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CHRISTMAS
 "This is Christmas.
 "Not merely the time to exchange gifts, light the Christmas candles, and sing carols, but Christmas, the time of peace and good will toward men.
 "We need Christmas. It is the one season of the year when we rise above our cares and worries and live in a higher, holier atmosphere.
 "When gratitude and love and good fellowship reign. When bells peal, and children laugh, and everyone is glad. When every snowflake that falls seems to speak of purity, peace and good cheer.
 "Christmas.
 "The whole world pins its faith to Christmas. The whole world feels its pulse quicken, its heart beats faster, and its soul buoyed up with that feeling of ineffable peace that Christmas brings.
 "This is Christmas. Smile, spread the good cheer, forgive, be grateful, and give. Give of the bounties that have been bestowed upon you. Give of your friendship, of your affections. Give if you can give nothing else, a smile, a word of cheer. But give. In no other way can you enjoy the true Christmas spirit. In no other way can you fittingly pay tribute to Him whose birthday this indeed is."

THE COUNTY LIBRARY
 Much credit is due the Woman's Club for the success with which the efforts to secure a Carnegie Library have been crowned. The club took cognizance about a year ago of the city's and county's lack of library facilities and undertook the work of establishing such a preliminary to securing an appropriation from Mr. Carnegie. It was through the club's efforts that the excellent site, now used as a city park, was secured, and it was they who obtained the appropriations from the city and county.
 Since the establishment of the library here Miss Northey has been active in arousing interest throughout the county and extending its sphere of usefulness. Nine branch libraries have been established and with the growth of the library here and the construction of the new building the entire county system will increase in efficiency. Other public-spirited citizens have cooperated with the women in this project and it should be a matter for hearty congratulations that they have succeeded so well in performing this signal service for the community.

DISCREDITING THE LAW
 Hardly less shocking than the exposure of the police ring in New York was the perversion of justice in the case of John H. Hall of Portland who was last week pardoned by President Taft upon recommendation from the department of justice.
 For eight years Hall has been living under the cloud of the charges brought against him at the instigation of Francis J. Heney in order it now transpires, to satisfy a small personal spite of Mr. Heney's. This spite was actuated by the fact that Hall, as United States district attorney, refused to prosecute men against whom there was no evidence of guilt. In order to wreck his petty revenge Heney secured Hall's indictment and subsequent conviction by methods which would make justice hide her face in shame. Because Hall refused to assist in besmirching the name of an innocent man his own name was dragged in the dirt, and under the name of Justice, no more scathing indictment could be brought against Heney than this, that he used the instruments of Justice, the most sacred rights that exist under our popular government, to perpetrate the crime which was committed against Hall.

PARCELS POST CHANGES
 It is a big job which Uncle Sam has undertaken in the establishment of the parcels post, which goes into effect next week. It will mean a tremendous increase in the amount of matter handled in the postoffices, by the rural carriers and by the railroads. It means the establishment of a system as big and complicated as the express business and indeed the postoffice department has undertaken to compete to a considerable extent with these private corporations. The success of this step will depend largely upon the ease with which the public learns the details of the new service and conforms to the regulations without protest and without making the labors of the postal service more wearisome than need be.
 In order to get at the cost of such a service as the parcels post, congress has decreed that all packages mailed under the system must carry special stamps. The ordinary stamps will not avail. Where used they will be wasted. That is the first thing

Well Nigh Impossible to Reform Vagrant Rich
 By ROSE PASTOR STOKES,
 Wife of J. C. Phelps Stokes,
 Millionaire Socialist



"IT SEEMS WELL NIGH IMPOSSIBLE TO REFORM THE VAGRANT RICH!"
 The church may find the rich man an easy subject for reform. His unearned profits are not thereby affected. One faith may look as good to him as another. He may FOLLOW ANY PROPHET WHO WON'T INTERFERE WITH HIS PROFIT.
 Were it to become a question of choice between prophets and profits you may trust the rich man to choose the latter every time.
 Yes; the church may find the rich man an easy subject for reform, so far as religion in its narrow, average, ordinary meaning is concerned. Why, the whole world could reform the rich man if the process DIDN'T INVOLVE HIS UNEARNED INCOME. Just let any one try to reform the rich in ways that would involve the necessity of even so little as turning his evergreen dividend into deciduous dollars and he'll learn that they'd rather die than yield to reform.
 Why is it so? Ask why it has been so in all the ages; why those not toiling, but living on the toil of others, have refused to reform in this one particular; why in the past the toilers, DRIVEN TO SEEK REFORM by hunger and want and overwork, were impelled to revolution through the UNREFORMABILITY OF THE RICH.

THE RICH ARE VAGRANTS. STATISTICAL DATA ON THE TERRITORY BOTH BY SEA AND LAND THAT THE RICH COVER IN A YEAR WOULD BE ILLUMINATING READING. THEY ARE EVER ON THE WING. WHY SHOULDN'T THEY BE? THERE IS NOTHING TO TIE THEM DOWN TO ANY ONE SPOT OF THE EARTH'S SURFACE.
 Industry gets along altogether without them, and since the industrious pay their enormous tolls to the unproductive rich and the farthest corners of the earth are open to them that have the price WHY SHOULDN'T THEY BE VAGRANT? Why, they couldn't be expected to be anything else.

for the public to learn and to get fixed in memory.
 Again, parcels must be mailed at certain stations to be designated in each city having delivery systems. Mailing parcels in the ordinary mail boxes will mean just so many lost parcels. Except upon rural routes postmen are not to carry packages to the postoffice save from the parcels post stations. This is another thing to remember.
 Again all parcels mailed under the parcels post must carry return cards.
 Last, but not least important of all, the public must remember that the parcels post supercedes the present system for the carriage of fourth-class matter. It will not avail to protest that you've always used ordinary stamps, that you've always mailed your packages in the most convenient place and that you've never had to consider the distance your articles were sent. The changes are hard and fixed by law, and, willing as the members of the postal service may be to do so, they are not empowered to set the new rules aside.

The Departing Year
 One more year will soon be planted in the tomb of time, enchanted, where so many sleep; one more year is old and hoary, reeling on its way to glory, while we watch and weep. How the days go cally-hooting! How the years go whizzing, scottin like a herd of deer! New Year Bells scarce cease their pealing ere the year they hailed is reeling feebly to its bier! Age is creeping on us grimly, and we view the future dimly through a mist of tears; how the wintry days remind us we have left our youth behind us, all the golden years! But cheer up! Though days are flying there is time in each for trying to do something good! Though the years are hustling ever, each gives time for strong endeavor at our pile of wood. Let Old Time keep up his hiking, we our load shall take; and when comes the silent reaper we won't give a groan or peep or cheap excuses make.
 —Walt. Mason.

"Schmile"
 Schmile and the world schmiles mit you;
 Laugh und the world vill roar;
 Howl, und the world vill leaf you,
 Undt nefer come back any more;
 For all of us couldn't peen handsome,
 Nor all us veer goot clothes;
 But a schmile was not expensive,
 Undt covers a world of woes.
 —Brains.

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