paper, based upon private correspondence and official documents of various kinds, discussed the fundamental principles of the Great Elector's ecclesiastical policy at home and abroad, with particular reference to the establishment of religious toleration and its relation to the introduction of the religiously oppressed as colonists. The second part of the paper, was devoted to the effect of inner colonization upon population and the development of political greatness. The contrast between the tolerant policy of Brandenburg and the intolerant policy of Catholic Austria and Lutheran Saxony led, through inner colonization, to a disproportionate increase of the power of their tolerant rival.

Historical development and the development of inner colonization follow the same line. Vital statistics, comparing the relative rates of increase of population in Saxony, Hannover and Brandenburg-Prussia, were cited to show this. The concluding portion of the paper, based upon unpublished manuscripts in the Goelheim Staats Archiv in Berlin, dealt with a little-known attempt to introduce colonists from England in 1684-5. It is a signal failure, it yet illustrates colonizing methods and the nature of the material rewards which were expected to occur from the colonizing process.

The affair presented also exceptional features; it represented an attempt to make inner colonization, through the agency of English "interlopers," tributary to foreign colonization, through the establishment of a Brandenburg East India Company. Sympathy for the oppressed was an unimportant factor, and in the background a sinister intrigue with the partisans of Minmouth may be dimly seen.

### MORE PLANTS WILL RESUME

MORGANTOWN, Dec. 31—Three window glass plants, one at Maumee, O., another at Licking, O., and the third in Point Marion, have signed the scale. The plant of the Point Marion Window Glass Company goes in operation tomorrow.

### COUNTY COURT

Holds a Session Today and Grants a Number of Licenses.

The county court held a session today.

H. H. Evans was granted a pool room license at Shinnston.

A license for a pool room and lunch room at Wallace was granted to Frank Wilkins.

Sam Kikel was granted a license to conduct a pool room in Industrial.

Joe Fernandez got a license to run a pool room in Gansselle.

After This Midnight There Will Be State-Wide Prohibition in Alabama.

MOBILE, Ala., Dec. 31—At 12 o'clock tonight all the saloons in the State of Alabama will be placed under the ban and after that hour it will be against the law to sell liquor in the State.

### WHITE QUITS

As Tax Commissioner and Townsend is Now in Charge of Office.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 31—State Tax Commissioner White, who has been here a couple of days this week has closed up the affairs of his office and left for Parkersburg. His successor, who will be Mr. T. C. Townsend, it is understood will be appointed and qualify January 1, on which date Mr. White's connection with the office ceases.

Mr. White has virtually been a resident of Charleston seven years considerably over a year of which time he held an important position in business life in one of the great financial institutions of the State. Four years he spent here as governor, from 1901 to 1905. For a year and nine months he has ably and efficiently administered the duties of the office of state tax commissioner, resigning because of urgent business matters requiring his undivided time.

### EIGHTY COACHES

Are to Be Purchased at an Early Date by the B. & O. Company.

Baltimore & Ohio officials have definitely decided to purchase eighty passenger coaches and the contract will likely be awarded within the next week or so. Bids have been submitted and it is understood that the Tressed Steel Car Company will come in for part of this order. It was originally intended to order one hundred and twenty-six coaches.

It is reported that the Baltimore and Ohio is figuring on orders for all-steel passenger equipment and for this reason only eighty wooden coaches will be ordered at present. The company has completed a series of tests with all-steel cars.

### CHRISTMAS TREAT

Is Given to Poor Children of the City Last Night by Captain Slayton.

A Christmas tree was given at the court house Wednesday evening under the direction of Captain J. R. Slayton of the local Salvation Army. A number of children were present to enjoy the entertainment prepared for them, and Christmas trees, sparkling with toys, and presents of candy and clothing gladdened the hearts of the little ones.

In addition to the treat, stereopticon pictures were shown, and Miss Nellie Trevitt, daughter of Captain William Trevitt, of Pittsburg, sang a beautiful solo.

### COURT RE-CONVENES

Judge Lynch Enlarges An Injunction in Reference to Logs at Wallace.

Judge Charles W. Lynch re-convened the special term of circuit court Thursday morning.

An enlargement of the injunction in the case of Dye against Mrs. Thomas, so as to restrain persons from shipping from Wallace certain logs that had been cut on and removed from the farm on which Mrs. Thomas resides. The injunction as originally issued restrained the cutting and removal of logs from the place, but some had been already cut and taken off and the latest feature of the injunction applies to these.

Pleas were tendered in this condemnation case the city has against Mrs. Caroline M. Jackson.

C. E. Scott, of Fairmont, spent Thursday in the city.

### COURT TERM TO BE LONG

Many Felony Charges Are to Be Investigated by the Grand Jury.

### FIVE TRIAL WEEKS

Two Hundred Witnesses Are Summoned to Appear Before Grand Jury.

The January term of circuit court, which will convene next Monday, promises to be two months long. The criminal docket will consume from four to five weeks. There is much chancery business and the civil docket is unusually large.

The grand jury, which will be charged as soon as the term opens will be quite busy and the work before it will likely take the entire week. There are said to be fully two hundred witnesses to be examined and a large number of felony cases to be investigated. Besides there will be many misdemeanor charges to go into such as petit larceny, assault and battery, carrying revolvers, trespass and the like.

Many Felony Cases. Among the felony cases to be investigated and reported upon by the grand jury will be the following:

W. Lewis Collins, charged with felonious assault with false knuckles upon Elmer J. Boner at Salem November 35.

August Yodki, for attempted criminal assault upon Jessie Savage October 24 at Union Heights.

Frank Lovor for stabbing Frank Whitehair to death on Pike street October 31.

Lewis Jones, colored, notorious chicken thief, for stealing three horses, belonging to Frank Henderson, J. Horner Davis and Lemuel Stout, respectively.

Tony Arbruzino for felonious assault with a club upon Frank Oliverio at Enterprise October 11.

Joe Arbruzino for felonious assault on Frank Oliverio at Enterprise October 11 by shooting him with a revolver.

Elmer Gassage, John Hays, George Miller, John McCann and Nicholas Lanty for breaking into Rock Bell's place and stealing merchandise.

Frank Buccofurni for shooting Joe Anselio with a revolver with intent to kill October 4.

Philip Whitehair, Emmett White, Andy Dillon and Thomas Riggs for stealing a lot of copper wire from the Maderia-Hill-Clark Coal Company at Chieftain in September.

N. Heemer for the larceny of \$30 from F. A. Zian in November.

Peter Gallo for breaking and entering a railroad car in the yards here and stealing merchandise.

Matthew Blair for stealing \$90 from Samuel E. Wax in the Diamond saloon December 15.

Grover Henderson, colored, for the larceny of \$40 from Morgan N. Vanscoy December 15.

James G. Harbert for stealing an overcoat from Cecil G. Portney, valued at \$25, at Lumberport December 19.

Charles H. Tanner for stealing \$55 in money from Fannie Spangler at Adamston in October.

Hood Thorn for assault with a brick on George Eaton in November.

Many Other Cases.

All the above are either in jail or out on bond. There are other felony cases to be investigated but as the persons accused are not in custody the prosecuting attorney declines to give out information concerning them.

The petit jury will not convene until Monday, January 11, when the criminal docket will be taken up. Among the dozen hold-over criminal cases for trials is one felony case, that against Alva Mahana, charged with burglarizing the postoffice at Rinehart.

The term will have some changes in the personnel of the court. Sheriff M. J. Francis and deputies will be on duty for the first time, as will also Circuit Clerk I. Wade Coffman. But, the same splendid prosecuting attorney, Will E. Morris, will be found at the old stand, doing his duty ably and effectively.