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**THERE IS BUT ONE GOD**—"Thou art great, O Lord God, for there is none like Thee, neither is there any God besides Thee." 2 Sam. 7:22.

## THE WILLAMETTE PAGEANT AGAIN

Edgar Lloyd Hampton, in Current History for September, puts forth the claims of Los Angeles as "the art center of the western hemisphere." He gives a large place to the moving picture industry, the irresistible lodestone which has drawn artists of the crayon, brush and other allied crafts; the historians and statisticians, the musicians and actors, and the writers—

And he shows that, from very recent and very small beginnings, it has now "forty important motion picture producing companies and at least two hundred smaller or individual ones." Here is his presentation of the statistics of Los Angeles moviedom:

"They employ 300 directors, some sixty stars, whose names and faces are known in every civilized country, hundreds of featured players, hundreds of small-part players, other hundreds who do important 'bits,' 30,000 extras, and 50,000 additional employees who work in various other branches of the industry. The gross salaries paid to these people total \$1,500,000 per week. The annual product consists of 600 full-length pictures and some 2,000 of the two-reel variety. The total footage, including prints, is 663,000,000 feet—in other words, 125,000 miles of Fairbanks, Chaplin, Pickford, Swanson, Bill Hart, and the rest, enough to go five times around the earth. The cost of these pictures to the producer is \$170,000,000; they go forth to the American public through 20,244 theatres, and simultaneously to all other civilized countries—the prints are sent out in forty-two different languages—and according to the report, are viewed each week by 130,000,000 people, who pay \$750,000,000 annually to see them. Of the motion-pictures made in the entire world today the United States produces 90 per cent, and of these 85 per cent are produced in Southern California."

Mr. Hampton tells of many phases of the artistic life and progress of his city. Here is a paragraph: "The extent to which they unselfishly devote their time, energies and money to fostering the arts, is both remarkable and inspiring. One of the happiest examples of this finds its expression in 'The Mission Play.' This play, or rather pageant, by John Steven McCroarty, an old-time Los Angeles newspaper man, dramatizes the period of the padres and their missions, of a hundred years ago. It is put on in the village of San Gabriel, ten miles east of Los Angeles. Here, with such stars as Frederick Wardle, Tyrone Power, R. D. MacLean, and a cast of several hundred, it has run continuously for more than fourteen years playing to millions of people. The extent to which it is viewed in the light of an institution was finely demonstrated in a recent announcement of a 'guest of performance,' in honor of those who had seen the play as many as five times. The response would have filled the playhouse at least a dozen times. It was learned there were 5000 people who had been present as many as twenty times."

He tells also of "The Pilgrimage Play," now known as America's story of the life and deeds of the Christ, written and produced by Mrs. Christine Wetherell Stevenson, a saintly woman who two years ago bequeathed both the play and its theatre to Los Angeles county—

An open air theater, lighted by a huge cross blazing against the sky from the top of a near by hill, the location of the theater being across the boulevard from the Hollywood bowl.

This leads to the repeated inquiry, why not a Willamette pageant in Salem? It should represent the work of the early Methodist missionaries, who made the beginnings of civilization in the Oregon Country; who were instrumental in saving to the United States the region from the British Columbia to the California line and from the top of the Rockies to the Pacific ocean, that, but for them, would now be under the British flag instead of the Stars and Stripes.

Here is a theme and here a setting for a pageant that will live for generations if not forever, and that will draw favorable attention in a million ways from the ends of the earth.

Is there not a devout Methodist, man or woman, who can get the vision and follow it to glorious ends? Here is a thing that will redound to the glory and greatness of Salem in ways beyond the power of words to tell.

Some time will be required to work out the proper and prescribed rotations and prepare the contracts for the growing of the 1927 crop of flax for the state.

### FOR A SCRIPTURAL JUBILEE

Newton D. Baker of Cleveland, Ohio, secretary of war in the Wilson cabinet, wrote for "Trade Winds," the monthly publication of the Union Trust company of that city, his views on the subject of European debt cancellations, as follows:

"The character of the interrelated debts is simple. Attempts to divide them up into pre-Armistice and post-Armistice loans, to separate out amounts which were spent in this country or elsewhere, or to divide them into classes based on the things purchased, as for instance, arms for soldiers on the one hand and food for the civil population or money for the maintenance of credit on the other, are worse than useless.

"The fact is that not a penny of this money would have been lent by us, or have been borrowed by any of our debtor nations, but for the war. Their need for it arose out of the contributions and sacrifices made by them in the war, and our willingness to supply it arose out of our belief that it was necessary, to our own interest, to sustain their military efficiency until the Armistice, and their economic stability after the Armistice, in order to prevent a collapse which would have cost us vastly more than the money which we supplied.

"Nor is it very important to inquire whether at the time of the making of these so-called loans, there was an expectation that they

should be repaid. The question is not what did somebody think in 1917, but what is it wise to think now?

"In the modern world, industrial nations are so integrated, by mutual investment and by trade relations, that political isolation is an illusion. The overseas investments of the people of the United States now aggregate perhaps eleven billions of dollars, and we are investing annually overseas at the rate of a billion a year.

"Europe today is, and long has been, our best customer, consuming of our total exports more than double the amount of any other continent. In a very real sense, therefore, European buying in the world markets is a decisive factor in maintaining the price of our entire home product. It is not conceivable that the rest of the world will continue to trade with us during 62 years in which every one of them would have its own industries burdened by crushing taxes.

"Every country in the world has had the experience of a vast and hopeless debtor class, and has realized that every so often it is necessary to wipe off the slate and start afresh as in a Scriptural year of Jubilee. This releases the energies of men, restores hope, cures political disorder and gives life a fresh start. The analogy applies perfectly to the present international situation. The United States needs, not dollars, but a confident, prosperous and peaceful world as a field for its industrial and commercial operations. That condition can not be brought about so long as we continue to exact payments up to the capacity of the debtors to pay.

"If the foregoing observations are sound, the United States is not justified either in morals or in a long view of its own best industrial and commercial interests in adhering to its present policy with regard to the settlement of the inter-allied debts. The time has come when these questions, including the British settlement, ought to be reopened. Personally, I believe that a mutual cancellation policy will be wise. Such a policy ought to relieve England, France, Italy, Belgium and the rest of our war allies both as to their debts to us and their debts among themselves, and in turn ought to require the release of some part of the burdens imposed upon Germany. This should be done at a round table, where a representative of the United States should be authorized to speak with authority and to demonstrate to the rest of the world that America's interest is not in dollars but in a reconstructed international order."

The above expression of the views of Mr. Baker has given rise to a greater amount of newspaper comment in this country than was brought out by the Clemenceau letter. A sample comment is that of the New York World, as follows: "The debt discussion is not closed. For, even granting that this country will continue to desire to collect huge sums from Europe for the next two generations, there is the problem of how Europe will pay us. She can not pay us in gold we have it. She can not pay us in hats or clothing; we exclude them with our tariff. She can not pay us in wines and liquor, we have prohibition. For 62 years, by the present program, the debt settlements are of necessity bound to play a part in our tariff policy, in our exports, in our position as a creditor, in our political destiny, and in every important relationship between Europe and America. Political considerations are not with Mr. Baker now; he has only economics on his side. But sooner or later he will have the better of the argument."

A sample comment on the other side is that of the Washington News, as follows: "For the United States, in the present state of world opinion, to cancel all the obligations owing this country as a result of the war and conditions following the war, would have an ill effect, not a good effect, upon the world. The validity of all contracts between nations, the whole basis of international relationships, would be seriously impaired. The lesson that would be drawn would be that of any nation that cares to be sufficiently unreasonable and unpleasant about its debts can escape paying them."

Times change. Opinions change. International relationships change—

As witness the present friendly relationships between France and Germany, as compared with the intense bitterness of the war period—

And there are reasons to expect continued softening of feelings in this country, to say nothing of changes of views concerning expediency—

And we may look forward to a reopening of this whole subject, and its consideration and possible settlement along the lines suggested by Mr. Baker.

## WITH THE WOMEN TODAY

Mrs. Sarojini Naidu  
 Nowhere is the new status of women so startlingly noticeable as in the far eastern countries where women have been kept traditionally in the background. In India a woman, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, has been elected as the first president of the Indian National Congress, the office for-

merly held by M. K. Gandhi.

The newly elected head of the Swarajists was educated at the woman's college of Girton, at Cambridge, England, and at that time showed a good deal of poetic talent. This was in the 90's, before her political interests developed. Sponsored by Sir Edmund Gosse the work of the young Indian poetess in English was admired by the London circle where shone such literary lights as Oscar Wilde, Aubrey Beardsley and other famous authors, and she was the darling of London's literary world.

Mrs. Naidu had published two volumes of poetry which were admired in England and America. In the second volume she broke away from the Victorian influence that found inspiration in exotic themes and turned her gifts to exploiting traditional life and religions in India.

Mrs. R. B. Metcalf of Providence, R. I., and her friends, Miss Maude Fisher of New York and Marion Smith of Wiscasset, are the first white women ever to accompany a MacMillan arctic expedition. Danes living 160 miles above the Arctic circle welcomed them, the first American women they had ever seen, when the "Sachem" sailed into their harbor.

Mrs. Charles A. Robinson of New York City is the flag lady of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. She was recently received in audience by the pope and presented the pontiff with an American flag.

John E. Andrus, nationally known as the "millionaire strap-hanger," because he travels to and from his business in New York City in the subway, has a beautiful sculpture of Julia Dyckman Andrus, his late wife, erected at the entrance to the memorial home for orphan children bearing her name at Yonkers, N. Y.

One of the oddest occupations for women is that of rat-catcher. Nell, Kitty and Rose Jarvis, aged respectively 21, 23 and 12, assist their father, John Jarvis, and their mother and two brothers in rat catching and insect extermination in London. Jarvis, the father, is the official rat-catcher to the London city council and to most government offices. He claims to be the only rat-catcher in Great Britain whose father and mother and grandfather on both sides have followed the same trade. His wife also has been a rat-catcher for 25 years.

"Crowd your life and keep mentally alive," is the advice of Mrs. Bernice S. Pyke, of Lakewood, O., who certainly follows her own rule.

Mrs. Pyke is national democratic committeewoman for Ohio, president of the board of education of Lakewood, vice president of the Lakewood Club of Cuyahoga County.

She is also a business woman and a homemaker. Her little book shop in Lakewood has flourished for more than three years, and her home, where she is better known as Mrs. A. B. Pyke, is a real home for her husband and son John who is a student at Ohio Wesleyan university.

"After an hour's planning most of the work in a home is purely

physical," she says. "Women just think they haven't the time for other things. A few more activities than the day will hold prod you on and pep you up."

"When John went away to school I wanted something definite to do. Lakewood needed a bookshop, and because I was on the board of education, it seemed people were always asking my advice about reading so this was the logical outcome.

"I like the idea of service and meeting people in the store as I do in politics. Life is a matter of association with personalities, after all."

Mrs. Pike, originally from Chillicothe, O., attended Ohio Wesleyan university, but received her degree from Smith college. For some time she coached dramatics at Western Reserve university, Cleveland, and then married.

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