

The ACACIA TREE

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XII

The heavenly host vanished but a radiant glow lingered upon the plain. Here Ruth had gleaned and Boaz met and loved her. Here, also, David had tendered his father's flocks. Here, now, if he could believe his ears, an heir had been born to David and would lead his countrymen to peace and joy, yea, might lead even the Romans, the Romans and all men, Joel reflected.

Eager now to return to the sleeping flocks, the shepherds hastened. The Roman inn of Bethlehem, they saw, was yet alight as Romans and Hellenists passed the night in unwonted revelry.

Familiar with the courtyard, Joel became leader now, and his foot was first to pause at the inn's stable. From within the cavernous dark a light glowed, there was the low murmur of voices, and while the shepherds hesitated the stir of wings sounded, and hovering low above the stable, they beheld the angelic throng whose

message had fetched them thither. It was as though the angels stood silent guard, there was no sound of singing now, and Joel turned to ask his fellows, would they follow into the cave?

Cradled in a manger, the King of Glory lay sleeping. A mere helpless babe such as love has given repeatedly throughout the ages, infinitely dear, with a value beyond price, and a beauty greater than the beauty of the universe.

Joel felt the ache in his heart advance to his throat, so that speech was impossible, and he knew now why Jonathan had taken his babe to Michal, who else should he have trusted with a thing so tiny?

This babe before them, warm in the hay-scented manger, the birth of this babe would redeem all the unwanted births of generations and the radiance that surrounded Him where He lay wrapped in His swaddling clothes, that radiance would spread its light into every darkened place

and its warmth and power bring healing where it entered.

He noticed the mother and her husband, then, and an impulse to kneel would not be denied. So that he knelt before the maiden, while the other shepherds, kneeling also, told of the star and the herald whose word had brought them here.

While they knelt the whole stall became bright as day.

Little Dan became restless and Michal awakened as the new morning light fell within the sheepfold. The sun had not yet risen and Michal raised herself on one elbow, striving to see the figure of her husband in the doorway of the fold. The sheep were asleep and the quietness that held only the soft sounds of their breathings was suddenly broken by excited shepherd voices. The sleeping babe in her arms, Michal arose and flung a robe hastily about her shoulders, and stepping carefully she made her way to the doorway, anxious lest the rising round of voices should rouse the sheep and take them from the fold if Joel's voice should reach them.

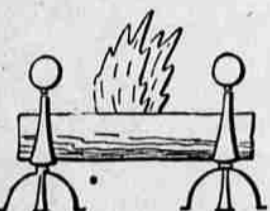
Joel was there, and he came to her, his face alight, his step eager and young once more as she had known it in the days before she and Jonathan were wed and Joel had ridden away to war.

He drew her close to him, and explained excitedly, "Thou hast slept while angels sang! The Messiah is born! This night we shepherds have seen glory beyond that of kings. We have seen Him who is born to be King and Saviour of all the world!"

"Angels sang of His birth, and a star led the way, and an herald told us we should find Him in a manger with cattle lying near. We went even unto Bethlehem, to the stable of the inn, and found Him of whom the angel told. The heir of David, who shall save His people. The babe through whose birth peace and good will are promised to all men."

"In a stable, Joel?" Michal questioned, and her thoughts flew to Flavia and her brother. Was this the wife refused her room that Drusus might sleep in the inn? Had the Lord of all the World been born in a stable because she, Michal, had flirted with a Roman and feared his coming to her this night? Yet how should the shepherds have known Him from a hundred babes if His birth-

May the Yule Logs Burn Brightly



The glowing cheerfulness of the Yule log is symbolic of Christmas. The warmth of good friendships is reflected throughout the nation and the season of good will is in evidence everywhere.

Would that this atmosphere of happiness prevail every day of the coming year so that each of us might enjoy the associations of our fellowman more fully.

Let us strive for such a goal.

S & N Men's Shop
945 Wall Street "We Dress The Town" Bend, Oregon

IT'S A PLEASANT CUSTOM AT CHRISTMAS

It is a very pleasant, cheering custom to renew friendly associations during the Yuletide season by extending to you our sincere wishes for a Happy Christmas.

We like to think of each of you as a friend and that our success, whatever it may be, is just a reflection of yours.

Our wish is that these friendly associations have been as pleasant to you as they have been to us. May the coming months bring you a large share of prosperity and happiness.

From the Staff of the
CITY DRUG CO.
"Your NYAL Store"

WE LOOK HOPEFULLY TO THE FUTURE

We eagerly await the coming of the New Year because we are confident that it will bring untold happiness and joy and contentment for each of us. From the exigencies of the turbulent months just closing we find courage to face the future. Americans have been united closer than ever before and from this attitude will grow a more tolerant feeling for our fellow man.

We await the future with great anticipation and take comfort at this glad Christmastime from the friendships which we have enjoyed in the past.

MEDO-LAND CREAMERY CO.
131 Greenwood Phone 41

THREE MONTHS' AMMUNITION SUPPLY

Small Arms Bullets 300,000,000 rounds	Mortar Shells 3,500,000 rounds	105-mm. Shells 4,426,000 rounds	155-mm. Shells 1,248,000 rounds
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MATERIEL LOSSES IN ONE MONTH

Reasons why U. S. war plants are being asked to step up production are shown in the above charts. The figures on the rate the U. S. armies in the European theater are using ammunition and materiel were given by Gen. Brehon B. Somervell, commander of the Army Service Forces. Figures on losses are from all causes.

Irish 'Prince' Michael Visions Monte Carlo on Isle Kingdom

By Everett Vilander
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

London (U.P.)—In these hectic days when royal houses are tottering and crumbling or barely existing in exile throughout the world from the chaotic Balkans to the Japanese-occupied realm of Sarawak, a new dynasty has been founded and a new kingdom created.

Prince Michael I, self-styled "Prince of the Saltees," is the new monarch.

Prince Mike fits into the Prince Mike tradition made famous by Mike Romanoff, Hollywood restaurateur and general entrepreneur.

The Prince of the Saltees is an ex-newsboy from Tottenham Court road, London's third avenue, and former dishwasher in Lyons' Corner House, the British equivalent of Child's.

And in the past he has often stretched out his royal frame on a hard bench on the Thames embankment to snatch a few hours' sleep at night.

Owens 700-Acre Isle
But he does have a kingdom—an exceptional achievement for almost any royal house these days. It is a 700-acre Saltee island which Mike has just purchased from the Eire government lands commission.

Born plain Michael Neale in County Wexford, Ireland, some 33 years ago, he added Prince to his baptismal names and today is a chemical manufacturer as well as being a sizable landowner.

"Don't be daft, me boy," Michael's mother used to say to him. But from the time he was 10, Mike would just laugh and persist in his penchant for owning one of the Saltees.

Now that he has realized his ambition, he intends to create there "the Irish Monte Carlo."

The Saltees are just off the southeast coast of Eire in St. George's channel about 100 miles from Dublin.

Uniforms for Employees
"I propose to have my own flag," Prince Michael says, "and

Our Best Christmas Wishes to You

High above the broken cities and war-torn fields, rides the changeless Christmas Star, the eternal symbol of Christian faith and hope. Men and nations must at last yield to its regenerative force and turn back to ways of peace and brotherhood.

We hope you have a pleasant Christmas and that next year our boys from all over the world will be home to enjoy Christmas with us.

BANK OF BEND
A HOME OWNED INSTITUTION
MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

also my own coat of arms. "My employes on the island will wear uniforms. I will also issue my own coins, which, of course, will be merely token money for island purposes."

Elaborating on his plans, Neale says, "When my scheme gets going it will be my object to attract wealthy American, British, Irish, and Continental visitors."

"I propose to build a casino and put all my energy and initiative into making the island one of the best exclusive holiday resorts in Europe."

This is going to take some doing, because today Mike's kingdom is in a wild virgin state. It is one of the great bird sanctuaries of Europe. Huge clouds of birds swirl around the 400-foot cliffs which rise sheer from the sea where they have their nests.

TREE SPOOTS PUMPKINS
Indianapolis, Ind. (U.P.)—For years it was regarded as an ordinary mulberry tree, but Mrs. Sarah Barnes found that something new had been added as she reached up and picked pumpkins from the branches of her backyard fruit tree. She didn't plant any mulberry or pumpkin seeds, but she proudly shows off her "pummulberry" tree. The pumpkin vine had climbed up the tree.

LOSES CAR AND GARAGE
Lind, Wash. (U.P.)—Mayor Joe Roller of Lind left his car in its

garage near the highway "to save gas" and patriotically walked to work. He was notified by a phone call that a gasoline truck had crashed into his garage spilling 6,800 gallons of gasoline which caught fire and burned both the garage and the car.

GROWS BUMPER CABBAGES
Worland, Wyo. (U.P.)—A 17½-pound head of cabbage has been grown on the farm of Mrs. W. C. Hinkle. She also reports raising 12 and 14-pound heads of cabbage.

9,000 POUNDS FISH SEIZED
Chicago (U.P.)—Nine thousand pounds of fish caught out of season—lake trout from Michigan waters—were confiscated by the Illinois department of conservation when two men attempted to dispose of the fish on the Chicago market. The two had crossed Lake Michigan and docked in the Chicago river. Each was fined \$300 and the confiscated fish were sold for \$3,700, thereby adding \$4,300 to the state game and fish fund. It was the largest penalty ever levied for fishing out of season.

A SPECIAL DELIVERY MESSAGE FOR YOU... CHRISTMAS Greetings

Andrew Foley,
Agent
OREGON MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE CO.
1039 Wall St.

To You and Yours

All good wishes for a Merry American Christmas. May it be a season of good cheer and fine fellowship.

If there are those of your loved ones who are in distant lands at this Christmas time, and who will be unable to spend Christmas with you, may you receive an extra blessing to compensate.

We are sure it is their will that you celebrate Christmas as usual. They have fought valiantly that you might enjoy this and other occasions so dear to freedom-loving Americans.

Let's be happy — because it's Christmas.

Bond Street Food Market
The Dairy Store
Gohrke's Market

Christmas SPELLS "HAPPINESS"

As we look about us at this season of the year, we find our friends enjoying the Christmastime with all the happy enthusiasm with which this occasion should be experienced. This is as it should be! Christmas is a time to be happy and to give thoughts to those we love.

It is good to know that Americans are enjoying Christmas—even though many of our loved ones are in distant parts of the world and cannot be with us. They would not have us forget Christmas; nor would they have us do other than enjoy the Yuletide to its fullest. This we should do as our obligation to them.

Neither will we forget those whose efforts have made it possible for us to enjoy Christmas. It is part of the American way of life for which our youth has fought on distant lands and we will not forget.

And so, as we extend our Christmas message to you, we want you to know that our greetings are meant for those far away. We are thinking of them too, and hoping for the day when our Christmas season may be one of full happiness with all of our loved ones and friends together again.

The Miller Lumber Company
Phone 166