

The Christmas Spirit

Christmas! One dayspring of cheerfulness and freedom from cankering care and selfishness and envy in a year of toil and strife and consuming unrest. Christmas, marvelous boon to humanity, springing legitimately from the brief, eventful life of the carpenter's Son, is a fixed institution. The twentieth century could not spare it if it would; wouldn't it if it could. The Christmas spirit is everywhere pervading the world for this brief, blessed day. Leveling ranks, silencing selfishness, dwarfing care, ignoring toil, forgetting creed and cult and birth and environment, it makes peace and good will not only possible, but inevitable. The gifts it bears are the spontaneous fruit of the omnipotent, all pervading spirit of Christmas—a wellspring in the desert, a sunbeam on a wintry day, a single exception to a steadfast rule. The spirit of Christmas never dloys. We cannot have too much of it. Morning, noon and night, for breakfast, dinner and supper, the first thing on awaking and the last thing on going to sleep, every hour of every day of every week of every month of the year we want the spirit of Christmas, for it is the spirit of ministration, of giving, of service, of doing for others.

"Not to be ministered unto, but to minister"—this motto lived out on every day of the year would dispel the sorrows of the world, smooth out its wrinkles, abolish its poverty, soothe its pain, comfort its heartaches, heal its diseases, make it a heaven. This is what is typified by every Christmas tree and every gift it bears, by every bulging little stocking that hangs in the chimney corner, by every wreath of holly, by every greeting and merry wish.

Christmas Is Children's Day

The message of Christmas is love. Its emblem is radiant, thankful, contented childhood. Without love and without children there could be no real Christmas. The form might survive but the substance would be lacking.

Unhappy must be the adult who cannot make himself a child again in spirit at the Yuletide. For Christmas is the universal children's day. Men and women are superfluous except as they make themselves partners with those whom the day glorifies.

Let us, then, lay aside the affectation and arrogance of manhood and womanhood and be children again. Let us adopt their point of view and put ourselves in their places—in the places of these sons and daughters of ours and of the sons and daughters of our neighbors. It was only a year or two ago, as it seems, when we hung our well-worn stockings in a row along the mantel shelf, while our fathers and mothers looked on with unfeigned pleasure at the innocent confidence we showed in what the morrow would bring forth.

Even as you and I. It all comes back in a flood of memories. Life was simpler then. Our desires were less pretentious than those our children voice now. Modest remembrances they were that bulged toe and heel of the stockings mother knit.

Life and its circumstances change, but the essence of Christmas never. The same happy childhood, the same restlessness, the same snail-like creeping of time as the holiday approaches. The same parenthood, too—the same planning across the reading table after the boys and girls are abed, the same loving consideration of what this or that child most desires and how far the family purse can properly be stretched to permit some further purchase.

Every home is assured a Christmas if it has a great, warm heart pulsating in tune with the hopes and joys of childhood.—Exchange.



All kinds of Commercial Printing at the Courier Office.

CIVILIAN POPULATION BITTER TOWARD HUNS

Bruges, Nov. 29.—(Special correspondence)—The civil population of Belgium is much more bitter toward the Germans than the soldiers who have fought them to a standstill during four years, crushed them, battered them about and wrecked the empire during the past four months. Terms of bitter execration, hate and revenge come from the civilians alone.

A kind little old woman, the owner of a cigar store, after selling the Associated Press correspondent a villainous cheroot, an "ersatz" cigar relic of the German occupation, then launched forth in a violent denunciation of the uninvited guests who made Bruges their home for four years. "This war must not end like this," she said with a vehemence which contrasted greatly with her gentle appearance. "We must go into Germany, they must suffer, expiate." On the day of their departure the Germans robbed her store of \$500 worth of the best cigars and cigarettes.

On the Grande Palace in the shadow of the famous belfry, an irate gentleman was discoursing loudly, gesticulating wildly. "The pigs, the infamous swine," he was saying. "Shall it come to pass that they shall escape punishment? Is it possible that the German population will not suffer any of the hardships that their soldiers and officers have inflicted upon us? Shall they not salute our officers, descend into the gutters as our soldiers promenaded on their sidewalks? Is it inconceivable that their women will be spared the humiliation of humbly begging of our officers a passport to travel between Aix-la-Chapelle and Cologne as our wives and daughters had to do to go from Bruges to Ostend? If we end it now they are beaten militarily but they are not vanquished in their pride, in their hearts."

"He is a hotel keeper. The Germans requisitioned 27,000 bottles of wine from his cellars," volunteered one of his audience standing near by.

Of all the allied soldiers the Belgian was the one who appeared to have the greatest desire to enter Germany. His country is strewn with the wreckage of former happy homes, perhaps the very one where the soldier dwelt is now a heap of ruins. But these soldier boys display no hatred. They have not been robbed of their cigars or their wine. They have merely risked their lives in rain-filled trenches and bullet-swept fields for the past four years.

SNIVELEY SAYS RICE SHOULD GROW WELL

According to H. D. Sniveley, a rice grower of Richville, Calif., there is no reason why rice could not be grown in the Rogue river valley with a fine profit for the growers, says the Mail Tribune. Mr. Sniveley arrived in the city yesterday with a sheaf of rice which he placed on exhibition at the commercial club rooms.

"You have ideal soil here for rice growing," said Mr. Sniveley, "and it gets as hot here in the summer as it does in California. All you need is water and I hear there is a good chance of irrigation. To give you some idea of the profits from rice, I raised 48 sacks an acre this year which sold for \$212.

"Our main pests are ducks and geese. I saw five acres of rice destroyed in one night this season by a flock of them."

Learn to Be a Listener.
The man with brains in his head is a good listener even if he doesn't know what men are talking about. It's a pleasure to listen when you're interested. The next best thing is to act as though you were. That does not mean that you are to act the hypocrite. It means that you are to put yourself at attention and the chances are that you will become interested. You just must learn to get interested in what concerns the world. Disregard what interests others and thereby you make confession that does not count to your credit. So even if you can't confess the most lively interest, find out what there is about the thing that interests others and the result may be a revelation to you.

Blankets numbering 1,200,000 were sent to France by the Red Cross emergencies.

Classified Advertising

FOR SALE
FOR SALE—Sixty-five acres on Pickett creek. House, barn and blacksmith shop, 2 horses, harness, farming implements, household goods, etc. Price \$2,500. E. T. Carnegie, Merlin, Ore. 45

FOR SALE
FOR SALE—Eighteen good grade Angora goats and goat shearing machine. Price \$100. E. T. Carnegie, Merlin, Ore. 45

AUCTION SALE—Saturday, December 21, at 1 o'clock p. m., at Merlin, Ore., for cash, the following head of stock: Three cows fresh in a few days, one fresh in February; 1 milking cow and 2 are dry; 8 young cattle; span of horses with harness, weighing about 1,300 lbs; 10 12 tons of oat hay and about 4 tons of rye. One range, cook stove, one Vega cream separator. J. H. Daley, Merlin, Oregon. 44

FOR SALE—One thoroughbred sow, one horse. Address E. F. Vahrenwald, Murphy. 46

FOR SALE—Good, partly improved ranch for sale. Will accept good, modern residence as part payment. What have you. Box 143, Riddle, Ore. 47

FOR SALE—Good general-purpose mare, light wagon and buggy, farming tools and implements very cheap. Farquharson, Fruitdale, Grants Pass. 45

FOR SALE—A-1 Monarch maleable range, perfect condition, kitchen cabinet, ice chest, chairs, and garden tools at half cost. A. S. Farquharson, Fruitdale. Phone 603-F-25. 44

TO RENT

FOR RENT—Partly furnished cottage at 321 Rogue River Avenue; three rooms and sleeping porch, good well and one-half acre of land, barn; \$5.00 per month. Key at 402 Rogue River Ave. 071f

FOR RENT OR SALE—Our residences at 801 and 811, North 6th St., eight and ten dollars a month. Will sell either or both. Make me an offer. John Summers, Lebanon, Oregon. 401f

FOR RENT—One five-room furnished house at corner of N. 6th and A St. Inquire at Roper's Tailor Shop, or phone 603-F 14. 45

WANTED

WANTED—Girl or woman to spend nights with lady whose husband is in the service. Call 303 West K. St. 46

WORK WANTED—By competent woman as cook in camp, or general housework. May L. Brown, Selma, Ore. 47

WANTED—Baby carriage in good condition. Address No. 2145 care Courier. 44

MISCELLANEOUS

JITNEY SERVICE—Any where, any time. Phone Mocha Cafe 181-R Otto J. Knips, Residence 149-Y. 23f

TAXI—If going or coming call the White Line Taxi. Safety first. Call at the Spa confectionary. Phone 262-R. Residence phone, 320-R. 45

MEDFORD business College, now open. Stenography and related subjects; classes under personal supervision of F. Roy Davis, official court reporter. 60

WE REPAIR cars, mag's, coils, generators, starters, batteries, ignition systems. Satisfaction guaranteed. Steiger Garage, 211 North Sixth street. 36ff

E. L. GALBRAITH, insurance, rentals, acreage, building and loans; snaps in city property. 609 G St. Launer's old location. 68

Biblical Town of Gaza.
Al-Mintar, or the watchtower, still exists to the east of the town of Gaza. It is where Samson is said to have carried the gates of the city. On the road from Gaza to Jaffa are ancient olive trees, many of them more than one thousand years old, with gnarled bark and immense trunks. There is an old legend which credits Gaza with the invention of the first mechanical clocks. These were perhaps the sand clocks which are still used in some mosques.

Impossible.
You could not persuade a man that a homely girl is a good manicurist.—Memphis Commercial Appeal.

Daily Thought.
There is nothing so powerful as truth; and often nothing so strange.—Daniel Webster.

TO EXCHANGE

WILL TRADE—Five or 10 acres in pears, 9 years old, adjoining city of Grants Pass, for property in or near Portland, Ore. Inquire of F. M. Geiger, Boise, Idaho. 74

PHOTO STUDIO

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S. LOUGHRIDGE, M. D., Physician and surgeon. City or country calls attended day or night. Residence phone 389; office phone 187 Sixth and H, Tufts Bldg.

DR. J. O. NIBLEY, Physician and surgeon. Lundburg Bldg. Health officer. Office hours, 9 to 12 a. m. and 1 to 5 p. m. Phone 310-J.

A. A. WITHAM, M. D.—Internal medicine and nervous diseases; 903 Corbett Bldg., Portland, Ore. Hours 9 a. m. to 1 p. m.

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ATTORNEYS

H. D. NORTON, Attorney-at-law. Practices in all State and Federal Courts. First National Bank Bldg.

COLVIG & WILLIAMS, Attorneys-at-law. Grants Pass Banking Co. Bldg., Grants Pass, Oregon.

E. S. VAN DYKE, Attorney. Practices in all court. First National Bank Bldg.

O. S. BLANCHARD, attorney at law. Golden Rule Building. Phone 270. Grants Pass, Oregon.

BLANCHARD & BLANCHARD, Attorneys. Albert Bldg. Phone 286-J. Practice in all courts; law board attorneys.

C. A. SIDLER, Attorney-at-law, retires in bankruptcy. Masonic temple, Grants Pass, Ore.

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Leave Grants Pass.....1 P. M.
Arrive Waters Creek.....2 P. M.
Leave Waters Creek.....3 P. M.
Arrive Grants Pass.....4 P. M.

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