

### In The Mail-box:

Editor, Pilot: After listening to the radio program, "Drag-net," on Thursday night, in which one little-boy is killed by a rifle, a gift for Christmas, but which through natural curiosity is taken from its hiding place, together with a box of shells, before the holidays. In their playful use of so powerful a weapon, two children planned a lot of fun, but a hurried step, a stumble and one little boy was dead. This was an accident, of course, but needlessly nevertheless, just because unthinking parents give guns to tiny lads, who little realize their lethal killing power.

To this may I add a word of warning right here in our own community:

Several weeks ago we saw two young boys in a gray boat with an outboard motor on the river. They cruised up the river and

went in and around the slough at Enos Rock, or more familiarly known as the Harbin Hole. We heard a lot of shooting and recognized the crack of a rifle, and the whine of the shells not too far from our heads as we stood on the hillside.

The two little lads surely could not have been more than 10 or 12 years of age, and here they were promiscuously using a rifle to shoot coot, mud hens, or in fact any thing that had wings, and hitting nothing. Shots were whining all over the place.

Finally they came out of the slough and followed the south bank up river, firing here and there and shots ricocheting off rocks and the water.

My husband finally caught the attention of the boys on their way down the river and warned them how, in using a rifle, they should never shoot onto the water and how dangerous it was for anyone passing on either side

of the river, with all their shots missing their mark and going astray.

Now, most likely one of these boys had taken his dad's rifle without permission to go hunting on his own. In this instance, while no one was hurt, on this outing, there still is that chance that someone might have been maimed for life, or even killed, and it certainly was a miracle, considering the number of ammunition rounds fired.

Won't you please warn parents in your paper so that no children in our community will come to harm by the use of such lethal weapons in the hands of inexperienced children? I am not against the use of firearms in their proper place and in practiced hands and firmly advocate that all young folks should be taught to hunt and fish and participate in these sports but under the guidance of their parents, until they reach that age and experience they can go out on their own.—Mrs. Victor Reynolds.

mined if the "chats" with Santa Saturday evening had anything to do with it, but Sunday scores of youngsters were out on the streets cycling as if they were "really going somewhere."

Most merchants of the area reported, Saturday evening that they had had one of the best Christmas "trades" in the history of the area. The stores, before Christmas, had one of the best assortments ever offered to the public.

### LANGLOIS NOTES

*NANCY MOORE, Correspondent*  
Mr. and Mrs. Don Brooks and four children, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Brooks and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Brooks were guests at a Christmas dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Brooks.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Strain spent Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Autrey.

Leaving Dec. 21 to spend the holidays with their sons and families at Tigard were Mr. and Mrs. O. L. Moore.

Rev. and Mrs. Charles Bates spent Christmas day at Brookings.

Last Thursday Floyd Butts and sons, Robert and Larry, moved to a farm, which they recently bought. The boys will attend school at Myrtle Point.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Anderson and daughter, Suzanne, are spending the holidays at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Anderson. The entire family enjoyed Christmas day at the home of Mr. Anderson Sr.'s sister, Mrs. George Conner, at Bandon.

Home from the University of Oregon to spend the holidays at the home of his parents is Roger Moore, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Moore.

Pvt. James Everest, of the U. S. Army, has just completed his basic training in California and is home on furlough. Jan. 9, he will go to Maryland where he has been assigned.

Mr. and Mrs. James White entertained members of their family at Christmas dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Storm are entertaining her parents of Knight's Landing, Calif., over

the holidays.

The Bierman and Clauson families were entertained Christmas day at Bandon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Elton Holt.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Brooks and four children left for Grants Pass the afternoon of Christmas day. They will visit her mother for a short time.

### LOCAL NEWS

Visitors over the Christmas holidays at the M. C. Beem home were her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. McLaughlin and brother-in-law and sister and family, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Wordelman of Sioux Falls, S. D., Mr. and Mrs. McLaughlin will remain here all through the winter season.



Season's  
Cheer  
to all in 1950

May  
the year be  
good to  
you.



### Title Guarantee

Serving Coos and Curry  
Counties  
Gold Beach, Coquille



New Year Greetings

The time is come again when we take stock of the opportunities which lie before us, and it is our hope that will mean the most successful of all New Years for you.



ED & MENDY'S CHEVRON SERV.

### Santa Pleased Crowd, Sat., At Christmas Tree

The annual Christmas tree, staged by the volunteer firemen last Saturday evening attracted an estimated crowd of over 500 in front of the Central building. With the S. P. E. B. S. Q. S. A. singing, assisted by the P-T. A. Mother Singers, carols were enjoyed, despite the raw, cold wind which chilled the people.

As master of ceremonies, and with a direct radio hook-up with Santa at the North Pole, the children were kept informed as to Santa's journey from the instant he left the great toy land of the far north, until he had landed at the athletic field at the high school. En route he interviewed more than a dozen "little tykes" from the area. Almost every request included a bicycle, which evidently were delivered before 9 p. m. The firemen met Santa at the school, escorted him to the Central building, where candy and treats were ample.

Perkins, explaining the joy of the "Barber-shoppers" to enter into this festivity, led the group in several carols, which was complemented by songs from the "Mother Singers." Sunday, the group, in a body, appeared at the Christmas services at the Baptist Community church, to favor the audience with two selected favorites.

#### Church Stages Program

Members of the Sunday school, under direction of the Supt., Mrs. Jeannette Pierce, and the teachers, furnished a Christmas program of recitations and songs, just prior to the morning services.

Evening services consisted of a motion picture, "The Child of Bethlehem," which depicted the life of Christ to the age of 12.

Special Christmas music was furnished by Betti Goldizen in a vocal solo, and a violin solo by Mrs. Gilbert Christensen, "The Holy City," accompanied by her sister, Mrs. Sanley Patterson, and a vocal solo by Mrs. Patterson. Treats were given the children.

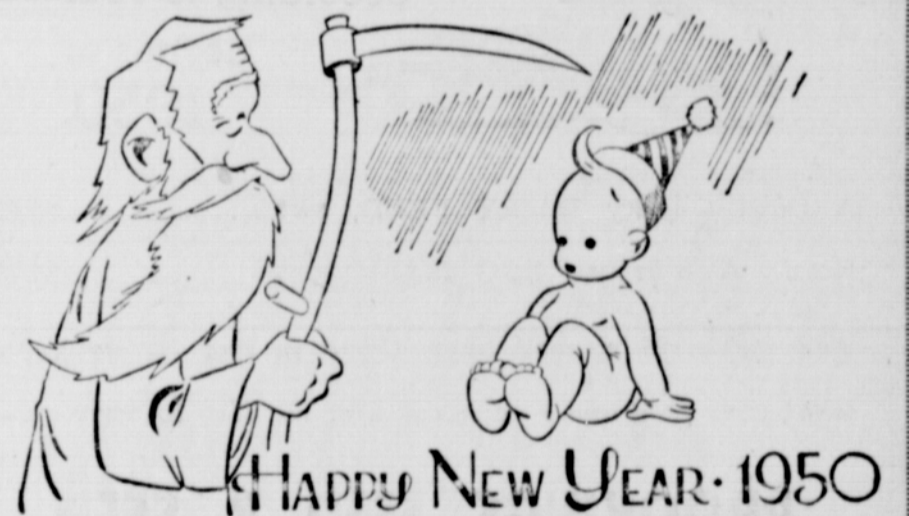
The number of bicycles in the area took a decided jump over Christmas. It is not yet deter-



The bells ring out the joyous New Year and their melody carries the refrain old but ever new—success and happiness to you.



HAGGERTY TWIN SERVICE



Here's a sincere hope that this will be the best year of your life.

FREEMAN'S CHETCO STORE