

The Seeress of the Arkansas Hills

By Fred C. Williams.

The history of Casandra, the false prophetess, is told by the Greek mythologist, H. Rider Haggard made famous in fiction his widely read "She."

In later days the English writers tell of the famous writer, Madam de Thebes, whose prophecies some years ago concerning the present war attracted much attention. Madam Pale-dini of Italy, who was introduced into American scientific circles, puzzled our greatest professors and excited the general populace who read of the wonderful exploits of this peculiarly endowed woman.

I have mentioned these great women, who are so generally known to the reading public, because I wish to tell you of another woman who lives among the hills of Arkansas, whose name is a household word in almost every home of both races in the states adjoining Arkansas on every side. She is 107 years old; was born in 1801 in the state of Virginia; migrated with her master to Jackson county, Arkansas, when about 8, and at no time since her arrival has she left the confines of the county, in which she now resides, from the time of her arrival. She was always considered a peculiar child because she spoke of things of which neither her master nor her parents had any immediate knowledge. She cannot read nor write, and until the emancipation proclamation, which made her free, had never married. She selected a farmer by the name of Mart Dye, and they were married. To them came no children, but she has raised and educated twenty-four nieces and nephews. She has accumulated much property in the little town of Newport, Ark., where she resides, and the city profits much by her residence there.

People come from all quarters of the country to consult this wonderful woman, who gives sage advice in business, political, judicial and marital troubles. She is oftentimes quoted by the ignorant as being endowed with supernatural or voodoo power, a fact which she readily disclaims.

When I visited her, seated in the backyard of her modest cottage under a large grape arbor, which at the same time offered a shady and secluded retreat, I found her taking her callers, who were many, in her slow and easy, yet friendly, fashion; conversing with them easily, though many were people from the higher walks of life—bankers, business men, society leaders and others from that class down to the poor, penniless mendicant, who, like all others, had followed the roads that led to this promised Mecca of relief.

Most of the time her clientele is so numerous that it is not possible to receive a hearing for several days, therefore the rooming houses and hotel profit by the visitors to this prophetess. She seems to satisfy each and every one. She charges no fee, accepting gifts of any amount, large or

small, that are offered by the person to whom she points out a safer and better road to future happiness and prosperity.

To the poor and afflicted she gives freely and refuses anything that they may offer in token of the benefits they may have received at her hands. She is always kindly, and to those who have interviewed her she is considered wonderful, especially in locating lost friends or stolen articles. Her advice along business lines has proven its value by the success of numerous business men, bankers and speculators, who never undertake any venture without consulting this great woman.

When I was at last allowed to come into her presence I saw seated upon a low divan, behind a small table, a woman of dark complexion, large of frame, heavy with flesh, with a large, well moulded head surmounting her broad shoulders, topped by a heavy mass of snow white hair; her forehead was high, her nose was broad yet not flat, her mouth was firm and lips full set; her chin, well rounded, showed the fullness and strength of her jaws. Her eyes were the most attractive point about her; they were small, of no particular color and seemed always to be looking away beyond into the hazy distance, seemingly searching out the unknown in the regions of which we read, but to the human eye is not visible.

As I stated the purpose of my visit: The Monitor, the paper I represented, wished to give to the world the picture and history of this woman of our race who was doing such great things. She slowly shook her head, and in deep and distinct tones which age had not yet affected, said: "I have no message for the world. I do not wish to be advertised. I am simply doing my duty serving humanity, which in their hurry and scurry through life have tangled the skeins of destiny and wish only to be known to you and all the world as simple Caroline Dye."

IN APPRECIATION

United States Food Administration
Washington, D. C.
September 18, 1918.

Rev. John A. Williams,
Editor The Monitor,
1119 North Twenty-first St.,
Omaha, Nebraska.

Dear Sir:

We deeply appreciate the copy of The Monitor that has just reached us, in which you made generous use of our August plate matter.

Conservation of foods and elimination of wastes are important war tasks of the American people; and we are depending on papers like The Monitor for assistance in getting this information to the public, which once informed of a situation can be depended upon to act for the best interests of this nation.

Thanks again for your co-operation. Faithfully yours, U. S. Food Administration, Educational Division, Ben S. Allen, Director.

SELLS THREE INVENTIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT

Columbus, Ga., Sept. 28.—Julius Hart, Colored, chauffeur for Dr. W. L. Bullard, has invented three aerial bombs, which promise to net him a fortune. They have already been accepted by the government, one of them at a price of \$15,000, while the price for the other has not yet been announced.

The bombs shoot in different directions, one fifty times before the chief explosion comes, another sixty times and a third 1,000 times before the final discharge.

Hart, who is 25 years old, is a former resident of Union Point, Ga.

FIRST ARTILLERY OFFICERS RECEIVE COMMISSIONS

Washington, D. C., Sept. 28.—For the first time in the history of the country Colored officers have been certified for the artillery branch of the army.

Sergeant Irvin Cassell of Baltimore, a former Cornell man, and thirty-two other Colored men, out of a class of 2,500 whites, graduated from the recent training camp at Louisville, Ky. Lieutenant Cassell stood second, while Colored men also stood third and fourth. Six of the honor men were Colored as against four whites.

HELEN HAGAN GOES ABROAD

New York, Sept. 28.—Miss Helen E. Hagan of New Haven, Conn., goes to France, selected for the government by the Y. M. C. A. of New York City, to play for our boys over there. Honor graduate of Yale Conservatory of Music. She was winner of Samuel Simons Sanford foreign fellowship from Yale university conservatory of music. Received diploma from Paris conservatory in 1914.

BELIEVES A. F. OF L. BENEFIT TO RACE

Washington, D. C., Sept. 28.—G. W. Millner, who represented about 1,000 other workers of his own race at the recent American Federation of Labor convention, believes that the condition of Negro labor has profited greatly of late, principally through the aid of the American Federation of Labor. There were three other Negro delegates to the convention.

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DOGS AND CATS ARE EATEN IN BELGIUM

Former Almost a Luxury, Says Prof. Carney of Louvain, Now in Washington.

Prof. Albert J. Carney of the University of Louvain, now attached to the Belgian legation in Washington, said that dog meat is almost a luxury in Belgium and that cats also are being slaughtered for the table. Old people and children are dying in large numbers, and tuberculosis is rapidly spreading. Professor Carney says: "Coffee is very scarce in Belgium and is not obtainable under \$5 a pound. Eggs sell at 16 cents each. To preserve, however, that kind of food, so badly needed for the invalids, now so numerous in Belgium, the works of rescue provide a low-priced food for the hens. Swiss cheese is obtainable at \$3 a pound. Chocolate sells at \$4 a pound and cocoa at \$4.50. Olive oil is \$8 a bottle.

"This situation has led to the discovery of numerous substitutes. A severe test has been applied to imitation products and all that was harmful has been pitilessly excluded. What is more interesting to record is the use of strawberry leaves instead of tobacco, of sirup instead of butter.

"Moreover, all kinds of native fruits, generally neglected, have now a market value. Dog roses bring 3 cents a pound, wild hazel nuts cost 10 cents, with prunes 2 cents, elderberries 4 cents, etc. The Germans have regulated the exploitation of acorns and beechnuts, of which they send great quantities to Germany in order to extract oil from them.

"They also have commandeered fat cats in many places. Since a tax of \$6 has been imposed by them upon dogs, the number of those animals which their owners have killed and eaten is large. Dog meat is said to be commonly used."

FINE CHATEAU FOR BLIND

Art Dealer Rents Beauty Spot in Bois for Hospital.

The Chateau de Madrid, in the Bois de Boulogne, for many years one of the best and finest restaurants and summer resorts of Paris, has through the generosity of M. Jacques Seligman, the art dealer of Paris and New York, and the suggestion of George Kessler, president of the British-French-Belgian permanent blind relief war fund, been placed at the services of the blinded soldiers of the allied armies. The \$15,000 a year rent, which M. Seligman guarantees, will entitle the fund to the use of the whole house, with its 100 rooms, and the extensive gardens surrounding it. The whole domain forms one of the most beautiful spots in the Bois. The place has been rented for three years and will be opened in two weeks. M. Seligman made it a condition that the blinded American soldiers should also be cared for at the Chateau de Madrid.

DISCOVERS "COOTIE" BANE

Relief for Soldiers to Result From Professor's Experiments.

Discovery of a chemical solution that will prevent American soldiers in the trenches from becoming infested with "cooties" was announced recently by Provost Edgar Fahr Smith of the University of Pennsylvania. Provost Smith presided at a meeting of the class secretaries of the University of Pennsylvania Alumni in Philadelphia. In announcing the preventive Provost Smith refused to give the name of the university scientist who made the experiments. It is said, however, that the discovery resulted from a series of experiments by the scientist in treating his own person with various chemical solutions until he found one that, used as a wash, acted as a deterring agent and prevented "cooties" from attacking him. While experimenting he maintained a colony of "cooties" in a receptacle worn on his wrist.

GO BAREFOOT, SAYS GERMANY

Old and Young Urged to Save Leather Even at Church.

"Go barefoot this summer and help the fatherland," is the latest patriotic catchword to be placarded in Germany. "In view of the alarming scarcity of leather, rich and poor alike should dispense with boots and shoes," says an explanation of the placard in the Rheinische Westfalsche Zeitung of Essen. The old are urged to set an example for the young.

"Why not walk on your bare feet this summer?" says the Zeitung. "Neither old nor young need be ashamed to walk barefoot anywhere—at home, in the streets, at school or in church."

FEAR SELECTIVE DRAFT

Mexicans of Laredo, Tex., Are Fleeing to Mexico.

As a result of war conditions and especially the selective draft striking terror to many of the Mexican residents of Laredo, Tex., and causing them to flee with their families from this country, or "hiding out" their children to prevent enrollment on the scholastic census, the number of school children of the Laredo Independent school district, according to the scholastic census, recently completed, has been reduced by 733. The scholastic census shows a total of 5,509.

FOURTH LIBERTY LOAN COMES NEXT

Our boys seem to be headed towards Berlin; the famous Hindenburg line has been pierced and it is very plain that the Yanks are over there. They know we are backing them up with all our resources.

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