

THE MORNING STAR

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1918

TOP OF THE MORNING

The soul cried to its angel: Lo! God speaks no more to those below. Nor leads their feet to loftier ways.

Hush money doesn't talk.

"Another plot foiled." Keep on following plots.

May there be joy of some kind in this Christmas day for you.

The true joy of today is that in the hearts of the little folk.

Santa Claus had a hard time in attempting to deliver the goods.

It seems difficult for the government to run down the hog at Hog Island.

Despair looks back on the old year. Hope looks forward to the New Year.

Some folk would be satisfied if they could only put just that one spec in spectacular.

During this year many a fellow has missed his chance even though he has chanced his miss.

We can "get together" next year some more, but if we won't stay together we can keep on getting together.

As we see the light let us go forward. We have seen the past. In the veiled future we shall see what we shall see.

We don't know what they call it but some folk certainly are getting what's coming to them so long as consumers have got to consume.

New Yorkers laugh at occasional ox-carts in North Carolina but they never say a word about milk deliveries from fog carts in New York.

It takes eight quarts to make a peck of corn, but it takes only one quart of "corn" to make a peck of trouble at a cross roads Christmas frolic.

There are big things that Wilmington can do as soon as she gets down to business after the New Year holidays. They need not last very long.

The French Academy conferred an honor upon Marshal Joffre but he conferred great honor upon the Academy when he became a member.

Father Time will start something in the way of a new year next Wednesday. Better get ready to kiss 1918 good night next Tuesday night.

The man who preaches theories has more followers than one who preaches methods. One is a man with an idea. The other is a man with a plan.

You have been on the way another year without knowing where you are going. Better be more forward looking when you start next year next Wednesday.

Where is the old fashioned gent who used to get up Christmas morning and after making a sweet toddy, go out on his front stoop with a muzzle-loading shotgun and shoot bofe bars to celebrate?

Many old fashioned ladies and gentlemen can sit down and remember that Christmas today is mostly imagination compared with the old timey Christmas when the Virginia Reel and The Lancers characterized the "Christmas Hops."

Charles F. Stielow and his brother-in-law, Nelson Green, will be two happy men this Christmas. Two years ago they were convicted in a New York court on the charge of murdering an old farmer and his housekeeper. Stielow was sentenced to electrocution and Green was sentenced to life imprisonment. Stielow, several times, came within an ace of being executed, but each time at the last moment Governor Whitman stayed the sentence and finally commuted his sentence to life imprisonment. A few days ago he extended them full pardon for Christmas and restored both men to citizenship. They were convicted on circumstantial evidence, but investigation and new developments showed that both were entirely innocent.

PEACE AND GOOD WILL.

"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 good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, 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.'"

The Star's felicitations go out to its readers everywhere and to the people of Wilmington and North Carolina upon this historic Christmas morning of 1918.

No doubt the advent of this momentous holiday season finds us all in varying moods, but it is Christmas, nevertheless, and it is probably the most welcome oasis in all the great desert of desolation around us, speaking from the world situation as this otherwise joyous season finds it.

Christmas is the one calm spot in all our sea of troubles, because it is not a celebration in a worldly sense but the inward sense of a spirit of gratitude for the Bethlehem event that it commemorates. It commemorates nothing that we have done but what has been done for the world in the nearly score of centuries that have gone and are rolling on.

It is the spirit that we have this day that commemorates the birth of Christ. Our outward manifestations of joyousness are not so typical of the occasion as are our innermost feelings—our devotion to the Christianity that came upon earth for our happiness during all these past centuries and for the centuries yet to come.

Nevertheless, in the midst of our temporal distress, perhaps felt by all in some particular way, we have received blessings for which we can be devoutly thankful.

Let our hearts be full of cheer and benevolence to the earth's people. It is for us to take advantage of it to get all the consolation, all the joy, and all the happiness consistent with our being, our lives and the situation in which we find ourselves.

The Star wishes for all the best sentiments of a holiday that none of us would forego now or any other time. It is a sacred holiday to the Christian world and its significance, and its sentiments, and its spirit constitute that which enables us to lift up our hearts in joy.

NOT FAIR TO THE LAND NOT TO RAISE LIVESTOCK.

An Idaho farmer, who has had great success in raising livestock as a part of his farm system, declares that a farmer does not do justice by his land when he neglects to raise livestock on it.

A farmer who neglects to raise cattle and hogs not only misses the profit in it but also deprives his land of the benefit. That is what a Grangeville (Idaho) farmer writes to his home paper.

That Idaho man especially emphasizes the profit in hog raising. He declares that while the war just closed has crippled industry to certain extent, it leaves agriculture and livestock raising in splendid shape. He added that farmers anywhere in the United States "need not fear to invest in hogs at this time."

That Idaho man had just marketed a carload of hogs, 60 in all, for which he received a check for \$2,093. When he began feeding them for the market the hogs averaged 100 pounds apiece. After 90 days' feeding, their average weight had increased to 294 pounds per hog, and then their owner sold them at 17 1/2 cents a pound.

More livestock, he said, in commenting upon the agricultural situation of the country generally, is the farmer's and land owner's greatest need. "We must get more stock on our lands," said he, "if we would increase their value and make homes for more people. Those who are only growing ground crops are robbing the soil and not getting as much out of the land as it should produce."

NEW YORK WANTS MORE COMMERCE.

During the world war, the port of New York has done the greatest commerce in her history—possibly the greatest commerce ever done by any port in the world. In spite of the fact that the port has been congested, New York does not want her commerce diverted to other ports. She wants to keep on doing about two-thirds of the commerce of North America. She is decidedly opposed to having any of her commerce diverted to Philadelphia, or Baltimore or Norfolk or Wilmington or any old port. New York wants to hold her immense commerce and get some more. She wants more harbor improvements and better pier facilities. She wants the government, instead of diverting her commerce, to open a new outlet through the upper East river, and one of her own schemes to help herself is a movement already on foot to provide a greater pier system and increased harbor facilities. New York isn't waiting. She has already gotten busy.

You can buy flour in Australia for \$5 a barrel but it does not cost near as much to come to Wilmington as it costs to go to Australia for flour.

MISCHIEF MAKERS AT HOME.

President Wilson and the American delegates to the world peace conference are hearing bad news from home. England, France and Italy are also hearing what has been and is going on in America to discredit President Wilson. What is said by republicans in the United States senate and in the press creates both interest and amazement in the entente countries. They are giving the American president great ovations, while a great party in America is agitating for repudiation of the president at the peace table. We don't know what kind of Americanism to call that. Probably Europe doesn't either.

The speeches of Senators Lodge and Knox are given conspicuous prominence in England and French papers, creating the impression that American sentiment is hopelessly divided about the manner of peace that is to be made for the world at the peace table. The publication of these speeches abroad is embarrassing if not annoying to the president and the delegates. Of course, Europe is bound to accept them as indicative of the strength of the opposition in the ranks of the now majority party.

Europe reads Senator Knox as saying that the matter of establishing a league of nations to enforce peace should be negotiated after the peace conference settles the terms of peace with Germany and her allies. That is contrary to the Wilson plan, for the president is insistent that a league of nations, if the peace terms as agreed upon are to be enforced and the future peace of the world is to be assured, should itself be first assured. Senator Knox emphasizes his opposition to that idea by contending that the peace conference should deal only with issues between the allies and their enemies.

The speech of Senator Lodge on Saturday was even stronger and more pronounced in its opposition to the aims of the president, because in Lodge's speech objection was taken to five of President Wilson's fourteen basic points for world peace. Senator Lodge would defer not only consideration of a league of nations to enforce peace, but also would defer to some other time the questions of reduced armaments, freedom of the seas, secret diplomacy, and the removal of economic barriers.

President Wilson hardly hopes to get the actual form of a league adopted at this conference but unless he actually gets the conferences committed to the idea, it would be a rank optimist who would believe that the nations could ever be gotten together on that and the other propositions. They seem to be favorable to the president's ideas generally, but the opposition in America is strengthening the European opposition to the president's plans. In his Paris letter to the New York Evening Post under date of Paris, December 23, David Lawrence thus deprecates the position of Senator Knox, who does not seem to realize what such opposition is liable to accomplish:

"A close friend of Senator Knox here told me that he believed the senator would never have made his speech of opposition to Mr. Wilson in connection with the negotiations in connection with the negotiations at this time if he had known the true situation.

"As a matter of fact, the desire of Mr. Wilson to see a league of nations provided for in the peace treaty itself rose out of his wish to secure some international organization before the spoils of war are divided among the belligerents and each country satiated has become apathetic toward further consideration. Mr. Wilson believes strongly that unless binding steps are taken to prevent further war before each nation gets what it individually wants out of the peace conference, never will any power on earth bring the nations into agreement.

"If Senator Knox knew that the whole strength of the American peace delegation depended upon whether it could carry the point of insisting upon a settlement of the primary questions which affect the broad policies of world peace—wherein the United States is primarily interested because she has no territorial ambitions—he would not be inclined for a moment to lend his support to the elements here which are seeking to weaken Mr. Wilson's hand.

"No one supposes that an exact formula for a league of nations can be made in the next few weeks, or, indeed, during the present conference, but an agreement is possible upon a provision in the treaty, making mandatory upon the signatory powers the establishment of a league in accordance with general principles enunciated.

"Undoubtedly the creation of a league will require a separate conference to decide upon details to which neutrals will be given an opportunity to express their objections or adherence, but Mr. Wilson considers it a paramount necessity to have some provision in the peace treaty itself compelling the establishment of a world organization."

Making a peace treaty with the Central Powers is quite a different thing from making a world peace agreement for the future peace of the world. Germany and her allies will have to pay to the extreme limit the enormous penalty of this war, but the possibilities are that if the conference adjourns without arranging peace for the balance of Europe and the world, Europe is liable to keep on fighting to settle its own troubles regardless of the peace conference. In that event there is, of course, the possibility that we may again be drawn into a European war.

Peace is bringing exposure of a lot of hot air. In a great many instances it was hot air that went over the top. The New York World says: "Hog Island presents one of the least creditable phases of the war ship-building program, but of dishonesty the department of justice investigators find no evidence. It was a very big and very costly experiment, but the ships promised all except one are undelivered."

TO THE MEN IN UNIFORM.

The Star but expresses the feeling in the hearts of all us stay-at-homes when it extends to the Men in Uniform the Christmastide's best wishes and heartiest greetings and hopes that for them this Christmas and all future Christmases and all other times and seasons will favor them with the best there is in life. The American heart warms to the man in the now familiar uniform of soldier and sailor and wherever one may be this Christmas, the nation salutes him. Naturally, we feel particularly warm in our Yuletide sentiments toward those of our soldiers who are here in our own city. The streets have been filled with them—warriors from overseas, some of them; sailors and soldiers from everywhere. It makes no difference whether one actually engaged in battle on land or sea; he is in the uniform we all love, and he served his country whether in camp or S. A. T. C., in naval station or afloat—wherever he may have been, he is the man who answered the call for the rest of us, and may God bless every one of them!

"Our boys are back. They've bravely done the work that they set out to do; they took the job and saw it through. There's no more fight left in the Hun. 'God bless our boys this Christmas Day— They fought and bled that we might live. And, though the best we have we give, God knows we never can repay.'"

DEATH OF WALTER HINES PAGE.

In the death yesterday of Mr. Walter Hines Page, our Ambassador to the Court of St. James during the epoch-making years of the great war and the troubled, exhausting times that preceded hostilities, America loses a public servant who deserved well of his country. Assuming the duties of ambassador without previous training in diplomacy, he speedily won recognition for his worth and work. Following in the well chosen footsteps of his distinguished predecessors, Mr. Page constantly and successfully labored to strengthen the ties that bind two nations of the same tongue and with like ideals—ties that have been sealed and sanctified by the blood of our bravest on land and sea. When the great war came the American Embassy in London became the centre of tremendous activities, and Mr. Page's duties and responsibilities were increased a hundredfold. He met them bravely with high courage, but in the end the strain told and he was forced to resign and return to his home for rest. He rallied for a time, but the disease came and he passed away yesterday, to be held in grateful remembrance by his fellow countrymen and by our "kin across the sea."—New York Herald.

Lincoln in London.

The long controversy over the Peace Centenary Lincoln Statue, to stand in the Canning Inclosure in Westminster, London, has now been settled by the decision of the British committee accepting the Saint-Gaudens copy as "most suitable for erection in the chosen site." The Barnard statue is also accepted, but for erection "in some other English city."

This gives the place of honor to the statue most deserving of it and originally selected for the Westminster site, while providing a place of refuge for the Barnard work. As Lincoln himself might say, for people who like that kind of art, that is the kind of art they will like, and will go to see even if it requires a special journey. But the important thing is that London will possess as its conspicuous statue

"LEST WE FORGET."

That justice is the highest human attribute and takes precedence of mercy. THAT it has been positively established by numerous documents and from various sources that Germany deliberately planned and brought on the war for the purpose of world domination. THAT preliminary to the beginning of hostilities Germany organized a worldwide propaganda, calling into service three hundred of her most capable men whom she summoned to Berlin on July 19, 1914, for final instructions, of which number thirty-one were sent to the United States. THAT Germany had not less than two hundred and fifty thousand agents, spies and propagandists actively at work in this country plotting destruction of munition plants, inciting labor strikes and seeking to foment racial disturbances. THAT Germany waged the war with the full consent of the German people, and that no protest from the German people during the progress of the war was ever made. THAT the appeal of the women of the allied countries to the women of Germany to stop the deportation of girls and women from the occupied portions of France and Belgium was never acknowledged much less complied with. THAT there is scarcely a home in the portions of France and Belgium conquered by the Germans which is not today mourning the absence of a daughter carried off into a life of slavery worse than death. THAT in many parts of these conquered territories all things of value, agricultural implements, industrial machinery, merchandise and household effects have been destroyed or carried off with the criminal purpose of impoverishing these regions. THAT an active propaganda is now being carried on to soften the peace terms for Germany, seeking to have the world forget her nameless atrocities and to accept her return to the family of nations on easy terms. THAT no word of penitence has come from Germany—neither from the pulpit nor from the people. THAT forgiveness must follow repentance, and that to forgive the unrepentant is to condone the offense. THAT justice to an outraged world demands punishment of the outlaw, and a season of contrition. THAT crime unwhipped of justice repeats itself with added arrogance and viciousness of purpose. THAT justice must right wrongs, and that the felon cannot claim mercy until his evil deeds are atoned for. THAT while today we celebrate Christmas in peace and plenty thousands of French and Belgian homes are no more, and other thousands mourn the absence of daughters the knowledge of whose death would bring to them a Christmas blessing.

J. A. TAYLOR. Wilmington, N. C., December 25, 1918.

of Lincoln an artistic effigy of the great President, exemplifying his dignity and the strength of character behind his homeliness, and not one merely accentuating physical ungainliness. If the Saint-Gaudens work idealizes Lincoln, is a public opinion which also idealizes him likely to object to the sculptor's conception? At least the grosser fault of caricature is avoided. Certainly the final outcome of the controversy justifies those who protested against the Barnard statue as misrepresenting Lincoln under any canons of art. A curious light is thrown on only one member frankly in favor of the agitation by the poll of the American Centenary Committee, showing the Barnard statue as against fifty-one opposed. With informed opinion so unanimous, why has there been any to-do about the matter?—New York World.

Our Best Wishes For a Merry Christmas And the Happiest of New Years To All Our Friends and Patrons. G. Dammann

Our Best Wishes Merry Christmas W. D. MacMillan, Jr. Automotive Wilmington, N. C.

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