

What Christmas Should Mean

The Sentinel appreciates receiving the following from Mrs. Calver Mace, of Santa Barbara, Calif., who is a sister of Mrs. Pearl Elhiggen and who formerly resided in Coquille, years ago. Mentioning her son, 19-year old Robert Mace, she says that he is a technician 5th grade, in a malarial survey unit of the Army, and has just finished three months of special training at Texas A. & M. College. She believes he is now on his way overseas.

The following is Mrs. Mace's article:

MY CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

It's Christmas—but what can I say this year?

I can't say "Merry Christmas" to the folks, in the big house next door, for they just got word that their only child, a boy of nineteen, was killed in the Solomons.

Perhaps it isn't necessary for me to say "Merry Christmas." Perhaps I should say something deeper.

Perhaps I should stop and wonder about that Star. The Star that guided the wise men to Christ. The wise men were seeking Christ, and they found Him because they followed the Star.

Have I been seeking Christ? Have I found Him? Do I possess His beautiful Spirit? Do I know about His boundless mercy? Do I reflect His Glory, His Holiness and His love? Do I know how to share this Joy?

Our Awakening

Sad as total war is, consuming the world like a furious forest fire, killing the choicest, searing the strongest, charring the weakest, is it not awakening us?

Have we not hidden behind dazzling lights, tinsel trees, costly gifts and luxurious food and called it Christmas?

Christmas. The day honoring the birth of Christ.

Do we stand, with the shepherds, and get the meaning of the angel's words, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10,11.

Do we realize that this is not only a promise but a fact.

We've Left Christ Out

Erika Mann, German refugee, writer, lecturer and now a citizen of the United States said, "Germany took out Christianity first, they replaced Christ with Hitler."

This strikes us with alarm, we are horrified, we are abashed. But haven't we left Christ out of our lives? Haven't we worshiped money, embraced science, society and culture as all important? Haven't we pride-

fully controlled our lives? Have we truly wanted His guidance? Are we so different from Germany? Yes, but you say, we are a Christian nation. We are Christians. What is a Christian?

We Need God

A young girl preparing for her marriage to a flying cadet, said to me the other day, "We need something, everything is so flimsy, so insecure—it's God we need, isn't it,—how do you find God, how do you pray? My parents are Christians but I never heard them pray."

"Where's your ship," I asked a young sailor yesterday. "She's sunk, I'm here on a month's furlough," he replied. All the mirth had gone out of his face. "Everybody prays on a boat," he added, "It doesn't make any difference whether the chaplain is a Catholic Priest, a Jewish Rabbi, or a Protestant Minister, we pray all together, it's all the same God, and before a battle we boys of all beliefs partake of the Sacrament together. Facing terrific suffering and death as we do, this is mighty comforting, it's good to know we are ready to die."

Faith of Our Sons

We've sung these many years, "Faith of our fathers, holy faith"—but here, faith of our sons. Will they return and find us faithless?

"What can I do," pleaded a mother after Pearl Harbor. "I can't write to my boy, I can't hear from my boy, how can I pray. I never talked to him about God the twenty years he was home."

An answer came, "You, his mother, get right with God, pray for an opportunity to write him, give him your faith." She did.

We Must Seek Him First

This Christmastide finds a world in which millions are starving, homeless and utterly dejected. It finds families, rich and poor alike, crushed with heartbreak and uncertainty; uncertain if their sons or fathers will return. It finds army hospitals crowded with boys who say, "We wanted to live, but look at us, we haven't the courage to live!" It finds world leaders frantically seeking the answers for world-peace, and world reconstruction.

Yet there is occasion for rejoicing for there is an Answer. It is Christ, the Gift of God, the Hope of the World. He said, "My peace I give unto you,—Let not your heart be troubled neither let it be afraid—But seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Are we seeking Christ first this Christmas?

—Harriet Sweet Mace

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Timely Topics

By R. T. Moore

For the first time in the history of the United States, a shortage of lumber is threatened. Two factors contribute to this situation—the depletion of timber stands close to tidewater or rail transportation and the enormous war demand.

For many years lumbermen have sought in vain to have taxation on timber lands changed from an annual personal property basis to a severance tax basis, in order to encourage reforestation by private enterprise and to discourage waste of standing timber by leaving the poorer logs in the woods. But opposition from other taxpaying groups, fearful of adverse effect on their own tax status, has always prevented favorable action by Congress and by state legislators on this issue.

Now that a timber famine is actually threatened, there seems to be a strong probability that a more favorable tax structure may be obtained for the lumber industry. It is becoming painfully evident that our timber resources are not inexhaustible and that scientific reforestation is imperative as a measure to perpetuate this great industry. It must be accomplished by a degree of voluntary production control by way of perpetual yield operations licensed by federal and state governments. Plans for such operations are now in the talking stage; they are probably not practicable at this moment, but will gradually be established during the next two decades.

Another factor in maintaining the lumber industry payrolls is the research work now being conducted by the Department of Agriculture and by the State Department of Forestry looking toward scientific use of forest and sawmill waste. An attempt is being made to increase the payroll yield per acre of forest land through more intense utilization of the complete product of the tree and the elimination of the sawmill burners by using all available waste for manufacture of pressed wood products and for the manufacture of industrial alcohol.

A survey recently made shows that Coos county now has sufficient sawmill waste to produce about 7 1/2 million gallons of alcohol annually. A conversion plant could be located on Coos Bay to serve all of the larger operations in the county. Transportation would be by rail, truck and water. No indication is made as to the cost of such a plant or whether R. F. C. funds would be available to finance it.

It is becoming evident that there will be strong competition in the postwar period from foreign industry for the American market. Our own industry must either be protected by a tariff wall sufficient to preserve our wage structure, or we must be able to manufacture products cheaply enough to compete with less well-equipped foreign concerns. Since a free flow of commerce will be necessary for continued prosperity, the latter course is much to be desired. But the installation of labor-saving machinery has been consistently opposed by organized labor. The latter, therefore, must be won over to the idea that the American standard of living can only be maintained through superiority of American enterprise in mass production; and this superiority can only be created by expanding our man-hour production through labor-saving machines. The recent suspension of chrome mining operations in the county shows what will be in store for us in the way of foreign competition; unless costs are substantially reduced by united effort of government, labor and management. We will need all of the payrolls we can manage to create. Every advantage must be given to private enterprise in its supreme effort to shoulder the postwar burden.

Congress seems to be making very slow progress in passing a tax measure and in considering such important domestic bills as the suggested subsidy plan. Perhaps it is well that action has been slow, considering the rapidly changing war picture which makes frequent revision of domestic policy necessary.

As usual, Congress is very fearful of the strong pressure groups. It is sensitive to any shifting of the balance of power between the huge opposing groups, such as organized labor versus organized farmers. The subsidy measure, defeated in the House, is about to receive a face lifting in the Senate because propaganda has aroused pressure groups to fly to its defense.

There is no danger to America as long as no one pressure group is permitted to capture balance of power, and as long as the free ballot exists. The greatest danger to our Republic

seems now to lie in the fact that too many people are on government payrolls. This fact tends to perpetuate current administration, because the millions on the federal payroll will be fearful of their jobs if a change is permitted. It was this sort of thing that led to state socialism in Germany, Italy and Russia. We, in America, have succeeded in avoiding this calamity by frequent changes in federal administrations through the years.

The American people have been coasting along with a system of government very close to state socialism. They evidently are finding that they do not like this sort of thing and are beginning to demand a radical change in federal policy; this change will tend to the right and away from state socialism. The latter term embraces the theory of nazism, fascism, communism and plain socialism. All of them are variations of the central theme of the State Supreme, the citizen its servant.

One comforting thought to those fearful of the threat of state socialism in America is that both major political parties have now a definite trend to the right and are sure to adopt platforms favorable to private enterprise, to the protection of the

individual against the state and to the restoration of state rights. The Republican party has seized the initiative because the Democratic party was committed in the other direction. But the Democrats are turning to the right, as is evidenced by the revolt against the New Deal in the south. We can, therefore, look confidently towards a more favorable atmosphere for American business after the war.

More Complaint About Open Season On Elk Cows, Calves

According to the item below from the Elgin Recorder, sent in by F. S. Emery, Coos and Curry counties are not the only ones dissatisfied by the Oregon State Game Commission's fixing of the elk hunting season this year:

Sportsmen of the Elgin area are much displeased with the fact that all elk areas in Union county were thrown open to the killing of cow elk and calves. Hunters from many points in the state poured into the county and there is no discounting the fact that the kill was heavy. Local sportsmen express the opinion that Union county areas, and particularly the Elgin area, bore the brunt

of the kill, while areas in some other counties, where elk are prevalent, were closed to hunting cow elk and calves.

Local sportsmen point out that there are areas in Wallowa county where elk are as prevalent as in this section, but most of those areas were closed so far as cow elk and calves were concerned.

It now appears that the Elgin Rod & Gun club will launch efforts early in the coming year to prevent an open season on cow and antlerless elk.

Many thanks for the grand Christmas and New Years business given me during the holidays, and I wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

—V. R. Wilson. 482s

Christmas Greetings
to the
FRIENDS and CUSTOMERS
of the
Igloo Market



THE STAGE COACH has given place to the streamliner. The electric light has snuffed out the soft-beamed candle. Tinkling sleigh bells are drowned in the roar of motor horns. But who will say that Christmas has lost its charm? With Christmas at hand we renew our pledge of devotion to ideals of honest dealing, and express our appreciation of your friendship for us during 1943.

"HEAP ON MORE WOOD, THE WIND IS CHILL;
BUT LET IT WHISTLE AS IT WILL,
WE'LL KEEP OUR MERRY CHRISTMAS STILL!"



Eaton's Feed Store
Coquille, Oregon



★ From Greenland's icy mountains to India's coral strand the age-old celebration of Christmas is in progress. In this season of universal good will we welcome the opportunity to thank you for that measure of confidence you have shown in us during 1943 and other years. We will do our utmost to continue to deserve it.

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AS one hands down a good name, Christmas each year hands down its traditions and all are good. It has been a tradition here to regard the good will of our customers as our most precious asset. In this holiday season of 1943 we extend to you, not as a customer alone, but as a friend, our very best wishes for a . . . Merry Christmas.

HERMAN'S MEN'S Store
John C. Merchant, Mgr.