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It is good to be children sometimes, says the author of the article 'The Best of Days', referring to the joy of Christmas.

THE BEST OF DAYS

IT SHOULD be clear to any Portlander that this city more than any other is entitled to Christmas advertising as the joy capital of all the world.

Quite true there is snow enough on the skyline mountains to meet the most exacting ambition for a white Christmas.

Then, this is the Christmas tree center of the country. The Chicago or New Yorker buys a bit of billous evergreen brought a long way.

One of the beautiful customs of Christmas is the exchange of Christmas cards. The people of most communities are content with little stock pictures of snow and ice.

Both motorists had their lights turned on as brightly as possible. This is the common mistake of driving through a fog.

Portland people can only wish that their security and comfort, the atmosphere of neighborliness created by a city of friends, could be universal.

But there is always in fog a little gray, generally disseminated light by means of which one may see at least the general outlines of the road.

When Santa Claus entered the door at the Children's Home in South Portland Saturday afternoon a small boy left his chair, rushed up to the jovial saint and leaped into his arms.

There, with arms entwined tightly about Santa Claus' neck, the little fellow remained until Santa gently put him down in order to attend to the important business of distributing gifts.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

MAY this day be one of gladness and beauty for all Journal readers. This wish by the paper is not merely a formal and empty compliment.

The bane of this world is hate. Christmas has another and widely different formula. Christmas is the natal day of Him who said, 'Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.'

It may be a far cry, but that is the way The Journal would have the world be. It would, if it could, watch the heart of everyone with the care for others and soften in man the case-hardened desire to accumulate.

When they buy their gifts for the loved ones at Christmas, everybody confesses that it is for the purpose of spreading good will and gladness.

To the grandfather in his corner by the fireplace, to the grandchild in the arms of his sturdy breadwinner and the bright-eyed youngsters in every home, The Journal wishes a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

In Detroit lunacy commissions are striving to ascertain if automobiles are insane. One person who was going 32 miles an hour was found to be not only of inferior intelligence but deaf and of poor vision.

IN THE FOG

ALL he could see was the twinkling red of the tail light on the machine ahead of him. Suddenly even this disappeared. The machine had gone over the bank.

Luckily the sturdy top had held without serious break. Luckily, too, he was able to get the door open and extricate himself from a most unnatural position.

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PEACE PROMISE IN PARLI

Again are Central American Republics in Council at Washington seeking to establish an Arbitration Instrumentality in the Interest of Compelling Peace.

Once more Washington is the scene of an international gathering that is looked to hopefully by Americans here and there as another long step toward peace and stability.

In the present instance the purpose of the meeting, as the New York Tribune has pointed out, is to set on foot the machinery for adjusting those disputes among the Central American nations which ordinary diplomacy is unable to settle.

According to the divorce court review, the chief impulse back of the modern feminine intent to commit matrimony is a desire to secure alimony.

MERELY BOOKKEEPING

BASED on the testimony of Judge Lovett in connection with the Southern Pacific and Central Pacific merger matter, The Journal commented on the expenditures which he testified were being made through 'many agencies' to influence public sentiment to support the separation of the Southern Pacific and Central Pacific.

The transcript of this testimony, now at hand, shows that, on being asked by Commissioner Myers, Judge Lovett testified these expenditures were not being charged to operating expense but were being charged into a suspense account.

NOT LOST IN WINTER

From the Despatch (U. I.) Herald. 'Tress are popularly supposed to shed their leaves in winter. The average person is scarcely conscious of their presence until, in spring, their buds burst, bringing color back into the landscape.

Granting that position, other writers none the less hold with the St. Paul Pioneer Press that 'union is the ultimate end which should be pursued as a political policy, and since the United States can give the republics invaluable aid in that direction, there is no reason why a coalition should not be made at the present conference.

THEY'LL NEVER GET PAST IRV

From the Boston Globe. 'Now that President Harding has quit the White House, what sort of sign would that be to threaten us with war?'

THE TURKISH NATHAN HALE

From the New York Times. 'No doubt the parting words of the sultan were: "I am sorry I have not more wives to leave to my country."

MOWING WITH MACHINERY

From the Toledo Blade. 'Lina Reese says the Grim Reaper has traded his scythe for an automobile.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

Oh, very merry Christmas! Wouldn't it be a wonderful world if every day were Christmas? Oh, well, the Fourth of July isn't far away!

DISCUSSING MOTIVES OF STATE

Clarence's Mission Taken as Text by the Editor of the Journal. The Journal-Clarence has been here and there, and the Editor of the Journal has written letters.

Among out of town visitors are Mr. and Mrs. Ralph E. Byers of La Grande. Mr. and Mrs. A. Thompson of Nehalem finished up their Christmas shopping in the metropolis.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Sweek of Heppner came to Portland for Christmas. Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Sweek of Heppner came to Portland for Christmas.

IMPRESSIONS AND OBSERVATIONS OF THE JOURNAL MAN

Retrospection in the realm of holidays is Mr. Lockley's Christmas mood. He is looking back at the year that has passed and thinking of the things that have happened.

It is said that in the games and diversions and in the manner of observing holidays of a people you can trace their national characteristics. Our people of the past century that many of the old-time customs observed during Christmas have become obsolete.

Many of the old-time holidays are no longer observed, while those that remain are often commercialized until the real spirit of the holiday is lost.

Prohibition was ardently attained. It will be slow to go. The American people do not always seem to know their own minds when it comes to them, but when they at last find that they are awfully 'set,' Prohibition is an experiment; it is a process.

NO PLACE FOR A WEEPER

From the Chicago Tribune. 'The revelation is that those who have faith are not the ones at the mourners' type of crises that are much to be feared.'

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

Oh, very merry Christmas! Wouldn't it be a wonderful world if every day were Christmas? Oh, well, the Fourth of July isn't far away!

SMALL CHANGE

It's a mighty sad day now that we're old enough to look back upon the things that we've done. All that he's cracked up to be.

SIDELIGHTS

We often wonder how Europe got along without America's help before the war was discovered. -Times Recorder.

MORE OR LESS PERSONAL

Visitors from east of the mountains are B. R. Purcell of Bend, Ernest Stoddard of Baker and Benson Burnett of Shaniko.

RANDOM OBSERVATIONS ABOUT TOWN

Visitors in the city are Donald Wilkinson of The Dalles, J. C. Bowman of Eugene, C. R. Jackson of Prineville and Frank Sokol of Eugene.

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AT CHRISTMAS

By Carl Landeshelm. Again we tell in the olden story, How the dear Christ forsook celestial story, How the maiden's interest life for you and me.

Here is a Christmas card published in the Journal which has been favored in England and the colonies: Now, three welcome, Christmas, which brings the snow and plum pudding, good ale and strong beer.

OREGON

Allan G. Carson, prominent attorney, has been elected president of the Oregon branch of the American Legion.

Census reports of the various school districts in the State show that 3024 children of school age in Tillamook county.

The Irrigation Commercial club has passed resolutions strongly urging government and state officials to proceed with the construction of the Wallula dam.

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Smith of Boise and Herbert K. Beard of Walla Walla are among out of town visitors.

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