

NATION'S HEAD IN HAPPY ROLE

Cold North Wind Braved by First Lady to Take Part in Ceremony

By ROBERT S. PICKENS
WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—(AP)—Twas the night before Christmas and all through the White House everybody was stirring.

For the first time in almost a decade, there were children inside the august mansion which shelters the first family of the nation and the President and Mrs. Hoover went to great pains to make the event a notable one for the youngsters. The children of their official family were invited to join in the merrymaking and listen to the Christmas carols sung by school children on the White House lawn.

CHILDREN NOT FOR SALE



Mrs. Helen Patrick, with her two sons, Edward (left) and Peyton, over whose custody she is engaged in a court battle with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Annes, wealthy New York couple. Mrs. Patrick declared the Anneses offered her \$1,000,000 for the custody of the children, which she refused.

The president and the first lady went out into a cold north wind to help make Christmas a reality in the United States. Braving the coldest weather that has struck the national capital this winter they took part in ceremonies inaugurating community Christmas trees throughout the land.

The president's part in the ceremony was simple. He touched a button which caused a large fir tree to blaze with red, green and blue lights, and over two national-wide radio hookups, wished the people of the country a "merry Christmas and a happy New Year."

HEALTH PROBLEMS OF CHILD REVEALED

In the small wooden stand was a distinguished group of public officials. In neighboring stand was the marine band playing age-old Christmas hymns and carols.

Colonel U. S. Grant, grandson of President Grant, introduced President Hoover.

The chief executive walked to the speakers stand, turned toward a line of boy scouts and smiled, and then over the microphones wished the country a "merry Christmas" in one of the briefest presidential messages in history.

As the president lighted the tree a star shined from the sky and boy scout buglers in various parts of Washington sounded a call to tell the people that the community tree was lighted.

Then the 2,000 or more people gathered in the square sang: "It came upon the Midnight Clear," and "That Glorious Song of Old."

The President and Mrs. Hoover then walked over to the blazing tree and posed for photographs. From there they went to the White House where a delightful and personal Christmas celebration took place.

MIX HELD CRUEL; WIFE GOES FREE

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 24.—(AP)—Tom Mix, western hero of the flickering films, was divorced for the second time today. Extreme mental cruelty, including unexplained absences from home and frightening her by twirling a loaded gun on his finger in wild west fashion, were charged by Mrs. Victoria Forde Mix, his second wife, in obtaining the decree.

Mix, who had filed a general denial of the charges, did not appear. His attorney advised the court the film cowboy is not in California, indicating he would spend Christmas, again a bachelor, beyond the boundaries of his home state.

Mrs. Olive Stokes Mix, who divorced the actor in 1917, likewise had charged cruelty. He married his second wife a year later. Besides her freedom, she won her nine year old daughter, Tomatina, and a property settlement. Under an agreement approved by the court the child will spend half her annual summer vacations with her father.

MANY CHILDREN TO VISIT
AURORA, Dec. 24.—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kraus will dine with Mrs. Kraus's father and mother, the Frank Fellers of Woodburn. The grandchildren, Betty, Ruth, Stephen, and Billie Kraus will also be present. Mr. and Mrs. John Kraus and children are the guests of relatives in Portland for a short holiday.

MAY YOUR CHRISTMAS BE FILLED WITH GOOD CHEER

We'll be happy to accommodate your out of town guests in our homelike reasonable rooms.

THE MARION HOTEL

Problems of child health and protection fall into three groups, including protection and stimulation of the normal child, aid to the physically defective and problems of the delinquent child, according to the president's address at the White House conference on child health. Commenting further on this fact, the Oregon state board of health, in its weekly bulletin, says:

"Out of 45,000,000 children in the United States, 35,000,000 are reasonably normal; 5,000,000 are improperly nourished; 1,000,000 have defective speech; 1,000,000 have weak or damaged hearts; 675,000 present behavior problems; 450,000 are mentally retarded; 332,000 are tubercular; 342,000 have impaired hearing; 18,000 are totally deaf; 50,000 are partially blind; 14,000 are wholly blind; 200,000 are delinquent, and 500,000 are dependent."

"Based on these figures, there are in Oregon approximately, 250,000 children reasonably normal; 46,000 improperly nourished; 7,600 have defective speech; 7,600 have weak or damaged hearts; 5,000 present behavior problems; 3,000 are mentally retarded; 2,000 are tubercular; 2,000 have impaired hearing; 125 are totally deaf; 300 are partially blind; 100 are wholly blind; 1,500 are delinquent, and 3,000 are dependent."

6 KIDDIES IN LIST OF FIRES VICTIMS

Seven persons lost their lives as the result of fires in Oregon during the month of December, six of whom were children under eight years of age, according to a report prepared by the state fire marshal here yesterday. Property destroyed by fire so far this month had a value of \$1,000,000.

The November fire losses aggregated \$233,735, not including the city of Portland. There were 75 fires reported. Of the total fires 32 per cent were in the rural districts. Approximately \$42,065 represented farm property. Nineteen of the 27 fires involving farm properties were dwellings and contents. Two sawmill fires resulted in a loss of \$102,000, while four fires in mercantile establishments caused losses of \$14,130.

NORTHWEST PACKS FROZEN BERRIES

OREGON STATE COLLEGE, Corvallis, Dec. 24.—When a hotel man in New York buys a barrel of frozen strawberries to serve "fresh" shortcake for Christmas dinner the chances are about six to one that his patrons will enjoy luscious berries produced on Oregon or Washington vines.

It is estimated that 85 per cent or more of the national frozen pack of strawberries is put up in these two states, while the percentage of frozen raspberries, loganberries and blackberries is believed even larger, with indications that the rapid expansion of this industry in the recent past will be continued.

Professors Make Study
This is one angle of a most comprehensive economic study of the small fruit industry of this state just completed by the Oregon experiment station and soon to be published in bulletin form. This study, made by George L. Sulerud and Dr. Milton N. Nelson of the agricultural experiment station, is the first thorough survey ever made of the scope, present economic status and outlook of this important industry.

The study revealed that Oregon and Washington have been rapidly increasing their berry production, much faster than elsewhere in the United States, and that at present this territory stands pre-eminent not only in the frozen berry trade but in the much larger canned fruit branch of the industry.

Expansion is Rapid
In 1927 these states packed approximately three fourths of all the small fruits (other than blueberries) canned in the United States, and of this amount Oregon led her sister state in volume. The extent of this expansion is emphasized by the fact that in 1909 the two states were credited with but 7 per cent of the canned berry pack of the country.

At present Oregon has close to 20,000 acres devoted to berry growing, the production from which is valued at above \$3,800,000. This industry is becoming more concentrated in the Willamette valley, where Marion county now leads in strawberry, blackberry and loganberry production. Multnomah county takes the lead in red raspberries and Yamhill county in black raspberries.

Both Wood and Lucas said they had no quarrel with any other independent republicans because they had supported the party's presidential nominees. Norris campaigned for Alfred E. Smith in 1928.

MONMOUTH, Dec. 24.—Various departments of the Baptist Sunday school dramatized a Christmas story with appeal and good character impersonation last night at the church between the hours of seven and nine. Music was furnished by the church orchestra, and Philip Dodds was heard in a vocal number; and in a vocal duet with Raymond Fleischman.

An offering was taken for the mission Sunday school at Kodiak, Alaska.

LUCAS DASHES TO SUPPORT HOOVER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—(AP)—The republican attack on Senator Norris of Nebraska sharpened tonight in blistering statements that came from two party leaders.

Robert H. Lucas, executive director of the republican national committee, described as "malicious" the Nebraska independent's statement indicating President Hoover was back of Lucas' anti-Norris drive.

A little later Representative Wood of Indiana, chairman of the republican congressional committee, repeated Norris was a "damnable" and asserted he made his recent attack on the Nebraskan after a White House call about another matter and the president did not know he intended making it.

Meanwhile, Senator Howell, Norris' republican colleague, renewed his demand that Lucas either be dismissed or that he resign.

In a statement through the national committee, Wood asserted that Norris proved he was a "damnable" when he repeats old campaign columnies of the president which were worn threadbare and proven false a number of years ago.

"Senator Norris insists he is not a democrat, but is a progressive. A crawfish also is progressive."

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"MERRY CHRISTMAS"
to you with a promise to keep up our high standards of service and courtesy, and to strive to please our friends and patrons at all times.

CAPITAL CITY TRANSFER
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'CHRISTMAS in Many Lands

By the Associated Press
ROME—Buon Natale! It means Merry Christmas here.

MELBOURNE, Australia—Ten thousand of Melbourne's poor will enjoy a Christmas dinner provided by Sir Sidney Myer, the diners eating in five relays of 2,000 each. Among other things there'll be three-quarters of a ton of ham and 10,000 gallons of beer.

LONDON—Christmas kisses, always dear, are dearer than usual here this year. A shortage of mistletoe has sent the price up.

HAYANA—It's always fair weather when Santa comes to Cuba. No tinsel, no snow, no mistletoe or holly here. Everybody dances and feasts, but gifts aren't exchanged until January 6 which, according to the Spanish version of the new testament, is the date the wise men arrived at Bethlehem with gifts for the new-born king.

FLORENCE, Italy—In America if you don't behave just so, Santa leaves a bundle of switches.

sent to the men of the sea by the Swedish society for the care of sailors.

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico—Santa Clause came to Porto Rico for the first time with American soldiers in 1898, but his popularity has increased so tremendously that a thousand Christmas trees were imported this year.

ALASSIO, Italy—Christmas even in this quaint little town was like a scene from the Bible. Each church altar held its group of bleating lambs snuggling in the warm straw of the manger or manger while around them knelt the tall figures of shepherds. They had brought in the lambs, according to the old custom for the priest's blessing.

Gene to Try Out Few of Theories

SEA ISLAND BEACH, Ga., Dec. 24.—(AP)—Whether proficiency with left hooks and right crosses and such is an indication of marksmanship and whether ring footwork means anything in game stalking will be tried out here by Gene Tunney Friday. The former heavyweight champion and his wife are going out after wild turkeys in the Sea Island preserve.

Rosedale Kids In Fine Program On Monday Eve

ROSEDALE, Dec. 24.—The school children gave a pleasing program to a full house Monday evening. Several visitors from outside districts were present. The program consisted of recitations, songs and three short plays, "Raggedy Ann's Romance," "Santa talks it over" and "Everybody's Happy." The children played their parts well. Esther Peterson played a piano solo. After the program Santa appeared and distributed bags of sweets to all the children.

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277 Liberty St. Salem, Oregon

Merry Christmas

During the year our portraits have greeted you from the pages of The Statesman; special society spreads have complimented each holiday and now that Christmas is here we wish to express our personal

Merry Christmas to you and a wish to serve you throughout the new year.

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