The Butte Daily Post.

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1917.

CHRISTMAS

A Merry Christmas to all and may the Post's central wishes—We announce this evening the arrival of Santa Claus, month—The Post's warm feelings are out of accord with the sentiment of Gladness, and with the message that came last Sabbath from the Prince of Peace. Yet we rightfully asked peace the spirit of the season, recalling its traditions, remembering those whom it brings to mind, yourselves in perhaps of philosophy and reverently hopeful that honorable peace, based on the principles to which our country is dedicated, may speedily be the product of the carnage. Toward that consummation our own community is doing its patriotic part and, of itself, that fact will put good cheer into our celebration. We are unreliably exhilarated in a just cause; we have unfaltering faith in its triumph; we know that we are right and therefore, we may joyfully celebrate Christmas.

DISLOYAL QUEBEC

The course of events in Canada is making it plain that sentiments of outright disloyalty toward the Dominion and, as well toward the mother country are dominant in the province of Quebec.

Last Saturday, in the provincial legislature, was introduced a resolution reciting that in the opinion of that body the rupture of the federation would be satisfactory to Quebec if in the opinion of the other provinces Quebec "is an obstacle to the union and progress and development of Canada." That is not a declaration of secession. It amounts, however, to an assertion, if the resolution is adopted, that in a roundabout way Quebec is ready and willing to achieve that which would be accomplished through a direct act in breaking up the federation. It means that Quebec wants to secede.

The practical point is that Quebec is sulking. Great numbers of its people have been from the outset unfriendly to the British cause in the war. The province has been an unwilling contributor of a part of its share of money for war purposes and of men; the manner in which exemptions from soldier service have been granted is declared by the Canadian press in other provinces to be scandalous. Quebec is against the draft.

The recent elections are, of course, responsible for the resolution that is before the Quebec legislature—that election did not go Quebec's way. It is a reminder of what happened in our own country almost sixty years ago. South Carolina was dissatisfied with the success of Lincoln in the election held in 1860, seeing in it the distinct drawing of the line by a majority of the people of the United States against state sovereignty and the extension of slavery. The difference is that South Carolina's legislature declared outright for secession and led the civil war movement, while Quebec, not less dissatisfied but not as aggressive, would like to go out in some sort of way that involves the consent of the other Canadian provinces.

Quebec's persistence in this unfriendly attitude is a serious handicap to the Dominion and to England in all that relates to the war. Canada's population is about 1,300,000; in this total Quebec has more than two millions. Its percentage in the Dominion's wealth is large; its geographical situation, with respect to the federation, is all important. Montreal, in the province of Quebec, with half a million people, is much the largest Canadian city. The relations of the province of Quebec to waterways and commerce and capital, wherein the Dominion's common good are concerned, are all important.

The federation accomplished in 1867, has proved to be of inestimable great value for all parts of Canada. A rupture would be disastrous. At a critical moment and in disloyal spirit, Quebec will invite it, if the resolution of secession flavor to which we have referred receives approval in the legislature at the city of Quebec.

FOR THOSE WHO SAVE

Somebody connected with the federal food-saving commission has been gathering material for posters or slogans that are suited to the situation. Some of these are apt; they would serve as a sort of golden text that might do good service if inscribed on a card and made a part of the wall decoration in dining room or kitchen. One of them is an exhortation to "Kill Kaiserism in the Kitchen." One is a reminder that "The Kitchen is Your Fort;" another is a request to "Stick Indoors Until Berlin is Taken." The Hoover literature has spread the gospel of fruits and vegetables. One of the slogans is: "Fill all Cans but Garbage Cans;" another reads: "Pickle and Can for Uncle Sam;" a short one advises wise housewives to "Beat the Wily Worm."

NO MERIT IN IT

The Post finds itself in entire accord with the attitude of those aldermen who oppose the granting of special privileges to a so-called municipal amusement company. This corporation, as we understand it, offers to install and maintain at prominent street intersections in Butte ornamental posts intended to direct motorists to the right of the road. The service will be given the city without expense to it, provided that the company installing these "silent policemen" is permitted to display advertising matter for which a charge is made to the advertisers.

There is no merit in this proposition. If the city finds ornamental posts of the kind proposed necessary or advisable, it is wealthy enough to purchase them and maintain them on its own account. It should not be a party to an advertising scheme that must of necessity disfigure its streets. Butte never may be a city beautiful, but at least the men responsible for local government should not readily surrender its thoroughfares to a concern which gives nothing worth while in return for them.

Under the contract proposed, the city would have the right to discard the "improvement" it is invited to install if that is found after trial to be advisable. But the interesting feature of this provision is found in the fact that, if the posts are removed, the company to which the contract is let may collect from the city the value of the advertising profits it would have received if the material had remained during the full term of the contract. Under this arrangement the city might have to settle for a very large bill. The better way to avoid complications of this sort is to decline the company's offer with thanks. Alderman Corry's comment, published in today's Post, deals with the merits of the case.

THE CONFERENCE

Peace proposals mentioned last week and widely discussed were supposed to be the substance of offers made by Kaiser William, as a Christmas contribution. The report was that these were passing between London and Berlin through the agency of some neutral power. Under Swiss date a Sunday message said that the final offers from the Kaiser would come on Christmas eve, and the forecast was that the conditions would be much more conciliatory than any former offer from Germany.

Nothing definite or new in the way of proffers to the belligerents has come, but today's word is that the German conference with the Russians is progressing, that if it reaches conclusions the Kaiser will go to Brest-Litovsk, where the sessions are held and that he will propose a peace conference of all the sovereigns and regents of Europe.

Today's news includes a summary of the peace conditions proposed by the Bolsheviki element in Russia. Manifestly the Kaiser recognizes this element as competent to speak for the Russians. It has not been so recognized by the entente powers; their arrangement was that Russia would not be a party to separate peace parleys. In radical respects these terms, as outlined in the news, are unlike those that were issued recently by Lenine, in behalf of himself and his Bolsheviki associates.

In fact, the proposed terms at once waken the suspicion that, in advance, they were rehearsed and that they are chiefly of German inspiration. There is no hint, for instance, of submitting the issue to the people of the belligerent countries, in disregard of the rulers, as was demanded by Lenine, and other essential details seem to have been forgotten by him. For the rest, this conference seems to be approaching details which Germans skilled in business of the sort will direct.

No doubt, the conference at Brest-Litovsk will go ahead with its undertakings. The Germans will offer counter propositions, although it may be assumed that they will approve—if they did not propose—several of the items mentioned in today's outline. Thus a situation will be developed in which the entente powers can take no part, unless they depart far from all that hitherto has been their declared intention. Perhaps Berlin reckons that some of Europe's neutrals will come in; in some of its aspects the situation is, or it may prove to be, uncomfortable for the entente side.

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

DECEMBER 24.

1746—Benjamin Rush, physician-general of the American army in the revolution, born at Byberry, Pa. Died in Philadelphia April 19, 1813.

1788—William E. Woodruff, founder of the Arkansas Gazette, born near Belport, N. Y. Died at Little Rock June 19, 1855.

1809—"Kit" Carson, famous scout, trapper and guide, born in Madison county, Kentucky. Died at Fort Lyon, Colo., May 23, 1868.

1851—A fire in the national capitol destroyed a large part of the library of congress.

1863—William Makepeace Thackeray, famous novelist, died in London. Born in India July 18, 1811.

1864—Fort Fisher, N. C., was bombarded by the federals.

1871—Fourteen lives lost in a collision on the Hudson River railroad at Hastings, N. Y.

1895—The Cuban insurgents under Gomez were severely defeated by General Campos at Coliseo.

1901—The Marquis Ito, eminent Japanese statesman, arrived in England.

THE ANNIVERSARY IN THE EUROPEAN WAR

DECEMBER 24.

1914—British airmen bombed German airship sheds in Brussels.

1915—French liner Ville de la Giotat sunk in Mediterranean by Austrian submarine.

1916—French senate voted unanimously that France could not make peace while enemy occupied French territory.

TOO TRUE.

"Many a high-sounding name conceals a pretty rotten thing," said Ralph Corson, a New York after-dinner speaker, in an attack on pan-Germanism.

"It's like the case of the chap whose little boy asked him:

"'Pop, what does "years of discretion" mean?'

"'It means, my son,' said the father, 'that you're too young to die and too old to have any fun.'"

CURRENT ATTRACTIONS AT BUTTE THEATERS

AMERICAN

Moving pictures: Today, William Farnum in "The Heart of a Lion;" tomorrow, Bill Hart in pictures.

ORPHEUM

Moving pictures.

RIALTO

Moving pictures: Today and tomorrow, Mary Pickford in "The Little Princess."

PEOPLES

Hippodrome vaudeville: Today and tomorrow, Minerva Courtney and company in "Heart O' the Canyon" and five other acts.

EMPRESS

Musical comedy stock: Today and tomorrow, "Abie's Night Out."

ANSONIA

Vaudeville and moving pictures: Today, Belle Bennett in "Because of a Woman;" tomorrow, "The Learnin' of Jim Benton."

BROADWAY.

Pantages vaudeville: Today and tomorrow, Harry Langdon and company in "Johnny's New Car" and five other acts.

ODD EVENTS IN TODAY'S NEWS

WHEN LIGHTS ARE OUT.

Fargo, N. D.—As the result of the first "lightless night" three robberies were reported here. Chief of Police Dahlgren said little protection is offered for a city with a small police force under the fuel administration's order for lightless nights.

CAREFUL PRESIDENT.

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson has to get his coal just like anybody else—in homeopathic doses. When two tons of the precious substance was received at the white house secret service men guarded it surreptitiously until it had been stowed in the bins, and then a white house attendant swept up the dust just as carefully as thought it were stray diamonds.

A "WARTIME" HEN.

Eugene, Ore.—Dr. L. E. Straight of this city is the owner of a hen that lays eggs weighing four ounces each. Dr. Straight states that an egg is produced every other day, and that all are of uniform size.

The hen is of the barred Plymouth Rock variety. The eggs, when broken, apparently are normal in their proportions, aside from their great size. Dr. Straight said that he may experiment with a setting of the eggs to see if a large egg laying strain of chickens can be developed.

LUKE M'LUKE SAYS

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It is none of our business. But we can't help observing that when a girl passes the 40-year mark and is the possessor of a 46-inch bust, she should quit wearing middies.

We know that we are taking an awfu chance in making this crack. But the fact is that not one housewife in 50 can make good coffee.

The reason why a dealer in this country can afford to be lavish with his guarantees is because he knows that after the average American has used the article for a while he is too cowardly to return it and enforce the guarantee.

Some folks imagine that there is a difference between being disappointed in love and disappointed in marriage. But there isn't.

There would be very little economy in this country if it wasn't for the women. A woman makes as much fuss over a postage stamp as a man does over a dollar bill.

Once in a while the jolly, good-natured man in the Office is the same fellow whose wife and children would think he was sick if he ever acted good-natured at Home.

Men do not give women enough credit for business ability. It takes a woman with business ability to run a family on a husband's salary these days.

What has become of the old-fashioned lad who believed that it was healthful to have a goat around?

A woman can't understand why a man howls about a missing button when there is a paper of pins on the dresser.

A pessimistic prophet can predict such dire things that nobody pays any attention to an optimistic prophet.

You may not believe it. But the Boss is more interested in the way you do your work than he is in the way you vote.

A 30-year-old girl can convince some man how young she is, but she can't convince any other woman.

Our Daily Special.

Putting Or Style Often Means Putting Off Creditors.

Names is Names.

Bell Hoyes lives in New Orleans, La.

ALL BUT HUMAN

A delayed shipment of beautiful phonographs and gramophones just arrived, latest models and latest improvements. Really they are all but human. Sale price $15 and upward. Big inducements. Cash or terms. Montana Piano Co., 210 North Main street, Butte.—Adv.

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE POST

Did You Drop Out?

Did you start a Savings Account one time and then for one cause or another—perhaps for no real cause—drop out of the procession traveling the road to success?

If you did, begin the new year by making a new start.

4% Paid on Savings Accounts and Certificates of Deposit.

Have You Forgotten Anything?

If So, Come to Shiner's

This Evening and

Buy It for Less

The Shiner Store Will Remain Open This Evening for the Accommodation of Shoppers Unavoidably Delayed.

We Sell For Less

A Merry Christmas

to everyone in this City, every dweller in this favored state and the sojourner within our gates. May good luck dazzle the heart of every one in this great Treasure State—is our sincere wish.

$3 as first payment purchases $25 worth of goods | $5 down and $5 a month buys $50 worth of goods

We Pay the Freight On All Out-of-Town Orders

Shiners FURNITURE-HARDWARE

We Buy and Sell for Less

XMAS IN OTHER LANDS

One of the prettiest of Christmas customs is the Norwegian practice of giving, on Christmas day, a dinner to the birds.

In France, Austria, Italy and other Roman Catholic countries the midnight mass on Christmas eve is one of the most impressive services of the year.

Among the rural folk in many parts of England it is a popular belief that persons who die on Christmas eve are certain of immediate and eternal happiness.

In Spain it has been the custom for ages to include in the Christmas celebration the giving of pardons to all prisoners who are serving sentences for light offenses.

Many little Belgian boys and girls look under their pillows for the Engelshock on Christmas morning, believing that the Angel Gabriel himself will have placed the cake there.

Christmas day in Corisca is observed by the people as a religious festival, but not as a social one, and there are no family gatherings as in America and in most of the countries of Europe.

Among the orthodox of Serbia and Bulgaria a very singular custom prevails. If it can possibly be avoided, no one croses a strange threshold in the morning of Christmas day.

A superstition of the Scotch is that it is very unlucky for any but a dark-haired person to first cross the threshold on Christmas morning, the reason assigned being that Judus had red hair.

The midnight mass in St. Mark's is the chief feature of the Christmas celebration in Venice. On this occasion the historic church is lighted with hundreds of wax candles, each more than seven feet tall.

Among the Spanish peasants it is the popular belief that, on Christmas eve, ere the clock strikes 12, the Virgin, bringing blessings in her train, visits every home where she can find an imagine or portrait of the Babe new-born.

In the Italian highlands for centuries there has been a quaint and pretty custom at Christmas of making votice offerings at the shrines of the Redeemer of fruit and flowers by the peasants, each garbed in the picturesque dress of his own district.

A Christmas custom preserved in the Ukraine, the original significance of which seems to have been long since forgotten, is for the housewife to carefully preserve the sweepings from the cottage from Christmas day to New Year's day, and then burn the pile in a garden at sunrise.

The peasants of many of the European countries share the legend that animals are conscious when Christmas eve comes around. Many of the country folk believe that at midnight sheep awake and march in procession, and the cattle kneel in their stalls, while by a holy miracle all the beasts are able to converse together. But it is considered a mortal sin for a human being to attempt to overhear them.

One of the most joyous of Christmas celebrations is that in W... the day is observed with bondfires and fireworks.

FOREHANDED

"What was that wo... for?"

"Doing her shopping ... ton Transcript.

RIDDELL'S

PRE-INVENTORY SA...

Toys, Dolls, Pictures, Frames—Pr... ents galore at greatly reduced pri...

Khaki Goods

For the Soldier Boys

Statuary, Vases, Pictures for the Ho...

RIDDELL'S

131 West Park Street

A Picture Makes an Ideal Christmas Gi...

RIPPLING RHYMES

By Walt Mason.

PLAYING THE GAME

The men who've studied things like these, who've studied ... forty ways, say we can help things o'er the seas by having ... meatless days. They say, "Cut out the wheaten bread, ... week, and eat corn pone; lap up less sugar when you're ... to make the foeman groan." It isn't much to ask, ... refuse them were a shame; so let's instruct our gifted ... the rules and play the game. I eat a rooster once a ... braces me to play my harp; again I go down to the creek ... a cod or carp. When to the table I repair, in solemn ... times a day, and see a loaf of white bread there, I ... away. I say to nephew, aunt and niece, "Go slow on ... lard; the allies now are needing grease—we must not ... yard." The government is most polite; it asks us kindly ... and help our own men in the fight, and eke the British and ... Yet some there are who give no heed, who laugh polite ... scorn; they don't propose to curb their greed, and live on ... fish and corn. They hang around in every town, you'll see ... where you look; and Uncle Sam is writing down their ... his little book.