

# AFRO-AMERICAN CULLINGS

A wave of industrial prosperity and we have to revise our notions. The South wants the Negro, after all, and wants him so badly that it isn't going to let him get away if it can help it. Listen:

"Americus, Ga., police and sheriff's office have thrown out a dragnet for the agents who have been leading Negroes out of the country with promises of work in Connecticut," a special dispatch to the Atlanta Constitution reads. "Several industries have been paralyzed by the Negroes leaving their work."

Then there is the old bogie of alien immigration. Listen again, this time to the Washington Post:

"There is a growing need for common labor," which may become "so acute as to cripple industry" and which is "due partly to prosperity and partly to the impairment of immigration."

The same paper summarizes the situation as follows: "Not long ago agents acting in behalf of the Russian government transported from Norfolk, Va., a complete force of shipbuilders, including foremen, draftsmen, mechanics and ordinary laborers. The shipbuilding force was removed in a body to Russia, so that the Russian government might have better facilities for shipbuilding."

"The need for labor, both for agricultural and industrial development, is as great in the South as in the East. Recently two thousand Negro laborers left Savannah, Ga., to work on the Pennsylvania railroad. The laborers were taken from a point four miles out of Savannah because the local council had passed an ordinance requiring a \$1,000 license fee for any agent sending laborers out of the state."

"All of the factories in the South are taking precautions against draining of their labor resources. Their situation is not different from that which prevails in the East. Some months ago one of the large motor car companies in the East had a strike and within 24 hours agents of the large munition companies were on the field inducing the strikers to accept employment in the munition plants."

But suppose we follow the Negroes to Connecticut and let the Hartford Courant tell about it: "One way in which the labor shortage that has been felt in the North during the present period of intense industrial prosperity has been met is by the importation of Negro laborers from the South. The tobacco plantations in the immediate vicinity of Hartford have made particular use of this expedient."

"Marcus L. Floyd, general manager of the Connecticut Tobacco corporation, now has 145 Negroes at work, and expects soon to have 200 working on the 620 acres that are being cultivated under cloth by the corporation. "On the Griffin-Neuberg plantation at Griffiths, Conn., there are now 83 Negro workers, and here will be 130 before the season is over."

"These Negro workers are paid \$2 a day and housed free." And here is the explanation: "The cause of the labor shortage in this section, according to Mr. Floyd, is that the high wages offered by munition factories to unskilled laborers drew most of them into the work. This with the fact that immigration has almost ceased."

So the war, which brought the industrial prosperity and also cut off the immigration upon which American employers so long have depended, is to be both praised and blamed. And in the South Texas Colored Missionary Baptist association convened in its twenty-third annual session at Houston, Tex. Moderator Rev. A. T. Gordon called the association to order. The opening service of the prayer was conducted by Rev. B. J. Preacher of Galveston. G. W. Smith and D. Young, veteran ministers of the association, offered prayer. F. L. Richardson was elected reporter for the association. The moderator set forth the principles of the association. Rev. A. C. Ray and Rev. C. H. Jones, secretary and assistant secretary, respectively, were at the desk.

Vice President Rev. J. C. Curtis presented Rev. C. H. Jones, who had been selected to preach the introductory sermon and his alternate, Rev. J. L. Lampley. Rev. C. H. Jones announced his subject as "The Certain Increase of the Kingdom of Jesus." He made a strong appeal to the ministers of the gospel to bestir themselves to active service. The following committees were announced: Finance, Revs. B. J. LeRoy, J. L. Lampley, L. G. Griffin, A. C. Carter, P. A. Pinkney; enrollment, Revs. W. H. Stewart, B. C. Carter, G. W.

At the closing session of the National Negro Christian congress at the Cosmopolitan Baptist church, Washington, the following officers were elected: Dr. Simon P. W. Drew, Washington, D. C., president; Rev. Dr. W. H. V. B. Taylor, West Virginia, first vice president; Rev. Dr. W. R. Winston, Washington, D. C., secretary; Bishop J. J. Higgins, St. Louis, corresponding secretary; Rev. Dr. George W. Thomas, North Carolina, treasurer, and Rev. Leroy Frazier, Richmond, Va., organizer.

A flame with higher temperature than oxyacetylene has been produced by a Swedish scientist who has invented a burner employing powdered aluminum and oxygen.

War has been declared on magpies in South Dakota, game wardens asserting that they eat up little prairie chickens.

On the fortieth anniversary of their marriage Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Nye saw their four children married at Shenandoah in

meantime there is only one result in sight, the wages of the common laborer will advance sharply. In the South to keep the Negro at home, and in the North to lure him away from Dixie.

Among the recent promotions in the army was that of Maj. Charles Young, Tenth United States cavalry, to the grade of lieutenant colonel. Special interest attaches to this case for the reason that, although Colonel Young is not the only colored man to have been graduated from the United States Military academy, he is the only man of his race to have reached the rank of lieutenant colonel, the second highest in regimental organization. He was graduated in 1889 and most of his service has been in the Ninth and Tenth cavalry, in which he rose gradually to his present rank. For nearly a year, while holding the rank of first lieutenant, he was attached to the Seventh cavalry, a white regiment. During the Spanish war he served as major of the Ninth Ohio colored infantry, a regiment he helped to organize. For several months past he has been serving with his regiment in the punitive expedition to Mexico under General Pershing.

In addition to Lieutenant Colonel Young, there are eight other colored men holding commissions in the army. These are: Maj. John R. Lynch of the pay corps, formerly a member of congress, who is retired; Capt. John E. Green, Twenty-fifth infantry, who is military attaché at Monrovia, Liberia; Capt. Benjamin O. Davis of the cavalry, who is military instructor at Wilberforce university, Ohio, and Chaplain W. W. E. Gladden, Twenty-fourth infantry; George W. Prioleau, Twenty-fifth infantry; O. J. W. Scott, Tenth cavalry; Louis A. Carter, Ninth cavalry, and T. G. Stewart and William T. Anderson, both of whom are on the retired list. Chaplain Anderson has the rank of major, the others being either captains or first lieutenants.

In the period covered by one vigorous manhood, approximately coincident with the half century following emancipation, things changed very much for the American Negro. He more than doubled in numbers and accumulated wealth exceeding \$700,000,000. His school property for higher education built and paid for in that time amounted to \$20,000,000; his church property to \$70,000,000. In the half century the percentage of literacy was raised from 5 to 70. At its close there were 1,700,000 Negro children in public schools instead of a meager 10,000 in 1863. The number of Negro churches was increased from 550 to 40,000; the number of communicants from 550,000 to 4,300,000. Sunday schools increased from 200 to 41,000 and pupils from 10,000 to 2,200,000.

This is a very creditable record for an uneducated, illiterate race suddenly thrown on its own resources in the midst of a highly organized white civilization, which had no place ready for its former slaves. And the Negroes are by no means standing still. They are entering every branch of business and making good; they are rapidly extending their real estate holdings; they are giving themselves a secular and religious education that ranks high in the Christian world. What their future in this country will be no man dares to prophesy, but undoubtedly they will be ready to meet boldly and capably whatever fate has in store for them. They have learned to stand on their feet.

Mitchell, H. Willis, B. J. Preacher. Vice Moderator Rev. J. C. Curtis called the afternoon session to order. Rev. T. Wesley, assisted by Rev. I. S. Ambrose, conducted the devotional services. Invocation by Rev. I. C. Capital and Dr. J. E. Edwards of Temple conducted the Bible institute. The committee on finance and enrollment made its first partial report, which was adopted.

Membership of banks in the National Negro Business league has grown from two, in 1900, to fifty-one at present. This fact was brought out in the discussions before the seventeenth annual session of the league at Kansas City, Mo., emphasizing the service the organization, which was founded by the late Booker T. Washington, is giving to the Negro business interests of the country.

An address on the Negro state guaranteed banks of Mississippi by C. B. King of Indianola, Miss., was on the program. Health and business prosperity, the raising of cattle and the management of various business enterprises were discussed by the delegates.

When Company A, Cardington, O., of the Fourth regiment, went to Camp Wilson it had eleven pairs of brothers, two pairs of fathers and sons and fourteen men over six feet in height. Company A is the youngest in the state, having only been mustered into service June 8, eleven days before the mobilization call. It has 100 members.

When death, the great reconciler, has come, it is never our tenderness that we repent of, but our severity.—George Elliot.

Trainmen on the Central Railway of Georgia get even with farmers who let their cows stray on the track by seizing on, firmly holding and milking them.

## HIGH WAISTLINE WORN IN 2500 B. C.

Dressmakers of Pharaoh's Time Made Gowns Like Those of 1916.

### BOTH SEXES USED COSMETICS

Expert of the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art Finds That Fashions Changed Often in Nile's Highest Civilization.

New York.—The high waistline in women's clothes, the fashion for the summer of 1916, was fairly popular in Egypt about the year 2500 B. C., a time when slight mustaches were the rage among the young men, according to researches made by Miss B. M. Carlandt of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She discovered that cosmetics were much used by the women favorites of the Pharaohs, and also found that the men were not averse to toning up their complexions when courts were held along the Nile of the middle kingdoms.

In the monthly Bulletin of the Museum, Miss Carlandt has described the clothes of fashionable society of the Egypt of long ago. Her descriptions were taken from exhibits in the museum. Depicting the costumes of the Old Kingdom, 2580-2475 B. C., she says:

**Sheathlike Garment.** "The conventional sheathlike garment worn by all women was of plain unadorned stuff, that hung from the breast to the ankles, so scant that it clung to the figure and clearly showed the form, fastened by straps over one or both shoulders or merely held up by a belt. It was often pure white, but sometimes it had a narrow selvage around the top, a fringe on the bottom, and bands that were parti-colored. The trim of Ptahhotep at Sakkarah there is a scene of offering-bearers representing estates, where the dresses are alternately red and dark green. These women, according to custom, were adorned with necklaces, bracelets and anklets of blue and green beads.

"Aside from white, green seems to have been the color most worn, although we do find in reliefs red and yellow dresses as well. The fashions for women were simpler and less varied than those for men, with slight deviations from the conventional attire, such as a short skirt worn at times by servants. The attire of dancing girls varied from the regular long costume to a short skirt, or in the later period to a girldie of brightly colored beads.

"Most women wore wigs or dressed their own hair long. It fell to the shoulders or to the waist in the back in a large mass, with a side-lock hanging on either side of the face. Sometimes a colored ribbon was tied around the brow like a fillet, and often a circle of real flowers was worn.

"We know that cosmetics and ointments were used by both men and women, and in this connection it is interesting to note a statuette in the first Egyptian room, the eyes of which are outlined with a green band. Green malachite was used for this, whether purely for adornment or for medicinal reasons we do not know, and rouge and black paint were also employed as part of the make-up.

**Shows Diversity.** "Dress in ancient Egypt, as in every civilized country, shows diversity according to the class or occupation of the individual and variety dependent upon the fashion of the day. The king and his courtiers set the styles, which were soon assumed by subordinate officials until they forced their superiors to adopt new modes. The fluctuations of fashion would be difficult to follow, although there was a steady tendency to elaboration and luxury; but let us consider the most distinct changes in the Old Kingdom (2580-2475 B. C.), the Middle Kingdom (2160-1788 B. C.), and the Empire (1580-945 B. C.), as shown in our Egyptian galleries.

"In the tomb of Perneb we have costumes that are typical of the Old Kingdom. Humble people were satisfied with a belt, tied around the waist with the ends hanging down in front, a skirt of linen, fastened loosely around the loins, rarely they contrived a rush matting. Even these, at times were laid aside, and the men appeared nude when engaged in strenuous exercise. The offering-bearers in the tomb chamber wore the short white skirt, the most common article of clothing. It was a straight piece of white linen cloth wrapped about their hips like a kilt, the ends being knotted in front or being passed under a girldie, and sticking up above the waistline.

"Men in the Old Kingdom almost invariably clipped their hair close and shaved their faces, although up to the fifth dynasty they sometimes wore slight mustaches, but shepherds occasionally allowed their hair to grow, a custom generally considered unclean. The upper classes wore wigs of two kinds—either short and close-fitting, with tight little curls in horizontal row, or long and bushy, parted in the middle and falling well over the shoulders. Such wigs were probably made of sheep's wool, and actual specimens have been found. When a man wished to assume his full dignity, he attached a false beard of plaited hair to his chin by means of straps. Sandals, which were made of reeds or leather with a strap over the instep, connected

water from flooding the basement. Parties are in the habit of digging earth worms in this ditch, which causes the water to run into the basement. This practice must be stopped at once. By order of the church board."

**Church Cuts Off Worms**  
Closes Fish Bait Field to Stop Sunday Angling and Help Attendance at Services.  
McGregor, Ia.—The trustees of the local Methodist Episcopal church, have taken effective means of inducing Sunday attendance in posting the following notice in the churchyard:

"It cost the Methodist church considerable to maintain a drainage ditch around the church in order to keep the

## COSTUME TAKES PRIZE



Mrs. Albert Bond Lambert of St. Louis, whose costume was awarded first prize at the Hawaiian ball at Narragansett Pier, R. I.

ed with another strap which passed between the toes, were worn irrespective of class, except in the presence of superiors, but the Egyptian commonly preferred to go barefoot.

**Adopt Plaited Kilt.** "By the time of the Middle Kingdom ordinary individuals had adopted the plaited kilt, which for a time, at least in the Old Kingdom, had been the peculiar property of the king; however, it is doubtful if the people ever wore it of gold. On a wooden statuette of Sesostris I, in the Eighth Egyptian room, this kilt is represented as plaited all around, the two ends curving symmetrically in front up to the groin. The king also wears the red crown symbolic of lower Egypt, while the mate to this statuette, which is now in the Cairo museum, wears the white crown of Upper Egypt.

"Other statuettes, in the Sixth Egyptian room, show what a variety of skirts existed at the time. The old forms continued, although there was a tendency toward a narrower, longer skirt. The triangular projection, so fashionable in the first dynasty, became subdued until it was quite modest. The long skirt which has been described as typical of this time often had a high waistline. It was at this time that clothing for the upper part of the body first appeared, and a curl-cape was sometimes pinned around the shoulders. A heavy cloak or shawl, probably of wool, worn in the Old Kingdom as an outer garment by both men and women, now became common.

"Changes in the costumes of women from the old to the Middle Kingdom were slight, but there were a few innovations that showed the tendency toward elaboration. A plain white tunic was sometimes covered with a network of brightly colored beads in diamond pattern with a bead fringe at the bottom. A similar dress, exceptionally gay in color, dates from the sixth dynasty. One statuette from Assiut shows a white tunic with a wide border on the bottom representing birds' wings or a leaf pattern, the latter more likely, since it is painted in green."

**STORK VISITS COST MORE**  
British War Baby Adds \$100 to Parents' Expenses Above the Figures of 1914.  
London.—It is estimated that the all-around expenditure on a baby born this year is probably from \$100 to \$125 higher than in 1914.

Food alone adds about \$15 to the year's cost of the war baby. Milk has gone up four cents a quart and it is said that the average baby consumes from 400 to 450 pints a year. Baby foods are up about 10 per cent. Feeding bottles cost a third more, and the methylated spirit for heating the night's feed has advanced from 10 cents to 25 cents a pint.

Baby garments cost more also. Everything made of wool has risen 33 per cent in price; all the cotton and wool mixture materials and garments are 25 per cent higher, the woolly cotton ones, owing to the rise in raw materials and labor, must be paid for at the rate of about 15 per cent more. Nearly all medicines cost much more. Perambulators are about one-fourth dearer.

**Wounded Otter Bit Him.**  
Petersburg, Ind.—Homer Hays, aged eighteen, was hunting frogs with a small rifle along White river, near the island two miles east of here, when he saw an otter lying on the river bank. He shot at it and the bullet hit it in the mouth. This so enraged the animal that it jumped at him and caught one of his hands, preventing him from shooting a second time. He finally shook the animal loose, and it rolled down the river bank into the water and dived out of sight.

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## UNEARTH RUINS 1,000 YEARS OLD

Dr. Fewkes Discovers Most Ancient Structure Known in the Southwest.

### BUILT BEFORE SUN TEMPLE

That Building in Mesa Verde National Park Was Inhabited Is Shown by Household Utensils—Finds Ancient War Club.

Denver, Col.—A ruin more than 1,000 years old—the most ancient of all the ruins discovered in the southwest—has been unearthed in Mesa Verde National park, Colorado, by Dr. Jesse Walter Fewkes of the Smithsonian Institution.

Dr. Fewkes started to excavate on July 20 a large walled five miles from Spruce Tree camp, on top of the mesa. He has made sufficient progress to show the outlines of a huge building of the pueblo type of architecture, 112 feet long and 93 feet wide, including a plaza. The main building contains a large court and at least three circular kivas, or ceremonial chambers.

Dr. Fewkes says the building is much older than Sun Temple, which he excavated in Mesa Verde National park last year. In fact, it is by far the oldest building uncovered in the southwest, and shows that the people who inhabited Mesa Verde National park must have flourished at least 1,000 years ago.

News of Dr. Fewkes' discovery was brought to Denver by Dr. Elmer E. Higley, pastor of a church in Des Moines, Ia. He takes a keen interest in archaeological subjects, particularly those concerning the Mesa Verde, on which he lectures. He was one of the first to explore the cliff dwelling now known as Daniel's House, which was explored for the first time last summer.

**Building a Distinct Type.** "Dr. Fewkes has made a wonderful discovery this season in Mesa Verde National park," said Dr. Higley. "He has uncovered a new type of building. The ruin which is now being uncovered is situated about thirty rods south of the large circular reservoir known as Mummy lake, which is close to the automobile road leading to Spruce Tree camp. Everyone who visits the ruins has Mummy lake pointed out to him.

"There are nine large mounds near Mummy lake and it is one of these that Dr. Fewkes has excavated this season. Probably it will be late in September before the work is completed. The building is rectangular in shape and the masonry work is not so good as that in Sun Temple, which Dr. Fewkes excavated last year. Dr. Fewkes is of the opinion that the building which is being excavated this season is much older than Sun Temple, which probably was built about 1300 A. D. The building on which he is now working evidently was inhabited, while Sun Temple was not. The workmen are finding broken pottery in great quantities and household implements as well. Evidently the building was covered and was very imposing.

"About a dozen men are working on the building and all are keenly interested, feeling that valuable discoveries may be made at any time. The building represents a distinct type, entirely different from the cliff ruins, themselves, which are built in caverns in the cliffs. The buildings around Mummy lake were built in the open much on the lines of modern structures. The building being uncovered commands a view for many miles in all directions, and for this reason it has been suggested that the ruin be named Prospect House.

**Finds Ancient War Club.** "As is the case of Sun Temple, the walls of this building are two or three feet thick. Double walls extend all the way around the building, probably for purpose of defense. Probably a roof will be put over this building, but it is the intention to make the covering strictly modern and not to attempt to conform to cliff dwellers or mesa dweller type.

"It is Dr. Fewkes' intention to do some work this season on Mummy lake, which has been the cause of much speculation. It is the general opinion that Mummy lake was a reservoir supplying water to the group of buildings in the immediate vicinity and perhaps part of an irrigation system. The mound is circular and has a depression in the middle. The structure covered by earth evidently is double walled and of great size.

Dr. Fewkes entered a cliff dwelling which, it was supposed, never had been explored before. It was necessary for him to be lowered 90 feet over the side of a cliff to get into the building. He found that one of the Wetherills and a companion had been in the building in the eighties, about the time the cliff dwellings were discovered. In this building Dr. Fewkes found an implement which Dr. Fewkes pronounced a sort of war club. It consisted of a stone to which was attached a short handle. It is the first implement of warfare to be found in the cliff ruins and has excited much interest.

St. Paul desires to be the site of a government nitrate plant.

**Cat Adopts Rabbit.** Marietta, Pa.—Abraham B. Lutz, who tenants a farm near town, has an old cat that is rearing a rabbit, together with a litter of kittens. While going to the barn early one morning he noticed the rabbit and thinking it would die he decided to place it with the little kittens. The cat, has adopted it, and it is a curious sight to see the rabbit with the kittens.

Chicago has dedicated a new club house for boys in Larrabee street.

## DIRECTS U. S. EFFORTS TO END LABOR DISPUTES



WILLIAM B. WILSON, Secretary of Labor.

## LUMBER CUT IS LARGE

Output in Country in 1915 Was 37,013,000,000 Feet.

The lumber cut of the United States in 1915 reached a total of more than 37,000,000,000 feet, according to Uncle Sam's best estimate. A report of the forest service made this estimate of the cut, based upon incomplete reports received from mills in the principal states producing lumber, and it is believed that the estimate is close to the actual figures.

Yellow pine led all other varieties of wood in the total cut, with 14,700,000,000 feet, or more than one-third of the entire amount of lumber produced in the country. Douglas fir is next, with a cut of 4,431,249,000 feet.

The reported cut of lath in 1915 was 2,745,134,000, and it is estimated that the total cut was 3,250,000,000. The reported cut of shingles was 8,459,378,000, and the estimated total cut was 9,500,000,000.

The estimated cut of the various varieties of wood, with the average value per 1,000 feet of each variety, as given by the forest service report, were as follows:

Kind of Wood.	Probable Total	Value Per M
Yellow pine	14,700,000,000	\$12.50
Douglas fir	4,431,249,000	13.00
Oak	2,570,000,000	13.00
White pine	2,700,000,000	13.00
Hemlock	2,275,000,000	13.00
Spruce	1,400,000,000	16.50
Western pine	1,253,850,000	14.50
Cypress	1,100,000,000	20.50
Maple	900,000,000	15.00
Elm	650,000,000	12.50
Balsam fir	490,000,000	15.00
Yellow poplar	454,000,000	22.50
Redwood	429,254,000	13.50
Cedar	420,000,000	15.50
Birch	415,000,000	16.50
Ash	390,000,000	11.00
Beech	380,000,000	14.00
Basewood	290,000,000	19.00
Elm gum	250,000,000	17.00
Ash	190,000,000	22.50
Cottonwood	180,000,000	17.50
Purple pine	170,000,000	12.50
White fir	125,948,000	11.00
Sugar pine	117,701,000	14.00
Theory	100,000,000	22.50
Balsam fir	100,000,000	14.00
Walnut	90,000,000	14.00
Lodgepole pine	25,438,000	13.50
Sycamore	25,000,000	14.00
All other kinds	49,531,000	14.00
Total	37,013,294,000	14.00

## NEW STYLES HIT FACTORIES

Lessened Demand for Ingrain Carpets and Rugs Put Number of Plants Out of Business.

Changes in styles have had a disastrous effect upon many of the carpet factories of the United States during the past few years, according to Uncle Sam. A report of the census bureau shows that the number of carpet factories declined from 139 in 1909 to 97 in 1914. Several of these went out of business, Uncle Sam says, chiefly on account of the lessened demand for ingrain carpets and rugs, due to a change in styles.

The total value of products in 1914 was less by \$2,059,067, or 2.9 per cent, than the corresponding total for the preceding census.

The chief constituent material of the carpet and rug industry is wool, either in raw or in partially prepared form. The raw wool used in 1914 amounted to 62,552,449 pounds and cost \$10,493,743, as compared with 64,135,020 pounds, costing \$11,752,396, consumed in 1909. Woolen and worsted yarns also constituted important materials. Of woolen yarn, 21,626,360 pounds, costing \$5,821,848, was used in 1914. Worsted yarn to the amount of 9,267,275 pounds, costing \$4,592,906, was used. Of materials other than wool, yarn made of jute, ramie and other vegetable fiber is of greatest importance, this being the only material extensively used in the industry which in 1914 showed a gain as compared with 1909. The amount consumed in the later year, 59,148,266 pounds, costing \$6,040,186, represented an increase of 6.4 per cent in quantity and 58.8 per cent in value in comparison with the 1909 figures. Cotton yarn to the amount of 24,619,137 pounds, costing \$4,837,073, and linen yarn amounting to 7,692,209 pounds, costing \$1,414,924, were the other important materials used.

**Sewer Pipe Output Falls.** The value of the brick and tile products of the United States in 1915 was \$125,794,844, according to Uncle Sam's figures. This was a decrease of about 3 per cent as compared with the previous year. The product that showed the greatest decline was sewer pipe.

**Millions in Sand and Gravel.** The United States produced 76,003,308 short tons of sand and gravel, valued at \$23,121,617, during 1915, says Uncle Sam.

## UNCLE SAM WORKS AS A PEACEMAKER

Has Settled Great Many Disputes Between Employers and Employees.

### WILL LISTEN TO GOVERNMENT

Both Sides in Labor Controversies Unwilling to Yield to Each Other, Will Accept Federal Mediation.

Uncle Sam, in recent years, has been playing an increasingly important role of peacemaker between employers and employees who become involved in disputes that result in strikes or lockouts.

Uncle Sam has acted chiefly through the division of mediation and conciliation of the department of labor, but a some cases other agencies are brought into service. The work of this division of the department of labor is of a purely industrial character. Questions affecting railway operation are specially excepted from the jurisdiction of the department of labor and placed under the United States board of mediation.

The work of the department's mediation and conciliation division has been rapidly increasing. Since the department was created on March 4, 1913, approximately 100 labor disputes, involving actual or threatened strikes, have been amicably adjusted. In approximately a score of cases the department's efforts have failed. In the cases adjusted more than 150,000 workmen were directly affected and more than 220,000 indirectly affected.

"The reason why the department of labor is so often successful in preventing or settling strikes by mediation and conciliation," said Secretary of Labor Wilson the other day, "lies in the fact that both disputing parties recognize the government as a superior agency. They will listen to the government when they will not listen to any individual or agency."

**No Hint of Compulsion.** One of the curious things is that neither in the law authorizing this new work for industrial peace, nor in the methods pursued under the law, is there the slightest hint of compulsion. The government agents do not even seek to arbitrate. Here is the working plan:

Upon the invitation of either disputant or upon its own initiative, the government steps up to the combatants, and, without even going between them or attempting to pull them apart, says, "Here, don't you think this ought to stop? If so, let's all get together and fix up some kind of agreement." It generally works.

A strike is a little war. All the passion entering into war enters into strikes. The difference is that the government now supplies between groups of citizens the superior agency for settling disputes lacking between nations.

A strike is not only like war; it is like any kind of fight. Both sides want to quit—but quit winner! In the ordinary course, "surrender" is not considered until the one or the other side is down and out. Compromise is disliked because compromise is not "victory."

The would-be peacemaker must be a vastly superior person than either combatant or he'll get beat up. Diplomacy enters in choosing the ways and means of pointing out how all hands can "lay down arms" and still "save their faces." Though unwilling to yield direct to the other an inch in position or a comma in their respective demands, both disputants are generally willing to concede much at the suggestion of the government.

**Common Sense Big Factor.** Experience has convinced the authorities of the department of labor that successful strike settlement is generally a matter of inducing all parties concerned to use common sense. The labor spokesmen are not always informed of the general conditions in the business of the employer. They may also not be informed as to wage and time conditions at other points in their own industry. They frequently do not know that the same issues for which they are