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The Scientific American
On Cannon Rain-Making
The Journal is indebted to its good friend, Mr. E. D. Bennett, Jr., for a letter published elsewhere in this paper today in which the ridiculous suggestion that great battles produce rain is thoroughly exploded.
Mr. Bennett quotes from a recent editorial on this very subject which appeared in the Scientific American—a magazine that should be an authority on the subject.
Without presuming to force upon our amiable contemporary, the Tampa Times, a discussion with which the Times has already announced it intends to have nothing further to do, we trust that our contemporary will still take time to read Mr. Bennett's communication.
May we not also hope that the Times will give its own readers the benefit of this scientific discussion of a subject of which our contemporary has thus far given them only one side?

Cotton Cargoes Not Subject to Capture.
The decision by Great Britain that cargoes of cotton in neutral ships are not subject to capture, whether destined to the ports of a neutral or a belligerent nation, will go a long distance toward relieving the cotton situation in the southern states. Since the war began there has been a disposition on the part of insurance companies to either decline risks upon cotton cargoes, or place the premium rate so high that it was prohibitive. This proved a serious bar to the exportation of the south's staple and the result was to cause still further depression in the market. If England will not interfere with cotton shipments, even though such shipments may be destined for ports in Germany, there is nothing in the way of a resumption of business with that country, a large consumer of cotton and which, since the declaration of war by England, has not taken a bale.
The uncertainty of the situation was intensified by the fact that a cotton laden ship had been detained at Stornaway, Scotland. The statement is made now, however, that this detention is due to disagreements between the owners of the vessel and those to whom it had been chartered.
Now that the situation has been cleared up by the announcement of Sir Edward Grey, foreign shipments of cotton should increase very materially. Not all the mills of the Old World are idle, and there is a market for a considerable quantity of the staple. The mills that are finding it possible to operate, in spite of the war, will not have any serious difficulty in securing safe delivery on shipments, and as this fact is made doubly certain by actual experience, the movement to foreign shores will gain in volume.
So, as a depressing factor, the fear that cotton shipments might be seized has disappeared, and no doubt this improved condition will become a stimulating factor in the cotton market.

Lost, strayed, or stolen—see editorial page. Reward for return to the Eustis Lake Region.
The South Africa rebellion seems to have gone up in a thin, blue column of smoke.
From an economical standpoint iron crosses are all right. They cost much less than gold medals.
Don't let the war kill your nerve. If you do, the killing will be extended to your business.
As soon as the federal reserve banks open a whole lot of people will have to figure out some new excuse to avoid paying their debts.

"God is fighting with our troops," writes a Belgian woman. He is also fighting with the Germans, according to the Kaiser; with the Russians, according to the Czar; with the French, according to President Poincare and with the Austrians, according to Franz Josef. The Japs seem to be the only ones that are really going it alone.

VOX POPULI.

HEAVY CANNONADING DOES NOT PRODUCE RAIN

Editor Pensacola Journal:—
With the prevailing high cost of white print paper it seems a wilful waste of editorial space to devote it to a discussion of so fallacious a topic as rain being an invariable consequence of great battles and detonations. THE TAMPA TIMES is now inclined to withdraw from an argument it began on the subject and possibly the following excerpt from an editorial in the Scientific American of the 24th inst., will serve to enlighten certain benighted Tampanians. Matter appearing in this periodical is generally accepted as coming from an authoritative source by those who read for information and not merely for amusement. The Scientific American says:
"Once in the early Stone Age somebody remarked to somebody else that rain frequently occurred after battles. The author of this statement was probably not a psychologist, else his conscience would have smitten him for having set afloat in the world the germ of a particularly fatuous fallacy. The evolution of the idea was probably complete long before the Age of Bronze. Big battles are often followed by rain. Big battles often PRODUCE rain. Big battles IN-VARIABLELY produce rain. Even the modern penny-a-liner cannot improve on this last statement. The myth is fixed—crystallized—and probably imperishable.
"Since, however, we must put up with the myth in its present form, let us see how it happens that rain has so often followed battles as to suggest to uncritical people that there was a physical relation between the one and the other.
"First of all, no such relation exists. Rain is the result of the active condensation of moisture in the atmosphere, and this is purely a question of humidity and temperature. If the humidity be sufficiently increased, or the temperature sufficiently lowered, condensation is inevitable—provided certain nuclei of condensation (dust particles or molecules of hygroscopic gases) be present; and, outside of the laboratory they always ARE present.
"A battle cannot be supposed to have any appreciable effect upon either the humidity or temperature of the air. Two explanations of the alleged production of rain by battles have been offered: one nonsensical and the other pseudo-scientific. The nonsensical explanation is the popular one, viz: that the condensation of moisture is promoted by the concussion due to cannonading, or that the drops already condensed and constituting the clouds are jostled together by the same process, with the result that they coalesce and fall as rain. As was once pointed out by Prof. Newcomb, the effect of a violent explosion upon a body of moist air a quarter of a mile away is exactly the same as that of the clapping of one's hands upon the moist air of the room in which the experiment is performed, i. e., absolutely NIL.
"The pseudo-scientific explanation is that the gases and smoke produced by explosions increase condensation by increasing the number of 'nuclei' in the atmosphere. The nucleation of the atmosphere as effected by ordinary dustiness, by hygroscopic gases, by radio-active discharges, by ultraviolet light, and what not, is still an obscure subject. An outstanding result of recent investigation, however, appears to be this: The lower atmosphere normally contains more than the minimum number of nuclei necessary for the process of condensation and this process cannot be made more active by a mere increase in the number. Thus, various and abundant nuclei, in the form of gases and smoke are given off to the atmosphere by great manufacturing centers, yet these places do not have a heavier rain-fall than the surrounding open country. Pittsburg, for instance, is one of the driest places in Pennsylvania.
"Now if we examine the history of battles and the history of weather we shall find that rain does not always follow great battles, though it frequently does so, and for two very obvious reasons. If, for example, we consult the meteorological records of northern France where some of the greatest battles in history have occurred, we learn that, under normal conditions, rain may be expected in that region about every other day, on an average. Taus, at Sevres, ten miles from Paris, the records from 1788 to 1901 show an average of 137 rainy days per annum. These rainy days did not, of course, alternate with rainless days, but there were generally several rainy-spells each month. It is, therefore, evident that the probability of rain within a day, twenty-four hours after a battle or a day of fight, is rather high owing to the ordinary operations of Nature.
"The probability of rain after, or during a battle is, however, materially increased by the fact that the intervals of fair weather between successive rain-spells are naturally used by commanders in the movement of troops which precede a battle. These movements can generally be effected only in dry weather, and may require several days. By the time an disposition have been made the barometric conditions have changed; the dry 'high' has passed on its regular way to the eastward, and the edge of the rain-bringing 'low' has entered the terrain. Thus a downpour is likely to occur soon after the engagement is well begun; but its cause must be sought in the interplay of forces over which mankind has no control.
"The foregoing should convince, but probably will not for there are yet many who insist that there's but one correct and safe time of a certain phase of the moon when hogs may be killed. This, despite the fact that the great packing houses slaughter them by thousands every day in the year—moon or no moon—and the 'rain-after-battle' theorists belong in the same category.
S. D. BENNETT, JR.

PENSACOLA AND PENSACOLIANS

Anderson and Guaranteed Deposits.

Hon. Robert Anderson, one of the young men who will be of service to Florida in the next Legislature, gives his views in another part of this issue on the guaranty of bank deposits. You may or may not agree with Mr. Anderson, but he is adopting the right method in letting the people know what he proposes doing when the session convenes. The State has arranged with a number of senators and members of the lower house to give special articles on laws they contemplate getting passed in the Legislature. By this method the people will know what to expect from the men entrusted with the power to make laws. The State, though less than a year old, is recognized by the people throughout Florida as being the medium through which the people of all factions and classes may discuss public questions. The fact that the members of the next Legislature are going to write special articles for The State means that they are glad to have a clean state weekly to carry their messages to the people. The next legislative session will be an important one. Puring its session the people are going to take a hand and will seek to help the members accomplish something for the general welfare of the state. All citizens are urged to use the columns of The State for discussing questions which will come before the next Legislature. The State is published to do good and it is always here for the people to use.—Jacksonville State.

Pensacola is Worried.

The City of Pensacola, in order to economize during these war times, is agitating the lessening of her police force. The city, of about 35,000 population, is employing fifty-two policemen to preserve order, and the Mayor thinks the number can safely be reduced. But the police commission are strongly opposing the reduction, with statements that all the men are needed. The True Democrat does not mean to meddle with another city's affairs, but advises Pensacola to take a lesson from Tallahassee if she wants a safe and sane administration of public affairs, at the lowest possible expense. Tallahassee has a population of at least 7,000, about one fifth that of Pensacola. Two policemen, one each for day and night service, are all that are employed here, and in reality they are not needed, for our people are exceptionally law abiding. On the same proportion Pensacola should employ about ten men. Under present conditions Pensacola probably needs the fifty-two men. But if she would vote out her saloons, and the large number of associated crimes the number could easily be reduced one half. This would probably effect a financial saving to the city administration and

it would certainly save millions of money for her population, and prevent millions more of wants, sorrows, pains and degradations.—Tallahassee True Democrat.

All Like Hancock, But—

Thus far just two papers—the Chipley Verdict and Bonifay Advertiser—have approved Congressman Wilson's action in regard to the post-mastership at Pensacola, and most of them have been anything but complimentary either in reference to this or his conduct generally. The boys all like Ben Hancock and have nothing but kind words for him, but our Congressman has not made any friends that he did not have before and has lost some very influential ones he did have.—DeFuniak Breeze.

The Ladies And The Court.

The Pensacola Equal Suffrage Association seems to be after more than votes for women and, is diversifying its activities to the extent of passing resolutions condemning the State's Attorney Stokes for opposing bail for Mrs. Florence McGowan, indicted for murder in that city. The ladies should remember that it was the judge, not the State's attorney, that refused the bail and not make the latter a vicarious sacrifice in the case. And don't get after the court too roughly, either for some of these Florida judges are thin-skinned about their decisions.—Lakeland Telegram.

"Ain" 'Em Both.

The rottenness of ring politics in West Florida is very vividly portrayed in Chipley Jones' statement of Emmet Wilson's broken promises in the Pensacola post office affair, together with his Jones' confession of being the principal agent in securing Emmet's nomination. He certainly sets forth sufficient reasons why he should not have received the nomination for postmaster, or Wilson that of Representative. It is a filthy putrescent mess.—Panama City Pilot.

Among The Elect.

N. J. Lillard, who has been connected with the Pensacola press for a number of years, recently as receiver and later as part owner of the News, has graduated from that line, and now is sole owner, editor and publisher of the Molino Advertiser. We welcome him to the ranks of the real elect.—DeFuniak Breeze.

Apply Sloan's Freely For Lumbago

Your attacks of Lumbago are not nearly so hopeless as they seem. You can relieve them almost instantly by a simple application of Sloan's Liniment on the back and loins. Lumbago is a form of rheumatism, and yields perfectly to Sloan's, which penetrates quickly all in through the sore, tender muscles, limbers up the back and makes it feel fine. Get a bottle of Sloan's Liniment for 25 cents of any druggist and have it in the house—against colds, sore and swollen joints, rheumatism, neuralgia, sciatica and like ailments. Your money back if not satisfied, but it does give almost instant relief. (Adv.)

BODY OF CLARK STEVENS INTERRED

The body of Clark Stephens who died Thursday at Laurel Hill was buried yesterday in St. John's cemetery. The deceased formerly resided in Pensacola, but had recently been a resident of Laurel Hill and had died after an illness of some two years. He is survived by a brother Geo. W. Stephens of Lakeview, and a sister, Mrs. Wm. Madsen, of North 8th Avenue, Pensacola.

Your Fall Cold Needs Attention

No use to fuss and try to wear it out. It will wear you out instead. Take Dr. King's New Discovery, relief follows quickly. It checks your cold and soothes your cough away. Pleasant, Antiseptic and Healing. Children like it. Get a 50c bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery and keep it in the house. "Our family Cough and Cold Doctor" writes Lewis Chamberlain, Manchester, Ohio. Money back if not satisfied, but it nearly always helps. (Adv.)

Have You started to think about your winter's coal? If so, let us take a load off your mind today. Cary & Co. Phones, 6, 93, 119 and 134. 14 East Government Street. "When You Think of Coal, Think of Cary."

Apply Sloan's Freely For Lumbago. Your attacks of Lumbago are not nearly so hopeless as they seem. You can relieve them almost instantly by a simple application of Sloan's Liniment on the back and loins. Lumbago is a form of rheumatism, and yields perfectly to Sloan's, which penetrates quickly all in through the sore, tender muscles, limbers up the back and makes it feel fine. Get a bottle of Sloan's Liniment for 25 cents of any druggist and have it in the house—against colds, sore and swollen joints, rheumatism, neuralgia, sciatica and like ailments. Your money back if not satisfied, but it does give almost instant relief. (Adv.)

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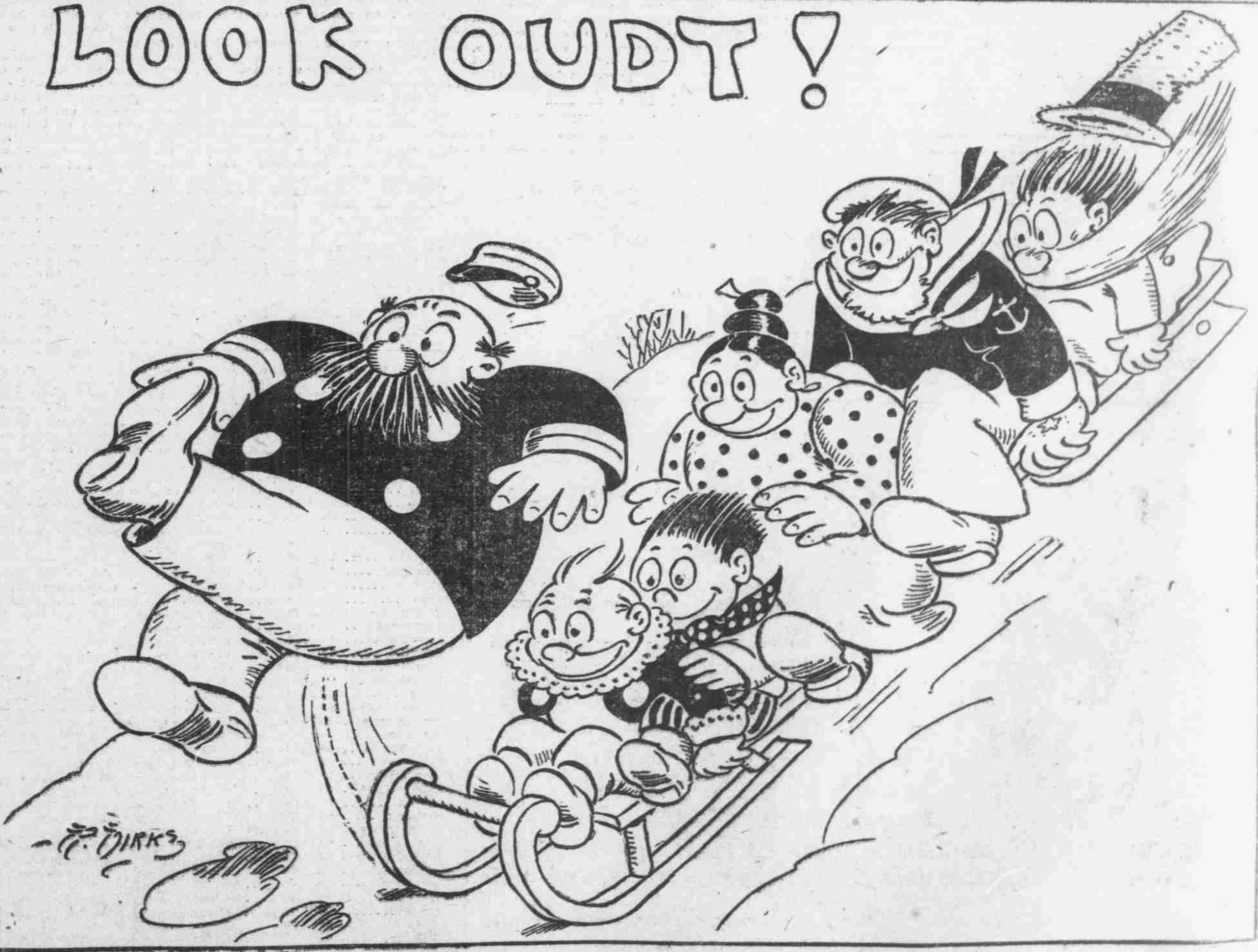
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WAR IS HELL! So is a leaky roof. So is about yours. Phone 3 LEE LUMBER CO.

NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

LOOK OUDT!



THE KATZENJAMMERS ARE COMING.

Next Sunday, November 8, The Journal will present to its boy and girl and grown-up readers the greatest comic page ever made. It is drawn by Rudolph Dirks, the originator of the Katzenjammer page and without doubt the most popular comic artist in the world today. Mr. Dirks is now employed by the New York World, and The Pensacola Journal has been fortunate in securing his popular page for its own readers. Watch for it—next Sunday.