

THE WEEKLY DIRECTORY

Burlington (N. C.) Business Houses.
 Buy Dry Goods from B. A. Sellars & Sons
 See Burlington Hardware Co. for Plumbing.
 B. A. Sellars & Sons for Clothing and Gents' Furnishings.
 See Dr. Morrow when in need of Dental Work.
 Barber Shop, Brannock & Matkins.
 Dr. J. H. Brooks, Dental Surgeon.
 See Freeman Drug Co. for Drugs.
 See Holt-Cates Company for shoes.
 See Morrow, Basin and Green for millinery goods.
 B. Goodman, the Home of good clothing.
 Elon College, N. C.
 For an Education go to Elon College.
 Gibsonville, N. C.
 Dr. G. E. Jordan, M. D.
 High Point, N. C.
 People's House Furnishing Co.
 Greensboro, N. C.
 Hotel Huffine.
 Charles A. Hines, Attorney.
 The American Cafe.
 Vanstony Clothing Company.

Mr. J. G. Truitt spoke very strong and forceful, but was not quite at his best on this occasion, had he been, perhaps there would have been a different decision.

All the orations showed excellent work and were well delivered. The winner of the medal should only feel the more proud of his victory by realizing that he won over five other excellent speakers who were close competitors. The judges were Professors W. P. Lawrence, N. F. Brannock, and Dr. J. O. Atkinson. After they had rendered their decision we were much pleased and entertained by the favorable and encouraging talks from each.
 W. L. Anderson.

THE DYING DRAGON.

(Delivered by Mr. E. L. Daughtry at the Preliminary Peace Contest recently held in the College Chapel).

There was a time when the advocate of international peace was considered a dreamer of idle dreams, and a servant of evasive fancy. The fact that the people of the past never thought world-wide peace possible is why the dragon of war has held man so long in his cruel clutches; for as men think, so they act.

But we of today—and I say it with joy and pride—live in an age when this dream of those idealists of the past is about to come true. Man now lives on a higher plane of thought and civilization than ever before. The spirit of the Nazarene has made the hearts of men purer and kinder, and they realize as never before that the welfare of each individual contributes to the common good of all. No longer do men see no possible escape from the evils and the horrors of war. No longer do men see the greatest honor and the highest glory at the end of a pathway marked by bloodshed and the whitening bones of slaughtered men. A new day is dawning in the eastern sky of future history, and its bright beams of hope are beginning to shed abroad the light of peace and good will upon the children of men.

Perhaps you say that I am indulging in a day dream myself, but let us see. Glance backward, if you will, and learn the lesson which history has to teach

concerning the growth of the peace spirit among men.

Among all primitive people force was lord and master. Every man went armed for personal protection, considering as enemies all persons to whom he was not bound by ties of kinship or of interest. A man of that age reckoned his courage by the number of men that he had slain. The gurgle of blood, as it rushed from the body of the dying foe, sounded sweeter to him than does the silvery ripple of a crystal stream to some wearied and thirsty traveler of today. As time passed and larger groups of men were joined into the tribe and then into the nation, the fighting spirit still prevailed. Man's only glory was on the gory field, his only satisfaction in taking away the possessions of others. Upon the spoils of the weak the strong became stronger. The conquered people toiled in slavery, dined with hunger, and kept house with misery until a merciful death relieved them. In early modern times did these terrible conditions still exist, although shorn of some of their most inhuman cruelties. Nations knew no international law. The sword settled all disputes, basing such settlement upon the logical conclusion that the dead dispute not. Indeed, superior strength was often thought a just cause for the beginning of war, and even as late as the eighteenth century one nation had few scruples when it came to preying upon the commerce of another.

Today these relics of barbarism are known only in the memories of the past. We now have a system of international law which recognizes the rights of all nations, guaranteeing to every ship that ploughs the blue and briny deep the assurance of safety from robbery. At the present time we have more advocates of international peace than ever before. We have many agencies at work in behalf of peace, and we have settled many points in dispute between nations without a resort to arms. Is there one among you who will face these facts and declare that the peace spirit has not been growing in the hearts of men?

If we but consider the nature of war, we can easily see why the peace idea is so prevalent at this time. War interferes with the commerce of the world, breaks into the life of cultured, civilized man and robs him of his comforts and happiness. Do you marvel that the desire for peace has grown stronger with the passing years? When men beheld their fields desolate, their towns in ruins, and only ash-heaps where once were happy homes, they could not dispel the hope that these things might not be again. When the wail of widows and the cry of orphans ascended to the heavens, the noble heart must need be sad. Men of all ages have considered war an evil; but the greater part of this evil they intended to bring upon the heads of others, themselves hoping to gain vast treasures by taking the possessions of their vanquished foe. Today men are seeking a means of avoiding war and its evils—and they will not seek in vain.

At this point we might with profit turn our attention to the practical consequences of war. Here, as in all things, we must count the cost. This cost may be spoken as five-fold, viz: in men, in money, in the destruction of property, in pensions and interest on war debts and in

the loss to trade caused by economic disturbances.

Take, for example, our late Civil War. A brief summary of the cost of that fraternal conflict will suffice to show you something of war's destructive nature. These are the facts: A death toll of 1,000,000 men; a direct money cost of \$8,000,000,000; a destruction of property so great that a correct estimate of its value can never be made; a pension bill of more than \$2,500,000,000 for the four and one-half decades since the war; and for the same period an interest account of more than \$2,000,000,000 on public debt, caused mainly by war. Add to this the economic losses, the sufferings and the heartaches of our people, and you will then have a sum total of what that struggle cost us.

During the last eight years our army and navy appropriations have increased enormously. Of our national revenue for the fiscal year 1910 we spent seventy per cent. in preparing for war and on account of past wars, leaving only thirty per cent. for other governmental expenditures. This fact, to me, is appalling. Other nations are spending even more than we. I do not favor the complete and immediate disarmament of the nations, but I declare that it is now high time for the thinking people of the world to come to the support of those peace advocates who are demanding a reduction in such needless war expenditures, for such a policy, if continued, will bankrupt the nations. As an excuse for this foolish policy, we are told that we must prepare for war in time of peace. Yet, my friends, there never as a statement more false. "As you sow, so shall you reap," is an unchangeable law of nature. As well might our farmers expect to garner in a harvest of wheat from a sowing of tobacco seed, as for the nations to expect international peace to come through preparing for war. But happily, the people are beginning to see their folly. They will not continue to be led by deluding militarism, but with a last grand effort they will break the weakening clutches of the dragon that has held them servile so long.

Already the means of escape from war are at hand. International law and arbitration have gained rapidly during the last quarter century. Questions of honor, for instance, the Alabama claims and the Venezuela controversy, have been settled without resort to arms. Our recent treaty with England practically make war between the United States and that country impossible. Yet we must not expect a perfect system of international law to spring into immediate being, it must have time to grow; and just as civil law developed from customs in the past, so will a code of international law grow up.

To administer this international law, we must have a permanent court composed of professional judges, these judges to be chosen from among a number of men nominated by the nations. Towards this end the Hague Conferences have been working. The First Hague Conference created a permanent panel of judges, and from these disputing nations can choose judges to form a temporary court to settle the controversy between them. The Second Hague Conference established an international Prize Court, to which 34 nations have pledged themselves. It also took steps towards establishing a perma-

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nent court of arbitral justice. Therefore, the history of the peace movement reveals the fact that, just as national courts developed from private arbitration, the international court is developing from public arbitration. The national court triumphed in its struggle with private self-reliance, and unless history proves false, the international court will come out victorious from the contest which is now on.

Yet difficulties are still blocking the advance of international peace. There is a battle to fight and a victory to win. Our people must be trained and educated to think not of war as the only means of settling national disputes. In the cultivation of right thought and sentiment in regard to the peace movement there is a work to be done—a work for the church, a work for the home, and a work for you and me. Commerce and the many complex associations of the modern world have brought men together, made them more patient and forbearing and caused them to recognize the universal kinship as never before. Let us place confidence in the justice of nations and go forth with,—

"A song of faith that trusts the end

To match the good begun.

Nor doubt the power of Love to blend
 The hearts of men as one."

We, of the United States, have led the world in an organized effort for peace. To such an extent is this true that Europeans have spoken of arbitration as the "American Way." Let us not now lag behind in the peace movement. Let us redouble our efforts in behalf of universal peace until our own honored flag shall be, to every beholding eye, an emblem of "Peace on earth, good will towards men." There will be those to discredit and to criticize; but may we ever have a willing heart and a ready hand with which we may deal death blows to the common enemy of man. Let faith and courage
 "Still keep the path which duty bids us tread,

Though worldly wisdom shake the cautious head;

No truth from heaven descends upon our sphere,

Without the greeting of the sceptic's sneer;

Denied and mocked at, till its blessings fall,

Common as sunshine and dew over all."