

Potpourri

One of the Christmas trees pictured on today's front page caused quite a bit of trouble. The Kenneth Tolles and their two small children, accompanied by the Richard Sturgills and their two small fry, set out a week ago Saturday at noon to cut Christmas trees. They didn't get home until 6 a. m. the following day.

Way up in the hills somewhere the car had a flat tire. When the men changed it, they found the spare was also flat. And the tool kit didn't include a tire pump. Luckily the men knew of a cabin in the vicinity which belonged to friends of the Sturgill family, so all set out for the cabin. It was stocked with canned food—even milk for the babies.

Since the Sturgills had told the family where they were going, no one was really worried about having to walk out. Some time after midnight Clyde Sturgill began to wonder what had become of his son and the rest of the party and set out to hunt for them. The story has a happy ending, because he took a tire pump.

The Junior is home from school, which makes everyone on the farm happy. Tippy the Terrier and Orsino Parakeet will be happy, for now there is someone home most of the time. Pretty Orsino has a new word to show off, for he learned to say "Cisico" since his mistress left last fall. The parakeet can now say his name and such phrases as "pretty birdie," "sweetie pie" and even "Mail Tribune," although he sometimes mixes the words with amusing results.

The oldest Potpourri gets, the more we enjoy the Christmas notes and letters. One this year came from far-off Florence, Italy, where Artist Eugene Bennett will spend Christmas, another was from Iceland, where Airman Ward Bebb is with the USAF. Airman Bebb wrote that he planned to see the opera soon in the National Theater, Reykjavik, the capital city of Iceland. From him Potpourri learned that we're a "mughunter," and believe it or not, one of the newsmen had to explain that we'd earned this title because of our picture-taking activities for The Tribune.

From New York came a Christmas letter from Jean Page, who is attending Columbia Teachers' college. Jean wrote that she was taking seven subjects and "you have to swim mighty hard to keep above water" at Teachers' college. She said she was enjoying the Broadway plays and wrote "The UN has impressed me more than anything else in New York."

A new duty has been put on the shoulders of the successful hostess. The chairman of safety councils are now urging holiday hostesses to share some of the responsibility of seeing that guests get home safely.

William M. Greene, chairman of the National Traffic Safety Coordinators and Paul E. Burke, chairman of the special "Holiday Hazard" committee of the coordinators, have asked women editors of the country to carry an urgent appeal to hostesses.

"In 1953 there were 849 people killed in traffic accidents during the holiday 'party season' beginning around December 20 (when office parties start) and ending January 1," according to their statement.

"It is a sad fact that many of these accidents happened while the victims were on their way home from holiday celebrations, when many of them were in no condition to be driving. We believe that in the future, much of this holiday highway toll might be prevented if the hosts and hostesses of America would do what they can to see that homeward-bound guests who plan to drive their own cars are in a fit condition to drive them."

"One way of doing this is for hostesses to give their guests coffee instead of a stronger beverage when it's time for the proverbial 'one for the road' drink. Coffee as the 'one for the road' has been recommended by many safety experts during the past three years as a holiday accident preventive. While it will not make an intoxicated person sober, it does have a sobering effect."

"In our opinion the hostesses of the country can be of incalculable aid in the annual campaign to reduce holiday highway fatalities if they will do three things: Urge guests to come to their parties by bus, street car or taxi if possible; If guests come in their own cars urge them to leave them, if they have imbibed too freely and go home either by public conveyance or with more sober guests; if they insist upon driving, then insist upon their making that one-for-the-road coffee."

According to the WCTU, the average American family spends \$236 each year for alcoholic beverages. Mrs. Glenn G. Hays, president of the union, says this amount is four times the average family's contribution to religious and welfare activities.

The annual total of \$9,570,000,000 spent for liquor, wine and beer compares with \$2,184,000,000 contributed to churches and welfare activities Mrs. Hays says, quoting figures from the U. S. Department of Commerce.

A year ago in October Dr. Richard Steiner, Portland Unitarian minister, preached a sermon. While not meant for a Christmas sermon, it holds a message which seems appropriate for the Christmas season.

Speaking on "The Enigma of Jesus," Dr. Steiner said in part: "The Kingdom of God was not to come by God's choice of a Messiah, but by a Messiah's choice of God. That is precisely the choice which Jesus made. It is because Jesus chose God so completely that the power which he possessed was at the same time so futile and so triumphant. His futility brought him to the cross, his triumph made him a power to be reckoned with throughout the centuries as an example to mankind."

"It is futility lies in men's worship of him, instead of imitation of him; his triumph is men's recognition that without him the world is without hope, for without him men would not see that the same choice is theirs."

"No man in history has been so understood and so misunderstood. The story of his life, the story of his death, the story of his incomparable influence through the centuries since his death is a story that even in a rudimentary fashion is available for all to read and heed and yet the interpretations placed upon it are so various that Christendom stands divided. Yet so powerful has that influence been, that despite its division, Christendom still stands. It stands as a challenge and as a hope to a divided world which seems ready to collapse."—O.S.

Pastel Ties Fashionable For Yuletide

By CHARLES NOLAN
United Press Correspondent

Miami—(U.P.)—Men who shudder at the thought of a pastel tie in their Christmas stockings had better start growing long beards immediately.

W. J. Esterman, vice president of a Cincinnati, O., tie company, said in an interview here that the accent at Yuletide is on pastel shades—pink, lavender, pale blue and mint green.

"Women are attracted by pastels," he explained. "And women do 70 per cent of the purchasing."

Don't blame the tie-makers for the trend away from the basic colors. Esterman said they are "following suit" of shirt-makers, who found the pastel shades catching on nationally.

For the more conservative male, who might at this moment be considering an unfavorable tie for a shoeshine rag, there's an "in-between" tie—dark colors with only pastel trim.

Stripes also will be popular, Esterman said, because women like the way most television commentators use striped ties for photographic effects.

Ties are both growing and shrinking. Esterman said most ties average 51 inches in length and are no wider than three and one-quarter inches.

Women shopping for something different will find the usual number of gimmicks, said Esterman. These include pleated ties, jersey knits, and a reversible style tie that enables a man to get a different design with a mere flip of his hand.

However, Esterman suggests the practical shopper will attempt to "blend the necktie with the type clothing the man has."

He smiled and then echoed a long-famous remark for women in such predicaments: "Oh well, if he isn't satisfied, he can always exchange it."

Lewis Return From Island Trip

Mr. and Mrs. George Lewis returned home Wednesday evening after being in Hawaii visiting for two weeks. While at Honolulu they were guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Winetrot, who are spending some time there, and of the Walter Carsons, who formerly lived in Medford.

Mr. Carson is the former station manager of United Airlines here and the family moved in November to Honolulu from Denver. He is now station manager for the air lines in Honolulu.

Sizeable Aftershocks Listed in California

Berkeley—(U.P.)—The University of California announced Saturday that its seismograph recorded two "fairly sizeable" aftershocks following Thursday's earthquake which rocked five states.

The first was recorded at 10:27 a. m. PST Friday and lasted four minutes while the second was recorded at 11:46 p. m. PST Friday night and lasted five minutes. Both had Richter magnitudes of 3.5.

Twenty lesser shocks also were recorded during a period between 7 a. m. Friday and 8 a. m. Saturday the university said.

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Traditional German Yule Dinner Planned Around Pork, Wild Game

By ARNO KRETSCHMER
United Press Correspondent

Bad Nauheim, Germany—(U.P.)—The Karl Langsdorf family, like thousands of Germans, will feast on pork and wild game come Christmas.

"No turkey for us" said hand-some Elly Langsdorf. "Turkey is too scarce and expensive."

The Langsdorfs and their three boys live in nearby Friedberg but always come to Bad Nauheim to celebrate with grandma, who has a comfortable

Auxiliary Meets At Lemery Home

Jackson County Medical auxiliary held the annual Christmas party Wednesday evening in the home of Mrs. Charles W. Lemery, Windsor avenue. Bright decorations and refreshments of the traditional flaming plum pudding were in the spirit of the season.

Assisting Mrs. Lemery were Mrs. Edwin Durno, Mrs. M. L. Vorheis and Mrs. Charles F. Hoey. An exchange of "white elephants" and auction of baked goods and candies added to the festive spirit of the occasion and also quite generously increased the nurses' scholarship fund.

In addition to bringing canned goods for the basket for some needy family's Christmas dinner, each member contributed a dollar for the Christmas gifts for men at Camp White to be presented by the American Red Cross.

Home Extension Unit Has Christmas Party

Howard Home Extension unit women held a Christmas party during a meeting held recently at Harmony hall at Friends church. Twenty-three members attended and Mrs. G. G. Stag demonstrated the lesson concerning stored foods. Hostesses for the day were Mrs. Ralph Merritt, Mrs. J. S. Lydiard and Mrs. Nick Gier.

Mrs. Sadie McVey distributed gifts from a Christmas tree.

flat in the resort town's residential section. In all, four generations are represented at the Langsdorfs' family Christmas.

Said Mrs. Longsdorf: "Grandma takes over, we all must leave for a while, and she gets the Christmas tree lighted up—we use genuine candles—and all the gifts beneath it."

"In Germany, we present our gifts on Christmas eve, so that the children have all Christmas Day to play."

"When everything is in its place, grandma rings a little bell, and in we march, the children first, of course, because they are the most impatient."

"Christmas is a day mostly for kids," she said, "so most of the money spent is spent on them. They get useful things like shoes and shirts, but there must also be toys, of course."

Mrs. Langsdorf, whose husband is a mechanic, said she spends 100 to 150 Duetschmarks—between \$24 and \$36—on Christmas gifts alone, most of them for the children.

"While the boys get ready to take their toys apart, grandma and I go into the kitchen to prepare the Holy Night dinner," she said. "My husband likes fried or broiled hare, rabbit, or deer. We serve potato balls and lettuce with the meat, and, of course, a heavy gravy."

"After dinner we just have a sweet pudding or fruits."

"Now Daddy comes in with the wine—and let me assure you, this is wine!"

"Grandfather is manager in a big wine cellar, and from the owner he always gets selected vintages for Christmas—as a gift."

Corn Bread Good Leftover

New York—(U.P.)—Leftover corn bread is as good the second day as the first. Try toasting the squares under the broiler for a minute or two and then top with plenty of butter or margarine. Serve with a light salad for lunch.

Annual Luncheon Given Monday by Women's Group

About 40 women attended the Scottish Rites Women's club annual Christmas party Monday at the Medford hotel. Luncheon was served and a gift exchange was conducted. The tables were decorated in the Christmas theme by Mrs. Charles Hoppe and Mrs. Clay Lee.

Mrs. George Redhead, one of the guests, from the Applegate, won a prize during the afternoon and other guests at the event included Mrs. Randall Gibson of Medford, and Mrs. B. Hoffman, Gold Hill.

The afternoon was spent playing canasta and bridge.

Phoenix Schools' Yule Program Due Tuesday

Phoenix—The annual Christmas program of the Phoenix schools will be held Tuesday, December 21, at 8 p. m.

Under the direction of Harry Kannasto, it will feature a wide range of singing voices with a primary chorus, a fifth and sixth grade chorus, a seventh and eighth grade chorus, and the high school chorus, triple trio, and boys quartet. The band will play two numbers. A short play entitled "Mother Goose Christmas Helpers" will be presented by the fourth grade.

The public is invited. No admission will be charged.

The eagle was adopted as insignia for rank of colonel in the Army June 11, 1832.

Department To Hold Final Camp Dance

The last dance of the year sponsored by the Department of Oregon auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars is scheduled for Monday, December 20, at 8 p. m., at the domiciliary theater at Camp White.

All auxiliary members and their friends are invited. Those wanting transportation should take the bus from Trailways depot at 7:30 p. m.

For the occasion the music will be provided by the cooperation of the local union of the American Federation of Musicians through a grant from the music performance trust of the recording industry.

Peggy Appolo's band will furnish the music.

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3⁹⁵ to 5⁹⁵

Wheat, Corn Crops Below '53 Levels, But Surplus Seen

Washington—(U.P.)—The Agriculture Department, in a final report of the year, has fixed the 1954 corn harvest at 2,964,639,000 bushels and the wheat crop at 969,781,000 bushels.

Both crops, because of federal controls, are smaller than in 1953 when planting was restricted. But the 1954 production along with high surpluses already on hand, is sufficient to warrant the second consecutive year of cutbacks scheduled for 1955.

The wheat crop is down even more than was expected under this year's control program. Average yields on the acreage allotment would have produced slightly more than a one-billion bushel crop. Rust and drought damage were the chief reasons for the lower yield.

The corn crop was slightly above the 2,645,000,000 crop expected under the control program which limited acreage in commercial producing areas. Many growers in the commercial areas chose to violate their allotment and forfeit price support since they feed their own grain to livestock.

The final corn crop estimate compares with output last year of 3,192,491,000 bushels. Last year the total wheat harvest was 1,169,434,000 bushels.

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