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Friday, Dec. 24, 1920.

Christmas

This week we celebrate the
joyous feast of Christmas—one
of the great feasts of the Church—
commemorative of the advent
upon earth of Jesus Christ, the
Son of God, the Savior of Man-
kind.

Dr. Hanna's Tribute

In a master demonstration in
San Francisco, in honor of the
late Mayer MacSwiney, our own
Archbishop Hanna, who is ac-
quainted first hand with condi-
tions in Ireland from his recent
tour there, who delivered the ad-
dress said in part:—There is one
thought which concerns us Amer-
icans. It seems only the other day
when in the crisis of the war,
England was in her last extrem-
ity, and to us as a suppliant did
she come, asking our aid. We
gave it with all the generosity of
our great heart. We gave of our
treasure, we gave the blood of
our loved children.

England protested that her
whole soul was filled with fear
lest the rights of men to liberty
and to freedom might be jeopar-
dized, and England swore with
our representatives to the pact
that bore to the world our high
ideals. In the conference of peace,
she forgot the human element,
the starving millions who fought
for her imperial sway, she is
denying to Ireland the very es-
sentials of that freedom which
she claimed was her cause, and
in utter disregard for established
law she imprisons without rea-
son, punishes without trial, allows
men to die who never did ought
save to love their country, and
further her highest interests.
This is an American interest, this
is the time for serious thought on
the part of those who rule our
destinies.

Let us in reading our loving,
tender sympathy to the noble,
fearless wife, and to the loving
sisters and brothers, send, too, a
message of love, and a promise
of help to all who in MacSwiney's
spirit battle for Ireland's cause.
Let this great Ireland over the
sea hear the voice in the battle
line. Let us pray wisdom for their
guidance, strength for the day of
conflict, prudence against the
wiles of their enemy. We know
and feel that they have endured
upon their last fight; we know
and we feel that with patience

must come victory. And as in
vision we behold their banner of
green and gold and white waving
in the sun, as we, listening, hear
the marching tread of Ireland's
thousands, let us lift our voices
and hearts and sing MacSwiney's
hymn.

President's Bent

Little by little, in the many
speeches upon varied topics made
by President-elect Harding since
election the American public is
getting at least a glimpse into the
real mental bent of the new
Chief Executive of the Nation.

Speaking in Marion before a
meeting of the Ohio State League
for Conservation of Children, Mr.
Harding is credited with this
somewhat cryptic utterance:—
Our public school systems leaves
to the home and its influence the
great duty of instilling into the
child those fundamental concepts
of religion which are so essential
in shading the character of in-
dividual citizens and therefore,
of the nation. That duty remains
to be performed at the hearthside
and will always be peculiarly pre-
rogative of the mother. I could
wish, indeed, that our nation
might have a revival of religious
spirit along these lines. There
never was a time when the world
stood in more need than it does
now, of the consolations and re-
assurances which only a firm re-
ligious faith can have. It is a time
of uncertainty, of weakened faith
in the efficiency of institutions of
industrial systems of economic
hypotheses, of dictum and dogma.
Whatever our realm, let not our
engrossment with those things,
which are concerned merely with
matter and mind, distract us from
proper attention to those which
are of the spirit and the soul."

A little later on the President-
elect stands squarely by the pub-
lic school and some have thought
it portends he would eliminate all
private and parochial schools in
these words:—

"Whether we may esteem it
wise or unwise, the modern moth-
er must realize that society dis-
poses more and more to take from
her control the training, the in-
tellectual direction and the spiri-
tual guidance of her children. We
may well plead that the mothers
to make the most, for good of the
lessened opportunity they possess
for molding the lives and minds
of their children. Through such
co-operative effort as this, it
seems to me, there is opportunity
for a great service. Herein is pre-
sented the opportunity to lift up
the poorer and the less fortunate
to a higher level.

The mother who indefatigably
seeks to train her own children
rightly will be performing this
service not only for her own chil-
dren, but for those from other
homes not so richly blessed with
the finer things of life. I confess
to no great satisfaction in the
good fortune of those families
which, when they become suffi-
ciently well to do, like to take
their children away from the pub-
lic schools and give them the
doubtful advantage of more ex-
clusive educational processes.

Whichever view is correct, we
venture the opinion that if the
Smith-Townier bill for the confer-
ring of autocratic powers on a
minister of education to be creat-
ed, that President Harding's of-
ficial signature will be affixed to
it.

If the United States possesses
the necessary shrewdness and
courage plus the necessary trained
financial experts she is now in
position to capture England's
leadership in international bank-
ing and finance.

Knut Hansum, of Norway, who
was "fired" as a street car con-
ductor in Chicago 15 years ago,
has captured the \$50,000 Noble
literature prize. At the same time
there are alleged "literary chaps"
in the United States who would
make good street car conductors.

The Real Reason

A correspondent of one of the
Rochester papers is heartily in
favor of the effort made to Pro-
testantize the Jews and which
effort is being resisted mightily
and vigorously by the leaders of
Judaism. He writes as follows:—
I have known three Godly men, a
Presbyterian, a Baptist and a Re-
formed Episcopalian, who thor-
oughly believe that Israel, accord-
ing to prophecy, would and must
acknowledge Jesus Christ as their
Lord and Saviour, and toward
this end they labored most con-
scientiously. Shall we blame them
for their conviction? Shall we
blame any religious body which
believes that the Jew should ac-
cept the Lord, Jesus, and in or-
der that they might accomplish
this vote, a sum of money to be
used to defray workers ex-
penses?

The heavy face words furnish
the real reason for this and other
propaganda now being carried on—
provide jobs for workers at
good salaries.

"Playing Safe"

What we call "playing safe to
the limit" is evidenced by the
following advice as to how relieve
if not cure the unemployment
epidemic:—"For the past few
years very little construction of a
public nature has been carried on
and there is much that should be
done. Building materials have
fallen in price so that work that
has been postponed may well be
resumed.

"At the same time, a great ef-
fort should be made to stimulate
home building. Rochester, like
every city in the country, is in
great need of houses. An exten-
sive program should be arranged.

"Of course, much depends on
the weather and it may be neces-
sary and wise to postpone some
outdoor operations until spring
but it is time now to get things
underway so that work may pro-
ceed without delay when condi-
tions are favorable."

Everybody including thousands
of non-Catholics, hopes Cardinal
Gibbons may be spared to us
many years more.

We as Catholics can appreciate
and applaud the following senti-
ment from the "Post Express:—
It has taken the world a long time
to learn—and not all of us have
learned it yet—that it is beyond
the province and the power of
human laws to legislate people in-
to religion, into morality or into
somebody else's conception of
what they should desire or how
they should pass their lives. Aside
from activities which are repre-
hensible and prohibited on every
day of the year one human adult
has as much right as another to
determine what he will do on
Sunday; and if it seems impor-
tant to change his views upon
this subject, it must be done by
education, by example, and not
by law. The Sabbath was made
for man, and one man is as much
a moral free agent as another.

Says the Cleveland "Plain
Dealer"—Japan says that meas-
ures prohibiting her subjects em-
igrating can be taken only at her
own initiative. True. And meas-
ures prohibiting them from im-
migrating can be taken only at
ours.

It may be a sad commentary on
the day and age that teaching of
manners is necessary in the
schools but sad as it may seem it
is a fact.

Not more laws is the crying
need of today but the enforce-
ment of those we have now on the
statute books.

If Mr. Harding will really be
President and Mr. Miller will act
only as one term governor, the
people will rejoice however the
politicians may squeal.

The name of Farrell looks good
attached to an officer of a "Loyal
Orange Lodge".

A Happy New Year
To All!
and in particular to our clients and friends
whose support and patronage during the
past generation have made possible the
Central Bank of to-day.
No matter what the outlook of the moment,
we welcome the dawn of the New Year,
firm in the conviction that it is full of prom-
ise of good things--a real peace in the
world,--a true adjustment of values--event-
ually a generous prosperity to all.
The Central Bank
of Rochester
Wilder Bldg. Main cor. Exchange Sts.
Rochester, N. Y.

PECULIAR FREAK OF NATURE

Section of Land in California Has
Trees Unknown Anywhere Else,
Save in One Small Spot.

Down in San Diego county is a
grove of Torreya pines less than two
miles broad and eight miles long,
thinly scattered, that occur nowhere
else in the world except about 100
trees on the eastern end of Santa
Rosa Island, many miles to the north
and out in the ocean. All who have
read of coaching or motoring in
southern California know of the fa-
mous cypress drive near Monterey.
Strange indeed is this great head of
land jutting out into the ocean be-
tween Carmel bay and Monterey har-
bor, for it forms an isolated arboreal
island, the Monterey cypress being
but one of its peculiarities. The Mon-
terey pine grows there, and is not
found again except sixty miles to the
north and seventy miles to the south.
The Bishop's pine occurs (or recurs)
only eighty-five miles to the north and
eighty miles to the south. The Gowen
cypress recurs on the coast 210 miles
northward.

Curious place for trees, this Mon-
terey headland! We have so many
trees to tell of curious native trees,
however, that one more must suffice.
Down at Garden Grove and Santa
Ana, both in Orange county, stand
five trees that are natural hybrids
between the native live oak and the
native black walnut, and man had
nothing to do with this jiggery.
—Los Angeles Times.

Few Do Much Walking.
Statistics of mankind's amblings,
including young children and old per-
sons, and taking into consideration
the fact that nowadays there are the
inclination and the facilities to ride
more and walk less than our fore-
fathers did, show that a fair estimate
of the average distance walked dur-
ing the 24 hours by the men, women
and children of continental United
States seems to be four miles. The
postman and the policeman, and the
messenger boy walk far more miles
than, four, so does the farmer, though
the use of the tractor has taken some
of the burden of agricultural work off
shank's mare.

The Elite.
"Dr. Pillers seems to be a fash-
ionable physician."
"I should say so. He has patients
at some of the most expensive health
resorts in America and a waiting list
of people whose health will give way
as soon as they get money enough to
consult him."—Birmingham Age-Her-
ald.

GREAT SOLDIER'S KINDLY ACT

Duke of Wellington Not Above Tak-
ing Care of Toad Which Was
Small Boy's Pet.

The duke of Wellington, while
strolling about his estate one day,
came upon a small boy, the son of a
gardener, down on his knees before
a hole, and with tears running down
his face. The boy explained that his
pet toad lived in the hole, and that he
fed him every day, the toad knowing
him and following him about the gar-
den. School was to open the next day
in a distant town, and the lad was
afraid his toad would starve to death.
"Not at all, not at all," assured the
great leader. "I'll look after your
toad myself." The boy got up at
once, and the two gravely shook hands.
The duke was as good as his word,
and went several times a week to the
hole with a handful of crumbs, and
the toad soon transferred his affection
to his grace. This so tickled the sol-
dier that he wrote the boy a letter
telling him of the pet's actions, but
expressing the belief that when the
boy returned the toad would go back
to his first affection.

Ripening Fruit.

High temperatures seem, very curi-
ously, to retard the ripening of pears,
while hastening that of apples. In ex-
periments described by Overholser
and Taylor in the Botanical Gazette,
the ripening of green first-crop Bartlett
pears raised from 70 degrees F.
or room temperature, to 85 degrees
was not affected, but at 87.7 degrees
it was delayed five days, and at 94 de-
grees and 104 degrees the delay was
13 days. Second-crop Bartlett pears,
in a temperature of 101 degrees, and
surrounded by a relative humidity of
below 50 per cent, remained unripe
four weeks after similar pears at
room temperature and humidity had
become fully ripened. The flavor of
pears kept above 85 degrees was af-
fected, sweetness and juiciness being
diminished. The ripening of Yellow
Newton apples on the other hand, was
hastened at every appreciable rise in
temperature from 50 degrees up to
the point of destruction by burning.
It is concluded that the picking of
pears may be delayed in very hot
weather, but that the picking of ap-
ples and storage in a cool place must
be hastened.

Some men get into office with little
opposition and get out with none at
all.
It's an easy matter to pose as a re-
former as long as you are out of of-
fice.

Barnstable's Old Bell.

In the courthouse at Barnstable,
Mass., is an old bell, cracked and
silent, which may be, and probably is,
the oldest bell in the United States.
So thinks Mr. Alfred Crocker, clerk of
courts of Barnstable county. The date
1675 is still plainly visible in the pho-
tograph recently printed in the Bos-
ton Evening Transcript.
By this date, however, the old bell
had seen nearly a quarter of a cen-
tury of life in England before it came
to America and began calling wor-
shippers together in the church at
Sandwich town. Gratitude bought the
bell in England, for it came as a gift
from Mrs. Peter Adolph, whose hus-
band, Captain Adolph, was lost in the
wreck of his vessel on the Massachu-
setts coast in 1637 despite the efforts
of the people of Sandwich.

A Fair Week.

A man lately kept a meteorological
diary of his wife's temper. It ran
somewhat as follows:
"Monday—Rather cloudy; in the af-
ternoon, rainy.
"Tuesday—Vaporish; brightened
up a little towards evening.
"Wednesday—Changeable, gloomy,
inclined to rain.
"Thursday—High wind, and some
peals of thunder.
"Friday—Fair in the morning; vari-
able till the afternoon; cloudy at
night.
"Saturday—A gentle breeze, hazy;
afternoon, a thick fog, and a few flash-
es of lightning.
"Sunday—Tempestuous and rainy;
toward evening rather calmer."—Lon-
don Answers.

Sought El Dorado in Vain.

When Sir Walter Raleigh started out
to find his El Dorado he was seeking a
fabulous city whose houses were covered
with sheets of pure gold, and which
was surrounded by hundreds of square
miles of rock so filled with surface
gold that when the sun shone it was as
if a great yellow mirror was blazing as
far as the dazzled eyes could reach.
Raleigh, of course, found nothing that
even came near to such a wonder, and
many a brave gentleman of England
lost his life or his fortune in seeking
the same fabled El Dorado.

We Do.

"We miss our old friends."
"Yep. Do you remember the \$5
shoe?"—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Suitable Effort.
"Do you think you could buy me a
new rubber coat?"
"I guess I could stretch a point."

Paradoxical Prospect.
"I never mince my words."
"If you did, you wouldn't run the
risk of eating them."