

CHARLES H. FISHER
Editor and Publisher

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TOO MANY "SUBSCRIPTIONS"

For taking care of the boys "over there" the Red Cross and the Y. M. C. A. are thoroughly equipped, the former for taking care of the sick, the wounded and the suffering, to attend to every want caused by battle and exposure; the other as thoroughly equipped for looking after the needs of the boys in camp, providing for their comfort, furnishing them healthful amusements, and looking after their moral and spiritual welfare as closely as does the Red Cross after their physical needs. It would seem that these two magnificent organizations are sufficient, and that to them the public should turn over all the funds raised for looking after our boys in France. Out of the desire "to do something" dozens of schemes have sprung up, no doubt well intended, and all that, but at the same time in their operation an injury rather than a help along the lines mentioned. It is not necessary to single out any one of many plans started for raising money for this, that and the other thing, all with the expressed object of doing something to make conditions better for "our boys." Of course each of these schemes turns to the public to provide the means for carrying out the idea and accomplishing the things intended. Here is where the injury is done. Practically every loyal American realizes the great work being done by the Red Cross and the Y. M. C. A. and goes down deep into his pocket every time in response to the call for more money to maintain these organizations. This is done cheerfully, gladly. For this reason the promiscuous collections for various things that keep the citizens digging down every day for some new scheme tend to make him weary. He does not like to refuse the plea of a couple of girls, who are earnest and honest in their work, to subscribe for helping a band, for buying uniforms for some organization, for the dozens of things some of them all right, but which could, and would be better taken care of by the Y. M. C. A. and some but a few removes from silliness. Yet all of them are caused by patriotic motives, and are presumably for some patriotic purpose. Well-intentioned as they are they are a real injury to the great organizations since they tend to cause some to turn a deaf ear to their call. The public will do a good thing and a needed one when it refuses to subscribe to most at least of these minor affairs and devotes all its "mercy money" to the Red Cross and its comfort funds to the Y. M. C. A. These organizations will never have too much.

WESTERN UNION HELPS THE KAISER

The telegraph companies especially the Western Union is as arrogant as the Prussian junkers and about as senseless. With the most vulnerable business in the world it is setting itself up as dictator to all of its employees, and peremptorily discharging them if they do not obey its commands about something which is none of its business. It demands that none of its employees shall belong to a union. It presumes to say what its employees shall or shall not do when not doing its work. The union has not asked that it deal with it as a union. This it might refuse with some show of right on its part. It presumes to do what the government does not attempt, to say its employees must not belong to a union. It presumes to do what the courts have held it has no right to do, and to take from its employees their rights as American citizens. A man has as much right to join this, that or the other union as he has to join the Masons, Elks, Good Templars or any other society. The employer who undertakes to deprive him of this right is a worse autocrat than the kaiser himself. Its managers may not believe in unionism, may feel bitterly toward it, may refuse to deal with any union as such, but when it comes to discharging its men simply for doing what the law says they may do, and for disobeying the dicta of the managers it is getting off wrong foot foremost.

In these perilous times every true American citizen is doing all he can toward winning the war. Among these there is no more important workers anywhere than the telegraphers. They are indispensable to the business of

the country, and to the government. There is a scarcity of these skilled workers, and on this account this same Western Union has asked and received exemption from the draft for its employees. Yet, while receiving this consideration at the hands of the government it assumes the right to discharge from the service which is about the same in effect as discharging them from the army, these men whom the government turns over to it. The result is likely to be a paralysis of business, for the telegraphers will not stand for this work and strikes are already called in some localities as a protest against this high handed procedure. In the South, a strike is called for Tuesday night, June 4 unless the telegraph companies change their rules and permit their men to join the telegraphers, or any other union they want to. Seattle is also facing a strike on account of these same arrogant telegraph managers. There it is quite likely, there will be a general strike affecting more than 50,000 workers in all trades unless the telegraphers are allowed their rights as citizens of the United States.

When this strike comes, as it is certain to do, these same autocrats will sit back and prate about "their patriotism and the traitorous strikers," when they and their tyranny is the cause and they are to blame for the whole situation. The thing the government will perhaps have to do is to take over the telegraph lines and business, and when this is done to keep that branch of business taken over. This is not a plea for or a defense of unionism, but for the rights of the American citizen. Unionism is something there are two opinions about. Some like it and think it all right and others do not. That is the privilege of each, but neither one nor the other has the right to tell the other he cannot have that opinion. The Western Union is deliberately trying to tie up the business of the country, and is as such an enemy to America in so doing as is the most rabid pro-German in Berlin. Its managers should be punished as such.

If the king of Bulgaria and the Sultan desire to get a moving picture of their finish, let them take a look at Austria-Hungary. It furnished the pretext for the war to Germany, and entered it as Germany's ally. All it has accomplished is the loss of its position as a world power, and the becoming of a vassal to Germany. That is what Germany has done for it as a reward for four years of fighting and of suffering and deprivation on the part of its civilian population. Practically every family has at least one of its members dead somewhere on the battlefields of the various fronts. If Germany wins, a similar fate awaits the Sultan and the king of Bulgaria. Their countries are needed by the kaiser to carry out his dream of a Berlin-to-Bagdad railroad, and he will pay little attention to the rights of others in making this dream come true once he is in condition to do so. If Bulgaria and Turkey would maintain even the semblance of a government they must drop the kaiser and look after their own interests.

The concrete ship, Faith, after her trial voyage, is pronounced a grand success. This should cause an increase in the yards devoted to this kind of ship building, and as this type can be turned out more rapidly than any other they should soon be taking their place on the Atlantic and aiding in getting supplies to our boys and our allies.

So far but few Americans have taken part in the big battle raging on the western front. This is shown by the light casualty lists and by the dispatches. However at one point, Cantigny, the Americans charged the pick of the German army, the Brandenburgers and Bavarians, drove them out of their trenches, took possession of the town in 47 minutes and have successfully held it against all attacks.

Rippling Rhymes

by Walt Mason

GROWING WEATHER

Oh, why repine? The crops are fine, the oats, the prunes, the barley; our hay, we trust, will surely bust the kaisers Bill and Charley. The wind that whoops and loops the loops, is multiplying rations, the rain and sun will can the Hun, and save the allied nations. Where'er I gaze I see men raise fine beets and peas and taters, and that will make the kaiser quake, and jar a lot of traitors. The night dew wash the growing squash, refresh the yarbs and grasses; the sorghum vine is doing fine, and we shall have molasses. The farmers say, "We'll work all day, and keep our plows a humming, and raise the fruits that jolt the Teuts, and victory is coming. We will not stand for idle land, we'll till each perch and acre, and put a crimp in that big simp, old Bill, the war lord faker. We'll sow and reap while idlers sleep, we'll waste no time in preaching; we'll ply our tools and push our mules until they bust their breeching." Our wheat and oats will get the goats of kaiser Carl and Billy; the beans we raise, the rape and maize, will drive those kaisers silly. Our wheat is great, it's green and straight, the stand is most surprising, and it will chill both Carl and Bill, and make them sick of kaising.



WALT MASON

The Woman Who Changed

By JANE PHELPS

A HARD LESSON TO LEARN.

CHAPTER XXIV.
In the days following the yacht incident, I constantly seemed to do the wrong thing. No matter how hard I tried, I said and did things that annoyed George. I was almost discouraged. Several times I had been on the point of asking him to let me go home for the rest of the summer, while he followed out his vacation plans without me; but each time I would remember that I might be giving way to some one else, Julia Collins or some other woman, might be glad to be rid of me. Occasionally, as the days went by, she joined some picnic or dinner party at which George and I were also guests, and although she seemed to go out of her way to notice me, I felt a covert sneer in many things she said.

To my delight, one day, Mrs. Sexton called. I never thought I should be so glad to see anyone I had once hated as I was to see this woman! I literally fell on her neck. And she didn't elude me. Immediately, I took it for granted that George had sent for her, and I was terribly disappointed, when she undressed me.

"I am not well, and am staying with friends," she told me.
"But you will spend some time with me, won't you? If you only knew how I needed you—knew what awful things I have been saying and doing this past week or two—you'd surely stay with me!"

Open Confession.
"What have you done that is so terrible?" she asked smiling. "Open confession, they say, is good for the soul, so I'll invite myself to lunch with you while you tell me all about it."
"Oh, that will be fine!" I exclaimed really delighted. "George will not be in to luncheon; he has gone yachting."
"Why didn't you go?" She looked keenly at me.

"Mal-de-mer."
"Surely a good reason. It certainly spoils the day for others, as well as for yourself," she remarked; then asked me to tell her about the time I was so ill.
I told her of my day on the yacht. And, before I knew it, I was also telling her of my dislike for Julia Collins—how it had increased, and how she seemed to sneer at me whenever I was where she was.

"You do not look well. I am afraid you are letting these things make you unhappy—that you attach too much importance to them."
"I honestly try not to. But it is hard."
"I know, but my dear Mrs. Howard, in fashionable life much is said and done which, means absolutely nothing—things which if done in the atmosphere in which you were brought up, would have a sinister meaning. I wish you would rid yourself of that idea of your own incapacity; it makes you sensitive, and unable to cope with situations which you would dismiss as amounting to nothing, if you had more confidence in yourself."
"I try to feel differently. I guess, if I had a husband who wasn't so wise, I would do better." Yet I knew I was proud of him, his poise, his tact. Mrs. Sexton also knew it, so I could talk freely to her.

Merton Gray Calls.
I had had my last sitting some days before, and afterward had seen nothing of Merton Gray, until one afternoon he called. I was alone, and glad of company. I had been strumming the piano in our tiny parlor, and when he was announced I was so pleased to see him, that I showed my pleasure very plainly.
"I thought you had forgotten me," I said.
"No, indeed, I have missed you sadly, and I have felt, at times, like destroying the portrait so I could commence another one."
This foolish nonsense affected me strangely; someone cared! I felt the blood rise to my face, and a thrill of gladness ran thru me.
"That would be silly," I retorted, then added: "I am honestly delighted to see you. I was a little blue. Mr. Howard has gone yachting and I dread being alone."
"Why didn't you go?" It was the same question Mrs. Sexton had asked, I gave the same answer.
"Unfortunately, I am not a good sailor."
"That's too bad. If you go often you may overcome it."
"No thank you! I prefer to stay on shore. You see, I make a nuisance of myself, as well as suffer tortures."
"I wish you would play for me," Merton said, after we had chatted a while.
"Certainly." I replied, and for nearly an hour I played and sang for him.
"How can you complain of being lonely when you have your music?" he said as I arose from the piano.
"It is a great help, but I guess I like folks better than most girls. I was brought up with them, you know—real people."
"I understand."
That was one nice thing about Merton Gray. He ALWAYS understood.

(Tomorrow—Merton Gray's Attention Cause Gossip)

PLAGUE IN SPAIN.

Madrid, June 3.—The mysterious plague which resembles influenza, has spread to Morocco, according to a dispatch received here today. The Spanish garrison there has become affected.

Saturday's dead in Spain totalled 111. In the last ten days, plague victims have numbered more than seven hundred.

Children Cry for Fletcher's

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GERMAN U-BOATS

(Continued from page one)

Captain Nowcombe of the Cole stated that his vessel was attacked by a German submarine which boarded him, took away his papers and placed bombs on board. The captain and crew took to the boats. Captain Nowcombe stated that the submarine which attacked him was about 200 feet long and carried two large guns one forward and one aft and a smaller gun amidships. He stated that he saw distinctly one other submarine beside the one which attacked him the second submarine being in the near vicinity submerged with periscope showing.

Only a short time before the announcement was made, Secretary Daniels had parried questions concerning reports of U-boat chaser activities near Cape May last night. His only comment was that naval boats were accustomed to get busy every night, but their services might be needed, but he refused to confirm or deny that the chasers had been operating last night.

The startling news that U-boats have gone so far afield as to actually come within fifty miles of the New Jersey coast, came as a shock to Washington. The report spread rapidly throughout congressional and diplomatic circles where it was the foremost topic under discussion.

That the navy department already has acted against the enemy threat was learned. First information of the presence of the U-boat reached the department yesterday and immediately U-boat chasers and other anti-submarine craft were sent to the vicinity in which the enemy was reported to be operating. At the same time discussion of recent reports of submarine activities off the coast arose and Daniels admitted that the navy "is more vigilant now" than two weeks ago. He gave as the reason the fact that the President Lincoln was sunk far off the European coast, while persistent stories of U-boats off the American coast have reached the department from time to time. One of the first recent stories was a wireless from an American merchant transport in-bound, saying she was being chased by a submarine. At about the same time, a report of a submarine in the Florida straits was heard. The checking out process, however, failed to prove that any U-boats were operating at that time off the United States.

Western Union Operators Get Ready for Strike

Washington, D. C., June 3.—President Koenekamp of the Commercial Telegraphers Union was to confer with Samuel Gompers here today before calling a strike of union men in the Western Union Telegraph company.

Koenekamp's decision to order a strike followed failure of the negotiations opened by the national war labor board to mediate between the Western Union and those of its employees who wanted to join the union.

It is understood that the Postal Telegraph company and railroad telegraphers probably will not be involved, but will not carry messages for the Western Union during the strike, if it materializes. Koenekamp intends to urge government ownership of telegraph lines.

Gompers, it is known, will advise Koenekamp to make another effort for mediation before calling a strike.

We still have with us War Savings Stamps at \$4.16. Lend your savings to Uncle Sam and help win the war.

PAINS IN BACK AND SIDE

Yield to Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Kansas City, Kansas.—"I suffered from pains in my back and side caused by a functional derangement. I was nervous and had headaches most of the time. So many people recommended Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to me, I tried it and after taking six bottles I am well. I do not think the Vegetable Compound can be beaten for women's ailments."—Mrs. L. TIMMERMAN, 3011 N. Hutchings St., Kansas City, Kansas.

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