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CHRISTMAS AT THE STATE TRAINING SCHOOL

By Supt. Will S. Hale.

That the one hundred boys now at the State Training School may have an enjoyable Christmas day, is the expressed desire of Superintendent Hale. Among these boys, ranging in ages from ten to eighteen, are a number who are homeless and friendless with no one but the State to whom to look for Christmas cheer. Therefore it is asked of all good people, who have a warm spot in their hearts for boys in general and a desire to make someone happy, that they share their blessings with these boys and show toward them the true spirit of Christmas. In the line of gifts, such articles as books, stationery, games, mittens, and handkerchiefs will be acceptable. These things afford not only pleasure and comfort, but because of the gift, also fill the loneliness in the heart of the receiver.

At the school, great preparation is being made for the holiday season. On Christmas day no labor but that which is absolutely necessary will be performed. The entire main building will be beautifully decorated with Oregon-grape, mistletoe and festoons of fir boughs, and in the chapel a huge tree will bend under its weight of good things which delight both the eye and the stomach of the boy. Here will be hung the presents sent by the friends and relatives and for each boy there will be a generous bag of candy and nuts, furnished by the state. Old St. Nick himself will appear to dispense these gifts, immediately following the program which is being especially prepared by members of the boys' choir. At noon a big dinner will be served, many extra and specially inviting dishes being prepared which will be sure to tempt the boyish appetite. By these things it is hoped the day will be made a memorable one to all the boys and that those to whom home is but a name may receive some little touch of the birthright which has not been theirs.

The majority of our wards are good, average boys who have made but one mis-step, or who, through the influence of bad company, have become careless and indiscreet, thus making it necessary that they should be placed in charge of the school for a time with the hope of helping them to see that there is a high standard attainable by all who will try for it; that they must ever be on the alert to cultivate that which is pure and uplifting, and to shun that which is degrading and destructive to their manhood. Most of us who are older do not have to think very hard to remember little irregularities of our boyhood days which we called pranks, so let us, with Christian charity, do our little part at this glad Christmas time in contributing to the happiness of some of these more unfortunate boys who are dependent upon us for care and kindness and whom the State of Oregon is trying to mold into good and useful citizens.

CHRISTMAS AT THE BLIND SCHOOL.

By Marguerite I. Flower.

The pupils of the Oregon Institute for the Blind will give their Christmas program on the evening of December 20th, in the chapel at the school. The program will consist of two cantatas; one, "The Gift," by Adam Geibel, the other, "Santa Claus Party," by Louis F. Gottschark.

The evening is looked forward to by all the students as it will be in every way conducive to their pleasure. One of the chief features of the evening will be the Christmas tree following the program. Santa Claus has been cordially invited to be present, and it goes without saying that he has accepted the invitation and has sent word in advance that none will be forgotten.

Most of the pupils will spend their vacation either at their homes or with friends and will leave the school the day following the Christmas exercises. Work will be resumed on the 30th.

CHRISTMAS AT THE Y. M. C. A.

By L. H. Compton.

The chief holiday event at the Y. M. C. A. will not take place until New Year's Eve. On that evening, the second of the big public receptions for the winter will be held and the association thrown open to the whole city of Salem. The program will be more elaborate and varied than was the previous program. The musical numbers that are to be selected will be appropriate to the Christmas celebration.

On Christmas day no formal program will be held under the auspices of the Association. The building will be open the entire day and young men who are away from home are especially invited to spend their leisure hours in the reading room or at the games. Several reputable musicians will be in the building throughout the day and the piano will be kept busy. Songs and rollicking glees particularly enjoyable to the male nature will be indulged in.

CHRISTMAS AT THE INSANE ASYLUM.

By Dr. Lee Steiner.

Venerated Santa Claus, of immemorial good cheer will visit the 1729 wards and the 206 employees at the State Hospital this Yuletide with usual ceremony. The management, pursuing its unvarying policy of eagerness to favor the individual wishes of its inmates, and recognizing, as they do, that none would feel more keenly, since none would be more sensibly affected by an oversight of the ever-bounteous annual visitor than they, are planning to make this a gala season in every particular. Of course, relatives of many of the patients will thoughtfully contribute to their wishes and sometimes even others are prompted to make gifts.

To make Christmas a festive season, fulfilling all its traditional import, is, accordingly, a natural sequence of the program. The menu card of Christmas eve will embrace such an array of edibles as would not be rejected by epicures of plethoric fortunes. It includes wholesome delicacies and delicacies, the fruits of capable culinary endowment in the kitchen of the hospital, from products predominatingly of the institution farm.

The menu for the Christmas day dinner has been tentatively compiled for The Capital Journal, and is as follows: turkey, duck, chicken, celery, chanterelle sauce, stewed tomatoes, mashed potatoes, gravy, bread, butter, salad, rice pudding, fruit bread, coffee, milk, etc.

Following are the quantities of the various products required on Christmas day:

- 300 lbs. of candy.
- 200 lbs. of walnuts and almonds.
- 400 lbs. of roasted peanuts.
- 7 lbs. pop corn.
- 5 bbls. cranberries.
- 1 bbl. pickles.
- 3 bbls. cold slaw.
- 400 bunches celery.
- 20 bushels potatoes.
- 1500 loaves of bread.
- 3 bbls. toast.
- 600 lbs. fruit cake.
- 500 mince pies.
- 1900 lbs. dressed poultry, consisting of turkeys, geese, ducks, chickens.
- 200 gals. chicken gravy with mashed potatoes.
- 200 lbs. beefsteak.
- 15 bushels apples.
- 300 gals. tea and coffee.
- 200 lbs. butter.
- 150 gals. milk and cream.
- 10 boxes oranges.
- 10 bunches bananas.

It will be seen that the institution is adequately prepared to satisfy the most exacting of any of its guests and to do so with such knowledge and assurance as to trick their gastronomic economy into believing they sit at a place as near "Home, Sweet Home" as can be made.

There will also be an increased interest given to the securing of excellent films for the moving picture show which is now a weekly feature in the life of the patients. A dance will be held on Christmas eve. A year ago a literary and musical program was rendered; songs were sung by Mrs. Carlton Smith and artists visiting Salem and addresses were made by State Treasurer Kay and Secretary of State Olcott. Something along the same line will probably be made a specialty this year.

Application of the real Christmas spirit is shown in the unflinching devotion, tenderness and solicitude of the attendants and in the face of manifold and trying difficulties, and that their punctuality, demeanor, tolerance of patients' troubles, unremitting vigilance in solving their little difficulties and adjusting their ofttimes fictitious grievances, is carried on with but little hitch or friction, and they are generally men and women of enlightenment, to whom the less arduous avenues of employment would be readily accessible, is cause for us to be thankful to these good men and women for the good they do and wish for them and their patients a thorough season of good cheer, peace, and good will and a Merry Christmas in Oregon's State Hospital.

Southeastern Europe is now learning Sherman's definition of war.

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