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While Kansas is taking its rat census it might carry along a club.

Evidently William Jennings Bryan is not to be a prophet in Toronto.

Twenty-nine days left for Hindenburg to reach Paris on scheduled time.

Ambassador Francis is not yet ready to be bound in Russia, so he gets out.

If Japan wants action in Siberia, Japan has the wherewithal to make such action.

Market reports that strawberries have dropped to 50 cents a basket are not intensely interesting just now.

Von Hertling's latest collection of words concerning the war does not call for a reply from President Wilson.

Major General Peyton C. March is almost too enthusiastic about the condition of the American expeditionary forces in France.

The current story that the reason why the Germans did not reach Paris in 1914 was because they were too drunk bears on its face some of the marks of blearyness.

Vermont's prominence in the dairying industry gets proper recognition in the election of a Vermont man as president of the New England Milk Producers' association.

A great oil strike is reported from northwestern Texas. If it turns out to be as good as expectation, Carranza of Mexico can take his oil wells and twiddle his thumbs.

The Rutland fire department was called by general alarm to Furnace street and on arriving there found no fire—a condition similar to that found in many another furnace.

There is reason for Norwich university men to feel proud of the record of the men of their institution in the present war, as 51 per cent of the men of military age are now serving their country.

Members of boards of trade in various towns who are asked to pay \$4 or \$5 a year for dues might find some encouragement for themselves in the information that the new board of trade in the town of Manchester in western Vermont assesses its members \$12 a year.

The Cologne Gazette of Jan. 16 describes New York City as surrounded with 625 miles of barbed wire fence. Knowing the facts in the case one can judge of the truth of the average statement about the United States which appears in the German newspapers.

On the basis of its new registration figures, Barre will have to poll over 1,800 votes next Tuesday in order to come up to its usual percentage of participation in an election. It is to be presumed that the percentage will be higher this year because nearly all the women, who are registered for the first time, will make an especial effort to consummate their electoral right. So it would not be surprising if the total vote should be in the vicinity of 1,900.

It is apparent that the German populace is being fed on a choice collection of lies about American participation in the war and about the progress the submarines are making against allied shipping. Carl W. Ackerman's article in the Saturday Evening Post, giving extracts from German newspapers, cannot be gainsaid because it gives the utterances of the Germans themselves. When the German people are permitted to know the truth there will be some wonderful surprises for them.

The strange feature about this fourth mysterious fire in Central Vermont Railway company's property at St. Albans is that it should have broken out while employees of the company were at work in the building attacked, and that they should not have discovered the fire until the flames became visible to skaters on a pond located one-eighth of a mile away. It is a feature which the investigation committee might look into with some thoroughness.

Although people in northern and central Vermont have little direct interest in the Valley fair at Brattleboro, they nevertheless feel a measure of satisfaction that the promoters of that fair have decided to keep the exhibition going rather than to shut up shop as was threatened before the annual meeting of the Valley Fair association. The closing of the Brattleboro fair would have had a depressing effect on many other fair associations throughout Vermont, for they look to the Brattleboro association to be somewhat of a leader in that line of activity.

Representative Rainey of Illinois is authority for the statement that there was something back of the Garfield Monday-closing order which the public does

not know about and which probably will not be revealed till after the war. Whatever that something was, it must have taken itself out of the way very promptly, because the order was revoked before it had gone half the projected time. The wonder naturally rises whether it (the something) will return again to obstruct and hinder the United States and our allies in the successful prosecution of the war. In order to forgo against the worst conditions of such a possible revisiting it behooves each one to exercise a measure of prudence in the consumption of fuel. That we can do and thereby reduce the possibility of another like order when another winter rolls around.

**AN EXPEDIENT OF DOUBTFUL VALUE.**

The result aimed at does not always justify the means employed to attain it. So the plan adopted by a Rutland school commissioner in order to get the children in his city acquainted with the conditions likely to arise in a fire emergency does not seem to be justified. This plan was to have a policeman cry out "Fire" at the top of his lungs in one building after another, the children having been given no warning whatever. The plan was carried out in several buildings, and in some cases the pupils were wrought up almost to a stage of hysteria by their panic-stricken fears and there was considerable confusion in getting out of the buildings. In the buildings occupied by the older pupils there was less mental stress and fairly quick egress was made.

But whatever the situation, the point seems to have been lost sight of that in a school which is properly drilled the resort to the cry of "Fire" is discouraged, if not absolutely forbidden; and the warning is given simply by the sounding of the fire gong. Moreover, it is a mighty poor policy to teach children to shout "Fire" in any public assemblage, and it seems to us that the resort to that expedient as a fire warning even in practice is calculated to implant in the minds of children that they should also call "Fire" anywhere and any time when the conditions seem to warrant. The cry of "Fire" in a crowded theatre has resulted in terrible holocausts, notably the Iroquois theatre fire in Chicago many years ago; and what would be more natural for a child to do in such an assemblage than to cry "Fire" just as the policeman did in the school building? The practice was for the moment just as realistic to the child's mind as the actual emergency would be in some other public building. The idea of the fire drill is to prevent panic and to make egress from a building as free from excitement as possible. When someone, especially a full grown man bearing the authority of a policeman, shouts "Fire" the whole scheme of preserving calmness is turned topsy-turvy. We do not think the Rutland school commissioner's plan ought to be followed out.

**MABEL SYRUP'S COLYUM**

"To have a lively and not a stolid countenance."—Truth of Intercourse.

"The time has come to conquer or submit. For us there is but one choice. We have made it."—President Wilson.

**Line Is Busy.**  
 It is time the green folks (not children) were taught that it is not pretty to disturb people talking on the phone. Take notice.—Fitchville item.

**Introducing a New Billtown Bard.**  
 There is a man in our town,  
 And he an auto craved.  
 He bought a little Maxwell car  
 With money swiftly saved.

So when the car came to his door,  
 The neighbors he did carry,  
 He told his wife that he would run  
 A jitney bus to Barre.

Back and forth three times a day  
 The Maxwell it would tear,  
 But if the car refused to go  
 O Boy, did that man swear!

At nine a. m. and one p. m.,  
 Toward Barre he did strive,  
 To make this little trip with him  
 'Twould cost you "thirty-five."

Now if you chance to come this way  
 You'll see this neat machine.  
 He'll surely need your patronage  
 To buy his gasoline. —"Anxious."

Thinking to test the random information of her young pupils' a Barre teacher asked how many knew of Mr. Pershing. The severely democratic prefix was used for an obvious reason and only one child confessed to even a hearsay acquaintance with the general. She asked another question. How many knew of Charlie Chaplin? Instantly every right hand but the teacher's was waving furiously and an anxious desire to acknowledge intimacy with that famous man of many motions was written on every face. Conclusion: The western front of childhood thoughts, even in these dark days, is still at the nether end of the movie theatre.

**O Horrid Thought.**  
 The Lord must pity those poor mortals who are so afraid of mixing their credentials that it takes an order from the fuel administrator to get them to worship together. Let them beware lest the fuel administrator refuse to cut off the heat in the hereafter.—Wolcott M. E. church notes.

**Up Against the U. S. A.**  
 Old Kaiser Bill is a wicked old pill,  
 A wicked old pill is he,  
 He called for his crown, and he called for his sword,  
 And he called for his allies three.

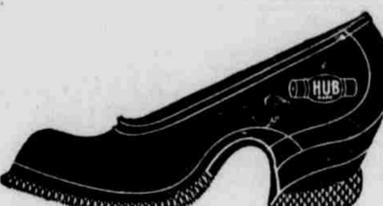
He marched right in, committed every sin,  
 And everything came his way,  
 When he got a few tips and sank a few ships,  
 Now he's up against the U. S. A.

He thought it a bluff, and we'd soon have enough  
 When we didn't start in right away,  
 But we developed pretty fast, and we're over there at last,  
 Now he's up against the U. S. A.

**THE UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION SAYS: Save one pound of flour per week and our Allies will have bread.**

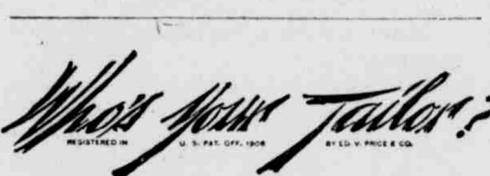
**Rubbers**

seem to be what you need most now. A pair of rubbers is much less expensive than a doctor.



We are well supplied with nearly all styles and can fit most all styles of shoes.  
 Better buy them now as we may not have them later as they are very hard to get.  
 Good line of Rubber Boots.

**Rogers' Walk-Over Boot Shop**



We would like to make for you your new spring suit. We have three as good lines of samples as there is in the market, and they're here now. Come in; take a look at them.

Chas. is here on the job every day from 8 a. m. to 5:30 p. m.

**Special**

Step lively if you are going to get a pair of those Blue Overalls and a Coat for \$1.25 each. They're going fast and are worth \$2.00.

And here's your last chance on a Winter Overcoat. Just 27 Men's Overcoats; 1, 33; 2, 34; 3, 35; 3, 36; 4, 37; 3, 38; 4, 40; 5, 42; 2, 44; 10 Youths' Overcoats, 3, 13; 4, 14; 2, 15; 1, 17 and 6 Children's Overcoats in the store, 3, 3; 2, 4; 1, 5.

Men's Coats, \$10.50, \$15.50, \$16.50, \$18.50, and \$20.50.

Youths' Coats, \$2.75, \$3.75, \$4.75, \$5.75.

Children's Coats, \$2.25, \$3.75, \$4.75, \$5.75.

These prices are not a cent over one-half the price you'll have to pay for the same quality next fall.

Take a peep in our window.

**F. H. Rogers & Co.**

With Russia's cold feet, she has given up her head.

And wants peace in any old way,  
 But it won't help Bill, for he's gonna get his Bill,  
 'Cause he's up against the U. S. A.

Old Kaiser Bill is a wicked old pill,  
 A wicked old pill they say,  
 He has held out well, but he's gonna get his Bill,  
 From the boys of the U. S. A.  
 —F. B., Barre.

**"Such Hair So Free Doth Taketh Me."**  
 There have been numerous write-ups in the Boston Post lately concerning ladies who do not have to take their hair off and hang it over the back of a chair before retiring. They have even had pictures of women with a riotous wealth of silken tresses guaranteed to be home-grown and to be fast as the roots. All these pictures are nice to look at and no doubt the all sorts man of The Post is acquainted with the whole bunch, but just in order to keep Newbury on the map, we are going to tell him that we have one woman in town who does not have to wear a switch, who does not have to take her hair off at night, and who should there be an alarm of fire in the small hours of the night would not appear on the streets bald-headed, and that woman is M——. Say, we almost forgot, and came very near telling, but we can prove it without resurrecting old Bill Jones, either. Her hair is a wealth of silken tresses 50 inches long, and will more than match the hair of any woman The Post man can trot out.—Newbury item.

**The Smith, a Savage Man Is He.**  
 James White, the Depot square blacksmith, shot 54 horses yesterday, single handed.—From the w. k. talk of the town.

The clerk called his boss at the office to say  
 That he wouldn't get in to business today  
 "The trains are behind and I deeply regret  
 That I haven't got home yesterday yet."  
 —Boston Transcript.

To-day's little question,  
 And we hope you answer yes:  
 Have you done your bounden duty—  
 And bought that W. S. S.?  
 M. S.

E. B. Collins of the Breezy Hill farm in Hyde Park has received an order for maple syrup and sugar from Vice-President Marshall, who has ordered a generous supply.

**CURRENT COMMENT**

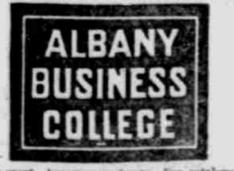
**Vermont Has Need of Her.**  
 We doff our hat to Miss Catherine C. Dow, 16 years old, of Wells River, Vt., who chopped and split a cord of wood, put the finished product on exhibition, canvassed her own town and Woodville with a patriotic project all her own, sold the wood for \$51.25 and gave the proceeds to the Red Cross society. That young woman is worthy to be a resident of New Hampshire, and we shall expect some New Hampshire young man to win her, bring her across the state line, and establish her as queen of his domain.—Manchester, N. H. Union.

**Spain and Germany at Odds.**  
 Spain's diplomatic relations with Germany continue to be strained, though it is not suggested that there is danger of immediate rupture. The German naval attaché, Von Krohn, who abused Spanish neutrality, is to be sent home overland, which will relieve him of the danger of being sunk by a German U-boat which so many German diplomats have encountered in returning from countries where they had outworn their welcome. A like treatment will no doubt be necessary in the case of Dr. von Stohrer, secretary of legation, if it is true that he has not merely subscribed to the funds of an anarchist conspiracy but has been indiscreet enough to accompany the contribution with a letter. It is charged that the propaganda which he supported was directed against the person of the king. If the Spanish government has incriminating evidence, he will rank with Count Laxburg of "aparhos versenki" notoriety. Incidentally such secret support of the anarchists in a neutral country would throw a garish light on Germany's pre-

cedence to the Red Cross society. That young woman is worthy to be a resident of New Hampshire, and we shall expect some New Hampshire young man to win her, bring her across the state line, and establish her as queen of his domain.—Manchester, N. H. Union.

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**The Peoples National Bank of Barre**

tension that it is now invading Russia to put down anarchy.—Springfield Republican.

**FRENCH POOR PEOPLE LOSE**  
 Reputation of Russia's Entire Bonded Debt Hits Small Investors.  
 Paris, March 2.—(Correspondence).—The reputation by the Bolsheviki government of Russia's entire bonded debt caused some anxiety among French people who held at least half of the debt of the empire outstanding at the beginning of the war.

Eighteen billions of francs of Russian bonds, at the price of issue, were listed on the Paris Bourse. Twelve billion according to the lowest estimates and fifteen billions according to other calculations, were bought by the French public.

Servants in white aprons, bare-headed market women, domestics of all categories and men in the blouses of the peasant and the laborer made up the long lines of investors in front of the wickets whenever Russian loans were offered for sale.

"I haven't a sou invested in Russia," a millionaire Parisian said to the Associated Press, "but every one of my servants has one or more Russian bonds. Another millionaire, said the same was true of his household. "Instead of hitting the counting house and the salon, the Bolsheviki are hitting the servants' hall and the backstairs" was the way he put the situation.

There is no little apprehension in Socialist circles as to the effect of this heavy blow the extreme revolutionary element in Russia has delivered at the extreme element in France. A peasant or workman who may overlook or disbelieve news of Bolsheviki excesses or misconstrue their effect will be unable to doubt the evidence of his own despoliment.

Until now the holders of Russian bonds have been reassured by the payment of the January coupons which the French treasury assumed. It doesn't appear yet, however, whether the French government will assume the burden indefinitely and if the bankruptcy of the revolution is allowed to become effective, the greater number of the smaller investors who have been financing the Russian empire since 1883 will be ruined. A contrast is drawn here between the action of the Bolsheviki and that of the French revolution. The Maximalists pretend that the money loaned to Russia was used to buy arms to keep the people in subjection. This was true to a far greater extent of the money borrowed by the French monarchy prior to 1789, yet the convention made it a point of honor to take those debts to the account of the republic.

The claims that money furnished by France brought no benefit to the people of Russia is also contested. It is possible to trace the money through the official list of the loans floated in Paris and it is found that more than three-fourths of the capital represented was employed to buy railroads, to build them, or to develop industry and agriculture.

Russia had improved only about a third of her land at the beginning of the war and the question is asked how the peasants to whom the unimproved land is turned over will find means of improving it if Russian credit is forever destroyed by the reputation of her debts.

**CAREFUL SAVING HAS BEEN THE SECRET OF MY SUCCESS**

**WHO BANKS HIS MONEY - THE SUCCESSFUL MAN OR THE FAILURE?**

**ANY MAN can be successful in his particular field**

The difference between the successful man and the failure is usually the fact that the one is systematically thrifty of his energy, his time and his money; the other is not.

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 work hard and honestly, save part of your income regularly and deposit your savings in this bank, where they will work for you.

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 —BARRE, VT.—

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