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WILSON AS A MOSES IN THE EYES OF FRENCH PEOPLE

An Unusual Study of the President's Character Compares Him With the Lawgiver, Oom Paul and Cromwell.

Of the many comments and studies on the character President Wilson is playing in the world drama at Paris, the following taken from the Paris Figaro is one of the most remarkable. The translation is given in the Living Age as follows:

President Wilson comes; they announce tidings of him in the tone that people once used in saying, "Truth is on the way." "In a few days he will be on this continent," I was about to say, he will descend upon earth. For we are accustomed to see him appear in the clouds of heaven, from which he talks to humanity and this gives a touch of divinity to certain spirits that are otherwise stable.

We must never forget that if the words of Wilson are children of the mountain top, his action takes place upon the earth and clasps the earth closely. His thought forms itself in the highest skies even as a kind of nebulous star; it seems to detach itself regretfully; suddenly we behold it condense and burst upon the world of mankind, striking at the precise point in which action is necessary. Finally, this disturbing meteor distributing indigestible benefits, spreads itself over the land.

In the days preceding the President's reelection we were still troubled by his pacifism, by his counsels concerning the purposes of the war, and by his homilies on peace without victory, when of a sudden, in the name of those very principles he thrust the United States into the pitiless war against the enemies of civilization. He alone seemed capable of convincing the Great Democracy that her moral and material welfare compelled her intervention.

Those absolute powers, centered in his person, in whom vibrated the whole soul of his people carried away by their enthusiasm for the holy places of civilization translated themselves into action in a most practical spirit—with a conception of the ensemble and a sense of detail which left no doubt as to the power of so well-ordered to find the most skillful of statesmen in this biblical prophet whose sacred madness had sometimes so disturbed us. It was clear that he possessed a genius for the handling of men and affairs as great in scope as the genius of those "shepherds of peoples of ancient times, when a judge ruled over the tribes of Israel."

One can almost say of him what used to be said of God, that his ways are dark. For it is from heaven itself that he seeks inspiration. Great initiative, such as Moses, must of necessity possess a secondary personality which is that of a consummate politician. When his head disappeared in the clouds of Sinai his people regarded him as a humanitarian dreamer, and danced about the golden calf, which must have been a kind of protest against primitive meatless days.

The analogy is a curious one, but we do not make it to authorize a premature identification of Moses and Wilson. Let us leave his impertinence to the gossips of the streets and salons, who are going about insinuating that the great American statesman at hand to give laws to the universe. It goes without saying that this irreverent suggestion has not its source in us and has no credit here. This fact, too, explains zeal shown in certain quarters to represent the fourteen points like a kind of idol before which all perforce must bow the head.

Mr. Wilson's intimates and friends have certainly never presented the fourteen points in any such light; they have never insisted on them as articles of faith.

They are "propositions" in the sense which his theme has in philosophy, still more in the theological sense of the word—that is, propositions offered for discussion and not dogmas. It has been said, with humor, that we are dealing with the fourteen points and not the Ten Commandments.

PLANNING AN ARMY OF ABOUT 500,000 MEN

House Military Committee Decides Basis For Determining Army Pay Year Beginning July 1.

Washington, Feb. 2.—An army of 500,000 men was unanimously decided on by the House Military committee as the basis for determining the appropriation for army pay for the year beginning next July.

CASUALTIES GIVEN OF AMERICAN TROOPS ON WEST FRONT

Grand Total of Major Casualties Announced is 56,592, Including Killed, Died of Wounds, Missing, Prisoners.—Thirtieth Had Total of 1,772 and Eighty-First Suffered Loss of 370.

Official tables of the major battles casualties of the American forces in France, made public by General March, chief-of-staff, show that approximately 10,000 men remain wholly unaccounted for nearly three months after the ending of hostilities. The deaths, missing and known prisoners are tabulated up to January 10, for each of the thirty combatant divisions of General Pershing's army. The total is 56,592 of whom 17,434 are classified as missing or captured. An appended statement shows that only twenty-nine American military prisoners were believed to be still in Germany on January 8, and that 4,800 prisoners had been checked up as returned and 118 died in captivity.

The total for all divisions exclusive of the two regiments of Marines in the Second Army, follows:

Killed in action 27,762
Died of wounds 11,396
Missing in action 14,649

Grand total 56,592
Thirtieth Division, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina and District of Columbia troops:

No.	Total.
117	388
118	328
119	453
120	475

Machine Gun.

113	12
114	28
115	16

Artillery.

113	6
114	15
115	9

Trench Mortar.

105	0
105	42

Engineers.

105	42
Totals	1,772

Eighty-first division, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Florida troops:

Infantry.

321	74
322	102
323	34
324	68

Machine Gun.

316	5
317	5
318	13

Artillery.

316	59
317	2
318	2

Trench Mortar.

306	0
306	6

Engineers.

306	6
Total	370

BRIGHT JEWELS OF THOUGHT

A Delightful Hour At the Oxford Methodist Church.

It was the pleasure of the Public Ledger Sunday night to hear Rev. R. C. Craven for the first time since he came to the Oxford Methodist church and we thoroughly enjoyed his sermon. Bright jewels of thought fall fast and thick from his lips. As for instance he said that a handicap is a spur to greatness, and he related numerous instances of men who acquired knowledge by the light of a pine-knot on the hearth of a cabin home.

The congregation is very much in love with Br. Craven, and the church attendance is usually large. Mrs. K. L. Street, who presides at the organ, is also receiving many hearty congratulations.

Mr. Craven's idea seems to be to make the sacred hours at his church one long to be remembered.

Like his predecessor, Dr. Willis, Mr. Craven will work hand in hand with the ministers and all good people, irrespective of denomination, for the up-building of God's Kingdom among us.

ITCH BREAKS OUT AT THE PEACE MEETING

It Is Like "Seven Years Itch," But None of American Delegation Have It.

(Paris Special.)

The newest irritation to arise at the peace conference is what the French call "gale" and what is known elsewhere as the "itch." It is an annoying, but not a dangerous, ailment of the skin, and is something like the "seven year's itch," which is indigenous in almost every country, under local names. So far, none of the American delegation have it.

GRANVILLE COUNTY SOLDIER HAD AN EXCITING EXPERIENCE

Claude W. Allen Was Captured by The Crown Prince's Army.

Last March Claude W. Allen, son of Justice G. W. Allen, of Creedmoor, qualified in the medical department of the army and sailed away to France. His services were in great demand and he was sent immediately to the first line trenches to render first aid to the dying and wounded.

He was serving immediately in front of the Crown Prince's army, composed of the picked soldiers of the German empire.

All went well with Sergt. Allen up to last summer, when things began to get lively in his vicinity. He was in the grand rush north of Verdun on the afternoon of a bright October day, and while following in the wake of the advancing army, administering to the wounded, a barrage of smoke enveloped him, rendering it as dark as mid-night. While thus engaged, the smoke cleared, and on looking to the left he saw sixteen German soldiers advancing on him with drawn guns. They were not so hideous as Sergt. Allen had expected to see. The first question they put to him was:

"Are you a Tommy?"

"No, I am an American," answered Sergt. Allen.

"American, is it," said a German lieutenant, glancing at the dial on his wrist, "let us be going in this direction."

In relating the incident, Sergt. Allen said that there was no harsh treatment on the part of his captors during the two hours that he was in captivity.

They joked with him and offered to share their rations, and in return for their courtesies, Sergt. Allen dressed a wound on the arm of one of his captors, and while he was thus engaged, a detachment of the Thirtieth Division swung to the left and came upon them.

Sergt. Allen was not scared in the least until it was all over; then he had forebodings as to what might have happened should he have landed in a German prison.

But his captors had been kind to him, and now it was his turn to show them the American spirit, and he accordingly told the detachment to take them to the rear and give them the same treatment that they had accorded him.

The distinguished service cross may not be awarded to Sergt. Allen, but he enjoys the rare distinction of having been captured by the enemy, and in turn captured his captors two hours later. It was immediately after the above incident that he got on overdose of gas and was sent to a base hospital.

40 CENT COTTON PREDICTED

Plan To Wage Campaign To Hold Staple For Better Price Under Way.

Washington, Feb. 3.—The plan of waging a campaign thru the South to urge reduction in cotton acreage and retention by growers of all their cotton until a price of 35 cents a pound is reached will be discussed this week at a meeting of members of the two houses of Congress from cotton States.

The advisability of amending the cotton futures act to prevent delivery of accumulated stocks or cheap low grade cotton on exchange in settlement of contracts calling for higher price and higher graded cotton also will be discussed at the meeting.

Mr. Heflin said the demand for American cotton is 6,000,000 bales greater than the supply and that just as soon as peace terms are signed the price will advance to forty cents a pound.

AMERICA GAINS IF WILSON WINS PRESENT FIGHT

Wants Australia Mandatory For All Pacific Islands.

(Paris Special.)

President Wilson is urging with great tenacity the view that the whole of the Pacific Islands, those north and south of the equator, should be entrusted to Australia as the mandatory of the league of nations. President Wilson, if he gains the point, will establish a precedent for the settlement of other and more difficult matters involving territorial interests, and America incidentally will also gain materially by thus rendering impossible the menace there might be to the Philippines and Panama by reason of Japanese occupation of the Marshall and Caroline islands.

The ground hog has said that there must be a bad spell of weather. See the ad of Rose 5, 10 and 25-cent store in this paper.

THE TONGUES OF THE TOWN POLITICIANS ARE WAGGING

The Town Election Will Be Held Monday, May 5th.

Notwithstanding the fact that the municipal election is over three months' off the politicians are already beginning to discuss town affairs and plan for the coming election.

It is understood that Mayor Mitchell can succeed himself if he cares to hold the office. The present Board of Commissioners, as a whole has also rendered valuable service, but, perhaps, say the politicians, the board could be strengthened by dropping one or two of the members and by taking on new blood.

Some of the citizens are anxious to pay honor to another and Mayor Mitchell may also have opposition if he decides to run.

In this connection we have heard the names of Lt. B. S. Royster, Jr., and Lt. James A. Taylor mentioned. Both of them are with the American Expeditionary Forces. Having seen much of the world they are highly qualified to serve.

Candidates for commissioner are expected to be hard to find. This is one job that the average man cares very little about, but there is enough interest even at his time to cause one to expect a warm but good-natured political contest over the town offices during the coming weeks.

GRANVILLE COUNTY MAY GET AID FOR ROADS

Two and One-Half Million Dollars Annually For Ten Years.

Senator Seales, of Guilford, and Senator Stevens of Buncombe, have drafted a bill designed to create a large fund to be used for road work throughout the state.

Briefly, this bill would levy a tax of \$1 per horsepower on all automobiles and trucks, thus providing an immense sum to be used in road construction and maintenance. The plan is to provide approximately \$2,500,000 annually for a period of 10 years this amount to match a similar appropriation provided by the federal government in a bill which Congress is expected soon to enact. The remainder of funds needed and not provided by the auto tax would be obtained from the general state fund if available; if not, by state bond issue.

In this way the state would provide approximately \$50,000,000 a 10-year period, to be supplemented by a like amount of federal aid, making a total of \$100,000,000, the money to be used in development of high ways linking all the county seats in the commonwealth.

AN INITIATIVE VIEW OF PRESIDENT WILSON

Little Children Post Themselves Along the Boulevards and Watch For Him.

(Paris Special.)

President Wilson's grave responsibilities in Paris have so absorbed his attention he has not yet been able to get his bearings so as easily to find his way about when he goes walking, as he still does, without giving notice. As when in Washington, the President is frequently on his way up one of the boulevards before half the secret service men are aware he has left this Paris white house. He always walks at a brisk pace, and generally gets a good start on his personal guards.

The President is almost always recognized by little French children, who are usually his reliance when he loses his way. They post themselves as sentinels along the route frequented by the President, salute him as he passes and some times trot alongside him, soliciting a little attention. Mr. Wilson's French is good enough to enable him to explain where he wants to go, and he rewards with a smile and a handshake, the proud boy or girl who puts him on the right road.

CAPT. JAMES I. STEGALL HAS RETURNED TO OXFORD

Has Accepted Position At the Post-office.

Capt. James I. Stegall was relieved from military duty at a Southern cantonment last week. He returned from France last fall and was getting a regiment of soldiers in shape for over seas duty when the armistice was signed.

Capt. Stegall could have remained in the army, but when the war was over he preferred to return to civil life. He has accepted his old position at the postoffice and entered up on his duties this morning. His many friends are glad to see his pleasant face at the delivery window.

Elsewhere in this paper Landis & Easton announce the arrival of wraps and spring coat suits.

MISTAKES WILL HAPPEN IN BEST REGULATED FAMILIES

Some of the Errors Are Very Amusing While Others Are of a Grievous Nature.

Among the West Oxford notes published in the last issue of the Public Ledger was the following item:

Mrs. S. H. Kearney has a cow that gives 3 pounds of butter for each gallon of milk she gives.

As soon as the Public Ledger, carrying the above announcement, was on the streets, the telephone bell began to jingle; a dozen or more farmers called at the office to inquire about the wonderful cow, and now we have on our desk a pile of letters and postal cards two inches thick. We held our ground against the good-natured mob the best we could and complacently pointed them to the original copy and told them that they must see our West Oxford correspondent for full particulars regarding the cow.

Some of the callers at the Public Ledger office offered to pay \$1,000 cash for the cow if she could perform what the correspondent had claimed for her ladyship. Of course, the figures are twisted to some extent—how much, we do not know—but it is apparent that three pounds of delicious butter cannot be extracted from one gallon of milk. Our correspondent, who, by the way is one of the best men in West Oxford or the entire county, will be glad to tell the readers of the Public Ledger the exact figures.

In the rush of getting 'out the newspaper mistakes will occur in the best regulated offices. The mistakes are usually of the head and not of the heart. In our last issue we stated in cold type that:

Capt. W. H. White this week attended the meeting in Raleigh of the board of directors of the Odd Fellows' Home, which is located in Fayetteville.

Everybody in North Carolina knows that there is only one Odd Fellows' Home in the State, and that is located in Goldsboro. The editor of the Public Ledger superintended that splendid institution for more than four years and we certainly ought to know where it is located. Capt. White attended the meeting of the Old Folks' Home, which is located in Fayetteville.

NORTH CAROLINA DOGS HAVE BEEN BOSS TOO LONG

The Legislature Now Has the Upper Hold On Col. Dog.

Debate exhaustive and exhausting by the House of a Statewide dog law fathered by that best friend of the baa-baas, Frank Ray, of Macon, gave spice and weariness to the legislative body last week. Several amendments to except various counties were voted down and it early became apparent that a State law was coming. Hardly a dissenting vote was heard against the measure on its second reading.

Senator Currin, of Granville, has said in his heart that Old Col. Dog should have a friend, but nevertheless a firm boss, one that will rule with a rod of iron.

PERSHING DENIES THAT U. S. TROOPS HAVE BEEN GUILTY OF MANY CRIMES

He Recommends a Full Refutation Of the Charges.

(Washington Special.)

General Pershing in an official telegram to Secretary Baker characterized the sensational reports of assaults and burglaries having been committed in Paris by American soldiers as "gross exaggerations." Crimes committed by American soldiers, he said, were almost negligible considering the large number of men and he recommends a full refutation of the charges be put strongly before the American public.

Since the conclusion of the armistice, the report added, Paris has offered attraction to men mischievously and criminally inclined and this has resulted in minor disturbances, but the American military police organization is excellent and disorders are kept at a minimum.

TO CARE FOR WHEAT CROP

The Government Is Behind the Wheat Growers.

An administration bill appropriating \$1,250,000,000 to enable the Government to carry out the guarantee to the farmer of a price of \$2.20 a bushel for the 1919 wheat crop has been transmitted to the chairman of the Senate and House agriculture committee by the food administration.

SPEAKER BRUMMITT SPONSORS GOVERNOR BICKETT'S PLAN

Introduces Bill to Better Conditions of Defectives.

Another of the Governor's special recommendations to the General Assembly in his biennial message took form Saturday when Speaker Brummitt himself introduced a bill to improve the moral, mental or physical conditions of inmates of penal or charitable institutions. It would partly translate into law the Chief Executive's declaration that "every child has a natural right to a fair start."

Speaker Brummitt is very popular with both houses.

He stands on the right side of every good bill so far introduced, and it will be seen at the end of the session that his popularity covers the whole state like a blanket. He spent Sunday in Oxford, and we are glad to note that he is enjoying the best of health.

GROUND HOG'S VISITATION.

Condemned the County Board of Commissioners for Negligence

The ground hogs in all parts of Granville county made their appearance last Sunday at noon, and upon seeing their shadows adopted the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, The Board of Commissioners of Granville are goating over the excellent condition of the roads of the county, making the people believe that they have accomplished much in the up-keep of the roads; wherein the elements alone for the past winter are entirely responsible for the fair condition of the roads, and not the commissioners; therefore be it

Resolved, That a taste of real weather, something like that of last winter, be visited upon the people of the entire county so that the commissioners may be brought to a sense of duty.

The underground wire was used in transmitting all communications, and when the chief official ground hog at Oxford heard the report from the local committee of ground hogs, he dismissed them with thanks and communicated with the Supreme Ground Hog at Chicago, requesting him to give the people of this section hail Columbia for the next six weeks and rub it in.

THE WAR REVENUE BILL IS ABOUT COMPLETE

House Military Committee Provides For Maintenance of 106,000 Officers and Men.

(Washington Special.)

An appropriation of \$3,000,000 to maintaining the National Guard at a strength of 106,000 officers and men during the next fiscal year was tentatively approved today by the House Military Affairs Committee.

The rider to the bill providing for extra pay to men in military service on discharge was compromised by the agreement to pay \$50 to discharged soldiers and nurses and \$200 to officers.

PENCIL AND TABLET.

Take Down the Names of Flowers For Spring Planting.

There will be a short business meeting of the Woman's Club in the Oxford Library Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock. At 3:30 the meeting will be turned over to the Garden and Forestry Department. The ladies are requested to bring pencils and paper to take down the names of the flowers for spring planting.

GERMANY EXPECTS TO RESUME TRADE WITH AMERICA AT ONCE

Wants To Exchange Patent For Foodstuff

(Berlin Special.)

Schneddekopf (director) general of the potash syndicate and formerly controller of the syndicate's interest in America told the correspondent that as a condition of the Armistice between Germany and the Allies, the former was likely to make a shipment of 60,000 tons of potash soon. This potash he said, would be sent to America in return for a shipment of foodstuffs.

Signs of Spring.

Spring is just around the corner, judging from the voice of the cricket; robins have been heard caroling their springtime songs; the blue birds have made their presence and weather sharps are predicting a finish of winter weather. A lover of nature at Knap of Reeds has sent the Public Ledger a cutting of alder bushes showing the first growth of 1919 in the timber line. Tiny branches, tipped with small, but full formed leaves are growing from the parent stem.