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BARGAIN DAY

In every day with the Merchant who advertises in the Press—he has something to sell and says so.

VOLUME XXVII.

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NUMBER 1.

Santa Claus in the Movies

By GENE MORGAN

OUR information is in part correct," said Santa Claus, receiving the interviewer in the library of his ice palace.

"I have my duty to the children of this world, and I must not impair my health or my power of service to them by the strenuous work demanded in the movies.

"You see, my dear sir, the camera does not lie. I am sure it would not lie for me when it will not tell falsehoods about the appearance of kings and potentates.

"The race continues through the sky. I want to raise the white flag as a token of surrender.

"I have my white whiskers at 'em," replied Santa Claus, proudly.

"They are not aware that your uncle Santa is getting so fat that there isn't room in the sleigh for himself and the larger toys.

"My mind works quickly. I have no white flag. My handkerchief, like those of the pirate's is a red bandanna.

"Ah! I have it. It is the scheme that saves the day."

"The interviewer at this point leaped to his feet and shouted in excitement:

"Well, what do you do to have your life?"

"I have my white whiskers at 'em," replied Santa Claus, proudly.

"What do you think of that idea for a play?" They want to name it, 'Santa Claus in High Life.' Do you think I would make a hit as the star?

of course, does not occur to them—I should like to murmur a little wish for a bottle of hair tonic.

"One moving picture firm wants to put me into a play. The plot is something like this: I am driving my reindeer over the treetops, when I am set upon by a band of aeroplane pirates.

"Now, Mr. Claus," he says, according to the subtitle, "we are going to deliver your toys for you all over the world tonight. Give us directions and we will fly wherever you command."

"Go at my direction, the bandit's aeroplane starts delivering the toys, making much better time, let me tell you, than my poor reindeer who were left behind. Things are going along fine.

"The police had found my empty sleigh and motionless reindeer. They naturally concluded that I had been robbed and kidnaped. Now they are on the trail of my captors.

"The police craft is gaining upon us. In order that the pirates may escape, they decide they must throw all of my toys overboard.

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"I want to raise the white flag as a token of surrender. I pledge myself to the captain of the pirate aeroplane that I will plead the cause of himself and his crew and secure their release from the police.

"The interviewer at this point leaped to his feet and shouted in excitement: 'Well, what do you do to have your life?'"

"I have my white whiskers at 'em," replied Santa Claus, proudly. "It is the signal of truce. Our lives and our precious cargo of toys are spared.

Christmas Time

CHRISTMAS TIME! That man must be a misanthrope indeed, in whose breast something like a jovial feeling is not roused—in whose mind some pleasant associations are not awakened—by the recurrence of Christmas.

Never had such dismal reminiscences. There are few men who have lived long enough in the world, who cannot call up such thoughts any day in the year.

Look on the merry faces of your children (if you have any) as they sit round the fire. One little seat may be empty; one slight form that gladdened the father's heart, and roused the mother's pride to look upon, may not be there.

For the month of September American railroads showed gross and net earnings vastly larger than any September since the advent of the steam railroad, according to official figures.

An estimate based on returns by 134 roads with a total mileage of 179,000—the total mileage of the country is 250,000—places the increase in gross earnings for October \$32,000,000 in advance of the corresponding period last year.

There can be no question of the wonderful advance of American trade, both domestic and foreign," said E. Campbell, general traffic manager of the Erie line.

Washington, D. C.—Prohibition against bull fighting in one Mexican state and sale of intoxicating liquor in another have been decreed in connection with General Carranza's reform programme.

Washington, D. C.—Because native Filipino health officers failed to cope with an epidemic of cholera in the islands within the last year, there were 10,000 deaths, Captain R. C. Halsehower, of the army medical corps, told the senate Philippines committee.

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RAILWAY EARNINGS MAKE NEW HISTORY

October Freight Increase Over Last Year \$25,000,000.

PROFITS NEVER SO LARGE AS NOW

Lack of Ocean Bottoms for Export Only Restraining Influence to Much Greater Movement.

Chicago—The rush of export shipments from Chicago, which has been necessitated on all but perishable goods destined for the Atlantic seaboard for European consignments, has enabled the railroads of the United States to show earnings greater than ever in the history of the country.

Figures show that the railways of the country are piling up increases in net operating revenue with the rapid upward leap of export trade.

Settlement of the Belt Line trainmen's strike at the clearing yards released several thousand cars of East bound freight.

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NEWS ITEMS Of General Interest About Oregon

Field Crop and Seed Growers' Conference to Be Held

Corvallis—One of the most important meetings during Farmers' Week, January 3 to 8, 1916, will be that of the Oregon Field Crop and Seed Growers' association.

It is hoped the Field Crop and Seed Growers' association will become one of the largest and strongest associations in the state as the years advance.

Thousands of Girls Are Taking Domestic Science and Art

Salem—"It is impossible to tell what lines of work our school boys will pursue when they grow up; but it is pretty safe to predict that most of the girls will become housekeepers," said Superintendent of Public Instruction J. A. Churchill.

Eugene—A shingle mill on the Siuslaw river to employ 20 men at full capacity has been announced by L. C. Reynolds, formerly of Coos Bay.

Limburger Cheese Healthy

Monroe, Wis.—Physicians of Green county, which had the lowest death rate in the state last summer, attribute the healthy condition of the community to the eating of limburger cheese.

Five Schoolboys Killed

Berthold, N. D.—Five schoolboys and a man were killed and another boy probably mortally injured when a Great Northern passenger train struck a bus loaded with school children at a crossing during a fog Friday.

Cholera Fatal to 100,000

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Buy your Heater NOW



Cold weather will be here before you realize it. We are prepared for it with the best line of Heating Stoves on the market.

FOSS-WINSHIP HARDWARE CO. Barrett Building. Athena, Oregon

ESTABLISHED 1865 Preston-Shaffer Milling Co.

AMERICAN BEAUTY FLOUR

Is made in Athena, by Athena Labor, in one of the very best equipped Mills in the Northwest, of the best selected Bluestem wheat grown anywhere.

The Flour Your Mother Uses

Merchant Millers and Grain Buyers Athena, Oregon. Waitsburg, Washington.



Home of QUALITY Groceries

Good Groceries go to the Right Spot Every Time

This is the Right Spot

To go to Every Time for Groceries.

Try These—They'll Please!

ONE BEST THE MONOPOLE

Monopole Vegetables

Monopole Fruits

Monopole Salmon

Monopole Oysters

DELL BROS., Athena, Or. Caterers to the Public in Good Things to Eat.



Your Uncle Santa is Getting Fat!

TRIMMING THE TREE



NOT A MISS.



As two little girls were hurrying to school, one of them saw a discarded Christmas tree in an ash barrel.



WHOLE WEEK'S CELEBRATION

Descendants of Old Spanish Settlers Observed Christmas With Dinners and Parties.

Among the descendants of the old Spanish settlers we find that they observe a week in the celebration of Christmas. This begins one week before Christmas.

A Christmas Prayer.

Give me the eyes to see my brother's woes; Grant me the vision that perceives his care.

Old Custom Still Prevails.

The Christmas feeding of the birds is still prevalent in many of the provinces of Norway and Sweden.