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THE SEATTLE STAR EDITORIAL AND MAGAZINE PAGE

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What Will Your Thanksgiving Be? A Real Thanksgiving?



What shall I do to make my Thanksgiving a real Thanksgiving?

We've celebrated Thanksgiving day all our lives and felt thankful, for what we weren't quite sure, perhaps.

If we had only thoughts for those who COULDN'T feel thankful—and there are many in Seattle, did we carry those thoughts any farther than the

door of the dining room, where the odor of roast turkey filled the air and a whetted appetite called one away from thoughts, not to say acts, of charity?

The Star wants to find out if the people of Seattle will do anything beside eating a big dinner this year to show that they are thankful. It wants the best answer to this question:

What shall I do to make my Thanksgiving a real Thanksgiving?

Is it in going to a football game? Is it in seeing a performance at a theatre? Is it in listening to a sermon in church?

When the Pilgrim Fathers had that first Thanksgiving turkey dinner, their plight was pitiful. Few of the poorest of us ever felt the distress the founders of Thanksgiving day felt on the New England coast, and yet they were thankful!

Are there more thankful people in Seattle this year than there were last Thanksgiving day? There are reasons why both rich and poor ought to be more thankful.

The workers this year certainly are cheered by greater activities in lines of labor.

As for the rich, there was no greater object lesson to them than one this year that showed them that we are all equal in terms of life, if not of money. Hariman, king of all the wealth-getters, could not get health, nor could he live to see this coming Thanksgiving day.

The urchin on the street has cause to be more thankful, and probably is more thankful, than Rockefeller, the richest man in the world. He has as his own by right what Rockefeller could not buy with money—youth and the ability to enjoy it.

What shall I do to make my Thanksgiving a real Thanksgiving?

The Star asks its readers to show each other what they think Thanksgiving day means to them. It desires to publish short answers to this question, and offers prizes as follows:

Five dollars for the best letter, and one dollar each for the next five best.

The winners will be announced in the issue of The Star Thanksgiving morning, and the answers will be published as soon as they are received.

Let's see what it means to be really thankful.

Now would seem to be an excellent time for Mr. Ballinger to devote his entire time to his private business.

The only "Don't" that they pay any attention to in the County Hospital is "Don't Care."

Of course Margaret Illington's

talk about darned socks is a figure of speech. Mr. Bowes, being a millionaire, undoubtedly wears half-hose.

Now that the deadly hookworm has been attended to, Mr. Rockefeller might do something to check football.

FROM DIANA'S DIARY

Miss Dillpickles Undertakes a Great Work as Censor at Taffeta & Balbriggan's Great Department Store.

BY FRED SCHAFER.



'I RUNS ACROSS MR. TAFFETA AT A QUICK LUNCH.'

Who should I meet today but my old boss, Mr. Taffeta, of Taffeta & Balbriggan's. I runs across Mr. Taffeta at a quick lunch. He was the same old Taffeta, and didn't give me the glassy eye like so many of your former employers do. Mr. T. is as plain as an old shoe with frayed uppers. He was real glad to see me. As he hit into a fried egg sandwich he asked me how I was getting along since I left the store. I told him I wasn't getting along except in years. "Well," he says, "I have a scheme

to try out at the shop. I think I'd like to have you be our censor. You've had lots of experience round a big establishment, and I imagine you are seasoned enough to know how to make the girls conform to a certain standard of dress and deportment." I listened good to me. I've often thought department store girls needed a stage manager to give a better ensemble effect. What Taffeta & Balbriggan want is to have the salesladies strike a dignified average for a better impression upon the public. I agreed to start censoring tomorrow. (Continued.)

CENTRAL BANK -- TWICE TRIED, TWICE FAILED

The Aldrich Idea of Currency Reform Would Stand Too Exposed to Attack and There is a Safer Plan, Says Charles G. Dawes, Banker and Former Comptroller of the Treasury.

BY CHAS. G. DAWES

President of the Central Trust Co. of Illinois, and Former Comptroller of the United States Treasury.



CHARLES G. DAWES.

The objection urged against the establishment of a central bank that in a democracy such as ours it will invite radical attack in proportion as it exercises powers, which must be large if it is to perform useful functions, and that such attacks may, and probably would, compel at times policies of retrenchment on its part, extremely prejudicial to general business, cannot be lightly brushed aside.

It has been stated as apparently furnishing a conclusive argument that to admit it is to admit that we cannot do in the United States what the governments of Europe have successfully done. The answer to this is that we have twice tried and twice failed. If we had failed because the first and second banks of the United States had not performed properly the functions for which they were created—had not restored the credit of the currency—had not helped to equalize interest rates in the different sections—had not facilitated exchanges nor been of great assistance to governmental financing, there might be ground for the hope that in the proposed experiment our presumably larger knowledge of banking might, by the greater power which we had not facilitated exchanges nor been of great assistance to governmental financing, there might be ground for the hope that in the proposed experiment our presumably larger knowledge of banking might, by the greater

power in large establishments as distinguished from its diffusion among a large number of small ones. Such a discussion cannot fail to affect adversely an institution with large demand liabilities and dependent upon its credit for its profitable and useful existence, and through it thus affect the business of the country.

There is nothing to indicate that the political agitation, pro and con, of this question, as related to the central bank, would be less now than formerly. On the contrary,

there is much in the manner in which public policies, especially as to the relation of the government to corporations, have been discussed in recent years, to indicate that it would be more prudent, facing a desperate condition of currency, unsettled and depressed business, suspension of specie payments and a critical condition of government finances, congress chartered the Second Bank of the United States, which started business in 1816. The debate largely centered on the question of the time for which it should be chartered. If we had such a desperate condition of affairs in the country now as they had then, without the prospect of reform along other lines, which do not involve a fundamental change in our theory of banking, and congress faced no alternative now as it did then except the general ruin of business or the chartering of a central bank, we would probably find that the debate in congress would, as then, largely revolve around the question of the time for which the bank should be chartered.

Forth would come the radicals, some of them forced, now as then, into a reluctant consent to the charter, but demanding that, by means of a short charter, congress should keep itself in a position to curb the terrible powers which they would ascribe as likely to accrue to the bank. They would probably argue that Wall st. or Standard Oil or many other of our modern bogie men now existing or to be created by the bank might gain its control to the great injury of us, the people. I venture to predict that such arguments in favor of a short charter would be even more certain to prevail now than then.

Then, again, as twice before, at the expiration of the charter, the country would be exposed to the fight for and against recharter. Whether the charter would win or fall, the uncertainty preceding decision, now as then, would probably produce the same general business disaster.

The economic arguments for the central bank are not new. Let anyone interested turn to the old congressional records, to the messages to congress of Andrew Jackson—to the addresses of Webster—to the correspondence of that able, harassed and anxious financier, Nicholas Biddle, the third president of the Second Bank of the United States, around whom, when he went to Wall st. at the time he was fighting for the life of the bank against Jackson, cheering crowds

would gather. So confident were the friends of the bank that what they deemed to be the reckless and transparent demagoguery of Jackson would, in view of all the benefits which the people had received from the bank, defeat itself, that they circulated as a campaign document thousands of copies of a message of Jackson which was a tirade against the bank.

But Jackson was overwhelmingly sustained by the people, and from that minute the bank was doomed. We have it in our power to reach the greatly needed reform—that of an element of elasticity in our currency—in a simpler and less dangerous way than that of a central bank. The plan has been under discussion now for 15 years. We are approaching slowly a consensus of opinion as to what is safe and what is unsafe in asset currency. To abandon efforts along these lines and to follow the central bank idea is to go backward a long ways.

Nebraska has a newly-elected county treasurer who is a woman, but so far no trading stamps and no hand-painted tax receipts are forthcoming.

Mrs. Bookdealer—Johnny just spilled the ink bottle over my diary. Mr. Bookdealer—Never mind. Blot it up and I'll take the book down to the store and sell it as one of the humorous holiday volumes with illustrations by the author.—Puck.

Buyer—I thought you said the house was only 10 minutes from the station. Suburban Agent—Minutes of latitude, sir.—Harper's Weekly.



STAR DUST

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