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"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." ST. LUKE.

OUR FRIENDSHIP WITH JAPAN.

We would have war with Japan if we had a few more congressmen like Mr. Britten of Illinois. Washington has been seething with anti-Japanese propaganda. It has been charged that Japan is discriminating against American goods. This is denied by government departments. Representative Britten, ranking member of the naval affairs committee, wants a bigger navy and is trying to use a Japanese scare to create public sentiment in favor of naval expansion. Mr. Britten, with the utmost unwisdom, is advocating the calling of a conference of the white nations of the Pacific, a direct slap at Japan.

Japan policed the Pacific for the allies during the World war. Mr. Britten seems to have forgotten. If Japan had supported Germany, the outcome of the World war would have been decidedly different. No nation has observed more rigidly its treaties than has Japan. Japan has not closed her doors to China. Japan is not getting ready to "lick the stuffing out of our navy." Japan is not a naval, political, nor moral menace because of the color of her people, nor for any other reason.

Japan, like every other nation has her jingo jugglers, her alarmists and propagandists. Like other nations, Japan is sensitive. Every keen-minded, aggressive person, or nation is sensitive.

America is sensitive. Last year, apparently forgetting the traditional friendliness between Japan and ourselves, and oblivious of the fact that the Japanese have been great admirers of the Anglo-Saxon race, we passed what has been called the Japanese exclusion act. Japan's feelings were hurt. Now Secretary Wilbur announces that our navy will hold extensive spectacular maneuvers in the Pacific. This will not help check the unfortunate anti-Japan propaganda. Representative Britten says that it is none of Japan's business where our navy parades its power and glory. Such bluntness is not encouraging to those who believe in courtesy and friendly relations between ourselves and the Japanese.

Before we excite ourselves with ill-feeling against Japan, let us be sure of the facts. This is a time for friends of peace to keep their heads level, their hearts kindly and extend to Japan every Christian principle of friendliness and honest dealing. History has shown that men who talk as Representative Britten is talking about Japan, sometimes are able to say, "I told you so. I was right wasn't I?" The reason is clear. Jingo talk stirs up strife, encourages misrepresentation and misunderstanding. America has no desire to stir up strife nor to be otherwise than friendly toward Japan.

A GREAT PICTURE.

The Christmas story has the necessary elements of a great picture. There are in it sheep and cattle, wise men and shepherds. To contribute mystery, romance and the drama of history, there are the legends of the star, the angelic choir and the prophecies. To broaden the interest of the picture there are the pilgrims of all races, classes and callings, crowding toward Jerusalem to pay their taxes. To contribute symbolism there are gifts of the magi. To give the Christmas picture its universal appeal, there is the family group with the child in the center.

Literature has no other story that makes such universal appeal to the heart, the imagination, nor to the instincts of family love and home life. Christmas has become the world's greatest children's day. It also has become the world's great family day. It is a time of reunion and merriment in family circles. The message of Christmas is the message of happy home life. The spirit of Christmas inflames the heart with gladness and good will.

All of us are artists at heart. We have a feeling for beauty, a sense of insight to penetrate beneath the outward until our spirits touch the hidden realities within. This is why the Christmas story appeals not only to the imagination but fires the emotions of mankind regardless of our religious faiths. It is the element of universality in the Christmas story that gives it eternal power to arouse and fascinate the universal sense of wonder.

CHILD LABOR AND LAW.

Nine states do not prohibit the employment of children under fourteen years of age in factories nor stores. Eleven states allow children under sixteen to work from nine to eleven hours a day. One state has no regulation for hours for children who work. In twenty-three states there is a minimum age limit of fourteen years, but some states recognize too many exemptions. There are few states that do not need better laws either in respect to the minimum age at which a child may work, or in regard to the regulation of hours, or in respect to the prohibition of dangerous occupations for children. These are the reasons why steps are being taken to pass an amendment to the Constitution to enable the federal government to protect children, in instances where states fail to do so.

The proposed amendment will not be a "law." It simply is a proposal to insert an en-

abling clause on behalf of federal protection of the children of America. Closely allied to child labor is child education, child health and preparation for citizenship. These all are within the scope of the federal government.

The amendment to empower the federal government to regulate child labor as to age, hours and hazards never would have been proposed if each state had taken care of this social responsibility properly. In the interests of better conditions of labor, more stable industry, public health, education, and citizenship, we need better child labor laws and more uniformity in the child labor laws of the different states.

The amendment does not propose to deprive the states of their right and obligation to regulate child labor, nor does it propose, as some assert, to prohibit child labor and make all boys and girls loafers. It simply proposes to enable the federal government to protect children in defined limits, in instances where the states neglect protective provisions on behalf of boys and girls who work.

FINANCING ANTI-RUM FIGHT.

Chronic kickers against high taxes are not raising much fuss about the \$20,000,000 appropriated for special agencies to enforce prohibition. In addition, \$9,097,257 was appropriated for coast guard service. Practically \$30,000,000 will be spent in extra law-enforcing service because of the infringements of prohibition. Besides this, the regular agencies of the law are operating against violations of prohibition.

This large expenditure would do a tremendous lot of good if applied to education or public health. It is our anti-bootleg bill. It would be a needless expense, if law were respected.

There has been little protest against the cost of enforcing prohibition, because sentiment really is in favor of enforcement and those who want to violate the law are glad the appropriations are not greater than they are. The whole situation illustrates the important point that the burden of taxation is not to carry out constructive service to the people, such as education and public health, but to maintain armies, prisons, and enforcement of law. The best protest against high taxes is better citizenship.

Cardinal O'Connell has purchased the county jail at Lowell, Mass., and is going to use it for an academy. The association is suggestive. The more we have of real education, the fewer jails we will need.

Hercules Pascal, a Greek basso, says that he finds America hungry for opera. Thanks Herc.

Room
By DR. FRANK CRANE

"WHEN a firm, decisive spirit is recognized," says John Foster. "It is curious to see how the space clears around a man and leaves him room and freedom."

Most of us are continually beset. In this life, we are crowded. There are too many affairs, too much business, too much amusement, too many people, too many events, we own too many things, and time itself crowds upon us.

We do not have that large and healthy leisure the soul needs for its growth, and the mind needs for its activities.

There is a good hint in the quotation from Mr. Foster. It is that the only thing that gives us room and freedom is decision.

Most of our clutteredness comes from indecision. When we do not know what to do with a thing we lay it to one side. By and by the side is full. It would be much better if we could dispose of a thing definitely and permanently when we get through with it.

There are some men that we do not know if they be friends or enemies. It would be better to make up our minds at once and treat them positively.

There are places we do not know whether to go to or stay away from. We should have more freedom of action if we decided at once to go or to stay.

A decisive mind acquires the habit of ease. The indecisive mind is always a stew of some sort. Indecision wears away at nerves. The undecided mother has trouble with her children. The undecided teacher has trouble with her pupils. The undecided business man has trouble with his customers. In decision, anywhere, seems to set trouble.

Of course, occasionally, decision may spell trouble as there is a certain amount of trouble that is due to come to us, but the trouble caused by decision at least is plain and clear and we can get through with it while the trouble caused by indecision is continuing.

We feel a good deal toward indecisive people as they are the first to feel toward the drill master. After having many successive orders such as "Right shoulder shift and left shoulder shift," "Forward March" and "Halt" and so on the dismayed private said, "For heaven's sake, man, make up your mind!" (Copyright, 1924 by The Curtis Newspaper Syndicate.)

KEEP IT QUIET

The actions of officials high in army and navy circles when they discipline as they always do, some minor officer every time it becomes known that our military strength needs strengthening reminds one of the strenuous efforts usually put in by police departments, especially those of the smaller towns and cities, to prevent publicity of robberies and burglaries. About every so often it develops that something is wrong with our army or navy. The matter gets stirred to the public, as it should be, for the public has a right to be informed. Those high in authority then get sore and have to make a goat out of someone so they select a lesser official and jump all over him on the theory that valuable information has gone forth to foreign powers who might possibly become our enemies in time of war. What nonsense. Those foreign powers know all about our affairs long before any publicity was given to it. What the high officials object to is the fact that the public, the people who feel the bite realize that there has been some careless management.

Likewise when a shoplifter gets busy or there is a robbery, the small caliber police officials jump up a plan that there be no publicity. He bases his argument on the ground that the police will have more difficulty in making an arrest if the thief knows they are working on the case. The real reason is they do not want the public to know that thieves are getting away with it and that the police department is impotent to forestall crimes of this character. Of course there are cases where publicity hampers the work of police departments. The able police officials understand that. In the every offender knows when he has committed an offense and also knows that the police are endeavoring to apprehend him and will be just as careful to keep out of their clutches whether or not the story of his offense is hazarded forth in the public press or the press kept quiet. They know, too, that there is an element of publicity in that it warns others to be on the guard and they know that when they are not everlastingly commiserating their requests for mercy legitimate requests of that nature will be observed.

The fact of the matter is that nine tenths of the public who are usually to be seen in quiet crowds are those who fear the limelight, either because of incompetency or something worse.—Burlington Hawkeye.

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICE
By WILLIAM BRADY, M. D., Noted Physician and Author.

PROPHYLAXIS OF HEMORRHOIDS
The prevention of piles is a question with many aspects which I have been elucidating in several recent articles in this department. The prevention of the "attack of piles", when one is already subject to various costs of hemorrhoidal veins, is another question which we can deal with in a few paragraphs.

Many who are subject to hemorrhoids do not know it yet. The varicose veins and more or less hypertrophied (thickened) tissues around them await some direct cause of inflammation. Among the causes which may excite an attack of piles in an individual subject to the condition are constipation, the irritation of numerous "herb" or "vegetable" cathartic concoctions, excessive straining in the presence of a costive state, and perhaps most important of all, infection of the piles directly through slight excoriations. This last cause is particularly to be considered, for it is by taking particular pains to prevent such infection that the individual with piles may best avoid painful attacks.

Soap and water, sold water, thorough drying and if necessary the occasional use of plain talcum powder or boric acid and talcum or zinc stearate powder should be a fixed routine in the toilet of the perineum for one subject to piles. This routine is particularly essential every night and every morning and after every defecation.

In many instances the hemorrhoidal mass prolapses or protrudes with defecation, and in such cases the greatest care must be taken with the toilet to prevent infection and "attack" of agonizing character. Tepid or cold water is preferable, except in presence of acute inflammation when large hot moist compresses or "packs" are grateful for relief. The application of cold water several times a day tends to contract the engorged veins and maintain a healthier and more resistant tonus in the tissues. One of the dusting powders should be used only when there is a tendency towards chafing, moisture, itching or other irritation of the skin surface.

There is a general belief that the excessive layers of clothing commonly worn, together with excessive warmth from prolonged sitting in upholstered chairs and the natural warmth of the perineum from its anatomical situation, may predispose to hemorrhoids, but this is doubtful for explorers assure us that the naked savages are about as free-

quently subject to hemorrhoids as civilized folk. It is advisable, however, for one subject to piles to avoid such excessive warmth as far as possible, in selecting clothing and chair seats. A cane chair seat is always preferable to a cushioned seat, and if upholstery is used, a leather or similar material is preferable to cloth, and a wooden seat is at least as good as either a metal seat with perforation for ventilation is good.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Modern Practice and Ancient Theory
Recently we had diphtheria in our home. The doctor said it is caught only by direct contact with a person who has it or who is a carrier. Yet he ordered special care in regard to any books or papers removed from the room.

Answer—The doctor is looking ahead but being in private practice he can't very well get out of sight of the old fogies that still harbor vague fears of "fomites"—inanimate objects which, according to the ancient theory, might convey the infection. There is no real evidence that diphtheria, scarlet fever, measles, mumps, whooping cough, chicken pox, smallpox, infantile paralysis, epidemic meningitis, the plague or any other epidemic disease is ever conveyed other than by an animate carrier. But they conceived these superstitious ideas in the dim dark past and it is difficult for the old fogies to discard them even though modern sanitary practice has discarded them.

Veins on Nose.
How can I have the little red veins on my nostrils and cheeks removed? I puncture them with a needle and let the blood out would it stay out? (H. F. J.)

Answer—No, they would immediately refill. A physician who is a skin specialist can probably obliterate them, either by electrolysis or by diathermy or other surgical method. Beware of the quacks—you've got to wear your face a long time yet.

Blood Poisoning
Is a razor blade cut, or a cut with anything made of razor steel, more poisonous than any other cuts or cuts by other metals? (M. R. C.)

Answer—No metal that will cut is poisonous in that way. Any "poisoning" following a cut is "blood poisoning", septicemia, due to pus producing germs getting into the wound.

Adenoids
Give all the symptoms of adenoids. I am 18 and have adenoids and I want to know if I have them removed can I overcome mouth breathing? (L. D.)

Answer—If the adenoids alone are responsible for the mouth breathing, their removal will probably enable you to overcome it. Copyright, National Newspaper Service.

A Smile or Two

Tourist—"I don't think much of this boat. It has been leaking ever since we left shore. Has any one ever been lost here?"

Guide—"Oh no. We've always found them again in a day or two."

The Busf.
"I hear that young fellow was gonna make a bust of you."

"Yeah."
"What about the bust?"
"He made a bust of it."

She Is Alarmed.
"And what did you say your business was?" asked the young lady.
"I run a fox farm."
"My goodness! Do you plant the dear little foxes?"

JUST FOLKS BY EDGAR A. GURST Copyright, 1924

THE CHRISTMAS MYSTERY
Time was we dreamed of Santa Claus and hung our stockings at the hearth. Then grief and care had never come to steal the relish from our mirth. Then Christmas eve was, oh, so long, and Christmas day was all too short. Though we would wake at 4 a. m. to see what Santa Claus had brought. Oh, how we talked and dreamed and hoped and wondered how it came about. And loved the Christmas mystery. In years before we'd found it out!

It matters not how rich we are, nor all we've learned as grown up men. Nor all the pride which fame has brought, we know that we were richer then. No purse can buy that faith we had, no mine give back that golden joy. Which Christmas means and Christmas brings to every little girl and boy. Oh, happy child on Christmas eve who goes to bed untouched by doubt. You little know how much we've lost who've lived and found life's secrets out!

This wisdom which we boast is harsh. We who have grown so old and wise. Look back upon our golden past where all that once was lovely lies. The wealth we sought is not the joy we hoped that it was, going to be. Behind the fame we yearned for once we stand today where we can see. How frail and fleeting is it all, though youth still thinks its slanchions stout. We know how commonplace it is, for we have found its secrets out.

Yet we have had our glorious faith and we have had our Christmas day. And Santa Claus still lives and shall live on when we have gone away. And, although still is pure and sweet, and youth still brave and clean and strong. Nor all the frowns of surly age shall steal from life its mirth and song. So, youngsters, wake at 4 a. m. and wreck my slumber with your shout. Do not too eager to be wise. Don't haste to find life's secrets out!



We appreciate your courtesies and favors during the year just closing and wish you prosperity in the one approaching.

HAMILTON SEED & COAL CO.
600 OAKLAND AVE. PHONE 1902.

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More than any other fine car, it combines compactness for handling and parking with roominess for riding comfort.



More than any other fine car, it combines compactness for handling and parking with roominess for riding comfort.

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at the **Mandarin Inn** Where The Lanterns Glow

SERVED 12 NOON TO 8:30 P. M.

\$1.25 Menu \$1.25

- Oyster Cocktail
- Cream of Chicken
- Battered Wafers
- Consomme Clear
- Roast Young Turkey, Oyster Dressing, Cranberry Sauce
- Roast Watermelon Goose, with Dressing, Spiced Apples
- Roast Milkfed Chicken, Sage Dressing, Giblet Gravy
- Roast Prime Ribs of Native Beef, au Jus
- Pineapple Sherbert
- Cream Whipped Potatoes
- Fresh Cauliflower in Cream
- or Candied Yams
- Home Made Mandarin Salad
- English Plum Pudding, Champagne Sauce
- Hot Mince, Pumpkin, Apple, Cherry Pie, Chocolate Nut, Pineapple Sundae, or Vanilla Ice Cream and Cookies
- Coffee
- or Milk
- or Milk
- or Milk

Wishing a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to our Patrons and Friends