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God Bless us every one
—TINY TIM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1918

AT THE SIGN OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE

WELL, well, good folks, here we are again at the Sign of the Christmas Tree! It seems hardly possible, does it, that twelve months have passed since last we chanced this way? Life is like that; so brief in the passing, and so long when we look back over it and live old days and dream old dreams on Christmas Eve. But the past year has been so different from all others that the pathway across its shifting sands and changing landscape will always stand out in our memories above all others. What a wonderful year it has been!

to ask, does? And right here we desire to return the compliment. The Tech Teacher for December is "some paper." It is not only a handsome publication, but it reflects the excellent morale, the high tone, the spirit and the "pep" that have made the school known and admired throughout the country. Our congratulations to its editors.

And now, all together, for the merriest of Merry Christmases.

A BORROWED EDITORIAL

SINCE we stand upon the threshold of His birthday, let me introduce you to the most attractive, most delightful young man in the world. You have never known Him as he really is; all the pictures ever drawn misrepresent Him. They have made Him out a weakling, a woman's features with a beard—He who for thirty years swung an ax and drove a saw through heavy timbers, who for long days tramped the borders of His loved lake, and would not sleep indoors if He could slip away into His garden.

An outdoor man He was, a man's man who could stand watch when all his friends deserted Him in sleep, and could face the tempest in a little boat calm-eyed and unafraid.

They have called Him a pacifist. How could they forget that day, I wonder, when in the midst of the hard-faced crowd, He stood and, brandishing a little whip, drove them out before Him:

Think you it was only the glance of righteous anger in His eye that sent them scurrying? I tell you that behind that little whip were muscles of iron, made strong by many years of labor, and a spirit that never once knew fear, not even in the presence of the cross.

I have met men long-faced and sorrowful, wagging their heads bitterly over the evil of the world, and by their very joylessness adding to that evil. And in their hearts they supposed that they were representing Him.

Think of it—representing Him, to whom little children flocked with joyous laughter and men, beseeching Him to have dinner with them in their homes.

You remember the first of His miracles—or perhaps you do not. Too often those who claim His name have preferred to forget that miracle. It does not fit in with the picture of Him that they have wrought.

He was at a wedding party with His mother and some friends where the merriment ran high. In the midst of it they came to Him in consternation. The wine had given out.

So He performed His first miracle. Just to save a hostess from embarrassment—and He thought it worth a miracle. Just to save a group of simple folk from having their hour of joy cut short—it was for such a cause, He thought, that His divine power had been intrusted to Him.

No one ever felt His goodness as a cloud upon the company. No one ever laughed less heartily because He had joined the group. His was the gospel of joyfulness; His was the message that the God of men would have them travel happily with Him, as children by a Father's side, not as servants shuffling behind.

They killed Him, of course, in the end, and sometimes I am almost glad—and that He died at thirty-three, with youth still athrob in His veins, and never an illusion lost or an ideal dimmed by age.

Claim Him, you who are young and love life; let no man dispute your claim.

For He too was young, and is; He too loved laughter and life. Old age and the creeds have had Him too long; I offer Him now to you in no creed but in truth—Jesus of Nazareth, the joyous companion, the young man whom young men can love.—Bruce Barton in the December Red Book.

We read an article the other day written by a man with a German-sounding name who didn't believe in Christmas. The foolish fellow thought he was right and the whole world wrong. We had intended to call him a hard name. But what's the use. Let's all get together and laugh at him.

GROTESQUE
THE most grotesque Christmas celebration in the whole world to-morrow will be that in the Dutch castle where the former Kaiser will preside and preach a Christmas sermon.

Think of it—this ravager of nations, this murderer of millions, this arch fiend, this hound of hell preaching a Christmas sermon!

No wonder the simple Holland peasantry declined to have him in their church. No wonder the nobility of the land declined the invitation to be present at his yuletide festivities.

One thing it shows, that Herr Wilhelm is Kaiser Wilhelm still—egotistic, bombastic and unrepentant.

But what a fall of the mighty do we witness—He who was a year ago the Supreme War Lord before whom half a world rendered homage as to a god, to-day mouthing sacrilege before a parcel of kitchen servants, who needs must listen because they of his once mighty hosts alone remain for him to command.

We wouldn't mind a white Christmas, but the Weather Bureau delivers us from a repetition of last year's snows.

The former Kaiser has requested that nobody give him Christmas gifts.

and an exchange thinks this is because he believes nobody would, any way. But we know a lot of folks who would like to send him neckties.

Politics in Pennsylvania
By the Ex-Committeeman

A branch post office in the State Capitol and a central addressing bureau where the enormous amount of outgoing mail of purely official character can be expeditiously handled are among projects which are being seriously discussed as likely to be inaugurated when the new state administration takes office. With the creation of the state salary board to readjust the pay of attaches now limited by acts and the reorganization of the Department of Agriculture and other plans to promote business efficiency at the Capitol, these propositions may come early.

There is scarcely a department or bureau which does not have its own post office box, and mailing department clerks to handle the pressing machinery and an array of postage and messengers to carry the mail to and from the post office. This may account for the unpopularity of the plan to place a post office in the basement of the State House and to consolidate the addressing end of the business. There are a couple of expensive blue inked offices and a couple of some branches of routine affairs which it is said could also be consolidated and which have been studied.

The Philadelphia Evening Ledger expresses the belief that the politicians should at least be consulted about the new city charter. It says editorially: "When it comes to putting a post office in the State House, the principles laid down in these nine points it may be as difficult as to embody President Wilson's four-point plan in a peace treaty, but nevertheless the attempt should be made sincerely, and in good faith by all the parties in interest, which means all groups of opinion in the city."

Congressman John R. Farr has attacked the returns from thirty-eight Lackawanna county districts and the courts will decide the contested seat. The Scranton Republican looks for a lively hearing.

Reading's review will ask the Legislature to revise the third class city law because of a row with councilmen over the annual appropriations for firemen.

Ways have been cleared for a review of the salaries of the soldiers' vote last month by the Supreme Court, when two formal opinions were filed at Wilkes-Barre, one by Judge Strauss for the majority of the Supreme Court and another by Judge Barrer. Strauss says of the decisions: "In deciding to count the vote from the six military camps that were accepted by a majority of the judges, the controlling opinion bases the decision on a clause of the act of 1854 which gives authority to ten or more soldier voters who are unable to attend their company polls, may select a poll at such place as they may select."

The Schuylkill county commissioners yesterday re-elected Auditor General Charles A. Snyder as county solicitor. He was elected unanimously.

Philip Esrig, the chief of police of the flourishing metropolis of Tamaqua, was selected as mercantile appraiser.

Samuel Patterson has been chosen the tax gatherer of Greensburg, one of the best paying offices in the capital of Westmoreland.

The Delaware county license court granted a but one license in thirty-nine minutes yesterday, establishing a record.

School directors all over the county are reorganizing their associations and indicating a strong feeling that they will have some legislative committees here.

Chester, which has been affected by the industrial boom as much as any place in the state, has an increase of \$175,000 estimated for 1919 revenue. The total is given as about \$445,000.

The Philadelphia Record says that our city is being drawn into the Philadelphia police out of politics and also announces that Mayor Thomas S. Smith has his own plan for charter revision.

George A. Comer, the representative-elect from Fulton, was here yesterday visiting the Capitol. He is the first Republican legislator-elect from that county in a long time and it rather indicates what the people of the county, normally Democratic, think about the management of their party.

Scranton yesterday by a vote of ten to ten the Lackawanna grand jury whitewashed the charges against close to 100 residents of Carbondale that they had their names registered on the register, and that so that they might vote at the recent election. Twelve votes were necessary to indict. Two reports were presented to court.

Silence at Last
A certain gentleman objected very much to being talked to by his barber while he was being shaved. He had not thought of any way of curing his talkative barber, when one day a brilliant opportunity arose. The barber asked him if he could feel the razor on his face.

"My dear man," replied the gentleman, "if you hadn't mentioned it just now I should never have known there was a razor on my face."

"Thank you, sir!" beamed the barber.

The gentleman (continuing)—"I thought you were using a file." From the Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

THAT GUILTIEST FEELING



The Yank and the Rifle



ART AND MEMORIAL

The Governor-elect has informally suggested that it would be well if the Commonwealth were to exercise a sort of artistic control over the statues, monuments and other memorials which will be erected everywhere in Pennsylvania in honor of events, heroes and achievements of the recent war.

By BRIGGS



Let Us Get the Ships First

(From the Indianapolis Star.)
The United States Shipping Board, in its second annual report to Congress, recommends that its construction plan, modified to meet peace conditions, be carried out. Without going into great detail as to contracts and yards in which work is under way, it could seem like good business judgment to get the maximum of results out of the money that has been invested. Large sums have been expended in the construction of yards and in assembling material and all that should not be thrown away simply because the war emergency is past.

Child Labor Profits Tax

(From the Philadelphia Ledger.)
Possibly the principle of raising revenue by a tax on profits from the products of child labor may be open to objection; but the purpose of the amendment levying a special tax of 10 per cent, on such profits is almost morally defensible. The importance of protecting children from economic exploitation injurious to their physical and moral welfare is beyond dispute; many states have laws to this end. It was to make such laws uniform that the federal child-labor bill was passed, a measure which was unfortunately found to be unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court.

The Traitor

"One moment till I've smoked this cigar."
He said—his back against the bar-rack wall.
With folded arms and still eyes he puffed it slowly in the sight of all.
Their hands upon their rifle stocks, they saw him.
The glowing tip and the gray smoke ascend;
And as he flicked the ash away with an awe.

A State Art Commission

Governor-elect Sproul is quite right in desiring the formation of a state art commission which shall, among other things, have control of the erection of all war memorials. The idea is to invest it with the right to pass on any and all designs with plenary powers of rejection and to supervise construction work.

Mr. Kinnard's Greeting

[From the Telephone News.]
Well met is this Christmas season and the termination of the war. "Peace on earth to men of good will" is our greeting to us.
The men and women of the allies' great war machines gave peace to this old world—it is their Christmas gift to humankind—bought with their sacrifices.

Where Could the Kaiser Go?

(From the Binghamton Press.)
The report that the ex-Kaiser has been requested to leave Holland by the authorities of that country seems entirely probable. And if such a request were made, it appears certain that William Hohenzollern would refuse to heed it. Where could he go? It is all very well to talk of restoring the emperor to Berlin. But, assuming that the revolution had not broken out, he has been signed. The President of the United States refused to take up the peace question with the imperialistic ruler of Germany, so Germany put them out and installed new rulers. There would be no peace for Germany now with the Kaiser restored in Berlin. And, if he can't go back to power, what is there for him to go back to in Germany?

A Sigh of Regret

We are wondering if we shall ever, ever again gaze on the blue blaze that plays around the plum pudding—that is, used to play around—Waco (Texas) Times-Herald.

Envoy Alligators

In its natural state, the alligator eats nothing from September to May. And the higher eggs and butters go, the more we envy alligators.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

LABOR NOTES

Painters and paperhangers in Wichita Falls (Texas) have been granted an increase of 10 cent an hour, which makes their wage scale for eight hours \$6.40.
In France one-third of the employees in munition factories are women, and in plants engaged in light mechanical work women constitute two-thirds of the total force.

A Puzzle

It is hard to tell whether the Germans are more indignant with their imperialistic and militaristic leaders for not obliterating the Allied governments or for wrecking their own fatherland.—Savannah News.
A Slogan Revised
[From the Kansas City Star]
The Lawrence Journal-World suggests this lardy but appropriate slogan for Kansas Democracy: "He kept us out of Congress."

Germany's Ambitions

Germany, once ambitious to make the laws of the world, is now clamoring for permission to make the toys.—From the Washington Star.

Evening Chat

While Harrisburg has never had any celebration of Christmas eve such as it has in prospect for this evening it is interesting to note that back in the days when Harrisburg was young there was put up Christmas trees in Market Square and one time, according to some traditions which have come down to us, there was a town tree in the Riverside park near Chestnut street.

Some of the scenes at Union Station are quite marked contrast to those of a year ago. Then there was the rush of men in khaki on the way to the sea-coast to overseas and men just drafted hustling to camps and meeting in Harrisburg with men who proud in their first uniforms were home for a few days' furlough at Christmas time.

For a long time a certain bank in Harrisburg has been trying to get William Jennings, president of the National Council on Education for the Defense and of a couple of banks as well as a man who stands mighty high in the estimation of the community, to take some money that he has coming to him.

Pennsylvania Senators
[Lewisburg Saturday News.]
Pennsylvania's two distinguished United States Senators stood large in the proceedings of the upper branch of Congress during recent days.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE
—C. J. Roads, formerly prominent in Philadelphia banking, is directing welfare work for the army in Switzerland.

Thanks The Telegraph
To the Editor of the Telegraph:
As chairman of the committee on arrangements for the meeting of the Synod of Pennsylvania which has just ended, I desire to express to you, and through you to your associates, our warm appreciation of the kindness shown us by your paper.

DO YOU KNOW
—That Harrisburg has sent a good many cakes to the soldiers' camps in this country, this week?
—It was one of the customs of John Harris to give Indians a square meal. They came to his home on Christmas.