

Home and Farm Magazine Section Editorial Page

Timely, Pertinent Comment Upon Men and Affairs, Following the Trend of World News; Suggestions of Interest to Readers; Hints Along Lines of Progressive Farm Thought.

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WHAT JORDAN OVERLOOKED.

"THERE WILL NEVER be another great war," declared Prof. David Starr Jordan, former president of Stanford University, on many occasions upon which he delivered his famous address on world peace. The reason given by the savant for this statement was that the great money powers of Europe were so closely related that for one country to go to war would mean a great loss to those controlling the finances of other countries. He pointed out that the mammoth holdings of the Rothschilds—the most wealthy family in the world—in Germany, France and England absolutely put war between these countries out of the question, for to carry on such a war the governments would have to borrow the money from the Rothschilds, who would never consent to see their interests in any one of these countries destroyed.

That David Starr Jordan's dream for world peace was premature, all the world now knows. Theoretically, the idea was perfect; practically, it was not. In observing the strands of the great money web which bound the countries of Europe together so that the breaking of one might mean disaster to the whole, David Starr Jordan overlooked one element. This was the vulnerability of the money kings. Despite the wealth they controlled, the Rothschilds and other money powers did not control men. Would a great government refuse to go to war because the finance of his country was at a low ebb, when residing within its borders was one of the richest men on earth, a private citizen?

Naturally not. The wealth would be confiscated if necessary and the money king would have no redress against the royal troops. True, the government might pledge itself to pay back the money forcibly borrowed in the future, but this would depend upon the fortunes of war and if the emperor should be defeated and his kingdom rent asunder no restitution would be made. Were it within the power of a money king in one of these countries to prevent war, he would assuredly do so, for if his country borrowed from him and won he would be a long time in regaining his money, whereas if his country lost, his wealth would be gone irreparably. Were money the real king of Europe, the present war would not be raging. David Starr Jordan reckoned without the might of kings, ruling by rights hereditary or divine.

WORLD PEACE.

THE DREAM of David Starr Jordan for world peace will come true—much sooner because of the great European war. Though the war was the one thing this learned man believed could not occur and one thing which he must view with unutterable horror, yet the fact remains that it probably advances the peace propaganda of the world by a hundred years by its very inhumanity. There are those who say that this war will set back the world centuries. It may do so in the progress of fine arts and sciences, but will it in the growth of human brotherhood?

When this great war is over—and it is too gigantic in its proportions to last for long

—humanity will shrink from the thought of ever repeating its horrors. Great as are the bonds of patriotism, greater will rise the bonds of human brotherhood when it is seen that patriotism may mean a blind sacrifice of happiness, and even of life itself for satisfaction of the jealousies of thrones.

THE DEATH OF MOLOCH.

OF GREAT INTEREST in considering the question of the war's effect upon peace, is an editorial by General Harrison Gray Otis in his paper, the Los Angeles Times. In a recent issue, he says:

"Those of us who were in the flesh during the awful days of the terrible Civil War that raged in America from the early spring of 1861 to 1865, will recall probably an old war song of the day whose refrain ran thus: 'Many are the hearts that are weary tonight, waiting for the dawn of peace.'

"The struggle was awful and the battles strenuously fought, on both sides. To that time it was the most destructive of human life ever fought upon the earth, and continued so until the present conflict now raging along the French frontier where the Germans are finding every step of their advance contested fiercely by the French and the British soldiers.

"The new war is but a month old at this writing, and yet there are millions of hearts weary waiting for the dawn of peace in that war-torn continent, hearts bleeding with anguish for those who are exposed to the dangers of war.

"It is generally recognized that there was no valid foundation for the conflict now raging, that it is a disgrace to humanity and an awful menace to modern civilization. It is impossible to conceive that mankind will much longer tolerate the existence of such wars as are now cursing Europe.

"Women will not go on much longer enduring the pains of childbirth, the anxiety of rearing children, the expense of training them for life, lavishing love, toil and money on their sons, to have them made food for powder and balls. Already there are low, deep mutterings that forebode evil in the future for the man who raises a word in favor of war. The day of the fierce war god Moloch, who mounted the cone of a burning mountain in hell and shouted: 'My voice is still for war,' is about at an end among mankind, and it is quite time it was so."

THE COUNTY FAIR.

A FARMER owes himself an outing or vacation of at least one week a year. He owes it to his family, he owes it to his business to keep in touch with up-to-date ideas, to be progressive. The county fair points the way.

The real object of the fairs should be, first of all, educational. Then amusements should be furnished so as to give the farmer or others attending a change and a rest after the long months of hard work. "All work and no play" is no better for the farmer than for anyone else.

All classes can be equally benefitted by attending the fair, no matter whether poor or wealthy; whether farmer or mechanic; whether private citizen or public official. Thus the entire state must profit.

The fair helps the farmer boy and the farmer girl because no bright boy or girl can attend an agricultural fair without broadening their ideas, and inspiring in them higher ambitions for success in their work. They enjoy much honest amusement and absorb a vast amount of general information from the fair and all its departments.

The fair helps the farmer's hired man because it teaches him how the simple application of "brains" can reduce the amount of labor needed to accomplish the farmer's task. He may own a farm himself some day and the more he can comprehend and practice science in his work, or make brains save the labor of his hands, the greater will be his success.

In fact, no man, woman or child can attend a good county or interstate or state fair without going home with a better understanding of the work, better equipped in mind and body to meet every emergency.

BUSINESS TRAINING.

EDUCATORS differ in opinion regarding which of the numerous courses offered by the colleges of the land is the best. The fact of the matter is that most of the courses are good, but none of them are good for everybody. A course that might be just the thing for someone else would not do at all for you. You must make up your mind as to what kind of training will do you the most good.

A business course teaches you to do things. It teaches you the things that you must do to make a success in life. If you learn these things while you are in school, or even learn part of them, you will be just that much ahead when you get out into the world. You will know how to deal with people, what business terms mean and many of the important facts that will save you time and money when you get into business for yourself.

It is remarkable how few people know the common ordinary rules of business; how few of them know how to handle a bank account, for instance; how few of them know anything about notes, certificates of deposit, drafts, accounts and the numerous other things that are encountered every day in the world of business.

Whether or not you decide to follow the lines of a "higher education," you should not neglect to become well informed in the basic transactions of the business world.

Practicability of the parcel post as a medium of direct exchange between city dwellers and producers of the farms has been established by a test in ten cities. The Post-office Department announces. Postmasters' reports say the new system had been welcomed in nearly all the communities, that it appeared as a factor in reducing the cost of living, and that improvements under way assured its growth. Damage to parcels in shipment amounted to less than one-tenth of one per cent, it was said, and that was mainly due to inefficient packing.

One of the most lamentable facts in considering the fertile San Joaquin Valley in California is the lack of interurban roads. Sacramento Valley is rapidly developing because of these lines. Several are now in operation in the San Joaquin district and many are being proposed, and it is their completion which means much to the small land owner.

The German Reichstag and the British House of Commons have each appropriated \$1,250,000,000 to meet the expenses of the war. The French Chamber of Deputies has appropriated billions of francs. Even Belgium, that asked only to be let alone, has had to put up \$40,000,000. The people of Europe will be paying the price of this war for a hundred years to come.

The Swiss cheese made in Washington and Oregon seems to be all right, but so far our neutral cheesemakers have been unable to imitate the war cry of the Limburger product.

A lot of Americans are coming over to America as their ancestors did, with all their belongings in a pocket handkerchief.

The increase in the price of peroxide is bound to have an effect on the number of blondes at large in this country.

It is certainly tough when the war prevents people from buying necessities of life like Paris gowns.

Champagne is steadily rising in price. The suffering by reason of the war promises to be amazing.

The gold that goes to Europe to buy war supplies will pretty soon come back to buy grub.

Really, it looks as if we have been sending missionaries to the wrong places.