

THE ALLIANCE HERALD

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At the opening of the short term of the Sixty-third congress on Tuesday of this week, President Wilson appeared in person before the joint session of the house and senate and read his message in which he made suggestions and recommendations for legislation that he believes is needed. It is printed in condensed form in this issue of The Herald, on page four of section two.

The message breathes that spirit of candor and earnest solicitude for the welfare of the people that has already made the president's state papers famous and his administration popular. Not only is his interest in the people of our country shown, but his sympathy for the victims of the monstrous European war is manifested.

We are glad to be able to give the message in this issue of The Herald, and recommend that all who receive a copy of the paper read every word of it. It will be better and more profitable to do that than to form an opinion from the comments of newspapers and politicians. We believe that the readers of this paper as a class think for themselves and form their opinions from their own thinking, and to such people it is a pleasure to recommend the reading of what the president has to say to congress directly, and indirectly to the whole country, on national issues.

METCALFE'S OMAHA NEBRASKAN

As a writer Richard L. Metcalfe is the peer of the noted editors who have given lustre to America's leading newspapers and magazines. He has a way of expressing himself that holds the interest of the reader, whether he agrees with him or not. For this reason, as well as because of the fact that he was formerly editor of the Omaha World-Herald and later associate editor of Mr. Bryan's paper, The Commoner, the first issue of The Omaha Nebraskan under his editorship, which was announced a few weeks ago, was awaited with a good deal of expectancy. It appeared December 3, and shows that Mr. Metcalfe and his assistants are "on the job."

The Nebraskan was an interesting publication when edited and published by State Senator-elect Henry C. Richmond, but under the new regime shows some marked improvements. Already it has been enlarged, and if the cordiality with which it has been received is an indication of the patronage that will be given it, we may reasonably expect that it will be increased in size again soon.

The Herald has been an ardent supporter of Richard L. Metcalfe in politics, because of believing in the progressive democracy which he has so ably advocated for many years. While we have no comment to make at present on his efforts at pacifying the warring factions of the democratic party in Nebraska, we are glad to express our emphatic endorsement of the political principles which he champions.

With the season's greetings, The Herald extends to Metcalfe and The Omaha Nebraskan most earnest wishes for long life, prosperity and a continued useful career.

CHRISTMAS ORDERS AT POSTOFFICE

It may be a bit early in the season but after all, Christmas is near and before many of us are aware of it the great season will be here. That is the way the postmaster general looked at it, for he has been issuing instructions to local offices with reference to the Christmas mail. He anticipates that the volume of parcel post during the Christmas season will establish a new record.

In order to prevent congestion in postoffice lobbies, postmasters are asked to urge the public to obtain in advance the tags which must be filled out and attached to insured, C. O. D. and registered parcels. Attention also is called to the necessity of having parcels properly wrapped and addressed. The address of the sender must appear on the face of the package, preferably in the upper left hand corner. All parcels must be presented at the postoffice window or given to rural carriers and not placed on ordinary mail drops.

Of course the postoffice will be helped, just as everybody else will be helped, by early shopping. And then the people will be helped themselves by shipping with care, that is packing with care and addressing with care. It is a wise policy to ship your gifts early. Put a little legend on your package: "Not to be opened until Christmas day." In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred the injunction will be heeded.

The postmaster general calls special attention to the insurance feature connected with the parcel post system and advises that the public make liberal use of the same. The feature is one of the very best that has yet been developed in connection with the parcel post and many people have not, as yet, come to the point where they have familiarized themselves with it, and make the use of it which should be made.

SEEN IN THE CEMETERY

Take a walk through the cemetery alone and you will pass the resting place of a man who blew into the muzzle of a gun to see if it was loaded. A little further down the slope is a crank who tried to show how close he could stand to a moving train while it passed. In strolling about you will see the monument of the hired girl who tried to start the fire with kerosene, and a grass-covered knoll that covers the boy who put a cob under the mule's tail. That tall shaft over a man who blew out the gas casts a shadow over the boy who tried to get on a moving train. Side by side the pretty creature who always had her corset laced on the last hole, and the intelligent idiot who rode a bicycle nine miles in ten minutes, sleep unmolested. At repose is a doctor who took a dose of his own medicine. There with a top of a shoe box driven over his head is a rich old man who married a young wife. Away over there reposes a boy who went fishing on Sunday, and a woman who kept strychnine powders in the cupboard. The man who stood in front of the mowing machine to oil the sickle is quiet now and beside the careless brakeman who fed himself to the 70-ton engine and nearby may be seen the grave of the man who tried to whip the editor.—Exchange.

GET YOUR HAIR CUT OFTEN

Barbers tell us that when cold weather sets in the hair cutting part of their business falls off. As a health proposition, The Herald believes that it should not. True it is that men should wear their hair somewhat longer in cold weather than in warm, because of the protection it affords; but this does not mean, necessarily, that the hair is to be cut at longer intervals. It would be better, in fact, to have the hair cut often, in order that the amount removed at one time will be small. This proposition is so plain as to need no argument to convince anyone that it is correct. Some may object that to follow this plan would be too expensive for the average citizen; but it would not. A very little economizing in other things would save enough to pay the extra expense.

NEUTRALITY OF THE UNITED STATES

Public attention in this country is being directed to the shipment from the United States of war supplies to the belligerent nations of Europe, including horses for artillery and cavalry purposes, arms and

ammunition. Some persons have been indulging in criticism of President Wilson and Secretary Bryan for permitting such shipments. No less a person than Congressman Bartholdt of St. Louis indulged in such criticism at a public meeting in Chicago recently.

The leading editorial in last Sunday's Omaha World-Herald pointed out clearly that, under present law and international usages, the president and secretary of state have no authority to prevent such shipments. What is needed now is a law by congress authorizing the president to forbid the sale of war material to countries at war in all parts of the world. Following is an extract from the World-Herald editorial:

The present rule is, in the United States and other nations, that war material is contraband. It is subject to seizure on the high seas and the shipper and buyer have no recourse. But there is no rule, either domestic or international law, to forbid its sale and shipment by citizens of a neutral nation to a belligerent nation. The shipper takes his chances that the consignment will safely reach its destination. If it is intercepted by a nation against which it is to be used the shipment may be seized and converted to the use of the captor, and the vendor or vendee, as the case may be, is out of pocket. But no rule or law of neutrality is violated by the fact of the sale and shipment. Certain exceptions are to be noted to this rule, as, for example, it is not permitted to fit out warships in the ports of a neutral nation. And, to cope with the Mexican problem, congress adopted a joint resolution authorizing the President, at his discretion, to forbid the sale of war materials to an American country in which domestic disorder existed promoted by the purchase of war supplies in the United States.

President Wilson would have no power to prevent the sale of war material in Europe. What is being done now is what has always been done. It is what it was legal to do during the Russo-Japanese war, during the Boer war, during the Franco-Prussian war, during the Crimean war, and what was done, notably by England in furnishing war supplies to the south, during our own Civil war.

What the World-Herald has suggested is that congress change this rule; that it enact a law making it a violation of neutrality, with fitting penalties attached, for any citizen of the United States to lend money for war purposes, or to sell arms and ammunition to be used by any other nation against a country with which the United States is at peace. The World-Herald has thought favorably of such a course, radical a departure though it would be from all precedents, because it believes that righteousness, sincerity and common sense are greater than precedents.

It makes no difference who profits by the use of our guns and powder and shot. It makes no difference who is killed, who widowed, who orphaned. We are at peace with all the warring nations. As to their differences we are neutral. We look on English and Bohemians, on French and Germans, on Belgians and Russians as our friends—as brothers and cousins through whose veins the same blood courses as through our own. We cannot look with indifference, much less with delight, on the slaying of any of them, on the destruction of their nationality or on the ruin of their property. We know that every day this war is continued but serves to pile up fresh burdens on the great mountain of burdens all humanity will have to bear, for generations to come, after the war is ended. We know that a part of those burdens will be our own. We know that for decades, in America as in Europe, there will be no home on which the heavy hand of the price and penalties of war will not be laid. It is enlightened self-interest, it is common humanity, it is the precepts of ethics and the command of religion, that we cease from prolonging this war for a profit and that we do all that we properly may do to stop it.

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

Rocky Mountain News:

All over this prosperous land of ours millions of happy children are living only in anticipation of Christmas. They are thinking of Santa Claus by day and dreaming of him by night. They are happier in their anticipation of what the good St. Nicholas will bring them than they can ever be in a realization of their fondest hopes on Christmas day.

St. Nicholas is the true patron saint of the rich and the poor alike. The lisping girl who knows almost daily what it is to be cold and hungry is happy in her faith that Santa Claus will bring her a rag doll. In her yet trustful childish heart she nourishes a hope that he may have left for her a "rocky horse," or perhaps even a doll that will "go to sleep." But she has implicit faith that Santa will not forget her and that the rag doll, at least, will come.

The child who has never known want is happy, too, in her absolute confidence that Santa will bring her what she asks him to bring. Her dreams are of beautifully dressed dolls, as large as herself, and of the finest playthings the toy-makers have devised. But she can be no happier in her anticipations than is the hungry child of poverty in her dream of a rag doll.

Christmas is the national Children's day. We who are only grown up children enjoy Christmas day only as we become imbued

OLD HICKORY CHIPS

As presidential timber Carranza seems to be driftwood.

More factories beginning to whistle every minute.

With the stockyards and the stock exchange both open and flourishing, it will seem like the old times before the war.

That excellent howitzer, T. R., seems to be minus an adequate cement foundation these days.

Will Henry James or some other expert analyst of conflicting emotion kindly tell us just how Colonel Roosevelt feels over the election of his stand-pat son-in-law?

When John Lind did begin to talk the burden of his remarks was, "Be kind to the Mexicans."

John Lind really does possess a voice, but rabid militarists think he makes poor use of it.

Still, the soldiers in the trenches do not notice how their winter flannels scratch.

There is really no need of another country entering the war, as all the primary races of mankind except the American Indian are already represented.

Turkey seems to be in the same frame of mind as the small boy who is due for a licking. Nothing he can do will make the punishment harder.

From the size of the jawbone of that dinosaur unearthed in Texas, it must have been the Joseph Weldon Bailey of its time.

One good form of neutrality is expressed in busy attention to early Christmas shopping.

Chicago may have imperfections, but it points with pride to its twelve flintless jurymen.

Now each dreadnaught requires an escort of submarines, torpedo boats and aeroplanes.

Kansans are going to present brave little Belgium with 100,000 barrels of flour out of that great wheat crop. Such a gift is a crown of glory to any state.

The eternal fitness of things gets busy when a boy who "sassed" his mother grows up and marries a woman who won't stand for any back talk.

with the spirit of childhood. Our greatest happiness on that day is in seeing the children supremely happy.

On that day we celebrate the birth of the Christ-child, who brought peace and good will to men. On that birthday, more than 1,900 years ago, the Wise Men of the East, bearing gifts, started on their journey to see the Savior of the World.

The practice of giving gifts on Christmas day is of that ancient origin. Mayhap that practice falls something short of the spirit that should fill our hearts when we celebrate the birth of the Christ, but in the eyes of Him it is far more acceptable than any mere lip service we might render. It typifies Love and Good Will, and Christ said that Love is the fulfillment of the Law.

Sometimes we hear someone say that the practice of giving gifts on Christmas day should be discontinued. Surely we who love the children will never say so. And if we extend the practice to include the grown-up children as well as the children in years and in stature we only bring happiness to a few more million hearts.

But sometimes the baby girl's faith in Santa Claus has been shattered, for all too often the rag doll has not come. The boy who could be made happy with a sled on Christmas day has many, many times cried himself to sleep on Christmas night because Santa Claus forgot him. And the heart of many a mother has been more deeply hurt on Christmas day at the disappointment of her little ones in not receiving the gifts they expected so confidently than at seeing them go hungry when the daily bread has been too scanty to satisfy the physical longing.

Christmas is the day to minister to the desire of the heart. There are 364 days when we may minister to the physical needs of the children and the mothers who must go hungry and half clad but for charity. On Christmas day let us not forget to minister to the heart's desire. Food and clothing the poor must have every day in the year, else they starve or freeze. But on this one day may we not see to it that the baby girl has her rag doll.

The Columbus Telegram sued a man who owed \$2.35 on subscription, and in the trial in the district court, the judge directed the jury to return a verdict in favor of the newspaper. "The amount involved was only \$2.35," says the Telegram, "but there was a broader question to be decided—that of whether the defendant could refuse to pay for a newspaper which he received and accepted for a period of time after the date to which his subscription had been paid, when he had not previously served notice on the publisher to discontinue it." The assumption on the part of a few that the law furnishes a cloak behind which a delinquent subscriber can hide, and evade a honest obligation, is very much mistaken.—Wayne Herald.

Took Moving Pictures

Moving pictures of Alliance's busy streets and of the new auto fire truck in action were taken Saturday by Dr. G. E. Condra, director of the Nebraska conservation and soil survey, who had been attending the state irrigation association convention at Bridgeport and who stopped in Alliance to show Nebraska pictures and to take some pictures here. Prof. Condra showed pictures at the Imperial Saturday afternoon to a small crowd. In the evening the crowd was large and the pictures were enjoyed by those who attended. During the day he took pictures of Alliance's main streets. The new fire truck was taken out for a run. Prof. Condra also took a trip into the country and took pictures of farms and ranches.

The pictures taken will be shown at the exposition in San Francisco next year in addition to being shown in other portions of the state.

You know as well as anyone when you need something to regulate your system. If your bowels are sluggish, food distresses you, your kidneys pain, take Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. Always relieves. Be well tomorrow by taking it tonight. H. F. Thiele nov-4068

Monthly Report of Library Board

The regular monthly meeting of the library board was held Wednesday evening, Dec. 2, President Hewitt presiding.

The following members responded

to roll call: Mesdames Lunn and Johnson, Messrs. Hewitt, Pate, Guthrie, Wood and Stern.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The monthly report of the librarian was read and accepted.

The following bills were read and ordered paid:

Mrs. Wilson, librarian, salary	\$40.00
Messrs. Shafer & Walters, janitor service	20.00
T. J. Threlkeld, repairing furnace	2.25
City of Alliance, lights	6.03
Mrs. Wilson, incidental exp.	.50

Total \$68.78

After discussing ways and means for the purchasing of books, upon motion made by Mr. Stern, seconded by Mr. Pate, the rental system of books was unanimously adopted.

A charge of ten cents a week will be made for each book until it is paid for when it will be placed on the free shelf.

Motion was made by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Stern that the book committee be authorized to purchase \$50 worth of books to be placed on the rental shelf and was carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Pate that the book committee be authorized to purchase \$25 worth of juvenile books, these to be placed on the free shelf. This motion was also carried. The meeting then adjourned.

MRS. W. W. JOHNSON,
Secretary

A Sixty Year Standby

For sixty years Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder has been the standby of countless housekeepers who have relied upon it for healthful, home-baked food.

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