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Probable German Colony in Hokkaido.

The Osaka Mainichi's Tokyo correspondent says that many German prisoners in Japan, numbering in all 4,500, are still loyal to the former Kaiser and hope to secure positions in the South Sea Islands and in China. Several hundred German prisoners at the Nanshin detention camp are about to petition the Japanese government for permission to form a colony in Hokkaido when their release is granted. The Mainichi adds that the authorities are giving the request serious consideration owing to the fact that many expert machinists and other artisans whose experience can be turned to good account are among the petitioners.

Mohammedans.

The Mohammedans, according to carefully compiled figures, number 223,985,780 of the world's inhabitants, or one seventh of the entire population of the earth. They are distributed as follows: India, 82,458,077; Java, 24,270,000; Russia (Europe and Asia), 20,000,000; Turkey (Europe and Asia), 14,278,800; China, 8,000,000; Mohammedan countries like Egypt, Persia, Morocco, Algeria, Arabia and Afghanistan, 6,000,000 to 10,000,000; Central America and West Indies, 22,000; British Guiana, 22,000; United States, 8,000; Dutch Guiana, 5,800. About 95,000,000 followers of the prophet are living under British rule.

Cotton Gin for Zululand.

The first cotton-ginning plant in Zululand, writes Vice Consul Charles J. Pinar from Cape Town, recently commenced operations at Amatitulu, after almost a year's preparatory work. The capacity of the American gin installed is between 1,500 and 1,000 pounds of lint for an eight-hour day, which represents 2 1/2 tons of seed cotton. The installation of this ginning plant is looked upon as one of far-reaching importance for the cotton growers in Zululand, and it is believed that cotton growing there, which has been receiving special attention from government experts, will undergo a very rapid development in the near future.

DEFIED MORAL LAW

Why Kaiser and His Huns Were Defeated.

Like Every Thing of Evil the Seeds of Its Own Destruction Were Born With Autocratic Madness, Pastor Believes.

A group of men were standing round the fireplace at the country club after their game of golf. They were discussing the cause of Germany's defeat. One laid it to the food shortage, another to American forces, another to the diplomacy of the allied governments, which had ranged against Germany virtually the whole of the civilized world.

Just at that point, Dr. Edgeworth, the pastor of a local church, joined the group, and they turned to him for his opinion. The good doctor thought a moment, and then he said slowly, "You men know me well enough, I think, to feel that I am not so narrow that every thought I have ends in a church spire. And so you won't think me guilty of a pious platitudinarianism when I say that I firmly believe that the determining factor in Germany's defeat was God."

"Do you remember," he continued, "what Victor Hugo said about Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo? It runs this way: 'Was it possible for Napoleon to win at Waterloo? We answer, No. Why? Because of Blucher? No. Because of the rain? No. Because of God. It was time this vast man should fall. He had been impetuous before the throne of the Infinite, and his fall had been decreed. And then Victor Hugo adds, 'Napoleon boistered God.'"

"But I don't see how Hugo can prove it," replied one of the men. "No," he couldn't prove that the intervention of God defeated Napoleon at Waterloo," answered the doctor, "not with mathematical precision. This sort of evidence is the most ticklish in the world, but I heard an officer from overseas say that he could lay his finger on no less than three instances where nothing but a miracle saved the allies."

There are certain historical incidents that get written down as being marks of the intervention of God. The storm that defeated the Spanish armada is one, and men are beginning to look at the first battle of the Marne as another. Competent authorities tell us that the German defeat cannot be adequately explained on human grounds. If it is true, as Herbert Spencer says, that we live in the presence of a moral order, then something must happen when that order is violated. That Germany violated that order no one doubts, and when it did so it was fighting against the stars in their courses.

The text that has been running through my head ever since Germany crumpled is, 'Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts,' and I get a lot of comfort as I think of it. Ours is a wonderful world. Wonderful for its chemistry, wonderful for its geometric precision, wonderful for its vital processes, but most wonderful of all for the moral purpose streaking it like veins of gold. The world is pitched to good, its movement is that way. Every evil thing has, therefore, the seeds of its own destruction born with it. Your Pharaohs, Sennacheribs, Neros, Attilas, Mohammeds, Ivas, Napoleons and Kaiser Wilhelm II's continually arise, putting the nations in fear and threatening to uproot civilization itself. But there is always some rock on which their armadas split; some Moscow in which their armies perish.—"Youth's Companion."

Answered.

Mrs. Hughes, wife of the Australian premier, is very fond of children and has a fund of anecdotes concerning them.

One who is fond of telling concerns a visit she paid to a certain elementary school in Melbourne shortly before starting for England.

Among the questions put by the mistress to her little pupils was the following:

"Supposing we had boarded a ship last night and steamed a hundred miles due southwest, where should we be now?" the correct answer being, of course, "Off the coast of Tasmania."

There was a moment of breathless silence, and then a tiny girl in the front row, who had just recently, it transpired, returned from a rather rough and stormy sea trip, piped out shrilly:

"In the cabin, ma'am, sick."—Tit-Bits.

Teredo, Ship Eater.

Although it was declared that wooden ships could be built fast enough and strong enough to outwit the submarine, they cannot be built to escape their own most deadly enemy, the shipworm, or teredo. This animal or worm eats away the wooden ship in much the same manner that cancer eats away the human body, but it is so small when it first inserts itself into the wood that the closest inspection fails to show the warning pin hole. Once in the wood, however, it eats its way along, growing steadily, and when a quantity of these tiny worms get into a ship they turn it into a veritable sponge honeycombed by tunnels.

The teredo is more common on the western coast than on this, and copper or so-called copper paint is said to be the one way to protect wooden ships from becoming infested.

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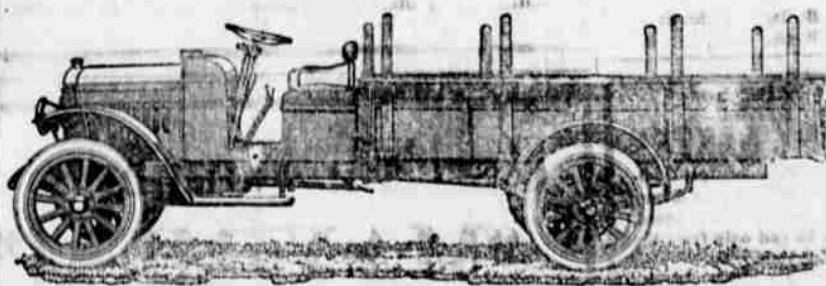
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