

THE NEW YEAR.

Not new, like the coin golden glinting, Complete as it falls from the mint, Nor new, like the brooding hinting...

UP THE SLIDE.

When Clay Dilham left the tent to get a sled-load of fire-wood, he expected to be back in half an hour. So he told Swanson, who was cooking the dinner...

Then he turned about for the back trip. Going down, he knew was even more dangerous than coming up, but how dangerous he did not realize till he had slipped half a dozen times...

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The shock of this was severe in itself, and the fine snow enveloped him in a blinding, maddening cloud; but he was thinking quickly and clearly of what would happen if he were to slip...

And none too soon, for the next moment his feet dove into the outcropping, his legs doubled up and the wind was driven from his stomach with the abruptness of the stop.

Reaching upward the distance of a step, he brushed away the snow, and in the frozen gravel and crumbled

rock of the slide chopped a shallow resting place for his foot. Then he came up a step, reached forward, and repeated the maneuver. And so, step by step, foot-hole by foot-hole, a tiny speck of toiling life poised like a fly on the face of Mooseshide Mountain...

The gully opened out in a miniature basin, in which a floor of soil had been deposited, out of which, in turning, tiny grove of pines had sprung. The trees were all dead, dry and seasoned, having long since exhausted the thin skin of earth.

But the descent on that side was precipitate and dangerous in the uncertain moonshine, and he elected to go down the bank by its gentler northern flank. In a couple of hours he reached the Yukon at the Siwash village, and took the river-trail back to where he had left the dogs.

It is said that there are more than 21,000 varieties of postage stamps in circulation throughout the world to-day. Eighty years ago there were none in existence.

The most authentic story of the origin of postage stamps comes from the Postoffice Department at Washington. About seventy years ago Sir Rowland Hill was traveling through the central section of northern England...

Each step became more difficult and perilous, and he was faint from exertion and from lack of Swanson's dinner. Three or four times he slipped slightly and recovered himself; but, growing careless from exhaustion and the long tension on his nerves, he tried to continue with too great haste...

On account of the steepness there was little snow; but what little there was was displaced by his body, so that he became the nucleus of a young avalanche. He clawed desperately with his hands, but there was little to cling to, and he sped downward faster and faster.

The first and second outcroppings were below him, but he knew that the first was almost out of line, and pinched his hope on the nucleus of a young avalanche. He clawed desperately with his hands, but there was little to cling to, and he sped downward faster and faster.

The value of a stamp depends not upon its age, as is commonly supposed, but upon the number issued and preserved.

Potato Crop Double that of Last Year. Detroit, Mich.—The Detroit Free Press reports that in 1900 the United States raised 210,926,897 bushels of potatoes, an average yield of 80.5 bushels per acre, and the crop sold for an average price of 43 cents per bushel.

In Wrong Either Way. "I'm in hard luck." "Why?" "I told Belle she was the first girl I ever loved, and she said she could not waste her time training amateurs. Then I told Nancy I had made love to other girls but that she was my real passion, and she asked me if she was a cultured taste with me or a forlorn hope."—Baltimore American.

Thanksgiving Donation to Bellefonte Hospital. The Thanksgiving donation to the Bellefonte hospital was a very liberal one, considering the unusual demand made on the people of the county...

Mrs. M. J. Miller—2 quarts pickles, 1 qt. jelly. Mrs. Oliver Witmer—1 box corn starch, 1 peck apples, 3 pounds onions. Mrs. Harry Dukeman—1 quart beans, 1 quart jelly, 2 glasses jelly, 2 qt. pickles, 1 quart fruit, 1 peck potatoes.

Mrs. D. N. Murphy—1 peck apples. Mrs. N. J. Hockman—3 heads cabbage. Mrs. S. S. Tressler—one-half bushel potatoes. G. W. Rees—one-half peck potatoes, 3 lbs. rice. Mrs. L. C. Valentine—beans. L. A. Schaefer—one-half bushel potatoes.

Mrs. George McCullough—1 peck potatoes. Mrs. Daniel Shuey—1 qt. beans, 1 qt. chow chow, 3 glasses jelly. Mrs. Harry Irwin—4 glasses jelly, 1 jar of pickles. Mrs. Paul Keck—1 box corn flake, 1 jar of pickles, 1 head cabbage.

Mrs. Blaine Mabius—1 can peas, 1 peck potatoes, 1 box condensed milk, 1 box oatmeal, 1 box post-toasties. Mrs. J. G. Dubbs—2 glasses jelly, 1 head cabbage, 1 box oatmeal, 1 box post-toasties.

Mrs. Walter Tate—2 glasses jelly. Mrs. Howard Shuey—2 quarts tomatoes. Mr. Schreckengast—1 bus. potatoes, 1 bus. apples, one-half peck beets, 2 heads cabbage. Harry Irwin—one-half peck apples, one-half peck beets, 2 heads cabbage.

Mrs. Ed Young—2 qt. peas, 2 qt. corn. Mr. Bardo—1 box corn starch, 1 peck potatoes. Mrs. Waite—1 head cabbage. Mrs. Clarence Rhoads—2 pounds rice. Mrs. Rees—1 qt. tomatoes, apples, turnips, and potatoes.

Mrs. Garthoff—1 qt. grape juice, 1 quart fruit, one-half peck apples, one-half pk. cabbage. A. Fauble—20 lbs. coffee, 10 lbs. cocoa. Mrs. Harry Turner—3 heads cabbage, 1 peck apples.

Mrs. Ed Peters—6 heads cabbage, one-half peck apples. Haag Hotel—3 glasses jelly, 3 qts. fruit. Mrs. D. C. Hall, Fleming—2 qt. tomatoes. Mrs. Richard—6 towels. Mrs. Clevenstone—old muslin, 1 box cereal.

Mrs. Mott—3 cakes soap. Mrs. W. J. Miller—2 qt. pickles, 1 glass jelly. Mrs. John McCoy—one-half lb. rice, one and one-half lbs. coffee, 1 lb. penicils, 1 peck potatoes.

can peas, 2 cans corn, 1 box raisins, one-half bushel potatoes. Mrs. Deitch—1 head cabbage, 1 peck potatoes. Mrs. H. Wian—one-half peck potatoes, one-half peck beets, 2 heads cabbage.

Mrs. J. C. Furst—1 box cocoa, 2 boxes spaghetti, one-half lb. tea, one-half peck oatmeal, one-half bushel potatoes. Mrs. T. Hartner—1 peck potatoes. William Gehret—1 glass jelly, 1 head cabbage.

Mrs. George Sunday—1 dozen eggs. Mrs. Daniel Houser—one-half gallon jelly, 1 pint pear butter. Rev. Dunn—1 lb. coffee, 1 qt. peaches. Mrs. J. B. Loveland—one-half peck potatoes, 1 quart tomatoes, 1 qt. peaches.

Mrs. George Beezer—1 box cocoa, 1 qt. pineapple, 2 cans coffee, 2 boxes rice. T. M. Barnhart—1 box corn meal, 2 qts. corn, 2 qts. peas, 1 box corn starch. Mr. Straub—1 bushel apples.

Mrs. George F. Harris—1 box corn starch, 1 lb. cocoa, junket, 2 boxes tablets, 2 lbs. prunes, 2 boxes cereal, 1 box moth-cakes. Charles Shaffer—2 qt. peaches, 1 lb. coffee, 1 qt. grape juice, 1 bushel apples.

Mrs. Bigler—1 peck potatoes, 1 qt. fruit. J. Klager—1 peck potatoes. N. Saylor—one-half peck potatoes, 1 head cabbage. Miscellaneous—old linen, 13 1/2 quarts of fruit, 15 bushel apples, 27 heads cabbage, 3 bushel potatoes, 2 quarts beets, 2 quarts pears, 1 dozen oranges, 2 qts. peas, 5 lbs. sugar, 1 lb. tea, 5 boxes of cereal, 4 quarts pickles, 3 quarts beets, 4 quarts tomatoes, 7 glasses jelly, 2 qts. corn, 2 cakes soap, 2 cans soup, 1 bag of oatmeal, 1 box macaroni, 1 lb. butter, 1/2 bushel turnips.

Many Applications for 1918 Motor Licenses. Harrisburg, December 19.—Receipts for 1918 motor vehicle registrations and licenses already amount to more than four times the total revenue derived from these sources during the entire year of 1907, according to a statement issued by the State Highway Department.

The automobile division of the State Highway Department, to date, has received \$269,548 for 1918 registrations and licenses; during the year 1907 the receipts amounted to \$59,604.91. That the State Highway department is determined to enforce the automobile law against individuals using 1917 tags on January 1 seems to be understood generally, as applications are coming in daily in increasing numbers.

Gigarettes. A most extraordinary development of the war is the transformation of the character of the cigarette in the estimation of what seems to be about everybody. It is not so long ago that the cigarette was being denounced widely as a most deadly foe to health, and insidious menace to the morals of youth, the sure underminer of manhood's stability and worth, and even a stealthy handmaid of vice; a monster against which the rising generation was wearily warned. Yet today we are hearing a call from here, there and everywhere for contributions to a fund for cigarettes for the soldier boys in camp and on the battlefield! Was the cigarette for years, then, held up unjustly to scorn and contempt, to be discovered now, in our mighty stress, as a cheering friend and comforter?—Browning's Magazine.

—A flowering plant, according to scientists, abstracts from the soil 200 times its own weight in water during its life.

—We should not be too strong in our condemnation of weeds. They taught man his duty before he knew it. It is thought that in pulling out or digging out weeds it was accidentally discovered that loosening up the ground helps plants to grow. From this we have the evolution of cultivation. Even now it takes weeds to make some farmers cultivate their land.

—It is claimed that there are plenty of suitable horses in the United States to meet any demands that might be made for army purposes. This is probably true, but they are not available for army purposes at prices which the army contractors are willing to pay. If the Government wants army horses it will have to pay prices that will be an inducement for farmers to raise such horses.

—In the work of making the home attractive, the house yard will certainly need attention. The fences will probably need to be straightened and painted, and the walk to the house improved. The well water ought to be examined by an expert, because too often the drainage from the barnyard contaminates it, and typhoid fever is one of the things that may be must watch for and avoid. If the well is unsanitary, a new one should be dug at another point.

—It is a good idea to plant a row of small cedars, to shut off the vegetable from the flower garden, and in summer to have several hedges of hollyhocks, to give color. There may be flowers of all sorts, too, but decidedly not planted in any kettle on boxes, or other curious places, but in the earth where they belong. The farmhouse needs one good, generously built porch. This may be made by merely widening one already existing, but it is best to have it made practically level with the ground, if possible.

—Farmers throughout the country are being advised by the nation's Agricultural Department to keep sheep. This is based upon the indisputable fact of a world-wide depletion in wool and sheep. Oklahoma bankers last year interested farmers in different parts of the State in the sheep industry, and from the information attainable, those who were interested by the propaganda realized handsome profits from an industry largely new to the Oklahoma. Sheep values in the State increased \$100,000 in a single year. Information from the State Agricultural Department is to the effect that there is a material increase in the number of farmers who are this year becoming interested in sheep-raising.

—In these days of high priced feeds and scarcity of farm products, comfort and warmth for the dairy cow means conservation of food, according to Professor Fred Rasmussen, head of the Dairy Husbandry department at The Pennsylvania State College. When milch cows are exposed to cold, inclement weather there is a decrease in the amount of milk produced. A dairy cow uses feed for maintenance, for milk production, for her own growth and for the growth of the foetus, if with calf.

Maintenance means the amount of feed needed to keep a cow without gain or loss in body weight under normal conditions. The tissues of the heart, limbs and special glands of the cow, which perform certain functions, are constantly breaking down and must be rebuilt. When a cow walks, energy is used and tissues are broken down; both must be replaced by feed.

The normal body temperature of a cow is about 102 degrees. The greater the difference between the body temperature of the cow and her surroundings, the greater is the amount of feed required to keep the body at a normal temperature. When cows are exposed to wet and cold at the same time, an increased demand is made on feed, as sufficient fat must be produced to evaporate the water. Not only is more feed used for their maintenance, but their discomfort disturbs their normal functions. It is not uncommon to have an average decrease of two or more pounds of milk per cow per day under such circumstances.

—At this season of the year farm animals are likely to be neglected, because farmers make the mistake of trying to keep them on pasture as long as possible. At the first sign of loss of weight, or if the astute is poor, some feed should be given. Pasture will be worth more in the spring when feed is likely to be higher, and livestock can be maintained in better condition and probably cheaper through the winter. No particular action, says F. L. Bentley of the animal husbandry department of The Pennsylvania State College, can be proposed for general use, because of varying conditions, but a few suggestions are offered: For horses—In general two pounds of feed per day per 100 pounds liveweight. For a horse doing no work, all the hay it will eat and sufficient grain to keep it in good condition. For a horse doing average work, one to one and one-fourth pounds of hay per day per 100 pounds liveweight. For a colt at weaning, two quarts of oats per day and all the hay it will eat. For beef cattle—In general, two and one-half pounds feed per 100 pounds liveweight. For maintenance, all the roughage they will eat, a portion of which is clover or alfalfa hay. In the absence of clover hay, a small amount of cottonseed meal or linseed meal, one to one and one-fourth pounds per 100 pounds liveweight. For hogs—In general, three to five pounds concentrates per 100 pounds liveweight, with larger rations for younger and smaller rations for older hogs. For fattening, four to five pounds concentrates daily per 100 pounds liveweight. For sheep—For fattening lambs on full feed one pound concentrates and one and one-half pounds roughage per day. For pregnant ewes, if the roughage they will eat is within a few weeks of lambing, then, one-half to one pound concentrates per day.