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## WESTON LEADER

CLARK WOOD, Publisher  
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FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 1918

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### A SPINELESS GOSPEL

The Leader is in receipt of a communication from R. F. Johnson in defense of the Bible Students against what he terms its unfair criticism. The following excerpts embody the gist of Mr. Johnson's argument:

And would it not be well also to inquire as to whether this so-called Russellism (or "Bible-ism") is of recent formation, and a product of this present world-wide war? If it can be proved such then there might be some danger, or some reasonable cause for suspicion of seditious activity in their gospel. But upon the other hand, if it can be clearly proven that this same International Bible Students' Association has been in active operation during the last 40 years, and that they published and advertised a book some 35 years ago (millions of copies) and which truthfully stated the fact that the world-wide war would break out in the year 1914—and also foretelling the final termination, and world-wide blessings which will follow the Great Tribulation.—(Matt. 24:21.)

While the said I. B. S. A. does not uphold nor favor carnal warfare among the nations, nor will they themselves take up carnal weapons at all—yet it is no part of their program in any manner to interfere nor meddle with the government's war machinery, nor hindering any individual in the least from doing whatever he deems his duty in the matter. The Lord is

permitting this world-wide war to serve His own good purpose, otherwise it would never have engulfed the whole world.

The sole mission of every true Bible Student is confined to the Gospel of Christ—preaching and making known the "Good Tidings of Great Joy and which shall (eventually) be unto all people"—now so near at hand—the ultimate blessing of the whole human race during the Millennial Reign of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

It will be observed that Mr. Johnson does not deny, and even admits, the Bible Student doctrine of non-resistance. It is this doctrine only that is of concern to patriotic citizens. They care not upon what it is based.

The point is that the Russellite Millenium is not here, while the Hun and his armies and U-boats are. The rest of the world cannot stand with folded arms and say that "It's God war—let the Hun's will be done." Someone must fight if the world is to be made safe for democracy—and the Russellites.

Lenine and Trotzky held to the program of non-resistance, with the result that Russia lies prostrate before the German armies. Should the Russellites succeed in converting a majority of the people of the United States to their doctrine, we will be much more apt to have a Teutonized empire here than the promised millenium.

At a time when it is the duty of every citizen worthy of his citizenship to "whole-heartedly and unreservedly" support the government of the United States, we confess to little patience with or tolerance toward the Russellites. Unless they help the government with its liberty loans and war drives they are "slackers," pure and simple—and

this without regard to any prophecies made by the late Pastor Russell.

As to the charges of seditious activity, the Leader is not the accuser. Herein Mr. Johnson should direct his reproaches to the federal government.

### OUR COUNTRY

The Leader deems it a privilege to be permitted to print the following verses by Jesse M. Wise of Boise, Idaho. They are entitled "Our Country," and possess the charm of blended beauty, strength and dignity. They are intended to be set to music, and the factors of rhythm and euphony have entered into their composition:

COLUMBIA, our fathers found thy land,  
A wilderness in all its savage wild,  
Glad, yet forbidding sight!  
How little knew that worn and weary hand

Thy troublous way ahead, though ne're defiled.  
Who strive for freedom may not be beguiled,  
Firm champions of the right!

AMERICA, the vision broadens wide,  
And liberty extends from sea to sea;  
God's freemen blazed the trail!  
Ah, glorious land where freemen may abide;  
Whate'er befall, our hopes are set on thee,  
Our lives are folded in thy destiny,  
Thou greatest country, Hail!

THE STARS AND STRIPES are floating o'er the land;  
They wave a challenge in the desert's face,  
And despotism ends!

That treasured flag, though modeled by God's hand,  
Would not more firmly stand for world-wide peace,

Enforcing right by might for all our race,  
Our flag enfolds our friends!

UNITED STATES, thou bond of power vast,  
UNITED for the strength to do the right;

All nations look to thee!  
Thy future is foretold in thy past;  
As thou hast borne the god of freedom's light,

Still marching on, establish right for might,  
Make safe our liberty!

Says Mr. Wise:  
"Who wants to set music to these words and make a national song of it? Try it and send it to me at Boise, Idaho."

According to a scheme worked out by the state committee the color of his report card will denote the status of the citizen with reference to the third liberty loan. If he is a slacker his report will appear on a yellow card; if he does half his duty, on a red card; and if his subscription equals his rating, a blue card—this latter indicating the true-blue quality of his Americanism. Doubtless steps will be taken to get a yell or two out of the yellow.

We had long wondered what possible excuse that miserable misfit, the Bulldogger ed., could have for his existence, until it dawned upon us that he has his function as an editorial stop gap. We are therefore utilizing him this week in order to fill out this space—with apologies to our readers for touching upon a subject of such trifling importance.

If they are not the knavish hirelings of the Hun, Lenine and Trotzky have qualified as the prize boobs of history.

Uncle Sam is too busy trying to beat the Hun to note much distinction between a "martyr" and a slacker.

Weston has followed the example of Uncle Sam in inviting a certain sect to quit Russelling.

Whether a weakling or not, Nicholas Romanoff was stronger than his supine nation.

Although the Bulldogger ed. is a Chessman, he is only a pawn.

You will save sorrow by looking over old machines. Get your order in for repairs now. Watts & Rogers.

## THE WESTON CHAUTAUQUA PLEASES BIG AUDIENCES

Every Attraction Meets With Approval—Contract is Renewed.

Another Chautauqua Festival has come and gone, leaving behind it a train of pleasant memories. It marked a season of mental, spiritual and musical refreshment and demonstrated once more the high standard maintained by the Ellison-White System.

Weston has become in very truth a "Chautauqua town." The number of people who day and night were present to hear the various treats in store for them was an earnest of the growing appreciation of entertainments of this nature.

Beginning Friday afternoon, the Ladies' Festival Orchestra of Chicago were introduced as the entertainers for the day. Both afternoon and evening they provided programs of a varied and delightful nature. Each member of this remarkable company proved herself to be an artist in her line.

### Dr. Wallace Speaks

The afternoon of the second day was devoted to a lecture by Dr. J. Sherman Wallace of McMinnville, Oregon, on the subject of "The Salvation of America." Dr. Wallace talked along educational lines in an inspirational lecture dealing with the necessity for the development of the minds of the youth of today in order that they may become the better qualified to make our statesmen and leaders of tomorrow. He gave concrete examples of the value of an education—both from the standpoint of developing a man among men and from the angle of a profitable money-making investment. He is an earnest, effective, eloquent and very pleasing speaker. Sunday morning he gave a sermon at the United Brethren church.

### The Nimble, Noble Nayphe

The second evening was occupied by Julius Caesar Nayphe, a scion of the nobility of Greece. Mr. Nayphe is in a class by himself. He is vivid, picturesque, striking, and glows with energy to his finger tips. He is of course fully versed in the history and customs of Greece, and also has a unique and humorous way of relating personal experiences. We doubt if there is another lecturer on the boards who can talk so much about himself and get away with it so well as Nayphe can. His rich stage setting of rare Oriental tapestries is a veritable riot of color, and Nayphe himself is a sort of human rainbow in his wonderful costume. Six local girls assisted him in demonstrating the beautiful Grecian garments which he carries in his almost priceless collection.

Monday afternoon's feature was a lecture by E. J. Adams, state highway commissioner of Oregon, who in an hour's discourse left with the people of Weston a storehouse of information on the subject. Mr. Adams is a convincing speaker and a good roads authority.

To fill the measure of entertainment full his many friends were pleased to hear in the evening Dr. A. D. Carpenter in a twenty-minute talk upon the total eclipse of the sun which occurs June 8, and other astronomical subjects. Dr. Carpenter lectured here last year and is one of the most popular platform men who has ever appeared before a local audience.

The Hawaiian quartet appeared in the afternoon with a tuneful sauce to Mr. Adams' lecture, and gave their full concert program in the evening. It was a fitting musical climax to the splendid three-day series of Chautauqua entertainments.

### Contract is Renewed

The contract was promptly renewed for next year, when there will be five different attractions extending over a period of five evenings, with no afternoon programs. Pledge cards were circulated among the audience Monday evening, and were returned with pledges for the purchase of approximately \$340 worth of tickets, thus assuring the local guarantors that the amount of the guarantee will surely be forthcoming.

L. E. Flint, superintendent of the Chautauqua, is not the "hard character" that his name would indicate. He is the apotheosis of gentleness and amiability, and is gifted with a sense of humor that earned him a laugh whenever he appeared for an announcement. Mr. Flint is a sort of Chautauqua attraction himself, and we want him in Weston again next year. He is modest, witty, and the hall was suffused with the rosy glow of his blushes when Mr. Adams described him as handsome.

I have a few Aldon lamps and lanterns left and will close them out at a low price. A. Phillips.

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