

Thanksgiving



ENTER into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: and be thankful unto Him and bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endureth to all generations. *Psalms 100, 4-5*



THANKSGIVING day is more interwoven with the nation's history than any other American holiday and has had the most checkered career of them all, a historical review of the long chain of circumstances surrounding this most pleasant harvest festival reveals.

While Thanksgiving, as an annual event under the auspices of the state, is a legacy from the early New England colonists, it nevertheless was first proclaimed as a national day for giving thanks by the first President, George Washington, who was requested to do so by joint resolution of congress in 1789, writes Gifford Ernest in the Chicago Daily News.

At intervals from then on to the present it has been observed nationally by proclamation of the President. The longest interval during which no proclamation was issued and the day was only observed by some and that sectionally, was about 50 years ago.

This hiatus in official national gratitude occurred between the presidencies of James Madison and Abraham Lincoln. During this lapse the southern states objected to its observance by presidential proclamation on the ground that it was a relic of Puritan bigotry. During this long period of supremacy of the South and West in national affairs the festival was confined chiefly to the northeastern states.

Thursday has been most generally selected as the day of the week for observing the holiday. However, Wednesday has been occasionally used. Although November has been preferred



The Horn of Plenty, Symbolic of the Occasion for Thanksgiving.

as the month for expressing publicly the national gratitude, February, April, May, August and December have been designated at times.

Wednesdays and Thursdays were selected by the Puritans of New England for their festive occasions in connection with giving thanks for abundant harvests because they desired to have them as far as possible from the Christian Sabbath, which they observed with strict simplicity.

The turkey typifies Thanksgiving viands because Governor Bradford of Plymouth sent out four hunters to procure a supply of game for the feast after the first harvest in the fall of 1621. Conspicuous among the game birds and animals bagged by the hunters were numerous wild turkeys, which were common in the woods of Massachusetts. From this circumstance arose the popular association of these handsome and tasty birds with Thanksgiving.

In time the day was observed in Connecticut; later the Dutch of New Netherland proclaimed a public day for giving thanks. During the Revolutionary war congress recommended days for Thanksgiving. Thursday, November 26, 1789, was proclaimed by

President George Washington the first national Thanksgiving day after the setting up of the republic.

After President Adams' proclamation for the observance of April 25, 1799, another one wasn't issued for 13 years, when President Madison revived the day and designated a Thursday in August, 1812, as the day for Thanksgiving. Two other such days were appointed and then the lapse until President Lincoln set aside Thursday, August 6, 1863, as a day of Thanksgiving, and then later in the same year designated the "last Thursday of November next" for the same purpose.

President Lincoln's proclamation was as follows:

The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the



THERE probably has been no subject since man's beginning more discussed than prayer. Religionists have claimed it belonged to the spiritual world as a form of worship. Scientists not being able to classify it into formula or fact have dismissed the subject as not belonging to the scientific world. What is prayer, and where does it belong, and to whom?

According to the present status of the human race there are three kinds of prayer. The first type of prayer is petition. Begging for something which one has not, whether it be for something to have or to be, it is asking God to give. This type of request is pseudo-prayer, and should bear the name of petition. The second type of prayer is the kind that brings our nation, at the President's proclamation, to its knees on Thanksgiving day in gratitude, for Thanksgiving means gratitude. It is an attribute of the heart. Even though grateful, one can also be selfish. Gratitude is sometimes lacking in human beings and found in dogs. Today, we the American people are not as grateful for our splendid country, with its privileges of free education, its noble liberty of religious thinking, its art, fine music and literature, as were those first Pilgrim fathers who dared the bleak barren coasts of early New England.

"Give us this day our daily bread," is more often "said" than prayed, and in how many American homes today do little children never hear a word of grace or gratitude at the beginning of a meal. This is short measure of his rightful heritage. Gratitude is one of the courtesies of character, an amenity of the heart. It can be cultivated by always comparing your lot in life with that of someone who has less rather than more than you have. This always brings gratitude plus contentment. However, this second type of prayer goes only half way to the heart of God, and should only bear the name of gratitude, not prayer.

The third kind of prayer must include others if we wish it to ascend higher than our heads. A great and fine woman, internationally known, said to me once, that she prays God to help her answer prayers of others. "You would be surprised," she said to me, "how many opportunities daily come to me to answer the prayers of other folks. Somehow, when I am thinking in terms of the needs of others I lose track of my own, and I grow strong when others need me to be strong." Can we really pray?

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source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful providence of almighty God.

In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign states to invite and provoke their aggressions, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere, except in the theater of military conflict; while that theater has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union.

Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense have not arrested the plow, the shuttle, or the ship; the ax has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the American people, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege, and the battlefield, and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom.

No human counsel hath devised, nor any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the most high God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American people. I do, therefore, invite my fellow-citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to him for singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to his tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the



Washington Proclaimed the First National Thanksgiving Day.

interposition of the almighty hand to heal the wounds of the nation, and to restore it, as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes, to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-eighth.

A. LINCOLN

By the President: WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

President Andrew Johnson in his first Thanksgiving proclamation departed from the precedent of Washington and Lincoln and designated the first Thursday of December, 1865. The following year he returned to the last Thursday of November and all his successors have followed suit.

ANNUAL REMINDER

THANKSGIVING day comes as an annual reminder that there is always something for which to be grateful, even if its discernment requires close observation and superior intelligence.

SEEN and HEARD around the NATIONAL CAPITAL

By Carter Field
FAMOUS WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT



Washington.—Evidence increases that there will be a real drive for the 30-hour week when congress reconvenes. In fact, despite the bitter opposition of many business men, particularly large employers whose plants require continuous operation to obtain maximum efficiency and economy, the probability is that congress would pass the 30-hour week bill at this season if the union labor leaders were sincerely for it.

Nearly every development is grist to the mill of the measure's advocates. For example, the latest government figures show that wage payments—a rough way of stating employment—have advanced to within 71 per cent of normal. But production as a result of that employment and these wages has reached 91 per cent of normal.

It's technocracy all over again—the constantly recurring problem of how to pass the work around—how to keep enough consumers in funds to purchase the products of the decreasing number of workers.

Many experts still think that this cycle, far more than the loss of cash by the purchase of foreign bonds that later defaulted, and infinitely more than the stock market crash, was responsible for the economic troubles which began in this country in 1929.

No better illustration of this theory has ever been advanced to this writer than what he discovered in Birmingham, in August, 1929. Just a year before, the steel mills of that district had employed 42,000 men. In August, 1929, they were employing only 24,000 men. But they were turning out more steel!

Down the Line

In short, 18,000 well paid men had lost their jobs, had stopped buying at the local department store and other stores, were wearing old clothes and squeezing their pennies. Newspapers were forced to cut expenses because the stores had been forced to cut their advertising. And so it went all the way down the line—more than two months before the stock market crash. And the same thing was happening in Pittsburgh, Gary, Youngstown, Chicago and Bethlehem. The same sort of thing, to a greater or lesser extent, was happening in every other industry, which meant that the buying power of the country was being dried up.

But virtually nobody realized it!

In the last session of congress so much sentiment developed for the 30-hour bill that, in the early stages, leader after leader told a group of editors inquiring into the general legislative situation that they expected some modification of the 30-hour measure, if not that itself, to pass. It did not pass because union labor leaders traded it for the Wagner labor relations bill. They far preferred that.

There are two major objections to the 30-hour proposal, one by the big employers, and the other by some of the very people who believe that the type of thing illustrated by the Birmingham steel mills not only caused the depression, but has held back the return of prosperity.

The objection of the employers is that it will disrupt their organizations. Thirty hours a week is only five six-hour days. Such a limitation on work hours does not fit in readily with shifts. And of course there is always the objection to a blanket raise in wages, boosting production costs. This last phase is especially true now because business generally is concerned over the resentment of housewives in particular and buyers in general over advancing prices. Also because they know that security bill taxes for old age pensions, unemployment insurance, etc., are shortly going to advance production costs further.

The objection by the theorists is that any such move is just a temporary palliative. Further advances in labor saving machinery—additional shortcuts will come. They fear the 30-hour measure might prove a veritable strait-jacket.

Stock Rise Too Fast

The stock market has been rising too rapidly to suit the administration. Information to this effect comes from the same sources that enabled the writer to make this same statement in June, 1933, when it may be remembered, the administration literally smacked the market down and took considerable pleasure in the process.

The administration does not want any such crash at the moment. In fact, all it wants is a small decline, and it does not want that until after January 1.

The significance of this is that it knows many business executives plan their budgets around the end of December and at that time lay out their plans for expenditures and expansions during the year. For this process the administration wants to have all the encouragement possible. Hence it will make no move to interfere with the boom so evident in the market until after January 1.

Of course the administration even then does not want anything approaching a confidence-destroying debacle. It would merely like to see a decline set in which would carry security prices, stocks in particular, down to a level from which a slow, creeping progress could be made next summer

and fall. Politics is behind all this. The New Dealers fear if the present boom continues, well through the winter, there is likely to be the normal setback in the summer and fall. The effect of this on the country would be precisely opposite to that desired.

The most encouraging sort of stock market movement to the country, the New Dealers figure, is the creeping advance. It indicates improving business prospects, not speculation. But it cannot occur, very well, after a big bull movement, especially if stock prices have been pushed up during that bull movement far beyond any sane ratio to earnings and dividends.

There's the Rub

Now that is where the rub comes in. For despite all this talk about "breathing spell" and reassuring business, every one close to the administration knows that there are going to be more taxes—after election—and that these taxes, assuming the New Deal is continued by the voters next November, will fall on business. Especially big business.

Although this is absolutely clear to anyone, no matter how remote from touch with the White House, who carefully studies the President's official utterances (he pointed out in the "breathing spell" statement that no more taxes should be imposed on the little fellow, already burdened by processing taxes, etc.), it has not been generally appreciated.

But by next summer, the New Dealers figure, the gentry who buy and sell securities in large quantities, and therefore come pretty close to controlling prices, will realize it. Hence they will be inclined to liquidate their stock holdings, if stock prices at the time happen to be high.

It is well known that stock prices are controlled by what the buyers and sellers regard as future prospects, rather than past performance. Hence the conviction that the corporations must shoulder a much greater load of tax burdens will not be helpful to better dividend prospects.

Hags on Farm Plank

The most significant point about the recent poll taken by the American Press association, which shows a considerable fading of the Roosevelt popularity, is the clear demonstration, by putting certain unstated points together, that the agricultural plank of Roosevelt's opponent may decide whether the New Deal is to have four more years, or is to die on March 4, 1937.

Most important in the poll is not the fact that the Northeast has turned against President Roosevelt. This has been known for some time—been generally accepted since the Rhode Island by-election. Nor is the fact that New York state is included. The big point is that the poll shows sentiment against the President, apparently strong enough on the returns so far in and as of today, to indicate the President might lose the electoral votes in Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota and South Dakota. Also Wisconsin.

To appreciate the significance of this, a resort to electoral votes is necessary. In these dispatches some months back it was pointed out that Roosevelt could lose every state north of the Mason and Dixon line, and the Ohio river, and east of the Mississippi, except Wisconsin, and also lose California, Kansas and Delaware, and still have 269 electoral votes, or three more than enough.

In short, he could lose all New England, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Kansas and California, and still win.

At the time this table was presented by the writer largely to show the tremendous importance of New York, and hence the possibility that Tammany Hall could re-elect Roosevelt by straining every nerve to get out the vote, or defeat him by mere apathy. This was on the theory that upstate New York would probably be about the same in sentiment as its neighboring states in New England.

Loses New York

This emphasis on New York is abundantly justified by the recent poll, which indicates New York is against the President. Also two of the trans-Mississippi states included in the anti list in these dispatches—California and Kansas.

So that the important new point is really involved in the additional Middle Western states—Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota and South Dakota. Wisconsin may be left to one side. No political observer believes that Wisconsin will buck over the traces if the La Follette organization sets out to deliver it to Roosevelt. Further, no one has much doubt at the moment that the La Follettes will do just that. If there should be any slip-up there, and there should be no material change otherwise in the lineup, it will be just too bad for Roosevelt. It would make the New Deal battle line so long and vulnerable that breaks would be sure to occur somewhere.

But these farm states in question, from Nebraska up to Minnesota, may be depended upon to go as the intelligent self-interest of their farm population determines.

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Eavesdropping on the "Monticello Party Line"

The Monticello Party Line is an unusual new radio program, recently begun on a series of middle-western and southern stations. It is unique in that all of the action takes place over the party line—and the listener is simply "eavesdropping" on the fun, the daily activities, the occasional troubles that keep the people of Monticello busy on the line.

The setting of the program is a real community, Monticello, Illinois—the home town of Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin, sponsor of the show.—Adv.

Don't Guess But Know

Whether the "Pain" Remedy You Use is SAFE?

Don't Entrust Your Own or Your Family's Well-Being to Unknown Preparations

THE person to ask whether the preparation you or your family are taking for the relief of headaches is SAFE to use regularly is your family doctor. Ask him particularly about Genuine BAYER ASPIRIN.

He will tell you that before the discovery of Bayer Aspirin most "pain" remedies were advised against by physicians as bad for the stomach and, often, for the heart. Which is food for thought if you seek quick, safe relief.

Scientists rate Bayer Aspirin among the fastest methods yet discovered for the relief of headaches and the pains of rheumatism, neuritis and neuralgia. And the experience of millions of users has proved it safe for the average person to use regularly. In your own interest remember this.

You can get Genuine Bayer Aspirin at any drug store—simply by asking for it by its full name, BAYER ASPIRIN. Make it a point to do this—and see that you get what you want.

Bayer Aspirin



We Listen "When money talks it is in the form of a money-logue."



I'M SOLD

It always works

Just do what hospitals do, and the doctors insist on. Use a good liquid laxative, and aid Nature to restore clocklike regularity without strain or ill effect.

A liquid can always be taken in gradually reduced doses. Reduced dosage is the real secret of relief from constipation.

Ask a doctor about this. Ask your druggist how very popular Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin has become. It gives the right kind of help, and right amount of help. Taking a little less each time, gives the bowels a chance to act of their own accord, until they are moving regularly and thoroughly without any help at all.

Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin contains senna and cascara—both natural laxatives that form no habit. The action is gentle, but sure. It will relieve any sluggishness or bilious condition due to constipation without upset.

Miserable with backache?

WHEN kidneys function badly and you suffer a nagging backache, with dizziness, burning, scanty or too frequent urination and getting up at night when you feel tired, nervous, all upset... use Doan's Pills. Doan's are especially for poorly working kidneys. Millions of boxes are used every year. They are recommended the country over. Ask your neighbor!

DOAN'S PILLS

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BACKACHES Need Warmth

Miserable backaches or muscle pains caused by rheumatism, neuritis, arthritis, sciatica, lumbago and strain all respond instantly to Allcock's Porous Plaster. The glow of warmth makes you feel good right away. Treats ache or pain where it is. Enlist on Allcock's... lasts long, comes off easily. Get relief, or money back. 25¢ at druggists or Allcock, Oshkosh, N.Y.