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THE Christmas Party

By Eleanor King

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THE odor of soap prevailed throughout the two rooms which constituted the home of Mrs. Pourrez, and her three children, namely Raoul, the eldest, Henriette, the middle, and Louise the youngest.

"Tonight," mused Mrs. Pourrez, "is the anniversary of our coming to America. Three years have passed, and we still have not found André. I have tried every way to locate him. The lady at the settlement house told me to be sure and come to the Christmas party because many people come to that who never come throughout the year. She said I might meet him."

"Oh, ma mere, do go," said Raoul. "I do wish we could find father. We would have the happiest Christmas we could imagine."

Mrs. Pourrez work kept her quite late in the evening. Her tasks were heavy. She was endeavoring to send her three children to school and support their little home.

"Mere," said Raoul, "we shall put our candle in the window to welcome you when you return, and please may we sit up to see whether our father returns with you by chance?"

"Si vous voulez," said his mother, lapsing back into her native tongue. "If we wish of course we do," chorused the children.

Mrs. Pourrez's husband, André, had left his wife and family to come to America to try and better himself. He left with a promise to find a cozy home and to save money for their passage. Three and a half years ago word had come that, by saving and good, hard work, the house had been secured and awaited their arrival. But no Mr. Pourrez was there to meet them, as planned, on their arrival into this country. The poor mother, broken-hearted, had had to start out and earn a living to keep her family. And so each Christmas, the anniversary of their arrival, she looked to meet her husband.

Now she hurriedly made her way toward the settlement house, arrayed in her best attire. Her hopes were running high. The games had already begun. The settlement house was a babel of voices. The faces in that rather mixed crowd were all beaming with delight as they forgot their many worries in the games they were playing. But one face in that picture lost its zest as the crowd was carefully scanned. She saw no André. Her hopes were shattered.

The games continued. Finally some one proposed that the different nationalities get together in groups and give one of their respective country's dances. The Italians started the fun, the French were to be next. The dance to be given was decided upon and the music commenced. A door opened at the back of the hall. A man appeared. A settlement house worker ushered him in, saying:

"You are just in time to join the French dance, Mr. —"

A woman came bounding forth. "André!" she cried, and she was lost in the two huge arms which encircled her.

"Where have you been?" was all the poor woman could gasp in her joy.

Christmas morning found the Pourrez family reunited in their new home. Around the table the family was gathered, eating at André Pourrez. He was telling how illness had kept him lying in a hospital for months and at the time when their boat was due in America. Every year he had gone to every settlement house Christmas party in the hope of finding them. That was why he had been so late in arriving last evening. It was the last party on his list to visit. And now, how happy they all were.

Souvenir Hunters Fooled

Craze for souvenirs is likely to be carried rather far at times. In the church of St. Andrew Undershaft, in the city of London, is a monument to the author, John Stow, his figure being seated at a table, writing a book. In his right hand is a quill pen which is renewed annually. Until recent years, this pen was continually being stolen, the souvenir hunters having the impression that it was the original pen with which Stow wrote his works.

VERNE BRIGHT ONLY OREGON POET IN BOOK

Verne Bright of Pacific University, Forest Grove, who lives near Beaverton, is the only Oregon poet represented in "The Poets of the Future, a College Anthology for 1922-1924, Vol. VII," where poems of several hundred college and university poets are represented.

However, the state fares a little better in the section where the names of other poems of distinction are mentioned only by title and the author's name. Month-long normal is credited with one poem of distinction by Haskell A. Dyer; O. A. C. with poems by Glenn E. Beagle and Kathleen E. Morris; Reed College by one poem by Edna Lois Maxon; and Willamette University, the alma mater of Samuel L. S. Spence with four poems better than the ordinary by Byron D. Arnold, Andrew Bunch, Ruth Hill, and Elizabeth Hyde. Eastern colleges get most of the honors as Dr. Henri T. Schnitzler is from Boston.

This is the second time Mr. Bright has appeared in the anthology. Two years ago he represented Pacific University in the collection with a poem entitled, "My Heart Is the Flute of an April Bird."

Mr. Bright has had poems published in periodicals in all sections of the United States in the last few years. He has had poems in Life, Smart Set, Overland Monthly and The Wanderer of San Francisco, The Banner of Dallas, Texas, Paragon of New York, Our Dumb Animals of Boston, Poet's Scroll of Oklahoma, Country Bard of New Jersey, Muse and Mirror of Seattle, The Lariat of Salem, The Spectator of Portland, The Oregonian and Journal, The Albany (Ore.) Democrat, The Forest Grove News Times, and the Beaverton Review.

Bright is a member of the Oregon Writer's League, and is First Vice President of the Northwest Poetry Society, a branch of the Poetry Society of America, with members in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana.

His poem in "The Poets of the Future" follows:

SONG STUFF

By Verne Bright

I will make my songs of these—
Moonwhite water in the night,
A Harsh's fluted melodies,
Fiery dawnings, sunrise-bright.

The caressed thunder of the waves,
The fragrance of the April wind,
The silver of the brook that laves
Brown, mossy rocks. The blind
Dancer in a lover's heart—
Helen's beauty—Egypt—Greece
Long vanished ships—laughter
—and tears—
I shall make my songs of these!

SHOP AND MAIL ALL YOUR PRESENTS EARLY

The Shop Early, Mail Early campaign inaugurated by Postmaster General New last year proved to be an unqualified success. It was of great benefit to the people and also enabled post office employees to deliver all the Christmas mail before noon on December 25. The department again this year asks the hearty cooperation of the public in order that the record made last year may be equaled, if not exceeded.

When you shop early and mail early you are helping the clerks in the post office to eat their dinners at home and you are greatly benefiting yourselves. You have a greater chance to secure a better selection of gifts from the stores, you have more time to wrap them securely and you are sure that they will arrive at their destination in time to be opened Christmas morning. You are also relieving the burdens on the clerks behind the counters in the stores, and you are giving a practical demonstration of the good will that Christmas time signifies. Acting Postmaster John H. Bartlett requests that you refrain from using small envelopes in sending your Christmas cards as this very greatly retards the sorting and distribution of the mails. Let's all pull together this year, do our shopping early and our mailing early. Let's make it a genuine old-fashioned Christmas celebration.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS

Interesting Little Notes from the Surrounding Country as Told by Our Active Special Correspondents Weekly

SCOFIELD NEWS

Mrs. Joe Bellish and son visited Sunday at Buxton.

Mrs. D. F. O'Donnell is home now from the St. Vincent's Hospital.

Mrs. J. Peppard made a business trip to Portland Monday morning.

Miss Ida Love was in Hillsboro Wednesday afternoon on business.

Mrs. L. L. Crawford was in Buxton Thursday morning between trains.

Mrs. E. H. Stewart made a business trip to Portland on Monday morning.

Mrs. Margaret McParland of Buxton was visiting friends in Scofield this week.

Mrs. Fred Caldwell of Hillsboro was here this week with her brother and his wife.

Mrs. Chas. Myers was visiting for several days this week at the W. T. Myers home at Portland.

WHITFORD ITEMS

Mr. H. P. Downing is serving as a juror during the Circuit Court session at Hillsboro.

The bridge across Fanno Creek at Whitford Station is completed, so that the traveling public is thankful.

The local school will give a Christmas entertainment and a Christmas tree in the hall on Friday evening, December 19.

The Gillispie School of Expression will give an entertainment at the local hall Friday evening, December 12, under the auspices of the Woman's Club. The admission is 35 cents and children 15 cents. The proceeds will be used in making new steps in front of the hall.

The Woman's Club celebrated their fifth anniversary by entertaining their husbands and friends at a chicken pie dinner in the local hall on Wednesday evening, Dec. 3. The ladies told of their work for the past year and their hopes for the coming year. After dinner all joined in playing games for an hour and then gathered around the piano and sang old familiar songs, after which the "good nights" were said, every one voting the event a most pleasant one.

CAPITOL HILL NEWS

Mrs. Melinda Goldson, a former resident of Capitol Hill, now living in Tennessee with her son, is married again.

May Smith, who has been a guest of Louise Parker here, was called home to Hood River on account of the severe illness of her grandmother.

At the election for water commissioner for the Multnomah, Ryan Place and Capitol Hill water district, A. W. Molin received 185 and Sidney Lettore 65 votes.

A \$5000.00 bond party will be held at the home of Mrs. R. N. Keyes, Friday evening, Dec. 12, to raise funds for the Capitol Hill Improvement Club. Everyone is invited to attend.

FARM REMINDERS

Oregon queen bees for early delivery is advised by the O. A. C. experiment station at this time, as the supply of good queens is limited.

Draughty houses and damp poultry litter are to be guarded against, particularly at this season of the year, advises the Oregon Agricultural College experiment station.

A palatable wet mash will bring pullets into production when they are slow to lay. The O. A. C. experiment station advises that it be fed in such a manner that the activity of the bird will not be interfered with during the day. A hungry hen is a working hen.

By plowing up old strawberry fields of three years of age or more, crown borer and root weevil infestation can be remedied in Oregon. The farmer should work the ground well and if practical should plant it to fall grain. New strawberry fields should occupy soil not recently in strawberries. They will produce profitably for three years, when they should be plowed up again and followed by a three-year rotation of crops. At least one of these should be a cultivated crop. The plowing up seems to be the only remedy for crown borer and root weevil infestation.

Manure is low in the plant food element phosphorus. Adding superphosphate reinforces the manure with this plant food element. The land plaster in the superphosphate also prevents loss of the plant food element nitrogen from the manure in the form of ammonia.

HIGH SCHOOL

The sweaters for the basketball boys arrived this week. They are very spiffy and will give the team a classy appearance.

Student Body President Arthur Lang and Secretary Jean Jackson, with Miss Lanning attended the annual meeting of student body officers at Eugene Thursday and Friday. Monday noon all three reported to the student body in the Assembly the results of their observations. The reports were very interesting.

Have you got your ticket for the student body play, "Nothing but the Truth," for Thursday or Friday evening. You can't afford to miss this play as special efforts have been made to make it the best yet given.

BIRTHDAY DINNER PARTY GIVEN

In honor of his eighty-second birthday, Mr. John T. Williams of Beaverton was the guest of his relatives at a dinner party given Thanksgiving evening at the home of his nephew, Mr. R. L. Filley.

Decorations of autumn foliage and chrysanthemums were used effectively and many handsome gifts were presented to Mr. Williams.

Besides Mr. Williams, those present were Mrs. Mary Riley, Mrs. Hazel Malarkey, Mrs. Lillie Filley, Mr. Elisha F. Jordan, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Filley, Ruth Filley, John Filley, Robert Filley, Georgianna Choate Malarkey and John Williams Malarkey.

John T. Williams was born in North Andover, Mass., Nov. 28, 1842, and is a direct descendant of several well known New England families.

He is a veteran of the Civil War and was a member of the old 6th Mass. militia of Baltimore fame, and remembers the martered president, Abraham Lincoln, who shook hands with him when as a boy of eighteen he was quartered with his regiment in the Capital Building at Washington, D. C. He was also with General Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley.

Mr. Williams came to Oregon in 1868 by steamer thru the Isthmus of Panama to San Francisco and thence to Portland. He was in business in Portland for thirty years before coming to Beaverton to make his home. He used to hunt deer where Beaverton now stands.

Mr. Williams makes his home with his daughter Hazel and his two grandchildren, John and Georgianna Malarkey.

PRUNE INDUSTRY HINGES ON PRODUCTION COST

The Oregon prune grower who knows his production costs and where to reduce them is shown in the recent cost survey by the O. A. C. extension service to be the one most likely to survive. The survival and growth of the whole prune industry in the next decade will be largely governed by accurate knowledge of costs and efficient production derived therefrom.

The survey sought to determine as fully as possible the following points:

1. Cash and non-cash costs of producing prunes.
2. The specific cost of drying prunes.
3. Yield and minimum price per pound necessary to pay the cost of production.
4. Major factors in prune production influencing costs and profits.
5. Most efficient practices in prune production.
6. Requirements in units of labor for each operation in producing prunes.
7. Economic relation of the prune enterprise to the whole farm.
8. The final purpose of the study is to furnish the grower with sufficient facts to enable them to make profitable changes in the practices on the individual farms and to represent their industry intelligently whenever occasion arises.
9. To eliminate seasonal variations affecting yield, practices, amount and cost of labor, and other factors, the survey is to run through three seasons ending in 1925. The latest report covers only some major findings of the 1925 survey.

Fat lambs that are much heavier than 80 pounds will not bring as good a price on the market as the smaller lambs. When up to 90 or 100 pounds the cut in price is usually very heavy regardless of the condition and quality. By feeding one pound of grain a day and all the alfalfa hay the lambs will eat, they should gain one-fourth pound a day.

ACHESON SURVEYS AMERICAN OPERATIONS



BARCLAY ACHESON

Barclay Acheson, well-known to many in Oregon and Washington because of years of residence in Chehalis, South Bend and Portland, sailed from New York on November 5th, to continue his work as Director of Overseas Operations for the Near East Relief. Acheson has recently spent more than a year in the Near East, making careful survey of the different fields where American charity is caring for more than 50,000 children.

Speaking before clubs of Portland, Seattle and Tacoma business men, Acheson declared that the Near East Relief is coming into a new phase of work. "Except for Syria and Greece, there is little more than the normal amount of suffering in the Near East," he said. "It is true that the situation in those camps is desperate, and there are thousands of children there who will perish this winter simply because there are some folks in America who are getting tired of giving. Anyone who has ever seen the miracles that I have seen—homeless and hopeless, ragged children turned into happy, confident, healthy children—would never talk about being tired of giving."

"During the past year we saved 15,000 children from going blind and we trained hundreds of girls to go out as nurses to save the life of other thousands of children, as well as to raise the health standards everywhere they go."

"Boys trained in modern methods of agriculture by Sam Newman of Seattle and Edward Hazell of Craville, are revolutionizing the ideas of farmers who are securing twice their former crops by the use of these modern methods."

"Sometimes people say to me, 'Why don't these people do something for themselves?' And I wonder if they mean the children, some of whom begin as early as eight to help earn their own way."

"The Near East Relief is not giving aid to adult refugees except in the distribution of old clothing. And last year we gave help to 500,000 in this way. Our program is purely one of child-care, and as soon as our children are able to support themselves, our work will be finished. But these are children, mostly orphans, strangers in a strange land, with no claim whatever upon the governments who have given them a place to live."

Acheson declared that the Greek government is doing more to aid the refugees than all the relief agencies combined, and is spending more on them than on all governmental agencies combined.

INTERNATIONAL GOLDEN RULE SUNDAY DEC. 7

International Golden Rule Sunday is a test for our religion—our sincerity. It is a day for personal stock taking, for measuring our lives by a universally accepted standard of life to ascertain how nearly we have attained to an ideal. It is intended as a day of plain living and high thinking.

On this day all persons who believe in Golden Rule are asked to provide for their Sunday dinner approximately the same simple menu provided for the tens of thousands of children in the Near East Relief orphanages.

A standard menu for a Golden Rule Dinner is as follows: Pilaf Armenian or macaroni and cheese, stewed apricots with corn syrup, brown bread and cocoa.

A stew of beef and vegetables may be substituted for the pilaf or macaroni, if desired.

The food should be donated by local merchants.

The recipe for pilaf of the chef of the Hotel Les Bourgeois, Geneva, Switzerland, where the first International Golden Rule Dinner was held, is as follows: 4 cups well-washed rice, 2 cups butter or butter substitute, melted, 2 cups tomatoes cut up, 3 1/2 cups veal and lamb broth, 7 tablespoons chopped onions. Mix the onions with the butter; add the tomatoes; allow to stand for five minutes; pour over the broth and when boiling add the rice, salt and pepper. Stir with a fork to keep it from burning, cover tightly and cook in the oven for 30 minutes. Then take from the oven and let stand for 15 minutes. Take the rice from the kettle with a skimmer, lifting it from the bottom to the top to keep the grains separate. It is imperative to have a kettle with a cover that closes hermetically so that the steam may be absorbed by the rice.

The above quantity will provide for ten people.

COUNTY AGENT NOTES

The seventh order of Pyrotol, war salvage blasting powder, will be ordered about the 15th. Leave orders with the county agent, Hillsboro; Fendall Hardware Store, Forest Grove; Banks Mercantile Co. at Banks; or the Hillsboro National Bank.

Several have asked for a blasting machine to use with Pyrotol, saying that they did not wish to purchase a machine for a short job. The county agent's office has arranged for a 50-hole battery which can be loaned to users of Pyrotol or other stumping powders. The electric caps for use with this battery may be obtained from the regular powder dealers of the county.

Hurrah!! Christmas Is Coming

