

LETTER FROM SMYRNA

Mrs. W. A. Teague, of Mountville, has received the following letter from her son, Curtis Teague, who is with the U. S. S. Pittsburgh in Eastern waters, where he has come in close touch with the Turko-Greek situation:

Constantinople,
Dec. 3, 1922,
Sunday Afternoon.

My Dearest Minkie:
I received letters from you and Catherine and Edith today and was very glad to hear. Your letter was a month coming to me but you see it was sent to Gibraltar from New York and in the meantime we got orders to proceed here, so the U. S. S. Devebola which has just come over from the States got our mail in "Gib" and brought it on here.

We went down to Smyrna a few days ago and then came back here. It is only a little over a day's run down there. It surely is a horrible place now. You know the Turks burned the city and massacred so many of the people that it is nothing to see dead bodies floating in the water now. The city has an awful smell as there are so many bodies that have not been buried. You cannot understand the condition without seeing the place for yourself.

I have visited several historical places here. Have visited the tomb of Alexander the Great and numerous other tombs. I also visited St. Sophia's Cathedral, built 600 years before Christ. They certainly have a funny religion. They do not use pews at all, pray five times a day. There is some one praying in there all the time. They wash their feet, hands, mouth, nose and ears before going in to pray. They take their shoes off before going in church. There has been service in that church every day for 1,600 years.

We are having real cold weather. Has snowed several times.

There are 12 destroyers here, two supply ships and us. Several English, French, Spanish and Italian naval vessels are here also. We are anchored right in front of the Sultan's palace. The Turks tried to massacre the Sultan so an English vessel got him and carried him away.

Thanksgiving day we fed 100 refugee children on our ship. They were mostly Russian refugees. We had comedy movies in the afternoon for them. They were a happy bunch of children—guess it was the first good meal for them in a long time.

We may go up to Odessa, Russia, for a few days. It is a large city but the people are starving.

I do not know whether I can send anything home Christmas as you have to pay duty on everything coming to the States. Am getting on O. K. Will write again soon.

Best love to all,
Curtis.
U. S. S. Pittsburgh.

Engraved Invitations and Cards
Advertiser Printing Company

McSWAIN'S BILL DOESN'T OVERLOOK SMALL FARMER

He Provides for Tenants in His Measure. Low Rate of Interest. Washington, Dec. 19.—Congressman J. J. McSwain is pressing his rural credits bill vigorously. He spent nearly all day Thursday with the banking and currency committee of the Senate, and himself testified before the committee today in support of his bill.

Congressman McSwain explains that the administration measure offered in the name of help to the farmers is really indirectly for the benefit of the large investors who are thereby offered safe security at a good rate of interest, and can help no farmers except large farmers who can already receive accommodation from existing banks. Congressman McSwain proposes by his bill, to provide financial assistance at a rate of interest not exceeding six per cent, per annum for small farmers, even tenants, for the purpose of producing their crops and marketing the same in an orderly manner. And eventually, under his system, the rate of interest would be reduced, after several years, to about four per cent per annum. The bill is very strict in prohibiting any indirect device by way of fees or accommodation charges, or other ruse, for the purpose of collecting a greater rate of interest than six per cent. By his system the local bank would make two per cent on the transaction and the government would make four per cent net, because the government now has the gold in the vaults which brings no interest whatever. It is proposed to use five hundred million dollars of this gold as a guarantee for redemption of such Federal reserve notes to finance the farmers in producing crops and live stock, and in addition to the gold the reserve notes would have back of them the notes of the farmers secured by their crops and stock and the endorsement of the local bank. The congressman argues that there can be no better money in the world than that which is backed by both gold and commodities.

Congressman McSwain says that he proposes to push his plan vigorously when the House banking and currency committee begins its hearings on rural credits legislation, and since the congressman has mailed a large number of his bills to reputable farmers, bankers and financiers in South Carolina, he expressed the hope that they may freely write him suggestions and criticisms in order that the very best results may come out of the discussion.

Grows as It Moves.

What the tender and poetic youth dreams today, and conjures up with inarticulate speech, is tomorrow the vociferated result of public opinion, and the day after is the character of nations.—Emerson.

Skillful Workers With Gems.

One of the most interesting features of Manila industrial life is the wonderful skill of its women lapidaries and gem setters, whose tastes and workmanship have far surpassed the powers of the men.

COOKIE ST. NICKS

Dainties for the Kiddies of the Netherlands.

Little Shoes Are Set Outside of Each Door to Hold the Goodies and the Gifts.

IN SETTLEMENTS where the holidays are affected by the customs of the Netherlands it is not at Christmas time, but on Saint Nicholas Day—Dec. 6—that the children have their jolliest holiday. No stockings are hung, but little shoes are set outside each door for goodies and for gifts. The most important gift is the image of the good Saint Nick himself. It is generally hung to the door knob.

It is no plaster model or stuffed doll affair—this Saint Nicholas—but a very large cookie dough representation, a sweet brown molasses mixture. Wooden moulds used to stamp out these special and glorified gingerbread men are used but once a year, and the bakers take great pride in making them as elaborate and realistic as possible. Rows of hazel nuts often button up the great coat, and sometimes a border of trimming is set round the coat with raisins.

The Saint Nicks are eaten, but generally not until the very last. There are other Holland cookies quite as necessary for the gift shoe of a well-treated baby. Letters and lace cookies are the most important. Letters might be described as a sort of rich pastry tubing filled with the richest possible fruit and nut mixture, which nearly always, in the good old days, was flavored with a generous dash of brandy. This tubing is shaped into the form of capital letters, and every child expects to find at least the initial of his given name in the shoe. More fortunate children get their entire set of initials, and pampered darlings get their whole names.

The lace cookies seem to serve as a substitute for candy in the regular and standard Dutch baby's Saint Nicholas shoe. They are really not cookies at all, but rather a nut butter-scotch pattie made very thin and transparent. This transparency is the thing that gives them their name—lace cookie.

The First Christmas Cards.

Christmas cards printed for sale were first struck off in 1847. The first year, not more than 1,000 were sold. Today, millions are used.

Putting Curtains on Rods.

When putting curtains on rods put your thumb over the end of rod and you will have no trouble with curtain catching.

Pathetic Russian Plaything.

A very primitive doll can be found in Russia. It is the moss doll, and it expresses the poverty and loneliness of Russia's forest regions. It is roughly made of wood, with a face of pathetic sadness, and is dressed in hood and clothes of forest moss. The male doll is distinguished from the female only by the hatchet which he carries.

Colds Cause Grip and Influenza

LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE Tablets remove the cause. There is only one "Bromo Quinine." E. W. GROVE'S signature on box. 50c.

Gnats and Mosquitoes. In England the term gnat is used for the insect that Americans call a mosquito. Here the term is used only for smaller insects. A gnat is a blood-sucking dipterous fly, undergoing a metamorphosis in water. The females have a proboscis armed with needle-like organs for penetrating the skin of animals.

A TONIC

Grove's Tasteless chill Tonic restores Energy and Vitality by Purifying and Enriching the Blood. When you feel its strengthening, invigorating effect, see how it brings color to the cheeks and how it improves the appetite, you will then appreciate its true tonic value. Grove's Tasteless chill Tonic is simply Iron and Quinine suspended in syrup. So pleasant even children like it. The blood needs QUININE to Purify it and IRON to Enrich it. Destroys Malarial germs and Grip germs by its Strengthening, Invigorating Effect. 60c.

PLANTERS FERTILIZER & PHOSPHATE CO.
CHARLESTON, S. C.

We manufacture our fertilizers in a plant of large capacity and can provide you with any combination of plant food you desire. We are located on three railroads and the water and can provide quick shipment. Write for prices on any mixed goods needed, also on FERTILIZER MATERIALS, SPECIALTIES, ACID PHOSPHATE, NITRATE OF SODA, FOREIGN GROUND FISH POTASH SALTS. FISH TANKAGE 2-7-0 a specialty.

Do not purchase any materials before you get our prices.

GREETINGS

We take this opportunity to publicly express our appreciation to our patrons for the confidence they have shown us during this, the first year of our business. We hope to merit its continuance during the coming year and the years following.

Among your New Year resolutions include one that you will more adequately safeguard the lives and happiness of your loved ones by adding to your life insurance protection. Another one to include also is to resolve to protect your own business more thoroughly by taking out a sufficient amount of fire insurance.

SEE US AT ALL TIMES FOR INSURANCE, STOCKS, BONDS

May the New Year Be One of Prosperity and Happiness

UNITED AGENCY

L. C. BARKSDALE, Mgr.



Stand by for a message
Happy New Year

THE OLD YEAR is valuable for the experience we have gained; the **New Year** for the opportunities it has in store.

To all of our friends we extend the season's greeting. It is our hope that they will prosper in a material way and gain greater wealth of health and contentment than they have known before.

Poised on the threshold of normalcy we are about to enter a period of better regulated living, more industrious production and sounder merchandise values than any of us have seen since the World's War.

With the New Year Our Greatest Hope is About to Dawn

Wells Clardy Company

Laurens, S. C.

"A Good Place to Trade"