



Christmas Bells

"Hark the Christmas Bells are ringing, Ringing through the frosty air."

From the Real of Folk-Lore and Pagan ritual come today's custom of cheery Christmas bells.

During the Christmas Season the werewolf and other monsters that typified the powers of evil roamed at large to destroy the Christmas merry-makers. The ringing of Christmas bells kept these evil powers at bay and brought their work to naught.

And Christmas bells still chime at Christmas time to banish all gloom from the merry season of Christmas gift-giving.

HILLS DEPT STORE

A Good Place to Trade

SPORT NEWS

Basketball Season on; Union vs. Muddy Creek

Losers to Elgin, Muddy Creek Team Plays at Union This Evening

DELGIN (Special to the Observer)—Elgin high school opened their basketball season last week with an early season game with Muddy Creek high school team which ended with the Elgin boys 28 to 19.

Elgin's schedule is now prepared and is as follows: January 2—Wallace vs. Elgin at Wallawa; January 4—Joseph vs. Elgin at Joseph; January 5—Enterprise vs. Elgin at Enterprise; January 12—Elgin vs. La Grande at La Grande; January 20—Elgin vs. Elgin at Elgin; January 28—Elgin vs. Elgin at Elgin; February 1—Elgin vs. Elgin at Elgin; February 15—Elgin vs. Muddy Creek at Haines.

UNION (Special to the Observer)—While Muddy Creek scheduled their first opponent of the present basketball season, Union high school's team will swing its location this evening for the first time this season at Union. Muddy Creek is reported to have a strong team although they lost last week to Elgin by a margin of 2 points.

In La Grande the team will not play until the first week in January at which time they will go to Union. During the holidays a team of approximately 15 men will practice each afternoon, excepting on board holidays, in the high school gymnasium.

After the holidays the basketball season, for both boys and girls teams in District No. 1 will get

LA GRANDE MAN CRITICIZED BY LOAN OFFICIALS

According to the Oregonian News Bureau at Washington, D. C., Robert H. Coker, administrator of the Federal Farm Loan Board, is blamed by some of the officials of the federal farm loan board for criticisms of the farm loan banks which have recently broken out in congress.

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GERMANY SAID OVER-PEOPLED

Surplus Population Problem Is Becoming Serious One in Germany.

BERLIN, (AP)—What is to become of Germany's surplus population of 20,000,000? The question is looming up as a serious one in view of the fact that the birth rate is rapidly approaching the present figure and the annual emigration is relatively small.

Russia is held up to the German public as a land that may eventually absorb 15,000,000 Germans, but there is slight movement toward that country because of present conditions under Soviet rule. South American countries also are mentioned by the German press as suitable for future homes for Germans, but the United States is the only country to which the Germans appear to be anxious to migrate. The indications are that the applicants for admission to the United States will greatly exceed the quota of 60,000 this year. The over-population is mostly in the industrial centers.

There is an endless chain of young mechanics who manage to get enough funds together to make their way to the United States and send money back to their brothers and friends who join them on the other side. Thus are mostly men without families.

So Germany is losing many of the men who might be most helpful in bringing her industries back into ordered state. The younger men live of the hopeless snarl of domestic politics, the clash of party interests and the endless wranglings of labor and political organizations. But it is the young men who manage to collect enough funds to emigrate.

Germany's labor population, employed in industries of all sorts, including shipping, is estimated at about 25,000,000. The actual number of organized workers is 15,000,000, and it is largely from the ranks of this class that the emigration comes.

For the first six months of this year the emigration from Germany totaled about 11,000, which was about four times as much as that of the corresponding months of 1922, and almost three times that of the last six months of 1922. Emigration at the present rate, however, offers no solution for the problem of over-population which Germany faces, a problem which is made more acute by the refugees from Russia and other European countries who have overrun the republic.

Stop! Coughs and Colds Prevent

Quick Relief with FOLEY'S HONEY AND TAR REFUSE SUBSTITUTES

SOLD EVERYWHERE

ELECTION DAY IN BULGARIA LIKE AMERICA

SOFIA, (AP)—The conduct of the elections in Bulgaria last month gave the day an atmosphere similar to that of an election day in America. The voting booths were in the public squares and as each voter presented himself he was obliged to show his registration card to the president of the voting precinct.

In the voting room the tickets of the various parties, of different color for each, were arranged on the table. The voter selected his ballot, placed it in a plain envelope and sealed it in a plain envelope and sealed it in a ballot box. No markings of any kind were permitted on ballots or envelopes, a single mark on either causing the ballot to be discarded when the count was over. During their work, the election boards were made

up of representatives of all parties and a policeman was stationed at each polling place to see that the law was observed. The decisions of the election board are subject to review in contested cases. This system is followed in the cities, but in the smaller and remote villages, owing to lack of organization the proceedings are not so highly perfected. However, the result of voters are well guarded.

New School Authorized. MAZARISHTA.—Sasha Bond decided to construct a new school building by a vote of 143 to 42, at an election held recently. The election placed \$50,000 at command of the school board and authorized it to select a site for the structure which will be built in 1924.

Elly-seven expressed a preference for a site on Phrygian avenue and it was voted for the central school site, where a unit system could be started.

"FOUND it!" said the man who asked for a "strong cigar and got a mild one. He didn't know a cigar could be as fragrant—and as mild—as this one.

Mild as a May Morning and as fragrant

MOZART CIGAR

La Grande, Oregon
LA GRANDE GROCERY CO.

Opening Sale

We are now open for business and will offer any article in our store at reduced prices for the next two days—Just Two Shopping Days before Christmas! We offer a few Gift Suggestions in our line: Pyrex Percolators, Silverware, Carving Sets, Pocket Knives, Razors, Flashlights and Sleds

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- Boys' Mitts
- Ladies' Street Gloves
- Ladies' Scotch Gauntlet Gloves
- Children's Scotch Yarn Gloves
- Men's Auto Gloves
- Men's Auto Mitts
- Men's Kid Gloves
- Men's Silk Gloves
- Men's Work Mitts
- Men's Work Lined Gloves
- Men's Scotch Yarn Gloves
- Men's Fur Lined Gloves
- Men's Fur Auto Gauntlets

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Lunch

45c - Saturday - 45c

SOUP
Puree of Celery Chicken Broth

SALAD
Pickled Beets

CHOICE
Boiled Pig Hocks and Spinach
Breaded Veal and Cream Sauce
Chicken Giblets Saute with Rice
Kidney Liver and Bacon Brochettes
Bell Fritters and Fruit Sauce
Roast Pork, Celery Dressing

DESSERT—Choice
Prune Whip - Ice Cream - Pie - Cake - Apple Custard
Jello, Whipped Cream - Plum Pudding
Tea Coffee Milk
10c Vegetables Ready to Serve
Baked Squash - Butter Beans - Creamed Carrots
Buttered Beets - Creamed Hominy

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