

TAX ON GASOLINE FOR FAIR PASSED

Senate Vote Is 15-14
Validity in Doubt.

DEATH LEAVES VACANCY

Attorney-General Declares
Constitutional Majority
Is Still 16.

CHANGES MADE BY HOUSE

Amendments Are Rejected
and Legislation Then Is
Finally Approved.

STATE HOUSE, Salem, Or., Dec. 24.

(Special.)—After a parliamentary contest covering the last three days, the legislature late today passed the constitutional amendment authorizing the Oregon 1925 exposition and the gasoline revenue bill.

Point Is in Dispute.

It is a disputed point, and a majority of the senate and of the house, and therefore of the legislature takes that view, and the bill is thus referred to the people for the May election.

Commissioners on Bailor.

Named in the constitutional amendment, which is referred to the people to vote on at the election in May on the same date as the primaries, are the 15 exposition commissioners who will have the control and management of the enterprises.

Original Plan Much Changed.

Many changes have been made in the original plan of the exposition committee, but as the constitutional amendment was finally adopted it is considered that it is a good bill to go before the people.

First Congressional District—C. E. Gates, Medford; W. A. Taylor, Astoria; John Humphreys, Oregon City; J. W. Thornburgh, Forest Grove; E. C. Apperson, McMinnville.

Second Congressional District—H. W. Collins, Pendleton; J. N. Williamson, Prineville; A. T. Hill, La Grande; E. C. VanPatten, Ontario; E. P. Mahaffey, Bend.

Third Congressional District—A. L. Mills, Emery; Wm. Stedman, J. L. Meier, J. C. Ainsworth, E. C. Cookingham, all of Portland.

POSTAL MACHINERY NEVER RAN BETTER

EVERYTHING MOVED WITH DISPATCH, SAY REPORTS.
Officials Are Convinced People Have Begun to Practice "Mail Early for Christmas."

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 24.—(By the Associated Press.)—Officials of the postoffice department left their desks tonight convinced that American people had begun to practice "mail early for Christmas."

The response to Postmaster-General Hays' appeal for an early mailing of Christmas packages was more hearty than we could have hoped," Dr. Work said.

The indication of a great increase in the Christmas mail was viewed as significant by many government officials who declared it showed temperment in the nation's economic condition.

As shown by the postoffice department charts, mails that could accurately be charged to the Christmas period began to increase in volume about December 10.

SANTA FREES CONVICT

Slayer, 59, Paroled After Serving More Than 20 Years in Prison.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Dec. 24.—Eddie Estelle, 59 years old, who has spent more than 20 years in prison, has been released from the Kansas state penitentiary at Lansing, Kan., on a Christmas parole, it was learned today.

Estelle once was sentenced to hang after serving one year in prison, but penalties being imposed for the killing of a posse member in pursuit of the prisoner after a jail break. The death order, however, never was signed.

While working in the state prison, Estelle carved a wooden gun, wrapped it with tin foil and with it threatened the guards and escaped with Ben Craven, Oklahoma bandit, and another prisoner, who was shot and killed.

A train robbery in Illinois resulted in Estelle's imprisonment, but upon identification he was returned here.

LEGISLATORS LOSE NO TIME LEAVING

"Merry Christmas" Cries Mark Homeward Rush

PURPOSE IS ACCOMPLISHED

More Temperament Than Usual Warms Session.

PRESENT GIVEN TO STATE

Roads Protection Plan Adopted and Fair Legislation Is Referred to Voters.

STATE HOUSE, Salem, Or., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—With cries of "Merry Christmas" the special session of the legislature adjourned tonight at 11:30.

For six days the legislators had been in session, called to consider two subjects important to the state, and as a Christmas gift the session placed Santa Claus and placed in the stockings of Oregon several laws and the highways from destruction and referred to the electorate the Oregon 1925 exposition.

The legislature's record was far better than that of the special session of 1920, when about 100 measures were dealt with and the governor almost acquired writer's cramp from voting bills.

There was throughout the last week an irritability somewhat surprising and more temperment was displayed than is customary among lawmakers.

The main cause was that the members were summoned from home the week before Christmas, the days devoted to shopping, and there was the constant fear hanging over everyone that they would be unable to pass Christmas with their families.

That the fear was not without foundation will prove true with the members who live in the extreme districts of the state. A few representatives asserted their posts before final adjournment in order to catch trains which would land them at home Christmas morning, and to home the members went home tonight.

Roads Are Protected.

As finally enacted the highway regulatory laws are believed to afford the protection to the roads for which there has been a statewide demand.

The Mower Jitney bill of the 1921 session, which was vetoed, was carried over the governor's veto in the senate, but died in the house, while the house road bills, covering the same subject, were accepted in the senate.

DEPUTY HYPNOTIZES PRISONER FOR TRIP

BOOTLEGGERS COLLECT FROM CLIENTS IN PORTLAND.

Mer formerly Supplied With Liquor Attribute Christmas Mites to Pay \$500 Fine.

MEDFORD, Or., Dec. 24.—(Special.)—Jack Hemstreet, state special officer, formerly a policeman here, and before that a professional hypnotist, declared tonight that he had hypnotized W. E. Hardy, bootlegger, when he took him to Portland to collect money to pay a \$500 fine imposed on Hardy here.

"Now, you will not try to get away from me until you raise that money," Hemstreet said he told the prisoner after getting him under the spell. He declared that Hardy followed at his heels like a dog during the stop in Portland.

Hardy was arrested in a hotel here with 28 quarts of liquor. He was tried and convicted in justice court and obtained permission to go to Portland and get the money from his clients.

Some of the persons on whom the officer and his prisoner called were prominent citizens of Portland. Some of them refused when Hardy explained that he had been fined, and requested a little extra consideration in view of the Yuletide season.

GIFTS BESIEGE HARDING

President and Family to Pass Quiet Christmas at White House.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 24.—A quiet Christmas at the White House was in prospect tonight for President and Mrs. Harding. The president, it is expected, will attend services tomorrow at Calvary Baptist church and return to the White House for a dinner, which, it is understood, will be entirely private and informal.

Parcels and packages, which have been received this week, however, are evidence that the thoughts of many will be with the Harding household on Christmas day.

A huge turkey gobbler, kept over from Thanksgiving, which has held a status of pet in the White House grounds during the intervening weeks, dining sumptuously every day from the table scraps and luncheon remnants, furnished by guards and police interested in his fate, was in good shape tonight for a sudden demise.

That the feast was not without foundation will prove true with the members who live in the extreme districts of the state. A few representatives asserted their posts before final adjournment in order to catch trains which would land them at home Christmas morning, and to home the members went home tonight.

CUPID GIVES SANTA CLAUS CLOSE RACE

17 COUPLES GET CHRISTMAS MARRIAGE LICENSES.

Thirty Permits to Wed Issued in Vancouver, First One at 4 o'Clock in Morning.

Dan Cupid ran Santa Claus a close race for the position of Portland's patron saint yesterday. Seventeen licenses were issued at the bureau over which Cupid John B. Easter presided. Those obtaining licenses were: Thomas Miller, legal, 124 East Sixth street, and Hilda Schuene, legal, 124 East Fourth street.

Tony F. Blonoff, legal, Boise, Idaho, and Grace G. Laverly, legal, 455 Sixth street.

Herbert Edward McRae, legal, 1035 Rodney avenue, and Agnes Anderson, legal, 346 Beach street.

Albert L. Baran, 27, Oregon City, Or., and Mary Dollowitch, 19, Portland.

Elijah Adams, legal, 6713 Eighth street Southeast, and Lillie Rowley, legal, same address.

Robert W. Schmeer, legal, 835 Overton street, and Anne C. Mannion, legal, 267 North Twenty-ninth street.

Charles H. Hodgdon, legal, 1079 Albia avenue, and Mildred M. Jamison, legal, 1753 Exeter street.

Orville W. Griffin, 31, Ione, Wash., and Eva D. Hughes, 19, 5415 Sixty-seventh street Southeast.

Charles H. Thompson, 28, 53 Eleventh street North, and Ruth Menis, 25, same address.

David W. Litherland, legal, Astoria, Or., and Amelia H. Krueger, legal, 1515 East Tenth street North.

Jens C. Larsen, 28, 7222 Sixty-fourth avenue Southeast, and Rose M. Christiansen, 21, 540 East Thirty-second street.

Russell E. Bisset, 18, 324 West Park street, and Opal Bradley, 18, 324 West Park street.

Lawrence W. Collier, legal, Y. M. C. A., and Jean O. Skogon, legal, 433 Market street.

Alfred B. Weatherford, legal, 639 Flanders street, and Louise E. Brown, legal, 205 North Twentieth street.

Frederick A. Kocher, 23, Warrendale, Or., and Alta K. Hurlburt, 20, Portland.

WORLD BETTERED, DECLARES GERMAN

1921 Called Great Year of Pacification.

MUCH IS STILL TO BE DONE

Starvation of Hordes of Children Noted.

UGLY SPOTS PASSED UP

Harden Says Center of History Has Moved West—Approach of Irish Peace Welcomed.

BY MAXIMILIAN HARDEN.

Germany's foremost publicist. Copyright, 1921, by The Oregonian.

BERLIN, Dec. 24.—(Special cable.)—"Peace on earth, good will to men."

So rang the song of Bethlehem centuries ago. And like the unheeding Romans of old, shall we say Christmas came again to a world distracted and torn with strife?

We say that peace and good will have not arrived, despite the efforts of three continents? Shall we say that the lion and the lamb will not lie down together?

In other words, are we as dead as the Roman world was during the latter days of Caesar? Is it not that the multitude of events, whirling cinema-like before our eyes, blunts our powers of perception so that we do not see the importance of the happenings about us?

It is true that hundreds of thousands are starving in the valleys of the Volga. Hordes of orphans wander, seeking food like wild dogs, fighting in the village streets over the flesh of dead bodies. We read all of this with a sigh—and turn the page.

Germs Are Disguised.

The published correspondence between the ex-kaiser and Field Marshal Von Hindenburg reveals nine-tenths of the readers who think that any Germans who find pleasure in such a heap of untruths and calumnies are incapable of improvement and unworthy of pity.

Millions of Germans turn away almost with physical disgust from this wretched, cunning repetition of lies repudiated a thousand fold.

But are the ugly spots in the world picture the most important? Great things are happening. The center of the world's history has moved west. Between the Atlantic and the Pacific today stands the world power held for centuries by the Mediterranean lands.

Its order cancels treaties and makes laws for the people in the depths of Asia and the northernmost parts of Europe—laws which are no longer based on national greed and a thirst for power.

Three great powers agree to a programme lessening the tax burden as well as the danger of war.

Peace With Ireland Near.

After seven centuries of bloody strife and injustice, Anglo-Irish disputes at last seem to be on the high road to settlement. Remembering the house of lords' harsh rejections of Mr. Asquith's "home rule" project in 1913, one can well appreciate England's desire today for an understanding in all things with the United States.

So, during the last months of 1921 more has been done for world pacification, more has been done for civilization than in many centuries. It is true much is left. Even the most casual look around saddens the observer. However, much of misery is hidden beneath the roll of unemployed in the United States and England, in Switzerland and Holland, Germany, although she has produced twice as

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TODAY TO BE FIRST WHITE CHRISTMAS

WEATHER RECORDS SHOW NO OTHER SNOW DECEMBER 25.

Light Fall in 1909 Failed to Stay on Ground Long Enough for Santa to Use It.

The first honest-to-goodness white Christmas in Portland's history, at least for 30 years dawned today, and Portlanders who have spent their lives here will look forth today on their first Christmas of the kind that where the Christmas illustrations and postcards are made. A diligent search of the weather bureau records as far back as 1892 failed to reveal a single instance of December 25 with snow on the ground.

In 1909 a half inch of snow fell on Christmas day but did not stay, and traces of snow, insufficient to be measured, fell on Christmas in 1913, 1914 and 1916, but in none of these years did the white crystals remain long enough to provide footing for Santa's fleet reindeer or a proper surface for the runners of his overburdened sleigh.

General weather conditions as affecting Portland and vicinity were practically unchanged last night, with every indication that the temperature will remain low today and that whatever precipitation occurs will probably be in the form of snow.

The formal forecast of the weather bureau, bearing out the promise of a white Christmas, is, "Sunday probably snow; winds mostly easterly."

TODDLE TOP IS RAGE NOW

It Is Simply Beautiful, It Is Declared—If One Wins.

(Copyright, 1921, by The Oregonian.) LONDON, Dec. 24.—(Special Cable.)—"Christmas finds the 'put and take' top in full possession of Great Britain. The London papers declare 'the new affliction is not dangerous. For English consumption this 'toddle top' has been given the names of 'u-ellek' and 'sanfarlan'."

"It is beautifully simple," says the London Express, "and simply beautiful—if one wins. There is nothing in the rules that the most timid soul need fear. It is as easy as tossing for shillings, and can be quite as unprofitable."

Who is the genius who thought of the game first nobody knows. His idea has, however, spread around the world. Thirty-five million of the tops are said to have been sold in America, but it is hoped that England will discover that something very dull and genuine urges the Christmas greeting to their lips, and will show it with great satisfaction. They will have, perhaps, the odd sensation of the old woman of nursery rhyme, who about it, and really didn't care, will thought "and na' merrin' me!" "Cast this is!" It is tonic to the tongue.

Doubting Ones Reassured.

The fact of the matter is, by all accounts, that the Christmas of 1921 is quite as merry as its greeting. The ruddy old patron saint came with a full pack, and handed out his favor as one who has more where they came from. There are thousands of homes that never fail to hold the holidays of the yule, and smile to see the children count their gifts, and the grown ups grow young again. But there are other homes to which Christmas comes almost providentially, and the are ever near to neglect, and always far from laughter. The singular beauty of this Christmas is that none of them has been missed, and the boys and girls who were about ready to disbelieve are confident again.

You see, long before Christmas came, and up to the very hour that the cattle knelt at their manger there were those who worked to make the day come true. Gifts in the rail and snow, jangling bells over iron kettles that caught many a copper dime and dollar; folk who took careful note that the man who lives in the little house was out of work again; discreetly inquisitive persons who discovered that, most regretfully the family over the way no longer had credit with the grocer; and an number of people who cruised about with the intent that hunger and long faces should be banished from the city. And the fact is, so successful were they that even the Salvation

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EVERYBODY CRIES MERRY CHRISTMAS

City That Never Grew Up Joyous Today.

CITIZENS' PULSE QUICKENS

Nothing Bogus About Santa Youngsters' Verdict.

NONE MISSED THIS YEAR

Fact Is Ruddy Old Patron Saint Came With Full Pack; Day Verily Is Merry One.

BY BEN HTR LAMPMAN.

Finally, after long weeks, Christmas will come this morning to the city that never grew up. At dawn before the birds are out, lights will shine from thousands of homes, and Council Crest will twinkle at Mount Tabor across the city, as if they shared a very pleasant thought. They will, indeed, for the children will be tumbling out of bed and rubbing the sleep from their eyes, and laughing and exclaiming as they always do on such a morning. And the city, perceiving this, and noting the fact that its pulse quickened to the clamor will be glad to its shoes that it is no older than it was a year ago, and never shall be older when Christmas comes.

Make no doubt of it, the very first pedestrian who walks abroad meeting the last belated worker of the night shift, without the vestige of an introduction, will wake the quiet streets and hear in the day with an unequivocal, cheery and emphatic "Merry Christmas!"

Bells to Echo Greeting.

The town will catch up the shibboleth. By sunrise it will be every where on every tongue, with the bells for its accompaniment. Folk who were accustomed to bid one another "Good morning" as if they had their doubts about it, and really didn't care, will discover that something very dull and genuine urges the Christmas greeting to their lips, and will show it with great satisfaction. They will have, perhaps, the odd sensation of the old woman of nursery rhyme, who about it, and really didn't care, will thought "and na' merrin' me!" "Cast this is!" It is tonic to the tongue.

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CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS ON CURRENT NEWS EXPRESSED PICTORIALLY BY CARTOONIST PERRY.

