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Community Christmas Tree Draws Large Crowd

Excellent Program Rendered. School Children, Christian Church and Others Assist in Making the Entertainment a Success

LARGEST CROWD EVER ASSEMBLED IN FALLS CITY

It is Estimated That There Were More Than 700 People in Attendance. Young and Old Have a Good Time

Did you attend the Community Christmas tree? If you did not you missed a treat. "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men," was written in unmistakable language upon the faces of those present. Saint and sinner felt that it was a "community tree" in spirit and in truth. The Baptist, the Catholic, the Methodist, the Christian, the Adventist, and even the "blundering" editor of the News, could all join in saying: "It is our Christmas tree."

The program rendered by the school was exceptionally good. It required much time, patience and perseverance to train the youngsters to give such a credible performance. The Christian Church members had planned to have a tree at their church, but joined movement for a community tree as did many of the members of other churches. All acquitted

themselves in a very satisfactory manner.

The coming of Santa Clause was heralded with delight and the distribution of the presents was no small job. Soon the hum of voices from all parts of the hall rendered it difficult to hear the names called and it is likely that some were missed in that way.

The crowd was greater than the committee anticipated and the presents run short at the last. It is estimated that more than 700 assembled, quite conclusive evidence that a majority were in happy accord with the movement.

Reports gleaned from different parts of the country indicates that the "community" spirit has been manifested this year to a greater degree than usual. The idea to create a community interest and good feeling in matters of common interest is too often neglected to the detriment of the town.

CAN MAKE WINE FOR OWN USES

Court Holds That Liquor Import Limit is Unconstitutional

HOME BREWS LAWFUL

McGinn Supports Two Points Made by Attorney M. G. Montrezza.

APPEAL WILL BE TAKEN

If Decision Stands, Prohibition Law and Bone Dry Amendment Fall.

Limitation of the amount of liquor a man may import is an interference with his constitutional right "to go to hell crosslots," and therefore illegal. Circuit Judge McGinn ruled this morning. He also upheld the right of a man to manufacture wine for his own use, without interference from the authorities.

The questions arose in the suit of Mario G. Montrezza, attorney for A. Lima, for an injunction restraining the district attorney, the sheriff and the police from invading Lima's home in search of wine he and his family made from grapes. For the purpose of a demurrer, Deputy District Attorney Murphy, for the state, admitted Lima made the wine for his own use and that the state intended to search his home.

Judge McGinn refused to grant the injunction, but he overruled the demurrer. The injunction was not granted because Murphy failed to show that the state intended to be interfered with until the case could be heard on its merits. Murphy will contest, on

the trial, the statements that the wine was manufactured for personal use.

"To limit the right of a man to go hell crosslots is not within the power of the state," Judge McGinn said. "If he attempts to send his neighbor to hell crosslots, that is the state's affair."

"I do not question the police power of the state to prevent the sale of liquor, or its manufacture for the purposes of sale. Because of the crime, because of the degradation, because of the poverty which has resulted from liquor the state may stamp it out."

"Our prohibition law was aimed at the saloon. The state has unquestionably the power to regulate liquor traffic. But there are certain constitutional guarantees which no law may stamp out. A law may regulate a man's acts where they affect his neighbor, but it cannot say what he shall do with his body and his soul and his mind. A higher power than that of the law gave the man his mind and his body. Some day that power will exact an accounting for the use he has made of his body. But that is not the province of the law."

Judge McGinn attacked the proposed interference with Lima as a feature of "an inquisitorial law." The proper proceeding, he said, would have been in a criminal court.

"But this is admitted to be an attempt to invade Lima's home," he continued. "This is an equity proceeding, but I will grant relief. The state is not going to interfere with a man's home."

The case was brought primarily to test the right of a man to manufacture wine for his own consumption. The question of importation was not involved in the case, but Judge McGinn extended his decision to include it. He cited an Arizona case in support of his contention.

In a statement made after he returned his decision, Judge McGinn explained that it meant simply this:

"The state has no right to interfere with a man's importation or manufacture of liquor for his own consumption."

"But," he added, "it must be understood that it must be conclusively shown the liquor is for his own consumption."

The state probably will appeal from the decision. If it were sustained, the bone dry amendment and the present prohibition law, insofar as it limits the monthly importations of liquor, would be knocked out.

Start the New Year paid up.

Restrictions on trade continues to harm our commerce but we have no merchant marine.

Secretary Baker has received \$8,500,000 for the relief of families dependent upon the men upon the border.

Carranza appears not to be inclined to assume obligations. He won't agree to anything—not even a disagreement.

The fact that Great Britain had bought from the Roumanians the wheat which the Teutons captured will make some sweet bread.

Carranza has not signed the agreement of the conference between our commissioners and his own at Philadelphia. Maybe the old gentleman thinks we ought to pacify the country for him.

The hopes of the Entente were very high when Roumania entered the war and the morale of the Allies has been severely shaken by the brilliant success of Mackensen and Falkenhayn.

Despite our great prosperity financial circles are scrutinizing loan collateral closely and some of the larger New York banks are demanding interest above the quoted rate on industrial loans.

While you are getting "right with God" it would also be a good idea to get right with your fellow man, inasmuch as most of us are better acquainted with our fellow man than we are with God.

It begins to look like the high tide of the war will come in 1917. We predict a general effort on the part of the Allies to break the German line in the west. If this fails—but the Allies say it will not fail.

Canada shows her littleness in barring the moving picture films of the Hearst company. This follows the expulsion of his news association from England, and the exclusion of his papers in all Allied territories.

The editor of the New York Evening Journal is reported to be a millionaire. He got it through the salary route and wise investments in real estate. If all our subscribers would pay up we'd be in the same class ourselves, although a far ways from the thought of a million.

Dispatches state that Germany is preparing for new commercial undertakings as soon as war is over. Several of the largest ship owning companies have amalgamated. New shipyards are under construction and something new in ocean greyhounds is being promised for the end of the war.

In some trades wages have advanced more than the cost of living, which is placed at 16 per cent. It is doubtful, however, if the average income of all workers has risen more than ten per cent, and therefore the condition of the wage earners is not as good as it was at the beginning of 1916.

We didn't think Lloyd-George would accept the peace proposal. The Welshman is a game fighter, and he prefers to fight to a finish. In brief the position is as follows: Germany has won the war militarily up to now, England believes further fighting will favor her side, therefore is unwilling to forego the effort.

WILSON HELPS PEACE MOVE

President Wilson's manoeuvre asking for an early avowal of the terms upon which the belligerent nations will conclude the present war came as a distinct surprise.

The president makes it plain that he is not proposing peace or offering mediation. He is seeking light upon what constitutes reparation, restitution and guarantees, which are said to be the requisites of peace.

What the world wants to know is whether the nations are now continuing their struggle for selfish purposes, even if they began it through high motives. A war for indemnity, territory or vindictive revenge is not to be endured without the knowledge of its existence.

The president in asking the belligerents to say just what will be enough to end the war makes it impossible for any of them to continue the war unjustly. None of them will dare to say "I fight for money, I ask for booty. I seek to steal." Not saying this they must say what they intend to keep fighting for.

The truth is that this latest move will not only clarify the situation, but, in doing so, it will make a reasonable agreement much more probable. While the Allies would not accept Germany's terms the act of the president may cause them to lay down conditions precedent which Germany will be glad to accept.

GERMANY OFFERS PEACE

Some editor with a propensity for history declares that there is no exact parallel in modern wars for Germany's action—"an undefeated belligerent asking her adversaries to meet her and discuss unformulated terms of peace." There is no need of precedent; the necessity never existed before the occasion, and any act which ends the war will be approved by almost everyone.

Presuming, as we have done, that the German peace offer is rejected, what will be its effect upon the judgement of history upon the warring nations? If the Central Powers, speaking from the "consciousness of strength," have the offer rejected, and continue to hold their own on the battlefield, their offer at this time will render judgement absolute upon the fact that their enemies, and not them, are responsible for whatever misery may follow from this time.

Regardless of who started the war there is one alliance ready to end it. If this offer is based on weakness, being actuated through a desire to talk terms while at the height of success, no credit can ever be given Germany and her allies for asking their enemies to discuss peace. The end of the strife at this time will undoubtedly be a German victory; no one denies this. Nevertheless, if in the end the

YEAR END SPECIALS

20-pounds good Jap rice \$1.

Small sizes in overcoats worth \$16 in order to close them out have made a special price of \$5. Mens wool Mackinaw coats, regular \$8.50, special price \$6.95.

LADIES AND CHILDREN CLOAKS SPECIAL PRICED

Good reliable merchandise will rule high this coming year and we suggest that you anticipate your requirements. Prices will rule especially high in all leather shoes. As an instance, Dr. Edisons cushion insole shoe is being advertised in leading magazines at \$6. Our present stock of this identical shoe will still be sold at old price of \$4.50.

Again we say supply your needs.

SELIG'S, Cash Price Store, "Meeting and Beating Competition".

WISHING OUR FRIENDS

A
HAPPY
NEW YEAR

FALLS CITY LOGGING & LUMBER CO

terms are not materially bettered through the fighting of the Allied troops, if in the end the offer is shown to have come from an undefeated and unconquerable enemy, the world may well afford to give credit where credit is due.

ARE HIGH PRICES SPECULATIVE?

There seems to be considerable difference of opinion as to whether or not the high prices in vogue are really speculative. Some manufacturers are conceding that the advance in production costs has not been sufficient to account for the rise in price of the finished product. The proof of this, in the opinion of an authority, is in the fact that the net earnings

of the mills have been larger. Whatever increase there are in production costs are usually expressed in percentages, which are apt to be misleading. An increase of 25 per cent in wages or 100 per cent in the price of dyes does not mean very much when translated into additional cost per yard of the finished fabric. The same is true of the higher prices being paid for raw materials.

There is evidence, however, that quite a bit of the advances in various textile goods is due to an overdemand, which has caused mills and their agents to raise the prices on goods when they could not supply them. It was

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