

HICKORY DAILY RECORD

TELEPHONE 167

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ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTS

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1917

THE LUTHERANS

The Record is glad to reproduce a resolution signed by the presidents of the three great Lutheran synods in the United States pledging their devotion to the United States and pointing the way to the members of this church. The ancestors of most Lutherans came from Germany and they have looked on the fatherland with longing eyes.

GOOD FOR KNOXVILLE

Two hundred Knoxville business men showed their patriotism by chartering a special train and making a tour of several southern states in the interest of the government. Knoxville will benefit in a trade way from this trip, and it ought to. Men who pull together for a city as they do deserve success.

The Record acknowledges receipt of the seventy-fifth anniversary edition of the Galveston Daily News. The paper was founded while Texas was just freed from the Mexican flag and the paper, as it modestly claims, has been an important factor in the up-building of its wonderful city and the development of Texas.

Farmers who are skeptical as to the advisability of planting food crops would do well to watch the market quotations of wheat, a certain barometer of summer prices. July wheat is quoted in Chicago at about \$1.86 for July options unless they for the new crop in Hickory and this section over \$2 a bushel.

Governor Bickett, so far as we have observed, was the first of all state executives to call for a planting day and his magnificent utterance in behalf of humanity was almost as good as the president's address. So far, the old boy has measured up to the possibilities of his office in a manner that will make successors do their utmost to approach.

A Spencer negro was set upon and mobbed by a number of white men for alleged remarks what he would do when all the white men were called to the colors. The colored men in the community, the Salisbury Post says, expressed indignation at his remarks. It is bad business to talk foolish these days.

The country is being stripped of its timber, but fortunately the United States government is establishing forests in the mountains of the east and south. Much of the denuded land should be replanted, so that timber may be available for coming generations.

The High Point Enterprise is now issued from a Cox duplex press, is seven columns and eight pages and is just about the kind of paper in appearance that the Record would like to be. Congratulations.

To shake the hand of old man Joffre millions of Americans would pay a dollar. Would it be a capital idea to raise relief funds in this way?

It is very well to produce food, but Americans should manage to prevent the annual waste of \$700,000,000 in the food that is grown.

LACK OF DIPLOMACY

Nashville Banner. Guam is a small island in the Pacific ocean, a part of the Ladrone group that the United States took from Spain in 1898 and uses as a naval station.

The German warship Cormoran, being chased by Japanese cruisers at the beginning of the war, took refuge in that neutral port and was interned there. The United States having been added to the list of Germany's enemies, was about to take possession of the Cormoran when the vessel was destroyed by her German crew.

This train of events serves to suggest how one instance produces another. It also suggests that there are few parts of the earth left, however remote, where a German warship can now find friends.

A few years back it was said by the knowing ones that King Edward VII of England was making rings around his imperial nephew of Germany in the matter of diplomacy. This appears to have been true. The first notable indication was at the Algeiras conference of 1906, when the assembled delegates of all the powers voted against Germany's contention concerning Morocco, except those of Austria.

Edward organized the entente that made France and Russia British allies. England and Russia had been traditional enemies for many years previous and France and England had very nearly fought over Egypt. Edward also brought strong British influence to bear on Italy and wonned that country from alliance with the central powers, and he married his niece to the young king of Spain, the first British princess married to a Catholic sovereign in many years.

Edward, as king of England, had small power in the domestic government of his country, but he busied himself with diplomacy and the smoothness of his work in that line was quite apparent.

The Kaiser, on the other hand, depended on military preparation and was disposed to be mandatory in his attitude toward other countries. He made the French dismiss M. DeClasse from the place of foreign minister in their cabinet, and he peremptorily ordered Russia to desist when she objected to the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina by Austria. He went personally to Tangier and made a rather boastful speech to the Moroccans against Germany's power and intentions, and what is known as the Agadir incident also gave offense to other powers, as having a dictatorial tendency.

There might be a great deal written about the right and wrong of all these matters, and the reason why Germany is so painfully isolated. The incident of the Cormoran in the harbor of a remote island in the distant Pacific is almost pathetic. Yet no one has anything to say against the German people. The present painful situation of the fatherland seems to have come largely of a lack of diplomacy. More conciliatory policies would likely have proved profitable. In making other nations fear her, she made them combine for her undoing. In pursuing the policy that is sometimes called "terrorism," she may have impressed her power, but she also incurred resentments.

It is sometimes easier to get an enemy out of your way by policy and soft words than by blows and commands.

Break With Austria-Hungary

Springfield Republican. It may readily be credited that in breaking off diplomatic relations with the United States, a step presumably to lead to at least a nominal state of war, Austria-Hungary is yielding to the pressure of the German government rather than following its own choice. It has indeed been so progressively subordinated during the war to its bustling junior partner that till it is forced to give up it can have no free choice of its own.

Yet it may be granted that while Austria and the United States have no controversy which need involve war, the line taken by President Wilson menaces the Hapsburg dynasty no less than the Hohenzollern. Although Austria's menace to peace comes mainly from its aggressive German backing, it none the less is true that a small and irresponsible clique in Vienna and Budapest shared equally with Berlin in forcing war upon Europe. And while the Austrian empire has many good qualities and is more genial than the empire of Prussia or of the Russian czars, the principles laid down by President Wilson would be absolutely fatal to its rule over an unwilling majority. Though we may be sure that the people of Austria-Hungary do not wish war with the United States, it is easy to see how the emperor and the bureaucracy may have felt that they had no option.

If it comes to war, this will be the 31st of the 32nd declaration of war, depending upon whether Cuba or Austria-Hungary gets precedence. And it may be that the end is not yet. So far as Austria-Hungary is concerned, however, a state of war with this country and an act of adhesion to the German cause.

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