

### Final Mailing Advice Given

The time has passed to talk about 'Mailing Early for Christmas,' Postmaster O. T. Bate-man said this week, 'but you can still help avoid a tremendous last-minute pile-up of Christmas mail by sending gift packages and Christmas cards right now!'

To the inevitable last-minute mailers he suggests using air mail for every Christmas card or gift going to distant places. He points out that even a few hours' delay at this critical time may mean disappointment for friends and loved ones on Christmas day.

The postmaster expressed his thanks for the fine cooperation from the public so far.

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**OLYMPIA**  
with  
pleasure!



"IT'S THE WATER"  
THAT MAKES  
IT SO REFRESHING

### Holly To Ship Needs Dipping

Many gift packages as well as carloads of commercial cut holly are shipped from Oregon and the Pacific Northwest during late November and December.

No gift is more appreciated by relatives or friends in other areas than a box of Oregon's fine holly. If not handled properly, it can be worthless and a disappointment to everyone concerned, indicates County Agent Don Coin Walrod.

Several things are necessary if this holly is to remain in good condition and give enjoyment to the one who finally uses it for Christmas decorations.

Good clean, mature red berries are essential. The foliage also must be clean and of good quality.

Cutting should be done when the temperature is above freezing and the holly should be carefully handled to prevent bruising the berries and scratching the foliage. Take the holly into a cool but protected building or sheltered area where it can be dipped for shipping.

The dip used is a naphthalene acetic acid solution of from thirty to one hundred parts per million. This material can be purchased at seed stores or stores handling spray materials. It is mixed with water and is used as a spray on fruit trees to hold fruit from a premature dropping. Directions for mixing are given on the package.

Dip the sprays of holly. When

excess moisture has drained off, the holly is ready to pack in cardboard boxes lined with wax paper to prevent drying out. Usually not over ten pounds of holly is shipped in a package.

Holly can be re-dipped after twelve to fourteen days if necessary. After dipping it should be shipped or stored at 32 degrees Fahrenheit or slightly above.

### Primary Traffic Hazards Listed

State traffic safety officials are hopeful that Oregon will experience a comparatively safe Christmas despite what may amount to a five-day weekend for many people.

Because the holiday falls in the middle of the week, most people will have only one day off work. Many, however, are expected to extend the holiday through Sunday, especially if they have to travel long distances to be with relatives and friends for Christmas.

Safety officials said the primary hazards of the holiday could be summed up in few words: too much speed for road and weather conditions and drinking drivers.

To protect the many persons who will be using the highways state police will continue citing errant drivers to appear in court, rather than issuing verbal or written warnings, for infractions of the basic rule speed law during the remainder of the year.

Superintendent of State Police H. G. Mason also reminded drivers that anyone who drinks and drives faces arrest which could mean a stiff fine and jail sentence. Conviction for driving while intoxicated results in a mandatory suspension of the driver's license for at least 90 days.

If Christmas last year is any indication of what could happen this year, unless drivers exercise greater caution, the state may record 192 traffic accidents, 69 injuries and five deaths during the immediate holiday period, 9 p.m. December 24 to midnight December 25.

Though some Oregon sugar beets have been known to reach giant proportions of from 30 to 40 pounds, the average sugar beet weighs approximately 2 pounds and contains 14 teaspoonsful of pure beet sugar.

### Tree Cutting Caution Urged

Persons who are beginning to think about going in search of the family Christmas tree armed with axes are cautioned by State Highway Engineer W. C. Williams to look elsewhere than on highway rights of way.

The state highway department has an ambitious landscaping program aimed at maintaining roadside beauty both by preserving natural growth and by planting and cultivating trees and shrubs.

In addition to beautifying the highways, trees and shrubs often perform essential safety functions by reducing headlight glare, acting as barriers and delineating the edge of the highway.

"Most people conscientiously refrain from doing anything to damage our roadsides," Williams said, "but the thoughtless acts of a few persons wanting Christmas trees can destroy years of growth which can be replaced only by replanting." State law prohibits cutting of trees and shrubs on highway right of way.

### Fishing License Due January 1

It's about time hunters and fishermen were thinking about new licenses for the coming year. Come January 1, the 1958 licenses will be required of all those who intend to take to field and stream. The old ones are valid only through December 31.

The game commission reports that the 1958 licenses are in the hands of license agencies over the state and can be picked up at any time. License fees remain the same as last year, \$4.00 for angling, \$4.00 for hunting, or \$7.00 for the combination. Juvenile hunters or fishermen from 14 to 17 inclusive may acquire the licenses for \$2.00 each.

There's a new license this year too for those persons, resident or nonresident, who wish to fish for only a day or two during the coming year. This is the daily angling license and sells for \$1 and applies to all game fish. This license replaces the daily salmon angling license in effect the past two years.

By the way, if there are hunters or fishermen on your Christmas shopping list, the new licenses make ideal presents. Might be a hint to the housewife who's really stuck on what to get pop for the yuletide.

### Bonds Suggested As Holiday Gift

Columbia county savings bond sales for November amounted to \$18,508. Corresponding figures for November 1956 were \$27,265. State sales were \$2,937,310 for November of 1956 and \$2,265,129 this year.

More people each year are buying bonds for Christmas gifts in order to help a member of the family save for school, a trip, a home, or some other cherished project.

Because a gift of savings bonds is a start in making these dreams come true they are often called 'The Present with the Future.'

Free gift folders for savings bonds may be obtained at your bank. Its colors are blue and pink and the design is by top-flight national artists as their contribution to the bond program, according to George W. Minnaugh, state director.

### Cottage Grove Girl Competes For Honors

Miss Larsanna Nelson, niece of Mrs. Paul Gordon, who is a senior at Cottage Grove high school, has been named as a semi-finalist in the National Merit Scholarship competition. She is one of 7509 throughout the nation who qualified on the aptitude tests given in high schools recently.

As a semi-finalist, she will now face a three-hour college board examination which she will take at University of Oregon January

11. Students who rank high in these tests will become the finalists from which 800 will be selected for scholarships.



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As the year draws to a close, we look back with thanks for old friendships retained and for new ones made.

We appreciate the opportunity presented by the Holiday Season to say to all our friends:

**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND A  
HAPPY NEW YEAR**

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