

LOWNEY'S
Crest
Chocolates
IN BOXES
From 50c to \$5.00

Red Cross Drug Store
The Candy
For a
Merry Christmas

**NEWS AND GOSSIP OF
THE WORLD OF SPORTS**

GESEK IS MEMBER OF
BOILER MAKERS UNION

Chris Gesek who will meet Walter Miller, present title-holder of the welter-weight championship of the world at the Arcade next Thursday night in an attempt to annex the title, is of German parentage and was born in Hillyard, a suburb of Spokane. At the age of 15 he entered the Great Northern shops as an apprentice and learned the boiler-making trade.

At the present time he is located at Tacoma and is a member of the boiler makers union of that place which has a membership of 5000 men. Gesek still follows his trade and at present is employed at the United States ship yards and is instructor of wrestling at the Boiler-makers Athletic Club. He wrestles only when suitable inducements and an opportunity to enter a high class match is offered. For four years

Gesek held the amateur welterweight championship of the Pacific Coast, defending his title against the best wrestlers in the West at Portland, Seattle and Spokane, representing the Spokane Athletic Club during this period.

In 1902 he won the AA-American amateur championship in Salt Lake City, representing the Spokane A. A.

CHRIS GESEK



one of the best known wrestlers of the East, George Brandeau of Milwaukee, wrestling a draw with Ted Thye and also a draw with Walter Miller, the present world's champion and the only obstacle in the way of the title for which he will battle here on December 27. Mr. Gesek is a member of the Masonic order and a popular clubman. He is modest, domestically inclined and fond of his family. He is a fairly good boxer, having represented the Spokane A. A. C. in one or two tournaments, winning some good contests.

He is 28 years old. As a wrestler he is recognized as a tiger on the mat. He has a style of defense of his own which has proven a problem to every man who has met him and an alertness for taking advantage of an opening which puzzles his opponent. His remarkable ability as a wrestler, together with his rugged body and strength make him the most formidable and worthy opponent for the present champion today.

Gesek comes to La Grande determined to wrest the championship from Miller if determination and good condition will accomplish such a thing.

Portland—The government will purchase, in carload lots, properly cut spruce wherever there is a railroad at \$85 a thousand. Individuals and groups may engage in the industry.

Independence—Valley & Siletz railroad starts operations January 1 as common carrier between here and Valsetz, Oregon.

All analysis of accident report of the Interstate Commerce Commission indicates that, next to the seclusion of one's own home, the safest place a person can be in is on a railroad train.

Portland bank deposits November 20 were \$83,706, 898.89, an increase of \$18,130,004.75 over the same period in 1916.

Marshfield—Site chosen for 240,000 army.

ELKS' CHRISTMAS TREE FOR CHILDREN OF CITY
A Christmas tree for the children of the city is to be given by the Elks, at the Elks' home, on Christmas day, at 2 p. m. Candy and toys are to be given the kiddies and a general good time insured. 12-24-17

PERSHING LIKE WHIRLWIND, VISITS CAMP
(Continued From Page 1.)

discipline had taken a sudden spring upward.

Pershing sets the example for his Army. "On parade," in public, he never relaxes from his rigid, soldierly bearing. At work he drives himself.

People who know the General in-

timately say he does relax on private occasions—at mess, for instance. But when he works he works—drive, drive, drive; take no excuses, get it done—now!

His office is in the center of a big building with the other departmental offices ranging for a block in two directions. Room 31 is where the General works. There he sits at his desk, in a hard, straight-back office chair, gush-buttons and phone within arm's reach, directing, consulting, infusing his department heads with the same indomitable battering-ram spirit that brought him to the head of America's greatest Army, now in the making.

He is strict, severe. Yet, they tell of a dough-boy who rolled into camp down in Mexico, famished for food after 36 hours on the road without a bite. He walked into a tent, saluted and asked the officer for something to eat. The officer heard the man's story and himself went to the cookshack and ordered the cook to prepare a dinner for the dough-boy.

"Do you know who that was?" the cook asked as he shoved a steak at the hungry lad.

"Nope," between mouthfuls of hash.

"That was General Pershing."

That Sammy, still in the Army, swears General Pershing is the greatest soldier ever.

There is one map on the walls of the office. There are singularly few papers on the general's desk; a clean, desk man. Suspended from a red ribbon over near the window is an engraved salutation to General Pershing presented by the townspeople when he moved to General Headquarters from Paris. The French authorities in preparing the building for American occupation wanted to have a famous artist paint the Stars and Stripes on one wall in compliment to America. Pershing was diplomatic about it and the walls are still pure white.

Perhaps because of it, perhaps in spite of his soldierly conduct in public, General Pershing is different. If it depended on his speeches he couldn't be elected dog-catcher of a country village. He is a soldier, not an orator—yet in his position abroad he has frequently come through situations requiring the exercise of high qualities of statesmanship and diplomacy.

He has no invariable time for coming to his office. He may settle some important matters at home in the half-hour after breakfast. But usually he is deep in the day's grind by eight o'clock.

At mess "shop-talk" is taboo. Art, literature, sports—anything but the crushing, destroying business of war in any of its phases may occupy the meal-hour. The mess consists of General Pershing, another general, two colonels and a captain.

When the day's work is done—when the department heads have reported with their recommendations,



Our Christmas Message

For the past three years through the current of our lives there has been running a heavy undertone—the distant rumble of the cannon in the world war for democracy and peace everlasting, and even as we bid each other a merry Christmas, we whispered in our hearts "God forbid the visitation of this terrible affliction on our beloved people."

This Christmas, what we would have averted has taken place, for grim war has come to us. Our own American lads, by tens of thousands, are mustered and serving in the stern duty of war, while at home women are doing their bit by knitting and rolling bandages.

From many an American home, a package has gone forth, laden with its message of love, for the boy in the field serving with the colors of his country.

So, as even with the people of Europe, this year our Christmas will be passed with the deep bass of distant guns thundering their accompaniment to the trembling carols that our hopeful voices lift in celebration of the sweetest holiday in our calendar.

As we cannot alter the sad circumstances of meeting with a war Christmas, we can for the sake of the young greet one another with what cheer we can summon, and fervently exchange mutual and heartfelt wishes that ere another Yuletide be reached peace may have come to our troubled earth, and the dread baying of the guns be stilled forevermore.

Wishing you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

THE GOLDEN RULE CO.
Quality the same—Prices less

their new ideas, their progress or reverses, if there is no matter of unusual pressure, the General goes riding. Perhaps he gets into his machine and rolls it to a lonely wooded spot with a major who has his confidence. If so, they dismount and walk through the woods, miles from the worries of the Army. The General may walk five miles at a brisk

COMMUNITY CO-OPERATION

(Continued from page three.)

neighbors fight for progress, the surer you are to reap the good that progressive teamwork brings. A good, wide-awake town is a sure sign of public-spirited, wide-awake citizens living in it and around it.

The spirit of "let well enough alone" never accomplished anything. The spirit of "let's make things better" is a sovereign remedy against retrogression.

One way of bettering your home town is open always and to all. This is it—keep your trade as nearly as may be in your own town. As we have pointed out before, a good portion of every dollar spent in your local stores helps in the support and development of your own neighborhood. Increased local business makes possible more public conveniences, more educational, religious and social advantages, and, as a national consequence, increases individual opportunity and wealth.—Oregon Farmer.

JOIN THE RED CROSS NOW!

JITNEY DANCE
Benefit Red Cross
at **REX HALL**
Wednesday, Dec. 26th 9 p. m.

SPECIAL FEATURE
Fancy Dancing by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Grady of Portland

Admission: 25 cents
Dances During Evening 5 cents a Dance
All Spectators 25c

Everybody Come and Have a Good Time
Enjoy the Fine Music and Help the Red Cross

JOIN THE RED CROSS NOW!



A New Way to

California

A real circle-tour through Eastern Oregon, Southern Idaho, Utah, Salt Lake City, Nevada, Rainbow Canyon, thence into Southern California, where the traveler is greeted by a vast expanse of orange groves. San Bernardino, Redlands, Riverside and Los Angeles completes the first half of the circle. This route of constant surprises is

Union Pacific-Salt Lake Route
The Pleasant Way to Sunny California

Next time go this way and enjoy a truly "different" tour. Return may be made by trains of the Shasta Route, or coast-wise steamships of the S.F. & P. S.S. Co. Call upon any O.W.R.R. agent, or write Wm. McMurray, General Passenger Agent, Portland, for full information and California literature.

Greetings---

At this the happiest time of the year, we wish all our friends and patrons

A MERRY CHRISTMAS
and
A HAPPY NEW YEAR

The City Grocery & Bakery