

THE COMMONWEALTH

Family Newspaper: For the Promotion of the Political, Social, Agricultural and Commercial Interests of the People

VOLUME XXXIV. TWICE-A-WEEK. SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., FRIDAY, NOV. 17, 1916. READ IT FIRST IN THIS PAPER. NUMBER 2.

Pastoral Letter of The House of Bishops

Read at the Close of the General Convention, Friday, October 27, 1916.

To the people of this Church, we, your Bishops, give counsel in the name of Christ.

America is involved today in world-wide confusion which finds its most acute expression in the battle-fields of Europe. No self-isolation on our part is possible. The fortunes of the nations of the world are interwoven as the threads of a tapestry. To ignore this fact is folly; to reckon with it frankly is to give due recognition to the fundamental unity of the human race and to hasten the dawn of that day in which the armaments of war shall be beaten into the implements of peace.

It was but a moment ago that we were basking in the thought that the human race was steadily coming to recognize the community of its interests the world over. The crime today of acting as if this were not so is the greater because the doctrine of brotherhood has progressed from a local theory to a universal conviction.

Interests can never again be sectional. The world is henceforth one from north to south and from east to west, for the time being in a disturbed and suffering humanity, in days to come in a unity where order and health will reign.

"Here" and "there" are merely terms of lifeless space. The longest distance in the human brotherhood is but from the head to the feet of its quivering, sensitive body. Sympathy reaching to the ends of the earth is not the voluntary offering of a few, but the humane obligation of all. It is the instinctive thrill of a fellow-feeling that rushes through the entire organism when a single member rejoices or suffers. Political expediency may in war-time require neutrality of the state, but it cannot hold in leash the sympathies of the individual citizen. A man cannot be passionless and retain his manhood. "No heart is pure that is not passionate, no virtue safe that is not enthusiastic."

The fact that our nation is not at war affords no ground for smugness, much less for self-applause. It throws upon us the searching responsibility of exalting the true ideals of peace and incorporating them into our national life. Nationalism too often assumes the ugly role of group selfishness or false patriotism. Local conditions determine what form this disease will take. Yonder it breaks forth in the scarlet rash of war; here in unconsecrated prosperity, which is bound to cause manhood to decay. The nation that in some quarters, for the sake of gain, still chains to the wheels of industry the bodies and souls of her little children, that allows human life to be sacrificed to the inventions of speed and production from lack of costly safeguards, that heeds but listlessly the cry of the poor and oppressed, is not at peace even though she be not at war. If presently we aspire to act as peace makers in behalf of the warring nations on the ground that we are not caught in the meshes of the actual conflict, let our aspirations be tempered by the reflection that we are tainted with the common disease of which the eruption of war is a symptom, not a cause. God hates a godless and empty peace as much as He hates unrighteous war. Let it be sadly said that, in proportion to her swollen wealth, as figures show, America's contribution towards the alleviation of innocent sufferers in Europe is the merest pittance. A few have given lavishly even to the laying down of their lives, many in due proportion to their substance, the vast majority little or nothing. But the oppor-

tunity has not yet swept by. Christ is calling to men to sanctify their wealth by offering freely of their substance to God's cause everywhere. The wounds of Belgium still lie gaping to the sky and offer their dumb appeal to God and man. If America comes out of this day of world disorder richer in purse and poorer in manhood, she will invite and bring upon herself the penalty of a debased national life, or even of losing her very soul. The peace that smothered the bodies of its victims.

So far as war is a discipline which man has imposed upon himself, he must look to himself to get rid of it. Movements and associations to promote peace are not to be ignored or undervalued, especially those which emphasize the deep likeness, and give second place to the surface differences, of the race. America is still in danger of race antipathy flaming into hatred, which always constitutes an angry call to arms. Her blood connection with the whole of Europe is a glorious heritage making in the main for peace. Whatsoever dangers may lie lurking beyond our western horizon, they can surely be averted by a spirit of justice which has not always prevailed in our dealings with the Orient, the multitudinous Orient which presently will be the centre of the world's attention.

Again, no nation, least of all so vast and diversified a one as ours, is justified in trusting to chance for the creation of her national character. She must expect of every one of her citizens some true form of national service, rendered according to the capacity of each. No one can commute or delegate it; no one can be absolved from it. National preparedness is a clear duty. If this service assumes the form of more military defense, such can easily become a menace, and will surely fall short of the pacific effect, unless all the productive forces of manhood are at the same moment developed and shaped into social order and righteousness. The only thorough-preparedness is that exemplified and taught by Christ—the preparedness of character based upon life with God.

Would that our peace today were like a river of righteousness as the waves of the sea! Then would we be indeed an ensign to the nations. But how different a case it is! The nation now at war, whom thoughtful people pity, have as much to teach us as we have to teach them. They rebuke our worship of comfort and money by their daily offering, upon a reeking altar, of life and treasure, in behalf of what each believes to be a spiritual ideal; they declare to us that intoxicating liquor, which is so freely and carelessly drunk in our land, is a national menace to be dispensed with at any cost of lowered revenue but with the gain of heightened virility; they teach us that food is the staff of the physical life, not an invitation to daintiness and or gluttony; they rebuke our spiritual poverty by the splendor of their spiritual eagerness, which out of their tragedy, brings new visions from God and breeds new virtues in men; they shame our self-indulgence by a degree of self sacrifice that is royal in that the priests that offer are the victims offered.

We now come to the study of the causes of our social disorder, whether they express themselves in war or in diseased peace. Whatever apology may be made, or local explanation offered, at home or abroad, for the world confusion it is "none the less an outcome and a revelation of un-Christian principles which have dominated

Public Subscription To Shoot Well

The well at the corner of Main and Depot streets has cost the town over \$2,000, with little or no good results, at the same time there are no end of people who believe that good results can be obtained by a little more effort, though it would not be right to saddle the expense of the experiment of the town.

The engineer in charge of the sewer work has been consulted and he is of the opinion that with the expenditure of about sixty dollars the well could be shot, and he has had experience with a number of other wells that have produced results upon the last effort.

In view of this expert opinion it has been thought best to put the plan of private subscription before the people, raise this sixty dollars, and make one more attempt with this well before the work of filling up the wells and taking down the doles from the centre of the street.

The following have consented to contribute to this work, and The Scotland Neck Bank has agreed to receive all other contributions.

- Mr. Tyler B. Wheeler ---- \$5.00
- Mr. Henry T. Clark ---- \$5.00
- Mr. Jarl E. Bowers ---- \$5.00
- Mr. J. H. Alexander ---- \$5.00

RUSSIA NOT TO RECOGNIZE NEW POLISH KINGDOM

London, Nov. 16.—The diplomatic representatives of Russia wires Reuter's Petrograd correspondent, have been in struction to hand to the governments to which they are accredited the following protest against the Austro-German proclamation establishing the Polish Kingdom:

"In defiance of the laws of nations the German and Austro-Hungarian military authorities at Warsaw and at Lubin have proclaimed the Russian provinces of Poland henceforth to form a separate State.

"The imperial Russian government protests against this act as a fresh violation of an international convention solemnly sworn to by Austria-Hungary and Germany and declares it null and void. It reaffirms that the provinces of the kingdom of Poland have not ceased to form an integral part of the Russian empire and that their inhabitants will be bound by the oath of fidelity which they took to the Emperor, my august master."

WILL PROCLAIM NOV. 30 DAY OF THANKSGIVING

Washington, Nov. 16.—The Thanksgiving Day proclamation will be issued within the next few days.

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combined caused the tragic accident. He had taken an order for a milk-shake and turned on the current to mix the drink, but when he turned to his machine to switch off the current the customer who had ordered the drink heard a snap, a startled and inarticulate exclamation and then saw Raulfs crash to the floor, where he lay entangled in the wiring of the dismantled machine sparks flashing from his clothing and the pungent odor of burning hair filling the room.

Robert Whitehurst, who rushed to the main switch to turn the current off from the building, was shocked into insensibility, but suffered no serious injury.

The primary wire of the circuit from which the store gets its light broke during the night and fell across a secondary wire, sending into the buildings throughout the circuit 2,200 volts of electricity instead of the usual 110.

The soda apparatus was not insulated to withstand any such current, and when the boy touched it death was instantaneous.

BRITAIN SAYS BLACKLIST IS LOCAL

United States is Expected to Reply to Latest British Contention.

Washington, Nov. 16.—Further negotiations between the American and British governments over America's objection to Great Britain's trade blacklist were considered certain here today.

A British reply to the latest American protest, made public last night by the State Department, defends the British position and leaves open the door for further exchanges.

Great Britain's defense of the blacklist declares the measure is purely a municipal regulation, denies it invades neutral rights and asserts its purpose is to shorten the war. There can be no contention, the note declares, that the British have not the right to deny the facilities of British commerce to those who assist the cause of Britain's enemies wherever domiciled.

TO EXCHANGE MEXICAN SILVER CURRENCY FOR U. S. MONEY

Mexico City, Nov. 16.—It was learned today that arrangements had been completed with the Banco Nacional, on authorization from General Carranza by which the entire silver reserve of the bank will be transferred to the government in exchange for American money received for taxation and customs at the ratio of two for one. The step will be taken in order to provide the necessary silver to care for the needs of the army.

TO MEET THE HIGH COST OF PAPER

Washington, Nov. 16.—Officials of the Spanish government are proposing to relieve the high cost of paper there by taking money out of the treasury and paying an amount equal to the increase cost of paper, according to a report received here from Consul General Carl B. Hurst at Barcelona. When conditions return to normal it is proposed that the government levy a small tax on paper until the expenditures can be returned to the treasury.

MR. WATTS CASTS VOTE.

Durham, N. C., Nov. 16.—Mr. George W. Watts, one of Durhams wealthiest citizens, refused to vote for either Wilson or Hughes. He asked for a national prohibition ticket, and as he could not get one did not vote for President. He opposed Wilson because of the eight-hour law. He voted the Democratic State ticket from Hon. T. W. Bickett on down to constable.

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Superior Court Calendar For Halifax County

OF JURY CAUSES FOR TRIAL, NOVEMBER TERM 1916. MONDAY, DECEMBER 4th, 1916.

- 154. Taylor vs. Salsbury et als
- 52. Farber vs. Weldon Steam Laundry
- 56. The Fisk Rubber Co. vs. A. C. House
- 66. Powell vs. Powell
- 74. Weldon B'k'g & Trust Co. vs. The R. E. Draper Co.
- 76. Harris vs. Coppersmith
- 79. Fieldham vs. Alexander
- 83. Dr. Stuart McGuire vs. Heptinstall
- 106. Goswick vs. Keen
- 136. A. C. House Lumber Co. vs. Fishel & Sons
- 151. Bryan vs. Bryan
- 153. Eaton vs. Eaton
- 157. Massey vs. House Lumber Co.
- 170. Cheek vs. Cheek
- 171. Parham vs. Parham
- 174. Jones vs. Jones
- 175. Saunders vs. Saunders

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5th, 1916.

- 126. White vs. Stamper
- 131. Camp vs. Zollicoffer
- 172. Blinkland Co. vs. Ausbon
- 173. Whitehead Company vs. Mrs. C. F. White
- 141. Guirkin vs. S. A. L. R. Co.
- 165. White vs. Stamper et als
- 21. Va-Ca., Dist., Co. vs. Supervisors Roseneath and Palmyra Townships

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6th, 1916.

- 95. Hunter vs. Andrews
- 97. Thomas vs. Williams
- 99. Williams vs. Drewry
- 101. Shearin vs. Lambert et als
- 125. Johnston vs. Robinson
- 123. Patterson vs. Lambert et als
- 124. Crawley vs. Lambert et als
- 128. Crutchfield vs. Bain
- 130. Love vs. Love et als
- 155. Fowler Mfg., Co. vs. Weldon Sheet Metal Works
- 160. Foster Machine Co. vs. Ben Fishel
- 164. T. J. Miles, Receiver vs. Dickens
- 166. T. J. Miles, Receiver vs. Dickens

Cases will take precedence from day to day until disposed of. Suitors and witnesses need not attend before day for which their cases are set.

STERLING M. GARY, Clerk of the Superior Court.

BAPTIST BAZAAR.

The ladies Aid Society of the Baptist Church will hold their annual Bazaar December 14th and 15th.

The public is cordially invited to attend. The place will be announced later.

LESS COTTON IS USED IN MAKING EXPLOSIVES

Washington, Nov. 16.—Bleached cotton fiber including linters and hull fiber, used in the manufacture of gun cotton and explosives of all kinds during the quarter ending September 30 amounted to 133,982 equivalent 500 pound bales, compared with 142,000 bales during the quarter ending June 30 the census bureau today announced.

EVANGELINE BOOTH IS RECOVERING

New York, Nov. 16.—After an illness of several weeks, during which "ceaseless prayer" was offered for her in Salvation Army circles throughout the country, Evangeline C. Booth, commander of the Salvation Army in the United States, is reported as well on the road to recovery. It is announced that she will be able to resume work within a few days.

OLD NORTH STATE.

Where blue hills, bathed in golden light, Roll on to meet the sky, Where purple streams, Like summer dreams, Go softly gliding by; Where broad fields robed in living green Lie dreaming in the sun, Here let us find a place of rest On mother Carolina's breast When life with me is done.

Where heroes rest in slumber deep, Beneath the sun-kissed sod, Who gave a life In battle's strife, Here let us labor, live and love, While on God's call we wait, And when the band Plays Dixie Land, We'll all sing Old North State. —Arch Hunejeant.

HANCOCK-MARSTON

Mr. and Mrs. Andrews Fuller Hancock request the honor of your presence at the marriage of their daughter, Hilda Maie, to Mr. Richard Henry Marston, on Wednesday evening, November 29th, at 7:30 o'clock, at the Baptist Church, Scotland Neck, N.C.

SALE OF LOTS AT HOLLISTER

The Fosburg Lumber Company has built up the town of Hollister, N. C., in two years to a population of five hundred people, and has a number of good stores, bank electric lights, water and individual sewer, and a fine hotel. The Atlantic Coast Realty Company of Greenville, N. C., has contracted to sell 175 residence and 8 business lots in Hollister, in the heart of the town all around the school building close to the church and one block from the business section.

These lots will be sold November 23rd, rain or shine, to the highest bidder, and the terms are attractive to meet the views of all. A barbecue dinner has been contracted for, music will be provided, and train connection arranged so that the return trip can be made at 4:30 in the evening.

FARM SOLD WELL

The Best farm, owned by Mr. L. B. Fleming, situated between here and Palmyra, was sold Monday by the Atlantic Coast Realty Co., of Greenville, brought good prices, considering the state of cultivation of the land. In total 800 acres comprised the sale, and the price realized was roughly \$33,000, the buyers being Mr. S. A. Dunn, Baker and Everett, Mr. W. F. Butterworth, Simeon Smith, Hyman Little and Henry Cotton. The price per acre ranging from \$66.00 to \$20.00.