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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1917.

A British jury has "written" the American "unwritten law" into the laws of that country.

That was an unfortunate affair, but it showed that the gunners on American warships are accurate marksmen.

The Hollanders will soon wish they had not been so greedy over the profits on imports of American goods resold to Germany.

Spunky little Equador has no idea of allowing any of Kaiser Bill's diplomatic representatives making her play second fiddle.

After finding the facts in short order it took that coroner's jury a long time to consummate the straddle of the truck and the automobile.

Luxburg is not willing to risk himself in the open with his "friends, the Argentinians", even if they did decide not to break with his country—Level-headed Luxburg.

Colonel Roosevelt ought to be mighty thankful Mr. Wilson objected to his going to the front last spring. He would have missed his opportunity for denouncing LaFollette.

Let's stop hoisting the red, white and blue on every occasion and go to putting up the "long green" a little more energetically. That's the color that pleases Uncle Sam's eye just now.

We would suggest to those fellows down in Texas who are raising a fund as reward for the capture of the Kaiser that they read the fable about belling the cat.

When the elevator girl becomes general we suppose the ever recurring question of men wearing their hats in elevators will be settled once for all.

By the time this war is over Turkey in Asia will be about the only country in which Emperor William will be able to find a refuge and he will hardly be a welcomed guest there.

At 5:20 o'clock yesterday morning Von Hindenburg began another of those numerous victorious movements on the British front he is continually telling the German people about.

The Japanese mission learned one thing over here: That it does not take Uncle Sam long to get ready for war on a big scale and that he can run his hand down into his breeches pockets and pull out all the money necessary to finance his preparation.

Better buy a few one cent stamps now and practice getting yourself in the habit by November 1st of sticking one on every postal card you mail. After that date the card won't "go" unless it has an extra one cent stamp on it.

Icelanders want the prohibition law of their country repealed. A numerous signed petition for its repeal has been presented to the government. They say prohibition does not lessen drunkenness.

The fact that so many men summoned to the colors are rejected for physical conditions does not mean that we are a nation of inferior men physically. The physical standard for the American army has always been extremely high and it is being followed closely by the examining physicians in the selective draft service. That is all there is to it.

THE STUARTS OF ENGLAND.

In speaking of despotic Kings, The News and Observer alludes to the Stuarts of England. It classes James I as the most autocratic of Kings in theory. Thoroughly learned in the books of his day, it says, he preached absolutism and claimed to rule by divine right, but he never practiced what he preached. His people never cared a continental what he thought or said, but when his son, the unfortunate Charles I, sought to practice his father's preachments they rose in rebellion and "struck the crown from the head and the head from the shoulders" of their King. And yet, says The News and Observer, there must have been something noble in that Stuart dynasty. It is theme of delicious poetry and patriotic romance. It was an old daughter of Scotland who sang:

I ance had sons, but now hae none;
I bred them toiling sairly;
And I would bear them a' again,
And lose them a' for Charlie.

And how thrilling are these lines, apostrophe to the same theme:

The standard on the braes o' Mar
Is up and streaming rarely;
The gathering pipe, on Lochnagar
Is sounding loud and clearly;
The Helland men, from hill and glen,
In martial hue, with bonnets blue
Wi' belted plaids and burnished blades,
Are coming late and early.

James I was as complete a pedant as ever lived. He undertook to rule by precepts from the books he read and was for ever giving expression to wise saws and pedantic opinion on state affairs. He originated the expression that "people in glass houses should not throw stones," when Buckingham complained to him that a mob had broken the windows in his palace the night before, which was in retaliation for a window breaking frolic Buckingham and a party of "bucks" had been engaged in a few nights before.

Charles II, grandson of this James, was brilliant, but as wrong-headed as all the other Stuarts, with no idea of the duties and responsibilities of a King and no taste for any thing but the fast life he and the members of his court led. It was of him that one of his courtiers wrote the following epitaph with a diamond on a pane of glass in one of the royal palaces:

Here lies our sovereign lord, the King,
Whose word no man relies on;
He never said a foolish thing,
And never did a wise one.

The King, on reading the epitaph remarked that the reason was that his sayings were his own and his acts were those of his ministers. This incident showed the estimate placed on the King by those about him, as well as his character and disposition—quick-witted, easy going and even-tempered.

LAFOLLETTE SIZED UP.

Commerce and Finance contains an article on Senator LaFollette, by F. R. Serri, one of the regular writers in that publication. This is the way he sizes up the Wisconsin Senator:

"For it should be evident to all that what LaFollette says or does is not longer of sufficient significance to justify either editorial comment or space on the front page. There was a time when this was not true. Up to 1912 or thereabouts he was a powerful figure in our national life. Courageous, independent, he was a superb champion of the people's rights in Wisconsin and in the United States Senate. He was in the midst of every battle for democracy, unafraid, defiant and incorruptible. It was then that he earned the name of 'Fighting Bob', a title which fitted his whole career, his very face and his straight hair. "But since then there has been a swift and almost total degeneration. The gallant fighter turned into a feeble obstructionist, his mind narrowed and weakened; and today the man whose courage in his speech on the railroads in 1906 won the admiration of the country says we have no real grievance against Germany. . . . The spectacle is a sad one. Denunciation is useless. His influence has disappeared with the breakdown of his former statesmanship. There is probably no one, unless he is already beyond recovery, who now considers seriously LaFollette's war opinions. The Senator may as well attempt to prove that the earth is flat as that the United States has not just grounds for its declaration of war. He would make about as many converts in the one case as in the other."

DEAD LETTER LAWS.

How comes it, we wonder, that not until very recently have any steps been taken to see that the law as to sanitation in the hotels of the State is being complied with? That law was passed eight months ago and not until the traveling men made protest of conditions did the persons on whom the enforcement of the law is imposed take any step to learn whether it was being obeyed, much less to enforce compliance where violated. There are many other laws on the statute books which are dead letters. An important one is that requiring sign posts at all public road crossings and forks.

WITH THE EDITORS.

News and Observer—Save the snakes is the latest slogan, or perhaps it is an old one plucked out of the scrap heap and burnished up to meet new conditions. Save the snakes, not to eat but that they may eat the pests that afflict the farmer. An article in the Scientific American says that most snakes are of the harmless variety. The United States Department of Agriculture calculates that a hundred million dollars worth of cereals are destroyed by

There is another law of several years standing which requires the State flag to be hoisted over court houses while the Superior court is in session. This is not paid any attention to in a number of the counties, though it should be strictly obeyed, if for no other reason than that such a large percentage of our people do not know what the State is.

Again, the last Legislature passed a law requiring the publication of the names of all persons holding office under the State government, the office held and the salary attached thereto. Although eight months have elapsed, the State officer on whom this work was imposed has not yet seen fit to comply with the order of the Legislature. Why this ignoring by an official of his duty? Isn't there an explanation? It can hardly be in advertence or simple neglect of duty.

A FOOLISH PERFORMANCE.

A mock marriage was gotten up for the amusement of guests at an evening entertainment in a Western North Carolina town a few nights ago. The participants went so far as to get a license from the register of deeds for the couple and a magistrate to perform the "mock" ceremony. As the party was about to break up some of those present, getting uneasy over the matter, asked the magistrate to "undo" what he had done. He declined, saying he could marry couples, but could not divorce them. So the foolish couple find themselves legally made man and wife without ever having had intention of marrying.

It serves them right for making a game of so sacred a thing as the marriage ceremony. Their experience should be a lesson to foolish young people who think it fun to have a mock marriage for entertainment of persons assembled for amusement. It is not at all unusual to hear of such performances, and we have known of their being on the program of entertainments for raising money for charity or church purposes.

While marriage is not one of the sacraments in Protestant churches, it is recognized and treated by all of them as a church ceremony and considered more than a mere civil contract as the law looks upon it. It borders closely upon sacrilege, therefore, to make it the subject of jest and means of amusement.

STATE NEWS.

The student battalion of the University had its first taste of modern warfare methods here yesterday, when the four companies were divided into attacking and defending parties and maneuvered in the various basic principles of combat tactics as applied to the infantry organizations.—Chapel Hill dispatch to News and Observer.

Carson Palmer laid a half dozen apples on the Citizen's counter the other day that were as handsome as can be grown anywhere. The Palmer place, with 250 trees, refutes the old idea that good apples cannot be grown in the sandhills. It wasn't so many years ago that a plate of these apples took the medal at the national apple show at St. Louis.—Sandhill Citizen.

The County Commissioners were probably waiting for popular pressure before making the necessary appropriation which will secure a whole-time county farm demonstrator for Pender. They did not have to wait very long, we are happy to say, since fully two hundred representative citizens made known their sentiments as to the matter at a mass meeting held in the Court House, where addresses were delivered by several prominent men of both New Hanover and Pender counties. It means that Pender will get a valuable man to look after the farming interests of the county by a very small outlay of money.—Pender Chronicle.

Seventeen more selected white men from Robeson District No. 1 left Lumberton Saturday morning for Camp Jackson, near Columbia, S. C. Mr. Carl Thompson, of Fairmont, was made captain of the party and Mr. B. M. Sibley, of Lumberton, was made lieutenant captain. This made a total of 60 men sent to camp from this district last week, 25 white men and 13 Indians leaving for camp Thursday.—The Robesonian.

On their way home from a hunt Saturday midnight, while crossing a footlog in Gallberry swamp, near McMillan's, on the Robeson side of the Robeson-Cumberland county line, Mr. Egbert Jackson fell off the log, his gun was accidentally discharged, and the entire load entered the back of the head of Mr. Bill Smith, killing him instantly. The verdict of the coroner's jury was that Mr. Smith came to his death by accidental shooting. Mr. Smith was about 30 years old. He leaves a wife and three children.—The Robesonian.

WITH THE EDITORS.

News and Observer—Save the snakes is the latest slogan, or perhaps it is an old one plucked out of the scrap heap and burnished up to meet new conditions. Save the snakes, not to eat but that they may eat the pests that afflict the farmer. An article in the Scientific American says that most snakes are of the harmless variety. The United States Department of Agriculture calculates that a hundred million dollars worth of cereals are destroyed by

rodents in the United States every year. The article in the Scientific American suggests the wisdom of sparring the snakes so that they will reduce the ravages by rodents. The writer admonishes farmers to encourage the presence of the bull-snake, king snake, chicken snake, garter snake, gopher snake, black snake, and the blue racer. He says they are the natural enemies of rats, mice, weasels and other pests.

The Robesonian—They would not send Colonel Roosevelt to France to fight the Germans, but he is fighting German sympathizers over here and doing good work. Every time a prominent man bobs up with some treasonable utterances the Colonel whacks him over the head.

Winston Sentinel—In a speech a few days ago, Congressman E. W. Pou said, in speaking of the attitude of men in public life toward the war: "Here and now I predict there will not be elected to the 66th Congress in the campaign next year a single Senator or Representative about whose devotion to America there is any doubt at all." Certainly no such man should be elected. And a very effective way for each voter to do his bit in the present crisis is to look carefully into the records of the men he is asked to support for nominations next year, and make up his mind that anyone who has not done his full duty in the war emergency will be defeated if he can bring it about.

Hickory Record—Judge Pritchard told the Caldwell folks at their fair Wednesday that he could excuse the ignorant for their opposition to the war, but he could not excuse the educated man who is stabbing his government in the back.—Dr. Simon Peter Long in his address at the Catawba County Fair did a good work. There were some people, honest in their belief, who thought the United States had no business in the war and who indirectly were giving comfort to the enemy Dr. Long set them straight and many of them are praising him for it.

THE AUTOMOBILE DANGER.

(News and Observer.)
Everywhere people are crying out against the menace of the recklessly driven automobile. A reserve army officer writing in the Washington Post expressed the fear that he will not live long enough to fight for the United States, unless he is relieved of duty in Washington soon. He tells of several occasions when only his extraordinary agility saved him from serious injury. But if he were to be transferred from Washington to some other point he probably would find conditions just as bad, though, to be entirely fair, he says that he knows cities where automobile traffic is regulated.

The automobile is an ever present danger. It takes its toll of life certainly if not regularly. The average community may go along a few weeks without its automobile horror, but about the time it settles down to what it thinks is going to be a period of calm some new tragedy comes along to remind afresh of the omnipresent danger.

The laws that we have should be rigidly enforced and as a rule more drastic laws should be passed. The automobile danger is not one to be reckoned with lightly.

EVERY WOMAN EVERY MOTHER EVERY DAUGHTER NEEDS IRON AT TIMES
To put strength into her nerves and color into her cheeks.
There can be no beautiful, healthy, rosy-cheeked woman without iron. The trouble in the past has been that when women needed iron they got ordinary iron, which does not get into the stomach, and did far more harm than good. Today doctors prescribe the iron—Nuxated Iron. This particular form of iron is easily assimilated, does not blacken nor injure the teeth nor upset the stomach. It will increase the strength and endurance of weak, nervous, irritable, careworn, haggard looking women 100 per cent in two weeks' time in many instances. I have used it in my own household with surprising results.
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Mix together flour, baking powder and salt; add milk and water, sugar or corn syrup and nuts or raisins. Put into greased loaf pan, allow to stand 30 minutes in warm place. Bake in moderate oven 40 to 45 minutes.
Our red, white and blue booklet, "Best War Time Recipes" containing additional similar recipes, sent free on request. Address Royal Baking Powder Company, Dept. H, 135 William Street, New York

PLAYED LOTTERY ON HIS WOUNDS AND WON

(By John H. Hearley, United Press Staff Correspondent.)
Rome, Sept. 9.—(By Mail)—A black-haired soldier dropped into the State lottery office at Brescia, hesitating before the busy clerk while vainly trying to think of "lucky numbers." "O, play on your wound, it may bring you luck!" advised the impatient clerk, glancing at the silver tape on the soldier's arm which indicated that he had been "wounded at the front."

The clerk got out the soothsaying book and between them they interpreted the wound in "lucky numbers." The date and zone of the battle, the nature of the bullet and the feelings of its victim, all had their numerical equivalents.

"I don't want to win for myself," the soldier said, "I'm thinking of

Marla and the youngsters. Think of what the money would mean to them. Madonna mia, bless my numbers." The soldier risked forty cents on the magic formula, far more than he could really afford. "Say, just got my number down and send my winnings to my wife and babies, if I don't come back from the Carso," he told the lottery man. The clerk jotted the soldier's number in a note book and turned to several talkative peasants. The drawings were held later under the eye of Italian officialdom. The next day the clerk remembered the soldier and referring to his notebook discovered that the wounded stranger had won \$5,000.

VIRGIN ISLANDS NEED OVERHAULING

(By United Press.)
Washington, Oct. 10.—The United States apparently has picked up some-thing in the way of a wholesale house cleaning job as well as territory of vast military value in buying the Virgin Islands. Officials sent to look them over recently asked Congress for \$200,000 to correct these alleged conditions.

No water works in any town. Drinking water obtained from cisterns or hauled in wagons from sanitary wells. Fire departments consist of hand-carts, tubs, tanks and hand-pumps. No sewerage system. No furniture for government offices which contain old Danish safes made of cast iron and locked with keys. The cheerful word was brought back that for many years past, the island's budget has never met expenses. The biggest revenue obtained was from imports from the United States which States which are now out of labor are now cut off. In addition—

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