



### WRESTLING AND BASKETBALL

Coach Sanders called the candidates for the wrestling team together early last week in preparation for their first match of the year, which was held last night at Oregon City against the high school team. Too late, of course, to get the results for this issue. Oregon City's matmen are by no means novices at the sport and have been training for quite a spell. So unless our grapplers did some pretty classy twisting and turning they were apt to have been pinned to the mat for the count. Of course all this is supposition. We give our bone-crushers the short end of the outcome only because they have been out such a short while. Oregon City comes here later for a return match and by that time we expect our grapplers to be in good shape and better able to put on a finished match.

So far as experience is concerned we have a few boys who know a thing or two about the "Grapevine," "Half-Nelson," and the "Toe-hold," but after a year off the mat they certainly will not clamp them on with cat-like quickness nor will their strength last for long, hence the dubiousness. Peter McClusky has won several matches from formidable opponents in the last couple years in the high school class and closed the season a year ago by bringing home a gold medal and the championship in the heavyweight division at the tournament held at the Y. M. C. A. in Salem. Frank Dumont is another the Oregon City lads should have found difficult to handle. Frank also captured a medal at the Salem tournament last year. Leroy Pepion is another grappler who should have worried his man considerably. Leroy and George Pepion and Terry Courtney have all taken more than one fling on the mat before this season; in fact, they are being regarded as veterans here, so should not be defeated by stage fright. Really we might expect the biggest surprise from these three. Among the new men we find George Goujon, Ray Charles, Wallace Hosie, Ira and Roland Booth. If looks count for anything they will not be anybody's set-up. Next week we hope to give a detailed account of the match.

While our wrestling team was at Oregon City slipping in and out of holds and slapping on a few themselves, our basketball team was at Monmouth playing its first league game of the season. Last week the team was idle, so far as a game was concerned, but much time was spent on the gym floor developing an offensive attack and perfecting our defensive play. When the season started we almost threw up our hands in despair. The outfit looked impossible. A whole raft of new and untried men with little experience were available. But the past week has unravelled many possibilities and the boys are working hard to

put them to good use. If team play continues to improve our offense should be better than that of a year ago. That wouldn't be saying a great deal. But for a new team it is something. They are very ragged in their passing just yet, but they have a better idea of how it should be done and now they are improving. A full account of the game will be given in the next issue.

## Christmas

**T**OMORROW is Christmas Day and all Christendom will observe the occasion. The celebration of Christmas (Christ's Mass) is much the same throughout our fair land and in all other countries. There will be many exchanges of gifts, of good wishes, "Merry Christmases" and so forth throughout the day. There will also be much feasting (often too much) and functions of various kinds, each and every one seeking that particular "something" which has an appeal for him, and so the day will pass and leave in its wake just memories, as all such occasions do—and we are all better off, for our memories.

But back of it all is the heart and soul of the people—the urge to make others happy, the great spirit of "Good will toward men," the touch of human understanding and sympathy. Who is there among us who does not feel the spirit of good cheer, of genuine happiness, joy, when on Christmas day he meets his fellows? It is a day of observation, of remembrance, of an occasion dear to all—long past in its birth but still ever-present with us. For weeks before the eventful day dawns old and young are alert and planning the joys they are to give their dear friends—what better sign of human heart, of fellow love can we find than in the spirit that prompts this solicitude? There is nothing like it.

But there is another view of the picture. Is it not possible that Christmas is commercialized too greatly, too extensively? Is it not often true that our hearts are larger than our bank accounts? Is it not true sometimes that Christmas-giving beyond reason and our means is the cause of deprivation both before and after the day itself? To give when we cannot afford it is in reality to under-observe the Spirit of Christmas. It is the spirit of it, the joy of remembrance and observation, the good-will fellowship, that makes Christmas what it is today, and it is what has carried it to us through, lo! these many tribulous centuries. A kindly greeting, a card, even a thought, is the real spirit of it all and is what makes Christmas live.

"A Merry Christmas to you!"