

Local News In Brief

Ask Number-Holders to Call—
Holders of numbers 15, 139, 750 and 759 are requested to call at Andrews Variety store.

Ill at Hospital—

Mrs. Jesse E. Stiles is quite seriously ill at the hospital following a major operation which she underwent recently.

Here from O. A. C.—

Leat Russell, a student at the Oregon Agricultural college, has returned to his home in La Grande to spend the Christmas holidays.

Santa Coming Christmas Night—

The Salvation Army Santa Claus will appear Tuesday night (Christmas night) at the Eagles hall. The program will begin at 7:30 o'clock in the evening. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Back on the Desk—

Dan Vanhaugen, the veteran hotel clerk, is at the Foley on night shift, giving forth his old-time smile.

Returns to Corvallis—

Waldo Stoddard, after spending a few days at his home in La Grande, returned to Corvallis last evening, where he will go on a tour with the basketball team of the O. A. C. through California.

Home for Holidays—

John Robinson of La Grande, returned from Eugene, where he is attending the University of Oregon, to spend the Christmas holidays at his home here.

Home from O. A. C.—

Omar and Lloyd Barnwell of La Grande, returned from Corvallis where they have been attending O. A. C. to spend Christmas.

Selling New Closed Top—

North McKennon, of Alsea, has contracted for Union and Wallawa counties and will handle the new Ever-Ready top which transforms an open Ford, Chevrolet or Dodge car into a well appointed sedan in five seconds. It is a slick rig in every way and Mr. McKennon intends to push the sale of the new appliance vigorously.

Visiting in La Grande—

Mrs. C. L. Utter and son, Ray, of Astoria, Oregon, and Mr. and Mrs. Letty Hull and children of Grinnery, Idaho, are visiting at the home of Mrs. C. E. Golden during the holiday season.

Two Lives Lost—

After a period of dormancy that has endured throughout December, with one exception, Dan Cupid emerged from his lair and launched forth arrows Saturday that struck their mark. A horse to wed was hauled from the county clerk's office Saturday to Arlin Ledbetter and Judith McDaniel of North Powder and another to E. Stoddard of Wallawa and Trena Selman of Louisiana.

Holidays at Union—

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hall of Salem, passed through La Grande yesterday on No. 23 bound for Union, where they will spend the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Hall. Mr. Hall is employed in the state department at St. Louis, Mo. Mr. Hall was formerly employed in La Grande being with the W. H. Behnenkamp company and Hills Department store. Mrs. Hall was formerly Lucille Pierce, of La Grande.

Life sometimes proves a series of disappointments, but few are worse than finding that the spare tire has no air in it.

SLUGS CLERK; ROBS STORE

(Continued from page 1)

The store he noticed a man on the sidewalk who remarked about wishing he were able to purchase some underwear stolen in the show windows. Mr. Watkins opened the store for him and wrapped up the purchase, whereupon the man gave him a \$20 bill.

Mr. Watkins, being unable to change the bill, went to the safe and opened it, securing the change and returning to the counter. While he was counting the change out the man hit him on the head with some blunt weapon knocking him unconscious. Mr. Watkins fell behind the counter striking his forehead on the counter as he fell, and did not regain consciousness until about 5:45 o'clock.

Took Only Currency
During the time Mr. Watkins was unconscious, the would be purchaser pilfered the safe of all the currency and some checks amounting to a total of \$1,000. Some silver money was untouched. Making his escape, the man left the underwear at the store.

As soon as he regained his senses Mr. Watkins notified the police who promptly arrived on the scene. The store was searched but no clues were found. A search of the city also failed to disclose any one that fitted with the description of the man with the exception of the fellow Chief Haynes arrested and later released.

EMPLOYEES GET XMAS PRESENT

(Continued from page 1)

vidual life insurance policy.

This form of insurance is practically new, having only been originated in the United States about a dozen years ago, and the Grande Lumber Company are the first in this locality to provide their employees under the Group plan. The amount of insurance granted is determined by the length of service and is as follows: To an employee who has been in the employ of the company three months, \$500; one year, \$750; two years, \$1,000; three years, \$1,250; four years, \$1,400; five years or over, \$1,500. At the present time there are approximately 125 workmen coming under the insurance coverage.

The Grande Lumber Company is the oldest lumber manufacturing company operating in Eastern Oregon, being organized in 1889, and is under the control and management of the Stoddards, and they are to be congratulated upon the interests shown to their employees.

ALL IS READY FOR YULETIDE

(Continued from page 1)

present 1500 boxes of candy, nuts and oranges to the community kids tomorrow and today they are delivering Christmas baskets to the needy.

Throughout the city a spirit of the Yuletide, personified by "peace on earth and good will to man," exists.

And the final touch, needed to make the Christmas perfect, came last evening when an inch of snow fell in the Grande Ronde valley.

Christmas services are being held at the Grande Ronde hospital this evening.

"We're not old," remarked the man on the car, "until stories of a radical change in the female waistline no longer interest us."

'SIX-CYLINDER LOVE' COMING

(Continued from page 1)

Announcement was made today by Meyer & Ford that the first dramatic production to play here this season will be "Six Cylinder Love." This play is being put on by the Percival Vivian Players and the cast is the same with one exception as the cast that played in the east for such a successful run. The play will be seen at the Arcade Theatre on Monday evening Jan. 7th.

"Six Cylinder Love" is a comedy type play and as the name might suggest has to do with an automobile and the joys and sorrows it brought to two families.

STANFORD NEARLY INTACT NEXT YEAR

(Continued from page 1)

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, Cal. (U.S.A.)—Coach Andy Kerr will turn over to Glenn Warner, when he comes to Stanford from Pittsburgh next year, all but four of the eleven which started against the California Bears in their last encounter. There are evenly distributed between the backfield and the line. Bob Craven and Dick Paville will be lost from the forward wall, while the secondary line will go Captain Scotchby Campbell and Norman Cleveland. Kerr has several first-rate substitutes with which to fill in these vacancies and will no doubt, with Warner, be able to find strong material from the membership of the freshman squad, which this year defeated the California first-year men by a 12 to 0 score—the first Stanford freshman victory since 1908.

Among the reserves of this year's squad Fred Ludeke and Fred Loomis, both tackles, will be missing next season. Both varsity tackles, Johnston and Shipley, however, will have another year.

LIVING COSTS HAVE INCREASED

NEW YORK (AP)—The cost of living increased 2.1 per cent between July 12 and November 15, 1923, according to a survey by the national industrial conference board, made public Sunday.

The average cost of food, sundries and rent increased during the 30 days ending November 15, while clothing, gas and electricity costs declined, the report stated. The survey disclosed also that the purchasing value of the dollar, based on the cost of living in November was 69.3 cents, as compared with one dollar in July, 1914.

The German Christmas festival actually begins on December 6, the eve of St. Nicholas day. It is then that German youngsters watch their "p's and q's" for retribution goes hand in hand with reward.

An impersonator of St. Nicholas makes the rounds and makes inquiries regarding the conduct of the youth during the preceding twelve months. We believe those who have chafed and rebelled under parental restraint, the "saint" leaves a bundle of switches for them instead of yuletide gifts.

Good German housewives toil for days in advance preparing decorations for the trees and making the gifts; baking, knitting, sewing and scrapping their handwork in gay-colored paper, with verses attached.

Even the cattle kneel and pray in Germany—but no one has ever heard the text of the bovine supplication—it would be a sin to eavesdrop, so no one listens.

In Lapland reindeer have a somewhat more prosaic task than they do in more southerly climes where their antlers consist of one night's work a year—and that spent in dashing gaily over sparkling, snow-covered slopes of good children, pausing here and there to toast themselves beside some warm chimneys. The Lapps drive their faithful reindeer teams across vast frozen stretches, hitched to a sleigh, in order that the family may attend the solemn church ceremonials in the distant village. There they listen attentively to the oft-repeated, monotonous repetition of how Jesus of Nazareth was born.

Glum Laplanders
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The children of the remainder of the Scandinavian Peninsula have a much merrier time than the Lapps. They have Christmas trees and receive gifts—the manner of delivering which is not unlike the American Easter egg hunt. The gifts are hidden away and the little ones permitted to seek them out. A custom that seems especially appropriate to Christmas time is the involuntary rule of Norwegian children to feed the wild birds with corn and oats, sprinkled on the snow or attached to high poles where the little feathered fellows may partake of the grain in safety and leisure.

The Swedish housewife is especially devoted to the theory that unless her home is spotless there can be no real Christmas. She spends weeks scouring and scrubbing so that there may be no speck of sinful dirt to violate the spirit of the yuletide. Home-made wines and cheeses also occupy much of her time just prior to the holiday season. As a matter of fact, plenty of work seems to be the Swedish housewife's portion in the Christmas festivities.

Fish for Christmas
Christmas fish is to Sweden what turkey is to America. Four days are celebrated in Sweden. Christmas itself is a day of quiet and prayer, but on the second day the real fun begins and continues until the end of the period. Gay parties, in long sleighs, ride to church to the accompaniment of jangling bells.

The goose is the "national bird" of Denmark at Christmastide. The "Christmas tree" remains standing for it is in the orchard. At an appointed hour the head of the house goes into the orchard with a stick and strikes the tree three times, speaking the words: "Rejoice and be fruitful." Virtually the whole of Denmark goes on holiday from Christmas to New Year. No one does any work that can be avoided.

Besides actually celebrating the birth of Christ, the Russians have a traditional fete in honor of the "Goddess of the Sun." In the old Russia this ceremonial was observed in most of the villages throughout the nation. With the advent of the present regime the tradition may have partly perished along with other customs of the church. The conventional Russian streeting of Christmas Day literally translated was "Greetings for the Lord's birth," to which the person addressed responded: "God be with you."

Quiet in France
In France the Christmas season probably is quieter than in any other country, although remnants of age-old tradition still endure among the peasant classes. It is chiefly a season in which the storekeepers gaily decorate their stalls and display their gift wares, while the old folks sit about and recite to the younger generation tales of other days. Christmas in Italy is primarily for the benefit of the children. The youngsters roam through the streets gaily singing and reciting bits of verses. In Spain it is a period of unrestrained hilarity and festivity.

In America Christmas seems to be a combination of many traditions handed down through the centuries from old world customs and covered with a purely American veneer.

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'YULETIDE' TRADITIONS DIFFERENT

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There is considerable difference, also, in the feasting, or lack of it, the gift-making, and the superstitions that charge the atmosphere at this time of the year with that vague indescribable element which we call "the Christmas spirit."

While Britain gorges itself on plum pudding that wouldn't float in a mercury bath, and America devours flocks of turkeys and mountains of dressing, Sweden kneels in deepest humility and the Lapps bow mock heads in solemn homage.

While little children in Italy through the streets reciting Godly verses, the Russians chant the myths of the Goddess of the Sun, and most anything might happen in New York—from special theatrical attractions to Bachanalian revels that seem never to have heard of Mr. Volstead nor the Eighteenth Amendment.

"Lamb's Wool"
As inevitable as England's plum pudding, famed for its specific gravity, is Ireland's "Lamb's Wool," a drink made by blending roasted apples and mixing them with ale or milk. Long draughts of this concoction usually are served with liberal slices of English plum pudding, for Ireland is addicted to the dish also.

In England, and in fact through the British Isles, the groaning bear and the brimming bowl are the chief characteristics of Christmas celebrations. And if mirth and jollity may be measured by one's physical fullness there can be no doubt of the applicability of "Merrie England" during the yuletide.

There are no distant echoes of century on century of Christmas tradition in Germany, yet deeply that country's present unhappy economic plight, it is safe to assume that the Christmas spirit will roll like a tidal wave over the land—even this year—and banish for the moment the cares and sorrows of the saddest period in German annals.

Normally there are no merrier yuletides than those of Germany. A week before Christmas the Germans bring into the towns, and sties flocks of pines and hemlocks until the communities are veritable forests of evergreens. Each family must have at least two trees, and if a family is too poor for his neighbor usually comes to the rescue and provides a tree or two.

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