

# NEW GUN MAKES WAR IMPOSSIBLE

Lewis Nixon Says Currents Flash-ed Through Air Is Battle Method of Future

## NO DANGER FROM ANY AIRSHIPS

Destruction So Terrible that Nations Will Be Forced to International Peace—Electrical Shocks to Destroy Every Warship Afloat.

New York City.—Lewis Nixon, ship-builder, graduate of the United States Naval Academy and for several years one of the chief constructors of the American navy, flouts the theory that the airship in any of its forms will become a formidable war machine.

Instead, Mr. Nixon believes that the death-dealing terror of the war of the future will be the electric shock.

This conclusion has been forced upon his judgment by a careful study of the subject of new war agencies and by closely watching the manoeuvres of the Wright aeroplane as it sailed up the Hudson and circled the representatives of the world's greatest navies.

In Mr. Nixon's opinion, warships can guard against the danger of explosives that might be dropped upon them by airships by specially prepared armor. He believes, though, that sooner or later there will be perfected a gun or some other piece of mechanism for hurling a thunder bolt that will shock to death every man aboard a warship, irrespective of its protection.

"I am convinced," said Mr. Nixon to a reporter, "that the thing could be done now, but the mechanism is so crude that the thunder bolt, or electric impulse, would kill the man who should release it, as well as the enemy. It is possible, of course, that some foreign nation already has perfected the necessary machine with which to hurl this deadly bolt. I hope, however, that it has not been done. When the principle is mastered the result will make war so horribly destructive that the human race, through the sheer force of nature's first law—self-preservation—will abolish war.

"The aeroplane is mainly interesting now on account of the fact of what may grow from it. Possibly we shall see them like swarms of giant locusts flying over and beyond armies, to occupy positions and to cut off communications.

"For purposes of observation they will be of great use. The helicopter, owing to its smaller dimensions, seems best adapted to such uses, especially to be carried on men-of-war. "Insofar as I can see, the dirigible, which will combine much that the aeroplane is now proving out, is the ship of the future.

"Count Zeppelin has already crossed the Alps and made long voyages against adverse conditions in all sorts of weather. His airship is larger than the steamship of thirty years ago and more speedy than those that are now crossing the ocean in record-breaking time. I look to see airships of the Zeppelin type half a mile in length. They will not come down to the earth any more than the Mauretania will anchor in a shallow street, but will be anchored up in the air, possibly a thousand feet or more.

"Explosives will not be dropped down, as you could not hit a tug with an apple from the Brooklyn Bridge, which is only a hundred and thirty feet high. Electrical guns will be used, of course, and heavy ones like our present powder guns.

"Ships at anchor will send up balloons or kites to carry special illuminants, and in time of war the heavens all around will be brilliantly lighted with special forms of rockets.

"Men-of-war will be protected best by special armament for attacking air craft. The airship, however, will rapidly develop as a peaceful device and will soon be as much a necessity of modern civilization as the automobile.

"The attraction of gravitation, being a condition of matter, may soon be comprehended in such a way that the repulsion which some way or some how balances attraction may be utilized to man's advantage.

"The gas engine has made the airship possible. Years ago the French found that each horse-power could lift thirty-two pounds; so as much as we develop our horse-power below this weight so much net lifting power shall we gain.

"But you asked me as to the military possibilities," continued Mr. Nixon. "We are on the eye of a tremendous and far-reaching change in warfare. As long ago as 1900 I pointed out that soon thunder bolts would be thrown. The significance of a news item published about a year ago of a man revealing a shock which nearly proved fatal while talking over a wireless telephone was not then fully appreciated. It would be possible at the present day to shock to death every man on a vessel at five miles distance, but so far the impulse cannot be projected at any one mark. But direction and aiming will be mastered after a while, and then thunder bolts will be thrown just as shells are thrown now."

"A Philadelphia builder has sold 25 touring cars to customers in Cuba, to be delivered by January 1.

## WHEN BOOKS WERE RARE.

Ancient Pawnbrokers Were Glad to Lend Fortunes on Them.

The average author would probably laugh at the statement that, at one time in the world's history, manuscripts, simply as such, irrespective of the nature of the text, were immensely valuable. In ancient times manuscripts were important articles from a commercial point of view; they were excessively scarce, and were preserved with the utmost care. Even the users were glad to lend money on them when the owners were obliged to offer them in pawn.

It is related in an ancient tome that a student of Pavia, who was reduced by his debaucheries, raised a new fortune by leaving in pawn a manuscript of a body of law; and a grammarian who was ruined by a fire rebuilt his house with two small volumes of Cicero, through the ready aid of the pawnbroker.

**Lucky Birthday Stones.**  
The following list represents the old Persian superstition of birthday stones for the months of the year:

- January—Garnet: Constancy and fidelity.
- February—Pearl or amethyst: Purity, peace of mind.
- March—Jacinth or bloodstone: Courage in affection.
- May—Emerald: Insures happiness in love and domestic felicity.
- June—Agate: Insures long life, health and prosperity.
- July—Ruby: Exempts from love doubts and anxiety.
- August—Moonstone: A charm for conjugal felicity.
- September—Sapphire: Insures cheerfulness.
- October—Opal: Hopefulness and happy faith.
- November—Topaz: Fidelity in friendship.
- December—Turquoise: Success, happiness and many friends.

## Morals and Eternal Life.

If a mere dream, life is a very much poorer and pettier thing; men are beings of much less importance; trouble, danger and physical pain are much greater evils, and the prejudice of virtue is much more questionable than has hitherto been supposed to be the case. If men follow the advice so often pressed upon them, to cease to think of these subjects otherwise than as insoluble riddles, all the existing conceptions of morality will have to be changed, all social tendencies will be weakened. Merely personal inclinations will be greatly strengthened. Men who say "to-morrow we die" will add "let us eat, drink and be merry."—Fitzjames Stephens, in "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity."

## The Scotch A'Right.

A Scottish laird overheard some Lowland cattle dealers discussing the use of "England" instead of "Britain" in Nelson's famous signa, "England expects that every man will do his duty." According to one patriotic Scot there was no question of the Admiral's forgetfulness, and when a companion expressed surprise at the "injustice" the patriot reassured him. "Nelson," he explained, "only 'expects' of the English; he said naething of Scotland, for he kent the Scotch would do their!"—London Globe.

## Daughter's Voice.

If Daughter has a voice and takes lessons it signifies nothing if she takes them from a teacher in town. The point of cultivating Daughter's Voice is to throw in a railroad trip with every lesson. If she goes as far as Kansas City the neighbors are awed, and if she goes as far as Chicago they don't even dream of ridicule, even when she practices at Four in the Morning. A wide latitude is afforded the Daughter who takes her Voice as far as Chicago to learn how to handle it.—Aitchison Globe.

## A Permanent Job.

"You have stated," said the badgering lawyer to a witness, "that you were born in 1886. Now you say you were born in 1887. An incriminating discrepancy—though perhaps you may be able to explain it."

"Certainly I can explain it," retorted the witness. "There's no incongruity there. I was born in 1886 and just stayed born. Why, I'm born yet."

## The Oldest Book.

The oldest book in the world, so far as present information goes, is that by Ptah-Hotep, the Egyptian, compiled in the reign of Asa, about B. C. 3366. The manuscript of this ancient work is preserved in the Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris. It is written on papyrus, in hieratic characters, and is made up largely of political, moral and religious aphorisms.

## The Flea.

Oh, there's nothing quite so maddening as a pesky, crawling flea, when the little cuss is biting in a spot you can not see! Nothing which drives man or woman to the point where they will swear, like this hopping frisky critter, when he's out upon a tear!—Los Angeles Express.

## Keeping Friends.

It is one thing to make friends, but quite another to keep them. Remember that friendship will not thrive on discourtesy or neglect. Little courtesies and attentions to those with whom we are most intimate help to smooth and sweeten life.—Home Chat.

## Knew His Lordship.

"Anyone called, Perkins?" "Yes, my lord; man with a bill. Used awful language! And abusive! Why, if he'd been your lordship himself he couldn't have been more so!"—Ally Sloper's Half-Holiday.

## PURSUES RAINBOW TILL DARK

Then Little Girl Follows Star Far, Far from Her Home—Wanted Pot of Gold.

Bloomfield, N. J.—Chief of Police Lewis M. Collins, of Bloomfield, was making his ponderous way along Broad street when something little and blue and golden haired and sweet appeared before his astonished eyes. He stepped under an old elm tree, hesitated, and then awoke the daintiest little morsel of diminutive girlhood it had ever been his good fortune to encounter. In her hand was a broken stub of red chalk crayon. The pinkish tinge smeared her little fingers and her little chin.

"Well, well!" quoth the gallant Chief. "And how did you get here, little girl? And who are you and where do you live?"

"I is Tillie Braciola," she lisped. "And I is seven years old and I lives at Newark, and after school to-day I saw a great big nice rainbow, and teacher told us there is a pot of gold underneath the end, and I wanted some gold for my papa and mamma, but now I want to go home."

The child walked on and on, keeping her eyes on the rainbow until it faded from sight. Then she followed, the setting sun, and then a bright star, until, tired out and hopelessly lost after her trudge, she sank down under an elm tree in Broad street, Bloomfield, and fell asleep.

The child had walked five miles after the fabled pot of gold! Tenderly the Chief took her to the station and then sent her home. She was so glad to get there that she forgot all about the pot of gold and all about everything except her supper and her crib.

## "WORST ABOUT HELL IS IT'LL BE A BORE."

"There Are New Styles in Everything but Sin," Says Dr. Crane, of Chicago.

Chicago.—"The worst thing about hell is that it will be such a bore."

This was one of the statements made by Dr. Frank Crane in his lecture before the Woodlawn Sunday Afternoon Club.

"There are new styles in everything but sin," he said. "Men are getting drunk now on Clark street just as Noah did on Ararat. The Tenderloin district of Chicago is about the same as that which we see in the ruins of Pompeii. Harry Thaw killed his man very much as Hagen killed Siegfried. We have steam cars, telephones, patent washers, radiators and rubber wheels—but we sin just like the antediluvians."

## REAL SPOTLESS TOWN IN CHINA.

More Modern Than Chicago and with Streets Actually Clean.

Chicago.—A city in Western China, but more modern in some respects than Chicago, was described by Professor E. D. Burton of the University of Chicago. It was taken by him as an excellent illustration of the new impulse toward civilization in the Far East. A chief of police who has ordered all beggars from the streets and teaches the indolent to work, according to the precepts of modern sociology; a head of the street cleaning department who keeps the city cleaner than Chicago or even Paris; a superintendent of schools, who is installing modern education in law and mining and engineering as rapidly as possible—these are characters in the strange story, which Burton says sheds a new light on China and her people and corrects many false conceptions regarding that empire.

"The city of Chentu, metropolis of Western China, is almost 1,500 miles from the coast as the crow flies. What was our surprise," said Professor Burton, "to find ourselves in streets as clean as those of Paris."

"Cleaner, I should say, judging from what I saw when I passed through there," put in Professor Chamberlin. "Well, as clean as the streets of Berlin, then," said Dr. Burton. "We found the head of the street cleaning department is a man who has traveled and has ideas. He had organized an efficient corps of sweepers, and once a day the pavements were gone over carefully with brooms. The dust was carted away in bags on the backs of coolies."

## SULTAN'S AWFUL CRIME.

Horrible Details of Murder of Pretender to the Throne.

Paris.—A dispatch to the "Matin" from Fez says that inquiries show that El Roghi, the Pretender to the throne of Morocco, who was executed at Fez, was put to death by Sultan Mulai Haig himself under circumstances of revolting cruelty.

According to the correspondent, the monarch, assisted by his chamberlain, dragged the Pretender into a cage of lions and then provoked the animals, which leaped on the menaced captive, inflicting horrible wounds. Then, as El Roghi fell to the ground motionless, the lions left him alone, despite the goadings of the Sultan, who thereupon pulled his still living victim outside the cage with hooks, emptied a can of lamp oil over him and set him on fire, feeding the flames with oil-soaked rags, until nothing but the charred bones of the Pretender remained.

# Helpful Beauty Hints

Valuable Hints that Every Woman Should Grasp—How to Keep Young—For Red Lips—Lotion to Relieve Red Nose—Salt for the Teeth—Pomade for Reducing Thick Lips.

The best wash for the hair is soap bark.

Salt water used as a gargle will strengthen the throat and harden the gums; used as a wash it will strengthen weak eyes; used in the bath it is a tonic; as a lotion for the hair it prevents and stops its falling.

The hot curing iron dries and hardens the hair so that after a time the hair has a colorless dead appearance. Never clip or trim the eyelashes, or eyebrows. It makes them coarse and stubby.

A lotion of lemon juice and glycerine applied several times a day will reduce large pores on the nose and chin.

To remove superfluous hair, get a toilet pomice stone from the drug store; lather the part with a pure soap and rub the pomice stone over it. Wash the lather off and apply cold cream. Do this every day until the hair is gone.

In the facial massage, always make the motions circular, up and out, never down.

"Is it true that automobilizing hurts the face?" It is undoubtedly true; but most chaps who are hurt don't know it.

## Health Notes for Women.

Eat plenty of spinach and dandelion greens. These are valuable on account of their laxative effects.

The best remedy for red cheeks is deep breathing in fresh air, night as well as day time.

Braid the hair at night in two braids. Tie but do not turn up the ends.

Thin eye brows may be made luxuriant by the rubbing in of olive oil. Keep up for some time.

The time for a cold bath is before breakfast.

After much discussion, it finally seems to be decided that a nap after the mid-day meal is beneficial to digestion, and to be encouraged where possible.

The cause of constant yawning is lack of oxygen. A walk in the fresh air often relieves it.

A fever blister touched with a drop of sweet spirits of nitre will disappear.

## To Keep from Growing Old.

Many women become middle aged from the simple reason that they allow middle-aged habits to steal upon them and relapse into a state of physical indolence just at a time when they should fight against this tendency to give up exercise. "The best preventives against growing middle aged," says a charming woman of 45, whose unwrinkled face and slim figure give her the appearance of being at least 15 years younger than her real age, "are cheerfulness, a strict determination not to worry over trifles, and a sense of humor that save one from depression. A cold tub every morning, a walk every day in rain or sunshine, face massage with cold cream at night, ten minutes' physical exercise immediately on rising, friction of the hair to stimulate its growth, will keep any woman free from wrinkles and will preserve the contour of her figure."

## Red Lip Salve.

Cinderella.—My lips are pale and purplish and not a good color. Would you recommend the use of a red lip salve?

To redden the lips artificially would detract from your looks rather more than pale and purplish lips. You can help matters very much by massaging the lips and applying camphor and vaseline in the manner just described. Rub the lips with the finger tips, which stimulates the circulation. Pallor of the lips indicates a lowering of the tone of the whole body, and shows that you need a tonic.

## For a Red Nose.

If your nose is somewhat swollen and red, try this formula: Muriate of ammonia, 1 dram; Tannic acid, 1-2 dram; Glycerine, 2 ounces; Rose water, 3 ounces. Dissolve the muriate and acid in the glycerine and add the water. Saturate a piece of absorbent cotton with the lotion and bind on the nose every night until the trouble is relieved.

## Salt for the Teeth.

I have read that salt is good for the teeth. What kind of salt should be used, and how often?—P. L.

The salt used on the teeth should be finely powdered table salt, for if it is too coarse it is apt to scratch the enamel. Do not use the salt more than once a week.

## To Remove Stains from the Hands.

What is a safe thing to use on the hands to remove stains from housework or ink stains?—C. A. G.

A piece of lemon is very good for removing stains from the hands, and pumice stone is most effectual when the hands have become marked with ink.

## Pomade for Reducing Thick Lips.

Melt an ounce of any of the cold creams, add one gram each of pulverized tannin and alkaneat chips; let macerate for five hours, then strain through cheesecloth. Apply to the lips when necessary.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER BIBLE STUDY CLUB.

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(Copyright, 1909, by Rev. T. S. Linscott, D.D.) Paul a Prisoner—The Voyage. Acts xxvii:1-26.

Golden Text—Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass. Ps. xxxvii:5.

Verses 1-8—The writer of this narrative appears to be a companion of Paul on this journey—who was he?

Who were the others that sailed with Paul?

What results are likely to follow, when a man of God is compelled to be in the company of criminals?

Who was this man Julius, and what probably induced him to treat the prisoner Paul with such leniency?

Is there any position in life, however undesirable, in which God does not give his children special comfort, even when in prison, and can you give some examples of this?

Julius gave Paul his freedom to visit his friends when the ship touched at Sidon; would it have been honorable of Paul to have made his escape and not to have returned to the ship, seeing he was an innocent man on parole?

Can you tell, or point out on the map, where Sidon, Cyprus, Pamphylia, Myra and the other places here mentioned are situated?

When the winds are against us, or we are becalmed on the voyage of life, and making but little headway, is it a hindrance or a help to the soul poised on God?

Verses 9-11—Why is the advice of a man of God, other things being equal, more to be trusted than that of any other man?

Did Paul give the advice for them not to proceed, but to winter at the "fair havens" from his human judgment or from God's direction?

Why may, or may not, a true Christian always depend that the judgments he forms in the great crises of life as well as in ordinary affairs, are really inspired of God and can therefore be depended upon? (See John xiv:26, et seq.)

Verses 12-20—When we are faced with a great problem as to the way to take, or the thing to do, is there always in the mind of God the thing we ought to do, and is there a possibility for us to find out with certainty what it is? (This question must be answered in writing by members of the club.)

Why is it that God sometimes leads us contrary to what the circumstances, would suggest?

When we are irresistibly driven by a "euroclydon," and appear at the mercy of the wind and sea, is there reason to believe that we are just as safe, and as much in God's keeping, as when 'the south wind blows softly'?

When in stress and strain, in wind and storm, and we appear to be driving into disaster and death, will the consciousness that God is with us, quicken or deaden our activities to save ourselves?

Verses 21-26—Is there ever any use in "crying over spilt milk"?

What reason is there to believe from this narrative, that when we fall to use, and it is too late to adopt God's best plan, He will still graciously provide a good one which we may adopt?

What did these people miss, and what did they suffer, for having failed to use God's first best plan for their safety?

Lesson for Sunday, Nov. 9th, 1909. Paul a Prisoner—The Shipwreck. Acts xxvii:27 to xxviii:10.

## IDENTIFICATION BY VEINS.

New Prison Method Suggested by an Italian Professor.

A new method of identification of prisoners has been devised by means of photographs taken of the veins on the back of the hand. Professor Tomassia, an Italian professor, the inventor, bases his method on the observation that no two persons have the veins on the back of the hand so much alike as to allow room for confusion—less, indeed, than with finger prints.

The prisoner's hand is held downward for several minutes, or the pulse at the wrist is restrained, and the veins are then photographed. This photograph, Professor Tomassia says, will always be available for explicit proof, whereas criminals now understand that with an ordinary razor they can operate on their own hands without much pain or inconvenience, and may change the pattern of the finger print beyond chance of identification.

To burn the finger tips is more painful, but perhaps even more effective. On the other hand, as Professor Tomassia points out, only a serious and dangerous operation can modify the venal system.—London Evening Standard.

## "A Cheap Skate."

"Joel Chandler Harris," said an Atlantian, "used to write comic newspaper editorials. Sometimes he made fun of other editors in them, too."

"Simon Simpson, a rival editor in Mobile, having been made fun of, wrote angrily in his rage:

"Joel Harris has been getting off some cheap wit at our expense."

"Joel, on reading this, grabbed his pen and dashed off, quick as a flash, for next day's issue.

"It must have been cheap, Simon, to be at your expense."

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