

OVER A HUNDRED CHILDREN ENJOY GATES CHRISTMAS

"Hullo, boys and girls, Santa Claus wishes you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year." Thus shouted Santa Claus, big, red-nosed and red-checked, white-haired and long white whiskers, looking for all the world as though he had just dropped down from his sleigh and reindeer in the sky, as he suddenly appeared Sunday afternoon before the 106 children assembled in the Hotel Holland dining room as the guests at the annual Christmas dinner given them by the Economy Grocereria.

The already delighted juvenile throng almost went crazy with delight at the coming of the benign old gentleman, and shouted back eagerly "The same to you, Santa."

The boys and girls had just partaken of a bountiful turkey dinner with all the trimmings. It had been thought that the bright faced, and eager kids were almost too full for utterance, but they still had loads of room for the expression of their Christmas cheer, eagerness and gratitude.

It so inspired Santa, who was being impersonated by Mayor C. E. Gates that he several times got his white beard tangled up in his mouth and nearly bit off the end of it; the Red Cross ladies and other elder folks looking on had tears in their eyes; and the two big hearted Bills, who had provided this feast and Yuletide treat, were so overcome that they went back into the alley and wept—until their cigarettes went out.

"Who'll divide their dinner with me?" asked Santa. There was a thunderous chorus in reply of "I will."

"Who'll let me sit beside them," asked Santa.

"I will," shouted back every boy and girl, as he or she arose and began taking a vacant chair. Of course this was only a bluff on the part of the old guy, as he must hurry home up on Queen Ann street as soon as possible to milk his cows, and feed his chickens and Shetland ponies. But it brought out the spirit of the children.

"That's right, boys and girls. That is the Christmas spirit you are displaying. Divide up with others, and make everyone as happy as you can."

"Have you had enough," suddenly shouted Santa.

The loud chorus answer was, "We have."

"Oh, that's good," teased Santa. "Then you don't want any more. I had something more in store for you."

Pandemonium then reigned in the dining room as they explained and coaxed Santa to go on with his good deeds on their behalf.

"Well, then, have you all been good boys and girls this year?" said Santa with a show of relenting.

"We have, Mister Santa," came back the mighty earnest chorus.

Then Santa, with the assistance of several aides distributed bags of candy and nuts to each child.

The happy children then formed in line and with a group of the Girls Reserves of the Y. W. C. A., under Miss McKee, secretary, singing Christmas carols marched away to take part in the community Christmas doings at the public library lawn.

Interspersed with the big dinner was the singing of Christmas songs and America by the children under the guidance of Miss Sherwood, supervisor of music in the public schools, and Miss Sadie Lacey. Rev. J. Randolph Sennett asked the blessing.

General supervision of the dinner was in charge of Miss Mabel I. Haynes, secretary of the Red Cross chapter, assisted by the Red Cross committee consisting of Mrs. C. L. Farren, Mrs. M. B. Noblett, Mrs. A. J. Klockner, Mrs. F. W. Mears and Mrs. Rose Schellert. They waited on the long tables. Others present and assisting were Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Smith of the Hotel Holland, Miss Virginia Smith, and Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Paxson and E. C. Faber of Central Point, and Mr. M. D. Lydiard, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Dunlap and Mrs. Emma Brittain of Table Rock, and Messrs. William Lydiard and Wm. A. Gates.

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THE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE A GREAT SUCCESS

With thousands of people of all ages from the city and immediate vicinity surrounding the big and beautifully decorated Christmas tree on the public library front lawn, Medford held its community Christmas tree observation on Sunday evening, beginning at 5 o'clock. It was by all odds the largest attended and most successful Yuletide affair of its kind ever held in the city. Besides the immense crowd assembled about the tree, hundreds of autos loaded with occupants lined the sides of the streets surrounding about the public library and the city park adjoining.

It had been one of the mildest just before-Christmas days in local history—a spring-like day with sunshine and cloudiness alternating, but fortunately just before the hour of the celebration the sun disappeared and twilight fell; enabling the brilliantly lighted tree to show out more impressively and making the time seem more like Christmas eve.

The program began with the ringing of church bells to remind the sick ones at their homes and others of the hour for the community to assemble and untidily join in an outpouring of Christmas cheer and gratitude. The program consisted of selections of the D. O. K. K. band, Wilson Walt, director, alternating with Christmas carols sung by the 1,500 school children of the city under the direction of Miss Sherwood, supervisor of music of the public schools, and the high school girls' glee club, all of whom were assembled close to the tree. The band furnished the accompaniments.

Then 1,800 candy canes were given out from the Christmas tree as all the children marched by, and the celebration was over in plenty of time for the people to dress up, dine and attend the Christmas services at the various churches.

The money to provide the expenses of giving the community Christmas tree was raised by a collection taken among business men. The city council also donated \$10 to the fund.

BAPTIST CHURCH AIDS ASTORIA SUFFERERS

The Christmas entertainment by the Sunday school of the First Baptist church Sunday evening, was presented to an audience that completely filled the large audience rooms of the church. The program was greatly enjoyed and was pronounced one of the best ones given by the Sunday school.

The entertainment was under the charge of Mrs. Elmer Wilson. The primary department had a number of pleasing features, as well as some of the older classes. A fine tree was enjoyed as well as the treat given to all of the children.

Next Sunday evening the choir will present a strong Christmas concert, which will prove an attraction to all who enjoy the better things in music. The Christmas Tree will be kept for this service. A Albert offering was made at the evening service Sunday for Astoria.

VALLEY VIEW FARMERS ORGANIZE A BUREAU

The farmers of Valley View, east of Talent organized a community unit of the County Farm Bureau, this being the first community in Jackson county to organize a local unit since the adoption of this plan by the state Farm Bureau federation. One of the principal problems to receive the attention of this organization will be that of irrigation. The plan is to have a meeting on the last Saturday evening of each month. There were fourteen families represented at this meeting and every one pledged their financial support to the Farm Bureau for the coming year. The following officers were elected: J. R. McCracken, president; J. D. Lowe, vice-president; H. R. Roach, secretary-treasurer.

Bars Arbutic Pictures
IOWA CITY, Iowa, Dec. 26.—Roscoe Arbutic pictures will be barred from Iowa City moving picture houses, Mayor Emma Harvat has announced. She is the only woman mayor in the state.

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JACK EDMUNSON, MIDDLEWEIGHT, TO MAKE HOME HERE

Jack Edmunson, who Friday evening gave Gordon McKay all the fight he wanted in ten slashing rounds, has decided to settle here.

McKay entered the ring a big favorite, but before the fight was far gone it could plainly be seen that he was facing a masterful boxer. Edmunson really outboxed McKay, according to many present and in the too to toe milling he more than held his own.

Edmunson substituted for Battling Ortega, knowing that he would receive practically nothing for his efforts, but nevertheless he went in and gave the fans the greatest fight ever witnessed here.

This Edmunson had is the sort of boxer that makes the game worth while. He is married and has a champion four-year-old. His family is detained in Portland at present on account of sickness.

Edmunson declares that all the fans want here are real fights and they will pack the house. Go to it, Jack, we are with you.

MITZI DELIGHTS 2 BIG AUDIENCES

Two large audiences at the Page theater yesterday had their Christmas joys considerably enhanced by witnessing the charming performance of "Lady Billy," headed by the always likable and infatigable Mitzi, and the company's own orchestra.

Again was it demonstrated to Medford and valley theater-goers that a good company of actors, singers and dancers in an interesting musical plot and flanked by proper scenic investitures and comedy and ample orchestral accompaniment can always give a pleasing performance, without being flooded with specialties, elaborate scenery, large chorus, suggestiveness and stunts.

Crowded houses greeted both the afternoon and night performances yesterday. It was Mitzi's original New York company and Medford was fortunate in being one of the few cities to witness "Lady Billy," on the company's way back east after an exceptional run in San Francisco. "Lady Billy" opens in Portland on Thursday night for three night performances and a matinee.

EAGLE POINT EAGLETS
By A. C. Howlett

P. E. Sandoz of Elk creek was here for dinner Tuesday. He came out with some fresh meat to sell.

E. H. High of Ashland and Mrs. Frank Stone, one of the teachers in the Butte Falls school, and Oliver Adams, also of Butte Falls, were here for dinner also.

Judge Florey (Judge is his given name; he is not a judicial officer) took the mail from here to Trail Tuesday for the contractor, Lucius Kincaid and Mr. Kincaid drove a truck for George Holmes, the garage man, and made five trips to Medford for flour for George Brown and Soas.

Ira Hensley who was here a few years ago and went from here up into Washington, has returned and is stopping with his brother-in-law, Shorty Wilson near Wellen, was trading at the McPherson store Wednesday. He was accompanied by G. E. Barnes.

Fred Friderger of Medford, who has been stopping at the Sunnyside hotel, and his friend, John E. Rinehart, recently from Ohio, who have been working in Mr. Friderger's orchard, finished up the job Wednesday and returned to Medford. Mr. Friderger has put out five acres more of the Bosc variety of pears, and when he left Wednesday morning said that if his friend who had returned to Medford the day before a little unwell, was able to stand the trip they were both going to Mr. Friderger's old home in Ohio to visit his old mother. They intend to go up thru Canada so that they both can see that country and have a taste of the Canadian climate. They will experience quite a change in lat respect, from around 26 degrees above zero to, well judging from the reports in our own country along the Canadian border, around twenty to thirty below zero. They won't find any green grass up there, I suppose.

C. P. Thomerson of Idaho, came out from Medford on the stage Wednesday afternoon and spent the night at the Sunnyside, and Charles W. Long, mentioned a few days ago as being here with a state truck keeping the Crater Lake highway in repair, has taken up board by the month as he expects to be here most of the winter.

John Foster of Medford, was among the diners Wednesday.

R. A. Petty, who lives south of here, W. E. Webb of Derby, Wm. Nickell who lives on Salt creek near Lake creek were business callers Wednesday, and Messrs. Thos. L. Timmons of Portland and Theo. A. Glass were late diners at the Sunnyside hotel Wednesday.

Mr. Glass is the district manager of the R. C. Life of Central Point.

F. E. Beckel of Butte Falls, and O. L. Samuelson, a salesman from Portland, and Wm. Lewis, now of Medford but formerly of the Plouffe Rock ranch were passengers on the stage Thursday. Mr. Lewis was on his way up to his former home to look

after his interests there and Mr. Samuelson remained and took dinner here.

Wm. Holman of Salt Creek, passed through here late Wednesday afternoon, and Fred Nolan of Klamath Falls came in on the stage from Medford and spent the night at the Sunnyside hotel going on up to Butte Falls Thursday morning.

In making my rounds Thursday morning I met Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Smith in the Geo. Brown store laying in their Christmas supplies and I noticed that they seemed to be kept quite busy waiting on customers altho most of them were our townspeople as there seems to be but few of our country people coming into town, or if they do they go on through to Central Point or Medford, and they go so fast that I cannot recognize them.

A. J. Florey and wife who have been absent a few days, he having been up to Portland on business, and his wife was staying with her parents in Medford during the absence of her husband, returned to their home Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Ayres, two of our prominent citizens who live on the line of the P. & E. R. R. were doing their Christmas trading here Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Husen and daughter who live on the J. M. Cooley orchard were laying in their Xmas supplies at the McPherson store Thursday afternoon.

J. C. Gaines and wife of Trail creek came out Thursday and took dinner at the Sunnyside and went on to Medford. They have a beautiful home up on Trail creek where he is engaged in the stock business. I asked how his cattle were doing this winter and he replied all right, that he had been feeding them for about a month; he don't believe in letting his stock go hungry.

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