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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1943

A Soldier's Grace

We would like to pay our respects to the 22-year-old veteran pilot who remembered to offer grace at a turkey Thanksgiving dinner in Italy. You no doubt read the story. A group of U. S. soldiers were getting ready to rush to their dinner and suddenly a young lieutenant held them back and said, "Gentlemen, since this is Thanksgiving I would like to say grace."

The story goes that the other fellows looked sheepish and that a chaplain spoke up and commented that it was a fine idea.

The soldier's blessing as reported was: "Dear God, we thank You for this food we are about to eat, for we know where there are thousands of men who cannot sit down to a meal like this today. Bless all our loved ones at home. Dear God bless all the fighting men on all fronts around the world—on both sides, because they all are fighting for what they believe is right. We ask these things in Christ's name."

The chaplain is reported to have said: "Thank you, Lieutenant, a fine grace."

We agree with the chaplain. It was a fine grace. It showed the spirit of the Christian. I fear that most of us would have prayed for our own fighting men, would not have thought to remember our enemies, nor been so understanding as to give them credit for fighting for what they thought was their right.

We are also sure that the young lieutenant was remembering other Thanksgiving days back home in America, and more recently the devastations of war in which he had taken part. He had not forgotten the teaching of his earlier years.

This Perpendicular World

The dictionary defines the word "perpendicular" as "standing at right angles to a given line or surface." So is the capital letter I. Despite what any one says to the contrary, the most used word in the English language is that capital letter I. Just listen to any ordinary conversation. After the first two or three sentences, capital I springs into action and from then on it's every man for himself. In this race, each contestant spurs for an opening when his adversary has, necessarily, to pause for breath and he holds the trophy until he, in turn, has to relinquish it. But not for long; after one deep gulp he grabs the prize and runs on until captured.

Hitler started out with the Perpendicular desire, "I want to rule the world." Then the Japs pushed up their Perpendicular competition. Italy started out with capital I and now look what has happened to Italy. It will happen to every Perpendicularist as long as time rolls on. But they have a wonderful time while they last, you say. Perhaps, if you thing being heartily disliked to the point of isolation is enjoying oneself. The Perpendicularist has a reputation that soon spreads and he is avoided as though he had a contagious disease. Probably because every one wants to be a Perpendicularist himself.

In these days of sorrow, worry and strife, wouldn't it be a wonderful resolution for the New Year if every Perpendicularist would resolve to divide up that capital I into smaller fragments that would spell out the word "WE" instead?

Somehow, it seems that so many more could crowd into a world that covered the territory of WE and the race would be more even. Why not try to be an A. P.—Anti-Perpendicularist.

A Surplus

When Jackson County ended the fiscal year with an operating surplus of nearly \$20,000 the citizens of the county can rest assured that their money is being well handled. In the present crisis when most operations are being made at an increase in cost, there had to be a well planned program to follow to get such results.

The increase in uncollected taxes is also another mighty healthy sign that all is well in the office at the courthouse upon the hill. During the years when money is plentiful it is a wise time to get ahead, and this applies to a government as well as to an individual.

100 Per Cent Plus

When a goal is set for any drive or campaign, it is always gratifying to reach that goal, but when the goal is one hundred per cent plus and that plus value is 76 per cent it is time to pat one's self on the back.

Jackson County not only raised its United War Fund quota, but went over the top. We are proud of this response and generosity on the part of Jackson County folks. It is a habit of theirs to meet emergencies with flying colors.

While we are all pleased with the results, those in charge must not be forgotten, for after all, they were fine leaders who knew how to point the way to duty and we followed them.

Where Is The Trouble?

We hear a great deal today about juvenile delinquency and how it has become Number One problem on the home front. We are told that it is threatening the future character and stability of our Nation. This is an alarming situation.

Recent figures released by Katherine F. Lenroot, chief of the Children's Bureau, show that in 83 courts in the country there has been an increase from 65,000 cases in 1940 to 75,000 in 1942. This represents an 11 percent increase for boys and 38 per cent increase for girls, Miss Lenroot recently told a special Senate subcommittee on Wartime Health and Education.

It has been suggested that Congress provide funds to help local agencies to "rescue thousands of children on the threshold of jail." This would be a fine thing, but we would also suggest a movement to get at the root of the thing and try preventive measures also before others reach this stage.

One writer recently compared juvenile delinquency to "an attack of termites and the evil is largely concealed, but is insidiously undermining our whole social structure and threatening its destruction." It is a shock to learn that the girls now are leading in the number of cases. The question naturally arises, "Who is to blame?"

The FBI claim that it is due to "broken homes and the speed of war-time living." Parents are charged with carelessness and that the children are to be pitied and are "victims rather than villains."

The Federal Council of Churches is making an appeal to the public in general to heed the warning and recognize that it is a national responsibility for upholding high standards of conduct.

This kind of a thing is shunned by most people. They feel that it is the other fellow's job, but when those in authority picture the situation as a serious national problem, it is bound to be more critical than most of us realize.

We would not condemn the child without first looking into the home from which he or she came from, for we believe that in the majority of cases, it is the fault of the parents, who have failed to give them the right ideals or have allowed them too much freedom.

Christmas Warning

We Americans are said to be the most wasteful nation on earth. With Christmas just around the corner, and food still plentiful in the land, a warning against wasting food should be part of seasonal advice.

It is said that if every American family "burned or let mold just one slice of bread a week there would be lost in one year enough bread to make up 100,000,000 loaves."

It is also estimated that the waste food left on plates from 50,000,000 meals a day served in public eating places is sufficient in bulk to serve 8,000,000 meals.

This year remember not to take too much on your plate, for it is neither patriotic or good taste to leave uneaten food which has been served to you. So if you are not going to eat that extra piece of turkey Christmas, don't take it.

Christmas Greetings

EDITORIAL

We bring you greetings on this our first Christmas with you. In bringing you greetings we wish to express our appreciation of the manner in which you have received us. You have made us feel welcome. We have endeavored to bring you the news of the community, and we have felt it a privilege to serve you.

To our advertisers we extend best wishes for continued success in your chosen fields. We have enjoyed friendly relations with you and we appreciate the mutual confidence that has marked our contacts.

We appreciate the support of the public in general which includes those who have cooperated with us in the coverage of news and to our readers here and in the armed forces in this country and overseas.

We wish for each and every citizen of Jackson County a happy Christmas Season and continued prosperity in the year ahead.

HERE and THERE

By
HILDA WAY GWYN

It is with pleasure that we bring our first Christmas greetings to the people of this area. We wish that it might be a happier time to launch our initial Christmas message to the folks in Jackson County... but we will have to make the best of our Christmas this year and remember that we are more fortunate than most people. Instead of comparing this Christmas with other years, we will have to make the most of things... and look forward to better years ahead. We have been one of those people who have loved Christmas... With the memory of happy childhood events, and all through the years with something gratifying to recall Christmas has been a delight to anticipate... We have loved the color of Christmas in its decorative expression... We have liked to give and have liked to be remembered... and best of all we have liked (perhaps a form of selfishness) to give to those who did not expect us to remember them and bring to them a touch of unexpected happiness... But this year we find ourselves wondering how to approach the season... Not for lack of something to wish you, but for the power of expression that the season demands and deserves... This year things are different... The grimness of the war has gone deep into our hearts... the true meaning of Christmas should come to us, since the vil of non-essentials has been pushed aside... It has been hard for us to realize that the season was upon us, yet the past year has been a long one... packed with events of epochal values... The past twelve months of bloody conflict have cast their shadows over the world, even in our small corner... We are finding it hard to throw off the curtain of darkness and find the light.

about Christmas for weeks... we have found ourselves feeling apart from the coming day instead of a part of it... We wonder if you have found it so... And in the midst of our effort it dawned on us how dependent we have grown on the stimulation of the material manifestation of Christmas... This year, the shops are not decorated... those colorful glistening things are missing... they gave one such a festive reaction... But this year we will not be able to find that feeling, it will not be on the surface of things... Even the toy counters are a disappointment... they are such a far cry from our accepted extravagant American idea of gifts for children... for if in former years one was slow in getting in the mood, a visit to the toy department gave the desired touch... There is no getting around the fact that Christmas is a day of remembering... which is going to go hard with us in 1943... It will be a strain on our emotions... for there will be too many empty places at the family tables... to ignore this fact... But it is something we will have to fight against, else we find ourselves in a deluge of darkness... We will have to turn right about face and push back the sadness and focus our attention on the happiness that is treasured up in our hearts... and remember that there are still little children whose faith in Santa Claus is undimmed and find our Christmas joy second-handed.

We know that the Light is there, for it was illuminated hundreds of years ago for mankind, and down through the years it has guided us... This year it is a bit hard not to fall in a cynical mood and wonder why the world should be in such turmoil, why families should be separated from each other and hearts aching with anxiety for dear ones on fighting fronts... Yet we know that it is a part of a pattern that we cannot understand and we must not falter in our faith... The star that lead the Wise men still shines, if we only look for it with open minds and hearts... Otherwise, we will be blind to the never failing light.

We have been trying to catch that old time thrill of excitement

A current religious magazine carries the story of how that beautiful Christmas song, "O Little Town of Bethlehem," was written. The author, Phillips Brooks, was given a year's leave of absence from his church in Philadelphia in which to travel in the Holy Land. On Christmas Eve he arrived in the little town of Bethlehem. His experience of standing in the old church there with the whole place ringing with praise impressed him very deeply, but it was not until two years later that he could express in verse the emotion he felt that night... The organist of his church wrote the music, which with the words has such power to give us a feeling hard to describe, of hope, of kinship to that Holy Child of Bethlehem... Perhaps the grimness of the years of the duration of the war will teach us to grow in the Christmas spirit that find us silent this year, but in time may be reflected to shine with a brighter light, as the author of this beloved hymn found in his

WRONG KIND OF PRESSURE



Inside WASHINGTON

New Aircraft Carriers Can Stand Up and Slug Latest U. S. Flat Tops Better Than Hold Own

Special to Central Press

WASHINGTON—High ranking naval officials are greatly pleased about the battle reports of America's new aircraft carriers in the Pacific combat zone. They are hopeful that these reports will counteract criticism heaped on the Navy for a while when it looked as though carriers were too vulnerable to be useful in battle.

The adverse reports haunted the Navy for months after the loss of the Lexington, Wasp, Yorktown and Hornet. Because of security the Navy could not talk about features of new carriers which they had every reason to believe would not be so vulnerable.

This is one reason behind the story given out recently by Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox who told how one of America's new carriers fought off successfully four separate Jap attacks against it while the carrier's planes were blasting Rabaul.

Undersecretary of the Navy James Forrestal followed the same line when he said in a speech recently that American aircraft carriers were attacked by Jap land based bombers off Wake Island but that the assault failed to stop the United States carrier plane raid on that enemy-held base.

Better anti-aircraft defenses aboard the carriers and deadlier Navy fighter planes contribute to the improvement. Look for more United States successes like the ones cited.

NEW AND AUTHENTIC REPORTS are that Chief of Staff Gen. George C. Marshall will soon be transferred to London to his new post as Allied commander of the second front offensive across the English channel.

According to these reports from high official sources, President Roosevelt will announce the Marshall shift in the near future—probably before Christmas—but he will make it unmistakably plain that the post of chief of staff will not change hands.

There are several alternatives for the job of "acting chief of staff" during Marshall's absence, however. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower is mentioned as a possibility, as is Gen. Leslie J. McNair, now in command of all Army ground forces.

It is still the view in Washington that Marshall's shift will be accomplished without any publicity, and that the present chief of staff will actually be in London in his new command long before it is publicly announced. Incidentally, the time for the cross-channel offensive apparently is set for early spring, 1944.

DON'T LOOK FOR REMOVAL of sugar from the list of rationed articles—not for quite some time, anyway. Despite improvements in shipping from Cuba where there is plenty of the raw product, sugar supplies in the United States are little better than a year ago. The one reason is that railroads can't haul enough from Florida where the sugar has been received via shuttle boat from Cuba. The sugar must come north to New York and Philadelphia refineries and railroads are suffering a lack of engines, box cars and manpower to spare for hauling the product. This has meant that sugar imports to Florida have been cut down. Furthermore, the best sugar crop in the west is expected to be half a million tons short this year.

OPTIMISM RADIATES THESE DAYS from War Adviser Barney Baruch. He is extremely pleased with progress on the home front, believes War Mobilizer Jimmy Byrnes is doing a bang-up job—particularly on the manpower question, in which Byrnes moved with celerity on the basis of Baruch's own report covering the west coast labor problem.

CHINESE DIPLOMACY scored a beat over other foreign legations in Washington when Secretary of State Cordell Hull returned from his successful Moscow parley with the Soviet and British foreign ministers. One of the diplomats to greet Hull when he stepped off the huge Army transport plane was Chinese Ambassador Wei Tsa-Ming, who posed for news pictures with the secretary and greeted him warmly. Strangely enough, Russian and British diplomats were for the most part conspicuously absent.

Hull's arrival was high-lighted by the appearance of his boss, President Roosevelt, who usually confines his personal appearances to high foreign dignitaries. F. D. R.'s presence at Hull's arrival made the Chinese diplomatic strategy even more noticeable.

experiences expressed in later years.

We wish for you a Christmas that will find joy deeper than you have found in other years... A more spiritual outlook, for as we see the material wealth of the world devastated in war, we know that only the things of the spirit can live throughout eternity.

We close our Christmas message to you with a poem by Grace Noll Crowell... "There is Need"...

Beyond the flaming ramparts of our time There still is Christmas, and the need of men To bear the banner of the King, to climb The heights of earth and cry it out again; "There is born this day a Savior, Christ, the Lord." There is the need for messengers to shout In unison and trumpet-clear, the word The word of gladness that will blot the darkness out.

O ye who have believed, reach out, restore The faith of man long lost in bitter strife; Set firm their feet upon the path once more That leads to One who came to bring them life; A more abundant life. The singing skies Proclaim His birth, the Christmas stars still burn. The manger where the little Christ Child lies In Holy silence, waits for their return.

Prune Whip
4 egg whites.
1 cup sugar.
10 large prunes (pureed through Foley Mill).
Beat egg whites until stiff. Fold in sugar and prunes. Pour into greased double boiler, steam one hour. Serve with whipped cream or custard sauce.

Man—My daughter is going to Professor Wombat, the eminent pianist, now for lessons.
Friend—How's his touch? Is it strong?
Man—Very. Four dollars a lesson.

Fruit Drinks For A Crowd

Hot Fruit Punch: Make with hot tea, boiling water and juices brought just to the boiling point. 1 1/2 cups sugar, dissolved in 2 cups strong tea (Four 2 cups boiling water over 8 teaspoons tea). 1 cup lemon juice. 1 cup orange juice.

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF THE RADIO SHOP A PARTNERSHIP

Notice is hereby given that the partnership of Claude Campbell and Leonard Allen, as partners, conducting a business as a Radio Shop under the firm name and style of The Radio Shop, Sylva, North Carolina, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. Claude Campbell will collect all debts owing the firm and will pay all indebtedness due by the firm. This the 2nd day of December, 1943.

CLAUDE E. CAMPBELL
LEONARD A. ALLEN,
Formerly doing business as the Radio Shop,
No. 13—Dec. 8-15-22-29.

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION IN THE SUPERIOR COURT NORTH CAROLINA, JACKSON COUNTY.

JAMES F. RICE
Vs.
OLIVEN CROMER RICE

The defendant, Oliven Cromer Rice, will take notice that an action, entitled as above, has been commenced in the Superior Court of Jackson County, North Carolina, being for an absolute divorce.

And the said defendant will further take notice that she is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of said County, in the Court House in Sylva, North Carolina, within thirty (30) days after the 29 day of December, 1943, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This November 24, 1943.
ROY M. COWAN,
Clerk Superior Court, Jackson County, North Carolina,
No. 12—Dec. 8-15-22-29.

Buy War Bonds and Stamps.