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PHONE 96

ALBANY, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31

NATIONAL BARRIERS

The intense nationalist, the American chauvinist, who can see no other land but his own as having the right to exist, is active in the country these days. He stretches Americanism to cover extreme selfishness, the abandonment of interest in every nation but our own. He would let Europe starge or rot, fight, sink or swim, alone. He holds that America has no part or interest in foreign conditions; we are immune. He points to the great dividing factor, 3,000 miles of ocean, and declares that behind such a barrier we can pursue our own way unmolested, and should let Europe look after itself.

He parades the statement that he is a practical man, and derides as sentimental idealists those of wider sympathy, whom he terms internationalists. But for a practical man he is extremely unsophisticated, a mere child. He knows little of history, and generally has but little grasp of what he does know.

Let him consider China. Three hundred years before Christ, China had just such a wave of selfish and self-deluding nationalism. The Chinese decided against their internationalists and vowed they would have nothing to do with the rest of the world; China would keep the quarrelsome nations from the Flowery Kingdom. So she began the erection of a great wall that should keep back the hordes of raiding Tartars, the Manchus and the Mongols. The wall completed, China fell asleep, lulled by a false sense of security against the troubles of the rest of the world.

But "stone walls do not a prison make, nor iron bars a cage." Neither do material bars, be they walls of stone, miles of ocean or fleets or armored ships, fend off the troubles, the perplexities and the problems of mankind. History

of the Chinese during the twenty-two centuries since the erection of their "insurmountable" wall teaches us that the barrier hurt no one but the people who erected it.

An American must learn that her ocean ramparts are no barriers, either to ingress or egress. Though the oceans were twice as wide and her fleets twice as strong, they are still vulnerable to ideas and idealists. Nations, like men, live not to themselves alone. Every day widens the circle of interest for every man and for every nation.

ALBANY, OREGON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 1 THE NEW YEAR

Happy New Year! The dear old greeting has become so hackneyed that we give little thought to its true significance. And yet it means more than almost any other salutation which men give, because it is significant of the hope which in spite of buffetings and disappointments never quite dies in any human breast.

We may think that we have become inured to hardship, that we are old and disillusioned, that the best we expect is the worst of it; but the New Year comes and fans a flickering fire which had burned low in our breasts. Suddenly we realize that disappointment and disillusionment are the temporary, mortal things—that it is hope and the belief in happiness which live forever.

Christmas is a beautiful time, the season of men's gifts to one another, and it is right that much should be made of it. But it is a pity that the New Year passes so often with scant attention, for it is Time's greatest gift to man, the re-awakening of hope, the magic lamp which we all secretly expect to rub, and find our dreams come true.

"A year is a short time," we say. Yet who, at the threshold of the New Year, does not look down the coming days and inwardly rejoice at all the time ahead in which he can do differently, and at his life can be changed immeasurably for the better?

Most of us, in the hurry of our days, could do well enough without any of the other anniversaries. But for all we realize it so little, the New Year is the one anniversary which we could not do without at all, for it is the voice of the angel whispering "hope," without which we should never have the courage to live through the rest of the year.

There are those who seem inclined to criticize Congress for taking a vacation, but to the majority of the people it would seem that congressmen do so little it makes little difference what they do.

Remember the good old days when one of the best New Year's resolutions was not to touch a drink for a year?

We would feel more sorrow at parting with the old year if he had brought us more sweetness.

MISFITS --- HIS COLUMN

BY F. P. NUTTING

Timely Comments and Gleanings of News from Here, There and Everywhere by a Former Editor of the Democrat

By F. P. Nutting

I was being shaved in the Y. M. C. A. barber shop Saturday, the 27th, by Tommy Jones, when he remarked:

"This is the 32nd anniversary of my marriage. You were at my wedding in Albany, do you remember the event?"

I certainly did. It was the day after the big fire at First and Ellsworth Sts. Starting in the rear of the store of Martin Peyser the fire swept the corner, including Mr. Jones' barber shop and a gun store. Flying bullets from cartridges put in jeopardy those passing by or working to save the adjoining buildings.

Mr. Jones moved into a sample room of the Revere House, where he remained for some time, in 1889 coming to Portland. For twenty-one years he has had charge of the Y. M. C. A. shop. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have two sons, one a linotyper on the Oregonian, the other in the office of a lumber company at Chehalis, a member of the Royal Legion fired on at Centralia by the I. W. W.

Further Down the Line

I called the other day at the factory of the Portland Cone Co., the originator of the ice cream cone. Fred A. Buckman, formerly of Albany, is president and manager. The company does a big business, a very successful manufacturing concern.

Perhaps the biggest concern in Portland managed by a former Albany man, is the Portland Woolen Mills, at the head of which is Ed Thompson, a man of great executive and constructive ability. Mr. Thompson's son, Louis, was the architect of the Portland Stock Show buildings, which recently attracted much attention.

Dec. 31 was the close of the most prosperous year in the history of Portland, and the year 1920 starts with gilt-edge prospects of a better business year.

A great need, these plethoric days is solid horse sense in business affairs as well as in social matters. Many have gone mad after the things that glitter, and regardless of big incomes, are living to the limit.

More and more I am realizing the value of some of the dodging games learned when a boy. Crossing streets on the jump between fast rushing autos requires all the agility one ever possessed.

ANDREW SKARR IS FIRST AT OFFICE

Vies with Henry McElmurry for Honors of Paying First Subscription

Andrew Skarr, of 718 East 4th street was the first subscriber to call at the Democrat office for the year 1920 and pay his subscription for the ensuing year. The honor appears to be between Mr. Skarr and Henry McElmurry, who has worn the belt for many years as the first man at the bat to have confidence in the publication of the Democrat for another year. Mr. Skarr had no sooner paid his money this morning and received the commendation of the Democrat office force when McElmurry appeared on the scene to be notified of his defeat when, to the surprise of all concerned he produced the credentials to show that he had paid his subscription for the year 1920 some three months ago and like the Irishman on the resurrection morning, was the only man on the ground worthy of recognition.

Silverton Visitors

Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Hickman were Albany visitors last night on their return home from a visit to Hodgett. They were detained here on account of the train wreck near Philomath yesterday.

Motor Oils

Monogram Mobile A and Veedol

We sell any of these high grade oils in quantities of one quart to a barrel. The prices are standard. The values are high.

OTHER ACCESSORIES

Chase automobile robes, Weed chains, old hickory natural wood finish bumpers, Standard steel bumpers, Silver-beam spotlights, jacks with long handles, tool boxes, luggage carriers, K A R windshield deflectors, Elbe speedscopes, Rain-e-Day windshield cleaners, spark plugs, Shaler lens, vulcanizers, thief-proof auto locks, lock chains for extra tires, polish, pumps, Boyce motometers, Klaxon horns, etc.

USED CARS AND TRUCKS

We have second-hand cars from \$250 up. At the present time we have a good buy in a Baby Grand Chevrolet 5-passenger touring car. We have a bargain in a Ford truck, worm drive. We have a good buy in a new Light Six Studebaker.

Oldsmobile

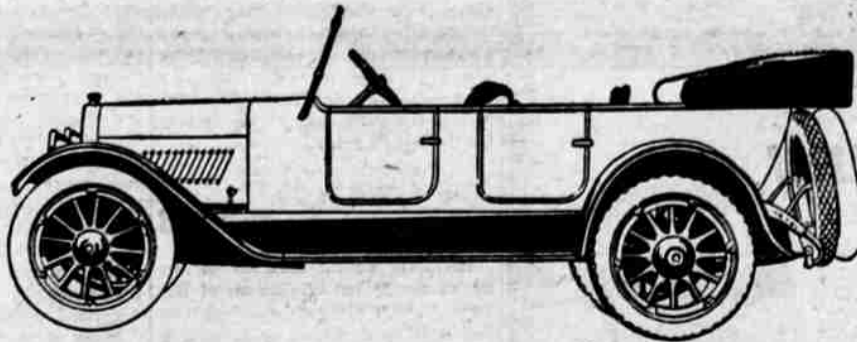
SETS THE PACE
22nd Year

THE "THOROBRED"

Conceived by master builders of automobiles, the lithe, sleek and spirited Oldsmobile "THOROBRED" does worthy honor to a long line of distinguished ancestry.

For 22 years the Oldsmobile has "set the pace" in style, in comfort, and mechanical excellence. On the same points the "THOROBRED" is characteristically Oldsmobile.

Beautifully upholstered, with wide doors and roomy tonneau, the Oldsmobile was always a comfortable car. In the "THOROBRED" easy riding qualities are enhanced by an improved method of spring suspension. Powered with the famous Oldsmobile 8-cylinder motor, the "THOROBRED" will walk or race at the driver's whim; yet fuel economy is a dominant factor.



TOURING CAR
\$925

R. W. TRIPP
Goodyear Service Station
First and Lyon Streets

DORT CARS

The salient characteristics of the Dort can be summed up in three sentences:

First—It is a car that needs service attention but very infrequently.

Second—When it does seem desirable to give the Dort a "going over" you can do it yourself easily, quickly and inexpensively because of the marked simplicity and accessibility of Dort construction.

Third—Its mileage per set of tires, gallon of gasoline and quart of oil is perceptibly higher than common.

Bethlehem Trucks

ONE to FIVE TONS

No better truck for heavy work can be found on the market. Sturdiness is built into every part. With a Bethlehem you may be sure that your every requirement in a truck will be met in a thoroughly satisfactory manner.