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FRANK E. HOWE, Editor and Pub.

Tuesday, August 17, 1915.

The answer of the Interstate Commerce Commission to the prayer of the railroads for more revenue is a cut of \$8,000,000 in coal rates. Great system of political economy this, with emphasis on the word "political."—Rutland Herald.

A few days ago the writer was a passenger on the Boston and Maine railroad the morning following the washouts between Hoosac tunnel and Greenfield. The passengers knew that owing to the storm the night before passengers between North Adams and Greenfield had been sent around by way of Pittsfield and Springfield. Naturally those passengers who desired to make certain connections were somewhat worried and asked questions of the conductor. During the two hours that the writer was on the train he overheard fully a score of people ask the conductor a question. Not once did he return a civil or courteous answer. Sometimes he didn't answer at all, and sometimes he mumbled a few words that could neither be heard nor understood. The Boston and Maine is said to be on verge of bankruptcy and will be as long as it retains a group of conductors whose specialty seems to be to make enemies for the road. One redeeming feature on the day referred to is that the trainman was most courteous and agreeable and answered questions like a man and a gentleman instead of showing himself a boor and a mucker. The train man should have been in charge of that train. Railroad men sometimes justify themselves for being discourteous on the ground that people ask them foolish questions. The fact is that railroad men are asked no more foolish questions than other people in public places are asked. The difference is that in other lines it is considered good policy to treat patrons decently. On the railroad and some other roads there has been a change in recent years and nearly all the men employed are gentlemen in their treatment of passengers. The old railroad policy of "the public be damned" is chiefly responsible for the friendless situation in which the railroads find themselves. The tradition still exists on some roads injuring not only that road but other roads who get classed in the same category by a public so often stung that it will not stop to discriminate.

SHAFTSBURY

The ladies of the Methodist church of Shaftsbury, wish to thank all who helped towards making their fair a success. Especially would we thank the North Bennington band, Mr. Kelly and Mr. Daley of Bennington, Miss Howard of South Shaftsbury, Miss Stockwell, Mr. P. B. Randall for loaning piano; Mr. H. A. Hulet, Mr. R. D. Currier, U. D. Randall and Jesse Strong for automobiles, also Bennington merchants for donations. The amount taken in is as follows: Mrs. W. E. Perkins, antique booth, \$21.70; Mabel Montgomery and May Kent, lemonade, \$3.00; Miss Prudence Hulot, candy booth, \$8.55; Mrs. Jessie Strong and Miss Rena Somers, fancy booth, \$14.25; Miss Gertrude Bates and Miss Beattie Kent, Japanese booth, \$7.55; Miss Gertrude Randall, toys, \$5.82; Mrs. A. S. Hulet, refreshments, \$18.20; Bliss Hulet and Winfield Bentley, Chinese laundry, \$9.62; Robert Drysdale, \$10.00, making a total of \$108.33. The Ladies Aid is to be congratulated.

ARLINGTON

Rev. W. M. Warlow, rector of St. James church here, has just received news of the death of his nephew, Lieut. Theodore Warlow of the British army. The young man was wounded while on the fighting line in France and the wounds finally proved fatal. Rev. Mr. Warlow visited at his former home in England the early part of the summer.

When a man sets

his mind on providing for his family, invariably he hatches out a life insurance policy. National Life Ins. Co. of Vt. (Mutual). Earle S. Kinsey, General Agent, Mead Building, Rutland, Vt. Adv.

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by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surface. We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by Catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by Druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

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ANNOUNCEMENT!

To the ladies of Bennington and vicinity: Owing to the great war in Europe it was impossible during last season to import any models from Paris but this year a full line of styles for all end winter from the world's center of fashion have been received in this country.

An exhibition of ladies tailored gowns will be held in New York from August 16 to 20 and I am leaving town on Saturday to attend this event for the purpose of representing the worthy ladies of Bennington and vicinity.
Yours respectfully,

Julius L. Weichman
Ladies' Tailor and Furrier
151 North St. Bennington, Vt.
Telephone 432

THE FLAG SEEN BY A POET

An Interpretation of Patriotic Sentiment in All Nations.

It is 27 years since the one poem on Gettysburg adequate to the theme was written by a then unknown author, described as "an ex-Confederate soldier." "The High Tide at Gettysburg," written by Will Henry Thompson, a fighter at 16 in the army of northern Virginia, has climbed to higher fame ever since, and is as sure as any poem can be of an American immortality. But those who can thrill at its noble lines know little or nothing of its author, and probably suppose that he is dead.

He is still alive; and at Portland, Ore., he delivered a few days ago an address before the Sons of the American Revolution, called "The Shadow of a Flag." The meaning of a flag, the unaccountable love men have for it, was his theme; and he told how, in the tramp homeward from Appomattox, he and his boy comrade "got down in the dust and ashes of Sheridan's awful path and divided a small square of bunting which one of them had torn from his regimental flag, and hidden in his bosom, had borne at away from the field of his last despairing battle." He told how, in the light at the Bloody Angle, a federal flag was planted on the flimsy log breastworks he and his comrades—he was a Georgia boy—were defending.

Its folds were riddled and its staff was splintered, but it placidly waved above friend and foe alike, whose bayonets were tangled together above the works. And once the shadow of the forerunner's flag fell upon the young Georgian's face, and as he looked up his heart gave a startled leap as he saw that Georgia's star was on the old banner yet!

And he saw "Florida and Carolina peep fluttering in its folds as the radiant thing stood in the shriveling mouth of hell and waved and waved." We begin to see that it is a jumble of nationality he is telling, and to see that the love of the flag is as little to be analyzed, and as proof against argument as the love for a mother. He told the same story in his poem—the Confederates lost, they could not win; They smote and fell, who set the bars

Against the progress of the stars. And stayed the march of motherland! And the love of the flag, which is the love of the nation, is strong whether what the nation stands for is good or bad, for liberty or tyranny, so he utters, and he says "The spirit of nationality, well symbolized by fringed loyalty to a nation's flag, is both a lofty and a dangerous thing." He said, in the true explanation of the mysterious outbreak in Europe, and waves aside the white and red books and other books and all the labored arguments of statesmen. What brought on the war was "the proud pose of republic or empire, which says 'Everything for our people, nothing for those beyond the border!'"

"My country better than yours! My destiny greater than yours! My culture higher than yours! A flag is the sun for me, but not for you!" These are the cries that the rifles are speaking, and the cannon have thundered them until their brutal lenses are hoarse. . . . Some day this fever of nationalism must cool. No imaginary line can make one man better than another. The shadow of no flag should be a sanctuary for one and a menace to another. Yet because of this mad spirit of nationality the earth is drinking blood with "a hot thirst."

A poet's explanation, but poets are often seers, and this one sees beyond the murder at Sarajevo and the confused political ratiocinations about the causes of the war. He turns to our flag with "the comrade stars assembled upon it, bound in a mighty bond of indissoluble brotherhood, and no star differs from another in glory!" Again one is reminded of "The High Tide of Gettysburg:" They smote and stood, who held the hope

Of nations on that slippery slope, Amid the cheers of Christendom.

Nationalism, a violent and selfish nationalism, the deep cause of the mad scene in Europe; America in the shadow of the flag that holds "the hope of nations." "We hope that the careworn, patient man to whom we have confided its vast destinies may keep our flag in the clear sky—out of the smoke and flame of a delirious world. But, whatever fate wills, we will stand by the land and its honor, and under the shadow of its dauntless flag—wave where it may."—New York Times.

Representatives of the St. Albans Business and Professional men's association have conferred with a committee of the Swanton board of trade to arrange a summer outing, carrying out the "Get Together" and "Better Acquaintance Day" idea which met with such success in Franklin county last year. The outing will be held at Hotel Champlain, Maquam, on Wednesday, August 11th.

With the co-operation of the state fair commission the Great Vermont association is making arrangements for a Greater Vermont exhibit at the state fair which will reflect the work of Vermont organizations, and progressive activities along various lines in the State.

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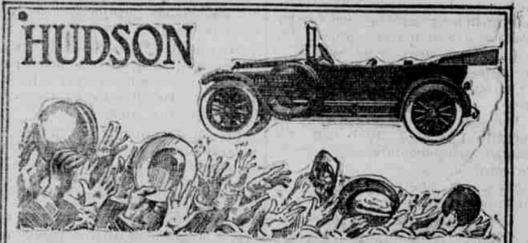
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