

OLD-FOLK TALE RELATES A PRETTY LEGEND OF CHRIST

When the child of Nazareth was born the sun, according to the Bosnian legend, "leaped in the heavens and the stars around it danced. A peace came over mountain and forest. Even the rotten stump stood straight and healthy on the green hillside. The grass was beflowered with open blossoms, incense sweet as myrrh pervaded upland and forest, birds sang on the mountain top and all gave thanks to the great God."

It is naught but an old-folk tale, but it has truth hidden at its heart, for a strange, subtle force, a spirit of genial good will, a new-born kindness, seem to animate child and man alike when the world pays its tribute to the "heaven-sent youngling," as the poet, Drummond, calls the infant Christ.

When the three wise men rode from the east into the west on their saddle bows were three caskets filled with gold and frankincense and myrrh, to be laid at the feet of the manger-cradled babe of Bethlehem. Beginning with this old, old journey the spirit of giving crept into the world's heart. As the magi came bearing gifts, so do we also; gifts that relieve want, gifts that are sweet and fragrant with friendship, gifts that breathe love, gifts that mean service, gifts inspired still by the star that shone over the City of David 2,000 years ago.

Then hang the green coronet of the Christmas tree with glittering baubles and jewels of flame; heap offerings on its emerald branches; bring Yule logs to the firing; deck the house with holly and mistletoe. "And all the bells on earth shall ring On Christmas day in the morning."

PRETTY THINGS TO TRIM THE CHRISTMAS TREE

As to trimming the Christmas tree, first of all don't trim your tree with cotton batting and lighted candles, as there is always danger in this combination, and "safety first" should be the slogan in all Christmas festivities.

You can purchase a whole lot of pretty decorations for your tree at the shops, and these come very cheaply, too. But almost any home can furnish the decorations for a really lovely tree without very much expense, and there is no reason why every family where there are children should not have their Christmas tree.

Strings of popcorn and red cranberries looped from the branches make an effective decoration. And strings of yellow field corn gleam beautifully in the Christmas light. Crescents, stars and hearts cut from heavy cardboard and covered with silver and gilt, or in colored paper, and cornucopias of bright colors filled with candy and popcorn are very pretty. Form cotton batting into balls the size of oranges and cover with orange-colored crepe paper, twist tightly and tie to the tree with a bit of narrow ribbon. These are pretty on the tree and look like oranges.

It is best to place all the larger packages under the tree, tying only the smaller gifts which are tied up in bright-colored paper to the branches. In this way the tree will not look frayed and denuded when the gifts are distributed, and it may be kept a long time for the children to enjoy.

PRESIDENT SAYS NO COMPROMISE ON TREATY IS POSSIBLE

President Wilson Sunday intervened in the peace treaty dilemma with an announcement that he had "no compromise or concession of any kind in mind," would make no move toward the treaty's disposition, and would continue to hold the Republican members of the Senate responsible for results and conditions attending delay.

The President's position, regarded as peculiarly significant in view of the recent discussion in the Senate of a compromise, was set forth in the following statement issued from the White House:

"It was learned from the highest authority at the executive offices today that the hope of the Republican leaders in the Senate that the President would presently make some move which will relieve the situation with regard to treaty is entirely without foundation; he has no compromise or concession of any kind in mind, but intends, so far as he is concerned, that the Republican leaders of the Senate shall continue to bear the undivided responsibility for the fate of the treaty and the present condition of the world in consequence of that fate."

The White House statement apparently had no effect in changing the treaty situation. Democratic leaders, indorsing the President's view, declared that it did not preclude a Senate compromise and that compromise efforts would proceed. Republican leaders reiterated that the President was responsible for the present status and must make the first move toward a solution. Senators hoping to kill the treaty alone expressed satisfaction.

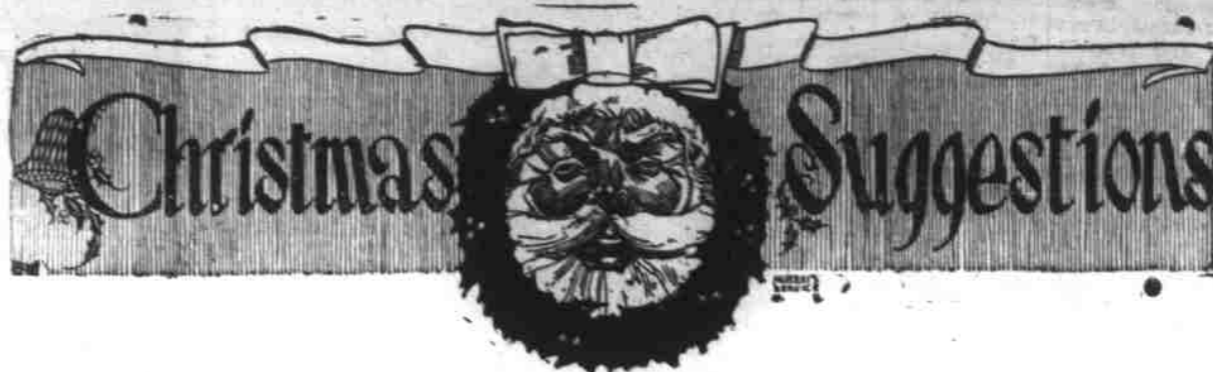
On one point only, apparently, were all Senate factions in harmony—namely, that decisive action on the treaty probably would be deferred until next month, after the proposed recess of Congress, planned to end Jan. 5. Senate debate, probably centered about the White House statement, is expected to be reopened with fresh vigor. The Democratic compromise campaign also is to be pressed, according to Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska, administration leader, but unless some unexpected development this week ensues the leaders believe the final action cannot be reached until next month.

Senator Hitchcock, commenting on the White House statement, declared the Democrats would continue efforts for compromising the reservations and that the Senate and not the President must act first.

Senator Lodge of Massachusetts and other prominent Republicans reserved public comment on the White House statement, but the Republican viewpoint, indicated beyond doubt, was that the President must continue to be held responsible for the deadlock and until he acts the treaty must remain at a standstill, probably until January at least.

HIRAM W. JOHNSON IS A CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT

Senator Hiram W. Johnson of California has formally announced that he would be a candidate for the Republican nomination for the presidency. The Senator said he would make a personal campaign in every State, explaining that he did not intend to have his candidacy determined by "politicians in convention."



Buy Your Gifts for Men At The Men's Store

Christmas is just one week from today and our stock is very complete. We exercised great care in the selection of this stock of Christmas Gifts for men. We offer here a few suggestions taken at random. Remember that there are many other items not mentioned here:

- | | | | |
|--------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Mufflers | Scarf Pins | Bath Robes | Gloves |
| Belts | Shirt Studs | Lounging Robes | Hose |
| Cuff Buttons | Umbrellas | Sweaters | Ties |
| Collar Pins | Canes | Pajamas | Automobile Gauntlets |
| Tie Clasps | Comfort Slippers | Suits | Overcoats |
| Hats | Shirts | | |

Ours is the Gift Store for Men. Examine our stock now and select the gifts while the stock is complete. We respectfully urge that you do your shopping early. It will be more satisfactory to you to find what you want now and not be disappointed to find that just the things you intended to get are all gone.

The Courtney Clothing Company

THE QUALITY SHOP

The Spirit of The Season

Don't put off selecting your Christmas Cards until the very last moment

Christmas Cards carry the Spirit of Christmas everywhere, renew acquaintances, strengthen the bonds of friendship and bring us into closer touch with our fellow beings

There are hundreds of other Gift Things to be suggested by a trip to this store

The Book Store

The News-Topic Want Ads. Bring Results.

United States Railroad Administration

Director General of Railroads

Passenger train service which was withdrawn by Southern Railroad Lines account the coal shortage will be restored effective 12:01 A. M. Monday, December 15, 1919.

Trains 137 and 138 between Washington and Atlanta.

Augusta Special train 32 will be operated on regular schedule.

All Pullman sleeping car lines withdrawn December 9, 1919, are restored.

For detail information and schedule call on Local Ticket Agent.

SOUTHERN RAILROAD LINES

Read The Want Ads.

CHRISTMAS

Groceries

Fruits

Fresh Meats

Next Thursday is Christmas and the coming week is the time for putting on the finishing touches and getting everything ready for Christmas dinner.

You want the best of all there is—and this will be found at Hoffman's Market.

Fruits—Oranges, Apples, Grapes, Cranberries

Nuts and Oysters

Fresh Meats—the Choicest Cuts

Groceries—Fresh and of the Best Brand

A lot of other things carried in a first-class Grocery

Store and Meat Market

HOFFMAN & SON

Phone 170

N. Main St.

PULLIAM'S
Christmas Greeting
 The Salesmen in this store wish you a Merry Christmas.
 May the New Year truly bring "Peace on earth and good will to men," and may you and yours enjoy to the fullest a future filled with happiness, comfort and prosperity.

PULLIAM'S
 Cash System Store