

# The Oregon Statesman

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SALEM, OREGON, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 25, 1926

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## Merry Christmas

### OFFICERS SEEK MAN SUSPECTED OF STRANGLING

### Body of Woman Discovered in Basement With Shirt Around Neck

### CASE BAFFLES POLICE

### Roomer at Home Reports Meeting Poorly Dressed Worker Talking to Mrs. Berard in Parlor of Home

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa, Dec. 24.—(AP)—A mysterious stranger was sought tonight in an effort to solve the death of Mrs. John Berard, 41, wife of the Burlington railroad passenger agent here, whose body, with a shirt twisted around her neck, was discovered wedged between the furnace and wall in the basement of her home.

County authorities said the case was one of the most puzzling that had confronted them in years. They said they are not ready to accept a suicide theory, nor can they discard suspicions of murder. As the investigation progressed, however, detectives said they were almost convinced it was murder.

The "mysterious stranger" angle was given by Robert Moore, railroad fireman and roomer at the Berard home. Moore said as he left about 2:50 p. m. yesterday he noticed Mrs. Berard was in the parlor talking to a man whom she introduced as "Mr. Williams." Moore said he had never seen "Williams" before, and did not know the subject of the conversation. The man, Moore said, was rather poorly dressed and appeared to be 30 and 40 years old.

When Mrs. Berard introduced him to me, I thought nothing of it and did not stop to talk," Moore told police. "I thought he probably was some worker in the Seventh Day Adventist church, of which Mrs. Berard was an active member."

Members of the Berard family could shed no light on the stranger's identity.

To support a suicide theory is the recent nervous illness of Mrs. Berard.

"She had once said she wished she were dead," Mr. Berard said.

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### CHRISTMAS TREE GREAT SUCCESS

### 350 YOUNGSTERS RECEIVE GIFTS AT MEETING

### Salvation Army and Elks Cooperate in Most Worthy Work of Yuletide

The Elks-Salvation Army Xmas tree program, given at the armory last night, was easily the largest and best affair of its kind ever held in Salem. All seats in the big auditorium were filled and the audience overflowed into the gallery.

Dr. B. F. Pound, chairman of the Army advisory committee, gave an address of welcome to the young guests, telling them what they were to expect, and how gratified the Elks and Army were to see them out in such numbers. Cooke Patton, outside himself in feats of magic, receiving wild applause, especially from the young guests. The two youngsters who acted as Mr. Patton's aides deserve special mention for their part in the program. A piano solo and encore were rendered by Gail McClean in a charming manner.

### "On Earth Peace Among Men" Christmas Message

### "No Room in the Inn" So the Son of God Was Born in a Lowly Manger, Came Bringing Faith, Love, Hope and Joy to All Mankind

"THE miracle is wrought again. The Lamb of God is born And angles sing the song of peace Above the earth this morn.

"O would that Christmas peace and love And all its hope and cheer Could live within our hearts and souls Through every day and year."

—Edelman.

By Irl S. McSherry

ALMOST two thousand years ago there was enacted a scene in the little town of Bethlehem that has remained enshrined in the hearts of the people through the passing years. Bethlehem, a typical town of the times was filled with people. Many of the visitors crowded into the stables and used them for sleeping quarters. It was in one of these

### JURY CONVICTS PAT M'DERMOTT

### MAN HELD HIRING OF UNDERWORLD FOR SLAYING

### Defense Counsel Will Appeal to Higher Court on Grounds of Error

CANTON, Ohio, Dec. 24.—(AP)—Patrick Eugene McDermott was found guilty early tonight of first degree murder for the death of Don R. Mellet, Canton publisher.

The jury of 10 men and two women returned its verdict with a recommendation of mercy after deliberating but one hour.

The case was delivered into the hands of the jury just as dusk of Christmas eve fell over the city where the crusader editor a few months ago launched his attack on the underworld and its alleged police protection. From the time Mellet was shot down at his garage door in a fusillade of shots discharged from ambush early on the morning of July 16, there has been one predominant theory, that he was slain by the underworld.

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### LABISH LUNCH PLANNED

### Chamber of Commerce to Feature Region in Weekly Meeting

A "Lake Labish" luncheon will be held Monday noon by the chamber of commerce. It was announced yesterday. Products of the district will be served at the meal. L. O. Herrold will give statistics about the mint, celery, lettuce, onions, and fine potatoes grown there.

The Lake Labish country, extending eight miles in length from the Ketzler school to Parkersville, is from 100 to 2500 feet wide.

It was once a lake, but is now land worth from \$750 to \$1000 per acre. It is considered one of the greatest farming districts in the northwest.

It will be considered etiquette to chew gum flavored with Labish mint between courses.

### 32 REVELERS ARRESTED

### Police Swoop Down on Restaurants Staging Celebration

SEATTLE, Dec. 24.—(AP)—Thirty-two persons starting an old fashioned Christmas celebration here today were arrested when the police dry squad swooped down on two Seattle restaurants. Twenty-seven were charged with being in places where liquor was sold and the others were held as the operators of establishments.

### AUTO OWNERS URGED TO GET 1927 LICENSE

### Department Preparing to Take Care of Maximum Demand for Few Days

### ONLY 27,000 APPLIED

### "Unlawful to Operate Motor Vehicle in State With Any Other Plates Than of Current Year" Says Secretary

An urgent appeal for motor vehicle owners to obtain their 1927 license plates was made here yesterday by Sam A. Kozar, secretary of state.

"Of the 150,000 motorists in Oregon who drive their cars during the entire year not to exceed 27,000 have applied for 1927 license plates," read a statement issued by the state department. "This means that the same congestion will prevail the first of next year as has existed in the past."

"Attention has been directed to the fact that it is unlawful for motor vehicle owners to operate

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### ONE FATAL ACCIDENT

### 664 Injuries Reported to Commission During Week

There was one fatality due to industrial accidents in Oregon during the week ending December 25, according to a report prepared here yesterday by the state industrial accident commission.

Of the 664 accidents reported 551 were subject to the provisions of the workmen's compensation law, 108 were from firms and corporations that have rejected the act, and five were from firms and corporations not subject to state protection.

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### HIROHITO MADE RULER OF JAPS

### ACTUAL CORONATION TO BE HELD NEXT NOVEMBER

### Simple Ceremony Enacted Immediately After Death of Yoshihito

TOKYO, Dec. 25.—(AP)—Yoshihito, Japan's invalid emperor, died in the early hours of this Christmas morning. Hirohito, his eldest son, who since November, 1921, had ruled the empire as regent, immediately became Japan's 124th emperor.

The ceremony of the ascension of Hirohito to imperial office took place in the main hall of the villa at Hayama in which his father had just succumbed to pneumonia after critical illness of more than two weeks. Hirohito went almost directly from the death bed of his father to the ceremonial which proclaimed him monarch. Japanese custom so decreed.

Yoshihito yielded his reign while surrounded by all members of his family except his second son, Prince Chichibu, who is hastening home from England. The efforts of his majesty's many physicians who attended him day and night, and the unceasing devoted attendance of Empress Sadako, many times warded off death in the emperor's last day. The devotion of his attendants and the prayers of the nation were given credit by the Japanese for the prolongation of the life of the sovereign who since birth has suffered physical afflictions which ultimately affected his mentality.

The ceremony by which Hirohito became invested with imperial office was simple. It consisted of the turning over to his keeping of sacred treasures, symbolical of his sovereignty. There were a sword, a mirror and beads, which always accompany an emperor of Japan.

These treasures, really replicas of originals which are safely deposited in shrines, are venerated as having descended from the gods. With the treasures was also handed to the new emperor the pricy seal of his empire. The ceremony took place in the presence of cabinet ministers, other

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### SALEM'S POOR TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS DAY

### Salvation Army and Statesman's Fund Reaches High Mark

### 100 FAMILIES BENEFIT

### Theater Tickets Given in Baskets to Children Who Could Not Be Present at Celebration in Armory

Contributions to the Christmas cheer fund continued to come into the office until a late hour last night, bringing the grand total up to a high figure. The generosity of the citizens enabled The Statesman and the Salvation Army to bring happiness and joy into a number of homes today. In many of these homes the bare necessities would have been lacking except for the aid given.

The Christmas cheer fund was started some weeks ago and mounted steadily in spite of the fact that other similar movements started later in the month. The 48 hours witnessed a rapid increase in the fund and so enabled the workers to reach many worthy people and insure numerous youngsters against the tragedy of finding an empty stocking this morning.

Over one hundred families of Salem and outlying districts were recipients of Christmas cheer yesterday. More than 75 large boxes of food supplies, filled according to the needs and size of the families, were delivered at their doors. Each box contained enough provisions

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### CARS CRASH AT McCOY

### One Man Injured Seriously in Four Cornered Accident

DALLAS, Ore., Dec. 24.—(AP)—A. C. Vernon of Scio was injured seriously and G. A. Halton of Eugene hurt slightly when three automobiles and a farm wagon piled up today in a collision on the west side Pacific highway north of McCoy.

Slippery pavement on a hill was given as the cause of the accident. The cars were driven by Vernon, a son of Mrs. Halton and L. L. Shively of Amity. The driver of the team was in the employ of Mrs. William Rohde of McCoy. Vernon was taken to a hospital at McMinnville.

### JURY FREES WATCHMAN

### Testimony Showed Man Shot to Protect Lives of Family

SEATTLE, Dec. 24.—(AP)—Albert Swanson, department store watchman, who shot and killed his son-in-law, Fred C. Cartwright, 24, at the Swanson home yesterday, was exonerated by a coroner's jury today after testimony had been given by Swanson's daughter, his wife and neighbors.

The jury found that Swanson had "fired in defense of himself and his family's lives."

No further information is expected to be filed in the case against him.

### BUS REPORTED WRECKED

### Many Passengers Thought Hurt When Stage Leaves Bridge

MODESTO, Cal., Dec. 24.—(AP)—California Transit company stage northbound, with 35 people aboard was reported to have crashed through Ripon bridge, over Stanislaus river tonight. Many passengers were reported injured.

### BANDIT ROBS BANK

### CHILDRESS, Texas, Dec. 24.—(AP)—A robber held up Clarence Wylie, cashier of the First State Bank of Tell, and took \$1500, today.

### The Statesman Christmas Cheer Fund

The "Tragedy of an Empty Stocking" will not be enacted in many a home this morning owing to the generosity of the good people who contributed to The Christmas Cheer Fund. Many took supplies of clothing and food to the Salvation Army and so were doing just as splendid a work.

Every cent of money and every article of food and clothing is being used to make someone happy today.

Santa Claus says to tell you all he appreciated the help you gave him in the work and he wishes you one and all the very Merriest Christmas.

Previously acknowledged	\$177.27
Mrs. S. H. Baker	2.00
S. Bush	20.00
Cash	5.00
Perry Dodd	1.00
Cash	1.00
A. Friend	1.00
Fred J. Toose, Jr.	1.00
Another friend	1.00
John H. Scott	1.00
Check	5.00
A. Friend	.75
G. A. Brooks	1.00

### WINTER RELIEF FUND PLANNED

### CHARITY WORK HANDLED LIKE CHRISTMAS CHEER

### Many Families May Need Help During Winter Until Spring Work Opens

Christmas has come, and tomorrow it will be gone for another year. Salem has responded generously to all the pleas for Christmas relief for the destitute families of the city, but a long winter looms ahead for many of them until spring, with a prospect of more work, will be here.

With the view of helping many of these poor families until they can find work, the Salvation Army and The Oregon Statesman have decided to continue the Christmas cheer fund until spring.

The Statesman and the Salvation Army believe that Salem will not fall down in this good work, but will keep the Christmas spirit for a longer time.

The fund will be managed on the same plan by which the Christmas one was operated. Not only money, but clothing and food will be welcomed. Those who contribute money are asked to leave it at The Statesman office, while those who bring offerings of clothing or food can deposit them at a place which will be prepared in the Salvation Army headquarters.

It is believed that the fund will only be needed for about six more weeks, when work on farms and other outdoor sources of employment will be available for practically anyone who is able to work.

The same plan of selecting deserving families that is now used will be continued. The Salvation Army keeps a list of all families who are worthy of help, and will supply with clothing and food, so far as the money and supplies will permit.

All money that comes into the fund will be carefully spent, and will be used entirely for clothes and food.

The fund will not continue under the name of "Christmas cheer fund," but will be known as the Salvation Army and Oregon Statesman Winter Relief fund.

### TO SPEAK IN PORTLAND

### Similar Meetings to Be Held in Many Parts of Country

Dr. Norman K. Tully, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Salem, has accepted an invitation to give an address on the "Life of Woodrow Wilson" at the commemorative exercises to be held at the Central library in Portland Tuesday night, December 28.

On that day similar programs will be held in many sections of the United States under the direction of the National Commemorative committee of which Norman H. Davis is president. Joseph N. Teal of Portland is chairman of the Oregon committee and Edgar Freed is vice president. Governor Pierce and members of his official family will attend the Portland meeting.

### CAROLS USHER IN CHRISTMAS OVER COUNTRY

### President Coolidge Lights Yuletide Community Tree in Washington

### SANTA HEAPS PRESENTS

### Canvass of Official Circles Discloses General Homeward Exodus of Nation's Executive Leaders

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—(AP)—The nation lifted its voice as a "choir invisible" tonight with President and Mrs. Coolidge listening and singing at the White House to usher in the 1926 Christmas to the solemnly inspiring strains of old time carols.

With millions of voices raised in song in every quarter of the country, it was the first nationwide celebration under radio guidance. The choir of Central Congregational Church at Brooklyn, of which Dr. S. Parkes Cadman is pastor, broadcasting between 10:30 o'clock and midnight, over an extensive radio chain, provided the leadership that attracted singers from coast to coast.

Beginning of the celebration in Washington, which like most of the country could look forward only to a rainy rather than a snowy Christmas, was left to President Coolidge—the lighting of the community Yule Tree planted near the treasury. Marine band music and an address by Senator Capper of Kansas were other features of the program, after which Mr. and Mrs. Coolidge had invited the public to attend carol singing within the White House grounds, led by a choir of the First Congregational church.

Not all of the evening could be given by the Coolidges and their son, John, to singing, for three Christmas trees awaited decoration at their hands. Arranged in the blue room, they will be heaped about in the morning by hundreds of gifts to the presidential family from all over the country. Their wrappings, like those to be exchanged between father, moth-

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### LITTLE ORPHAN AWARDED PRIZE

### ENGLISH GIRL WRITES WINNING CHRISTMAS CAROL

### Words and Music Copyrighted and Proceeds Go Toward Annie's Education

Here is a genuine 1926 Christmas story which might be called a "Christmas Carol" and as charming in real life as Dickens' "Immortal Tale in the World of Make-believe."

By BATES RANEY  
LONDON, Christmas Morning, 1926.—(AP)—Once upon a time there was a little English girl who didn't have a father. Her name was Annie Lucille Fanning, and when she was 10 years old her mother was obliged to place her in an orphan's home. Little Annie was very lonesome and often her black eyes filled with tears because she didn't have any nice home or brothers or sisters to play with.

Soon after her eleventh birthday, her teacher asked her and the rest of the orphan school girls each to write a Christmas carol. So Annie wrote one she called "Little Lord Jesus," but she didn't think it was very good because she never had any musical ability—her teacher said so. But anyway, she took paper and pencil and wrote:

"Little Lord Jesus was born this day thousands of years ago. "Dear little babe, in a manger he lay, and the cows and the oxen did low.

"Alleluia, alleluia, little Lord Jesus, our king, hark how the bells do ring!

"And in the night, when all was still and the starry heavens shone!

"Mary, the gentle mother, sat watching the whole night long.

"Now let us our praises sing to God, our heavenly king; "He was a baby born on earth, loud let his praises ring."

Little Annie sent in her carol



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