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FACT AND COMMENT

A semi-weekly airplane service has been established between Buenos Aires and Montevideo, a route of about 120 miles. The first trip was made last Sunday, Dec. 18, carrying Mayor Kingsley. It also carried mail and several other passengers.

By official decree in Russia, rents have been increased 2,000 times the amount paid October 1st. A large apartment may be rented for 2,000 rubles monthly. While this sum is worth only about two cents in American money, it is perhaps one-fifth of the average tenant's income. Rents may be high here but give us old U. S. A.

Many of the Germans who had laboriously built up business organizations in China before the war are gradually returning to take up their former trade. So far this has been very difficult for them to do because their organizations have been shattered and they have suffered a serious loss of prestige in the eyes of the Chinese. In most cases in order to get any trade at all they have been forced to use Chinese names instead of their own.

According to the report on the building activity made by C. C. Fonville, chairman of the statistics committee of the Burlington chamber of commerce, that town has erected quite a number of new buildings during the past year. The report states that 120 homes have been completed, or are in course of construction within the last month. Besides the number of new homes, fifteen store buildings and miscellaneous enterprises have been built. Burlington sets a good example for other towns to follow.

NO HERALD NEXT TUESDAY—

According to our custom for the past several years, we miss one issue of the paper Christmas week in order that our force may have some vacation. Therefore next Tuesday we will not publish an issue of THE HERALD. We have tried to make a good paper for our readers during the past year and hope we may be able to improve in 1922. We appreciate all the patronage we have received and we trust that all who contributed in any way to our business may have a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

FEWER THAN 500 PERSONS AT CONFERENCE—

The hotel and restaurant proprietors in Washington seem to be disappointed in the number of visitors to the capital city while the conference is in session. They had expected thousands of visitors from all over the country to pour in to see what was going on. They expected Washington to be a great social as well as political center this winter, but according to The New York Herald, there are fewer than 500 persons there and they have been so absorbed in a few hotels, apartment houses and private residences that the average person going to Washington would hardly know that the international conference is in progress.

JUST THE SENDING OF A CHRISTMAS CARD—

The custom of sending greeting cards at Christmas has grown in popularity until last year the people of the United States spent over twenty-two million dollars for this purpose, according to Susie Sexton, in an article in the January American Magazine. Before the war Germany and England controlled the greeting card market but now the United States has the lead.

It seems only a little thing to send a Christmas card, but oftentimes it is fraught with a deeper meaning than one can guess. It is the thoughtfulness of the sender that touches a

chord in the human heart. Though the message be humorous, or the sentiment tender or just from one business firm to another it calls forth just the response the sender wished—it cheers the recipient because he was remembered. Indeed it is the thoughtfulness on the part of the giver, the fact that someone remembered, that makes even a valuable gift prized.

Some would have us believe that they care not for the exchange of Christmas greetings, but where is the heart that does not warm when an old schoolmate, or a friend who has not written for a long long time sends just a card at Christmas to say they remember. Extravagant expenditure beyond one's means may become burdensome, but let the custom of sending a message of good cheer and happiness—even though only a Christmas card—go on. The world needs more of such messages and though the lines may be only a jingle they may be just the words to express a simple and sincere wish for three hundred sixty-five more days. Send it!

THE TARIFF AND THE CUBANS—

While the leading nations of the world are discussing disarmament and many other vital problems, Cuba has trouble of her own. The Fordney tariff bill strikes the Cuban sugar producers very hard. It may entirely destroy the sugar industry there. At the present time the duty on raw sugar is 1.6 cents on the pound and Cubans say that it will mean "Cuba's ruin." It is said that the Fordney bill imposes the highest duty in 30 years, representing a direct tax of \$162,000,000 on the American people, \$81,000,000 of which will go to American sugar producers. The senators have been informed by representatives of American companies in Cuba that this is not merely a question of tariff but that the rehabilitation of Cuba depends upon the sugar industry and that the United States is morally bound to help Cuba. The economic life of the island depends upon its sugar trade and unless steps are soon taken for the relief of the sugar producers there will most probably be much suffering in Cuba.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING REVIVED—

In olden times, especially in England, it was a custom for caroling bands to carry the message of good will on Christmas Eve to people upon the street corners, to friends in their homes, to shut-ins, and hospitals and in fact any place where they could inspire hearers with the true meaning of Christmas.

For a year or two past the custom has been revived in a few American cities and towns, and the movement is growing in popularity. In 1919 about 100 towns and cities planned for outdoor caroling; last year 330 had Christmas Eve carol singing; and the prediction has been made that the Christmas message will be thus heard in at least 500 towns and cities this year.

The custom is a beautiful one, and seems much more in keeping with the Christ spirit than the noise and danger of fire works which usually characterize Christmas in this section. Carols are songs of joy and praise and devotion, and express the true spirit of Christmas as no other vocal music can. Last year in the early morning hours, carolers were heard in various parts of our little city, and we hope the time honored melodies may again tell the story of the "Prince of Peace."

ADVICE TO YOUNG MEN DISSATISFIED WITH HOME—

Below we are printing a letter which deserves to be read by all young men who are inclined to "pass up" the simple pleasures of a comfortable home in exchange for hard knocks in an untried world. Mr. Richard Atkinson, son of Mr. A. B. Atkinson, of near Kenly, is the author of the letter and he is writing a kinsman who responded to the lure of life outside the parental home. Mr. Atkinson, who is well known in his home community, as a young man with the best of habits, is in Shanghai, China, with the British Cigarette Co., and is in position to appreciate the home life which he is now missing, and which many young men are often anxious to leave. The letter is as follows:

Shanghai, China.
August 1st, 1921.

Dear Arthur:
I had a letter from home a few days ago, telling me you had left home. Don't think that I am trying

to interfere with your business at all, but I would like to tell you some things perhaps you never thought about in this way. I don't know as I got a thorough understanding of why you left home, but we will say it was on account of disappointments, and probably because you thought you were sacrificing too many of your own privileges for some one else.

You may not appreciate what I say, and you may say that I don't know what I am talking about, but most of this I know from experience. It is better to listen to what Father and Mother tell you at home where you can have some privileges than go where you have to listen to somebody else all the time with no say so at all of your own. When you are working for the other fellow you move when he says move whether you want to or not, or else you do not work for him long, but I will say this, the majority of us need a boss all the time, we never get too old, but what we can be told something, and lots of things beneficial when we do not realize it especially at the time, but we all look back when it's too late, and regret our past.

From the time I left home in February 1918, until now I have had many different kinds of experiences. I have never known the value of a dollar. I never knew what the word sacrifice meant until this year of 1921. If I had saved my money from the time I was 15 until now I would still be in America, instead I spent all I could get my hands on, mostly for a good time, consequently I am in China today sacrificing more in one month than I ever sacrificed in all my life put together before, paying back the money that I never should have owed, but I have nobody to blame but myself, we all have to reap the wild oats we have sown, and I never saw anybody escape.

While you are in America you have something to look forward to from time to time, for instance week ends, picnics, fairs, commencements and several other things that is impossible in this country and some others. At home you can always look forward to seeing your girl or some close friends, but I only have the end of my time over here to look forward to when I can go home, and you know there is not much pleasure in that year after year compared with being convenient to home all the time.

I don't expect you to take my advice unless you want to, you have heard the old saying that self experience is the best advice a man ever gets and a fool will take no other. Well, I am one of the fools. Free advice is no good for the average person, that which is of benefit to them they pay dearly for it. My little experience has not cost me so much in actual cash, but so far it has cost me about fifteen months away from home, love ones and friends. This is the sacrifice I am making to pay for the good times I had the last four years in America.

I believe after you think this over and see both sides, and then if you will reconsider what you have done you will realize your mistake and look at things in a different light. Listen, anybody that advises you against Father and Mother is no friend, instead they are your worst enemies. If anyone has advised you against them please tell that person what I think of him, and that he is no getnelman—and I will be home some time to back up what I say.

I have told you this because I have lived the right kind of life myself, but because I can see my mistakes now, and I would like for you to profit by my mistakes. If you will take time to think that Father and Mother are both old and childish to some extent, you will probably see where you have hurt them, in making them think that you do not respect them, and appreciate what they have done for you.

When I come home I expect to get into some kind of business, and I would like for you to feel that I am always at your service when I can be of any assistance to you, none of us can live in this world alone. After you have thought this over write me what you expect to do.

With my kindest regards, and best wishes for your future success, I am,

The same
DICK.

P. S.—I mailed the letter to him yesterday registered to Kenly. I suppose he will get it.

Big Companies to Co-operate.

All the large tobacco companies have assured the Burley Growers Marketing Association of their co-operation, while 126 out of 130 warehousemen in Kentucky have joined in the movement, according to a letter from R. W. Bingham, a native of North Carolina, who led the fight for co-operative marketing in Kentucky. Writing to Dr. J. Y. Joyner, chairman of the Tri-State Organization Committee for the Tobacco Growers Co-operative Association, Mr. Bingham says:

"We have had very great success in the sign-up campaign, and now have over 55,000 signers, and well over 90 per cent of the burley crop."

"It may be interesting to you to know that we have direct assurances from all the large tobacco companies that they are going to co-operate with us. In addition 126 out of 130 warehouses in Kentucky have joined in the movement and practically turned their property over to the association with an agreement to fix the price by arbitration later. Our financial arrangements are all made and we have no doubt we shall be ready to handle the present crop, and that the association is going to accomplish its purpose. The same thing can be done in North Carolina, and Virginia and South Carolina, which has been done here, and I believe that it will be done. I am equally sure that everyone of us who participate in this work will be glad of it as long as he lives."—News and Observer.

KENLY NEWS

Kenly, Dec. 21.—Services were conducted at the Free Will Baptist church Sunday morning and Sunday afternoon by the pastor, Rev. E. Poston.

Mrs. H. M. Grizzard and Miss Inez Edgerton have returned from a visit to relatives in Bladenboro and Lumberton.

Miss Mildred Darden will arrive tonight from G. C. W., Greensboro, for the Christmas holidays.

Misses Adna Lee Bailey and May Wilkinson arrived home Monday from St. Mary's, Raleigh, to spend the holidays.

Miss Lucile Holden is at home for the Christmas holidays from Louisville College.

The Kenly High school faculty will leave for their respective homes Thursday to spend the Christmas holidays.

Miss Jewel Edgerton will arrive home tonight from Peace Institute, Raleigh.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Batts, of Wilson, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Alford.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Z. Woodard spent Saturday in Wilson.

Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Hooks and Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Holden spent Saturday in Wilson.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hardison, of Enfield, are spending several days with their mother, Mrs. A. H. Hardison.

Misses Bettie Harris and Nell Hardison spent Monday in Wilson shopping.

Miss Sadie Morris is expected to arrive Friday from Stantonburg for the Christmas holidays.

Miss Ruth Revell is at home from Buie's Creek to spend the holidays.

Mrs. J. H. Kirby spent Tuesday in Wilson.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Watson spent the week end in Stantonburg.

Mr. and Mrs. F. T. McDewitt and son of Washington are spending several days with their mother, Mrs. A. H. Hardison.

Mrs. J. H. Kirby, of Kinston, is spending several days in town the guest of her mother, Mrs. Jessie Watson.

PLAIN VIEW ITEMS

Quite a number of large hogs were killed in our section last week. There will be no famine for meat and lard. Mr. Edwards killed one hog which weighed 608 pounds. Mr. Texas Helem killed two weighing 473 and 463 and fourteen others which made a total of 3161 pounds. Mr. O. P. Rose killed two which weighed 860 pounds. Mr. Harvey Starling had one which weighed 410. Mr. J. S. Eason killed one weighing 366 pounds. Mr. A. T. Price killed one which weighed 346. Mr. W. H. Pittman and Mr. R. G. Narron killed 2 that weighed 336 and 312 respectively.

A nice purse was realized from the box party at our school last Saturday night.

Misses Ida and Thelma Pittman of Branch Chapel section, spent the week end with Mr. W. H. Pittman.

Miss Georgia Smith spent several days last week with her sister, Mrs. Sam Eason.

Misses Effie Moore and Clyda Ryals of Micro, spent the week end at the home of Mr. Henry Johnson. She was here to attend the box party Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Iredell Batten spent Sunday with Mr. Andrew Batten of the Brown section.

Our community was shocked at the report that Mr. John Mozingo had lost his beautiful home by fire. The fire occurred last Wednesday.

BIG BOY.

Somewhat Subdued.

A country negro went to town and played craps. They got his money, then his watch, and then they beat him up. He was asked if he didn't feel discouraged. He replied: "No, I ain't discouraged, but I've kind o' subdued like."

Season's Greetings

Closing our books for the year without thanking our customers and friends for their 1921 business would leave a debt unpaid.

We promise to serve you better in 1922 than we did in 1921.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

N. B. Grantham

Head-to-Foot Outfitters for Men and Boys
Smithfield, N. C.

GOLD IS FREE

To every person who spends \$5.00 with us, or pays \$5.00 on their account before 3:30 o'clock Saturday evening will receive a coupon which entitles them to draw for the \$50.00 in Gold, we offer to the person holding the lucky coupon. You may take your choice—\$50.00 in Gold or 10,000 German Marks. Come quickly; our sale closes Saturday.

Austin-Stephenson Co.

SMITHFIELD, N. C.

BANNER WAREHOUSE

SMITHFIELD, N. C.

TO OUR TOBACCO FARMER FRIENDS:

We wish to say that after January 1st, you will find at THE BANNER WAREHOUSE tobacco seed, the kind that is suitable to our soil. In the meantime we went to thank you for your patronage in the past.

THE BANNER WAREHOUSE WILL BE RUN NEXT SEASON JUST AS IT HAS BEEN FOR THE PAST TWENTY-THREE YEARS.

Your friends,

Skinner & Patterson

AMONG our assets we like to count the only one that money cannot buy—your good will.

And so at this Holiday Season we extend to you—not as a customer alone, but as a friend—the Best of Wishes for the coming year.

THE AUSTIN-STEPHENSON COMPANY
Smithfield, N. C.

Colored Man Has Plenty of Meat.

Lindsay W. Williamson, who lives on a farm of Mr. J. M. Beaty, has just killed fifteen hundred pounds of

meat. One of his hogs weighed 315 pounds. He had a seven-month-old pig which weighed 120 pounds. He will have plenty of meat for his family and some to spare.