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THE MILL TOWN.

It Must Be Attractive To Hold Desirable Operatives.

Representative Doughton, answering Mr. Lenroot, of Wisconsin, who sought to distort the statement of a witness in the hearing of the Child Labor question as argument in support of the Keating bill, cited on North Carolina mill town that is doing a great work for the educational as well as the industrial progress of the state. What he said of Kannapolis can be said with equal truth of all the mill villages around Greensboro, and of practically all the mill towns in the state. Apart from the philanthropic and humanitarian side of it, mill owners have awakened to the fact that they can secure and retain competent help only by offering superior advantages over rival mill communities in the way of schools, churches and provisions for social enjoyment and recreation, and if for no higher motive it is a business proposition to meet the demands of this class of workers who will no longer put up with conditions under which their fathers worked in the old days of the pioneer manufacturer. Opportunities which they have enjoyed through the enterprise of the mill men have given them a taste for better things and they, like intelligent workers in other lines, demand for their children advantages superior to those under which they were reared and equipped for earning a livelihood in a world of competition.

"As an example I would like to have these alarmists make a visit to an ideal mill town in my district. This beautiful little city is situated on the main line of the Southern railway between Washington and Charlotte, seven miles north of Concord. You will recognize it by a beautiful artificial lake by the side of the railroad about 15 miles south of Salisbury. It is called 'The Magic City' down there but its real name is Kannapolis, and it was named for its founder, J. W. Cannon, who is president of the Cannon Manufacturing company. This company operates a chain of about 20 cotton mills in North Carolina and South Carolina, several of which are in my district, a number of them being located in the town to which I refer. At this particular town which has grown to a population of several thousand since the company built some of its mills there five or six years ago, you will observe the new order that prevails in the south with reference to the conditions and surroundings of mill people, since the day when sensational warfare found some cause for criticism and complaints. Here you will find neat, sanitary homes for the mill workers, safe and sanitary conditions under which to work; a Young Men's Christian association especially for the men and boys who are employed in the mills. Wholesome amusement for the children, a library and reading room and a swimming pool; and a good graded school open for eight or nine months of the year. You will also see a home for girls who work in the mills but whose parents do not live near by. This home is in charge of competent matrons, and the girls who live there are as well protected as in the best homes.


"When you go to this town you will be greeted by a genial, elderly gentleman, a typical executive of a man of affairs. This is Mr. Cannon, who has done much to disprove the charges that have been made against southern mill men. However, you may be greeted by one of his several sons who are associated with him in the management of the great chain of the Cannon mills. They will courteously tell you that you are welcome to observe all the conditions and influences for which the management is in any way responsible in any of their mills. But you will not see any evidences of degeneracy; first, because they are not there, and second, because you will be so impressed with the ideal conditions that prevail there you will forget all you have heard about bad conditions in the cotton mills of the south. Instead of immoral, depraved young men you will see healthy, young men, with a purpose written in their faces and that purpose is to earn the promotion and confidence that is sure to come to them from efficiency and trustworthiness. Instead of wretched, slovenly girls you will see the bearing of the school mistress and who are not ashamed of their work. The children too, are just as healthy and as beautiful as other children elsewhere. This is but an example of many towns elsewhere in North Carolina and the south though they may be on a smaller scale."

Cutting It Out.

And even Mexico is cutting out pulque—a drink that puts even fresh corn likker on the blink.

DOC COOK TALKS.

An Interesting Story From Our Old Friend Doctor Cook.



The following was sent out from New York not long ago—the last of January, and as it has to do with Dr. Frederick A. Cook, the Original Discoverer of the North Pole we print it, because it is of interest. The Doctor says he is home to look after the bills in Congress. Before the controversy is settled, we are certain Cook will come into his own. The attempt to laugh him out has failed. The Navy hasn't saved Peary's bacon by a long shot. There are men in Congress who will not see justice done—and when justice is done, Cook will wear the honor of discovering the North Pole. The story follows:

Dr. Frederick A. Cook, who started some talk in the newspapers about the North Pole, returned to his native Brooklyn today, bringing fresh discoveries to a palpitating world.

The doctor declares the wild men of Borneo are not wild, and the doctor ought to know, as he has been pasturing among them for several months. Instead of his story, they appear to have reached a high state of development, in which the women do all the work.

The doctor arrived on the Norwegian-American liner Kristianiafjord from Bergen. He said:

I have discovered that the wild men of Borneo are not wild. I found them to be a race of tall, well built folk of fair complexion. It is a base calumny to call them wild. Their only uncivilized traits are head hunting and polygamy.

To prove that the wild men are not wild at all, the doctor went on to say that the women rule things in Borneo. It is a Utopia of feminism.

They have taken over the management of the tribal governments as well as building the fires and putting out the cat. They refuse to let the men do any work. A man is entitled to as many wives as he believes necessary to support him in comfort and the station to which he has been accustomed.

"The men show hatred for their enemies," continued Brooklyn's greatest explorer, "but they were very friendly toward us. We had a lovely visit of seven months with them."

It was about a year ago that the man who put Brooklyn in the date lines felt the yearning to discover something come over him.

He started out with F. P. Thompson, a naturalist, and E. S. Brooke, a photographer, to climb Mount Everest, the highest peak in the world. They did not even get a peek at the big hill. The British authorities at Calcutta refused, without explanation, the requests of the doctor and his companions.

However, the doctor just had to discover something, so he picked out the wild men of Borneo as needing discovery most. He went to the Philippines and then made the journey to the island in a twenty-eight-foot boat, he says.

"I have returned to the United States," he said, "because there are five bills before Congress leading up to an investigation of my claims as discoverer of the Pole. This investigation will clear and vindicate me."

FIGHT OVER FLAG.

Two States To Have A Bout Over A Battle Flag.

The states of Louisiana and Mississippi soon will engage in a word war over the battle flag recently returned by Illinois to New Orleans.

The legislature of Illinois decided that the flag which was captured at the battle of Big Black Ridge on May 17, 1864, was the ensign of Gen. Andrew Jackson and returned it to New Orleans, but the state of Mississippi, through its principal papers, claims that the Illinois legislature and the New Orleans and Louisiana historians were wrong and that the flag originally belonged to a Mississippi command.

The members of the Illinois legislature, the Daughters of 1812, the city of New Orleans and the state of Mississippi will be embroiled in the dispute.

The banner was received in New Orleans a few days before January 8, locked securely in a vault in the Whitney Central bank and only taken out on the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans January 8, when it was escorted to the state museum by governor, mayor, state troops, regulars from warships in the harbor, naval station and barracks.

WONDER WHY.

Why Should A Man Want His Wife To Sew Buttons On Clothes.

The following story is from Pittsburgh, and we copy it because we want to comment—just a little. It reads:

"Buttonless coats, buttonless shirts—in fact, all of his wearing apparel buttonless—ruined the social career of J. Dallas Stewart, a prosperous resident of exclusive Sewickley, according to the story he told Judge Kennedy in Deserition Court. Stewart was arrested on his wife's charge of desertion.

"In thirteen years she only sewed three buttons on my clothes," said Stewart, telling his woes to the court. "How could a man keep up appearances when he had to use toothpicks, matches, safety pins, lead pencils and bits of string to hold his trousers up and his garments together?"

"Pay your wife \$10 a week and get patent steel buttons in the future," was Judge Kennedy's solution.

Now what we would like to know is, why should a man, in this age of the New Woman expect her to sew buttons on his clothes? Why doesn't he sew them on himself? Why ask his wife to sew on her own clothes and then take care of his. In the old days when women had nothing to do; when they made soft soap and "affectionately" abused the neighborhood as Artemus Ward put it; when they put up jam and preserves and cared for the house plants; when they had quilting bees and hardy ever got out of the house, it was all right for them to put in their time sewing buttons on the pants of the man. But now it is different. It is a new world, and the man should sew on his own outions or employ a man at a pantatorium to sew 'em on for him.

The Uniform.

Ben Tillman has introduced a bill making it a fine of not more than a thousand dollars for any hotel or play house to refuse to give accommodation to a soldier in uniform, provided he is sober and all right. Perhaps Ben had been reading Tommy Atkins' complaint when he was thrown out of a play house, as described by Kipling.

Such a law is all bladders. The man in a uniform, if sober and decent, can always get accommodations. The man in a uniform, if he has about three drinks aboard, generally makes a conspicuous ass of himself and should not be accommodated. That is the long and the short of it, and everybody knows it. However, the politician, no matter how sincere, always sees the gallery, and the man who has been kicked out of play houses for disturbing the peace thinks he has been humiliated.

THE NAUGHTY WIND.

A Mayor Called Upon To Do Something On Short Skirts.

The little town of Venice, California, has a beach, and on that beach the women walk and of course the wind blows. And in these days of abbreviated skirts naturally there is some talk among some there. The Mayor of the town has been asked several times to wrestle with the costume habit, especially concerning the bathing suits, but the other day he received a letter from a woman living in Venice and prominent in church circles who requested Mayor Gerety to adopt some sort of a resolution that would prohibit women and girls in short skirts walking along the ocean front on windy days. The Mayor simply said that it is impossible to tell a woman from a child of sixteen years of age by her dresses, and the display of underwear is shocking," said the writer in her letter to the Mayor.

Mayor Gerety and City Trustee Smart, who was one of the bathing suit censors last spring, took a walk along the ocean front and when they returned to police headquarters told Chief of Police Watson that there was nothing that could be done but to allow the women and girls to use the ocean front walk and to let the winds blow. The Mayor said:

"I cannot see where the city should be expected to regulate either the length of the skirts of the women or the force of the winds. Women enjoy being on the front on a windy day or they would not go there. If they can stand it we can, and the others will have to."

Perhaps the Mayor is right. What has he to do with short skirts if short skirts are decreed by dame Fashion? And what, pray, could he do with the wind officially? There used to be some lines which ran something like this:

'Tis God who makes the wicked wind That blows our skirts so high— But God is just, He makes the dust That blinds the bad man's eye. —But in a town like Venice where there is no dust—where it is just one long stretching dream of beach—and this filled by a thousand women in short skirts—well, as the Mayor put it up, the others can stand it if the wearers can.

NOTHING NEW.

The Twilight Sleep Scheme Has Been On A Long Time

We have heard so much of late about the "twilight sleep" we took it that it was a new fad, but it seems that way back yonder it was in use. Even royalty adopted it. The late King Edward VII of England was a "twilight sleep" baby, and his mother, Queen Victoria, the first woman of royal birth to use methods for painless childbirth. Attorney James A. Farrell so declared in the Supreme Court in New York recently.

Farrell appeared in behalf of Dr. W. Wellington Kip, proprietor of a "twilight sleep" sanitarium in Riverside drive, Mrs. Angle M. Booth and Mrs. Mar T. Sutphen, who own mansions in his block, are seeking an injunction against Dr. Kip. They allege that the sight of ambulances bringing women to the sanitarium and the cries of new-born babies have a bad effect upon their nerves.

A form of chloroform was used by Queen Victoria's physician, Farrell told Justice Donnelly, in arguing that "twilight sleep" was nothing new.

WORTHY OBJECT.

They are raising in New York a fund of \$500,000 to build suitable buildings to entertain the newsboys. Give them a place to sleep; a place to loaf; a place to read. They call the newsies there the "Tiny Tims" and the Sun solemnly asserts they are worth \$500,000 a minute to the old town.

But He Doesn't Count.

Taft says Roosevelt cannot be elected. But Taft, while loved by the people for his manliness and cleanliness isn't a political prophet. He of course doesn't like Teddy and Teddy doesn't like him. If Teddy is nominated, Wilson will be elected—that is a cinch. But not because Taft thinks so.

Worthy Object.

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