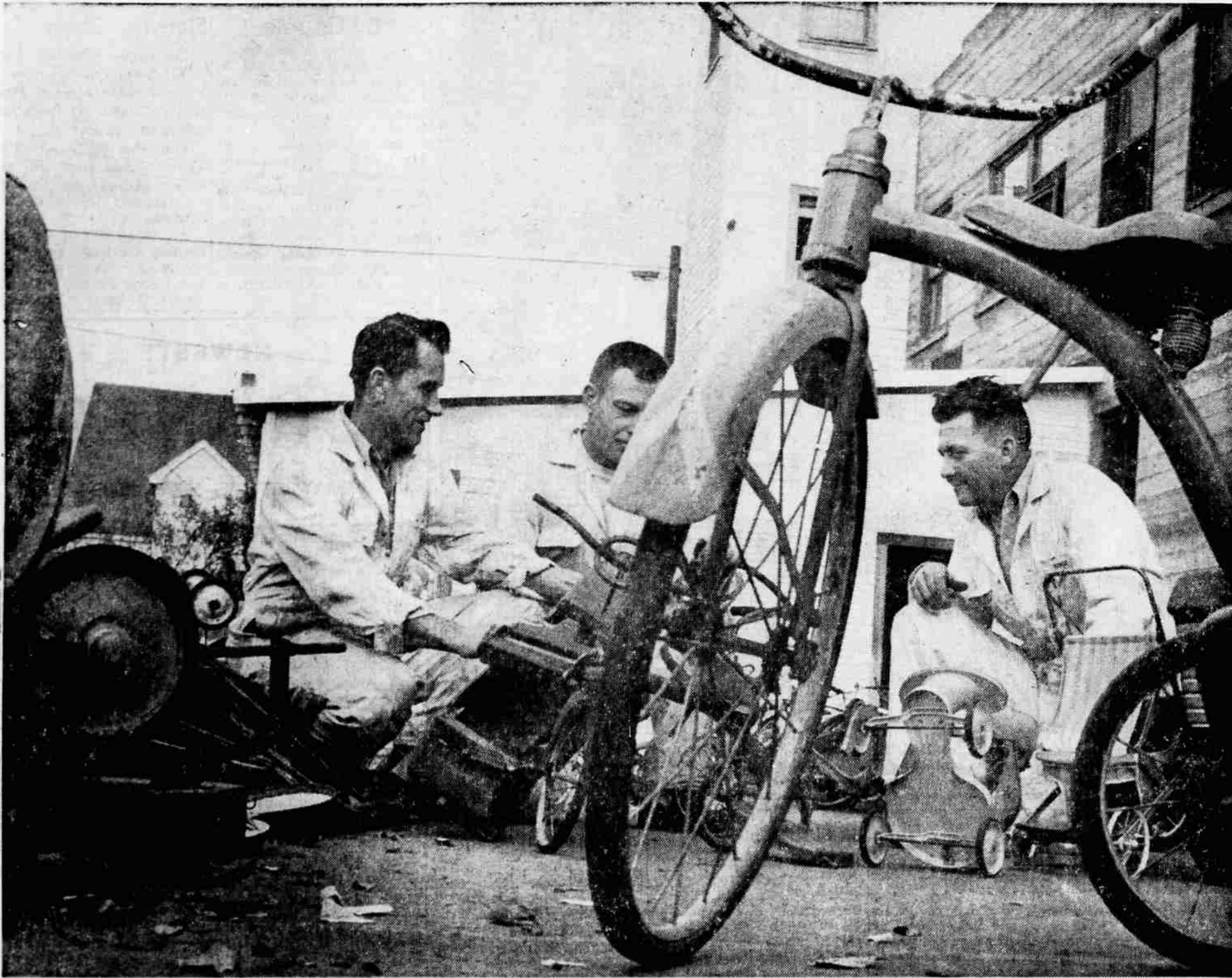


Pre-Holiday Events



These three men are magicians — they take old toys and with their special Christmas magic — plus a lot of paint and hard work, turn them into shiny new ones. Of course, they are really members of Medford Fire department, and right now the firemen are long on magic and short on toys, and unless residents of the area increase the supply, a lot of youngsters will be disappointed when Christmas comes. Santa's helpers here are (left to right) Larry Briggs, Raymond Minger and Walter Swaser, and they stress that they must have the toys no later than December 14 if they are to be made over in time for the annual distribution by Medford Lions' auxiliary. When the firemen began repairing toys back in 1926, they supplied about 30 children; last year 780 children were made happy by the combined efforts of citizens, firemen and the auxiliary members.



Mrs. Thomas H. Gredvig, Ashland (at left) was among valley art patrons who attended the pre-Christmas sale held by Southern Oregon Society of Artists November 29. Mrs. Gredvig and Mrs. Thomas Staley, Eagle Point, are examining one of Mrs. Staley's paintings which was sold during the exhibit. Society members donated pictures for the sale, given to benefit a gallery fund planned by the group.



Mrs. Ralph W. Hixson, Central Point, and Eugene Bennett, Medford, were among the artists who contributed works for last Sunday's sale, and the two are shown here with one of Mrs. Hixson's contributions to the event. Mrs. Hixson is president of the sponsoring group, Southern Oregon's Society of Artists, and Mr. Bennett is temporary chairman of the newly-formed group, as yet unnamed, organized to promote artistic effort in the valley.



In the midst of making pastries for the annual bazaar of First Methodist church, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Czekli posed for The Mail Tribune photographer. The Czeklis and their two daughters, natives of Hungary, came to Medford last summer from Switzerland under the sponsorship of First Methodist church. The couple, anxious to show their gratitude, volunteered to make traditional Hungarian delicacies for sale; they were quickly sold and eaten with pleasure during the event Thursday at the church. Mr. Czekli holds half of a "mignon," which is made by putting two cookies together with a filling and frosting and decorating the whole. The resulting confection was attractive and delicious. The daughters are Marta, 6, and Mary, 7.



H. E. Morris, 3008 Biddle road, Medford, attended the gallery benefit sale held by Southern Oregon Society of Artists at Girls Community club last Sunday and purchased the painting which he holds under his arm. Entitled "Lazy River", the painting is the work of Mrs. Leonard Andrews, Gold Hill, retiring past president of the society. Members of both the society and the newly-organized art promotion group are working towards the goal of an art gallery or center where paintings, sculpture and other works might be displayed and which would also serve as a meeting place for art groups and artistic endeavor. Last Sunday's event was advertised as an "under \$20" sale and various artists contributed work. Nineteen paintings were sold.