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SUNDAY'S PRAYER BEFORE THE HOUSE.

Calls God's Wrath on "Wolfish Huns" and Brings Cheers From Members.

Rev. Billy Sunday, now in the City of Washington, made the opening prayer in the House of Representatives instead of the regular chaplain, and for the first time in history the members cheered and applauded the invocation.

Billy's prayer was as follows: "Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we thank Thee and rejoice that through faith in Thee and Thy Word this government was built upon that foundation:

"We thank Thee that the compact signed in the cabin of the Mayflower by our ancestors was for democracy, liberty, freedom and the right to worship Thee according to the dictates of our own conscience.

"We thank Thee that as a nation we have the courage to proclaim to the world our continued belief in Thee, stamping on our coins the inscription "In God We Trust."

"We thank Thee that we are Americans and live beneath the protecting folds of the Stars and Stripes. We thank Thee that Thou canst look over the battlements of glory on our land and see that there is not one stain on any star or stripe in Old Glory.

"Thou knowest, O Lord, that we are in a life and death struggle with one of the most infamous, vile, crazy avaricious, bloodthirsty, sensual and vicious nations that has ever disgraced the pages of history.

Thou knowest that Germany has drawn from the eyes of mankind enough tears to make an other sea; that she has drawn enough blood to redder every wave of that sea; that she has drawn enough groans and shrieks from the hearts of men, women and children to make another mountain.

"We pray Thee that Thou wilt make bare Thy mighty arm and beat back that great pack of wolfish Huns whose fangs drip with blood and gore. We pray Thee that the stars in their courses may fight against them.

"We pray Thee that Thou wilt bless our beloved President, and give him strength of mind and body and courage of heart for his arduous tasks in these sorrow-laden, staggering times. We pray Thee to bless the Secretary of State, the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy—and bless, we pray Thee, the naval strategy board.

"Bless, we pray Thee, Lord, the general at the head of our party. Bless the boys across the sea, somewhere in France, and bless those protecting our transports, loaded to the water's edge with men and munitions.

"Bless our boys at home who are in the cantonments.

"Bless, we pray Thee, the Senate and the House of Representatives, and give them wisdom and strength, for they seem to have come into the kingdom for such a time as this. And, Lord, may every man, woman and child from Maine to California, and Minnesota to Louisiana, stand up to the last ditch and be glad and willing to suffer and endure until the final victory shall come.

"Bless our allies and may victory be ours.

"And in Your own time, and in Your own way, we pray Thee, that Thou wilt release the white-winged dove of peace until it shall dispel the storm clouds that hang lowering over this sin-cursed, blood-soaked and sorrowing world, and when it is all over, we will uncover our heads and lift our faces to the heavens and sing

As to the Sale of Flour.

By a ruling just issued by the State Food Administrator Henry A. Page, North Carolina farmers who have produced and are using their own corn meal, hominy, grits or other cereal substitutes will be allowed to purchase flour in quantities up to 24 lbs. without purchasing an equal quantity of cereal substitutes. This ruling has been made by Mr. Page in justice to North Carolina farmers because the Food Administration at Washington has granted permission to the Food Administration of all Southern States to make such a ruling and similar rulings are being made in neighboring states.

The recent order of the Food Administration forbidding the sale of flour except in combination with cereal substitutes did impose some inconvenience upon farmers who have their own corn meal or cereal substitutes, but no considerable number of North Carolina farmers who understood the urgency of the purpose of the order have made objection. The ruling follows:

"Retail merchants are hereby authorized to sell flour alone and in quantities not exceeding 24 pounds to farmer customers who sign a formal certificate stating that they have produced and are using corn meal, grits, hominy, or other cereal substitutes contained in the list included in the recent order of the Food Administration to the same extent as they use flour.

"Wholesalers, jobbers, millers and brokers are hereby authorized to sell to retailers flour alone in such quantities as said retailers have sold to farmers under the ruling above stated, balancing against such sale of flour the certificates received by the retailers from the farmer. These certificates in turn may be used by the wholesaler or other dealer to balance against purchases of flour from mills."

Be Cheerful.

Don't tell your troubles to a friend; it isn't fair or proper, if you must let your wails ascend, go, spring them on a copper. The cops are paid a princely wage to listen to your railing, to harken while the lightning rages, and fill the air with wailing. But we are not in uniform, we pack no shields or billies; and when you come and beef and storm, you give us all the willies. We have our little troubles, too, as evil fortunes plan them; when they're inclined to make us blue, we do our best to can them. We boost a confidence that's fine, until the welkin rattles; we know that shedding pints of brine won't help us in our battles. And it is easy work to beam, when all the boys are cheery; but one old grouch can raise a scream that makes the prospect dreary. How often, when we start downtown, we're feeling glad and gaudy; on nature's brow there is no frown, and nothin's base or shoddy. Then some one joins us in our walk, on joy a cheap infringer, and puts up such a doleful talk, we lose our pep and ginger. He's spoiled a cheerful day for us, a day we'd spend serenely, but for that grim and grizzly cuss, who thinks and talks so meanly. If your old jug is full of bile, go, plug it with a stopper; bring us a ray and gorgeous smile, take trouble to a copper.—Walt Mason.

with a new meaning, of "My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing."

"And the praise shall be to Thee forever. Through Jesus Christ. Amen."

AMERICAN RED CROSS TO ENROLL 24,000,000 SCHOOL CHILDREN IN JUNIOR AUXILIARIES

To the School Children of the United States:

A Proclamation

The President of the United States is also President of the American Red Cross. It is from these offices joined in one that I write you a word of greeting at this time when so many of you are beginning the school year.

The American Red Cross has just prepared a Junior Membership with School Activities in which every pupil in the United States can find a chance to serve our country. The school is the natural center of your life. Through it you can best work in the great cause of freedom to which we have all pledged ourselves.

Our Junior Red Cross will bring to you opportunities of service to your community and to other communities all over the world and guide your service with high and religious ideals. It will teach you how to save in order that suffering children elsewhere may have the chance to live. It will teach you how to prepare some of the supplies which wounded soldiers and homeless families lack. It will send to you through the Red Cross Bulletins the thrilling stories of relief and rescue. And best of all, more perfectly than through any of your other school lessons, you will learn by doing those kind things under your teacher's direction to be the future good citizens of this great country which we all love.

And I commend to all school teachers in the country the simple plan which the American Red Cross has worked out to provide for your co-operation, knowing as I do that school children will give their best service under the direct guidance and instruction of their teachers. Is not this perhaps the chance for which you have been looking to give your time and efforts in some measure to meet our national needs?

(Signed) WOODROW WILSON, President
September 15, 1917.

Under the slogan "Every School a Red Cross Auxiliary and Center for National Service," the Junior Red Cross has perfected plans for the enrollment of every school child in the United States as a member of a Red Cross Auxiliary, the date of the campaign being from Lincoln's birthday, February 12, to Washington's birthday, February 22.

The Junior Red Cross is a branch of the American Red Cross through which every school in America is given the opportunity to carry on authorized Red Cross work by forming a School Auxiliary, upon the payment of twenty-five cents membership fee for each pupil enrolled in the school or by a pledge of satisfactory service in Red Cross work. It is the only agency which is approved by school authorities to enlist the children in patriotic work during the war. All other organizations must work through the medium of the Junior Red Cross, whose services have already been requested by the United States Food Administration and by the War Savings Stamp Committee, of which Frank A. Vanderlip is chairman.

The schools, however, are not the only units in which School Auxiliaries may be formed. The other educational units which have been recognized as suitable centers in which to organize Junior Red Cross work are Agricultural Clubs, Boy Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, Night Schools, Sunday School classes and such authorized educational centers as may be properly organized under the supervision of the local representatives of the Red Cross Chapter.

The United States Department of Agriculture has already offered to use the Agricultural Clubs for Junior Red Cross work. Every child who is enrolled in a School Auxiliary is entitled to wear a Red Cross pin, although not considered a regular member of the Red Cross.

Conference at Washington.

A conference of prominent educators and persons interested in the work of the Junior Red Cross met in Washington, D. C., January 7th and 8th, at the call of Dr. Henry N. MacCracken, National Director of the Bureau of Junior Membership. The presiding officer was Dr. John H. Finley, Commissioner of Education for the State of New York, and prominent among those in attendance were Dr. Philander P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, the Red Cross Committee appointed by the National Education Association, consisting of Dr. Finley as Chairman, Mrs. Mary C. Bradford, President of the N. E. A. and State Superintendent for Colorado, Professor Marion L. Brittain, State Superintendent of Georgia, Dr. Francis G. Blair, State Superintendent of Illinois, and Dr. Margaret McNaught, Assistant Commissioner of Elementary Education of California, and the War Savings Education Committee appointed from the N. E. A., consisting of Dr. Finley as Chairman, Mrs. Bradford, Professor F. B. Pearson, State Superintendent of Ohio, and

Professor John D. Shoop, Superintendent of Schools of Chicago.

The keynote of the Conference was an effort to define the function of the Junior Red Cross, which was stated by Dr. MacCracken to be First, Educational, Second, Productive and Third, Financial, in the order of importance named.

The following are the members of the Honorary Advisory Committee: Bernard M. Baruch, Council of National Defense; Mary C. Bradford, President National Education Association; Carrie Chapman Catt, President of the National Suffrage Association and Woman's Committee Council of National Defense; P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education; His Eminence James Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Maryland; Walter P. Gilford, Director of the Council of National Defense; Samuel Gompers, President American Federation of Labor; Henry John Heinz, Chairman, Executive Committee World's Sunday School Association; Herbert C. Hoover, United States Food Administrator; Julia Lathrop, Chief Children's Bureau, United States Department of Labor; Eva Perry Moore, President National Council of Women; Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress; Frank E. Vanderlip, Chairman of War Savings Committee, United States Treasury; Frederick Walcott, Food Administration; Mrs. Josiah Evans Cowles, National President of the Federation of Women's Clubs.

Dr. Philander P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, stated that he had carefully investigated the program of the Junior Red Cross and had decided that it was the organization most practically fitted to enlist the interest and activity of the school children of America into a systematized program of practical patriotism.

State Advisory Committees.

State Advisory Committees to the Junior Red Cross composed of men and women prominent in educational work have already been appointed in the five states of the Southern Division as follows:

Tennessee: S. W. Sherrill, State Superintendent of Education, chairman; A. A. Kincannon, School Superintendent of Memphis; W. E. Miller, School Superintendent of Knoxville; C. H. Winder, School Superintendent of Chattanooga.

Georgia: M. L. Brittain, State Superintendent of Education, chairman; C. H. Bruce, School Superintendent of Macon; C. B. Gibson, School Superintendent of Savannah; Chancellor David C. Barrow of the University of Georgia; Mrs. John W. Rowlett, State President of the Parent-Teacher Association.

Florida: W. N. Sheets, State Superintendent of Education, chairman; J. E. Knight, School Superintendent of Tampa; F. A. Hathaway, School Superintendent of Jacksonville; Dr. A. A. Murphree, President of the University of Florida.

North Carolina: J. Y. Joyner, State Superintendent of Education, chairman; C. P. Harding, School Superintendent of Charlotte; John J. Blair, School Superintendent of Wilmington; Dr. Edwin K. Graham, President of the University of North Carolina; Mrs. Thomas W. Lingle, Dean of Women of the University of North Carolina.

South Carolina: J. E. Swearingen, State Superintendent of Education, chairman; A. B. Rhett, School Superintendent of Charleston; Frank Evans, School Superintendent of Spartanburg; Dr. W. B. Currell, President of the University of South Carolina.

As to the Poultry Situation.

There has been considerable confusion throughout North Carolina, as a result of the published order of the Food Administration affecting the trade in live and freshly dressed hens and pullets. According to Food Administrator Henry A. Page, the order does not affect local trade in North Carolina, since it applies only to licensed dealers, principally the cold storage concerns.

Every owner of a flock of poultry is being urged as a patriotic duty to refrain from selling for slaughter any hens or pullets. Every hen that is sold before the 1st of May will represent a food loss to the nation of an average of not less than thirty eggs. If the average number of hens and pullets usually sold from Feb. 1 to May 1 is sold this year it will cause an aggregate loss of 150,000,000 eggs. The value of these eggs is 80 per cent to 100 per cent of the actual value of the hens. The program being urged by the Food Administration and the Department of Agriculture will not entail a loss to the farmer but an actual gain.

The co-operation of all consumers of poultry products is also requested. They are asked to forego the use of fowls on their table during the next few weeks except male stock.

Boone Voted Bonds to Extend Railroad.

Johnson City Staff.

The long talked of building of the railroad from Shulls Mills, N. C. to Boone, N. C. will probably be actualized this year. In an election held at Boone yesterday that township voted \$25,000 toward the construction of the road.

This will open a virgin territory for Johnson City via the E. P. & W. N. C. R. R. and the Linville River Railroad, and Johnson City business men will not be slow to take advantage of it. The new link will be eight miles in length and the officials of the narrow gauge state that contracts will be let, work will begin at once and completed within a year.

Miss Jane Van De Vrede Nominated Director For 1919-1920.

Miss Jane Van De Vrede, of Savannah, director of the Bureau of Nursing, Southern Division, American Red Cross, has recently received word from Mrs. Charles D. Lockwood, chairman of the nominating committee of the American Nurses Association, of her nomination as director of the association for the term of 1919-1920.

This is one of the highest honors that can be given a member of the nursing profession and comes as a recognition of Miss Van De Vrede's splendid service. The nomination will be confirmed at the association convention the first week in May.

At the Front



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