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NEW YEAR'S MEDITATION

Brethren, I count not myself to have approped: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in anything ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing. Phil. 3:13-16.

With the closing of 1947 and the entering of 1948, we would do well to follow the example of Paul's zeal as expressed to the Philippians. Let us, too, forget those things (petty grievances) of 1947 and let us reach forth, press forward unto the things which are before, making as our goal for 1948 more unselfish service toward our fellowman and to God. . . . "who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, . . ."

LAW-ABIDING CITIZENS

Jackson county citizens are to be commended for their lawful observance of the Christmas holidays. The sheriff's department announced that there was no violence of any kind in the county during the Christmas season and that very few were found under the influence of alcohol. It was the same story with the Sylva police department.

OUR WISH FOR THE NEW YEAR

As we enter the New Year, 1948, we look back over the past year and recall, not only our mistakes, and the rough places through which we have passed, but also recall the many pleasant experiences we have had, the material benefits we have enjoyed; and we pause to wish for all our readers and advertisers, a most happy and prosperous New Year. We also express our appreciation for the patronage we have had without which we would have had no business. "Were it not for patronage like yours, there would be no Herald like ours."

YOU'RE TELLING ME!

By William Ritt
"On, Comet!"

AUSTRALIAN astronomers report sighting a comet. This is not the Comet, however, which is No. 3 reindeer on Santa Claus' team.

The new comet has a tail which is 14, 000,000 miles long, which makes it look like a celestial snake.

The earth might pass through the comet's tail—but don't be alarmed. A comet's tail is thinner than a schoolboy's excuse.

In approaching the sun or some other stars, a comet's tail switches around and becomes a beard. This makes a comet something of a quick change artist.

Astronomers are always finding new comets, but like the weather, no one seems to do anything about it.

The new comet can be seen only in the southern hemisphere. So, for the time being, we'll just have to put up with the old comets we have.

Zadok Dumkopf says he heard a broadcast about the latest news in astronomy. The fellow who talked, Zadok says, was a pretty fair comet-ator.

INSIDE WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON — Reports reaching the State department from Hungary indicate that the communizing of that country is not proceeding as rapidly as the Communists wish. Censorship has not been imposed as completely and thoroughly as in most of the other satellite states.

This and other factors have aroused speculation on why the Communist regime has not sterner steps.

However, the Communists are making "reforms." The latest is aimed at curbing the "lobbyists" of the old capitalistic regime. Recently a decree was issued which reported that large delegations from the provinces had come to Budapest to speed settlement of issues before the Parliament.

The government, it is reported, took "energetic measures" to stop this practice. A decree was issued. It provided that delegations from the provinces might approach the authorities only in exceptional cases, and then in groups of no more than three.

Officials suspect that this is an indication of the instability of the new Hungarian regime which fears that too large groups converging on the capital might threaten an anti-Communist coup.

VAUGHAN'S FEUD — There is little love lost between Maj. Gen. Harry Vaughan, President Truman's gregarious military aide, and officers of the regular Army. Observers see continuing indications of a "feud."

Vaughan, a reservist, is said to have been responsible for the chief executive's recent decision to scrutinize the records of regular officers who have been retired with tax-free pensions for disability not incurred in combat.

The troubles of Maj. Gen. Bennett Meyers—a regular—gave the White House aide a springboard from which to launch a probe of the disability retirement setup.

Vaughan has made no secret of his belief that a number of retired officers are riding the gravy train and he has vowed he'll "get something done" about it. This has not endeared him to the Pentagon brass.

The White House general encountered an Army roadblock when he decided to take all the members of the Sunday school class he teaches to the Army-Navy football game as his guests.

His request for a huge sheaf of tickets was bounced back and forth like a shuttlecock in a badminton game, and he finally was compelled to settle for "only a few" of the precious pasteboards.

Insiders in Washington military circles expect new developments since Vaughan is not the type to accept rebuffs without retaliation.

WOMEN WORKERS — The problem of women workers is beginning to crop up more and more bargaining conferences between labor and management. Some unions apparently are worried about competition that women add to the manpower market for the payroll dollar.

An example of the union view is contained in the contract recently signed by Lever Brothers company, soap manufacturers, and the CIO Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers union.

This agreement bluntly and specifically banned the employment of married women except where they are self-supporting due to divorce, a legal separation, physical disability or death of a husband, or if the husband is in military service.

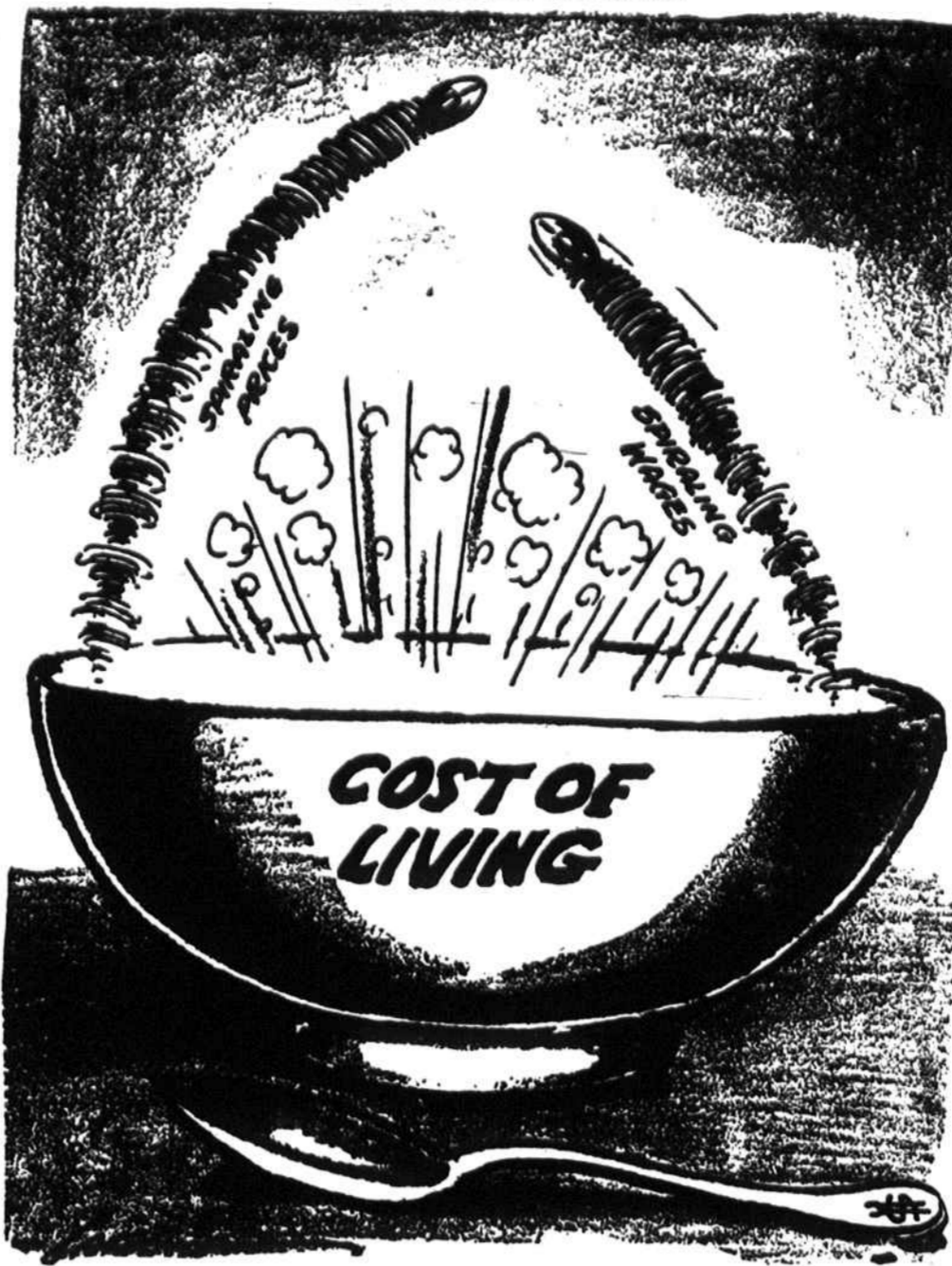
Obviously, this type of union demand could not, and will not, be pressed in industries which have traditionally employed women such as textiles, apparels, drugs and the like.

However, where the employment of women was a war-born development, you can expect increasing attention on the part of the unions to clauses dealing with female employes.

To save freedom, first learn that the dignity of man is not the privilege of a few but the natural right of all.

We've got to stop talking about dollars in dealing with the plight of Europe. They don't want dollars; they want things. But if our prices keep going up they can't get things with the dollars we send them.—Bernard M. Baruch.

SOUP BOWL CLASSIC



The Everyday Counsellor

By REV. HERBERT SPAUGH, D. D.

The Christmas and New Year season is a good time for me to pass on to the readers of this column a portion of one of the most beautiful letters I have ever read. It may prompt you to put some of your resolutions into action.

At a recent alumni reunion two successful businessmen were talking about their college days. One asked the other which of his professors had influenced him the most for good.

Both agreed on the same one, and each promised to write a letter of appreciation. The letters reached the old professor shortly before his earthly career was suddenly closed. His wife's reply to one of these is the most touchingly appreciative letter I have ever read. I am permitted to quote excerpts:

"I have been looking over John's files recently. Among them I found the letter you wrote him last winter. It was a most unusual letter in every way—brief, but there was more heart in it than many a ten volume edition . . . It was one of the few letters that repaid him as no money could have done for every day's work of forty years. It paid him for wearing last year's suit and collars frayed at the edges, It paid him for turning his back on a position at a large university when he much wanted to go. It paid him for never seeing England and all the banks and braes of Bonnie Doun. So you see it was not only a rare letter, it was worth more, far more than its weight in gold.

"You wrote it to him before he stepped over into Eternity with scarcely the missing of a heart beat . . . I think he would have liked to carry it in his breast pocket up there to show to the Greatest Teacher of all Time that he too had taught not for money or fame, but for the love of the lesson and the boy.

"More and more I have come to realize how he hungered for a word of praise such as you wrote him before it was too late, before his mortal ear was forever closed to all the sounds of this world, before his eyes were dim to all the sights of mortal man. How shall I ever thank you for your kindness . . . It was better than a month's check, even though that meant bread and meat for all of us. It was the white hyacinth that Elbert Hubbard speaks of because the perfume and beauty and permanence of your praise was far more enduring and sweetening and heartening than the coin of this realm.

"And now we will have to draw the moral to it all. Every good story has a moral and this has one too: If you love and admire and respect people, tell them so. I am sure you do that already because your letter shows that you do. Well, keep on doing it. We are never sorry that we have been kind, and particularly toward those who

are on the western side of the hill. . . I wanted you to know truly what your brief letter meant to John and to me."

This lovely letter ought to provoke some long-delayed letters of appreciation to old and neglected friends. The holiday and New Year season offers a good time to do such.

Remember that we are "never sorry that we have been kind, particularly towards those who are on the western side of the hill." There yet may be time to write a word of appreciation to some neglected friend before he "steps over into Eternity."

Remember, you have time to do the things you really want to do.

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