

Live One's Monologue:  
"I should worry because my sleeply comrade editor does not know enough to advertise."

THE WEATHER  
Fair; Colder

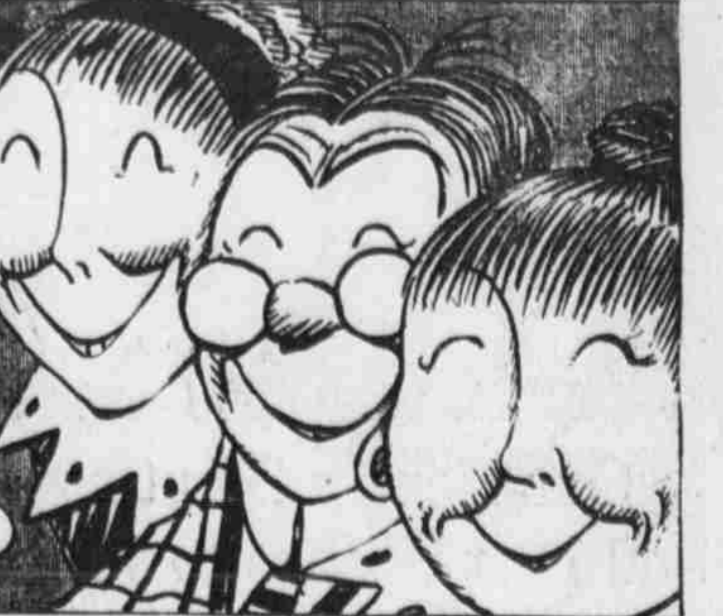
VOL. XLIII—NO. 163.

OMAHA, THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 25, 1913—FOURTEEN PAGES.

SINGLE COPY TWO CENTS.



# MERRY CHRISTMAS.

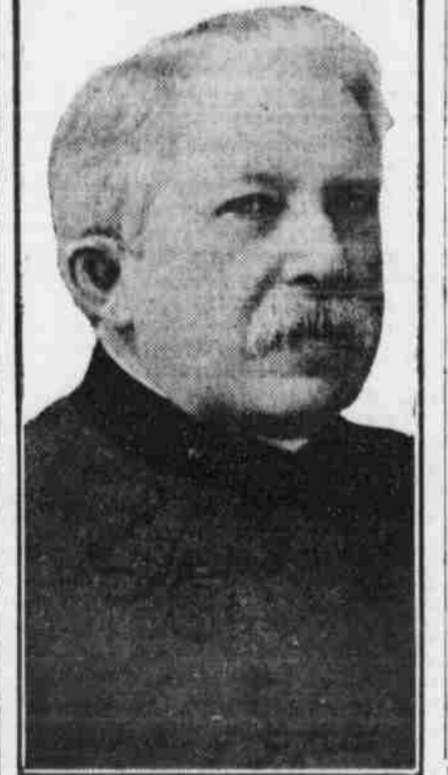


## CHILDREN DIE BY SCORES IN PANIC; FALSE FIRE CRY

**Eighty Persons Killed in Crush at Christmas Celebration at Calumet, Mich.**  
**MOSTLY BOYS AND GIRLS**  
Pressing Forward to Get Presents as Alarm is Given.  
**MAD RUSH FOR THE DOORS**  
Weavers Thrown to Floor and Those Behind Try to Climb Over.  
**AVENUES OF EGRESS BLOCKED**  
Rush of People So Great No More of Them Can Escape.  
**NO AID CAN REACH MAIMED**

**Copper Mine Strikers Giving Event in Italian Hall When Accident Caused by Man Yelling of Flames.**  
CALUMET, Mich., Dec. 24.—Four scores persons, mostly children, were killed tonight at a Christmas celebration held by copper mine strikers in Italian hall because of a needless panic caused by a false alarm of fire.  
While several hundred miners and their wives looked on and scores of children pressed eagerly towards the stage to receive Christmas presents, a man stuck his head in at the door of the hall and yelled "Fire!"  
The cry was taken at once by those in the hall. Every one sprang up and started for the doors. The weaker persons were thrown to the floor and those behind tried to climb over the human barrier.  
In a few minutes the panic was stopped by the fact that the stairway and the other avenues of egress were blocked so effectively that those inside could not get out and those without could not get in to aid the maimed and remove the dead.  
The alarm was spread outside the hall by a few persons who had been near the door and escaped unhurt. A crowd soon assembled and the work of clearing the hall was begun.  
**Corpses Piled Up.**  
The only regular exit was a narrow stairway at the back of the hall. When this had been cleared of the bodies that filled it to the top and a quick account had been made, it was found that seventy-four corpses had been piled up beside the hall building. It was thought that probably a dozen more had been carried away by friends.  
The dead included thirty-seven girls, nineteen boys, thirteen women and five men. The excited relatives stood about the building, sobbing and making a wailing change from holiday festivities to tragedy, others calling hysterically for a missing child and a few even threatening violence to the rescuers for keeping them back from the long row of bodies.  
There was not much work for the many doctors who hurried to the scene as soon as the alarm was spread, for those who were struck in the first rush were held upright and safe by very force of the crush toward the exit.  
**Few Injured.**  
Only three injured persons were taken to hospitals and a few went home with the assistance of friends.  
For many days the children of the copper mine strikers had waited anxiously for the free Christmas tree exercise that had been arranged by the woman's auxiliary of the Western Federation of Miners.

## HEAD OF THE WOODMEN IS IN CRITICAL CONDITION.



## J. C. ROOT GROWS WEAKER

**Founder of Woodmen of World Said to Be Losing.**  
**SON WITH HIM IN THE SOUTH**  
Telegrams Announce Decline and that Every Symptom is Unfavorable — Apprehension at Headquarters.  
Joseph Cullen Root, sovereign commander of the Woodmen of the World has had a turn for the worse and his condition now gives friends and relatives the gravest concern.  
A telegram came from Hendersonville, N. C., where Mr. Root is lying ill, announcing all symptoms discouraging and that "he is growing weaker."  
His son, Alonso I. Root, is with him, and associates from the Woodmen headquarters may hasten south upon word from the younger Mr. Root at any time. Apprehension is written on every face in the great offices of the order founded by Joseph Cullen Root at the headquarters in the Woodmen of the World building.

## BIG FINES ASSESSED AGAINST MISSOURI LUMBER COMPANIES

**Corporation Members of Combination Must Pay Half Million Into State Treasury.**  
**DECREE OF OUSTER ENTERED**  
It is Suspended Conditioned on Payment of Fines.  
**FOUR LICENSES SUSPENDED**  
This Penalty is Assessed Against Corporations of Other States.  
**HOW LAW WAS VIOLATED**  
Prices Fixed by Agreement, Output Curtailed and Retailers Who Refused to Conform to "Trade Ethic" Blacklisted.  
JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Dec. 24.—The Missouri supreme court today issued a decree of ouster against several wholesale lumber companies. The supreme court suspended the decree of ouster against the twenty companies named on condition that they pay the fines imposed and hereafter conform to the anti-trust laws of the state.  
The fines aggregate \$450,000. In addition to the suspended ouster decrees issued against the twenty companies, the licenses of four other companies not incorporated in Missouri were revoked and fines imposed.  
The ouster decree, but suspended, applied to the following companies, which also are fined the amounts indicated:  
Alf Bennett Lumber company, \$14,000  
Bowman-Hicks Lumber company, 10,000  
Bradley Lumber company, 50,000  
Calsman Long Leaf Lumber Co., 50,000  
Colonian Lumber and Timber Co., 10,000  
Central Coal and Coke company, 50,000  
C. J. Carter Lumber company, 5,000  
Dixie Lumber company, 5,000  
Foster Lumber company, 5,000  
Geo. W. Miles Timber & Lumber Co., 1,000  
Grayson-McLeod Lumber company, 50,000  
Hogg-Harris Lumber company, 5,000  
Jedigh-Havens Lumber company, 5,000  
Long-Bell Lumber company, 50,000  
Lewis-Wentner Saw Mill company, 5,000  
Lufkin Laid and Lumber company, 8,000  
Mo. Land & Lumber Exchange Co., 5,000  
Missouri Lumber Mining Co., 5,000  
The Ozan Lumber company, 5,000  
Van Cleave Lumber company, 5,000  
The decree of the court was issued in accordance with the recommendation of a special commissioner, who, after taking

## Around Omaha's Municipal Christmas Tree



HOW THE GREAT TREE LOOKED WHEN LIGHTED UP LAST NIGHT.

## CITIES OBSERVE THE EVE

**Municipal Christmas Trees Features of Night Before.**  
**REMEMBRANCES FOR THE POOR**  
Even Animals Are Not Overlooked, Hungry Horses Fed and Dogs in Pound Get Double Portion in K. C.  
CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—Chicago's first municipal Christmas festival was held in Grant park tonight, when thousands of children and other citizens viewed the seventy-five-foot Christmas tree, listened to stars of grand opera who sang classics through megaphones, to the full chorus of the Chicago Grand Opera company and to speeches by Mayor Harrison and others.  
An oddity of atmospheric conditions permitted the testing of the effect of Grant park illuminations, for during three hours of the forenoon and one hour in the afternoon fog and smoke plunged the city into the darkness of midnight. The obscurity was so intense that electric advertising signs worked overtime from the early advent of the first shopper until the last belated gift had been bought. A frivolous statement was made and credited to the weather man—that Santa Claus was twice deceived by the murky pall and made false starts on his Yuletide rounds.  
**None Need Go Dinnertless.**  
The gloom was not regarded as indicative of the Christmas program in this city. It was said that no family here needed go without a Christmas dinner and at least a touch of the luxury of the day, owing to abundant preparation by the churches, charitable organizations, societies and "big brothers" generally.  
Random examples of the abundant provisions made were seen when the county agent gave out 1,000 Christmas baskets in the west side slums and had 4,000 baskets more for distribution tomorrow. The Esther Falkenstein settlement distributed 200 baskets and will regale 5,000 children at dinner tomorrow.  
Among the first whose attention was called to the day were wealthy residents of north side suburbs. It is the custom of many of these men who motor from their offices to their homes to distribute tips ranging as high as \$5 to policemen whom they meet every day of the year. Between the city and Evanston a motorist ordinarily meets five policemen, but this evening—and it is quite a usual occurrence at this season—the pathway was particularly well guarded.  
**Cops Abound.**  
One millionaire whom the incident provided with merriment every year said that he counted eighteen of them on his way home. The Christmas tips of one

## THROUGHS GREET SANTA'S COMING ABOUT CITY TREE

**Thousands Gather in the Court House Square to Assist in the Celebration.**  
**LIGHTS ARE MOST BEAUTIFUL**  
**Ak-Sar-Ben Colors Are Used in Carrying Out the Color Scheme.**  
**CHILDREN JOIN IN ANTHEMS**  
**Hundreds Sing Story of Nativity of the Savior.**  
**COURT HOUSE IS INSPECTED**  
**Many Visit the Beautiful Structure for the First Time.**  
**IDEA IS WELL CARRIED OUT**  
Miss Chase Conveys the Plan and is Able Assisted by John Lynch, Chairman of the County Commissioners.

Thousands gathered in the big court in front of the court house last evening to witness the lighting of the new municipal Christmas tree, and to hear the story of the Nativity in song and speech.  
The idea was worked out without a flaw, except that the weather was a little cold, and the immense crowd was forced to keep warm and keep warm and part of the program was carried out on the inside of the court house. Hundred of little voices joined in singing the Savior, Savior, etao taoi etainoin ain Savior.  
While hundreds have joined in making the municipal tree celebration a success the idea was first conceived for Omaha by Miss Cornelia Chase, daughter of Clement Chase. After talking it over with her parents Miss Chase decided that the court house square would be the proper place for the raising of the tree. She then went to John C. Lynch, chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, who immediately fell in with the idea and offered all possible assistance even to helping in raising the funds for paying for the tree. He offered to raise half the money if Miss Chase would raise the other half. This was carried out as planned and an order given a commission firm to secure the tree. A special order was sent to the north woods and a tree which cost \$129 was secured. The electric light company placed the tree and installed all the lights without cost to the promoters.  
The tree was lavishly decorated with green and red lights.  
Following was the musical program for the celebration:  
Five minutes of S. church bells all over the city rang out.  
Public school children sang Christmas carols, 6 o'clock.  
City mission children sang Christmas songs.  
Drama, "Dolorosa," poems of amour.  
United Presbyterian choir, two Christmas anthems, leader, Walter T. Graham.  
Band, overture, "From Dawn to Twilight."  
People, led by Mr. Carnal and band.  
"O Little Town of Bethlehem."  
Band, intermezzo, "The Wedding of the Rose."  
Roman Catholic choir, "Adeste Fideles," "Joy of Mirth," led by Mr. Kersey.  
Band, valse, "Eternelle Iverness."  
(Continued on Page Two.)

## Norwegian Ship is Aground in North; Wireless Call for Aid

**LONDON, Dec. 24.—The first wireless call for help ever received from the Arctic circle is told about in the Yorkshire Observer today.**  
"Bergen is working S. O. S. Wait and listen," the paper states was the message which went the rounds of Europe's wireless stations at 1 o'clock Tuesday morning. All aid as requested and the fact was then established that the Norwegian steamship Sagvold had gone ashore on the Lofoden Island, 600 miles north of Bergen, Norway. This is double the working distance of the ship and to enable Bergen to communicate, all stations were asked to listen down so that the faint signals might be read. No more definite news of the accident has yet come.

## Money Lender Will Burn Half Million in Notes if Pardoned

**ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 24.—Friends, relatives, former employees and attorneys of H. H. Tolman, convicted money lender now serving six months' sentence on Hart's Island, besieged the executive chamber here today to solicit a Christmas pardon for him.**  
The governor said he would grant an interview late in the day. Tolman's attorneys brought \$500,000 in notes with them to the capital and offered to burn them in the executive chamber if a pardon were granted. Inquiry by the governor proved that while the notes would be burned, Tolman would reserve the right to sue on part of them.

## Boost Yates for Federal Reserve Banking Board

**The name of Henry W. Yates of Omaha is to be presented to the president for appointment to a place on the federal reserve board that will have control of the new currency and banking system.** Mr. Yates is the oldest banker in continuous service in this city and the telegram endorsing him is signed by the presidents of all the other leading local banks.

## Alleged Train Robber Identified; May Be Sought by Omahans

**SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 24.—John Bostick, a young machinist, who was pointed out to the police yesterday by two victims of the holdup of the Sunset Limited near Los Angeles on December 1, as the man who went through their car and shot dead H. E. Montague, a traveling passenger agent of the Southern Pacific, was formally booked on a charge of murder today.**  
When arrested Bostick carried a watch belonging to one of the brakemen on the Limited and a pawn ticket calling for an unset diamond which was traced

## Sebastian Leaves the Rock Island

**CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—The resignation of John Sebastian as third vice president of the Rock Island lines, reports of which were confirmed today, will become effective January 1.**  
Mr. Sebastian, who is among the best known railroad men in the country, is 65 years of age and retires because of diminished health. An early announcement of his successor is expected.

## Five Firemen Are Seriously Burned

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Five firemen were seriously injured, though not fatally in an early morning fire which burned out a 5 and 10-cent store, with a loss of \$100,000, fully insured, and threatened an entire block in the downtown business section. The firemen were buried in the wreckage when burning floors collapsed, but were rescued by their comrades after four of them had been given up for lost.**  
**Leather Company Expires Dividend.**  
NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—The Central Leather company declared today a dividend of \$2 a share on its \$40,000,000 common stock, the first dividend declared on the common stock since the company was organized in 1906.



WELCOME

## The Weather

Forecast till 7 p. m. Thursday.  
For Omaha, Council Bluffs and vicinity Fair and colder Thursday.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday.	Hours.	Temp.
6 a. m.	5	30
7 a. m.	10	30
8 a. m.	15	30
9 a. m.	20	30
10 a. m.	25	30
11 a. m.	30	30
12 m.	35	30
1 p. m.	40	30
2 p. m.	45	30
3 p. m.	50	30
4 p. m.	55	30
5 p. m.	60	30

**Comparative Local Record.**  
1912 1911 1910 1909  
Highest yesterday..... 54 51 26 26  
Lowest yesterday..... 22 20 19 18  
Mean temperature..... 37 41 35 35  
Precipitation..... .02 .00 .00 .00

Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal:  
Normal temperature..... 34  
Excess for the day..... 14  
Total excess since March 1..... 167  
Deficiency for the day..... 61 inch  
Normal precipitation..... .50 inch  
Total rainfall since March 1..... 5.37 inches  
Deficiency since March 1..... 4.87 inches  
Deficiency for year, period, 1913 1912 1911  
Deficiency for year, period, 1913 1912 1911