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DONATIONS. No donations to charities or otherwise will be made in advertising or job printing—our contributions will be in cash.

DECEMBER 3. THE MERCY OF GOD:—Who is a God like unto Thee, that pardoneth iniquity... because He delighteth in mercy... Micah 7:18. PRAYER:—I waited patiently for the Lord, And He inclined unto me and heard my cry.

CHRISTMAS SEALS

The Christmas Seal is with us again. Seven million of them have been distributed throughout the state of Oregon to be sold during the month of December to finance the "Fight Tuberculosis—Give Health" campaign.

In Oregon, the toll in tuberculosis deaths in 1923 was 623, and the best estimates indicate that about 5000 people in the state are afflicted. Tuberculosis is now characterized by leading specialists as a preventable, curable disease, and one that need not menace the lives of our citizens if known measures of prevention and proper living are put into practice.

The chief object of the Christmas Seal Sale is to finance the educational campaign which will help equip the general public with such information about the maintenance of their health, that tuberculosis shall be ultimately eliminated as a destroyer of mankind.

BIG CHRISTMAS TRADE ANTICIPATED

Merchants and retailers are preparing this year for the largest Christmas in their history. The famous "silk shirt" Christmas of 1919, when the country went into an unparalleled era of buying at extravagant prices, will be bettered, according to forecasts, but the character of the 1924 Christmas will be vastly different.

CALLES IS PRESIDENT

Humanitarians the world over have nothing but good will for the agrarian movement in Mexico. And so, the good will of most of the world goes to General Calles, who now assumes the presidency of Mexico.

It would not be wrong to add, however, that distrust accompanies this good will like a baleful shadow.

For the agrarian movement, demanding that those who cultivate the soil shall own it, assumes on the part of the Mexican cultivator an ability to manage himself and his property that self governing communities in all parts of the world have possessed, while the Mexican rarely or never has.

The man who manages his own affairs, either industrially or politically, cannot be of the "manana" kind.

So, if President Calles, in his vigorous pursuit of a policy to distribute the ownership of land among the cultivators, finds that his people can not only dig and spend, but calculate, and look ahead, and prepare for a rainy as well as a happy and workless "tomorrow," he will have introduced a new meaning to the word "manana" in Mexican.

While supported by the Mexican army, Calles has an additional advantage in being respected by a larger share of the Mexican people than any predecessor for many years. He is "popular" in this sense, even though his election was a farce, in the sense that elections are popular in the United States.

It is a peculiar function that President Obregon has assigned to himself, in retiring from office. He is to go into private life, he is quoted as saying, in this manner:

"From my estates, I shall watch like an alert sentinel, ready at any moment to offer my slight services should any criminal hand imperil the liberties of the Mexican people."

Perhaps the most interested man in Mexico in that statement will be the new president. A parallel, in the policies of the United States, is presented by the succession of Taft to Roosevelt, and the jealous eye with which Taft regarded the movements as well as the suggestions of his predecessor. Obregon, in office, could help to pick his successor. Obregon, out of office, will not find it so easy to accord full support to the particular political movements of the new man, and the new man will have a mind to show what he can do, without interference from his maker.

The situation is fraught with irritation, and possible danger.

WANT TO BE POLICE WOMEN

Scotland Yard is being besieged by English women who desire to enlarge the long restricted horizon of their activities. All sorts of women are among the besiegers, old, young, middle-aged; girls with bobbed hair and girls with unbobbed hair; tall and short, blond and brunette, grave and gay; all bidding to be women bobbies.

This condition is the result of the report recommending an increase in the number of police women which is at present very small. However, the eager applicants must wait until Parliament provides for the salaries.

New York has many more police women than London, though London has twice the police force of New York.

CONSISTENT

Ambassador Keilog and Consul General Washington at a wet affair in King George's lawfully wet domain, have upheld the best traditions of the country by declining to take advantage of the liberal laws of the country in which they are sojourning to disregard the restraint placed upon them in their own country.

This is a fine point of honor, and the American people may well be proud of these two men who represent them abroad. The welfare of the country may well be trusted in the hands of men who put a point of honor above a point of law.

The enforcement of the dry laws would not be in such bad repute if the home folk followed the example of these men and honorably observe the restrictions placed upon them by the laws of the land.

Some married men have children, and some have only one boss.

At times every jit owner has a primitive blood lust and wishes he drove a five ton truck.

There are compensations. If you have one foot on a banana peel, the other may be on chewing gum.

Most men can resist the temptation to brag except on those rare occasions when they get up at 8 o'clock.

BUDGET FOR COMING YEAR WILL CONTAIN LARGE REDUCTIONS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—For national defense the estimates amount to \$549,000,000 which is \$29,000,000 less than the amount available this fiscal year. These figures do not include non-military items of the war and navy departments. This reduction is made in accordance with my belief that we can have adequate national defense at a modest outlay of taxpayers' money.

Aside from the important factor of training personnel our national defense is largely an industrial problem. Today the outstanding weakness in the industrial situation as it affects national defense is the inadequacy of facilities to supply air service needs. The airplane industry in this country at the present time is dependent almost entirely upon government business to strengthen this industry is to strengthen our national defense.

The amount of \$38,945,000 however does not include all that will be available for this service in 1926. Amounts contributing to the air service carried in other estimates, and usable war supplies, will make a total availability conservatively estimated at \$65,000,000.

The amount requested for national defense includes \$50,118,000 for the army and navy reserves, national guard, citizens military training camps and other civilian training activities.

There is also included in the national defense estimates \$3,444,000 for increase of the navy. This will provide for continuing work on the fleet submarines under construction and for beginning work on two of the four remaining fleet submarines authorized in the 1916 program.

authorized cost of the two airplane carriers now under construction.

For rivers and harbors \$56,237,600 is recommended. In this is included \$40,000,000 for maintenance and improvement of existing river and harbor works, \$10,500,000 for flood control on the Mississippi and Sacramento rivers. This will make possible material progress on the most important projects approved by congress.

It is estimated that \$6,541,590 will be needed to complete dam No. 2 at Muscle Shoals.

There is included in these estimates \$50,000,000 to be set aside in the adjusted service certificate fund and under the world war adjusted compensation act of May 19, 1924. This is for the second payment to the fund to be made January 1, 1926. For the first payment, due January 1, 1925, \$100,000,000 is included in the deficiency bill now under consideration by congress.

The applications from veterans so far have been below the estimated number which the records indicate as entitled to the benefits of the act. Should the number of applications increase beyond what present experience indicates as probable there will be ample time to submit a supplemental estimate for the additional amount necessary before that date.

For federal aid to states the estimates provide in excess of \$109,000,000. These subsidies are subscribed by law. I am convinced that the broadening of this field of activity is detrimental both to federal and state governments. Efficiency of federal operations is impaired as their scope is unduly enlarged. Efficiency of state governments is impaired as they relinquish and turn over to the federal government responsibilities which are rightfully theirs.

For reclamation purposes I am recommending \$9,777,257 for 1926. It is highly desirable that the congress enact the legislation embodying new reclamation policies, proposed in HR-199 sixty eighth congress. The gross public debt was reduced \$1,098,984,375 during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1924 and stood at \$21,250,812,989 on the latter date.

The total reduction in the debt since the high point of \$26,594,000,000 on August 31, 1919, amounted to \$5,343,000,000 at the close of the last fiscal year. This total reduction has effected a saving in interest amounting to approximately \$225,000,000 annually.

A fixed debt charge is included in the regular budget of the government. The most important of these is the cumulative sinking fund provided in the victory liberty loan act. Retirements through this fund during the past fiscal year were about

\$296,000,000. The next items in size among the fixed debts charges are the retirement of securities received from foreign governments under debt settlements and the purchases and retirements of securities from foreign prepayment. These continuing reductions of the public debt have a very material effect on maintaining the high prices for liberty bonds.

Interest paid in the fiscal year 1924 amounted to \$940,000,000. It is estimated that this item will be \$865,000,000 in 1925 and \$830,000,000 in 1926. This saving of \$110,000,000 in two years is the result of the reduction in the amount of the debt and decrease in the average rate of interest paid. The sinking fund is a part of the contract between the United States at the holder of the United States obligation and, therefore, cannot in good faith be changed.

"In my message transmitting the budget for 1925 I recommended the enactment of legislation which would authorize a reasonable building program to meet the needs of establishments of the government in the District of Columbia. During the last session of congress, a bill was introduced authorizing a yearly appropriation of not exceeding \$10,000,000 for a progressive building program. I earnestly recommended its enactment by congress.

"We are now in the fourth year of our campaign for reduction in the cost of government. Our aim is to reduce the burden of taxes. In this we have been successful. We have before us an estimated surplus of \$67,000,000 for the current fiscal year and \$73,000,000 for the next fiscal year. Shall we embark upon new projects involving expenditures which will prevent the accumulation of these surpluses or continue the campaign for economy? If we continue the campaign for economy we will pay

(Continued on Page Four)

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