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Christmas Day in Bethlehem, by Mrs. Jackman

(Continued from Page One)

broidery work on hand-made cloth. Although 90 per cent of Bethlehem is Catholic there are seen many Moslems among the villages of the street. These are distinguished by the red fez worn by the men and the black veil which covers the faces of the women. Here and there a Bedouin sheik from the land across Jordan may be seen with his heavy wool robes and long flowing head dress held into place by a camel's hair band.

This is a glimpse of the busy streets of Bethlehem in 1935. But let us go now about two miles to the east of the city to the lower level of the valley that is known to the world as "The Shepherds' Fields." There is no one spot that is believed to be the place where shepherds watched their flocks by night when the angel of the Lord appeared to them on the night of the Savior's birth, but all this locality is where shepherds have tended their flocks from time immemorial and it is without doubt the vicinity where the story of Luke, 2nd chapter, takes place.

From this lower elevation one may look back to the city of Bethlehem and not see the busy crowds of noisy people that throng the streets but from this distance the city, indeed, looks as the poet described it when he wrote, "Oh little town of Bethlehem how still we see thee lie." To the east from the shepherds' field one may see the deep depression that marks the Dead Sea and beyond that the hills of Moab from whence Ruth came to glean in this same field which in the days of Naomi belonged to Boaz. Here, too, David was anointed king long before the birth of the Child that was to rule Israel from the throne of His father, David. There has been but little rain this year and these fields are dry and rocky and offer little food for any flock. They are not beautiful and yet about them hang so many blessed memories that they hold a charm unequalled by many a prettier spot.

From Jerusalem and Bethlehem came just before sundown a group of some two or three hundred people under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A. and here before the door of a cave, used today as a shelter for shepherds, we ate a supper prepared in similar manner to the meal the Bethlehem shepherds must have eaten on that memorable night so long ago. The supper consisted of mutton, roasted in an oven dug in the ground and filled with coals and sealed with mud, and bread cakes baked on hot stones. The cave itself is very like the one in which Jesus was born as there are many such caves in the neighborhood.



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When darkness came and the lights of Bethlehem twinkled in the distance we gathered round a campfire and sang Christmas carols and read the Christmas story from the Bible. Several of the ministers of Palestine prayed in both English and Arabic and the entire Scotch division of soldiers now in Jerusalem attended the service and helped with the singing.

Then with stars shining overhead, we did as the shepherds of long ago and went unto the city to the very place in which they found the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. This cave or grotto in which the child was born is today covered with a church known as the Church of the Nativity. It is a very old church built in the third century that has never been destroyed, although it has been added to from time to time. Here every year the Catholics hold services to celebrate the birth of Christ. Here we came and stayed from about 9 p. m. to 2 a. m. and found it scarcely possible to move amongst the mass of people who crowded every inch of the church. Through the influence of friends we were able to get seats near the front and so see all of the procession and mass said by the priests in their rich robes and watch without difficulty the patriarch of Jerusalem as he carried the image of the infant from the church altar to the crypt below in which he was actually born on Christmas many years ago.

It was a long service and difficult to describe. The consuls of the various nations represented in Jerusalem were there in a body and among the tourists who formed a large part of the crowd was the noted newspaper man, Floyd Gibbons. Many Jews were there out of curiosity and Arab Moslems in numbers. There were 80 policemen on duty lest a riot break out. During the service the bells of Bethlehem, which were broadcast all over the world the next day, rang many times. I have had many pleasant memories of Christmas days but this one will outlive them all. Among the greatest privileges that may fall to man on this earth would be a Christmas day in Bethlehem.

—Vivaleene W. Jackman.

Junior Woman's Club

Stating that, according to available records, tuberculosis is more prevalent among persons between 20 and 30 years of age, Mrs. C. Vernon Smith, president of the Coos County Health association, gave a revealing talk upon the efforts of her group to combat the dread disease in this locality, before members of the Junior Woman's club who met Monday evening at the home of Catherine Wernich.

L. L. Bernhart, accompanied by Dorothy Glaisyer at the piano, played a group of three delightful violin numbers.

Preceding the program, plans were formulated for a White Elephant card party to be held soon under the supervision of Miss Grace Ellingsen. Also, Mrs. Charles Haglund was elected secretary of the group, replacing Mrs. Gregory Franzwa, who resigned recently.

Refreshments were served by a committee composed of Mrs. Floyd McDonald, Mrs. T. T. Santee, Mrs. Doris Sayre, and Miss Irene Sandon to Mrs. Harold Gould, Mrs. A. L. Beck, Mrs. James Mills, Miss Faye Hurrel, Miss Vera Gaslin, Miss Emma Johnson, Mrs. Charles Haglund, Mrs. Elbert Schroeder, Miss Catherine Wernich, Miss Blanche Sandon, Miss Gloria Getz and Mrs. C. Vernon Smith.

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Coquille Woman's Club

Enjoys Fine Meeting

A large and appreciative audience assembled at the Episcopal Parish house Tuesday afternoon for the January meeting of the Woman's Club. The meeting opened with the salute to the flag and the singing of the club song, led by Mrs. Geo. Bryant, with Mrs. C. A. Rietman at the piano. The president, Mrs. R. A. Wernich, presided over the business meeting, which consisted of activity reports given by chairmen of various committees. Mrs. M. Earl Wilson, membership chairman, reported 50 paid-up members and several new names were enrolled Tuesday. The finance chairman, Mrs. C. V. Smith, reported she was planning for a card party and also a dance to be given sometime in the future, the proceeds to be applied on the tennis court fund.

Mrs. Jack LeFevre, director of needlecraft and welfare work, gave a splendid report of what is being accomplished along those lines, especially at the Christmas season, and she wished to thank all who contributed in any way and especially the C. H. S. for collecting and distributing food and clothing. Mrs. LeFevre states she does not encounter nearly as much destitution this year as last, but there is a great call for shoes at the present time. She also gave a very graphic description of the Children's Farm Home at Corvallis, which she recently visited. It is said to be the most wonderful institution in existence. It is not conducted as an institution but as a real home. There are about 20 Coquille children there, all well and happy. Mrs. C. C. Farr remarked that the local W. C. T. U. had recently sent 20 bedspreads to the home.

Mrs. A. L. Beck, Junior Club director, reports 33 members to date.

Mrs. Wernich reports that she had forwarded application papers to W. P. A. headquarters at Medford for a tennis court and playground project for Coquille but a communication received from them stated that any tennis court must be located on city-owned property and that they have no jurisdiction over playgrounds, so in ratifying the project the club necessarily dropped the playground.

The business meeting was then adjourned and Mrs. Geo. Jenkins took charge of the program. Miss Mary Loomis of the Lincoln school gave a book review of four poems in different dialects. She is a dialect genius and her adaptability to change from one character to another convulsed the audience with laughter.

George Chaney, who had been asked to make a talk before the club on "International Relations," has been a close student of national affairs and made mention of treaties and management of ambassadors etc., even as far back as the 13th and 14th centuries and up to the present time. His witticisms and satire concerning some of those ancient methods made his talk entertaining as well as instructive. However, it might be said that some of the political practices Mr. Chaney spoke of in that ancient period would compare quite favorably with some of the so-called modern theories and brain trust leaders in this day and age.

At the close of the program tea was served by Mrs. Louis Charneski, Mrs. Geo. Lorenz, Mrs. R. L. Stewart, Mrs. P. W. Lane, Ray Jeub and Mrs. R. E. Boober to those present: Mesdames R. A. Wernich, F. S. Emery, C. C. Farr, Wm. Mansell, E. L. Vinton, D. D. Dale, L. W. Oddy, F. G. Leslie, Jack LeFevre, M. Earl Wilson, M. R. Thomas, Leland Peterson, C. C. Southard, C. A. Rietman, L. H. Hazard, L. A. Compton, J. E. Paulson, Geo. H. Chaney, J. A. Lamb, C. J. Fuhrman, K. P. Lawrence, J. A. Berg, R. B. Rogers, A. L. Beck, Geo. Jenkins, O. C. Sanford, R. T. Slater, Louis Donaldson, of Powers, Bert Folsom, F. L. Rover, N. Murray, J. D. Rankin, Henry Hartley, Alice Wilson and Mrs. Ashley N. Levy, of Los Angeles.

Royal Neighbors Install

The Royal Neighbors held their regular meeting Wednesday night, at which time the names of two candidates were balloted on and will be initiated at the next regular meeting. After the business session was over, Mrs. Pearl Aubin was introduced as the installing officer and Mrs. Belle Belloni as ceremonial marshal, who then proceeded to install the officers in their respective chairs for the ensuing year. Gifts from the rest of the members were then presented to the installing officer and ceremonial marshal and to Oracle Ida Sherrard.

The kitchen committee served dainty refreshments at the close of the evening, the dining table being cleverly arranged as a miniature lodge hall. Each officer answered roll call with a bit of humorous poetry. The next meeting of the Talk-An-So club will be held at the home of Mrs. Ralph Nosler with Mrs. Hal Howell as hostess.

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P. T. A. Notes

A series of lectures on "Family Life," by Dr. Chambers, professor of psychology, Oregon State College, will be broadcast over station KOOS during the next few months. These lectures which deal with child life were secured by Mrs. Robt. Dutton, chairman of the P. T. A. study clubs. The first broadcast will be Wednesday, January 22, at 2:30 p. m.

Anyone wishing to join a radio study club may get in touch with Mrs. Dutton as she has been appointed county chairman by Mrs. Rodenwold of KOAC, Corvallis.

The executive board met Tuesday evening in the Washington building with seven members present. The board voted to co-operate with the Woman's Club in helping with their project for community tennis courts. The board also voted to buy slides or films for the picture machine to be used in the Washington school. These pictures are for educational purposes. Miss Shone exhibited to the board some of these pictures now on hand, which were greatly enjoyed by those present and they felt the money spent in buying new and up-to-date pictures is a worthy project.

Missionary Ladies Meet

The Missionary Women of the Church of Christ met for their first business and program of the new year at the church parlors on Wednesday. The topic was "God's Word, the textbook for youth." Myrtle Benham was leader of the program.

Different subjects were read by several of the ladies. The women decided to send a Christmas box next August and are going to begin work to that end immediately. The refreshment committee, consisting of Mrs. V. L. Bailey, Mrs. L. E. Alexander and Mrs. Ed Aasen, served delicious refreshments after the program. The ladies meet every third Wednesday at the church parlors.

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Marx Brothers to Be at the Liberty Sunday

The haunting fascination of the South Seas; the idyllic lives of the natives; a stirring romance, played amid the thrills of primitive lives; these are the elements caught in an absorbing piece of entertainment, "Last of the Pagans," tropic idyll filmed on an uncharted coral isle in the Pacific.

The new picture, coming tonight to the Liberty theatre, has nothing of the travelogue about it, though it shows in detail the intimate lives of the Polynesian natives. It is a gripping and romantic love story of a boy and girl in the island paradise; of their separation through the work of the rascally white traders, and their triumphant reunion.

Mala, the Eskimo actor, plays the stalwart hero of the new picture, providing a powerful dramatic performance and proving himself one of the really romantic figures of the screen. Lotus Long plays the heroine. "Last of the Pagans" tells grippingly the story of a vanishing race. Five months in the making in the tropics, it fully justifies the time and pains, and the long voyage that went into its filming.

Heralded as the funniest picture to come out of Hollywood in years, "A Night at the Opera" opens Sunday at the Liberty with the world-renowned Marx Brothers, Groucho, Chico and

Harpo, cast in three of the most uproarious characterizations ever devised for any trio of comics either on stage or screen.

The new picture represents a departure for the celebrated Kings of Laughter inasmuch as it does not depend alone on madcap antics and insane gags but tells a straight, credible story enlivened by musical interludes and an engaging romance between Kitty Carlisle, heroine of several Bing Crosby musicals, and Allan Jones, who made his film debut with Jean Harlow in "Reckless."

Of special interest in connection with "A Night at the Opera" is the fact that it has the unique distinction of being the first motion picture to be previewed on the stage. Before a foot of film was shot the production was taken out on a legitimate stage tour with the Marx Brothers playing the same roles in which they are seen on the screen. As a result the story was given a preview public test and work was begun at the studios only after it was certain that every detail had been proved of entertainment value to varied audiences.

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