

THANK GOD FOR AMERICA

(Katherine Glover, Editor of 'Today's Magazine for Women')

The other day I stood on a pier of one of the big steamer lines and waited for an hour or more till a little gray smudge yawned the harbor grew into the clear huge outlines of one of the great ocean grayhounds, which pressed its nose gratefully into harbor after a warty journey across the seas.

And so it should be with us all as we read and shudder over the horrors in Europe. Only drama can it seem to us so far away, because it is too terrible for the human mind to grasp as reality.

The world lies as too close-knit for us to sit calmly basking in thankfulness, but with our hearts bleeding with sympathy for the men and women of the warring nations, from bended knees we should send up prayers of thanks that fate has cast our lots in this sweet land of peace and liberty.

Even here the long arm of war reaches out. Friends and neighbors among us have said good-bye to answer the call of their native countries. We find the grains of our fields and the products of our factories in fresh demand because the fields and factories of other lands lie untended while their sons fight to kill the sons of other lands.

Around the bulletin boards where the great newspapers of New York flash forth the news of fresh calamities and victories are gathered through all hours of the day and night great groups of solemn, tense men and women.

And the little group, after a moment's solemn silence, echoed her words.

WAPAK MAN EDITS COX'S PAPER

Chas. E. Morris, formerly of this city, has been advanced to the position of editor of the Dayton News, a position made vacant a few weeks ago because of the unfortunate political blunder made by Editor Howard Bratton in getting off on the wrong foot in an editorial during the campaign that caused a large majority of the traveling men of the state to oppose the re-election of Governor Cox.

FARM CREDITS

Prominence assigned to the topic of farm credits, in Secretary Houston's annual report, is a good illustration of the increasing significance of this subject. It is interesting to note that practically at the same time when the report of the Secretary of Agriculture was issued, former President Brown, of the New York Central railroad, at a meeting of the Interstate Agricultural Congress, declared that farm credits were one of the most important questions before the nation, and spoke in strong commendation of President Wilson's plan for a land bank.

Secretary Houston favors a land-bank system, reinforced by farmers' co-operative credit associations, by means of which farming communities can utilize their aggregate credit.

Farms and their products constitute the biggest potential source of credit in the United States. The point is to make all this credit available. Of the need of that we have lately had a remarkable example in the situation which confronted the cotton raisers, on account of the war. Any good cotton ought to furnish sufficient security to tide the planters over a shortage of the market by reason of unforeseen circumstances.

GOT HIS WISH AND THEN SOME

(Willshire Herald)

The following clipping taken from the Cincinnati Times-Star is of interest here because Mort Riker was born and raised in this town.

About fifty employees in the C. H. & D. roundhouse were interested in the letter published in the Times-Star recently telling of little State avenue boy who would be happy if Santa Clause brought him a red lead pencil and a piece of cake.

The little two-year old son of Wm. Garman, North Mill street, was operated upon for adenoids last Monday morning. He is getting along nicely.

SCARLET FEVER

Montezuma was placed under a stringent quarantine by the health authorities of that little village last Sunday, owing to an epidemic of scarlet fever. No meetings of any kind were held on Sunday, the schools have been closed, and a strict watch has been placed over the homes affected.

Vernie, the twelve year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Smith, of West Hoop street was taken ill with scarlet fever last Saturday. The home was immediately placed under careful quarantine.

Mrs. Harriet Mayer Clark is home to spend Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Mayer, and her little daughter.

ANSONIA HERALD PROPOSES NEW GAME LAW

A new game law that should be passed by all the States should contain the following:

"Book agents may be shot between October 1 and September 1; Spring Poets from March 1 to June 1; Automobile speed Demons from January 1 to January 1; Road Hogs from April 15 to April 15; Amature Hunters from September 1 to February 1; Wet and Dry Agitators from St. Patrick's Day to March 15; War Talkers—no, closed season; Any man who accepts a paper for two years and then when the bill is presented, says 'I never ordered it,' may be killed on sight and shall be buried face downward in quicklime so as to destroy the germs and prevent the spread of the infection."

Mr. and Mrs. James Browder of Chicago, Ill., are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Houck.

CHRISTMAS 1914

(Cincinnati Record)

Nothing is more marked than the mutations of time in the celebration of the great Christmas festival. The Christ spirit remains, but man changes. Not only do view points shift and new panoramas present themselves, but minds tend from the mere outward observance of forms of celebration to a practical application of the teachings of the Master who would be worshipped, not formally, but in spirit; whose teachings are to bear fruits of performance, service to brother man as next in importance to fealty to him.

Christmas, 1914, finds a great majority of the world's population indulging in brutal warfare. Brother against brother, each owing and confessing allegiance to

IRRITATES THEM

(New York World)

To a drunken man the most offensive person in the world is a sober man, which explains why the newspapers and politicians that are a military force are so incensed against the President.

It is not what the President said that irritates them. It is the way he said it. If we were to translate the so-called war section of his message into the vernacular of the average man, most of them would probably be laughing.

Mr. Wilson is habitually and sometimes exasperatingly sober. No matter what the circumstances he refuses to lose his self-control. If the house is on fire he does not carry the mattress down stairs and throw the mattress out of the window, and many people think he is altogether too cool when he turns in the alarm.

Some folks who might agree with him otherwise can never forgive him for his temperance. That is why they are abusing him like a red handed traitor for his message. Reading newspapers like the Tribune, the man from Mars might think that the President had recommended that half of the United States be ceded to Japan and the other half be divided among the victors in the European war.

There may be advantage now and then in complete self control, but on the whole it is just as well that the President is incorrigibly averse to hysteria. A chief magistrate who refuses to get excited is worth his weight in radium at a time like this. If there had been a few Woodrow Wilsons in the governments of Europe, half the world would not have been plunged into the most devastating war of human history.

DAN CUPID'S VICTIMS

James Davis, 35, teamster, Van Wert County, son of Michael and Barbara Davis, and Hattie Hundley, 25, housekeeper, Mendon, daughter of W. M. and Charlotte Hundley.

Clifford Lampy, 13, farmer, Union township, son of Joseph and Lena Lampy, and Ada Wright, 18, housekeeper, Mendon, daughter of E. L. and Alice Wright.

James M. Luffin, 20, farmer, Liberty township, son of J. B. and Amanda Luffin and Virgil Black, 18, housekeeper, Liberty township, daughter of D. S. and E. J. Black.

Charley L. Miller, 24, farmer, Black-creek township, son of A. D. and Sarah Miller, and Cora Estella Wolfe, 22, housekeeper, Blackcreek township, daughter of G. W. and Leta Wolfe.

Thurman Kruger, 24, farmer, Center township, son of John and Mollie Kruger, and Mary Crow, 22, telephone operator, Center township, daughter of Wm. and Liddy Crow.

W. M. Bauer, 25, carpenter, Liberty son of Susanah Bauer, and Corinda Burch 14, housekeeper, Hopewell township, daughter of John and Anora Burch.

Ralph Shock, 21, farmer, Blackcreek township, son of Sol and Eliza Shock, and Iva del Dudgeon, 22, housekeeper, Black-creek township, daughter of Frank and Mary Dudgeon.

Maurice Clyde Raller, 25, farmer, Ohio City, son of J. M. and Flora Raller, and Pauline Ethel Haradin, 25, housekeeper, Mercer, daughter of John and Lena Har-

WET AND DRY FIGHTS

A number of towns and cities have voted on the wet and dry question since the November election. In every case the drys have won. In every part of the state the people are resenting what they believe was a deal in the last election, between some of the Republican state leaders in Cincinnati.

A bill will be introduced in the coming legislature to provide a pension for those made dependent upon charity by the liquor business. To pay these pensions it is proposed to tax the saloons and breweries extra.

The wet leaders in the state are discovering that a lot of undesirable and unpopular politicians have attached themselves to the payroll of the liberal and liquor cause for their own benefit. In almost every section people are voting against these undesirables more than they are voting against the saloon.

Even the dry forces have discovered a new plan of action. They are placing business and professional men in charge of their fight for temperance. They are now making Wheeler, ministers, and other anti-saloon leaders take a back seat. In every instance they have won.

The home rule amendment which cost over one dollar a vote, has brought no profit or return of any kind to the liquor men so far. On the contrary there has been stirred up a lot of future opposition, for the part the big brewers took in the much talked of political deal—Ottawa Sentinel.

A MUSTLING OVERLAND AGENT

(Willshire Herald)

G. R. Hileman was the most surprised man in town, Monday morning, when he received his mail and found in it a small package from the Overland Automobile Co., which contained a \$75 diamond stick pin for a Christmas present, because of the fact that he sold more machines than any other Overland agent. The second prize was a \$50 gold watch, and other prizes were valued accordingly, but it is needless to say that Mr. Hileman is quite elated at success in winning the first prize. The award is made on a basis of population in each selling district.

A child adopted from an orphan's home was being ridiculed by the other children because he had no real parents. The conversation went about as follows:

"As you haven't got any real father and mother."  
"Maybe I haven't, but the ones I got love me as much as your's do."  
"They do not; our's are our real parents."  
"Well, mine love me more than yours do you 'cause mine picked me out of a hundred other babies and yours had to take what they got," replied the adopted son.—Litt.



GLAD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY FROM PAINTING BY PLOCHHORST

A Merry, Merry Christmas to The Democrat Readers Everywhere

THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT EXEMPLIFIED

One of the finest examples of the Christmas spirit is shown in the movement that inspired the sending of the United States collier Jason to Europe, laden with Christmas gifts for children in belligerent countries from children in the United States. The idea originated with the Chicago Herald. It was adopted by many American newspapers, and in response to a public appeal, gifts came pouring in from all sections of the United States as well as from other countries. A ship of the American Navy was selected to carry the unusual cargo, and when it arrived at its first European port on November 25 it received a royal welcome.

Of this cargo less than ten per cent were toys, and included in the 5,000,000 gifts were millions of articles of clothing, caps, shoes, sweaters, stockings, underwear, shawls, gloves, mittens and dresses of every kind. These gifts will be distributed in Germany, Austria, Belgium, Russia, France, England, Serbia and Montenegro.

East to the children of the West are entitled to an unusual form of recognition. "As one stands before these little articles and thinks that far away in Asia these blind girls worked joyously to help the little children of an alien race—as one pictures the scene when they were told of the Christmas Ship project and their willing aid was enlisted—the world seems a little place after all.

In the minds of the blind little Korean girls as their thin little fingers darted to and fro in the knitting and their faces lighted up with smiles at the thought of how good those things would feel to little babies living half way 'round the world.

There is a lesson here for statesmen, diplomats and politicians. We do not understand the East and the East does not understand us when we approach it and it approaches us with plans of superficial friendship and disguised self-interest. Let us approach it in the spirit of frankness, nobleness and generosity and it will understand in the end—as those blind Korean girls have understood.

PROBATE COURT

In the matter of the estate of Joseph Sager, administrator filed final account. For hearing January 25.

In the matter of the guardianship of Harmon Hemminger et al, guardian filed partial account. For hearing Jan. 25.

In the matter of the estate of Calvin E. Ribey, deceased, executors filed inventory and appraisal.

In the matter of the guardianship of Lawrence Farmum et al, guardian filed final and second account. For hearing January 25.

COMMON PLEAS

The case of John Brigner, administrator, vs. The Village of Ft. Recovery, assigned for hearing last Monday, was continued over until the next term of court.

The case of F. F. Callen vs. E. Jamison, assigned for hearing last Wednesday, has been reassigned for next Monday.

The Washington government for once is proving a real business success. As a marine insurer against war risks, it has in three months written \$12,000,000 of insurance, taken in about \$200,000 in premiums and has had to pay only \$5000 in losses, and Republican papers still whine.