

## Christmas Cheer is Dispensed in Wholesale Lots to Thousands in Portland



Top, left to right—Volunteers of America sending out packages of good things; children waiting outside Armory where Muts had their Christmas tree celebration yesterday.  
Center—George L. Baker giving present to one of 3000 youngsters at Armory.  
Bottom, left to right—Children from Frazer Home, at Christmas tree in F. T. Rogers barber shop; Packing Christmas dinners at Portland Commons.

### GERMANS ARE ANNIHILATED IN BZURA BATTLE

Three Attempts to Cross the Bzura River Result in Complete Destruction of Expeditions, Say Russians.

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Petrograd, Dec. 25.—Details of bloody attempts of the Germans to cross the Bzura, between Rawa and Sochaczew, were received here today. Wurtemberg troops were brought from France to aid in the advance on Warsaw.  
Last Saturday night the Wurtemberg troops charged across rough and swampy ground against Siberian troops in the face of a frightful fire. The enemy reached the Siberian trenches and desperate hand to hand fighting resulted. The Germans were finally repulsed, but charged repeatedly, until seven Wurtemberg battalions were annihilated.  
On Sunday night two German detachments crossed the Bzura, over a foot bridge near Piela. The detachments were annihilated by the Russians. Two more German battalions concentrated on the bank of the river Monday. On Monday night, without waiting for an attack by the enemy, the Siberians surrounded the Germans and annihilated them. Twelve hundred Germans were slain.  
Russian troops have captured numerous positions, cannon and machine guns in the fighting about the Bzura and Rawa rivers. A great battle is still in progress, not having reached a decisive stage yet.  
Fighting was proceeding in the Caucasus, with the Russians assuming the offensive in the direction of Surz-kamyth, according to an official statement issued by the war office today.  
"Turkish outposts," the statement said, "have been repulsed along the whole front. After a stubborn resistance in the direction of Van, the Turks were compelled to retreat with considerable loss."  
"During the recent fighting at Milawa, a Russian battalion rallied a transport and captured a quantity of Christmas gifts."  
**Santa Claus Act Fatal.**  
Grand Forks, N. D., Dec. 25.—While preparing to play Santa Claus here today, Walter Bjorko, 12 years old, became entangled in some rope and was choked to death.

### KING ALBERT SPENDS CHRISTMAS WITH HIS FAMILY IN ENGLAND

British Maintain Christmas Spirit; France Gives Bottle Champagne to Soldiers.

By Ed L. Keen.  
London, Dec. 25.—England was trying today to maintain its old Christmas spirit and it succeeded fairly well. The celebrations here resembled those of previous years. The royal family spent the day at Sandringham.  
Hundreds of gifts were distributed at various hospitals and thousands of Belgians were fed and cared for.  
King Albert of Belgium arrived at Folkstone incognito yesterday. He is the guest of Lord and Lady Curzon, with whom the queen of Belgium and her children have been living since September.  
Kaiser Wilhelm spent the day at the front.  
**French Give Champagne.**  
Paris, Dec. 25.—French advances along practically the entire 250-mile front, from Belgium to Alsace, were reported in today's official communication. It was said yesterday's advances were pronounced and sustained, despite German counter attacks.  
Northwest of Measil and east of Pethes, the statement continued, the French took the main trenches of the enemy and were holding the entire German first line trenches.  
France sent every man on the firing line a quarter bottle of champagne.  
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### Boiler Explodes As Shoppers Leave

Chicago Department Store Catches Fire, Is Destroyed and Several Firemen Hurt; Apartment Houses Also Burn.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—As the last of the Christmas shoppers were leaving the Julius Oppenheimer department store early today, a boiler explosion occurred in the basement, setting fire to the building. The structure was destroyed. Several firemen were hurt by falling walls. Two apartment houses also caught fire and ten families were rendered homeless.

### Eight Are Injured In Nevada Wreck

Second Section of Southern Pacific Passenger Train Crashes Into First Near Imlay; Injured Will Recover.

Reno, Nev., Dec. 25.—Eight persons were injured, none seriously, at Imlay, Nev., when the second section of Southern Pacific train, No. 19, crashed into the first section, according to advices received here today from Imlay. The engineer jumped and escaped unhurt.

### CHILD BRINGS GAIETY TO WHITE HOUSE; BIG TREE CARRIES GIFTS

President's Grand Niece Center of Attraction; Washington Saddened by War.

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Washington, Dec. 25.—Anne Cottrill, President Wilson's favorite grand-niece, was the center of attention at the White House today. Gifts from a huge Christmas tree were distributed by the president. The party at the White House was composed of Francis B. Sayre and Mrs. Sayre, Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo and Mrs. McAdoo and Miss Margaret Wilson.  
The capital this Christmas was not as gay as usual, the shadow of Europe's war being plainly apparent. The atmosphere at the various embassies was particularly gloomy.  
Excepting Secretary of War Garrison, all the members of the cabinet spent Christmas in Washington.  
A municipal celebration held last night gladdened the hearts of thousands of poor children.  
**SING AT LOTTA'S FOUNTAIN**  
San Francisco, Dec. 25.—Mrs. Bernice de Pasquall and John McCormack sang to a crowd estimated at 100,000 persons at Lotta's fountain last evening.  
**Christmas Quarrel Is Fatal.**  
Washington, Dec. 25.—George Scherby, alias George Weaver, 35 years old, shot and killed his wife today following a quarrel at their home here. Scherby then rushed to his mother's home and committed suicide in her presence.  
**Blizzard Headed Straight for East**  
Washington, Dec. 25.—The weather bureau here predicted today that a big snowstorm, possibly a blizzard, would strike the east before tomorrow. The storm was said to be rushing to the north from Alabama and Georgia.

### DOWN BUT NOT OUTS FEASTED BY O-W. R. & N.

Scenes That Bring Tears Are Witnessed at Ash Street Dock as Men Out of Work Are Fed.

Hearts grew warm and eyes grew moist this morning at the dingy Ash street dock when hundreds of homeless and jobless men gathered around the big Christmas trees and awaited their turns at the Christmas feast on board the Hassalo. The O-W. R. & N. company played host to all these men and when they entered saw to it that their necessities were cared for, and besides added things that were to be found on the menus of the very, very rich.  
The big waiting room on the dock was a veritable Christmas bower, with a brightly lighted tree standing in the center of the room, and other lesser trees flanking it. Strings of holly and Oregon grape extended from post to post. Nearly 1500 invitations had been issued last night and the recipients began presenting them at 10 o'clock, though the dinner was not  
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### Buying Automobiles

Every year, as new models come out, automobile owners trade in their used machine on a new one or else sell the used one outright. In the great majority of cases the used machines are good for long and satisfactory service, the owners taking new cars merely to secure a few added refinements.  
This condition of affairs in the automobile market offers an exceptional opportunity to prospective automobile owners. They can secure a machine at a big discount from the original cost and still have one which will give great pleasure and service.  
The automobile column of The Sunday Journal Want Ads is the best Oregon market for used machines. If you consider buying one be sure to read this column carefully. You will be offered a large choice of machines at very attractive prices.

### Peace and Plenty City's Lot Bountiful Feasts Are Spread Muts Are Santa Claus Hosts

War on gloom was continued today with the dawn of a new Christmas morning. And though the skies were dark and a sleety rain was falling, the people were glad. Throughout the city little Christmas trees stood in almost every home. Happy children were playing with new-found toys. Even in those abodes where unemployment made the household drear were signs of the glad season, for there came visits from the kindly and benevolent.  
Portland had every reason to celebrate Christmas with unusual spirit. And celebrate she did, beginning yesterday afternoon. Family dinners today were made more enjoyable by the knowledge that those who have no families and no homes were being abundantly cared for. Without question, the agencies for relief have accomplished more substantial aid than ever before. Families have been outfitted with furniture, food, clothing and the little comforts that make living brighter.  
Children have been supplied with warm shoes and stockings, toys and candies. Better than all, men have been supplied with employment and put in position to remain above charity.  
And so the dawn of Christmas and the activities of the day found new significance in Portland. Doubtless there remained many "whom Santa forgot," but these probably were fewer than ever before.  
Once the children had emptied their stockings and made home riotous with the blab of horns and the thrub of drums, and while happy mothers were preparing to set the turkey into the  
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### Oregon Man Killed By Short Circuit

Adolph Meyers and Companion Killed By Electricity in Tonopah Power Plant; Meyers Leaves Wife in Oregon.  
Tonopah, Nev., Dec. 25.—Adolph Meyers and H. E. Mould, in charge of the substitution of a power plant here, were instantly killed at 10 o'clock today. In trying to locate a "short circuit," they had climbed a pole, after putting on a "first control." The current, however, leaped across, and both fell to the ground dead.  
Meyers leaves a wife in Oregon. Mould's wife returned only two days ago from an eastern trip.  
**Peace Overtures Intimated.**  
Paris, Dec. 25.—It was reported here yesterday that Austria had made independent peace overtures to the allies through Vienna bankers, upon the basis of the concession of Galicia to Russia and Bosnia to Serbia.

### WEMME WILL FOUNDS HOME FOR WAYWARD GIRLS IN PORTLAND

Maternity Hospital Provided for by Late Public-Spirited Citizen; Document Filed

"The White Shield of Portland, Oregon," a maternity hospital for wayward and unfortunate young women of Portland, is to be founded at once under the terms of the will of E. Henry Wemme, the well known Portlander who died December 17 in Los Angeles. To provide for the hospital Mr. Wemme set aside from his property a half block on the west side of Fourth street between Flanders and Everett streets, the northwest corner of Front and Burnside streets; a plot 100 by 120 feet on which is the building housing the city and a spring business formerly owned by Mr. Wemme, and the south 120 feet of the block at Union avenue and the north side of Bullwinkle gulch, occupied by the Moline plow works.  
In Mr. Wemme's will, filed late yesterday.  
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### Fire Starts Panic; Santa Is Burned

Ranch Hand Injured When His Clothing Catches Fire at Sunday School Christmas Tree Celebration.  
Sacramento, Cal., Dec. 25.—James Holsten, ranch hand, was seriously burned Thursday night when his clothing caught fire while acting as Santa Claus at a Sunday school Christmas tree in a schoolhouse west of this city. The room was crowded with children and a panic was averted only by the presence of mind of Mrs. Bert Leik, who began playing the piano.

### Floods in Arizona Are Receding Now

Three Lives Lost and Much Damage Done to Property by Southwestern Floods Following Six Day Rain.  
Nogales, Ariz., Dec. 25.—After taking a toll of three lives and several thousand dollars' worth of property, flood waters were receding here today after six days of continuous rains. The dead at Nogales were Walter Fortune, county supervisor, and two Mexicans. All were caught in flood waters and swept away.