

About a Reasonable Sunday Observance

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AMERICA'S new day will have concern for a reasonable Sunday observance, for Sunday observance is bound up with religious experience and practice and religion is fundamental in a democracy. "Despotism," as De Tocqueville says, "may govern without faith but liberty cannot."

But what is a reasonable Sunday observance? On this, of course, there will be differences of opinion as to detail; but surely no difference of opinion as to its general character. The best in man is developed and nourished only as he is able to maintain the supremacy of the spiritual life. The work and life of every day ought to contribute to this; in most people, however, it does this but fitfully. So far as experience goes the systematic and definite setting aside of Sunday as by way of eminence, a "holy" day has been one of the most significant factors in the maintenance of public religion and morality.

Now does such observance of the day rest solely or even chiefly upon the authority of the fourth commandment. It resides in the necessity of our nature, in the very constitution of things. It is true Jesus did not specifically re-enact the fourth commandment; it is true, also, that Jesus did say, "The Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath." Moreover, the Apostle Paul, in his interpretation of the Christian view of the Sabbath, states in unmistakable terms the character of freedom under which the Christian may exercise himself: "One man esteemeth one day above another, another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind." But neither Jesus nor Paul meant that the Sabbath was to be abrogated, or that man could do as he pleased about it without regard for the common welfare.

Indeed, the Sabbath is not so much of an individual as of a social matter. To get the best out of it the community as such should agree upon what constitutes a proper observance. Instead, therefore, of just debating or quarreling about it, the community should come together and agree on a program. The churches are the natural leaders in such a movement. It is theirs in a peculiar sense to order and promote religious

well being. The community is not getting very far in the matter of a just conclusion when the churches take one stand and influential social organizations take another. The intelligence and moral sense of such a community as this should be enlisted in the proper settlement of so important an issue.

There is a tendency to contrast the "Puritan" Sunday with the "European" Sunday, as though those two excluded all other Sunday possibilities. Such a view is absurd and damaging. The Puritan Sunday seems to be grossly misunderstood. An institution which contributed so vitally to the vigor and stridiness of Puritan character could never have been as forbidding as the present day caricaturists represent it. It is possible, too, that the European Sunday has been judged by its worst and not by its best examples. No matter. Surely the American people can, under the freedom of the Christian churches, devise a Sunday observance which will at least measurably fulfill the beneficent intent of God.

The Sunday, like every other Christian institution, exists not for itself, but to develop high character. This end it seeks to persuade and prevailing emphasis upon the things of the spirit. Its supreme function is to give man a special and prepared opportunity for serious consideration of the deep things of God and life and human destiny. Unless the day is made thus distinctive it fails of its good purpose.

The best use of the day is vitiated by the attempt to make it just like other days. When the day is observed with the religious emphasis it gives tone to the other days. A Sunday sanely used sends a man back to his work with a new relish and a better temper. It is to his spiritual nature what an invigorating bath is to his body. When it loses that distinction the secret of its power is gone, for Sunday is the day of the spirit. There is no remedial value in physical indolence, in sensational distinction, in frivolous diversion. The day misused in that fashion is not a blessing but a blight. Even if it be claimed that thus a man is having a "good" time, he is certainly not having the "best" time.

Gentleness

Gentleness is a good word to put under the shelter of courage, and a good thing to put among the preparations for the unknown year. It is no uncommon thing, in preparing for a journey, to include articles which, in fact, are never needed. They are brought home again unused, and sometimes spoiled. Now an absolute assurance may be given to anyone

who requires it, that if this moral preparation and prerequisite for the journey of the year be taken, it will be needed, and it will be used, not alone on rare occasions, but more or less daily all the time. —A. Raleigh.

To spend more than one really earns is plain embezzlement, and it should be labeled by its proper name.

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FULFILL THE W. S. S. PLEDGES--McADOO

Residents Requested To Settle W. S. S. Matters Before Holidays pass; Not Time to Relax

One of the last official notices from retiring Secretary of the Treasury William McAdoo was the following request to the residents of Chicago and vicinity to fulfill pledges for the purchase of War Savings Stamps before the close of the year.

The request is embodied in the following telegram recently received by Martin R. Ryerson, chairman of the Chicago district.

"Martin A. Ryerson,
Conway building,
Chicago, Illinois.

I most earnestly urge upon you that your organization make every possible effort to the end that the pledges for the purchase of War Savings Stamps be fulfilled before the close of the year. The Government's monetary requirements were never greater nor more pressing than they are today. Expenditures for November were greater than in any similar period. These expenditures growing out of the war must be met by borrowing from the people and their magnificent response heretofore to the government's requirements makes me confident that they will not fail to continue their support to the end that all payments resulting from war necessities will be promptly met. Much remains to be done. Our brave troops must be maintained and paid until their work is fully accomplished and they are returned to their homes. This is not a time for us to relax our efforts and the Treasury department is making plans for larger and even more important work during the coming year. Please make every effort to bring this statement before the people in your district and to urge upon them the continued holding of their War Savings certificates, the fulfillment of their pledges and additional purchases as their means permit.

W. G. McAdoo."

Catholic in Its Friendship

A certain cat, the story of whose career is vouched for by a cat club, adopted a litter of young rabbits and nourished them well. This cat was, for that matter, very sociable and inclusive in her likings. One year her constant companion was a chicken. The two ate habitually out of the same dish and slept every night in the same inclosure.

OUTLINE CARE FOR CRIPPLED FIGHTERS

Government Plans to Give All Vocational Training and to Find Jobs for Them

It is intended by the government that there shall be no crippled soldiers selling pencils and shoe strings on the street corners after this war, and small necessity for "homes" where crippled men may be cared for.

The government has made plans to re-educate every disabled soldier and sailor, to secure employment for him and to watch over his welfare thereafter, that he may be independent and self-respecting. The actual steps which the government will take are five:

1. Election by the disabled man of a course of training.
2. Preliminary training to fit him for a definite occupation.
3. A probationary period of employment in that occupation.
4. Placement in suitable position.
5. Follow-up work to safeguard his interests.

The government will support the man while training, will pay his tuition, traveling expenses and any other expenses incident to his training, and will give his family the same support which it has given during his military service.

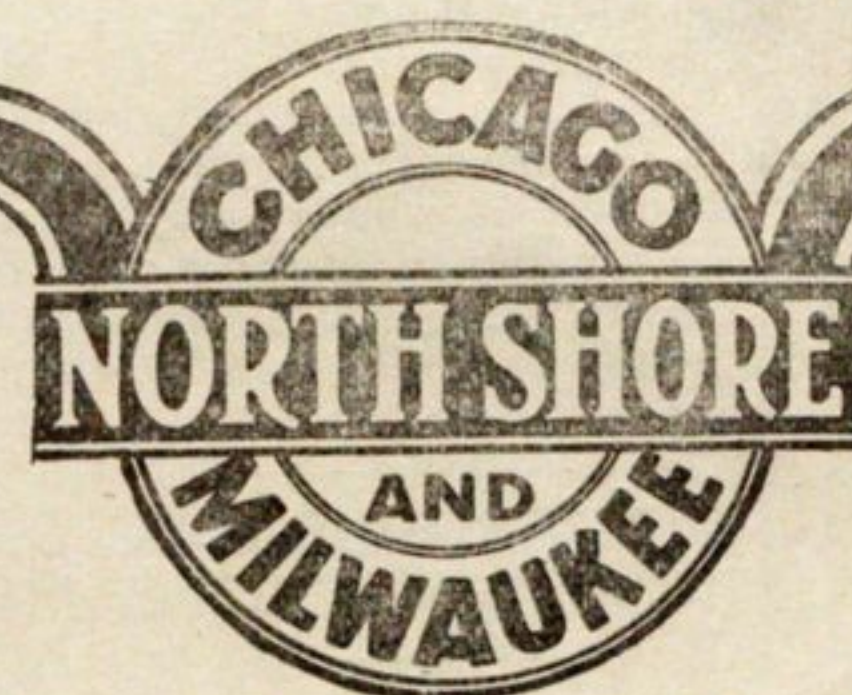
The disabled man may elect the line of work he wants to take up. He may be re-trained for the work he did before the war, or turn to something entirely different. He may take further training in his old occupation.

And in addition to his support and the support of his family he will be given all the medical care he needs, and will be supplied with any artificial contrivances necessary because of the loss of limbs or faculties.

He Takes the Blue One

Of course you've heard about the hardworked guy whose job was to pick the blossoms off the family century plant; the bloke who sticks the spots on double-blank dominoes and the culprit whose life work is making bird seed for cuckoo clocks, but the champagne, double-bowknotted, floating axled, vulcanized war loafers is the cuss who said he was doing war work by picking up the stiches his wife dropped when she knitted.—Indianapolis Star.

Some saints are inflated by Sunday sermons, and go flat like a tire on Monday.



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Before the severe weather sets in, it is well to recall that during the terrible storms of last winter the service of the North Shore was uninterrupted. Send it on the North Shore and be sure of certain and quick delivery.

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