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CHRISTMAS.
And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, "Fear not, for behold I bring you tidings of great joy, which shall be to all the people."

"For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

"And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

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

Upon that simple story is founded the celebration of this day, which we call Christmas—the birthday of the Carpenter of Nazareth. Though the religious world be rocked from center to circumference with disputes about the divinity of the man the world calls Christ, though Jews and Gentiles may differ as to His real place in history, the fact still remains that this great leader and teacher, the greatest of the world has ever known, has impressed His thought and His example upon all peoples everywhere as no other man ever has or can.

Orthodox Jews, though denying His messiahship, are still proud of Him as a Jew who has been one of the outstanding characters of Jewish history, and orthodox Christians have never wavered in their faith that He is the Son of God and the world's redeemer.

Why, then, quibble at this time when all the world is wrenched and torn by dissension and strife that may be easily quieted if the world would but listen and give heed to the wise, humane and tender messages of this manger-born teacher whose three years of teaching encompassed the whole sum of those things that tend most to human happiness.

Why quibble and argue and dispute on this Christmas day, when if we but lay aside all those things and give earnest thought to the things He preached and taught we may find a solution for all our social and political troubles, and make sure the glad day when there shall indeed be peace on earth and good will toward men!

Whether Jesus be indeed the Christ, or whether Jesus was merely a great man, is not now, nor should it be the question at issue. That question should be, to all men everywhere, whether it be best to accept the advice of this greatest of all teachers, or whether we should grope around in the finite realms of our own mental and moral limitations in an effort to find something better for the world's safety and salvation.

Christendom accepts this day as the anniversary of the birth of Him whose every thought was filled with love of his fellows, whose every act was based upon kindness and mercy, whose sole mission was to lift the fallen, cheer the faint and restore hope to the hopeless. By word and by deed He set an example of kindness and helpfulness that shall forever be the guiding star of those who seek to be of service to their fellows. To do to others as we would have them do to us, to love our neighbors as ourselves, to walk in humbleness of spirit, fearing God—when the world has tired of its vain strivings to accomplish by its feeble mortal strength, when it has wearied of the hopeless quest of peace and good-will while selfishness and greed reign in human hearts, when it has turned wholeheartedly to the plain and simple teaching of Him whose birth anniversary we celebrate today, be He indeed the Messiah, or be He man born of woman, then shall wars forever cease and the reign of peace and good-will be ushered in to endure until time shall be no more.

It is in this spirit that The Omaha Bee extends to you its Christmas greetings; it is in this spirit that it comes to you upon this morning marking the anniversary of the birth of the world's greatest leader and teacher. And in the language of Tiny Tim: "God bless us every one!"

CERTAINLY SOMETHING WRONG.
There certainly must be something wrong in Jackson county, Missouri, in which county, by the way, is situate the rapidly growing village of Kansas City. The county court of the county, and by the way the county courts in Missouri are charged with the management of the county's business, reports that it will finish the year with a surplus of something like \$50,000 in its treasury.

This is so unusual, not only in Missouri but in all other states, notably in Nebraska, that there should be made a most searching inquiry. Such a thing may have happened before, say in the remote ages of antiquity, but if a happening of recent date it has not been called to the attention of the public. The announcement is hard to accept. There may have been given out by one of the judges in a fit of mental aberration, necessitating an investigation by the lunatic inquiring. There may be an error in bookkeeping whereby the books show a balance of \$50,000 remaining while the treasury itself shows an aching void.

But several million taxpayers scattered over the entire country will hope and pray that the report is true, because if it is it means that what the authorities of Jackson county have done the authorities of other counties may do if they try hard enough. The announcement is so unusual as to cause great excitement, and people everywhere will be waiting with bated breath for confirmation.

The spectacle of public officials staying inside the financial limit is rarer than the dodo and quite as exciting as the discovery of an oil gusher in the back yard.

It is all very well for the Department of Commerce to remind us that Omaha's running expenses are twice as great in 1922 as in 1917. What has happened? Only that the city as well as its citizens has been hit by the high cost of living.

William Nelson Cromwell bequeaths to the American Bar association \$125,000 "to keep the profession what it ought to be." There are those who will move to amend by striking out the word "keep" and insert the word "make."

HE TURNED UP SOMETHING.

The death of Lord Shaughnessy, head of the Canadian Pacific railway, calls renewed attention to the opportunities that the new world offers to young men. He was not born to the purple, nor to the peerage. He was born in Milwaukee and educated in the public schools of that city. He did not leave school and stand around waiting for something to turn up. He went out and turned up something. He entered the employ of a railroad in a humble capacity. The pay check was not the only thing he worked for. He worked for sheer love of the game, with an ambition to be something more than an employe walking up on pay day and getting his check. He studied his business, with the result that he won rapid promotion.

His ability was recognized from the start, and this coupled with his tireless energy attracted the attention of the railroad world, with the result that he was one of the men called to the service of the Canadian government when the construction of the Canadian Pacific was undertaken. His work there won for him a peerage.

About the time Shaughnessy was born in Milwaukee, there was born in Canada another man who became an empire builder and one of the great figures in the railroad world. His name was James J. Hill, and Hill, like Shaughnessy, was not content to sit around and wait for something to turn up. He, too, went out and turned up something. Instead of standing around on the street and cursing the world at large because it offered no opportunities for a poor boy, he hustled out and made his opportunities. Events brought him across the line into the United States.

What "Jim" Hill, the Canadian-born empire builder, accomplished in the land of his adoption is a companion story to what Shaughnessy, the American-born empire builder, accomplished in the land of his adoption. They are companion stories that should be an inspiration to every boy in the United States and in Canada. Neither was born with the traditional silver spoon in his mouth, but both were born with tireless energy, worthy ambition and a determination to wait opportunity for the world.

The boy who waits for opportunity to turn up, or adopts the policy that the world owes him a living and refuses to go out and collect, will never be numbered among the empire builders. The world does not owe every man a living, but the world is ready to pay every man who does something that will put the world in his debt. The western world paid its debt to Shaughnessy and Hill by giving them riches and fame. It is ready and willing to do the same with every man who earns it.

HARD NAMES FOR OLD J. B.

A prize of \$100 in gold has been offered by Delcave King, vice president of the Granite Trust company, Quincy, Mass., for the strongest epithet to denounce bootleg liquor. Here is incentive to search the lexicons of to stimulate invention. It was truly said of Thomas Carls that when he wanted a word he made one if he had to express his meaning as near exactly as he could. The English language contains an unlimited opportunity for the combination of words, for the shading of meaning, and the expression of feeling, views, or sentiments.

Ordinarily, the deepest emotions, whether of approval or condemnation, admiration or abhorrence, like or dislike, may be expressed by the simplest words. The noblest examples in existence are those whose thought is couched in terms that any one can understand. Yet we read of how a noted English wit silenced an angry fishwife by replying to her foul language with terms of geometry. As a truth, it may be stated that once upon a time almost any of the unlettered populace might be disposed of by calling one an isosceles triangle.

However, even these considerations leave one wondering why any further effort should be made to extend the obnoxious vocabulary. We question if calling names, even the strongest, will materially check the flow of hooch. Those who drink it will not be moved by mere sound after they have become accustomed to the drink itself, and those who do not may sit with the unknown author who wrote:

"Tell me I hate the bow! Hate is a feeble word. I loathe, abhor, my very soul With deep disgust is stirred Whenever I see, or hear, or tell Of the dark beverage of hell."

It is merely a suggestion, but wouldn't we all be happier if those warring theologians were to calm down during the Christmas season and read the golden rule over again?

Governor Pierce of Oregon says he will give no Christmas pardons. In October convicts in Oregon were attending the state fair, just to show what a change has happened there.

raise prices in case the democratic national convention goes there, but it isn't the price of beds and cats that worries most of the democrats who plan attending.

Before we endorse the proposition to abolish the use of handbags by women and substitute the use of pockets, we want to know whose pockets will be used.

The decline of the French franc may be taken as pretty good evidence of how the world looks upon the policy being pursued by the French.

The depth of something was reached by a footpad who acted like a traffic cop until he got his victim's money.

Canada reports ripe strawberries for December, which is more than they often have in June.

Having discarded a king, Greece may draw a deuce.

If you are ever going to do it, now is the time.

Homespun Verse
—By Omaha's Own Poet—
Robert Worthington Davis

CHRISTMAS DAY.

When promises of old are new,
And gifts express devotion true,
When words are needless to define
The fervor of your friends and mine,
When waiting ones have ceased to yearn,
And brilliantly Love's embers burn,
When old are glad and young are gay—
We greet the dawn of Christmas day.

To consecrated shrines we tread
And thank the Savior living, dead—
For faith and kindness and trust,
For strength to be sincere and just,
For love, precocity and truth,
For blessedness to Age from Youth,
For dream December, blooming May,
For warmth and life—on Christmas day.



"THE PEOPLE'S VOICE"

Editorial from readers of The Morning Bee. Readers of The Morning Bee are invited to use this column freely for expression on matters of public interest.

Worse Than O'Neill.

Bancroft, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: Mr. A. W. Nuzum of this place relates a strange incident which he witnessed early Monday morning. Mr. Nuzum says that shortly after daybreak Monday morning he was aroused by a loud commotion in his poultry yard. Becoming alarmed he peered out the door and saw what he thought was several chickens attacking his flock of Barred Rock hens. Arming himself with a shotgun Mr. Nuzum proceeded to put a quick end to the invaders.

After firing twice and killing two of the supposed hawks, he was forced to flee for cover as the entire flock swerved upon him. Nuzum was able to reach the house unharmed, and not until several minutes later did the infuriated birds leave.

Being very curious to know what had attacked him he went to the chicken yard and, much to his surprise, discovered that instead of hawks he had killed two prairie chickens. Being very eager to know just why the birds had acted in this very peculiar manner, he brought them to town. Prof. William Koepnick of Yale university, doing research work in this part of the state, held a post-mortem of the fowl and declared that the flock had been feeding on undeveloped field corn, which, when mixed with a gastric juice in the bird's gizzard, formulates an alcoholic gas which, Prof. Koepnick says, had intoxicated the entire flock. This is believed to be a very rare incident and behooves hunters to beware.

Presents Sermon on Dancing.

Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: With satisfaction I noticed in your paper a few days ago that some men came forward bravely in defense of good dancing people. I myself danced in times past and can wear, as these men say, that never one impure thought entered my mind while doing so, and I am sure neither the minds of those dancing with me. Men so inclined instinctively seek and prefer to be in company of girls of doubtful character, because the power and unseen influence of good women unconsciously hold them in check.

Church people everywhere dance, go to movies, enjoy games of cards—members of his own congregation and choir not excluded—and are nevertheless decent. To class them with immoral people, which is the same as harboring impure, unclean thoughts, is going some in overstepping ministerial privileges. Where does the doctor get these ridiculous ideas anyhow? It seems strange that men of his calling should come in contact only with animal men and women. Slandering good people from hearsay is not showing a Christian disposition.

Daily Prayer

He shall save the children of the needy.—Ps. 124.
O Lord, our Heavenly Father, we praise and magnify Thy Holy Name for all Thy loving kindness and Thy tender mercy which Thou hast bestowed upon us. Thou hast opened Thy hand and supplied all our wants. We thank Thee, O Lord, that when we were without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly, that He might ransom our souls from sin and death, and give unto us eternal life. Grant, O Lord, that each one of us now in Thy presence, may receive Christ Jesus as our eternal Savior. We praise Thee, O God, for the gift of Thy Holy Spirit, Who tabernacles in our hearts, and Who sikes of the things of Jesus and reveals them unto us day by day, moment by moment. Grant Thy blessing, we beseech Thee, upon every member of this household, and upon all our loved ones, wherever they may be at this hour. We thank Thee that "in Jesus" keeping we are safe, and they. Remember in mercy, O Lord, any who are in distress at this time, in mind, body or estate. Comfort all who mourn. Let all the earth remember and return to Thee, O God, let all the kindreds of the nations worship Thee, in spirit and in truth. Grant unto us the forgiveness of all our sins, in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

REV. CHARLES GEORGE SMITH, B. D., Belleville, Ont., Canada.

Peace—To Men of Goodwill

'Twas years ago the angels' song Broke forth at Jesus' birth: In joyful notes its promise came Of "Peace o'er all the earth." Yet we are slow to learn it; We grope and stumble our way, But men of good will alone can bring And with it the brighter day.

So 'mid strivings of the nations For places in the sun; 'Mid the building of the war ships And the making of the gun; 'Mid the groaning of the people Crushed beneath the tyrant's heel; 'Mid the crying of the children Who count days between each meal;

'Mid the discord and confusion In the world's industrial life; 'Mid the sharpness of the conflict In the keen political strife; 'Mid the many factors in the home That take away its force— Out of all this peace can come If we'll only find its source.

Let us listen once again As the angels sing their song: Let us learn the message over As life's duties 'round us throng. Here's the message that they gave us: Heralding Him who would fulfill— Peace will come on earth when men Seek, find, and use—Good will.

—George S. Morrill, Stratton, Neb. A Cooler.

An actress, retired, who had once played with Richard Mansfield, favored us with this anecdote: "One red-hot day in New York we had been rehearsing all the afternoon until we were nearly melted—all except Mansfield, who looked as cool as an ice cream soda. It must have been a wild-looking lot that was summoned to the green room at the close of the rehearsal. Mansfield, it seemed, had something to say to us. It was as follows:

"I wish to inform you that I object to perspiration. I must request you hereafter to refrain from perspiring. I absolutely forbid it. That is all."

Who Can Answer?

AURORA, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: In what classes are the following characters described: 1. Uncle Pooker. 2. Mynheer Kindermann. 3. Who wrote the Parable of "Brotherly Love"? 4. Where is the scene of the Parable of the Sower? 5. What lesson is intended to be taught by the author? SAM C. STEPHENSON, 1305 Eleventh Street.

NET AVERAGE CIRCULATION

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B. BREWER, Gen. Mgr.
V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of December, 1923.
W. H. QUIVEY, Notary Public.

LISTENING IN

On the Nebraska Press

The Nemaha County Herald, Auburn, published by J. C. Voline, has just celebrated the close of its 36th year. The Herald was established by John Barnhart, now a resident of Omaha.

"If fish would only bite as freely as the human sucker, what a time the fishermen would have," chortles the Neigh Leader man.

In the opinion of F. L. Carroll of the Schuyler Sun, "the best thing between Europe and America is the sea."

The York News-Times takes off its hat to the genius of the Canadians. "The Canadians," remarks the News-Times, "have no objection to the United States prohibition laws; they have quit making whisky up there and are growing rich selling 'red-eye' that is fine for dog poison." But the liquor don't go to the dogs, it is the drinkers who go.

Noting that Senator Howell announces his determination to watch railroad legislation, the York News-Times remarks that the people themselves are going to do a whole passel of that sort of things themselves.

Noting that there are those who persist in spelling it "Xmas," Adam Brewster of the Hastings Tribune insists that if they can't spell "Christmas" they ought to consult a dictionary.

"Every day somebody jumps up and asks us what's the matter with the farmers," says Joe Alden in the York Republican. "There is nothing the matter with the farmer; the matter is with the colleges and university graduates, who have been spoiled for useful employment. Most of them want to be automobile salesmen or life insurance agents or blue sky salesmen. Hardly any of them are fit for the kind of work that father used to do."

Dwight Griswold in the Gordon Journal is filled with regret. Sam Joice has left town and the editor no longer has a rock-ribbed democrat to talk things over with.

Ed Curran of the Greeley Citizen boasts that the girls in Greeley can keep a secret. "For two years or more," says Ed, "none but members

Abe Martin



Most after dinner speakers jest drink their coffee, but it's different with all day speakers. One campaign when Bryan wuz tourin' Indiana in an interurban car he sent a messenger for his lunch at Marion, ordering 'one link o' Bologna, a half pound o' sharp cheese, half pound o' crackers, a bottle o' pop, strawberry preferred. They says 't'be no end o' kings o' bootleggers but no prices.

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of the C. O. D. club have known what those letters mean." Our guess is that they mean, "Come On, Dearie."

Hank Leggett turned over his Ord Quiz to the high school students a couple of weeks ago, and the boys and girls measured up to their opportunity. The surprising thing about it is that Hank didn't wait until the fishing was good to lay off a week.

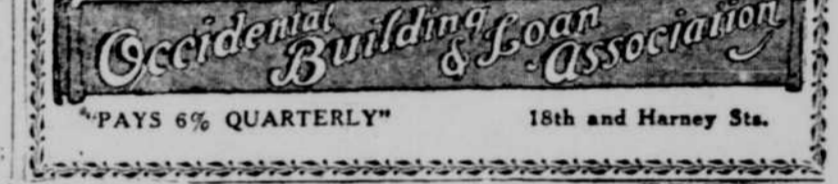
A Handy Place to Eat

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Merry Xmas and Happy New Year

This institution, proud of its success during the past year, extends to its many friends and patrons the season's greetings. Our hope for the year just ahead is, that we may be privileged to serve more people to the ultimate good of Omaha and Nebraska.

Assets \$12,475,000
Reserve 439,000
An increase in Assets of over \$2,000,000 first nine months in 1923.



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