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THE COMMERCIAL

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THE HAND OF GOD

A Prophecy of the European War by a Californian.

The sun stood still upon Gibeon, and the moon was stayed, five kings fled and hid themselves in the cave of Makedab, and the Amorites were delivered unto Joshua.

There came also another time when the sea was divided and the children of Israel passed dry shod between the walls of the parted waters. And when the hosts of Pharaoh followed, the waters closed in upon them, engulfed their chariots and swallowed up the armies of the Egyptians, foot, horse and dragon, to the last man.

And upon still a time again, amidst the revelry and the drunken feast, the doom of Babylon was written against the candlestick on the plaster of the wall in the palace of Belsazzar.

It was all very long ago, in the days of old, and the hand of God was on the world.

And, things like unto these have happened now, and in every thoughtful mind the question arises: Is the hand of God upon the world again?

We have the facts above related from history. They are chronicled in the Bible, which, among other things, is the best authenticated history in existence. The statements must be true. No scholar now disputes the statements set down in the Bible, irrespective of his religious beliefs, or whether he has religious beliefs at all.

It being a perfectly authenticated fact that there were times in the past when God interfered with or directed the affairs of men in this world, is it not logical to suppose that he may well do so again?

It is the same old world that God flung out of the hollow of his hand. Man is the same being of soul and body now that he was before the Pyramids were builded or Noah set out in the Ark on the vast adventure of the deluge.

Surely there is as much reason to suppose that the hand of God is, therefore, upon the world now as in any other time of the past.

And if it be true, then it must also be true that there is a God and that he still rules the world. And, this being true, every other fact of which we have possession sinks into trifling insignificance.

Without attempting anything far-fetched, is it possible for one who has knowledge of both old times and new to find parallels in Bible history with the events of the past four years?

Not only is this possible, but the parallels are so sharp and so striking as to leave one almost breathless with astonishment.

Is it far-fetched to liken the heroic stand of Belgium against Germany in this war to that day when the sun stood still on Gibeon in order that Joshua might have more time?

The war would have ended with victory for Germany in less than three months after it began had not Belgium barred the path of the Hun as he rushed with his mighty armies to Paris. Neither France nor England was ready. It all depended on Belgium to make the sun stand still until they could be ready.

And that is just what Belgium did. In all the annals of wars there has never been a stand so heroic. Albert of Belgium is the Joshua of our times.

And again, even as the seas parted for the children of Israel, and they passed safely between the parted walls of the waters, so have the great ships passed with 2,000,000 Americans thru mine-sown billows and shoals of deadly submarines, reaching the shores of France almost unharmed and with scarcely the loss of a man.

It was the boast of Germany that we could not land an army in Europe to fight against her, and she was well prepared to carry out her boast. But our army has landed. Its flag unfurled its stars of glory on Flanders' fields; its arms turned the tides of battle to victory on the Marne.

There will be explanations of the wonder of this by those who make maps and diagrams, and who deal in the chemistry of depth bombs and the machinery of engines. But, will their explanations wholly satisfy? Will there not still be something of it yet that can be explained only by the nature of a miracle?

And, lastly, are not the kings seeking again the shelter of the caves?

Has not the writing been seen on the walls of the palace of the Huns? All-highest king, playing like forked lightnings amidst the battle lusts of his re-born Babylon?

Now that we know the stupendous scheme on which Germany planned this war, and, knowing also how thoroughly prepared she was to carry her plans to a successful conclusion, and knowing also how ill prepared the rest of the world was to withstand the onslaught, how shall we explain Germany's utter defeat?

It was the hand of God that defeated Germany. There is no other explanation that can ever hope to satisfy the mind of any sane man.

With her allies armed to the teeth, and trained down to the last minute, Prussia would have crushed the world had only man opposed her.

Say what you will, you cannot escape this conclusion when all the facts are before you. The power of man in all the rest of the world stood futile to bar the path of Prussia and the Central Powers when they set forth, four years ago, to lay the whole world at their feet.

But, there is a greater power than man. And that's all that could or did save the world. The hand of God reached down from the high heavens and barred the Prussian's path. And it has sent him now reeling, bloody and broken, back to the waters of the Rhine.

Is it not all very plain and easy to see? Go back upon the fiery pathway of the past four years and you will have no trouble to find an answer to every doubt.

You will come upon that hour when the nations of the heroic and forever immortal Entente were at their last gasp. And then America stepped in.

America had voted to stay out of the war. Her people, with one voice and one mind, had determined to keep hands off. It was in no way a quarrel of ours.

And yet, what happened? Day by day we saw ourselves being drawn in. Incident after incident occurred to force us into the fight. Germany, egged on by what can be explained only as fatality, acting against her own reason and every element of common sense, flung one insult and injury after another in our very faces till we simply had to fight.

What was that but the hand of God directing and ordering the affairs of men?

For, from the very moment that America declared war against Germany, the unholy cause for which Germany contended was irretrievably and forever lost.

Yet, Germany did not fear us. Her allies did not fear us. They knew we had no army. And they knew we had no ships to carry an army to Europe, though we would raise an army up. And those were the facts.

But, in less than one year we had both the army and the ships. In less than a year the brood of the bald eagle had broken Germany across its knees.

Wherefore, shall we ask the engineers and the map makers and the chemists to explain to us how was done this thing that the greatest engineers and map makers and chemists in the world said could not be done?

They cannot give the answer. We must instead look up to the mystery of the stars and try to see the hand of God reaching down thru their majesty and infinite tracteries.

In this wonderful hour—the most wonderful that the world has ever known, save one—even the most elemental intelligence must bow humbly down in acknowledgment of the Lord God of the Ages.

When we think of Armenia, safe after more than a thousand years from the incessant butchery of the filthy and unspeakable Turks; when we think of Poland freed at last from the nameless and indescribable torture of Prussia and the awful curse that Bismark put upon her; when we think of one enslaved people after another shaking now the shackles from their limbs and standing once more radiant and glad in the loving and all-embracing sun, we behold the miracles not less than any told in holy writ.

Therefore, the inevitable conclusion must be that God is still in his heavens. His hand is still upon us.

And this being plainly the case, it is for the people of the world to vow themselves to God for all time to come. They must never again surrender their liberties to kings or to groups of statesmen or soldiers. They must have no king but God.

TAXING DISTRICT ELECTION NO. SIX

Taxing District Election Called.

AN ACT to provide for an election to ascertain the will of the Legal voters of the Sixth Civil District of Obion County, Tennessee, on the question of a special high school tax.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Tennessee, That it shall be the duty of the election commissioners of Obion County to open, and hold an election on March 1, 1919, at the regular voting places in the Sixth Civil District of Obion County for the purpose of ascertaining the will of the majority of the legal voters of said district upon the question of special high school tax.

Section 2. Be it further enacted, That all voters legally qualified to vote in State and County elections in said district shall be qualified to vote in said election.

Section 3. Be it further enacted, That upon the ballots to be voted in said election there shall be printed the words: "For Special High School Tax," and the words, "Against Special High School Tax," and those voters desiring to vote for the tax shall place an X mark opposite the words "For the Special High School Tax," and those voters desiring to vote against the tax shall place an X mark opposite the words "Against the Special High School Tax."

Section 4. Be it further enacted, That the registration box for the said Sixth Civil District shall be kept open for supplemental registration by the election commissioners on Saturday, February 15, 1919, at the usual places in said district for supplemental registration, and that said election commissioners shall publish a joint notice of said supplemental registration and said election in one issue of a newspaper published in Obion County, Tennessee, and issued not later than February 8, 1919.

Section 5. Be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the election commissioners to appoint the following citizens of the Sixth Civil District of Obion County, Tennessee, to hold said election:

At Troy—Officer, J. Lee Hughes; Judges, Joe Bennett, F. A. Bumpass, T. N. Neeley, Clerks, J. H. Blanton, John E. Moffatt.

At Polk—Officer, R. L. Andrews; Judges, S. C. Erwin, Mike Buchanan, Ross Brown; Clerks, Jas. G. Cunningham, H. F. Anderson.

Should any of the above officers, judges or clerks refuse or fail to serve, it shall be the duty of the election commissioners to make other appointments to fill the vacancies.

Section 6. Be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the election commissioners to canvass the vote and certify the result within three days after said election to the Representatives and Senator representing Obion County in the 61st General Assembly of Tennessee.

Section 7. Be it further enacted, That this act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Soldiers Dine.

Under the supervision of Capt. Claud V. Andrews and Mayor F. L. Pittman Company K, N. G., and the returned soldiers from camp and overseas were tendered an eight o'clock dinner at the armory on First street last Thursday night.

The long tables extending the full length of the hall were filled. Prof. Tate and his orchestra were present to entertain the speakers and diners. Mr. Pittman was voted toastmaster, and the speakers of the occasion were Rev. J. Randall Farris, Dr. J. B. Adkerson, Dr. W. M. Turner, Rev. H. A. Todd, Capt. Andrews, and on behalf of the soldiers Claude Roland, of the Forty-second Division, who has been gassed by the Huns, told some interesting experiences. Others were Harry Duncan, Fletcher Moss, P. I. Chandler.

The supper was of fried chicken, prepared at Dahnke's, and accessories of an extensive character, which were all very fine.

and broken world that lies under our feet to-day, there must be made a new world in which there shall be no more hatreds, no more wars.

Under the banner of the Prince of Peace, all men must be as brothers, else the hand of God has come again upon the world for naught.—Los Angeles Times, Nov. 10, 1918.

American Red Cross.

Mr. J. A. Baird, Union City, Tenn.—Dear Sir: Will you please publish this article for the benefit of the good people, who devoted their time, attention and consideration to the Red Cross work. They are the ones who deserve the credit. They that helped to make it so pleasant and comfortable for us fellows in the hospitals. I speak from experience, being now a patient in Base No. 1, Base Hospital, Paris, having been wrecked in an airplane. It is the Red Cross that gives us the many enjoyments we have. For instance, moving pictures nightly, a lady to play the piano for us at anytime, always ink and paper. They give out candies, cakes, cookies, doughnuts—barrels of them, games of all kinds, tobacco, musical instruments and teach us to play them. Who does this? The Red Cross. Most of this is the ladies' part. They are just like a big sister to us, and I have seen the nurse in my ward cry like her heart would break when one thing went bad with one of her boys. That is one of the thousand—all just as loyal as they can be. I relate this because I heard the Red Cross people criticized in their work an A. E. F. I am confident the Red Cross has done their bit among the boys. I will admit that transportation facilities caused a holdup with them at times. But we must consider that the army and supplies had to come first. So their delay was due to the command and demand of higher up. Personally I wish to thank them one and all. They who have helped to make it so pleasant for me during my stay in the hospital. I can assure you your services were not rendered in vain. I will soon be leaving the hospital, 15th of the month I think, to Coblenz, Germany. Three hours ride from Paris to Coblenz by airplane, beats an eighteen-hour train ride and not so tiresome. We go up to reinforce the First and Second Division with air service. Still I hope to see dear old Union City sometime in June. Thanking you, one and all, I beg to remain
A friend,
SGT. J. M. COLDWELL.
1st A. S. M. R., A. E. F., Jan. 10.

In France.

Mrs. Elgyan Callis: My Dear Little Wife: I'll try to write you today as it's New Year's day. But before another month passes we will be in dear old U. S. A. What a glorious day that will be to us.

Well, how are you and the boy? I am well and fattening every day. If I get much fatter you won't know me when I get back. I guess you all had a good time Christmas. Old Santa didn't forget me if I was over here. The Y. M. C. A. gave all of us a box containing candy, cigars, cigarettes and smoking tobacco. You may know we appreciated it too, and besides we sure had a good dinner. We had another big dinner to-day, and went to another show last night and am going to another one tonight. I guess you all are having plenty of snow and cold weather by now. We have plenty of rain but haven't had much snow and it's not so cold here.

Well, I wish I could see you all, but it is impossible now. Think I will be home by the last of February anyway, but can't tell for sure. Tell everybody hello for me, and take good care of the boy and yourself until I get home. I long for that day to come for us to meet again. Well, I'll have to close, hoping to hear from you again soon.

PVT. ELGYAN CALLIS.
Sampigny, France, Jan. 1, 1919.

Tobacco Brings 25 Cents.

Hickman, Ky., Jan. 31.—J. F. McClellan, residing in the Cayce vicinity, ten miles east of here, disposed of his entire tobacco crop this past week, receiving 25 cents per pound straight for his entire crop. Cayce is about the nearest tobacco grown to Hickman, the east end of this county or east half most growing tobacco and the west half cotton.

Election of Officers.

A meeting of the Obion County National Farm Loan Association was held here at the courthouse last Monday afternoon and the following officers elected: G. W. Phebus, Jr., president; D. C. Maddox, vice president; J. H. Shore, secretary-treasurer; W. W. Agnew, J. E. Olive, Ed Kirkland, local appraisers.



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Kidney troubles don't disappear of themselves. They grow slowly but steadily, undermining health with deadly certainty, until you fall a victim to incurable disease. Stop your troubles while there is time. Don't wait until little pains become big aches. Don't trifle with disease. To avoid future suffering begin treatment with GOLD MEDAL Haarlem Oil Capsules now. Take three or four every day until you are entirely free from pain. This well-known preparation has been one of the national remedies of Holland for centuries. In 1896 the government of the Netherlands granted a special charter authorizing its preparation and sale.

The housewife of Holland would almost as soon be without food as without her "Real Dutch Drops," as she quaintly calls GOLD MEDAL Haarlem Oil Capsules. They restore strength and are responsible in a great measure for the sturdy, robust health of the Hollanders.

Do not delay. Go to your drugist and insist on his supplying you with GOLD MEDAL Haarlem Oil Capsules. Take them as directed, and if you are not satisfied with results your drugist will gladly refund your money. Look for the name GOLD MEDAL on the box and accept no other. In sealed boxes, three sizes.