

The Daily Mail

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CHRISTMAS

Again the ever flowing stream of time brings us to the season of the year universally recognised by Christian civilization as the most joyous. Childhood is especially remembered, and old age is not forgotten. The social side of these festivities bears unique testimony to the influence of Jesus of Nazareth in human life. All the Christmas stream of good will can be traced historically to the time and the fact that Jesus was born, and the angels' song filled the Eastern heavens with the strains of the first Hallelujah Chorus. It is a striking testimony to the power of the Saviour that benevolent aspirations, sympathy and good cheer are regarded as fitting the spirit of the season. Children realize that Christmas means gifts, while older folk learn that Christmas means giving. The overflowing of the higher, nobler nature for the time being, at least, is supreme.

In the prominence given to benevolent undertakings and personal gifts we are apt to overlook the fact that these are only one aspect of result of his coming. Jesus gave himself for the purpose of aiding humanity to give itself to the highest ends. His ideal for himself and mankind is a life of harmony with God as Father. Peace and good will are the fruits of that harmony. Jesus was much more concerned with causes than seeming results. If the principles of his kingdom are operative, the results will inevitably follow. That peace and good will, the true Christmas spirit may become universal it is necessary to have life universally governed by Jesus' principles.

One of the things Jesus demonstrated was that God is love and Christianity for his fellowship and service. Brotherhood is the heart of the Gospel, and it must become world wide. Our Christmas celebrations are a reflection of a glory which can only be seen in its purest rays when it abides in the part of humanity. The tendency of Christianity is to share the Christmas spirit throughout the whole year, as the missionary programme is to spread Christianity throughout the whole world. Christmas is for the childhood of the world as universal brotherhood is for the fully developed manhood of the race.

Again, Jesus demonstrated that there can be no real abiding joy until the soul is in harmony with God as Father. The Pharisee was loveless because his ideals were self-centred. God was an abstraction to him. The prodigal was a selfish being because he was away from father's house. Jesus links sin and misery as he links holiness and joy together. Thus real Christmas joy is not a thing of the season but an experience of the soul. Benevolence and good will may for a day, cause a gleam of sunshine to pass over the dark heart but it cannot reach, for the real light comes from within rather than from without. Thus to spread abroad the noble spirit which delights to serve means striking a death blow at the cause of the misery or the wretchedness of the human heart.

For this reason Jesus struck hard at evil as the active cause of human woe. He came to destroy the works of the devil. At Christmas we pour out money and thought to relieve the poor and suffering. This is a tribute to the sympathetic heart of humanity but it is tackling the problem at the wrong end. As a method it is doomed to failure. What society ought to do is to follow Jesus and strike at the causes of poverty and suffering. If society arose and struck a death blow at the saloon, the brothel, the gambling den, the grafter, the oppression of the laborer, the wretched system of combines which raises the cost of living to the degradation of the toiler that it may create a small company of millionaires there would be comparatively little need for special Christmas contributions. The urgent need of today is not more charity but more social justice, the removal of the unjust conditions which breed poverty and vice. There is no reason

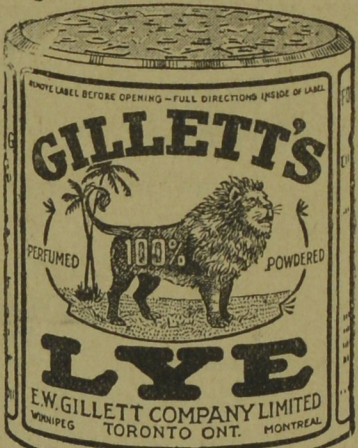
in the nature of things why every laborer could not have a Happy Christmas with his family and friends from his own earnings. The real joy of life will come from the enjoyment of social efficiency when men and women will know what they have attained victory and are free in the liberty of the truth and able to take their place with the army that marches forward.

As a step to this end Jesus gave a principle of conduct, individual, social, national, "not to be ministered unto but to minister." The adoption of this principle would bring the Christmas spirit into every heart and make it active through all time. This Christmas season is overhung with the dark pall of death which is rapidly covering the heavens as the greatest war on this world advances. In the final analysis the cause is selfishness, the old pagan claim, that true greatness consists in the ability of a nation to compel the service of others. Jesus made it consist in ability to serve others after his own spirit and example. This ideal came when Jesus came. It is the priceless contribution to national permanence. They that take the sword will perish by the sword. The doom of Germany was written thousands of years ago when the higher weapons of truth and brotherhood in the hearts and hands of men laid the foundations of a kingdom which is as eternal as the being of God. The animal cannot dominate the man as formerly. Jesus is dominating the man and this war will settle for all time the superiority and supremacy of truth and freedom as the winning forces of the new democracy.

In the midst of the burden of the war this Christmas season will be in many ways unlike the quiet seasons of the past. Individuals, while appreciating their happy conditions, will think less of times and think more of the men who stand daily with death on every hand. The men, our men are not forgotten. They too will think of the home land and the friends far away. If it is impossible to do all we would like it still remains true that the men will feel they have not been forgotten.

Never will the Christian heart yearn more frequently for the age when nations will learn war no more. The time is coming and this war will hasten it. Only when nations embrace righteousness, truth and love will that day appear. The value of the Christmas spirit and ideal is daily growing clearer while the uselessness of selfishness is daily growing clearer also. Here as elsewhere the higher will win, and the angels' song become the commonplace of daily life. When that time comes Christians will be set against the background of love and fellowship and not, as so frequently is today, against the background of poverty and pain.

GILLETT'S LYE EATS DIRT



THE BOYS IN KHAKI.

The men of the field artillery quartered at the exhibition building will have a fine Christmas dinner served to them tomorrow at the expense of Lord and Lady Ashburnham. The men at the barracks will also celebrate Christmas in the usual way.

PERSONAL

Dr. C. R. Fletcher of New York, is here to spend Christmas with relatives. Private John Kay of the 26th Battalion, St. John, is here to spend Christmas. Mr. Amos A. Picard of the 26th Battalion, St. John, is spending a few days in the city. Mr. David Menzies, the well known guide of Newcastle, was in the city yesterday. Mr. Alex. Ogilvy and Mr. Arthur Barker, well known Toulouge guides, were in the city yesterday. Mrs. Seeley, wife of Lieut. Col. Seeley, commanding the 23rd Battery has arrived here to spend Christmas with her husband.

FEAR THE KAISER MAY DIE BY STARVATION

London, Dec. 16.—Telegraphing from Switzerland, a correspondent of the Central News says: "A telegram received from Munich states that it has been decided to operate on Emperor William's throat, but the operation is being deferred owing to the feverish condition of the Emperor."—News despatch.

That the Kaiser faces death by F. Christian, of No. 401 Marlboro street, one of the foremost specialists in this country, himself a German, and one who made a careful study of the throat cancer which killed Frederick II, the present Kaiser's father, Dr. G. M. Balboni, of Boston, believe the Kaiser has tuberculosis of the throat.

For some time meagre dispatches have been received from Germany, saying only that the Kaiser was suffering from "throat trouble." It is more than probable, according to Dr. Christian, that the German ruler is afflicted with throat cancer, a fatal inheritance from his royal father.

ATTACKED KAISER'S FATHER

"The cases of the Kaiser and his father have points in common," said Dr. Christian. "The affliction attacked both at approximately the same period of life, as Frederick was fifty-four years old when he died and the Kaiser is now fifty-six."

"It began in the first case with huskiness of the voice, and the Kaiser's hoarseness has been reported. His father would not admit the seriousness of his illness until he was all but at death's door. The present Kaiser, we are told, quarrels with his physicians because he is not permitted to go to the front. It would appear these physicians realize the danger which overhangs their ruler."

"There are some who claim cancer is not hereditary, but these do not offer any other solution for the disease. I personally believe that cancer is hereditary in the sense that the father is afflicted with the disease previous to and at the birth of the son. By this I mean that I do not believe that the disease runs in a family as some diseases do, sometimes skipping a generation."

"The history of the disease, shown in Frederick's case, is as follows:—First came the husky voice. Then followed the inflammatory pain not greatly painful but very significant. Afterwards came the difficulty in swallowing food, and this point is the most important one of all. Came next an increase of the pain and difficulty in respiration. Finally came the inability to swallow food and Frederick II. starved to death. According to the opinion of the physicians who attended him through his illness, he had been suffering with the disease for two years."

"OPERATIONS DANGEROUS"

"There was no thought of an operation at that time, but now it is seriously considered. Operating for cancer has arguments pro and con, but it certainly has not been uniformly successful. From the usual situation of throat cancer, an operation would be very dangerous."

Dr. G. M. Balboni, a prominent throat specialist, gave it as his opinion that the Kaiser's affliction is probably tuberculosis of the throat. He said the preliminary symptoms, such as hoarseness and sore throat, were identical in either cancer or tuberculosis of the throat.

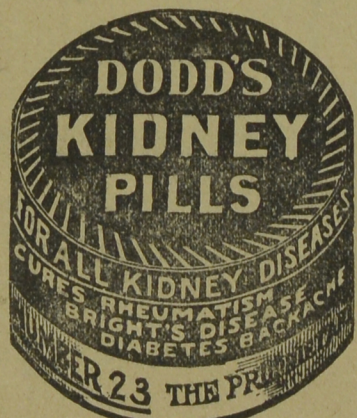
"We know so little of cancer," said Dr. Balboni, "that it is hard to judge from what we have heard. Even now we are conducting experiments to determine whether it develops from a germ or plasma. I am not a great believer in the hereditary theory as regards cancer, but as a matter of fact, the disease is so mysterious that one theory is quite as good as another. Both are equally fatal."

A HEAVY TRAFFIC.

The train on the Valley Railway brought one hundred and fifty passengers to the city today. The train was held until four o'clock and Manager Thompson, on the out-going trip, put on an extra car for the accommodation of the passengers.

CHRISTMAS CHEER

The inmates of the Municipal Home tomorrow will enjoy an excellent Christmas dinner at the expense of His Worship Mayor Mitchell.



December 24th., 1914.

John J. Weddall & Son

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Customers and Friends

A Very Merry Christmas

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Happy Christmas

AND A

Prosperous New Year

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WHOLESALE The Hardware People RETAIL

Domestic Sanitary and Heating Engineers.

WHEN YOU GET YOUR

Christmas Cooking

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Cor Regent and King

A Gift of

Flowers

is a beautiful expression of the Christmas Gifts Giving Spirit. Carnations, Roses, Chrysanthemums, Violets, Valleys, in cut flowers. Palms and Azaleas received a few weeks ago from Belgium. Arancarias, Ferns, Cyclamens, Primulas, Begonias, Hyacinths, Narcissus, Poinsettias. Prices right. Novelties in Baskets, filled with potted Cut Flowers. New Christmas roping or fringe for Table or Christmas Tree decorating in Red and Green. Red Rusens, also Rusens or Holly Wreaths. Holly and Mistletoe. Call and see our Christmas Display. Order early. Celery, Lettuce and Parsley.

ADAM SCHLEYER
Phone 217.

SHOP EARLY

And get the Christmas Spirit

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