

MORTY MEEKLE



Ghosts Of Christmas Past To Be Seen On KU Stage

As he does just about each Christmas season, crotchety old Scrooge has been getting his comeuppance from the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future on the stage of the Klamath Union High School Little Theater.

By popular demand, the drama department at KUHS has been re-enacting Charles Dickens' most famous short work, "A Christmas Carol." More performances are planned for the public Monday, December 14, and the following Wednesday at 8 p.m.

They're all in the act—browbeaten Bob Cratchit and his wife, his two daughters and his sons, including Tiny Tim, the small cripple who has wrong compass-

ion from generations; the ghost of Marley, fiends and goblins.

They are played by what Drama Department head Mrs. Roberta Blomquist calls "two casts and a hall."

This big complement of youngsters has honed technique to a keen edge with dozens of performances before high school classes and other groups. Experience from other years adds to their skill.

Each year the department works out a Christmas story of some kind famous in literature or history. The story of Scrooge naturally is most often featured.

"That's what everyone wants to see," says Mrs. Blomquist.

She was high in praise of her staff of technicians who handle the difficult task of lighting and costuming. Making Scrooge's visions pop smoothly on and off is a chore requiring deft handling, she says.

Bob Lessler, Joe Bispham, Georgianna Pater, Gayle Osborn and Tom Fredrickson do the job nicely, she added.

Most roles are handled by two or more performers, since the grind of staging the play each hour on some days has caused players' voices to crack.

Scrooge, the lead role, is played by Bob Thompson, Stewart Maxwell and Fred Stilwell; Bob Cratchit by Gary Bishop and Douglas Floyd; Mrs. Cratchit by Judy Davis and Judy Bryant; Scrooge's nephew, Fred, by Trenton Douglas, Douglas Floyd and Vern Lambert; Marley's ghost by Tom Dowdy, George Crain, Bob Lessler and Gary Zumwalt.

Dianne Walter, Nancy Moehl and Kenny Preston play the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future. Jerry Waller, a pint-sized freshman, is Tiny Tim. Merle Sime plays the collector; Jim Sheridan, Tiny Tim's little brother; Patty Propst and Barbara White, Cratchit's daughters. The story of Scrooge's early boyhood is handled by Sharron O'Brien, Maxine Dickenson and Richard Duggan.

Dancers Gail Brotherhood, Connie Enzer, Betty Fitzgerald, Ranelle Kerns, Sally Ann Lee, Joyce Lubke, Leigh Melton, Gayle Osborn, Penny Parks, Nancy Perna-gotti, Georgianna Pater, Nancy Ruisth and Katy Warren play the fiends and goblins, and they dance in the party scenes.

Dianne Sigerer is the reader who tells the story at the play's outset.

Lead roles generally are given to juniors and seniors and the minor ones to freshmen and soph-

omores, Mrs. Blomquist explains. "This is a fine show for children," she says. "The very young ones might be frightened by the ghosts, but I don't think so."

In it, the granite heart of Scrooge is softened by vengeful spirits in a nightmare and the Cratchit family consequently spends Christmas happily ever after.



SCROOGE, played by Bob Thompson, is haunted by terrifying apparitions in Klamath Union High School's version of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol." Marley's ghost is played by Gary Zumwalt, and Gayle Osborn gives him blood-curdling support at one of the 20 goblins. Public performances are scheduled for Monday and Wednesday.



FRED HEARD

Local Youth Wins Post

Fred Heard, 3506 Hilyard Avenue, has been elected chairman of the Oregon Young Republican College League. His selection for the top post in the organization took place at a meeting on December 6.

Judy Green, Ventura, California, was elected secretary-treasurer.

Heard, University of Oregon student, speaking on the need for a united Republican party told the group, "We must organize the party from a solid foundation and erect walls that are flexible. We must be neither too conservative nor too liberal."

Heard also pledged that he would visit every Oregon college campus during the coming year, and announced that the next meeting would be held January 10 in Corvallis. The State Executive Board meeting will also be held in conjunction with this session.

Special guests at the December meeting were Wes Phillips, state chairman of the YR Federation of Oregon, and Margaret Blue, state secretary-treasurer.

Delegates included: John Hall, EOC; John McKenzie, OSC, and John Phillips, University of Oregon. Richard Caplinger of Pendleton was appointed executive director, and John DeBruyn, Seattle, as director of organization.

Check Car Before Trip

NEW YORK (NEA)—Motorists, have a Careful Christmas!

The Christmas season is a time of good cheer, but, unfortunately, it ends on a note of tragedy each year for thousands of people who disregard cold weather driving precautions.

Before your holiday travels take you over the hills to Grandmother's house or to visit friends where you have to leave your car standing outdoors for hours at a time, here are some precautions you should take.

1. Have fresh, effective anti-freeze put into your radiator. Don't try to get by with last year's.

2. Check the condition of your heater and defroster. To work properly, they depend on a winter thermostat. Have your serviceman install one.

3. When a car is left outdoors during cold weather, frequently the windshield becomes glazed with ice. If you remove the ice by defrosting rather than scraping, lower car windows while running the motor. If you don't asphyxiation may result.

4. If you must drive at night, remove snow and ice from your head and tail lights before you start. Otherwise they will be too dim to add much to your visibility or to warn other motorists of your presence.

5. If there is ice or snow on the road, never make sudden moves, either stopping, starting or changing directions. Even on warm, sunny days, watch out, too, for those ice patches that linger in shaded areas of roads.

6. Winter road emergencies require special equipment. Your car trunk should contain the following: shovel and sand, tire chains, spare fan belt and tire, tow rope, lug wrench for wheel nuts and a first aid kit.

Above all, once you get behind the wheel of your car, use common sense.

Grape Gassing Given Okay

WASHINGTON (AP)—Food and Drug Administration officials say it is all right for the fruit industry to gas grapes to keep them fresh looking.

Some concern over the safety of the practice has been expressed because of the controversy caused by spraying cranberries with a chemical weed killer that has been found to cause thyroid cancer in rats.

The gas used on grapes, when stored after being harvested, is sulphur dioxide. It kills mold spores and reduces decay to a minimum. It is frequently first applied to the grapes when they have been loaded into refrigerated fruit cars.

The process was developed by W.T. Pentzer about 30 years ago while doing research at the University of California.

Pentzer, now director of the Agriculture Department's market quality research division, says that all he did was refine a practice long used in Italy and other grape-producing countries.

Food and Drug Administration officials said the negligible residue left on grapes through use of sulphur dioxide is a sulphate that is not toxic. The officials said the gas, widely used in conserving dried fruits, should not be used in conserving meats and cheese or other products rich in vitamin B, because it destroys the vitamin.

Tax Returns For Vets Listed

Klamath County veterans holding Oregon veterans' home or farm loans paid an average property tax of \$168 this year, the department of veterans affairs announced today.

The average here is identical with the statewide average last year, but lower than the state average of \$194 this year, the department said.

Taxes amounting to \$39,440 were paid on 235 properties in the county for the year. These taxes are paid monthly to the state veterans' department along with loan payments, and are paid to the county tax collector once a year.

CRUCIFIED THIEVES

According to the early Christians, the two thieves who were crucified beside Christ were named Dismas and Gestas. The former was the good thief and the latter the one who mocked Christ.



MRS. MARGARET KNOLL

Art Fair Exhibits Go On Sale

Christmas arrangements, door swatches, mantel, dining table and coffee table pieces, made by a professional, Mrs. Margaret (George) Knoll, Klamath Falls, will be on sale this weekend at the Klamath Art Fair on Riverside Drive.

Mrs. Knoll uses ingenuity, native greens, cones, figurines, ribbons, candles, Christmas tree decorations, even toothpicks and rubber balls to make the unusual and artistic arrangements.

Many of her pieces are sold out of town customers.

Mrs. Knoll's work is known widely in California. For six years she designed Christmas decorations, working for two months before Christmas for Bishop and Mathews, jobbers of Los Angeles. Her designs were used for assembly line production and material came from the Ken-Dell Christmas Tree Ranch near Tennant in Siskiyou County and from Washington.

The fair, sponsored by the Klamath Art Association will be open Sunday, December 13, 1 to 5 p.m.

In addition to the greens, numerous other Christmas gift items made by local artists and some from outside Klamath Falls will be available.

The public is invited.

UNKNOWN AUTHOR

The lines, "From the halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli," were written by an unknown U.S. Marine during the Mexican War of 1846 to 1848.

Ten Undergo Tonsillectomy

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—The Sopher family had a tonsillectomy marathon at St. Joseph Hospital Thursday.

Ten brothers and sisters, from 3 to 16 years of age, were rolled into surgery for removal of tonsils. Hospital attendants figure it "must be some sort of record."

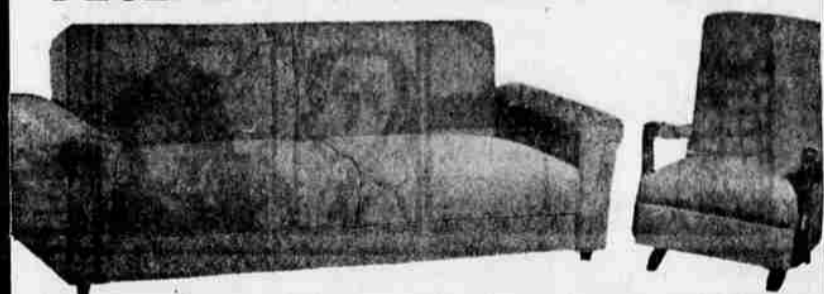
Carla Sopher, 3, was first. Three hours later, her brothers and sisters also were without their tonsils.

Mrs. James Sopher, 36, escorted each child to the operating room. Her 37-year-old husband, an appliance serviceman, divided his time between the four rooms reserved by the family.

Two Sophers escaped. Michael, 10, underwent the operation five years ago. Pamela, 3 months, was too young.

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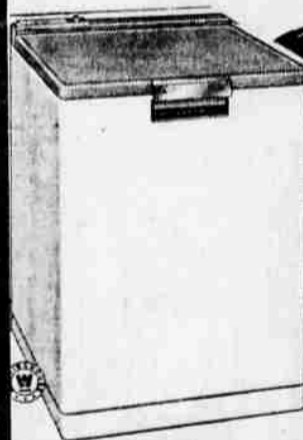
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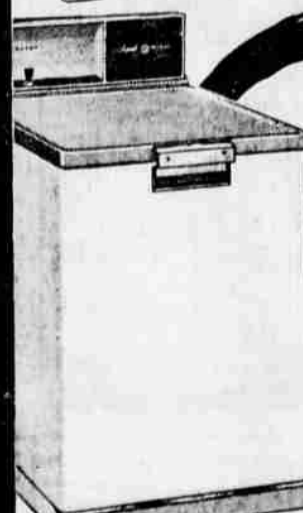
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