

THE DAILY FREE PRESS

PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY. VOL. XVI—No. 289 SECOND EDITION KINSTON, N. C., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1915 FOUR PAGES TODAY PRICE TWO CENTS

ENTIRE EQUIPMENT OF BIG GUNS BOTH SIDES BEING USED

Fierce Exchange of Artillery Fire Along Whole Western Line

AIRMEN ACTIVE AT FRONT

Germans Lose Heavily In One Attack—Von Hindenburg's Army Again Is Chased Out of Lodz—Headquarters in Kalisz

(By the United Press) Paris, Feb. 11.—For the bombardment of positions, aeroplanes are reported to have been sent out by both sides all along the battle line in the north. On the entire front from the sea to the Champagne region, both sides are reported to be utilizing the entire artillery strength. Many villages and towns behind the actual fighting line are suffering greatly. Bombardment of Soissons and Laon continues.

Paris, Feb. 11.—Another bombardment of Laon is in progress. Great portions of both cities have been demolished by the persistent shell fire of the Germans. German aviators are active in the North. They have bombed Furnes and the suburbs of Dunkirk. In the Argonne region artillery duels continue, both sides throwing bombs, especially in the vicinity of Bolfont and Bagatelle.

Both Sides Reinforcing. Paris, Feb. 11.—The Germans today attempted to attack Mesnilles, in the Hurlus region, but were repulsed with very heavy losses. The German advance guard was smothered by the fire of the French machine guns. In the Champagne region the fighting is of increasing intensity.

Additional troops are being brought into action by both sides. In the Argonne region the French are maintaining their positions. In the Vosges region active operations are being hindered by a heavy fog.

CORN STALK DISEASE RAVAGES NEBRASKA

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 11.—The ravages of the corn stalk disease among horses this winter are the worst in the history of Nebraska, according to Dr. Charles M. Day, state field veterinarian, in a report today.

According to word received by the state veterinarian's department from one of its field men, over two hundred horses have died in one county alone as a result of the disease. The animals affected with the disease first become affected with drowsiness and later become delirious. The disease is acute and death results within a few days. The attacks are in almost every instance fatal.

BULLETINS

RUSSIAN FLEET WRECKS BATTERIES AND BRIDGES.

Petrograd, Feb. 11.—The Russian Black Sea fleet has bombarded and destroyed Turkish batteries at Trezoznde. After silencing their fire, the ships destroyed two bridges in the vicinity of Piantana and sunk over fifty Turkish sailing craft.

FOOD RIOTS IN BERLIN REPORTED.

London, Feb. 11.—It is officially stated that serious riots in the potato markets of Berlin occurred yesterday. The police were required to take stern measures to suppress disorder.

RAILROADS ALLOWED TO COMPETE WITH CANAL

I. C. C. Permits Lower Rates on Freight Consigned to Certain Points on Pacific Coast—End of "Intermountain" Case

(By the United Press) Washington, Feb. 11.—The Interstate Commerce Commission today permitted railroads to compete with the Panama Canal traffic by allowing lower rates to the Pacific coast, in a decision ending the "intermountain case." Rates to intermediate points are to be higher than coast rates within certain limits.

MORSE MAY NOT BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL

Unless State Gets More Evidence In sane Man Who Declares He Killed Eight Aged People Will Go Free—In Bellevue

(By the United Press) New York, Feb. 11.—Frederick Morse, whose confession that he killed eight inmates of the German Odd Fellows' Home at Yonkers, has been partially corroborated, may go free. Coroner Dunn is awaiting a formal ruling as to Morse's sanity from Bellevue Hospital, where he has been under observation. District Attorney Weeks today expressed the belief that Morse will go free unless the State can get more evidence.

INSURANCE MEN AT CLEVELAND

Cleveland, Feb. 11.—Insurance legislation in the various states was an important topic today before the mid-year session here of conference committee of the National Association of Insurance Agents. Members of the committee are present from all parts of the United States.

STAY IN COUNTRY AND IMPROVE THE SCHOOLS—KINSEY

Thinks Plan to Move to City for School Advantages on Wrong Principle—Efforts to Improve Schools Are Being Made

Prof. Joseph Kinsey, superintendent of the county schools, is enthusiastic over the progress being made in the rural schools this term. He visited schools in Institute, Sand Hill, Southwest and Woodington townships last week.

"The attendance in all the schools is good now," the superintendent declared. "Some are enrolling every one coming under the compulsory law. One district in Institute is getting ready for a special tax election. There are two white schools in Sand Hill township, one having special tax and the other planning to hold an election this spring and take in a section of Jones county so as to have a two-teacher school. The special tax school in the Sand Hill section has given an order for 70 single desks. This school has two experienced teachers who are doing fine work. Sand Hill has a colored school, the teacher of which has evidently read that the gods help those who help themselves, because every time the schoolhouse needs any repairs she goes around among the patrons and collects enough cash to pay one-half. That's Sand Hill's way of doing things—meeting you half-way."

"In Southwest the double school under the management of Misses Vause and Mathews has broken the record in attendance. Never before have more than 70 pupils appeared at recesses on the playgrounds at one time. They now have 81. "The first school in Woodington I saw on this trip was the McGowan school, taught by Mrs. Burt. She needs a larger and better building"

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AIM OF BRITAIN TO CLEAR THE EAST OF GERMANY COMMERCE

"Drastic Steps" to Paralyze Shipping Will Be Taken, Asquith Says—Sixty Per Cent Wounded Recovered—No Peace Hopes

(By the United Press) London, Feb. 11.—Premier Asquith, in the House of Commons today announced that England will take drastic measures to paralyze all German commerce. Mr. Asquith also stated that fully 60 per cent. of the wounded British have recovered. According to Sir Edward Grey in a speech before the House of Commons, the Allies see no likelihood of an opening which would tend toward peace at the present time.

HAS CUPID BEEN VICTIM OF BOGUS LICENSE GAME

Question Worrying Uncle of Young Girl of Aurora and Register of Deeds Pridden—Lenoir License Used in Carteret

J. A. Hardy of Aurora, N. C., is afraid that someone in Kinston duped his niece, pretty Nina White, and Ardrey Lane, young people of that place, with a fake marriage license on the night of January 26. There is a letter in the register of deeds' office at the Courthouse from Mr. Hardy, in which he asks if license was granted the couple. Register Pridden has assured him that no license was issued such parties.

Several days ago Mr. Pridden told The Free Press of the efforts of the couple to get license here. He had refused them. From here they went to Goldsboro. The register there also declined to issue the paper. Both officials told the ardent Ardrey that he would have to prove the young lady's age. The registers learned that the couple returned to Aurora and stated that they had been married.

Mr. Hardy says Lane is 20 years of age and the girl only 15. They "ran away," he claims. From the tone of his letter, Register Pridden gathers that Mr. Hardy is not angry over the marriage. He simply wants to be certain that the ceremony was legally performed, he intimates. "They are only children and we are afraid some scamp has fooled them for the price of license, etc.," the uncle of the supposed bride states. Her father is an invalid. For reference as to his character, etc., Mr. Hardy, who is a man of more or less prominence in his community, advises the register to see a well known local man.

Register of Deeds Pridden declares that unless "the children" are knowingly practicing a deception the chances are that young Lane was the victim of some unscrupulous party who "framed up" a bogus license, and had a mock marriage performed. The authorities are puzzled about the affair and an investigation in full is certain to be brought on.

This morning Andrew Berry, an industrious black of this county, was worried by the mistake of a Carteret county preacher who married his son, George Berry, to Olivia Sutton of Wildwood, in that county, using a Lenoir county license. He was informed that the license stood good, and that the ceremony was valid, and no one but the preacher was responsible. The preacher, if any interested party wants to prosecute the matter, is liable to a fine of \$200. Berry was trying to get into communication with people at Wildwood after hearing that the authorities there were threatening to make trouble for the minister.

Dallas, Texas, Feb. 11.—While New Yorkers are buying "police whistles" with which to frighten holdups, citizens of Texarkana, Tex., are buying corn cob pipes for the same purpose. W. E. Welcome pointed a cob pipe at a holdup, who fled down an alley.

ON GUARD IN POLAND



German soldier on guard duty in the snow in Poland, wrapped in heavy furs and with ear protectors.

REMEMBER, TONIGHT IS TIME FOR HOLDING FAIR MASS MEETING

You Are—Everybody Is—Urged to Be at City Hall at 8 o'Clock to Discuss Ways and Means for Holding Fair

Every member of the Chamber of Commerce is asked by the directors to attend tonight's mass meeting in City Hall under the Chamber's auspices for the purpose of taking some action towards the organization of the district fair it is proposed to hold here next fall. A general invitation has been extended the citizens of Kinston not members of the body, and a special invitation to the farmers of Lenoir and the surrounding counties. The meeting will be held promptly at 8 o'clock. A full discussion of the benefits to be derived from it and the chances for successful operation of the fair will be had, with everyone present entitled to voice his sentiments. That is the purpose of the Chamber in holding the mass meeting to popularize the idea and ask the public's co-operation.

Half a dozen of the most prominent men of the county constitute the Chamber's committee on fair. They have studied county exhibits in every section of the East. They generally agree that there are one or two model institutions of the kind in the State, but none with such a purpose as the one to be inaugurated here. Most of the fairs of the kind have for their purpose the boosting of a solitary county. The one here will be for the mutual benefit of as many as six counties. All will be asked to contribute to its success, and none will be discriminated against in favor of another. The Farmers' Unions of all will be urged to accept the exhibit as a means for aiding agricultural progress, stock growers, horticulturalists and all others of the rural sections will be given as much consideration by the management of the fair as are the merchants and manufacturers of Kinston. The fair will be held during the tobacco season, which will be a big thing and afford opportunity at an ideal time for the participation of all classes of industries.

DANCERS TO HELP TEUTON HOSPITALS

Philadelphia, Feb. 11.—Many prominent persons affiliated with German and Austrian relief societies will attend the ball of the German-Austrian relief Association here tonight. The proceeds will be used to purchase ambulances and other needed medical supplies for German and Austrian hospitals abroad.

PRISON BOARD WILL CONTROL CONVICTS' WORK IN THE FUTURE

Governor and Council of State Relieved of Supervision—House Adopts Income Tax—Other Matters in the Legislature

(By W. J. Martin) Raleigh, Feb. 11.—The Senate today passed the Kent bill from the House to enable medical students to have special examinations upon certain of lesser essential studies on the completion of these studies and have credit on their final examination for medical licenses. A bill passed will give the State's prison board control of convict work instead of the Governor and the Council of State in conformity with a recommendation by Governor Craig. Senator Thompson of Onslow, introduced a bill to establish a legislative reference library.

The House received with unfavorable report from the committee a bill to require railroad companies to pay employes twice a month, but with the recommendation that certain shopworkers be paid semi-monthly.

In committee of the whole, the House adopted the income tax feature of the revenue bill, also the sections as to theaters, theatrical companies, shows, carnivals and the like, without change.

CONSTITUTIONALISTS WERE NOT DEFEATED

Headquarters Deny Report of Setback at Monterey—Still Occupy Environs of City—Fighting Said to Be Near Capital

(By the United Press) Washington, Feb. 11.—Carranza headquarters deny the report that a constitutionalist army has been defeated at Monterey. The constitutionalists retain their positions in the suburbs, and are confident of capturing the city. Fighting is reported to have occurred in the southern suburbs of Mexico City.

CLEVELAND FEARS THE "JITNY BUS"

Cleveland, Ohio, February 11.—The city regulates the street cars. If the earnings of the Cleveland Railway company are over a stipulated amount, fares remain three cents. If they fall below, the fare reverts to five cents.

The popularity of the "jitney bus" sweeping East from the Pacific coast, already has invaded Ohio. Two plans to install the "jitnies" in Cincinnati are now being worked out. One promoter is said to have ordered fifty with the trailers. Cleveland, it is feared, is next. The congested street car traffic here which has already caused plans to be drawn for a subway system, would be shared with the "jitney buses" and would cut down the earnings of the railway company to such an extent that a five cent fare would be a permanent infliction.

HARVEY AND WOOTEN UNIVERSITY TRUSTEES

The legislative joint committee on trustees of the University Wednesday night in the Supreme Court building at Raleigh, made the nominations which will be reported to the General Assembly, in joint session, for confirmation.

Mr. C. Felix Harvey of Kinston was nominated for a term expiring November 10, 1923, to succeed P. R. Cappellet, and Speaker Emmett E. Wooten was nominated to succeed himself, his new term to expire November 30, 1919. There were 27 nominations in all.

GREENE COUNTY COURT SITS ON THE 22D.

A two-weeks' term of Superior Court for Greene county will be convened by Judge George W. Connor at Snow Hill on February 22.

SOLICITOR DECLINED TO MAKE EXPLANATION

Contents in Short Note to Judge Carter that Court Had Passed on Matter When Assessing Fine of \$50 Against Him.

(Special to Free Press.) New Bern, N. C., Feb. 11.—Judge Frank Carter in Superior Court at New Bern Wednesday afternoon called upon Solicitor Charles Abernethy to prepare in writing and submit to him at the opening of court this morning an explanation of the State Attorney's action in attempting to have the James Baugham case continued and why he attempted to have it continued without consulting him. It was the Baugham matter that caused Judge Carter on Monday to accuse the Solicitor of contempt of court and fine him \$50. He was informing the Judge that the defense had asked that the case of young Baugham, who is alleged to have caused the death of James Kinggold by running his automobile into the victim's buggy or otherwise, be continued, and that the State would like to agree because of certain conditions. Judge Carter said something about the matter "dragging." Abernethy hotly resented what he regarded as a reflection upon his sense of duty, and was told to sit down. He did not sit down quickly enough to please the court, and was ordered in arrest and to jail unless he paid a fine of \$50.

This morning Solicitor Abernethy, in a letter of about three lines to Judge Carter, stated that he considered the matter passed upon and had no further explanation to make. When Judge Carter fined him that ended his responsibility to explain, he said, in effect. It is Judge Carter's next move. It is rumored but not confirmed that he is looking up the law to ascertain what further step he will be justified in taking.

OLD SOLDIERS NEEDS AND DESERTS URGED IN ELOQUENT APPEAL

Dr. Pollock, Representative of Lenoir Veterans, is Hopeful that State and County May Provide for Confederate Veterans

(By Dr. John A. Pollock) "On Friday last, February 5, the two committees jointly met in session in Raleigh to consider measures for increasing the pensions of the soldiers and widows of the Civil War. Several bills were laid before the committee for consideration. The secretary, in his remarks, said he feared the appropriation committee would not accede to the demands that would be made on them. After the bills were read and the secretary had expressed his fears the visitors were invited to give their views and specify what they thought the old soldiers desired done for them in this particular. Major Graham arose and made a statement that the pensions for the Confederates should be increased and their widows better cared for. He made a beautiful speech, full of thrilling incidents of the late war. The son spoke worthy of his noble sire.

Judge Clark was called upon to give his views and advice. The Judge spoke in praise of Lenoir county; of her soldiers and her people, and asked that the representative of the old soldiers of that county (Dr. Pollock) should be first heard from. The writer promptly responded, and thanked him for his reference, so eulogistically made of his people, and the delicate compliment will be ever kindly remembered. I did my very best. Judge Clark then arose and spoke in a most persuasive manner and plead with the committee to see to it and at once that these old heroes should be better cared for and their widows to be looked after, so

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CARGO OF AMERICAN STEAMER FORMALLY SEIZED BY BRITISH

The Wilhelmina Ordered to Dock Where Foodstuffs May Be Transferred

OWNERS WILL MAKE KICK

Vessel Sailed Before Germany Set Precedent, Will Be Protest—Dacia, Off Today, Expects Clear Sailing for a While

(By United Press) Falmouth, England, Feb. 11.—The cargo of foodstuffs on the American steamer Wilhelmina was formally seized by the government today. The officials, acting upon instructions from London, took possession of the vessel and ordered her transferred to a dock where her cargo could be unloaded. Its final disposition will be determined by a prize court. It is stated that every effort will be made to hurry these proceedings. It is understood the owners of the cargo will enter claim that it is not subject to seizure, as it left the United States before action had been taken by German officials to seize foodstuffs. The steamer itself is not to be interfered with and will be free to sail after the cargo has been taken off. Dacia Off for Europe.

Norfolk, Feb. 11.—The Dacia sailed at 10:45 o'clock this morning. The captain was confident the vessel will not be molested by British war craft until well across the Atlantic.

SEVERAL OVERCOME BY BIG FIRE IN RICHMOND

Fifty Thousand Dollar Blaze in Virginia Capital Destroys Auto Supply Shop—Women and Children Narrowly Escape

(By the United Press) Richmond, Va., Feb. 11.—Fire early this morning destroyed the plant of the Chemi Company, an auto supply concern, with a loss of \$50,000. A woman and several children living in a flat over an adjoining store were overcome by smoke and rescued in an unconscious condition.

NEW YORK "MOVIES" TO FRISCO

New York, Feb. 11.—Moving pictures of New York city and New York State which are to be shown at the Panama-Pacific exposition, were to be started on their long journey across the continent today. The pictures show, among other things, subway crowd jams and other evidences that New York is the busiest place on earth.

YOUNG MAN WHO SHOT NEW BERN WOMAN IS PUT ON GOOD BEHAVIOR

Old Man to Be Tried for Murder at New Bern—Other Cases Before Criminal Term of the Superior Court There.

New Bern, Feb. 11.—In Superior Court here yesterday O. W. Thompson, a young man, who shot Clara Kimball, a woman of the underworld, in a suburb of New Bern some months ago, was allowed to pay the costs for assault with a deadly weapon and ordered to appear at each term of court for three years. The woman narrowly escaped death.

Today Jesse Creel is on trial for the murder of Gannon Fulford, a young man well known throughout this section. The accused man is aged. His daughter will be a witness prominent in the case. For attempted criminal assault upon a 9-year-old girl of his race, a negro, Cleveland Hilliard was sentenced to two years' imprisonment.