

A Christmas Prayer

Eternal Father, we thank Thee for a faith so high that it can link the far-off pilgrim stars with the cradle of a little Child. Teach us that no hope vouchsafed to the human soul is too high, too holy, to be fulfilled by Thy love and power. Lift up our hearts this day and make us to know that the world is too small for the soul and its dreams. May we be faithful to Thy Morning Star by which we are led out of phantoms into realities!



Make us truly wise, with the wisdom of a Little Child, that the highest truth may be born in our hearts, shepherded by Love and Joy and Wonder. May we be brave to seek and faithful to find Thy Truth—we who live in cynical days and need to keep close to the warm heart of life. Call us back from a wisdom that is not wise, because it is hard, untrusting, and doubtful of those starry ideals by which Thou art revealed.

Drive back the gray shadows which the years have cast over us, and let us see Thy guiding Star and hear a music not of earth. Let not our souls be busy inns that have no room for Thee and Thine, but homes of prayer and praise, ready for Thy welcoming. Make us to know that near us, even in our city, is Christ the Savior, whom seeking with joy, we shall find. Humbly we offer our Christmas prayer in His name, Amen.

—Joseph Fort Newton.

Moro Woman's Club

(Special Correspondence)

On Friday, January 2, the first meeting of the new year will be held. Shall we make some new resolutions and attend club regularly? Mrs. E. H. Moore will be director for the day and needless to say the program promises to be very interesting.

Last week the club meeting began at 3:30 instead of the usual time, due to the fact that the school had their Christmas program the same afternoon. The day was especially given over to the children and if attendance proves anything, they surely enjoyed themselves. Mrs. Ramsey, director, entertained them royally. The hostess put up a tree, well lighted and decorated and placed baskets of oranges and candy canes under it. In the absence of the president, Mrs. Larson took the chair and held a brief business meeting. At the conclusion Mrs. Ramsey took charge and opened the program with two songs. The children sang "Silent Night" by themselves and did remarkably well, even better than the grown-ups.

Mrs. Bryant told a Christmas story especially for the children, about a cruel farmer and a poor old lady who had no money or food for Christmas. In spite of the hardened heart of the old farmer the story had a happy ending and that, of course, pleased everyone. The moral brought out was "It is better to give than to receive."

Muriel McKean gave a dance for the children. She was accompanied by Helen Searcy at the piano. For one so young she certainly did well. Mary Lou Sayrs sang "Away in a Manger" and was accompanied by her sister at the piano. Veda Belshee sang two songs and also she didn't know she was going to sing she did very well, indeed.

A snowball dance in front of the Christmas tree was given by Eleanor Ann Fortner, Isla Gene Brishine, Louise Barzee and Helen Strong. It made everyone wish it would snow so they could play with real snowballs.

Betty Hulise gave a recitation which was quite a long one for one so small. Then Reatha Sayrs and Marjorie Meloy sang a duet accompanied by Mrs. Carrol Sayrs.

There were fifty-eight children present. At the end of the program they all lined up and marched past the Christmas tree to get their presents. Everyone went home happy and contented and looking forward to next year's party.

If cheese is wrapped in a cloth moistened with vinegar, it will neither dry out or mould.

The Christmas Season

Cool December brings the sleet, Blazing fire and Christmas trees. And this for all so long has been: Peace on earth, good will to men.

Merry Christmas! Everybody! And so here we are telling of another Christmas month, when a comparatively short time ago we were all wishing for this particular month. Well, it's here, make use of it to your best advantage.

This December, 1930, should not be much different, in a general way, than Decembers of years passed. Times may, however, seem harder to some, work may be less obtainable, but in a general way—concerning the modern mode of present day living and traveling, we just naturally expect greater things, and must have them in order to satisfy the mind.

Fast important activities happening years ago this month we record here following for your consideration and approval:

On December 2, 1823, the Monroe Doctrine was enunciated. President VanBuren was born December 5, 1782. Lincoln's last message to Congress was delivered on December 6, 1864. The United States declared war on Austria, December 7, 1917. The United States and Spain signed peace treaty, December 10, 1898. Indiana became a state, December 11, 1816. The first wireless telegraph across the Atlantic ocean was sent December 12, 1901. The Battle of Fredericksburg rang out in dead earnest on December 13, 1862.

General George Washington died December 14, 1799. Slavery was abolished December 18, 1865. The Pilgrims landed at Plymouth December 22, 1620. America's victory at Trenton occurred December 26, 1776. President Wilson was born December 28, 1856. Texas became a state, December 29, 1845.

The shortest day of the year, is that of the 21st, when Old King Winter is supposed to begin his reign in earnest. A new moon becomes visible on the 19th. First quarter, 27. Full moon, 5th. Last quarter, 12th.

And as has been the custom for ages, Christmas falls on the 25th—the day our Saviour was born.

To our readers and friends we extend Yuletide greetings and wish for them peace and plenty during the new year just around the corner.

At present many basic industries are in the same boat so far as over production is concerned. Agriculture, mining, oil and others are suffering from depression due to supply exceeding demand.

Oregon Products Win South African Trade

Northwest Lumber Used in Preference to Timber from Europe

Preference for Douglas fir over oak flooring is reported as prevalent at the Cape province in South Africa, according to Samuel H. Day, U. S. commercial attaché at "Jo-Berg," the phonetic term for Johannesburg. Mr. Day was in Portland early in December, and in conference with Mr. Bretherton of the district office of the Bureau of foreign and domestic commerce, told of trade conditions in the Union of South Africa, following a residence of three years at the Cape. Mr. Day is making a tour of American cities. While oak may be preferred for floors in the Pacific northwest, where fir is plentiful, the South African home builder is proud of his flooring if made from Oregon, Washington or British Columbia fir.

South Africans get their cheapest wood from the Baltic region, but it is inferior in quality to Oregon fir. Big dimensions can only be secured from the Pacific northwest and is used extensively in mining and railway construction. Corrugated iron is available, but at the high altitudes where nights are cold, this form is not suitable for comfortable homes. Insulation of wood is better suited to the provincial needs. Fir-text, made in Oregon, is being used increasingly for building.

It's a long safety lane that has no turning.

Probably nothing on earth is less enduring than an endurance record.

This is the age when the public rides in automobiles to see a horse show.

A Budapest parade ended in a fight, indicating that a pleasant time was had by all.

Black fingernails may become fashionable, but they may require a lot of explaining.

Chicago is starting television broadcasting, so outsiders can see as well as hear the battle.

Australia has been trying to pay her bills with money which she borrows from herself.

What the country needs just now is less reluctance on the part of the public to part with a nickel.

Says an agricultural note: "Cows will give more milk if given more water." So will a milk can.

An apple tree that blooms twice in a year probably never heard of burning the candle at both ends.

The cigar stores are selling books. Once again the affinity of literature and nicotine is demonstrated.

The restaurant counter man who slices the pie thinks he'd be in the dough if he were on piece-work.

Knitted evening shirts are attaining popularity in England, so the polo shirt may get into society almost any time.

Looking back, it seems incredible that the buggy whip and cowbell industries never appealed to congress for aid.

There are bright spots here and there: In a dry summer, it's easier to get salt out of the restaurant salt shaker.

You can't tell by looking at a man these days whether he's perspiring or has just finished drying his face on a paper towel.

The innocent bystander isn't always innocent: sometimes he breaks a speed limit getting there for fear he will miss something.

There are times, even, when some of us prefer a crooner, as, for example, when it is a choice between that and a hoop-a-doop singer.

One of the reasons why we are unenthusiastic over the dews of a new morning is that we never could remember our rubbers.

Man's next great war will be with insects, says a University of Michigan scientist. Did anyone ever hear of a war without insects?

Plant a tree, thus honoring George Washington, and providing a place where the small boy of 30 years hence can roost during the summer.

However, the servant problem would be twice as serious if we were served by the sort of person who signs himself, "Your obedient servant."

It is evident that Professor Einstein never has listened in on an aerial political campaign, for he says the radio is a great promoter of peace.

Eventually, it seems, a politician can work himself into the state of mind where he begins to love himself for the enemies he has made.

Quite a lot of men are developing into expert analysts of the crime situation in this country, but what we need is somebody who can cure it.

Probably the reason the average small boy doesn't grow up to be a perfect gentleman is because we have to raise our own instead of our neighbor's.

The realists in one of the current problem movies is almost uncanny. Five years elapses at one point, and the husband is wearing the same overcoat.

Read the Observer for county news.

Good Roads for 1931

In a great many states efforts are being made to accelerate public works building as a cure for unemployment.

Roads are the leading factor in any program of this kind. Their construction gives work to thousands of needy persons at good wages—and the cost of the work is returned many times over to states and communities. Good roads are not an expense but an investment which pays a high rate of dividends.

At present, particular attention is being paid to rural roads. It is a rare farmer who is assured of a year round weatherproof artery of communication between his farm and a main highway. Increased farm road appropriations not only remedy this, but provide a living to the multitude of farmers and farm employees who face an economic crisis resulting from the unsettled marketing conditions for farm products.

New York, California and other states have pointed the way. A move is on foot to increase the federal government's appropriations. The farm-to-market road movement should take a long jump forward in 1931.

Report Say That Western Cities are Best Lighted

Comparison between Pacific Coast street lightings systems and those of older cities in the middle west and along the Atlantic shows that more progress has resulted from western illumination ideas. Salem and Eugene, for example, are better lighted than Texas, Missouri, or Illinois towns of equal size. Portland has the lead over Chicago, Dallas, Kansas City, both in air-light installation and in colorful design auxiliaries. Portland likewise shows a lower rate for service than any other city in America over 100,000 population. Light prevents crime, and Chicago has scores of business streets, bordered by tall buildings, where scanty light leaves the pedestrian almost in darkness.

Chicago's 1933 exposition management can help the show to success by cleaning up and lighting up. Portland's Broadway matches New York's, and the Oregon metropolis has more Neon lights, it would seem, than most cities of the United States.

Governor-elect Julius L. Meier will open the annual convention of the Oregon State Teachers' Association with greetings to the two thousand members of the teaching profession who will assemble in the auditorium of Lincoln High School at Portland at 9:00 a. m., Tuesday, December 30.

He will be followed in the morning program by three of the most distinguished educational speakers in the United States: Dr. Boyd H. Bode of Ohio State University, Columbus; Supt. Willis A. Sutton of Atlanta, Georgia, president of the National Education Association, and Mr. Cameron Beck, personnel director of the New York Stock Exchange. The meeting will be in charge of Supt. R. R. Turner of Dallas, Oregon, president of the association.

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"Old Man River" is Being Harnessed Now for Power

Nearly Six Million Horsepower Estimated Available in Columbia River Power Sites

Claims that all northwest power sites have been appropriated by individuals and private concerns are not supported by engineering experts' figures. In fact the political hysteria created prior to November election is shown to have been groundless.

"Old Man River" of the Pacific northwest has "just kept rolling" along for countless centuries without hindrance from mankind, says New York Times. Millions of horsepower in the mighty Columbia's waters have rolled out into the Pacific. Now the first set of harness to be thrown over the "white horses" is in preparation. The Washington Electric company, a subsidiary of the Puget Sound Power and Light company, has authorized construction of a dam and power house at Rock Island, thirteen miles south of Wenatchee, in central Washington.

The bed of the Columbia river at this point is broken by rocky islands of basaltic formation. A dam will be built with power house. Spillways will occupy space between the power house and the west bank.

The War Department has reserved site for locks when navigation requires it.

In harnessing the Columbia a factor considered is the salmon run on their way from the Pacific to headwaters to spawn. To provide easy passage, two fish ladders of unusual size will be constructed.

Spillways are designed to control a flow of 530,000 cubic feet per second. Above this all gates will be opened at flood stage to let the entire volume of water pass through.

The dam will be sixty feet high and half a mile long. The lake created behind it will extend twenty miles up the river, an area of 3,800 acres. It is estimated by the engineers that it will require three years to complete the project. Initial generating capacity will be 80,000 horse power. Additional generating units will provide a maximum of 252,000 horsepower.

Professor Carl E. Magnusson, research engineer for the University of Washington, estimated in 1924 that the Columbia river is capable of developing 1,980,000 horsepower. Now he is revising these figures upwards. Other experts agree his figures are too low, and the figure of 5,800,000 horsepower is now mentioned.

One of the most recent innovations is to employ gas for drying insulating board. This method costs only about one-third as much as if the board was dried by steam produced from coal and the process is entirely automatic. Almost every day brings with it a new use for gas.

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