

## Panic of 1907 Cut Birth Rate of 1909 Analysis of Figures By Prof. Giddings

Depression Reduced Number of Marriages in 1908 and Weddings Naturally Follow in Line of Prosperity.

### How Panic Affected Birth Rate in Greater New York

Following is a table of the number of marriages compared with the number births for each year from 1904-5 to 1908-9. It indicates the effect of the panic, first on the number of marriages and then upon the number of births:

	Marriages	Births
1904-5	42,271	102,712
1905-6	40,649	109,044
1906-7	50,371	119,020
1907-8	45,301	136,727
1908	37,599	126,865
1909	41,483	123,436

The statistics for the first four years run from October 1 to September 31, while those for the last two years begin January 1 and end December 31. They show that the effect of the panic upon the birth rate was not greatly felt until 1909, tho the effect on the number of marriages was earlier.

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—The panic of 1907 was given as the cause of the decrease in births during 1909, according to Professor F. H. Giddings of Columbia, one of the world's famous sociologists, as he reviewed the vital statistics for the past year, just issued by the health department.

"At the financial depression began in the fall of 1907," he explained to a reporter, "it was not generally felt in the industrial and commercial world until 1908. Every one was hard up, and the immediate effect was postponement of marriages. Commissioner Darlington's figures show that the number of marriages went from 37,599 to 41,483 in 1909, an increase of 3884. This is not due to any unusual popularity of marriage, but to the number who delayed weddings in 1908 until times should get better.

Now, this decrease of marriages during 1908 had little effect upon the number of children until 1909. And for that year we find, very naturally, a fall of 2429, from a total of 126,865 in the previous year. It is by no means a coincidence that the increase of marriages in 1909 is approximately equal to the decrease of birth during the same period.

"Marriage Follows Prosperity." The figures prove how closely marriage follows prosperity, and how there is an immediate effect of financial depression upon the birth rate. Apartment houses are partly responsible for the decrease of the birth rate noticeable in all the larger cities, particularly New York.

**A Jacobs Story.** From Success Magazine.

W. W. Jacobs, the humorist, tells the following story:

A lawyer defending a man accused of housebreaking spoke like this:

"Your honor, I submit that my client did not break into the house at all. He found the parlor window open and

"Children are becoming unpopular to a certain extent. But we have to put the blame, very largely, upon the movement of the city population from single houses into those where a dozen or more families are gathered under a single roof.

"The landlord objects to large families. He even hesitates to lease suites to persons with one or two small children. Yet, in doing this, he merely reflects the attitude of the tenant. In congested quarters children are not wanted, and tenants have come not to like other people's children.

"Still, I believe the ordinary person is as fond of having children of his own as he ever was. Only he wants fewer of them.

**Cost of Living Element.**

"The rise in the prices of goods, the varied needs of people, are responsible for the condition to-day. People cannot afford too many children. It costs more to rear them, and people want to rear them better. I don't think it is due to individual selfishness that people have so few children compared with the condition common a century ago, and still seen in some country districts.

"Parents know that three children will not have the same advantage that two would have. Of course, not long ago children were considered definitely as a part of a man's income. When they reached a certain age, they would assist the father with his farm or business. Now the child goes out into the world for himself, and at much earlier age than heretofore.

"We find the decrease in births pro-

merely inserted his arm and removed a few trifling articles. Now, my client's arm is not himself, and I fail to see how you can punish the whole individual for an offense committed by one of his limbs.

"That argument," said the judge, "is very well put. Following it logically, I sentence the defendant's arm to one year's imprisonment. He can accompany it or not, as he chooses."

### STRAUS MOVES AS RESULT OF CONFLICT

Gives \$100,000 to Save Tenement Children From White Plague.

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—Nathan Straus has made a new move as a result of the bitter warfare against the Tuberculosis Preventorium that he established at Lakewood, N. J., to save poor children of the tenements from the White Plague.

He gave his half interest in his Lakewood property to a board of trustees and the work was begun on July 2 in the Cleveland cottage. His partner, Max Nathan, joined in the fight against the tuberculosis, offering the trustees his half of the property if they would move out. Mr. Nathan's lawyer, Samuel Untermyer, threatened proceedings to oust the children, claiming that Mr. Straus' control of the Cleveland cottage was only for his own use, and that Mr. Nathan would try to stop his using it for the building up of poor tenement children.

**Mr. Straus' New Offer.**

Mr. Straus to-day met this new situation by offering to give the Preventorium \$100,000 cash if they decided to accept Mr. Nathan's offer and re-establish the Preventorium near Lakewood.

Mr. Straus also declared his intention to control the Cleveland cottage, at his own expense, the work of saving tenement children from tuberculosis.

Thus he planned that there should be two Preventoriums instead of one.

**Answers Threatening Letter.**

He expressed these intentions in a letter to Samuel Untermyer, in answer to the latter's threatening letter. He wrote as follows:

I am in receipt of your letter of Jan. 4, 1910. I have not answered your letter of December 10, 1909, because I never considered that it was meant for me to answer. You knew before you wrote it what my answer would be. I have no hesitancy in saying to you that you wrote it simply for the purpose of publishing it in the newspapers.

I offered my share in the hotel to the Preventorium without thought of any opposition from outside sources. I tried to induce Mr. Nathan to join in the gift, or to sell me his share of the hotel, that I might give it to the institution. Mr. Nathan, for reasons of his own, refused my request and offers. I was, therefore, prevented from using the hotel property for the purpose.

**Will Continue Work in Cottage.**

The Cleveland cottage, however, was my own. Mr. Nathan had, at my request, stated to me that it was to be mine; and even if the law requires a written release to vest the property in my hands, I was justified in accepting his word; for until you became his adviser Mr. Nathan's word was better than other men's. Now, however, the work has been begun in the cottage, and the work will be continued in

### Sermon From Shakespeare

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NUMBER TWO

O war, thou son of hell.—Henry VI., Part II, Act V., Sc. 2.

A great general of the American civil war forcibly remarked, "War is hell." He knew from experience the evils of war, the sufferings endured the sorrow left in its wake, the permanent injury done the parties or nations engaged. His expression was not strikingly original. Shakespeare three hundred years ago formulated the sentiment in almost the same words. It is true that it is not Shakespeare, but one of his creations who speaks of war as the son of hell, but so often do passages sternly condemning war appear in his dramas that it can be taken for granted that Shakespeare himself is here speaking.

There is no present-day subject that more demands the thoughtful consideration of the patriot than that of "contumacious, beastly, mad-brained war." As the nineteenth century closed it was hoped that the time was drawing nigh when men would convert their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Peace conferences met, emperors and presidents talked universal peace, but while the echo of the peace orations was still in the air the two most highly civilized nations found themselves engaged in war—the United States with Spain and Great Britain with the Boers. Scarcely had the sound of the "devil's cannon" of these powers died away when Russia and Japan were at each other's throats. To all of these nations war proved to be hell. It destroyed homes, it filled the workhouses, it drove thousands into exile, it vastly increased the burdens of the toilers. The suffering caused, the losses endured should have turned men's thoughts to peace. Instead of this the dogs of war are abroad. Never before had militarism such a grip on the race. Europe is an armed camp; Japan is ready to do battle with any power that challenges her; and even China is waking from her sleep of twenty centuries and more, her cities are noisily with preparations for war. The shipyards of the civilized powers are turning out monster battleships. The inventive genius of the race are devoting their time to producing new explosives and more effective guns. In Europe and America and Japan daring experiments are striving to conquer the air mainly in the interests of war. Where will it end? Must the nations meet in one bloody last battle before world-wide peace shall be declared?

War is the child of selfishness and greed. It is brought about largely by men who will never be targets for bullets. Calmly they run their thrones, they place their offices and stir up strife that is likely "to lay the summer's dust" of their country "with showers of blood." If the politicians were placed at the head of the armies in conflict, or no board of the battleships, no death grapple, there would be less talk of war, less building of armaments, less bloodshed. War is the child of selfishness and greed. It is brought about largely by men who will never be targets for bullets. Calmly they run their thrones, they place their offices and stir up strife that is likely "to lay the summer's dust" of their country "with showers of blood." If the politicians were placed at the head of the armies in conflict, or no board of the battleships, no death grapple, there would be less talk of war, less building of armaments, less bloodshed.

When Great Britain opened hostilities against the Transvaal and the Orange Free State in 1899, the war office estimated the cost of the war at \$5,000,000 and its duration at five months and a half. It lasted over two years and seven months and cost the people \$718,000,000, which was over \$100,000,000 more than the victory in this war cost the Japanese.

These figures have been, however, more or less modified by conditions of remoteness, bad administration, fraud, even France and Germany's balance sheet for the war of 1870-71 offers more reliability for the estimation of cost of a European conflict, and so it is finally on these figures that Germany bases her calculations.

The defeat to which Napoleon III led France cost it nearly \$2,000,000,000, inclusive of the war indemnity of \$1,200,000,000 paid to Germany, but exclusive of all subsequent expenses, such as pensions.

Germany, on the other hand, spent \$437,000,000, and as it had under arms, from Aug. 1, 1870, to March 1, 1871, an average of 1,254,376 men, it is fair to conclude that each soldier cost \$1.50 a day.

Three hundred million dollars required by the industrial, commercial and agricultural undertakings which would be called upon to furnish war supplies. As this sum would represent the price of the raw material and initial expenses indispensable to begin work, it should be held in readiness in local German banks.

This makes a total of \$622,500,000. This sum must be immediately available and would be necessary to face the needs created by the inevitable panic resulting from the declaration of war, which would take the shape of a run on the banks and the collecting of outstanding notes.

This makes a total of \$622,500,000 that the German empire would require before beginning hostilities, and it is the most practical means of obtaining this sum that J. Riesser endeavors to discover.

First of all, the mobilization expenses could suffer no delay. To cover these, the initial resources exist in the annual budget of the empire, public instruction, public works which the declaration of war would necessarily suppress or postpone. Germany estimates it could obtain in this way at least \$70,000,000, which was the amount saved on interior expenses in one year by the Russian government during the recent war. The cash on hand in the Reichsbank, which is the official government institution at Spandau, which is the gold balance of the French indemnity of 1870, is at present \$30,000,000.

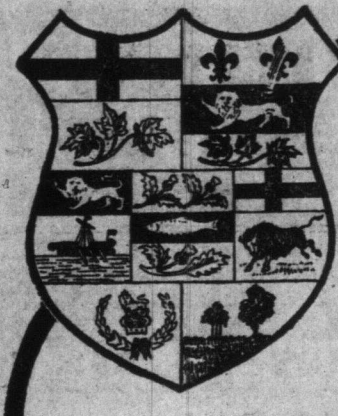
All this wealth could be withheld from circulation and kept in the Reichsbank as a guarantee for a sum three times larger in bank notes of legal, if not forced, currency.

This wealth alone represents a total of \$305,000,000, nearly all of which is in liquid cash—that is to say, enough to cover the initial expenses of military mobilization; but such a move would exhaust the credit of the Imperial bank, which must remain the goose with the golden egg. Therefore Germany would naturally prefer making this sum guarantee an issue of paper money sufficiently large to tide until the time when, by raising loans with taxes or customs, duties as security, resources indispensable for the continuance of warfare could be found.

The government, on the other hand, would have the right, according to the constitution, to suspend reimbursements on all bank notes and temporarily to institute exceptional customs tariffs.

Germany hopes to raise the \$70,000,000 necessary during the first six months of the war. Afterward, that is to say, for the \$355,000,000, supposing that hostilities should last a year, one-third would be covered by the increase of already existing taxes and the creating of new taxes, while the other two-thirds, about \$220,000,000, would be defrayed by a government loan.

"Fortunately," the Germans say, "this appeal to public credit, if perchance it were needed, would not be necessary, contrary to what occurred in 1870, at least until after the hardest period, that which immediately follows the declaration of war, has come to an end."



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## Cost of Europe's Next Great War

A translation from the French by M. CHAS. HUMBERT, member of French Senate and a recognized military authority.

Germany has understood better than any other power that millions of men under arms do not constitute the only factor necessary nowadays for winning a war with some chance of success. A nation must also have at its immediate disposal milliards of francs to enable it to prepare, undertake and conduct a modern conflict.

With the truly remarkable methodical spirit which characterizes the government of William II, Germany has classed its efforts in this direction—the financial preparation of war, the financial mobilization and the financial conduct of war. Following this line of thought it has begun by consulting the most recent lessons in modern warfare, and this is what it has seen:

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## WIRELESS TEST LIKE GLIMPSE OF WONDERLAND

Messages Pass Thru Half Mile of Skyscrapers—Aerial Towers Unnecessary.

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—With nothing more than a typewriter and a "tuner," one of the most unusual demonstrations of the wireless telegraph was made yesterday in the editorial rooms of The New York World by E. N. Pickrell, the manager of the wireless station atop of the Waldorf-Astoria.

Experiments which have been carried on by Pickrell over several years have proved that the "high" wireless towers which catch the Hertzian waves and carry them to the receiving instruments in the wireless stations—are unnecessary adjuncts of the receiving apparatus. It was to prove this that Pickrell conducted his demonstration.

The "tuner," or receiving apparatus, which Pickrell brought to The World office was so small that it was contained in a leather receptacle about the size of an ordinary lunch box, yet it included all the mechanism necessary for picking up messages from the air. The aerial was a typewriter and the "ground" was a steam radiator.

Used Telephone Receiver.

After "tuning up" his tuner to the typewriter and to the radiator, Pickrell placed an ordinary telephone receiver to his ear and after a moment or two's wait announced that he was ready for the test. One of the editors of The World went to another room and thence telephoned a message to headquarters of the United Wireless Company, at No. 42 Broadway, with instructions to send it out at once. The message was "To-morrow's weather—storms and blizzards."

In a few minutes Mr. Pickrell smiled, touched a key or two on his "tuner," to get the note distinctly, and began working on the typewriter. The line he typed out was the test message, "Pickrell's message from the air. The aerial was a typewriter and the 'ground' was a steam radiator."

**Useful in Warfare.**

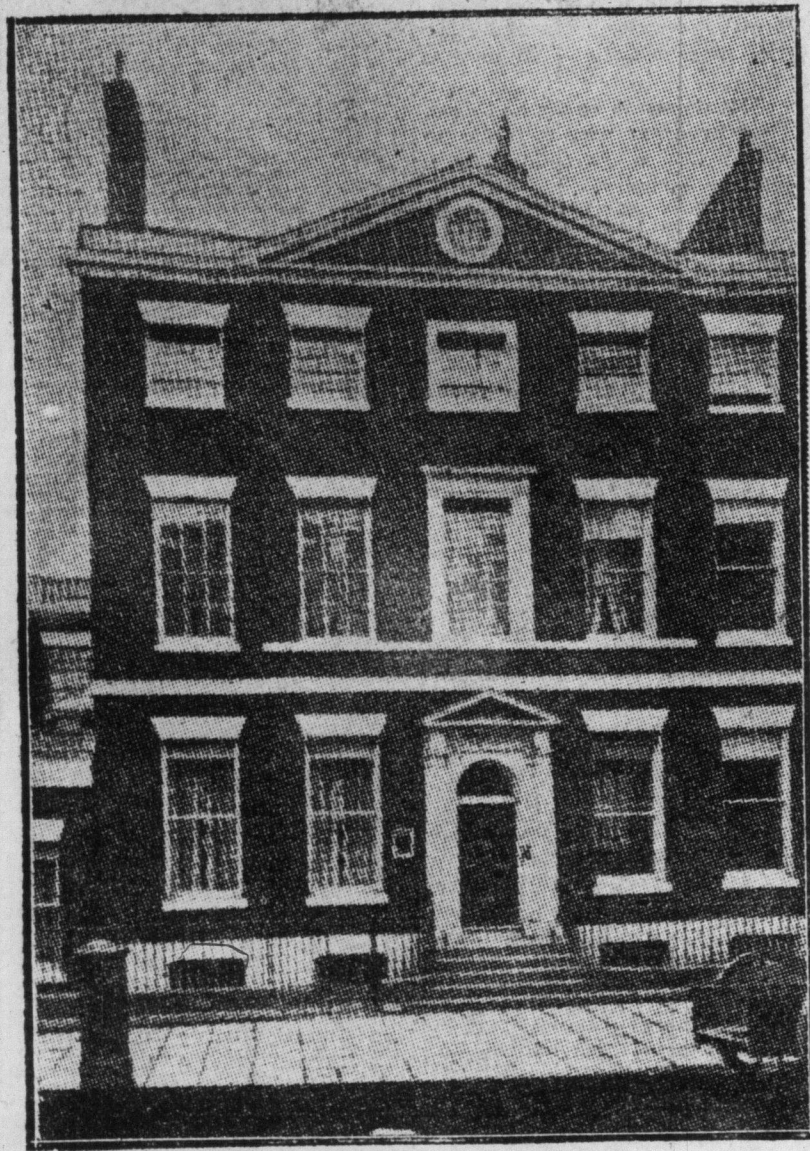
"In warfare a detachment needs to do is to send up a kite with a fine aluminum wire instead of string, and with the portable apparatus the men would always be under the general's command."

Asked how great a distance he had tested his new receiver, Mr. Pickrell said he had spoken thus it with Vera Cruz, Mexico, and Colon, Panama, both more than two thousand miles away; and that half a mile of steel-framed skyscrapers. Yet it had been caught out of the air by the steel frame of the typewriter.

"Almost anything will do," Mr. Pickrell declared. "At home I use the frame of my bed. Out of doors I use an umbrella hanging over my arm. I purpose putting a coil in my hat, and affixing the phone receivers so that they will hardly be noticeable, and I will get messages just as effectively as if I had the highest-priced apparatus in the world."

At Dayton, Ohio, Dominick Alilo, prominent among the Italian colony, was shot dead by a quarrel, and Tomaso Vili, the other participant, stabbed thru and thru, was found a little while later behind the house.

At Windsor, Joseph Smith was fined \$5 and costs for saying "Oh, you kids," to a married woman on the street, who was going home Saturday night, accompanied by her husband.



The recent anniversary of Gladstone brings into notice the house in Liverpool where the eminent statesman was born and where he spent his early childhood. To-day the residence is seen by hundreds who visit the great shopping city. Standing on one of the crowded streets, now well "downtown," it gives no outward indication of having been once the home of one of Britain's most distinguished sons. It is built well out to the sidewalk and is closely hemmed in on either side by other houses much the same in appearance. But one cannot be in Liverpool very long before he will hear some one say "if you want to see the sights take a run up to No. 62 Rodney-street. The house in which Gladstone was born stands there. It is marked, you can't miss it" and off you go thru sunshine or fog (either is regularly on the winter bill of fare) to see the memorable spot, and to find someone else on the same quest as yourself. It is notable that Canning made a political speech from a window of this house in 1812.