

ENGLAND FIGHTING FOR HER VERY LIFE

Has Staked Her Last Guinea, Says Dr. Hillis.

HER NAVY IN SUPREME TEST

By Rev. Dr. NEWELL DWIGHT HILLIS, Pastor of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.



REV. DR. NEWELL DWIGHT HILLIS.

"Why England Fights Desperately" was the subject of another of the series of sermons of Rev. Dr. Hillis, pastor of Plymouth church, Brooklyn. He chose as his text: "All that a man hath will he give for his life.—Job."

Be the reasons what they may, today England is fighting for her life, as once the Greeks fought at Thermopylae. The motherland has staked her last guinea, her last ship, her last son and the last drop of blood in her veins upon the issues of this war. If England is starved out by German submarines it will be because she has lost her navy, with all her mine sweepers, nets and destroyers. History tells us that Carthage fell with the defeat of her ships. From the hour that her admiral surrendered his navy and the home capital was unable to send fresh supplies and men to Hannibal, the great soldier knew that his army had already been lost. When England loses her navy she will lose the wall that for 300 years has safeguarded her treasures against invading armies.

The Issue is Now Clear.

Now that nearly three years of the great war have passed the outlines of the battle royal between England and Germany begin to take on form, like lines of ink hitherto invisible and brought out by the heat of war. In former years many Americans have watched German officers and merchants rising to their feet, lifting their glasses and drinking to "The Day." The books of Bernhardt and the speeches of the Kaiser tell us that "The Day" meant the utter destruction of the English empire and the disruption of the French republic. Not until one-half of the pan-German plan had been actually achieved did England wake up or the scales fall from the eyes of France. All Europe was to be Germanized and ruled from Berlin as a central city. The method proposed was the twenty year preparation of armies, navies, battleships, cannons and guns.

England Fights For Her Homes.

Three hundred years ago Shakespeare celebrated England's safety through isolation. The North sea took the place of wall and moat. Shakespeare sang of England's noble breed of men, of the royal isle, of the "precious, precious stone, set in a silver sea, this earth, this world, this land of such dear souls—this dear, dear land." But at last the hour has struck when Englishmen are fighting for hearth and home, for wife and child, for all that makes life dear. For the first time in modern history men know what the battle of Armageddon really means. Men who think in terms of the human race and of the world often speak of "the four spheres of influence." By this they mean the North sea, controlling the English harbors; the Mediterranean route, via the Suez canal, controlling the trade with India and Asia; the Dardanelles, safeguarding the trade at the point where two continents meet, and the Panama canal, that is today the least important sphere, but when the center of trade is transferred to the Pacific will be its most important, the key to the richest treasure of the earth. At present, by reason of the fact that the most powerful and richest group of states front upon its shores, the North sea is the coveted sphere of influence. With the control of that sea began England's greatness, commerce and wealth, and the loss of that sea will be followed by her decline in power. It could not be otherwise. France reaches the Atlantic via Bordeaux and the Mediterranean and reaches Germany and Italy by her railway. Germany sends her railways out into all the capitals of Europe, or did before the war. England cannot build a railway across the North sea. Her sole means of communication is through her ships.

England Must Retain the Freedom of the Seas.

Napoleon looked longingly toward England; for six weeks he waited impatiently at Boulogne and said that if he could only have seven hours of darkness and a fair wind he could invade England and change the face of the world. The hero of the Temeraire, Nelson, understood, for he used to say that winter and the northwest wind would protect England for five months in the season of frost and cold, leaving his fleet free to destroy England's enemies. In 1914, in August, Von Kluck laughed at Napoleon, baffled as he looked longingly across the English channel, and also at Nelson, serene through his sense of security. Von Kluck expected to set up his 42 centimeter guns at Calais and drop his shells within the English fields and villages for five miles beyond Dover and under cover of these shells to pro-

tect his transports, landing his hosts on England's shores.

England Fights For Her Colonies.

Fighting for the safety of her home treasures, England is also fighting for her colonies and her foreign trade, through which she has her life. Great Britain owns one-sixth of all the good farming land of the world. These colonies belt the globe. Webster said that England's signal guns greet the rising sun and, advancing, keep step with the procession of the hours, marching around the globe. The outer and visible exhibition of this fact is seen in England's "all red line." Leaving London behind, the traveler upon the deck of an English ship finds the Union Jack flying at Gibraltar, even as it flies at Malta and the cliffs of Cyprus, of Italy and Greece. The first object that greets his eyes as he approaches Egypt is the English flag, and, leaving the Red sea behind, that flag is the last thing seen as he sails across the Indian ocean toward Bombay, the second largest city in the English empire. Going north, in the shadow of the Himalayas, he finds that flag the symbol of safety, peace and justice. Linger in the rustling palms of Ceylon or crossing the sea to Burma, with her ruby mines, everywhere the traveler finds that flag. Turning southward, he remembers the great English colonies on the eastern half of Africa and thinks of the men who are grading the track and laying the railway ties from Alexandria and Khartoum straight through the heart of Africa to the southern cape. Out in the middle of the ocean lies England's colony of Australia, bulking as large as the United States, rimmed with land that has forty inches of rainfall per year. The first circle is one of wheat fields, a second circle of grazing pasture, while the interior is filled with gold, sapphires, opals and mineral treasures. Soon his steamer touches at New Zealand, stops at the Gilbert islands, the Fiji islands and steams from port to port toward Vancouver, in Canada. Canada is at once England's wheat bin, lumber yard, coal mine, iron reserve and fur depot, and not until the traveler has left Newfoundland behind, with the memory of England's great pulp mills, with her ships laden with white paper, food for the London presses, does he comprehend England's wealth through her colonies, that belt the globe.

Why England is Cosmopolitan.

But just in proportion as a country sends the lines of its trade and finance out into the ends of the earth is that country truly cosmopolitan. Just because our own trade is between our own states we are in a sense provincial. England incidentally exchanges goods between Glasgow and Liverpool, but essentially she trades with foreign states. Some years ago, in a London bank, I witnessed a transaction between the representative of an Asiatic company and a manufacturer in England. It so happened that the cable outran the sun. At noon the Englishman made his payment in the bank, and the money by cablegram was paid the company of the Asiatic out in Shanghai two hours before the contract was made. Wonderful the central telephone office in our city, with wires running out to the towns of the north and the south, and to San Francisco on the west, but far more wonderful London, as the world's financial center, with its lines, financial and commercial, throbbing and pulsating with the thoughts of the men who sit at that English center, from which all business radiates. By this trade and finance England lives, and for the sources of her life England is fighting. When, therefore, submarines cut off England's ships the motherland will starve to death.

England Called by Her Enemies a "Land Pirate."

In the latest indictment of Great Britain by one of the bitterest German opponents England is called the "land pirate" of history. This assault is savage, for no weapon is overlooked and no epithet is spared. Defending Germany's attempt to seize Belgium, north France and Poland, the author calls the roll of the new colonies, seized recently by England. English troops, he says, have lately taken possession of a little province in the center of Africa, extended their rule in Tibet, pushed into the hill country of Burma, not to mention her movements in Afghanistan. But a certain consideration should be remembered. It is one thing for the United States, alarmed by the wars between the Sioux Indians of Dakota and the Indians of Montana, with endless massacres and scalplings, to force these Sioux Indians back upon a reservation and compel them to lead decent lives, and it would be quite another thing for the United States to make war upon Canada, a law abiding people, simply to satisfy the lust for territory. Again and again the United States has by force of arms taken possession of the lands of savage Indian tribes, but with what result? Witness the Choctaw Indians. By arms they have been held upon their reservation. When smallpox broke out our government sent physicians and stayed the ravages of the plague. When they developed tuberculosis hospitals were built, physicians and nurses maintained. When a part of their lands were sold the government invested their money, and they are today the richest people in the world, averaging \$30,000 per individual. Can any foreign critic honestly say that our progressive settlement of lands once held by savage Indians is a parallel to Germany's seizure of Belgium and northern France?

England's Colonies Bless Her, and With Good Reason.

But England's lines have been pushed toward the center of Africa to stop savagery through poisoned arrows, human sacrifices, organized slavery conducted by the Arab traders. England built over 1,100 miles of railway into Uganda and in opening up

the trade safeguarded the lives of the people and gave them their first door of hope. And look at the attitude of England's colonies! Not long ago a great public meeting was held in a city of India, and that meeting later was repeated in Calcutta, Bombay, Lahore and Benares. Indian gentlemen for the most part made the speeches, and this was the line of their argument: "Suppose England withdraws all her troops, officers and legal representatives to strengthen her war forces in Europe. India is broken up into fragments through scores of languages and many and diverse religions. The Mohammedan and Parsee and Brahmins are always clashing in the streets. When England goes, what if Japan, needing territory, comes with her armies? If England goes, what if a little later Germany comes with her forces to carve out a colony? If England should desert us, what if the Arabs join the Mohammedan forces of India for civil war?" In that hour native audiences voted their taxes and enlisted their soldiers to win and keep England's friendship and protection. But can you imagine a Belgian audience in an outburst of enthusiasm raising money to keep the executioners of Edith Cavell in power? Think of the university faculty of Louvain voting gifts to the men who burned their library, looted and then fired their university buildings.

England's Fight Against Prussian Militarism.

It remains to emphasize the fact that England is not fighting to kill all Germans. More than sixty volumes have been published by Englishmen setting forth their aims and the spirit of their defense, and in no volume and upon no page can we find evidence showing that any Englishman of any position has ever proposed the destruction of Germany. Beginning with the defense of the home land and of her trade and her colonies and the support of her solemn covenant to stand with Belgium in the event of invasion, England is now fighting to destroy Prussian militarism. Great Britain feels that her people cannot longer carry the tax burden involved in militarism on land or the dreadnaught program for the sea. The plowman in the furrow staggers with the soldier upon his back. The strength of the workman is consumed by the loom without the load of war taxes. If Germany is allowed to maintain a standing army every nation in Europe must undertake like military burdens. England's movement, therefore, is against Berlin's war cabinet and Prussian militarism. England, therefore, proposes disarmament, and Germany has steadily refused. And now England and France and their colonies have determined to fight this war through and settle the question once for all.

Nonmilitary Coercion.

The method proposed for use after the war is over is nonmilitary coercion. The genius of the plan is a modification of Mr. Taft's League of Peace, enforced by a little international navy policing the seas and an international army policing the land. Because we have police in New York no one is to think that New York is not controlled by the decrees of its courts. England proposes a league of all the nations with an international supreme court to adjudicate disputes between Germany and England or Germany and France. Should Germany or Russia or any other country become recalcitrant then first all the other nations in the league are to close their ports to her ships, to close their mails, cables and telegraphs to her business and close all exchanges to her finance and make her an outcast from trade. If all the banks and clearing houses and wholesale stores of this city declined any commercial relation with any great factory or store how long could that establishment stay out of the court of bankruptcy? An international police there will doubtless be for the new international league of the nations, international police on the sea and international police on the land, but ultimately there must be a coalescence of England's plan of nonmilitary coercion with Mr. Taft's League for the Enforcement of Peace. This will realize for the world when the war is over the parliament of mankind, the federation of the world and the beginning of a better day and perhaps a golden age.

Nations Fight in Groups.

Meanwhile the United States long drifted. Like Micawber, we were waiting for something to turn up—or go down. Some of our congressmen were like the man who said he "wished his wife would die, or something," and they also wished that American troops would reach Liverpool, or something. The day has gone by for national hesitation. Nations either war in groups or trade in groups. Forty years ago Germany could make war alone. Now she cannot fight without Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey. Even the wolves hunt in a pack, while the cattle go in herds. The nations also buy and sell in group relations and organize wars in groups. At a time when every moment is big with destiny for our future commerce and world trade; at a moment when our factories are producing 20 per cent more than our own people consume, we overlook the group principle in modern commerce and international movements. No one doubts the final victory for peace. Militarism must be annihilated. Autocracy must be slain. "We must be free or die who speak the tongue that Shakespeare spoke; the faith and morals hold that Milton held." And soon or late the allies will win, for air and earth and skies work for them. It is our duty, our sublime privilege, to be in the fight at last, and the need of the hour, as we come to the aid of old England and her allies, is instant response to "the call" and whole souled devotion to the cause of democracy and liberty for mankind upon which we have now entered.

Practical and Artistic Value of Paint.

Paint lends a charm and adds to the attractiveness of the home fully as much as do plants, trees, shrubs and even the beautiful flowers. The artificial renders first aid to the natural in making the farm home beautiful. These two elements go hand in hand, one is scarcely independent of the other. Unpainted farm buildings reflect discredit on the natural surroundings; and again, elaborately painted buildings cannot possibly show to good effect without being surrounded, fringed, as it were, with the beautiful such as only nature can produce.

Artistically speaking, paint is a necessity. It brightens up the aspect, lends cheer to the home, and also adds influentially in the molding of the character of the occupants of the home; to a greater extent, in fact, than given credit for. A subconscious influence is exerted that often is the hidden "apron string" that binds the young folks to the spot, keeps dissatisfaction from finding lodgment in their minds and discontentment in their hearts. Let not the brush be withheld that applies this lotion of magnetism to the farm home.

Practically, paint adds to the value of the home and the farm. Economically there is no more important factor than that of paint. An investment in good paint properly applied, will pay the farmer a higher per cent on the money expended than almost any other investment. An investment in tile and efficient drainage is about equally as important. High and dry adds to the efficiency of paint and so drainage is closely allied with painting.

Painting increases the profits by prolonging the life of the material. A saving in material is so much added to profits, and yet there are many who, although not denying the worth of paint, as an increase to the value of farm buildings, slight the idea of any real wastefulness resulting from a lack of its use.

It was estimated some time ago that there are 5,000,000 property owners in this country whose loss through carelessness in caring for their buildings is about \$35,000,000 a year. It was found that fully 80 per cent was "country waste," that is, the waste of farmers, and aggregated \$28,000,000.

The average farmer does not fully realize what a tremendous saving in annual renewals can be accomplished by keeping not only his buildings, but also machinery, fences, tools, etc., in perfect condition with a protective coat of paint at regular intervals. The increasing cost of lumber, machinery, implements, etc., should really be all that is necessary to impel the farmer to invest in paint and to apply it regularly and wisely.

So great is the action of the elements—the destroying forces of wind and water—that the life of implements or unpainted buildings is 25 to 50 per cent less than those which have been kept painted in accordance with the necessary standard.

All buildings should be painted at the time of erection or as soon as they are in a fit condition to receive the paint, thus reducing to a minimum the quantity of paint required. New buildings standing a few years to the weather will require a third more paint to cover.


It is cheapest always to use the best paint. The more expensive paint lasts longer and looks better. Select paint of the most pleasing color. Nothing gaudy or of unprepossessing appearance. Let the trimmings correspond pleasantly with the main body. An out of the ordinary effect is never a pleasing effect.

Paint cannot be most successfully applied in damp, cloudy weather. Surface should be thoroughly dry. When the wood is dry it absorbs more of the paint; the paint penetrates deeper into the wood therefore gets a firmer hold on it and is more effective.

Do not paint over a dirty rough surface if you desire a smooth coat. Stop up the nail holes and other small crevices with putty. Use a brush three or four inches wide for large surface painting. Begin at the top and paint downward with even strokes. Keep the paint a uniform color and consistency by stirring occasionally. Give first coat sufficient time in which to dry before applying the second coat.

The number of year a good coat of paint will last depends largely on the quality of the paint used and the quality of work. Three coats of good white lead it is said will last seven to fifteen years if properly applied.

The paint on the side of a building which is not exposed to the direct rays of the sun will resist the elements twice the length of time it will last on the sunny side. It is the direct rays of the hot sun that usually causes havoc with paint. But the keynote is paint, and the refrain is paint.—Indiana Farmer.



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