

OUR COUNTRY; OUR PRESIDENT; OUR DUTY

Dr. JOHN E. WHITE.

(Atlanta Constitution, May 17.)

The congregation filled the Second Baptist church last night to hear Dr. John E. White's sermon on the present situation of Germany and the United States. His subject was "Our Country; Our President; Our Duty."

He took three texts which he stated would exactly fit the subject of his sermon.

"Our Country"—"He hath not dealt so with any nation."

"Our President"—"A man shall be as an hiding place from the wind and covert from the tempest."

"Our Duty"—"What does the Lord require of thee but to do justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with thy God?"

Patriotism Deepening.

"The wave of true patriotism," Dr. White said, "is not sweeping, but the waters of true patriotism are deepening in this country. The people of the United States have begun to realize their nation in a new conscience toward it and a new understanding of its vast import to the world. On the screen of vision America for months has been pictured in a tremendous contrast against the background of the European nations. The war has isolated America in moral geography. The words of President Wilson in New York, 'I love America,' defined the movement going on in the hearts of the people. The watchword of the hour is 'We Love America.'"

"I speak for this representative audience when, as the son of a Confederate soldier and a Confederate mother, I say that no sentiment rings truer in my heart than this. 'I Love America.' The people of the South are loving America, are feeling the passion of it and are the truest, purest blooded Americans to the core to be found on this continent. Our fathers loved America when they were doing so much in its foundation.

"The terrible strain of our unhappy war never soured the blood in our veins. But we love America alongside of all Americans now in a new and deep spirit of understanding. We see what America means to God and man. We are beginning to see that our country is sanctified, set apart, and purposed. We realize the strange things in our history—the struggles of the colonists, the perils of the revolution, the strain of the civil war; all these now appear in the light of a divine will which was and is working toward a vast design to make our country an instrument of humanity. We believe God is guiding America for His glory in mankind and that mankind is in some grand sense involved in us. We love America for God's sake and humanity's sake. We are sobered by patriotism like this.

Our President.

"For you I avow the faith that God has given Woodrow Wilson to this country and to the world for such a time as this. He gave us Washington. He gave us Abraham Lincoln. Looking back we see it and believe it.

"Neither of these men more truly incarnated an epoch of American history than Woodrow Wilson does. No president carried the national fate through a greater crisis than this which he is burdened with today.

"It is not because Woodrow Wilson is a Southern man, though I am thankful that a Southern man is called to suffer this great suffering of the nation's anxiety; nor because he is a Democrat, for I care nothing for parties as such; but as an American, I say and you say, 'For Woodrow Wilson thank God.'

"He is as the hiding place from the wind and a covert from the tempest. Irrespective of partisan party considerations I venture to believe that 90 per cent of all the men and women of this country are glad that he is our President at this serious hour. He fairly enthralled the confidence of thoughtful Americans in every section.

"From every region this sense of security in his capacity, his sense, and his moral righteousness is finding expression. We dare not call him a happy man so to hold our power in his hands, nor even to wish that he may be happy in the people's trust, but we want Woodrow Wilson to know that he is a beloved man and that we are ready to follow him in action wherever he may lead us.

Our Duty.

"The days now passing are the gravest days you and I will see in this country in our lifetime. From the beginning it was clear that the European war was going to challenge American nerve and heart to the utmost. Now, suddenly, we face a culminating situation that puts the test straight at us.

"What is our duty—your duty—as citizens at this moment of anxiety and suspense? Duty is the word; nothing less than what you ought in the sight of God, to think and feel and do meets the case. It is no time for flashy passions, no time to listen to men who have a grouch against Germany or who are temperamentally afflicted. Conscience and wisdom are the voices now.

"First, our duty is neutrality as between the war groups of Europe. This is the only statesmanship worth the name for the present condition. It is our strong position—our free-handed, unentangled advantage. Neutrality as defined by the American attitude does not mean indifference, or self-seeking, or dread of trouble. It is the really aggressive policy—the policy that thinks vigorously and prepares us for what may come.

"Second, our duty is protest. Just now we are challenging Germany's soul. The sinking of the Lusitana and the events of similar issue leading to it require nothing short of the challenge the President has issued.

"It is our duty to humanity and to ourselves as human beings—our duty to God over all—to proclaim our shuddering horror of Germany's deed. It was assassination, murder, a horrible barbarism that waylaid a passenger ship of non-combatants, mostly women and children, and with stealth and without warning and with no chance of life and sent her to the bottom.

This Is The Question.

"No nation can be a decent nation now or hereafter which can approve and direct deeds of this character without revulsion or compunction. The question whether Great Britain or France or Russia would not have done the same thing under the same circumstances is of no importance to us. We know that America would not have done it more than once. If any general staff of this country had schemed and executed such a deed we would rise in this country and march to Washington and tear them from their places. Because God damns that sort of thing. Our soul would be at stake. German's soul is at stake, too.

"Third, it is our duty to hope and pray that we shall not have war with Germany. There is every reason for not going to war.

"But if we do have this bitter cup thrust to our lips, let us have one thing understood on the skies—we will not go to war with Germany to help England or France or Russia, but to save the world from diabolism and moral ruin.

"It must require the highest and holiest cause before we abandon hope for peace and good will to draw the American sword.

Relations Strained.

"It may be that relations with Germany are inevitably strained already. The American challenge must offend German pride. That was our duty—our duty to the German people. For after all, the loss of the ill-fated people on the Lusitana is not the horror that makes Americans stand aghast. It is the deed—those who did the deed—the nation that authorized and directed so foul a thing that is horrifying. German power, culture, progressiveness and efficiency cannot atone for murder, and to save the German nation from brutalization is the issue emerging from the wreckage of the Lusitana.

"If we are to go to war we must lift the standard very high or we dare not go, and so I repeat to you: If it means war, let it not be war for England or France, but for humanity in the highest and holiest sense of obligation to the unborn who have the right to a world of humanity and moral civilization.

"America, the mediating nation, can challenge only in the name of righteousness and peace. It is suggested that as a participant in the situation, America's opportunity to mediate would come almost immediately. It is believed that President Wilson has sounded the other neutral governments and will move toward Germany in the present protest with these governments by his side. It is an anxious hour. It is a time for Christians to pray much for Germany. Meanwhile our duty demands that passions and bully pugilism be least of all things respected among us.

"But some things are worth dying for. Let us never forget that, Justice is one of these things, and mercy is another. This nation cannot walk humbly with God if it does not do justly and love mercy even unto the altar."

"Capital" of "Jarvis County"

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towns of Raleigh and Fayetteville. But the whole county is making roads that are as good as the Washington and Atlanta road, and some of them much better than most of the Capital Highway.

The big cotton factory at Duke at the present is driven by steam, but out on the river a few miles away is the possible power of Smiley's falls, one of the promising rapids of the Cape Fear river. Here is not only a fine and valuable water power, but one of the most picturesque spots on the Cape Fear river. The falls extend about three miles up and down the river, having a fall in that distance of 27 feet, an exceedingly rugged bottom, and a rocky channel most of the distance. The road from Duke to Lillington crosses the river at the falls, a new and substantial iron bridge spanning the stream high above the water, and the view is one of interest. The rocky rapids are in sigh up and down the river for a long distance. Several thousand horsepower is available at the Smiley falls, and it would seem that the Duke proposition is ideal all the way through. Here is raw cotton without any limit, power to run thousands of looms, an ideal climate for operatives, roads that are reaching out to all sections, ample railroad facilities, farm communities that will supply all manner of food stuffs. Health conditions are of the best, the water supply is up to the highest standard as the water of all the coast region is where it has the sand as a gigantic filter.

Harnett Favored in Power.

Harnett is highly favored when it comes to power. Besides Smiley's Falls, near Duke, farther up the river comes the Battle Falls and Buckhorn, both of considerable magnitude, besides a succession of smaller rapids between. The whole descent of the river from Buckhorn to the foot of Smiley's Falls is about ninety feet in twenty-four miles, or nearly four feet to the mile. This fall is conspicuous at points like McAllister's, Fox Island and Douglas Falls. In the old days when the Cape Fear River was fitted with dams and locks in the hope of making it a navigable stream dams were in existence at these three points as well as at three places on Smiley's Falls and at Battle Falls and Buckhorn. The reconstruction of dams at all these places would provide from 10,000 to 20,000 horse power in Harnett county alone. Buckhorn is the only one of the power sites that has been utilized, but it is doing its share of the work of the community, its power and light service going out to all the territory round about, providing the towns in the neighborhood with electric current for all purposes and giving them strictly modern airs and convenience.

There is always a possibility that the iron industry of the Cape Fear valley may come back. Years ago before the enormous deposits of hematite iron was discovered in the Lake Superior country from Buckhorn up the river was the site of considerable and thriving iron producing business. Furnaces were at the dam at Buckhorn falls, which furnished a steady and dependable power. From there up to Lockville and Carbondon activity prevailed. Forty years ago the greater deposits of ore elsewhere and the financial difficulties that overtook the country put a stop to the iron industry of the Cape Fear valley, and it has not yet revived. Whether it has any prospects or not is hard to say. But if iron has no chance here other things have, and the old iron romances are left as a figure in the interesting history and traditions of what is destined before many years to be a great manufacturing valley.

Final Battle of War.

Not far from Dunn was fought one of the final battles of the civil war. As Sherman's troops moved eastward toward Raleigh they were met at Blue's mountain, in Moore county, by Hardee's command. From there they pressed forward on the Fayetteville and Goldsboro road until at the little settlement of Averasboro Joe E. Johnston confronted them with his army, and the skirmish that had been running along the line of march for several miles culminated in a battle in which a considerable number fell on both sides. The Federal dead were removed to Raleigh. The Confederates lie in the little cemetery on the battlefield, marked by what is said to be the first monument erected to the memory of the soldiers of the Confederacy. Most of the dead are unknown, and the whole field of action is without distinguishing marks.

The battlefield of Averasboro is not one of the great fields of the war, but it is a part of history, and the peculiar part it had in the fierce struggle entitles it to recognition on the part of the government. While men are still living who saw the encounter and can locate the points of action the government should be prevailed on to mark the scenes of the various actions that the student and the traveler of the days to come may have a knowledge of their country. From Averasboro Sherman went eastward to Bentonville where Johnston made another stand, but Lee surrendering to Grant the end was at hand, and at Durham the flag that for four years had led a vigorous hope was furled to become henceforth a memory. One of the most interesting fea-

tures of travel abroad are the many marks that tell of the big things the nations have done. In America the tablets and monuments that mark the achievements of men are always sought by strangers who see any field of action whether military or otherwise. The monuments at Gettysburg, at Chattanooga, at the fields, on the little fields, are part of the written page of history. Nothing that would make plain to the travelers who come the Capital Highway from Washington to Fayetteville the fact that here was practically concluded the great struggle between the two sections of our country and that in the little cemetery at the battleground are bivouacked the last commands.

A. and W. Brings Joy.

Just now Harnett is favored by the fact that the Atlantic and Western road, which runs from Sanford to Lillington, is about to be extended eastward to the coast. Engineers have been put on the line from Lillington to Mt. Olive, and as soon as the construction a force will start, it is expected that within the next three or four weeks this will be under way. As soon as the line is built from Lillington to Mt. Olive the loop connecting Lillington and Benson will be broken, and Harnett will be opened to the other east and west line with connections with the Seaboard and the Southern at Sanford. The Atlantic and Western is a road that opens up for its traffic on the development of the country it traverses, and as a means to bring out a good trucking and farming country it will probably building the extension and the country it serves will profit by the construction of the railroad.

Dunn is a pretty good place for other towns to take a look at for it has been alive ever since the day when the engineers made the map of the site, and if it never becomes the county seat of Jarvis or any other county, it is bound to keep its own, whatever county it may be one of the active members of the State government. And Harnett is going to be along with the crowd when anything is doing, whether there is a Jarvis county or not.

Gloom Marks Your Face.

H. Addington Bruce, author of "The Riddle of Personality," "Escalator and Parenthood," etc.

The modern scientific physician is familiar with the changes in facial appearance caused by any long continued state of mind, has no difficulty in detecting the chronic pessimist.

Even when in absolute repose the face of the habitual overburdened betrays unfailing indications of the depressing mental state he always carries with him.

It is important that all should know these indications as a means of self-improvement. There are many people handicapped by gloom who are honestly unaware that the trouble with them lies in a faulty mental attitude.

If they could understand the story told by their faces they would appreciate the importance of changing their state of mind.

The next time anything occurs that seriously depresses you, take a look at your face in the mirror.

You will find that your eyebrows have assumed an oblique position, that there are transverse furrows across the middle of your forehead, and that the corners of your mouth are drawn down.

At some later time, when you are feeling perfectly tranquil, study your face in the mirror again. These peculiar signs of depression should now be entirely absent.

If they are not, you can take it for certain that, without appreciating it, you have developed an outlook so gloomy as, physically, to mar the appearance of your face, and morally, to make it difficult for you to lead a really efficient life.

You should at once make it your business to smooth out these terrible lines and wrinkles.

This you can do by resolutely determining to look only on the bright side of things, to seek diversion of mind, and to cultivate habits of sociability instead of the aloofness which you will find has hitherto been characteristic of you.

Think less of your own feelings, banish all gloomy thoughts, uphold within yourself an attitude of confident hopefulness. Look for the silver lining in every cloud that crosses the horizon of your life.

You will discover that this pays and pays extremely well, from the standpoint of both improved looks and greater success in your daily work.

1,000 Bales Yet in Catawba.

Newton Enterprise. Cotton is nine cents but none is being sold on this market. The Enterprise learns from a mill man that there are a thousand or more bales still around in the country—at least that many are known, and there may be more. In several lots there are many as fifty and 100 bales.

Different Viewpoints.

From Punch Bowl. "How did the poker game come out?" "I won 40 cents, Dick won 10 cents and the rest lost proportionately." "Rather a close game." "I should say it was."