

SOUTH BEND NEWS-TIMES

Morning—Evening—Sunday.

JOHN HENRY ZUVER, Editor. GABRIEL R. SUMMERS, Publisher.

The Paper Has Done Things

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MAY 27, 1916.

CASE OF PROPHECY.

Died in Australia, in February, 1863, one John Wroe. He was the founder of a religious sect, called "Wroesites," sometimes "Christian Israelites." Wroe claimed to have received divine revelations and was considered by his followers, and others, some shucks as a prophet. The sect still exists.

Immediately before his death he predicted a great war, lasting three years and ending in 1917, in which "England, France, Italy, Spain and other nations" would be pitted against "Germany, Austria, Turkey and other nations." According to Wroe's predictions, Germany and her allies were to be decisively beaten and Turkey to be completely wiped out and her lands taken from her.

We are not strong for prophecies or prophecies as a rule. Still 'tis only a fool who attempts to logically explain all the mysteries of the occult—if that be the Websterian word applicable here.

Wroe made the prophecy all right, for it is matter of record, 'tis said. Maybe he was only guessing, but if so he was such a blamed uncanny guesser that the last part of the prediction, quoted below, gives us a very unpleasant sensation in the neighborhood of our cerebro-spinal axis. Here it is and welcome:

"At that time America will have become a great and proud and boastful nation, but she will suddenly be set upon by a heathen nation, who will greatly humble her by winning the first battles on both land and sea, because of America's unpreparedness, but in the end ye (Americans) will overcome them."

Richard Pearson Hobson dug this up somewhere, we understand, too. Hobson is the prize fear-distributor with reference to the "yellow peril,"—or war with Japan. We submit it for the encouragement of our preparedness parodists, and we bet every one of them takes to believing in prophecies, clairvoyance, spiritualism, or anything else forthwith, that will tend to make our national danger appear more certain. Go to it, you Wroesites!

COURT MARTIALING GUARDSMEN.

Failure of national guardsmen from the border states—Texas, New Mexico and Arizona,—to respond to the federal call to service in the Mexican muddle, this, though limited in degree but in sufficient numbers as to call for court martial, might be taken as throwing some light on the extreme anxiety that has been expressed as coming from those states, for this government to rush into war with the Mexican republic. Perhaps there are Americans along the border, perhaps of some personal acquaintance with the Mexican situation, who are no more anxious for war with the Mexicans under the circumstances than our Americans outside the Hearst newspapers, the Chicago Tribune, the LaPorte Herald and Wall st., are from a more long range acquaintance.

Either this, or as it has been hinted, perhaps those guardsmen who have refused or failed to present themselves for federal service are German-Americans, fretful lest in some turn in the tide of international events, once in the service their operations might be turned against the "Kaiserland," and they are taking no chances on that. We are her inclined to the former view. People who know Mexico, and are not blinded by their own greed because of holdings in that country, perhaps more or less shadily acquired under the Diaz, Madero or Huerta regimes, have contended all along that much of the noise coming from Mexico way has been of purely American manufacture, and grossly exaggerated in the hope of getting this country to take the battles of these capitalists. Such a condition seems to have acted as a restraint upon Pres't Roosevelt and Taft as well as upon Pres't Wilson. For the sake of the army, and such show of government authority as is essential to bringing the national guard into service when it is needed, the court martials should go on, by no means as strenuously as the British recently employed in Ireland, but strong enough to make national guardsmen understand that the national guard means something; and, yet, there is another side that should not be overlooked.

The spirit of democracy, and anti-militarism, in America, is too firmly set to admit of a too free use of our American troops in carrying out the designs of particular interests, or even individuals. Americans are ready to fight for America, when it is America that is really involved, but it is different when it is an international difficulty, drummed up by American intruders against the rights of others, and for the particular purpose of private gain. Never until Villa and his bandits crossed the American border and began to kill people would we have been justified for an instant in going into Mexico, and even that was so plainly a raid in resentment that perhaps people along the border who know the conditions see it so.—the governor of Texas, who also has large interests in Mexico, notwithstanding.

The Vera Cruz affair was a direct insult to America; that is, the outgrowth of an insult to the American uniform on an American soldier. The resentment that

the United States effectively delivered resulted in the officialized bandit responsible for it, banishing himself, and the purpose of the Vera Cruz landing was accomplished. Huerta, president by assassination, was no less a bandit than Villa, who at least has it to his credit that he represents the peons who are in revolt against those American financial aggressions. The United States is up against a nasty problem in Mexico, and the one great danger of any course likely to lead to intervention is, that if we intervene at all, the result may be against justice and right, and to furtherrench injustice and wrong—against the people to whom Mexico ought really to belong.

Again we say, yes, we must have military discipline, but the Arizona-New Mexico-Texas court martials are none the less suggestive of what has been contended for years. If Wall st. interests want Mexico so bad, let the beneficiaries do the fighting themselves. It is one of the differences between real patriotism and a patriotism that is akin to piracy.

PATRIOTISM AND PREPAREDNESS.

That was a mighty good hunch that David L. Guilfoyle handed the Rotary club, Wednesday, in proposing that instead of a so-called preparedness parade, it would be more appropriate to have a patriotic parade, July Fourth. It seems too, from what happened Thursday night, to the preparedness parade program, that it has had its effect. The parade has been indefinitely postponed, "subject to future arrangements." A patriotic parade on the other hand would be in keeping with American ideals, and going back over the lapse of a few years, serve as a revival of American custom, instead of pandering to the ideals of Europe, or a revival of patriotic campaign customs—in the disguise of patriotism.

Why is it that, all of a sudden, our republican friends are so frenzied for preparedness anyway, after 50 per cent of a half century at their command—as recently quoted from ex-Sec'y of the Treasury Leslie M. Shaw, under Roosevelt,—in which to get that which they now complain against having been left undone. Remember, too, that it was during Mr. T. Roosevelt's verbose administration that our navy was permitted to fall behind that of Germany and the army lost in recruits to a point from which it never recovered until after Pres't Wilson took hold. All this while, too, we were buying armor plate at prices ranging from 12 to 35 per cent higher than was being paid to the same manufacturers by Russia, Germany and Italy, without the least effort on the part of our good republican friends to even find out the reason for it.

But now the democrats are in control of the government, and almost with the first gun-shot in the European field, the republican party grew great on preparedness and Augustus Peabody Gardner, congressman from down east, began to tour the country and lambast the administration for our lack of military and naval equipment. And Mr. T. Roosevelt, possible if not probable republican candidate for the presidency, began to roar in the same vein. When Pres't Wilson made his western tour to assure the people that the administration was not asleep on the preparedness question, but that a definite program would be worked out, it looked for a time as though the g. o. p. might shift to an anti-preparedness extreme. At the time of the late Sen. Shively's funeral republicans who came here with the funeral party made no bones of condemning the president for the public stand he had taken, but since that time congress has applied the blue pencil to some of the frenzied demands of the preparedists—not the president's, but in a case or two, to those of republicans,—so now public stands put on through parades are necessary.

Politics, is it? Nothing else under the sun but politics, and the cheapest kind of politics at that. Local people who have fallen for the dope may be honest and sincere enough about it, but at the inception of the parade movement, is republican politics, with dependence upon the frenziedness of the American mind, to fall into line? American mimicry—in some respects a national trait—is just well enough understood by the psychologists that conceived the plan, that they have had no trouble with the spreading and absorption of their hypnotic suggestion. The parade in New York, played up by the press, and then the cross between a semi-patriotic fear which the people have worked themselves into, and a snob desire to be like the militaristic monarchies and aristocracies of Europe, did the rest. It is the same line of campaign dope that the republicans employed through the distribution of calamity press-dope, two years ago, creating the psychological impression that a panic was at hand, essential to the establishment of the bread line and soup houses, calculated to win the congressional campaign of that year.

Indeed, too, it was hardly to be expected that any hitch in such a propaganda could be sidetracked for a patriotic parade, July Fourth. Neither has it been, but no parade is better than one put on under false pretenses. If congress had passed the frenzied preparedist bills that have been presented to it, this parade propaganda would be one against extravagant naval and military tendencies, and the howl would be that we had gone militaristic without reserve. Mr. Guilfoyle, not so very effectively, but at least decidedly suggestively, assured the parodists that he saw their bluff and called it,—but, of course, a full retreat to the legitimate standard that he proposed would have been too bold an admission of basic cussedness.

THE WOOL FAMINE.

Clothes are going up—because wool is going up. The sheep ranges of the world have never produced enough to clothes the 500,000,000 of us who wear woolen garments. And now the millions of soldiers in the trenches, who must have warm clothing, are leaving little for the rest of us. It is estimated that the armies are now wearing out as much wool as is grown in Australia, New Zealand, South America and South Africa together, as fast as the sheep can grow it. And where that leaves us may be seen from the fact that we don't produce normally more than three-fifths of our own consumption.

We have been importing great quantities of raw wool, but not for keeps. We have already sent abroad nearly 100,000,000 pounds of it in blankets, not to mention all the millions of yards of cloth, sweaters, suits of underwear, shirts, socks, etc., that have gone to Europe.

It means prosperity for our wool-growers. It means thinner and poorer and more expensive clothing for most of us. It means a vast increase in the use of shoddy—wool used for the second time, or even the third or fourth time, woven with a little new wool. And it means that if you succeed in getting next winter's suit without any shoddy in it, you will have to pay several dollars more than usual.

THE MELTING POT

FILLED BY THE EDITORIAL STAFF

SAVAGES.

The modern savage is the man who throws his broken glass where hosts of little, unsuspecting, barefoot children pass; Who doesn't help the earth to shed its frightful load of woes, Because he cannot see an inch before his careless nose; Who doesn't sense the presence of such folks as you and me, But seems to think the only human being here is he.

In spite of all our noble laws, impressive and profound, This breed of anarchistic scots contrives to stick around. They pick the flowers in public parks; they spit upon the walks; And there's no act at which their special style of conscience balks. But they indignantly protest and clamorously wail When faithful coppers dutifully clap them into jail.

But on the whole and after all the world's a bully place, For there are few of these ungracious mavericks of the race. The most of us are fearfully and formally polite, And with extreme devotion we are bent on doing right. There's but a limited supply of crude and crabbed chumps, Whose atavism still protrudes in large, ungainly lumps.

ARTHUR BROOKS BAKER.

NEUTRAL.

CLAIM FRENCH CUT PRISONERS' FOOD

Assertion Made That Claim Was Made Germans Treated Their In Same Manner.

Justice Hughes has finally made a statement for publication. It came through his private secretary, and the surprising part of the whole affair is that it was learned that the justice has a private secretary. The statement is: "Justice Hughes has nothing to say."

Reminds us of the old one: "Mayor Gaylor, when interviewed by the reporter, said: 'I have nothing to say.'"

WORDS SELDOM USED IN POLITE SOCIETY.

Progressive managers at Chicago yesterday issued a list of places where progressives can be found. Must be getting rather scarce.

Suppose the moose party was no more. Would Roosevelt then be the big bull?

For some of us the hardest part of the present warm wave is raising the two bucks for a new straw lid.

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

1913—Mrs. Lotsoflocks spun down the boulevard in his new model.

1914—John Smith figured he had picked up a good bargain.

1915—William Jones knew he had just the thing to take his family out for rides.

1916—Brown's new jitney was bringing in the coin. Plenty of room for several passengers.

ADAM CROOK SEZ

The man who originated the Xpression "nggers don't lie," dyed before Charlie Chaplin begin to make \$870,000 per annum. Bar flies toll not, neither do they spin; the Soly-moon in all his glory was not attired as one of they.

With Other Editors Than Ours

FRANKENSTEINS OF THE OLD GUARD.

(Terre Haute Star.)

One of the humors of politics has developed in the case of Justice Hughes. As everybody knows, he was first mentioned as a presidential quantity by members of the "old guard," and now the old guard is showing signs of grief over having started anything. It was well understood in the beginning by observers of politics that these gablemen did not want Hughes and that they only wished to use him as a club with which to "kill off" Col. Roosevelt.

This they now virtually admit, for while they have not succeeded in killing off the colonel, it has happened that a certain number of republicans who were not initiated into the inner circle have taken the Hughes candidacy seriously and have thereby imperiled the secret plans of the indiscreet old guard. Wherefore it is that the latter is now engaged in an earnest effort to kill off the Hughes boom.

No doubt it can accomplish the feat—it is not a very vituperous boom—but the experience is likely to serve as a lasting warning to those erstwhile shrewd party manipulators against starting something that they do not mean to back up. A painful suspicion also arises that Justice Hughes himself, not being a political infant, realized the insincerity of the use of his name and by remaining non-committal, cruelly allowed the overly eager old guardsmen to go on and hang themselves. They believe him to be capable of just such icy behavior.

OUR POSSIBLE BELLIGERENCY.

(Rochester, N. Y., Democrat and Chronicle.)

Commentators there are who are pleased to assert that the allies in general and England in particular were anxious to see the American-German situation result in war. On the other hand it is not altogether certain that the allies wish us to abandon our position of neutrality. Gabriel Hanotaux, the eminent French writer on foreign affairs, is somewhat impatient with the United States for its passive attitude, but certain English writers think it would be inconvenient to the entente nations if this country was to break off relations with Germany.

The cause of the allies would benefit only a small amount by the aid

Federal Reserve

System Gives U.

S. New Stability

A Washington dispatch to the New York Journal of Commerce says:

In view of the critical situation which is just at present facing the United States in the international way, considerable speculation is being indulged in here in reference to the probable effect of a declaration of war would have on the financial conditions of this country.

It is evident from observations made here that the officials of the administration are placing much confidence in the federal reserve bank system. During the past year or more there has been a decided movement of gold to the United States and at the present time the gold supplies are greater than ever before. At the same time it is doubted whether the United States was in less actual need of the yellow metal. This latter situation has been brought about largely through the inauguration of the federal reserve system. Under this system of combined bank reserves held under government supervision the banking situation is less dependent upon its gold reserve because the reserve banks can come to their aid individually with their note issues.

Banking Strength Increases. Ever since the war in Europe started the banking situation has shown a tendency toward greater strength. The American institutions are now attempting foreign financial operations on a greater scale than ever attempted before. These operations have tended to increase the friendliness of the neutral nations of the world for the United States.

This friendship would be of great value should this country suddenly find itself drawn into the worldwide strife. A declaration of war from Germany or the beginning of war with Mexico as a matter of fact is at the present time, doubtless, looked upon as a less fearful eventuality by American bankers than they have ever before viewed the prospect of a war. It is believed that such a crisis could be passed by the banking community without the least signs of a financial panic, and this means much when panics have been so common to the financial structure of the United States.

Money in the United States is deemed plentiful for all our needs. This was well shown in the last report of condition of the national banks issued by the controller of the currency. The surplus of vaults which is being held in the vaults of the member bank could easily be drawn upon for the aid of the government in case of war. This would result in mutual benefit to the government and the banks.

Better Prepared. On the other hand, it is held that the United States is better prepared financially to enter the war than ever before, even without considering the federal reserve system. When the European war suddenly broke, England was woefully unprepared. Nevertheless England has adopted precautions which aided her over the first shock, and she has now reached a point where the financial outlook is fairly accurately calculated. During this time, however, the American finances have been signally cleaned of foreign entanglements. We could not expect a sudden dumping of American securities on the market, we could not expect any sudden change in the trend of foreign commerce as a result of entering the war. Inasmuch as the economic situation could be altered but little, the finances of the United States are looked upon as signally strong.

The old story of the minister who was notified by the express clerk that his books were leaking has been revised down to date by the Spokane man who was arrested when his trunk sprung a leak.—Astoria, Ore., Astorian.

THIS WILL INTEREST MOTHERS

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