

CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS AND HUMAN ASPIRATIONS

Christmas season, 1922, gives rise to thoughts about matters well past the usual year's cycle. The past year has been a year of peace and a hope for regenerated world, things to face to face with the poverty of human aspirations when guided by human spirit alone.

It is a sad commentary on human nature that a world war is not a war and that peace has brought no peace—not yet. More than sixteen hundred years ago the angels sang "Peace on Earth, to men, Good Will." This divine message has come down through the centuries, has inspired religious zeal, stirred the souls of men and women, changed the geography of the world and founded new nations.

Christmas thoughts take us back to the struggle for religious freedom, the sacrifices of pioneers, the voyage of the Mayflower and the birth of a republic. They carry us back to the gathering of patriots who failed to frame their new republic until they had knelt in prayer and asked the blessing and aid of Divine Providence.

Christmas thoughts remind us that our republic never drew the sword save in a righteous cause and for the promotion of the message from Bethlehem. America entered the World War in the belief that it was the last—that the dawn of permanent peace was near.

Four years of doubt and almost despair, and there is no peace. The quarrels and strifes of the Old World are poisoning the universe like some plague.

After an unparalleled sacrifice of men and treasure, America is not credited with the spirit of the Nazarene, but is charged with selfishness and aloofness. The reflex of Europe's endless strife and turmoil is a serious disregard for law and order, for the sanctity of established social customs and for human life itself—all amid an environment of apparent peace.

It is useless to talk about world peace until there is a rebirth of the spirit of Christmas in the human heart. It is admitted that the Christian church has failed in its measure, because the doctrines of the Nazarene have not been tried. True, the church is a powerful agency for good, yet the fact remains that it has been unable to establish the Prince of Peace on the throne. Yet the world would have been long since had its measure been for the church. No institution is better or stronger than its constituent parts.

Whatever may have been or now may be, our human aspirations, somehow there is lacking in our national life, that uplifting spirit of Christian loyalty and patriotism, that indefinable love of country so dear to our forefathers and foremothers. It may be due to the by-product of a world war known as internationalism, or to the effect of too much alien immigration; yet it is here.

The solution of the vital problems confronting us as a nation, lies in less dependence on a nebulous and material search after world regeneration and more dependence upon the tenets and principles of the fathers and mothers who left us a priceless heritage: less reliance on human agency and more reliance upon the help of Providence and prayer.

No mere human machinery, no mere act of Congress, can keep this republic great and secure, and able to set an example to and uplift the world. We must get in touch once more with the emotions, with the sentiments, with the moral and spiritual forces which surround us, and which in a mysterious way are waiting to be utilized by a groping nation.

As a people, we are in danger of losing our national character, because we are crowding out the moral and spiritual forces of life. National character is as important as individual character; the first cannot be without the second, and both are

spiritual. A revival of this moral and spiritual atmosphere, a renewal of our faith in Divine Providence, a resurrection of Christmas thoughts and deeds in harmony with Divine laws, will rescue America, and rescue the world. Nothing else will.

WHY SUBSIDIZE OUR SHIPPING?

(American Legion Weekly) It is trade that makes nations physically great. Trade means not only the selling of goods, but the transportation of goods from source to market, whether it be the kitchen-cupboard carrying a basket of celery to the county seat or a steamer bearing a load of beef from the Argentine to Italy.

One positive good that was to come out of the war, we all believed at the time, was a real American merchant marine. "The growth, maintenance and prosperity of American shipping must be close to the heart of every patriotic American citizen," declared the late National Commander F. W. Galbraith, Jr. "The American Legion subscribes heartily to the motto, 'Keep the Stars and Stripes on the seven seas.' Six years' service aboard commerce carriers in all seven of those seas had given the Legion's leader more than an academic interest in America's maritime supremacy.

Just as land warfare is conditioned largely by the position of strategic railroads (the armistice could not be

some when it did had Germany held snatches lateral line of communication beyond Sedan), just as the Pacific routes of land traffic become in wartime vital instruments for the prosecution of hostilities, so at sea do the trade routes of the world become the key to failure or defeat, and the peaceful cargo carriers plying those routes indispensable auxiliaries of the navy itself.

Admiral Jellicoe has ranked the British navy and the British merchant marine as units of equal strength in the defense of Britain. If Jellicoe is right, then the 5:3:3 ratio agreed on at the Washington conference becomes, giving the merchant marines of Great Britain, America and Japan equal proportionate value as defense units, 10:10:6. Suppose our own merchant marine disappears, leaving Britain and Japan maintain theirs at strength; the ratio declines to 10:5:6, and America reverts to the status of a second-class naval power.

Is there any danger of such a situation becoming a fact? It rapidly is becoming a fact. The United States owns more than fourteen hundred ships, but it is able to operate only some three hundred of them, and most of the three hundred are in the hands of insolvent companies. Some authorities assert that no ship of American registry engaged in foreign trade today is returning a profit. The Government itself is dropping \$100,000,000 a year in its shipping venture.

The Fourth National Convention of the American Legion at New Orleans voted on record in favor of the ship subsidy bill because "it will automatically increase the available personnel of the Navy, add materially to the efficiency and strength of the Navy, and at the same time be a great aid to all business throughout the United States."

Our foreign trade affects the whole country vitally, the great agricultural interior no less than the industrial seaboard. And the amount of our foreign trade is directly dependent on the amount of our shipping carried under the American flag.

Miss Odele Groshen, daughter of Mrs. Jack McCullough, returned on Saturday from Coquille, Oregon, where she has been spending the past few months visiting at the home of her sister, Mrs. E. L. Vinton.

Local Happenings

Lloyd Hutchinson is handing out some new calendars, advertising his tailoring, cleaning and pressing establishment. Attached to the calendar are a couple of match boxes and scratching paper, making it useful as well as ornamental.

A "Silver Tea" will be given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Livingstone on Thursday evening, December 28. Everyone is cordially invited to be in attendance. The proceeds will be given to the Chinese Mission in Portland.

Capt. Jas. F. Cook, Standard Oil manager, will go to Portland at the end of the week, where he expects to spend Christmas with his family, who are now there on a visit with relatives.

E. M. Hulen, now of Blalock, Ore., where he is engaged in ranching on a large scale, visited his Blackhorse ranch during the week, being accompanied by Mrs. Hulen and the boys.

Mrs. Howard M. James of Arlington was visiting with friends in Heppner on Wednesday. Mrs. James, with her husband, is teaching in the Arlington schools this winter.

LOST—Between the lower part of Heppner and road camp on Hardman road, one black dress shoe. Finder leave at this office, or at Minor & Co., or notify George Moore, city.

Tilden Williams and Ture Peterson, farmers of the Eight Mile section are in town today, the open spell making it possible for them to get to the city a little easier.

W. B. Barratt returned home from Portland on Saturday. He had been in the city during the week, attending a regular meeting of the state highway commission.

Edward Notson, a student in engineering at O. A. C., arrived home on Sunday to spend the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and

Mrs. S. K. Nelson.

C. H. Van Scholesk was down from his Balm Fork ranch today, the first trip to town since the big storm set in. It reports the snow leaving quite fast and the frost will soon be out of the ground. Stock has been doing well and a few more days of this warmer weather and the grass will be coming forth on the south hill sides.

A. J. Fritz, formerly associated with F. A. McMenamin, attorney, is in the city today. Mr. Fritz now represents a building and loan association of Portland.

We picked up a silver Everharp pencil on the street today near the corner of Peoples Hardware Co. store. Owner may have it by calling at this office.

Miss Alma Akers came up from Portland on Saturday to spend the Christmas holidays in this city with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Akers.

past summer and fall at Reith, has past summer and fall at Reith, has returned to Heppner to remain for the winter.

Oscar Keithley, of Eight Mile, is in the city today. He has been making delivery of orders for Christmas turkeys.

Dance at Elks hall on Christmas night, for Elks and their ladies only. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Rietmann of lone were visitors in this city yesterday.

FOR SALE—White Leghorn pullets. See Harvie Young, Heppner.

NOTICE

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Farmers & Stock-growers National Bank of Heppner, Oregon, will be held on Tuesday, the 9th day of January, 1923, at their office between the hours of 10 a. m. and 4 p. m., for the election of officers and the transaction of such other business as may legally come before it.

Dated this 9th day of December, 1922.

S. W. SPENCER, Cashier.

Shell Fish! DO YOU ENJOY SHELL FISH? Oysters Clams Crab Served in any style to your order. Our Sunday dinners are an attraction and should appeal to you. Save the wife extra work Sundays by taking dinner with us—just bring the whole family along. Elkhorn Restaurant Heppner

Holiday Gifts Coleman's Lamps and Lanterns Percolators, Aluminum Ware Safety Razors and Pocket Knives Peoples Hardware Co. Heppner Oregon

Thinking of Xmas Gifts? What Could Be More Appropriate Than SILK HOSIERY We have it for you in the best line in Everwear Hosiery Silk Hose, All Colors, \$1.25, Up THE CHRISTMAS BOX 2 Pairs, Black or Brown, \$2.50 Ladies Wool Hose, \$1.00 Up These Prices Should Attract You Gonty's Cash Shoe Store

Illustration of three women in winter coats and hats. Text: THE PALMER GARMENT

Come in and see our fine assortment of these Palmer Coats THOMSON BROTHERS

Xmas Suggestions Suitable Gifts for Auto Owners CRESCENT WRENCHES HOTSHOT BATTERIES TIRES TUBES SPOTLIGHTS MOTOMETERS REAR VISION MIRRORS TIRE CHAINS TIRE GAUGES LUGGAGE CARRIERS RADIATOR BAR CAPS TIRE COVERS RADIATO COVERS AUTOMATIC WINDSHIELD WIPERS TIRE PUMPS All packages wrapped in Holly paper SEE OUR WINDOW DISPLAY Heppner Garage Main 213

QUOTATIONS ON FIRST WATER MAGAZINES FOR FIRST WATER PEOPLE The American Magazine \$2.50 Vogue \$5.00 The Saturday Evening Post \$2.00 Good Housekeeping \$3.00 Cosmopolitan \$3.00 Pictorial Review \$1.50 Youth's Companion \$2.50 Women's Home Companion \$1.50 Vanity Fair \$2.50 Ladies' Home Journal \$1.50 Country Gentleman \$1.00 Modern Priscilla \$2.00 DOLLE MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION BUREAU, 195 16th St., Portland, Ore. For the leisure moments of folks who know how to have them

Star Theater Program from December 22nd to 28th Inclusive FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22 MARIE PROVOST in "DON'T GET PERSONAL" Also "IN THE DAYS OF BUFFALO BILL" 13th Episode SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23 MAE MURRAY in "PEACOCK ALLEY" Comedy, "FELIX SAVES THE DAY" SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 WILL ROGERS in "DOUBLING FOR ROMEO" Sport Review—An Exposition of "Self Defense" Movie Chats—Entertaining and Educational MONDAY AND TUESDAY, DEC. 25 AND 26 HOUSE PETERS and IRENE RICH in "THE INVISIBLE POWER" Comedy "THE RUNAWAY MATCH" WED. and THURS., DECEMBER 27 and 28 CONWAY TEARLE in "THE REFEREE" Comedy, "FELIX IN LOVE" Selznick News Weekly

"TRY THE DRUG STORE FIRST" To Gladden "Her" Christmas Pyralin Gift Ivory Gifts that combine usefulness and beauty. You may select from a large stock of individual dressing table pieces, or if you prefer sets of the famous "Pyralin Ivory" we have them. Our assortment includes articles in the original pattern, also the Dubarry in the white, enamel and shell. Single pieces 25 Cents and up. MANICURE SETS in rolls—the toilet articles are ivory, pearl and horn in a genuine leathere case. 20 Per Cent Discount For Cash Humphreys Drug Co.

STAR THEATER NEWS, a four page illustrated program, describing pictures to be shown at this Theater between December 22nd and January first, intermingled with Movie Gossip, will be distributed to all residences this week. If you do not get your copy, let us know; you want it and we want you to have it. This method of keeping you informed regarding pictures to be shown will be continued during the coming months and any suggestions you can give us to improve the service to you will be appreciated. Necessarily they must be printed some time in advance, so occasionally changes may be made, but all possible notice will be given thru the newspapers. A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL