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If Christmas be green or if Christmas be white  
 It doesn't especially matter.  
 It's always a day when our spirits are light,  
 And hearts beat a livelier patter;  
 A fog, or a blizzard, or sunshine outside—  
 We will not complain of the weather;  
 For Christmas is Christmas, whatever befall,  
 A day when we're all pals together!

Here's one day at least when we're glowing with love  
 For comrades, for kin and for stranger,  
 One day when we breathe the sweet charity of  
 The Babe who was born in a manger;  
 When no one has room for the rancor of hate  
 Or any old grudge to remember,  
 Oh, it is a tender and glorious date  
 This twenty-fifth day of December.

If only each day in the year might effect  
 Such joy in each child, man, or woman,  
 How life would improve! But we cannot expect  
 Too much of ourselves, we are human!  
 But let us be grateful one day in the year  
 Spread love from the Poles to the Isthmus,  
 When all the world tangles with mirth and good cheer  
 And all the world shouts, "Merry Christmas!"  
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### HISTORICAL ASPECTS OF CHRISTMAS

THE Christian world celebrates December 25 as the day on which Jesus Christ was born. This is generally accepted as the natal day although the exact date of the Savior's birth is not authentically known. Historians say there is some difficulty in accepting December 25 as the time of His birth because that is the rainy season in Judea when neither the shepherds nor their flocks could have been at night in the fields of Bethlehem. There is some reason for believing Christ may have been born in October, but the evidence as to that is not clear. It is based on something in the gospel by Luke.

It was about the fifth century that December 25 became agreed upon as the proper date for observance of Christmas. This action was attributed in part to desire to supplant heathen festivals celebrated at that time of the year, such as the Saturnalia. The facts regarding the Saturnalia indicate that this idea may be well founded.

The Encyclopedia Britannica speaks of the Saturnalia as the great festival of Saturn, originally celebrated by the Romans on December 19. However, popular custom made the festival last for seven days, thus ending on what is now Christmas day. The Saturnalia was a time of general joy and mirth. During the festival schools were closed, no wars were declared or battles fought and general informality prevailed. All distinction of rank were laid aside, slaves sat at tables with their masters and often were even waited upon by the latter. All classes of people exchanged gifts, the commonest being wax tapers and clay dolls. The dolls were especially given to children. It is conjectured that the Saturnalia was originally a celebration of the winter solstice. The prominence given to candles points to the custom of making a new fire at this time and there are facts showing the yule log was then in use.

In as much as the early Christians were anxious to do away with the pagan holidays it seems quite probable that they were influenced somewhat by this consecration in agreeing upon December 25 as the holy day. Previous to the fifth century the birth of Christ had generally been observed in conjunction with the feast of Epiphany on January 6.

However, the exact date of Christ's birth is not important. Importance attaches to the fact he lived and taught the world a new religion that has profoundly influenced civilization for nearly 2000 years. It is a religion of unselfish service and there is good ground for the belief that those who serve most serve Christ the best. It is fitting that Christmas day should be a time of good cheer and of giving for Christ preached good will to men and gave his life upon the cross.

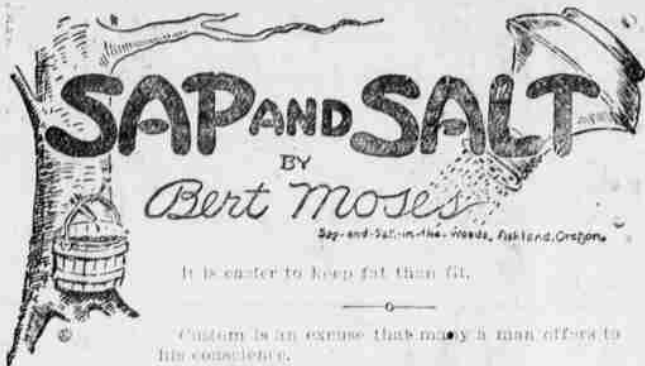
### THE OUTLOOK FOR 1923

THE following review and forecast of business conditions by the National Bank of Commerce of New York will be of interest to many:

The outlook for 1923 is for fairly stable business. Improvement during the year has been primarily the result of domestic demand. Stocks both of raw materials and of finished goods, in process of reduction throughout 1921, disappeared so rapidly that during 1922 demand had to be met from current production. Despite labor troubles of the worst sort the country passed rapidly from a condition of curtailed output and widespread unemployment to downright labor shortage. A tremendous construction program has been carried out with consequent activity in industries producing building materials and accessories. Crops have been good, they have moved fairly rapidly despite car shortage and prices for some agricultural products have improved materially. Wholesale and retail trade are satisfactory.

The situation as to money and credit is not far different from that as to goods. Much foreign gold has come into the federal reserve system, swelling reserves already too large, and slow liquidation of frozen credits has continued. So efficiently has the United States banking system functioned, however, that the credit needs of expanding business have been fully cared for without the development of the tendency to inflation which has been so much feared. The American money market has probably been more stable during the last twelve months than in any year of the last decade.

During 1922 the United States made great progress toward a condition of industrial, mercantile and credit stability. The course of business in 1923 depends on two factors; domestic demand and the situation in other countries. Maintenance of domestic demand is conditional upon preventing the increase of labor costs to the point which will force prices out of reach of large classes of the buying public. If conditions abroad improve during 1923, business in this country should show substantial gains. At the worst it ought not to fall materially below the levels of the latter part of the year just closed.



It is easier to keep fat than fit.  
 Custom is an excuse that many a man offers to his conscience.  
 Some people spend nine-tenths of life keeping out of a draught.  
 Men who buy houses first and quit afterwards are looked upon as eccentric.  
 The son going to college can teach his father more things than the college teach the son.  
 A farmer's ambition is to move to town and loaf, while a city man wants to do his loafing on a farm.

### Hez Heck Says:

"Don't use yer hind sight, on yer troubles."  
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### SMILES IN SHADOW OF ELECTRIC CHAIR



Here is a picture of Mrs. Doris Primen, now on trial in Mount Holly, N. J., for the murder of her husband, " Honest John" Primen, famous circus owner, who was shot while sitting in his chair in the "Kreien" last summer. Mrs. Primen's pretty step-daughter started the investigation by accusing her step-mother of the shooting.



A horse race is always attended by a monkey race.  
 Nice thing about winter is you can  
 by off congress and ease the poor street car-service.  
 Due to Christmas citizens women will continue window shopping to buy new windows.  
 There is a lot of snog in working but it is hard to get.  
 Zabaroff, world's richest man, is a

### YES, HERE'S SANTA, TOO.



## We Announce to Begin Tuesday Morning A 5 Day Clearance Sale in Womens Coats, Suits, Dresses

EDGE TRIMMED

The incentive of offering Outer Wear at a uniform discount has brought much

### ENTHUSIASM!

Naturally the greatest Ready-to-Wear Sale—in our history WOULD! We have decided to clean up our stocks of Women's Ready-to-Wear Apparel THIS WEEK instead of after January First. This policy will not only clear out our stocks and give us the money now, but it will give every woman who secures the garments a full season's wear with her bargain, in addition to having the new things for at once wear. Better for us, as you clearly see—better for you, as you will realize, of course—and that is why we take this unusual action at this timely moment.

- Included in the extraordinary present ation are:  
 29 Women's Coats, in correct new modes—  
 13 Women's Suits, the smartest we've seen—  
 90 Women's Dresses, in cleverest fashions—

Not a garment but was purchased to sell at the regular price—not one that was selected for any reason except its individuality and beauty.

And now the price story reads like this:

### 20 Per Cent Off Our

Entire Stock of Suits, Dresses and Coats From Prices That Were Already Low.

90 Women's and Misses DRESSES Rachanara, Poiret Twill Canton Crepe, Crepe de Chine, Seville Cords, at 20 Percent Off Reg. Price	13 Women's and Misses Tailored SUITS A thorough-going down coming of prices. 20 Percent Off Reg. Price	29 Women's and Misses COATS Including over-all Sport Coats in stock. Many have fur collars. All are offered at 20 per cent discount for five days. 20 Percent Off Reg. Price
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woman later so some will say that is why he is the richest man.  
 Johnny Weissmuller has broken several records in swimming pools which makes Johnny a pool shark.  
 The fastest run on record is the Christmas run on the bank.  
 So many people are sounding alarm on one thing and another we don't know which way to jump.  
 What's in a name? In Vermont, a big dairy is owned by Mr. Bovine.  
 Haste doesn't make as much waste as waste makes haste.  
 Our ambassador to England is coming home for a consultation. It is time he was seeing a doctor.  
 Ford's advice to spend money was taken seriously in Detroit where a tober got \$5699 from Henry's bank.  
 "Wall Street Suspect Held"—headline. And we thought everybody in Wall street was a suspect.  
 Some men say they have no kick coming when it comes time to kick in.  
 Hell's Half Acre has been officially located in Montana. Perhaps it is one of these wisecracks.  
 If you can't find a chuckle in this stuff go look at a girl in a long dress and galoshes.  
 BIG PLANT PLANNED.  
 CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—(U. P.)—The plans for a mammoth manufacturing and assembling plant which may in time rival the famous Detroit works has been completed by Henry Ford is announced today. The new plant will ultimately cost \$6,000,000 and will employ 16,000 men.  
 HUNTERS USE RADIO SET  
 MCKINNEY, Texas, Dec. 25.—A party of hunters, headed by F. B. Pops, have gone to South Texas on a deer hunt. Part of their equipment was a powerful radio receiving set. They intend to keep right up to the moment on current events.  
 TRADES PIG FOR HOUSE  
 BERLIN, Dec. 25.—At Lamspringe, near Hildesheim, the sale of a house was effected between the carpenter, Otto Becker, and a shoemaker's widow, Becker paying the sale price of 119,000 marks in the shape of a fatted pig.

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