

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST PEACE AND GOOD WILL TO MEN

"In Salem, 'City of Peace,' Christmas Spirit Shines From the Eyes of Little Children, Parents, All

By REV. J. R. BUCK,
St. Joseph's Catholic Church
About a mile from Bethlehem, under a scraggly grove of olive trees, stands a little chapel, old, neglected and lonely. It is, perhaps, a mere fragment of a church which was once built by St. Helena, and marks the spot where the shepherds stood on that memorable night nearly two thousand years ago, when, "Lo the glory of the Lord shone round about them," and the host of angelic voices sang the song that has come down to us throughout the ages, "Gloria in excelsis, Deo," "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace to men of good will." Hence it is called the chapel of "The Angel to the Shepherds."

We may almost picture to ourselves the scene. One of those still, clear chilly nights, with perhaps a bright moon filling the little plain with silver and where objects stood out the more clearly, because of the deep shadows. Away off in the distance was the dim outline of the hilly ground upon which stood the little town of Bethlehem, with now and then a ray of light shining out from some dwelling. The bleat of some lamb, seeking its mother, or perhaps the night cry of some bird was all that broke the stillness, and the shepherds, as though with a premonition of coming events, spoke in low tones as they looked across the sleeping world.

Then in the distance, a peculiar light appeared in the sky, and as it came nearer, it resolved itself into the myriads of angelic forms and they heard the heavenly music, "Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax, hominibus, bonae voluntatis."

"Come, let us go into Bethlehem, and see this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord hath made known to us," said the shepherds, and going forth they crossed the plain where Ruth, the ancestress of our Saviour, had gleaned the corn in an alien field, sick at heart, and David, the despised and youngest of a numerous family had himself watched sheep.

The birth of Christ, marked the greatest epoch of human existence. From the fall of man to this time, covering, perhaps, a period of some four thousand years which are commemorated by the church on the four weeks preceding Christmas, and called the Advent season, poor suffering humanity had little in the way of

real peace and comfort which true Christianity brings.

They hoped it is true, but as the years passed that hope had become very dim. The signs, which the prophets had given to them, were unheeded by the vast majority of the human race, and the transient, sinful and idle amusements filled their entire lives. Had as the world is today, we can scarcely form a dim picture of the wickedness and evil extant at that time.

Then, Jesus was born. The first Christmas dawned, and with its light, all that is good, all that is noblest, all that is best in man came to light. Anticipation and hope became realities. Man commenced to understand himself, and selfishness gave way to kindness, hatred gave place to love, and the charity of Jesus became the mainspring of joy and peace. All this is exemplified by the Christmas spirit every year, and we may well sing with the angels "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace to men of good will."

It is difficult for us to realize the great love he has shown to man by "becoming flesh and dwelling amongst us," for the condescension is infinite. The difference between man and brute nature is finite and we may measure it with some degree of accuracy. But who of us would willingly take the nature of a brute for the welfare of brute creation? Who of us would become a worm in order that worms might be brought to a better and nobler state? And in this comparison, we may to a very small extent, measure the love of God for man. Jesus, the second person of the blessed Trinity, became man in order that man might be elevated to a dim image and likeness of God. And between man and God the distance is infinite.

We do well, then, to imitate and practice the virtues of the lowly Babe of Bethlehem. The Christmas spirit should prevail, and this great anniversary should be commemorated, and its meaning kept ever before our children as well as ourselves.

In our own little city, Salem, "The city of peace," this spirit is alive. We see it shining forth in the faces of the little child as well as in the countenance of the mature and aged. We realize our trials and difficulties, many are burdened with cares, sickness and even death. Yet we are not hopeless, for we have learned to look

to the Babe of Bethlehem, have learned of His meekness and lowliness and charity, and at this season it is more pronounced than ever, and I doubt if there is scarcely a soul but what unconsciously sings with the angels, the first Christmas hymn, "Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis."

BLOOMING CHRISTMAS

BASKET CONTAINS 50 VARIETIES GROWN OUTSIDE

Superintendent R. E. Lee Steiner of the Oregon state hospital was to receive this morning a basket containing more than 50 varieties of cut flowers gathered and grown entirely out of doors by the florist. Included in the collection were four varieties of roses and as many hardy shrubs which are supposed to bloom in the spring. This is, it seems, not only a green, but a blooming Christmas.

Following is a list of those winter blooming flowers:

Veronica, hellebore, hollyhock, pansy, dianthus, carnation, scabiosa, doroicum, Oriental poppy, snap dragon, calendula, achilla, anemone, belle daisy, Testout rose, Hermosa rose, Victoria rose, Baby Rinalber rose, calliopsis, annual mums, Marguerite daisy, vinca, stocks, alyssum, gladiolus, tris, begonia, lemon lily, wallflower, verbena, chrysanthemums, California poppy, iris, star phlox, Japonica quince, strawflowers, violets, water lilies, hydrangia, spirea, forsythia, escolonia, laurustinus, geranium, geum, fox glove, aquastilma, rosy millifoli, high bush cranberry, Shasta daisy, armeria.

SIX BILLS VETED

OLYMPIA, Wash., Dec. 24.—Governor Hartley's Christmas gift to the state legislators in six vegetable bills and 24 signed measures.

YOUTHS SEE LITTLE WRONG IN THIEVING

Police Chief States Lack of Understanding Is Principal Problem

Petty larceny committed by youngsters is one of the most difficult tasks confronting Salem police, according to Chief Frank Minto. The boys, especially seem not to realize they are in the wrong when they put their fingers on articles not belonging to them.

Next in importance comes the prohibition problem. In this, Salem has not had so large a task on hand during the last month as previously. Strict enforcement in the city has led to an abatement more or less of this phase of violation.

Speeding is an offense always confronting the police. In this Officer Hickman of the day force and Officer Warren Edwards of the night force are efficient in hauling in offenders. Close en-

forcement of the speed laws, coupled with speedy conviction and sentence, has toned down the condition until now it is seldom any violator crashes through the city at a great speed.

Laws regulating card playing in the city are hard to enforce. Players are not allowed to bet on the side. Police hear often of alleged violations of this regulation, but are unable to do much, it is said, as the men keep their bets off the table when they see an officer approaching.

An arrest for alleged violation of this law was made this week, however. Mayor Giesy declares houses allowing such carryings on will have their licenses revoked by the council if they are caught red handed.

Many times when an accident has occurred or when a traffic law has been violated, drivers profess ignorance of the law. Such drivers do not meet with sympathy from Chief Minto.

"If a driver hasn't read the traffic laws thoroughly, he should be fined for lying," he declared. "At the time he gets his license from the office of secretary of state, he swears he has read the laws through and understands them."

Say It With a Classified Ad



MERRY CHRISTMAS

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157 S. Commercial



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For a

MERRY CHRISTMAS

JOHN J. ROTTLE



Here's Wishing: Ye Olde Tyme Merry Christmas!

STEUSLOFF BROS. MARKET



Merry Christmas!

The United States National Wishes Every One of its Patrons and Friends The Very Merriest Christmas They Have Ever Had

The United States National Bank
Salem, Oregon

EXPRESS TRUCK ROBBED

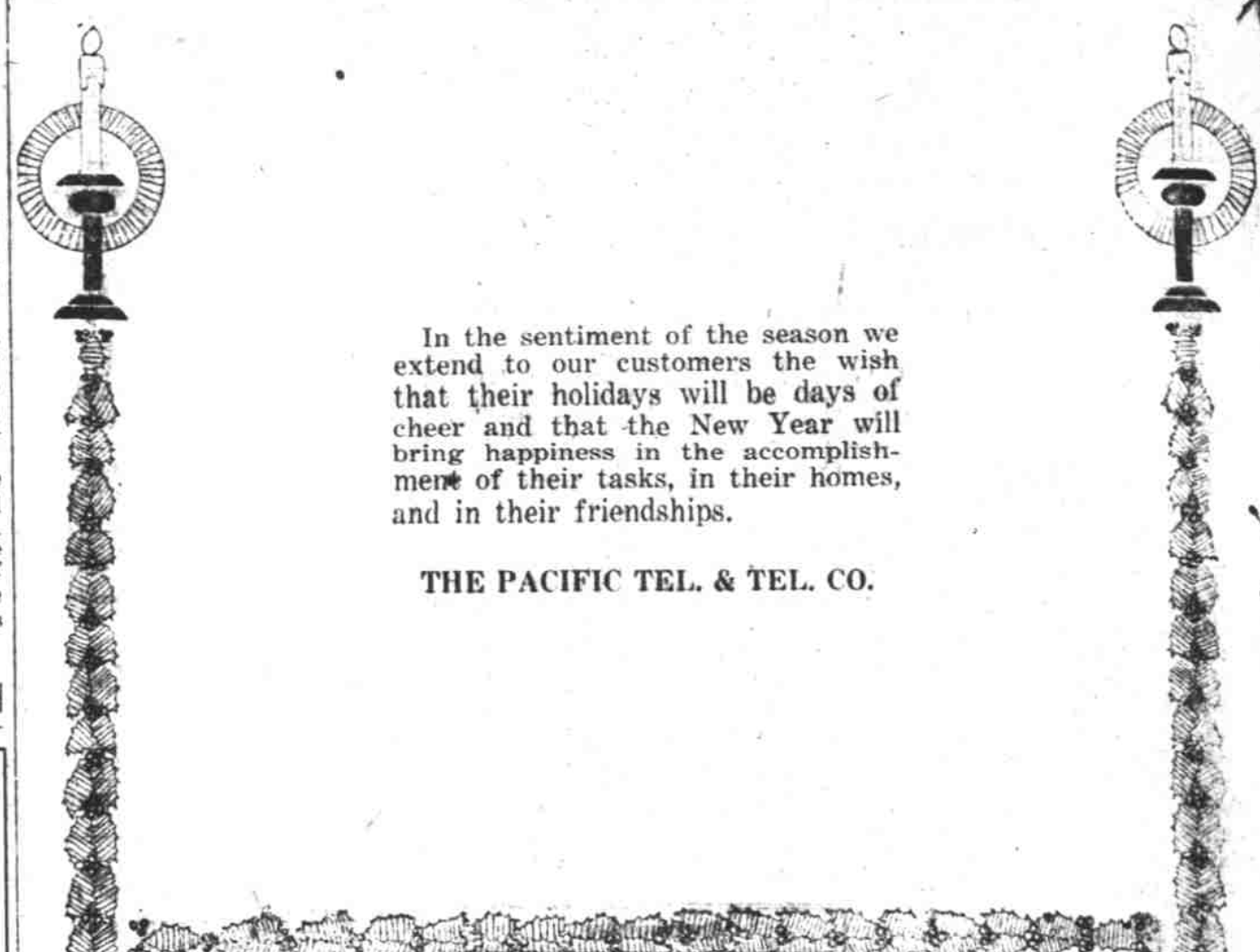
\$5000 IS TAKEN FROM WELLS FARGO SHIPMENT

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 24.—(By Associated Press.)—Forcing

a Wells Fargo and company express truck to the curb, three bandits in an automobile tonight held up the company's messenger and escaped with about \$5,000, a report to the police stated. The robbery took place in the business

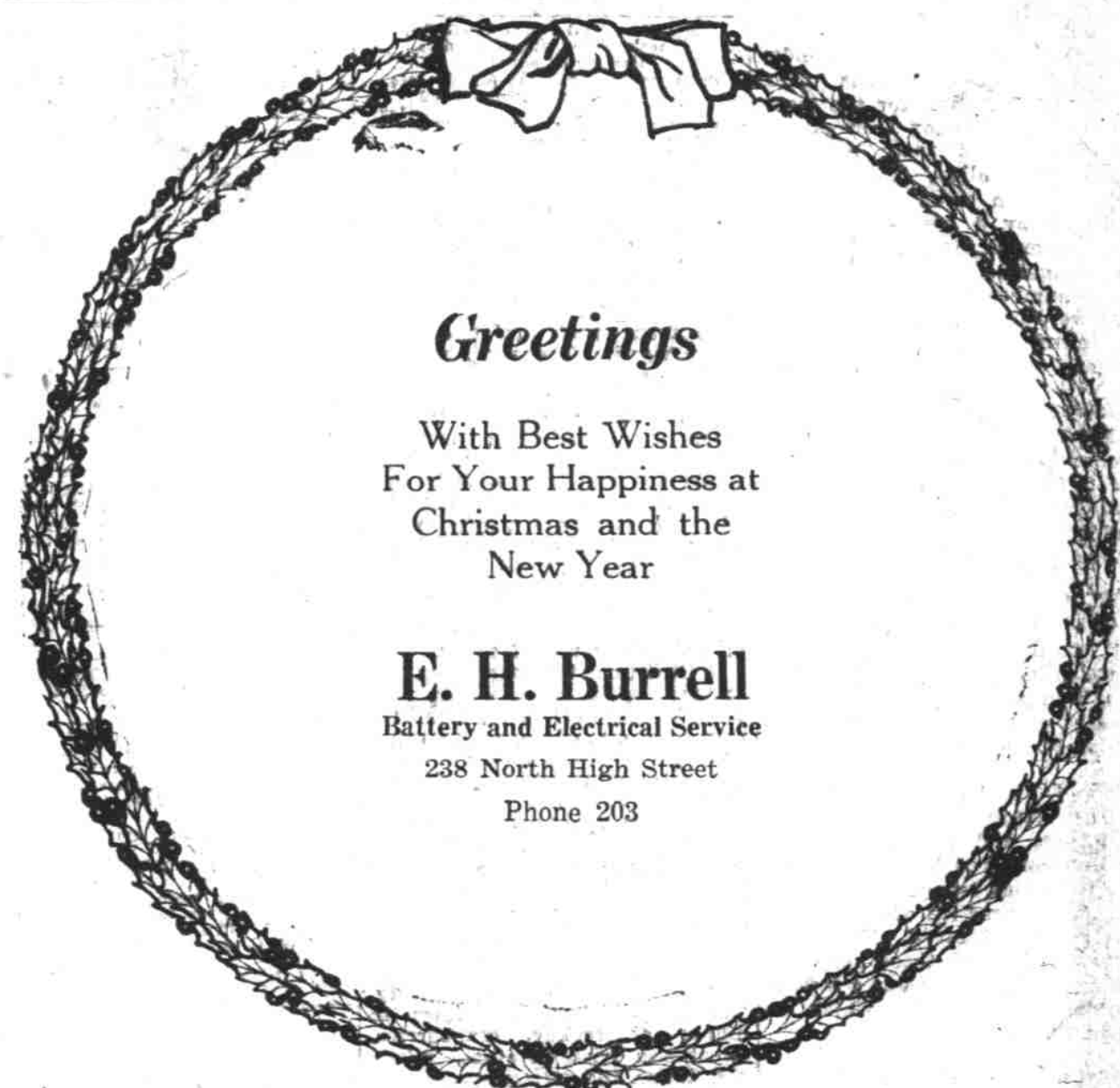
district shortly after the money shipment was received at the Southern Pacific station from the north.

Lane county has nine union high schools.



In the sentiment of the season we extend to our customers the wish that their holidays will be days of cheer and that the New Year will bring happiness in the accomplishment of their tasks, in their homes, and in their friendships.

THE PACIFIC TEL. & TEL. CO.



Greetings

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Battery and Electrical Service
238 North High Street
Phone 203

Kafoury's
With the spirit of sincere gratitude and appreciation to our many friends and customers for their generous patronage and good will
We Wish
A Merry Christmas
Kafoury Bros.

Christmas Greetings

AND THE BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR
KENNEL-ELLIS
Portrait Studio Oregon Building

We thank you for your kind patronage during the past year and extend our best wishes for a
Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year
Shipley's