

# Christmas Is Not at Its Best

(Continued from page two)

bought them have died or eloped with your fiancée) and have to buy new ones.

And what has the Chamber of Commerce done with Pre-Christmas Suspense and Excitement, that most pleasant of all tensions? It has extended it, like taffy, from July to December. How can you be suspended for so long? Can you pant with excitement and delicious anticipation through the dog days of August, through September registration, October Mid-terms, November elections and December finals? Not without becoming a bit breathless, we imagine.

On the Night Before Christmas, you are left with nothing to do but sit around admiring your July wrappings on your August presents; which might not be so bad except that the August present also embodied August sentiments — old, moldy, and half-forgotten.

It is true that the Hebrews anticipated the birth of Christ for a much longer time than that period represented by the span from July to December. But they did not, during that anticipatory period, deck the Holy Land with tinsel and paper cut-outs of the Wise Men. The real excitement started with the Star, and everyone knows that the Star arrived at Christmas; it did not hover ostentatiously around for several months.

We are not essentially against the Chamber of Commerce; let them indulge in their luncheons, their plans to attract new factories and to keep the cash registers contented and noisily full. But as for Christmas: let all of us Christians, naughty German pagans, and members of families band together for the moment, and go out to wrest Christmas from the cold clutch of the Chamber.

"Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" — but not, perhaps, in August.

## ONE BOOK - \$1200

# Rare Books in UO Library

by Rodney Morrison  
Emerald Reporter

Hidden in an obscure corner on the third floor of the University library is a thin, rather worn booklet which has a value approximately equal to the cost of educating one student for one year at Oregon.

The booklet — prized as a rare example of early printing in the state — is worth \$1200, according to Martin Schmitt, curator of special collections at the library. Recently rebound in a bright green cover, it is one of three known copies of a "Melodrama" by Martin L. Adams, printed in 1850.

Adams' "Melodrama" is only one of many interesting and unusual books to be found in library 303, the rare books room. Here, behind locked doors, is kept a collection of several hundred books whose over-all value has never even been estimated by library officials.

### Value Not Stressed

The separate value of the collection is not stressed, Schmitt said. The library includes the rare books collection in its complete estimate of the library property, but makes no individual estimate on any of its special collections.

Most of the volumes in the rare books room are kept there because of price or rarity. Special autographed copies and special collections which the library wants to keep together are also kept in the room.

Although the library has no collection as such of so-called "dirty" books, it does keep a few books locked up due to content. Students may access to these books only upon written permission of a faculty member.

Withheld from general circulation is Karpman's "Case Studies in the Psychopathology of Crime." This ponderous set of volumes is specifically labeled private on the inside cover, and only numbered copies are sold to libraries and scholars.

### Book Withheld

One German book is withheld because of the obscene illustrations it contains. The library also has a copy of Edmund Wilson's "Memoirs of Hecate County," which has been declared obscene by the U. S. Supreme Court. It is

now illegal to buy or sell this book, but the University's copy was purchased before this decision was made.

The University library has an open stack policy which makes every book in its possession available to students. The reason that so few books are withheld due to content stems from the fact that the problems of a university library are quite different from that of a public library, Schmitt declared.

"The purpose is different; the support is different," Schmitt said in drawing a comparison between university and public libraries. Most books in a University library are for class work, and support of the library is a statewide, rather than a direct community affair."

### Small Libraries Discussed

"In its day, Sinclair Lewis' 'Elmer Gantry' might even have been kept off the shelves of a small public library," Schmitt pointed out. Today such books as "The Kinsey Report" and "From Here to Eternity" might be withheld from general circulation in small libraries.

It is the policy in many of the small public libraries to keep off their general shelves any book which has received the condemnation of a minority group Schmitt continued. Though these books are made available upon request, a member of one of these groups cannot say that the book was in

the library as a personal temptation for him.

"Most students won't steal a rare book from the library, mainly because they don't know one when they see one," Schmitt said. Members of the library staff are not infallible in detecting rare books either.

Three years ago, a copy of a modest little pamphlet "Idaho: Six Months in the New Gold Diggings" by J. L. Campbell was found in the open stacks. It carried the date 1864. The library had purchased the pamphlet for \$1.50 in 1920, and the book had been circulated at frequent intervals for 30 years.

When it was discovered that the library copy of the pamphlet was the only one on the West coast, the book was removed to the rare books room. Schmitt now estimates the value of the book at \$400.

# UT Gives Quite Adequate

(Continued from page two)

father. All through this there is an air of philosophical melancholy and some good humor.

I have two major criticisms of the "Irish Drama" and they also refer to this play. There is little conception of time during the transition periods; and they don't know where to stop—tragedy is heaped upon tragedy, until the only purpose is to show how disappointing life could be. One has to overlook much in order to find the wealth of social, religious and individual thought presented in these plays.

Last Saturday night "Juno" was quite adequately performed.

Phil Sanders exhibited considerable feeling and ability in his portrayal of the father; his performance ranks with the best I have seen on the University stage. There could be but small criticism of Miss Maulding's fine portrayal of the mother. Scott Lehner gave a generally good performance as the drunken "Joxer."

There was a very pleasant accent used throughout the play. The amazing thing about it was that it was understandable (usually). Most accents used on the University stage are unintelligible and/or ridiculous. Miss Von Groenewald couldn't seem to make up her mind which country she was in, but other than this the use of accents added to the performance. Mr. Hunter is to be congratulated in having the colloquial words pronounced in such a way as to make them meaningful.

The only real complaints I have with the actors concern some minor parts, but this condition is so normal at the UT that I probably wouldn't feel at ease without it; besides, it's the Christmas season.

# UO Students Plan Caroling, Projects

Several campus organizations are spreading the holiday spirit this season by giving their services to brighten Christmas on campus and in the community. They have chosen a variety of projects.

Members of Alpha Phi Omega, national men's service fraternity, are planning to decorate the huge fir tree in front of Johnson hall at the end of this week. This tree was chosen because it can also be seen by townspeople passing by on 13th street.

It will be decorated with light bulbs solicited from downtown stores. Don Thurber, sophomore in music, is chairman of the project.

The service commission of the YWCA, headed by Martha Van Camp, senior in sociology, is spreading goodwill by giving parties for children at the Skipworth Home in Springfield and at the campus nursery for faculty and students' children. Parties include distributing gifts to the children, giving skits, serving refreshments and singing carols.


Christmas boxes for needy Eugene families, prepared by campus living organizations, were collected by AWS at the annual tea held last Saturday.

The boxes contained toys, games, books, food, clothing and other gifts. Sally Ryan, sophomore in pre-journalism was general chairman of the event.

Assisting with the foreign student hospitality program is a project of the YMCA. This is planned to help find accommodations in private homes for foreign students during the holidays.

A caroling party, open to all students, will be sponsored by the University Religious council. Saturday night, students will carol at various Eugene institutions including the old people's home.

TRY US FOR USED BOOKS NEXT TERM



**Cyrus Prouty**  
Old Bookstore  
1219 Alder



## Well-Known Reindeer Tells All

NORTH POLE, ARCTIC. Looking very dapper for an 18-point buck with chalked muzzle and matching white tail assembly, Dasher, famous front-running reindeer for the S. Claus Parcel Service, stated today:

1. Conditions on the northern tundra are pretty much the same as ever. No-o, TV hadn't affected the grazing habits of the middle-class herds.
2. That despite reports to the contrary, you don't ever thoroughly adjust to sub-zero weather, regardless of the warm esteem people hold you in.
3. Rumors of a reindeer strike for Christmas Eve are unfounded. Somebody's got a termite in his antler.

When asked about the most popular Christmas gift down through the years he replied without hesitation: "Menswear by Manhattan. I've helped haul Mr. Claus's sled, roe and buck, nigh unto forever . . . so I ought to know . . . nothing makes a man happier than shirts, sportshirts, ties, pajamas, beachwear or underwear labeled Manhattan. Don't know whether it's the live style that makes a man look and feel so good, whether it's the traditional tailoring detail, or the array of fabrics, patterns and colors that are all so unmistakably quality. I'll admit one thing. I've kind of wished sometimes that Manhattan would make deerwear."

IT'S A SNAP TO FIND THE Right Gift FOR A CAMERA FAN



Brownie Hawkeye Kits	\$13.95
Kodak Pony 35MM Camera	35.75
Argus C-3 35MM Camera	69.50
Kodak Signet	92.50
Kodak Retina 11A	149.50
Rolleiflex	285.00
Brownie Movie Camera	39.50
Brownie Movie Projector	62.50
G.E. Light meter	15.25
FR Enlarger	24.95
Argus Slide Projector	49.95
Davidson Tripods	13.75

**Goburn film Shop**  
PHONE 4-8241  
698 WILLAMETTE