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The Western World

Loyalty Is First Duty of Every Citizen of United States Today

By JAMES CARDINAL GIBBONS



In the present emergency it behooves every American citizen to do his duty and to uphold the hands of the president and the legislative department in the solemn obligations that confront us.

The primary duty of a citizen is loyalty to country. This loyalty is manifested more by acts than by words; by solemn service rather than by empty declamation. It is exhibited by an absolute and unreserved obedience to his country's call.

Both houses of congress, with the executive, are charged and sworn to frame those laws that are demanded by the present crisis. Whatever, therefore, congress may decide should be unequivocally complied with by every patriotic citizen. The members of both houses of congress are the instruments of God in guiding us in our civic duties. It behooves all of us, therefore, to pray that the Lord of Hosts may inspire our national legislature and executive to frame such laws in the present crisis as will redound to the glory of our country, to righteousness of conduct, and to the future permanent peace of the nations of the world.

American People Cannot Consider Any Peace Proposed by Prussia

By STEPHEN S. WISE, Rabbi of the Free Synagogue of New York

We cannot and will not consider peace at the instance of Prussia or of any witting or unwitting agents of Prussia.

The only peace the American people at any time will be prepared to consider is a peace which must be disastrous to every hope of Prussia's rulers or a peace made over their heads and perhaps their bodies with the German people, returned to reason and humaneness after the dethronement of the war-mad lords, who have been suffered to defile and to damn the whole German people.

The president not merely willed to keep us out of war but throughout nearly three years of irritation and insult, of contumely and outrage, he achieved the miracle of keeping us out of the war. Why did the president lead us into war? Because he saw that we were not so much challenged to war as to defend the elementary sanctities of life in the only terms intelligible to that band of militarists who had brought hurt to half the world and shame unutterable to their dumbly trusting peoples.

Groups other than the uncompromising pacifists are to be found in the leadership of the people's council, and these, mindful of the seriousness of my charge, I accuse of readiness to accept an outcome of the war, which would not bring peace to men but seal the dominance of the sword in the world.

Violent Shock of Explosions in Battle Has No Effect Whatever on the Weather

By C. F. Martin, Chief of the United States Weather Bureau

The violent shock and the heat of explosions in battle have no effect whatever on the weather. All weather factors, temperature, precipitation and wind velocity, ultimately depend on the heating and cooling of the atmosphere.

The idea that battles cause rains is very old. In the earlier times the rain was attributed to the clash of swords and sweat of soldiers, later to the noise of cannon and guns, then to the dust particles (smoke) caused by the burning of black powder, and now, by some, to the gases freed by the explosion of gunpowder, etc.

Anyone at all familiar with the real cause of rain (the cooling of humid air by vertical convection) will see at once that it cannot be induced by noise, nor by the gaseous products of modern explosives.

Furthermore, statistical studies show that the weather during years of war does not differ appreciably from the weather during years of peace.

The way for a young man to rise is to improve himself every way he can, never suspecting that anybody wishes to hinder him.—Lincoln.

DECISIVE EVENTS COMING

Many prophets have told us that the war may last for 10 years, and have justified their prophecies by pointing to the past, says the Eugene Register. It continues: They have informed us that wars far less in world importance have dragged on for a hundred years. They forgot, though, that those were intermittent struggles, with fitful flashes of fighting followed by periods of inactivity that almost amounted to peace. This war is a continuous performance, as anyone knows who watches the casualty lists during the present period of so-called inactivity. This war is a continual strain, and nations cannot stand such a strain forever.

There is plenty of proof that the world is in a ferment. Russia changed in a day from an autocracy to something that may result in a pure socialist state. Austria's heterogeneous population is deeply stirred, and even Germany's docile and well-disciplined people are growing restive. The strain of war is telling in all the countries that have been in the struggle from the beginning, and the Allies' greatest single source of strength lies in the fact that the United States, the greatest and most powerful nation on earth is still fresh and unworn.

This condition inevitably tends toward decisive action at an early date. Germany has been advertising for months a great offensive on the west, and the disturbances behind the German lines of which we have been hearing vague rumors, will probably hasten this offensive effort. Delay is of no aid to the German program under present conditions.

When the offensive does start, we may expect no weak effort. For months the German factories have been piling up munition supplies, and from the whole eastern front divisions have been pouring westward. If there is truth in the rumors of unrest, Germany cannot profitably play a waiting game and may be expected to strike soon and strike hard in an effort to win a decision before her strength ebbs away. On the Allies' side no effort must be spared to meet the blow and stop it. If it is stopped decisively and certainly, the end will be in sight.

Stand with anybody that stands right. Stand with him while he is right and part with him when he goes wrong.—Lincoln.

GERMANY'S ESTIMATED POWER

Lincoln Eyre, staff correspondent of the New York World, in Paris sent a dispatch to his paper recently quoting the military critic of L'Echo de Paris as estimating the total German forces on all fronts at 3,130,000. This same authority figures that the total strength of the German army now is 5,500,000. A large part of this force is being used in keeping invaded territory and guarding such frontiers.

If this expert's view is correct, there does not appear to be any ground for apprehension that the British and French will not be able to hold the Germans on the western front this winter. No figures are given as to the size of the Entente Allies' armies on the western front, except the general statement that they far outnumber those that Germany has been able to assemble there.

It will be recalled that up to the time Germany was able to withdraw large forces from the Russian front the British and French expressed surprise on several occasions over the weak resistance on German positions in France.

It stands to reason that the German losses must have been very heavy, indeed, as it seems fair to suppose the Kaiser has had at least as many men killed and wounded on the western front as the French, British and Belgians combined.

Every man is said to have his peculiar ambition. Whether it be true or not, I can say for one, that I have no other so great as that of being truly esteemed of my fellow men, by rendering myself worthy of their esteem.—Lincoln.

CORN WILL WIN DEMOCRACY'S WAR

America's Greatest Cereal Crop
Is Now Moving to
Market.

MAINSTAY IN NATION'S CRISIS.

Surplus Wheat of the United States
Has Been Sent to Famine Threat-
ened Europe.

America's great corn crop, exceeding 3,000,000,000 bushels, will save the world's food situation, officials of the United States food administration believe.

Corn is the nation's best food cereal, housewives are beginning to realize. It contains all the elements needed to keep the body in a state of health and when used according to the scores of tried recipes, especially when combined with an added portion of oil or fat, will sustain life indefinitely. Indian warriors in colonial days lived on parched corn alone for many days at a time, and at Valley Forge parched corn was at times the sole ration of the Continental soldiers.

Owing to transportation difficulties caused by the war the corn crop moved more slowly to market this year than ever before. Now, however, the cereal is reaching the millers and consumers. In the meantime the nation's surplus wheat has been sent to Europe.

Today there are approximately 30 bushels of corn for every American. This quantity is greater by five bushels than in former years.

Corn has become the nation's mainstay in the crisis of war.

Just as this cereal saved the first American colonists from famine on many occasions, just as it served as a staple food during the War of the Revolution and during the Civil War, King Corn has again come to the front in the nation's battle with autocracy.

Corn meal is finding greatly increased use in the making of ordinary white bread. Hundreds of housewives and many of the larger bakers are mixing 20 per cent. corn meal with wheat flour to make leavened bread. This kind of a mixture is worked and baked in the same recipes and with the same methods that apply to straight wheat bread.

Corn bread—using corn meal entirely—is gaining a greater popularity than ever before. Housewives are coming to realize that every pound of wheat saved in America means a pound of wheat released for shipment to the nations with which America is associated in the war.

There are a score of corn products that today possess unusual importance for Americans. Corn syrup for sweetening corn cakes and buckwheat cakes and for use in the kitchen instead of granulated sugar is one of the leading products made from corn.

Corn oil, excellent for frying and for every other purpose filled by salad oils, is appearing on the market in large quantities. It comes from the germ of the corn.

MADE-IN-GERMANY LIES CIRCULATED IN CANADA

Canada is also having trouble with Made-in-Germany lies calculated to hinder Canadian food conservation according to an official statement received from the Canadian food controller by the United States food administration.

The stories bothering Canada are of the same general character as those the United States food administrator recently denounced in this country, such as the ridiculous salt and blueing famine fakes and the report that the government would seize housewives' stocks of home canned goods.

The Canadian food controller estimates that when the people listen to and pass on such stories, each one has the power of destruction that lies in a battalion of soldiers.

Stories without even a vestige of foundation have been scattered broadcast," said the Canadian statement. "Nor have they come to life casually. They have started simultaneously in different parts of the country and in each instance have been calculated to arouse public indignation.

"They are insidious, subtle, persistent. Bit by bit they dissipate public trust, the great essential in the work of food control.

"It lies with every individual to forbear from criticism; to refrain from passing on the vagrant and harmful story, and thus the more effectively to co-operate in work which is going to mean more than the majority of people yet realize."

THE UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION SAYS:

There is no royal road to food conservation. We can only accomplish this by the voluntary action of our whole people, each element in proportion to its means. It is a matter of equality of burden; a matter of minute saving and substitution at every point in the 20,000,000 kitchens, on the 20,000,000 dinner tables, and in the 2,000,000 manufacturing, wholesale and retail establishments of the country.

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UP THE SHIP.

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