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MONKEYING WITH THE CALENDAR.

Now they are going to pi up our date books again. It was bad enough back in the eighteenth century when they jumped George Washington's birthday from the 11th of February to the 22d, and some of us have not yet become wholly accustomed to the change. In Russia they never did take hold of the idea, and up until the bolsheviks messed up the government the Russians celebrated Christmas either away ahead or away after we did, and kept everybody guessing as to which was the right time.

When man first began to reckon time, he followed what is now known as the Duluth plan, recognizing two seasons, nine months of winter, and three months late in the fall. Somebody conceived the notion of dividing the day into 24 equal parts, but they only reckoned the hours of daylight, anything that took place between the going down of the sun and the rising thereof not counting in the final score. A little further on, the regular habits of the moon came to be noted, and a calendar was devised that took account of the four-week period of fair Luna. Then somebody began to watch the sun and certain of the planets, and it was discovered that these did not exactly coincide with the year based on the moon. This brought some confusion, arbitrarily adjusted by scattering the four extra weeks promiscuously into the solar year.

Finer calculations, resting on closer observations, brought to notice that the 12 months consisting of 30 days each did not quite make both ends meet, and the soothsayers and wise men had considerable trouble adjusting the five extra days. So it went on for a long, long time, until Julius Caesar took the matter up during one of the infrequent recesses he enjoyed, when not engaged in putting down the Allabrogi, the Helvetii, or some of the other uncultured tribes who foolishly persisted in clinging to the doctrine of self determination. "I have it," quoth he, off-hand like, to Casca one day, "listen:'

"Thirty days hath September, April, May, and November. All the rest have 31, Save the second month alone, Which has but eight and a score, Till leap year coming once in four Gives to February one day more.

"Fair enough," said Casca, and he went off to keep a date with Brutus, Cassius and a few others, the result of which proved quite interesting to Caesar later on. But the Julian calendar served very well, until Pope Gregory adjusted it a little closer. and we got the "Old Style" and "New Style" time. The proposal just now is to adopt a year of 13 months, consisting of 28 days, or four equal weeks each. This will take care of 364 days every year, leaving a day and a quarter for change. Of course, that will be accounted for somewhere, just like the odd six and a fraction hours are now taken up in leap year.

month is to be inserted between June and July, and is to be called Sol. All right for Sol; usually the name will fit right well in these parts, but what, we ask in all sincerity, is going to become of the Fourth of July? Is our national birthday to vanish, just because some scientist is not satisfied with the calendar as it is? We think the gentleman who suggests the plan, and he comes from Canada, is just a trifle jealous. They no longer celebrate the 12th of July over there, and would like to do away with the Fourth of July down here. Are we for it?

SAVING SOME OF THE SWAMPS.

The Izaak Walton league is moving with promptness to protect one of the real assets of the United States, the fish and game breeding grounds along the upper Mississippi. At the instance of the league a bill has been introduced by Senator McCormick of Illinois in the senate and Representative Hawes of Missouri in the house, to preserve certain areas along the Mississippi and elsewhere as a fish and game sanctuary. In this move the Izaak Walton league has the support of the National Forestry association, as well as all who have given any real study to the project.

Certain promoters have been planning for months to drain overflowed and swamp lands along the upper reaches of the Mississippi river, the ostensible object being to reclaim the ground for agricultural purposes. In answer to this, the bodies supporting the bill to preserve the natural conditions point out that the land is mostly unfit for anything but what it is now devoted to. What of the submerged soil is not sand is peat, and in either case it is not adapted to farming of any kind. Some experience has been had in Minnesota, where settlers on reclaimed peat land are losing their all because of the fire that is raging in the combustible material on which they have been trying to produce crops.

On the other hand, the greatest center of wild life in the United States is the big swamp that is under discussion. It is a breeding place for bass and other game fish of the rivers; for ducks of various kinds, and unnumbered song birds. Hardwood timber grows around the swamp and in it, its islands being well covered with oak, hickory, hard maple, sycamore and similar trees. This is why the Izaak Walton league has sought to preserve the tract from the threatened devastation. It is more needed for wild life than it is for agriculture, and is better fitted for its present uses than any other.

Pine Knot Wheeler, who lectured in Omaha last winter, says the federal government should take over and preserve all the overflowed land along the Mississippi from one end to the other, to save the hardwood timber, if for no other reason. He holds that enough of land for farming purposes is now available, and points to the limitation of crops to avoid overproduction as proof of his assertion. Not enough land is growing timber, and for that reason the Forestry association is pressing its measures not only for taking care of what timber is now standing, but to secure the reforestation of much of the denuded area. And the public everywhere has a direct concern in this.

New York is lining up for a grand jamboree on New Year's eve, and the coroner is getting ready to work overtime.

GET AFTER THE GUN-TOTERS.

Kentucky furnishes another death list that might well astonish a nation not hardened to the thought that human life is about the cheapest thing on the market today. In one county six men are dead and as many more are wounded because of gun fights following Christmas. One item in the list has to do with the killing of three. Deputy sheriffs were passing a mountain store when a fire cracker exploded. Without investigating the posse opened fire and killed three men who were in the building. Other deaths resulted from the ready resort to pistols to settle casual disputes.

More than 30 years ago Henry Watterson wrote one of his most eloquent editorials on the topic of "gun totin'." to which his people were and still are addicted. It is not in Kentucky alone that this mistaken habit persists. Omaha has its full quota of murders that are due to the fact that the laws against carrying weapons are not enforced.

Judge McAdoo, who presides over all the police judges in Greater New York, recently advised that the police make a daily roundup of all pool halls, soft drink parlors, and other places where idle youth congregate, and examine each of them. Those who could not give a satisfactory reason for their loafing should be jailed as vagrants, and all found armed should be punished under the law against carrying

A general move in the direction of disarming the gun toter in the United States would do much to establish peace and promote safety. Why not give the plan a trial?

DIXMUDE NOT IN VAIN.

Probably the fate of the Dixmude will have some effect on plans being laid for the Shenandoah's dash for the North pole. One clear outstanding fact must impress everybody, that is that a great dirigible is helpless when its motor power is exhausted, as in the case of the French ship. As far as getting up or coming down is concerned, or going to the right or the left, forward or back, when up, all depends on power. When the supply of fuel on the Dixmude was exhausted, the motors went out of business, and the great ship then became the sport of unruly winds. Driven hither and yon by the air currents, the route of the drifting monster was over Africa, the Mediterranean, and possibly over France. This latter can not be certain, because of the storm that hid the erratic movement of the great balloon for much of

What other lessons may be learned from the experience, assuming the Dixmude to have fallen into the sea, will depend on expert discussion, and this already is taking a wide range. To the lay mind, it will appeal as another of the magnificent ventures, daring but futile, just as were the many frustrated attempts to reach the pole. Explorers content themselves with less of comfort and more of hope than ordinary mortals. Every failure is really a triumph, for it sets the mark of human knowledge just a little farther ahead, and by these degrees the upward march is measured.

Chairman Farley of the Shipping board has resigned, saying if he is not good enough to be confirmed, he is not good enough to serve temporarily. This is common sense, and maybe his withdrawal will hasten exposure of the real reason back of his rejection by the senate committee. An investigation of affairs of the shipping combines that are trying to milk the United States would be of far more service than an inquiry into the state of the

The Mexican senate having voted to ratify the treaty and the claims convention with the United States, the next thing in order will be to collect the bills. Maybe the present revolution will postpone the job indefinitely once more.

Be calm. The New York divines are spending a part of the Christmas truce whetting up their snickersnees for the next round. Santa Claus and the story of the manger will go on, just the same,

A Mexican revolution would not be nearly so picturesque nor endure as long if they had the same grade of skill with firearms that Kentuckians have been exhibiting lately.

Council Bluffs still boasts of the business sent the marriage license bureau there by the Nebraska law. Still some folks persist in getting married in Ne-

Nebraska lawyers are urged to fight unrest during the coming years. Good enough, but if everybody quits arguing where will the lawsuits come

The Austrian author who faked a death notice in order to find out what posterity would say of him may yet wish he had not been so curiously inquisi-

death house," but they kept right on sending helpless lunatics there for safe keeping! "Sinclair must explain leases," says a headline.

The Chicago asylum was locally known as "the

He may tell his story, but it will be surprising if he explains anything.

Bob Simmons says a cut in freight rates must come first, but how is he going to make the railroad men believe it?

A Rumanian girl fiddled her way past the bar at Ellis island, a proof that the violin is good for some-

Well, it had to come. Price of gas is going up.

Homespun Verse -By Omaha's Own Poet-

Robert Worthington Davie

AS TIME GOES ON.

As time goes on and science wills that miracles b

And as we wander through the years made brighter as we gohardships lessen and recede until they are as

And yet we think life burdensome and discontent-

It seems we might recall the cares of sturdy ploneers Who gave to us the things that make our greatest

efforts small; It seems we might go back and live as they lived in And view the pleasures which to them were given

not at all. It seems we might remember them—their trail rough and severe,

The sacrifice they did not mind as on they trudged Be grateful for the joys that make our days delight-

"The People's Voice"

Free Shoe Fund, beginning with these read lines: "Father Is Dead, Mother Ill, Six Tots Need Shoes." A pitiful tale follows. But it makes me wonr. Why do we have the mothers' an advance hunch on the state of Monsion law if not to help just such Adoo's feelings," says the Register.

fatherless homes? Of course, part of this law is (or was) to the effect that widows having relatives able to help not get the pension. I do not know Ve all know that relatives as a rule the bonus and be written in the bill. to not like to help support another amily, and there is no law com-

Cold comfort to the widowed mother who cannot benefit by the mothers' pension law because she has well-to-

However, I think that many of the widowed mothers have no relatives, therefore they could secure taxes, and only one way—reduce our taxes, and only one way—reduce our expenses," says the Times. the pension. Doubtless many of them do not know of the existence of such a law, hence it is the duty of those in touch to inform them and help themselves is far preferable to char-

Let me also add that if the knowldren born to live in poverty and misery, without even half a chance r anywhere near a proper upbring-

There would be far less need of charity, which at best can help but little in the long run. In the majority of cases, the lack of this vitally Could any home like this live and important knowledge, and not pover stand without father there to sit with is plain that an incom which can support only two or three hildren cannot provide for six, eight unate tots must have shoes.

MRS. VICTOR WALKER.

The Santa Claus Issue.

Actually you make me laugh to most noblest men on earth. ear you compare some conscientious

e. The first thing they find out eight hours will be returned to these then they get big enough to reason is men. ONE FOR JUSTICE.

hat we have been teaching them a lot It isn't wrong to disillusion any one at any age. An illusion is in untruth, and the sooner we learn ne truth the better. Don't get it of civilization. However, anything that is reasonable. This Santa Claus myth causes more disappointment and survey poor and of the law.

Take, for instance, a trate's recent decision. ment every Christmas till I found out he truth about Santy.

in the world whose parents are too poor to act Santa Claus. Those little children can't see why Santy should pass them by and leave a lot of presents to some rich children that don't need them. I believe it naturally kills their faith in anything superhuman. I know it did mine. Then, thank God I went to school to an interest of the Omaha Bee: Having been a reader of your paper for nearly three ge enough to explain it to the school. From that time on I began to sym- days. rty and didn't expect anything un-

brought them and to hurt some un-fortunate child's feelings. My oldest lature. fortunate child's feelings. My oldest child is a young man and we have never had a Christmas tree. We send our children to Sunday school and we attend church, but we don't get radical. We always observe Christmas.

"Continue the good work: as the public says "Publish and conceal not," mas colors and try to observe the Jer: 50:2. day in an appropriate way. What presents we get the children they know where they come from. There has been Christmases that I wasn't able to get them much, and I explained it to them, and I know they were better pleased than if they had been expecting Santy to bring them Forever on your headlong way, a lot of things and he had disap. And never stop to think nor pray!

her that I had been disillusioned. You An Angel's voice is floating pastsay that this teacher needs to return | Heaven's door's ajarto school as a pupil. I would to God The light shines through—that we had thousands of teachers Tune in, old world, this is for you! If we would quit teaching our children lies there would be more Wound for a moment Christians in the world. When they And then—no peace! egin to find out the truth there be ins to arise an unbelief in their lit- Earth's staff

tle minds. There isn't any normal child of 7 Is but a feeble one at best.

To find a sure support, the quest today that hasn't found out enough to know that it is a lie anyway.

Hadn't we better be the one to tell From Bethlehem the veil is torn, them the truth in a sensible way than to have some one else prove to them hat we are Hars?

think that our children pelleve that stuff. You meet some A radiant light! "Tis Mary's bed! one's children on the street and ap- in swaddling clothes the Babe is one's children on the street and approach them on the subject and see how they give you the horse laugh. No. Mr. Essay Writer for The Omaha Bee, you can't keep even the children in the dark in this day and age. You can hand out a lot of sarcasm and try to hurt some one's feelings that is trying to be conscientious and do her duty, but you can't buildoze even the kids into a lot of bunk in this day kids into a lot of bunk in this day bring!"
and age. If I was to write and tell Led by the Star. you half I think of you they would have me in Leavenworth. Now, that isn't any stronger than you made it, is it?

M. D. THOMPSON.

Led by the Star.

Lo, hear the Wise Men from afar, Fall down and worship at His feet!

The Christmas story—oh how sweet!

—Jean Palmer Nye.

The 12-Hour Day.
Council Blufs—To the Editor of
The Omaha Bee: Your paper has at
all times been fair and just in all matters, and I am sure that you have not lost anything by such actions. To be fair and just in all matters is the upbuilding of any business. I am sure that honest dealing does not do any harm to any business. Could all business men and the heads of such corporations do likewise I am sure that their business would pros-per, and the heads of such corporations would be better men and be happier and their families would look to them as great and noble men. When a man has a loving wife and children if he be a man his first honest wish when the day's work is over is to be with them, to see the little tots play around the fireside and to hear their childish chatter and see mother as she watches her young with And prove that life is but a dream felicitous to us. a mother's smile of love on her face.

Where the Tall Corn Grows

Figuring on the fact that the peo-ple like a man who is not afraid, the Knoxville Journal predicts that Pres-

dent Coolidge is going to be a hard

It was no surprise to the Des Moines Register when McAdoo an-nounced that he didn't like the president's message, "The country had an advance hunch on the state of Mc-

The Marshalltown Times-Republican says that many republicans favor a soldier's bonus, but are honest support the widows' children could a soldier's bonus, but are hones not get the pension. I do not know enough to admit that it would require whether this part of the law has been a tax. Then the Times-Republican stricken out. If not, it should be, insists that the tax ought to go with

> Admitting that the president's message will cause him to be de-nounced here and there as a standpatter and a reactionary, the Sibley Tribune asserts that nobody will have license to call him a pussyfooter.

The Charter Oak Times has the revenue matter figured out to a nice-ty. "There is just one way to reduce

The Davenport Democrat is sarcastic as well as sanguine. It exthese poor mothers to avail themselves presses the hope that the republican of this pension. Helping others help radicals will not insist on electing emocrats to positions of responsibility in the present congress. be much more satisfactory to have edge of birth control could be obtained, there would be far less childress," blurbs the Democrat.

> The Davenport Times opines that recent official reports revealing improvement in the conditions of the farmers will be bad news for the rad-

Could any home like this live and erty, is the real cause for lack of mother in her hour of happiness and shoes, warm clothing and nourishing watch with her in her great happy Mr. Editor, we have such homes

n your city that father never sits or more little ones. Remove the with mother, never sees his children eause. Meanwhile the poor, unfor except when they are in bed; he comes in the morning and goes in the eve-ning; the great church of God never es a Union Pacific watchman. Is it any wonder that so many men are on Lincoln.—To the Editor of The the downward road to that everlasting omaha Bee: I saw in the Osceola torment. Could anything be more tecord a clipping from The Omaha hardening to the heart of man than See where you had criticised some to have nothing to look forward to country school teacher because she but work. Christ said six days shall had principle enough to tell children you work and you shall rest on the the truth about Santa Claus. Didn't seventh. When is the seventh day? she tell them that their parents were They are all alike to a watchman on Santa? And don't you come out and one of the greatest railroads in the United States, headed by some of the

These men are not to blame for the chool teacher with some wicked boy condition of their watchmen as I am hat would pull a fly's wings off to see sure the matter has never been taken suffer. I wouldn't be afraid to bet up in the proper manner with these ou would shoot pigeons for sport. We tell our children they shouldn't in the manner as it should be the

Jerry Howard and the Law. Omaha—To the Editor of The Oma-ha Bee: The press is the watchdog that I am a skeptic. I am ready to given to commenting on the sheriff's accept anything that is reasonable, office puzzles the average citizen, when no mention is made of certain other officials for lack of enforcement

Take, for instance, a police magisviolations of the female labor law. There are many millions of children I believe it is the duty of every

three thank God, I went to school to an honest school teacher that had courciation of your splendid editorials, especially the ones on Sunday and holipathize with my parents in their pov- them in our church folder such as I I have often used parts of

The article on "The Minister's Boy," I have six children and am able to provide them with a pretty respectable Christmas. I never allow may children to boast of what Santa Claus church folder the article on the pray-

We decorate the windows with Christ- Bible says, "Publish and conceal not,"

Tune in-the way is cleared for If I were you I would write that Heaven's breath is on us like a kiss! choolna'am an apology and thank Etheric waves are moving fast—

that have the good sense she has, to Your heart is filled with many joys-come out and tell the children the You can not know such things are

toys, Wound for a moment's quick release,

Tune in, nor wait to run nor laugh.

For there this day the Christ is born! To all the people joy untold! Upon them Heaven pours its gold! Over the stall where cattle fed,

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Does not include returns, left-overs, samples or papers spoiled in printing and includes no special sales or free circulation of any kind. B. BREWER, Gen. Mgr.

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

"From State and Nation" -Editorials from Other Newspapers-

Crofton, Neb.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: In The Sunday Bee, December 23, is an article regarding the Free Shoe Fund, beginning with these

What is equally impressive is the

great war bond issues.

comes from those sources.

The figures of the internal revenue bureau on the derivation of taxable American incomes are worth inspection by those whose imaginations almost conjure up a country overridden by the Un ponjure up a country overridden by apitalists and landlords:

Nages and salarles.....\$13,813,169,165

Stusiness 2,366,318,619

artherships fiduciaries, etc 1,341,186,308
roftits from sales of real

usiness artnerships fiduciaries, etc rofits from sales of real estate, stocks and bonds ents and royalties.... terest and investment in-

tion is popular. The five or six million men and women who pay taxes on earnings, in wages, salaries and professional fees, of about fourteen lilinois and it is to be considered in committee after the holidays. No action program means to them. It means a cut of from 43 to 50 per cent. in their tax bills. They would submission of the amendment to the enjoy the general reduction of 25 per cent. On the program is that apathy will prevent the langer is that apathy will prevent the states.

Public sentiment alone can assure cent on all normal income tax rates Public sentiment alone can assure

sidering the deep interest of the mass Now is a good time to join. of America's most numerous pro-ducers, that the committee on ways and means of the house of repre-sentatives has decided to defer action on the bonus scheme until it has con-

sidered the Mellon plan. with the single exception of the radical Frear, saw the wisdom of this.

Santa's Reindeer in Alaska.

put through. It will not forgive

From the Brooklyn Eagle.

The real romance of the reindeer is being worked out in Alaska. They being raised by the natives and

genial Santa Claus.

This year's reports from the Territory of Alaska indicate the beginning regular shipments of reindeer at. This is juicy and tender, with a flavor akin to that of a good grade of potted beef. It is well liked in

There were no reindeer in Alaska n 1891. In that year 16 were there have always been large herds.

During the next 16 years the government brought 1,280 reindeer across Bering strait. Then the Russian government forbade further exportation. Natural increase has given the Alaskan natives herds that now total Praise for the Editorials.

Company Description of the Editor of the Edi ing at an amazing rate. eindeer milk feeds the babies, and the meat makes Alaska independent of an outside supply. Moreover, those who know how to drive and handle reindeer claim that they are better than dogs for pulling sleds on Overland journeys.

Uncle Sam and Santa Claus are

the only white men who are permit-

Why the Mellon Plan Has the Right ted to own reindeer in Alaska. The government reserves them for the natives to help them earn a living.

The 7,000,000 income taxpayers of

Seeking to Abolish Child Labor.

From the Chicago News. In a special appeal issued by a group percentage of national income that is of prominent Chicago citizens moral and financial support is urged for the Three-fifths, or nearly fourteen bil-lions of the twenty-three billions, ized to promote the adoption and rati fication of an amendment to the fed

almost universally recognized since the United States supreme court has

462.858.673
1.177.957.882
2.476.962.299
1.690.338.895
ton of child labor what it should be in

It tive opposition is anticipated, but the th' entrance at th' the-ater where

and a further reduction of 25 per cent by reason of their incomes having measure. Chicago is well represented een earned.

It is not to be wondered at, conbut additional members are wanted.

Test Fastness of Dye in One Hour. From the Color Trade Journal.

In one hour we may now test the ef-fect of seven days of June sunlight in fading an anilin ink. This result is "The country," said President Cool- brought about, it is asserted, by the idge to congress, speaking of income use of a recently invented instrument tax reduction, "wants this measure called the "fadeometer." In the past tax reduction, "wants this measure called the "fadeometer." In the past to have the right of way over all it has been practically impossible for others." The republican members different persons to agree upon the of the ways and means committee. fastness to light of dyes, inks, paints. And we would be friendly with all etc., because of the unreliability and slowness of sun tests and on accoun They, with two democrats, voted against shoving the bonus ahead of the tax reduction program.

The nation wants the Mellon plan to difference in radiation and chang the volumes of sun tests and account a fing, power to the tempted.

We wait, therefore, our Father, or the coming of Thy Spirit upon us to difference in radiation and chang the volume of the tempted. any ing atmospheric conditions.

Standardization of sunlight is imbloe or individual that stands possible and no single test can ever be accurately reproduced. The artificial accurately reproduced. The accurately reproduced the test of the past has been by the mercury arc lamp. This gives a light exceedingly rich in ultraviolet rays but deficient in many rays which would make its light comparable to sunlight Eskimos who own them may become the meat barons of tomorrow. For the reindeer is a most useful animal apart from supplying the motive actual sunlight. The great point is its part from supplying the motive actual sunlight. The description of rapidity of action when the quartz For Jesus' sake. Amen, power for the annual excursions of tube is new, but since this tube grad.

REV. SEELEY K. TOMPKINS. tube is new, but since this tube grad-ually turns to glass it becomes stead-ily less efficient, since the ultraviolet rays from a low temperature source are stopped by glass. It is claimed that these difficulties

are overcome by the use of an appa Alaska and can already be had in ratus called the fadeometer. This apparents in restaurants of Seattle. paratus uses a violet carbon arc, the spectrum of which at the violet end closely reproduces the solar spectrum where and which gives an intensity of light



Abe Martin

Another thing t' hold onto that'll be worth fer more than a good complexion, is that school girl disposition. Why don't a doctor sit near (Copyright, 1923.)

Daily Prayer

The Lord is good to all; and His ten-

O God, our Father, we are about to enter upon a new day. To meet well all duties and responsibilities that come to us; to resist firmly every distraction and temptation that seeks to draw us from our path; to be utterly prepared for any danger or any crisis that may this day befall us; to be found, when the evening is men; strength to the weak, hope to

the despondent, joy to the sorrow-ing, power to the tempted. We wait, therefore, our Father, holds for us. In the quiet of this early morning hour, bowed before Thee, our souls wait. Touch us with that hand which has been laid in blessing upon others before us: speak to us with that still, small voice of power: fill us with Thine own right-

Give us of Thyself, that we may this day so live for ourselves and before men that through us Thy will more fully be done among men.

Cincinnati, Ohio.

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