

## The Ontario Argus

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### THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT.

What is the Christmas spirit? Is it the desire to give gifts, only? Or is it an occasion for one to show an abundance of wealth?

It must be admitted that here in America the Christmas spirit manifests itself in many ways, and to define the Christmas spirit as manifested over the land is hardly possible in the compass of a few words.

Of late years there has been manifest a genuine that of the poor and needy at Christmas time. Organizations for the amelioration of conditions of the poor have seized the time in which the public turned its thought to the doing of good to members of its individual families, friends and employes to direct their attention to those whose wants were vastly greater, and success has crowned their efforts.

The art of giving, and to give rightly is almost an art, has prospered in America, for Americans are a generous people. No worthy appeal goes unanswered here, nor ought it, for truly there never was a people more blessed than we have been as a nation.

The Christmas spirit, like other human sentiments, grows upon what it is fed. He who is niggardly the year round can not manifest the Christmas spirit with any degree of success. To such an one the rousing of a subjugated desire to receive the joy of giving must be a counterfeit joy.

To those who give freely the old saying, "dividing gives double pleasure," is true. While this hedonistic doctrine may be scoffed at as denying the true Christian spirit, yet that does not follow. That he who gives receives pleasure does not in the least detract from the joy of those who receive the gifts. To give pleasure, that pleasure may redound to the giver merely adds to this world's happiness and that is one of the greatest of the benefactions of the Christmas spirit, let it manifest itself wherever it will and so widely may it be scattered over this broad land and that not a home from border to border will be without its presence.

### WHAT WILL WE SEE?

Just now there is a great ado about the dissolution of the packers, and the order that has been issued for their divorce from the various subsidiary companies now controlled by them. It all sounds fine, but will any real separation result? That is the question.

The public generally has forgotten the first of the great anti-trust cases, the Northern Securities case, which started in the Minnesota courts and finally wound up in the supreme court with the order to Jim Hill et al to drop the Northern Pacific railroad from the Hill combine. Did it really secure any dissolution? Not that was ever manifest. The Hill family, so long as the genius of the family lived, controlled the destinies of the Northern Pacific and the Burlington and the Great Northern as well. Before the court order was issued the affairs of these transportation lines had been so consigned that they could not be separated, for as J. Pierpont Morgan sagely remarked, "you can't unscramble eggs."

Thus it will prove no doubt in the packers' case, Vic Murdock and Francis Heney to the contrary notwithstanding. Instead of the Swift Corporation or the Armour Corporation owning stock in the several subsidiary companies the individual members of the families of stockholders will have that stock in his or her name. They will function just the same.

It is a strange commentary on the action of the Federal Trade Commission that sought the dissolution of the packers that it was the body that by its license system during the war, permitted the packers to make nine per cent on their "turn-over" and that Swift & Company in its annual report showed that the company had made more money than ever before in its history on only two per cent on the "turn over." What would they have made had they taken all the Federal Trade Commission said they could?

Vic Murdock is a mighty good newspaper man. Colver may be a great business man in his line, and Heney, their attorney, is a shrewd criminal lawyer—but they evidently are a little short on knowledge of the packing game.

### MALHEUR'S CREDIT GOOD.

There are several reasons for congratulation on the sale of the county's road bonds, not the least of which is the manner in which the sale was conducted by the County Court. In view of the fact that call money in financial centers is demanding and receiving anywhere from 10 to 20 per cent, that U. S. bonds are selling so that they net nearly 6 per cent. It is remarkable that the county bonds should sell for a figure that will make them net less than five, but that is what happened Monday.

There is another feature that is worthy of note, and taxpayers particularly should not overlook this; the fee for "preparing the record," that has customarily been charged in the West, was not permitted to be charged against the bonds. The issue was sold unconditionally, the buyer preparing his own record.

This species of extortion, and it is little more than that, is just one of the ways that bond houses make their profit. They have no right to expect the municipality whose bonds they are buying to furnish them the selling opinion of some attorney, but they do when they can get away with it.

In this instance the County Court was wise to the game and like good business men protected the County's interests. On this deal alone the County saved \$1000 and perhaps more. When one realizes that the premium of \$2915 offered for the bonds was made when the County has outstanding some \$50,000 of Big Bend bridge bonds this question is natural. "Why did not the county get a premium on them too?" The difference in the manner of handling the two sales must be evident, and shows emphatically that it pays to have as members of the County Court men who are conversant with business affairs, and who know how to handle business matters. The Argus congratulates Judge Test and Commissioners Weaver and Vines for the good work they have done. They may be certain that the people will appreciate it too when they realize its significance.

### FUEL TROUBLES NOT OVER.

Ontarians should not delude themselves. The danger of further fuel shortage this winter is not over. There are still two months during which a situation more trying than that which has passed may be encountered.

To counter this there must be a strict observance of the fuel regulations. Unless this is true there will be suffering. The district fuel administration will allot to Ontario, in such a case, only the necessary fuel required for the community, and if a few get this supply, others will suffer.

The fuel administration already has evidence that there are fuel hogs in Ontario. Cases have been found of men who lied about the amount of coal they had on hand and who with a month's supply on hand tried to secure fuel, while there were families absolutely destitute. That they did not get the coal was due to the orders given the drivers not to deliver coal to such places but to return to the yards for instructions. Two such cases have been reported.

Those who read the Boise paper will have noted during the past week that the City Council of Boise has passed a drastic ordinance curtailing business hours as a means of saving fuel. It is apparent, therefore, that there they believe the situation one that requires action. As in Ontario the same arguments against business hours regulations was voiced in Boise human nature is much the same everywhere, but in Boise the protests are ignored.

If weather conditions remain normal for the next three or four weeks the danger should be over with, for in that time perhaps a reserve can be secured in this territory for the month of February, after that the need for fuel is not so great and a comparatively small amount would take the community over until spring.

In the meantime find some way of strengthening every resolution to buy your next winter's supply during the months from May to September.

## Do You Know?

THAT Oregon wools and woollens are sold throughout the world?



THAT New York's largest hotel makes a specialty of Oregon fruit beverages?

THAT Oregon has a rubber mill which sells its product all over the Pacific Coast, South America and the Orient?

THAT Oregon candies are nationally advertised and sold?

THAT Oregon lumber products are among the finest produced anywhere?

—then why not Buy Home Products and Boost Home Industries

Associated Industries of Oregon

## "I'll Tell the World" says the Good Judge

The man who doesn't chew this class of tobacco is not getting real satisfaction out of his chewing.

A small chew. It holds its rich taste. You don't have to take so many fresh chews. Any man who uses the Real Tobacco Chew will tell you that.



Put Up In Two Styles

RIGHT CUT is a short-cut tobacco  
W-B CUT is a long fine-cut tobacco

Weyman-Brudin Company, 1107 Broadway, New York

### HAVE YOUR CAR MADE JUST LIKE NEW

The power of your auto engine comes from the cylinders and this is the Only Shop in Malheur county that has a

### CYLINDER BORING MACHINE

This permits us to do this accurate machine work to a hair, and do it quickly. Now is the time to have your engine overhauled.

MARDEN'S MACHINE SHOP  
Ontario, Oregon

### APPLES FOR SALE—Delicious,

Winter Bananas, Peoraisis, Winesap and Jonathan, 50c to \$2 per box.—A. B. Cain, phone 1504V.

2 to 5.

LOST—Nov. 23, between Mayburg and White Settlement school, pair lady's long wool driving gloves. Finder please phone 20-M.

173-1-1f

## THE SEASON'S GREETINGS

We take this opportunity to thank all our patrons and friends for the splendid cooperation they have shown us during the year 1919. We want all to know that their patronage has been appreciated and we hope that we may be able to serve you again next year.

## May the year 1920 be the Best Year Ever

for you and may you accomplish in the next year all that which you most desire for yourself.

## TROXELL IMPLEMENT COMPANY

Specialist in Farm Machinery

Let us aid you to increase production and reduce labor cost through labor-saving devices. There is no better way.



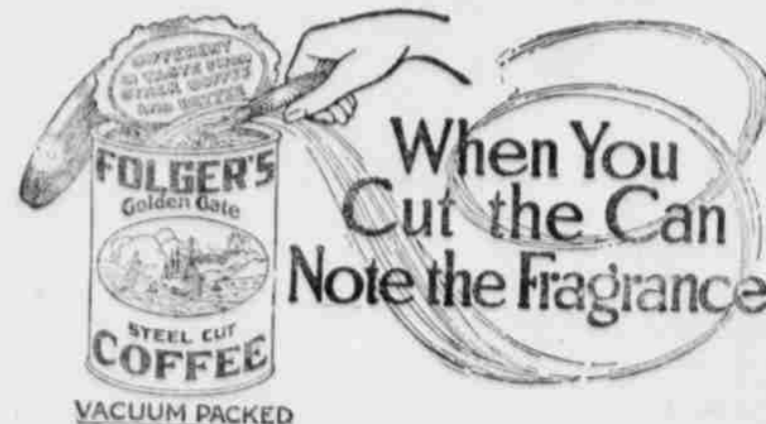
## After Dinner

A "small black" of Folger's Golden Gate—

A good cigar—

Satisfaction!

You should be particular about coffee. You will like Folger's Golden Gate whether you drink it with cream or without.



VACUUM PACKED