

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., April 25, 1919.

AUGURIES OF INNOCENCE.

A robin redbreast in a cage
Puts all Heaven in a rage.
A dove-house filled with doves and pigeons
Shudders Hell thro' all its regions.
A dog star'd at his master's gate
Predicts the ruin of the State.
A horse misus'd upon the road
Calls to Heaven for human blood.
Each outcry of the hunted hare
A fibre from the brain does tear.
A skylark wounded in the wing,
A cherubim does cease to sing.
The game-cock clipped and armed for
fight,
Does the rising sun affront.
Every wolf's and lion's howl
Raises from Hell a human soul.
The wild deer, wand'ring here and here,
Keeps the human soul from care.
The lamb misus'd breeds public strife,
And yet forgives the butcher's knife.
He who shall hurt the little wren
Shall never be beloved by men.
He who the ox to wrath has mov'd
Shall never be by woman lov'd.
The wanton boy that kills the fly
Shall feel the spider's enmity.
He who torments the chaffer's spite
Weaves a bowler in endless night.
The caterpillar on the leaf
Repeats to the fly mother's grief.
Kill not the moth nor butterfly,
For the last judgment draveth nigh.
He who shall train the horse to war
Shall never pass the polar bar.
The beggar's dog and widow's cat,
Feed them and thou wilt grow fat.

—William Blake.

POORER AND DEARER COAL IN PROSPECT.

Real scarcity of coal, in the lifetime of any of us who are here today, is an impossibility, we are assured by Mr. Floyd W. Parsons, editor of The Coal Age, in a leading article. It is a fact, however, he reminds us, that in all lines of production the first output is from the highest grade sources and those most easily accessible. As coal-mining goes on, therefore, we may expect high-grade sources to be first exhausted, and coal to become dearer and poorer. And this is exactly what is happening. "The best coals are disappearing, and lower grade fuels with higher mining costs are now being attacked." The writer dismisses anthracite with a few words, as it comprises only about one-fifteenth of our coal resources. He tells us simply that we will mine in the next twenty years what we mined in the past 112, and that while we mine three tons we unavoidably waste two. An increase of expense with deterioration of quality will be the rule here as elsewhere. He goes on:

"Geologists tell us that in the United States we have about thirteen hundred and fifty billion tons of bituminous coal; and semi-bituminous coal; of these huge reserves we have mined about thirteen billion tons and wasted at least 50 per cent. as much. In the face of such large resources this total exhaustion of less than twenty billion tons seems hardly worth noticing, but here is the trouble: our total bituminous deposits less than 5 per cent. contain coals that are today regarded as high-class fuel, and it is this better grade coal we have been mining."

"Already in many parts of the United States there is an apparent scarcity of high-grade fuel. As time passes this shortage in special coals will become more acute, and will be felt in fullest force in the Middle and Northern Atlantic States. A great many people overlook the fact that 45 per cent. of our population inhabits 11 per cent. of our area. In New England, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania there are eleven times as many people on each square mile as there are in the West. In this congested Eastern region there are 700 people for every mile of railroad, while in the West there are only 252. Of all the manufactured goods produced in the United States nearly 90 per cent. originates in this small Eastern area."

"The industrial development of America is far from being uniform. The result is that we have a small Eastern territory buzzing with business activity and entirely lacking in any native supply of coal. Furthermore, this congested region has no oil or natural gas and possesses only limited water-power."

"The great cry on the part of coal-consumers is for the best obtainable fuel, since it is well known that high-grade coals purchased at a reasonable price are most economical. Furthermore, various plants, such as those serving utility corporations and gas companies, have been built and adjusted to the use of only the best grades of coal. In order to burn lower grade fuels, many such plants must undergo modifications."

"Very few districts producing high-class coal are close enough to be of use to consumers in the overcrowded Middle and North Atlantic States. Even what coal is available is held in large part by great corporations. Slowly but surely the small consumer is commencing to grasp the situation. He has found that although Kentucky and southern West Virginia contain large supplies of the kind of coal he desires, the freight-rates on tonnage from these Southern fields are so high that the coals can not be brought in by rail."

"Practically the only available deposits of high-grade steam coal lying within reach of the Philadelphia and New York market are in Cambria, Indiana, and Somerset counties in Pennsylvania. Even in these few districts the undeveloped tracts are limited in area and will be rather difficult to develop, due to the thinness and depth of most of the seams. The situation in regard to gas and by-product coals is even less favorable so far as the large Eastern markets are concerned. West Virginia contains a large supply of these coals, but freight-rates again render these Southern fields inaccessible. Only a few small areas of gas and by-product coals are available to the New York and Philadelphia markets, and these lie in Pennsylvania."

"Each year now witnesses the exhaustion of a number of high-grade

coal areas. Far more mines producing better grade coals are being worked out than there are new mines commencing to produce. Many investigators have reached the conclusion that the tonnage of high-grade coal shipped from the low freight-rate territory into the Atlantic seaboard markets will not be increased beyond its present volume. These authorities expect a decrease in the shipments of such coal and anticipate that the markets will have to be satisfied with a substitute in the way of lower grade fuel. The only other solution is that consumers will have to pay higher freight-rates, thereby bringing in coal from more distant fields."

"The coal industry, like every other great business, has developed through a series of stages. Only a few years have passed since there was practically no market for the low-grade coals. Up until recently there has always been an overabundance of fuel. The industry has been the field of bitter competition, with the result that prices have averaged low and profits nil. Furthermore, the consumption of coal in tons per capita has increased much more rapidly than has population. In 1850 the average consumption of soft coal for each person in the United States was only 0.12 ton. In 1880 the consumption had risen to 0.85 ton, while in 1900 it was 2.8 tons per capita. In 1910 the consumption had grown to 4.56 tons, while last year it had increased to 5.61 tons for each inhabitant."

"It has only been a few years since the great markets in the vicinity of New York and Philadelphia were supplied with a splendid quality of coal which came from the Moshannon seam in Clearfield county, Pennsylvania. Now this famous bed is practically exhausted. A similar fate awaits the "Big Vein" in the Georges Creek region of Maryland. Forty per cent. of the original Connellsville Basin has been worked out. The well-known Irwin gas-coal field is about 70 per cent. gone. The same story may be told of other famous districts. All of this accounts for the fact that the prices of coal-lands in all of the Eastern fields have increased from two to four-fold during the last fifteen years. In 1900 it was possible to lease a tract of high-grade coal by agreeing to pay a royalty of ten cents per ton. The same lease today would carry with it a royalty of from twenty to forty cents a ton."

"A further factor of great importance is the matter of enlarged coal exports. Combinations of strong interests are planning to increase materially our overseas shipments. The coals that will be included in such exports will come from our high-grade seams. Foreign consumers will demand the best we can give them, and this additional business is certain to further increase the scarcity of our best steam and gas coals. Another competitor of the domestic steam-coal consumer will be our enlarged mercantile marine."

"In the matter of coal control the situation is far more stable than ever before. Only a few years ago there were from ten to fifty companies operating in each important coal district. Today the bulk of all the available steam coal in the East is in the hands of eleven companies. Four-fifths of the production of gas and coking coals is likewise controlled by fourteen large corporations. As for coke itself, 60 per cent. of the output in 1918 was produced by steel companies for their own use. This centralization of ownership and control of our high-grade coal seams will not tend to reduce fuel prices. This fact alone is a boon to the industry and to the nation, for although it may mean that consumers will pay slightly more to satisfy their fuel requirements, it also insures that mining will be conducted on a less hazardous basis through the installation of safety precautions and less coal will be wasted in the process of mining and marketing the product."

"The immense demand for coal during the period of the war brought on investigations that were sadly needed. For the first time in the history coal men were obliged to estimate carefully their costs of production. These investigations showed more clearly than ever the scarcity of so-called steam and gas coals. In some pools less than 12 per cent. of the total shipments were of high-grade coal."

"Coal-mining differs from practically all of our other great industries. In farming the producer may bring science to his aid and replenish the fertility of the soil, insuring a continuation of good crops. Even in the matter of lumber it is possible for those engaged in the business to reforest worked-over areas. The coal-producer has no such recourse and must be content to see his coal seam disappear for good and all. He must figure that his mine has a life of only twenty or thirty years, and during this time he must secure not only his profit, but regain his initial investment."

"During the last twenty years the population of the United States has increased about 42 per cent. While this growth has taken place the output of coal has increased 172 per cent. The reason is that as civilization advances and mechanical means for doing things increase, the individual citizen has found more and still more uses for fuel. If the same comparative growth continues for twenty more years, the United States will have a population of 139,000,000 people, and the consumption of coal per capita will be approximately ten tons yearly. "The outcome is plain and inevitable. Irrespective of temporary fluctuations, fuel-prices will advance from year to year. What are known now as high-grade coals will disappear entirely. Seams that are now considered unminable will buy coal exclusively on the basis of its heat values, and every one will then understand that coal is not just coal, but that there is a wide difference in the varieties that are produced."

"The coal industry is entering a new era, and those who are wise will not mistake the course of events."—Literary Digest.

"Play poker with a dentist? No, sir!"
"Why not?"
"He's too blamed expert at drawing and filling."

Possibilities of Personal Development

Personality can be built if you take the trouble. But unless you have made conscious serious and intelligent directed efforts toward self-improvement, it is not likely that your personality is such that anyone should want to meet or know you. If you have allowed your mind to go to seed, and have made no effort in the way of self-government, you can almost take it for granted that your personal appeal to others is very small and weak. Of course, it may be that you have inherited qualities of so charming a nature that your personality is irresistible even without self-improvement. But if so you are the rare exception, and even so, you have a rare foundation upon which to build.

Personality is like perfection. Or like efficiency. No human being can expect to realize one hundred per cent. in perfection, efficiency or personality, but that is no reason why you should be satisfied with a rating of thirteen, when you might have eight-four or ninety-one. It is a mere question of the effort for self-improvement. So many of us are indifferent to our possibilities. But once the desire or the ambition gets a hold of you, you will try hard to make something of yourself.

Wolves Kill Caribou.

Prince Albert, Canada.—Timber wolves are working havoc among the caribou herds around Lake Athapuskow, 100 miles north of the Pas, the present northern terminus of the Canadian National Railway. Trappers and hunters report that the caribou are being slaughtered by the hundred.

The caribou are accustomed to swarm into the Lake Athapuskow region every summer to pasture on the rich grass that carpets the forests and swamp lands. They usually withdraw at the approach of cold weather into the barrens of the Far North, where they winter immune in a country free from wolves. They delayed their northward migration this year because of the mild temperatures that have prevailed on their Southern feeding grounds and, caught in the recent heavy snows, they have fallen easy prey to the wolves.

—Only 48,768 of the 107,444 deaths in the American army during the war were due to the influenza epidemic. The total was 72,951. Of these 20,829 resulted from disease, 48,768 from injuries suffered in battle and

3,854 from all other causes. Deaths from disease among the troops in the United States totaled 32,737 and from other causes 1,756, giving a total for the troops in this country of 34,493.

39,000,000 Lbs. of Candy Consumed by American Army in Five Months.

An idea of the huge amount of candy which is consumed by the Army is given in a War Department announcement on Tuesday. During the five months from November 11, 1918, there were purchased for shipment to the overseas forces 39,094,375 pounds of candy; 5,350,000 packages of salted almonds and peanuts, and 2,625,000 packages of popcorn confection.

It would take a convoy of 835 three-ton trucks to carry this amount of candy. This would make a train eight miles long. It would require approximately 88 box cars of average freight capacity to freight this candy. The cases in which the candy is packed if stacked would reach 15 miles, and if on end 20 miles. If the candy were packed in ordinary one-pound cans placed end to end it would reach a distance of 178 miles.

—For high class job work come to the "Watchman" office.

War Claimed 57 Y. M. C. A. Members; 13 Women on Death List.

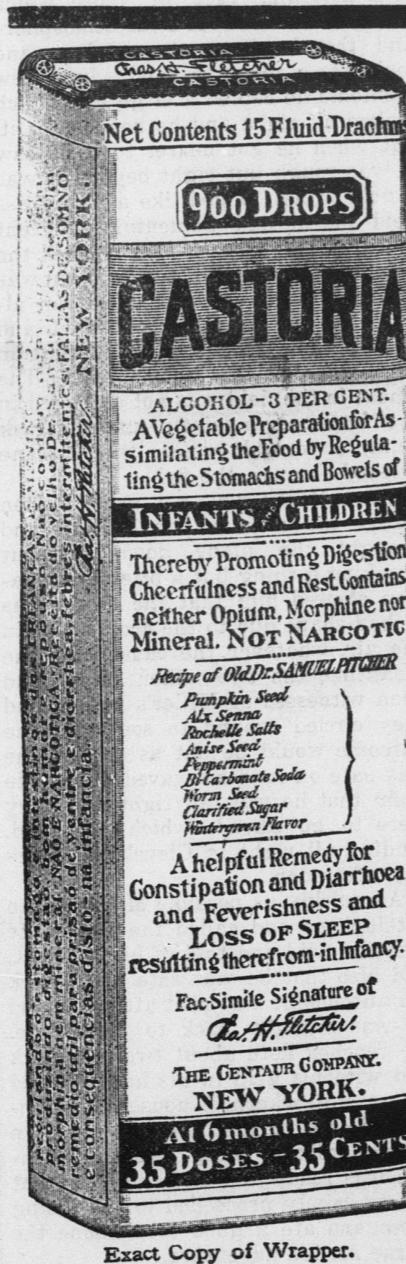
Carrying the Red Triangle into camps abroad, often to the firing line and over the top, coast fifty seven members of Y. M. C. A. personnel their lives, according to a statement recently issued by the National War Work Council of the Y. M. C. A. These casualties having occurred in a force that never exceeded 9,000, it is estimated that the proportionate loss was one-fourth of that of the American expeditionary forces.

Thirty-nine of these fatalities were due to disease, the remainder to shell-fire, bombs, accidents and wounds. Thirteen of those who sacrificed their lives bringing aid and cheer to the Yanks were "Y" women, one of whom was killed by shellfire and another in a German air raid.

Correspondent Answered.

"How will Prohibition affect the full Supreme Bench?" Robert inquires.

"Won't affect it at all, sir; as a matter of fact every member of that body is as 'sober as a judge.'"



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From Victory Loan circular.

Shoes.

Shoes.

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We have replenished our ready-to-wear departments and are showing the Latest Styles from the Eastern markets, Ladies' and Misses' Coats and Suits, Dolmans and Capes.

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We are showing the newest in Blouses. The Collarless, Beaded, Braided and Hemstitched. All the new colors—Sun Set, Bisque, French Grey, Flesh, and White.

New Silks

The newest Silk for Sport Skirts or Suits. The Jersey Satins—washable, heavy, soft, clinging kind; Flesh and White.

Gloves

Silk and Kid Gloves for Spring. All sizes in the new Spring Shades and Black.

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Sweaters and Sweater Coats—a new assortment of Slip-on Sweaters and Sweater Coats; new colors, new combinations. Also Sleeveless Sweaters.

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We can give you low prices on Floor Coverings and Rugs in Brussels, Axminsters, Tapestry and Wiltons. Linoleums in choice patterns. New Sunfast Draperies.

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