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TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1929

THE NEW YEAR

A happy and prosperous New Year! This greeting will be exchanged today the world over between friends and even among casual acquaintances. Often lightly spoken, but more generally sincere and fervent, the greeting will cheer hearts and remind them of the universal brotherhood. What a happy and prosperous year it would be if all the greetings were realized! But, whether realized or not, it is a goodly custom and makes for a kinder fellowship. To our readers we extend the greeting in all sincerity. May the New Year on which we are entering this morning bring them what is best for them—not necessarily in accordance with their desires but in accordance with a wiser principle and the will of a benign over-ruling Providence.

From time immemorial the beginning of the year has been observed on various dates to suit the prevailing opinion of the time and place. In the Gregorian calendar the date occurs twelve days earlier than in the Julian; thus in Russia and Greece, and some of the Central European countries, where the latter is still employed, New Year's Day is celebrated on the English 13th of January. The ancient Egyptians, Phoenicians and Persians began their year at the autumnal equinox (Sept. 21) and the Greeks until the 5th century B. C. at the winter solstice (Dec. 21). The ancient Romans celebrated the beginning of the year on the 21st of December, but Caesar by the adoption of the Julian calendar postponed it to the 1st of January. The Jews have always reckoned their civil year from the first day of the month of Tishri (Sept. 6-Oct. 5) but their ecclesiastical year begins at the spring equinox (March 21). The 25th of March was the usual date among most Christian people in early medieval days. In Anglo-Saxon England, however, the 25th of December was New Year's Day. At the Norman Conquest owing, it is believed, to the coincidence of his coronation being arranged for that date, William the Conqueror ordered that the year should start on the 1st of January. But later England began her year with the rest of Christendom on the 25th of March. The Gregorian calendar (1582), which restored the 1st of January to its position as New Year's Day was accepted by all Catholic countries at once; by Germany, Denmark and Sweden about 1700, but not until 1751 by England.

Participation in the ordinary New Year's Day observance as well as in the Saturnalia of December was from the first discouraged by the Church. Christians were expected to spend the day in quiet meditation, reading of scripture and acts of charity. When about the 5th century the 25th of December had become a fixed festival commemorating the Nativity, the 1st of January assumed a specially sacred character as the octave of Christmas Day and as the anniversary of the Circumcision. As such it still figures in the calendars of the various branches of the Eastern and Western Church, though only as a feast of subordinate importance. The first mention of it in Christian literature as a feast occurs in Canon 17 of a council which met at Tours in 567. The custom of giving and receiving presents on New Year's Day began with the Romans and gradually extended to other parts of the continent. In England its place has been taken by the Christmas-gift. In Scotland, where New Year's Day is more generally observed than Christmas, the custom is still universal. The Persians celebrated the beginning of the year by exchanging presents of eggs. The Druids distributed as New Year's gifts the heads of the sacred mistletoe. In automob...

Anglo-Saxon and Norman England New Year's gifts were common. Henry III is said to have followed the Roman custom by extorting such gifts from his subjects, and these in later reigns became voluntary but none the less obligatory on those who wished to stand well with the throne. Wolsey one New Year gave Henry VIII a gold cup valued at £117, 17s. 6d. in the coinage of that time. A Manuscript account is preserved of money gifts, totalling many thousands of pounds, given to King Henry by all classes of his subjects on New Year's Day, 1533. Bishop Latimer, however, handed Henry instead of a purse a New Testament with a leaf doubled down at Hebrews XIII, 4, as apposite to the king's then impending marriage with Anne Boleyn. In Edward VI's time, if not earlier, it was usual for the sovereign to give "rewards" to those who presented New Year's gifts. Elizabeth is related to have been most conscientious in this regard. The custom of offering New Year's gifts to the sovereign became obsolete during the Commonwealth and was not revived at the Restoration.

MARK TWAIN'S FIRST LOVE

Tom Sawyer's "Becky Thatcher" is dead. She was Mrs. Laura Frazer, and her death is reported from Hannibal, Missouri, at the age of ninety-one. Her maiden name was Laura Hawkins, but she was best known as Mark Twain's boyhood sweetheart and the Becky Thatcher of Huckleberry Finn and Tom Sawyer. For years they played together and formed a friendship that endured through life. It was for Becky that the boy Sam Clemens as the character Tom Sawyer deliberately left an "r" out of February, allowing her to win the coveted first place in the school spelling bee. It was with her that young Clemens passed the day, lost in what is now known as "Tom Sawyer's Cave", searching for an exit until their candles had burned low—an adventure which no reader of Tom Sawyer will ever forget. When "Becky" was ill one day and remained home, Sam, as he has recorded in that immortal classic, worried his aunt by his melancholy dreaming. She gave him a dose of "pain killer," famous at that time for all ills, which he later gave to the cat. During Sam's school days in Hannibal, when he attended the classes taught by Mrs. Hoop, Becky was his companion on the walk to school every morning. She prompted Sam with his lessons by writing on her small blackboard. In a radio speech, given over two years ago, Mrs. Frazer called "Tom Sawyer" fundamentally autobiographical. To her, she said, the humorist was Sam, not Mark, and described him as "one of the most ordinary boys who ever played hookey from school to go fishing."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Write "1929!"

A Happy New Year!

This will be the usual calling day on friends. Let us make the most of it.

The year 1928 blew itself out with a gale of wind, leaving a clear track for its successor. Here's hoping!

Our house shall have a narrow door That grief and time may not come in, But friends and laughter, who shall enter, shall leave no more were thin.

The merry jingle of the sleigh bells this year has been replaced by the raucous honk of the motor horn. A New Year's message in the sacred mistletoe. In automob...

Notes by the Way

THE Old Year has closed and passed away and the New Year 1929 has dawned upon the world. The old year brought its mingled joys and sorrows, its hopes and fears, its peace and affection and its worries, cares and bereavements as other years had done before and as future years may do in many homes. It is the common lot of humanity. And, yet, as the New Year dawns and as neighbor meets neighbor in the season's greetings, there is as much of sincerity and heartiness in the expressed wish that the New Year may be a happy, healthy and prosperous one, as there ever was before. For in all Christian lands there appears to be a growing spirit of peace and goodwill.

It is this season of the year many persons make good resolutions, as to reforms in their personal conduct, deportment and habits during the coming twelve months, and it has become proverbial that many such resolves are soon forgotten or fall of being carried into effect beyond a limited term of days or weeks. Some have argued that it might be higher wisdom not to make these New Year resolutions, seeing that so many of them fall of any adequate fulfillment. All such reasoning is quite obviously fallacious. There must be a decision of mind toward a change for the better before any action in that direction can be taken. We all fall and come short in many of our good resolutions, whether made on New Year's Day or at other times. In all such cases the failure to amend, once recognized, should operate as a stimulant to "try again." A second and more determined effort may carry us forward to the desired goal.

Major-General Hugh H. McLean was sworn in as Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick on Friday last. Preceding the ceremony he was host at a luncheon at the Queen Hotel in Fredericton, at which the members of the Provincial Government and other prominent officials and citizens were entertained. It is noted that Governor McLean is the twenty-fifth to hold that office since New Brunswick was established as a separate Province in 1785, and the sixteenth since Confederation. The late Sir Leonard Tilley held the Governorship of the Province from 1873 to 1878 and again for a prolonged term from 1885 to 1893, or in all for thirteen years.

"Never mind the weather so the wind don't blow." Was the burden of an old song. It is a fact that a high wind greatly increases the discomfort of cold weather and snow storms in winter, and of rain storms at other seasons. In immemorial from such conditions Prince Edward Island has been greatly favored during many months past. Many gales forecast by Old Probabilities failed to reach us here while snow and rain have fallen alternately in comparatively calm weather. A strong wind such as that of Sunday continued during the following night, greatly increasing the feeling of cold to most persons, amounting to at least ten degrees below that indicated by the thermometer.

The entire suppression of the liquor traffic is admittedly a very difficult task. With good intentions a prolonged effort has been made in our own city and province extending over more than a quarter of a century. A summary of the past year's business in the City Police Court published in yesterday's Guardian shows how sadly disappointing the result has been. The number of arrests for drunkenness shows a formidable increase over the previous year. In the same issue of the Guardian, appears an article entitled "The Liquor Tale of Two Cities." The two cities are Toronto and Detroit, the largest in the Province of Ontario and in the adjoining state of Michigan respectively. The liquor traffic in Toronto is under Government Control and in Detroit it is under Prohibition. The Mail and Empire which tells the story, is one of the foremost and most reliable and influential journals in the Dominion. The utter failure and break-down of Prohibition and rampant drunkenness in the prohibition city are in strong contrast with the sobriety, order and respect for law in the Canadian city.

King George still lives, but his long illness has been of so serious a character that the full recovery of his health and strength cannot be reasonably expected until a date far in the future.

But less picturesque, and therefore less auto-for bells.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

LAZINESS OR TIREDNESS

A salesman has two or three more calls to make, but feels a bit languid and so calls up his customers by telephone and endeavors to get their orders in this manner. The office man begins to feel "all in" before the afternoon is half over and decides to have a smoke and read the paper.

What is the cause of this lack of energy, this lack of desire to work? In a great many cases it is due to constipation which is called the disease of civilization.

There is no question but that constipation, by allowing the blood to absorb waste matter—poison—from the intestine, is the cause of laziness and depression, and most of the headaches from which folks suffer.

And the trouble is that so many folks accept the situation as one that cannot be helped, and go about day after day with only about sixty to eighty per cent of their natural efficiency.

And yet as a matter of fact, as Dr. F. R. Brown of Johns Hopkins University says "The vast majority of cases of chronic constipation have no organic basis, represent careless habits of eating and living, and can be corrected by diet, exercise, and establishing a regular habit for the intestine, if the doctor be wise and persistent, and the patient co-operative and understanding. A starting dose of salt and water, or if preferred a fruit juice mixture, a bran cereal, bran or whole wheat bread, fruits and greens in abundance, prunes or grapes or an apple at night, exercise and exercises re-educating the patient's mental attitude casting out that devil of devils, the fear of auto-intoxication."

And where many sufferers make the mistake is in thinking that they are eating too much and eat sparingly, under the belief that they will have that much less waste or poison in lower intestine.

In addition to this they use enemas or irrigations up high in lower intestine to rid it of its "poisons."

Now enemas and irrigations may be needed at times and are wonderfully helpful in removing gas, but as they leave the intestine empty its muscular walls have nothing to contract against and simply don't contract, that's all.

The idea then is to eat sufficient food of the type mentioned by Dr. Brown and in addition to exercise the abdominal muscles by bending exercises.

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers

January 1, 1929

THAT ALL MAY SEE—The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.—Isa. 52:10.

PRAYER—"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts, Eternal King."

ANY DEAD TO ANY LIVING

Boast not about our score, Think this—There was no need For such a Sack of Youth As buried our lives. We, and the millions more, Were waste, from want of heed, From world-wide hate of truth, And souls in gyves.

Let the dead bury the dead. Let the graveyard be. Life had not health to climb, It loved no strength that saves. Furbish our million graves As records of a crime; But give our brothers bread, Unfetter their heads, Set prisoned angels free. —John Masfield in The Yale Review.

Daily Lessons in English

WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: Do not say, "I didn't go, neither Monday nor Tuesday," say, either Monday or Tuesday.

OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: aluminum. Pronounce a-lu-min-um, as in "ask," first u as in "unit" (not as in "rule"), i as in "in," last u as in "run," accent second syllable.

OFTEN MISPELLED: advertiser; also advertiser.

SYNONYMS: accomplice, abettor, confederate, conspirator.

WORD STUDY: "Use a word three times and it is yours." Let us increase our vocabulary by mastering one word each day. Today's word: HARBOR; to entertain in the mind. "He harbored his misgivings in silence."

The Land We Love

By FRANK YEIGH

THE GRANGE

Q. Where is the Grange? A. The Grange is the name of one of the historic buildings in Toronto, which now forms part of the Art Gallery of that city. It is the oldest residence, dated from 1817, built by the Bouton family, and also occupied for many years by Goldwin Smith. It is an interesting example of an English Elizabethan mansion and is therefore an interesting historical feature of Toronto.

Reveals new Spirit in the Maritimes

(A. C. Pyke, Secretary, Maritime Provinces Association, in The Financial Post)

The decision of the governments of the three Maritime Provinces of Canada to continue their efforts for the support of a trade and touring commissioner in Toronto is not only the first joint action of the provinces in the commercial field, but very clearly indicates the new spirit which has animated that section of the Dominion since the acceptance of the Duncan Report.

The provinces themselves are giving to the Maritime Provinces Association of Toronto full credit for the inspiration which has resulted in the establishment of a trade commission office to advance their business interests in Ontario, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island have pledged themselves to furnish \$15,000 a year for three years to try out the advantage of a commission office, and these most enthusiastic in their backing of the project fully expect the establishment to become permanent.

800 Members in Toronto

The Maritime Provinces Association of Toronto from whose efforts this result has developed though formed only about a year ago now, has 800 members. With the full endorsement of the membership a delegation of four of the association's executive recently visited Nova Scotia and completely sold the idea to the government and the leading businessmen of Halifax.

The Toronto association last autumn invited all the members of the three Maritime Provinces legislatures, together with a number of newspaper and business men to visit Toronto as guests of the association. The meeting held during that visit resulted in definite commitment to the proposed scheme by Premier J. B. M. Baxter of New Brunswick and tentative commitment by Hon. William Lea on behalf of Prince Edward Island. The visit to Nova Scotia was engineered by prominent Nova Scotian business men who are keenly interested to see the suggestion carried to a successful conclusion. In Halifax Prof. E. D. MacPhee, president of the Toronto association, and Messrs. W. E. Burnaby, A. C. Pyke, and E. M. Saunders were tendered a dinner at the Lord Nelson hotel and given an opportunity to place before a highly representative gathering the scheme fostered by their organization. The following day the Ontario delegates were in conference with official representatives of the three provinces at Montserrat, N. B., and that meeting announced its decision to make the annual grants and to approve the selection of a trade commission.

Appointment Yet Unannounced No appointment to this office has yet been announced but it is anticipated that it will be filled by a man already experienced in similar trade commission work. The provinces have taken the work of the Toronto association very warmly and already the boards trade are linking up with its prospective activities and advising officers of their programmes. Objects of the new office will be made available to Maritime manufacturers and shippers of raw materials, information regarding possible markets in Ontario, to incite tourist travel to the Atlantic board of Canada and co-ordinator the largest possible use of the Canadian Atlantic ports for Canadian commerce.

Household Scrapbook

By ROBERTA LEE

A Salad

The teaspoonful of peas, two slices of beef, or the steak celery left over from dinner can be utilized in the next day's salad.

The Smell of Cook

To prevent the smell cooking from permeating the house, sprinkle a little cedar sawdust on a top of the stove.

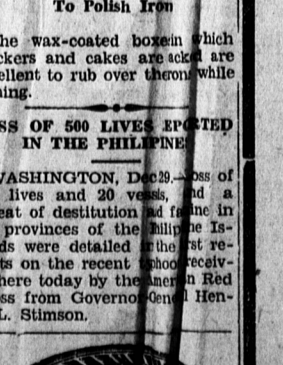
To Polish Iron

The wax-coated boxes which crackers and cakes are packed are excellent to rub over ironing irons.

LOSS OF 500 LIVES EXPECTED IN THE PHILIPPINES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Loss of 500 lives and 20 years, and a threat of destitution and famine in six provinces of the Philippine Islands were detailed in the first reports on the recent typhoon received here today by the American Red Cross from Governor General Henry L. Stimson.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS



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