

My Christmas Boy

by Leonard H. Robbins.

His baby heart is richly blessed with gentleness and joy.
A happy little fellow is my Merry Christmas boy.
His face is like a morning lake before the storms arise
To mar the mirrored heaven blue of clear and beaming skies.
His eyes are springs of sweetest love from some eternal source
That streams to him untouched by taint along its earthward course.
In soul, my Christmas boy, thou art
Of the great, living God a part.

THERE lived a lad in Galilee a many years ago,
His little face with just such grace and gladness love aglow.
And oftentimes I like to think that when his eyes would shine
They were no purer than the eyes of this dear boy of mine.
And that the God who dwelt within His heart of holy clay
Abideth in the bosom of my Christmas boy today.
Filled with the softest breath divine, Christ and this Christmas boy of mine.

READ the Saviour's story over and in its message see
That even as he was God's own Son so every man may be.
Then for my Christmas boy I pray that good may always reign
Within his breast, victorious through the temptings and the pain.
That his pure soul, so white today, as stainless may ascend
Unto the Soul of Every Good, still perfect, at the end,
Nor could an end like Calvary
Imbitter that great joy for me.

He is a thoughtful boy at times, my little Christmas boy.
Perhaps the angel whisperer of some wonderful employ.
Of mighty tasks, long waiting for a fearless heart and stout,
Of business of the Heavenly King that must be about.
Perhaps to lead a people in his portion in the Plan,
Perhaps to bear misfortune's yoke and live and die a man.
To lose and triumph in his loss
With his Big Brother of the Cross.



THE POLK COUNTY ITEMIZER.

Admitted to the second class of mail matter.
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V. P. FISKE.

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With Weekly Oregonian or Semi-weekly Journal, 2.00
With Goat Magazine, 1.50

PHONES: MUTUAL Office, 1 Office, 1115
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Patronize One Another for the Upholding of Town and County.

The Itemizer is not given to extra editions of any kind, believing that our merchants in giving us their weekly patronage are doing their full duty, and all that should be asked of them. We are grateful for the advertising patronage accorded our paper, believing it fully justified by the returns received, and for that reason are not asking extra advertising. We have never endeavored to persuade advertisers to try out schemes of doubtful merit, considering that legitimate and persistent newspaper advertising is the best that can be devised to increase a business. And we believe that many of our business men concur with us in this view of the matter.

The taking by Fred Koser, of Perrydale, of five firsts and numerous prizes with his fine thoroughbred Cotswold sheep at the Chicago International Livestock show, against the worldwide competition that he had, is quite a feather in the cap of our county, and an event worthy of much more than passing notice, showing, as it most assuredly does, that the stock we raise is of the very best, and capable of being placed in competition with any. The enterprise Mr. Koser exhibited in going to the expense of taking back 22 of his flock is also worthy of much praise, he being the only man in Oregon to compete to that extent. That his belief that he had prize winners was borne out is also a subject for congratulation; in fact all around too much praise cannot be given the first venture of its kind. Then too, the advertisement that Polk county has received by reason of Mr. Koser's enterprise will be for our benefit in more ways than one.

We have a few Oregon towns in mind which we think would be better off without than with the newspapers they now have. The reason is that the newspapers are always quarreling over every question that comes up, and by their editorials making the people discontented rather than united as they should be. The only way to build up a town is for its papers to entirely leave out of their columns all business jealousies, and devote themselves editorially to advancing every proposition that is for the good of the city—not hang back on a good idea because the other fellow may have been the one to propose it, but both use their thinking caps for the benefit of all, and pull together on all questions for public discussion. A divided house can hardly stand, and there is no other element in a place that can so quickly produce a division as its newspapers. Happily Dallas has not to any great extent been afflicted as the towns mentioned. When anything of great importance arises, you see both papers pushing it to a successful conclusion.

From all appearances the chicken show to be held in the armory in conjunction with the goat show is going to be far and away the best ever held here, in fact we doubt not but what it will greatly eclipse them. The lady secretary assures us that there will be an unheard of lot of exhibitors, that a most unusual interest is being taken in the show, not only in Polk county, where there are now so many first class breeders, but from outside chicken raisers as well, some of them aiming to come from quite a distance to show their fowls. The Itemizer believes that this one exhibit is going to be the means of thoroughly establishing the industry in Polk county, and give it an impetus that will tend toward in a few months seeing more of our farmers go-

SANTA CLAUS, R.F.D.

BY ROBERTUS LOVE

NEW conditions have developed a new sort of Santa Claus in the United States. His initials are R. F. D. He is the rural free delivery mail carrier. Mail hauler is the fitter way to describe him, for as a rule he hauls the mail in a light spring wagon. At Christmas time many rural carriers require an extra spring wagon or buggy and an extra driver to handle the rush of Santa Claus mail both going and coming. The rural free delivery system, which started but a few years ago, has grown to great proportions. It is said that there are now in the United States half as many rural mail carriers as there were men in the regular army at the beginning of our war against Spain. But not all of these carriers are men. There are many women driving rural routes. Whether man or woman, the rural mail agent must serve as Santa Claus to scores of families at Christmas. Maybe he or she likes it, and maybe he doesn't. All that depends. Frequently the farmers and their wives and daughters become Santa Clauses to the carrier, and that



helps the R. F. D. Santa Claus to get over his vexation when he finds that he has sixteen hours of delivery to do in eight hours' work. A few days before Christmas the incoming bundles begin to pile up in the carrier's wagon bed. They are presents from the farmer's son who has gone to the city and grown rich or from the daughter who married the Hon. Mr. Blank and lives in the Clover Cliff mansion. Or perhaps Mary Susanna, who is teaching school in the next state and can't afford to come home for the holidays, has spent some of her little hoard of money for Christmas gifts for the home folks. Wherever they come from, all these packages and bundles must be delivered. The R. F. D. man or woman must be the general Santa Claus of the route traveled. On the trip back to town bundles for the outgoing mails are entered

ing into the work intelligently, raising first class flocks, and make of it a much more remunerative business than it is at present, except to those pioneers in the industry who have from the first persisted in raising only the best breeds—those that would command the price and give the returns. Every home should raise at least a few chickens, at least enough to supply their own needs, and it will not be long in so doing until this shipping to us from the east of cold storage eggs will become a thing of the past. We would impress on every raiser that it would be best for him to enter his fowls, and learn by experience their shortcomings, and how to improve them.

ITEMIZER REALTY CONCERN

Room 1, Brown Block, 420 Main Street, Dallas, Oregon

We have British Columbia and Oregon Timber Lands
We have California Orchard Lands
We have Canada Wheat Lands
We have trades all over the United States
Besides this list of Home Lands

222 acres of fine farming land for sale. Has a good spring, a small orchard, 25 acres of good timber, good fencing and sufficient for farm use. Will sell together or divide up to suit. Most desirable location between Dallas and Perrydale. Only \$65 an acre.

A living producing home for sale—One of the most beautiful living sites in Falls City, Oregon, is offered for sale at a bargain. City and 2 1/2 acres in extent and is the best property all in the world. It is already planted in 40 English walnuts and some 60 apple trees, four years old. An adjoining acre is laid out in 1200 feet of alfalfa. It is a beautiful home, giving the quiet life of a farm and the advantages of a city. Price \$1000, terms \$1500 cash, balance time to suit.

For only \$1000—A 9-room hard finished house, with a full bath, and a small section. This place will only be on the market for a few weeks.

No. 21—27 1/2 acres, 125 cultivation, 80 acres of oak timber, balance slash, place all fenced, the house is an old one, but the acre and outbuildings are good. \$50 per acre, one-half cash, the balance at 7 per cent.

10-acre tract near Dallas, 9 acres in fruit nearly all Italian prunes, 2 year old trees, 3 acres filler of raspberries. Lays well. No irrigation. Price \$1800, half cash, balance time at 6 per cent.

We have several business chances in Polk county for sale, among which might be mentioned a saloon, a furniture store, a flouring mill, a live stock stable.

We have 120 acres five miles from Dallas at the head of the valley that we can sell for \$100 an acre. It is all in cultivation and crop, but it is all in cultivation and crop, but it is all in cultivation and crop. This is one of the finest farms in Polk county and has only lately decided to dispose of it.

We have 240 acres at the head of the Mettison valley, where we are now improving. It is located 1 1/2 miles from Dallas and is a part of the old Bedford Blue place. It is 14 1/2 miles from Dallas, and has an old house and barn there. Fifty acres are under cultivation, and there are some 40 acres of tillable land. The price asked, half cash, at least, in reasonable installments, is \$1200. It is a fine place for a live stock stable.

600 acres near Antelope. Will sell at \$10 an acre or trade for valley farm.

205 acres, 80 acres in cultivation, balance slash, 120 acres of oak timber, 100 acres of good pasture, 50 acres of alfalfa, and 50 acres of alfalfa. There are 50 acres of alfalfa, and 50 acres of alfalfa. There are 50 acres of alfalfa, and 50 acres of alfalfa.

Here's a snap—only \$4200 will buy two residences right close to town. One is a 2 1/2 story brick house, with all the modern improvements. On three acres, with a large garden, trees and vines. Sold separate if desired.

No. 106—106 acres, at \$125 per acre, on 1000 acres of land, 14 miles to the coast. The place is all in cultivation and crop, but it is all in cultivation and crop. There are 100 acres of alfalfa, and 100 acres of alfalfa.

Two vacant lots on Main street, opposite school house, \$1000.

A desirable home—New 5-room cottage and bath toilet, lavatory, and electric lights. Fine inside finish. Best situated for trade on a sewer. \$1250 the price, \$500 down, terms balance. Fine location. All improvements and furniture.

We have a dandy stock ranch in the coast range of 100 acres that we are now offering at \$2000. There is a good house here, with a fine barn. There are about 40 acres of fine bottom land. If you want a fine mountain ranch, here is your opportunity to get one cheap.

320 acres, 35 acres cleared and 100 in pasture, balance in timber, two houses and other improvements, fine springs, soil fine. \$17 an acre, half cash.

70 acres, 45 cleared, 25 pasture, 25 in timber, 38 acres in prunes and pears from 1 year to 10. Eighty acres can be irrigated and the creek runs all the year round. The land is rolling and the soil red and heavy dam. All fenced with wooden wire. Five miles from Salem and one mile from school and postoffice. \$7000, 1/3 cash, balance at 6 per cent.

106 acres, all cleared and under cultivation, all fenced and fine soil, 1 1/2 miles to town and school, \$80 an acre. \$3000 down and balance on good terms.

147 acres, 50 in cultivation and the balance in oak and fir timber. 20 acres of fruit, good house and barn, well equipped, daily half mile to school and church. We want \$55 an acre for this and it is a bargain.

\$5000, only \$2000 of it cash, will buy 80 acres of land within one mile of downtown. This is a fine spring and 5 or 6 acres can be irrigated. Some stock will go with the place.

16 acres, four miles of town, all in good timber, no improvements, on county road. Price, \$35 an acre.

30 acres, 12 acres under plow, and 15 slashed, rest in good fir timber, some large oak. New house of six rooms, good barn, good water, two springs, and creek runs through it. One mile of good school, 3 miles of town. Price \$40 an acre. Terms cash.

We have 358 acres that is a bargain, at \$55 an acre.

For \$2100, 1/3 cash, we have for sale 10-acre tract that is hard to beat. It is within a mile and a half of town, in one of the most desirable directions, and will probably be the best electric road. It has some improvements, is nearly all cleared, and is fenced on one side. It is close to church and school.

We also have two other tracts in the same vicinity, unimproved.

If you want a nice small pruned orchard, here is your chance. Eight acres, with dryer, and all other improvements, close to town, and every thing in good shape. Seven acres of 10-year old prunes, and some nice apples. Close to town, and school with city water. The price is \$4500.

75 acres, 45 cleared, slashed 15, and 20 in pasture, with 12 acres of oak timber; 20 acres under cultivation, and every 3 acres set to prunes. There are three wells on the place, the soil is a red loam, and it is well fenced. There is a fine house and other improvements. Only one mile to town, school and church. Price \$8000, half cash.

305 acres, 125 cleared and in cultivation, the balance in pasture and timber. There is 2 acres of fruit and some garden, two wells and several springs. There is a fine house and other improvements. Only 2 1/2 miles from railroad town. \$60 an acre is wanted for this, and half cash will carry the deal.

24 acres, 8 acres cleared partly, with no waste land, and the rest fir and oak timber. Half an acre is in strawberries and other small fruit. There is a fine house and other improvements. There is a fine black loam, and 7 1/2 miles from Dallas. Church and school convenient. You can get the note for a short time for only \$1500 and will trade for a small place in Falls City or Dallas.

20 acres, 10 acres of timber, rest open land, one acre slashed. Small house, close to town, all fenced. Price, \$50 an acre; \$600 cash, balance to suit.

16 acres only four miles from Dallas that we can now offer at \$40 an acre. All in fir timber, but the best of soil, and you can pay for the place easy in clearing it up. Close to school and other facilities.

We have 640 acres within 1 1/2 miles of railroad with 10,000,000 feet of good saw timber on it. There are no improvements but half of the place is cleared land, and there is an abundance of oak trees. The soil is first class and we are only asking \$12 an acre for the lot.

1000 acres near a railroad, 500 of which is in cultivation, for which we are only asking \$45 the acre. Desirable location and first class soil.

Here is a coast ranch for you: 280 acres none in cultivation, and no improvements. None cleared, and several million feet of good timber already for a railroad when it gets there. School and postoffice nearby. Four miles from the coast and on county road. The soil is excellent, and it is now a fine dairy ranch. Will trade for valley land, or \$5000, half down and the balance at 6 per cent will take it.

124 acres, 30 acres in grain, 230 5/8 and year-old prunes trees, 4 or 5 peach trees in bearing, rest in timber. Running water, fair improvements. Price \$49 an acre, half cash.

88 acres, all in cultivation, level land, running water, close to town. Good improvements. Will take \$13,000 for the whole piece, or will divide it into three different tracts of 25 acres each with the buildings at \$175 an acre, nice peach orchard. Also 28 acre tract for \$125 an acre, half cash.

A house and two lots one block west of depot. Fine large 10-room completed house with all modern conveniences. Street wide and street water. Price \$3200.

27 acres within one and a half miles of town, of the very best land, with good improvements and fine orchard. Price \$4000.

84 1/2 acres, 45 acres in hops, rest in good pasture land, with creek running through it. Good improvements and hop house, and yard trelled in fine shape. Price \$2025, half down and terms on the balance.

307 acres, 140 cleared, 40 slashed, 140 in pasture, 130 in cultivation, 100 in timber, fair buildings and water supply, four miles from town and one from school, \$60 an acre, one half cash, first mortgage on balance.

Here is a dairy ranch for you that is hard to beat. It consists of 388 acres, 225 being in cultivation, 100 heavy timber and the balance pasture. There are 40 cows and calves, 4 hogs, 60 goats, good buildings and lots of them, fine soil, a complete outfit of farm and dairy machinery, and the cream check each month amounts to \$100. The owner's reason for selling is that he wants to get out of the dairy business. The land is situated 2 1/2 miles from the Peedee store, and within one mile of the railroad surveyed from Airline to the coast. A phone goes with the place. This is the best piece of land in the county for dairying or stock raising. The price is \$15000 and one-third can be paid in cash and the balance to suit buyer.

20 acres, one acre slashed, rest in oak timber, 1000 2 year old Italian prune trees, 100 Pocomo currants. Fair house and barn, plenty of water, two good springs, 6000 cords of wood and a good road to bank. The place is well fenced. Price \$1000. Terms \$200 cash, with time on the balance at 7 per cent.

103 1/2 acres at \$50 an acre. Dwelling house and hop house. Thirty acres cultivated, 60 acres of timber. Good spring and well. One-half cash, with time on the balance at 7 per cent.

97 acres 3 1/2 miles from Dallas, 30 acres cleared, balance in fir and oak timber. 1000 2 year old Italian prune trees, 100 Pocomo currants. Fair house and barn, plenty of water, two good springs, 6000 cords of wood and a good road to bank. The place is well fenced. Price \$1000. Terms \$200 cash, with time on the balance at 7 per cent.

182 acres, all in cultivation except a few trees around the house. About 100 acres in cultivation. House of eight rooms, large barn, granary and hen house. Sixty acres of bottom land, and all the place is black loam soil. There is a family orchard, and 80 young cherry trees. It is within 1/2 mile of station. We can sell this for a short time only at \$75 an acre.

Large 60x150 lot near Wash place in Ellis addition; has several fruit trees and a house on the place. Good building location. Price \$175.

240 acres, 40 acres slashed and seeded to grass, 100 acres in cultivation, very good barn, shack of a house, plenty of water, all under good fence. There is a rough and ready bearing orchard, 200 acres of good fir timber, mostly second growth, averaging about 20 inches with about 1,000,000 feet of large fir. Price \$5000, sold soon. All good soil.

We have a nice residence, close in, that is a snap at \$1300. It is of five rooms and is fitted up with modern conveniences. The lot is 60x150 feet, and it cannot be beat as an ideal location. Come quick or someone else will gobble it up.

We have a lot of overflow land along the river that is just the place to grow fine peaches. Conveniently located in every way, and the price is \$110 an acre.

Two improved lots on Hayter street, close in, for \$250 cash. Both fine building sites.

We have a fine subdivision project of 60 acres, nearly in Dallas, that is on the market for 30 days only. Fine soil and there is money in plating it.

One house and barn and four lots in Dallas for \$3,500. Nice location, sewer connection, city water. Half cash. House cost \$2500.

8 acres near town, 4-room house and out buildings. Three acres in cultivation and rest slashed. Good road. Price, \$1050.

393 acres, 25 in cultivation, 25 acres of timber, 300 acres of other land not fenced, two streams of running water the year around, seven room house, not very good, two large barns. Will sell this at \$20 an acre, one-third cash and balance in five years time at 6 per cent interest.

A good lot for \$175. Two good lots on Washington street, with sewer and macadam streets all paid for, one of which is corner. Both face north, but can be bent to face east if desired. Will sell at cost, which is \$650 for the two.

For \$4,500, \$2000 of it cash, we can let you have 68 acres of land for any purpose. Fifty acres are cleared and ready for pasture, 18 acres are under cultivation, and there is no waste land. There are some 10 acres of oak and fir timber. About 100 apple trees, four years old, are on the place, and in good condition. There is running water and the place is a good green room house on the place. It is a fine lot, 1/2 mile from school and 1/2 miles from town.

171 acres, 75 acres cleared, balance pasture and fine oak timber. Five acres in heavy slash, balance in timber and two springs. Fine soil, good fences, 6-room house, barn and other improvements. If sold in 60 days, 1/3 of crop goes with place at \$8,750. \$4000 down, balance in two years.