

THE DAILY FREE PRESS

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FRIDAY EVENING, APRIL 4, 1919.

Even a wood-burglar is somewhat excusable for walking off after taking a look at the city's bastille in preference to accepting apartments therein.

The delay in the peace treaty at Paris is causing more or less concern. It has been charged by some opponents of the league of nations that that instrument was the stumbling block. President Wilson has denied that such was the case and it appears that the tangle arises over questions of boundary and defense. At any rate whatever may be the hindrances, the people of the world will breathe a sigh of relief when peace is actually consummated.

GOVERNOR'S ACTION APPROVED.

Governor Bickett's refusal to grant a pardon to Thad Tyndall measures with justice, The Free Press believes.

Even those who signed his petition, many of them at least, and who did so from sheer sympathy for his unfortunate wife and children, will down deep in their hearts approve the Governor's action.

Thad Tyndall is no ordinary or casual criminal. His conduct indicated the most amazing defiance of the law. As the Governor points out in his findings in the case, "He has shamefully abused opportunities given him to reform."

The Free Press has heard Superior Court judges say that they would impose road sentences on bootleggers more frequently if it was not for the fact that the Governor is prone to turn them out. While we haven't agreed with the judges on that point, there is unquestionably less sting to the prison sentence when the hope of a pardon is brighter.

Thad Tyndall's experience will not only teach him the lesson as the Governor points out, but it will serve as notice to others that the laws of the State must be upheld and that they cannot be broken with impunity.

WARD POLLING PLACES.

Just why the City Democratic Executive Committee should ignore the amendment to the city charter providing for a polling place in each ward in arranging for the primary, The Free Press does not know.

The primary being a party affair may not be subject to the law but the good effect of the separate voting places, if there is to be any realized, must certainly come from the primaries as well as the regular elections. The primary is, as every citizen knows, virtually an election. If the ward polling places are to be discarded in the primary, then there is really little reason for setting them up for the regular election, as The Free Press sees the matter.

Section 3 of the amendments reads: "That there shall be a voting or polling place in each ward for the voters thereof, the voting places to be designated by the board of aldermen of the city."

Kinston has grown since the old system of having one polling place was inaugurated. There is really need now for an executive committee in each ward. The congestion at the courthouse incident to all the voters casting their ballots there, has been both disagreeable and conducive to loose practices.

The Board of Aldermen will probably take up the matter of designating the ward polling places at their meeting Monday night.

Would it not be well for the Democratic Executive Committee to conform to the amendment, even though the law does not specifically bind them to do so?

SAVING HABIT GROWING.

The South's progress in acquiring the saving habit is most encouraging.

According to the Richmond Federal Reserve Bank an increase of forty-five per cent. in the per capita savings of the South has been realized since the outset of the European war.

The South has always lagged in the matter of individual thrift. It is true that there have been many monumental exceptions, but the savings deposits in the South have never reflected the credit that has been shown by other sections.

It is unquestionably true that the war has encouraged savings and economies that all the American people had heretofore failed to practice.

One of the greatest blessings that should come with the period of reconstruction both in the South and the country at large is the saving habit. American people, and especially those of the South, have not been a frugal people. The tendency has been more to live up to the very limit of resources.

There is a happy medium between spend-thriftness and penuriousness which the people of this country can well afford to reach as an outgrowth of the war and its lessons.

A fellow that is anti everything that means growth and prosperity of his home community, ought to take something for the disease or move to a clime that suits his health better.

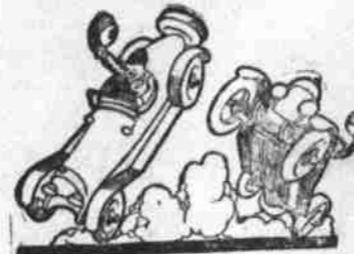
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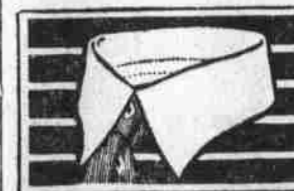


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