

HICKORY DAILY RECORD

TELEPHONE 167
Published by the Clay Printing Co.
Every Evening Except Sunday.
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J. C. MILLER Manager

PUBLICATION OFFICE:
1402 ELEVENTH AVENUE

Subscribers desiring the address of their paper changed, will please state in their communication both OLD and NEW addresses.

To insure efficient delivery, complaints should be made to the Subscription Department promptly. City subscribers should call 167 regarding complaints.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
One year \$4.00
Six months \$2.00
Three months \$1.00
One Month .40
One week .10

Entered as second class matter September 11, 1915, at the postoffice at Hickory, N. C., under the act of March 3, 1879.

MEMBER OF ASSOCIATED PRESS

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WEDNESDAY, JAN. 16, 1918

WHY THEY WANT PEACE

You want peace very much, Mr. Reader. You don't like war any way, and you want to see the thing over with.

But you do not want peace one-tenth as bad as the German ruling classes. Suppose you believed it right to go out into Catawba county and, taking some good farmers by surprise, seize their land and put guards over it; then suppose you went in another direction and seized more land and guarded that, and at the same time became involved in a mighty row with the owners of those farms and a few neighbors who do not happen to think that that sort of business is right.

And suppose also that you had no hope of retaining all the land you had seized, but expected to keep part of it when the deposed owners should tire of the struggle to regain it. Then you would want peace on the basis of the war map, you want peace by agreement—being very sure that you would be able to come out of the peace congress with a lot of stolen property.

In that case you would be dead anxious to match wits with the men you had robbed. You had expected to steal your neighbor's land, whip them quickly and make them glad to turn it over to you. Your idea had been to increase your wealth at the expense of badly armed brothers, and you had calculated in advance just what price you were willing to pay for the wrong—only in such an event, you would believe it entirely proper to seize a big farm like that of Mr. R. L. Shuford, or Mr. Henry Lutz or a smaller farm belonging to some other good man.

But when these good men, not prepared at first, had begun to show fight and it had begun to appear that they would not be "reasonable" and let you have a slice off each holding, you would begin to feel uneasy. You would try to trick one at the expense of the other, but when they would demand the return of all the stolen land, you would be awfully afraid that you had done all that meanness for nothing. You would want a chance to be better able to hold it next time.

And that is what the German warlords want. The internal strife in Germany just now is caused by the inability of the leaders to make up their minds to surrender the property they have stolen. They will have worse times before they decide that honesty is the best policy, but they will do it. They may wait a year or they may decide to disgorge in a week or three months.

But when the whole world gets on the heels of a gang of robbers, you know which side is going to lose.

Columbia, S. C. people already have begun making plans for war gardens next spring and summer and the work is to be done under the direction of competent gardeners and instructors. Experts will show the people what to do and how to do it, and there should be genuine interest in the work, not to mention the money that the gardeners will save. If there is a community in the south that has not taken to the garden idea zealously, we have failed to note it, and there is nothing that gives a fellow more pleasure than watching the truck grow.

The German kaiser ordered a famous painter to report at Brest-Litovsk for the purpose of making a painting of the peace congress for the benefit of future generations of Germans. Well, it might not be made, after all. Even the bolsheviki are not fools.

When the negro check flasher began his operations, everybody took him seriously, but since there is no way of teaching some folks except by way of the bitter school, the thing has become a joke. A few cents invested in a newspaper, either weekly or daily, might save the victims money.

Have you overlooked the fact that the food conservation campaign is in earnest right now? The country must have wheat, flour, meat and sugar if its armies are to be fed. The civil population, with so many other things to eat, can afford to be saving.

Although there are men in congress, who would like to see the country fall down in its war plan, the gentlemen who have been questioning Secretary Baker desires nothing else than to see the best results obtained. And that's what the country wants.

Judging from the list of names printed in the Davie Record, Mocksville and Davie county are mighty near American, even if somebody did say something to the contrary. And the poem printed on the first page of the Mocksville paper about the kaiser is something else again.

If the general assembly of North Carolina should not ratify the proposed suffrage amendment—should it pass the United States senate—let pass the buck on to the people, we shall cast one vote in favor of it.

The death of Representative Gardner at Camp Wheeler was not in vain. His example impressed the country and he is as much of a hero as if he had commanded an army.

At any rate, it could be worse. And before you know it, you will stop some fellow on the street and remark that "It's a regular spring day, isn't it?"

Brookford people have a treat in store tonight when Dr. John G. Woolley, noted lecturer, pays them a visit. He will be heard by a large crowd.

The government talks like it might have to stand Lieutenant Spormann up against a brick wall and let a squad of soldiers take a crack at him.

The farm loan banks lend money at 5-12 per cent, and not six, and the Record desires to correct its first statement before it goes any farther.

The ground hog is due in a fortnight, but he will be unable to tell much about it until he is thoroughly thawed out.

The days pass rapidly and the weeks too, and the first thing one knows spring will be here sure enough.

The freight trains might haul more coal next summer.

CASES OF CONTAGIOUS DISEASES IN STATE

Over 1,400 cases of communicable diseases exist in North Carolina this month, according to the epidemiology map kept in the office of the state epidemiologist, Dr. A. McR. Crouch. These diseases are whooping cough 650 cases, measles 550, scarlet fever 82, diphtheria 57, typhoid 63, smallpox 21 and cerebro-spinal meningitis 6.

The counties in which whooping cough is shown to be more or less epidemic are Edgecomb, Wilson, Nash, Wayne, Johnston, Duplin, Scotland, Anson, Union, Mecklenburg, Cabarrus, Davidson, Forsyth, Cleveland, Rutherford, Lincoln, Wilkes, Caldwell, Burke, Henderson, Swain, Clay and Cherokee. Those in which measles are prevalent are Forsyth, Davidson, Mecklenburg, Gaston, Lincoln, Yancey, Macon and Chowan. Those in which scarlet fever exists in more than one singular case are Forsyth, Guilford, Davidson, Caldwell, Catawba, Cabarrus, Mecklenburg and Lincoln. Typhoid fever exists in three or more cases in Marion, Wayne, Robeson, Bladen, Cumberland, Alamance, Davie, Buncombe, Johnston, and Gaston.

Countries reporting many cases of communicable diseases are not looked upon as being more afflicted or unhealthy than other countries, explains Dr. Crouch, but rather as doing good reporting and carrying out the terms of the law. "We always look upon such countries," he says, "as having wide-awake officers who support the law and by so doing save in the end their people much sickness and death they otherwise would suffer."

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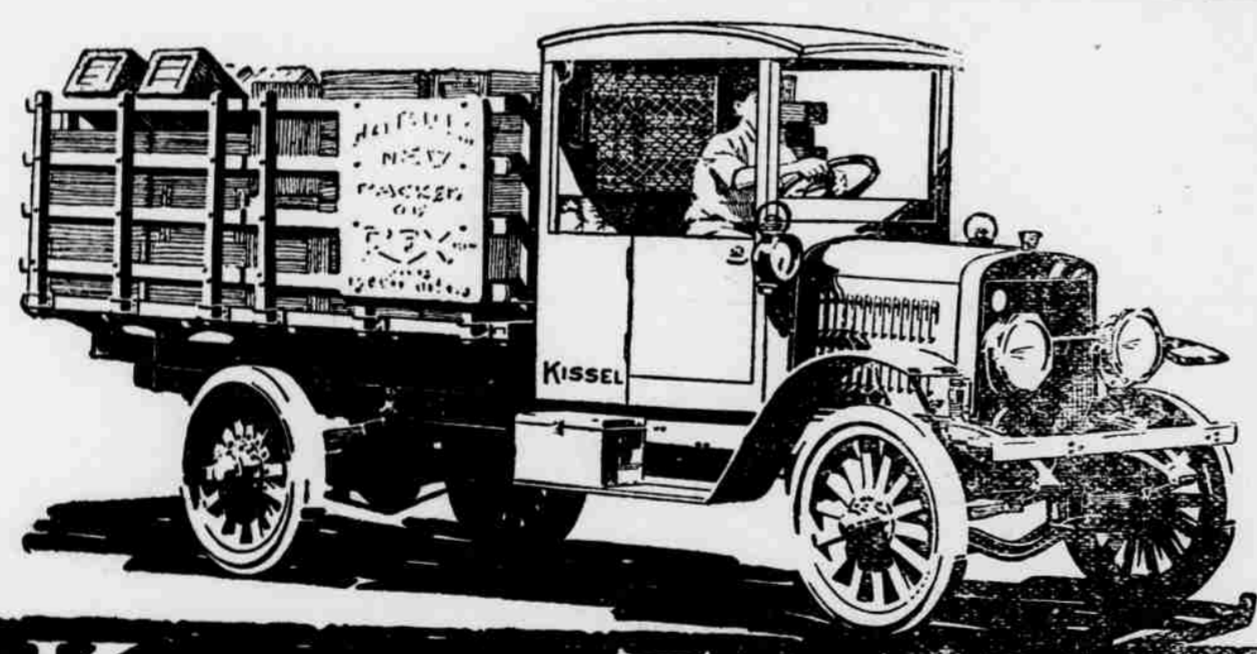
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COCK AND BULL STORY
Cock fighting is still the national sport of the Dominicans, although it is declining in popularity. Under the national gambling laws cock fighting may be prohibited. It may, however, be licensed by the various municipalities, and it usually is, as it yields them a good revenue. When bull fighting is permitted in the Dominican Republic, it has never been popular in this island. At long intervals a toreador comes here en route from Spain to Peru or Mexico, and a few bull fights are held in the various towns, but they do not attract a large attendance. There are no professional bull fighters among the Dominicans. Commercial Reports.

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