



**Thanksgiving is a Primitive Rite**

THANKSGIVING is celebrated in memory of the day when the friendly Narraganset Indians saw the newcoming farmers of old England in need, because their European-cereals failed to grow on the sands of Cape Cod. These red men gave the Pilgrims corn, beans, squashes, wild turkeys, and wild grapes; all considered sacred gifts of the Great Spirit to the soil of America, says Dr. Erl Bates, advisor in Indian extension at the New York state college of agriculture.

However, he says, this was not the first Thanksgiving. The rite was born as early man sought out his relationship to his creator and wondered at the mystery of the seasons. This became associated with mystery and an element of fear; and to explain this, priests soon developed a ceremonial. History tells of Thanksgiving ten thousand years ago in the Tigris-Euphrates valley when the harvest was gathered; in the valley of the Nile; in Crete; in the beginnings of some of the priestly rituals in Greece and Rome; among the Hebrews; the



Red Men Gave the Pilgrims Corn, Beans, Squashes, Turkeys.

Norsemens; in the Congo; and in Tasmania as the seasonal waves threw quantities of fish on their shores. To a simple people like the North American Indians, Thanksgiving was personal and sincere. They felt the Spirit at each sunrise and each sunset, and each month the tribe, in common council, celebrated one of their twelve Thanksgivings. In midwinter they thanked the Great Spirit for sending the snow to protect the seeds and animals; later they gave thanks for the sweet waters of the woodland, or maple sap; in spring they held their great Thanksgiving, for they were able to plant their food staple—Indian maize; soon followed the ceremony for the strawberries and, in order, those for the beans and squashes, the corn harvest, for the wild apples and grapes, and for the time when the hide and flesh of the deer and bear was in season. Doctor Bates says the power of the Six Nations came through the common bond of their religious ceremonies.

As the red man looks at the white American today, he says, the Great Spirit has given the white American

fifty times more than he ever gave the red man, but the white American has but one Thanksgiving a year. If the red man with his limitations was able to produce his great civilization with but nature's book and the sky as his guide, what can the white man not do with his inheritance and the wisdom of ages through the printed pages of his ideals and experiences? "Faith will move mountains in America today as in days gone by, if we place our feet on the sacred soil



The White American Has But One Thanksgiving a Year.

of the red man and, unafraid, celebrate the true American spirit of Thanksgiving. To be a tolerant, neighborly American, live the Thanksgiving spirit of the red American in daily thinking and living," Doctor Bates says.



**Thanksgiving Chrysanthemum**

Since it is the chrysanthemum season—this hardy flower defying the frost—the chrysanthemum is the Thanksgiving flower. That is quite as it should be. Thanksgiving is a hardy holiday as well as a hearty one. It spans the whole distance between the American of the Seventeenth century who held (in New England) all sport an ungodly pastime, and the American of the Twentieth century who makes a god of sport. That shows how truly and abidingly American a holiday is this one, which is so rarely privileged that the President of the Republic has to pay it the tribute of an annual official proclamation.

**Thanksgiving Pie**



**Thanksgiving**

By Katherine Edelman

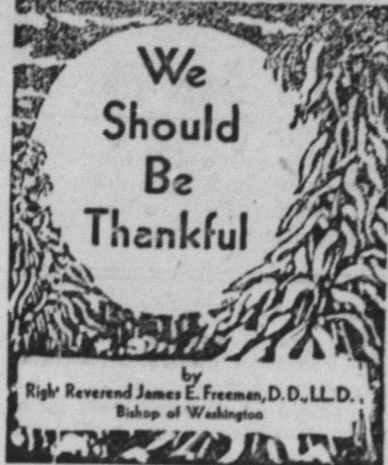
*FATHER of all,  
Thy name we bless,  
For all good things  
That see possess.  
For dreams and hopes  
That fill the soul,  
For struggling toward  
Some shining goal;  
For every little  
Joy that clings  
Around life's simple  
Homey things.*

*Father of all,  
Our praise we send,  
To Thee, our best  
And truest Friend.  
We bless Thee for  
The kindly yield  
Of stretching plain,  
Of wood and field.  
And be our portion  
Great or small,  
We love and thank you  
For it all.*

(C. 1933, Western Newspaper Union)



EXCEPT the Fourth of July Thanksgiving is the most distinctively American of all our national holidays. It has not always been held so late in the year, nor has it always been held everywhere at the same time. Originating in New England, it was not observed throughout the country until after the Civil war, when the Presidents, as well as the governors of states, began to issue Thanksgiving proclamations. Thus it has become a symbol of national unity. The custom of celebrating a Thanksgiving day did not originate with the Pilgrims, though they introduced it into this country. For seven days when the harvest was over the Hebrews of the Old Testament held their Feast of Tabernacles, a sort of camping-out time in memory of their period of wandering in the wilderness. In October the Greeks celebrated at Athens their "Thesmophoria," in honor of Demeter, the goddess of agriculture. It was a festival that began with religious rites performed by married women only, and that ended with a general banquet and dancing. On October 4 the Romans kept a similar festival that they called "Cerealia" in honor of Ceres, their goddess of the harvest. Indeed there is in almost every European nation a tradition of a feast to mark the end of the garnering of the crops. In Old England it was called "Harvest Home" and came down from the Saxon period; in Scotland it was "Kern"—a word that means the last sheaf. The Dutch of Leyden, where the Pilgrims spent ten years before they came to New England, celebrated on October 3 every year a festival to give thanks for the delivery from the Spaniards in 1574—a day that corresponds to our Armistice day. In the Scandinavian churches a special Sunday is designated every fall as Thanksgiving day.—Youth's Companion.



Text: "Offer unto God thanksgiving."—Psalms, 114.

GRATITUDE for favors and blessings received is the warrant for blessings and favors yet to come. In our individual and corporate life nothing is more disheartening or disappointing than ingratitude. It was this that made King Lear cry out: "How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is to have a thankless child!" Failure to acknowledge gifts and blessings conferred not only chills the heart of the benefactor, but works to the hurt of the beneficiary. To be thankful for favors big or little is a mark of refinement and an evidence of good breeding. We have often noted that those who are the quickest to respond to a favor conferred are those who have the finest feelings. An expression of cordial and deep appreciation is like oil that lubricates the machinery of life. Like the gift of mercy, "it blesses him who gives and him who takes." To remember daily the gifts that God bestows upon us serves to make us more conscious of the real values of life. The mere expression in prayer of gratitude deepens in us not only our sense of dependence upon God, but gives us a finer sense of our own place of usefulness in the scheme of life.

When a nation is called, as we are, to recognize a day of thanksgiving, it serves to emphasize our solidarity and the richness of our common heritage, and at the same time brings vividly before us our common dependence upon him who is the giver of every good and perfect gift. It was the Roman Emperor Constantine who said to the sculptor who was carving his figure, "I wish you to carve the figure kneeling. In the attitude of prayer, for it was from that posture I rose to greatness." As individuals or as a people



The Figure Kneeling, in the Attitude of Prayer.

we never have a truer consciousness of our corporate life and our intimate interrelationships than when we kneel to acknowledge the gifts and blessings that we commonly receive. Thus, Thanksgiving day, rightly interpreted, places fresh emphasis not only upon the source of all our blessings, but compels us to recognize the closeness of the tie that binds us together in a great fellowship. It is the family day of the nation. It reminds us that we are bound together "for better or worse, for richer or poorer," and that what affects one section for good or ill affects all.

It is a demonstrable fact that nothing brings us closer together in a great fellowship than a spirit of thankfulness. When we are over-self-confident and self-assured; when, in the language of the ancient Word, we declare, "My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth," we lose our sense of interdependence one with another and the deeper consciousness of our common dependence upon God. How frequently in households where the patrimony is dispensed to the children do we find that it creates cleavages and the loss of mutual respect and affection. Again, how frequently in households where adversity and misfortune have come do we discover the knitting of the ties of kinship and the evidence of deepened affection. America on this Thanksgiving day must acknowledge with gratitude another year of unprecedented blessings. Widely scattered as our peoples are, diverse as are their interests, they are the sharers of a common bounty. Surely at such a time and under such conditions it is fitting that we should unite to "offer unto God thanksgiving." The very act of corporate thankfulness tends to break down that which all too frequently divides us into groups and classes; it effaces distinctions and makes of the nation itself one great family. Thus the spirit of thankfulness becomes indispensable to our security, our peace and prosperity. We may worship at different altars, we may express our devotions in ways familiar to us, we may have fellowships that have grown dear and helpful to us, but on our national Thanksgiving day we bow as one people before the "Giver of every good and perfect gift" and with humility recognize his bounty and our common dependence upon his goodness.

**CAP AND BELLS**



**HE NEEDED WATER**

Small Eric wanted to go to the swimming baths with the bigger boys, but his teacher thought it wouldn't be safe.

"But I'm a good swimmer, sir," he pleaded.

"Can you swim a length?" asked the teacher.

The boy did not seem to grasp his meaning, so to make it clear the teacher said, "Can you swim from your desk to the door?"

"Oh, no, sir," Eric replied, "there's no water there."—London Tit-Bits.

**Modern Youth**

Teacher—Cuthbert, you have been very naughty today and I am going to keep you after school half an hour every day this week.

Cuthbert—Well, teacher, I don't care on my own account, but ain't you afraid that people will talk about us?

**Knew the Stock**

"You advertised for a clear clerk?" "Yes, I want an experienced man. Do you know the ropes?"

**WIFELY FORETHOUGHT**

Carole—Douglas, dear, I wish you would see a doctor before our wedding.

Douglas—Why should I? I am perfectly well except for a little dyspepsia.

Carole—That's just it. I want a certificate from a doctor showing that your dyspepsia antedated our marriage.

**Identified**

The teacher was explaining the difference between the stately rose and the modest violet.

"You see, children," she said, "a beautiful, well-dressed woman walks along the street, but she is proud and does not greet anybody—that is the rose. But behind her comes a small creature with bowed head."

"Yes, miss, I know," Tommy interrupted, "that's her husband."—Stray Stories.

**Nonsupport**

"You say that your husband doesn't buy you any clothes?"

"No, judge. If my tongue were coated it would have to be at my own expense."

**Previous Engagement**

"Do you know my husband is a riddle to me?"

"Yes, I know. I once gave him up myself."—Vancouver Province.

**Looking for Bargain**

"Is your wife changeable, old man?" "I've never tried, but I shouldn't think so."—Tit-Bits Magazine.

**MORE SATISFACTION CAN'T BE BOUGHT FOR 5¢**



**Sometimes It Shrinks**  
There are several sorts of money, but easy money doesn't always grow to be smart money.—Lafayette Journal and Courier.

**Been Through the Mill**  
Six men out of ten have one leg longer than the other, orthopedists declare. The other four are symmetrical, having had both legs pulled.

**Now! A Quicker Way to Ease Pain**



Don't Forget Real BAYER Aspirin Starts "Taking Hold" in Few Minutes

Here is quicker relief from pain—the fastest safe relief, it is said, ever known. This is due to a scientific discovery by which BAYER Aspirin starts "taking hold" of pain a few minutes after taking.

The illustration of the glass here tells the story. A Bayer tablet starts to disintegrate or dissolve—go to work—almost instantly. This means quick relief from pain—fewer lost hours from headache, neuritis, rheumatism. And safe relief. For genuine Bayer Aspirin does not harm the heart.

When you buy, see that you get the genuine Bayer Aspirin. The best way is never to ask for aspirin by the name "aspirin" alone. But if you want Bayer Aspirin's quick relief always to say "BAYER Aspirin."



**THE FINISHING TOUCH**

To a perfect toilet may be found in Cuticura Talcum Powder. Smooth, pure, and delicately medicated, it absorbs perspiration and cools and refreshes the skin. Ideal for every member of the family.

**GRAHAM MCNAMEE** FAMOUS RADIO ANNOUNCER says: "I'll announce to the world that THE EDISON is a great Hotel!"  
FROM \$2.50 daily  
**HOTEL EDISON**  
47th ST. West of 5-way NEW YORK  
1000 ROOMS EACH WITH BATH, RADIO AND CIRCULATING ICE WATER