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DANGER SIGNALS—Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder. Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things.—Prov. 23:31, 32, 33.

IF IT WERE EVERY DAY

Christmas commentators have long stressed the wish as well as the inquiry as to why the glorious spirit which prevails that day should not extend to the other 364 days in the year.

It does seem a misfortune that human nature so radiant with cheer and kindness, so uniformly successful in banishing care and criticism, so fraternal and comradely, should remain so only for a day and then slough off these attributes to wear the less appealing vestments of every-day intercourse.

Is it possible that people to attain this high estate must struggle throughout the year? Are they incapable of a sustained kindness or would this millennial sort of an existence become tiresome if it became a commonplace daily emotional diet? Cynics will say yes. The philosopher may reply that with Christmas as with other things, it is the contrast that counts.

Certainly it is true that without pain man would not recognize pleasure. Without clouds the sunshine would not be appreciated. Until health is impaired its pricelessness is ignored. Might it be so with Christmas?

And still if that be so, what becomes of the faith of those who are looking forward to a better and matchless day that will endure forever? There is no comparison between things celestial and things terrestrial and still it may be doubted whether any season on earth gets as close to man's conception of idealism as human relations on the Christmas season. Certainly there is no better standard for man's attitude to man than that revealed throughout Christendom on Christmas day. It is beyond dispute the most mellow of all earthly holidays.

Religious or irreligious, man cannot satisfy his mind that this matchless tone of Christmas just happened. It had an origin somewhere and somehow and where else can its source be sought except in the homely circumstances of a Great Birth back in Bethlehem 19 centuries ago. From that day to this, the emotions of Christmas have varied only in degree, not in kind. The same exaltation, the same joy, the same triumph of the soul that stirred humanity then, stir it now. Who will say the legacy of the manger was trivial?

A GHOST BOBS UP

Many Oregon citizens will approve the action of the State Grange and the Greater Oregon Association in opposing the recommendation of the state property tax relief commission for an income tax. Their reasons will vary but they will have a good measure of logic behind them, and they will be equally as sincere as was the majority of the commission in passing its resolution.

The Grange is opposed to income tax with property offset. The Greater Oregon Association is opposed to any kind until neighboring states have something similar. Both are also opposed to the whole income tax idea at the present time because they consider any constructive legislation in the direction of an income tax impossible for at least a few years.

There's good sense in that attitude and we regret to see the special tax commission, especially when it could muster only a majority of three votes, go on record as recommending an income tax to the legislature. The reasons for and against the tax doesn't enter into the present situation. It is simply that opinions vary so widely as to the type of income tax that would be best, that it is impossible to anticipate the approval of any income tax measure by the people now.

It's all right for this special commission to study the tax situation and to believe individually that some variety of income tax would help solve the state's financial problems, but it's all wrong for them to urge something so pregnant with controversy when the state looks to them for new ways to put in place of the old that have been rejected. A state income tax has been turned down so many times that people have quit counting. All varieties have been turned down when probably a big majority of the people favored one kind or another. The state tried an income tax from one election to the next and then threw it off like a tight shoe.

In the light of those facts it's difficult to see how the commission passed its resolution of recommendation. What Oregon hopes to get from the commission's studies is not so much an ideal solution to our tax problem as a PRACTICAL solution. We want some tax legislation that will help the deficit, relieve property, get by the people on a referendum. That may be impossible, but it certainly will be if there is an attempt to make an income tax the crux of the plan, when the Grange and Greater Oregon Association are already committed to fight it.

ABE MARTIN



The democratic party is too forward looking. It's allus takin' up with issues that won't be ripe for 20 years. One thing that makes it lots easier is that you kin pick out a Christmas four-in-hand for dad this year with your eyes shut.

WIN SIX STRAIGHT

PORT ORFORD, Ore., Dec. 24 (AP)—Port Orford high school quintet won its sixth straight victory here by defeating the Hudson high 41 to 11. The Port Orford boys have won every game played this year and are willing to take on any five in Southwestern Oregon.

"Hoover in China; Faces 23 Hours of Rapid Fire Welcome," says a headline. That's not a very nice way to treat our president.

Colleges to Seek More Positions

CHICAGO, Dec. 24 (AP)—Colleges will seek more places on the American Olympic committee at the annual convention of the National Collegiate Amateur Athletic Union at New Orleans Friday and Saturday. Major John L. Griffith, athletic commissioner of the western conference, reports Griffith, who leaves for the conference tomorrow night, said the colleges were not adequately represented and that he hoped an adjustment would be obtained. Coaches and athletic directors from universities and colleges in all sections of the country will attend.

Would Make Change In Football Rules

MORGANTOWN, W. Va., Dec. 24 (AP)—Ira E. Hedges, head coach of football at West Virginia university is in favor of starting the second half of football games at the point where the first half ends. He said today he would advocate a rule to make the third quarter a continuation of the second period before a meeting of football coaches and athletic directors at New Orleans this week.

JOE BLACKWELL WINS

CORVALLIS, Ore., Dec. 24 (AP)—Joe Blackwell, Eugene middleweight, proved too much for Bobby Vernon of Vancouver, Wash., here Saturday evening. Vernon taking the count in the fifth round.

In the Pacific there is a species of shark which eats only the brains of its victims. That's one reason removed for bathers from Hollywood.



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