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CHRISTMAS.

Christmas, the natal day of the Saviour, has been celebrated ever since the first century of the Christian Era; it has become more generally observed as the centuries have increased; it is now the holiday of all holidays; it will come time when observed by all mankind, and its good will and sunshine will help to banish hatred and ill will from every human heart. The season of this great festival is most propitious. It comes at the Yuletide, at the time of the returning sun, which will in a few months restore to new life the verdure of the earth. What a great object lesson there is in this return of the sun! Is not its known power over the inmates of the Master in reference to a future life? Is not the power that guides the sun in its course powerful enough to do anything? But these thoughts are somewhat of a digression. It was the celebration with its Xmas trees, its memories and its gifts that we commenced to write about.

The green tree brilliantly lighted and laden with presents is of German origin, and so exceedingly appropriate for the day that its use is now world wide.

The little ones see in its gifts and dazzling brightness the consummation of their expected happiness. And those who have grown older see or realize more than the little ones. With the eyes of faith most of them see an angel speaking to a group of shepherds; they see some travelers, with eyes uplifted, following a star; they see a baby in a manger; they see a child in a temple talking to learned men; they see a kindly man restoring a dead girl to life, and on another occasion calling back to life the son of a widow; they see him healing the sick and restoring sight to the blind; they see him walking upon the waters, and reaching a great multitude on a sea shore; they see him with a child upon his knee and other children around; they see him betrayed by a kiss and unjustly condemned. And then the unjustly greatest tragedy rises into plain view. The great Master is nailed upon a cross, armed soldiers circle about, darkness falls around, the earth is shaken until the vale of the temple is rent. And with the ears of faith they hear a voice say: "Forgive them for they know not what they do."

And many of those who gather with the joyous throngs around the Xmas trees will recollect the gifts they have received from departed loved ones. Then, again, with the eyes of faith they will see those loved ones with Him, who called back to life the dead girl and the widow's son and saved a sinner from being stoned; and, looking back again at the glittering tree with their mortal eyes, they will feel that they have no reason to be mournful over the past, that they should join in the festivities of the occasion and go forth to meet the shadowy future without fear and with many hearts.

HEARST'S REPLY TO FORAKER.

In his testimony before a United States Senate investigating committee, ex-Senator Foraker favored the examination of the "negro and one other thief" alleged to have stolen the Archbold letters. To this testimony, Mr. Hearst made the following spirited reply:

"The negro and the other 'thief'—if he be a thief—have committed small crime compared with the treason of those highbinders of high finance who seek to enrich themselves and their corporations through the governmental favors secured by the subsidizing of public men.

"If there is any negro 'thief,' and any other 'thief,' who can more fully establish the genuineness of the Standard Oil letters and the guilt of Mr. Archbold and Mr. Foraker by all means let them be called to testify. For the more the Standard Oil letters are shown to be absolutely true the more some of Senator Foraker's testimony under oath before the Senate investigating committee is shown to be absolutely false.

"And when the Standard Oil letters are demonstrated to the complete satisfaction of the senate committee to be absolutely true, and absolutely accurate in every particular, then Senator Foraker should be called back to the stand and made to explain some of his false statements.

"Then Mr. Archbold should be called back to the stand and compelled to throw light upon some of his questionable utterances and peculiar transactions.

"Then John D. Rockefeller and William Rockefeller should be called, if by chance that latter gentleman can be dug out of the place of concealment he has been occupying for the last six months.

"Then we will get the truth about all of this treasonable attempt to influence the people's representative of all of these campaign subscriptions for political favors, of all of these secret certificates of deposit to individuals for secret services to the trusts, of all of this contradiction and perversion."

CHEAPER FOOD IN SIGHT.

The cost of living ought to be some what reduced this coming winter by the big harvest. Food at least should be cheaper. Wheat and flour have declined at first hand, so they have coffee and sugar. Fruits are plentiful and a big potato crop is assured. As fodder is abundant and cheap, meat should later on decline from present high level. Low prices among producers take time to reach the consumer, and the distributor is always slow in giving the consumer the advantage of lower prices, which are infrequently entirely absorbed by the middle man. While food products have been falling, other commodities are generally advancing, particularly minerals; consequently, no great majority of workers, and any reduction whatever will be welcome. But clothing and rent show no disposition to decline in the great cities—New York Journal of Commerce.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MONEY TRUST.

The congressional committee, which is investigating the money trust, has already taken sufficient testimony to establish the fact that a few men absolutely control the finances and credit of this country. These few men constitute the "invisible government," which forced the Roosevelt administration to stultify itself and wrecked the Taft administration.

President Wilson understands quite well that he will have to grapple with this monster at an early day.

Some of the largest members of this money octopus do a general banking business, but are not incorporated as either state or national banks, not subject to inspection or regulation of any kind. They can receive and hold hundreds of millions of deposits when they want to make a financial panic they can do so by locking up their vast deposits and by calling for the payment of every dollar that is due to them. Such private banks are a public menace and should be dealt with as such. To commence with every corporation engaged in interstate business should be compelled to carry its deposits in banks which are subject to government control. Then the government would be able to protect the country's interstate commerce from the panic conspirators. The government could place every bank that did the bidding of the panic makers in the hands of receivers, who would do the bidding of the government.

The constitution gives congress absolute control over the money of the country, and money trusts are not dangerous when the representatives of the people are loyal to the government and faithful to their trusts.

IOWA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION EXERCISES ITS AUTHORITY.

The attempt of the Iowa State Board of Education to change the character and scope of the state's three educational institutions is an assumption of authority which the board does not possess.

Neither the board, nor the legislature can take from the State University any of its property or income, nor deprive it of any of its courses of study.

The State University is safeguarded by the constitution from assaults like the one proposed by the Board of Education. Article IX, section 11 of the organic law of the state provides that: "The State University shall be established at one place, without branches at any other place, and the university funds shall be applied to that institution and no other."

If the board of education attempts to disregard this plain provision of the constitution, it will be enjoined from carrying its attempt into effect, for any citizen of the state can petition for an injunction for that purpose.

WILSON'S MOTIVE.

(From the Telegraph-Herald.)

Why should President-elect Wilson promise a gibbet "as high as Haman's" for the man who deliberately starts a panic?

The machinery for producing panics, he said in his speech to the Southern Society of New York, is in existence, "by which the thing can be deliberately done."

Here is a declaration of his belief that it is possible to manufacture a panic, a thought he elaborated in his distinction between natural and unnatural panics.

Mr. Wilson has made up his mind to smash the money trust, to which he referred on more than one occasion in the campaign as the greatest of all trusts. He apprehends that an attempt on the part of his administration to destroy the money trust will align against him the most powerful force in the nation and he calculates as a possible result of that fight a panic started by the money trust itself with purpose to frighten congress and the country from support of his program.

Gov. Wilson knows the temper of the foe he purposes to assail. He knows his inclination will be to wreck him and his administration by wrecking national prosperity, an achievement to be accomplished by hoarding money, calling loans and refusing to pay. He therefore tells the money trust that he knows its power and warns it that if it shall attempt the exercise of that power against him he will put it in a "gibbet as high as Haman's."

Criticizing Theodore Roosevelt for permitting the steel trust's absorption of Tennessee Coal & Iron and the representation of Frick and Gary that otherwise the panic would spread, Senator La Follette said that he would have stopped the panic by putting a receiver in every Morgan bank.

The temper of La Follette is the temper of Wilson. The latter will suffer no private interest in the nation to hold at its pleasure the property of the people. He will wreck whoever sets out deliberately to destroy prosperity and shroud him in a public disgrace which will "live as long as the members of that man's family survive."

The money trust is warned. If it shall nevertheless undertake to defeat Justice, destroying its power by producing a panic, it can expect Woodrow Wilson as president to smash it and destroy every man a conspirator in it.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT AND THE CONSTITUTION.

Chicago Inter Ocean: Theodore Roosevelt's speech to his admirers on his arrival in Chicago Monday is of peculiar interest as his first formal public comment on his defeat and as illustrating the pleasure he takes in the possession of that defeat. And it shows Mr. Roosevelt still bent on revenge for the republican party's rejection of his nomination and leadership. He has never in his derision of the constitution and of the orderly process of law. We extract some spectacular passages:

"We are in this fight to the end, and it is idle folly for the republicans to waste any time in any attempt or endeavor to lure us back into an organization they have made of such a character that no honest man can be in it."

"That is to say, from the Roosevelt viewpoint, all the 3,500,000 Americans who voted for Mr. Taft are 'dishonest.' Well, anybody who ventured to disagree with Mr. Roosevelt always was a 'crook' in his eyes. Our opponents say most of our measures are unconstitutional. Not-

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ing pleases the reactionaries more than to fall back on the dear old constitution. The men of 1860 were loudest in saying they wanted to uphold the constitution wished to use the constitution to prevent the freeing of the slaves. The Knights of the Golden Circle were profound admirers of the constitution.

And so was Abraham Lincoln, who did not pretend to find warrant in the constitution for the emancipation proclamation, but put it forth "as a fit and necessary measure for suppressing rebellion," applied it only to states or parts of states "then in rebellion," and left slaves in other parts of the union "for the present, precisely as if this proclamation were not issued."

When Theodore Roosevelt compares citizens who feel an affection for what he derisively terms "the dear old constitution" to the secessionists of 1861, and suggests that scrupulousness in the observance of constitutional restrictions classes citizens with members of the treasonous society known as the Knights of the Golden Circle, he insults the memory of Abraham Lincoln and every soldier who fought that the union might be preserved. It is difficult to speak temperately of so foul a slander of the living and the dead.

Having thus derided the constitution, for whose upholding half a million Americans have died, and to which he has himself again and again sworn fidelity, it was natural that Theodore Roosevelt should reiterate his demand for the overthrow of the constitution by that device of anarchy, the "recall of judicial decisions."

So after the great lesson of No-

ember 5th we find Theodore Roosevelt one who has profited nothing by it—who is still the reckless denouncer of all who differ with him as "dishonest"—who is still the Reformer by Riot full of contempt for the orderly processes of the law and full of contempt for the constitution itself, the foundation of our government and the safeguard of all our rights and liberties.

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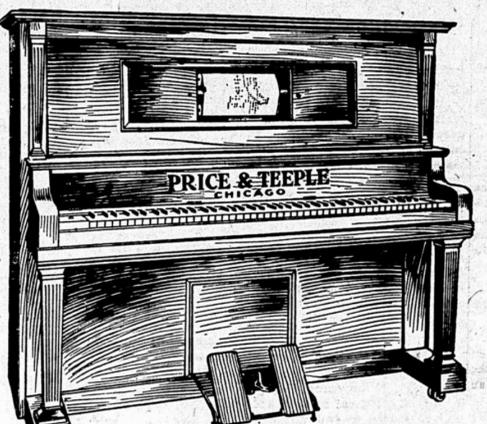
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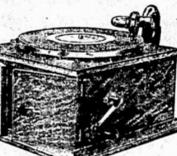


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