

THE DAILY FREE PRESS

Published Every Afternoon Except Sunday
KINSTON FREE PRESS CO., INC.
 M. Galt Braxton, Editor and Manager
 Entered at the postoffice at Kinston, North Carolina, as second-class matter under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.
UNITED - PRESS - REPORTS
 Telephone - All Departments - 75

Subscription Rates:

One (Payable in Advance)
 Week, 10c. 3 Months, \$1
 Month 35c. 12 Months, \$4

Monday Evening, September 28, 1914

Sir Lionel has arrived in London and, as was to be expected, has denied the allegations. There is pretty good evidence that Sir Lionel is in the class of one Rustem Bey from Turkey and our own George Fred and his retirement will not be a great surprise in diplomatic circles.

Mias Hattie Parrott and her assistants who had charge of the Junior chautauqua, held in connection with the regular chautauqua attraction in June, are to be congratulated for having made Kinston the banner city, having the largest number of children enrolled in the movement, the best behavior and all round most creditable demonstration.

The novelty hasn't worn off Kinston's new fire alarm system and a "false" alarm is turned in occasionally. The latest to try the bell was an old telegraph pole, which had grown tired of the monotony of standing so long and toppled over and caused a short circuit to ring the gong. No hard run though for the firemen "smelt the rat" this time.

There is no doubt of the fact that it takes two to make a scrap and for that reason there is some merit in Germany's contention that she is not to blame for the war. But the preponderance of evidence so far adduced from the censored information is that the Kaiser's war lords were more largely responsible than any of the other nations involved and it will take more than the continued statements of partisans to convince the neutral world otherwise.

"Stepped on a banana peeling, oh what a funny feeling" is not always the sentiment of the unfortunate, who accidentally steps on a fruit peeling, which has been carelessly and unthoughtfully thrown on the walk ways for some unsuspecting victim to be crippled or perhaps fatally injured therefrom. The law against such practices should be rigidly enforced and the co-operation of the citizens of the community should be given to the officials in removing this menace.

There has been perhaps some little improvement in the matter of spitting on the sidewalks since the last warning notices were posted and the officers have had instructions to warn all offenders but the practice hasn't been checked to any material degree and the more drastic action of the officials will probably be required before the people are aroused to a realization of the wrong in this custom. Let sufficient warning be given and the necessary drastic action, too, be taken and stop the practice so that Kinston's thoroughfares will be sanitary and suitable places for promenades rather than filthy eye sores.

COL. FAIRBROTHER'S "PRIMARY" VIEWS.
 Col. Al Fairbrother thinks the state-wide primary will put a "collar on the voter" and that it is wanted by the politicians and not by the people. That has not been our observation. The politicians very largely have been opposed to the state-wide measure for many of them realize that when the people get a free and impartial "shot at them" their days of full sway will have ended. The old convention plan has gone further than the collar and has put shackles and chains upon the people and time and again have delegates, appointed and instructed to carry out the particular wishes of the people, had an overnight change of heart. It is of course possible for influence to be brought to bear upon the voters but not probable that there will be any wholesale or material "change of heart" through

corrupt practices as is the case and as always will be the case with the gag rule convention.

ABUSING PRISONERS

Every now and then the outrageous treatment of prisoners, sentenced to the chaingangs or road force of the various counties is aired and practically every time an investigation is made in any county some abuse and unwarranted treatment is found to have been dealt out to the prisoners. A few months ago in Wake, the grand jury made an investigation into the conditions at the various camps, and found a most revolting situation. Prisoners were required to sleep in a cage that was mangy with vermin and in such numbers as not to have room to even turn over and some instances they just had room enough to lay on their sides in sardine fashion. They were required to eat musty and unsanitary food, filled with flies and roaches, and were given no bathing facilities whatsoever, except a single pan in which they went through the motion of washing their hands and all in the same water.

The latest "system" to be looked into is the one in Pasquotank, where Judge Frank Carter has been presiding over this term of the Superior court.

He announced from the bench that his investigation showed the guards had been guilty of violating the prohibition law, that one guard had received through the express office in the past 17 months 251 quarts of liquor; that gross cruelties had been practiced upon the prisoners and the whole affair was a disgrace to the county. Judge Carter went further and said he would avoid sentencing any prisoners to the county chaingang as far as possible, until the system had been overhauled and all the present guards and officers eliminated. There should be some state board whose particular business it should be to make regular inspections of the county convict system and this board should have the authority to right such wrongs by summary action in removing those guilty of misconduct, from official positions. A jail inspector for the state is needed. There are calaboses and lockups in use in this state that are disgraces to civilization and unfit to incarcerate a hog in much less a human being. The guards who violate the law should be given to understand that they are not immune and those who ruthlessly treat the unfortunate creatures put under their charge, should be dealt with in a measure to correct the evil.

FOR SALE - Cottrell newspaper press and Dexter folder. Will print and fold 4 or 8 pages, 6 columns. A bargain. Address Free Press, Kinston, N. C. 9-14-14

WHAT OTHERS SAY

THIS EXPRESSES OUR VIEWS.

Wilmington Star: Let us think more of the ruin of humanity in Europe than we do of what happens to its art and architecture. The horrible feature of the war is the sacrifice of hundreds of thousands of human beings.

YES, BUT CLEAN UP.

Raleigh Times: The city commissioners will do well not to restrict the sale of meat, fish and oysters to the city market house. Grocers and other dealers should be made to have clean quarters in the interest of health but they should not be forced out of business.

NOT REFERRING TO CHARLESTONIANS

The leader of the successful cause in Virginia was named Cannon, but "Uncle Joe" need not take this as a good omen, because he would be about as much out of place yelling for prohibition as a South Carolinian dolled up in a dress-suit and endeavoring to eat with a fork.

ROLL OF HONOR GROWING.

Raleigh News & Observer: With Virginia added to the list of the "dry" States by the decision of the voters in Tuesday's election, the number of States with State-wide prohibition is increased to ten. The others on the roll of honor are North Carolina, Maine, North Dakota, Kansas, Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia, West Virginia and Oklahoma.

DISPATCH EVIDENTLY "CENSORED"

Richmond News Leader: "Berlin adversely criticizes King George's speech," says a cablegram. Is it possible? But astonishing things do happen, and that's a fact. Of course, however, it was not expected that Berlin would laud any speech King George made at this particular juncture of Anglo-German mutual admiration and love.

COMPARISONS ARE "ODIOUS"

Greensboro News: The announcement that A. Rustem Bey is going away mad has caused another "profound sensation" in Washington. We suppose that if Bud Byers were to go to Washington and get lit up and begin indulging in illusions of grandeur and martial prowess, as we have seen him do—and as, knowing Bud as we do, we know he would do, if ever he got there—it would cause a profound sensation.

"CONSIDER SOURCE" OF DISSATISFIED.

Charlotte Observer: Some of the partisan newspapers have referred to the peace treaties formulated and signed up through the activities of Secretary Bryan as "scraps of paper." There are 226 in all. Financial America takes the sensible view of these "scraps" when it says that they "are strong enough to give ample assurance that none of the Nations represented will enter upon war with a fellow signatory without first having

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time to realize the utter foolishness of the cat." The Nations now bound by the Bryan peace treaties comprise 35,000,000 square miles, of the 55,000,000 estimated to compose the surface of the earth. It would therefore seem to be quite a valuable collection of scraps of paper.

WORK AND PRAY.
SOUND ADVICE.
Progressive Farmer: The best advice about cotton is this: "Don't get scared; get busy." What we need is work. John Wesley, we believe it was, said a man ought to pray as if everything depended upon the Almighty and work as if everything depended upon himself. It's good advice in this crisis. We should go after our congressmen as if everything depended upon them, and then organize holding and warehouse movements in every State and county as if everything depended upon State local action. If we abandon local effort and think of nothing but Congress, we may find, like Aesop's dog, that we have dropped the bone for the shadow.

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