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## MANY HOLIDAY GUESTS AND VISITORS HERE

Miss Bessie Stillwell was here from Portland for the holidays.

Miss Lucile Craven, who teaches in Hood River county, is home for the holidays.

Mrs. Callahan (nee Retta Cuthbert) and baby of Portland passed the holidays here with relatives.

Drain Dickinson of the S. A. T. C. came home to get his feet under dad's table for the Christmas feed.

Ralph Butler was home from Portland for Christmas visiting his parents, Judge and Mrs. N. L. Butler.

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Woods of Portland were here to enjoy the Christmas hospitality of relatives and friends.

Dr. and Mrs. O. D. Butler were Christmas guests of Dr. and Mrs. M. J. Butler and Master Marlowe Butler of Monmouth.

Mr. and Mrs. I. Claggett entertained Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Claggett and Mr. and Mrs. Olen Hosford of Portland and H. Hirschberg at dinner Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. J. G. McIntosh extended Christmas hospitality to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Patterson of Astoria, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Hayter and Chas. Hayter of Dallas.

Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Jones had as their Christmas guests, Mrs. Susan Jones and daughters, Misses Katheryn and Grace, of Corvallis and little Miss Marion Reuf of Salem.

Walter Smith, U. S. N., son of Mr. and Mrs. Layton Smith of Cordova, Alaska, came along with Santa Claus and received a royal welcome and a big Christmas dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Newton and daughter of Portland were here with relatives for Christmas. Glen has gone back leaving the wife and baby to remain a few days longer.

Olen J. Whiteaker spent his Christmas in Independence. During his few days furlough from Camp Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Whiteaker are staying at their home in this city.

Guests around the festive board at the K. C. Eldridge home Christmas day included: Mr. and Mrs. K. C. Eldridge, Jr., and K. C. III., Lawrence Eldridge and Mr. and Mrs. Berry and son, all of Portland.

Glen Smith, looking very nobby in his navy uniform, was an arrival from the South Christmas eve and is feasting with his mother and other relatives. Glen tells such a good story about navy life that Granddad Quasdorf wants to join.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Hanna and son, Mark, and daughter, Leona, autoed over from Portland for a Christmas dinner with relatives. Mark had just returned from the officers' training camp at Fort Zackary Taylor, Kentucky, and has been given an honorable discharge.

The Owen family enjoyed a delightful Christmas home coming. S. E. came from Astoria, Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery Ward from Washington, Mr. and Mrs. Dole Pomeroy and children from Eugene. Mrs. Owen and Mr. and Mrs. Grover Mattison were here and completed the family circle.

Cecil Swope is a home visitor for Christmas. He has four months time yet in the merchant marine service and will leave again in a few days for another cruise—probably Hong Kong, China. Cecil has made a very creditable record. His former law partner, Edward Drwyer, has just returned to America from hunting U-boats on board one of Uncle Sam's submarine chasers.

Monmouth Herald: Mrs. Mabel Ground Johnson had a Christmas tree and program which furnished a nice entertainment for a family party Christmas night. There were presents for all on the tree and when they were distributed there were games followed by refreshments. Those present were: Messrs. and Mesdames C. C. Mulkey, G. T. Boothby, C. H. Boothby, W. D. McCredie, Mrs. W. J. Mulkey, Mrs. R. E. Derby and the Misses Naomi Mulkey, Birdine Derby and Dorothy Clark.

At the J. S. Cooper home Christmas the following guests enjoyed home hospitality: Major and Mrs. Geo. Parker of Washington, D. C., Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Ireland of Grants Pass, Mr. and Mrs. Williams of Centralia, Wash., Mr. and Mrs. John Krause and John Jr. of Aurora, Mrs. J. S. Cooper, Jr., and children, Elizabeth and J. S. III. and Mrs. Moreland and children of Tacoma, Wash. All the family gathered except Captain Moreland and Lieutenant J. S. Cooper, Jr., who are in France.

## Great Christmas Joy; 2 Home From France

Unannounced and unheralded, Armine Young, the first Independence boy home from France, walked into the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Young, north of this city the day before Christmas. It was not only a complete surprise but the happiest occasion ever occurring in the Young household. Armine is not only a veteran of the battlefields of France, but has the scar of a German bullet on his arm near the shoulder as a memento of his service in defense of his country. He is the picture of health; in fact he looks better than he did when he departed overseas. His wounded arm gives him a little bother yet, and for that recent he must return to the army hospital at Fort Snelling, Minn., in a few days as he will not receive his discharge from the army until he has completely recovered from the wound.

Referring to the time and engagement in which a German bullet hit him, Armine says he was laying on his stomach and pushing bullets in the direction of the Hun as fast as he could pull the trigger when zip! The enemy's shot struck his gun stock under his chin and went on thru his arm. It's Armine candid opinion that some Fritz was shooting to kill. If the bullet had come two inches higher Armine figures he would still be in France with a few feet of dirt over him.

"The best thing I've seen since I left," says Armine, "was the Goddess of Liberty when I got back."

Armine was first reported "missing in action" and for several weeks nothing was heard concerning his fate. Eventually, Armine taken to a hospital after he was wounded, wrote his father. This was the best letter the young man ever wrote. He returned to America about a month ago.

Cyril V. Richardson, another of the "L" boys, is also home or near home. Cyril also meant to make his coming a surprise, but it appeared that there was a leak somehow and it became known that he was coming before he arrived in Portland where a family reunion was being held. Cyril has a period of gallant service to his credit and was in the thickest of the fighting at Chateau Thierry, St. Mihiel and Argonne Forest. In the last named battle, he got a machine gun bullet in the arm which busted it up considerably. He will be held at a hospital at the Presidio near San Francisco until the crippled wing is all right again. Cyril is a good talker and when he gets back home he will be able to tell of his experiences in a very intellectual and interesting manner.

The Portland Telegram gives this version of how Cyril was wounded: "On the morning of July 23 they were ordered to advance thru Argonne forest after American artillery had opened a barrage with 5000 guns. It was during this fight that Richardson dodging across No Man's Land with ammunition for an automatic gunner hidden in a shell hole, was himself hit by a machine gun bullet in the left forearm. Making his way back to the trench he had left, the commanding officer dispatched another man with him to walk to the dressing station in the rear. When he arrived here his arm was dressed temporarily, but he was told that weak as he was, he would have to walk back to the next station as the ambulances could not come that far front. Just at that time the Germans opened a bombardment, and for an hour he was forced to lie wounded in a dugout. The bombardment over, Richardson dragged himself back to the ambulance station, from where he was transported to an American hospital train and finally to the American base hospital at Bordeaux. He was at Bordeaux when the armistice was signed."

Ernest Smith, the third of the trio, in America, according to Armine Young, is now at Camp Lewis after a time at Fort Snelling. Altho a German bullet didn't find Ernest, the rheumatism did for which he must kill time at an army hospital.

Albert Quartier Christmased at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Jess Morgan of Vancouver were here for the Christmas festival.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Lorrence of Walla Walla, Wash., came "home" to celebrate Christmas.

Wendell Denlinger, one of the S. A. T. C. boys at the O. A. C., arrived here in plenty of time to eat his Christmas dinner with his best girl.

Miss Bessie Swope, teaching at Woodburn, showed excellent taste in not missing any of the Christmas dinner at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Swope.

It was the joyful privilege of Mrs. Jane Cooper to have her four sons as Christmas guests. They are Wilmer and William of Independence, Theodore of Washington and Curtis of Portland. Others present were Mrs. William Cooper, Mrs. Curtis Cooper and Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Cooper and baby.

## EACH AND ALL HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS

While no choir proclaimed "Peace on earth, good will toward men" and while no church bell clanged the joyful approach of the day, the sun had hardly gone over the hills in the West when the genuine Spirit entered the gates of our city and was visible, was felt, was enjoyed. One had only to wander about in the evening of the day before to know that "Christmas" got right close to the hearts of our people, made them forget for a time at least, their business cares and worries, their enmities, their harshness, their unkindness. Walking in the residence districts, uncurtained windows permitted the rays of yuletide to penetrate the outer darkness which pantomined the story far better than eloquent lips could tell it or gifted pen could write it. Candle-lighted trees were every where and the gleam of candles in the windows seemed to be a cordial invitation to the man without to seek his own and revel in the pleasure and happiness of the season.

Then Christmas morning how delightful it was to hear the cheery "Merry Christmas" all around you and to see the happy children scurrying about with their gifts. Some folks say there is no Santa Claus but if you once see the sparkling eyes of a five-year-old youngster when his or her greatest desire has been gratified, when the smiling face of a child dances before your eyes, you will know there is a Santa Claus.

Holidays may come and holidays may go, but there are none like Christmas.

Owing to the curtain of safety being drawn around us to retard or prevent the spreading of an epidemic, public gatherings had to be dispensed with everywhere except in the postoffice lobby. No church services, no entertainments or large parties were given. For the first time in fifty years no church bell pealed in Independence on Christmas day. But families and relatives gathered just the same and did full justice to the chicken, duck or goose. (A few of our plutocrats had turkey.) Then in the glow of fire place or heater the last hours of Christmas 1918 were spent in peace and comfort.

### CHRISTMAS WEDDING

Miss Della Byars and Kenneth W. Bayne of Salem were united in marriage at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Byars, in Independence on Christmas day at twelve o'clock noon, Rev. James Elvin of Portland reading the ring service. J. R. Bayne of Portland, brother of the groom, played the wedding march.

The bride was charming in a beautiful blue silk gown and carried a bouquet of pink roses. The ceremony was performed in elaborately decorated rooms with potted plants and greenery forming a pleasing background.

Mr. and Mrs. Bayne will reside in Portland.

### AN AFTER-CHRISTMAS INVENTORY

(By the Rhyming Summarist.)



Here's hoping that every kiddie  
Received his Christmas gift,  
Here's a bouquet for every fellow  
Who gave some kid a lift.  
Christmas is for children  
And if a single one was missed—  
If Santa Claus forgetting  
Left one empty fist—  
If your gifts were many,  
(And a few extra more)  
Is that a right division  
With the kid next door?  
As Christmas is for children,  
It cannot be a joy  
If Santa Claus was missing  
To any girl or boy.

### A Christmas Prayer Amended

It was the night before Christmas  
and the little Independence girl  
was praying a great deal  
for the benefit of Santa Claus.  
"Have Santa Claus  
bring me a doll and a doll buggy  
and some roller skates and  
that's all." Not so with her little  
brother. He yells out, "Hit  
him for a coaster wagon too."

J. O. Anderson and family of Silverton were holidaying with relatives and friends in this vicinity.

Henry Oberson received his discharge from the army and got home in time for the Christmas eats.

Miss Frances Townsend, who is attending school in Portland, was an arrival home the day before the big day.

Lew Stapleton was here for Christmas. Nothing like a holiday dinner on the farm where there's always more where the last came from.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Clark and Charles Ryder of Portland and LaGrande Dickson, who wears the khaki at Camp Lewis, were the Christmas guests of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Dickson.