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TWO WAYS TO PREPARE FOR WAR.

There are more ways than one to prepare for war. We hear much now about soldiers and guns and cannon and munitions and battleships and but little about the moral side of the question. What is the great cause of all wars? The answer is simple. It is nothing more or less than evil. Revelations 20th Chapter and verses seven and eight teach that Satan "shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth to gather them together in battle." Now if evil causes war it must be true that right living is the greatest bulwark and preparation against war. Satan is here represented as turned loose upon the world and allowed to deceive the people and get them together in war. Those who have kept up with the war know that the German Kaiser has frequently told his people that the Lord was with them in this war but in the beginning of the war and during the progress of the war his methods have been contrary to all true standards of right. Satan is in the war and stays in it. There is no doubt but that this great war is allowed on the people of the world on account of evil. It is time for every person in the world to stop and think. It has been said that "the Lord takes care of children and idiots and the United States of America." It does seem we have been under special providence in the past, but how long this will continue we can not say. This nation has been drifting away from God. A large per cent of the people do not even consider Him. He is left out of their thoughts and lives. They care nothing for His Sabbath, or His churches or His Bible or for Him. Is it reasonable to expect Him to protect us forever when we do not even thank Him for what he gives us? Solomon said (Proverbs 16th chapter and 7th verse) "When a man's ways please the Lord He maketh his enemies to be at peace with him." If the individual can claim this promise a nation might claim it also, but we fear that America's doings are not such that her people can claim this promise. We have all over this land too many people who are doing wrong. There are too many people living Godless lives. Sin has been the downfall of every nation which has fallen and it may be the ruin of our beloved United States. We do not want to be pessimistic or join the kickers; on the contrary we think everybody should be loyal and try to do his part now, but this war is something to consider and it is well to ask ourselves the wherefore of this great trouble.

SERVING ONE'S COMMUNITY.

There is a great need for a larger community service everywhere. The exigencies of the present war situation are going to bring the people closer together and make them see the great value of co-operative work. The people are going to be brought to see each other's needs in a broader and more sympathetic manner. They are also going to be brought to see their larger responsibility in the life of the community. They are going to see some of the things that need to be righted and they are going to see that these things cannot be righted unless they take a part in it. They are going to see that the community in which they live is going to be no better than the individuals make it. If there are amusements of any kind in the community that ought not to exist the people are going to learn after awhile that these things are not going to be driven out unless

they take a part. They are going to learn after awhile that the newspaper and the preacher are not going to be able to regulate the community life all by themselves. Before these things are done the people must be brought to realize that they have just as big a part to play as any one else. If there are evils existing in our midst the folks must realize that they are going to continue to exist until a majority of the right thinking people in the community band themselves together to put out these things.

Some months ago, a prominent citizen of this town felt disposed to criticize the movies. There happened to be something about the movies that he did not like just at that time, so he called on the editor to "jump on the business with both feet." He was asked by the scribe if he allowed his children to attend the movies. On answering in the affirmative, the editor told him that it was not the editor's business to regulate everything that came along, but that it was the duty of the home to keep the children away from the movies if they were objectionable. If the home has no power to control the child how can it expect the preacher and the teacher and the editor to regulate the community?

The home is the base and it is there that all real reforms start. And the reform that starts elsewhere is doomed to failure in its beginning. The laxity in the homes of today is going to bear a harvest of dragon's teeth in the years to come. The nation itself will never be any stronger than the home. If our boys and girls are to love their country and native land, it must be taught them in the home. There, in the home, should be taught the great principles of life, of love for fellow-man, love for native land, love for country and love for God.

WHY HAVE YOU SUCCEEDED IN LIFE?

Have you succeeded as a farmer? Have you outstripped your neighbors in making crops? If so we ask you why and you tell us that you have worked harder and managed better than they. Have you succeeded as a merchant? Have you sold more goods and made more money than others in the same line of business? Then we ask you why you have had such marked success in business? You would no doubt say that you have studied buying and selling and thus have learned to do business. Have you as a physician or a lawyer or a man in some other line of work succeeded? If so no doubt it would be easy for you to tell us why you have succeeded. What you say about your success may be true, but back of it all is something which perhaps you have not considered. Let us hear what it is. James 1st chapter and 17th verse says: "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above and cometh down from the Father of lights." Deuteronomy 8th chapter and 17th verse says: "But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is He that giveth thee power to get wealth." Perhaps you have never thought of this or perhaps you don't believe it. Whether you consider it or not or whether you believe it or not no individual can go any further or do any better than his Maker plans for him. Your Maker is back of all that you do which is worth while and you should feel under obligations to Him. You should realize that you owe Him your body, your mind, your time, your wealth and all that you have or may get. This all belongs to Him whether you have heretofore allowed yourself to think so or not.

The High Priced Beans Were Not Shipped.

Last November an agent was at Clayton selling the Chickasaw Lima beans at one dollar a quart, cash in advance. About fifty or more people paid him for the beans to be shipped in April, 1917, so as to be there ready for planting May 1st. Dr. McCullers bought two quarts and insisted on their being sent last fall. He got his beans but tells us that none of the others were sent. Dr. McCullers planted the beans sent him and says they are doing well. They bear marks represented as coming from Ecuador, but we think it is a Florida bean.

Heavy Rainfall This Week.

Since Thursday morning, June 7, there has been a rainfall of 5.36 inches in Smithfield, according to the Government report furnished us by Mr. Ed. S. Sanders, Weather Observer. Prior to eight o'clock yesterday morning there had been a total of 3.80 inches. For the 24 hours ending this morning at eight o'clock 1.56 inches fell. It is getting to be pretty wet in this section and farm work is being retarded. It is entirely too wet to plow and no further plowing will be done in this immediate section before Monday.

Neuse river is up five feet this morning.

JOHN KENDRICK BANGS IN SMITHFIELD.

The junior editor once heard our distinguished brother editor, Henry Branson Varner, say that if there was anything he enjoyed above other things it was meeting big men. Brother Varner may not remember this, but it was in Washington City just after the Lexington editor had just had the pleasure of meeting the Speaker of the House, Uncle Joe Cannon, and had had a conference with Willie Randolph Heart who is no longer the powerful political influence that he was at that time.

Well, after all, Brother Varner is more or less right in his conclusions. We are all human and it ever gives us pleasure to meet and converse with those whom the world calls great, it matters not whether they be great statesmen, great farmers, great literary men, great preachers, or great musicians. There is a pleasure in it all that is not found in everything we do. But the thing we are driving at is the fact that John Kendrick Bangs, once the editor of Harper's Weekly in its palmiest days, and now regarded as one of the foremost literary lights of America, gave a call at The Herald office Wednesday afternoon. And we found him to be a real man, not a demi-god, as people are wont sometimes to look upon those who have climbed the rugged heights of success in the literary world. He looked like other men and talked like other men. He was a real human man, easy to become acquainted with. In fact he was, after all, an editor, and we sometimes think that they are about the most human of all human things. The first thing he said to us was, "We are fellow-sufferers." At once there was opened a channel of common interest and we found the noted author of "The House Boat on the Styx," a most genial and congenial man, a "salubrity" whose fellowship for even a short while was of such a nature that the arduous duties of the editor's life will seem less arduous for awhile at least.

John Kendrick Bangs, the lecturer and noted author, is one man, but Mr. Bangs, the editor and rambler, is another man. His life, as an editor has brought him in touch with many of the world's great. And it was these that he came to Smithfield to talk about. He first explained how he came to select his subject, "Salubrities I Have Met." The original was different, but one day a printer set up an announcement of the lecture, and not being able to read the copy very well, translated the word Celebrities into Salubrities. And when the little newspaper came out in the little town telling what the lecturer would talk about, and being the genius that he is, Mr. Bangs took the subject as the printer had given him and studied up a plausible meaning and ever since it has been "Salubrities I Have Met." After this explanation he entered into an interesting and intimate discussion of a few of the great men in the literary world. He told of his meeting with Richard Harding Davis, Dr. A. Conan Doyle, Henry M. Stanley, Mrs. Henry M. Stanley, Woodrow Wilson, Mark Twain and others. His lecture was primarily to entertain, but through it all ran that finer and indefinable spirit that characterizes the gentleman wherever you find him. There may be celebrities who are not salubrities, and there may be salubrities who are not celebrities, but the real salubrity has something of the spirit of the real celebrity, it matters not in whatever walk of life he may be found.

In the lecture given by Mr. Bangs was seen that fine spirit of fellowship that helps to lighten the burdens of life as we pass along. There were fine lessons in it for all who heard. Like the lectures of the week which preceded this, it breathed a message of service which must be helpful to all thinking folks.

Government Road Money Not Taken.

Mr. W. S. Fallis, State Road Engineer, was in Johnston last week. The United States Government had offered Smithfield township twenty-five hundred dollars, but this was not taken because the township did not have the cash on hand to put up an equal amount with that furnished by the Government. The four thousand offered to Boon Hill township was not taken because the engineer and the township commissioners could not agree on the route for the Central Highway. Mr. Fallis informs us that the United States Government is very anxious for a good road through here from the mountains to the sea coast, and especially as we have a war on hand. It would seem good if these parties could get together so that the township could get the money, but it seems the differences are too great. The commissioners say that to follow out the idea of the engineer would cost them more extra money than they would get from the government and they do not think the roads would be materially benefited.

ITEMS FROM FOUR OAKS.

Four Oaks, June 14.—Miss Bertha Langdon spent last week in Selma the guest of Mrs. J. W. Stanley.

Mrs. Clem Boren, of Greensboro, and Mrs. Dr. Ben Royal, of Morehead City, are visiting their parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Adams.

Mr. Robie Lee, who has a position with the Ford Motor Car Company, of Richmond, Va., spent Sunday here with friends.

Mr. Ekie Gattis, who has been with the L. G. Stevens Co., for the past year, has resigned his position and returned to Clayton. While here, Mr. Gattis made a number of friends who regret very much to see him leave.

Miss Bertie Smith, of Coldsboro, is the guest of Miss Oni Lewis.

Mrs. E. Creech, accompanied by Ruby Stanley, is spending a week with her daughter, Mrs. Louis Levison, in Coats, N. C.

Dr. Stanley took Mrs. Hackie Temple to Rex Hospital Wednesday for an operation. We hope Mrs. Temple will soon return greatly improved.

Miss Ethel Paschal, of Wilson, is spending some time here visiting her sister, Mrs. W. H. Tucker.

Miss Adelheid Von Miller is spending a month with her sister in Washington, D. C.

Rev. R. M. Von Miller has returned from Kenly, where he reports having held a series of very successful meetings.

We wish to announce that Rev. R. M. Von Miller will begin a series of meetings at the Baptist church here on Sunday, June 17th. He will be assisted by Rev. Mr. Black, of Tennessee. They hope to be able to use the basement of the new church.

Mr. Barham Creech has accepted a position with Creech Drug Company at Smithfield. We wish Mr. Creech much success.

Miss Mabel Coffinberger, who has been with J. W. Sanders & Co., as milliner for the past season, will leave for her home in West Virginia Monday.

Miss Stephenson, of Fuquay, is the guest of her sister, Mrs. Lester Massengill.

Miss Esther Creech very delightfully entertained her friends Monday evening, in honor of Misses Bertie Smith, of Goldsboro, and Ethel Paschal, of Wilson.

Mr. Gilbert Creech has accepted a position with the L. G. Stevens Co., as successor to Mr. Ekie Gattis.

Miss Bertha Morton, of Morehead City, the attractive guest of Mrs. B. I. Tart during the past week, returned home Friday afternoon.

Misses Alice Casey and Lucile Parker, senior nurses at Rex Hospital, Raleigh, have been spending several days with relatives and friends here.

Children's Day exercises were celebrated at the Four Oaks Methodist church last Sunday. The program was greatly enjoyed, reflecting much credit upon those in charge, and upon the children taking part.

The Henry Wyatt Chapter.

The Henry Wyatt Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy, of Selma, of which Mrs. B. B. Adams is a member, met at her home in Four Oaks, Tuesday afternoon. This being the anniversary month of the birth of Jefferson Davis, the program was in celebration of his life. Among the pleasant features of the occasion was a reading embracing Jefferson Davis' Life and Work, given by Miss Florence Adams. Mrs. W. C. Boren, Jr., of Greensboro delighted the Chapter in the rendition of the old and much loved: "When You and I were Young, Maggie." Mrs. Dr. Johnson, of Selma, also graciously sang one of the old songs. Mrs. Woodard, of Selma, gave some interesting side lights on her recent visit to the Confederate Reunion at Washington City.

After the program a course of ices and sweets was served in the Confederate colors, each guest firing her place and table by matching the name on her card to the picture of a Confederate general found on the table.

Besides the members of the Chapter, Mrs. Adams had as her guests, Mrs. G. K. Massengill, Mrs. B. I. Tart, Mrs. J. B. Creech, Mrs. J. W. Keen, Mrs. C. W. Bandy, Mrs. R. M. Von Miller, Mrs. T. E. Davis, and Misses Esther Creech, Leola Sanders and Mabel Coffinberger, of Four Oaks; Miss Bertha Morton, of Morehead City; Mrs. Ben Royal of Morehead City, and Mrs. W. C. Boren, Jr., of Greensboro.

Four Oaks, June 14, 1917.

Revival at Four Oaks.

The Baptist church of Four Oaks will begin a series of meetings, beginning Sunday, June 17th. Pastor Von Miller will be assisted by Rev. J. F. Black, formerly of Dallas, Tex., and now pastor at Kannapolis, N. C. Meetings will be held every day at 11 A. M., and 8:00 P. M. Everybody invited to attend.

How To Buy Hardware!

Don't comb the country trying to find a house that sells "cheap" Hardware. Your purchase itself will be "cheaper" than the price. Select a house that charges the value of the article and then GUARANTEES the article it sells. A reliable article can ALWAYS be guaranteed. A "cheap" one never can. And "cheap" Hardware is both cheap and worthless.

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