







LARGEST CIRCULATION. BEST ADVERTISING MEDIUM.

What is Life to You? To the preacher life's a sermon...

LESSON OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas is the time of the whole year that should drive all thought of pride and what men call "social distinctions" out of my life.

But in that night all the meanings of this world were changed. Our feeble notions were forever overturned.

Portland, Maine, Child ill, weak and emaciated, restored to health by Vinol.

One more count settles the question as to who will be the winner in the contest.

As soon as we receive the information as to where the box is to be left for the final count we will make it known.

- Alta Clark... 100.075
Jennie Buxton... 72.250
Ethel Griggs... 41.770
Clara Bragg... 46.975

now come to pass, but many will not regard it because it is so simple and has so little of the pomp of this world about it.

Let me learn then the true lesson of the Christmas season. Let me be free from the false notion that there can be high or low among the followers of this Jesus.

All my life have I not dreamed of courts and great men and of mighty deeds? Have I not told myself that these things were the great things of the world?

PORTLAND, MAINE, CHILD ill, weak and emaciated, restored to health by Vinol.

Why is it very hard for a goat to be good?

This question was asked during the noon recess at the little red schoolhouse one day. The boy who asked it is quite a funny boy...

Does it pay to advertise? It does. Take for instance, the case of Farmer Fatkin. He wanted a boy on the place.

Deacon Tubbs—Hello Hank! That air nag o' yours is gittin' too poor to cast a shadow any more.

New, Different, Better than any other money making plan. Our new system takes like wildfire.

A Marked Discrepancy

I had known Mrs. Anita Merivale ten years when she surprised me by calling at my office to see me on professional business.

One morning I took up a paper and read an account of a terrible railroad accident. I started at seeing among the list of killed the name of Thomas D. Merivale.

"I presume," I said, "that you have come to announce that since your husband's death you will not need my services."

After explanations as to the mistake they had made in naming Merivale among the dead he asked his wife what she was doing in my office.

To Cure Sick Headache

Often when all other remedies have failed to cure a sick headache, vinegar will succeed in relieving it.

Reumatism Cured in a Day... DR. DETCHON'S RELIEF FOR RHEUMATISM and neuralgia cures in one to three days.

THE THIRCE-A-WEEK WORLD The Greatest Newspaper of Its Type. It Always Tells the News as it is, Promptly and Fully.

LEGAL NOTICES

CHANCERY STATE OF ILLINOIS, Moultrie County ss. Circuit Court of Moultrie County, March term, A. D. 1909.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. Administrator's notice of filing final settlement.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. Administrator's notice of filing final settlement.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. Administrator's notice of filing final settlement.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. Administrator's notice of filing final settlement.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. Administrator's notice of filing final settlement.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. Administrator's notice of filing final settlement.

Given Away

A BEAUTIFUL QUARTERED OAK DRESSER Given to the person selling the most Raw Furs and Hides to me before

MARCH 1st, 1909 Besides this I pay The Highest Price of anyone in Central Illinois

Look Here! I am Paying the Highest Market Price for all kinds of Junk

- Iron, Bones, Rags, Rubber, Copper, Brass, Zinc, Puter, Tin-foil, Lead, Tea Lead, Block Tin, Babbitt, Tallow, Cracklin, Sheep Pelts, Hog Hides, Cow Hides and Horse Hides.

F. L. ALGOOD PHONE 276. 2 blocks north and 2 blocks west of north side school.

O. F. FOSTER DENTIST Office hours 8:00 to 12:00 1:00 to 5:00—Phone 64.

Sullivan Illinois Residence Phone 119.

A. A. CORBIN LICENSED EMBALMER AND URTIFAKER ANSWERS CALLS PROMPTLY AT ANY AND ALL HOURS

BUY YOUR Cut Flowers FOR FURNERALS, WEDDINGS, ETC. FROM

HARWOOD'S HARWOOD'S GREENHOUSES

No charges for telephone service when flowers are ordered.

NICE STOCK OF PLANTS ALL THE TIME PHONE 112

If You Knew The merits of the Texas wonder, you would never suffer from kidney, bladder or rheumatic trouble.

Local News Items

BRIGHAM, the upholsterer. McClure's dinner sets are beautiful. Gussie Dolan was in Mattoon Monday and Tuesday. Come in and look at McClure's holiday goods.

Sale bills printed at this office. McClure's Diamond flour cannot be lent. 50-3. Mrs. Arthur Wright of Chicago is visiting here. Dock Shumard is now a resident of Trowbridge, Ill.

PRESIDENT JAMES ON HAZING

To THE STUDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY: There should be no misunderstanding on the part of the student body or the general public as to the attitude of the authorities of the University of Illinois on the subject of hazing.

GREAT ANNIVERSARY OFFER

We will celebrate our Fourth Anniversary, January and, 1909, by making it

BARGAIN DAY

The Daily Journal-Gazette

\$3.00 For the Entire Year of 1909 for \$3.00

On this date and this date only, can you get the Daily Journal-Gazette an entire year for \$3.00 in advance.

THE REGULAR PRICE IS \$4.00

This offer is made to new subscribers and old subscribers alike, providing, in the latter case all arrearages are paid to January 2, 1909, and \$3.00 in advance for one year's subscription.

This offer is for mail subscribers only. Give your subscription to your Postmaster, Rural Route Carrier, Publisher or Newsdealer or send direct to

THE JOURNAL-GAZETTE, MATTOON, ILLINOIS

OBITUARY.

JAMES D. RAY. James D. Ray died at his home in Sunnyside at 4 a. m. Wednesday. He had been sick over two weeks, and died of blood poison.

He was 64 years, 10 months and 13 years of age. He had been married four times; his first wife was Miss Mary Monroe.

SHOULD BE IN EVERY SCHOOL LIBRARY

"Here are the names of twenty-five books that should be in every country school library," says a Normal president. Let the teachers canvass the list of books in their school library and see how many are lacking and then with any funds you have left from your socials make the purchase of the same:

- The Tree Dwellers—Dopp. Child's Garden of Verses—Stevenson & Anderson's Fairy Tales. Bunny Cotton Tail—Smith. I Mythland—Beckwith. Marjorie and her Papa—Fletcher. King of Golden River—Bauckia. Grimm's Fairy Tales. Fifty Famous Stories Retold. Adventures of Pinocchio—Cramp. Bird's Christmas Carol—Wiggin. Toby Tyler—Otis. Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. Robin Hood—Frye. Little Women—Alcott. Little Men—Alcott. Wonder Book—Hawthorne. Hans Brinker—Dodge. Lobo, Rag and Vixen. Franklin's Autobiography. Just So Stories—Kipling. Peasant and Prince—Martineau. Treasure Island—Stevenson. Story of My Life—Helen Keller. Up from Slavery—Booker T. Washington.

CHURCH SERVICES.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL. Rev. Charles Lyle of Lovington will spend Sunday with us. At the morning service, the new individual communion service will be used. The Juniors have reached an enrollment of 56 and Sunday at 2:30 will be Red Letter Day for them.

Subject at the Christian church next Sunday: 10:45 a. m. "Our Very Best," 7 p. m. "Belshazzar's Feast." Bible school at 9:30 a. m. A cordial welcome to everybody. Ollison Craig is at home from the University of Illinois, and Misses Amy Booze and Opal Ellis, from the Millikin University in Decatur.

HELD AS LOTTERY

Anyone who sends an invitation through the mails inviting other folk to a party at which bridge whist or other games of chance is to be played for a prize violates the postoffice regulations relating to lotteries.

This ruling, which will affect that select and sacred circle known as "society" in every city, village and hamlet in these United States, was handed down only a few days ago by Assistant Postmaster General E. P. Goodwin, who is no slouch himself when it comes to social stunts.

It all started with an inquisitive woman in Hartford, Conn., who wanted to give a bridge whist party in her home town. For some reason that no one can just figure out, she wrote to the postoffice department and asked whether the postal regulations forbid the admission of mail matter which notifies a limited number of guests of the date of a bridge whist party, at which prizes are to be awarded. Does the department regard such affairs as a lottery?

"Yes," was the answer, "and all other prizes given at card games, or a prize given at any game of chance. Invitations to such parties, if sent through the mails, are violations of the lottery laws." The postmaster general, in making his construction of the federal enactment, goes further to state that it is not necessary for the invitation to call attention to the awarding of prizes. The simple notifying of people through the department that a party is to be given is sufficient to make it a punishable offense.

The Growth of Electric Railways.

The electric railways of the United States carried last year 6,680,000,000 fare passengers. This wonderful increase is due to the growth of the street railway and interurban railway service, better transportation facilities and the increase of suburban residents.

The number of persons to be transported increased at the rate of 1,500,000 annually. The number of passenger cars operated has increased at the rate of 40 per cent for the past five years. With the population of the United States estimated at about 85,000,000, the figures given above would seem to show that every man, woman and child in this country has ridden 78 times on the electric railways within the past year.

This gives some idea of the extent of the electric traction in this country. The electrification of steam railroads has already been successfully accomplished, and it is predicted that within a comparatively few years all the principal railroads of this great country will be electrified.

Holiday Excursion Via Wabash.

December 24-25-31 and January 1st '09. Tickets sold Dec. 24 and 25 are good until Dec. 28th. Tickets sold Dec. 31 and Jan. 1st, return limit, Jan. 4th.

One and one-half regular fare for round trip. Illinois Teacher's Association, Springfield, Illinois, Dec. 29, 1908. Rate \$2.00 round trip. W. D. POWERS, Agt.



Mixed. "I see by the morning paper that the Lookout Inn and Lookout Mountain has been destroyed by fire." "What caused it?" "Don't know. Perhaps the man hired to look out for the safety of the Lookout Inn didn't look in the Lookout Inn?" "But if he was hired to look out why shouldn't he look in?" "Why, to look in was part of his look out wasn't it?" "Maybe, but how could he look out when he tried to look out of the Inn?" "Well, when he was hired to look out Lookout wasn't it his look out to look in the Inn?" "Say, look here; how could the look out of Lookout look in when his job was to look out for the Inn? That's what I want to know."

Illinois Central

Table with train schedules for Illinois Central, listing routes (North Bound, South Bound), train numbers, and departure/arrival times.

Inflammatory Rheumatism Cured in 3 Days Morton L. Hill, Lebanon, Ind., says: "My wife had inflammatory rheumatism in every muscle and joint. Her suffering was terrible and her body and face were swollen almost beyond recognition; had been in bed for six weeks and had eight physicians, but received no benefit until she tried Dr. Dechcon's Relief for Rheumatism. It gave immediate relief and she was able to walk in three days. I am sure it saved her life."

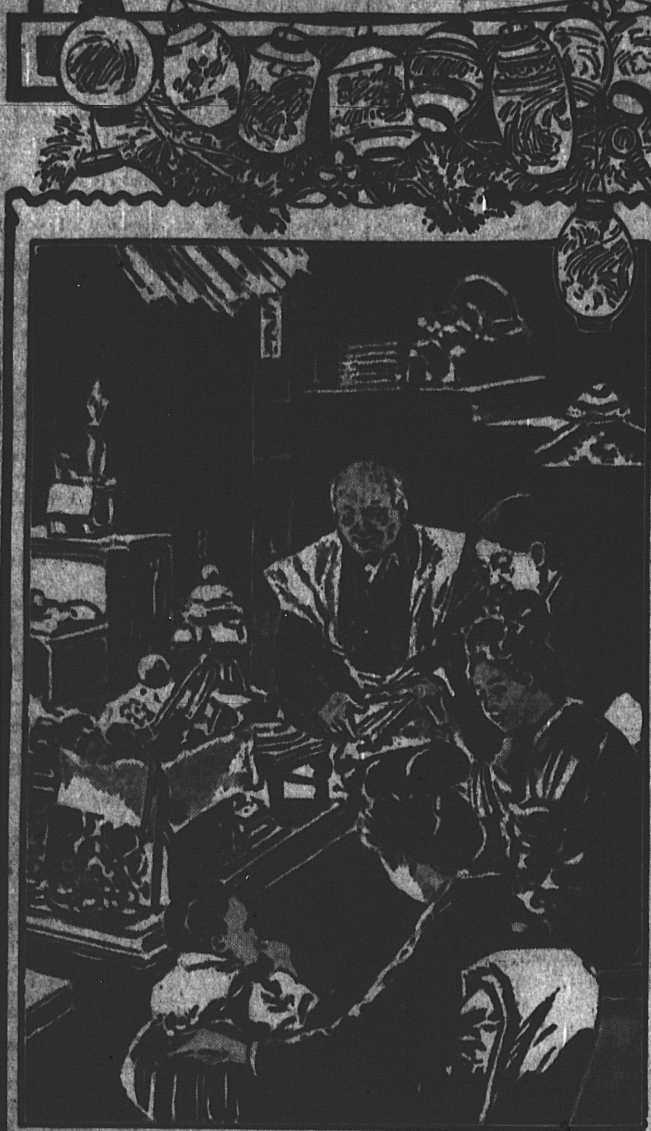
New Ships For U. S. Forty-two steam and thirteen sailing vessels were built by the U. S. in November. All of the steam and seven of the other vessels were of steel with a tonnage of 9,168. Thirty of the vessels are for use on the Atlantic coast and gulf, eight for the Great Lakes and nine for the western rivers.

Back Gives Out Plenty of Sullivan readers have this experience. You tax the kidneys—overwork them. They can't keep up the continual strain. The back gives out—it aches and pains. Urinary troubles set in. Don't wait longer—take Doan's Kidney Pills.

Mrs. C. E. Roberts, 1817 Edgar Street, Mattoon, Ill., says: "I heartily recommend Doan's Kidney Pills as my husband and myself suffered for some time. His back was very weak and pained him severely at times. The jolting of the train and heavy work aggravated the trouble and increased his suffering. He at length procured a box of Doan's Kidney pills, took them carefully and was completely relieved of the backache. His kidneys were also strengthened. When he feels any symptoms of a return of the trouble he takes a few doses of Doan's Kidney Pills and he is right in a day or two. We think these pills a remedy for kidney trouble like them. We strongly advise their use in such cases. Plenty more proof like this from Sullivan people. Call at Hall's pharmacy and ask what customers report. For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—and take nothing else."

# JAPAN'S UNIQUE NEW YEAR

By TOASHI KATO



READY FOR THE FEAST



GETTING NEW YEAR'S DINNER READY

**W**e deeply pity the superstition of the Japanese. Yet there is something very beautiful in the archaic simplicity of their faith. Lafcadio Hearn found in Shintoism Greek religion transplanted in the midst of this material century. What he read and imagined in Ancient literature he really found in this Land of the Rising Sun. For all the modernization of Japan there is one spot where the hand of the dissecting science has done but little damage. Visitors from civilized and enlightened lands can go deep into the real life of the archaic society in Japan, and in the twinkling of an eye they can come back to the luxury of the twentieth century, and this archaic society is a living one and not an artificial miniature. Sympathy is aroused, as the faith is the only surviving remnant of the time-honored old religion. Political sentiment is touched, as Shintoism peoples woods, mountains, trees, rocks, rivers and seashores with gods and goddesses. Compassion is kindled as it is by a beautiful dawn slowly dissolving before the onslaught of the fierce daylight. No wonder, then, that Shintoism finds many lovers among westerners.

I would like to introduce the reader not indeed to the stately mausoleum and ceremony of Shintoism, but to the humble household of the common folk of Japan. January in Japan is a month of rest and festival; rest after hard work and harvest; festival as an auspicious beginning of the year.



THE SHINTO TEMPLE

Before the end of the old year pine branches are set up by the gateways, shrines of gods, hearth, well and other places. These pine branches, signifying constancy, are hung with a straw ring made to imitate a jewel, with rays of light radiating from it, and stuck with a dried sardine, a leaf of evergreen, pieces of paper and a bit of edible seaweed. These rings are also put on almost all representative articles of furniture and kitchen implements, and this is said "to let them take one year." (This suggests that these articles were believed once to have had life and so have felt the advance of age.)

The festival of "going over the year," or "Toshikoshi," is sometimes called "Toshitori" or "taking the year," and is a busy time for the housewife. She has to cook many different dishes, all of which have prosperous significance, besides her regular rice and bean soup.

Let me enumerate some. Soup of clam, which opens when cooked, signifies the opening out of the good fortune. Roe of herring, which is called "kazu-noko," or numerous children, forms a dish whose meaning is obvious. Health in Japanese is "mame," so beans must be eaten, as these happen to have the same sounding word for their name. Salt salmon, fish cake, pickled radish and many others must be prepared on this eventful eve, for we are going to add one whole year during the night. The kitchen is full of life, with kettles whistling and pots steaming, plates and trays all spread out. Children and even cats are very apt to be mischievous at such times, but they receive no scolding as the great festival should not be marred by discord and irritation.

When food is ready gods are served first with all these dishes, but only in miniature. Lights are put before them; sake liquor is offered in a pair of small vases, which, by the way, I have often seen used for flowers in America. Before the gods on the shelf they hang highly colored leaflets, each with a lucky meaning. One is the god of fortune under an auspicious gem, with a bagful of gold coins, coral and other precious things. Another has a bundle of edible seaweed, which is called "kobu." The phrase "to rejoice" in Japanese is "yoro-

kobu," so seaweed (kobu) means rejoicing. The last has under it a lobster. A person doubled up with age reminds one of a lobster with its doubled up waist. So the lobster quite often is picturesquely representative of "the aged of the sea."

When the family have bowed down before the gods they eat the great meal and a few rounds of sake were ceremoniously served in former days. Once you have eaten this feast you have added one year; and a child born in December is said to be two years old right after this meal. I used to be reminded by older people that I should be a better boy from the first of January, as I had added one year during that one night. They say that one night of the 31st of December is worth 50 days of usual days, and those who go to bed early this night will grow old that much in one night.

Polytheists are not troubled by a surplus of gods. The Japanese have already many gods at home and yet on New Year's day they buy printed gods. This paper is hung above the stove on which one cooks rice. One represents "year god," with thank offerings of rice, sake liquor, kneaded rice and regular New Year decorations of evergreen trees. The figure is Buddhist; the original Shinto god has long been replaced by a bodhisattva, showing the result of usurpation of Shintoism by Buddhism, effected by a Buddhist priest Kobo, as a means of Buddhist propagation. These offerings were once real ones, but the Japanese learned how to economize labor and expense by printing, and the goddess herself came into the picture.

Another picture is also hung before the shelf. The central figure is Prince Shotoku, the famous patron of Buddhism in its early days in Japan. A Japanese spade, stalks of rice on a tray, thresher, sake liquor and cooked

rice are the offerings. A pair of foxes need a little explanation. Originally they belonged to a very popular Shinto god whose place has been usurped through the strategy of Kobo, and this Buddhist prince has been substituted. But religious degeneration has gone on further and these foxes came to be mistaken for the god itself. And Inari worship (for Inari is the name of the god) is seen nowadays in its most degraded form of fox worship.

Others are a pair of salesman's gods. Who they originally were has very little to do with the present worship. Anyhow, as gods of good luck and prosperity they are worshipped in New Year's season, and almost every shop has these idols in stock.

Early on the first of January New Year's callers begin to pour in. What do they say? With heads bowed down and hands on the sills they mumble: "Congratulations for the opening of the new year, and pray that it will be continued in future." This phrase is so common that both sides speak at the same time, and yet both are well understood. One says: "Won't you come in?" "No," answers the other; "I have more houses to call." "Then come when you are through," and the caller goes. If the caller should come in he is sumptuously feasted with food and drink, and you see more open drunkenness on New Year's day than at other times.

Superstitious people find omens and meanings in dreams, and the Japanese must have good dreams to begin the year. For this purpose they put a piece of paper under the bed. On this paper a Japanese junk is printed,

loaded with precious goods, her sails outspread, on her decks men busy with rigging and oars. A Japanese poem is also printed on it:

Na ka ki yo no,  
To no ne fu ri no,  
Mi na me sa me  
Na mi no ri fu ne no,  
O to no yo ki ka na.

Translated roughly, this means:  
After a sound sleep of long night,  
Resting awake in bed,  
I hear a cheerful sound  
Of a sailing vessel  
Gliding over the billows.

The poem in translation loses its power of calling up associations. But one can imagine himself living near an inland sea, with its nooks, bays, and offings, pine groves and plum blossoms hanging over from the hilly shores, the sun as yet below the horizon, and in the mist he can discern a vessel gliding smoothly, leaving merry songs of sailors behind to be carried away by the spring breeze. This is considered an appropriate scenery to think over in the calm of the spring night. But this aesthetic association is little appreciated by the masses. They rather wonder at the clever construction of this poem, that reads just alike from either end. Read from the end and go back to the beginning, syllable by syllable; you have just the same result as if you read from the beginning.

Now, what kind of dreams are the best? First, Fuji mountain; second, eagle; third, eggplant; fourth, funeral; fifth, snakes—these are the five best ones. To dream of the horse is also auspicious. If a Japanese should happen to dream he is quite blue over the matter. These people, however, are not without the means of getting out of this misfortune. They say when they had a bad dream: "To the baku; to the baku." Now they did not know what "baku" was; they only knew that this mysterious animal living in a dreamy land lived on the dreams of man, and bad dreams were cast to the baku. It was a shock to these old fashioned people when their children told them that the teacher of zoology told the children that the baku is a hippopotamus and lived on substantial green leaves, and not on dreams. Such a revelation, though, cannot change the superstition, and people still say: "To the baku," to relieve their minds after a bad dream.

There is a record in history which shows that there was a custom once of selling and buying dreams. Once upon a time there was a prince in a famous house. He was thinking to court a maiden, and she had a strange dream, which she could not make out. She called in the help of her eldest sister. The latter, seeing the good omen of the dream, offered to buy the dream. An old mirror was the price and the bargain was made. Meanwhile the price changed his mind quite suddenly, as if by magic, and paid his court to the eldest and won her hand. This prince is the famous Yoritomo, who founded the Shogunate, or military regency, in Japan.

Such is the story told and retold when the family get together by the fire box and spend the "long spring night" in merriment. I hope these humble doings of the common folk of Japan may find a warm reception among the readers of America.

### Christmas Frolics.

A very effective and practical decoration for the table on Christmas morning is a pyramid of oranges with sprays of holly for a dolly, with a scarlet ribbon running to the corners of the table fastened by a big orange at each corner. All the housekeeper's best efforts are usually expended on the dinner table, but it will only take a moment to arrange this. Place holly around the finger bowls. By the way, a dainty way to serve oranges for breakfast is to have the juice squeezed in the kitchen and served in a little glass which stands on a plate.

In the dining room that has to have a screen to conceal the kitchen, there may be a very simple and effective addition made to the Christmas decorations by pinning holly to it, covering the original surface completely. Lace curtains may be treated in this way to make lovely bits of color in the room or form a background for a tree.



A DECORATED WELL



