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PAGES 1 TO 4.

CONSUELO ENCOURAGES SEX.

DAUGHTER OF VANDERBILTS SEES IMPROVED CONDITIONS IN FIELD OF LABOR.

Comparison of Past Restrictions With Present Freedom Reveals Growth of Woman's Sphere.

An ex-President of the United States thinks it not beneath his dignity to talk to the women of the country through the pages of a popular woman's magazine, warning them of the dangerous and undermining effects upon their character of active participation in public affairs. The feminine club life of to-day he especially condemns.

Following this comes the announcement of an interview with a representative of the new and charming womanhood of America in the person of Consuelo, Duchess of Marlborough. A daughter of the Vanderbilts, married into one of the oldest and proudest families of England, surrounded by every luxury and crowned with beauty, youth and grace, yet is she democratic enough to be interested in her sisters of the working world.

Women's Work Commended.

Concerning woman's work the Duchess says:

"It is gratifying to see the improve-

ments which have been made in the conditions under which women work in this country since I was last here. You know that I am deeply interested in this question of the betterment of the conditions of life for women. England is doing much in this direction, but it is to America that we all look for leadership in movements of this kind, and I am happy to say that our hopes have not been disappointed."

The particular society in which the Duchess is interested is the Young Woman's Christian Association. She is to that organization in England what Helen Gould is to the Y. M. C. A. in this country—a patroness, generous of time, money and sympathy.

It is evident, however, that the Duchess' sympathies go out to the workers and the work along all the lines of betterment for women. She calls attention to the various associations and their enormous growth in membership, and to the change that has taken place in the position of woman in the world's work during the past sixty years.

Speaking of woman's efforts at emancipation and particularly of the famous meeting in Seneca Falls, N. Y., she says:

"The first woman's rights convention was held in this country in 1850. Three years later a woman attempted to speak in a world's temperance convention in New York and it took her three hours to make a ten-minute speech because of the jeers and interruptions of the men delegates. Florence Nightingale, just about fifty years ago laid the foundation for the glorious work of the Red Cross in the hospitals in the Crimea.

When Efforts Began.

"These were the beginnings of the activity of women in public movements, involving social reform, which now are having their full development in all lines of endeavor. When one reflects that the hardships faced by women speakers in those days ranged from hostile and rude interruptions to measures of even more active discomfort and unpleasantness, reminding one of an unpopular political campaign, and yet that they have persevered in their efforts, one cannot help being proud of their pluck and perseverance which has had such splendid results."

Reference to the woman who at-

COAL STRIKE PROBABLE.

AGREEMENT MADE THREE YEARS AGO BETWEEN MINERS AND OPERATORS EXPIRES NEXT APRIL.

Miners Will Then Demand Eight Hour Day and Recognition of Union, Owners Will Vigorously Oppose.

Charles E. Kern.

With the coming of winter many a householder has calculated upon the probability of a strike in the anthracite coal regions and wondered whether he should take the precaution to lay in a full supply of fuel. The day when the provident man laid up great stores for the frozen period of the year, filled his larder with good things to eat and his bins with fuel, against the inclement weather, has departed so far as the cities of this country are concerned. Now rich and poor alike, the provident and the improvident, look to the merchant to keep their larders filled. Their only providence is in laying up the money with which to purchase supplies when needed.

It is this change in the method of providing for the home, that has made the strike in recent years so terrible to the humble consumer, who may live a thousand miles from the scene of the industrial discontent and know nothing of its causes except that which he reads in his daily paper, and yet be the principal sufferer from the shortage of supplies that follows. The effectiveness of the strike is its power to create such a shortage in supplies and to bring the country upon the verge of a famine as bad as a food famine. Transportation, by quickly distributing products over the world, has routed the famine of old that sprang from the failure of crops. Now the cessation of labor produces the same shortage of supply that was formerly produced by the uncontrollable elements.

The chief protection against the recurrence of strikes has been found in agreements made between employers and employees, the present agreement in the anthracite coal fields being effective until April 1st next. Until after that date, according to the statements of leading labor organization officials, there will be no strike, as they propose to stand for the inviolability of contracts made by any of their affiliated associations.

The good offices of the President of the United States were used with great advantage in bringing about an agreement, between the coal operators and the miners three years ago, so as to make possible the production of coal. The fact is the President used only that indefinite power that may be regarded as the influence of his great office skillfully employed

in bringing the two sides to the controversy together.

Wields a Great Power.

Few people understand what an immense power is wielded by the President of the United States when that office is filled by a man of good judgment. The President, by issuing an invitation to the men on both sides of the coal controversy under the circumstances that existed three years ago, practically forced them to agree to an arbitration of their differences, because, had either party to that controversy declined to enter the agreement, it would have so fully lost public sympathy as to have been eventually driven to surrender wholly to its opponent. In that case the power behind the President was the power of public opinion. Not only is public opinion, when focussed by so skillful a hand as that of President Roosevelt, capable of forcing arbitration, but it is a satisfactory guarantee that the agreement when made will be kept faithfully by both sides to the controversy.

More Drastic Measures in Reserve.

But while the office of the President, with all its effective although indefinite power to force compliance was used in that case, it is a well known fact that the President was considering other means for forcing an arbitration, had the mine operators declined to agree to lay their differences before a board of arbitration. The President not only has well defined powers that are constantly exercised, and with which the people are fully acquainted, but he has other still more important powers which he can exercise at his discretion in cases of great emergency, and which it was understood at the time of the great anthracite coal strike he considered using in order to bring relief to the shivering multitudes of the land. He may do many things for the "public good." That is an indefinite term allowing a wide interpretation, but there are many people who believe that had the coal strike of 1902 continued a little longer the President would have declared martial law in the anthracite regions, and not only would have thrown troops into that section, but would have ordered the mining of the coal and its distribution to relieve the distress of the country.

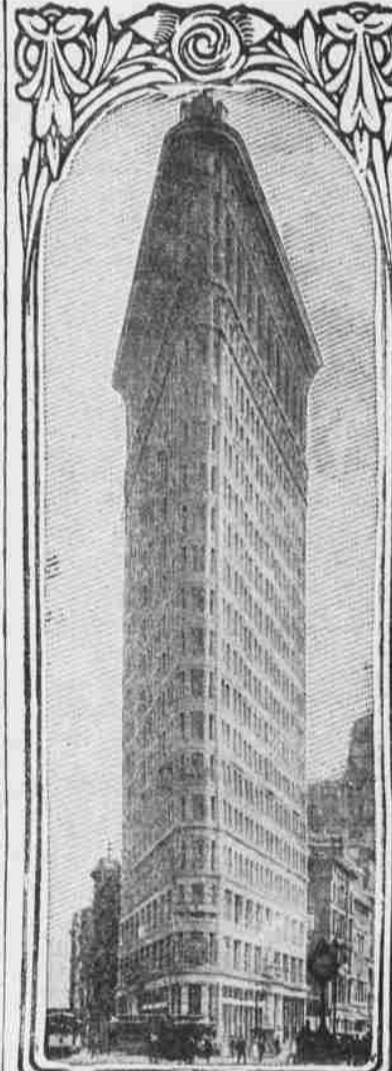
But, according to assurances that have been given to the public, the country is safe from a coal famine, at least until April 1st, 1906. Then there will be another meeting between the miners and the coal operators and the miners will demand both an eight hour day and the recognition of their union. The recognition of their union will be resisted by the mine owners to the last, and while it seems but a sentimental issue it will be insisted upon by the miners, and it may eventually be made the cause of another strike. One thing which may be borne in mind is that in case of a strike, the public, in the last analysis, pays all the costs.

THE HUMAN FLY.

REMARKABLE EXPLOIT OF AWNING HANGER WHO CLIMBS TALL BUILDINGS.

Witnessed by Gaping Multitude, He Ascended and Descended the Towering "Flatiron."—Wife and Children Among Nervous Spectators.

There is a man who climbs the outer walls of the highest buildings and who uses neither rope, tackle nor scaling ladder. This man does not tell of his daring feats, nor has he a press agent to exploit his dizzy achievements. He performs this work in view of gaping multitudes who cheer and shudder as this man goes up sheer walls, digging his tough and nimble toes into the interstices of the stone, catching a cornice or a window sill and "chinning" himself up and doing other most venturesome acrobatic



THE FLATIRON BUILDING.

feats. The name of this man is John Garrick, and he is called "The Human Fly." His occupation is hanging and removing awnings. To do his work he simply walks up and down the outside of buildings while other workmen go from story to story by means of the stairway or the elevator.

John Garrick before he took up the trade of awning hanging was a sailor. He followed the sea from boyhood to manhood, and during his service on deep-sea sailing ships he learned to climb and cultivated his nerve.

A few days ago he was engaged in removing awnings from the Flatiron building, in New York. Broadway was choked with people watching the Human Fly at work. Incredible as it may seem, he climbed the sheer wall of that building from pavement to cornice, two hundred and eighty-six feet and down again.

Five years ago Garrick married. Naturally his wife wished him to quit sea-faring. He got employment as an awning hanger and in that capacity he

made his climbing skill pay. Though married five years his wife has never seen him at his work of scaling the outside of tall buildings until he undertook the removal of awnings from the windows of the towering Flatiron building. "Until that time," said the lady to a reporter, "I never saw him at the work. I knew he was removing awnings from the Flatiron building, so I went over to Manhattan to meet him yesterday afternoon, and I took our two children, Lawrence, two and a half years old, and Hazel, four years old, and waited for John in front of the Bartholdi Hotel. Of course I never thought John would climb that frightfully tall building. I was standing there when one of the workmen, who knows me, came over and said: 'Your husband will be with you soon, he's just coming from the ninth story now.' I thought he meant John would be coming by the elevator, so I didn't look up to the windows.

"The workman told me to look up, I did, and I nearly fainted, for there was my husband with his hands on the sill of a window on the ninth story and his toes in the grooves between the stones. I grew dizzy and wanted to turn away.

"Something held me fascinated, though, and I watched him coming down in a sort of criss-cross fashion as quickly as a man would run down a ladder. I said to Lawrence, 'There's your papa, and the baby laughed and clapped his hands with joy. He didn't understand the danger, but Hazel did, and she began to cry. I couldn't look any longer and I turned my head away, but I could hear the noise of the great crowd that was watching him. I looked again, thinking he must be on the sidewalk by this time. Imagine my horror when I saw he had started climbing upward after I had turned away, and was then just up to the cornice. He looked like a little black fly against the white stone. He waved one hand and then began to move down. I watched him, but sometimes closed my eyes when it seemed that he had made a misstep. The crowd was so great that when he swung down to one of the store awnings I could only see him drop off and disappear into the maze of men gathered about."

THE WEATHER FORECASTS.

In Spite of Raileries the Government Prophecies Remarkably Accurate.

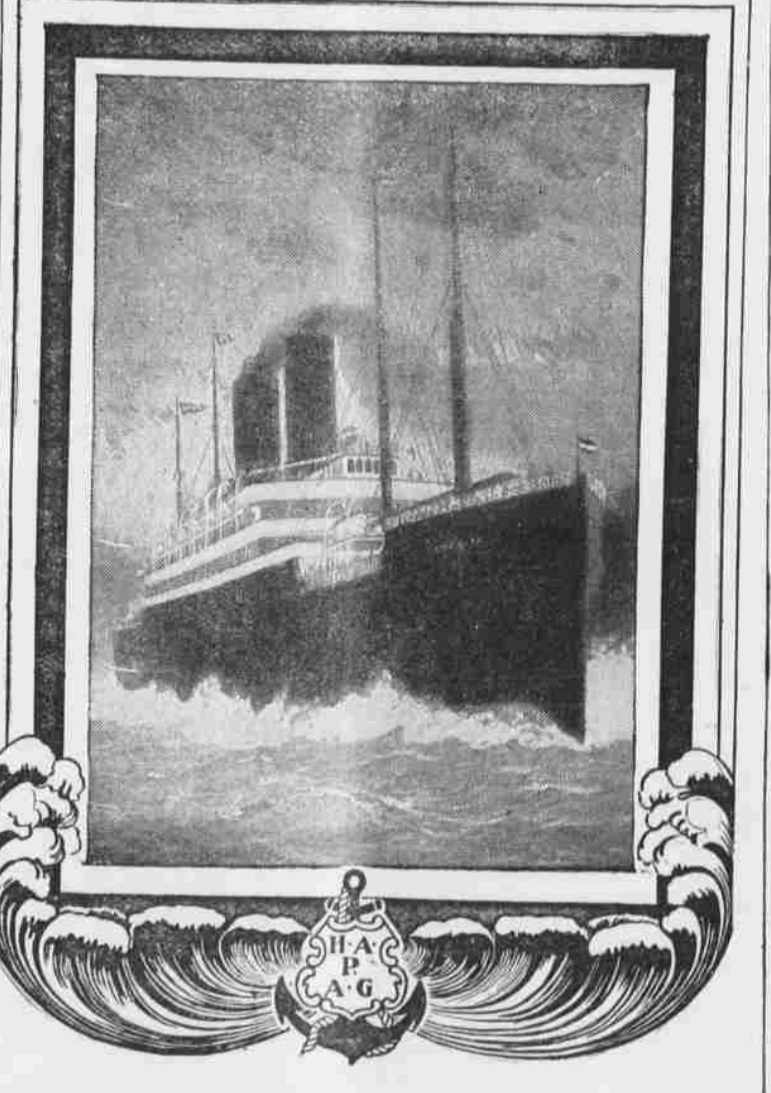
Fifteen per cent. of error, said Chief Willis L. Moore, in an interview, is the record of the Weather Bureau. Not only is this proportion lower than in any foreign bureau, but in ten years not a criticism of its work, he adds, has come from any commercial, maritime or scientific organization. Certainly, if it does what it sets out to do, eighty-five times out of a hundred, the weather service ought to enjoy an enviable degree of popular esteem. What praise would be showered on a Congress that acted unwisely only 17 per cent. of the time!

In spite of the constant gibes directed at the Weather Bureau, there is undoubtedly among farmers and shippers an underlying sentiment of friendliness and confidence. It has grown into a national joke that the forecasts are always wrong, just as Bostonians live invariably on beans and Philadelphiaans are always lethargic. But these whimsical articles of faith do not in the least affect anyone's practical attitude toward a forecast, a Bostonian, or a Philadelphian.

A contributing cause to the railing at the weather bureau is the activity of the long-range prophets. The superior usefulness of a forecast for next month over one for tomorrow being manifest, even sheer guesswork for the former period is preferred by thousands to a scientific determination for the latter. Recently a moneyed individual offered a substantial prize for the best weather prophecy six months ahead. If the Government bureau should try for that and win it—and it ought to be able to guess as well as anybody—it would become the most popular institution in the country.



CONSUELO, DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH.



A NEW SEA GIANT.

The new twin screw, Amerika, which came sweeping into New York harbor the other day, after her maiden voyage, is one of those new leviathans of the deep, the dimensions and appointments of which would have petrified even the owner of Aladdin's lamp, had he been able to produce such a result. The Amerika is said to be the largest ship ever built for passenger service and is a sister to the Kaiserin Augusta Victoria, now in progress of construction. The Amerika is some 700 feet in length, 75 feet wide and over 50 feet deep. Her capacity is 23,000 tons, which is something over twice the tonnage of the famous Oregon, Captain Clarke's great battle ship which made the long journey around the Horn in time to contribute to Cervera's defeat. Although she is a passenger ship and has accommodation for 3,400 passengers and 600 crew, she has also a capacity of 16,000 tons of cargo. She can carry 2,300 steerage passengers, but she has also provision for passengers who have a little money to spend. One of her "Imperial" suites for a voyage, affording accommodation for six people, can be secured for \$2,500, or an average of about \$60 a day for each person.

One of the novelties of the Amerika is the electric passenger elevator which whisks the passengers up and down between the five decks of the ship. A Marconi wireless telegraph apparatus found on the Amerika has now become an established feature of all large modern vessels.

The Amerika, while not designed, it is stated, to be a record-breaker in speed, is driven by quadruple expansion engines of over 16,000 horse power and is scheduled to make the trip across in seven days.

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