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CHRISTMAS HERE AND ABROAD.

It is a great contrast which is shown in this year in the conditions which are existing at Christmas tide in country and in the war-stricken countries of Europe.

INADEQUATE PROTECTION.

With conditions as they are today in many countries it is impossible to overlook the meaning of the statement which is made to the effect that hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of the country's military property and equipment are insufficiently guarded.

SUNK WITHOUT WARNING.

Disturbing is the announcement which is made concerning the torpedoing of the Japanese steamship Yatsuka Maru at the eastern end of the Mediterranean, near so much because of the sinking of that ship as because of its cargo in the early despatches at \$3,000,000, but because the information is given at the same time that no warning whatever was given to the vessel which was carrying 121 men, women and children in addition to the crew.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A Merry Christmas to each and every one.

There can be little question but that Santa Claus spent a busy night before.

From now on there will be a wild scramble to exchange the misfits, the duplicates and the triplicates.

This is one of the holidays when it is well to remember that temperance applies to much more than drink.

Those who have put up their autos for the winter are not worrying just now over the high price of gasoline.

Though the Christmas bells are in evidence today they will be quickly followed by an avalanche of Christmas bills.

While the Kaiser is reported to be suffering from zeligewebtsaendung it is to be hoped the disease is no worse than the name.

nation of Europe because it was the leader in shipping and foreign trade and until Great Britain realized it did it take the leadership. Germany built up a foreign trade for the same reason and Japan is now branching out for its share of business in foreign markets in a manner which indicates that it does not intend to let opportunity slip through its fingers.

SERIOUS BLOWS TO THRIFT.

Much interest has been awakened throughout the country in the systems of saving which have been instituted in a large number of schools. It teaches a lesson that is of lasting value through the encouragement of thrift for the formation of such a habit at that time in life is highly desirable thing. It proves the old saying, "Take care of the pennies and the dollars will take care of themselves" and the idea cannot be too firmly planted in the minds of children.

Simple ideas enough, the cross-grained mortal will think!

But it is true, as Napoleon maintained, that it is imagination which rules the world. Practical men are materialists; no matter how they may be called, they are men of the earth.

Everybody knows what the Christmas ideal has been for art.

The most obtuse man grows sensible of this, noting the pictures, the statues, the rare bronzes and other metals brought out for public notice during the holiday time.

Some people take pride in their eccentricities; and they appear to be totally ignorant of the fact that an excuse nearly always goes lame on the heels of the man who makes it.

THE SEASON OF GIFTS.

When the three Wise Men rode out of Salomik in their camels, carrying on their saddle bows caskets containing gold, frankincense, and myrrh their gifts to the Babe in the manger.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

One Christmas Morning. Mr. Editor: Remembrance is a faculty, provided by one's nativity, that shines out brighter today within our souls than on any other day of the year.

Christmas emphasizes our position as beneficiaries of God's love. It calls to the mind our constant dependence on His divine giving. For light, heat, air, water, food, for the very breath of his body, we are dependent on Him.

Don't murmur for it doesn't pay. It is a bad habit if you only murmur to yourself. It is establishing wearing, negative thoughts which always form a solid foundation for worrying.

After some such notion, men try to reduce their relations with God to a mere business transaction. They refuse to be objects even of heavenly charity.

A moment's thought reveals the impossibility of such an attitude. Morning, noon and night are we the recipients of the Heavenly Father's bounty, the objects of His universal care. The Almighty sees nothing; it is only the enemy of men that sells.

At the Devil's booth are all things sold. Because of dress costs its ounce of gold; for a cap and bells our lives we pay; Babes we buy with a whole soul's tending.

'Tis heaven alone that is given away. 'Tis only God that may be had for the asking.

THE PARSON.

THE WAR A YEAR AGO TODAY. Unofficial Christmas along much of the western front, the allies and Germans in some instances exchanged gifts.

Between the French and the British there are no longer masters of Macedonia. The heads of the daily newspapers bring their own food to eat.

Atop of one hill is a flag pole with the flag of the Red Cross—the camp hospital comes by a gray mule. A real colonel of gentle manner and an air of wonder and bewilderment at finding himself so far away from England.

On the opposite hill are the staff tents, with a stamp on the canvas that shows them to be from India. If there are not enough benches for officers and guests, someone sits on one captured boot. The food is largely tinned—the Greeks have scarcely enough to supply their own soldiers.

Every day more transports arrive pouring out their soldiers—Greek, French, British. Horses, kicking helplessly are lifted bodily from the entrails of the ship. Wagons, cannon, ammunition boxes, stores—all clutter the ground.

THE MAN WHO TALKS. The world always talks as though unhappiness was the poor man's lot and happiness the fruit of material wealth. The fact is that happiness is not wholly the rich's lot.

CATCHING THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

Millions of Christmas cards are bought these times; yet few take the trouble to wonder where the never-ending supply comes from.

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sign a cushion top, not to mention hundreds of other articles, give impetus and encouragement to skilled workers whose ideas might and must be given no unimproved and unrewarded.

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25c Used Externally for Radway's Ready Relief 50c For External and Internal



A Very Merry Christmas To You All And a Happy and Prosperous New Year WE WILL BE CLOSED ALL DAY TODAY

The Reid Hughes Co. Stories of the War Camp of Mediterranean Expeditionary Force.

OTHER VIEW POINTS

The baseball moguls, so-called, have decided that the public is tiring of the alleged "war" between organized baseball leagues and "outlaws," and terms of peace have been perfected.

From close friends of the hero of San Juan Hill it is learned that the one "perfect passion" Teddy possesses today is to beat Wilson. That will in all probability, be his battle cry in 1916.

The collapse of Villa suggests, if it does not warrant, the belief that he never possessed any military genius, and that his military success was due to the fact that he was merely an instrument in the hands of a real military genius in the person of Villa.

The latest available official figures of the Federal government set the total losses by fire in the United States at half a billion dollars, one-half of this sum representing the actual property loss and the other items representing the annual expense of water works chargeable to fire service, annual expense of fire departments and annual expense of private fire protection.

In the automobile law of the state of Connecticut a rank and file legislator's automobile caused 110 deaths in Connecticut in 1915, as compared with 29 in the year immediately preceding.

It was inevitable that some day T. R. would try to run his fast express over the Wilson's one-track road—Detroit Free Press.

It Surely Does. Does the stipulation "dignified peace" shut out W. J. Bryan and the "Hen" Ford troupe from participation?—New York Telegram.

Sympathy of All Married Men. It appears to be his wife's relations that give the King of Greece the most bother.—Indianapolis News.

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