

GLAD SPIRIT OF YULETIDE THRILLS CITY

Only One More Day For
Eager Kiddies Before
Santa's Arrival.

PROGRAMS, MUSIC FILL THIS WEEK

Elks Prepare For Annual
Christmas Party—City
Firemen Distribute Toys
to Needy.

Only one more day, during which the children will continue to maintain an unusual air of propriety, and then Santa Claus will come the stockings at the chimney with toys which have been peeping out of gaily decorated store windows during the past two or three weeks. This December finds the Christmas spirit prevailing in the air as holly wreaths are placed in the front windows, Christmas trees are decorated, and Christmas visitors arrive.

A benevolent Christmas will be observed in 1931 in La Grande. For some time the Elks tree has stood at the intersection of Depot and Washington, its multi-colored lights shining, filling the hearts of all La Grande's kiddies with happiness. But the real treat will be held Christmas morning at 10:45 when candy and nuts will be distributed by the lodge at the tree. Herbert Browning is chairman of the Christmas committee, and other Elks assisting him are Robert Carey, Roy Farnam, Jesse V. Andrews and R. E. Williamson. Through co-operation with County Judge U. C. Couch, the Elks have obtained the names of several families who are in unfortunate circumstances and will distribute baskets of provisions to them today and tomorrow.

Distributing Toys.
The fire station has resembled a veritable toy shop during the past several weeks, with every fireman working, rejuvenating old toys, which now look like new. Over 300 toys have been distributed, which is more than one-half of the total.

ED BARTLETT PASSES AWAY IN COLTON, CAL.

Ed W. Bartlett, former prominent attorney of La Grande, died early this week at his home at Colton, Cal., according to a message received Tuesday by the B. P. O. Elks lodge. Mr. Bartlett was the first, exalted ruler of the lodge here and his name headed the group of men who signed the charter.

Funeral services were to be held at Colton this afternoon. Mr. Bartlett, who also was land office registrar here for a few years, left La Grande about 25 years ago. He leaves his widow, Mrs. Jess Bartlett, who is a sister of L. L. Snodgrass, of La Grande, and two children, Kenneth, of San Francisco, and Mrs. Robert Smith, of Colton. Mr. Bartlett was born Dec. 21, 1863 and died on his 68th birthday anniversary. He came to La Grande about 1890 with his father from Eau Claire, Wis. The elder Mr. Bartlett was one of the large stockholders in lumber interests at Perry.

During the McKinley campaign of 1900, Mr. Bartlett was president of the La Grande Republican club. At one time he was a member of the city council here and also was a member of the famous La Grande fire department hose team.

Mr. Bartlett's son, Kenneth, was a prominent athlete at the University of Oregon several years ago.

Basketball Games Scheduled Tonight

Two basketball games are to be played tonight in which La Grande teams will take part.

While the La Grande High school Tigers are winding up their pre-Christmas season at Imbler High, the Jack Allen Owls will meet the Pendleton Wizards at the L. D. S. Recreational hall at 8 o'clock.

WEATHER FORECAST
Oregon: Unsettled with rain in the west and light rain and snow in the east portion tonight and Thursday; moderate temperature; southerly gales offshore.

WEATHER TODAY
7:30 a. m.—30 above.
Minimum: 30 above.
Condition: Partly cloudy.

WEATHER YESTERDAY
Maximum 41, minimum 32 above.
Condition: Cloudy, precipitation .01 of inch, traces of snow. Range—nine degrees.

WEATHER DEC. 23, 1930
Maximum 23, minimum 19 above.
Condition: Cloudy, traces of snow. Range—nine degrees.

Spokane Man Is Hurt Seriously In Accident Here

Clyde E. Knouf, Hit By
Truck Driven By K. G.
Bentley, of Freewater,
Unconscious Today.

Clyde E. Knouf, elderly Spokane, Wash., man, was dangerously injured here late last night when he was hit by a vegetable truck driven by K. G. Bentley, of Freewater, Ore. The accident occurred at 11:05 o'clock on Adams avenue near the intersection of Chestnut street. According to reports, Mr. Knouf started to cross the street, saw the approaching truck, and then started back, the automobile striking him and hurling him about 50 feet. He was knocked unconscious by the impact and had not regained consciousness today. His right leg was broken between the knee and hip, most of the ribs on the right side were fractured and he is suffering from concussion of the brain. There is a possibility that his skull is fractured, but because of rib injuries that made it impossible for him to breathe lying down, the extent of his head injury could not be learned as yet. He was practically pulseless for about 40 minutes during the night but was a little better this morning. There is also a possibility that his right lung is punctured. Physicians did not expect to attempt to set his leg for several days, until the shock of the accident has worn off. No visitors are allowed to see him.

Mr. Knouf is at the Grande Ronde hospital, where he was taken immediately after the accident by Deputy Coroner L. L. Snodgrass.

Mr. Bentley, who is about 30 years of age, is under technical arrest.

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Pageant Will Be Given Tomorrow At Local Church

"A Pageant of Bethlehem" in five scenes will be presented at the Christmas program at the Methodist church, Spokane, tomorrow evening at 7:30. Eighteen characters, accompanied by the chorus and a soloist, under the direction of Mrs. A. J. Starnes, will appear in the pageant which relates the Christmas story.

The cast includes: Anna, the prophetess, Mrs. Ruth Elam; the king, Dennis Elam; the queen, Ruby Hunsinger; slave, Helen Sanders; priest, Mr. Dickerson; innkeeper, Rev. A. J. Starnes; wise men, William Elam, Charles Graham, Wyatt Starnes; shepherds, Billy Neff, Milton Daugherty, Wendell Rasmussen, Adrian Halley; Mary, Velma Winburn; Joseph, Dennis Elam; angels, Marian Webb, Eva Daugherty and Audna Winburn.

Mrs. Hazel Starnes will furnish the solo numbers.

"There's a Song in the Air," an opening song by the congregation. Song by the primary and junior departments.

Scripture lesson and prayer, Rev. Starnes.

Song, by primary and juniors.

Instrumental solo, by Mrs. Eula Webb.

"Pageant of Bethlehem."

Rev. and Mrs. Starnes welcome the public to the production.

Walter Pierce May Make Race For House Seat

Belief that former Governor Walter M. Pierce, of La Grande, will seek the Democratic nomination next spring for a seat in the United States congress from the second congressional district, exists over the state today. It is expected that Mr. Pierce will make the formal announcement on Jan. 8 at the annual Jackson day dinner.

First intimation that he might start a political campaign designed to place him in Congressman Robert R. Butler's seat in the house came late yesterday in Portland. Mr. Pierce was in the Rose City for a brief stop after taking a load of cattle to market from his ranch near this city.

Most of Nation To Get Green Yuletide

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP)—It will be a green Christmas east of the Mississippi.

He Won't Be Disappointed!



This photograph, that of a poor child hanging his stocking up on Christmas eve, is representative of scores of little children in this county.

And he WON'T be disappointed! There is a Santa Claus, this year the same as any other, and he is benevolent Kris Kringle, as down through the ages. Where he is unable to function, kindly humanity takes up the task, and in La Grande members of the fire department are now engaged in delivering hundreds of toys and dolls to boys and girls over the community who might otherwise receive no presents.

And Christmas day, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks will hold their annual Santa Claus party, with gifts for every child in the community who attends the celebration at the large fir tree at Depot and Washington.

Besides these two organized community efforts, there are many others directing their attention at present to seeing that needy children are not missed on Christmas day.

There is reason to believe, welfare workers declare, that no child in all La Grande will be missed by Santa Claus and his helpers this Yuletide season!

Police Search For Slayer of Marian McLean

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 23 (AP)—William Hornsby who disappeared today from his home near here where the mutilated body of six-year-old Marian McLean was found yesterday, returned today.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 23 (AP)—As police intensified their search today for the slayer of the six-year-old Marian McLean, the disappearance of another child was reported.

William Hornsby, 11, was said by his father to have been missing since noon yesterday. The boy lived a half square from the tenement where Marian's mutilated body was found yesterday.

Police learned the boy had disappeared three other times during the last year.

The missing boy has a habit of staying away from home for several days at a time, his father said.

At the same time the Hamilton county grand jury returned a first degree murder indictment against the unnamed slayer of the McLean child.

Indictment was returned solely to speed bringing the girl's slayer to his fate, should he be found. It charged murder in commission of criminal attack, and murder alone, both offenses bearing death or life imprisonment as penalties.

Meanwhile police questioned three men.

One of them is Charles Blachoff, 45, shoemaker who found the girl's body in his cellar. Another is James Delaney, 40, his brother-in-law, who lives at the address from which the Hornsby boy disappeared. A third is Dennis Delaney, 44, accused heretofore of molesting young girls.

Crippled Woman Loses Spectacles

Lost: A pair of glasses with bone frames in a small eating place in La Grande. Mrs. B. E. Ryan, 1619 Fremont street, writes from Portland, Ore., that she lost her glasses, which she lost on Dec. 9 about 8 o'clock in the evening when she, her son and her daughter stopped at a small place to get a cup of hot coffee, on their way to Portland.

Mrs. Ryan was crippled, she states, and used crutches. She removed her glasses and laid them on the counter, and when she was ready to quit the place she left them lying on the counter. "I am too poor to buy another pair, and thought perhaps you could help me locate them as I need them very much," she added.

Since she was a stranger in town she did not notice the name of the restaurant.

If the glasses are found and turned over to the Observer they will be sent to Mrs. Ryan immediately.

Chick Meehan To Coach Manhattan

NEW YORK, Dec. 23 (AP)—John F. (Chick) Meehan, who recently resigned as head coach of football at New York university, today was appointed director of physical education and head football coach at Manhattan college, a Jesuit institution in the upper Bronx.

Meehan succeeds John Law, Notre Dame captain in 1929, who announced that he was not returning as coach. He had been there two years.

Travel Hazardous Along the Columbia

THE DALLES, Ore., Dec. 23 (AP)—Mist freezing on highway surfaces in the mid-Columbia country today made travel hazardous. A heavily loaded truck and trailer skidded across the sidewalk on a curve at the west edge of the city today, uprooting two large shade trees on the parking strip.

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 23 (AP)—It has been raining in the Olympic mountains. The fall at Lake Cushman on Hood Canal was 17 inches in the last five days and 6.09 inches in one day, according to records kept by employees of the city's Cushman power plant. As a result of the deluge Lake Cushman is within 24 feet of the top of the Cushman dam.

Exchange to Close Chicago Stock Exchange

CHICAGO, Dec. 23 (AP)—The Chicago stock exchange, the board of trade, the curb exchange and the live stock exchange will all be closed Saturday, Dec. 26, for a three-day Christmas holiday. The Chicago mercantile exchange will open for business as usual Saturday.

WITHEYCOMBE DEAD TODAY IN PORTLAND

Superintendent of East
Ore. Experiment Farm
Succumbs Tuesday.

WORK AT UNION VERY VALUABLE

Mr. Withycombe, Son of
Late Governor, Developed
Beardless Barley of
Superior Yield.

By Mrs. L. Z. Terrill
(Observer Correspondent)

UNION, Ore., Dec. 23 (Special)—Funeral services for Robert Withycombe will be held at 1:30 o'clock tomorrow at Salem.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hutchinson and Mrs. Withycombe left here Tuesday for Portland after learning of his death. His wife had returned home last week after being with him for several days.

UNION, Ore., Dec. 23 (Special)—A message came from Portland about 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon telling of the death of Robert Withycombe, superintendent of the Eastern Oregon experiment station. With his passing, Union and Eastern Oregon has lost one of its most progressive citizens. It might be said that he gave his life for the advancement of farm science.

Mr. Withycombe was a native of Oregon and had spent most of his life here. He was a member of the Oregon Experiment Station when his health and strength had both failed. He and

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RACKETEERING IS FATAL TO EX-CHICAGOAN

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 23 (AP)—Attempts to "organize" liquor running and cleaning and dyeing operations in Los Angeles cost Marvin Hart, one-time Chicago gangster, his life, police said today as they investigated his slaying.

Hart was ambushed last night in the driveway of his Wilshire district home, gunfire blazing from a high hedge that bordered his residence. Two bullets, evidently fired from a pistol, struck him in the head.

Two police officers, T. K. Perry and W. C. Grasmere, patrolling in a police car, heard the shots and gave chase to an automobile which pulled away from in front of the Hart residence. Several shots were exchanged in the chase, which ended nearly a mile distant from the Hart home, when the police car skidded on the streets damped by rain, and turned around.

Five persons were killed last night when Southern Pacific train No. 71 struck an automobile broadside at the First avenue grade crossing here, smashing the car to bits, and carrying it more than 100 feet before the train could be brought to a stop.

Victor Gonzales, 40, Pacific Gas & Electric company employee, San Mateo, Mrs. Juila Gonzales, 35, his wife, Ramona Gonzales, 12, their daughter.

George Gonzales, 9, their son, Mrs. Annie Bruzzo, San Mateo, a friend of the Gonzales.

Gonzales, who was believed to be the driver of the car, drove onto the tracks apparently oblivious of the

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REV. LEE, OF UNION, SPEAKS AT LUNCHEON

Rev. R. C. Lee, pastor of the First Methodist church at Union, was the speaker at today's Rotary club luncheon at the La Grande hotel, with the program devoted to an observance of the Christmas season. Mr. Lee gave a very inspirational message on the meaning of Merry Christmas.

W. W. Nussbaum was present with Patricia Longfellow, Mary Jane Hessler, Frances Clark and Dickie Moore and this quartet sang three Christmas songs: "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear," "Little Town of Bethlehem" and "Silent Night, Holy Night." Mr. Nussbaum played the accompaniment.

Oregon National Guard Turns Down Locomotive As Christmas Present

SALEM, Dec. 23 (AP)—The Oregon national guard axwote today to find a 90-ton steam locomotive in this Christmas stocking. Santa, in this case, appeared in the form of an official communication from the war department announcing the existence of this mighty monarch of the rails and offering it to the Oregon army.

The communication stated further that the locomotive was from surplus war stocks and the only string tied to the offer was that the Oregon national guard was to pay for the packing and transportation charges.

Major General George A. White, commander of the national guard in Oregon and the northwest, was puzzled. Being a cavalry officer, a horse without a saddle would present no problem and it was intimated that in the early days of the automobile, when punctures were frequent, that he could and did operate an auto without tires—but a railroad without rails? Alas, that was different. He consulted with his assistant, Brigadier General Thomas Rilea, and they both consulted with the quartermaster, Lieut. Colonel Joseph Schur.

"Just how," the started quartermaster was asked, "does one wrap a locomotive for shipment and how many would the transportation charges be?" The quartermaster detectedly admitted that he had never personally wrapped a steam engine for shipment and did not know

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CONGRESS ON VACATION OF TWELVE DAYS

Leaders Well Pleased With
Progress Made By
By Their Forces.

DOMESTIC ECONOMY BILLS LOOM NEXT

Election of President Pro
Tem of Senate Only
Organization Work Left
Undone.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP)—The threat of Japanese action against Chinchow appeared to have been dispelled today with the receipt of press reports that the majority of Japanese troops had returned to the South Manchuria railway zone after three days of operations against bandits.

Nevertheless the cabinet approved sending the aircraft carrier Notoro and the cruiser Izumo to Port Arthur to stand by in case of emergency. They will leave Sasebo tomorrow.

ARMORED TRAINS CLASH
TIENSIN, China, Dec. 23 (AP)—A message received by Chinese railway authorities here today said a Japanese armored train attacked a Chinese armored train this morning between Yinkow and the next station to it. The fighting was still continuing, it said, and a Japanese cavalry regiment also was attacking the Chinese train from the rear.

Yinkow is better known as Newchang. It is about 150 miles around the gulf of Liatung from Chinchow, which lies to the west and is connected with Newchang by railway. Mukden is about 75 miles due north of Newchang.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP)—Fifteen days the new congress has labored and the leaders are well pleased with the progress their forces have made.

Today the members began a 12-day vacation, a lull preceding the really serious grind on important legislation which will occupy them until next June. They have successfully negotiated the first hurdle, the intergovernment moratorium when opposition was mostly vocal. They face now the long road of

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FIVE KILLED AT GRADE CROSSING

S. P. Train Strikes Auto
At San Mateo—Driver
Fails to See Train.

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Hold Suspects In Gang Murder Case

BOSTON, Dec. 23 (AP)—Police today held two suspects in connection with the slaying of Frankie Wallace and his gun-toting pal, Bernard "Dodo" Walsh.

Timothy J. Coffey of South Boston and Antonio Paul of the north end, were questioned by the police through the night and ordered held. Joe Lombardi, proprietor of the Hanover street office in which the shooting took place, was the object of a widespread search.

Shopping Day Till Christmas

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Japanese Action In Chinchow Is Not Likely Now

Threat Appears to Have
Been Dispelled, Press
Reports to Tokyo Today
Indicate.

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Alleged Slayer Of Patrolman At Ashland Is Held

DENVER, Colo., Dec. 23 (AP)—A trail which had led throughout the west and into Canada, ended at Longmont, near here, last night when police arrested Albert W. Reed, the alleged slayer of Patrolman Victor Knott at Ashland, Ore.

Reed, who was linked with the slaying through an automobile he bought in Colorado Springs, Colo., denied taking part in the killing of the patrolman and announced he would waive extradition.

Police said they were still searching for Reed's two wounded companions, Paul McQuade and Lee Jackson, who are said by Oregon police to have taken part in the killing.

Reed, in conversation with Detective Sergeant Roy Mack last night, said he parked his car in Medford, Ore., and that McQuade and Jackson had stolen it and used it the night Knott was slain.

The car was later found wrecked near Medford.

Reed said he walked to Ashland from Medford and learned that the car had been found. He then went to Portland and from there to Canada, he said. Later he visited Montana, Utah, Arizona and Texas before returning to Denver.

Police said they learned of his arrival in Colorado from a brother whose name they refused to divulge.

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Gonzales, who was believed to be the driver of the car, drove onto the tracks apparently oblivious of the

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Sentence Parents On Cruelty Charge

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP)—Mr. and Mrs. Harry N. Riley were sentenced to two years imprisonment and fined \$250 today for cruelty to their 12-year-old child, Edith.

Justice F. D. Lets imposed the maximum penalty after describing the evidence in the case as "revolting to the common sense of justice."

The Riley family was found guilty last Thursday of treating their child cruelly over a period of years. It was testified they kept her in a dark closet for four years and otherwise mistreated her.

Black Sea Storm Is Fatal to Ten

ISTANBUL, Dec. 23 (AP)—Ten members of the passenger list and crew of a Turkish boat were drowned today in a heavy blizzard which struck the Black sea and the Sea of Marmora. The boat, which was bringing passengers from Black sea ports to Istanbul, was keeled over and sunk. A Greek ship grounded near Smyrna, but can be saved, it was said.

Bull Kills Farmer In Grim Battle

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, Wis., Dec. 23 (AP)—Trapped in a closed barn on his farm near here, John Burris, 59, fought a battle of death with an enraged bull.

Burris' body was found yesterday. Almost all his clothing had been torn off and he had been gored. A pitchfork lay nearby.

The fight was believed to have taken place Saturday. Burris lived about the body was discovered by neighbors who noted that he was not about his place.

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RENEW WAGE NEGOTIATIONS SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 23 (AP)—Renewal of negotiations for reductions of pay of shop crafts on the Southern Pacific lines was set for next Monday, it was announced today. The pay cut of 10 per cent for some 15,000 men of the divisions allied to shop repair work was recently announced, to become effective Jan. 1.

H. C. Kinney, general chairman of the Shopcrafts union, will head the employes conferees.

MORATORIUM IS RATIFIED BY CONGRESS

One-Year Suspension of
Debt Payments Approv-
ed By the Senate.

VOTE TAKEN LAST NIGHT 69 TO 12

Congress, However, is on
Record as Opposed to
Scaling Down of War
Debts Due U. S.

BASEL, Switzerland, Dec. 23 (AP)—Germany will be unable to make the conditional reparations payment due at the expiration of the Hoover debt holiday, the Young plan advisory committee asserts in its final report adopted tonight.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP)—Ratification of the moratorium became a fact today when President Hoover signed the resolution of congressional approval.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP)—The one year inter-government suspension of war debt and reparations payments today bore its final official sanction and needed but the signature of its sponsor, President Hoover, to come fully into effect.

The last step was taken by the senate last night. It approved the house resolution of ratification by a majority even greater than the one mustered by its companion chamber. Despite two days of fiery argument against it, 69 senators approved and only a dozen opposed.

Payments Already Suspended
The payments already have been suspended. First installments to the United States under the moratorium were due December 15. Congress could not ratify by then but the administration informed the foreign governments they could count on the approval which now has materialized, one week to the day after the payment was due.

The suspension will continue to July 1. Next December 15 the payments, barring an extension, will be resumed.

One important element of the situation as it now stands, however, is

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