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KINSTON, N. C., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1916

## Opening Sales Kinston Tobacco Market Were Record Makers—175,000 Lbs. at Average 15c.

**PREVAILING PRICES DOUBLE THOSE FOR THE OPENING SALES LAST YEAR—A MOST ENCOURAGING FEELING PREVAILS HERE**

### COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

	Pounds	Average Price		Percentage Increase	
		Per 100		Low Grades	Better Grades
1915	66,000	\$6.95			
1916	175,000	\$15 to \$18	100 to 150 p.c.	33 1-3 to 50 p.c.	

Every farmer who came to Kinston today and brought tobacco is wearing a smile that won't come off. The smile is catching and those who have no offerings for sale are glad for the sake of those who have. There's a reason: Kinston is having a record-breaking opener so far as prices are concerned. It is conservatively estimated that between a hundred and seventy-five and two hundred thousand pounds of the famous bright leaf was sold on the five warehouse floors of Kinston today, and that it brought prices which will average fifteen cents or better. The quality is much better this year than last. Scrap which last year brought three-quarters to a cent, if sold at all, today brought three and a half and four; that which brought probably four or five last year sold readily for ten to twelve and even fifteen today. The increase in the higher grades was not so marked, but even these sold for a third to a half higher than they did last year. All the principal companies were represented on the floors and most of them bought actively. Last year the sales for the opening day ran to 66,000 pounds, and the average price was \$6.95, an increase this year of more than double. Probably \$30,000 was turned loose in Kinston today for the tobacco that the farmers of this section brought here.

The Central and Eagle warehouses drew the first sale, while Atlantic and Knott's followed, and the Hooker & Rucker, the newcomers, had the final go.

The 1916-17 tobacco sales season on the Kinston market was started off today under most auspicious conditions. Fair weather and a comfortable temperature helped the occasion. The weed began coming in on Monday afternoon, and poured into the city from the surrounding plantations in greater volume this morning. Scores of planters who came had no tobacco with them; these are "testing" the market. The prospect before the sales started was for results exceedingly satisfactory to the watchers.

Kinston begins the season with five warehouses, all in the northern half of the city. These are the Atlantic, Central, Eagle, Knott Bros., and the "New Brick," the last-named erected since last season. Some of the most capable tobaccoists in the country are in charge of the houses; these men and their assistants have been leaders among Kinston's builders.

Teamwork and "Pennant" Aspirations.

The city has for years past been one of the leading markets of the bright leaf belt. "Co-operation" built the market, and the same word explains the building of a city out of the village that prospered but little before the market came. But the pre-season boosting of other years was on a tiny scale compared with the preliminary work that has been in progress during the past six or eight weeks. The tobaccoists have been consistently, constantly boosting Kinston. They have invaded new sections of the belt and believe they have gained new trade that will increase the local total sales by millions of pounds. First or second place should be the market's standing when the belt crop is all in.

The Crop All Right.

The 1916 crop has not experienced smooth sailing. Record rains in June and July threatened great damage. Fears were felt that the production would be curtailed from 20 to 30 per cent. These fears afterward proved unfounded. Men in a position to estimate it, place the shortage at less than 10 per cent, some at less than five per cent. In most of the other bright leaf belts of the world the curtailment is considerable! In the South Carolina belt the reduction is variously estimated at from 25 to 50 per cent.

And as it stands, according to report...

## INCREASE TAX RATE NINETY CENTS FOR THE PRESENT YEAR

Council Runs Levy Up from \$1.15 to \$2.05 at Meeting Monday Night

### WON'T EXCEED AMOUNTS

Is Promise by Commissioners—Big Raise Was From Low Taxation and Will Decrease Next Year, Is Official Assurance

City Council in a special session Monday night fixed the 1916 tax levy at \$2.05 on the \$100, against last year's levy of \$1.15.

City Clerk Coleman today explained that the budget allowed a sufficiency for all departments, whereas, frequently before the various commissioners have been compelled to overdraw; that the levy this year will be very larger than heretofore has been very low compared with those of other places of similar population and taxable wealth, and that the city bond interest expense estimate is uncertain. That, he said, may be too low or too high. Council adopted a motion not to exceed the appropriation for any department.

The actual figures follow:

RECEIPTS—	
Privilege license taxes...	\$ 2,500.00
Cemetery lots .....	1,375.00
Fees from water & lights	6,090.00
Dog taxes .....	275.00
1,500 Poles at \$2 .....	3,000.00
Ad valorem taxes on assessments, \$4,200.00 at 80c	33,600.00
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>\$48,340.00</b>

DISBURSEMENTS—	
Streets .....	\$ 10,000.00
Cemeteries .....	1,560.00
Fire .....	3,500.00
Sanitation .....	2,600.00
Expense .....	1,000.00
Health .....	500.00
Appropriations .....	775.00
Police .....	5,420.00
Salaries .....	5,150.00
Loans .....	15,200.00
Property .....	2,635.00
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>\$48,340.00</b>

City and Bond Interest Expense.	
Estimated Expenditure on streets, sidewalks, curbs and gutters .....	\$425,000.00
City assessments, 45 p. c. ...	191,250.00
Storm drains .....	36,400.00
Gas mains .....	17,000.00
Sewerage .....	5,000.00
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>\$249,650.00</b>

Propertyowners' assessment, 55 per cent, \$233,750. On this there is, of course, no taxation for any purpose. Individuals subscribing to the paving petitions must pay their annual installment of 10 per cent.

## WAR DEPARTMENT ANNULS ORDER FOR TROOPS IN HOME STATES TO GO TO LINE; THREATENED STRIKE IS REPORTED CAUSE

(By the United Press)  
Washington, Aug. 1.—Because of the threatened railroad strike the War Department today suspended indefinitely the proposed movement to the border of 35,000 militiamen mobilized at State camps, and ordered to the border last week.

## Dr. H. D. Harper Slays Wife and Self at Asheville

Asheville, N. C., Aug. 15.—Dr. Henry D. Harper of Kinston killed his wife and himself here today. Particulars will be given later.

(Special Wire to The Free Press)

Asheville, Aug. 15.—Dr. H. D. Harper, a prominent dentist of Kinston, N. C., shot his wife today, killing her instantly, it is believed, and then fired a bullet into his brain, dying two hours later in the mission hospital.

The tragedy took place in Weaverville, near Asheville, about 1 o'clock p. m. in a boarding house where Dr. and Mrs. Harper had been summer visitors for about three weeks.

Mrs. Harper was found lying in bed as if she had been asleep, dead in a pool of blood. Dr. Harper, fully dressed, with a pistol in his hand, was lying unconscious on another bed. The young dentist was brought to the Mission hospital in this city, where he died a few minutes after 3 o'clock.

The couple were apparently devoted to one another, and no cause has been given for the tragedy further than a report that Dr. Harper had been drinking. Dr. Harper was about 38 years old. He was a son of the late Dr. Henry Harper of Kinston. His brother, Jack V. Harper of Gastonia, married a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Jenkins of Asheville.

Mrs. Harper is thought to have been before marriage a Miss Dora Dawson of Eastern Carolina. She was 32 years old. The couple had no children.

Mrs. Henry D. Harper was Miss Dora Dawson, member of a prominent family at Conetoe. Her father is living. She was a niece of County Treasurer John Dawson.

Dr. Harper was a brother of Dr. Carl Harper, Mrs. Hugh Ward and Miss Mildred Harper, all of this city, and Mr. Jack Harper of Gastonia.

## THREE HUNDRED DIE NEW TEUTON FRONT WHEN BIG ITALIAN BEGINS BEND UNDER SHIP TURNS TURTLE RUSSIANS' ATTACKS

Fire and Explosions On the Leonardo Davinci, New Man-of-War—Was 554 Feet Long—Vessel May Be Floated

(By the United Press)  
Paris, Aug. 15.—The Italian battleship Leonardo Davinci caught fire and after several explosions turned over and sank in Toronto harbor, according to a Turin dispatch to the Petit Journal. About three hundred were drowned.

The blaze started in the cook's galley. Experts believe the ship can be floated. The vessel was one of the newest Italian ships, displacing twenty-two thousand tons. She was 554 feet long, and carried thirteen 12-inch guns.

## NEW JERSEY BEGINS PARALYSIS QUARTINE

Trenton, N. J., Aug. 14.—New Jersey's quarantine because of infantile paralysis will be in effect tomorrow. Children under 16 years of age without certificates will be prevented from entering the State. Discretion in dealing with persons who resist the orders of the State authorities was urged although the State Department promises to prosecute violations of its orders.

straight out.  
INTEREST—

Five per cent. interest .....	\$ 12,482.00
Old interest .....	22,725.00
Bonds maturing .....	2,500.00
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>\$37,707.00</b>

How the taxes are divided:

Tax levy .....	30
Sinking fund .....	35
City levy .....	30
School .....	30
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>\$125.00</b>

## UP TO RAILROAD EMPLOYEES NOW TO MAKE SOME CONCESSIONS IF GREAT STRIKE IS TO BE AVOIDED; CONFERENCE IS CONTINUED

President Wilson Says "Honest and Candid Discussion" Is In Progress—Owners Agree to Accept as Basis Principle of the Eight-Hour Day, But Hold Out for More Complete Investigation of the Overtime Demand—Managers Think Men Would Not Expect the Eight-Hour Day to Go Into Effect Until Entire Subject Had Been Threshed Out—Representatives of Companies at the White House Today

(By the United Press)

Washington, Aug. 15.—The burden of concessions in adjusting the threatened railroad strike today appeared to have swung around to the employees. After the railroad managers had conferred an hour and a half with the President, it was learned that the managers had agreed to accept as a basis the principle of the eight-hour day, but that they demand that the question of overtime pay be subjected to a bigger and more far-reaching investigation.

Acceptance of the eight-hour day principle is contingent upon an agreement of the employees to further discussion, which includes the overtime pay question, because they believe the two questions to be inseparable.

In accepting the eight-hour day principle the railroad managers believe the President and the employees would not expect the eight-hour day program to be put into effect until the whole subject had been inquired into.

The President today authorized the following statement: "The President spent an hour and a half with representatives of the railway managers. After the conference he said it was impossible yet to report results, and that all he could say was that very honest and candid discussion is in progress about a practical basis of a settlement."

## SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE MEN TO HAVE NO CHECK IN WORK IN ARGENTINE

(By the United Press)  
Buenos Ayres, Aug. 15.—The Argentine government has issued orders that every facility be extended to the members of the Commission from the Smithsonian Institution at Washington who are coming here to engage in solar studies.

It is understood the commission's work will be mainly in the interior, remote from large towns, and all possible preparations are being made for its convenience. The members will be given the status of Argentine national employees that they may be entirely unhampered. The exact date of their coming has not yet been announced yet.

## METHODISTS GATHER AT LAKE JUNALUSKA

(By the United Press)  
Asheville, Aug. 14.—Large numbers of delegates arrived at Lake Junaluska, Waynesville, tonight for the opening of the triennial conference of the Laymen's Missionary Movement of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, which is scheduled for 8 o'clock tomorrow evening.

## HUGHES ADDRESSES AN AUDIENCE OF WOMEN

Spokane, Wash., Aug. 14.—Chas. E. Hughes today addressed his first audience composed solely of women voters, the speech being the first of two delivered here. Mr. Hughes touched upon suffrage and his views concerning it, and reiterated to a large extent attacks on the administration.

## EX-SLAVE ADDS TO THE FLOOD SUFFERERS' FUND

One \$2 contribution was added to the Flood Sufferers' Fund here today. The local list now stands:

Previously reported .....	\$771.14
T. D. Wilson, LaGrange .....	1.00
Morning Star S. S. (colored), reported by Dr. Goddington ..	3.00
Allan Tarnage of Philadelphia, "ex-slave" .....	2.00
<b>Grand total to date</b> .....	<b>\$777.14</b>

## HUGHES TO KEEP OUT WILSON'S WAY IN KY.

New York, Aug. 14.—Wm. R. Wilcox, chairman of the Republican committee, announced tonight that the itinerary of Chas. E. Hughes had been changed through "politeness" to President Wilson to avoid speeches by both candidates in Kentucky September 4. From September 1, when Mr. Hughes will be in Kansas City, the itinerary will be advanced one day until Lexington, Ky., is reached, September 5. The extra day gained will be filled in Nashville, Tenn., where Mr. Hughes will speak September 4, the day scheduled for the President to speak in Kentucky.

## YOUNG GIRLS WERE SOLD FOR A DOLLAR A POUND IN NEW YORK

(By the United Press)  
New York, Aug. 15.—A dollar a pound was price paid on several immature girls auctioned off by white slave and disorderly resort owners, Assistant District Attorney Smith today declared. Smith has charge of the prosecution of the vice trust.

He has obtained amazing confessions from men and women under arrest who recently told him of the organized system of luring young school girls.

## ZEPS. WILL PUNISH ENGLAND IN REVENGE FOR BARALONG CASE

(By the United Press)  
Berlin, Aug. 15.—German newspapers will punish England for her failure to punish members of Baralong crew for killing sailors of a German submarine's crew after the latter had been made prisoners, it is officially announced. In future raiding operations Zepelins will take no consideration of civilians' lives.