

LABOR TURNOVER COSTS BILLIONS

Assistant Secretary of War Places Blame on Lack of Industrial Training.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9. — Labor turnover—the shifting of workers from one job to another—costs the United States \$2,500,000,000 a year. How best to stop it is the problem with which efficiency men and employment managers are always wrestling.

"It is difficult to realize that this country must pay so much," said Col. Arthur Woods, assistant to the secretary of war, yesterday, in commenting on the numbers of discharged service men already employed who are applying for better jobs. "But such is the case, and I believe that a great deal of this turnover can be directly attributed to the lack of a system of industrial training, wherein men who are unskilled but have the ambition to become skilled men can be trained for skilled work."

Soldiers Want to Advance.

"Many discharged service men, upon being confronted with the old jobs they held before the war, say, 'What? Go back to the old hammer drum way? Never!' Are they not right? They have come back better men in every way, with higher ideals and ambitions. These men took positions which to their minds were inferior, but only with the idea of later seeking something better. Indications now point to the fact that they are applying in increasing numbers to our employment bureaus for better places, not because they hold any particular grudge against their employers, but because they see no immediate chance to better themselves where they are. Inquiry at some factories discloses that workers are often assigned to tasks for which they are not suited, and where no provision is made for fitting them to the job."

"These returned soldiers of ours are certainly entitled to training. Even if they were not, it is to the advantage of the employer to give it to them. Industrial training means teamwork and efficiency, and consequently increased production. I say this not haphazardly, but from results obtained by such courses in some of the largest industrial plants in the United States. One of the largest electrical plants in the world has had such a system for some years, and outcome has been most satisfactory indeed."

Col. Woods has long advocated the establishment of industrial training classes in plants, not only to up-grade present employees, but to make it possible for discharged soldiers who have no trade to realize their ambitions, and become skilled workers.

NEW AGE OF GRANDMAS.

When grandma was a girl in teens, maids did not dress like burlesque queens. She didn't wear a lot of rouge, nor six-inch heels upon her shoes. She didn't have a poodle pet nor smoke a perfumed cigarette. She never donned a gossamer waist—but then 'twas scandalous how she laced! And, Oh! the hoop skirts and the bustles, the furbelows and plaited ruffles, the beauty patch and pantalets she wore while dancing minuets. Her skirts fell sweeping to the floor and caught a million germs or more. The waist she wore was called a basque, to squeeze into it was a task. And once inside it made her flinch to raise her arms a half an inch. These things to grandmas seemed all right, to modern maids they are a fright; and cigarettes are bad enough, but are they worse than pinching snuff? When I'm a grandma, though I'll say, "Girls were more modest in my day."—The Kansas City Star.

A THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY.

Of twenty soldiers who arrived from France recently, just one has not asked for his discharge from service. He's the only married man in the bunch.

With dozens of suitors, Miss Klinger Preferred the sweet song Joe would sing her.

And Joe, in this case, Finished first in the race. The reason was Joe was a ringer.

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SHORT FURROWS

By the Noted Indiana Humorist

KIN HUBBARD



THE TIRED BUSINESS MAN

"Curly" Prince! What a flood of memories that name will awaken among the older citizens of Bloomington. Dashed in, intrepid, debonair Bob Prince, or "Curly" Prince, as he was affectionately known, almost two generations ago, wuz th' only an' adored child o' Hiram an' Amanda Prince, who settled in Bloomington in th' fifties. Rich an' indulgent Bob Prince's parents gratified his ever whim. He wuz given th' refusal of all th' best colleges, an' his extensive wardrobe comprised, besides all th' nobby creations o' th' period, an assortment o' fancy waistcoats that wuz th' envy o' all th' pool rooms. A whard among th' girls, a lover o' athletics an' cologne, a genius with th' eye an' the personification o' grace itself on th' ball room floor, "Curly" seemed t' have everything but an education an' a trade. Many will recall his faultless alligator shoes an' bell-bottomed trousers, his glistening tile an' silk on mustache, his low chiseled forehead an' wealth o' raven curls. Ever notable function wuz performed by his presence, an' gloom overhung

every social occasion where he failed t' show up. With th' passage o' time "Curly" succeeded his father Hiram an' became a typical business man with a fondness for relaxin' from the strain o' watchin' the profits pile up by goin' t' a show. Th' tired business man is a new an' strange animal that is comin' t' th' front in large numbers as th' stage grows more decadent. Ther seems t' be somethin' peculiar about th' weariness brought about by th' exigencies o' business that absolutely refuses t' respond t' th' time honored antidotes o' yesterday, such as th' solitude o' th' woods, a trip t' Atlantic City, a period o' rest near some peaceful lake, a course o' baths, a fling in society, a brief lay off at home with a good book, or a tonic o' beef, wine an' iron. These are th' remedies whose recuperative powers are not denied, an' any one o' which furnishes a highly respectable chance o' venue fer th' jaded brain worker. Occasionally a bright clean comedy, or an intellectual treat will even work wonders in changin' cur viewpoint o' life an' urg'n' us on with renewed energy an' hope. How-

ever, none o' these seem t' penetrate th' tired business man's seat o' time. Whether his condition is brought about by countin' money, or by worryin' over some sudden prais o' a competitor or a stretch o' unreasonable weather, th' fact remains that he gets tired an' nothin' seems t' be able to yank him out o' his lethargy an' brighten him up but a stage full o' half naked, over developed Amazons cavortin' before

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Demands Title And Pension As War Inventor

LONDON, Aug. 7.—Charles Hannan, novelist and playwright, has demanded knighthood and a pension from the government for himself and wife on the ground that he suggested to the British admiralty the advisability of using smoke boxes or smoke screens which were extensively used for the protection of British naval and merchant vessels

during the latter part of the war. He claims that he proposed this plan to Winston Churchill and the admiralty on Feb. 6, 1915, on condition that he was to receive knighthood and a pension. Mr. Hannan says the admiralty informed him it was not prepared to adopt his proposals.

Six months later, says Mr. Hannan, he joined the admiralty and for the first time discovered that experiments on the line suggested by him had been secretly conducted in the Mediterranean.

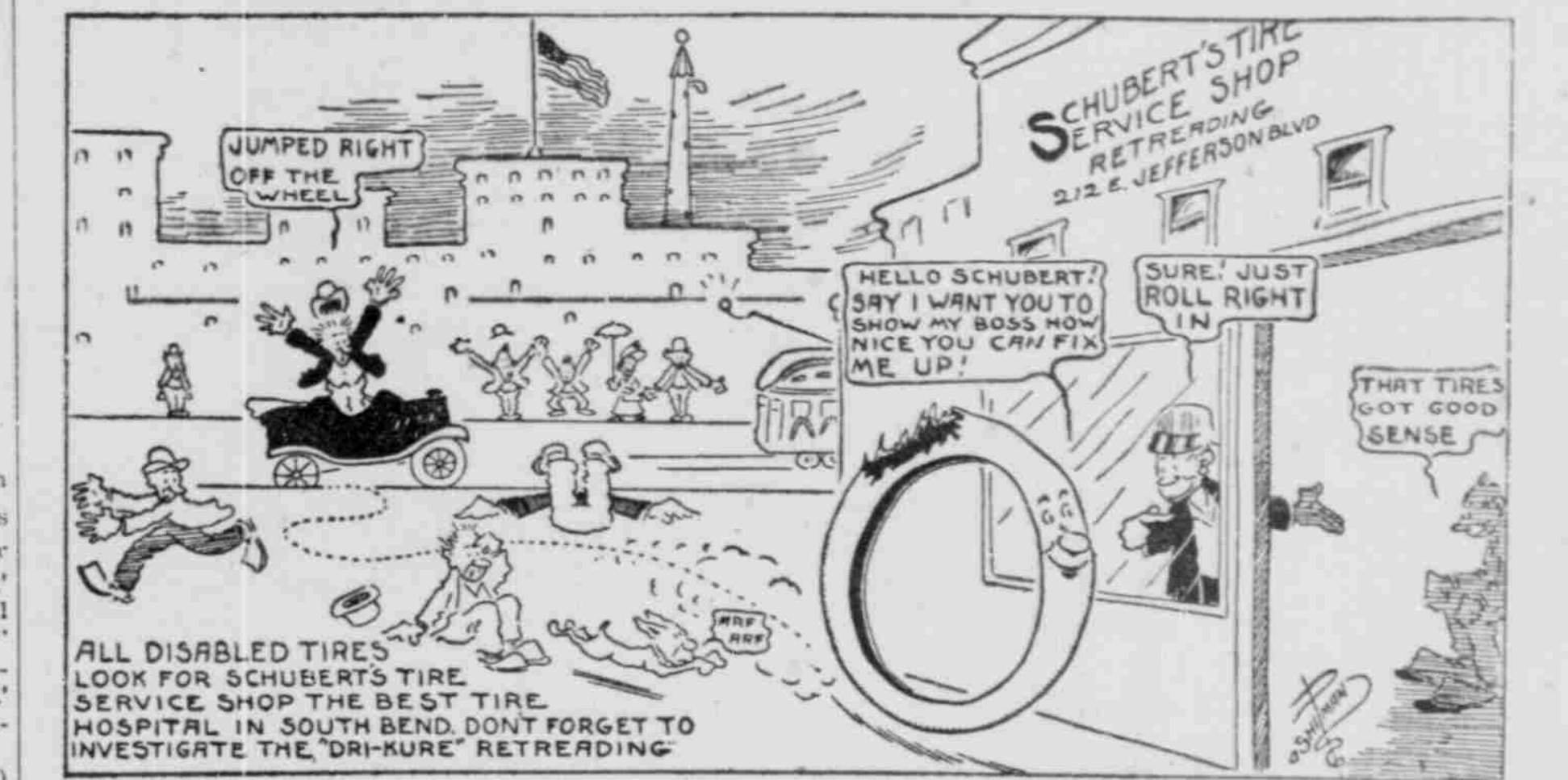
Mr. Hannan asserts that the first recorded use of smoke boxes in

naval warfare occurred in the battle of Jutland, May 31, 1916. For nearly two years Mr. Hannan has been writing to Premier Lloyd-George and Sir Eric Geddes, former first lord of the admiralty, claiming his reward. Failing, he has made his claims public through London newspapers.

FRED'S INTENTIONS WERE GOOD.

Fred—Kitty is certainly a matchless girl.

Harry—Yes; the absence of suitors long ago convinced her father of the same thing—Answers.



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