

HOW JAPAN GREET'S NEW YEAR

Custom of Oriental Countries is to Give Special Performances in the Play Houses.

THE Oriental methods of greeting the New Year differ greatly from ours. In Japan, as well as in other Oriental countries, special performances are given in the theaters.

In the temples and shrines priests and attendants entertain the people with special dances. The Kagura, or Sacred Dance With Music, is the favorite, for while it is being given prayers are offered for the continued happiness of the nation during the coming year.

Another ceremonial, which has been handed down for centuries, is the Shu-Sai, or Dance of the Ancestral Sanctuary. This is given within the palace by the imperial family on January 3, and it celebrates the founding of the imperial house, centuries ago.

A NEW YEAR'S CARD

Now what is here A word of cheer To herald in another year; May all its days be free of blame— A little nobler than your aim; May all its labors be content A little better than your best, And all the joys within its scope A little brighter than your hope; And may each year be found, when past, A little dearer than the last. —Arthur Guterman in Woman's Home Companion.

The Oregonian announces its 27th annual number on January 1. As usual the best things of Portland and Oregon and the Pacific Northwest will be presented in text and illustration in the Oregonian's premier fashion.

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INSPECTION OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS NOT ALLOWED

During the fight which was waged for and against the Compulsory Education bill, it was believed that the school board and county superintendent had the power to inspect private schools if they so wished but this is not the case according to an opinion handed down by Assistant Attorney General Grace E. Smith, to Superintendent Grout of the Portland district. According to the opinion rendered, neither the Portland school board nor the county superintendent has any authority to "inspect, supervise or regulate any private school of the city," either under the old law or under the new compulsory public school attendance law. The only person with power over the private school is the state superintendent, according to this opinion, and his power extends only to inspection for the purpose of getting information for the legislature. Under the police power, of course, provisions are available for enforcing the compulsory education act.

Comma Not to Be Despised.

A compositor in setting up the toast, "Woman—without her, man would be a savage," got the punctuation in the wrong place, which made it read, "Woman, without her man, would be a savage."—Business Printer

Busy Times.

Bill: "What sort of a time did you have at the doin's at my house last night?" Jack: "Fine! Your wife is charming."

Bill: "You don't say! I must try to get out there sometime."

FAIRVIEW

The services next Sunday at the Smith Memorial Presbyterian church will be in the usual order. Sunday school will be at 10 and preaching at 11 o'clock. The Rev. E. R. D. Hollensted will speak on the topic of "Retrospect and Prospect."

The Smith Memorial Presbyterian church gave the Christmas program last Sunday evening to a large attendance. An excellent program had been prepared and a good time enjoyed.

The Rev. and Mrs. E. R. D. Hollensted spent the holiday season in Portland at the home of their daughter, Mrs. W. K. Perry where a family reunion was held.

PLEASANT HOME

The John Eggiman family is enjoying a visit from Mrs. Eggiman's father, Wm. Bremer of Tigard, Oregon.

Mr. and Mrs. Jules Collins spent Christmas in Portland with relatives.

George Berreman, Jr., is recovering from an attack of measles. Mrs. Berreman and children are in quarantine. The Rev. Mr. Berreman is staying at the M. Lennart home until the quarantine is raised.

A record breaking crowd enjoyed the Christmas exercises at the Methodist church. Extra seating space was provided but many stood during the entire program.

The meetings being conducted at the Methodist church by the Rev. Geo. Berreman and Rev. E. G. Ranton will continue during the week.

Anna Ball has been quite sick but is improving.

The Girl Reserves will meet next Thursday afternoon in the Sunday school room of the Methodist church for a Christmas party.

I Ammonia Novice.

Man (in drug store): "I want some consecrated lye."

Druggist: "You mean concentrated lye."

Man: "It does nutmeg any difference. That's what I camphor. What does it sulphur?"

Druggist: "Fifteen cents. I have never cinnamon with so much wit."

Man: "Well, I should myrrh, myrrh! Yet I ammonia novice at it." —American Mutual Magazine.

Did you ever know a broker who was really broke?

Relic of Saxon Days

(©, 1922, Western Newspaper Union.)

THE New Year begins precisely at midnight, and almost everyone nowadays sees the New Year in by general festivities and many good resolutions, which are promptly forgotten on January 2.

The festivities marking this occasion, says Hereward Carrington, scientist and author, are very ancient, and in old Saxon days it was the custom to partake of a bowl of spiced ale, which was passed around with the expression "Wasshuel," which meant "to your health!" Hence the origin of the Wassail, or Wassel bowl.

We now keep New Year on January the first; but the Chinese, Jews, Turks and many others do not observe it on this day. Even Christian countries have not always so observed it; the Romans began the year with the March equinox. The later Teutonic nations for a long time continued counting the beginning of the year from March 25.

It was only in 1563, by an edict of Charles IX, that France changed the time of the beginning of the year to January 1. In 1600 Scotland made the same change, and England only did so in 1752, when the Gregorian system was adopted there. It will thus be seen that the New Year, observed on January 1, is relatively new, though we are accustomed to think that it dates back from time immemorial.

It was Julius Caesar, in the year 46 B. C., who first reformed the calendar—aided by the Egyptian astronomer Sosigenes. He made it a few minutes too long, and a second correction was necessary. Pope Gregory made certain changes in 1582, A. D., and additional minor changes were made later on, from the "old style" to the "new style" calendar. We now employ the new style.

After the French revolution France decided to set up an entirely new order of things. A new calendar was made. The Christian era was wiped out, and was replaced by the new French era, beginning September 22, 1792. Instead of our week of seven days, a week of ten days was established—in accordance with the decimal system—the tenth day being set aside for rest.

Instead of the mythological names of the months, others deduced from the prevailing seasons of the year were substituted.

Everything was to be based upon reason! The Notre Dame was converted into a "Temple of Reason." Mme. Monero, the young and beautiful wife of a Jacobin printer, was chosen to represent "Reason." And so it went.

The months were chosen and given French names which were thought to be characteristic of them. Thus, autumn had a vintage month, a foggy month and a sleety month. Winter, a snowy month, a rainy month and a windy month. Spring, a budding month, a flowery month and a pasture month. Summer, a harvest month, a hot month and a fruit month.

Each month began somewhere between the 18th and the 22nd—according to our reckoning. Thus the first month of the autumn trio began on September 22, and lasted until October 21, etc.

With the restoration of a stable government in France, this calendar was repealed, and the usual one substituted. But for a time, as we have seen, New Year day did not begin on January 1, in France, so late as the last century, and it does not begin on that date in non-Christian countries even today!

BORING

Michael Boyle, aged about 72 years, was found dead in his bed by neighbors on Saturday morning. The body was turned over to the county coroner and was buried by the county. The deceased left no known relatives here and no estate.

Mrs. Emma Gregson received a fine Christmas package from Portland containing a variety of groceries and household supplies and a card inscribed "Compliments of K. K. K."

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FUNERAL OF SANDY MAN IS WEDNESDAY

The funeral of Ernest Bonett, of Sandy, who died last Wednesday in Los Angeles, California, will be held Wednesday afternoon, December 27, at 1:30 at the Methodist church in Gresham. The Rev. A. S. Hisey will have charge of the services. Interment will be in the Gresham cemetery.

Mr. Bonett was 48 years of age. He was born in Nebraska on May 10, 1874. His death was caused by acute dilation of the heart.

The body arrived in Gresham Monday and was taken to the J. E. Metzger undertaking parlors.

FORMER LOCAL MEN CAUGHT WITH STILL

A news item from Hood River yesterday recounts the capture at Cascade Locks by a posse from the sheriff's office of Melvin and Robert Andrews of Cascade Locks and Marlon Mayfield of Pleasant Home. The men were said to be busy about a still and had about 30 gallons of finished liquor on hand, which was taken in the raid.

The Andrews Brothers were formerly in the meat business at Pleasant Home and went from there to Cascade Locks where they conduct a market. Mayfield, until recently, conducted a meat market at Pleasant Home where he has a family consisting of a wife and seven children.

The men are being held at Hood River jail waiting trial.

EXPERIMENT STATION SENDS FARM HELP

"No progressive orchardist should stand for the neglect of orchard trees adjacent to his property which will result in the development of diseases and pests which will spread to his own trees," asserts H. P. Barsa, plant pathologist at the Oregon Experiment station. "Such pests and diseases make the problem of producing clean fruit and healthy trees more difficult."

"The state horticultural law provides the method by which such cases can be handled. Appeal to your county fruit inspector or to the state board of horticulture who have the enforcement of the law in charge. Keep after them until the offending property is cleaned up."

Placing the roosters in the breeding pens this month is advisable in order that they become accustomed to their surroundings and acquainted with the balance of the flock before eggs are saved for hatching.

"Listen for the singing hen," advises F. E. Fox of the Oregon Experiment station. "If you haven't any in your flock the chances are that you are getting very few eggs. Change the conditions of feed and care, if necessary, to bring this about."

Draughty houses and damp poultry litter are to be guarded against, particularly at this season of the year.

A palatable wet mash will bring pullets into production when they are slow to lay. It is advisable to feed it 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.

Piano Tuning. Satisfaction guaranteed, \$3. Fred B. Jones, 2625 East 49th street.

A Tip to Our Merchants: Tell It With Pictures

We leave it to any woman living in this town if she doesn't read the grocery advertisement that is illustrated first and the one that is unillustrated second if at all.

It's because of that trait of human nature, the love for pictures, that this paper procured the exclusive right to the local advertising illustrations of the Publishers Autocaster Service.

A picture for every line and for every season of the year!

Advertisement for Maurice Berzov Advertising Designer and Artist, featuring various illustrations and text. Includes portraits of Maurice Berzov and Meyer R. Wolfe, and a portrait of Marion Fox, Woman Fashion Authority. Text includes 'A Tip to Our Merchants: Tell It With Pictures' and 'A picture for every line and for every season of the year!'.

HOME SWEET HOME

Oscar, you're wrong again.

by Terry Gilkison



HOME HABITS

HAVE YOU A LITTLE HABIT IN YOUR HOME SEND US ONE WE'LL PRINT IT—H.R.M. SENT THIS—'MY HUSBAND AT DINNER, PUTS HIS NAPKIN IN HIS POCKET BY MISTAKE'