THE CHEERFUL FACE.

Next to the sunlight of heaven is the cheerful face. One glance at this face lifts us out of the shadows into the beautiful, bright and warm within. A host of evil passions may lurk around the door, but they never enter and abide there. The cheerful face puts them to shame and flight.

Fitness In Gifts.

The ideal consideration in making a Christmas gift is fitness. What would be an ideal present for one person would be a mockery for another. It isn't the cost—it isn't even the beauty of a gift that must be first considered—it is the need and the tastes of the recipient.

Difficult to Identify.

"A man should be content to let well enough alone."

"Very true," replied Miss Cayenne. "But think how wonderfully wise a man must be to recognize well enough when he sees it."—Washington Star.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM SUNDAY EVENING

The Methodist Episcopal Church will hold the following program Sunday evening at 7 p. m:

Song.....By School
Scripture Reading
Prayer
Recitation.....Fay Mack
Recitation.....Frank Clow
Song.....Primary Class
Recitation.....Beatrice Lockhart
Christmas Story
Christmas Play....."The Gift of Gifts"
Kings..F. F. Foster, Everet Gardner, J. R. Gardner.
Shepherds..H. J. Hewitt and Albert Pancoast.
Kings Daughter..Mrs. C. D. Stayton.
Shepherd's Daughter..Mrs. Horace Lilly.
Maid..Margaret Hensley.
Mary..Sarah Caldwell.
Angels..Mrs. J. W. Mayo, Verda and Gladys Hamman, Marion Alexander, Edna Caldwell and Fay Mack.

The following will give a short Christmas program at the Sunday School hour Sunday morning:

Recitation.....Garnet Mack
Recitation.....Ethel Hamman
Song.....Primary Class
Recitation.....Esther Stayton
Recitation.....Lucile Caspeli
Recitation.....Susie Olmsted

SAW WOOD

Twenty-three of the high school boys got out bright and early Saturday morning and with saws and axes hied to the Burson timber west of town where they put up over fourteen cords of wood.

If they work as well on other days it will take them about four days to cut enough wood to raise the $75.00 they promised for the gymnasium fund by the wood route. Stick to it boys, we are betting on you.

BUYS MILK ROUTE

A. T. Brewer has purchased the milk route of E. D. Crabtree, and hereafter there will be but one route. Mr. Brewer will take entire charge on January 1. Mr. Crabtree still has his cows but will separate the cream and sell to the creamery.

A nice line of books to choose from at Beauchamp's Quality Drug Store.

WILL HAVE CHRISTMAS TREE SUNDAY MORNING

The Christian church will hold their annual Christmas exercise and tree at the church Sunday morning, December 24, at 11 a. m. A committee will be at the church Saturday afternoon to receive gifts for the tree. All are welcome to attend. Following is the program:

Scripture reading and prayer
Mrs. W. H. Hobson
Song..Joy to The World..Congregation
Christmas Address.....W. C. Gauntt
Rec.....The Two Stockings.....Mabel Bradshaw
Dialogue.....His Mother-inlaw.....Cecil Schaefer, John Olmsted
Solo.....Mary Kirsch
Rec.....I'm Only 4 Years Old.....Constance Beauchamp
Rec.....Xmas Greetings...Felix Kirsch
Solo.....Little Stranger.....Viva Davie
Drill
Rec.....Cleo Weddle
Rec.....Madeline Wirth
Solo.....Cleta Peery
Dialogue.....Aunt Prue.....
Alma Nendel, Mabel Weddle
Exercise.....Two Girls
Solo.....Mrs. E. H. Hobson
Rec.....Norwood Eskew
Mixed Quartette....Messrs C. Hoffer and W. Holford, Mrs. W. Holford and Miss Margaret Schaefer
Solo.The Way of the Cross Leads Home
....Mrs. W. H. Hobson

NOTICE

The following General Merchandise and Grocery Stores of Stayton will be closed all day Christmas Day, Monday, December 25. Be sure and get your purchases on Saturday.

Doll's Cash Store
Young's Cash Grocery
W. F. Klecker's Store
Bradshaw's Grocery
J. R. Gardner's Cash Store
Chas. Gehlen's Cash Store

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM AT JORDAN

A fine Chistmas program will be rendered at the Young Men's Catholic Hall at Jordan on Saturday eve, Dec. 23. There will be a 3-act drama included in the program which will be well worth attending. Prices 25 and 15c

At Sloper's

New bibles, new alphabet book, new gift books, latest popular fiction and copyright books.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FOR RENT—a nice 6-room cottage near the new high school. Enquire at the Mail Office.

SALE BILLS—at the Mail Office. We have the largest circulation of any paper printed or sent into the Santiam Valley. Advertise with us and get results.

Clover or Vetch Hay Wanted—at Brewer's Dairy, Stayton. 12-28

Money to Loan—I Have Made Arrangements for loaning eastern money, will make very low rate of interest on highly improved farms. Homer H. Smith, room 5, McCornack Bldg., Salem, Oregon, Phone 96. tf.

For Sale or Trade—for good dairy cows, a fine team of mules. Brewer's Dairy Stayton. 12-28

FOR SALE—7 head milch cows, 1 heifer. Cows $40 per head, heifer $30 if all are taken. 1 two year old filly $100. Mrs. Rosa Miller,
12-28 Phone 2-8 Shelburn, Ore.

Good Fresh Cows Wanted at Brewer's Dairy, Stayton. 12-28

FOR RENT—6 room house, large barn, and 7 acres of land inside city limits. Also 5 room house, barn and 6½ acres just outside city limits. Will rent first property for $110 per year, second property for $75 per year.
Grant Murphy,
12-28 Stayton, Ore.

Shot Gun For Sale—Double barrelled, breech loading, 12 gauge. Will sell cheap. See or phone Chas Schaefer,
12-28x Scio, Ore.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY.

It's All Real to Bobby Boy, Who'd Like to Ride With Santa Claus.

Bobby Boy was sitting in his wee brown chair so close to the great bunch of Christmas holly that he could stretch out his fingers and touch the shiny red berries whenever he wanted to make believe that he was far away in the great forest in Santa Claus land. He had only to close his eyes and "shiver his shoulders," as if he were cold, when the warm, quiet room would vanish and he would be walking with Merry Bell in the story.

"By and by," said the sweet voice of Sister Marjorie, who was reading from the book, so she couldn't shut her eyes and make believe she was in the forest too. Bobby Boy remembered that he must tell Sister Marjorie just what it looked like when they reached home.

"By and by they came to a part of the forest where there were tall trees, green and fragrant, just like the trees one sees in the markets before Christmas.

"Merry Bell clapped her hands.

"'Hurrah!' she cried. 'We're almost there! See; here are the Christmas tree woods. Pretty soon we'll find the reindeer feeding on the evergreen vines.'

"They walked softly through the snow paths.

"'Sh! said Merry Bell; 'don't frighten them. When they see us the Christmas reindeer will know us and come running to us to let us kiss them. That's how we know which are the good reindeer that will carry dear old Santa safely over the world on Christmas eve. Just think—if a reindeer was bad and tipped poor Santa out!'"

Bobby Boy opened his eyes wide.

"Ho! I wouldn't care if they did tip him out. I'd wun wight out in the snow an' help him put all the toys back, an' nen maybe he'd give me a wide."

Sister Marjorie laughed and went on with the story which dealt with the enchanted country behind the picture books.

Christmas Long Drawn Out.

It has become the custom to imagine that every ceremony connected with the Christmas holidays in old England was observed on the holiday itself. Nothing could be further from the real facts. It should be remembered that in England of old, and to some extent even in industrial England of today, Christmas does not refer only to the holiday itself, but to the twelve days and nights immediately following the feast of the Nativity. It would easily be discovered by anybody who took the trouble to give a few moments' thought to the subject that it would be nigh physically impossible to follow all the ceremonials and customs connected with the Christmas season on one day.

The Season of Joy.

The festival of Christmas is gratefully unique because of the predominant note it contains—the note of joy, of a rapture, an abandon of delight, which carries all before it—and, while it surcharges the hearts of those who are naturally gay, it also invades the gloomiest and the most sorrowful and creates for them a rift in the constant clouds of the heart.—Rev. S. P. Cadman.

ANGER.

Anger is the most impotent passion in man. It effects nothing it goes about and hurts the man who is possessed by it more than any other against whom it is directed.—Clarendon.

Fixed, but a Fixture.

"Do you think you can fix this car?" inquired the luckless motorist.

"I think so," replied the village blacksmith, who was something of a wag, as he moved around in the shade of the spreading chestnut tree. "When I get through with it if it is not fixed in one way it will be in another."

And he was right.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Wait.

"Woman is a little slow to get acquainted with the auto apparently."

"What makes you say that?"

"I have never seen one repairing her car with a hairpin as yet."—Columbus Citizen.

Whoever makes great presents expects great presents in return.—Martial.

Natives of Algeria bury with their dead all the medicines used in their last illness.

Peruvian Potatoes.

Peru is the natural home of the potato, which grows in many varieties. Of these the most famous is the Peruvian yellow potato. It is of exquisite taste, highly nutritious, with a golden color and a thin skin.