

A Merry Christmas

Hunt's Daily Letter

(By Harry R. Hunt)

WASHINGTON, (NEA Specialty) — The cost of courting isn't so high in love as it is in politics. Despite current rates on candy, flowers and theater tickets, the tax on ambitious young suitors is nowhere comparable to the outlay that must be made by the ambitious "old boys" anxious to make a hit in the courts of Europe.

It costs, approximately \$100.00 a year for an American to qualify to the title, "Former ambassador to the court of St. James," for instance. The title, "Former ambassador to France" costs almost as much.

In a nutshell this is the reason the tenure of our "diplomatic representatives" in the major capitals abroad is comparatively short. George Harvey had enough of it in London after a little over two years.

Frank Kellogg, former senator and "trust-buster" from Minnesota, is reported as desirous of getting out from under the expense, although he has not yet served a year.

Norton T. Herrick, Cleveland multi-millionaire, to whom the cost of being ambassador is no financial hardship, is the only ambassador to any of the major courts of Europe in recent years who has been able or has cared to hold his post for any extended term.

Financial independence is, therefore, a determining factor in the selection of ambassadors. And it is one of the qualifications that has brought the suggestion of McMillin McCormick, James-duck senator from Illinois, as a possible successor at the court of St. James.

McCormick, slender, rather lanky, sandy-haired scion of the immensely wealthy McCormick and McKendall families of Chicago, is financially able to pay the cost of admission to the super-diplomatic set.

His wife, too, formerly Ruth Hanna, daughter of Mark Hanna of Cleveland, who built up a fortune of millions as an iron ore and shipping magnate before becoming Chicago's political boss and United States senator, would be qualified by experience and training to uphold the social essentials of the post.

In a way an ambassadorship for McCormick seems to be "in the air."

(Continued on Page 6.)

ISLAND CITY BRIDGE DONE

When Henry Davis, county bridge man, drove the last rivet in the new bridge east of Island City a few days ago and then ordered the structure painted, he had completed the task of making a new bridge from an old one. The structure was taken from Black Flat up toward Hillgard when the highway construction put in new bridges and released the old bridge. It is a good steel bridge and Judge Couch and Henry Davis figured out that its usefulness on the lower river was of sufficient importance to justify moving the structure.

With orders to that effect Henry Davis, who is a bridge man in every sense, dismantled the bridge piled the steel on trucks and crested it in its present location.

Wallowa Grange Elects Officers For New Year

WALLOWA, Ore., (Special) — Wallowa grange No. 502 held a very successful meeting here Saturday, December 20th, with about twenty members of the organization.

The men of the grange were on hand at the noon hour with their food.

A business meeting was held during the afternoon, with C. F. Davies acting as Master. Officers for the coming year were elected, from nominations made at a previous meeting.

New Officers.

The newly elected officers are as follows: G. L. Martin, Master; James H. Leonard, Overseer; S. T. Ballie, Lecturer; Elva Reed, Steward; A. W. Johnson, Assistant Steward; Rev. George H. Freeman, Chaplain; C. H. Thorge, Treasurer.

OLD FASHIONED XMAS IS WEATHER MAN'S VERDICT

Oregon and Washington Facing Regular "Down East" Setting for Tomorrow; Roseburg 4 Below, Pendleton 19 Below, La Grande 9 Below.

La Grande—Coldest during night, 9 degrees below zero. La Grande—8:30 a. m., 7 degrees below zero. La Grande—1:30 p. m., 11 degrees above zero. Pendleton—Coldest during night, 19 degrees below zero. Baker—Coldest during night, 14 degrees below zero. Meacham—Coldest during night, 26 degrees below zero. Enterprise—Coldest during night, 23 degrees below zero.

The coldest weather here since the cold wave of last week moderated occurred last night when the thermometer at the fire station fell to a minimum of 9 degrees below zero. This morning at 8:30 o'clock the mercury had climbed two degrees.

Thermometers in other portions of the city registered different marks, some a degree or two colder and others a like measure warmer.

Indications are that Christmas here will be the coldest in many years. No immediate relief is promised by the weather bureau, which promises continued cold tonight and Thursday.

ALL OREGON SHIVERS

PORTLAND, Ore., (By the Associated Press) — Oregon and Washington today anticipated an old-fashioned down east Christmas, with snow and blizzards because the weather man has promised no relief from the cold wave. No mild Chinook wind is in sight to spoil the traditional setting, he said.

Enterprise 12 Below.

Enterprise reported four degrees below this morning which is the coldest that has been recorded there this year. Roseburg reported 12 above.

Eastern Oregon continued in the grip of the cold spell.

Pendleton Very Cold.

Baker reported 14 degrees below today, Unatilla 18 below and Pendleton 19 below, a record mark for Pendleton for years.

21 Below at Elgin.

ELGIN, Ore., (Special to the Observer) — The mercury dropped to 21 degrees below zero last night.

Enterprise is Cold.

ENTERPRISE, Ore., (Special to the Observer) — Thermometers here last night registered from 22 to 23 degrees below zero in the second stage of a cold wave that made its appearance the first of last week.

Union 14 Below Zero.

UNION, Ore., (Special to the Observer) — The thermometer at the East Oregon Experimental Station in west Union dropped to 14 degrees below zero during the night.

Coldest at Meacham.

Reports received in La Grande today from Meacham were that the thermometer fell during the night there to 26 degrees below zero, the coldest reported today in Oregon.

AIMED AT PAPERS

WASHINGTON, (AP) — The charge that the postoffice department's cost assessment report was especially aimed at newspapers and periodicals was made today before the subcommittee by President Baldwin, of the National Publishers Association.

HOTEL HELD UP

CHICAGO, (AP) — Two youthful robbers held up employees and guests of the Parkway Hotel today and rifled safety boxes in the safe of more than 100,000.

Burns Prove Fatal To Mrs Mary Knapp

Burns incurred last Tuesday night proved fatal Tuesday when life ebbed and departed from the body of Mrs. Mary Knapp, aged 67 years, mother of Horace Knapp, city water superintendent. Mrs. Knapp is a Grande Ronde Valley pioneer.

She passed away at her home at 803 C Avenue, where she was burned a week ago, about ten o'clock in the evening. Physicians, last week believed that she would have no great difficulty in surviving the burns but during the past few days her condition has not improved.

Tuesday night, at about ten o'clock, Mrs. Knapp was warming herself by a hot stove, preparatory to retiring, when her clothing caught fire. She rushed outside and rolled in a snowdrift, in an attempt to extinguish the blaze. Neighbors came to her rescue and finally the flames were put out. She was burned seriously about the back.

Funeral arrangements have not yet been made. The body is at the Shodgrass & Zimmerman chapel.

ROBBERS LOOT ENTIRE TOWN

PORT WORTH, Texas, (By the Associated Press) — The bank and practically every store in Paradise, who county, was robbed last night according to word received here today.

The robbers are believed to be those who sacked and burned Valley View last week.

The amount of money stolen is not determined.

Judge Reversed by State Supreme Court

RALEIGH, Ore., (By the Associated Press) — The state supreme court reversed Judge J. W. Knowlton and remanded for another trial the case of the La Grande Iron Works against Neal & Gaskill, defendants, and the Security Construction company and others, appellants, in a suit to recover for labor and materials.

SUNNY JIM WINNELL

PORTLAND, Ore., (AP) — Sunny Jim, Oakland negro middleweight, won a ten round decision from Frankie Murphy, of Seattle, here last night.

Eddie Robinson, Portland lightweight, won a like decision from Lincwood McDonald, of Portland.

A Christmas Story

(By Albert Apple)

A phantom man from Mars, exploring in an airplane, visited our earth. He landed at night in a clearing at the center of a forest. Leaving his plane, he set forth to a great city, and mingled for days among the people.

Now, this man from Mars had a magical power of making himself invisible. So no one saw him.

Returning to Mars, he reported: "The earth people impressed me as selfish, self-centered. It's every man for himself. They scheme against each other and are guilty of meanness, even crimes. In a struggle to get more wealth than they need. Life on earth is a hard fight, wearisome, disappointing. The earthlings are not yet sufficiently civilized to realize that they would all be richer and happier by co-operating — by helping instead of opposing each other. The result is that in a world of plenty there are millions of unfortunate who have only the bare necessities of life. Envy and jealousies are rife. It must be a wretched place to live."

The Martians sent their phantom explorer back to earth. He arrived on Christmas Eve, spent a few days and returned home amazed. This time he reported:

"The earthlings have a most extraordinary festival known as Christmas. On this day, every one is generous, kind, happy. It is the only day in the year when the goal of the earthlings is to give instead of to get. With thrills of pleasure they bestow gifts on their loved ones. They seek out the poor and help them liberally. All peace, happiness, good fellowship."

The phantom explorer paused and eyed his bewildered listeners.

"The remarkable part of Christmas on earth," said he, "is that the earthlings realize Christmas is the happiest day of the year by reason of this Christmas spirit. It seems not to occur to them that all other days could be as happy if the Christmas spirit were in force all the time instead of just one day a year. Perhaps later when they see the light, every day will be like Christmas. True happiness is in unselfishness, liberality and helping others."

Albanian Troops Gain Victory Over Rebels

SOFIA, (By the Associated Press) — A statement issued by the Albanian consulate here alleged that the Albanian government troops are retaking Krouma in the Kosovo district from the insurgents and have captured detachments of Serbian troops with field and machine guns from the Serbian arsenal.

Making A Merry Christmas

Tomorrow all over the world, wherever the printed word is read and heeded, advertising helps make a Merry Christmas.

A few generations ago the Holiday season was happy—but happy only with home-made gifts, home-made candy, and home-made delicacies. Tomorrow you will give and receive gifts gathered from all corners of the world, you will experience comfort and joys unknown a century ago—all made possible because of advertising.

"Observer Advertising—A Merchandising Service"

GREETINGS GIVEN TO DISABLED

Coolidge Praises Veterans Who Made Sacrifices for Nation

SIGNS PENSION MEASURE TODAY

Bill Grants Compensation to a Number of Individuals Who Have Served Old Glory.

WASHINGTON, (By the Associated Press) — Among the first Christmas Greetings from official Washington today were those of President Coolidge to "men whose disabilities tell most eloquently of their sacrifices in the armed forces of the nation."

The president sent the message through disabled American veterans and it was broadcast to the army and navy by Secretaries Weeks and Wilbur.

"These valor, which aroused the world's admiration during hostilities," Coolidge said of the disabled veterans, "has since engaged our continuing respect because of their courageous fight to heal the wounds of the war."

CREWS RETURNS FROM VISIT TO WEST OREGON

W. C. Crews, who is to succeed Frank Hayes as city manager after the first of the year, and Mrs. Crews, returned yesterday from a tour of Oregon which was made in order to inspect various styles of city government in actual operation.

Mr. Crews' itinerary included most of the western Oregon cities and much valuable data on municipal government was collected on the trip.

SALVATION ARMY DELIVERS FOOD TO 42 FAMILIES

The Salvation Army sent out boxes of food for the Christmas holidays to forty-two needy families this morning. Each box contains potatoes, apples, cornflakes, oatmeal, coffee, sugar, one can of fruit, a chicken, one pound of butter, one can of peas, one can of corn, one of tomatoes, cranberries, milk, jelly and a loaf of bread. Along with each box is a copy of the Christmas War Cry.

Edith Must Pay 3,660 Francs for Stockings

PARIS, (By the Associated Press) — Edith Kelly Gould must pay for 48 pairs of silk stockings she bought in October, 1918, a French court decided today in ordering her pay a bill of 3,660 francs for which a Paris merchant sued her.

The court assured her the rate was decidedly cheaper than that prevailing today.

William H. Anderson Is Arrested on 2 Counts

OSHING, N. Y., (By the Associated Press) — Released from Sing Sing on parole today after serving nine months for third degree forgery William H. Anderson, former state superintendent of the Anti-Slavery League, was immediately arrested on indictments charging grand larceny and extortion.

He was immediately taken to New York where he will be arraigned and his bail fixed.

DISCUSSION REFUSED

MINNEAPOLIS, (AP) — The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers notified the Northern Pacific railroad today that the membership would not accept the United States Labor Board's decision granting a five per cent pay increase to all engineers and granting certain concessions to railways.

Old Santa Himself!



NORTH POLE, Arctic Circle (Special to Observer). — Santa Claus is nearly ready for his Christmas trip at which time he expects to visit every place on the face of the globe. It is reported that La Grande, Oregon, will be one of the first places he will stop at. He asks that the children not wait up for him, however. Above is the latest picture of Santa Claus, taken by an NEA staff photographer for the Evening Observer.

PLANE FALLS; EIGHT KILLED

CROYDON, England, (By the Associated Press) — Eight persons were killed here today when the Imperial Airways' express plane DH-34 crashed soon after hopping off for Paris.

The plane had hardly started when it went into a nose dive and then burst in flames. The accident resulted in the death of the pilot and all seven passengers. Two of the passengers were women.

EVACUATION IMPOSSIBLE

PARIS, (AP) — Evacuation of the "Colonne" area January 10th, in keeping with the Versailles treaty, is deemed impossible by the French cabinet in view of reports from the International Military Control Commission. The decision is based on the commission's report setting forth the failure in some respects by Germany to comply with the disarmament condition.

SOVIET CHURCH FAILS

NEW YORK, (AP) — An attempt of the Soviet Church of Russia to take over control of the Russian Orthodox church and its properties here failed today when the state supreme court upheld the claim of Metropolitan Platon Rostovsky to leadership of the Russian-Greek Catholic Church in North America and the Aleutian Islands.

Crossword Puzzle Answer

TSARD, GALA
ASOT, PINE
MELWAGON, TO
EANGIAD, RUM
TAP, S, NAG
ISEN, EAT
TAN, V, BIL
BEL, SIR, OIL
AN, NAMES, LA
S, SOD, DAM, M
THOR, DABE

HIGHT, MRS. SWEETIN TO GO TO "PEN"

Jury Returns Unanimous Verdict of Guilty for Both Defendants

LIFE SENTENCE IS GIVEN EX-PASTOR

Woman to Be Incarcerated for 35 Years; Attorneys Give Notice of a New Trial Request.

MOUNT VERNON, Ill., (By the Associated Press) — The jury trying Lawrence M. Hight and Mrs. Elsie Sweetin for poison murder of her husband today returned a verdict of guilty.

Hight was given a life sentence and Mrs. Sweetin 35 years imprisonment.

The defendants received the verdict calmly. Attorneys for both gave formal notice that they would ask for a new trial.

Compromise.

The jurors stated after the verdict was delivered that the jury had been unanimous for finding both defendants guilty from the first ballot, but that there had been a wide difference as to the degree of punishment to be inflicted upon Mrs. Sweetin. The sentence given her, jurors said, represented a compromise.

No juror voted for a death sentence for Mrs. Sweetin and but two favored the death penalty for Hight.

ST. PETER'S TO HAVE CAROLS

Starting actual Christmas festivities this afternoon at 4:30 o'clock with a Christmas entertainment by the Sunday school pupils of St. Peter's church, continuation of the program will be extended into the night service, for at 10:30 o'clock Christmas carols will be sung by the choir for one hour after which the Choral Communion will occur and this will last until midnight.

This is probably the first time in the history of St. Peter's church in La Grande that a complete Christmas has been undertaken following in detail the time honored custom of the Church of England and the Episcopal church of America.

Preparation has been under way for some time for this occasion. Kathleen Campbell, choir director and soloist for St. Peter's, will sing several solo numbers and the choir of the church has a remarkable program for the Carol hour. The Choral Communion is a communion service of the church with musical setting and this will last until after midnight.

Century Old Oregon Pioneer Lady Is Dead

ALBANY, Ore., (By the Associated Press) — Mrs. Sarah J. Helmick, 100 years of age, an Oregon pioneer died at her home here last night. Mrs. Helmick had been ill for several days.

She deceased had figured prominently in the advancement of

23rd Holy Year Opens With Ceremony Today

ROME, (By the Associated Press) — Pope Pius XI, surrounded by the splendor of medieval pageantry customary for such occasions, today proclaimed from the Vatican the twenty-third Holy Year in the history of the Papacy and performed the pictures, the ceremony of knocking down the Holy Door of the basilica of St. Peter with the symbolic solid gold hammer.

(Continued on Page 5.)