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The News-Review, Roseburg, Ore .- Thurs., Dec. 29, 1949,

Wanted: Couch Shrinker! Santa's Measurement Wrona

By HAL BOYLE NEW YORK,-(P)--"Have a nice Christmas?" No thanks, I just had one. What I am looking for now is

bear trap-to catch Santa Claus.

It's a long story. Sit down and I'll tell it to you.

It's a long story. Sit down and Til tell it to you. My Christmas started out real mice. I got dozens of friendly messages. Some of them were from well known people. The governor of Michigan sent me a Christmas card. And so did Dor-othy Lamour, Roy Rogers, Morey Amsterdam, comic Sid Caesar and pretty Margaret Phelan, the red-haired warbler at the Wal-

dorf. And somebody sent a scarf, Another fellow sent a bottle of bourbon to help tide up over the water shortage. And, naturally, I got a necktle. It came from a bachelor. It was a delicate pur-ple and decorated with 15 nak-ed laddes, seated, with h ands clasped over their knees. I in-tend to offer the whole the to the Museum of Modern Art, as I would feel a little silly going around with 15 unclad laddes dangling from my neck. Who wants to look like a sales cata-log of French postcards? But the pleasantest part of my

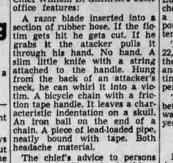
But the pleasantest part of my Christmas was the goodwill ex-pressed on cards sent by readers. I thought it was kind of them indeed to take time out from their own busy day to send a greeting to a guy they'd never met except in a newspaper. One old Irish lady in Denver wrote: "May God bless you and keep you in good health." Well, I went home from work last Friday feeling good about everything. "What do you most want Santa Claus to bring you?" Frances asked. "T asked him to bring me a couch for my brown study." I aid. "T wouldn't amaze me if he did. Rover boy," said my wife. My "brown study" is a utility bedroom that I have been trying for three years to convert into a workplace. In that time I have furnished it with a rug, a desk, a chair, some books and a type-writer, But it needed a couch. A couch is as essential to a col-umnist as it is to a psychiatrist, as all really deep thinking is done horizontally. Well, a few hours after I got home there came a rap on the door. Three perspiring express-men stood outside. "Santa sent you a couch-we are his little helpers," they said. "Sign here. Where ya want it?" They lugged in the pillows and the mattress and the slide-out understructure-and put them in heavy couch frame. They bore it through the living room. But it stuck in the door leading to the study. "Easy does it-ourn it around," said the straw boss. Seventeen tries later he said: "It just won't go in. It's too big for the doorway." Mat there the couch frame is now-still on its slide in the liv-ing room, set it on its slide, and er asying: So they carted it back into the iving room, set it on its slide, and doorways won't ex-and doorways won't ex-and doorways won't ex-and. Mat Claus just forgot to make

Santa Claus just forgot to make a few measurements. And you know what I'd like to do? I'd like to go to his house at the North Pole and wait until he took Mrs. Claus out to the movies. Then I'd like to put a big horse in his bathtub and the jt to the faucet with a sign saying: "Merry Christmas—bah, hum-bug!"

NO-GUN MAN STILL ALIVE

NO-GUN MAN STILL ALIVE DENVER. — $\langle R \rangle$ — The way to keep out of trouble in an old-time Colorado mining camp was to leave your gun at home, Frank Stewart avoided "lead poison-ing" so nimbly that next year he will celebrate his 92nd birthday. Stewart lived in Tincup, a Gunni-son county gold camp, at the tima it was noted for the high mortal-

HOW TO GET HURT! SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. — (P) — The display case in police Chief William D. Glichrist's outer office features:



from all over the country, but they weren't really gunmen." the phoneer mining man said. "If they knew you had a gun, though, in the hands of hoodlums: "Do first one. If you didn't carry a gun, nobody searted shooting." FAMILY POSTOFFICE BAR HARBOR, Me. — (H) — Confronted with such playthings in the hands of hoodlums: "Do chance he may not use it. If he summer resort community. The first and son, have

ASTORIA, Dec. 28. -(A)- A Eugene motorist, struck while checking his stalled car, was in a hospital today with a com-pound left leg fracture and in-ternal injuries. dent Martin Van Buren," served from 1838 to 1853 and from 1838 to 1861. The second served from 1870 to 1871. The incumbent took over in 1936.

ternal injuries. The motorist, Donald Blakely, 22, told police he was checking the fuel pump on his car when another car struck him and con-tinued on at high speed. It hap-pened during a heavy rainstorm. The accident occurred Sunday between Astoria and Seaside but was not reported by police until yesterday.

Eugene Motorist Hurt

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