

THE EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION CAROLINA MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION CONVENE IN KINSTON THIS MORNING---MANY PRESENT

Hon. John R. Hornady, Commissioner of Birmingham, Made Chief Address of Morning Session—Mayor Murphy of Greensboro, President of Association in Chair—Mayor Johnson of Raleigh Made Response to Address of Welcome—Mayor Sutton of Kinston Welcomed Association in Behalf of City—Shad Stew

The eighth annual session of the Carolina Municipal Association was called to order in the Grand Theater this morning a few minutes after ten o'clock by President T. J. Murphy, who is mayor of the city of Greensboro. The invocation was offered by Pastor Bernard P. Smith of the Christian church. Mayor Fred. Sutton of Kinston welcomed the convention in behalf of the city, speaking of his personal gratification at the honor shown Kinston by the association in electing to come here and bespeaking the welcome of every citizen of the community for the distinguished guests. Mayor James I. Johnson of Raleigh responded most graciously to the words of welcome of Mr. Sutton. He said that the delegates were looking forward to the barbecue and shad stew, which he said was really the "bait" which Mayor Sutton had used so successfully in having Kinston's invitation for this year's session accepted by the Asheville convention last year.

President Murphy delivered his annual address, which was very brief, but spoke of the splendid progress being made by the association and its objects and purposes. He called attention to the growth of the organization which, when he first attended only brought together a dozen or more municipal representatives. Between sixty and seventy-five are present today, and many more will be here for the Friday session, it was announced by President Murphy.

The chief address of the morning session was delivered by Hon. John R. Hornady, one of the city commissioners of Birmingham and honor guest of the organization. Mr. Hornady's most convincing address upon "Commission Government" was listened to with the manifest interest by those assembled, and at the conclusion of his remarks, Mayors McNeil of Fayetteville, Skinner of Durham and others took occasion to express from the floor their appreciation of the address and the convention voted to have the full address spread upon the minutes and furnished the members of the association.

There was not a very large gathering of town people at the morning session and this was to be regretted for the sessions are not executive, but purely for mutual exchange of betterment ideas and every citizen and good woman of the community is invited to the sessions.

Mr. Hornady told his hearers that commission form of municipal government was simply putting the affairs of the people on a business basis; he likened the municipality to a large family, contrasting the intimacy of municipal affairs with the interests of the people with the State and National government, and said that because of this intimacy the municipal affairs were most vital to the people; he told of the splendid results that had been accomplished in many cities and towns where this modern system had been employed. In his travels in the interest of commission government, while a newspaper editor, for the purpose first of studying at close range the operation that he might intelligently give to his readers in the Birmingham district first-hand information, when the time came for a change from the old aldermanic system and then later to enlighten other communities, he said that he had found some opposition to commission government because the people thought it was undemocratic—an indictment which he admitted would be a most serious one if true, but he declared it was not true. Commission government made it possible for the affairs to be placed more directly in the hands of the people than any other method;

not only, said he, did the people have the right under commission form of government to hire their representatives, but they could through the recall system "fire" them as well when they proved unfaithful, and, too, the power of legislation was vested in the people through the initiative feature and the power of vetoing the public acts of the commissioners through the referendum all contributed to placing the control absolutely in the hands of the people. One of the chief reasons for the inadequacy and inefficiency of the old aldermanic system, he said, was the fact that busy men were expected to do the public service without remuneration and because they had to care for their private affairs from which they obtained their livelihoods they could not perform be expected to give necessary time to the intricate affairs that must be handled. "He did not say that commission government guaranteed good government," declared Mr. Hornady, but that it did make it possible for the people to have that kind of government which they wanted, whether that was good or bad, the responsibility was with the people, and they had the shaping of their own affairs as they will. He pointed out the responsibility resting upon city officials for safeguarding the public health and for taking care of the interests of the people and showed how full-time, adequately paid commissioners could very naturally be expected to render better service than the "for glory" servants of the people. Mr. Hornady's address was most comprehensive and could have been heard by every citizen of Kinston and the other municipalities represented in the Association with profit.

Adjournment was taken for dinner at the conclusion of Mr. Hornady's address. The association was the guest of the Chamber of Commerce at a shad stew and barbecue in Parrott's Park.

The convention reconvened after the enjoyable barbecue and shad stew given by the Chamber of Commerce. Hon. D. Hiden Ramsey, commissioner of Asheville, spoke on "Police Efficiency." Mr. Ramsey placed the responsibility for adequate and efficient police protection, not so much on the individual patrolmen in the ranks as to the higher authorities, and back of them the people themselves. He pointed out that under the old regimes and order of things the average policeman commanded very little respect, he was looked upon as a necessary adjunct to the municipal government, holding his position because of party or political service. Mr. Ramsey is of the opinion that the policeman of the present day is coming into his own by being recognized in his truly important place. He emphasized the responsibility for selecting men of strong and irrefragable character for police duty, aside from good physique and morality, the ideal policeman must be clothed with courtesy. Other requisites of the good policeman, Mr. Ramsey thought, were mental alertness and judgment and courage. American cities are teaching the policeman that prevention of crime is more important than the mere record making in arresting violators. The responsibility of the policeman are being broadened and increased to include public safety, fire prevention, sanitation, truant officer, charity inspector and in every way looking out for the public weal. Mayor Jos. D. McNeill of Fayetteville, and ex-president of the National Firemen's Association, addressed the convention on "Fire Prevention" (Continued On Page Four)

ROOT NOT THE MAN TO BRING ABOUT A WEDDING OF PARTIES

Delegates to Conventions of Both Parties Tell Roosevelt — Barnes Grooming Root, Is Belief in Some Circles Today

(By the United Press) New York, May 4.—Progressive Republicans who followed Roosevelt in 1912 will not accept Root, even if Roosevelt does.

This was emphasized by a delegate to the progressive convention who today visited Col. Roosevelt at Oyster Bay in company with a Progressive Republican who is a delegate to the Republican convention. Both told Roosevelt that Root was not and could not be the man on whom the parties could agree.

There is much-voiced suspicion here that Barnes is grooming Root.

EVIDENCE ACCUMULATES AGAINST DAVID LAWSON

David Lawson, 13, colored, who shot and killed James Evans, another negro boy, in Neuse township on Sunday, will be given a preliminary hearing here Saturday. It is said at the sheriff's office that evidence is being accumulated which may cause Lawson to be held for Superior Court. Reputable white persons give him a bad reputation and some reports indicate that the shooting was premeditated, it is stated.

CHRISTIAN MINISTERS CONCLUDE CONVENTION

Annual Meeting of Preachers of Denomination, Held for Three Days at Wilson, Came to Close Wednesday—Kinston Pastor Delivered a Sermon—Addresses by Church Leaders

Wilson, N. C., May 4.—The annual meeting of the North Carolina Christian Ministers' Association was closed after a three days' session here yesterday when President J. C. Caldwell of Atlantic Christian College, gave an impressive address on "Consecration." The sermons of the meeting were delivered by Dr. W. T. Laprade of the Department of History of Trinity College, Durham, and Rev. B. P. Smith of Kinston. Other features of the program were addresses as follows: "Ministerial Cooperative Spirit," by C. C. Ware of Wilson; "What Should the Preacher Read?" by L. T. Rightsell of LaGrange; "How Far Should We Cooperate With Preachers of Denominations and Their Work?" by P. B. Hall of New Bern; "The Preacher's Social Life and Recreation," by W. O. Lappin of Wilson; "The Preacher and Church Music," by J. M. Perry of Kinston; "The Preacher and His Own Salvation," by J. J. Walker of Greenville, and "Should We Present 'The Plea' as Presented by the Pioneers in the 'Restoration Movement'?" by W. O. Winnfield of Bath.

There was spirited round table discussion of all these subjects. The next annual meeting will be held at Greenville, April 30 to May 2, 1917. The ministers attending were as follows: J. C. Caldwell, W. O. Lappin, R. Bagby, C. C. Ware, J. M. Waters, W. T. Mattox, Joel Vause and O. Mattox of Wilson; B. P. Smith, C. W. Howard, J. A. Saunders, J. W. Lollis and J. M. Perry of Kinston; W. A. Davis and C. E. Lee of Washington; J. J. Walker and H. H. Settle of Greenville; W. O. Winnfield, Bath; A. F. Leighton, Rose Hill; S. G. Sutton, Scranton; L. T. Rightsell, LaGrange; W. T. Laprade, Durham; J. A. Taylor, Whitakers; P. B. Hall, New Bern; J. T. Saunders, Genoa.

A resolution expressing strong confidence in, and hearty co-operation for Dr. Raymond A. Smith, newly-elected president of Atlantic Christian College, was unanimously passed by the body.

CASEMENT WILL BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL IN NEXT FEW DAYS

As Baronet Will Be Hanged With Silken Rope If He Wants It

READING WILL PRESIDE

Lord Chief Justice to Sit Over Court—Carson and Reading Appeal for Rank and File of Rebels—Leniency for Them

(By the United Press)

London, May 4.—Sir Roger Casement will be brought to trial on the charge of treason in a few days. Baron Reading, Lord Chief Justice of England, will preside. Unless Casement escapes a death sentence because of insanity, he will be hanged with a silken rope as a privilege.

The rank and file of the Irish rebels will be treated leniently. Edward Carson and John Redmond today appealed jointly in their behalf.

GERMAN REPLY MAY BE HANDED GERARD AT CAPITAL TODAY

(United Press Staff Correspondent) Washington, May 4.—Ambassador Gerard cabled the State Department that Germany's reply might be handed him today.

Ackerman Not Certain. By CARL W. ACKERMAN, Berlin, May 4.—It is now uncertain whether Germany's reply will be delivered to Ambassador Gerard today or tomorrow.

BULLETINS

(By the United Press)

BRITISH APOLOGY TO U. S. Washington, May 4.—Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British Ambassador, is to call upon the President this afternoon to present Great Britain's apology for an affront to the United States occasioned by the Governor of Trinidad's mistake in not returning a call made by Secretary McAdoo during the trip of the International High Commission.

THREE MEN OF ZEP. DIE IN THE WRECK

Heroes Remained Aboard to Meet Certain Death in Order That They Could Demolish Engines and Preserve Their Secrets—Craft Met Its Doom on Norwegian Coast; Sixteen Saved

(By the United Press) Stavanger, Norway, May 4.—To prevent the construction secrets becoming known to foreign governments, three members of the crew of the zeppelin L-20, wrecked on the Norwegian coast, stayed aboard to destroy the engines, going to certain death. Sixteen members of the crew rescued told of their heroism.

RECKLESS RUSSIANS APPLY TORCH TO LOT OF GOVT GASOLINE

(By the United Press)

Berlin, May 4.—Russian revolutionists have started a great fire at Moscow which has spread to the administrative buildings, and is still raging, advices today said, by exploding 5,000 tons of government gasoline.

GERMANS HOPE THAT PEACE WILL BE HAD BEFORE THE WINTER

But No Overtures Made to Washington With Regard to the Matter

LEAK IN STATE DEPARTMENT

Causes Protest From Berlin—Impression In Teutons' Capital That Belligerents Do Not Want to Face a Winter Campaign

By CARL W. ACKERMAN, (United Press Staff Correspondent)

Berlin, May 4.—Despite the unquestionably strong undercurrent of peace talk here, officials resent the intimation carried in a recent Washington dispatch that Chancellor Bethmann-Holweg had asked Gerard to cancel his vacation plans to return to America to transmit peace offers from Germany.

There is a general feeling that the war ought to end by the fall, some believe by November, and the impression prevails that all the belligerents are anxious to avoid another winter campaign. Some knowledge of this feeling reached Washington, inspiring the latest peace story. Germany, it is now learned, has protested to the State Department against some leak that caused the story's circulation.

CONTESTANTS PUT FORTH THEIR FINAL EFFORTS

All Striving for the 150,000 Extra Vote Coupon Which Closes Saturday Night—This Coming Saturday More Important Than the Close on the 13th

The special prizes are over and the winners have been awarded their gold, but the good reports continue to come in. Miss Edna Padrick barely missed one of the prizes, and by her exceptional efforts has become a dangerous contender for one of the cars. Mrs. George Taylor of LaGrange R. F. D. has by two very good reports made herself a possible winner on the 13th. Miss Dalia Hyatt of the city, Mrs. Emily Maxwell of Pink Hill, Mrs. Jay Smith of Leon, Mrs. E. A. Best of the city, and Miss Roberta Aldridge of LaGrange R. F. D. 5 continue to turn in their usual good reports. It is the slow steady plugging that wins, the old story of the tortoise and the hare, over and over again. Mrs. Claude Smith of the city, one of the Honor Roll candidates, is one of those steady and sure workers. Never a day goes by but what Mrs. Smith has accomplished something. It may be true that some days her success is not very great, and some times it is rather small, but at the end when the sum total is taken, it will be found that these reports added together make a great total. Miss Sadie Waller of Kinston R. D. F. 5 is another contestant who is always accomplishing some results. Nearly every day she has some report to send in for which she is credited with votes.

Every day from now until the close of the contest a kind of a summary of the day will be published in the paper. The best reports turned in on Tuesday were from Mrs. Claude Smith of the city, Mrs. Jay Smith of Leon, Miss Sue Mae Noble of New Bern, Miss Roberta Aldridge of LaGrange R. F. D. 5, Mrs. E. A. Best of Kinston, Miss Bettie Rouse and Miss Dorothy Taylor of LaGrange.

As the end draws near no one is paying any particular to the coupons that run in each issue of The Free Press. Most of the candidates have the right idea. These coupons have played their part, and at this stage of the game can do no one any good except in case of a tie, in which (Continued on Page Four)

HERE'S WHERE CITY COURT'S LIKELY TO SAVE PUBLIC SOME

Wings of Much-Shoed Bird Clipped — Recorder Says Solicitor Cannot Appear Except In Certain Cases—"Special Request"

"In deference to the wishes of the city aldermen," Recorder T. C. Wooten announced today, the fee system in that institution has been restricted so far as the solicitor is concerned.

The solicitor, according to Judge Wooten, will be allowed to appear only in cases of felonies and when "especially requested" to represent the State or city.

Solicitor Shaw drew between \$2,100 and \$2,200 for his services in the court in the fiscal year ending May 30. It is not known if he is aware of the Recorder's action; Colonel Shaw is in one of the southern counties attending Superior Court.

If the solicitor holds the decision of Judge Wooten unfair he will probably have to take it up with the higher courts. The latter intimated as much today.

JOBBOY'S TROUBLES CAME IN JOB LOTS, IT SEEMS

Joseph Jobby, Syrian, was tried in the City Court today for a simple assault growing out of a charge of attempted criminal assault upon Minnie Lewis, a married colored woman. The woman said Jobby was too familiar; the evidence failed to show that he intended the crime for which the charge was preferred.

Judge Wooten fined Jobby \$25 and costs for the assault. He was also tried for peddling without a license. Judgment in that case was suspended upon payment of costs.

THE DAY ON LOCAL COTTON EXCHANGE

Fifteen bales of cotton were sold here by 3 o'clock today, prices ranging from 11 1/2 to 11 3/4.

New York futures quotations were: Open Close May 12.30 12.48 July 12.45 12.58 October 12.56 12.70 December 12.67 12.84 January 12.75 12.91

DARKER THAN EGYPT IN KINSTON ON MAY NIGHT; PUNY CAUSE

Kinston went through an experience that seldom falls to the city's lot Wednesday evening, when for nearly three hours, the population was like Moses on a certain occasion. A little bolt in a new engine at the power plant in West Kinston was responsible. That bolt quietly slipped off its job and put the community in darkness long enough to spoil several motion picture performances, cause postponement of a lot of dish-washing and help run the price of kerosene up a little.

'CAP'N HAWKS ROUNDS OUT QUARTER CENTURY WITH THE COAST LINE

George Hawks, A. C. L. conductor, of this city, has completed his 25th year on the road. He is the only man on the Kinston-Weldon branch who was on the line when he first came to it.

"Capt." Hawks has traveled more than 1,500,000 miles without an accident worth speaking of.

The Maxwell holds leadership in its class. The Daily Free Press is giving away two Maxwell Touring Cars. It will require only six weeks' work to win.

AMERICA EXPECTED TO AID MEXICO IN WORK RESTORATION

Following Ratification of Peace Pact of Obregon and Scott

WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS

Will Be Gradual—Expedition to Occupy Less Territory—Search for Villa to Continue—Use of Railroads by the Army

By E. T. CONKLE, (United Press Staff Correspondent)

El Paso, May 4.—American aid in rehabilitating Mexico is expected to follow the ratification of the "peace" pact.

The authorities believe the results of the agreement will be gradual withdrawal by a movement to extend over sixty days, contraction of the punitive expedition's line, use of railroads and unhampered action by American troops in pursuit of the bandits.

Time Not Ripe, Says Page.

Washington, May 4.—The time does not appear ripe for peace in Europe, Thomas Nelson Page, ambassador to Italy, today declared, following a conference with the President. He said all belligerents are weary of the struggle, but don't appear to see a way out now. However, he said peace may come spontaneously, as the war started. He said a great victory for one side or the other probably would be the deciding point.

REHEARSALS SHOW UP GOOD KINSTON TALENT

Miss Bock, Directing Practice for "The County Fair," Gratified at Good Start Made—75 Kids Enrolled and Many Adults and High School Students—Get Together Daily

Rehearsals for "The County Fair," the musical comedy to be presented on May 12 and 13 under the auspices of the Mothers' Club for playground benefit, are progressing well. Those in charge have received hearty support from those invited to assist in the entertainment.

More than 75 little children attended the rehearsal Wednesday at 8:30, and at 4:30 the high school girls and boys enrolled in the cast met for their practice. Miss Bock, the instructor, expressed herself as "more than pleased" with the Kinston talent.

On account of there being no light at 8 o'clock Wednesday evening, the rehearsal of the adults was more or less broken up, but the 25 or 30 who attended were assigned parts and accomplished considerable. Little folks will continue rehearsing at 3:30 and the groupings at 8, in Loftin's opera house.

CONSTANTINOPLE SAYS BRITAIN FACES GRAVE TROUBLE IN THE EAST

(By the United Press)

Constantinople, May 4.—The British authorities in India are taking every precaution to prevent a revolution inspired by the Turkish Kut-el-Amara victory, government advices state. The region about Bagdad is considered sacred ground by the Mohammedans.

FRENCH IN WEST MAKE MORE GAINS, REPORTED

Paris, May 4.—French troops last night extended consolidated gains made in yesterday's fighting on Dead Man's Hill and northwest of Verdun, it is officially announced.