

# THE DAILY FREE PRESS

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WEDNESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 5, 1916

The weather prognosticators predicted bad weather for January. So far the predictions have failed of fulfillment, but there is ample time yet to make good, and we would not therefore discount the work of the alleged authorities.

News comes from Ayden that the new race track being built there will be formally opened for the first matinee race on January 14. The Ayden boosters and its live Chamber of Commerce are certainly keeping the little city in the limelight.

Five cases of smallpox discovered in one house on South Heritage street is sufficient to warn those who have not been vaccinated that it is time to take that precaution, since there are no quarantine regulations to protect those who have not been rendered immune from the disease.

Secretary Daniels evidently does not propose to have any State secrets leak out through ill advised and impromptu public utterances of men of his department. It is reported from Washington that the edict has gone forth that no more public addresses shall be made by naval officers.

Mr. Reader—Have you noticed how the Kinston merchants, advertising in The Free Press, have been expressing their appreciation for the good business accorded them during the year of 1915? It is interesting to note that business was good, and that the merchants are mindful of the opportunity to say "Thank you." Those two words should mean for Kinston merchants even a larger share of the patronage of the people hereabouts in 1916. "Keep Kinston Dollars in Kinston."

## AN ACTIVE REAL ESTATE MARKET IN KINSTON.

The number of transfers in Kinston and Lenoir property for the month of December is an encouraging index. There were 99 warrantee deeds recorded and property, the consideration of which is approximately \$140,000, changed hands. Included in these transfers was a town lot which sold for \$12,500 and one piece of property in the country for \$11,448.

December was probably the banner month for real estate in the county, and whether that was actually true or not, it was a splendid record. There can be no more substantial evidence of the growth and prosperity of a community than an active real estate.

## WHY NOT MR. TAFT FOR THE SUPREME BENCH?

As usual, when a vacancy in the U. S. Supreme Court occurs, speculation as to the probable appointee is rife. Several members of President Wilson's cabinet are now mentioned in the Washington dispatches, and Solicitor General John W. Davis of West Virginia, is prominently talked as the successor to Associate Justice Joseph R. Lamar.

The Free Press would like to nominate Mr. Taft. Justice Lamar was an appointee of President Taft. He was a Democrat and accepted his office at the hands of a Republican President as did his associate on the bench, Judge Lurton. Mr. Taft looked above partisan party lines when casting about for jurists to fill the vacancies in the highest tribunal in the world. Mr. Taft's appointment to succeed Justice Lamar would be most fitting and would meet the approval of practically every-

body in this country, except perhaps some political aspirants.

The Free Press understands that should Mr. Wilson consider Mr. Taft, a great many Democrats would raise a howl on the ground that there are too many deserving and qualified Democrats to appoint a Republican. The same cry was heard when Mr. Taft made his appointments but he did not heed them. Mr. Taft is a man of wide judicial experience, temperament and aspirations. His ability as a jurist has been attested in no better way than the good judgment displayed in his appointments to the Supreme Court.

President Wilson could do no better than to ignore party lines and tender the vacancy existing now on the Supreme Bench to Mr. William Howard Taft, former President of the United States.

## PROTECT BABIES FROM LOADED GUNS.

The story comes from Burlington of the killing of an 18-months-old child, it being alleged that the infant played with its father's gun during the absence of the other members of the family, and it is supposed in some way the hammer was caught when the innocent baby dragged the gun across the floor to its destruction. The question arises in the minds of thinking people why parents are so careless as to leave a loaded gun in reach of their babies, who know nothing of the death-dealing danger of firearms. The carelessness and negligence in such instances borders close to, if in fact, it does not enter the realm of crime. It makes no difference what the details of this and like tragedies are, those who are responsible should be impressed with the seriousness of such thoughtlessness. The Free Press believes that all parents should see to it that loaded guns are put entirely out of reach of the babies as well of all minor and irresponsible children.

## INACTIVITY OF COMMISSIONERS REGRETTABLE.

The Free Press is disappointed that the Board of County Commissioners could not see their way clear to appropriate the paltry sum of \$150 to provide for medical inspection of the school children of Lenoir county. Such inspections have been of great benefit wherever they have been made and are recommended and urged by the State Board of Health and other medical authorities.

As outlined in The Free Press Friday, Dr. G. M. Cooper, of the State Board of Health, came here last week and conferred with the school authorities and urged that the inspection be made. The Health Board was prepared to send one of its expert field men to Lenoir about the middle of the month. The County Board of Education, The Free Press is informed, acted favorably on the proposition and made an appropriation as well as presenting the proposition to the Board of Commissioners at their regular monthly meeting Monday. The Board of Commissioners took the matter under advisement, but took no action, according to the clerk of the Board. This inactivity on the part of the Board with reference to a matter so vital is regrettable. Some months ago when the question of a whole-time health officer was being agitated and considered in this district the matter was put up to the Board of Commissioners to do their part but, so far as The Free Press is informed, the Board has never yet gone to record. The unofficial reason, The Free Press is now informed, for the inaction of the Board on the proposition to have the school inspection, is lack of funds. The Free Press can hardly understand how such a reason can be given, for the outlay required is a mere bagatelle. The Board can find the money to build bridges, the absolute necessity for which at the present time is at least a cause for difference of opinion, and to undertake other improvement work, but it does not appear that the matter of public health has any concern among the members of the Board of Commissioners. The Free Press considers the plan of the State Board of excellent one and it believes that the County Board of Commissioners should have adopted it. It still believes that the Board of Commissioners ought to provide the small sum asked, and put Lenoir county in the class of the progressive counties which have a care for their children. Without discounting any of the improvements being undertaken in the county there is none so important as the proper safeguarding of the health of the boys and girls and the conservation of their strength, for assuming the responsibilities of citizenship in the future.

## WHAT OTHERS SAY

### TOO LATE.

Wilmington Dispatch: Representative Buchanan now comes forward with the statement that he will not plead immunity to arrest because of his position as a member of Congress. That will help so far as expedition of the case goes, but, alas, it will hardly help Mr. Buchanan in the estimation of the people. He has already made a fool of himself by pleading such immunity, on the start, instead of standing up before the world and, along with his declaration of innocence asserting that he was ready and anxious to face his accusers."

### THE STATES YOUNGEST JUDGE

Wilmington Star: "The Hon. Walter Parker Stacy, who took the oath of office in this city yesterday, is the youngest judge on the bench in North Carolina. He is 31 years of age, but his legal attainments, judicial temperament, qualifying ability and exceptional character led Governor Craig to appoint him judge of the Eighth Judicial district to succeed Judge Rountree, whose resignation took effect yesterday. As the worthy successor of an eminent predecessor on the bench, Judge Stacy will honor the judiciary of the State and wear the ermine unsullied in the discharge of his high duties in the courts of North Carolina.

"John J. Furlong, J. P., administered the series of oaths necessary for North Carolina judicial officers to take, and Judge Stacy will hold his first court at Warrenton, beginning January 17. The administration of the oath was informal, but a few friends were present to extend congratulations to the new judge upon his New Year honor. He had been a member of the Wilmington bar only six years, and it is worthy of note that in so short a time any young lawyer should not only establish a fine reputation in his adopted community but should make for himself a name which Governor Craig regarded as fit to go alongside the eminent names which adorn the judiciary roster of the great State of North Carolina.

"Wilmington is not going out of

its way to congratulate Judge Stacy upon his elevation to the bench, but the felicitations all come because they have been won by a young lawyer from a people among whom he came as a stranger, but a few years ago."

We Are Agents for Sheaffer Self-filling Non-leaking FOUNTAIN PENS THE SATISFACTORY PEN

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Lenoir Drug Co. On The Square Phone 114

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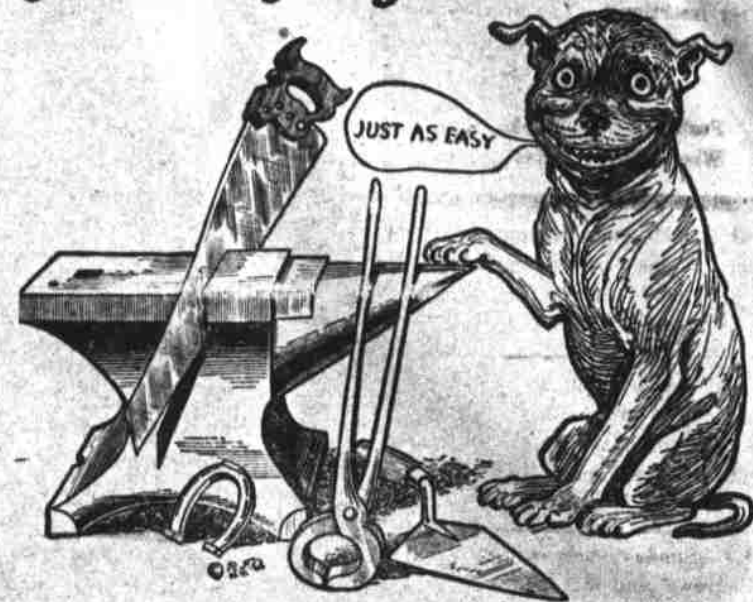
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# I Thank You All

For The Liberal Patronage Of the past year, and wish for each and everyone a Prosperous New Year. Mark Cummings

Buy your Tools from Us; you will get good Tools



DO NOT TAKE "ANY OLD THING" WHEN YOU BUY TOOLS. BUY OURS. WITH OUR TOOLS YOU CAN DO MORE WORK AND BETTER WORK, WITH LESS LABOR. AND THEY LAST LONGER. WE WON'T PINCH YOU ON THE PRICE, BUT GIVE YOU THE BEST MAKES AT A LOW PRICE. DON'T YOU NEED SOME GOOD TOOLS RIGHT NOW? COME IN.

## D. V. DIXON & SON

# CABBAGE PLANTS

1,000,000 Early Jersey Wakefield, 1,000,000 Early Charleston Wakefield.

Now is the time to put them out. All orders filled promptly. Write us for prices.

## H. H. GRAINGER Kinston, N. C.

**MIKE THE MESSENGER** THE STARS SEEM TO HAVE IT IN FOR MIKE BY **WALT DESMOND**

MIKE: I'M JUST WONDERIN' IF DERE'S ANYTHING IN DIS ASTROLOGY GRAFT—I'VE GOTTA NOTION TO SEPARATE MESELF FROM AN IRON MAN AN' TRY ME LUCK!

ASTROLOGER: SAY "PROF"—WHAT'S YER RATES FER MONKEYIN' WID TH' ZODIAC IN ME BEHALF?

MIKE: 50¢ AND \$1.00—THE 50¢ KINDI DON'T RECOMMEND AS THEY HAVE BAD NEWS IN THEM—BUT THE DOLLAR ONES CONTAIN NOTHING BUT GOOD LUCK, GOOD HEALTH AND A LONG LIFE!

ASTROLOGER: WELL—BEFORE I PART WID ME COIN I'D LIKE TO KNOW IF YOU'RE A REAL UP-AND-UP ASTROLOGER!

MIKE: I'M A CHARTER MEMBER OF THE ASTROLOGER'S UNION AN' I'VE CAST THE HOROSCOPES OF THE CROWNED HEADS OF EUROPE AND THE BONEHEADS OF AMERICA!

ASTROLOGER: YER CREDENTIALS LISTEN GOOD TO ME—SO SLIP ME ONE OF YER DOLLAR PROGNOSTICATIONS QUICK—AS I KIN STAND A LITTLE GOOD LUCK FER A CHANGE!

MIKE: I MUST HAVE MY MONEY IN ADVANCE, AS THE LINES OF YOUR POLARITY INDICATE PLAINLY A BAD CASE OF INHIBITION IN THE POCKETBOOK—

ASTROLOGER: AND I MAY ALSO SAY THAT VENUS, IN THE SEVENTH HOUSE, WHO LIVES NEXT DOOR TO SATURN, TELLS ME YOU SUFFER FROM ATTACKS OF KLEPTOMANIA!

MIKE: GEE!—I DIDN'T KNOW IT WUZ AS BAD AS DAT—I GUESS I OUGHTA BE CONSULTIN' A DOCTOR INSTEAD OF A FORTUNE-TELLER!