R. F. Beasley.

R. F. BEASLEY, Editor \$1.00 per Year. Telephone No. 19.

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Who's to Blame,

The Kaiser has said that while he does not consider himself to blame for the war he does not doubt that some blame attaches to him, as, he thinks, in due portion attaches to every civilized man of Europe, and he does not understand why neutral peoples remard him as the chief offendor. We do not know whether he made these remarks or not, but it doesn't matter. For the purpose of this argument, it may be admitted that he is no more to blame than others in responsible positions. The great masses of men are to blame only in so far as they ignorantly permit themselves to be deceived by the arguments of their rulers. At present the element of war exists in every country that has the power to make war. The fuel is all assmebled, the kindling in place, and most any accidental occurrence may strike the flame. Every country preaches the doctrine that it must have force to defend its rights and everyone holds that it is the sole judge of its own rights. When is two stabborn neighbors fall out over a boundary line, neither can enforce his rights except by appealing to a has exploded. third party-a disinterested jury. Neither in the absolute judge of what his rights are, and if one disregards the law and undertakes to enforce his ideas by shot gun methods, the law then steps in and takes hold of him on its own accord.

But when two rulers fall out each is the judge of his own rights and each domands that the other must surrender in toto what he regards as his rights. When the argument gets pretty heated the stronger one langest an ultimatum, and the other one backs down unless he feels strong enough to resist himself or he the aid of his friends. Austria issued an ultimatum to Servia. Germany hesued an ultimatum to Russia. This country is supposed to be a penceful one, yet a candidate for the chief office is waltzing all over the land preaching the identical doctrine which brought on the European war. He wants the country to assert its rights, that is, he wants it to be in a position to make the others abandon what they conceive to be their rights whenever he chooses to tell them that they must. In so far as he is able he is deceiving the American people just as the European leaders deceived their people into adopting the doctrine that makes war inevitable. Mr. Wilson has prevented war with Germany by persuading Germany to give up the contentions. for the things that she regarded as her rights. He has prevented war policy of murder upon a helpless people struggling in their own fight for rejuvenation. Mr. Hughes is thundering against him for having done this, "If I am President," says Mr. Hughes, "I will make them respect our right!" That is, he would issue an ultimatum against a weaker nation, and provoke a stronger one to issue an ultimatum against us. And millions of Americans who ought to have more sense are falling for this rotten and worn out doctrine. Mr. Hughes is reviving in America the idea that was old in the time of Greece and other ancient nations. namely, that every people not under our flag is an enemy if not a barbarian. Our word barbarian is taken bodily from the Greek work which meant a foreigner. It is past understanding to us that a man of Mr. Hughes' character and standing can permit himself to make the kind of arguments he does. His old gags on the outworn tariff question and his incitement of the ignorant hostility to other nations, seem to us like intellectual stulification in a man of intelligence in this day and time.

THE MONROE JOURNAL trast. And they unconsciously as -insteam of pinch 'pollucioid fuor sumed that such a man must be a able. The public, whose servants Founded in 1894 by the present counterpart of Wilson, only a little both the roads and the men are, could owners and publishers, G. M. and bigger if possible, and possessing the not contemplate so great an injus-Wilson qualities more conspicuously, tice with any degree of equinimity. This was a most pronounced, if un- It has a right to protest. The quesconspicuous tribute to Mr. Wilson, for tion is, how far does this right go Published Each Tuesday and Friday. their subconscious minds never for a and what is the natural tendency moment contemplated the mistake of its assertion. If there is an agreeputting up a contrast. ment whereby both sides may do the Now, their trouble was that among face saving stunt by reason of the

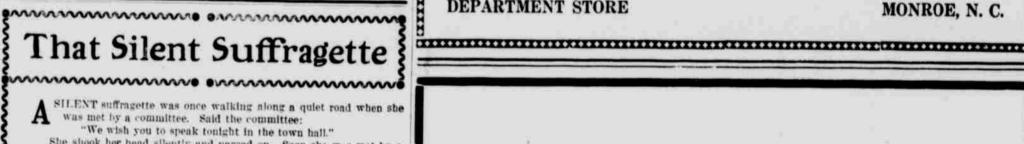
all the active leaders of that party President's interference, and no strike there was no man who came within results, well and good. But suppose a mile of the standard as there was the moral sussion that he is able to not another one in the Democratic exert fails and the determination to party. But there was Mr. Hughes, strike is not abandoned, what then He did not talk, and nobody knew It may not happen this time, for what he beleived or really what kind public sentiment travels slowly, but of a man he was. Having already it certainly will happen ere long, that created the Wilson prototype for the public will assume the right to their candidate, they assumed that prevent a strike even to the extent of Mr. Hughes was it, and this myth operating the roads itself in case grew and grew. The less Mr. Hughes their managers or men will not. And said, and he said nothing, the then how far will this be from govmore did the fancy grow that ernment ownership? One strike on he was the man cast large in the scale of that contemplated would the mold of statesmanship made do more to force public ownership popular and understandable by than all the discussion and argument Mr. Wilson. It followed the well- of a century, known principle that the man

As all railroad employees become who says nothing and looks wise better and better organized, the orgradually attains the reputation of ganizations will dictate the policy of wisdom. It was not the fault of Mr. the roads. In case of controversy, if Hughes that the boosters made him the government by force protects the a super-Wilson, but that very thing companies in the operations of trains gave him the nomination. A super- by other men than those of the or-Wilson was what was needed and ganizations, it will be tantamount to popular imagination created the taking sides with the roads against myth that Mr. Hughes was such. Now the men, for without the power to we are finding out that he is not. He strike the men are helpless. The is an ordinary political campaigner power to strike effectively rests upon who makes mountains out of mole the power to prevent other workers hills and skips all the mountains from taking the place of the strikwhile searching for mole hills. He ers. In industrial strikes all the paramounting the old tariff bloodshed is caused by the introducskeleton and shaking gory fingers at tion of armles or militia to protect the foreigners. And the Hughes myth the new men that come in. That works, however unjustly, when the less skilled and less intelligent bodies

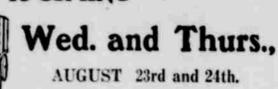
A Straw.

to see both sides to the controversy try is involved. Then what? Are which threatened to plunge this the railroads to be forced to give way country into a great disaster by ty- to the demands of the men? This ing up all railroad traffic, it was not again would be a one-sided affair. brough any mere sentiment which These situations point in one direcdeplores controversy between the tion and one only-to government corporations and the men who work ownership of public utilities, includfor them, but it was as of right for ing the railroads, the greatest and the chief executive to so intercede most important of all. in 5chalf of neither side, but in he- arguing for or against, because there alf of the American people. Mr. is no need to, Events will themselves Wilson said so much. The disaster be the argument, and that is the way that would ensue from such a strike we interpret events.

of men are the strikes, but obviously. It will not work where the whole When President Wilson volunteered field of intelligent labor of the coun-We are not



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When We Set Up a Myth

The world has often bowed before a myth, and it keeps on bowing. The public is prone to make myths to suit its fancy. The latest example of myth worship is very striking. The reality of Mr. Hughes as a candidate is a sharp and painful contrast to the Myth which the public, and especially the Republican party, had erected and fancied it was the real Mr. Hughes. It is another case of finding that the feet of the idol are made of clay.

Confronted by the astonishing career of Mr. Wilson as President, and knowing that the country would not well take to a smaller man of any party, the Republicans spent months in looking for "some good man" who might be pittied against Mr. Wilson without suffering too much by con-

hook her head silently and passed on. Soon she was met by s friend.

"I want you to spend the afternoon in my house and talk to some people who are doubtful about the place that woman should occupy ip the world's affairs.

Again she shook her head and passed on.

P. S.-This story is not continued, because, according to the most advanced school of fiction writing, every story at the very start should impress the reader as something that might possibly happen. Maybe we shall succeed better next time. Thank you --New York Sun.





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