

THE STAYTON MAIL

Has the Largest Circulation of Any Paper in the Santiam Valley—It Covers the Territory Like a Blanket.

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Merry Christmas

Christmas Legend

The legend of St. Boniface and the first Christmas tree has been beautifully told. The scene lives before us—the wintry night, the swelling hillock crowned with the great oak tree, the "thunder oak," sacred to the pagan god Thor; the tongues of ruddy flame, the ranks of white clad warriors, women and children facing the altar; the hoary high priest and kneeling child, the victim doomed to die by the blow of the hammer, a sacrifice to Thor, the hammerer.

Then the coming of Boniface, the blow from the hammer turned aside by the cross, the rescue of the boy, the fall of the oak beneath the mighty blows of the apostle, the story of Jesus simply told and how sin, not human life, is the sacrifice he asks.

"And here," said the apostle as his eyes fell on a young fir tree, with its top pointing toward the stars, amid the divided oak—"here is the living tree, with no stain of blood upon it, that shall be the sign of your new worship."—Parish Tidings

GEHLEN ESTATE TO BE DIVIDED

A suit, asking partition of the Gehlen estate in and near Stayton has been filed in circuit court by the Gehlen heirs. Some two hundred acres of land near Stayton are involved besides considerable property within the city itself.

The property belonged to Theodore Gehlen who, when he died, left it to ten children. Since then one of the heirs has died and an adjudication of the rights of the remaining heirs is desired. Attorney Carey F. Martin filed the papers Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Burghart of near Shaw were Stayton callers Tuesday.

MRS. WAYNE ASHBY PASSES BEYOND

The people of the entire Waldo Hill country and adjacent territory extend sympathy to Wayne Ashby, and other relatives for their bereavement in the death of Mrs. Ashby which occurred Saturday, Dec. 16, at 5 p. m. Elizabeth Lyle Robards was born Feb. 10, 1889, and was married to Wayne Ashby Oct. 12, 1913. She had been in poor health for some time, and the end came quietly and peacefully, with her husband and her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Robards of Portland, at the bedside. She was a bright, cheerful woman, accomplished and well liked by everyone. She was 27 years of age at the time of her death.

The funeral was held at the Ashby country home Dec. 19, and was attended by a very large number of sorrowing friends and relatives. Interment was in the Union Hill Cemetery nearby. The services were conducted by Rev. E. B. Lockhart, of Stayton, assisted by Mrs. J. W. Mayo of this city, who sang several beautiful solos. The funeral was marked by the large number of beautiful floral offerings sent by relatives and friends. Miss Robards, a sister of Washington, and Guy Nott and mother, Mrs. Nott, sister of Mr. Ashby were present at the funeral.

COMPLIANYO CLUB MEETS

Mrs. Joseph Peery entertained the Compliano club last Thursday afternoon. All the members were present except Mrs. T. W. Creech and Mrs. E. T. Matthieu who were absent on account of illness. Invited guests were Mesdames H. A. Beauchamp, J. W. Mayo and J. M. Ringo. The next meeting will be with Mrs. C. H. Brewer the latter part of January.

MERRY CHRISTMAS IS NEARLY HERE

The store windows are full to the brim with good things for the Christmas time, and no one need be disappointed in the making of a selection, even at a late hour Saturday night. You will find almost anything you want in the stores and shops in Stayton.

Useful and beautiful presents abound and there is no reason to go away empty handed.

At the CHRISTMAS WINDOW

ONCE upon a time there was a scrivener who wrote a Christmas story without mentioning shop windows, and the people rose and slew him, saying, "It has never been done."

Does the reader recognize this strolling ragged newsie? Down through the centuries he comes, the eternal poor child of Christmas, who is, by the law of the prophets, invariably happier than the rich man in his limousine. (This limousine, by the way, was once a coach and four, the rich man a red nosed baron and the child a golden haired page. His mud colored mongrel alone remains the same. He has not altered in 500 years.)

It was a week before Christmas, and we had not yet found our rich man.

At last, however, just as dusk was falling, we found our man.

He was old; he was alone in the world. His hair fell in a white fringe about his ears. His face was bitter, but sad. Surprisingly as we gasped his wrist we felt his pulse. His heart was ready to melt.

"Quick!" said he, leaping into the plum colored interior of his limousine. "There's no time to lose. The boy is waiting three blocks farther along. Tell your man to hurry, please."

The old gentleman did not seem to observe our presence. We were plucked for a moment, but soon reflected that, being a young author, we were, of course, quite invisible. He spoke sharply through the tube to his chauffeur: "Get on, Simmons; get on. I can't stay here all night. And, Simmons, stop at the toy shop three blocks farther along."

The car drew up to the curb. The old gentleman, clutching a copy of Dickens in one hand and his gold headed cane in the other, descended to the sidewalk. Instinctively, as though guided by some impulse of the ages, he turned toward the Christmas shop window ablaze with a thousand tiny artificial candles.

Standing just in front of the bright window, the mud colored mongrel at his heels, was the little newsie, his hands in his pockets, his cap on the back of his head, his wistful eyes



Looking Into the Christmas Window.

fixed upon that feast of plenty. For one dreadful instant we thought we saw a look of boredom, of ennui, flash across that pale pinched face, but we could not be sure.

"Humph!" said the old gentleman. "This your window?"

"Yes, sir," replied the boy with a cherubic smile, "mine and Boney's."

WILL PUT OUT EWES ON SHARES

V. J. Philippi Wants to Put Out 400 Ewes on Shares, or will Contract To Take Lambs

I will sell or put out on shares 400 good Shropshire and Cotswold breeding ewes, bred to bring lambs early. All good picked sheep. Will sell ewes for \$12 per head and will contract the lambs from these ewes at six dollars a head and fleece at \$3 a piece. One half down and balance at expiration of time. Or will sell at \$12 a head with one half down and will take mortgage on ewes and increase for balance, or will give one half of lambs for the keeping of these ewes till Sept 1, 1917. These sheep are all A No. 1 and in good condition. If you want any of them you had better get busy. Call or phone 974, V. J. Philippi, Stayton, Ore. 12-28.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A Christmas sermon entitled "The Star in the East" will be delivered at the Methodist Episcopal Church Sunday morning by the Pastor. In the evening the costumed drama "The Gift of Gifts," and some special numbers will take the place of the regular service in recognition of the birthday of the Saviour. At the morning service there will be placed in the pews Christmas checks that those who desire to may fill in and aid the suffering war victims in the way of sending the "Christmas ship" across the seas.

The following Sunday night in place of the usual two services at 6:30 and 7:30, a watch night service will be held from nine o'clock until after the New Year is ushered in, the first hour being given over to a sermon and the regular church service, the second to be a social hour with light refreshments, and the third hour to be in charge of the Epworth League. Thus the church and its friends will watch the old year out and the new year in.

POPULAR YOUNG LADY RESIGNS

Miss Anna L. Mullen, a very popular and highly respected young lady of Stayton has resigned her position as stenographer at the office of S. H. Heltzel, Atty. and will leave for Salem in the near future, where she will be engaged in the same line of work. Miss Mullen came to our city over a year ago and has made many warm friends who reluctantly gave her up and while wishing her success in her new home. We hope she may return to our city where she will always receive a very cordial and warm welcome.

Dan Young returned from Salem Monday after a few days visit in that city.

"I know!" muttered the rich man. "It is Christmas. Come; I will give you anything you ask for one peep into your window! I say this in all humbleness, knowing that you are richer than I, knowing that I have nothing that you would want, but still I beg of you to name your heart's desire."

We turned to the little newsie, the eternal Christmas child. Fondly, almost tearfully, we waited for him to speak. At last he did so, glancing for inspiration at the mongrel, "I don't know, wretched boy, that he had shattered the tradition of centuries.

"I'll trade y' a look in the window," said the boy bluntly, "for a five minute sit in yer automobile."

A moment later pedestrians passing that particular corner saw an old gentleman peering rather dazedly into a Christmas shop window, while in the plum tinted, nickel plated, electric lighted, luxuriously appointed limousine at the curb sat a little newsie with a mud colored mongrel hugg'd to his bosom and an overwhelming happiness in his eyes.

As for the Christmas author—but he was very young and quite invisible.—Dana Burnet in New York Evening Sun.

A Christmas Carol

By HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW

I HEAR along our street
Pass the minstrel throngs.
Hark! They play so sweet
On their hautboys Christmas songs.
Let us by the fire,
Ever higher,
Sing them till the night expire.

In December ring
Every day the chimes;
Loud the glee men sing
In the streets their merry rimes.
Let us by the fire,
Ever higher,
Sing them till the night expire.

Shepherds at the grange,
Where the babe was born,
Sang with many a change
Christmas carols until morn.
Let us by the fire,
Ever higher,
Sing them till the night expire.

These good people sang
Songs devout and sweet.
While the rafters rang
There they stood with freezing feet.
Let us by the fire,
Ever higher,
Sing them till the night expire.

Who by the fireside stands
Stamps his feet and sings,
But he who blows his hands
Not so gay a carol brings.
Let us by the fire,
Ever higher,
Sing them till the night expire.

NOTICE

Members and friends of the Baptist church please take notice. There will be the annual business meeting at the church Sunday Dec. 31st soon after Sunday School and at noon time a basket dinner. Don't forget to bring your basket. 12-28

ENCOURAGE INSTEAD OF DISCOURAGE

In speaking of our "biggest ships," building and about to be built on the Pacific Coast, we should do well to remember that Bath, Me., has set a high mark for us and that we shall need to go some to surpass it. The largest wooden schooner ever built was a Maine product. She was the Wyoming, built at Bath six years ago and still carrying 6000 tons of coal to a cargo. This schooner is 329.5 feet long 50.1 feet beam and her nominal registry is 3730 tons. There are several others of these mammoth vessels, chiefly six masters, and all carrying the American flag and some of them have paid for their cost out of the business they have done since the beginning of 1915. There is no reason why the Pacific coast should not ultimately attain the Main record, however, since the material here is of the best and we are fast acquiring the experience that is necessary to establish confidence in ourselves.

A little legislation to encourage instead of discourage shipping under the American flag would make the Pacific Coast the greatest woodship building center in the world.

CHRISTMAS EDITIONS

The Silverton Appeal, the Silverton Tribune and the Aurora Observer each came out with Christmas editions in colors last week. They were all very tasty, nicely arranged and show the appreciation of the merchants by the liberal advertising patronage.

BIG SHOW AT STAR

There will be a big feature of 5 reels "The Inner Struggle" and a comedy "Gamblers in Greenbacks" at the Star on Christmas night, Dec. 25. Don't Miss this. Regular show Saturday and Sunday nights.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Surry and Mr. and Mrs. A. Schroder of Lyons were among the shoppers in our city Tuesday.

YOUR GIFT CHOOSING

AT DITTER-BELL'S STORE
Will Be a Pleasure and Convenience

A Store Filled With Practical And Useful Gifts

For the Youngsters

Mechanical Toys, Erectors,
Pile Drivers, Building Blocks,
at 15 to 75c, Dolls, Games,
Coaster Wagons, Tool Chests,
Everything to Please Any and
all the Little Folks

Our Showing for the Rest of the Family of

Fancy Papeteries, Perfumery, Ladies' and Gent's Slippers, Rugs, Neck Ties, Tie Clasps, Cuff Links, Rose Baskets, Work Baskets, Candle Holders, Stationery, Jardenieres, Salad Sets, Vases Pipes, Cigars in Gift Boxes, is complete and of the Best

DITTER BELL & CO.

SUBLIMITY

OREGON

ANSCO CAMERAS & SPEDEX FILM

YOU can depend on the AnSCO Vest-Pocket Camera to record in picture form the happy events of Christmas day.

Do your part towards making the day pleasant by giving one of these compact little cameras. It makes pictures so clear and sharp they can be enlarged successfully. Several styles and sizes. See our assortment of AnSCO Cameras, priced from \$2 to \$55.



For Sale at

Sloper's Drug Store
STAYTON - OREGON

