

CURRENT OPINION--SPIRIT OF THE ADVENT MONTH

GRESHAM OUTLOOK

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Way is the Way
that Wins."

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RED CROSS ROLL CALL

Again, at the approach of Christmas, the Red Cross sends an appeal for a renewal of its membership. A year ago, on Christmas eve, 22,000-000 Americans answered "Here" and gave to the allied world a pledge of faith more convincing than gathering armies and ships of war. The coming generation of Americans, 10,000,000 children, also insisted on being counted.

It was a wonderful showing for an organization which in 1916 numbered only 22,000 members. It was not merely an indorsement of the principles of the Red Cross—humanity and mercy; it was a notice to the nations that America's entrance into the war was not merely an act of the government, of congress, or of the president, but that the people of the United States ratified that act and would maintain it to the end.

It was far more than that. It told the fighting men of the country—the clean, the strong, the courageous—who were falling in by millions from every state, to follow the flag to victory—that there was a nation of true, loyal hearts at home.

This has been a marvelous year—a year of sacrifices and of trial, to be sure, but a year of heroic deeds and unshaken faith. America has known the shock of battle and the joy of victory; she has known also the sorrow that is the price of victory.

Through all of this time of tumult, of death and of glory, the Red Cross has kept the faith. To every war-blighted country where it could make its way, it has gone as the messenger of the American people, healing, feeding, clothing and cheering. The welfare of the American soldier and sailor has been its first consideration, and it has kept unbroken the line of communication between the roaring battlefield and the doorstep where his children played, keeping intact and strong the chain which bound him to his own home altars.

The Red Cross still has a great work to do, and needs every American's help, a 100 per cent membership, so that it may deliver its message with the voice of the whole nation to those who have won the victory, and to those dear ones of the fallen heroes.

Just test it out for yourself and see whether the Lord was right when he said it was more blessed to give than to receive. When you get over the thrill of the presents you receive, upload a bunch of groceries and help pay for a cord of wood at the home of some sick widow with a bunch of kids to care for.

Not namin' any names, we are willing to admit that there are folks in this world whose Christmas dinner doesn't interest us in the least—except that we hope they'll have plenty of food for reflection, and that after the meal is over they'll get their just desserts.

At least we are reasonably sure of one thing—which is that no soldier will have to go without a good Christmas dinner. Well, this is as it should be, since—to paraphrase our old friend, Mr. Dryden—surely the brave deserve the fare.

After the experience in giving that Gresham has enjoyed since last Christmas we believe it will soon get so that the average citizen will be able to part with a nickle without dropping dead from heart shock.

We get most of the enjoyment of Christmas out of the dreams that come before and after. Oh, to dream of it before it comes, to enjoy it while it is here, and to appreciate it when it has gone!

Don't think a person is necessarily wise because of listening a great deal. A lot of it is heard over the party telephone lines and about 90 per cent of it is foolishness.

PROPHECY IN FULFILLMENT

By E. L. THORPE.

One has but to read the few last chapters of Revelations to find therein the prophecy that is being fulfilled. No one will claim that it is a literal fulfillment but that it is figuratively so cannot be doubted. The world has been destroyed by fire—the end has come and we are seeing a great city, the holy Jerusalem, where flows the river and grows the tree of life. "And the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations."

Perhaps the great problem of reorganizing the world has not been considered sufficiently from its religious side. Surely such a war as that from which we have just emerged must be thought of as marking a new era. That at least is the hope and prayer of all right thinking people. May we not look for a very real advent of the Prince of Peace.

We have heard much during the last few years of the petitions of so-called seers, and pitifully have been discredited. But there is a prophecy for the fulfillment of which the human heart must long—the prophecy of a great religious leader and statesman—a prophet of the Bible who foretold all that has been done and that which shall come. Here is the vision of Isaiah.

It shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow into it. * * * And He shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

It is a wonderful and noble utterance. The prophecy will be fulfilled to the very letter the moment that men are prepared to act in accordance with the principles on which it is based. All down the ages this vision and other visions like it have cheered, consoled, comforted the hearts of good men. What was looked for was a new era, one that should know nothing of the horrors of war. Perhaps what is needed now is, not so much management and machinery—though these may be necessary—as faith. And there was something unreal—something that could not be understood—about the war; so there may be in connection with the peace that is to follow it. No Christian certainly dare say that such a result is undesirable or impossible.

We are told that "there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain, for the former things have passed away." Have "former things passed away?" Will they ever pass away? They must, if the great yearning of mankind for peace is ever to be gratified.

But the subject has its social side and it may be viewed from two angles, the religious and political. Indeed, these two phases merge into one. The first advent brought into the world a new life, a new way of looking at things. One of the most startling results was an almost total reversal of human values. Weakness was exalted over might, and the mourners, the sorrowing, the meek and the persecuted were blessed.

The world as it was conceived by Jesus Christ was opposed to the Roman world at practically every point. What was promised to men was, not power or dominion, not even happiness, but blessedness, and this blessedness was to come through renunciation. Such a world as that is opposed even to the Christian world of today that a little while ago was talking of the most savage reprisals, and arguing that hate was a virtue. Clearly the birth of Jesus Christ marked the end of one era and the beginning of another. His world is still far enough from being realized, but nevertheless the break with the old was made. Further than that the new principles have made great headway.

We certainly know the line to which men must keep if genuine progress must be made. The revelation is clear, and the pattern cannot be mistaken. A new light dawned on the human soul, and a new life was bestowed upon the world. No other event ever so profoundly affected and influenced the life of mankind. The power has not been exhausted—on the contrary, it is still working. It is working both in society and in individuals. Not only so, but it is continually being renewed, for there is a continuous and uninterrupted advent.

There are truly "new merces each returning day." What interests men is, not so much the thought of a second and final advent, as the constant

coming into human life of the eternal goodness. Here once more the question is one of being prepared to receive it, to appropriate it, and to make it controlling.

Men need to open their minds and hearts to other voices than those of politicians, diplomats and statesmen—to the voices of prophets, philosophers and poets. It is among these that in times of stress the most practical teachers are found. Without exception they have seen a better fate for the world than to be devastated by war. After describing a great and powerful city, one that dominated a whole nation, but that had been brought to ruin, Robert Browning concluded that "love is best." Here is his message:

In one year they sent a million fighters forth,
South and north,
And they built their gods a brazen pillar high
As the sky,
Yet reserved a thousand chariots in full force—
Gold, of course.

Oh heart! Oh blood that freezes, blood that burns!
Earth's returns
For whole centuries of folly, noise and sin!
Shut them in,
With their triumphs and their glories and the rest!
Love is best.
Tennyson's vision was in the same strain and it led to the same conclusion but in different words:
Fly, happy, happy sails, and bear the Press,
Fly, happy with the mission of the Cross;
Knit land to land, and blowing heavenward
With silks and fruits and spices, clear or toil,
Enrich the markets of the golden year.

But we grow old. Ah! when shall all men's good
Be each man's rule and universal peace
Lie like a shaft across the land,
And like a lane of beams, athwart the sea,
Through all the circles of the golden year?

The question is one of aligning the universe with the will of Almighty God as expressed by the noblest and truest of his prophets and servants. If there could dawn on this old earth such a love of man for man as it was intended there should be, there would be an end of war, either between nations, or within nations. What an advent that would be! The ideal is one that must appeal to Christian churches, since it is that of their Lord and Master. Yet up to the present time singularly little has been heard from them.

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

Napoleon gave utterance to the fallacy that God was on the side of the heaviest battalion.

The German war lords nursed the sentiment that might made right and expected to prove it in the war just closed. The rest of the world knew they were wrong and the remnants of absolutism will now have to reconstruct their philosophy.

Beecher was once addressing an audience and used the expression "The voice of the people is the voice of God." A man arose and challenged the statement, saying the voice of the people was the voice of a fool. Beecher retorted, "I said the voice of the people, not the voice of one man."

Democracies have demonstrated that the voice of the people can be trusted. The people are better able to govern themselves than any one man or set of men not of their choosing.

Germany's failure was not only military but moral.

The moral sense of the world was aroused to defeat Germany's monstrous program.

The allied nation's fought and prevented the establishment on earth of the principles which only the rule of the prince of darkness could sanction.

It was the people's outraged sense of justice forced this country to change, almost over night, from a peaceful to a warlike people.

The same outraged feeling of right led Belgium and Serbia to sacrifice themselves in opposition to the onrush of injustice and wrong. It enabled English and France to hold at bay the military monster.

To the masses, to the people of the allied nations, arrayed against military supremacy, against the doctrine that might makes right, against the ruthless overpowering of the weak by the strong, belongs the victory. Their generals, their admirals, their leaders, their armies were only the instruments to execute the will of the people who believed in humanity and justice for all.

Here's hoping that all our soldier boys, on land and sea, will have a few Christmas plums on the day of good will—even though this year may be mostly in the pudding.

Some children's idea of social standards depends on whether a family has turkey, goose or chicken for Christmas.

THE GREAT SACRIFICE.

The painful slowness of communication that permits news of the death of loved ones to come after the war is over and peace celebrated is one of the most depressing phases of American participation in the great struggle. Mingled with exultation at victory with the signing of the armistice, was a natural relief in the hearts of thousands of American parents and wives that the danger to their dear ones was over. Whatever their willingness to sacrifice, however firm their determination to carry on to the end, with victory won there was a feeling of elation that the end had come without requiring of them the great sacrifice.

Now, weeks after the official conclusion of hostilities, the first news of the death of sons or brothers is coming to many American homes. To those, bereaved under circumstances so signally tragic, and to the others, who celebrated peace in mourning, consolatory words are empty and futile. Language is pitifully inadequate either to describe or to alleviate the grief at the loss of near ones. At such times more than at any time in life man is alone and beyond the power of his fellowmen to move or to comfort.

Yet in the case of the mourners for the men who lost their lives abroad there is one circumstance from which comfort can be had as it cannot be had by those bereaved in the ordinary course of life. The men who met death in Europe died in the noblest cause for which the services of man can be enlisted. Whatever their age they lived a life of the fullest and highest usefulness to themselves, their family, their country. It is no meaningless honor to die in a great cause. The privilege is given to few. Men who so died did not falter or shrink. Those whom they leave have a glorious example to give them strength and courage. Their neighbors and friends with full and aching hearts share their burden of sorrow. In such deaths not only families but communities are bereaved.

While the toll of death in Europe has been small for eastern Multnomah and, so far, nothing for Gresham, yet the people of our communities can fully sympathize with those others who have met with this great sorrow. The dead heroes belonged to us all, and we of one place can mourn for them as if they were from our own homes. They are the country's dead and it was our country and for us they died. They died for all of us.

If you want to do a nice little job of Christmas recklessness, just elect yourself foster father of some little French and Belgian war orphans and I see how happy it will make you feel.

Probably the girls are saying the same thing this year that they have said every year in the past—"Well, I'm going to start making presents right away for next Christmas."

When your name is called in the Red Cross roll call and you don't plunk down a dollar, if you don't feel as mean as a dog you won't feel natural, Mr. Titus Wadd.

Taking the average depth of the ocean to be three miles, there would be a layer of salt 440 feet thick covering the bottom, in case all the water should evaporate.

Gresham will meet and greet Christmas morn richer spiritually than it has ever before because it has given more than it ever gave before in any other year.

Army orders for 9,000,000 pounds of candy and 565,000 gallons of pickles look like a merry Christmas for the boys who will not have been mustered out.

There is much early Christmas shopping, but if there is any great amount of preparation for the Christmas alcoholidays, we haven't smelt it yet.

A new motor to provide power for ordinary bicycles, which is mounted over the rear wheel, driving it with a chain has only seven moving parts.

Every time that Christmas comes around again we wonder why we haven't cultivated the Christmas spirit all the year.

It is estimated that the Maine sardine pack for the present season will be 2,500,000 cases of 100 cans each, a normal catch.

It is a catching affair—this spirit of Christmas—and the nearer it approaches the more contagious it becomes.

It's generally the persons whose needs are few who get the most Christmas presents.

Gone—Tom and Jerry. If they will return before Christmas all will be forgiven.

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To the Public.
Beginning with January 1st, 1919, the banking hours of the Bank of Gresham will change and we will close daily at 4 o'clock p. m.
Kindly bear this in mind as we will lock the door at that hour in order that we can finish up our work before 6 o'clock.
K. A. MILLER, Cashier,
Bank of Gresham.

Tailoring
For men and women—cleaning, pressing and repairing done well.
Peter Lenard, Powell street.

WANTS

LIVESTOCK
HORSES
Notice of Public Sale.

Notice is hereby given that I will sell at public auction on Monday, December 23 at 10 o'clock a. m., at my place three miles east of Gresham the following described animal taken up by me and advertised according to law, to-wit:
One black mare with white right hind foot.
G. W. WOODWARD,
R. A. Box 242, Gresham, Oregon.
Dated this 17th day of December, 1918.

TEAM FOR SALE. Arza Smith, Gresham, phone 254. tf

FOR SALE—Good riding and driving horse, weight 1300 pounds. E. R. Wright, Gresham, phone 294.

SADDLE PONY for sale, cheap. Mrs. A. J. Ault, Boring, phone Gresham 371.

COWS
WANTED—New-born calves in any number; 75 cents to \$2 each. Frank Gustafson, Gresham, phone 289. tf

GOOD, FRESH COWS wanted. E. Bauman, phone 901. Gresham. tf

E. J. Gradin buys cattle and hogs. Phone 359.—Adv. tf

PIGS
FOR SALE—Duroc brood sow and Berkshire boar. L. E. Craswell, R. A. Gresham. Phone 363. 83

SOWS, SHOATS and little pigs for sale. V. H. Hillyard, phone 776.

Poultry
CANARY BIRDS for sale. Nice for Christmas presents. Mrs. J. A. Palmquist, phone 429. tf

POULTRY WANTED—Hens, springs and broilers, also squabs. Will pay cash. Will call for them. Benson Hotel farm, phone Gresham 781. tf

REAL ESTATE RENTALS
FIVE-ROOM PLASTERED HOUSE with water and light, small basement well drained, woodshey and barn. Corner lot 100x100. Will sell for cost. Call Gresham 851.

Loan Wanted.
\$1200 on 80 acres—worth \$4000. Phone 547 or write P. O. Box 213.

FOR SALE—The Anderson home on Wallula Heights. Five-room modern house, barn, 1 1/2 acres of land fruit and berries. F. A. Anderson, 658 Multnomah street, Portland, Phone East 7845. tf

MISCELLANEOUS
Hog Feed Free.
Mrs. Stocker of the Home Packing Company at Gresham says that anyone who can use it and will haul it away can have free waste apples and fruit pulp by calling at the cannery.

SWEET FRESH CIDER for sale at Stocker's cannery. Phone 991.

HOLLY FOR SALE—25 cents a pound delivered in Gresham. Phone Mrs. S. A. Burr, 545.

WHEAT FOR SALE. R. Neibauer, Phone 451. 84

FOR SALE—A few hundred good one-year-old asparagus plants; \$1.00 a hundred. Mrs. C. I. Thomas, Portland, Ore., R. A. Phone Gresham 151.

FOR SALE—Nine cords of dry wood, near Gresham, \$6.50 per cord. Mark Nickerson. Phone 155. tf

APPLES FOR SALE, \$1 a sack. Mrs. S. Stone, Anderson station. tf

For Sale.
One L-15 Blizard Enslage cutter, one 13-horse Stickney gas engine, one refrigerator plant complete with 6-horse Fairbanks Morse engine, almost new.

SUN-DIAL RANCH,
Fairview, Ore. Phone Gresham 611

Notice to Creditors.
In the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Multnomah County. In the Matter of the Estate of Frank E. McLees, Deceased.
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed administrator of the estate of Frank E. McLees, Deceased, by the County Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Multnomah, and has qualified as such. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby requested and directed to present the same, properly verified as required by law, to the undersigned, at the office of J. J. Johnson, 314 Spalding Building, Portland, Oregon, on or before six months from the date of the first publication of this notice.
Dated and first published November 19, 1918.
J. C. McLEES,
Administrator of the Estate of Frank E. McLees, Deceased.
J. J. JOHNSON, Attorney for Administrator, 314 Spalding Building, Portland, Oregon.