

The Watchman and Southron

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YOUNG BLOOD TO THE FARM.

One of the great laments in agriculture has been the tendency of the young to leave the farms and seek the towns. Now the tide has begun to flow the other way, and agriculture in some sections of the United States is in a fair way to get the young blood which it needs.

A strange lecturer recently told his hearers that he had noted a marked "back to the soil" movement. What struck him particularly was the high percentage of young people who were taking up and starting to develop abandoned farms.

FALLING TAXES.

What the government is up to in the matter of shrinking income is indicated by the first returns from this year's federal tax collections. In New York, the greatest tax-collecting district, and one which usually reflects pretty well the national business conditions, this year's collections of income and excess profits taxes have totaled only \$417,000,000, against \$834,000,000 last year and \$380,000,000 the year before.

It will be remembered, too, that the taxes collected for any year are assessed on the business of the year before, so that the poorest business year of this cycle, 1921, remains to be heard from next year. Taxpayers, too, are learning all the time how to avoid paying. Collections from these sources are sure to fall considerably lower.

The treasury department undoubtedly realizes the prospect. It is hoped that congress does, and will limit its expenditures accordingly.

THE HEALTHIEST YEAR.

Here is good news of the passing year which should counteract in men's memories the gloom of 1921's industrial and financial troubles. Figures assembled by 37 leading American insurance companies, covering 27,000,000 lives, indicate that the present year has been the healthiest in the history of Canada and the United States.

According to the reports of these companies—which transact about 90 per cent of the life insurance business of this country—influenza has been practically eliminated. Pneumonia shows a sympathetic decline. Tuberculosis which, ten years ago, caused one death in every four among policy-holders, this year caused only one in ten. Deaths from automobile accidents, suicides and homicides have increased. The percentage of deaths from the ailments of advanced years remains high and will continue so, say the insurance men, as long as the pressure and tension of present-day life are maintained.

The fact that the cancer death rate has risen is attributed to more accurate diagnosis of the disease rather than to actual increase. Some interesting health points may be gleaned from these statistics. One of them is that many of the diseases formerly allowed to sweep away large numbers of people are now coming under control. They are not only greatly reduced but may finally be put out of business. Another is that a little

more courage in simplifying life, both of individual and community, will result in the lessening of the diseases of middle and later life.

This year has been the healthiest so far. If its lessons are rightly read and heeded, succeeding years should be each more healthful than the last.

Condemned Meat.

The public is invited to stop by Mr. H. L. Tisdale's show window at No. 37 W. Liberty Street and see a specimen of condemned pork sold in the city for food. This pork contains thousands of embryo tape worms which ingested as food and not thoroughly cooked may produce the mature parasite in the human family. There are several diseases and conditions of food producing animals which make the animal absolutely unfit for food, some of the conditions of which the owner might be entirely ignorant. It is also possible that some of the conditions which make the meat unattractive to offer for sale as a whole sausage or other products by inscrupulous persons, and sold in that form.

It is certainly time the people of Sumter should know the meat which goes onto their table has been officially inspected and passed as fit for food. A local abattoir will solve this question, furnishing the city with a clean, wholesome meat supply. Let everyone pull for the abattoir, we need it.

Steals Bicycle From Police Headquarters.

Willie Jenkins is being held for trial in the next term of court for the larceny of a bicycle which he had the gall to steal out of the guard house. The bicycle was one which had been taken up quite a long while back by the police and no owner could be found for it. Chief Barwick had recently noticed a negro boy hanging around the guard house just a little more than was necessary and had told this boy to stay away. Then the bicycle was misused from the place where it had been kept in the guard room. Chief Barwick reported the loss of the wheel to a repair shop in the city handling this brand of bicycles and was rewarded for his inquiries by tangible information which led to the finding of the bicycle at the home of Willie Jenkins near Shot Pouch. Willie was identified by Chief Barwick as the same boy doing the excessive loafing around the guard house. He was locked in a cell on Wednesday and the bicycle recovered and placed just outside the cells. Jenkins can do a lot of looking at the bicycle but not a great deal of riding upon it just at present.

Board of Health Notes.

Has the meat on your table been officially inspected? Are you sure it is of a quality you can safely place before your family? While the United States government has one of the finest meat inspection services in the world, it is an absolute fact that there are still millions of cattle and other animals slaughtered which may be diseased or unfit for human consumption. This will always be a danger as long as local farmers can bring in any kind of cattle and sell them to local butchers for slaughtering on their own premises. Such products, not coming under interstate commerce, are not U. S. government inspected and come to your table without this essential protection. For this reason, many towns and cities have found it a great advantage to establish municipal abattoirs, where the slaughtering, dressing, refrigerating and handling can all be done under the supervision of your local health authorities. This is a matter of such vital importance that you, as a public spirited citizen, should use your effort, every influence, to bring about this much needed reform.

Marriage License Record.

Marriage licenses have been issued to the following colored couples: Willie Newman and Matilda Loran of Sumter. Eugene Plowden and Ethel Butler of Sumter. Willie Moses, Jr., and Bessie Jones, Sumter. Richard Crosby and Sara Mitchell, Remini. Galney Williams and Maggie Spann, Oswego. Levi Joye of Bishopville and Lottie Smith of Sumter. Jessie McQuilla and Alice Bradford of Sumter. John Bradley and Roxey Campbell, Sumter. Paul Jenkins and Sarah Louise Miller, Camden. Leo Campbell of Sumter and Bertha M. Davis of Columbia. Mose Washington and Alice Washington of Lynchburg. Raymond Conson and Flossie Feider of Sumter. Jerry Rembert of Borden and Martha Kendrick of Rembert. Mattie Johnson and Mary Williams of Mayesville.

Serious Situation in India

Washington, Dec. 24.—Native policemen are reported to be deserting the British in India and joining the Nationalist movement.

Naval Vessels For Sale

Portsmouth, N. H., Dec. 24.—The sale of twelve naval vessels is announced here, including the cruiser Brooklyn, two colliers, destroyers and submarine chasers.

First day of 1922 is Sunday, so we can get a good start.

MAKE A MERRY CHRISTMAS

By CHARLES PAGE. World's Champion Santa Claus VERYBODY should have a happy Christmas.

You can't make others happy unless you think right, but if you think right, you will give all you can—even if it is only the old worn-out doll your little girl had last Christmas and which she has laid aside. Or you can divide a piece of bread and butter, if you haven't anything else, or give a kind word, with the added thought that some day—maybe next Christmas—things will be different. But the big idea is for everybody to be happy on Christmas, and if you can make the other fellow feel that way, you will feel that way yourself.

Christmas Tree at Graham School.

The Graham school house was the centre of much delight among the boys and girls on Wednesday evening, December 21st. The three class rooms were thrown into one and beautifully decorated with wreaths of holly, mistletoe, and Christmas bells, which added to the beauty of this gala, festive season. The stage was the scene of the "Christmas Fire-side" with stockings hung for Santa Claus, and a beautiful Christmas tree gay with tinsel and bright candles.

Christmas Tree at Trinity.

Notwithstanding the threatening clouds of a cold December day, quite a crowd gathered at Trinity Sunday school Thursday evening to participate in the exercises of the Beginners' Department, of which Mrs. J. W. Cox is superintendent. Each and every one did unusually well for little tots. The following program was carried out: Prayer—Dr. Daniel. Song—Jolly Old Nick—Essie Jones. Recitation—Rosa Wilder and Josephine Keels. Merry Xmas—Margery Compton, Edna Pratt and Joyce Roper. Recitation—Essie Jones. What Can Little Children Bring?—Hazel Gains. A Real Santa Claus—Ethel Dennis. Recitation—William Vactor and Essie Jones. Santa is Coming—Susie Hodge. Then a beautiful scene was arranged, representing a manger, to impress on the minds the real Christmas what was given to the world. A rough crib of straw was fixed in which lay a little Babe, Leaning over in adoration was Mary (Alline Jones); at her side stood Joseph (Alva McDonald), while one of the wise men who had followed the star was (Jack Buck). The angels stood on either side watching over the crib, while a group of little children sang sweet Christmas carols.

Americanizing Coblenz

Many American Civilians Have Located There

Coblenz, Dec. 1.—Little by little, Coblenz has been taking on an American aspect, with a will and a smile in some respects, but reluctantly and with a frown so far as most of the German population is concerned. The recent formalities of peace apparently did not make a particle of difference either way. Some of the bitterness the Germans showed when the American army marched into Coblenz December 8, nearly three years ago, has subsided. Coblenz now is one of the liveliest little cities of central, western Europe. Not for the Americans alone, nor the English, French and Belgians, but for the Germans too, and the blinds in the German homes, which were drawn in resentment at the coming of the Americans, have all been raised, regardless of whether the occupation forces, and business has thrived to such an extent that many a Coblenz merchant has put aside a snug little fortune, as fortunes go in Germany. American civilians have been pouring into the occupied area for the past two years and a half, thousands for sightseeing purposes and others on business missions which have kept them here. Then various officers and enlisted men have left the army from time to time to enter business of some kind, and gradually the American colony on the Rhine has grown until today it is estimated there are something like 2,000 civilians from the United States scattered about the Coblenz area. There are "American stores" all about town but all of them are not owned by Americans. American-made goods are on sale at half the down-town shops, and "English spoken here" greets shoppers in all the principal streets. At the news stands about town the newspaper of the American Forces in Germany, is on sale as well as daily newspapers from New York and Chicago. In the streets, during the shopping hours, nearly as much English as German is heard. An American feels quite at home in Coblenz half an hour after he arrives.

Lide-Powell

Miss Anna May Lide of Sumter and Frank Powell of Dallas, Tex., were married at the Methodist Parsonage in Columbia on Thursday evening, December 22, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. R. A. Truesdale. The young people who motored to Columbia were accompanied by the bride's mother, Mrs. A. J. Lide, her niece, Miss Alma Lide and friend, T. E. Rhame. It was a ring ceremony, and parsonage was prettily decorated in holly and mistletoe for the event. The bride wore a blue traveling suit with brown accessories and carried white carnations. Miss Lide is a young lady of great popularity in Sumter and for a number of years has been associated with Dr. Archie China as office assistant. Mr. Powell, whose home is in Dallas, Texas, has resided in Sumter for the past two years during which time he has made many friends. A long and happy wedded life is wished them by their friends.

The census has figured everything except what percentage of our parents are men.

The chess player, who made two moves in seven hours, would make a fine plumber.



So this is Christmas!

Some say "It comes but once a year—thank God."

Others say "It comes once every year—thank God."

"Some" can't see the pleasure for the expense.

"Others" can't see the expense for the pleasure.

"Weary Christmas and Nappy New Year," murmur the tired shop-girls.

"Bleary Christmas and Snappy New Year," smile favorite bootleggers.

On our homes are presents whose absence we expected.

They come from friends we thought close instead of close friends.

If they live close enough send them one of these messages.

"Dear Blank, I mailed your present. It got lost. Merry Christmas."

"Dear Grace, Ma strained soup in your stockings. Merry Christmas."

"Dear Bill, the tie for you got noisy. My family burned it."

And some friends have the gift of giving useless gifts.

But silk handkerchiefs are fine if you don't catch cold.

And net stockings can be hung for lace curtains.

While loud ties can furnish dance music.

And Christmas cigars are excellent for killing moths.

And can be eaten if cooked like fresh cabbage.

Tell Willie what's in sister's doll before he looks.

Have you plenty of candy and the doctor's phone number handy?

Then three cheers for Christmas. Only 365 more days until Christmas.

Merry Christmas.

PARAGRAPHS

By ROBERT QUILLEN

The Dawes budget is prepared for every contingency except Morse.

You can't hold a girl's hand when she is driving. For that matter, it is equally difficult to hold her back.

Corn may serve as a substitute, but there's no fuel like the old fuel.

The present tense of the war spirit is Mars. The past tense is marred.

Eight quarts make a peck, but as a rule one or two drinks will make a Pecksniff.

And so China is to operate her own postal system. We didn't know she had any Marines.

Some men leave their finger prints with the police, and some leave them on the books you lend.

There was a time when novel publishers had a cinch, but publishing is a risque business now.

There is little hope, however, that we will get the boys off the park benches by Christmas.

In a small town the banks don't have tellers, but the cashier usually tells all he knows.

Don't grieve about the wife's toll-roughened hands. Buy her a can opener that has a padded handle.

We must hurry and civilize the savage peoples before they all die off of the white man's disease.

England may be a monarchy, but the king has fallen to so low a state that he can't even start a fashion.

You can't fool all the people all the time, but you can fool a majority, and that's what makes congress.

Concerning the arms parley, dope springs eternal in the human press.

The most annoying thing about the man who assumes a "holier-than-thou" attitude is the fact that he usually is right.

When you urge people not to argue with a fool, every married woman thinks you are giving her a bit of personal advice.

If ever we go to war for China, some patriot will make himself immortal by declaring: "Wing Lung Fu, we are here."

An admirer says Bernard Shaw is always wrapped in thought. Well, thoughts like his provide sufficient warmth without any other wrap.

Personally, we don't think much of a patriot who cheers the boys going out to fight and kicks about paying the bill.

"One hundred thousand idiots in America." And any one of them can give you complete instructions concerning your duty.

When you hear that a man has killed himself because of business worries, you wonder what stock he bought with the company's funds.

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United States a Neutral Zone

Lima, Peru, Dec. 24.—Peru suggests that delegates of Chile and Peru meet in the United States and decide the Tacna-Arica dispute.

Wish You Were In 'Frisco?

San Francisco, Dec. 24.—The California Christmas pies will contain liquor, each baker being allowed one hundred gallons of brandy to pep their pies.

STRIKE DISTURBANCE IN KENTUCKY

Newport, Ky., Dec. 24.—Troops have detained here to preserve order among striking steel workers.

DEADLY STORM HITS LOUISIANA

Monroe, La., Dec. 24.—One white woman and six negroes were killed and several persons injured in a storm that struck this section today.

TREATY WITH COLOMBIA REPORTED SIGNED

New York, Dec. 24.—It is reported that the treaty between Colombia and the United States has been signed by the Colombian Congress.

Priests Sent to Prison

Voronezh, Russia, Dec. 24.—Six priests are serving six months at hard labor charged with defrauding parishioners by claiming that old icons had been renewed by a miracle and possessed special powers. They rented the icons which were carried into sick rooms.

Chile to Have Electric Railroad

Santiago, Chile, Nov. 29.—The first important railway electrification on the west coast of South America will be undertaken within the next 30 days by a New York concern which has just obtained a contract with the Chilean government to electrify 233 track miles of the state lines between Santiago and Valparaiso and Llay Llay and Los Andes. The contract involves an expenditure of \$2,500,000 and calls for completion of the project within two years.

Electrification of the division, which is the most important in the state railway system, will afford a saving of more than 100,000 tons of coal annually and will permit, it is said, the handling of a greater volume of traffic over the line connecting the capital and the country's chief port. The project has been pending for more than ten years but congressional approval was given only last December. A law was passed providing for general improvements in the railways including electrification of the first zone and the purchase of new equipment.

Electrical energy will be supplied by five substations, between Santiago and Valparaiso, with a total capacity of about 60,000 horsepower. Overhead trolleys will be used. They will be of the simple catenary type supported on bracket arms. The 3,000-volt direct current system will be installed for furnishing power to the locomotives of which there will be 59, ranging from 29 to 112 tons each.

L. S. Boggs, of a New York firm of consulting engineers, for the New York, New Haven and Hartford and the Pennsylvania railway systems, and R. L. McLellan and D. C. Hershberger of the Westinghouse Company, are now in Chile completing the details after which actual work on the electrification will be started.

NEW SILVER DOLLAR ON THE MARKET

Washington, Dec. 24.—The new silver dollars will be in circulation on December 31st the director of the mint announced today.

China's Trade With United States.

Shanghai, Nov. 18 (By Mail)—China's exports to the United States from Shanghai within the quarter year that ended September 30 reached total of gold \$12,709,797 and for the first three quarters of the year gold \$43,907,782. The figures are given in a report that has been issued at the American consulate in Shanghai.

A noteworthy item of the report shows that in the three months period ending in September gold bars worth \$2,499,374 were sent to America and the value of gold bars exported in the nine months period runs to \$16,546,059. In addition to the gold shipments gold coins to the value of \$841,995 were exported the first three quarters of the year.

Moscow Soviet Will Unload Its Theatres.

Moscow, Nov. 29.—The Moscow Soviet has announced that the Musical Drama Theater, the Lutetia Misch and two other theaters which the local city government has supported will be leased to private concessionaires and has asked Russian theatrical managers to submit proposals for taking over the theaters and operating them as private enterprises.

Counterfeit Postage Stamps in Argentina.

Buenos Aires, Nov. 8.—A swindle of large proportions has been perpetrated on the Argentine post office department by the printing and sale of false five cent stamps. The sale of these stamps apparently has been going on possibly for years but it was only recently discovered. The department has ordered the withdrawal of the issue in question. The postoffice department admitted that the fraudulent stamps were practically identical with the authorized ones and that it was not possible to trace the source of the questionable supply.

Great Salt Desert.

The most noteworthy physical feature of Khorasan is the Great Kaver, a saline desert, considered by some to be the bed of a sea long since dried up, and by others to be the saline rivulets trickling into it from the enclosing circles of mountains. The salt deserts and the mountains of Khorasan keep it isolated; the fertile valleys produce cotton, cereals, fruits and tobacco.

On Main Camel Line.

Birjand lay on the main trade route of the caravan and mule-borne commerce between Russia and India. Before Russia broke down nominally thousands of tons of wool were sent there from Khorasan, along with shawls and rugs, and much of this ultimately reached Marseilles. The animal transports brought from India yarn and dyes, raw material for carpet making, and also coffee, tea and spices. Both the disturbances in India and the chaos of Russia have hampered Khorasan.

The name, Khorasan, is apt, meaning "land of the sun." Formerly it applied to a larger region. The province of that name, nearly as large as California, now clearly delimited, is narrowed by mountain more than a generation or two removed from nomadism. They had not only to be ward politicians but international diplomats. Their prob-

Exquisite Evening Frock



An exquisite frock for evening is this Claire design of silver cloth and Royal Blue Salome velvet with silver grapes hanging from the waistline. The velvet bodice is held by Rhinestone chains which venture down the back and hang in looped, glittering lengths.

She's Slim, But She Can Sing!



Introducing Marie Jeritta. Until recently she was star of the Vienna Opera. Now all New York is talking about her debut with the Metropolitan. She has a soprano voice of surpassing quality, is dramatic and graceful. Unlike most of her contemporaries this prima donna is slim and beautiful.

Khorasan, The Wild East of Persia.

Washington, Dec. 20.—"It is not surprising that Khorasan, the wild east of Persia, should be affected by banditry because, remote as it is from the western front, the world war profoundly disturbed its peculiar government and social system," says a bulletin from the National Geographic Society concerning Khorasan. "For a time only, during the world war, Amir Shoukat ul Mulk was deposed, and his successor rode into Birjand, kissing the Koran, suspended across the roadway at the gates of the city, and thousands of his followers did likewise. The accidental observer might be particularly impressed with the hygiene of that ceremony, and he usually is distraught when he finds that etiquette demands he accept from a host a cigarette ridges, the Asiatic end of a system that binds eastern Europe, physically, to central Asia. The Elburz range, which rises in northwestern Persia to form the Persian Olympus, Mount Demavend, divides the country into two climatic zones, since on its northern side is the Caspian basin, below sea level, and on its southern a plateau which averages some 4,000 feet above the sea.

Through a long distance political lens the statesmanship of the governors of Kain, Khorasan province and rug making center, commands high admiration. Their succession was hereditary, but their line held sway neither by right of blood nor ancient tribal choice. They ruled by force of leadership. First of all they had to please a populace many of whom were not white that host has lighted in his own mouth. If a number of guests present the host is likely to insert one light to all and getting all started with one prodigious puff. Annoying to the other extreme, however, is the meticulous care of the servant who always must stop to cleanse his hands before answering the summons of his employer.

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lem was to play Russia, which reached out to their northern borders through Turkestan, against Great Britain, whose influence touched their eastern boundary through Afghanistan. And even before 1914 the insidious activities of Germany had to be taken into account. In addition an eye had to be kept on T-T-heran.

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Birjand, now capital of the sub-province of Kain, is one of the chief carpet and rug making centers of all Persia. It has only about 15,000 people, but all about Birjand proper are little villages where men till the soil with the aid of oxen and women weave. The best of the Kain carpets are produced at Darakishi, about fifty miles north-east of Birjand. A woman of this region who cannot weave becomes an economic liability. This condition, and the use of opium, are held responsible for the considerable number of beggar women to be seen at Birjand.

The most important step some people take is the skinny and even then they feel shaky.

A winged automobile has been invented in France—for pedestrians who try to escape by jumping and hurdling, we suppose.—Nashville Tennessean.

There is a house shortage because houses won't make 60 miles an hour.

Some movies are more to be pitied than censored.—Burlington News.