



"At Christmas Play and Make Good Cheer, For Christmas Comes but Once a Year."



Section Two

Coos Bay Times

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By Wireless on Christmas Eve

A Yuletide Fantasy

By EARLE HOOKER EATON

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Oh, pretty queen of Christmastide, I know your winsome wiles!
You're wreathed in greens and mistletoe, and also wreathed in smiles.
I got a wireless call from you—a C Q D you sent.
I heard the spark coil P D Q and to the rescue went!

A MUNICIPAL CHRISTMASTREE

EVERY CITY AND TOWN, INCLUDING MARSHFIELD, SHOULD ERECT THIS SYMBOL OF BELIEF IN THE SPIRIT OF THE HOLY, HAPPY YULETIDE SEASON.

EVERYBODY'S Christmas tree—the municipal Christmas tree, Christmas and its spirit—should grow and shed its glow of hope and faith in every city, town and village in the land. Marshfield, as well as every other, needs its beneficial and regenerating presence. Join in the movement to rear it in some public place!

For his own sake, as well as for the sake of those who have no private Christmas trees of their own, everyone should help in the movement for a municipal Christmas tree. Wherever it has been erected in the past it has helped to sweeten and brighten the Christmas season. It is the focus of a town's Christmas celebration, the radiant point from which stream influences of joy and helpfulness. To it, as to their own, those whose homes are unilluminated by the private Christmas tree's wonderful glow. And from it return to their homes those to whom Christmas is a home festival, sacred and blissful, brightened and cheered by the thought that they have made Christmas better for others.

For two years the municipal Christmas tree, introduced into the United States from Europe, has stood with the custom of singing carols in the street, which revives an old time Yule joy, for a newer, brighter and bigger Christmas festival.

Through these agencies the Christmas holiday season is taking on a new tone. It is becoming more of a public function, participated in by the organized public, and less the chimney corner celebration of the family. Not that the home Christmas is being done away with, but that the celebration which reaches "the lonesome poor and rich," that is participated in by the church, charity organizations and the municipality, is forging to the front all over the country.

Official Christmas Trees.

The biggest thing in this movement is the municipal Christmas tree, which serves as a rallying place for all who have no Christmas trees of their own and who are yet touched by the holiday spirit. It is truly "the people's Christmas tree" and worthy of erection in every city, town, village and hamlet. Why not have a municipal Christmas tree?

In 1912 it blazed forth for the first time. Mrs. E. D. L. Herreshoff of New York City was the woman of inspiration and vision in the east who originated the idea. She communicated her plan to her friends. It was taken up by the press and finally by the city authorities. Manhattan decided to have its first municipal Christmas tree.

Madison square was selected as the point at which the first tree should be set up. From over the mountains one fifty feet tall was ordered. It was laboriously put in place, elaborately hung with decorations, dazzlingly illuminated with electric lights. To these trappings of man was added a sifting down of nature's snow, which scattered countless crystals in all the branches of the small park.

At sundown the chimes burst forth from the lofty heights of the metropolitan tower near by. Soon trumpeters appeared at the different entrances of the square sounding the fanfare from "Parsifal." From the church of Dr. Charles H. Parkhurst poured forth a choir to lead the caroling. As the strains of "Stilly Night" broke upon the air there filled into the park the lonely ones from all the metropolitan millions. From sundown until midnight the star of Bethlehem twinkled from the tree-top, and the hordes of people that

surged back and forth absorbed a bit of the Christmas spirit that they might not otherwise have had.

Very Successful Celebration.

So successful was the celebration of that year that New York again set up its municipal Christmas tree, and last year the festivities were much more elaborate and better organized.

No sooner had Mrs. Herreshoff announced her idea of a celebration of Christmas than the idea was taken up in Boston. Mayor John F. Fitzgerald himself stood sponsor for it. The tree was set up on historic Boston Common, made to blaze with light, and again were the snows of heaven sifted down upon it as a benediction. The mayor himself presided over the celebration.

Hartford, Conn., got the idea last year just in time for its execution. Here again a woman was responsible. She had been reading of the new idea that was being inaugurated in New York, when, not a week before Christmas, she burst forth with the question:

"Why not Hartford?"

The time was ample. A farmer delivered the tree two days later—the largest one that had ever come to town. It was set up in front of the statehouse, and as Christmas eve came on the Foot guards awaked the echoes with the strains of "Onward, Christian Soldiers." The tree stood for a week.

San Francisco Has Many Trees.

The spirit of the west, which appropriates unto itself whatever germ of good is afloat in the atmosphere of the times, appeared in San Francisco with an entire group of Christmas trees at the same time that

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BIG DEMAND FOR BIBLES.

(By Associated Press in Coos Bay Times.)
LONDON, Dec. 11.—Since the war began, the British and Foreign Bible Society has distributed more than 5 million copies of the Bible among soldiers, sailors, refugees and aliens in detention camps. The languages represented include English, French, Flemish, German, Russian, Polish, Servian, Turkish and Japanese.

Times Want ads bring results.

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