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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1916.

Europe's aim in life seems to be death.

The Republicans look upon it as a "campaign."

The Rumanians' plight at present seems to be flight.

Eating is an awfully expensive habit, though an awfully delicious one.

The more cotton rides a high horse the more farmers can have automobiles.

You can't always tell. For instance, when cotton gets up in the air, the farmers of the South are not.

News from the coal operatives shows conclusively that they think the people have money to burn.

Now that Mr. Hughes has made his New York speeches, what he stands for is just as clear as a dark night.

Now that bituminous coal has advanced so in price it will naturally be harder for the people to bituminous.

Cable news says that China may abolish Confucianism. The United States might try to do the same thing by confusionism.

Bill Spivens contends as how there is a land navy, setting forth that many a poor chap on dry land is shot to bits by hardships.

Some one has been systematically robbing the special train of the prohibition nominees. Possibly trying to drive them to drink.

Not only Bryan but his nephew has taken the stump for Wilson. The Republicans will, of course, contend its the whole d— family.

We are not worrying about what North Carolina is going to do in the election, but what's Ohio, Indiana and New York going to do?

It remained for a Durham newspaper man to introduce an innovation by discovering a rat in a cold bottle. The rule is to see a snake.

The woman who meandered into a Chicago barber shop and insisted on getting a shave evidently had plenty of cheek for the operation.

The doings of the Republicans' billion-dollar suffragette special train party show that there are times when the fair sex is not always fair.

Hardly had Mr. Hughes' denouncement of "invisible government" died away in the distance before news leaked out of a confab between Hughes and O'Leary.

At 19 cents the pound cotton on the Wilmington market yesterday shot ahead of both Charleston and Savannah in price, but then Wilmington always rings the bell's eye.

Some folks just can't let well enough alone. Here comes along a South Carolina contemporary innocently remarking that Captain Richmond Pearson Hobson hasn't been heard from lately.

"Hughes is Untried," shouts one business man, who does not want to make a change in this crisis of the American people. Well—ahem—not entirely. He has been tried by the people and found wanting.

Another North Carolina fair that is in full blast this week, helping both the particular section and the state, is Cumberland county's annual event, known as the Cape Fear Fair. It is also going to be a big success, thus well crowning the efforts of those who have so ably promoted it.

STILL IN THE DARK.

Mr. Hughes last night made, no doubt, what he considers a spread-eagle speech, and today likely rests content that he has openly and conclusively breathed defiance to all enemies, answered all questions and that the people now know where he stands. We say he probably is of such consoling opinion, as it may be that Mr. Hughes is really fooling himself. But his speeches in New York last night were merely a collection of words, expressing in a vague way something that every citizen in the United States would subscribe to—so far as public utterance is concerned. Therefore, Mr. Hughes is no further along than before and the people of this country are no more enlightened.

The Republican nominee declares that he stands for pure Americanism, and is against intrigues and any American who would put another country ahead of his own. Yet, there is nothing enlightening in all this. What candidate would dare say otherwise? What candidate would be fool enough to admit the contrary? The most rabid pro-German, the most fervid pro-British, the most ardent supporter of the Wilson administration and the most venomous anti-Wilsonite would all agree on this expression. The man guilty of conspiracy; the individual contemplating sacrificing the interest of America, even its welfare, would echo the same sentiment. Mr. Roosevelt claims the same brand of Americanism; only his Americanism would hurl the country into war with Germany and Mexico. Yet, Mr. Roosevelt is by far more candid than Mr. Hughes. However, frankness would not have to step very far to go ahead of Mr. Hughes.

What the people want to know of Mr. Hughes are details; not generalities, and the people are shrewd enough to understand that the rough surface can be varnished. Let Mr. Hughes shake off his generalities and render a bill of particulars. What would he have done when the Lusitania was sunk? Mr. Roosevelt sets forth that he would have seized every German ship in an American port and Mr. Roosevelt is campaigning for Mr. Hughes. Would Mr. Hughes have done that? Or would Mr. Hughes have broken off diplomatic relations with Germany?

It is true Mr. Hughes bombastically, egotistically has declared that if he had been President the Lusitania would not have been sunk. How would he have prevented it? Would he have stopped the shipment of munitions of war? Hardly that, seeing that Judge Gary is such a strong Hughes supporter and the DuPont Powder Company is openly calling for Wilson's defeat. Then how would he have prevented it?

That is the character of details that the people of this country want. Not a mere collection of words that convey no meaning whatever, and that plainly insult their intelligence, as they are purposely aimed to bunco them.

BE ON THE JOB.

Two things bear out our declaration of days ago that all needed for Democracy to win was for the gospel of the Democratic doctrine to be carried to the people and for the big record of the Wilson administration to be held before their eyes. These two things are the reports that the tide has now turned towards Wilson and that the Democrats, while slow in getting started in the Middle Western States, are now making things hum and the cause is gaining supporters in consequence. To our previous declaration we coupled the necessity for speeches, plenty of them, and for the President to get active in making speeches. Bearing out this comes the report that President Wilson's visit to Chicago greatly strengthened the cause.

In this light, it is the duty of the President to make just as many speeches as possible. The Democratic cause should win. It has every right and all justice on its side for victory.

If it does not triumph it will be because the people do not grasp the importance of the present crisis. That no Democrat may be guilty of negligence in this way, the faith should be preached, and preached incessantly from now until November 7th. It is better to be two hours ahead of time than one minute too late.

The second libel suit instituted by Mr. Jeremiah O'Leary against Chairman Vance McCormick, of the Democratic National Committee, again brings to mind that it was the former citizen who railed about President Wilson not daring to say things to a person's teeth, or words to such effect. Yet, the country finds Mr. O'Leary, who claims he has been insulted and damaged by statements that are untrue, racing into court to appease his honor. A perfectly orderly proceeding, of course, but rather an inconsistent one for the gentleman.

Advertisement for Uneeda Biscuits. Text: 'Soda crackers are a most nourishing flour food - Uneeda Biscuits are the most nourishing of soda crackers. Use them at meals for their food value. Eat them between meals because they are ever crisp and good. At all grocers.' Includes image of a biscuit box and '5c NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY' logo.

NEW IMPLEMENT FOR HUMAN DESTRUCTION.

The United States army is testing the practicability of a new armor-piercing bullet; one that it is said will penetrate thick steel and will pass through ten to twenty men. Contemplation of the awful slaughter that may be wreaked by such an implement and reflection of the effort of brainy men, spent in order to perfect such a destroyer of human beings, is sad; in fact, sickening. Yet, such is necessary as a matter of self-defense. The United States must spend money and must employ men of intellect to find out the surest and greatest way of destroying human beings. It is not a craving, not even a desire nor a pleasant task on the part of this country, but a grave duty, the same as the backwoodsman of the old days fortified his home against the Indian and schemed how he could fight the wild beasts. So intellect that could be devoted to work that would save lives must be employed at a task, or grave duty, that will devise the best means for killing mankind.

It is an awful contemplation for Christians and not a sweet morsel for civilization to taste, but it is a necessary evil. However, after all, there streams some sunshine through a rift in the clouds. It is the fact that Christians and patriots of this country are working not only to preserve peace for the United States, but, with a broad brotherly love, are aiming to strive for general worldwide peace; advocating that the powerful nations of the world band together, to protect each other from any one of their number during a temporary period of insanity, and to insure peace, through a united naval and army police force, for the small countries.

EXCEPTION TO THE RULE.

It is true that North Carolina seems divided as to where a farm loan bank shall be located, if this State gets one, but the very division, backed by such an array of argument as has been presented, may, after all, do good in that it will show the importance of a farm loan bank being located in North Carolina. So as decision as to the location is coming from reason and not from influence there may be benefit in this very division. This may be the one time where divided the hosts will not fall. That it should be the exception to the well known precept is founded on the belief that if a State has so many spots where the bank could be advantageously located, that State must be an excellent place for the location, being able to serve a vast territory. Therefore, the only question for the committee to decide is just where in North Carolina the farm loan bank shall be established.

Just as it was reported there was a general exodus of Republican spellbinders from North Carolina, being drafted for service in other States; there comes another report that Marion Butler is at his home in Sampson county, directing the campaign, and it is shown that the Hon. Tom Settle is campaigning in Western North Carolina. The latter Republican leader was in Greensboro this week, where he proceeded to unburden himself of the most optimistic kind of predictions for the success of Charles Evans Hughes. However, Mr. Settle sees Republican victory before every election, and there have been numerous times that his predictions have gone a-glimmering. Yet, it is Mr. Settle's business to predict Republican success—and we are not saying that Democratic leaders would not do as much for their side of the question.

SCENE OF CORN SHOW SHIFTS.

Announcement was made this morning that the scene of the corn show has been changed and that Wilmington's annual event will this time be staged in the big tabernacle at Fourth and Castle streets. While there were many reasons both for and against the downtown location, such as would occupy a certain number of streets, it is probably well, in the interest of all concerned, that the scene has been changed. That is evidently what the committee having this part in charge thinks, and it is a splendid committee; one that has had many knotty problems to solve and has done its work well.

The tabernacle is a large building and will afford protection in case of inclement weather. It is easily accessible, too, being on the street car line and in easy walking distance of the heart of the city. It also provides a better place for live stock exhibits.

So now all together for a big success of the corn show in the great structure mentioned.

YEAR AGO TODAY IN WAR

October, 25—1915—Austrians claimed repulse of Italians in a prolonged battle around Goritz, Franco-Serbian recaptured Vojas and threatened Uskub; Germans repulsed by French in eighth drive in five days; Germans stormed Bluxot on the road to Dvinsk.

MR. FERGUS HITS BACK.

Wilmington, N. C., Oct. 24, 1916. Dear Mr. Editor:—Having seen the industry at its greatest height and having watched with a good deal of concern the steady decline of it for the last eight or ten years, and knowing the great value of it, I have set myself the task of trying to help save the remnant and rebuild the fish industry to its former greatness. I believe that it is the duty of all good citizens to render service to their native State when they see the need of it. It is the history of all reformations, or reforms of any kind attempted by any one, that they will incur the hatred and hostility of the men or corporations who are preying upon or destroying the natural resources of the country. But I am in this fight to a finish, regardless of

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The physical or financial consequence that I may incur. I started out with the object of calling the public's attention to the destructive effects of using purse seines in the catching of edible fish, and I did it with the purpose of drawing the users of the purse seines into the discussion and convict them by the evidence of their own mouths. How well I have succeeded I will prove by the evidence of Mr. Church, who it seems the allied corporation have chosen as their champion in the defence of the purse sein.

Mr. Church, in an article over his signature, which was published in The Dispatch October 8th, 1916, says, as follows:

"In my opinion purse net fishing for food fish in waters around Cape Lookout, in years past, is responsible in a large measure for the diminishing supply of different species of food fish, but purse fishing for food fish never has been practiced in Cape Fear waters on a scale large enough to affect in any way the supply. Relative to use of purse nets in catching mullets will say, I don't think this method of fishing whether here or at Cape Lookout is responsible in the least for the passing of the mullet industry so to speak. Most certainly not at the present time, as the law which is well enough enforced to cover the ends sought prohibits the use of purse nets in this way inside of the three mile limit."

The above, which I have stated, was in the article which Mr. Church had published in The Dispatch of October 8th, 1916, over his signature. He was under the impression that the Fish Commissioners had enforced the law in regard to fishing with purse nets within the three mile limit for edible fish put upon the statute by the legislature, but the facts are that the Fish Commissioners destroyed that law by allowing the

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purse seine to continue catching mullets within the boundaries of Carteret County, within a thousand yards of the beach, and as they were catching them prior to that time in violation of the law, the public will see that the purse seines have been destroying the mullet industry continuously for years, up to the present time.

To show the public how the purse seines injure the mullet industry of the entire State, all the mullets that pass down the coast of North Carolina, pass through the waters of Carteret county, so by the Commissioners turning the purse seines loose on mullet industry within a thousand yards of the beach of Carteret county, they have virtually turned them loose on the entire mullet industry of the State, up to within a thousand yards of the beach.

In answer to Mr. Church's article, which was published in The Dispatch October 8th, I charged him with catching a large quantity of little mullets too small to be used for food, and asked him to explain to public how many he caught, and what did he do with them. In The Dispatch of October the 23rd, he answers, as follows:

"Now in explanation of the load of mullets: If I misquote Mr. Taylor in the following, I apologize to him and stand corrected. As I remember, I talked with Mr. Taylor about bringing some mullet to him, the question of quantity and size were discussed mutually, and Mr. Taylor advised me that he thought he could handle a good load even though they might be small. Accordingly, I caught a load in the Dye, about 90,000 pounds, I judge, and carried them to Mr. Taylor. They were small. Some were were of no value, and nothing to do but throw them away. Rather than do that they were taken to the factory, really the only reasonable thing to do under the circumstances."

The above is the actual statement of Mr. Church, as given to The Dispatch of October 23rd, over his signature. He says that some of them were salted for Mr. Stone. The facts are that 800 or 1,000 lbs. were salted for Mr. Stone, but they found that it was like eating soup with a fork so they decided that they were too

small to do anything with, so the 90,000 pounds was carried down to the factory and used down there the same as Menhaden, by being ground up for fertilizers. It has always been said, that an honest confession is good for the soul, and I will give Mr. Church the credit of stating to the public in his article of October the 8th, that the purse seines are responsible in a large measure for the supply of different species of food fish, and in his article of October the 23rd, he pleads guilty to destroying 90,000 lbs of little mullets himself with the purse seines. So much to his credit, but I don't think it in to his credit when he is guilty of a sin of commission, to try to place the responsibility or part of it, on Mr. Taylor. I have no doubt that Mr. Taylor told him that he could use a lot of small mullets, but I am satisfied that he did not tell him that he could use a big lot of minnows. Mr. Church must realize that he stands before the bar of public opinion, which is one of the greatest tribunes in this country, and they like to see a man stand to the rack, fodder or no fodder, and take his medicine like a man.

As to his charge that mullets were caught with purse seines in Florida, and brought to North Carolina, some mullets are caught on the east coast of Florida with the purse seine, but on the west coast, where they catch one hundred to one that is caught on the east coast, there are not any purse seines used or allowed in catching mullets. I have heard men make the statement that the North Carolina mullet travels on down the coast of Florida for the winter.

Now to prove that the Florida mullets are not the mullets that pass along North Carolina, which can be proven by a visit to the fish houses in Wilmington, when they have any Florida mullets, the North Carolina mullet of any size at the present time has a large roe that is very near matured. There was a car of large Florida mullets here the last week that was split and salted, and the roe mullets in them weighing from three to five lbs. didn't have any roes larger than your finger, which goes to prove to any reasonable mind that the North Carolina mullets do not go to, or are caught in Florida. D. J. FERGUS.

Advertisement for Cape Fear Fair Association. Text: 'Cape Fear Fair Association Fayetteville, N. C. Round Trip Fare From Wilmington \$3.35 INCLUDING ADMISSION TO THE FAIR. Tickets limited returning until midnight of Saturday, October 28, 1916. The Atlantic Coast Line will sell tickets as above, and at corresponding excursion fares from intermediate points, for all trains from OCTOBER 24 TO 27, INCLUSIVE. For further information, tickets, etc., call on T. C. White, General Passenger Agent, Phone 160, Wilmington, N. C. Atlantic Coast Line THE STANDARD RAILROAD OF THE SOUTH'

Advertisement for Oil Heaters. Text: 'For These Cold Snappy Days Oil Heaters. Original Vortex Heating Stoves. A hat full of cheapest coal costs 1 cent—Lasts overnight in the Original Vortex Hot Blast. Guaranteed air-tight always. Saves you \$16.00 to \$25.00 in fuel every year. Perfect Stove for all fuel and requires no change of fixtures for soft or hard coal, wood or coke. All styles and sizes here. N. Jacobi Hardware Co. Catalogue on Application. 10 and 12 So. Front Street.'