

WORKING FOR A DAY



The First Thanksgiving Proclamation

It is a mistake to suppose that the annual Thanksgiving proclamation of the president of the United States is always written or dictated by the president. As a matter of fact about all the presidents have to do with it is to sign his name to it. The actual composition of the Thanksgiving proclamation is the work of a specialist in the state department at

Washington. He endeavors, year after year, to express practically the same sentiments in an entirely new way or at least without repeating verbatim anything that had been said in previous Thanksgiving proclamations. And, as may be readily understood, this task is becoming more difficult with each successive annual call for a day of rejoicing and thanksgiving. The first Thanksgiving proclamation

was submitted, but it was finally allowed to stand, as shown in the accompanying reproduction of portions of the original proclamation.

The proclamation was issued on Jan. 1, 1795, and set apart the following Feb. 10 as a day for thanksgiving and prayer.

Any one who desires to see all the Thanksgiving proclamations issued by presidents of the United States will

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation
When we review the calamities which afflict so many other Nations the present condition of the United States affords much matter of consolation.

Deeply penetrated with this sentiment I George Washington President of the United States do recommend to all Religious Societies and Denominations and to all persons whatsoever within the United States to set apart and observe the first day of February next as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer and on that day

ever issued by a president of the United States was signed more than 116 years ago by George Washington, and the original document is preserved in the library of the state department. The first draft of the proclamation started off: "In the calamities which afflict so many of the nations." But Attorney General Edward Randolph did not approve of such a gloomy be-

and them preserved in red leather volumes in the state department. While George Washington originated the custom, many of his immediate successors did not follow his example, and it was not until Abraham Lincoln became president that the annual Thanksgiving as a November holiday became a regular institution in the United States.

In testimony whereof I have caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed to these presents and signed the same with my hand Done at the City of Philadelphia the First day of January one thousand seven hundred and ninety five.
George Washington

Thanksgiving Favors.
Decorations for the Thanksgiving dinner table arouse much interest in the candy and pastry shops. There never was such a variety before. Three inch turkeys constitute candy boxes. There are dolls dressed in pumpkin colored paper from hat to train. In their hands they carry little bags made out of tiny pumpkins. Little negro doll boys clap pumpkin symbols; others guide automobiles that have pumpkin wheels. Little pumpkin cones as charming as the one that carried Cinderella to the ball stand in line with other devices. Fruit plates are piled with red checked apples, grapes, bananas, pears and lemons, each one of which is a candy box. Careful reproductions are seen in the mammoth peanuts and the miniature lobsters, which also make candy boxes.

The Real National Bird.
Do you know that the bird of Thanksgiving day is more of a national bird than the lordly eagle? The eagle is to be found a native of Europe and Asia as well as America, but the turkey is all our own. He was not known until a full century after Columbus. He was first seen in the Carolinas, and when specimens were carried over to Europe they were hailed as "the most beautiful present made by the new world to the old." It is a curious fact, however, that considerable error prevailed as to the true source of the fowl. Dr. Samuel Johnson gave the turkey as a "foreign domestic fowl," supposed to be brought from Turkey. Europeans had parrots, venison steaks and even canary birds' tongues, but what were any of these as compared with the American turkey?

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MONTANA BRIEFLETS.

SHORT ITEMS OF NEWS FROM ALL OVER THE STATE.

What Has Happened in Montana During the Past Few Days.

ROUNDUP, Nov. 21.—W Wardworth is here dead from the effects of a shot fired by himself following a drunken row with an inmate of a house of ill fame. Little is known of the suicide here except that he had been employed as fireman on the Oregon Short Line at Dillon.

LIBBY, Nov. 21.—State Senator James Leary of Lincoln county and N. W. Leary of Spokane were considerably out and bruised when getting out of bed to kill a troublesome mountain rat in their hunting cabin on Cherry creek. A bullet struck an eight-pound package of powder which exploded and blew the cabin into bits.

LEWISTOWN, Nov. 21.—It is announced that when the Milwaukee completes its track from Lewistown to the Judith river, seventeen miles west of the line to Great Falls, it will cease track laying until spring. It is intended to reach the river by January first, and the company will then be prepared to haul all bridge material over its own rails.

MALTA, Nov. 21.—Ohmar Holmes of this city shot and perhaps fatally injured his 10-year-old son Robert, Monday night while he was cleaning an automatic revolver. Holmes was extremely careless with firearms, but like all newcomers who come west his first thought was to own a gun. The boy was standing directly in front of the weapon when it went off, the bullet striking his hip and penetrating the bladder. The little fellow was taken to Glasgow, but not much hopes are entertained for his recovery.

BUTTE, Nov. 22.—W. A. Clark, former United States senator and many times millionaire, was drawn for a criminal venire, Monday, but when the jury was selected, pleaded the age limit and was excused. All citizens beyond 70 are exempt in Montana. Mr. Clark did not state his age, beyond that he is more than 70.

BUTTE, Nov. 22.—Culminating a political argument involving the tenets of socialism and democracy, James Ferry, aged 36, was stabbed through the heart last night at Main and Broadway. The police are searching for Dan Merrigan, whom Ferry named as the man who stabbed him, just before he died. Both men are miners and the quarrel resulted from Ferry's declaration that Merrigan had spoken in obloquy of the priests and sisters of the Catholic church before election.

MISSOULA, Nov. 22.—Albert Williams well known here and in the Bitter Root valley, who recently has been stable boss at a lumber camp of the Interstate Lumber company in the Big Blackfoot valley, committed suicide in a tragic manner here yesterday, giving as his reason his failure to win the love of a waitress at Garrison. Williams took poison in his room, walked out on the street with a friend and dropped dead on the sidewalk.

HELENA, Nov. 22.—The highest wind in the history of the records of the Helena weather bureau early this morning did damage estimated at not less than \$5,000 to Helena buildings, fences, telegraph poles and windows. The records of the weather bureau show the wind attained a velocity of 66 miles an hour, five miles more than was ever attained here before. Twice the wind reached a velocity of 60 miles an hour, the first time February 6, 1890, and the second time Christmas eve of the same year.

HELENA, Nov. 22.—An appropriation of \$80,000 will be asked of the legislature this winter for the completion of the state's hydro-electric power plant at Race Track. The matter of the building of this plant was taken up by the state board of prison commissioners several years ago. Preliminary surveys were made, rights of way and water rights obtained, and then a crew of prisoners was put to work cutting a five mile canal out of the solid rock to deliver water into a reservoir just above the site selected for the generators. Another crew was put to work at the state's sawmill, getting out lumber for the flume through which the water will be delivered to the plant.

BUTTE, Nov. 23.—James J. Smith pleaded guilty today to the murder of Clarence A. Akeret, at Melrose, Mont., April 15 last, and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

BUTTE, Nov. 23.—Daniel Ryan, a miner, committed suicide in the city jail by hanging, after his arrest for disturbance. Ryan found a bit of wire in his cell and committed the act so quietly that a cellmate who sat by reading a magazine knew nothing of the suicide until he looked up from his story and saw the body swinging at his side.

HELENA, Nov. 23.—Rocky Boy's band of Cree Indians, whose plight was recently called to the attention of the Indian department at Washington, will spend the winter, not in the bleak fastness of the Blackfeet Indian reservation, but as guests of the war department on the old Head ranch. Here they will be furnished rations from Fort Harrison, the department of the interior reimbursing the war department.

LEWISTOWN, Nov. 22.—Harvesting is about at an end in the Judith basin, the long continued clear weather affording the farmers an opportunity to finish up their thrashing, which was seriously delayed by storms at the usual harvesting period. Much of the grain is being stored in the belief that the present low prices will improve after the first of the year. All the grains are of excellent quality this season and it is said the fax is especially good.

LEWISTOWN, Nov. 25.—Frank Stephens, one of the leading stockmen of this part of the state, and Murray H. Deaton, have just returned from Mexico, where they bought a lot of Mexican steers to range here. The Mexicans brought to this country early in the year have done splendidly.

RED LODGE, Nov. 25.—Seventy-four placer location notices have been filed in the office of the clerk and recorder at Red Lodge by Billings and Carbon county men during this week for land supposed to contain petroleum oil and natural gas. It is estimated that the filings will cover about 15,000 acres of land in the Cottonwood oil fields of Carbon county where considerable preliminary work has been done during the past year.

PLAINS, Nov. 24.—The body of a living man so badly burned that life is despaired of, was discovered accidentally in the forest along the Thompson river near here today by two forest rangers. The victim was Archibald McPhail, 60 years old, who left here last night with supplies for a hunting party. In the night his tent and bedding caught fire from his camp fire when he was asleep. He was taken to a hospital in Missoula.

HELENA, Nov. 25.—Montana's share of the receipts of forest reserves within its boundaries will be \$59,816 37 this year, according to a letter received by Governor Leighton from F. H. Davis, auditor in the national household at Washington for the state and other departments. This sum is twenty-five per cent of the receipts of the forests of the fiscal year that ended June 30, 1912. Montana's share of forest income has been dwindling the past few years.

The Houses of Parliament.
The fire which destroyed the old houses of parliament broke out on Oct. 16, 1834. The present building, termed the palace of Westminster, was opened on Nov. 4, 1832. It stands on a bed of concrete twelve feet thick and covers an area of nine statute acres. It contains 1,100 apartments, 100 staircases and two miles of corridors and passages. The great Victoria tower at the southwest extremity is 346 feet in height.—London Standard.

A Doubtful Compliment.
The banquet hall was adorned with many beautiful paintings, and the president of the little college was called upon to respond to a toast. Wishing to pay a compliment to the ladies present, he designated the paintings with an eloquent gesture and said: "What need is there of these painted beauties when we have so many with us at the table?"—Ladies' Home Journal.

The One to Be Pleased.
"No," said Packham, "we never have hotted ham at our house any more."
"Why," said Aecum, "I thought you were very fond of it."
"So I am, but my wife's pet dog won't eat it at all."—Detroit Free Press.

His Punishment.
"What punishment did that defaulting banker get?"
"I understand his lawyer charged him \$40,000."—Washington Herald.

A Fiver.
"In what shape did he appeal to you for help?"
"His appeal was -V shaped."—Baltimore American.

The youth of a nation are the trustees of posterity.—Disraeli.

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