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WEDNESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 27, 1915

News dispatches tell of the cheering crowds that groated Harry Thaw on the way from New Hampshire to New York in custody of a sheriff. Sincerely to be hoped that the demonstrations are not to be construed as a manifestation of sympathy for the slayer of the New York architect.

Rocky Mount will embark in the Virginia State League of professional baseball the coming season. Of course. all North Carolinians will pull for the "Tar Heels." Some of these days, after the Eastern Carolina League is revived and Kinston is perched at the top of the heap, it will be entirely in order for a test of the strength of the two leagues to be made by the respective teams of Rocky Mount and Kinston.

Of all the uncanny analogies this one of old man Joe Reece in The Greensboro Record takes the cake: "Here it is again-a cold wave on Sunday. It is the weather man's favorite day for such things. By the way, it would be a mighty good time to look after your water pipes. Plumbers are hungry for a job. They are right now smiling like an undertaker when he gets notice that some one is dead."

Secretary Bryan doesn't like the prospects of having a Inndslide interfere with that trip through the Panama Canal and we can't say that we blame him. His suggestion to build another canal would hardly be practical to overcome the present disabilities. Mr. Goethals would hardly he expected to dig another ditch on such short notice for the grand naval parade. Here's hoping the slides will cease and the program for formally opening the big cut carried out as now planned.

The Wilmington Dispatch delivers itself of the following political comment: "But the more the Republican party lugs its dreadnaught, the William H. Taft, into the fray, why the greater the incentive for the Bull Moose branch to send forth its submarine, the Theodore Roosevelt, and about which warfare the Democrats are delightfully seutral." Too bad that the daily scrutiny of war news should have the effect of causing Brother Cowan to think in terms of war and express himself in the vernacular of the belligerent.

THE DAILY FREE PRESS This is not a matter of speculation or an original idea to be tried out. It is a proven plan, in use in all the cities of the country where the safeguarding of the health of the people has been given the greatest care and consideration. Let's not wait to swat the pestiferous creabefore he arrives. The city fathers will do well to take this matter under advisement at their February meeting second class matter under act of Congress, March 3, 1879.) Hot weather will be here before long and the fly will begin to multiply as fast as ever unless a death blow is

> HE TELEPHONE'S REMARKABLE CHIEVEMENT.

dealt him now.

Monday the first trans-continental conversations were indulged in. For years the telephone people have been working on a line connecting the Atlantic coast with the Pacific. The accomplishment of this end was only after the expenditure of millions of dollars and much time in experimenting. President Wilson was one of the first to talk over the line. The mayors of New York and San Francisco exchanged greetings. The officials of the telephone companies congratulated each other on their success. Heretofore telephone communication from the East has only been had as far west as Denver, and the extension over the other half of the distance to the Pacific slopes has been a dream of the inventor, Dr. Bell, and his lieutenants. New York business men can now-or at least as soon as the line is thrown open for commercial service-talk to their business connections in San Fran-

cisco, for which they will pay at the rate of eleven and a half cents a second, or six dollars and ninety cents a minute, or twenty dollars and seventy cents for each three minutes' conversation. Pretty dear upon first consideration, but not so upon reflection. Big business won't mind the charge a bit. Congratulations for the telephone wiz-

THE COST OF KINSTON'S NEW **GOVERNMENT BUILDING?**

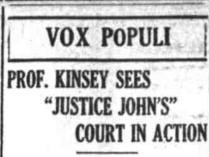
ards. Their achievement is truly remarkable.

When the press dispatches from Washington announced a few days ago that the contract for Kinston's new Federal building had been let and the cost was to be \$53,100 The Free Press immediately called the attention of Con gressman Kitchin to the matter and asked him to investigate and see if the building was not inferior to the on contemplated, when the appropriation of ninety thousand dollars for lot and building was secured. A letter from Mr. Kitchin advises that he will immediately look into the situation and endeavor to see that Kinston gets what is coming to her in this matter. He adds that he, too,, feels that if the building is only to cost \$53,100 it will be inferior to what we ought to get. He says, too, that he finds from talking with some of the other congressmen that other contracts have been let at less than the appropriation. Mr. Kitchin will investigate and advise the people of Kinston, through The Free Press, what he finds out about this matter. The people of Kinston will not want to block the progress of the erection of this much needed addition to the city's buildings, but there will be a desire to see

to it that a building in keeping with the city and the limit of the appropriation is given us.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

HOW "UNPREPAREDNESS" FLOCK DWINDLES Winston-Salem Journal: "Congressman Gardner o Massachusetts, who created such a stir last fall with his war-scare speeches and even carried his campaign for a bigger army and navy so far that some really seemed to think he would be able to force Congress to provide for an investigation of the country's military affairs by spec



THE KINSTON FREE PRESS

Editor Free Press:

While in Richmond Monday, I went to the city Police Court, over which Justice John Crutchfield presides. It is interesting to watch him dispose of those guilty of violating laws on Sunday. As soon as he takes his seat he begins to call the names of offenders and these names are repeated in a louder tone by a policemen standing near. Immediately the prisoners and sometimes a few witnesses step up and hands go to the Bible, and it is kissed by each one. Then follows something like this:

"You are charged with being drunk and disorderly on Sunday. What about it? The officer tells something in a low tone and then Justice John says "Guilty!" While the prisoner is telling his side of it the justice is writing on his book and listening at the same time, and often before the prisoner gets through his story, you hear "Sixty days!" Without anothe: work the prisoner is taken by the arm by a bluecoat and brass-buttoned official and hurried to the pen in the rea: of the court room. Sometimes you hear "Five" or "Ten and costs," Then the guilty one is required to deposit the required sum with the desk sergeant, seat on the right of Justice John. While the fine is being paid and before the next name is called the justice is writing sentence on his docket before him, and his clerk seems to be writing same on his book, which seems just like Justice John's. learned that Justice John keeps his own book and writes his sentences with his own hand. Most of the cases brought before him were disposed of in one minute, or two at most. One case, from Barton Heights, for stand ing on the street corner, in which two lawyers and the mayor appeared, occupied more time. Justice John gave very close attention to each one, and after a few moments looked some what undecided and disposed of it by saying "Bond for \$300 to appear next Thursday," and court was over. As the crowd was moving out I contrast ed this with our proceedings in Len. oir county. Often in our Superio. Court cases similar to some he disposed of in less time than five min utes, occupy a whole day. I know quite a number of witnesses go to

Kinston every day for a week to tes tify in some unimportant case which

Tempt the appetite,

please the taste and nourish the body. Crisp, clean and fresh-5 cents in the moisture-

could have been disposed of by a magistrate in LaGrange in twenty minutes or by Justice John in one minute, and the county saved much cost and witnesses much time. It seems like justices of the peace should have final jurisdiction in such cases and keep them out of Superior Court. From this court I went to the Juvenile Court, in the same building. This court is presided over by Jus-

tice John, too, and he goes from the regular police court to this. However, there is this difference: three city ministers, known as steering committee, hear many of the cases before they come before Justice John, and make recommendation to him as to the disposition, which he confirms, This steering committee will sometimes recommend these youthful offenders to be sent to the detention homes. The city has two of these homes: one for white, and the other for negroes, and supports both by set-

pulpits.

TO THE FRONT

His Experience.

words:

back and in the morning I was so sore spells and the kidney secretions passhad taken other remedies with no re-

There is One Place above all others where every cent expended for beautification

and comfort is well-spent. The Home--Make it Beautiful and attractive. It will hold the boys and girls. It will make the husband a better man. Try it. **OUALITY FURNITURE PLEASES**



The Rocky Mount Telegram expatiates somewhat or the reports that citizens of English coast towns have to stay indoors one day out of each week to rest their necks which are constantly strained in watching the heavenfor German airships. The Telegram suggests that there are many people in its vicinity, who would be benefited by a trip to England if by so doing they would acquire the habit of looking up. Quite clever, but then we have the temerity to suggest that there are, no doubt, a good many rubber necks in Rocky Mount who would be well qualified for the guard duty, and who would not find it necessary to take a day off once a week. How about it?

People on Queen street Tuesday morning were treated to one of the regular periodical run-away sights. The frightened animal started from somewhere near the Norfolk Southerr depot, and was lost to view in the southern part of the thoroughfare. Fortunately nobody was hurt. In fact, it is a remarkable thing how expert the Kinston nags have become in dodging pedestrians and other vehicles when they take their accustomed "exercise" in running full speed over the most crowded streets of the city. ing law and having it enforced.

al committee, had thirty-four followers when the show lown finally came in the House Friday, which only goes to show that men are often not half as important as they think they are."

SIZING THINGS UP VERY WELL.

Brooklyn Citizen: "News from Mexico is as uncertain as that from the European war fields; in fact, more so One paper today has it that American Agent Carothers has been shot dead by General Villa for aiding in the escape of General Iturbide from the country; another that Carothers has sought the Villa camp as a refuge, and still another-but what's the use? The country is plainly in a chaotic condition, politically and socially, and agriculture languishes; all owing to the ambitious efforts of a lot of traitorous scamps to secure the presidency, each for himself, in an election by bullets, not ballots."

A FAIR DEAL FOR LACY

Charlotte Observer: "When they go after the official scalp of State Treasurer Lacy, they should go after it in a fair way, openly and above board. They may claim that he has had the office long enough-and that is for the peo-Their accomplishment is, perhaps, responsible for the ple to say-but he should not come under criticism for lack of casualties, but some of these days there is going having managed the affairs of the Treasurer's office strictto be a "miscalculation" on the part of these smart beasts ly and consistently under the requirements of the law govand somebody will be run down. The city fathers could erning the care of the State's funds. While the system very largely remove the danger of such by passing a hitch- under which the Treasurer is required to conduct the office may be subject to criticism -and the Mountcastle-

Webb report would indicate that the system is in need If the fly crop in Kinston is not reduced by eighty-five of modernization, it is but fair that the Treasurer should to ningty per cent. in 1915 as compared with what it has be absolved from blame for that system. He was placed been heretofore the city fathers may assume the respon- under it by the State and whatever of fault there may be sibility. They have it in their power to largely relieve belongs to the State. He has administered the affairs of the people of this city from the fly menace. The eradica- the State Treasurer's office honestly and efficiently, and tion of the breeding places is the most essential step for that is the point that should be kept in mind by those by so doing the greatest blow to the pest can be dealt who would give him a fair deal.

