

KEEP THE HOPE FOR SANTA CLAUS

Children's Patron Saint Makes His Annual Visit to Portland.

GOD WILL TOWARD MEN

Kris Kringle Distributes With Generous Hand Gifts to Rich and Poor and Asks in Return "Remembrance."

PROGRAMME OF CHRISTMAS DAY EVENTS. Morning services at Catholic and Episcopal Churches, 5 to 11 A. M.

There were only a few houses that the venerable dispenser of Christmas greetings did not visit in Portland last night.

Christmas eve proved a busy time for all. And it was surprising to observe how many people actually had to do their shopping last night.

Christmas eve shoppers as merry, congenial and pleasant as to take an unbroken line to the stores. Quite to the contrary, there was much irritation displayed.

It was at home, however, that the average head of a family was occupied. First the children had to be gotten to bed.

Aside from home duties, there were many commendable people who thought themselves of others less favored in the present economic system.

STAYS THE HAND OF JUSTICE

Christmas Spirit Leads Public Prosecutor to Defer Arrest.

If any one doubts there is a real Christmas spirit that brings good will to all, he would have been less dubious if he had heard the remark of a Portland prosecuting officer on Monday.

and telegraph instructions to the Sheriff to take him into custody," said the official.

Unfortunates Not Forgotten. Santa Claus left five large turkeys, many pounds of candy and nuts, and other goodies in the juvenile court room at the Courthouse yesterday.

Movement on Foot to Build Joint City Hall. A joint county and city building, probably five stories high and located on the present site of the Courthouse, is in prospect.

All Day Christmas Throgs County Clerks' Office, While Clerks Suffer From Bad Attack of "Writer's Cramp"—Day's Record.

The writers' cramp! That's what "Cupid" Rose, who presides at the marriage license wicket in the County Clerk's office yesterday, as regards the clerks.

Although there has been some talk of selecting a site other than that on which the present Courthouse stands, it was virtually agreed yesterday afternoon.

During holiday week Cupid is not idle, as many might suppose, for he must needs prune his quills and fill his writing flask in preparation for the rush with which he must cope when the first jubilee New Year celebrations are over.

Cupid Is a Busy Chap. During holiday week Cupid is not idle, as many might suppose, for he must needs prune his quills and fill his writing flask in preparation for the rush.

Though you think yourselves secure within your barricaded castle walls, leap year, unbidden, standeth without the country.

Next came Harvey L. Moore, 22 years old, and a resident of Arden Place, who was ready to pay the minister, provided Cupid would fix up the license.

Cupid's quill tangled itself somehow among the quills of the next name, but was at last extricated by Charles Frederick Trethewey, who spelled his name.

When William M. Cline, Jr., at the belated age of 42, told Cupid he had decided, before the leap year pressure drove him to it, to follow in the footsteps of his father.

Cupid was getting weary by this time, but he soon found that work was being handed to him in bunches, when Frank A. Russell and John N. Russell, who were to pay him \$5 for two licenses to make four people happy on Christmas day.

Sanford Kelly, 25 years old, had come from Missoula, Mont. He secured a license to wed Anna M. Hoak, 23 years old.

The other couples who helped Cupid on the road to matrimony, were:

CHRISTMAS IS HERE BUT THE MAIL MAN IS STILL WORKING

SANTA CLAUS, in the person of a poor overworked mailcarrier, will deliver presents today.

Hivered from the Postoffice. What the wagons did not carry, was the mail-carriers did. The special delivery boys were also pressed into service.

What has helped Postmaster Minto and his army of active workers has been the fact that the trains were for the most part on time.

Yesterday morning one of the trains brought into the local Postoffice 3,000 registered mail packages.

Postmaster Minto is certain that he has broken another record.

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"CUPID" HAS TO WORK OVERTIME

Marriage License Man Gets No Rest at All on Christmas Eve.

MANY ARE MADE HAPPY

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Julius C. Beyer, 26, 1377 Union avenue, north; Emille O. Ziesman, 22.

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MANY EMPLOYEES RECEIVE GIFTS

Portland Banks Will Distribute \$20,000 During Holiday Season.

HARD WORK APPRECIATED

Many Large Corporations and Merchants Spread Christmas Cheer by Making Presents of Money or Holiday Delicacies.

Christmas cheer is a tangible quantity to the hundreds of employees of the Portland banks today, for they will receive approximately \$20,000 in presents from their employers during the holiday season.

Envelopes containing crisp bank notes were striking Christmas decorations left on many bank employees' desks just before the close of business yesterday.

The First National waits until New Year's to make glad the hearts of its employees, but it always follows the pleasant custom of giving one-tenth the annual salary at that time.

The bank of Ladd & Tilton reminded its men last night of their valuable services during the past year by distributing about \$5000 among them.

The United States National Bank gives one-half month's pay to its 40 men, making a total of about \$700 in presents.

The Hibernia Savings Bank dealt out envelopes containing greenbacks last night, the total amounting to several hundred dollars.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce played Santa Claus earlier in the month of December and distributed several hundred dollars in this way.

The Equitable Loan & Savings Company remembered its men to the extent of about \$200. Other banks did the same thing but owing to diffidence in the matter did not like to have anything said about it.

Every corporation and wholesale houses innumerable throughout the city have made their employees happy during the present holidays by substantial presents of money or holiday delicacies.

The Portland Flouring mills shows the Christmas spirit at the end of its fiscal year in June, when its employees are presented with cash gifts.

Work will be commenced the first week in January by the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company on the houses for the employees of the company who have their headquarters at the Piedmont car barns.

Every closed car owned by the company that is suitable for passenger travel has been put in service to care for the holiday rush.

The new steel bridge being erected across the Clackamas River on the Oregon City division has progressed so far that there is no further danger of interruption to traffic across it.

Excursion Rate Is Made. Because of the annual meeting in Portland of the Oregon State Horticultural Society on January 15, 16 and 17, the Harriman lines in the state offer a special round-trip ticket to Portland and return from all points on the allied lines in the state at one and one-third the cost of a first-class one-way fare.

Portland friends of C. R. Davidson are pleased to hear of his promotion to be assistant general passenger agent for the stream of people who board cars at Chicago & Albia with headquarters at Chicago. Mr. Davidson is well known in railroad circles. He was chief clerk

Our Greetings of the Season Tull & Gibbs. In the office of the general passenger agent for six years and prior to his connection with that road he was chief clerk in the general passenger offices of the Burlington at Omaha.

Vanderbilt Lines Liberal. The New York Central Lines on January 1 will open a freight office in Spokane, Wash., with W. W. Dickinson in charge. Mr. Dickinson is a well-known Western railroad man and comes to Spokane from Salt Lake City.

A Clean Deep Cut on All Clothing at Welch's EVERY GARMENT NEW THIS SEASON

- \$45 Suits cut to \$34.75
\$40 Suits cut to 29.75
\$35 Suits cut to 24.75
\$30 Suits cut to 19.75
\$25 Suits cut to 17.85
\$20 Suits cut to 13.75
\$15 Suits cut to 9.75

Also all Overcoats, Cravenettes, Top Coats and Black and Blue Suits Greatly Reduced

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE PRICES NOW
\$3.00 Underwear cut to \$2.35
2.50 Underwear cut to 1.95
2.00 Underwear cut to 1.55
1.50 Underwear cut to 1.15
1.25 Underwear cut to 95c

IF NOT RIGHT WELSH MAKES IT RIGHT

Welch 283 & 285 WASHINGTON NEAR FOURTH ST.

STORE CLOSED TODAY—CHRISTMAS

Sinceridad The Real Havana Cigar. Because of the annual meeting in Portland of the Oregon State Horticultural Society on January 15, 16 and 17, the Harriman lines in the state offer a special round-trip ticket to Portland and return from all points on the allied lines in the state at one and one-third the cost of a first-class one-way fare.