

Mt. Scott Herald

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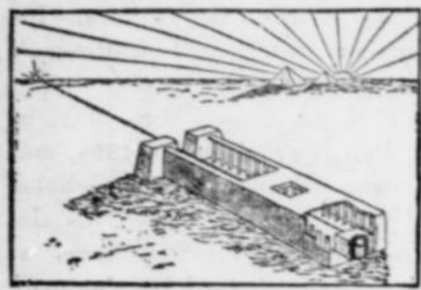
EGYPTIANS WATCHED FOR RISING OF THE SUN

If a group of people were shipwrecked or otherwise cast upon their own resources, and were to lose track of the date, they would have no easy means of finding it again. Our year is an artificial one, and so must be made by careful study in well-equipped observatories. Without precise instruments it would be difficult to fix the day when the new year begins.

The ancient Egyptians experienced no such difficulty. Their year, from which ours is derived, had a perfectly natural beginning. It always commenced on the day when Sirius and the sun rose together.

The temples of Egypt were really observatories, built to face this or that star as it rose. They were more or less elaborate, but all had as their fundamental plan a long, narrow passage down which the star's rays came, and a dark chamber at the far end where the priest made the observation.

The beginning of the new year was an important event. We can picture



Temple in Ancient Egypt, Built So the Rising of Sirius, at the Beginning of the Year, Sent a Ray of Light to the Inner Chamber.

the scene as the priests, followed by the scribes, lawyers, merchants, and the curious crowd, wind their way up to the temple in the first streaks of dawn, and take their appointed places. As daylight comes on the interest of everyone is centered on two groups.

The priests on the roof are straining their eyes for the first glimpse of the coming sun, while those down in the dark chamber are watching for Sirius. Soldiers are stationed around the temple to keep the crowd silent and to prevent stragglers from crossing the path of the star's rays in front of the temple door at the critical moment.

A shout bursts from those on the roof as the sun tops the horizon. The observers below watch their water clocks carefully now as the minutes are told off, and strain their eyes at the narrow opening where Sirius itself flashes into view, and the new year has begun.

The Egyptians discovered that the year has an extra quarter of a day in it. They did it by noting that on some years Sirius and the sun rose almost together, while on others there was an appreciable difference in time, and that these changes repeated themselves every five years. They found the length of the year to within 11 minutes of its true value, which was a remarkable thing to do with the primitive appliances they had at hand.

Japanese New Year's Day.
 Nowhere is New Year's day made more of than in Japan. All food for the day must be cooked the day before; for the first 24 hours of the year are holy, and only a sinner would labor on that day. Early in the morning the streets and windows begin to glow with beautifully tinted Japanese lanterns; everybody, even the very old, appears in gayly colored dress; the children are decorated with flowers. Early in the day all the Shinto priests begin the most strenuous day of their year's ministry; for they must visit every house in their parishes, recite portions of the Shinto ritual, and drink a little wine in each house.

JUST A LITTLE PEEVED.



No, this respectable man is not crazy. He's merely written it "1919" again!

A handful of common sense is worth a bushel of learning.
 The charitable give out at the door, and God puts in at the window.
 Well doing is the best capital.
 To be of use in the world is the only way to be happy.

Space commands me to stop. But read through these proverbs once more, and ponder their helpfulness as counsel for the coming year.—H. Addington Bruce in Chicago Daily News.

The New Year Motto

I asked the New Year for some motto sweet,
 Some rule of life by which to guide my feet;
 I asked and paused; it answered, soft and low:
 "God's will to know."

"Will knowledge, then, suffice,
 New Year?" I cried;
 But ere the question into silence died,
 The answer came: "Nay; this remember, too,
 God's will to do."

"To know; to do; can this be all we give
 To Him in Whom we are, and move and live?
 No more, New Year?" "This, too, must be your care:
 God's will to bear."

Once more I asked: "Is there still more to tell?"
 And once again the answer sweetly fell:
 "Yea, this one thing, all other things above,
 God's will to love."
 —J. M. C. Bouchard, S. J.

New Year Suggestions



Let's quit chewin' gum at th' after.



Let's quit lyin' for one year an' see how it works out.



Let's quit complainin' t' th' butcher.



Let's coax our gentlemen friends t' go back t' real mustaches now that th' war's over.



Let's resolve t' remain in our seats till a vaudeville show's over.

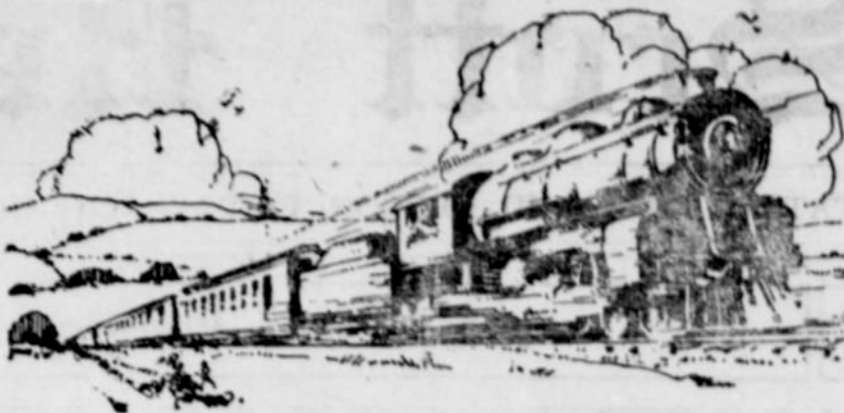


Let's resolve t' quit stallin'.—Abe Martin in Indianapolis News.

New Year's Then and Now.

As long as people can remember, there have been New Year parties. The old Romans gave theirs in honor of Janus, the two-faced god. One face looked back at the old, spent year, and one face looked forward to the new, fresh year. They gave presents to him and to each other with the hope that the new year would be good to them. Some of the people who lived long ago waited until the end of March to celebrate the New Year, since that was the time that the trees and grass began new life. The Persians still exchange presents of eggs at New Year's, just as we do at Easter. But the rest of us now do our giving of presents at Christmas. Parties, though, we may give to each other on January 1. In Scotland and England everybody calls on everybody else New Year's day, and drinks punch. Here in America calling has gone out of style, but if we do nothing more, we at least shout "Happy New Year" to everybody we meet on New Year's morning.

The Herald One Dollar a year.



The railways of the United States are more than one-third, nearly one-half, of all the railways of the world. They carry a yearly traffic so much greater than that of any other country that there is really no basis for comparison. Indeed, the traffic of any two nations may be combined, and still it does not approach the commerce of America borne upon American railways.

—United States Senator Committee.

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American railroads will continue to set world standards and adequately serve the Nation's needs if they continue to be built and operated on the American principle of rewards for work well done.

This advertisement is published by the Association of Railway Executives.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Multnomah, Department of Probate.

In the matter of the Estate of H. M. Wing, deceased.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been duly appointed administrator of the estate of H. M. Wing, deceased, by the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Multnomah, Department of Probate, and has qualified. All persons having claims against the said estate are hereby notified and required to present the same, duly verified and with proper vouchers, to the said administrator at his place of business, 8929 Foster Road, Lents Station, Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, within six months from the date of the first publication hereof.

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JAY F. WING,

Administrator.

H. P. Arnest, Attorney.

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