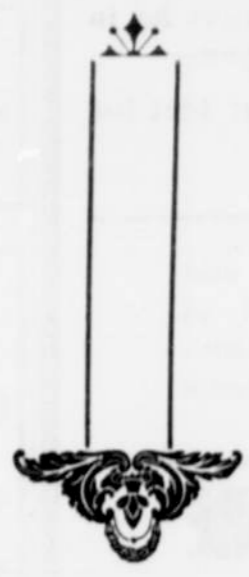
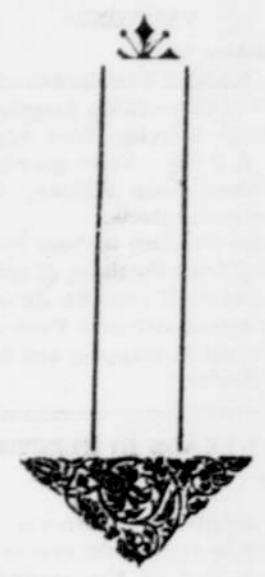




Christmas Presents are Better if They are Substantial.
 We have put in a New Line to meet Christmas Needs, such as



Carpet Slippers, Parlor Slippers, Bath Robes,
 Silk Petticoats, night gowns, Sweaters, Bags,
 Suit Cases, Pocket books, Shoes, Suspenders,
 Neck Ties, Boys' Suits, clothes for the whole
 family, Aprons, Handkerchiefs, Kimonas,
 Waists, Ribbons, Girls' Dresses, fancy articles
Make This Christmas a Pleasant One.



Big Stock of New **ARMY BLANKETS** Just Received

Last Shipment of the Season.

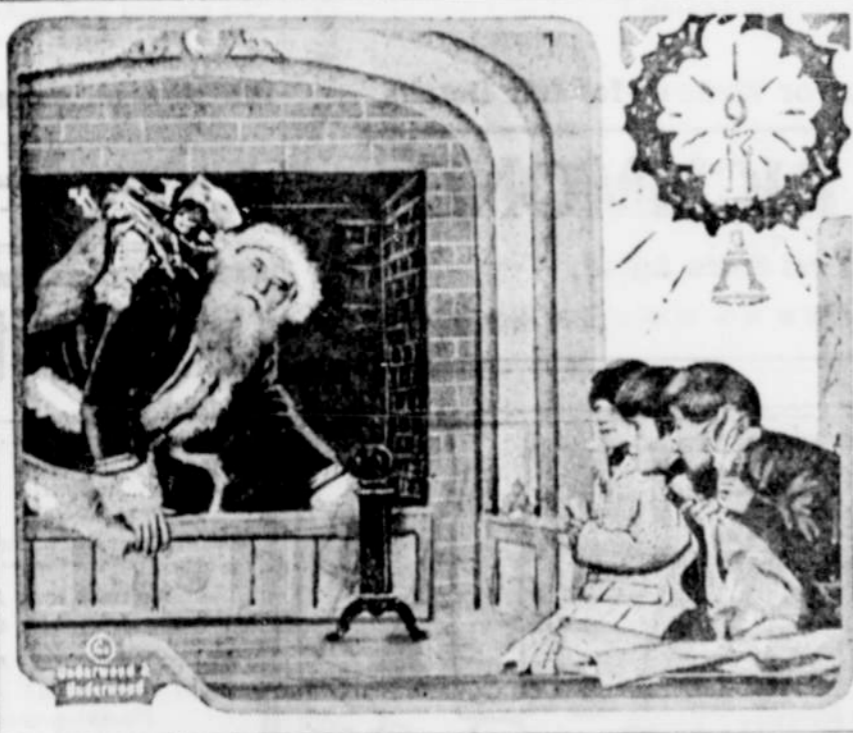
Come in and Make Your Selections Early.

The Economy Store,

A. COREY, Prop.
 Vernonia, Oregon.



**HE CLIMBED RIGHT
 DOWN THE CHIMNEY**



**The
 First Christmas**
 By Hattie J. Knock,
 in the Wisconsin Farmer

"Merry Christmas! Merry Christmas!
 Change the heavy, dapp-toned bell,
 And all the world gives back the answer:
 Christ is born, and all is well."

OVER nineteen hundred years ago
 there lived in the little town of
 Nazareth a humble carpenter and his
 wife, Mary.

At this time the ruler of the Roman
 empire, Augustus Caesar, required all
 persons to pay taxes for the upkeep
 of the kingdom. Joseph was a de-
 scendant of King David. Although
 he was living in Galilee, the law re-
 quired him to go to Bethlehem in Ju-
 dea to pay his taxes.

When it was time to pay the tribu-
 tute, Joseph took Mary with him on
 the journey to Bethlehem. It was a
 tiresome journey. They were very
 weary when they reached the little
 town. Joseph went to the hotel to
 get a room where they could rest. But
 poor Joseph was disappointed, for so
 many other people had come to the
 little town that day the rooms were
 all taken. No doubt Joseph and Mary
 felt lonely and discouraged as night
 came on. At last they went to a stable
 to find a place to sleep. Here in a
 manger the Savior of the World was
 born.

This was a very lowly place indeed
 for the Prince of Peace to be born.
 Prophets had been foretelling his com-
 ing for many years. People were ex-
 pecting him to come, but in some very
 grand way. Some thought he would
 make the kings leave their thrones
 and himself be the ruler. But he
 came as a sweet, dear little babe.

Now, you wonder how the people
 heard of his birth, in those long, long
 ago days when there were no tele-
 graphs or telephones? Perhaps you
 think so important news as this would
 be announced publicly by the highest
 officials or the richest people in town
 and a holiday declared.

But not so. The first news of his
 birth was told to people engaged in
 a very humble and lowly work.

Methinks it must have been a beau-
 tiful warm night. Far out on the hills
 of old Judea the shepherds were herd-
 ing their sheep. No doubt they were
 talking together about the big crowd
 in Bethlehem that evening. Suddenly
 there appeared in the sky a bright
 light. The shepherds were afraid. An
 angel spoke to them and said, "Be
 not afraid; I bring you good tidings of
 great joy which shall be to all people."
 Then he told them that Jesus had
 been born in Bethlehem; that they
 would find him, a babe, wrapped in
 swaddling clothes lying in a manger
 with his mother, Mary.

Suddenly there appeared with the
 angel a host of other angels singing,
 "Glory to God in the highest and on
 earth peace, good will to men."

After the angels were gone the shep-
 herds talked over the wondrous news.
 Then they hurried away to Bethlehem
 to see if it was true. Sure enough,
 there were Mary and Joseph and the
 little babe, Jesus. They then went out
 to tell others.

God also told the news of his gift
 to the world by placing a new star
 in the sky. The wise men saw it and
 followed its shining rays until they,
 too, found the "Babe of Bethlehem."
 These wise men worshiped him and
 gave him gifts of gold, myrrh and
 frankincense.

This was the first Christmas.

CHRISTMAS IN THE AIR
 By MARY G. BONNER
 THE air was keen and cold
 and invigorating. The snow
 was falling gently. In every
 house Christmas presents were
 being wrapped, cheery messages
 and cards and letters were
 being sent. Almost forgotten
 friends were thought of and re-
 membered by a card, a wish,
 a small gift.

For Christmas was in the air!
 (© 1922, Western Newspaper Union.)

Tell Me Again

TELL me again the story
 That you told when we both were young!
 You were my prince in glory,
 A prince with a golden tongue,
 And the touch of your hand was thrilling,
 The fact that you lived was joy—
 But I was only a girl then, dear,
 And you were only a boy.

Tell me, the way you told me
 When our love was the song of spring!
 Hold me, as you would hold me
 When our love was a sacred thing!
 Let the silver that's in your hair, love,
 Be jet, as it used to be
 When I was so new to carresses
 And you were so great to me!

Here by the fireside sitting,
 As the pictures in flames run by, . . .
 Sweet be the moments flitting,
 And children, just you and I
 For the love of our age is richer,
 And yet—I would feel the joy
 Of the love that was only a girl's, dear,
 For her prince, who was only a boy.
 —Henry Edward Warner, in the Richmond
 Times-Dispatch.

It snows, cries the school boy, and
 it snows, cries every one who has
 a sidewalk to sweep off. The beau-
 tiful snow fell this week to remind us
 that Christmas is approaching, and at
 this writing we have about eight
 inches of it. By night it may disap-
 pear, however, as snow seldom stays
 with us in the Nebalem valley.

Our Desire

May Your Christmas Celebration be a
 Happy and Successful One.

May the New Year be a Prosperous and
 Pleasant One.

May We All so Live that Each Day
 Will be Better.

REMEMBER
 We have added a new
 line of
GROCERIES
 Now well stocked on both
Groceries and
Hardware.

For Xmas see our Dishes and many useful ar-
 ticles for the Home.

G. C. MELLINGER, Mellinger's Hardware and Grocery.