**STATE NEWS ROUNDUP**

**Storekeeper Is Acquitted In Heathsville Murder Trial**

By DAVE ATWOOD

**HAZELNUT, Dec. 4.** In a trial that lasted two days, William J. Redmond, 35, was acquitted at 5:04 p.m. after two hours of deliberation and seven minutes of reading jury instructions. He was charged November 20 with the murder of Howard Brimley.

Redmond's reaction to the decision was restrained. He walked slowly toward the jury box and his two decomposed hands. His back was turned, and he held the hand of a spectator. He moved there to a quiet attitude, where he was led away by his conductors. Redmond had been granted a new trial by a federal court.

Trials in the proceeding, up to 250 persons had crowded into the small Northern Neck Circuit Court room.

TRIAL CRITICISM

The trial was not fair, a juror said. He praised the proceedings, noting that the court had been properly imbued with the law. However, he felt the court did not fully understand the facts of the case.

He said, "The court did not know what they did not understand. They did not decide the case with fairness and competence."

**Ferry Purchase**

**COMMISSIONER**

In preparation for the meeting of the Virginia House of Delegates on Dec. 7 to discuss the purchase of the ferry on the Potomac River, a meeting was held at the State Capitol to discuss the matter. The meeting was attended by the delegates and the ferry company.

The delegates were informed of the importance of the ferry and the need to acquire it for the state. The ferry company was represented by its president, who explained the need for the ferry and the benefits it would provide to the state.

The commission concluded that the ferry was a necessary service for the state and that the purchase was in the best interest of the state. The commission recommended that the state purchase the ferry and that the cost be borne by the state.

**Christmas Carols**

**AROUND THE STATE**

**WILLIAMSBURG**

In celebration of the holidays, the town of Williamsburg will be decorated with Christmas lights and decorations. The festival will be held on December 24 and will feature live music, caroling, and a special visit from Santa Claus.

**Firemen Lose Feminine Aide**

**THE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

The Fire Department has lost one of its most valuable employees, Mrs. W. H. Jones. Mrs. Jones has been employed by the Department for many years and has always been a dedicated and hard-working employee.

**McRee Hope For Decline In Mailing**

Christmas mail today may be the last big mailing of the season, a postal official said yesterday. However, the peak of this year's Christmas mail will not occur until after New Year's Day.

The postal service estimates that 2 billion pieces of mail will be processed during the holiday season. This is a significant decrease from last year, when 2.5 billion pieces of mail were processed.

**McRee, the postal official, said the decrease is due to increased use of electronic communication, such as email and social media.

**Richmond Driver Draws $100 Fine**

A 25-year-old Richmond woman was convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol and was sentenced to 10 days in jail.

The woman was stopped by police on December 18 and was found to be driving under the influence of alcohol. She was subsequently found guilty of driving under the influence and was sentenced to 10 days in jail.

**McRee’s response to the verdict was restrained. He walked slowly toward the jury box and his two decomposed hands. His back was turned, and he held the hand of a spectator. He moved there to a quiet attitude, where he was led away by his conductors. McRee had been granted a new trial by a federal court.**