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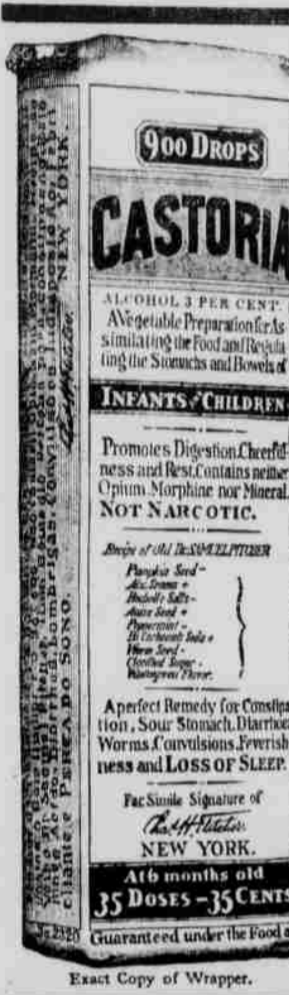
A NEWSPAPER FOR THE PEOPLE.

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WELDON, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1914.

NO. 3



CASTORIA

The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher* For Over Thirty Years

CASTORIA

CAN HEAL THE WOUNDS.

Here's Something Good From the Pen of Wm. E. Smythe, in the Western Empire.

All that Europe has lost, and is to lose, of wealth and beauty and power, originally came from the land.

Every life that has gone out, or that shall go out—the life of king, general and common soldier—was nourished by the soil. And after the war, no matter how long it shall last nor how complete the devastation that shall be wrought, there will remain the goodly earth!

There lies the balm that in time shall heal the wounds of the world. City and countryside, ships, commerce, the shattered fabric of industry and society—these can only be rebuilt out of the enduring resources of nature by the labor and genius of man.

They may kill their enemies by tens of thousands, sweep away in an hour the accumulated treasures of centuries, but thank God! they cannot kill, they cannot destroy, "the land the Lord, thy God, hath given thee."

Behold the smiling hills and valleys of our own nation, lying sweet and wholesome under the haze of the October afternoon, and believe that the God does live, and that our civilization shall not perish from the earth. For these hills and valleys, happily far removed from the rivers of blood that are flowing from the wounds of Europe, are so many tokens to assure us that out of the wreck of poor Belgium a new and grander Belgium shall arise! That another France, another Germany, another Russia and Austria, and England, shall be built in the patience of eternal time.

Only the land that can heal the wounds of the world. Look at our smiling hills and valleys and know that one day the hills and valleys of Europe shall smile again—aye laugh outright—with boundless harvests to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, and create anew those material and spiritual values that make the strength and the grandeur of nations.

And let us pray that where so much that is precious is shot and burned and trampled underfoot these things, infinitely more precious to humanity, and to the endless future, may be gained.

Enduring peace among all the children of men.

Democratic institutions for Europe where no autocrat shall again have power to plunge innocent millions into war.

And most precious of all, a just and human policy of world-wide scope bearing us far forward toward that time when, in a Land of Plenty, there shall be neither a homeless man nor a hungry child.

If this be dreaming, the writer dares to dream. Miss Smith, the teacher, was hearing the history class. The pupils seemed unusually dull on this occasion and in vain did the teacher try to get them to give the correct answer. At last she looked at the child who was her star pupil.

"Now, Elsie," she said, "Mary followed Edward VI, didn't she?"

"Yes, ma'am," replied the little girl.

"And now, who followed Mary?" asked the teacher, hopefully.

All was silent for a moment, then Elsie raised her hand. "Yes, Elsie?" queried the teacher. "Who followed Mary?"

"Her little lamb, teacher," said Elsie triumphantly.

By the time a woman acquires a third husband she begins to think her attractions are irresistible.

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POST-MORTEM PRAISES.

I've noticed when a fellow dies, no matter what he's been—a saintly chap or one whose life was darkly steeped in sin—His friends forget the bitter words he spoke but yesterday, And now they find a multitude of pretty things to say, I fancy when I go to rest some one will bring to light Some kindly word or goodly act long buried out of sight; But, if it's all the same to you, just give me instead The bouquets while I'm living and the knocking when I'm dead.

"Don't save your kisses to imprint upon my marble brow, While countless maledictions are hurled upon me now; Say just one kindly word to me while I mourn here alone, And don't save all your eulogy to carve upon a stone. What do I care if when I'm dead the Birmingham Gazette Gives me a write-up, with a cut in mourning borders set; It will not flatter me a bit, no matter what is said, So kindly throw your bouquets now and knock me when I'm dead."

"It may be fine when one is dead, to have the folks talk so. To have flowers come in loads from relatives, you know; It may be nice to have these things for those you leave behind, But just as far as I'm concerned, I really do not mind. I'm quite alive and well today, and while I linger here, Lend me a helping hand at times—give me a word of cheer. Just change the game a little bit, just kindly swap the decks, For I will be no judge of flowers when I've cashed in my checks."

SAND ON THE TRACK.

I observed a locomotive in the railroad yard one day, It was standing in the roundhouse, where locomotives stay. It was panning for a journey, it was coaled and fully manned, And a fireman had a box he was filling full of sand.

It 'pears that locomotives ain't always got a grip On the slender iron pavements, 'cause their wheels are apt to slip. And when they reach a slippery spot, their tactics they command, And to get a grip upon the rail they sprinkle it with sand.

It's about this way with travel along life's slippery track, If your load is kind o' heavy, and you're always sliding back, If a common locomotive, you'd completely understand, You'll supply yourself in starting with a good amount of sand.

You can reach any station, that's along Life's schedule seen, If there's a fire beneath the boiler of Ambition's strong machine, And you'll reach a place called Flushing, at a rate of speed that's grand.

If for all the slippery places you've a good supply of sand.

A DEAD GIVE-AWAY.
John A. Hennessy in a recent address in Brooklyn said of a certain controversy.

"That was a dead give-away on the opponents' part. That showed them up as little Willie Budd shown up by his father.

Little Willie said fretfully one day to a rich aunt:
"Auntie, make a noise like a frog."
"Why, Willie, what do you want me to make a noise like a frog for?" said the aunt, with an amused and puzzled laugh.

"Oh, because," whined little Willie, "whenever I ask pa for anything he always says 'Wait till your auntie croaks.'"

— Washington Herald.

NOT THEIR FAULT.
At a recent social affair the talk turned to sentimentality, when Congressman Edward Gilmore, of Massachusetts, was reminded of a story about Uncle Josh, says the Philadelphia Telegraph.

Uncle Josh was comfortably lighting his pipe in the living room one evening when Aunt Mariah, glanced up from her knitting.

"Josh," softly remarked the good woman, "do you know that next Sunday will be the twenty-fifth anniversary of our marriage?"

"Ye don't say so, Mariah!" responded Uncle Josh, pulling vigorously on his corn cob pipe. What about it?"

"Nothing," answered Aunt Mariah, "only I thought we oughter kill them two Rhode Island red chickens."

"Say, Mariah," impressively demanded Uncle Josh, "how can you blame them two Rhode Island red chickens for what happened 25 years ago?"

Few of the men who are willing to give you a recommendation would give you a job.

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NATION'S LABOR PROBLEM

OVER A MILLION AND A HALF WOMEN WORK AS FARM HANDS IN THE UNITED STATES.

By Peter Radford
Lecturer National Railroad Union

Our government never faced so tremendous a problem as that now lying dormant at the doors of congress and the legislatures, and which, when aroused, will shake this nation from coast to coast. The labor problem of the future will be the labor problem of the present. It is a problem of the present—women in the field.

The last federal census reports show we now have 1,541,000 women working in the field, most of them south of the Mason and Dixon line. There were approximately a million negro slaves working in the fields when liberated by the emancipation proclamation. We have freed our slaves and our women have taken their places in bondage. We have broken the shackles of the negro and we have added the women of the nation to our bondage.

The Chain-Gang of Civilization. A billion women in bondage in the southern fields form the chain-gang of civilization—the industrial tragedy of the age. There is no overwork quite so cruel as that of unrestrained greed, no whip that stings like the lash of subnormal desire, and no executioner's block quite so revolting as that of organized avarice.

The president of the United States was recently lauded by the press, and very properly so, for suggesting mediation between the engineers and railroad managers in adjusting their schedule of time and pay. The engineers threatened to strike if their wages were not increased from approximately ten to eleven dollars per day and service reduced from ten to eight hours and a similar readjustment of the operating schedule. Our women are working in the field, many of them barefooted, for less than 20 cents per day, and their schedule is the rising sun and the evening star, and after the day's work is over they milk the cows, aloft the hogs and rock the baby to sleep.

In any case, the women's problem is not over their heads, and to whom shall they threaten a strike? Congress has listened approvingly to those who toll at the forge and behind the counter, and many of our statesmen have smiled at the threats and have faced the flames of utopian among industrial laborers. But women are as surely the final victims of industrial warfare as they are the burden-bearers in the war between nations, and those who arbitrate and mediate the differences between capital and labor should not forget that when the expenses of any industry are unnecessarily increased, society foots the bill by drafting a new contingent of women from the home to the field.

No financial award can be made without someone foots the bill, and we commend to those who accept the responsibility of the distribution of industrial justice, the still small voice of the woman in the field. She pleads for mercy, and we beg that they pinch no crumbs from her crust of bread or put another patch upon her ragged garments.

We beg that they listen to the scream of horror from the castle on every American dollar that is wrung from the brow of toiling women and hear the Goddess of Justice hiss at a verdict that increases the want of women to satisfy the greed of man.

"The women behind the counter and in the factory cry aloud for sympathy and the president thunders out in their defense and the people plead for mercy, but how about the woman in the field? Will not these powerful exponents of human rights turn their talent, energies and influence to her relief? Will the Goddess of Liberty, who is the mother of the calloused hand and soothes the feverish brow of her sex who awes and rears the nation's harvest or will she permit the male of the species to shove women—weak and weary—from the bread-line of industry to the back alleys of poverty?"

Women and Children First.
The census enumerators tell us that of the 1,541,000 women who work in the fields as farm hands 499,000 are sixteen years of age and under. What is the final destiny of a nation whose future mothers spend their girlhood days behind the plow, ditching hay and hauling manure, and what is to become of womanly culture and refinement that grace the home, charm society and ennobles man to leap to glory in noble achievements if our daughters are raised in the society of the ox and the teamstership of the plow?"

In that straits between the ages of sixteen and forty-five are 950,000 women working as farm hands and many of them with suckling babes tugging at their breasts, as drenched in perspiration, they wield the scythe

INTERESTED AT LAST.
"My dear, you ought to pass up frivolous things and take an interest in deep subjects. Take history, for instance. Here is an interesting item. Gessler, the tyrant, put up a hat for the Swiss to salute."

"The lady was a trifle interested. "How was it trimmed?" she inquired.

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RAILROADS APPEAL TO PRESIDENT

The Common Carriers Ask for Relief—President Wilson Directs Attention of Public to Their Needs.

The committee of railroad executives, headed by Mr. Frank Fremont, representing thirty-five of the leading railroad systems of the nation, recently presented to President Wilson a memorandum briefly reviewing the difficulties now confronting the railroads of the country and asking for the cooperation of the governmental authorities and the public in supporting a program which would result in an emergency plan for the railroads.

The memorandum recites that the European war has resulted in a general depression of business in the American continent and in the disclosure of credits at home and abroad. With revenue decreasing and interest rates increasing the transportation system of the country has a most serious crisis and the memorandum is a strong presentation of the capable leadership of both ends and the peril that most ultimately attend such a configuration when the nation most is dependent on it. In their general discussion the railroad representatives say in part: "It is the policy of the federal government and the duty of the states to act independently of each other, as well as through the action of a strong public opinion, national cooperation in recent years have vastly increased. No criticism as here made of the general theory of governmental responsibility, but on the other hand no responsibility on the part of the citizens created thereby."

President Wilson in transmitting the memorandum of the railroad presidents to the public, characterizes it as a "fruitful statement of plain truth. The president recognizing the emergency as extraordinary, continuing, said in part: "You ask me to call the attention of the country to the imperative need that railroad credits be sustained and the railroads be kept in every possible way, whether by private cooperative effort or by the action, wherever feasible of governmental agencies, and I am glad to do so because I think the need very real."

The committee was certainly a fortunate one for the nation and the president is to be congratulated for opening the gate to a new world of effort in which everyone may cooperate.

There are many important problems in our complex civilization that will yield to cooperation which will not lend themselves to arbitrary rulings of committees and snatching railroads is one of them. The man with the money is a factor that cannot be eliminated from any business transaction and the public is an interested party that should always be consulted and happily the president has invited the gate to a new world of effort in which everyone may cooperate.

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