

THE TWO SWORDS

By Lewis F. Crawford, President State Board of Regents, North Dakota

("The Hymn of the German Sword" appeared in a German paper published in Leipzig, Germany, and has been widely copied in papers of other countries. A copy which came to the attention of Lewis F. Crawford, Sentinel Butte, N. D., president of the state board of regents, impressed him so strongly that he prepared "The American Sword," as a contrast to the spirit shown in "The German Sword.")

HYMN OF THE GERMAN SWORD

It is no duty of mine to be either just or compassionate; it suffices that I am sanctified by my exalted mission, and that I blind the eyes of my enemies with such streams of tears as shall make the proudest of them cringe in terror under the vault of heaven.

I have slaughtered the old and the sorrowful; I have struck off the breasts of women; and I have run through the bodies of children who gazed at me with the eyes of the wounded lion.

Day after day I ride aloft on the shadowy horses in the Valley of Cypresses and as I ride I draw forth the life blood of every enemy's son that dares to dispute my path.

It is meet and right that I should cry aloud in my pride, for am I not the flaming messenger of the Lord Almighty?

Germany is so far above and beyond all the other nations that all the rest of the earth, be they who they may, should feel themselves well done by when they are allowed to fight with the dogs for the crumbs that fall from her table.

When Germany the divine is happy, then the rest of the world basks in smiles; but when Germany suffers, God in person is rent with anguish, and, wrathful and avenging, he turns all the waters into rivers of blood.

THE AMERICAN SWORD

I am the American sword.
I have never been unsheathed except in the cause of justice and humanity.

I punish only under solemn and compelling obligation.
In my presence national perfidy and dishonor never go unchallenged.
I opened in generous trust to all nations the portals of American opportunity and gave equal rights to all in the inheritance created by the toil and blood of our ancestors.

In me everything that is good finds approval, everything mean meets rebuke.

My people are enticed to love me by the gentle persuasiveness of my life. I am the visual enchantment of the downtrodden and the oppressed; the emblem of national honor; the embodiment of the world's hope.

In me is linked the command of duty with the love of Calvary; it is mine to trace the hidden equities of divine reward and connect national wrongdoing with its swift retribution; under me fulfillment adds splendor to the gorgeous mosaic of our dreams.

O Kaiser! obsessed with power, drunk with passion, enemy of peace and right and freedom throughout the world, slayer of age and infancy, ravisher of virginity, spreader of contagion, fiend incarnate!

Against thee barren fields cry out in protest; venerated works of art and architecture, hallowed by the centuries, thou has crumbled under shells of frenzy; thou art wasting the flower of the world's manhood in red ruin spurred on by the grim reaper of Hate.

Thou international brigand, enslaver and robber of Belgium, looter of Serbia, betrayer of neutrals! thou art a pirate running mad on the pathless sweep of oceans, plundering and murdering on the world's highway.

Diplomatic intriguer, thou has faithlessly broken age-old treaties, thou has torpedoed hospital ships, bombarded defenseless cities and unleashed liquid fire and poison gas—outlaw demons of destruction. In this epilepsy of the world's horror thou art bowed with a sense of unfathomable guilt and sodden shame; thou, the arch gutter-snipe of civilization, art more unsparring than Torquemada, more cruel than Nero, more atrocious than Calligula, more crafty than Geronimo; thou hast loosed the hosts of ill upon a peaceful world and darkened the heavens with blasphemy.

Thou art chased by the maddening billows; the deeps in malice open to receive thee; ashen faces turned toward flame-lit skies, appeal for vengeance.

My presence gives courage to endure the appalling strain and omnipresent peril of battle.

I bestow superhuman nerve, sleepless caution, capacity for sacrifice, and the justice of my cause palsies the hand of brutal might and insensate ambition.

I pity the victim, not the violator; the sorrows I bring wear no weeds of mourning.

I open a new era in history; I fire the human soul with new daring and new hope; I will survive this conflict and pronounce its sentence.

When the name of Kaiser shall have lost its stench and been covered with the dust of countless centuries, I shall still be glorified as the mainstay of democracy—the peacemaker of the world.

Bill and the Bank President

Mates on the Good Ship of Thrift

It was long after banking hours and only the assistant janitor and the bank president were "on the job" in the great Chicago banking institution. The executive, having cleaned up the mass of business on his desk, lighted a long, pencil-shaped cigar and lolled back in his swivel chair. Bill, the red-faced, good-natured member of the clean-up brigade, entered the office and headed for the waste basket. The bank president remembered that Bill had bought a \$100 Liberty bond in the second campaign.

"Are you having any trouble in meeting the payments on your Liberty bond, Bill?" asked the executive.

"No trouble, sir," replied the janitor. "I've done a bit o' plannin' and trimmin', though, but it ain't given me any trouble. I'm better off for th' plannin' and trimmin'."

"I imagine you have—well, a sort o' better opinion of yourself for saving up and lending your money to the government," said the president.

"I'm sorry I ain't young enough to be 'over there' with the boys," said Bill, "but since I ain't there and won't be there unless the army needs men with rheumatiz in one out o' every three joints, I feel it necessary to do what I can do here at home."

"It's a fine thing to be a bondholder—a real partner in the great firm of Uncle Sam & Co.," said the president. "One really has a better opin-

ion of himself when he feels that he is lending a hand."

"You have bought a Liberty bond; your wife has trimmed here and there in order that you might have the necessary money, and your daughter is buying the war-savings stamps," said the bank president. "Your little home, Bill, is doing its full duty, and you ought to be thoroughly proud of it—including yourself."

"Oh, I ain't doin' as much as I'd like to do," said Bill, blushing at the compliment, "but I'm doin' about all I can do, so I really ain't ashamed of myself."

"I'm trimming, too, Bill," said the bank president. "This cigar I'm smoking costs just one-third as much as the one I've been in the habit of smoking, and I'm not smoking as many cigars a day as I used to smoke. I've had my shoes resoled for the first time in 20 years. It used to be that every time I'd run my heel down a little I'd chuck the shoes and buy a new pair. I'm going to wear this suit of clothes until it wears out, no matter how glossy it becomes. I'm going to—"

"Oh, but you don't have to pinch that way," interrupted Bill a bit apologetically; "you can afford to wear the best."

"I know it," said the bank president, "but I'm going to be thrifty myself. As you say, there's real sport in playing the game of thrift. The government can have all I've got. I mean that. It has been good to me and I'm going to try to show my appreciation. I'll be right there when the third loan is out."

"I'll be ridin' along with you, sir," said Bill with a chuckle.

And now Bill and the bank president are mates on the good ship Thrift.

Influence of Good Sense Always Made Itself Felt In Guiding the Russians

"Next to free speech and free listening, free action is a popular pastime," writes William G. Shepherd in an article on distracted Russia published in Everybody's.

"Anarchists have seized palaces and newspaper offices and automobiles and paintings and even wealth. But in the midst of this apparent anarchy, this lack of government, there is always—and this is an astonishing fact that has impressed the members of the American commission and all the other foreign statesmen who have come to Russia since the revolution—a checking influence of what we in the United States call 'common sense.'"

"There is always somebody in a meeting who offsets wild speeches; somebody in a crowd who gives a matter a second thought and offsets and checks the man who wishes to act without thinking. There is an unexpected hardheadedness about even the mobs. The country districts of Russia, thousands of its little towns, villages and cities, were being governed, three months after the revolution, by public opinion and common sense alone—and astonishingly well governed."

"But all this makes a weird world, full of weird happenings."

"Anything can happen in Russia these days. But the point I am making is that in Russia the influence of 'common sense' has always made itself felt from the first day of the revolution, and the council of workmen and soldiers was a concrete embodiment of this characteristic at a time in Russia when peaceful anarchy ruled; when one opinion or theory was as good as another and when there was a machine gun behind every theory."

GOOD LAUGHS

In the Restaurant.

Patron—Walter, this is a meatless day, isn't it?

Walter—Why, no, sir. What made you think so?

Patron—It struck me it must be from this lamb stew.

Not Much of a Tale.

"It won't be much of a story, will it?"

"What?"

"When our grandchildren ask us what we did in the great war, and we have to tell them that once a week we went without meat."

Grounds for Fear.

"I wonder."

"What are you wondering about?"

"If this long, cold spell is going to spell the ice crop."



Justifiable Peace.

"Can separate peace ever be justifiable?" demanded the parlor orator. "Yes," answered the man who wasn't supposed to. "I once knew a man who made up with his wife, but kept her mother out of the house."

His Small Economy.

"My friend, there is really no excuse for your not looking neat and clean."

"Sorry, mister," explained Plodding Peter, "but I'm conserving my bit along wit de rest o' de folks. You jes' happened to hit me on my soapless day."

Their Sort.

"Didn't the suffrage pickets sue for mercy when they were jailed?"

"No, but they're suing for damages now."

Modern Cookery.

"Didn't I tell you to cook this egg four minutes?"

"I did so, sir," answered the waiter. "It was just out of cold storage. Four minutes wasn't enough time to do much more than thaw it nicely."

A Food Producer.

"There goes a man who is doing his duty in the trenches."

"Abroad?"

"No, at home. He makes the trenches with a plow."

Now Answer Up.

"I hear your poetry is selling like wildfire."

"Uh-huh! But who in the dickens wants to buy wildfire?"

Force of Food.

Geek—Well, old sport, how do you feel? I've eaten a bowl of oxtail soup and feel bully.

Guko—I've just eaten a plate of hash and feel like everything.

SPARROW OF GREAT BENEFIT

Bird Has Been Unjustly Maligned, Says Kansas Expert—Devours Much Weed Seed.

The despised and lowly English sparrow is in reality as much of a benefit as a detriment to the farmer, in the opinion of Dr. Mary T. Harman, assistant professor of zoology in the Kansas state agricultural college.

"The English sparrow," said Doctor Harman, "has been greatly maligned, and in many cases unjustly, because of its habit of nesting in barns, under the eaves of porches, and even in attics."

"The sparrow is doing much toward keeping down the dandelion pest. The birds are seed eaters and weed seeds are an important factor in their menu."



English Sparrow.

One of the strongest arguments in favor of the birds, is that they consume large numbers of termites, cabbage worms, and alfalfa weevils. The food of the sparrows in the city is mostly waste material.

"In a few cases where the destruction of the sparrows is desirable, poisoned bait such as wheat and other small grains may be used. It must be remembered, however, that what will kill the sparrows will also kill more desirable birds. As a general rule the good that the sparrow accomplishes more than offsets the harm."

BUILDING UP A DAIRY HERD

Essential That Dairyman Be Breeder—Must Produce Milk, Cream or Butter of Quality.

Experience has taught the farmer who is in the dairy business. It is very essential that he raise the cows on the farm that are to constitute the future dairy herd. He must be a breeder in the full sense of the word. He must be as particular and thoughtful as the man who is raising thoroughbred high-price stock. He should have a definite purpose and definite mental picture how best to accomplish that purpose. Form and beauty breeding must give way to a breeding for a fixed purpose—that is, production of milk, cream or butter of the best quality, and at the lowest cost of feed, labor and fixed charges that must be met. All side issues should be abandoned and his brain, capital and influence be given to building up his dairy's performance.

REMOVING TUSKS FROM BOAR

Anchor Animal to a Post With Rope Over Upper Jaw and Clip Teeth With Chisel.

A vigorous boar with big tusks is a dangerous beast. He can make a bad wound if he wants to. Anchor him to a post with a rope over the upper jaw just back of the tusks and clip them off with a cold chisel. One man may hold a crowbar against the tusk while the other uses the chisel on the opposite side and disarms the old fellow with one sharp blow. Special instruments for this purpose work all right, but it takes some power to work them on large tusks.

Pigs Two Weeks Old.

When the pigs are two weeks old the sow and pigs should be given the run of a grass pasture when the weather is suitable. Allow plenty of exercise. It is necessary for health.

Sod Mulch Is Adopted.

Many of the most successful fruit growers throughout New England have adopted the sod mulch method of culture for their apple orchards.

Grit Is Necessary.

Grit is necessary to aid the fowl in grinding up its feed. It performs the same functions for poultry as do the teeth for human beings.

Source of Protein.

Skimmed milk is a valuable source of animal protein, and should be used to moisten the food and placed where the hens can drink it.

Find Best Layers.

The trap nest and other methods and devices may be employed to ascertain the best layers in the flock.

Trimming Feet of Horses.

The matter of trimming the feet of colts and young horses is an important one.

Hog Will Keep Clean.

A hog is not dirty in its habits. If given half a chance it will keep clean.

MARKS OF DANGER

Certain Characteristics Distinguish Poisonous Mushrooms.

Edible Varieties May Be Easily Identified With Exercise of a Little Care, Says Agricultural Expert.

Every year there are a few cases of mushroom poisoning. In some instances the individual is only made sick, while in other cases the results are fatal.

It is difficult to lay down any hard and fast rules that can be used to distinguish between edible and poisonous mushrooms. In some cases a species that may be harmless for one individual may cause serious digestive disturbances in another. There is, however, one group of mushrooms that is deadly poisonous. This is the group of Amanitas, says W. W. Robbins of the Colorado Agricultural college. There are a number of species of Amanita, all of which are deadly poisonous. The deadly Amanitas have white gills, a ring about the stem just beneath the cap, and a cup or scales at the base of the stem.

Do not place any reliance in the many popular and traditional tests of poisonous or edible qualities. These tests are entirely worthless. The discoloration of a silver spoon; sinking in water; or brilliant coloration—are no indication of either poisonous or edible qualities. Furthermore, the notion that poisonous mushrooms can be rendered harmless by boiling in water and then washing thoroughly in cold water is erroneous.

One can easily become familiar with a few edible kinds of mushrooms. There are many of these springing up in our lawns, dooryards and along fences. One may feel absolutely safe in using all those mushrooms having black gills which dissolve with age into an inky mass. These, of course, must be eaten before turning black, but usually several stages of ripening will be found in the same clump or group of individuals, so that identification can be made. Among these black gill species are the "shaggy mane" with a more or less bell-shaped, creamy-white cap which becomes shaggy, and the "inky-cap," growing in dense clusters. These two are both common in lawns, gardens, etc., from spring to autumn and are among the best of our edible forms. All of the puff-balls are edible, and excellent if eaten when the flesh is white and solid.

Mushrooms are sometimes soon attacked by worms, and in gathering those which have perhaps stood longer than the others it is well to break off the caps and note whether the worms have worked their way up through the stalk into the cap.

The deadly mushrooms are those which possess the following three characteristics: (1) white gills; (2) a ring on the stem just beneath the cap; and (3) a cup or scales at the base of the stem.

Why Women Talk.

Men are downtown at their offices all day and have a chance to talk. The women have to stay at home, and with the exception of the milkman, the grocery man, the iceman, the old clothes man, a few miscellaneous peddlers and hucksters, and the woman next door, there is nobody to talk to. That is why when she comes home at night, the wife talks her husband's head off when he comes home at night. Husbands, who through long years of experience, have grown accustomed to this merely answer "huh-huh" without hearing. Sometimes the wife will catch them unawares and between remarks will insert a request for \$10 to buy a new dress with. If the husband, from force of habit answers "huh-huh," the wife, of course, gets the gown.—Cartoons Magazine.

Heroes of Peace.

Two miners at Johannesburg were presented with the Camber of Miners' bronze medal and gold watches for heroism displayed in a gassing accident. They descended five times and rescued two white men and eleven natives, being helped by natives. In making the presentation the president of the chamber described their heroism as striking, even in these days of heroic deeds. He also estimated that since "safety first" measures had been adopted 300 lives had been saved in the mines.

The Traveler's Tree.

A tree which serves the purpose of a spring is appropriately called the "traveler's tree." By simply cutting the leaf stem, a quantity of pure, cold, watery sap may be obtained. The tree is a native of the West Indies, and has leaves somewhat like those of the banana tree.

Blackstone on the Floor.

"I see you had to reverse for the judge while dancing." "Yes, he said it was poor legal procedure for a judge to reverse himself."