

LA GRANDE OBSERVES XMAS DAY

Entire City Celebrates the Arrival of the Yuletide Season.

PROGRAMS HELD IN VARIOUS CHURCHES

Sick at Hospital were Given Treat by Loney's Orchestra and P. E. O.; Many Private Dinners.

Christmas was celebrated in La Grande by all of the churches, almost every home, the theaters, the Elks and the city as a whole.

Beginning Sunday evening the different churches held programs in keeping with the great day of days. One of the largest church gatherings probably was at the Methodist church where a fine program was given by members of the Sunday school, the church choir and several soloists. The building was filled with people anxious to see the little ones and hear their part of the program. At an opportune moment a big Santa Claus with sleigh bells a-plenty leaped into the room among the children giving good cheer and many presents to the little tots.

Attendance at the Catholic Christmas service was large and the midnight mass was enjoyed not only by men and women who are of that religion, but by many citizens who are not affiliated with the church.

The Presbyterian church held its Christmas sermon Sunday evening and at five o'clock in the afternoon Christmas exercises about a beautiful tree was held. The attendance was very large.

The primary and intermediate grades of the Sunday school held a fine program at the Baptist church in the regular Yuletide exercises held last evening. A large and beautifully decorated Christmas tree brightened the evening for both young and old.

At the Lutheran church the Christmas exercises began at seven o'clock with the attendance very large. Following the program a collection for the aid of the Near East sufferers was taken up.

At the Christian church the regular Christmas sermon was delivered in the morning and on Sunday afternoon the church was filled to capacity and a delightful program, featuring the story of Yuletide, was given.

Dinners in the Homes.

All over La Grande Christmas dinners brightened the homes of the citizens. In some cases several families joined together giving a big spread while in most instances the single family with its little Christmas tree, its happy children and a big family dinner, spent the day in the good old American manner.

Arade Gives Free Show.

In order that joy might be complete a free show was given about noon to the children in the Arcade theatre. The enjoyment at this entertainment was superb and the attendance was record-breaking.

Dances in Evening.

On Christmas evening dances were held in La Grande and at the Union hotel in Union where jolly crowds spent the last hours of Christmas day in a social way that was a fine climax to the day.

Elks Big Tree.

For several evenings the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks had their large tree standing in the intersection of Washington and Depot streets beautifully lighted. It stood as a beacon to guide every La Grande child to the Elks' home on Christmas morning where the Elks' committee headed by Ed. Meyersick and Harry Hoffman had charge of the annual event.

By 10 o'clock on Christmas morning the children began to gather and before the appointed time for the Santa Claus distribution of presents the sidewalk was lined for two blocks. It was a sight worth while and every Elk took great satisfaction in the Christmas work of the lodge which has become a very important part of the B. P. O. E. yearly program in La Grande.

Presents were distributed to every child who attended and the Elks' automobiles were kept busy all morning delivering the special dainties to people who had been unfortunate during the past year.

(Continued on Page Five.)

Ben Decious Leases The Sommer and Savoy Hotels

Ben Decious, who recently sold the Silver Grill, which he had built up to be one of the best restaurants on the Union Pacific, evidently had no intention of leaving La Grande, for he has just closed leases for the Sommer hotel, owned by N. K. West, and the Savoy hotel, from Mrs. Julia B. Holmes, the owners.

\$190,000,000 CORPORATION IS UNDERWAY

(By Associated Press)

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—Attorneys are preparing for the application in Delaware for a charter for a new \$190,000,000 Armour corporation that will absorb the Morris interests.

BELATED TREE BY SALVATION ARMY TONIGHT

Not Wishing to Conflict With Churches, the Army Holds Its Tree Tonight.

Not wishing to conflict with any of the churches in their Christmas services, the Salvation army will hold its entertainment and have its Christmas tree tonight at eight o'clock in the Presbyterian church.

A program replete with many attractive features has been arranged. It will be open with the little children reciting Santa Claus, which will be followed by Reed Patton's recitation, Anna Stanley will render a solo and Anna Stanley will tell of Santa's visits. Diagonies and duets are among the numbers. A snow brigade of eight boys and girls will be one of the pleasant number of the evening.

SCOUTS LEAVE FOR MT. EMILY

To establish a Five Day Winter Camp; Special Sports Program Prepared.

Early this morning fifteen Boy Scouts of La Grande, accompanied by the scout commissioner, A. E. Pryke, and by scoutmaster Harvey Carter, left La Grande, bound for Mount Emily, where they will hold a winter camp. They will make their first part of the trip on foot then resorting to skis as soon as the depth of the snow permits.

The boys will be gone for several days, returning Saturday and are planning on having the time of their lives among the winter elements. A special sports program has been arranged for the last day in camp and prizes will be given to the winners. The winter camp is becoming an annual event in the lives of the La Grande Boy Scouts and the commissioner describes it as "being one of the finest camping trips of the year." The boys will be housed in Bloomer's cabin, a warm building well built to withstand rigorous weather, with a fine spring located nearby.

COLLEGIANS TO HOLD DANCE

The University of Oregon students will give a dance Thursday evening in the Rex hall, according to an announcement made today by the committee in charge.

The college students who are home from O. A. C., Oregon, Willamette, or any other institute of higher learning are cordially invited as are the Alumni of the colleges and a special invitation is extended to the high school to be present.

PORTLAND HAS AN EARLY BLAZE

PORTLAND, Dec. 26.—Fire early today destroyed the Lillian apartments in the downtown district. Loss is estimated at \$40,000. Occupants were forced to flee to the streets in scanty night attire.

OCEAN WINDS THREATENING SEA TRAFFIC

Heaviest Storm in Recollection of Navigators Raging on the Atlantic

HUGE LINERS ARE DRIVEN FROM PATH

Tempest Strikes Terror to Hearts of Hundreds of Passengers; Small Ships Threatened.

(By Associated Press)

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—The most violent tempest in the recollection of veteran navigators has been raging on the North Atlantic during the past week, threatening smaller vessels with destruction and wrecking larger steamers' deck equipment.

The storm is driving fast liners from their courses and striking terror to hearts of hundreds of passengers.

All of the liners are behind scheduled time.

CAR WRECKED ON HIGHWAY

Steering Gear Locked and Car was Upset; Two Occupants were Injured and Third Escaped unhurt.

An auto wreck, that might have been much more serious, occurred yesterday afternoon about 3 o'clock on the highway a few yards east of the Union Oil Station. A Premier touring car, driven by Allen Hunter, was going to Union and in attempting to make the turn, the steering gear went out of order and the car was thrown into the snowbank on the side of the road, turning the machine over and slightly injuring the driver and injuring Miss Laetitia Pierce, Harold Hall, the third occupant of the car, was uninjured.

The car was damaged on one side and the top was smashed. Allen Hunter received a broken rib and Miss Pierce was badly bruised and is suffering severely today although the full extent of her injuries are unknown.

Prompt aid was rushed to the scene and the car was righted and started back to La Grande under its own power. Again the steering gear locked and it was necessary to tow the car into the city.

At the time of the accident the car was being driven at a high rate of speed according to reports.

MARKET STEADY

PORTLAND, Dec. 26.—Livestock, eggs and butter are steady.

DENBY MAKES ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE NAVY

Pacific and Atlantic Fleets Will Rendezvous at Panama for Winter Maneuvers.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The newly substituted United States fleet, consisting of both the Pacific and Atlantic naval forces, will rendezvous at Panama February 19 for winter maneuvers and gun target practice against the old battleship fleet, which will be radio controlled during the maneuver schedule. Secretary Denby also announced the assignment of ships under the new consolidated fleet plan.

The battle fleet commanded by Admiral Eberle, whose flag will fly from the United States Steamship California, will sail from Pacific coast ports February 9 for Panama, while the scouting fleet and train will leave east coast ports on January 8 for Guantanamo Bay to join the battle fleet at Panama. Vice Admiral McDonald, aboard the U. S. S. Wyoming, will command.

Admiral Jones, commander-in-chief of the fleet, with his flagship, the Maryland, and the battleships Arkansas and Florida, will leave the Atlantic coast after the scouting fleet to participate in the maneuvers which will continue until March 31.

Shoemaker in Charge.

As now assigned, the battleship division of the battle fleet will be commanded by Vice Admiral Shoemaker aboard the New Mexico, the New Mexico, Idaho and Tennessee forming the fifth division, and the New York, Texas and Oklahoma the third division.

Rear Admiral Burrage, aboard the old cruiser Charleston, as flagship, will command the destroyer squadrons of the battle fleet which, for the maneuvers will employ two squadrons of 19 destroyers each, the units being designated as squadrons 11 and 12. In addition, the battle fleet includes light cruiser, submarine and aircraft divisions, none of which now are in commission.

Battleship division 1 is assigned to the scouting fleet and includes the Utah, North Dakota and Delaware, with the Florida and Arkansas as joint flagships. With the scouting fleet will be destroyer squadron 9, consisting of 19 destroyers and the flagship Rochester.

The U. S. S. Wright is assigned as flagship and tender of the aircraft squadrons, scout fleet, Capt. W. R. Ghensard commanding. The ship will leave January 7 for the rendezvous, going via Key West, Fla. The airplane equipment will be 17 scouting planes and 18 torpedo planes.

Rear Admiral L. R. de Steiguer, aboard the U. S. S. Relief, will command the train including repair, hospital, fuel and other auxiliary ships while Rear Admiral J. V. Chase will command the fleet base force, including nine layers, sweepers and similar vessels, his flag flying on the U. S. S. Trojan.

THE WEATHER

(By The Associated Press)

PORTLAND, Dec. 26.—Wednesday: rain; strong southerly winds which will reach a gale force on the coast.

MOONSHINE TOLL HEAVY IN THE EAST

Eight Die in New York from Indulging in Poisonous "White Mule"

TOTAL OF DEATHS CLIMBS TO TEN

Liquor Death List is Recorded in New York, Boston and Detroit; Hospitals are Crowded.

(By The Associated Press)

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Eight deaths were attributed today to drinking poisonous liquor on Christmas. A score of more are in hospitals.

(By The Associated Press)

BOSTON, Dec. 26.—One is dead and over thirty are in the hospitals from drinking moonshine liquor Christmas Day.

(By The Associated Press)

DETROIT, Dec. 26.—Poisonous liquor killed one here Christmas. Over a score are ill from the same cause.

UNSIGNED NOTE FAVORS WEIR IN KNOTHOLE CASE

"Jane Doe" in Letter Sent to the Chief of Police, Tells of Affair; Takes Cash Weir's Part.

(By The Associated Press)

PORTLAND, Dec. 26.—The police have received an anonymous letter signed "Jane Doe," stating that the writer is the girl whom Mrs. Leary saw in Cash Weir's house last September at the time when Mrs. Leary charges the girl was killed there.

The writer refused to divulge her name, she said, because she did not want her family dragged into the case.

Chief Jenkins announced that if the girl would arrange to meet him he would shield her from publicity.

Mrs. Leary was taken today by officers over the Lower Columbia river highway to point out the shop where she said Earl Weir had told her the girl's body was buried "under a ton of rocks."

The letter gave the details of the altercation in the houseboat in which Mrs. Leary clashed with Cash Weir and the writer took Weir's part.

WHEAT MARKET

PORTLAND, Dec. 26.—Wheat was \$1.23 to \$1.29 today.

YOU JUST CAN'T GET AWAY FROM THIS CHRISTMAS SPIRIT



FARMER WILL IDENTIFY THE HOODED BUNCH

Investigators Claim They Have Things Well in Hand—Parker Orders Hearing.

(By Associated Press)

BAITMORE, Dec. 26.—Governor Parker of Louisiana, has asked for the arrest of Dr. B. McKen, the former mayor of Mer Rouge, La., on a murder charge. McKen is attending the John Hopkins university.

(By The Associated Press)

HASTING, La., Dec. 26.—The state will be able to establish the identity of several persons of the masked mob which last August kidnapped five Mer Rouge residents, including Walt Danville and Thomas Richards, whose bodies were found last week, investigators said today.

Secret service men said identification would be made by a farmer whose home is near Oak Ridge in Morehouse parish. It was said he witnessed the seizure and sprang away of the quintette and recognized some of the abductors.

NOTED EDITOR PASSES AWAY

Erastus Brainerd, Former Editor of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Dies.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 26.—Erastus Brainerd, former editor of the Post-Intelligencer and long a leader in public life in this state, died Monday.

Mrs. Brainerd, who became editor of the Post-Intelligencer in 1900 and retired from that position in 1911, had been in failing health, but his friends were not aware that death was near.

RIGHT OF WAY TO BE SETTLED

Scenic Route over Mrs. Remillard's property will be Decided by Committee of Two.

A committee, composed of a representative appointed by the city and one appointed by Mrs. Mary Remillard, was named today to agree on the matter of securing a right of way for the scenic highway through the Remillard property. City Manager O. A. Kratz named W. L. Bohlen and representative of the city and Mrs. Remillard's choice was A. F. Liley. The two men will meet this afternoon and in the event their decision cannot be reached, a third man will be appointed by the two to settle the arbitration.

BULLETINS

WEST VIRGINIA WINS

(By Associated Press)

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Dec. 26.—The east proved superior to the west in the football Monday when the West Virginia team of Morgantown triumphed over Gonzaga University of Spokane, Wash., by a score of 21 to 13 in San Diego's second annual inter-sectional gridiron contest. The game was declared one of the most thrilling seen in southern California this season.

DEAD BODY FOUND

(By Associated Press)

CLEVELAND, Dec. 26.—The lifeboat of the tug Cornell, with the body of one of the crew of eight missing six days, was found today between Long Point and Port Colburn.

Carnation King Matador Is Dead; Breeders Grieve

Carnation King Matador, three-year old Holstein-Frisian bull, the only son in Oregon of the famous Carnation King Sylvia, for which the Carnation company paid \$100,000, making him the highest priced bull ever sold, died of acute indigestion at Hot Lake on the Phyrene farm, owned by Dr. W. T. Phy, Saturday. Dr. Phy valued the bull at \$35,000, which was insured for \$1,000.

There will be 15 heifers in the Phymere herd sired by Carnation King Matador. Dr. Phy stated today, "and the loss of the bull, although deeply felt, will not interfere with the upbuilding and progress of the herd."

Carnation King Matador was the foundation of one of the finest Holstein-Frisian herds in the west and was well known all over the nation. Thoroughbred cattle breeders all over the northwest are sympathetic with Dr. Phy in the loss of one of the most valuable bulls in the west.

XMAS DAY TRAGEDIES ARE MANY

Ferryboat Operator Kills Three and Ends Own Life in Seattle.

DEATH LIST OF TEN IS RECORDED

Four Dead in Coal Field Fighting; Two Little Children are Suffocated in Michigan.

(By The Associated Press)

SEATTLE, Dec. 26.—Rejection of his advances last spring towards Helen Engel, 16 years old and pretty, is believed to have caused Earl Neuriter, 40, a ferryboat operator, that he entered her home here Monday and turned Christmas joy into tragedy by killing her two sisters and one of her brothers and then ending his own life. Neuriter, when he came into the house, asked for Helen.

Helen said that Neuriter attempted to shoot her when she repelled him last spring. Neuriter took to the Engel home Monday three pistols and two pocketfuls of cartridges.

Neuriter, according to the coroner, hid himself in the woodshed at the Engel home waiting until D. C. Engel, father of Helen, came out of the house, leaving his family around the Christmas tree distributing gifts. Engel said that Neuriter pointed two pistols at him and ordered him into the house. In the house, Neuriter told Engel to lock the door.

"Get Helen for me," Neuriter is alleged to have shouted, with the pistols in his hands. "In here for business and I'm going to kill Helen—I'll kill you all."

Killed Older Sister.

Anna Engel, 17, sister of Helen, sought to wrest the pistols from Neuriter. A bullet tore through her upper arm and hit her back, killing her.

Leaping over Anna's body, according to the story placed together by Coroner Carson, who talked to all the surviving members of the family, Neuriter commenced shooting at Helen, at Ernest, her brother, 13, and at Mr. and Mrs. Engel. Helen and Ernest jumped out of a window and the parents fled through the front door.

As the parents ran they saw their daughter, fully armed, standing in a chair with two dolls, just taken from the Christmas tree, hugged to her bosom. She later was found dead with a bullet in her forehead.

Hans, a brother, aged 14, was crouching in a dark corner of his bedroom when Neuriter entered. His body and that of Neuriter were found in this bedroom, the latter with a bullet wound in the left temple and the man's with one in the chest.

Four Men Killed

(By The Associated Press)

UNIONTOWN, Pa., Dec. 26.—Four men were killed during Christmas celebrations in the Fayette county coal fields Sunday night and Monday. One of the dead is Frank Hall, formerly of Kansas City, Mo., but at the time of his death a member of the U. S. Pick Coal company's police force.

Children Suffocated

(By The Associated Press)

BATTLE CREEK, Mich., Dec. 26.—Two children, William, 10 years, and Barbara, 8, suffocated in their home here Monday, shortly after the parents, Wayward Watts and Mrs. Watts, had finished decorating their Christmas tree.

DIVINE SARAH IS IMPROVING

(By The Associated Press)

PALM, Dec. 26.—Sarah Bernhardt's condition showed further improvement today. Physicians said they tentatively considered her out of danger. They also said if her remarkable recovery continued she might still answer in her new play during rehearsals of which she was heard with a fainting spell several days ago.