

LOCAL

Merry Christmas to all!

Many of our students are now home for the Christmas holidays. Children and parents alike are happy.

We most sincerely thank Mrs. Stewart and Mr. Bond for their kind assistance in helping with preparations for our "big eats" last Saturday. In spite of "troubles of their own" they took on some of ours.

Miss Idaho Lipps, who is now teaching school at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, arrived home last Saturday to spend the holidays. We fancy that the vacation time allowed Miss Idaho will pass all too quickly.

Owing to our Christmas schedule for the coming week we shall not be able to issue The American next week, but we will "show up" early next year. Let us hope that 1930 will be in every sense a happy and prosperous year for all of us.

Mrs. Brickell and Mr. Bent made a trip to Portland last Wednesday. They were our official representatives at the court of Santa Claus, so if old Santa Claus fails in any way in making good at Chemawa it will not be for want of information regarding the desires of our little tots.

We were pleased to greet Mr. George D. Fraser of Salem as one of our school guests to witness the Christmas pageant last Sunday evening. Mr. Fraser expressed himself as much pleased with what he saw of our exercises. He is the owner of the engraving plant of Salem.

Elizabeth Shagin, a former member of the Nonpareil society, came up from Portland last Saturday to pass the week-end and to attend the party given by the Nonpareils. She reports that she has a good home in Portland and in every way is getting along nicely. She returned to Portland Sunday evening.

At the time of closing the forms for this issue preparations were in progress for the presentation of a cantata, "A Joke on Santa Claus," by our lower grade pupils, on Monday evening. Miss Judd was directing the students and we are certain that it was most meritorious. Mention will be made of the cantata in our next issue.

Many of our people of the long ago will remember a bright lad by the name of Jerry Reese who was a member of our fold more than 20 years ago. Time works wonders for all of us and Jerry is now a man of the world, respected in every sense, doing a man's work and sharing honors with other men. He now holds a fine position with a telegraph company and is located in Salem. Last Sunday evening he and his wife visited us and witnessed a presentation of the Christmas pageant by the choir.

And again we are enjoying the Christmas holidays. There is much joy at Chemawa and both young and old share it. It is glorious just to feel free from care and responsibility for a little while, and a sense of this, together with the holy character of Christmas, often puts the "grown-ups" back into the children's class during the yule-tide festivities.

The young ladies of the Nonpareil Literary Society staged their annual party last Saturday evening in our big gym. The girls had transformed the place into a veritable "garden of delight." The decorations were lovely in every particular, the refreshments were delicious, the program was in every way interesting and decorous and reflected credit on the society. Miss White is, and has been for many years, the advisor of this society, and to her, too, must go a great measure of credit for the success of the party last Saturday evening.

Miss Eakin, Protestant missionary for Chemawa, went to great pains to present most impressive programs last Sunday, all dealing with the sacred character of Christmas. We cannot give space to all of the observations, but we offer the following Christmas Prayer: "O Blessed Jesus, who by the shining of a star didst manifest Thyself to them that sought Thee, show Thy heavenly light to us, and give us grace to follow until we find Thee; and finding to rejoice in Thee; and rejoicing to present to Thee ourselves, our souls and bodies, for Thy service forever more, for Thine honor and glory. Amen."

Last Saturday marked the passing of Governor Isaac Patterson of Oregon, a victim of pneumonia. He was a man who had the respect of all and our flag was at halfmast at Chemawa on Sunday in respect to his memory. According to Oregon law, on the death of a governor during the period of holding office the position shall be filled by the president of the state senate, who in this case was Albin Walter Norblad, 48-year-old lawyer of Astoria, Oregon. Mr. Gus Moser, state senator, notary public, and friend, read the oath of office to Mr. Norblad, to which he subscribed, making him governor of this great state.

The choir members covered themselves with glory last Sunday evening in presenting the Christmas pageant. The pageant is becoming traditional at Chemawa, as every year it is put on as Chemawa's part in commemorating the greatest of sacred dramas. Miss Gunn was Mrs. Turney's assistant in putting on the pageant this year. The pageant was in every way a success. To provide the proper atmosphere Mr. H. A. Kunkel played Schubert's beautiful "Ave Maria" as an introductory number, and he played it well. Mrs. Turney accompanied him. It was one of the "high lights" of the evening. We shall again touch on the pageant in our write-up of the holidays week.