

EDISON'S VOICE IN RECORDS

Inventor of Phonograph, for the First Time, Makes Short Speech Which Will Be Preserved.

Thomas A. Edison, who invented the phonograph 42 years ago, has for the first time consented to have his own voice recorded on a phonograph record. The reproduction, which is on the back of a record containing the national anthems of our allies, was heard recently for the first time in the Edison laboratory at Orange, N. J.

Mr. Edison celebrated his 72nd birthday on February 11. The talk, which is Mr. Edison's first comment about the war since America entered the fight, follows:

"Our boys made good in France. The word 'American' has a new meaning in Europe. Our soldiers have made it mean courage, generosity, self-restraint and modesty. We are proud of the North Americans who risked their lives for the liberty of the world, but we must not forget, and we must not permit demagogues to belittle the part played by our gallant allies. Their casualty lists tell the story.

"However proud we may be of our own achievements, let us remember always that the war could not have been won if the Belgians, British, French and Italians had not fought like bulldogs in the face of overwhelming odds. The great war will live vividly in the minds of Americans for the next 100 years. I hope that when we do, reverence to the memory of our brave boys who fell in France we shall not forget their brothers in arms who wore the uniforms of our allies.

"I believe that the national airs of France, Great Britain, Italy and Belgium should for all time to come be as familiar to us as our own 'Star-Spangled Banner.'"

BRIDAL FLOWERS HERE AGAIN

That Orange Blossoms Are in the Market Is a Sure Harbinger of World Peace.

One interesting sign of the coming of peace has been the reappearance of real orange blossoms at weddings. During the war they were difficult to obtain, owing to the fact that they came as a rule from France. Nearly all the orange flowers which are used at smart marriages in London and Paris are grown in the sheltered valleys of the Alps Maritimes behind the Riviera.

Here there are orchards of orange trees scattered over the sunny slopes, and the local peasantry devote most of their time to growing the beautiful flowers. No attempt is made to get the fruit, seeing that the orange trees are solely cultivated for the sake of the glistening blooms.

A large part of the floral crop finds its way to the perfume factories of Grasse, but the choicest sprays are picked for the London and Paris markets. Orange flowers keep fresh for a considerable time, and they stand the journey to England very well, arriving in perfect condition.—London News.

Kangaroo Scored Knockout.

"Ned Kelly, the old buck kangaroo, has been having a fight with the boss stag of the axis deer herd," said Sergeant McGee of the San Francisco park police, "and it is the first time I ever heard of two herbivorous animals so widely different in species finding common ground for a quarrel.

"As a matter of fact, it was the axis deer that started the trouble. He was trying to show off before the does and started butting at poor old Ned Kelly who was peacefully lolloping about with no thought for trouble. The first butt of the deer set Ned thinking, the second set him mad, the third—well, Ned Kelly just turned about and gave the axis deer one wallop under the stomach with its tail. You could hear the smack five blocks away, and it simply knocked the deer flat. It dropped as if it had been shot, while Ned Kelly just hopped away as happy as a bird."

One Thing More.

A pretty girl fluttered over to a neighbor's house Sunday last to borrow some writing paper. She had an important letter to write and mail, and she was out of stationery. About half an hour later she returned for an envelope, and a little later still came back for a stamp. "Well, I hope that's all she wants to borrow today," said the disgruntled neighbor woman as she slammed the door after the pretty girl. "She needs a little 'spit' to make the stamp adhere," said the neighbor woman's husband "and she'll be over after that in a minute."—Arkansas Thomas Cat (Hot Springs, Ark.).

Insurance Against Tuberculosis.

Dr. P. J. Menard outlines in the *Press Medicale* a plan for universal compulsory insurance against tuberculosis, the funds from which would serve for the fight against tuberculosis. His scheme is something like compulsory social insurance against sickness, but the tax or insurance dues imposed would include all classes of society, not merely the wage earners. He protests that the fight against tuberculosis should not be left to charity or private initiative.

Unduly Apprehensive.

"I hope they'll make some exceptions in taxing luxuries," remarked the plain person.

"Are you expecting to be hit?" "I might be. One of the greatest luxuries I know of is sitting around the house in my shirt sleeves and reading the paper."

The World's Next Step

NO. 6

What Is Our Duty in Connection With the League of Nations?

BY CLARENCE L. SPEED
(Written for and Approved by the Illinois Branch of League to Enforce Peace)

"What is my duty as an individual in connection with the league of nations?" you may ask. "What have I got to do with this big world question? Will any action on my part have any influence on the forces that are now settling the destinies of the world?"

Every citizen of the United States has a duty to perform now, in connection with the league of nations, just as urgent as he had when we were at war. You did not hesitate to do your part then just because you were only one of a hundred million and on the theory that any little saving or investing or working that you could do would have little effect toward defeating Germany.

Every individual citizen is represented in Washington by a senator. You may not know him; may never have seen him. Nevertheless he has some respect for your opinions; he wishes to win your vote once more. If he did not respect the opinions of his constituents he would be a queer person if he is sent to Washington to carry out the wishes of the majority of the voters.

Now the United States senate is the body which has the power to ratify or reject treaties. The British premier has promised to submit the peace treaty to parliament for its approval, too; but he has just had an election and knows where parliament stands. When the representatives of all or most of the other nations sign the treaty of peace, that is all that is necessary. It then becomes operative.

But America will not be at peace with Germany nor will it be a member of the league of nations until the senate has ratified the treaty. If the senate should refuse to ratify it, we would then be in the position of being at war when all the remainder of the world was at peace, and of being outside of a league of nations which embraced most of the other important countries.

"Is it possible," you may ask, "that the senate could fail to ratify a treaty and thus leave us out in the cold? Are we ready to stand alone in this federated world? Can we assume the role of China and build a wall of exclusiveness around us?"

Looked at in that light it does not seem possible; yet when one listens to the speeches made daily in the senate it does seem as though many senators are far from ready to vote for the treaty which contains a provision for a league of nations. They may believe that they are backed by the voters. It is our duty as voters to let them know whether they are carrying out our wishes or not.

In this series of articles there has been no attempt to present an argument that the constitution of the league of nations as it stands is a perfect document. There very likely is room for many improvements. If there were not, it would be an exception to every other constitution ever adopted.

Conditions may arise a decade or century from now of which we can have no conception at this time, any more than the framers of the American Constitution could have foreseen the developments of today.

But there can be no doubt that the world, as a whole, now disapproves of war and denies the necessity for war, and that the league of nations as now proposed is a sincere effort to do away with the danger of war.

There is every reason to believe that it stands more than a fair chance of succeeding, while it is so drawn as to present few if any perils that we have not always had with us if it fails to succeed.

The constitution of the league does not prevent the United States from doing anything it wants to do, for the reason that the United States has no designs on the property of its neighbors. It does not impose any new burdens upon us comparable with the war debt which has just been heaped on us through no fault or desire of our own.

The league may call upon the United States to do its part in governing some of the backward portions of the globe until they are ready to govern themselves. This may entail some expense; some trouble, possibly some small loss of American lives, as in the case of the Philippines, but nothing in comparison to the losses in men and money sustained in our participation in what was for us only the far end of a great world war.

Every man must do his duty in his own community, if he expects good government. If he believes in the league of nations, it is his duty now to let his representatives in the senate know it. If he does not, it likewise is his duty to make his beliefs known.

The plain people, the world over, are letting it be known that they are against international war. Most of them believe that the league of nations is now the one way to prevent it. If you so believe, you are not doing your duty, unless you let your senator know that you want the treaty ratified.

Illinois senators are Medill McCormick, 111 West Washington street, Chicago, Ill., and Lawrence Y. Sherman, Springfield, Ill. Communications may be sent them at these addresses.

Further information regarding the league of nations, including pamphlets, may be obtained at the office of the Illinois state branch of the League to Enforce Peace, 342 Monadnock block, Chicago, Ill.

HUGE ORGAN WILL FURNISH MUSIC FOR METHODIST CENTENARY CELEBRATION

SHIMMERING, pulsating strings; liquid, sparkling flutes; broad, dignified diapasons; militant, exultant trumpets and reeds from the plaintive vox humana; the contemplative orchestral oboe; the ringing French horn and the quaint clarinet to the massive, compelling sonorosness of the great 32-foot bombard and its accompanying battery of brilliant tubas, comprise the four divisions of the huge organ which is being installed in the Coliseum at the exposition grounds for the Methodist Centenary celebration to be held in Columbus, June 20 to July 13.

The organ is being built under the direct supervision of W. J. Kraft, director of music at Columbia university, by Moller of Hagerstown, Md. It will cost about \$50,000.

The instrument compares favorably with the largest organs now in use," said Professor Kraft. "It is much larger than the municipal organ at Portland, Me. The organ has 98 stops, having as subdivision great, swell, choir, solo and echo. It will have the divisions of woodwind, brass, strings, harp and chimes. It is my purpose to invite some of the leading organists of the world to come to the celebration and give recitals."

Mr. Moller, builder of the organ, said: "I know of no organ in the country which has the power or so many modern appliances as that being built for the Centenary celebration. It will probably hold the record for being the largest organ used for any religious gathering."

There are three separate blowing plants, requiring 25 horse-power, with centrifugal electric blowers and generators. The console is movable, being connected with the organ by a flexible cable, located immediately in front of the stage at the west end of the auditorium. The organ covers a floor space of 900 square feet and weighs approximately eight tons. The blowers furnish 6,300 cubic feet of air per minute. Twenty-one miles of wire have been installed. The pipes range from three-quarters of an inch in length to 32 feet.

In planning the accompaniment for congregational singing in an auditorium seating 10,000 people, the committee in charge of the preparatory

NEGROES WILL TAKE PROMINENT PART IN METHODIST CENTENARY CELEBRATION

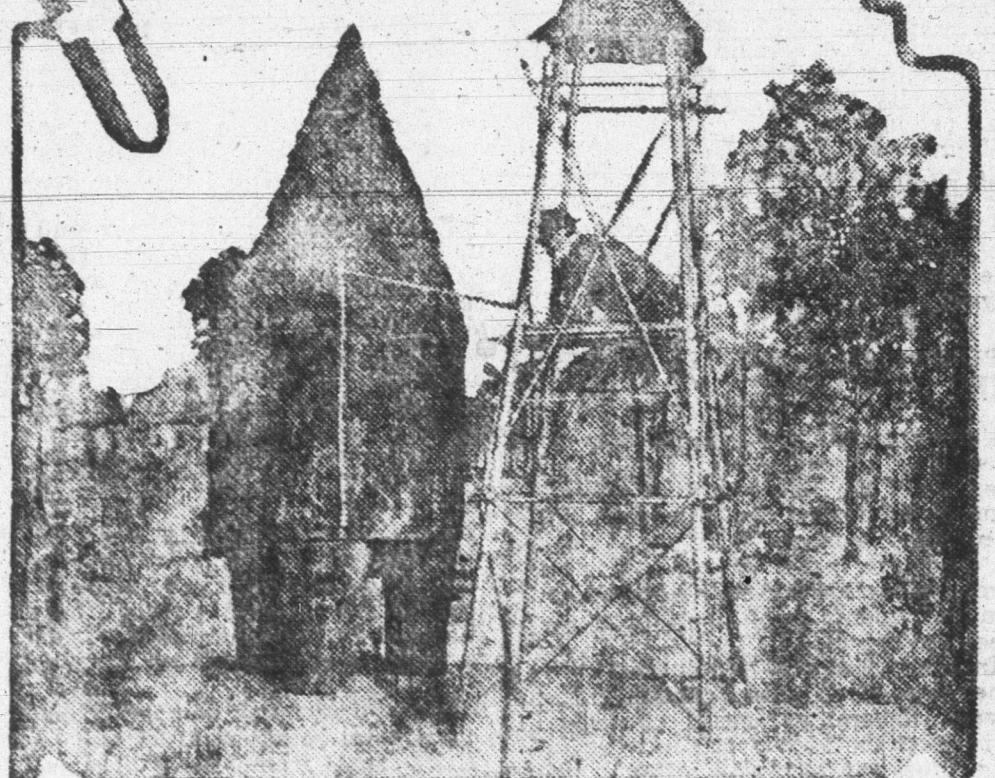
IHE Methodist Centenary celebration, which will be held in Columbus, O., June 20 to July 13, will for all time establish recognition for the negro on the international church map by transferring him from his traditional racial role of recipient to that of a potent contributor to the world's religious uplift.

"The very fact that Methodism is celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of missions is a tribute to the zeal and the consecration of its negro membership exemplified in the person of John Stewart, a negro member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who started at

Upper Sandusky, O., the first home

siding over the A. M. E. church of Tennessee; Dr. E. W. S. Hammond, editor of church literature, Rushville, Ind.; Dr. J. W. Robinson; Dr. G. R. Bryant and Dr. E. M. Carroll of Chicago; Dr. R. E. Jones, editor of the Southwestern Christian Advocate; Dr. W. M. Brooks of New York; number of college presidents and district superintendents as well as a host of well educated, intelligent men and women, lay representatives of the varied fields of African Methodist church activities.

Columbus boasts of eight African Methodist churches, a new Y. M. C. A. building, valued at \$100,000; two community social center houses, one



SCENE OF A VILLAGE IN AFRICA.

One of the Many Features of the African Exhibit at the Centenary Celebration.

missionary work ever done in our country," said Dr. E. L. Gilliam, pastor of the St. Paul's A. M. E. church of Columbus and chairman of the African Centenary bureau, in a recent interview.

Among negroes of prominence who will be in Columbus to take part in the Centenary proceedings are Bishop Alexander Camphor of Monrovia, Africa; Bishop Issah Scott of Nassau, Tont; Dr. W. A. C. Hughes, field secretary of the Board of Home Missions; Dr. F. M. Delaney of the Cincinnati-Mayville district and A. M. Jones, field secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools; Dr. W. S. Shortell, field secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions; Dr. J. H. G. Cogges, field secretary of the Board of Temperance; Dr. L. G. Penn, corresponding secretary of the Freedmen's Aid Society; Bishop O. A. Carter, pre-

acher on the tax duplicate for \$25,000, the other for \$20,000; a Y. W. C. A. war community center, a theater and a movie house and two good hotels.

A thoroughly organized African

NO "BEST" MONTH

Time of Birth Has Little to Do With Genius.

Statistics Show That Nature Practically Plays No Favorites in Her Production of the Gifted Ones of the Earth.

Astrologers believe that the planets "reigning" at the time of birth govern us throughout life, and that, from a literary point of view certain months are more favorable than others in which to be born.

Taking the hundred best British writers since the day of Chaucer, no less than forty-eight were born in the four months February, May, August and November.

In February were born Charles Dickens, Pepys, the diarist, and Thomas Moore, while of more modern date and fame are George Meredith, Israel Zangwill, Anthony Hope, Harrison Ainsworth and Wilkie Collins.

Pope and Addison were both born in May, as also were Browning, Rossini, Moore, Bulwer Lytton, Thomas Hood, Jerome K. Jerome, and Sir James M. Barrie.

August seems to be the birthmonth of poets, for in that month were born Dryden, Herrick, Scott, Shelley, Southey and Tennyson.

Apparently November is an unlucky month for literary people, for among those who were born in November are Thomas Chatterton, who, in disappointment and poverty, committed suicide at eighteen; William Cowper, who suffered from melancholia and suicidal mania, and finally died insane; Oliver Goldsmith, continually in prison for debt; John Bunyan, who spent 12 years in prison, thereby giving us "Pilgrim's Progress"; Swift, subject to fits of passion and ill-humor, died insane;

Robert Louis Stevenson suffered from almost continual ill-health, and died at forty-four.

So much for the "favored months." Of the others, January saw the birth of Bobbie Burns, Byron and Lewis Carroll, author of "Alice in Wonderland," who was also a famous mathematician.

March was the birthmonth of Smollett and Steele, as also of Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

In April was born the greatest genius the English language has known, William Shakespeare, while among others born in this month were Wordsworth, Keble, Heber, Swinburne and Herbert. Charlotte Bronte and Anthony Trollope were also born in this month.

June is not a very good month, Charles Reade and Charles Kingsley being the only two writers.

July gave us Thackeray and George Bernard Shaw, and those interested in astrology may find a resemblance between the two satirists.

September and October were both poor months, Mrs. Hemans and H. G. Wells being born in September and Coleridge, Keats and Sheridan in October.

Finally Milton, Gray and Matthew Arnold were born in December, as were also Jane Austin and Carlyle.

So there is hope for most people as far as birthmonths are concerned.

Reproducing the Talmud.

One of the circumstances due to the war is that it has been found necessary to reproduce the plates for printing the Hebrew Talmud, originally produced in the town of Wilna, Russia. When this city was captured by Germany the electrotypes of the Talmud, it is reported, were used for ammunition. To reset the work in Hebrew would take years with an ordinary outfit.

It was found necessary that the plates should be made by photo-engraving, and this work is now being done in Montreal under the auspices of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada.

The Talmud contains 9,000 pages, 8 by 14, and it is divided into 18 volumes. The first volume is finished, and the second is in print now. It is estimated that it will take about two years before the work is completed.

Army Animals Bought Abroad.

Not all of the animals used by the United States expeditionary forces in overseas service were taken from this country. More than twice as many were bought abroad. The total number of animals purchased overseas to January 11, 1919, is 152,336. Purchases of horses in France amounted to 109,848; in Spain, 1,531; and in Great Britain, 11,908. The value of purchases in France was \$43,122,094; in Spain, \$589,160; and Great Britain, \$5,314,711, or a total value of \$49,256,963 for 123,277 horses purchased overseas. The total number of mules purchased overseas amounted to 29,059, with a value of \$11,115,847. There were 9,341 mules, valued at \$2,895,928, purchased in France; 12,941 mules, with a value of \$5,619,156, purchased in Spain; and 6,777 mules, valued at \$2,600,763, purchased in Great Britain.

Special Naval Uniforms.

Uniforms having distinctive insignia have been designed by the shipping board for the young apprentices now in training at the various school ships. An embroidered anchor worked into the cloth of the blouse pocket, and two broad white stripes on collar and cuff, instead of three narrow ones, as worn by the navy, will constitute the insignia by which one may discriminate between the men of the merchant marine and resembling those worn by the regular men of the navy.

BETTER THAN ANY MEDIUMS

Mince Pie That Brought Vision of Home Caused Wounded Soldier to Long for Life.

Pie is not among the articles treated of in works on *materia medica*, but a recent incident shows that it may have therapeutic value. In a hospital lay an American sailor, for whom everything had been done by surgeons, doctors and nurses, and yet something was lacking. He was homesick; his mind was ever away in a little Atlantic coast town. One day, in the midst of his bodily pain and soul-suffering, there flashed upon him the object of his quest, and he murmured excitedly: "Oh, if I could only have a piece of mince pie." It was not that he wanted to eat a piece of pie, for he was too ill for that. His hunger was for what the pie represented. An American nurse who heard the wish managed, with some difficulty, to find all the ingredients for a real New England pie. When she took it to him she put with it a bit of cheese, also hard to procure in these times, so that nothing would be lacking, and in the cheese she planted a miniature Stars and Stripes. The poor boy could eat neither the pie nor the cheese, but they contributed just the home touch needed to improve his condition. When the wife of the American consul general visited him later she remarked upon the improvement in his condition, and he said: "Two