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EDITORIALS BY JUDGE C. C. GOODWIN

## Russia and Japan

A RECENT dispatch tells of the hostility of Russia to the United States; how after she had loaned us her moral support in our great war, when her mighty trial came in her war with Japan, our country gave its sympathy to her enemy; and how, were a war to be sprung between the United States and Japan it would be found that Japan and Russia were in a close offensive and defensive alliance.

The war between Japan and Russia was due solely to Russia's indifference to the rights of other powers. On the part of Japan it was a fight for life, on Russia's part it was a war solely for conquest and totally without cause, save Russia's lust for land and power. A nation is like a man. No man can afford to give aid and comfort to a robber, plying his profession because he interposed to prevent other robbers whom he hated from a much desired scheme of contemplated robbery. Our belief is that Russia resents more the abrogation of the treaty between our country and hers than our sympathy for Japan in the war. Our country gave Russia repeated notices that she must cease mistreating American citizens who were Jews. She paid no attention to the demand and the treaty was abrogated by our country. That hurt Russian pride, but it was the only thing our country could, in honor, do.

As to her help to Japan in case of war, there are but three ways she could help her. First would be her moral support, which would not count; second, she might loan her money, which would help, but that loan would be a lien which Japan would hesitate to have filed and third, Russia might loan Japan soldiers to occupy her seaports while the Japanese were fighting us, but that would be a most dangerous experiment. Imagine Port Arthur again in Russian hands. When would Japan get them out?

But we discount all the talk about Japan making war upon us. She knows perfectly what a sea fight with the United States would mean, and knows, further, that were she to take the Philippines and Hawaii, and invade our Pacific coast, they would all be retaken and there would not be left a safe acre in Japan itself.

Japan is a husky little bluffer and when it comes to a fight she has a devoted army, all fatalists and fighters, but she has no desire to try conclusions with the United States even if backed by Russia, with Great Britain anxious to sell her war munitions.

All the same, we should continue building fighting ships, training the entire militia of the country and keep our coast defenses in order, for no nation is safe unless prepared to fight.

## The Chaos in Mexico

THROUGH the confusion of the dispatches sent from northern Mexico during the past ten days, but one really important fact has come, which is that Villa, after a week's fighting, has captured Torreon, which gives him a base and

communication with Juarez and the United States.

Now Villa is lauded as a great soldier, ranking with the most gifted soldiers in the world. That he, with an army of 12,000 men under his personal direction after a long, hard fight, captured a well fortified town, shows that he is a good fighter; not that he is an efficient great commander. The truth is that he was a brigand who naturally, under the conditions became a soldier. If he states correctly, the number of dead and wounded of his own command and of the enemy, he must have won by the superior guns which he has obtained from the United States. On the other hand, Huerta is an accomplished soldier, one which was most trusted by old man Diaz to handle a campaign. If we remember correctly he was the soldier who finally after 100 years of struggle, conquered the Yaqua Indians.

It is said that Villa has control of more than half of Mexico. But that does not include one-fifth of the population.

What Huerta will do is mere speculation. If he feels that the dense population in southern Mexico is ready to desert him and go over to some other assassin or would-be assassin; that the United States in secret favors Villa, he may leave Mexico between two days. If, on the other hand he feels sure of his hold on those he is commander of, he will gather his strength and try conclusions with Villa with every prospect for success. The taking of Torreon is magnified. It is five hundred miles away, as the bird flies, from Huerta's base. The final result will rest on the loyalty of the people toward the two commanders. Under natural conditions Villa would be taking more and more risks every day he moves south, while Huerta would be concentrating his army to meet him. But there are no natural conditions in Mexico, none that may not be changed in a day. And there you are.

We can all afford to wait further news and be reasonably sure that when any comes, it will be reversed the next day.

## Easter Sunday

EASTER SUNDAY is the sacred day of the year. No other day is fraught with such memories as it brings, no other day symbol such hopes.

Its birth marked the most momentous punctuation point in the world's history; it was as if upon a heavenly wireless a message had come from the stars bidding the children of men look up, to no longer limit their visions to the narrow horizon of this life, but to strain their eyes toward the other life which surely awaits beyond the twilight and the night which must be journeyed through toward that other dawn.

The day should be one of solemn joy. No music can be too grand and deep, no sacred observance too ostentatious, for this is the anniversary of the day that marked a new epoch on earth and made sure what before had been but a dream, that man is immortal, that in his soul is a life that the waves of death cannot wash away.

## Young Rockefeller's Testimony

WE THINK a careful reading of young Rockefeller's testimony before the congressional committee on Tuesday last shows it was greatly to

his credit. His self-restraint when asked if he was not 'a dummy director' in the business of his family in Colorado, was superb. He knew that the question was intended as an insult asked by a man who had probably never employed any one except perhaps a coachman or servant girl, and that the question was intended to make this questioner solid with a bucolic constituency, but the reply was straight-forward and sensible. His inquisitor would never have thought of asking such a question of say George Gould, had his company been in the throes of a strike in say Salt Lake City.

But really, the Rockefellers are handling more capital than would be necessary to build and equip a first-class railroad from New York to San Francisco.

And there is nothing difficult to understand about the Colorado strike. The question is the same that has made Colorado so much trouble; which made the trouble in Massachusetts last winter; which has kept Michigan in a turmoil for nine months past, and when set to words is simply whether an organization of loafers and murderers shall take control of a great business. Hence young Rockefeller's reply that there was nothing to arbitrate was most apt, and it was right to the point when he said not ten per cent of the miners of Colorado favored the strike and that sooner than submit to the outrageous demands the Rockefellers would sacrifice every dollar's worth of property which they owned in Colorado.

We think his testimony was manly and to the point, and that the scrub on the committee that questioned him was the one who came out halfed and beaten.

## Who Knows?

IN THE April Forum Thomas Percival Peyer has an article, "The Everlasting Life," in which he puts out the theory that some people never come into the possession of a soul; that man is born without any soul or that something which develops into a soul; that the babe has no soul and man may travel through life and never get one. That is not a new thought, and it is but speculation at best.

The Bible says that God determined to make man in His image, that He created the first man Adam, that He breathed into his nostrils and he became a living soul.

But later Cain, after killing his brother, went away to the land of Nod, preempted a homestead and took a wife. Now who was this lady, or, rather, what was her pedigree? Later Mr. Darwin came along and declared that man's original progenitor was a gray ape, or a monkey, giving us but the one advantage that Mark Twain gave the cauliflower when he said that the cauliflower was only a cabbage with a college education.

Now, who knows but the Bible and Mr. Darwin are both right, that the man God made in His own image was the first one with a soul, while the family and race that Cain married into were but of the earth earthly and came up from the monkey?

The experience of the world rather emphasizes the truth of this theory, for we meet men nearly every day who, if they have any souls, only God can see them.

And when men claim to be descendants of