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Knights and Ladies of Security
St. Johns Council 2775
Regular Business meeting 1st and 3rd Mondays. Open meetings to the public and members 2nd and 4th Mondays. Visiting hours and members cordially invited to attend at Bickner Hall.
Frank C. Gasser, Pres.
Lester Teeling, Secy.

LAUREL LODGE
No. 186 L. O. O. F.
St. Johns, Oregon
Meets each Monday evening in Odd Fellows hall at 8:00. A cordial welcome to all visiting brothers.
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DORIC LODGE NO. 132
A. F. and A. M.
Meets the first and third Wednesday of each month in Bickner's Hall. Visitors welcome.
J. N. Edlefsen, W. M.
A. W. Davis, Secretary.

St. Johns Camp No. 7546
Modern Woodmen of America.
We heartily solicit the attendance of our members at our regular meetings every Thursday evening.
A. L. Marcy, Geo. Mohm, Clerk
Consul, 108 South avenue

HOLMES LODGE NO. 101
KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS
Meets every Friday night at 7:30 o'clock in BICKNER HALL. Visitors always welcome.
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Woodmen of the World
St. Johns Camp 773
I Meet every Thursday evening in O. O. F. Hall, Leavitt and Jersey streets. Visitors always welcome.
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The prettiest and most attractive designs yet shown in Portland
WAIT AND SEE THEM
Representative will call upon you first of the New Year
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We are graduate registered pharmacists and know the business. Bring us your prescriptions. CURRIN SAYS SO.

NEW YEAR BELLS

Custom of Ringing Them Originated in the Dim Past.

Believed to Have Been First Used About 400 A. D.—Chimes Thought to Be Possessed of Supernatural Power.

ALWAYS, everywhere in our land, we look to the ringing of bells to announce the death of the old year and the birth of the new. Not until we actually hear the bells ringing from the church steeples, somehow, do we really turn to each other and exclaim "Happy New Year!"

All of which brings us to the question of why people ring bells. They seem to have figured in the life of man way, way back in the dim and distant years. And they have been used to convey messages of various sorts to those within sound of their alarm.

Among the ancient Greeks those who made the nightly rounds of the camps and garrisons used to ring a bell at each sentinel box to make sure that the soldier on duty within was awake. They also put bells upon the necks of criminals to warn all people to avoid them. The Romans used bells to announce the hour of the bath.

It is believed that bells were first used in churches about 400 years after the birth of Christ. And by the twelfth century they were in common use in churches all over Europe. Most of these, however, were hand bells, made of thin plates of hammered iron, bent into a four-sided shape and fastened with rivets and bronzed. Then gradually, as people began to hang the bells in steeples and belfries, they became larger.

In 1734 a huge bell was cast in Moscow, Russia. It is over twenty-one feet in height and diameter and weighs 158 tons. The largest bell in America is in the Cathedral of Notre Dame, at Montreal, and weighs 29,400 pounds.

In all ages and all countries, the material most used in the manufacture of bells has been a mixture of two parts of copper to one of tin, called bronze. At present about thirteen parts of copper are used to four of tin. Bells have been made of iron, steel, gold, silver, brass and even of glass, though when made of glass they have been found too fragile for practical use.

Back in the old days, the people believed that bells possessed supernatural power; by ringing them at certain times, they believed, storms, pestilence and famine could be averted.

THE NEW YEAR.
The New Year—where it leads and whom concerning
We cannot see
We scan the path and full our hearts of yearning
And mystery—
What will it yield, this lane of sudden turning.
To you and me?
Grant we may find our share of sunlight streaming—
Come tears—come mirth;
Where faith in man shall make life's good deeds seeming
Of noble worth;
Give days our toil and give our night sweet dreaming,
God of the earth.
Give us the heart to tread this way, not knowing
A vale or height;
Give us cheer that God, his grace bestowing,
May guide us right;
Grant we may love the others with us going—
Old Year—Good-Night!
—Edith Livingston Smith, in Wisconsin Agriculturist.

THE LOST CHANCES



Whenever I am starting out
Upon a fresh new year
I always stop to think about
The loss of my last year,
The year that's dead I travel back
And let my memory run
In contemplation through the stack
Of things I could have done.

I check the deeds I meant to do
With those I did, and find
That I neglected quite a few
Real chances to be kind
I learn the words I meant to say
To comfort and to cheer,
And yet postponed them for a day,
I didn't speak that year.

And then to my disgrace I find
That had I paused to smile
And do those little actions kind
I'd not have lost a mile.
I learn now that the chance has gone
That I have missed a lot,
For all those deeds I could have done
As easily as not.

And when at last life is through
And all my course is run,
In deep regret I shall review
The deeds I could have done
And I shall wish I had to tell
Where nothing may be hid
The many things I could as well
Have done, yet never did.

AMONG NEW YEAR'S RICHES

Trials and Suffering a Part of Rich Heritage God Gives to Each of His Children.

Part of the rich heritage that God has planned for you in the New Year is suffering. He will permit in the life of each child of his a portion—just the right portion—of difficulty and trial and temptation. What we see in those trials and temptations will largely determine the riches that will be ours in this year. A Christian layman recently wrote to a friend: "How fine it would be to go out in the opening year so yielded that every fresh circumstance or trial or temptation would prove to have the sweet face of Christ concealed in it, or bursting like a flood of glory through some rift in the cloud and filling with radiance our uplifted faces; so that each new obedience should be but the parting of the curtain, ushering us into new wonders and experiences of his inexhaustible riches and fullness. Old things would then be continually passing away, all things constantly becoming new."

What glories of abounding grace—that the worst Satan can do against the child of God in this New Year only furnishes a fresh opportunity for God to pour out the treasures of his unspeakable gift! The promise to supply every need of ours "according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus" is not a promise for the life to come, when all sorrow and sickness and temptation to evil will be at an end, but it is a promise made in full view of every trial and temptation that we shall meet today. Let us count it all joy when we fall into our difficulties and trials, confidently remembering that along with each of them we have—Jesus.

Make Several.
One good New Year resolution deserves another.



The Central
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Philadelphia Street, St. Johns.
Soft Drinks as usual
Coldest and Coolest Drinks in town. Sandwiches, etc. All leading Summer Drinks.
TRY OUR MILK PUNCH
Note the label on your paper.

The Season's Greetings

We are grateful for the peace that has come over the war swept world; we are grateful for the prosperity of our nation.

We are personally grateful to that kind Providence who kept us in health and strength the whole year through.

We are grateful to our community of St. Johns that has given us the patronage during the year just closing and it is our desire that what we have gained shall be placed back into the community for the betterment of those about us.

We are grateful to our efficient help for the willingness with which they have served us and those who have come into our store during the splendid holiday business. The gratifying sales could not have been made except for the loyalty and cooperation of our employees.

We approach the new year with a feeling of confidence that peace shall prevail and hardships will be few, with the intention of giving you a better, larger store in 1919.

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HUNGER DRAWS THE MAP



A food map of Europe today shows not a single country in which the future does not hold threat of serious difficulties and only a small part which is not rapidly approaching the famine point. With the exception of the Ukraine only those countries which have maintained marine commerce have sufficient food supplies to meet actual needs until next harvest, and even in the Ukraine, with stores accumulated on the farms, there is famine in the large centers of population.

Belgium and northern France, as well as Serbia, appear on the hunger map distinct from the rest of Europe because they stand in a different relation from the other nations to the people of the United States. America has for four years maintained the small war rations of Belgium and northern France and is already making special efforts to care for their increased after-the-war needs, which, with those of Serbia, must be included in this plan, are urgent in the extreme and must have immediate relief.

The gratitude of the Belgian nation for the help America has extended to her during the war constitutes the strongest appeal for us to continue our work there. The moment the German armies withdrew from her soil and she was established once more in her own seat of government the little nation's first thought was to express her gratitude to the Commission for Relief in Belgium for preserving the lives of millions of her citizens.

Germany, on the other hand, need not figure in such a map for American because there is no present indication that we shall be called on at all to take thought for the food needs of Germany. Germany probably can care for her own food problem if she is given access to shipping and is enabled to distribute food to the cities with dense populations, which are the trouble centers.

England, France, the Netherlands and Portugal, all of which have been maintained from American supplies, have sufficient food to meet immediate needs, but their future presents serious difficulties. The same is true of Spain and the northern neutral countries—Norway, Sweden and Denmark—whose ports have been open and who have been able to draw to some degree upon foreign supplies.

Most of Russia is already in the throes of famine, and 40,000,000 people there are beyond the possibility of help. Before another spring thousands of them inevitably must die. This applies as well to Poland and practically throughout the Baltic region.

General March advises "Keep the enemy on the run," and we can help do that by keeping supplies and reinforcements going forward to our boys who do the close-up work.

To conserve birdseed, which somebody seems to fear will run short, why not stake Dick, the family canary, out on the lawn, staking the family out down cellar for the time being?

NO ONE SUFFERED HERE.
The marvel of our voluntary food-saving, now that we are "getting results," is that no one ever actually suffered any hardship from it; that we all are better in health and spirit and better satisfied with ourselves because of our friendly self-denial.

Food control in America held the price of breadstuffs steady, prevented vicious speculation and extortion and preserved tranquillity at home.

In no other nation is there so willing a sense of voluntary self-sacrifice as in America—that was shown in the abstinence from wheat.