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"With or without offense to friends or foes
I sketch your world exactly as it goes."

Up to You Mr. Mayor

Whether or not the city of Salem again enters into the business of legalized petty gambling, from which it has been officially free for the past two years, now hinges upon the action of Mayor V. E. Kuhn.

For the sake of adding a few paltry dollars to the city's revenue and to satisfy the pleas of a few cigar store, confectionery and pool hall operators that it would stimulate their business (at the expense of legitimate business) by permitting them to openly cater to the great American mania for getting something for nothing, the council last night amended and approved an ordinance to license merchandise punch boards, a pure lottery barred by state law.

There is nothing in the ordinance bill to forbid minors from gambling away their nickels and dimes for the gilded wares displayed as prizes, nor is there any prohibition against the display of these "trade stimulators" in places adjacent to school houses and catering almost exclusively to boys and girls. Nor is there anything in the measure to require that the merchandise "vended" by the boards shall actually be of the advertised quality.

It opens the way not only for more serious forms of gambling and the encouragement of gaming among children, but provides and sanctions a recognized outlet for all kinds of gyp merchandise.

It provides the smoke screen behind which "money boards" can be operated with little danger of detection by various simple subterfuges.

The ordinance now goes to the mayor to become law with or without his approval and signature, or go back to the council for further and final action with his veto. How about it, Mr. Mayor?

No Copyright On Christmas

The Schwarze Korps, official newspaper of Hitler's black-shirted troops, asserts that Christmas is an exclusive German holiday to which the Christian churches appropriated "without permission," and bitterly resents it.

Christmas means "Christ's mass," the English name for the season in which the birth of Christ is celebrated. It is apparent however that a festival was celebrated at this season long before the birth of Christ or even the pagan festival of the Germans.

The Saturnalia of the Romans, the winter festivals of the ancient Britons and other old pagan solstice festivals were celebrated long before the dawn of history. The Roman festival in honor of the Sun god Mithra, instituted 273 A.D., had its origin in Persia. From the latter it became known as "the birthday of the unconquered sun." It was adopted by the Christian church in the fourth century as the anniversary of the birth of Christ, and the name given a symbolic interpretation.

The customs associated with the period reveal a pagan origin. The lighting of the Yule log was a widespread European custom, especially among the Letts and Lithuanians. The decoration of churches with mistletoe and holly is also a pagan revival from the Druids, while the sending of gifts are traced both to northern Europe and ancient Rome.

The Christmas tree is of German origin and Santa Claus identified with St. Nicholas. Christmas music was a contribution of the churches along with nativity pageants and Christmas carols an old British custom. The Christmas card is a modern contribution dating from 1846.

In the spread of Christianity throughout Europe, many of the pagan customs were absorbed and adopted by the church and festivals rejuvenated with Christian symbols and significance. Saints replaced the old deities and gradually the old pantheon was scrapped. The contribution of Germans to the Christmas festivities should be a source of pleasure to them—but the Nazis are lacking in the Christmas spirit. But they have no copyright on Christmas.

The French Experiment

France has given the 40 hour week a thorough trial for the past year and found the results most unsatisfactory. Production has been curtailed and industry slowed down and living costs raised. The law has had disrupting effects on commerce and public service. It forced idleness on industrial plants 104 days out of the 365, raised labor costs of production from 20 percent up, reacted seriously on France's trade balance and disorganized industrial processes.

A concerted movement is now under way to remedy conditions. Retaining the act "in principle" committees of employers and employes are agreeing on modifications in scores of different industries to make the law workable and overcome the difficulties which have materialized. The conclusions are shortly to be presented parliament for adoption.

There should be a lesson in French experience for Americans who seek a blanket wage and hour bill, but it seems to be ignored. Nations do not grow prosperous by working and producing less and wage advances imposed regardless of productivity upset the equilibrium, curtail industry and trade and raise the costs of living—with neither employer nor employe profiting, except by endorsed idleness which is not altogether a blessing.

Punchboard Bill Passes Council

With Aldermen D. O. Lear, Gertrude F. Lobdell and E. B. Perrine voting in the negative, the city council last night approved an ordinance bill establishing the right of merchants to have certain types of punchboards in their places of business.

It was necessary for the council to go into committee of the whole to make certain amendments to the original bill, which is amendatory of an existing ordinance prohibiting games of chance. By one of the amendments made last night the boards are to be of the "strictly merchandise" type.

5 per cent of the gross of sale on each board with 50 cents as a minimum.

Darrel Wright Honor Guest on Birthday

Stayton—Darrel Wright was honored when a group of friends surprised him on his birthday. Games were played during the evening with refreshments served at a late hour by Mrs. L. H. Wright.

Those present were the honor guest, Darrel Wright, Lola Gates, Florence, Esther and Bernice Nightingale, Ruth and Phillip Miller, Justina Hamby, Hortense and Max Stayton, Ruby and Helen Hughes, Marietta Hendricks, Thelma Wright, Wallace Wright, Francis Leffler, Kennard Rowe, Ed Roita, Bob Woods and Sarah Earnheart of Corvallis.

Big Business

By Beck



The Story So Far: The sailor and Helga in the sailor's ice-boat have escaped the white fox in a race in which the boat went much faster than the fox could run. Now the two dolls must rescue the tiny squirrel which is still with the fox.

Chapter 20

Ring the Silver Bells

As soon as the sun set over the snowy fields the sailor took charge of the boat and headed it back to the white fox's mountain. Helga's cheeks were so bright, both from the excitement of the race and the sun's afterglow that she looked quite pretty again. The sailor noticed that, and

he said nothing. And that's dreadful way up North where there seems to be nothing but snow. Finally she could keep still no longer. "You look much braver."

"You look much braver."

The sailor seemed pleased but

Sundown Stories

By Mary Graham Bonner

VISITING RIP
Santa Claus had gone off with packages to be left in houses until he could arrange them on Christmas Eve, and Rip was visiting Boy of the North, or Great Boy, as he was also called.

"We have a busy life up here," Great Boy told Rip. "When the excitement of Christmas is over we all take a rest and then we have a holiday. Santa comes with me and takes long snow-shoe trips and all of us do anything we want that is lazy and fun. But you know we find our Christmas life such fun that even when we're playing we stop and think of something for the next Christmas."

"We almost start another Christmas as soon as one is over. While the rest of the world goes on through the winter and the spring and the summer and the fall thinking of everything else we almost live the whole year thinking of Christmas."

"In January we mean to take a holiday—but we seldom get through January without doing something about the following Christmas. In February we start making games and toys. In March Santa makes dolls and animals. In April he makes trains and airplanes and sleds and skates."

"In May he makes bicycles and scooters and roller skates. In June he makes boats of all kinds and paints them, too, and makes lovely sails."

"In July he makes firemen's suits and helmets and hook and ladder wagons and engines. In August he goes over all the lists of his friends with their addresses and later he makes sure that they haven't moved, or if they have he knows where!"

Tomorrow—"Great Boy Continues"

Try a Journal Want Ad

NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

Washington, Dec. 21—The whacks which this recessing congress has been giving the presidential program may have sounded imperious—but Mr. Roosevelt knows there was a penetrating tack in the barrel stave.

You will never know how it hurt until you hear what went on inside which killed wages and hours bill.

Outwardly the White House did little to push the legislation. There were no radio speeches, no press conference comment, no public appeal. But with the back of his hand, the president gave it everything he had.

Lobbyist on Job

Emergency field headquarters were opened a few feet off the house floor by the chief executive lobbyist, Charlie West. He operated in the office of House Sgt. at Arms Kenneth Homney. There warring legislators were taken up the mountain and shown the heights. They were slapped on the back, inoculated with new deal loyalty and given whatever was at hand. Near the end the president's lobbyist actually moved in upon the debating floor, using his privilege as a former member of the house.

One administration leader is known to have had a slip of paper in his pocket, listing attractive government jobs that were vacant, carrying salaries of \$2,500 to \$2,600, with a few even as high as \$3,000.

Log Rolling

Few house jobs were available, but there was a vacancy on the rivers and harbors committee (the best pork barrel in all congress) and this is understood to have been promised to two members from Mississippi flood areas. The fact that there is but one vacancy for the two of them will probably make no difference now, as the democratic policy committee, composed of 18 ranking democrats on the house ways and means committee, is privately spreading word there will be no pay-off. It seems that even this policy committee, made up of the highest and mightiest of the administration congressional leaders, split 50-30, exactly 9 for and 9 against, the wages-hours bill. Thus, the top leaders (Speaker Bankhead, Floor Leader Rayburn, whip Boland, et al) will be unable to carry out their own patronage promises in their own house for probably the first time in history.

High Pressure Used

Downtown departmental chiefs were in on the push, using the telephone to the house cloakroom, keeping their friends in line. Whip Boland had a squad of assistant whips working each door of the house for days, tagging all waverers. From the standpoint of high pressure

sure salesmanship it was just about a perfect job.

This system had never failed before in the house in the past five years. It failed in the senate last year on the court fight, but then an extraordinary national constitutional issue was involved. This wages-hours legislation was supposed to be only a little face-saving bill, and it had the backing not only of Mr. Roosevelt but of a man with sufficient political power to have one or twice issued political warnings to Mr. Roosevelt—John L. Lewis.

The Blow Falls

Consequently the leaders, their work done, settled back before the vote was assured the outcome was in the bag. Shortly before the vote Whip Boland offered to bet \$100 that he had the votes. No one took him. The advance polls showed he had them too, but apparently not all who were polled told the truth.

Then the blow fell. The roll call showed 133 democrats had resisted pressure, politics and the possibilities of personal advancement by opposing their own leaders. An unexpected majority of 18 votes was recorded in favor of sidetracking a labor bill.

Obviously this was no ordinary rebellion. Many explanations have been offered for it, but the fundamental explanation is that it was a revolt of the small southern towns and western farm states against the large industrial cities and the CIO dominated manufacturing areas. It was a revolt of the great middle class, farm class and conservative class against labor class legislation for the first time in the new deal.

Defeat for Labor

The defeat was no less direct to the AFL and Mr. Green than to the CIO and Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Lewis. AFL substitute for the bill was sharply rejected. Furthermore Mr. Green's own ranks broke against him. Such well recognized AFL supporters as Rep. Reuben Wood, president of the Missouri state federation of labor, Griswold of Indiana, Dockweiler of California, Fitzgerald of Connecticut and Healey of Mass., voted against Green and in favor of the bill.

What it all means is, the new deal steam roller has burned out its bearings and is stalled.

Steam Roller Stalled

It does not mean Mr. Roosevelt's whole program will be broken up, that anything he proposes in the future will be defeated. But it does mean he will have to be more careful, that he will have to play for congressional support more in the formulation of his programs. His old system of picking out a popular class issue and pushing it through congress by efficient machine tactics will work no longer. The old charm method has failed. The spell is over.

And the most peculiar part of it is, the opposition has not yet publicly identified itself. Some public credit is being given McReynolds of Tennessee, but he was only one of a large group including Dies of Texas, Warren of North Carolina, Lamneck of Ohio—and others.

Army Man at Home

Monmouth—Private George Murdock, Hamilton Field, Calif., is home for a month's leave of absence. He has been a house guest of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Murdock, and will visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Murdock in Albany.

The Messiah Being Offered

Portland, Ore.—Most important on this week's holiday calendar is the annual production of Handel's great oratorio, "The Messiah," scheduled for Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock in the Portland municipal auditorium. Dr. van Hoogstraten will direct the gala performance which this year will be on a grander scale than ever.

The grand chorus will number 500 trained singers, and in their black and white vestments will make an impressive sight on the auditorium stage. In addition, the full Portland symphony orchestra will play the magnificent instrumental score. Soloists for the occasion will be Clara Riemann, soprano; Lucile Cummings, contralto; Virgil Day, tenor, and Mark Daniels, baritone, a choice that insures a fine balance and artistic finish to the performance.

Those who have once had the privilege of hearing a great production of "The Messiah" know something of the treat in store for those who attend Sunday afternoon. The mighty choral numbers sweep upward with impelling force, and when the final "Hallelujah Chorus" comes, there will not be a single person in the audience who could remain seated!

Dr. van Hoogstraten, in speaking of "The Messiah" said that it has a two-fold appeal: "If a person is religious," he said, "The Messiah" has the strong religious appeal of the inspired sacred oratorio; but if one is not religious, the appeal is then just as strong through the lofty grandeur of the music. It is so grand—so inspiring—and yet like all great works—so simple. But it never fails in its uplifting appeal!"

The performance, the eighth annual one in Portland, is under the auspices of the Portland council of churches. It will begin promptly at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon. The auditorium box office will open at 1:30.

Silverton Druggist Gets Pharmacy Plaque

Silverton—George Steinhilmer, local druggist, was one of three Oregon men to receive a bronze plaque, an annual offering from the American Druggist magazine in recognition of his services to pharmacy during 1937. The plaque represented the Oregon State Pharmaceutical Association. The two other Oregon men honored were Maurice Kaugh and Fred Nau, both of Portland.



It's fun to wire flowers any time of the year but at Christmas time it's all the more enjoyable because flowers are the finest Christmas gift in the world and they're doubly appreciated during the Christmas season. Let us help you say "Merry Christmas" with flowers this year.

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