

# Why We Should be Especially Thankful this Season

Reasons Given by Nebraska Ministers.

Six of the leading ministers of Nebraska were asked to give a short article on "Why We Should be Especially Thankful This Year." Their responses are:

### Rev. H. B. Harrison

**T**HE laden fields their harvest pour,  
Abundance such that every man  
has store.  
Contented herds in pastures wide,  
Abound with wealth that shall  
abide.

The mines give forth their treasure rare,  
Enriching men who haste to do and dare.

The cities teem with life and thrill,  
As monuments of man's imperious will.

The wireless air awaits to serve,  
Awakened brain and heart and nerve.

Among all flags from east to west,  
Our Stars and Stripes a righteous cause  
is best.

Reproof has matched the tyrant's greed,  
And outraged manhood dares her cause  
to plead.

Just bread and things have had their day,  
And souls still hungry now are led to pray.

The heart of weary man finds rest,  
And Christ exclaiming falls to meet no test.

The creeds of men in love and service  
And, instead of dogma, righteousness de-  
cend.

A sinner, freer, simpler, truer gospel  
is made,  
And bleeds for life and love to fill  
all lands.

Of all the years our nineteen six is best,  
Of all the times most sunny is our west.

Of all earth's peoples, we have cause to  
prize,  
In life and worship, echoing songs of  
our skies.

### Rev. William H. Buss

**O**UR heredity, history, education and  
present estate should make us  
pre-eminently a God-fearing and  
a grateful people. Thanksgiving  
day is one of our most noble  
legacies from the past. In days colonial,  
revolutionary and fraternal, as well as in  
times of great prosperity, our fathers  
looked to God in hope and prayer and  
thanksgiving; and the result was their  
elevation to great moral heights. "The lesson  
of history is that 'except the Lord build,'  
this nation, 'they labor in vain that build  
it.' And we cannot be too thankful that  
Jehovah has built with us, and will con-  
tinue to do so, if we are worthy sons of our  
ancestors."

Special reasons for thanksgiving in this  
year of grace include the following: The  
ingathering of an extraordinary harvest;  
the possession of a president whom the  
world delights to honor, and who is  
worthy of such distinction; the awakening  
of the public conscience, its seething protest  
against graft and corruption and the  
resulting exorcism of the foul spirit of  
greed now steadily going on; the rising of  
the people in every quarter to denounce the  
conscienceless political boss; the rebuke  
of traitorous combinations of capital and  
the growing recognition of the just rights  
of labor; the exposure of the scandal of child  
labor; the growing disparagement in influ-  
ential circles of destructive Biblical crit-  
icism and the certain coming back to the  
throne of the essentials of the faith of our  
fathers; the rebuke now given to the "yel-  
low press" and the high stand taken by  
our ablest journals upon great moral ques-  
tions; the fact that the gospel of Jesus  
Christ, in whose name we give thanks, is  
being seen to be of infinitely greater worth  
to the nation than any other asset, and the  
deepening conviction that without that



REV. H. B. HARRISON,  
D.D.  
The world is young and hearts grow light,  
And man is pressing onward to the light.

*William H. Buss*  
First Congregational Church, Hastings,  
Neb.



REV. W. H. BUSS.

gospel's dominance our brightest national  
hopes are a deluding dream. The office of  
Thanksgiving day as an uplifting influence  
cannot be overestimated. It reaches all  
departments of society; opens and softens  
the hearts of men everywhere, casts a  
gleam of sunshine over the world and  
rightly conserved brightens the promise of  
our future glory. It should do much toward  
the realization of that for which our Whit-  
tier plead in his Centennial hymn:  
Oh, make "Thou us, through centuries long,  
In peace secure, in justice strong;  
Around our gift of freedom draw  
The safeguards of Thy righteous law,  
And, cast in some diviner mould,  
Let the new cycle shame the old."

WILLIAM H. BUSS,  
Pastor First Congregational Church, Fre-  
mont.

### Rev. A. S. Clarke

**G**IVE thanks unto the Lord.  
A grateful heart finds number-  
less occasions for thankfulness.  
In scripture the "unthankful" are  
classified with "unholy." God has  
crowded the year with His goodness and all  
His paths have dropped fatness. Compari-  
son is the only correct method of reaching  
a judgment. Let Americans of the twen-  
tieth century put the conditions of their  
lives alongside those of other peoples or  
times and the sense of well-being must fill  
them with gratitude. Much might be said  
about this. A preacher appreciates every  
indication of the divine favor. He can  
echo the words of the Latin poet, "I am a  
man; and I think there is nothing alien to  
me." But the special cause for gratitude is  
the wave of righteousness that is sweeping  
over our land. There is no doubt that we  
are in the midst of a mighty revival of na-  
tional and civic righteousness. There is a  
holy discontent with shams and injustices  
in peral and corporate life abroad. Popu-  
lar magazines and writers are the lion-  
elists that are smashing the idols of selfi-  
ness. These men and women are the  
prophets and prophetesses of the Most High  
God, who are showing unto us a way of  
salvation from national peril. And it is  
cause for gratitude that God has not left  
Himself without witness in the hearts of  
men, as is seen in the response given by  
the masses of the people.

It is a ground of special thanksgiving that  
our own city is experiencing a wonderful  
revival of religion. Hundreds of men and  
women are being turned from darkness to  
light and from the power of Satan unto  
God. The most hopeful sign is the unity  
with which the pastors of this city  
got together in this wonderful misad-  
venture. They were all of one heart and one soul.  
Men are getting right with God, and conse-  
quently with each other. We are not of  
those who believe that, provided only con-  
ditions are altered, character will be  
changed, but of those who know that, when

### Rev. U. G. Brown

**W**HAT should we be thankful?  
That we have much to be thank-  
ful for all will agree, but as to  
what we should be most thankful  
for there may be difference of  
opinion. We should be most thankful  
that we belong to a nation that calls its millions  
to count their blessings and render thanks  
and praise to God for the same, and that  
as a nation we are at peace with other  
nations of the world. We should be thank-  
ful that while the people have been sighing  
for relief from graft and greed the dawn  
of a new day is close; that in many  
instances justice has been meted out to the  
lawbreaker whose rod is gold. We should  
be thankful that the people of our land  
are becoming broader minded and are  
asking what the truth regarding a sub-  
ject is, rather than what their party says  
about it. For a bountiful harvest to glad-  
den the heart of the husbandman, and for  
health of our people we should be truly  
grateful. Thanks should be given for the  
increasing number of young people who  
are coming forth from our schools with  
trained hearts and minds to bless the land  
which has given them such opportunities.  
Thanks should be given for the forward  
movement of the Church of Christ, and  
that followers of the Great Teacher are  
paying more attention to good deeds than  
dogmas, thinking more of the now than  
of the by-and-by. Sowing more flowers in  
the pathway of the living than they are  
on the graves of the dead. Giving of their  
means to erect hospitals to care for the



A. S. CLARKE, D. D.

once character has been changed, condi-  
tions of life will be altered. The mightiest  
ideal that can influence men is the Christ.  
In Him we see loyalty to God and devotion  
to the best interests of His fellow-men. We  
thank God that the heaven of His gospel is  
spreading, and though it may seem  
slowly, yet the kingdoms of this world are  
surely becoming the kingdoms of our Lord  
and of His Christ.

Blessings abound wherever He reigns;  
The prisoner leaps to lose his chains;  
The weary find eternal rest,  
And all the sons of want are blessed.

*A. S. Clarke*  
Pastor Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church.

### Rev. John F. Tuttle, D. D.

**I**N NO year have we as a nation  
had so much for which to give  
thanks as in this now closing  
year. If to the unparalleled rewards  
of toil in shop, farm and office be  
added our freedom from national calamities  
and the general increase of physical com-  
forts, the total is a volume of material  
blessing sufficient to inspire the thankful-  
ness with gratitude and kindle our altars with  
universal praise.

But because the soul of a people is more  
important than their soil and character is  
worth more than corn, the deeper reasons  
for thankfulness are in the marked advance  
of popular sentiment concerning funda-  
mental principles of American government  
and life.

In politics the year has been signalized  
by the relaxing of the hold of party ties  
and the tightening of the grip of enlight-  
ened patriotism. The Boss is passing; the  
Machine falling to pieces. Partisan politics  
is at a discount; independent action at a  
premium. The average man has been awak-  
ening to the royal dignity and individual  
responsibility of the American citizen.  
There has never been a time in our history  
when conscientiousness was such good policy  
and criminality such folly in politics.

Toward the adjustment of vital social  
questions long steps have been taken.  
Giant corporations, imperiling the fair  
chance and success of the individual, have  
felt the power of outraged justice; the  
right of the people to pure food has been  
vindicated; a fairer wage has been secured  
for the man who does the world's necessary  
work; the responsibility of the rich to  
society for the way he makes and spends his  
money has been demonstrated; the relations  
of employer and employe placed on a more  
just basis, and a hundred crying injustices  
and threatening problems set forward to  
settlement.

But most significant of all is the manifest  
quickening of public conscience, indicated



CHAPLAIN TUTTLE.

by universal popular condemnation of bad  
morals in men in high place and the gen-  
erally new recognition of common virtues  
as the basis of individual worth and the  
ground of a man's right to the respect of  
his fellows and the suffrages of the people.  
This outstanding fact of moral growth,  
terse voiced by the Wall Street Journal,  
is the greatest of the reasons for thank-  
sgiving with which the year is filled. There  
is now going on a searching of records, a  
scrutiny into careers, which is gradually  
shelving the man who cannot be successful  
in business without being a criminal. The  
type must go, either by self-elimination,  
by force of judicial procedure or by dint of  
outraged public feeling.

JOHN F. TUTTLE, D. D.,  
Pastor First Congregational Church,  
Lincoln, and Chaplain Second Infantry,  
Nebraska National Guard.

### Rev. T. W. Kahse

**A** GAIN we have reached a milestone  
in the history of the American  
people when it is not only a dis-  
honored custom, but a sacred  
privilege as well to render grate-  
ful thanks unto God for His manifold blessings.  
To such a task our beloved president's  
proclamation summons 80,000,000 of people.

If ever the citizens of America had reasons  
for gratitude it is today, when, at  
home and abroad, our country is at peace  
when our public servants are striving for  
the highest welfare of its people; when  
greed is held in restraint; when the courts  
of our land do not flinch to measure out  
justice to the man of high standing as  
well as to the man of humble station. The  
faithfulness of our men of public trust  
was never more evident than in the past.  
Such measures as the rate regulation bill,  
the most important bill, the efforts of the  
government to restore to the people that  
which has wrongly been taken, the enforce-  
ment of Sunday observance, all testify of  
our government's deep interest in the best  
welfare of its people—surely there are good  
reasons why every lover of the Stars and  
Stripes should feel thankful.

And how beautiful everywhere has been  
our harvest. From orchard, field and  
meadow the farmer turns home rejoicing.  
His granaries are filled, his cellars over-  
flowing. Everywhere can be seen the man-  
ifold bounties of God. How flourishing our  
industries have been and are. Neither  
night nor day can the busy wheels of  
industry rest. The commercial world never  
was more active. And what of the many



THEODORE WILLIAM KAHSE.

homes prosperity has built and the many  
more made happier? Shall we forget these?  
No life but knows some moment blest  
Of sweet contentment and of rest;  
No heart so cold but heaven above  
Hath touched it with its warmth of love.  
Therefore "sacrifice the sacrifices of  
Thanksgiving and declare His works with  
rejoicing."  
THEODORE WILLIAM KAHSE,  
St. Paul's English Lutheran Church, Grand  
Island.

## Christmas exposition week begins December third

All the merchants of Omaha will display their new holiday goods in their stores.

## Do your shopping early

You will find the most varied and beautiful displays of holiday wares on exhibition—a veritable exposition of the choice selections from the markets of every country on the globe will be shown in our Omaha stores. There is no admission charge to this exposition, which begins December third. You should not miss seeing Omaha's stores in holiday array.

*It will be more satisfactory to make your Christmas selections from the complete stocks before the big holiday rush begins.*

**....Visit the Omaha stores Christmas exposition week....**