

THE DAILY FREE PRESS

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SAURDAY EVENING, APRIL 15, 1916

We learn from our Wilmington contemporaries that they are being stirred as never before by a great union revival. We are hopeful that our friend Cowan is lending his presence regularly to the services.

It appears to us that if Mr. W. E. D. Stokes, a New York millionaire, who is said to be the American representative of the Diaz faction has been instrumental in assisting Diaz or any other revolutionist in fomenting more trouble and inaugurating an uprising against the de facto government of Mexico, which has been given recognition by the United States, the Department of Justice might well take cognizance of Mr. Stokes' activities and ascertain if he has not been guilty of some offense against his Government for which he should be punished. His associations, at least, appear to be questionable.

The Mexican situation apparently grows more serious with each passing hour. As was to be expected, and freely predicted, the Mexican treachery is having its inning and our soldiers are being shot down by snipers and those who should really be lending every assistance to the United States forces to run down a common enemy. Such a large mass of the Mexicans are ignorant and therefore easily misled by false rumors, that there is little wonder if they misunderstood the mission of America in endeavoring to run to earth the notorious outlaw, Villa. Little consideration should be shown to those Americans if there should be any detected in giving rise to rumors which complicate the situation and inflame the Mexicans into animosity and opposition to the progress of our punitive expedition. Such offenders should certainly have justice meted to them promptly for their treasonable conduct.

Those who witnessed the demonstration of the results obtained in the Moonlight School campaign last fall when three men, one of them of middle age, and the other two having reached years of maturity before they knew one letter from another, could not help but be impressed with the good that can be accomplished from the Moonlight School effort. The three pupils who gave demonstrations of having acquired some knowledge at least of the three R's at the Moss Hill group center commencement Friday presented forceful and concrete examples which must have impressed every one present. The Free Press has before expressed its hope, and it will bear repetition here, that the campaign begun in North Carolina last fall for the elimination of adult illiteracy will be even more vigorously waged this fall and the coming years until it can be truthfully said that illiteracy has been driven from the State.

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NOT GOOD AFTER APRIL 22

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A WORTHY IDEA.

The idea of perpetuating the names of worthy Kinston citizens by naming the City Schools after them is one that should have the approval of every citizen. This plan has been in effect in other places and it is a most fitting way to commemorate the lives and deeds of those who have rendered conspicuous service. Far better is it to have a monument of usefulness than one of ornamental stone. There may arise some difference of opinion as to those best entitled to the honor, but certainly there will be few, if any, who will not endorse the action of the City school trustees Thursday night in naming the white schools after Captain Grainger and Dr. Lewis, both of whom took prominent place in the progress and development of this community and befitting, too, is it that Dr. Lewis be so honored during his lifetime. We congratulate the trustees for their timely and appropriate action.

THE POWER OF EXAMPLE.

Those who had the privilege of listening to the splendid address of Dr. E. C. Brooks, head of the Department of Education of Trinity University, who spoke at the Moss Hill group center commencement Friday, were impressed with the logical and forceful emphasis which he put upon the power of example. Dr. Brooks gave place to the theorists and accredited some good to their efforts, but he cared little, he said, for the teacher whose life was not a living example of his doctrine. He spoke of the newspapers who preached morality but whose editors were known to be dissolute characters and emphasized the inconsistency of such teachings. He called to task the theorist who would tell the planters how best to conduct their farms when they themselves had never demonstrated that they could successfully operate their own places.

In a most graphic way Dr. Brooks depicted the heroic age of the boy, pointing out how the ambition and admiration of the boy of tender years was first centered in one direction and then another because of the power of example, and the hero worship which dominated his little nature.

We believe the world is becoming more keen to the distinction between the teaching of those who practice what they preach and the hypocrites who do not take their own medicine than has marked its discrimination in the past, and we are glad that Dr. Brooks brought this message to us Friday. It would have been well if every man, woman and child in Lenoir County could have heard the masterful address.

Those who have been uneasy because of the apparent inactivity of the candidates will now observe that the pot is near the boiling point. The hats are flying like the cushions and pop bottles in a ninth inning rally.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

PICKING THE PRESIDENT.
Charlotte Observer: "One contributor to The Observer is disposed to advise the board of trustees of the State Agricultural and Mechanical College in the selection of a president that care must be had for the mechanical end of the problem. It is a fact that mechanical training has become, in consequence of the developing necessities of the State, of vast importance to the faculty of the college. This has been of appreciation in the past by the management, but the successor to Dr. Hill must be farmer, mechanic, business man, soldier, man of uncircumscribed managerial capacity and of the first class executive ability. Some of the applicants for the place may have one or the other of the qualifications for the presidency of the college, but not many will be found combining the whole. Out of the list of 25 or more from which the selection is to be made The Observer feels confident that the right man will develop."

A GOOD FAMILY COUGH SYRUP.
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VOX POPULI

To the Editor of The Free Press:
"The time is fast approaching when the dear people will be once more graciously considered, and approached with the deference so characteristic of the office-seeker, I have thought that every man might run for office once to his advantage, but not all at the same time, of course. There is no denying its tendency to make you humble for the time being at least. I am not a candidate for the coming campaign, strange as it may seem. I am still interested, however, in things political. And would like to see the Democratic party adopt such measures and means as would be for our common good, and eliminate the selfishness that is so apparent.

"We are all taxed, and not any of us but what realize it more and more each year, and the worst is yet to come. Where Kinston does have a little to show for their expenses, the county has nothing save an old truck, some mules, and the output of the Recorder's Court. There is still the treasurer's office, however.

"If the Democratic party can't even get men to hold office except those who serve themselves and their friends with so little regard for the public welfare, the people that vote and pay tax might as well realize it now as later.

I have been wondering what the orators would have for their theme in the coming campaign, the old soldier has been often referred to, and if that did not make the boys whoop, why the 'nigger' is next, any man knows, to mention the possibility of a 'negro' holding office tends to inflame the white man; then he is led like a lamb to the slaughter, while these political pirates begin to levy toll on the unsuspecting victim. The Southern soldier we remember with gratitude. I wish he sometimes might be considered more in a material way, and not be expected to subsidize so much on the reminders of his bravery in the past. And I suspect that most of them would like to see their country governed by an influence that did not work entirely for self, and I don't believe that we are worthy sons of such noble sires to sit quietly by, and let such an aggregation as is now in control of the Democratic party shape our destiny. The past performance of our party reminds us of the following poem:

"The open-work stocking,
The invisible stocking,
The cob-weby stocking
That keeps her so warm.
That is analogous, too.
"That grand old party, the Democratic party, the boss-ridden party that has fooled us so long.
"Most people that help manage affairs have some consideration of the sources from which their revenue is derived.

"The policy followed in this county is the reverse. I don't mean to leave the impression that we will not have oratory, but I was just wondering if the fellows that have any regard for the truth could risk their veracity on such thin ice.
"I am indeed grateful to my friends for their loyal support in the past and the encouragement to enter the coming campaign. I hope to ever be loyal to the principles for which you have supported me. I will have to decline, however, to enter the contest for nomination.
"Gratefully yours,
"P. A. HOOKER."

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BY WALT DESMOND.

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