

GRESHAM OUTLOOK

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The world is young, though truth is old, While Christmas-tide its joys unfold; Let youth and age be one today To celebrate Immanuel's sway.

THE MUNICIPAL CELEBRATION.

Christmas, while, strictly a religious festival, adopts itself to a more general observance and a municipal tree seems quite the proper thing. Certainly nothing could have been more attractive and emphasized more clearly the brightness and beauty of the Christmas season than the large decorated tree at the street intersection.

The tree gave incentive and inspiration to the general exercises which were to have been held in the open had the weather permitted. Had the weather of Wednesday night, with its clear sky, prevailed on Tuesday evening the outdoor conditions would have been ideal.

Gresham's first municipal Christmas must be recorded as a worthy success and a worthwhile undertaking.

To Charles Cleveland belongs the credit for the suggestion which led to the larger plan of decoration. To the council goes the thanks of the community for its generous help which really was necessary to put it over. The commercial club had a part. Thanks are due the electricians, and decorators, both local and of Portland, for their indispensable assistance.

Why not extend Christmas throughout the year?

James Schermerhorn, well known editor of the Detroit (Mich.) Times says regarding prohibition: "I have been too happy, too proud of my country over its taking the greatest moral step in the history of mankind to depart in any degree from the total abstinence that I felt was due my family, my friends and my countrymen generally. I would as soon do business with a counterfeiter, a white slaver or drug smuggler as to patronize a blind pig or rum-runner. I look upon it as the normal attitude of every citizen who loves the flag sufficiently to renounce something for it—and for his overtempted fellow-citizen if need be—especially as this renunciation is better for his own power to produce."

FORESTERS ENDORSE XMAS TREE CUTTING

With the coming of the Yuletide season comes also the "evergreen" question of the right or wrong of Christmas tree cutting. According to Uncle Sam's foresters the cutting of Christmas trees may be a positive benefit to the forest. Far from forbidding the practice, they believe that the providing of this central symbol of the child's Christmas should be encouraged, under proper regulation.

"Conservation is wise use," said District Forester C. M. Grainger, in commenting on this question. "Forest management grows successive crops of trees on the same land. If possible these tree crops should be used and not allowed to grow old, die, and rot."

One of the important requirements of forestry is the practice known as "improvement thinning" according to Mr. Grainger. Nature starts six or eight trees in the forest for every one that survives. It is held to be good practice to cut out the inferior seedlings from thickets, to give the hardier trees a chance. For Christmas trees of average size in this region, it is well not to thin to a greater distance than eight feet between trees.

"Trees cut for improvement thinning are seldom asymmetrical unless only the top of the tree is used," said Mr. Grainger. "It is the demand for asymmetrical trees which causes much of the abuse. Only the best of trees in open stands, or the tops of 20 or 30 year old trees are cut. If we could popularize the slightly misshapen Christmas tree, and create a demand for trees cut under proper forestry methods, it would do much to correct this abuse."

Order Calendars. If you have failed to order calendars for 1927, call the Outlook office. Fine line of samples and prices to suit.



To all of our friends and patrons

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INFORMATION ASKED ON FARM PRODUCTION

Since there is misunderstanding on the part of some farmers in this locality as to the usefulness of the information as to hog production and crop acreages, obtained from the cards distributed by the rural mail carriers the Outlook has been requested to publish the following statement furnished him by the United States department of agriculture.

These surveys are made with the help of the rural carriers, who either distribute the cards to a certain number of farmers along their routes, with the request that these be filled out, or the carrier fills out the card himself by interviewing the farmer. The carrier is instructed to get information from farms which will give a good average picture or sample of farms on his route, preferably by taking all of the farms along a part of his route, big and little, good and poor, owned and rented.

If a fair sample of all farms is returned in each state, figures for these farms should show the same changes as all farms. It is impossible to take an actual census enumeration of all farms each year, so changes in production and acreage each year must be estimated from samples. The nearer these samples are to being exact, the more correct will be the estimates.

The need and value of such information for individual farmers and agriculture in general hardly need be stressed. Without dependable information as to actual production and trends of production both of livestock and crops more balanced production and better market distribution are impossible.

The department of agriculture is the best qualified agency to undertake such work, but the accuracy of its estimates depends upon the accuracy of the returns made by farmers.

The beneficial effects that such information may have upon price is shown by the level of hog prices during the winter of 1924-25 compared to the previous winter. The pig surveys of June and December 1924 showed a decided decrease in hog production in 1924 compared to 1923. Marketings, however, during the winter from the 1924 crop were almost as large as the previous winter, and in December and January were the highest on record. In spite of these heavy marketings, hog prices were from \$2 to \$3 per hundred higher than during the winter before. The heavy marketings were rightly interpreted as being an early marketing of a smaller number of hogs caused by a short corn crop and not as indicating a correspondingly larger number of hogs.

But unless these estimates can be kept dependable the trade will disregard them and will be guided either by private estimates or by actual marketings as these take place. Therefore, every farmer should help to make these reports accurate by making the report for his own farm complete and accurate.

Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, of New York, formerly of Portland, is now charged by some of his fellow rabbis with uttering heretical statements when he said recently that he no longer regarded Jesus as a mythical character but as a historical reality and that Jews must follow his moral teachings acknowledged to be the best ever given to the world.

THRIFT.

Why do some rise above difficult and trying circumstances and others remain stationary or fall behind? The answer is often to be found in the presence or absence of habits of thrift. Now is a good time to review one's habits of thrift and adopt new ones if they are lacking.

Someone has summed up the Ten Commandments of Thrift as follows: 1. Work and earn. 2. Make a budget. 3. Record expenditures. 4. Have a bank account. 5. Carry life insurance. 6. Own your home. 7. Make a will. 8. Invest in safe securities. 9. Pay bills promptly. 10. Share with others.

Can You Beat It?



To win the World's speed typist's championship, Albert Tangora clicked the keys at the rate of 150 and a quarter words per minute. George Hossfeld, former champion was but a fraction of a word slower than Tangora's lightning fingers.

Christmas Carols.

"One of the most unusual experiences I ever experienced was when I was in Germany some years ago," said John Seifert, head of the voice department in the University of Oregon school of music. "It was just a few days before Christmas, and a blizzard was blowing outside," he continued. "Suddenly, right up on the front porch of the house I was living in, I heard a bugle playing 'Holy Night, Silent Night.'"

"Hearing that old, familiar melody 3,500 miles from home, made an impression on me never to be forgotten. The instrumentalist was the mail carrier, as I afterwards learned. Thus it was that I learned about the beautiful custom in Germany of mail carriers playing carols on trumpets in the days before Christmas, as they go about delivering the mail."

Carols are more popular in Europe than here, says Mr. Seifert, especially in England, Wales and Germany it is very common for groups of singers to go about the streets at night during the Christmas holiday season, singing such old favorite carols as "Blest Be the Tie That Binds," and "God Rest ye Merry Gentlemen."

There has been a pronounced awakening of interest in carols over the country.

According to the figures compiled by the traffic department of the Port of Portland, Oregon, there were 14 vessels cleared for foreign ports during the past week, 11 of which carried full or partial cargoes of lumber amounting in all to 12,200,000 feet.

Dead Land of the East.

Hoard's Dairyman says that 41 per cent of the farming land of the New England states that was under cultivation 50 years ago is dead land today, uncultivated; that there are only four small cylinder threshing machines in the whole state of Massachusetts and that there is not a single real threshing outfit to be found between Boston, Mass., and Albany, New York. Big business concerns of the east are not concerned—they want an industrial country.

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FOR SALE—Jersey cow, will freshen middle of January. James McGraw, Pleasant Home, near Seaside station. JERSEY COW for sale at a bargain. Phone 1254.

PIGS

6-WEEKS-OLD PIGS for sale. Phone Gresham 1036. E. P. Sell.

POULTRY

WHITE LEGHORN AND RHODE ISLAND RED pullets for sale or trade for horse or cow. Level Berney, Troutdale, R. 1, phone Corbett 11x1.

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SWISS DAIRYMAN wants to rent a farm suitable for dairy. Near Gresham preferred. For information, phone Mike Kehrl, Gresham, 321.

7-ROOM HOUSE FOR RENT on Second street just east of Roberts avenue, \$25. Inquire Bank of Gresham, Gresham, Oregon.

HOUSE AND BARN and cucumber and garden land for rent. Address P. C. care Outlook.

LOANS WANTED—\$200, \$300, \$500, \$700, \$1000. John Brown, Gresham, phone 2501.

FARMS FOR SALE, large or small, in fine agricultural section. Karl J. Hertzberg, R. 2, Gresham, phone 576.

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PLANT TREES NOW. Now is the time to plant trees. We have peach, pear, plum, prune, apple, walnut, and Albert trees. All kinds of fruit trees, berry plants and grape vines at reduced prices. Nursery located on Powell Valley road, one mile and a half west of Gresham. Send for catalogue and price list. Powell Valley Nursery, Portland, Oregon, Route 1, phone Gresham 123. F. N. WIRT.

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