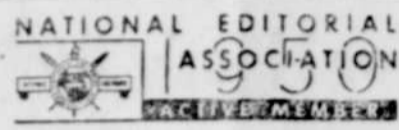


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CHRISTMAS AND PEACE

Twenty centuries ago, in a lowly manger of Bethlehem, the Christ Child was born and was worshipped by the Wise Men as the Son of God and fulfillment of prophecy. In this year, 1950, we forget our heavy hearts and trying anxieties to celebrate the event of His birth.

In celebrating Christmas, we pay tribute to the foundation stone of our Christian civilization, its concept of conscience and human dignity. In searching for the spirit of observance, it is well to consider anew the life of Christ and the doctrines He has bequeathed the world.

The key to Christmas, it seems, is humility.

The lifetime of the Savior was devoted to dealings with humble folk. In His timeless Sermon of the Mount He offers His benediction for the poor in spirit, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peace-makers and those who are reviled and persecuted. In none of His representations does He take upon himself false garments. His words have endured and His teachings multiplied because of this.

Humility might take many forms. It could mean a seeking out and overcoming of preening vanity and discriminations against others; of prejudices in the matters of race and color or religions and creeds.

Certainly, taking the lesson of His Sermon on the Mount, to heart, we should, as a nation, continue to employ every honorable means towards restoring peace to the world and striving to establish good will toward ALL men.

Nowhere in His teachings, to be sure, are there directives ordering us to be craven in appeasement of the forces of evil. There are, indeed, the contrary.

But we must first rid ourselves of false representations and self delusions. We need to see ourselves clearly and fundamentally before we can hope to make over others to a pattern of perfection.

Above all, patience must we have. It is necessary to understand the people of the world, in order to win their confidence. And too obvious is the fact, today, that in most of our much trumpeted aid to foreign nations we have made little attempt to know, appreciate and reach the common people of these countries.

As a result, our efforts to help nations overseas have been short-circuited or diverted toward strengthening corruption in the high places or more tightly clamping oppression upon those already sorely oppressed.

We face, at this observance of Christmas, a critical climate at home. Already begun is mobilization for an emergency which will progressively grow worse. Individually and collectively we will be called to sacrifice many things and this will mean hardships. We will need the comfort and assurances we might gain nowhere else than by Faith in God and searching self-analysis by an humble heart.

Might we well go forth, with tolerance in our souls and a prayer on our lips. Before us immediately, as a nation, is the task of unity and the casting out of divisions. Beyond that, however, is the challenge of peace and the responsibility upon a Christian civilization to do something about it.

This year, may we dedicate ourselves anew to the realization that Christmas is Peace

TIME FOR NATIONAL UNITY

The grim presentations of President Truman and Governor Thomas Dewey, in nationwide radio broadcasts, perhaps didn't shock the people as much as was expected. The intuitive common sense of the citizen-at-large should not be discounted.

From many sources have come indications that the people are willing to stand behind the foreign policy of the United States. With reluctance in some instances, but at least by a degree of confidence in the administration of the government, Americans saw their youth conscripted or recalled to duty and soon realized, on this level alone, that the Korean action was of first degree seriousness.

There likewise have been, in varying degrees, outbreaks of impatience at the dilly-dally of the administration in its timidity to go "whole hog" against the twin of warfare—dangerous, sky-rocketing inflation. After making a determined request for emergency powers, to be enforced at his discretion, the President seemed to let prices gradually get away from the limits of reason, even though he need only speak out to call a halt.

It is undeniable that imposition of rigid price and wage controls is nothing to be done lightly. Far reaching effects, even to the extent of a closely confining regimentation akin to dictatorship might well result. But when young Americans are put to jeopardy of life and limb in defending the national interest, it is hardly encouraging to them that the "fat cats" at home are given every opportunity to profit from a miserable situation.

A person need not be within the charmed

circle of financial analysts to note the alarming speed with which the bud of inflation has burst into full bloom. By the very basic act of going to a grocery store, selecting \$10 worth of food and paying the cashier anywhere from \$11 to \$12 for it, the story of runaway prices is told by chapter, verse and line.

Beset by a diminishing value of wages in terms of purchase, working people have felt that action of a sort by the federal government might lessen the upper drift of prices. When it comes down to final analysis, nothing unbalances faith in "status quo" quite as much as a raid on the finances, be it by oppressive taxation or unrestrained boosts in the cost of basic food items.

When the President, in his belated pronouncements of last Friday, told of the pending imposition of controls, there was resignation, not surprise, by the consumers of the nation. Truman, for better than a week, had "tipped his hand" and in effect had asked all the producers of everything from cheese, beer, and coffee to automobiles, newsprint and defense necessities, to get busy and raise prices because a "freeze" was on the way.

Maybe this is the secret formula for political success. For the record, stringent price controls are in effect. For those whom these restrictions are designed to keep in line, there has been widely published warnings which enable them to so further inflate prices that the "freeze" works even more of a burden than if they had not been imposed. It remains to be proved whether or not any semblance of general price roll-backs will be undertaken to stop the traditional build-up of wartime profiteers.

However the inequities and hardships appear to plague us, we are committed to a regime of hardship. Against the press of circumstances from without, we can only gather together and meet the future as one. This is a time for national unity, if we wish our civilization to survive.

CHRISTMAS SEALS DO A JOB

It's traditional. But still, seeing Tuberculosis-Health Association Christmas seals on a variety of letters, both personal and business, helps fill in the background of Christmas spirit.

In one degree or another, most of us are aware of the long fight the anti-TB forces waged to get recognition and public support for their vital campaign. The achievements of this group have contributed significantly to the health of the nation and accomplished great advances in education for health.

In early days, Christmas seal sales were conducted through the public schools. Then, it was possible for someone not to have had the opportunity to use them on Christmas mail. Now, however, direct mail solicitations bring the seals directly to the people and are paid for by return mail.

This latter fact brings up another thought. How many of us have neglected to return our checks for these seals? With the rush of holiday preparations, such a possibility might have occurred to many of us. So, let this be a reminder.

The use to which Christmas seals money is put is for the improvement of the local health level. Chest x-ray arrangements and an educational program to encourage habits of general health are directly financed by these seal campaigns. There is no other source of revenue.

It might be an inspiration for us to not only send the dollar that was asked but another dollar or two as a vote of confidence in a good job well done.

Christmas seals do a job for us but further help will bring even greater dividends.

CHRISTMAS TREE TRADITION

By our various senses do we vicariously enjoy things in our life. Sight, sound, touch, taste and smell set up a chain of association which reserves a special place in our memories.

And so, at Yuletide, the clean, fresh, invigorating smell of evergreens gives a toe-tlingling depth of pleasure.

It seems that no plant on earth nor comparable decoration could in anyway so typify the Yule than the dignified conifers which, by tradition, are known by all ages as "Christmas Tree."

SAFETY AND GREEN LAWN

In the interest of Christmas safety, we'd like to pass along a recommendation of the U. S. Department of Agriculture on how to make your tree fire-resistant and longer lived.

Suggestion is to dissolve ammonium sulphate in water, at the ratio of one and one-half pints of water for each pound of the chemical.

One of the good things of this tip is that the ammonium sulphate is relatively inexpensive. And don't be afraid to buy plenty, even beyond what you think is the power of the tree to absorb.

Whatever's left over will give your lawn a healthy boost, if applied in a period of heavy rain.

There's a double incentive of having safety... and a green lawn.

Legion Readies New Year Event Beaverton Hall

A New Year's party for Legionnaires and non-Legionnaires has been scheduled by Beaverton's American Legion Post for Saturday, December 30. Favors, food, and orchestra music will be furnished, and a charge per person will be made.

The committee in charge has requested that reservations be made in advance to avoid overcrowding the clubroom.

CANASTA OCCASION

Mrs. Helen Fisher gave a luncheon and canasta party last Monday afternoon at her home.

Those present were Leila Richey, Milly Sackett, Lena Maxwell, Ruby Boyd, Ruby Jansen, Arly Shellenberger, Edna Shelles, Dotty Anderson, May Blasser, Mrs. Berthold, Leila Straley, Dora Stipe, Carrie Summers, Lillian Thyng and Iva Summers.

Christmas Seals Bear Burden of Campaign on TB

The Christmas season of 1950 seems a good time to take stock of what we have accomplished toward healthier living during the first half of the twentieth century.

Certainly we can look back with pride on the great strides made in medical science, reflected notably in our longer life span and increased life expectancy. We have learned, too, the value of organized effort against a disease.

For example, the twentieth century was but four years old when a nation-wide fight against tuberculosis was launched with the formation of the National Tuberculosis Association. Aware that the campaign against tuberculosis in each community must be planned according to the needs of the community, the NTA from the beginning encouraged the formation of state and local organizations.

Today there are 3,000 voluntary associations, affiliated with the NTA, working in cooperation with the medical profession, health departments, and other agencies to prevent and control tuberculosis.

The organized offensive against tuberculosis, waged relentlessly by the American people since 1904, has helped save an estimated 5,000,000 lives, the number the disease would have killed had it continued at the 1904 rate.

Yet tuberculosis today is attacking 100,000 persons a year, and close to one-half million people are estimated to have active tuberculosis in this country. Of the half-million cases, moreover, only half are known to the health authorities, which leaves 250,000 "unknown" cases of tuberculosis which must be found and placed under treatment.


The work of the voluntary tuberculosis associations depends financially on the annual Christmas Seal Sale. The current Seal Sale opened on Nov. 20 and will continue until Dec. 25.

Support of the Christmas Seal Sale means support of the never-ending war against tuberculosis which will go forward until the disease is no longer a menace to the health, lives, and happiness of the American people.

This column is prepared by Washington County T. B. and Health Association, Inc.

NOEL

1950



Merry Christmas

For our town and its good people, a joyous and bountiful season.

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