

Uncle Dave's Letter

What Christmas means. What does Christmas mean to us? It is a past event in history and to it we look back and rejoice, but what does it mean to us? Well, think of it this way. A friend said to me last week when we were talking about it: "Did you ever think," he said, "what would happen if there were no Christmas—if Christmas could be blotted out of the calendar and we go on through the dull level of the years without the hope and the help which it brings to heal the wounds of social and family life and to give us heart for our work?" Now, did you ever think of that? If there had been no Christmas there would have been no New Testament and no message about God loving the world and giving Himself for the life of the world and no great Christmas hymn of the love that never falleth, and no ringing shout of Easter morning and the open grave and no music from the Messiah, and no pictures of the Madonna and the cross, and no "In Memoriam" with its ringing bells, and no "Hymn of the Nativity" from Milton, and no Christmas Day and Easter Eve, by Browning, and no white nurses going through the long corridors whispering to themselves:

"Oh, how could I serve in the wards if the hope of the world were a lie?"

How could I bear with the sights and the loathsome smells of disease. But that he said, Ye do it to me, when ye do it to these."

As far as I see, the coming of Christ meant three things for us—True conception of God, true conception of man, true conception of life.

Christmas reveals to us the true life. This is life eternal that they may know the Father and Jesus Christ when thou hast sent. He came to give life and to give it more abundantly. He is with us. His name is Immanuel, and the sense of the divine presence ought ever to be our inspiration. In the life of Alexander McLaren we read at one time he was presented to King Edward the Seventh and he says: "I felt that his majesty honored me with his individual attention for a half a minute or not so long." Think of that. Half a minute's attention. Listen! The dwelling place of God is with man. There He has taken up his abode and there He abides. We need more than half a minute's attention.

Not a brief glance I beg, a passing word But as thou dwellest with thy disciples, Lord, Familiar, condescending, gracious, free, Come not to sojourn, but abide with me.

Would that mean anything to you if you could accept that gospel today? That would mean strength to the weak. He would be your great heart that would ever be your guide and that men need today is a great heart at their side. That would mean sympathy to the sorrowing. He who in his sorrow went a little further beyond the reach of human help, would

put his hand in yours. That would mean companionship in your loneliness. He who was with the wild beasts alone in the wilderness will know your heart and will not fail. You will be able to say with John Wesley on his dying bed: "The best of all is God is with us." Would that mean anything to you? I know it would. That would be the fulfillment of the promise for you. His name shall be called Immanuel. God with us.

Thou didst leave thy throne And thy kingly crown When thou camest on earth for me O come to my heart Lord Jesus There is room in my heart for Thee.

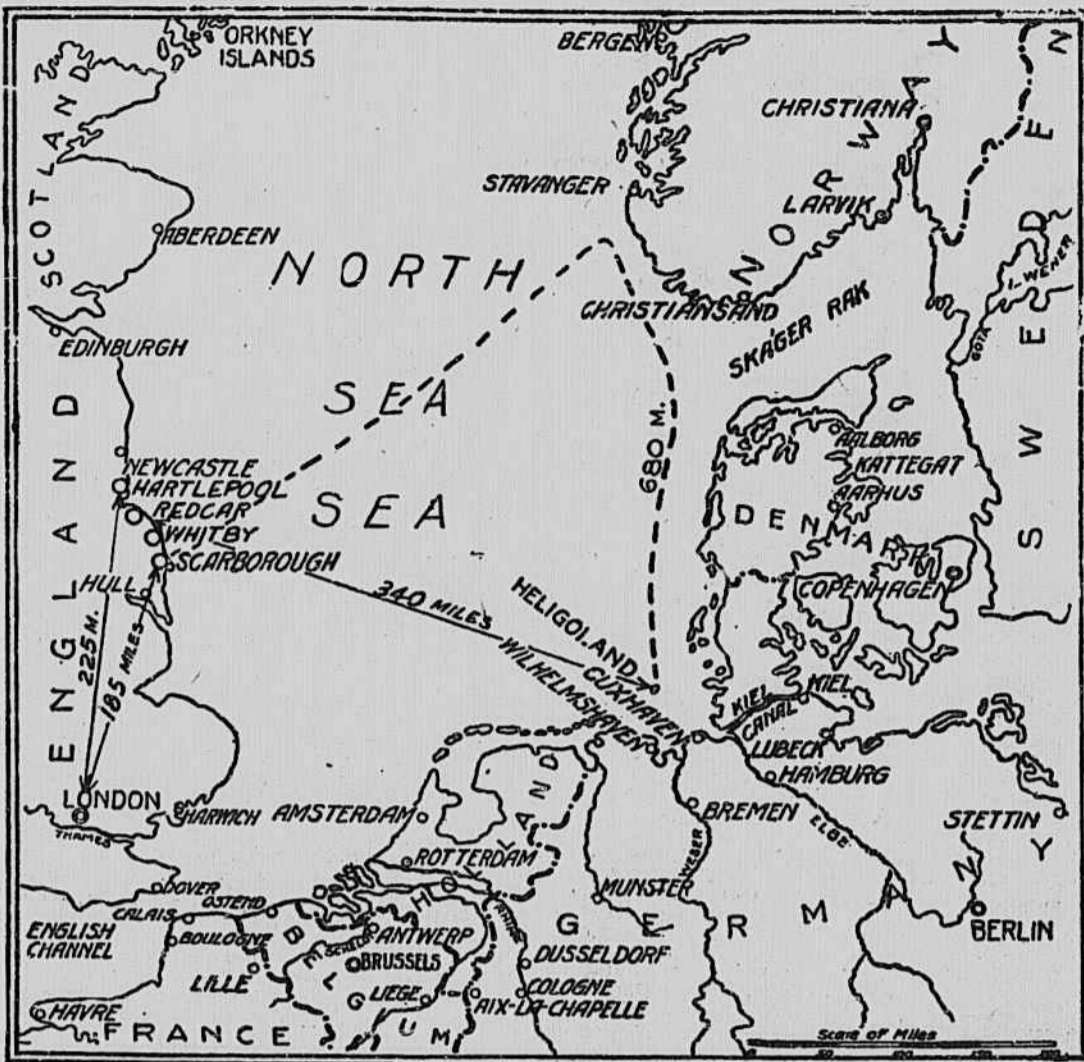
If there is any season of the year that makes me downright glad and absolutely contented just to be alive it is the Christmas season. You can't beat it. Everybody has a different air about them; the grouches disappear as by magic. It is a time when everybody is worth knowing; when even the biggest bores of other occasions are welcomed as good fellows well met. Do you know why all this is so? It is because we all, regardless of age or station or crops or anything else, are renewing our youth again. We are once more children, care free, glad to be alive, contented with every moment as it passes.

What I would like to see more than anything else would be a Christmas spirit that would last all the year around, not just one day, but 365 days—rainy, sunshiny, barren, golden, all kinds of days, the whole year around. I wish I could come into every farm home in Anderson County with just this message: Good cheer and good fellowship not on Christmas alone, but on every one of the 365 days of the entire year. Let's give our presents on Christmas; a present to every one we know and love (mother, father, John, Mary, the home folks, the hired man, the neighbors, the people who've had pleasant dealings with throughout the year) so far as lies within our means, no matter what the present may be. But let's not stop at that; let's band together to continue the giving throughout the entire year. Not costly things—as men measure gifts in the scale of dollars and cents, as so many bushels of corn or peas for a new dress for mother or daughter—but smiles and pleasant thoughts and well wishes and all that sort of thing.

It won't cost you a cent, it will do you a lot of good and it will make it such a good, worth-while world. Will you join me in the plan? Here's your hands on it. All my farmer friends for whom I am hoping the past year has been one of unalloyed enjoyment and the coming year one of greater promise than any that has preceded it, and here's the start, for my part; the money and help, may I beseech a Christian to you as any man woman or child ever had in all the world. That is the gift and the wish which go out of my heart, full of thankfulness and contentment, to you, all, every one of you, on every farm in Anderson County.

UNCLE DAVE.

Probable Course of German Ships That BombarDED British Towns.



This map shows the location of the towns and cities on the east coast of England which were bombarded by German cruisers, and the probable course of the cruisers to the attack across the North Sea. Scarborough, Hartlepool, West Hartlepool, and Whitby were among those into which shells were thrown by the German cruisers.

It was believed by the naval experts that the cruisers left the vicinity of the Kiel canal or Heligoland and made their way up the coast of Denmark to a point on the coast of Norway northwest from Christiania, and that they shot southwest across the North Sea to Scarborough. The report that they made their way directly from Kiel to Scarborough which would, of course, have taken less time because this part of the sea is believed not only to be patrolled by British gunboats but to be covered with mines.

Electric City Sparklets

(From Thursday's Daily.)

Giving of Bogus Checks Charged.

A colored citizen by the name of Lawrence Walker was arrested yesterday by Deputy James Williams on charges of issuing bogus checks and locked in the county jail, where he will remain until given hearing in the court of Magistrate Broadwell. The giving of bogus checks has gotten to be quite a common offense, says the magistrate, as he now has several hundred stored away in a big bill fold which he keeps for the purpose. He has bogus checks in his possession ranging in size all the way from \$100 down to \$1. "I am going to get a good start some of these days," said Magistrate Broadwell yesterday, "and have a general cleaning up of this matter."

U. S. at Threshold of Greatest Prosperity in Many Years

European Nations Have Placed Contracts in the United States for More Than \$300,000,000 Worth of Supplies Since the Beginning of the War.

(By Associated Press.)
NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—European nations have placed contracts in the United States for more than \$300,000,000 worth of supplies since the beginning of the war, according to Charles M. Schwab, president of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, who returned from England today on the Lusitania. Mr. Schwab declared that as a result of this buying the United States now was at the threshold of the "greatest period of prosperity it has seen in many years."

Mr. Schwab went to England to cancel provisional contracts he had made with the British government for the building of submarines. He did this, he said today, after having been advised by Secretary Bryan that for an American concern to supply submarines to any of the belligerent nations would be a violation of neutrality. The contracts given up, he said, were worth more than \$15,000,000 but he was unable to secure others while abroad for the supply of various munitions of war. He declined to say with what nation they had been negotiated.

"The next big problem the United States will have to face," said Mr. Schwab, "will be developments of transportation facilities to handle the tremendous increase in manufacturing and commercial enterprises."

"The period of prosperity that I predicted on my last return from Europe is about on us. The contracts placed by American manufacturers by Europe call for delivery within the year, and I look to see a big revival of business in every line."

Mr. Schwab on his previous trip, was a passenger on the steamship Olympic, when that ship went to the rescue of the dreadnaught Audacious. He declined then to confirm or deny the incident, pleading that he was honor bound not to speak of it.

Asked today if the Audacious did go down, his reply was: "It certainly did."

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 23.—Figures announced today by the Commercial Club show that five million dollars worth of horses and mules have been marketed through Kansas City to the British government. One manufacturer alone has supplied to the same market; half a million pairs of shoes for soldiers. The exports of 52 flour mills in this district have been 21,000 barrels this year compared with 75,000 barrels last year.

ALLIES' ATTACKS EASILY REPULSED Wins Pony

Germans Have Retained All Positions Captured on the Richebourg Canal.

(By Associated Press.)
BERLIN, Dec. 23.—The attack launched yesterday by the Allies in Belgium were easily repulsed by the Germans; that the French troops are showing greater activity in the vicinity of Camp du Chalon, and that the French forward movement in the vicinity of Sillierie, Rheims, Souain and Perthes, have been partly repulsed, were the features of the announcement issued today by the German headquarters.

The text of the statement follows: "Attacks in the region of Lombardeyde and to the south of Bixschotte have been easily repulsed by us. At Richebourg L'Avoue the English again were driven from their positions yesterday."

"Notwithstanding separate counter-attacks we have retained all the positions which we captured from the English on the Richebourg Canal from Aire to La Bassée. Since December 20 750 British and colored soldiers have been captured by us and five machine guns and four mine throwers taken."

"In the neighborhood of Camp Chalon the enemy is showing greater activity."

"Attacks to the north of Sillierie, south-east of Rheims, at Souain and at Perthes have been partly repulsed by us with heavy losses to the French."

"The situation in East and West Prussia is unchanged."

"Battles for possession of the branches of the Baura River (west of Warsaw) continue."

"The situation on the right bank of the River Pilica remains unchanged."

Georgia Sheriff Is Coming Here.

Sheriff Sid Johnson of Hart county, Georgia, is expected to arrive in Anderson today for the purpose of taking back to Georgia a white man by the name of Will Keys, who is wanted on charges of having eloped with his step mother-in-law. The man Keys was arrested in this city Tuesday night by a policeman. Keys was taken to the county jail, where he will be held until the arrival of the Georgia sheriff. It seems that the charges against Keys are the result of a family feud. Sheriff Johnson was expected to arrive either last night or today, but as he had not communicated with any of the city or county officers up until a late hour last night, it is presumed that he did not arrive.

Christmas Weather Is a Real Puzzle.

Even the weather prophets are puzzled as to what manner of weather Anderson is going to have for Christmas. The rain and sleet of Tuesday broke off about midnight, but it remained cloudy throughout the night. Yesterday the day dawned partially clear, but later clouds gathered and for a while it looked very much as though snow would come. The day was not altogether so comfortable one, as one expressed it, the cold was "snake-like." It got hold of a fellow and set him shivering ere he realized that it really was cold. Everyone is hopeful that the weather on Christmas day, at least, will be clear, crisp and bracing. In fact, prophets have ventured to predict that such weather will exist, but "then there is many a slip 'twixt cup and lip."

Will Reduce Its Rediscount Rates

(By Associated Press.)
RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 23.—The Richmond federal reserve bank, serving the fifth district, will reduce its rediscount rates, the change to be effective on December 28, according to the statement of Governor George Bray tonight. The official announcement will be made tomorrow. The present rate of 5 per cent. for 30-day paper will be extended to paper maturing in 60 days, while the present rate of 5 1/2 per cent. for 60-day paper will be extended to 90-day paper. Six per cent. will be charged for all rediscounts of more than 90 days.

Governor Bray said tonight that the reduction in rates was effected because of the increasing demand for rediscounts on the part of the member banks.

Atlanta Also in Line.

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 23.—Governor McCall, of the federal reserve bank of the sixth district, here, announced tonight that effective December 28, the rediscount rates of the Atlanta bank would be the same as the new rates of the Richmond bank. These provide for a reduction of one-half of one per cent on the charges for 30 to 60 and 60 to 90 day maturities.

Capital City News

Columbia, Dec. 23.—The State will meet the interest on the State debt, amounting to about \$130,000 on January 1st, but the State officials and clerks in the various State offices will not get their December salary checks before Christmas this year, as has been the custom, said Comptroller Jones this morning. The Comptroller General hates to break the custom but it is made necessary by the lack of funds in the State treasury on account of the closeness of the people in paying taxes.

Only one new enterprise was issued today, that of the Wagon and Buggy Works of Spansburg with a capital of \$3,000, the partners being G. L. Johnson and R. T. Legg.

It is announced in Chester that A. G. Brice, formerly a member of the House and who unsuccessfully opposed Attorney General Peoples last summer, is a candidate for the State senate from that county for the vacancy caused by the death of Senator P. L. Hardin. Mr. Brice has 12 opposition in the State. The late Senator Brice was set by Lieutenant Governor Smith.

Change In Location.

I am now located over W. A. Power's grocery store at 214 1-2 S. Main Street. I thank my friends for their past patronage and ask continuance of same.

I make plates at \$5.50
I make silverware at \$2.50
Silver fillings, 50c and up.
Gold fillings \$1.00 and up.
Painless Extracting 40c.
I make a specialty of treating: Pyorrhea, Alveolitis of the gums and all crown and bridge work and regulating mal formed teeth. All work guaranteed first-class.

S. G. BRUCE
DENTIST

ATLANTA LETTER

ATLANTA, Dec. 23.—For once in his career Governor John M. Slaton faces more mail than he hopes to answer. His desk is piled high with letters and telegrams bearing on the celebrated case of Leo M. Frank, and every mail brings a hundred more. Even his home is burdened by appeals through the mail, and many letters are being addressed to Mrs. Slaton in the hope that she will use her influence with her husband to have him commute Frank's sentence of pardon him. Many of the letters insist that the law be allowed to take its course.

The Governor will not attempt to answer most of these letters, for he has not the time. Indeed, he would not reply to most of them anyway, for he believes he has no right to devote so much of the State's funds to postage in such a case.

The Frank case, furthermore, is hardly likely to reach Governor Slaton for he goes out of office next June, and it is considered probable that Frank's lawyers will succeed at least in delaying the execution past that time. In this case the application for clemency would come before Governor Nat F. Harris who succeeds to office when the next legislature meets.

The action of Judge W. T. Newman of the Atlanta federal court has rather puzzled local lawyers, and up to yesterday afternoon they knew not what his final action would be. After hearing long arguments, however, he declined to grant the writ of habeas corpus asked for, and furthermore declined to certify Frank's appeal to the United States Supreme Court. He said he had no objection to allowing the appeal, but he could not issue a certificate to the effect that he felt there was probable cause for appeal, and as such a certificate is required by general law, his decision had the effect of denying Frank's lawyers any recourse, through the Atlanta court, to the higher tribunal.

Frank's attorneys, however, left yesterday afternoon for Washington to take the case direct before Justice Lamar, as they did when the State supreme court turned them down.

However, attorneys express no hope that they can get the case before the supreme tribunal without Judge Newman's certification.

That the Western and Atlantic, the Chesapeake and Ohio and the Pennsylvania roads are to be merged into a single system, a plan which has been sent to Naco belong to the Federal league.—Philadelphia Inquirer

Large Index College Falls.

Practically every thing coming into

Bank Directors Met Yesterday.

The regular monthly meeting of the board of directors of the Citizens National Bank was held yesterday at noon. Only matters of a routine nature were before the board. Between now and the last of January annual meetings of stockholders and directors of banks and cotton mills and other corporations will be in order.

No Recorder's Court Yesterday.

In the absence of cases on the police docket, there was no session of the recorder's court yesterday. And judging from the appearance of the docket at a late hour yesterday afternoon, there will be nothing for Recorder Russell to give his attention to today. Up until a late hour in the afternoon not a single arrest had been made by the city police. If the record is kept up through today, this will prove one of the most orderly Christmases Anderson has ever known.

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Anderson yesterday brought in its quota of college folk, coming home to spend the holidays with parents or other relatives. Perhaps every college in the State, or at any rate a large majority of them, were represented by the students arriving during the day. Representatives of institutions out of the State were also numerous. Numbers of those coming in were Anderson young men and young women who are teaching schools away from home. Today will see others coming in but not so many of these will be college folk. They will be members of Anderson families living elsewhere who are coming to spend Christmas with loved ones.

Cuts Up Seven Innocent Stills.

Thomas H. Gore, special agent of the United States revenue department, yesterday destroyed seven copper stills at the county jail which Sheriff Ashley and his deputies had collected during the past several months. The stills destroyed yesterday were those captured from George, Ernest and Will Williford, negroes, who are charged with operating several miles north of the city, from George Williford, who is charged with operating again west of the city, from a place on the river; from down near Craft's farm west of the city where two men are charged with having operated, and two stills which were captured down on Savannah River. The agent spoke highly of the work done by Sheriff Ashley in suppressing the illicit distilling of whiskey in this county and stated that Mr. Ashley should receive the usual compensation of \$10 for every still destroyed and \$50 for every conviction for violation of the law against the manufacture of whiskey. The agent intimated that he might be sent back here with a deputy marshal for the purpose of making cases against parties who are thought to have operated the stills.

New Mail Car Arrived.

The new state mail car ordered some time ago for the Blue Ridge Railroad has put in its appearance and was formally put into commission yesterday. The new engine ordered for this road has been in commission several weeks. A steel coach and a steel baggage and passenger coach are yet to come. Superintendent John R. Anderson of the Blue Ridge Railroad is expecting the balance of the equipment by the first of January.

Says Senator Gore Is Coming Here.

Thomas H. Gore, a special agent of the United States revenue department, who came to Anderson yesterday on official business, is authority for the statement that United States Senator and Mrs. Gore of Oklahoma are going to visit Anderson county in the near future. Mrs. Gore, it is stated, has an only uncle, Mr. Day, who is said to be living in this county, and it is for the purpose of visiting this relative that they are coming here. The revenue agent who was here yesterday stated that he dined with Senator Gore in Washington, Thanksgiving, and that he heard Senator Gore tell Congressman Johnson of Spartanburg of his intended visit to Anderson. Senator Gore has been engaged to appear at the Christmas concert at the high school and deliver his well known temperance address, and it is widely mak-

Authorized to Buy 25,000 Bales Cotton.

Mr. Robert Ligon, general manager of the Gluck and Equinox cotton mills, has been authorized by Wellington Sears, of Boston, selling agents and principal stockholders on these two mills, to purchase 25,000 bales of cotton at the present price. Of this amount 20,000 will be purchased for the Gluck mills and the balance for the Equinox mills. This number of bales will constitute a two year's supply. Mr. Ligon states that the storage accommodations of the mills are limited but he has gained the permission of the insurance companies to store 1,000 bales in the basement of the Gluck mills. Other storage arrangements will be made to take care of the larger purchases.

School Children Freed Yesterday.

Yesterday afternoon over 3,000 children were dismissed from the city schools for the Christmas holidays. Glad to be free from the labors of the classroom for such a long period, the youngsters gave vent to their feelings in shouts and yells that purchased for blocks about each school house and along the streets through which they passed en route home. The schools will resume work Monday, January 6, 1915. Teachers in the city schools who live away from here left yesterday afternoon for their respective homes.

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