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PHILADELPHIA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1915.

Take an inventory of yourself today; you may find why your friends take no stock in you,

Vision of Hope

S I stand upon the threshold of the new A year my heart is thrilling with gratitude to God for his manifold blessings during the old year. Health, home, food, raiment, friends, social fellowships, opportunity for service to others, personal spiritual conquests -these are some of the gifts of God which demand my profoundest gratitude.

Men, let me call your attention to the fact that this has been a strategic year in moral reform. The war upon political graft and grafters has been persistent. The day of disreputable "boss" rule has ended in most American municipalities. Men of character are in demand for public office. Steadily an awakened public sentiment is choking to its death the devilish rum business.

But have you noticed that the Christian forces of the Republic have secured a new and conquering ally in the metropolitan press? Compare the first daily papers of the country with those of 10, even 5, years ago. See how sensational accounts of crime have been curtailed. See how descriptions of domestic troubles and shocking recitals of personal immoralities are almost utterly exchided. Have you noticed the attitude of friendliness toward church life and enterprises? Do you appreciate the amount of space the papers are giving to religious movements? Take, for example, the space which has been given for weeks in our Philadelphia dailies to this coming campaign. I do not know whether you people realize what a powerful ally the church has secured in the daily paper, or whether you realize that, for literary character, moral fibre, Christian tone and downright sympathetic helpfulness in every Christian enterprise, we have here in Philadelphia far and way the best newspapers to be found in the Republic.

if anybody among these thousands is gloomy and cast down and pessimistic concerning tomorrow, concerning the better day In the political, economic, social, moral and spiritual life of our city and of the world, I nray they may get a vision of hope, a vision of coming conquests. God pity the pessimistic souls who stand in the blazing light of inv and still persist in their pessimism. God raise up a mighty army of Christian optimists, people of faith and courage and self-denial, and helpfulness, and perennial hopefulness and of abundant good cheer; people who will next year compel the vastest moral victories of the ages .-- Bishop Berry at the dedication of the Tabernacle.

Mince Pies in the Trenches ON CHRISTMAS DAY some of the British soldiers in Flanders carried a present of mince ple to their foes in the German trenches, an act which was later reciprocated by Teutonic courtesies. Similar exchanges hospitality have been reported from Galicia and other fields of action. Such incidents only go to show that warfare is not the hostility of man to man, but an effale of nations in which racial or territorial or imperialistic ambitions are the precipitating causes. It is impossible for men to hate other men whom they have never seen. Warfare is an artificial barbarity in which the essential elements of humanity are violated and outraged. Just in proportion as governments become humanized and democratised do the chances of war decrease: it is the aristocracies, the autocracies and the bureaucracies that give occasion for international strife. A referendum on whether a particular conflict should be waged might well lead to avoidance of

Floods of Wisdom

TUNORANCE, if it lingers among us, must be hiding in something deeper and more secure than bomb-proof shelters. While Europe is trying to blow itself to pieces by torning the energies of science to the work of destruction. America is adapting the remourabes of its scientists to the benefit of buconnity through innumerable channels. At me seasion of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, held in Philadetonia this week, no less than 225 erudite mpure were read by well-known experts. All these investigations, brought together and red, are building up a new synthesis by bich numan life should be benefited. In rentm of original scientific research, america new leads the world and is putting manking hinder an unpayable obligation,

Fair Treatment To and From All THE feeling that there will be a quick and deable settlement between Great Britand the United States relative to the of our shipping to increasing. That uld have been any doubt whatever et to a friendly agreement is remarkun time in the history of the Reas the public devotion to peace bear t me it more to and only events of extraordinary character could the metion from its purpose. We have of we shall probably get, fair I Fun Lindon Too exigencies of ion of Rogland to the breaking

opportunity by the forelock when it selected a period of excellent good feeling, the Christ mas season, to present its protest, should it be forgotten that the straightforward way in which the President handled the canal tells affair increased perceptibly respect for and confidence in this Government. It makes it easier for the British Cabinet to handle the present problem. Our neutral trade, as a result, will be freed from unnecessary selzure, and there should be greater security on the great trade routes.

The spirit of Americanism glows throughout the negotiations-fair treatment to others and fair treatment for ourselves.

The New Year

THE New Year enters upon a heritage A scarred with devastation and ruin, Half the world is in the beat of the blood lust. Humanity is staggering along in times so stressful that weaklings drop in multitudes and strong men find the turmoll almost beyond their endurance. The character of the race is on the balances; civilization and barbarism are engaged in a titanic contest, and the war god holds in his hands the destinles of nations and peoples.

America, the melting pot, with its composite citizenry, alone of the great Powers retains its equilibrium. The propaganda of peace, ridiculed a few years ago, has been a leaven of so great strength that aversion to war and devotion to peaceful pursuits have become our chief characteristic. Whatever the differences which have arisen between ourselves and other nations, few seek to settle them with the sword. This giant democracy, by the very madness of other Governments, is being elevated into a guiding star and the final instrument of arbitration. It is here that the New Year must begin its ministry of healing and from America must come the means of rehabilitation in the Old World.

At home we still face a period of industrial depression. But there is no crape on the door and it is not locked to opportunity. We are not looking back. Our eyes are to the front. The burden of responsibility is not too heavy for us. We carry it because we must carry it. Our best thought is being devoted to the restoration of normal industrial conditions. Public sentiment has been sobered. Practical men are being looked to. There is a distance to the nation's perspective before unknown. There is a sobriety in its purposes and its plans which recalls the darkest days of the Republic. There is the old optimism, the ancient faith in the permanence of our institutions, the solidity of our industrial foundations. The battle for prosperity is subordinate to the mightier struggle for peace, albeit our charity, in the hour of need poured into Europe, is flowing, too, in generous measure at home.

Philadelphia is the backbone of productive industry in America, and, therefore, at this period, in the world. The conjunction of circumstances, if nothing else, must soon set the wheels to whirling. It is merely a question now of how long. It may be this month and it may be next; but the revival of industry casts its shadow before it, and the auguries all point in one direction. The very psychology of the calendar means a new inspiration, a renewed dedication of energy, at this beginning of a period. The old is done with; it is the new with which we are concerned. A great push forward, a mighty effort in unison, a restored determination, an adaptation of law to progress, definite purpose and courage-these are the things!

The New Year is loaded with opportunity. for it comes into a desert of hopes. Its days will be great days in human chronicles. May it mark the end of an old era and the beginning of a new and be a bridge to a long period of substantial peace. We look to it for the consummation of these things, not desperately but hopefully.

More Lightheadedness

THE Government ship purchase scheme is Las crude a proposal to tap the public till as has been given sanction in many years, but there is one objection to it being urged which is even more unreasonable than the enterprise itself.

Some timid souls have pointed out that it would be extremely dangerous for the United States Government to purchase foreign merchantmen because belligerent battleships might doubt the sincerity of the transfers to the American flag, seize United States ships thus purchased and treat them exactly as if they were enemy bottoms. We take it that England, France and every other nation would give no voice to suspicions of this character, if they had any. Purchase by the Government itself of merchantmen would be complete and conclusive proof of the sincerity and legality of the transactions.

There are too many real objections to Government participation in the shipping business to bring forward so lame an argument in opposition.

Hats off to 1915!

Millions for transit! Remember January 14!

The news is full of victories, but few

1915! A job for every man who wants one and every woman, too!

The unemployed could make the \$50,000 last a week by putting it into the soup.

The United States will make the manifests all right if England does not bother the

When it comes to raising money the Weiesley alumnae make alumni in general resemble a quarter with a nickel added. It would not have to be much of a year

to be a better one than the old reprobate that managed to escape last midnight. The Austrians can stand more beatings than any other nation under the sun. Their

armies have siready been annihilated at least It cost \$460,777 officially for recent candifates to get futo the Senate, and it is going

to cost many times more than that to get

The Benate Intends to have a literacy test. an matter what the President thinks, but the Bennts's Intentions before this have amounted to little more than some of its

The defication of the great rabernacie in

"MONKEY BUSINESS" IN CONGRESS HAS HISTORY

Ceremony of House Mace Dates Back Thousands of Years-Has Prevented Riots Among Members-\$25,000 for Misters.

By E. W. TOWNSEND

TN A previous letter I wrote casually of the I mighty force of precedents in the way the machinery of Congress, both Houses, is run -is permitted to run. But to a new member or an outsider there are many even more interesting ways in which precedent, or perhaps in some respects it is more correct to say custom, rules in Congress. I presume more visitors to the House galleries have asked questions about the performance of an assistant sergeant-at-arms with the mace than about any other one thing they have observed. The House mace, symbol of the Speaker's authority, differs in form but little from similar symbols found in nearly every modern parliament, and they are all much like that used in the Senate of ancient Rome, and even then it was an anclent survival, then, as now, a symbol of power, of a very concrete form of power, a conventionalized form of a club, a war club.

Just So and Never Otherwise

The ebony silver-bound mace of the House is surmounted by a globe, upon which is perched an eagle with outstretched wings. When the House is not in session it has a place of honor and safekeeping in the office of the sergeant-at-arms, from which it is borne by an assistant into the House Chamber a few minutes before the opening of each day's session, and deposited by the side of a marble pedestal. Just as the Speaker places a foot upon the first of the steps leading to his desk the assistant in charge of the mace ceremonlously elevates it to its pedestal. He does this because he has been told to do it, and how. Probably he is unconscious of the fact that he is doing the same thing in much the same way other men holding a like office have done for thousands of years with the same purpose; to proclaim to all concerned the power and authority of a presiding officer.

Presently, perhaps in a few minutes, the House goes into the Committee of the Whole House, and then the business is conducted not by the Speaker but by a chairman designated by the Speaker. As the latter leaves his deak, and just as his foot reaches the first step in descent, the mace is taken down to Its place by the side of the pedestal.

Business may have proceeded but a few minutes when there appears at the chamber entrance opposite the Speaker's desk a messenger from the Senate. He stands at attention until he is joined by the House doorkeeper. Then the chairman says: "The committee will rise informally to receive a message from the Senate."

He motions to some member who takes the chairman's place, but as this member places his foot upon the first step the assistant sergeant-at-arms raises the mace to its pedestal. This is momentarily to place the mantle of speakership authority upon the acting Speaker. The latter nods to the doorkeeper, who announces, "Mr. Speaker, a message from the Senate."

The "Speaker" says, "Mr. Secretary." The Senate messenger says, "Mr. Speaker," and proceeds with his message.

Then the "Speaker" for a minute descends, and with him the mace, too, comes down again. All of which is because the committee could not receive a message from the Senate; only the House can do that, and the mace must be in place to show that the authority of the Speaker is exercised-hence the House, not the committee, is in session

Serious "Monkey Business"

I've heard a gallery visitor ask, having watched this ceremony repeated several times, "What's all that monkey business?" Well, if one feels about it that way, that is the way one feels about it. Not the members, though. Once the assistant was inattentive and the mace did not go up with the Speaker. You might suppose that no member would notice the omission, but instantly, and all over the chamber there were anxious exclamations: "The mace! The mace!" The assistant, aroused, hurriedly

performed his duty.

The mace has served a practical purpose more than once in the history of the House. There have been times when tempers have been so wholly lost and passions run so high that the mere command of the Speaker, emphasized by his banging gavel, has failed to restore order, failed to quell approaching riot. Then the Speaker, whoever he may have been, has ordered the sergeant-at-arms to proceed with the mace and compel members to take their seats in order. Old members, who have seen this twice, corroborate stories of similar ructions running back pretty nearly through the history of Con-

Members fighting mad and trying to fight, shouting in rage, heedless of the Speaker's threatening voice, have never in any known instances-and in some instances blows had already been struck-failed to retreat to their seats, melt away, as it were, before the sign of authority, the mace. Why? Is it heredity; an inborn respect for the authority of rank,

or its symbol? Let the psychologists answer. President Never "Told"

There are many fixed forms of language required by precedent. Once a secretary of the Senate, having been duly announced, proceeded with his message to the effect that a special committee of the Senate, having been appointed for the purpose, had called upon the President and "told" him that the Senate was ready to proceed with business. There was an instant titter all through the House. The President is never officially "told" anything by Congress; he is "in formed." The substitution of one single word for another in a formal message no one is supposed to listen to, had struck the ears of all like a violent discord strikes a listener to music. The scarlet and abashed secretary retired to be unmercifully guyed by his fellows. He had departed from precedent!

In the Senate the pages, when not in service, sit about at the foot of the presiding ofncer's denk! When a Senator wants a page he summons him by clapping his hands. In the House the pages are corralled when not in service in the two corners at the rear of the chamber and are summoned by electric helis. It would be infinitely more convenient to have the uniful little fellows hards where we could see them, rather than our of eight and at a distance. They would serve





Ashurst, Bacon, Bankhead," &c. After the start the names are run off without any prefix. Until the second session of this Congress the House roll-call form has required the "Mr." before each name. On the first call the clerk repeats "Mister" 485 times. If 50 answer on the first call he repeats it 385 times on the second call. That is, on an average roll-call the word is repeated 820 times! About two years ago I suggested to Speaker Clark that he direct the clerks to cut out the "mister" after the first name. It startled him. Why? That was the way the roll always had been called! It would be contrary to precedent to drop the 820 misters. I was persistent, and finally he said he'd think it over. He did, for a year! Then he gave the order. It was obeyed. No one died of surprise, although some members had serious turns. I mention this because when my esteemed readers build that monument to my memory I want it inscribed, "He saved his country \$25,000 a year by taking 'mister' out of Congress." Fancy how often in future ages it will be asked, "Mr. Who?"

There came precious near to being a knockdown and dragout finis to the pre-recess session. When J. Hampton Moore, of Pennsylvania, rose on Wednesday after prohibition Tuesday to attend to Bryan, of Washington, it was pretty generally known by members that Moore would have preferred to use his fist rather than his voice to answer the outrageous language of the Seattle member. It was interesting to observe that of the score or two members who plainly showed a desire to have Bryan's seat declared vacant as many were on the Democratic as upon the Republican side of the chamber.

Scott's View of a New Year

From Harper's Weekly. Man is a conventional animal. He thinks one thing on the Fourth of July, another at Easter, another at Thanksgiving. When he hears of a particular death he grieves, though he knows that thousands die daily. He is a likable crea ture, but a machine. Something like this, though infinitely better expressed, passed through the mind of one of the great on January 1, 1826, whereupon he put it in his journal. The Journal of Sir Walter is one of the books that inspire, that nourish, that one never exhausts. Says Scott:

A year has passed-another has commenced. These solemn divisions of time influence our feelings as they occur. Yet there is nothing in it, for every day in the year closes a 12th-month as well as the 31st of December. The latter day is only the solemn pause, as when a guide, showing a wild and mountainous road, calls on a party to pause and look back at the scenes which they have

Yes, every day is a day of beginning and a day of doom; a day of tragedy and a day of new life; a day of distillusion and day of hope. How little is man, and how much! Everything is true, and its opposite also. In the midst of upheaval, philosophy steadles and comforts philosophy that finds sermons in stones, sorrow in sunlight and in everything some degree of happiness.

NEW YEAR AS PEACEMAKER HAVE made peace with my foes, peace

with the lost and the slain; Hope and the future are mine; over the living I reign.

For I have buried the old, buried and put away, And the whisper and curse of wrong I suffer to fail today.

Old Year breathed his last.

And the sorrow of dark regret, and the dread of the vampire past, Are dead on the white highways where the

I am the glad New Year. Songs of the morn I sing:

Songs of the triumph soul, with the pardon and peace I bring. -Frank Walcott Hutt.

OPPORTUNITY

This I beheld, or dreamed it in a dream: There spread a cloud of dust along a plain; And underneath the cloud, or in it, raged A furious battle, and men yelled, and swords Shocked upon swords and shields. A prince's banner

Wavered, then staggered backward, hemmed by form.

A craven hung along the battle's edge And thought: "Had I a sword of keeper steel-That true blade that the king's son bears-

but this Blunt thing!" He snapt and flung it from his hand. And, lowering, crept away and left the field. Then came the king's son, wounded, sore

And wespuniess, and saw the broken sword. Hitt-burnd to the dry and trodien sand. And run and enatabed it, and with bettle

Riffad Afrank, he hampt his enemy

KEEPING THE CALENDAR TRUE TO THE SUN

It Has Had a Vagarious, Romantic and Sometimes Amusing History Twisted All Out of Shape Many Times and Never Entirely Straightened Out.

ANY people are dissatisfied with the cal-M and people are dissatisfied it back and endar. They propose to take it back and change it. They would have to go back to an act of the British Parliament in 1751—that is, English-speaking folk would-and then still farther into the recesses of time. It was that statute which later led American schoolboys into doubt as to whether George Washington was born on February 22 or February 11. Eleven days were lost between Julius Caesar and George Washington, but that hardly seems appalling enough, after all, to

justify so many preachments on the subject of lost time, does it? The way things are arranged now it will be 2500 years or more before we lose another day. The scientist, however, is never satisfied with anything less than accuracy, and he wants a perfect calendar. He has taken his ideas of reform into the legislatures of several nations, but nothing has happened yet. Reform is sure to get into trouble, anyway, when it gets into politics. But truth, crushed to earth, shall rise again, and maybe the dream of the scientist will come true. The

first day of every month will fall on the first day of the week, and so forth. The printed calendar which comes from the insurance company or the grocery store will be just as od one year as another, and the months will be all alike. Probably a more durable form will be invented, so that it will last a lifetime, be moved from house to house with the rest of the furniture and be handed down to future generations as an heirloom. Time, with such a calendar, wouldn't seem so

The Jilting of the Moon

The calendar-as an institution-has passed through so many vicissitudes that it really deserves a rest from meddling, after one last attempt has been made to set it right forever, It originated away back in the earliest ages. At first it was merely a record of events in the life of an individual or the history of a tribe, and consisted of curious inscriptions on trees, or pieces of bark, or of a succession of notches and symbols on wands or canes. But after awhile it became a method of reckoning future as well as past time.

The changes of the moon furnished the obvious method and the one which was most universally adopted among primitive peoples. The reason is said to have been that the old agriculturalists had a special interest in the moon, which presided over the fate of crops and furnished enough lunar superstition to last even unto this present. Months of 29 and 30 days were instituted. Then it was discovered that the seasons furnished a more serviceable mode of division, and years came into existence. Civil years, of course, not truly solar.

The moon, the first love of the calendarmakers, fared badly. It was supplanted by the sun. The months were retained as subdivisions of years, but when it was observed how the solar year and the 12 lunar months failed to coincide, and how the first day of the year kept sliding along into the wrong season, the ancient scientists decided to regulate the calendar by the sun, and it was so. Thus the moon was left out of consideration, and the month became only an arbitrary affair. The jilting-so far as concerns the history of our own calendar, which traces its ancestry back through that of the Romans-was completed in the first century B. C. by Caius Julius Caesar and a Greek astronomer whom he imported from Alexandria, Sosigenes, by name. And the ancients did have a hard time trying to get the calendar fixed up. Supplementary days at the end of the year and the occasional introduction of intercalary months were the favorite means of accommodating the calendar to the sun, which wouldn't ac-

commodate itself to the calendar. Romulus, the builder of Rome, divided the year into 10 months. That is, if history can place any reliance on tradition. There were 364 days under his arrangement, and what became of the rest of them neither history nor tradition sayoth. A little later the Romans had 13 months, with an occasional interculary month. This was a lunar year of 355 days. It was Nums Pompiliusmythic history again who added the two extra months, January and February. March had previously started the palendar, and was now displaced by Junuary. Pebruary taking last place. Pebroary was rescued from this gnominy when, 300 years inter, the decemire moved it up to second position. But an days alternately, measure not be and divisions of the day except amore year, a day being maked property to make the law to be well as the law of the day except amore as set in some. The months were of 25 and

the number odd for good luck. This cite year differed from the solar year by 18 days and a fraction, and an intercalary mo was therefore inserted every second year between the 23d and 24th of February. En that surgical operation left the calendar on of joint.

The Calendar in Politics

The pontiffs, at some time or other, wire intrusted with the care of the calendar, and they mixed it up with politics, wofully. I was their privilege to intercalate fewer more days as the celestial motions m warrant. They abused their power! To their belonged also the opportunity of running political machines. When they wanted prolong the term of a magistracy, or haden the annual elections, or reward favorites w punish political foes, they simply doctored us calendar. Think what that would mean in American politics today! You think of it 1

So when Caesar took up the imperial relahe found the calendar in a mess. The win months were coming in autumn, and autuma was summer. Something had to be done and Caesar did it. He abolished the moon and decided to go entirely by the sun. transit gloria lunae. He also abolishe intercalary month, which after serving for long ages as a a great convenience was at last declared a public nuisance.

In making up the table of months be cal'lated as follows: Thirty days bath April, June, August October and December:

All the rest have thirty-one, excepting February alone, Which hath but twenty-nine in fine. Till every fourth year (they didn't call it less year then) gives it thirty.

That was Caesar's imperious way. Augustus didn't like it. His vanity was hurt Why should his month have one less day than July? Then Julius took a day from February and gave it to August. It may have made Augustus feel better, but Julius because he wanted the months of 30 days to alternate with the months of 31 days, had to reduce September and November to 30 days and give the extras to October and December. And after all that fuss by the great Caesar, the calendar question wasn't settled It kept bobbing up for centuries, and atll

bobs. The most important bob was in 1882, and Pope Gregory XIII attended to it. The Julian calendar had prevailed among the Christian nations until the accumulation of error amounted to ten complete days. The th of the celebration of Easter, and hence of 82 the movable feasts, had been unfixed. Per-Gregory, taking advice of the astrono Clavius, ordained that t_n days should be deducted from the current year. Accordingly the 5th of October became the 15th. Julian calendar was further amended by creeing that if a year ended in two cipher should not be counted a leap-year unless it visible by four hundred instead of four.

Why Worry? Caesar's reckoning had disarranged ma ters because he assumed a year of 365% days whereas the correct figures are 365 days. hours, 48 minutes, 46 seconds, or 11 minutes 14 seconds less. What a difference just 11 minutes 14 seconds made, while generations fived and died! Under Gregory's mathe matics there will be one day unaccounted for

about 4500 A. D. In some countries, however, even in 198 rope, the Pope's mandate was not observe Some of the Low Countries didn't get aroun to change until the 18th century, and the they had 11 days to subtract. In Great BHD ain, after commerce and people had under gone great inconventence in foreign dealing Parliament equalized the style of region? with the usage of other leading Europes! nations. Russia, Greece and Tuscany, hou ever, still stick to the old way, and are no 13 days ahead of us, or behind us, accordi as you judge by the calendar or by the all Of course, in different parts of the world there are numerous calendar variations, T

study in intercalarics. We-most Europeans and Americans a like the ancient Egyptians in regarding will night as the beginning of day. The satro mers, after the example of Ptolemy and S Broadway celebrants, begin it at uson. modern Greeks, like the ancient Chaldeans choose suprise; the Italians and Bohemian suppose the day to bogic at abuset. Run down to the 80 century M. C., and no with

Chinese New Year's, for instance, comes

our February 18. The Jewish system is