

WEATHER FORECAST:
Rain Today, Colder Friday.
Full Report on Page Two.

The Washington Times

LAST AND
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CAPITAL OBSERVES FEAST DAY WITH QUIET MERRIMENT

Paeans of Praise Sounded in Churches and Public Meeting Places.

MANY GIFTS FOR THE POOR

Charitable Societies and Missions Dispense Good Cheer to Unfortunate.

Down the chimney of the humblest hovel as well as that of the city's most pretentious palace, Santa Claus climbed today, leaving all Washington radiant with the traditional spirit of the greatest of Christian feast days. In every nook and corner for the charitable worked with the inspiration of Him from whom all blessings flow—the joy and glory of the occasion predominated.

As on other holidays, the National Capital observed the day with "quiet merriment."

Paeans of Praise Sung.

From home and church and public meeting place paeans of praise transformed misanthropes to genial companions, the penurious to prodigals. Sweeter of pines and cedar wafted sweetness of equator from the homes of the poor and enhanced the brightness of the dwellings of the more fortunate.

Laughter and song of children joyous over the discoveries in stockings and about mantelpieces and trees, banished sadness from the hearts of three elders. Everywhere the hungry were fed and the needy of clothing supplied with comfortable raiment. Into the homes of the destitute coal was sent by the charitable folk, warning and cheering places where chill dreariness had formerly predominated.

With President Wilson, Vice President Marshall and most of the members of the Cabinet out of the city and Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo "padding down the hill" Washington's Christmas lacked much of the official and social celebration which ordinarily marks the occasion.

President Wilson's gifts were the cause of enhancing the brightness of many homes. Many a poor family is enjoying turkey today as the result of his bounty. Many a child who would have otherwise looked wistfully at the toys of another fondled the gifts of his charity as the result of the President's charity.

Christmas spirit pervaded the White House as elsewhere. Evidence of a generous visit from Santa Claus were where about the mansion. All gifts for the President and his family, however, will be left untouched until the Chief Executive returns to the city.

Marshall in Indianapolis.
Vice President Marshall is in Indianapolis, Secretary of State Bryan is in Florida, Attorney General McReynolds is visiting his old Kentucky home, Secretary of War Garrison is in Philadelphia, and Secretary of the Navy Daniels is observing the feast day at his home in Raleigh, N. C.

In keeping with the custom of other Christmasmas, the various homes and missions of the city were subjects of more than ordinary charity. More than 600 baskets, each containing a good dinner, were distributed by the Salvation Army. A like number was distributed by Almas Temple. To the worthy poor baskets laden with food were given by the Gospel Mission, while at the Central Union Mission beautiful dinners are being served to all who are hungry. Christmas trees and decorations were also being distributed by the various churches and missions.

More than 200 children of the free kindergarten at 207 John Marshall place and members of the Loyalty Temperance League of the District are guests of the directors of the institution and the Christmas tree celebration. These children were dressed in gala attire for the occasion and were accompanied by their little brothers and sisters and the officials of the kindergarten.

The joint committee in charge of the affair is Miss Helen Hittabidie, Mrs. M. E. Farnow, Miss Morris Wadsworth, Mrs. J. W. Parks, Mrs. A. Holloway, Mrs. Allison, Mrs. Frewitt, Mrs. G. W. Keenan, Miss Colburn, Mrs. Rosa Gale, Miss Callahan, and M. I. Prose.

ACTING PRESIDENT OVER CHRISTMAS



SECRETARY McADOO.

McADOO IS BUSY AS ACTING PRESIDENT

Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo will spend part of his Christmas Day at work, for not only has he the giant task of building the machinery for the new currency law, but today he is acting President of the United States.

Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo, will spend part of his Christmas Day at work, for not only has he the giant task of building the machinery for the new currency law, but today he is acting President of the United States. McAdoo ranks third in the line of succession. First, of course, comes the Vice President, but Mr. Marshall is spending Christmas at his home in Indianapolis. Then comes the Secretary of State, but Mr. Bryan, too, is out of town. He is spending Christmas at his winter home in Miami, Fla. This leaves Secretary McAdoo sitting on the lid for the first time since he went into office, and officials of the Treasury Department, who are aiding in arranging the details of the currency law administration, are hoping that Mexico will remain quiet today and that none of President Wilson's worries will add to those of Secretary McAdoo until he gets the currency matter off his hands.

KEEPING POSTOFFICE CLEAR OF ALL MAIL

Christmas Packages Being Delivered As Fast As They Are Received.

The Washington city postoffice is being kept clear today. Christmas mail is being delivered as fast as it is received. Should the night bring disappointment to any Washingtonian through a Christmas package not received, it will not be the fault of the Washington office.

This was the statement of Postmaster Merritt today, as the Christmas rush waned. Practically twice as much mail was handled this year in the Washington city postoffice in the six days from December 15 to December 24, 1918, the largest volume ever handled there. This year there were 11,321 sacks of package mail handled during that time. Last year the total was 6,901. Officials declare the mail arriving at the Washington office Christmas day this year was much heavier than in former years. Postmaster Merritt, in citing further evidence of the growth of Christmas business, shows greatly increased receipts this year over last year. From December 15 to December 24, 1918, the receipts were \$4,535.91. In the same period this year the receipts were \$6,702.83.

Wife of Tumulty Is Back From Hospital

One of the happiest Christmasmas spent in Washington today was at the home of Joseph P. Tumulty, secretary to the President. Mrs. Tumulty, who has been ill at the Providence Hospital, was able to come home today and to preside over the festivities. The six children of the secretary and his wife had one of the largest trees that could be obtained in the city.

PASS CHRISTIAN GREETES WILSON WITH COLD RAIN

Telegram From Little Tumultys Is First to Cheer President on Christmas Morning.

LONG QUIET IS ORDERED

Chief Executive Will Devote Week to Golf and to Motor Rides.

PASS CHRISTIAN, Miss, Dec. 25.—Singly secluded in Beaulieu cottage, President Wilson is spending Christmas Day surrounded only by members of his family. The party reached the "Winter Capital" at 6:30 o'clock this morning, but it was nearly three hours later before the Chief Executive started for the cottage which is to be his home for the next three weeks.

"Balmly Climate" Absent.

All night the rain made headway through arenching rainstorm, and it was very cold and raw when Pass Christian was reached. The much lauded "balmly climate" was not in evidence. The natives declared that the rain weather was unseasonable, and that it would last only a short time. The Chief Executive, however, who is a true Southerner, assumed a "Missouri air."

A telegram messenger handed the President a stenographer a bunch of messages, and the first one opened was handed to the Executive. It came from his recently situated wife, children of the Secretary to the President, and conveyed their Christmas greetings.

Golf Every Morning.

The cottage where the President and his family are domiciled is about a mile and a half from the village. It is delightfully situated, with a splendid view. While no schedule has been arranged, the President hopes to be on the golf links each morning not later than 9 o'clock. Two hours will be spent there and then he will go back to the cottage for rest and luncheon.

The afternoon is to be devoted to exploring the surrounding territory of the high powered White House automobile which was shipped here for that purpose. The President made it plain today that for at least a week there will be no work. Dr. Grayson said that the condition of his patient is fairly satisfactory, but that he must have complete rest if he is to recover fully from his recent attack of grip. The doctor insists that he wants the President to be in the open as much as possible during his entire stay.

All Visits Forbidden.

Congressman E. Pat Harrison, of this district, who is responsible for the selection of Pass Christian as the "winter capital," accompanied the party. He made it plain to everyone that under no circumstances are the townspeople to bother the President with visits of any character.

No stockings were hung up in the private car last night, but members of the family exchanged gifts. While the list was not disclosed, it was stated that inasmuch as Miss Margaret Wilson had accepted active membership in the "Spugs," the gifts were of a useful nature. That may have been so, as the expression of the President's face as he slighted from the car was not as "Christmassy" as it might have been. At the cottage many packages were found which contained gifts sent by relatives and friends. A good part of the morning was devoted to opening and inspecting them.

"Soaked;" Drank Eggnog Judge Paroled Him

Edward Moran got his feet wet while working in a ditch on Piney Branch road Wednesday, and his wife prescribed an eggnog as a drying process. This was why Moran pleaded guilty to being drunk in the Police Court today. His excuse was so reasonable Judge Mullaney put him on probation for six months and gave him his release. "I was soaked through, your honor," said Moran, "and I took two swigs of whiskey." "But I'm not through yet," responded Moran. "When I got home, my wife thought an eggnog would make me O. K., and after taking a good slug of eggnog I thought I would go to a picture show. I staggered and was arrested. It was a 'first offender,' and the court let him go."

Christmas Night. Dancing, Arcade Auditorium. Christmas Tree—Souvenirs and Select Music. Not public—Adv.

CASE DISMISSED BY COURT HERE



COURTESY OF HARRIS SWING. MRS. LUIS DE PASTOR.

DE PASTOR DIVORCE CASE THROWN OUT

Want of Evidence Causes Decision By Justice Stafford, of District Supreme Court.

The divorce suit of Constance Lee de Pastor against Luis de Pastor, formerly of the Spanish legation here, now Spanish minister at Peking, has been dismissed by Justice Stafford, of the District Supreme Court, for want of evidence.

The justice remanded the case for the taking of further testimony several weeks ago, but none was taken. It is understood that the wife produced at once all her evidence in her attempt to free herself from the Spaniard, in order, as rumor has it, to wed another.

In conciliation between the couple is impossible, counsel on both sides say. Beside the outcome of the suit, the presence of Senora de Pastor in San Francisco while her husband was in Peking and while the proceeding was in the District court gave rise to rumors of an attempt at reconciliation. Senora de Pastor was residing in Washington when she met de Pastor, and was considered a beauty. Letters from husband to wife containing sensational charges against the latter and other evidence in the case were kept under seal by order of the court until recently. The wife testified that her husband forgot her entirely while spending their honeymoon in New York, and that he was intoxicated the whole time they were in Paris, on the same trip Senora Pastor tried annulment proceedings.

MOTHER AND CHILD CRIPPLED BY BOMB

Dynamite Placed Under Bed of Widow Wrecks Her House.

DES MOINES, Iowa, Dec. 25.—After Santa Claus had left the home of Mrs. Sophronia Johnson, thirty-five, an unidentified man climbed in the window and placed a dynamite bomb under the bed and departed, stringing seventy-five feet of fuse behind him. Fifteen minutes later the bomb exploded, blowing off the legs of Mrs. Johnson and her eleven-year-old daughter, Ophelia. The house was wrecked. Mrs. Johnson was injured, but the child is near death. The woman will not talk. The police think the dynamite was the work of a revengeful admirer.

The 5:30 Edition of The Washington Times Will Be Omitted Today

(Continued on Page Five.)

Fair Play for District Pledged by Underwood, Is Times Xmas Message

Majority Leader of the House Predicts That People of Washington Need Not Fear Repeal of Half-and-Half Plan Until There Can Be an Investigation of the Justice of the Entire Financial Arrangement.

By THEODORE TILLER.

The majority leader of the House, Oscar W. Underwood, will oppose hasty legislation at this session of Congress repealing the half-and-half law.

Mr. Underwood is against any disturbance of the present fiscal arrangement between the District and Federal governments until a satisfactory substitute plan shall have been worked out. He does not expect the Crisp bill, or any bill of similarly drastic nature, to pass the House.

This is the Christmas message The Times is able to carry today to the citizens and taxpayers of the National Capital.

The attitude of Mr. Underwood, which is one of fair play, is outlined below. That attitude practically sounds the deathknell of the plans of a certain element in the House to jam through that body a bill repealing the half-and-half law without offering anything in its place.

SAYS PEOPLE NEED NOT FEAR.

Mr. Underwood, who has led the Democratic House with rare success and wisdom, would not tear down without building up. In that quiet way of his the prediction was made that people of Washington need not fear the early enactment of the Crisp bill. The full import of that statement will reach every Washingtonian who has watched Oscar Underwood heretofore lead his colleagues into a fair, rational course of action.

Recently Mr. Underwood said he was against the program to insert the contents of the Crisp bill as a rider upon the District of Columbia appropriation bill. The idea was abandoned, by its exponents, but it was announced the Crisp bill would be taken up on the regular calendar on the next "District day" in the House.

Now Mr. Underwood says he doesn't think the House will pass such a measure at this session and that the half-and-half principle will stand until there can be an investigation of the justice of the entire arrangement.

OPPOSED TO DRASTIC LEGISLATION.

"I am opposed to legislation which would simply abolish the half-and-half law and I do not anticipate that such a bill will ever pass the House," said the majority leader, in reassuring tones.

"Now my attitude about this whole controversy is as follows: until there is offered some satisfactory substitute fiscal arrangement the half-and-half plan should be allowed to stand as it is today. It may not be a mathematically fair arrangement; perhaps it is not; but the question can be worked out to a certainty and I do not believe either the fair-minded people in the District or in Congress would object to a readjustment if one should be shown to be necessary.

WANTS PRESIDENT TO ACT.

"My idea is that the President should name a commission to investigate thoroughly the fiscal relations between the District and Federal treasuries. I would suggest that this commission be composed of men outside of Congress and that it be an absolutely non-partisan organization.

"Let the commission take into consideration the amount of property which the Government of the United States has in Washington, the value of the police and fire protection accorded thereto by the District, the water and

MOBS ON HUNT FOR MAN WHO CAUSED 73 TO DIE IN A PANIC

Red Jacket, Mich., Center of Copper Country, Scene of Anguish As Relatives of Victims Try to Claim Bodies.

Miners Plan to Lynch "Joker" If They Find Him—President Wilson Asked to Send Aid.

CALUMET, Mich., Dec. 25.—There were no Christmas festivities in the copper country today. Instead, hundreds of sorrowing fathers and mothers whose little children had been trampled or smothered to death in the wild panic that followed a false cry of "fire" at a Christmas eve entertainment in Italian Hall, at Red Jacket, assembled at the doors of the town hall and demanded that their dead be restored to them.

Inside the hall, guarded by policemen and special deputies, lay the bodies of seventy-three persons, fifty-six of them children, victims of the "joke" of a big intoxicated man, whose identity has not yet been learned.

Every Man in Search.

Nearly every man in the copper country today searched for this man. The police have a description and are confident he will be captured before night. That he will be lynched if captured seemed certain today as the foreign population of copper country is so dense with a fury as unreasoning and unquenchable as was the fear which had impelled those in the hall to trample and crush women and children to death.

Only four of those who died in last night's panic remained unidentified today. At a mass meeting called for this afternoon plans will be made for a public funeral of all the dead.

Four of the victims remained unidentified this morning. Investigation today by Fire Chief Frudell showed there had been no trace of fire in the building and that the tragedy resulted only from the unreasoning fear of the foreigners when they were started by the cry of fire.

Wires Wilson for Aid.
President Meyer, of the Western Federation of Miners, directing the strike of the copper workers, early today wired President Wilson at Pass Christian, Miss.; Governor Ferris, at Big Rapids, Mich., and Secretary of Labor Wilson at Washington, giving them details of the disaster, and demanding State and Federal investigations.

A public meeting of the citizens of the copper country was called for this afternoon, at which relief measures will be discussed. Subscriptions for the families of the disaster, and the details of the Federal investigations.

Truce in Industrial War.
A truce in the long and bitter war between capital and labor was declared today, and both factions united in the relief work and in search of the man who precipitated the disaster by his cry of "Fire!"

Seven hundred persons were in the hall when the panic started. The Christmas exercises for the children were nearly concluded. A bearded Santa Claus, burdened with a huge pack of toys, had made his appearance on the stage, and the distribution of gifts was about to start.

Then the stranger thrust his head in at the front door and shrieked the word that started the mad rush for the stairway. A woman standing near the doorway, seemingly with a premonition of what was to happen, shouted a denial, but her words were drowned out in the cries of the panic-stricken people. The man who shouted the alarm, apparently intoxicated, escaped in the confusion.

Mrs. Annie Clemens, president of the Women's Strike Auxiliary, having in charge the Christmas exercises for the

WILL CHECK BILLS INJURING CAPITAL



CONGRESSMAN UNDERWOOD.

DEATH ROBBS "KIDDIES" OF SANTA CLAUS JOY

Artist Dies Suddenly, and His Model and Her Children Are Penniless.

Beneath the pathetic story that "Santa forgot to come" told three Christmas-less little ones by their sorrow-stricken and destitute mother in Eleventh street northwest today is a tragic tale of how death suddenly robbed the parent and her children of their sole benefactor.

Robert M. Gigg, an artist, died in the Emergency hospital ambulance late Christmas eve while being taken from Fifteenth and H streets northwest, from the substance of a police report—the underlying story of why the woman and her children are alone and friendless on Christmas day.

"Santa forgot us all, eh, mamma?" inquired the curly-headed little boy of his mother as he clutched at her apron and looked wistfully out of the window. "He'll make up for it and bring us twice as much some other time," answered the mother.

Mother a Model.
The woman, an American, had for months acted as Gigg's model. Almost daily since the young Italian had taken up his quarters at 1101 E street northwest, the woman had visited the studio and aided the striving decorator and painter in making a livelihood. Nobody knew her name, but she had attracted the attention of all about the office by her beauty and mannerisms, and her children, who had often accompanied her, had also won the admiration of the artist's friends and acquaintances.

Even to his closest friend, Silvio Bristol, Italian fruit dealer, of 502 Eleventh street, Gigg, the artist, had never divulged the identity of his model. How she had expected spending her Christmas with her children and their parents, who she had promised "Santa would bring," grieved about her, she told the fruit merchant today.

No Xmas For "Kiddies."
"He was to be the babies' Santa Claus," she told Bristol. "He was to spend Christmas with us and make things bright in our home. Now the babies think they have been forgotten and he's dead. They are not really forgotten. I just can't remember them because I have no money," declared the mother.

Bristol said today that Gigg had been in his store talking with him only an hour or so before he was stricken with death. The artist told Bristol that he intended spending the day with his model and her children.

"They have no relatives and no money," the artist told his friend, "and I am just going to be their Santa Claus."

The Raleigh Hotel.
Tables are now being reserved for New Year's Eve. Admission by card only.