

## Gifts Sent Local Patients

Thirty-seven gaily-wrapped Christmas gifts will go out the door this week from the office of the Lane County TB & Health Assn. to the patients from Lane County who will be spending the holiday season in the TB hospital. Mrs. H. A. Timmons, executive secretary, and Mrs. Freida L. Smith, of the Eugene Beauticians Assn., will deliver the Christmas packages to the 31 patients in the TB hospital in Salem. The others will be forwarded to the six Lane County patients at the Eastern Oregon TB Hospital at The Dalles. A new TB patient also will be remembered at their homes this year.

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patients to their progressive dinner party instead of having the usual Christmas exchange. Members were given the names and gift preferences of the TB patients at the hospital so that the gifts might be brought appropriately wrapped and labeled. Some of the gifts included: slippers, bathrobe, bedjacket, pajamas, sweaters, shirts, toilet articles, stationery, fountain pen, and socks. Members from this same group made a trip to the TB hospital in Salem last April to give free permanents and hair styling as Easter gifts to Lane County patients.

Christmas holly from Woodruff's nursery is being sent by Mrs. Roy Woodruff to Lane County patients at the same time. Mrs. Woodruff is chairman for the 8 and 40 Salon which has as a special project, the sending of greeting cards to all Lane County TB hospital patients on birthdays and special occasions.

The trip to Salem will include a personal visit with many of the patients from this area. Mrs. Timmons and Mrs. Smith will deliver season's greetings and wish all a Merry Christmas from their many friends through the Lane County TB and Health Assn. Some time will be spent looking over the new wing of the hospital, which is making several more beds available to Lane County patients.

## SOCIETY, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

ANN CONNELL, Society Editor

*Mary Margaret McBride Says...*



Christmas is coming and I've been having my annual let-down, compounded of homesickness and a touch of cynicism. Each year, toward the end of November, it all begins again—wild-eyed shoppers, seductive displays of gadgets, seasonal politeness of expectant doormen and delivery boys.

Moodyly I scan the lists of those who are looking expectantly in my direction, yet never satisfied, no matter what I do. Then I take refuge from my depressed thoughts in nostalgic longing for the days when Christmas was an ecstasy, and an orange found in my stocking hung by the kitchen stove was so precious I saved it for a week, sucking rapturously each day to prolong the pleasure. I pity the frenzied-looking shoppers, seemingly eager to grab anything offered. They are surely missing the excitement of those who with only a few nickels to spend who yet are on fire with the newly discovered joy of giving.

I must have been about seven when I learned that there are two sides to Christmas, and with the pennies and nickels I'd saved from the eggs laid by my dozen hens, I haunted Miss Ruth's book store. I bought Mama a picture in a gilt frame of a little girl that I thought looked like me, and Papa a Dutch boy whose pants had a sandpaper seat which said, "Scratch me."

Perhaps this kind of harking back is general among leftovers from big families to whom no celebration ever comes up to Grandma's remembered Christmas dinner with four kinds of pie and a dozen varieties of relishes.

Anyway, this year I've recovered some of my holiday zest for the unlikely reason that a suburban friend had a plugged-up septic tank. To unplug it, she summoned John Jubb.

"Some people are in terrible shape in this world," Mr. Jubb began morosely, working away. "Take that woman yesterday. She brought out this little old ragged pocketbook to pay me. Then she saw the bakery truck coming and told her little girl to go buy a loaf of bread. The child said the baker wouldn't give them any more bread until they paid what they owed. Well, a man couldn't go home and sit down to a good supper and take any comfort in it if he had to think about that kid not having bread. So I told the woman that cleaning her septic tank was a present, and to use the money to pay the baker."

Then Mr. Jubb looked sheepish, ducked his head and went away from there, probably sorry he'd talked so much to a stranger. Maybe he'll feel better if he happens to read in his hometown paper that his story proved to a lonely exile from Christmas that the real spirit of Christmas is not just a memory but exists where ever there are generous, loving hearts.

## Birthday Party Is Traditional Holiday Event

SANTA CLARA — Mrs. William L. Brotherton entertained Friday evening with a party in honor of the birthdays of her husband and her son, Gary, whose birthdays were within the week. This party, traditional with the Brothertons and the seven families included among guests, occurs each year around the piano, where all join in singing of Christmas carols as part of the evening's entertainment. Refreshments were served at the close of the evening.

Guests included Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Thompson, Marlene and David; Mr. and Mrs. Mike Kulick, Joan and Tommy; Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Grove, Becky, Micky, Danny and Patrick; Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Graves, Diana, Connie and Dickie; Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Beach, Larry and Barbara; Mr. and Mrs. Chester Swenson, Sharon and Sandy; Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Bennett, and the Brothertons, Gary and Gene.

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## Cards Played at Christmas Party

Ladies of the Elks met at the Elks Temple Thursday afternoon for their Christmas party.

Card winners for the afternoon were Mrs. J. C. Houchins, Mrs. Roy Curtis and Mrs. Ida Anderson, contract bridge; Mrs. Orpha Poindexter and Mrs. May T. Moon, auction bridge; Mrs. C. W. Bullivant and Mrs. William Myren, pinochle; Mrs. Christopher Bakken, Mrs. R. L. Moon and Mrs. L. T. Perry, canasta.

## WRC Initiates Member

J. W. Geary Woman's Relief Corps met at Veterans Memorial Bldg. Thursday afternoon. Twenty-six were present. Mrs. W. R. Franson was initiated into the order. Calls made to shut-ins numbered 40 and 36 cards were sent.

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