

CURT COMMENTS

Merry Christmas!
We presume that among the many gifts the young hopefuls, from the ages of three to 16 or thereabouts, received from Santa Claus this morning, there were a lot of footballs, basketballs, baseballs, bats, gloves, golf outfits, tennis rackets, fishing tackle, bows and arrows, rifles, shotguns—all manner of sport goods, in other words.

If we had said anything on this subject at the time Christmas shopping was going on, our advice to parents would have been, "Get good, standard goods—it pays." But we didn't, because it is our endeavor to keep advertising out of this column.

So many parents buy their children canvas covered footballs, waste-stuffed baseballs that lose their shape, toy tennis rackets—and then when these things last through only a week or so of use, blame the children for being so destructive.

It's too late to do anything about it this Christmas, but if you made this mistake, just watch what happens and remember it next Christmas. Advice given 30 days ahead of time probably avoids being advertising.

But honestly, we hope that a lot of boys and girls received gifts of real, durable sports equipment, because there's nothing that can give them—normal boys and girls—greater enjoyment and benefit.

"Trains Collide at Right Angle," says headline in the C. J. What, Mr. Headline Writer, is the right angle for trains to collide?

But to get back to the subject of Christmas, we fear since the big still at Stayton blew up last week, that those boon companions of Yuletide, Thomas and Jeremiah, will be sadly lacking in many a home today.

We see where Harold Olinger is doing his stuff for the Webfoot hoopers this season—playing guard, but ranking right up among the point scorers. It's a poor year that Salem hasn't someone to follow on the big college quintets. Why shouldn't it, with all the state champion and near-champion teams Salem high has turned out?

Excuse us, fans, if we are a little short this morning. We had to go home early last night and help decorated the tree.

HELEN WILLS AND HUBBY ON VOYAGE

SAN PEDRO, Calif., Dec. 24—(AP)—Frederick Moody, Jr., and his bride, Helen Wills, arrived at Los Angeles harbor late today, where the forty-foot yawl, Galatea, has awaited them since Saturday for their honeymoon cruise. The couple, who were married at Berkeley, Calif., yesterday, motored here from Santa Barbara, where they spent last night.

Arrival of the newlyweds at the port apparently settled the hitherto secret honeymoon plans of the couple, indicating the truth of reports that they would cruise at sea, far from the curious. They disappeared shortly after their brief wedding ceremony until located this afternoon at a Santa Barbara hotel. The Galatea, owned by Cyril Tobin, close friend of the couple put into port Saturday and was provisioned yesterday.

DIPHTHERIA CLAIMS YOUTHFUL VICTIM

Jeanette Salstrom, four-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alec Salstrom, 525 North 15th street, died of diphtheria Tuesday morning after an illness of two weeks. She was the first victim of that disease in Marion county since June 30, 1927.

Since January 1, 1926, there have been five deaths from this disease, the Marion County Child Health demonstration reports, whereas there were 17 in 1923, 18 in 1924 and 20 in 1925.

The little Salstrom girl had not been immunized, it was reported. Her mother is also ill with diphtheria, but the father and four other children have not been ill. The brothers and sisters, survivors are Philip, Edward, Thyra and Clara.

Private funeral services will be held Thursday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock, with interment in St. Barbara's cemetery.

Willamette Valley Ball League May be Revived

HANDICAPS TO BE ELIMINATED

Eugene Delegation Visits in Salem With View to Reviving Old Lineup

The Willamette Valley baseball league, which proved a success in spite of certain serious handicaps season before last, may be revived for the coming summer with most of those handicaps eliminated. It was indicated here Tuesday following a visit in Salem on the part of representatives of the Eugene club.

The plan is to organize a more compact league in point of distances to be traveled, with Eugene and Oregon City probably the farthest from each other. The league may also include Salem, Albany, Corvallis and one other club, possibly Oswego.

Such an arrangement would do away with long trips such as the one to Bend which the teams had to make twice or more in the 1928 season, and also the smaller towns like Wendling and Cottage Grove, whose teams did not draw well in the larger towns.

Games Draw Despite Serious Handicaps

Despite those handicaps, the league proved a drawing card, especially when clubs from any of the four larger towns, Salem, Eugene, Albany and Bend were pitted against each other.

Leo "Frisco" Edwards, who has managed the Salem Senators for the last three seasons, is interested in the proposition, but will insist that it be held strictly to a semi-pro basis, with not more than two salaried players permitted on any club.

The days of big guarantees for all players are gone, killed by the players themselves because their demands grew to the point where the public would not support them, Edwards says. Now the point has been reached at which players, with the possible exception of a battery, must be content with their share of the net gate receipts.

Championship Series Proves Expensive

The Willamette Valley league championship in 1928 was won by the Bend club, after a playoff with Salem, but it was an expensive victory, involving the Bend Eagles lodge, which sponsored the team, in financial difficulties resulting in the arrest of the club secretary, who was also business manager of the team, on charges of embezzlement, of which he was later cleared.

The Senators last season held a franchise in the Oregon-Washington league, which broke up because of financial difficulties of several of the clubs after the schedule was about two-thirds played. There has been some talk of reviving this league for the coming year, but the Senators, who were able to finish the last season, will not participate in the reorganization, if any.

Redskins Seek Hoop Games as Team Is Formed

GRAND RONDE, Dec. 24—The grand Ronde Indian basketball team, which has had two successful seasons in the past, has been reorganized for the season now opening. It is composed of former high school players, all Indian boys, and is the only independent Indian team in the state.

Any team desiring stiff competition is invited to write to A. J. Hudson, manager, at Grand Ronde.

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE DELEGATES AND COACHES



Faculty delegates of the six members of the Northwest conference met at Portland for their annual meeting following the most successful conference year since the organization was re-formed. Here they are with the coaches:

Left to right, Dean Frank M. Erickson, Willamette University; C. T. Battin, general manager, Associated students, College of Puget Sound; Rolla Renne, student manager, Linfield college; Leo Franks, coach, Pacific university; Professor C. A. Robbins, College of Puget Sound, new conference president; E. W. Pirwitz, coach, College of Puget Sound; R. Frerichs, Linfield; Henry Slek, coach, Linfield; Professor Paul Murphy, College of Idaho; Roy S. Keene, coach, Willamette; Professor W. R. Davis, Whitman college, retiring president; Professor Harward, Pacific; R. V. Borienke, coach, Whitman; Anse Cornell, coach, College of Idaho; and Lestle Sparks, graduate manager, Willamette.

WEBFOOT FIVE WINS ANOTHER

Vancouver Ramblers Nosed Out in Last Minutes Of Fast Game

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 24.—(AP)—Bill Reinhart's University of Oregon basketball team staged a brilliant last minute rally to defeat the Vancouver Ramblers 39 to 36 here tonight. With five minutes to play, the Ramblers led 34 to 26, but the Oregon fast breaking offense came to life and nosed out the opposing team.

Walt Henry, Rambler forward, was high point man with 13, while Vincent Dolp, forward, and Jean Eberhart, center, led the Webfoot attack with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

Team	FG	FT	TP
Oregon (39)	5	11	11
Dolp, F.	3	2	8
Olinger, F.	3	0	10
Eberhart, C.	0	1	1
Calkins, G.	0	0	0
Hornor, G.	0	0	0
Bell, G.	2	0	4
Stevens, F.	1	1	3
Totals	17	5	39
Vancouver (36)	5	3	13
Henry, F.	0	0	0
Haird, F.	0	0	0
Hodges, C.	3	0	6
Eberhart, C.	4	1	9
Luepke, G.	2	2	6
Hruby, G.	2	2	6
Kaiser, G.	1	0	2
Scott, G.	1	0	2
Totals	15	6	36

Referee, Ras Brooks; umpire, Ick DeCuman.

Heavy Traffic Is Reported by Railway Lines

Heavy traffic has marked the Christmas season on the railroad. The Southern Pacific has handled an extremely heavy business on passenger trains. California trains have been running in two sections. Mail and express have filled many cars, and nightly there has been one solid train of mail and express south of Portland. This will be discontinued as soon as the Christmas rush is over.

According to A. A. Michel, general agent, trains have run very close to schedule. Some have been 20 minutes or so late. The delay has been caused by the long stops required at stations for handling mail and express.

Dry pavements favored motorists over Christmas eve. Thousands of cars crowded the highways but very few accidents were reported. Christmas coming in mid-week held many of the trips to shorter length than marks a double holiday of a week-end.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS SUNG OVER RADIO

"Christmas carols" from KGO starts the morning of Christmas day with appropriate music, time from 7 to 8.

A three-act matinee "Prunella, or Love in a Garden" will be presented from 1 to 3 p. m. over KGW, KOMO and KGO.

From 4:30 to 5 over the NBC network a 90 piece symphony conducted by Cesare Sodero, with 50 instrumentalists and 40 vocalists.

Read the Classified Ads.

We Wish to Extend

to you the greetings of this Yuletide season, and thank you for your patronage during the past year.

The Spa

Wishing you one and all

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a

HAPPY NEW YEAR

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Saffron & Kline
326 N. COMMERCIAL ST.

MAN POSES AS DANNY MURPHY

Sympathetic Fans Gather Big Fund and Plan to Get Imposter Free

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—(AP)—An Associated Press story of the arraignment yesterday of Danny Murphy as a vagrant in which Murphy was identified as the former right fielder of the Philadelphia American League baseball club, was in error and the Associated Press is glad to retract the erroneous reference and to correct a mistaken identity.

The erstwhile idol of Connie Mack's world champion athletics of two decades ago is a respected business man of Jersey City, N. J., and the down and outer who almost won his freedom and a Christmas dinner on his fabricated story, was held in a police cell tonight as a vagrant and an imposter.

Out of the West Madison street flop house district they picked the homeless hobo yesterday, some one in the Judge Samuel Heller's court thought he recognized the man as Danny Murphy of the old Athletics team. That was the name he had given, and he quickly responded with a story of his fall into vagrancy since the death of his wife. He won the sympathy of the judge and court room, a Christmas fund was started and Judge Heller invited him to return today in expectation of a dismissal and a Christmas dinner summons.

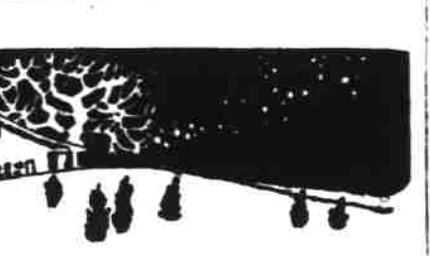
Meanwhile friends of the real Danny Murphy of the Athletics communicated with the judge and Eddie Collins, Mack's coach, tele-



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And all the Bells on Earth Shall Ring on Christmas Day in the Morning

THE good will of the Christmas season reminds us of your good will throughout the year for which we give our heartfelt thanks. May happiness, prosperity and great success attend you.

Ladd & Bush Bankers

In Salem since 1849

graphed that Murphy is a prosperous hardware dealer in Jersey City. The imposter, back in a cell today, faces a dismal Christmas and on Thursday will face an irate judge. On re-arraignment today he revised his story and said he had played semi-professional baseball at Lebanon, Pa.

Jefferson Hoop Fives Win Games

JEFFERSON, Dec. 24.—The boys' and girls' basketball teams of Aumsville high school met the Jefferson high school teams on their home floor. Both the home teams were victorious, the boys winning 25 to 9 and the girls 31 to 14. Robbins of Lebanon was referee for both games.

McALESTER, Okla., Dec. 24.—(AP)—An explosion occurred tonight in the Pierce Coal company coal mine at Manning, Okla. All but two of the 85 men employed in the mine had quit the workings for the night.

High Schools Asked to Send Drama Experts

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Dec. 23.—(Special)—Salem high school, and high schools all over the state, are being invited to the fourth annual high school drama tournament, to be held at the University of Oregon, April 3, 4, 5, according to Mrs. Ottilie Seybolt, director of dramatics at the university, who is in charge of the event.

The first ten high schools applying for entrance will come to the campus to compete with one-act plays of their own selection. Real talent is brought out in the tournament, which is a great stimulus to the presenting of worthwhile plays in the high schools of Oregon, it is believed. Those in charge, No play may take longer than 35 minutes to present, and the registration fee and the name of the play to be given must reach the tournament committee before the 15th of February.

We Wish You All A "MERRY CHRISTMAS"

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1928 Oldsmobile 2-door Sedan	1925 Standard Buick Sedan
1928 Essex Sedan	
1928 Essex Coupe	

Capital Motors Co., Inc.
350 North High Street

The mistletoe hung in the castle hall! The holly branch shone on the old oak wall.

—Thomas Bayly.

And we wish you a Merrier Christmas than ever before!

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We Wish All Our Friends and Patrons a Very Merry Christmas

Imperial Furniture Co., Inc.