

THE DAILY FREE PRESS

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THURSDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 23, 1916

EARLY SHOPPING AND EARLY MAILING.

The National Association of Assistant Postmasters in session at Washington this week went on record urging early Christmas shopping and mailing.

There are a number of reasons for buying early, and likewise mailing before the rush. In the first place, the stocks of merchandise are better when they haven't been picked over, and thus the purchaser gets a greater variety and a more comprehensive line to select from. Likewise in mailing early assurance is given that the package will be on hand at Christmas, and no disappointment will be given the recipient because of delays which are bound to come in the eleventh hour shipment. Then, there is a humane aspect which is indeed important. The sales people of the stores are entitled to consideration. It is unfair to them to require them to work long and hard hours in the rush of the last week preceding Christmas, when a large part of the purchases, then made, could just as easily be out of the way the first part of December. The merchants, too, are entitled to consideration. They can unquestionably guarantee better service to their customers, who shop before the rush, and who can be waited on by the regular sales forces, and not be dependent upon supernumeraries, who have to be pressed into service at the windup of the rush season.

For the benefit of all concerned, early shopping and early mailing should be practiced.

LET'S PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE.

Christmas is but a few weeks away, and it is not too soon to be making plans for a community Christmas tree. Last year Kinston enjoyed its first Community Christmas tree, and incidentally gave happiness and pleasure to hundreds of those, who, perhaps, otherwise would not have had any participation whatsoever in the joyous occasion. But it takes that little! The bags of confectionery, that were last year distributed, brought gladness and undoubtedly this year when the cost of living has so markedly increased the number of those who will be utterly without unless those, who have some and to spare, provide for them, will be more numerous. Let us be considering plans for the second community Christmas tree.

ECONOMIC LOSS FROM PREVENTABLE DISEASES.

"It costs too much money", is the thought that pops up in the mind of the average fellow when the institution of modern health conservation methods is suggested. These same fellows do not stop to consider the cost of sickness and decreased efficiency because of conditions, which modern science pronounces unnecessary. The economic loss to the country from preventable diseases is alarmingly large. It is true that some progress is being made but the general public has been slow to grasp the lessons in spite of the agitation of press and other health conservationists.

With reference to the loss to the South because of malaria alone the University News Letter quotes the following striking statistics gleaned from federal investigation

in a typical Louisiana community:
"The Federal Bureau of Entomology is making a valuable investigation of the economic loss due to malaria in the South. The preliminary work consists of a study of the conditions on a typical Louisiana plantation of 1800 acres. On this tract were 74 tenant families with a total of 299 individuals.

"During the 1914 farming season, 138 of these persons had malaria, with a resultant loss of 1457 days of possible labor. To this must be added 385 days lost by well members of the family who were attending these sick. To this still must be added about 25 per cent. of lessened efficiency among the recovered cases and among those infected but not really sick. Even after subtracting from these lost days all the Sundays, holidays, and other days upon which field work was not possible it still leaves a loss of nearly 20 per cent of the available labor. The resultant financial loss in crop production on this one plantation amounted to more than \$6,000. The cost of medical attention, etc., is not included in these figures.

"All parts of the South are not so heavily afflicted with malaria as this section of Louisiana, but these conditions are typical of many thousand square miles of which every southern state has some share. And over an even larger area the loss, though somewhat less, is still very considerable."

The provision of a rest room for women shoppers, who come to Kinston as advocated by Miss Adna Edwards, the Lenoir County home demonstration agent, before the Chamber of Commerce directors Tuesday night, should certainly meet with the hearty approval of everybody in Kinston. It is needless to say that our country friends will appreciate having a place to rest and while away the time after their shopping business is concluded, in comfort, and not have to sit around in the stores or in their conveyances awaiting the time to go home. Such rest rooms established in other places have proven very beneficial and The Free Press hopes that the plans on foot for the establishment of one here will be consummated at an early date.

WHAT OTHERS SAY

"IS A 'PERSON' A 'HE' AND IF SO, ETC."
Richmond News Leader: "Is a 'person' a 'he'? If so, can a woman be a 'person'? If not, is Miss Jennette Rankin of Montana, eligible under the constitution to the seat in the United States House of Representatives to which she has been elected? These are questions now raised by the literatists and strict constructionists.

"The constitution of the United States, Article I, clause 2, provides that 'no person shall be a representative who shall not have attained the age of 25 years,' etc. But the clause ends with referring to the 'no person' as a 'he.' Up to that point Miss Rankin has unchallengeably all the necessary qualifications, though there is one which possibly, after the manner of her kind, she might prefer not to confess. But that point is the point. Under the clause, obviously, right to a seat in the body would seem to hinge on the word 'he' or the construction thereof.

"Yet hold on. Another clause of the constitution provides that each House shall be the judge of the elections' returns and qualifications of its own members. It would, therefore, appear that even if a 'person' is not a 'he,' the question would, through that clause, resolve itself into one of persona grata or persona non grata. In the circumstances, would any committee on privileges and elections have the temerity, even if they had the ungallant disposition, not to take the former position?

"Again, and outside of all this, there is interesting historical and dramatic precedent for solving such problems, constitutions or no constitutions. The Hungarian house of magnates, it will be remembered, cut the Gordian knot of a somewhat similar complication, and circumvented the Salfic law by swearing that Maria Theresa was their 'king.' Is it to be presumed that a United States House of Representatives would be or could be less chivalrous, if necessary? Perish the thought. And so, regardless of the merits or demerits of female suffrage, we feel safe in congratulating Miss Rankin as certain to get there."

ADVANTAGE IN HAVING AN ARTIFICIAL LIMB

London, Nov. 23.—A wooden leg has its compensations after all. British Tommies wearing artificial limbs use the hollow part for a kit-bag when travelling around England. It has been discovered that the ordinary hollow will hold a hairbrush, razor, soap and a small bottle.

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Office 212 East Caswell Street
PHONE 118

SOUTHERN COMMERCIAL CONGRESS, NORFOLK, VA., DEC. 11 TO 14.

The theme of the Congress will be "The Changed Outlook" and the "International Reconstruction Resulting from the European War." Many cabinet officers and other important personalities of national and international fame will be present, and President Wilson is expected.

Every Southerner should lend a hand, at least by his presence and imbibing and profiting by what he will learn, in helping the nation, through this important congress, in its efforts to build commercial relations with the Western Hemisphere, and other matters of equal importance which will be discussed.

Co-ordinating organizations which will meet at the same time are: Woman's Auxiliary of the Congress; the House of Southern Governors, American Commission on Agricultural Organization; National Association of Commissioners of Agriculture and Southern Commercial Secretaries Association.

For this occasion the Atlantic Coast Line will sell excursion tickets to Norfolk at \$1.85 from Kinston and at correspondingly reduced fares from all points on its line, for all trains on December 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, limited returning until December 19.

Sleeping car reservations and further information may be obtained from D. J. Ward, ticket agent, Kinston, N. C.

See the famous Cole line of stoves demonstrated by an expert at H. E. Moseley Hardware Company's Friday and Saturday.

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MIKE THE MESSENGER

AN APPROPRIATE ANSWER BY WALT DESMOND.



Panel 1: A man in a suit stands next to a car. Mike, the messenger, is sitting in the driver's seat. The man says: "YES!—THAT'S THE LAST WORD IN THE AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY AND IT'S GUARANTEED FOR ONE YEAR!" Mike replies: "WELL—IT LOOKS LIKE A GOOD PEACE CHARIOT AN' I HOPE I WON'T HAVE ANY TROUBLE WID IT!"

Panel 2: Mike is driving the car. He says: "GEE—DIS AIN'T SUCH A BAD DING-A-LING CAR AT DAT—AN' I BOUGHT IT ON TH' COINS WOT I SAVED UP!"

Panel 3: The car is shaking and making noise. Mike says: "GREAT GUNS!—DAT SOUNDS LIKE TH' SPARK PLUG FLIRTIN' WID TH' CARBURATOR!"

Panel 4: The car is shaking even more. Mike says: "I AINT GOT MUCH MECHANICAL ABILITY BUT I GOTTA FIX DIS GASOLINE WAGGN 'TILL I GIT HOME!"

Panel 5: Mike is standing next to the car, looking frustrated. He says: "WHAT'S THE MATTER—ARE YOU HAVING TROUBLE WITH YOUR CAR?"

Panel 6: Mike is sitting on the ground, looking dejected. He says: "No!—NOT AT ALL—I JUST CRAWLED UNDER HERE TO WRITE A LETTER!"