

# A BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS

### DELIGHTFUL WEATHER AND A HAPPY DAY THROUGHOUT.

### HOW IT WAS OBSERVED HERE

#### Appropriate Services at All the Churches, Family Reunions and Dinners—Annual Ball of the Railway Trainmen Last Evening.

Christmas of 1905 has come and gone. In Norfolk it has left a great many happy homes and people. There was nothing at any of the festivities to mar the pleasures of the several programs at the churches in this city.

Christmas weather this year was delightful and hardly to be expected to be found in this latitude. The temperature was more like an early fall or spring day and overcoats and wraps were of but little actual necessity. There was no snow visible in this city, and not ice enough for the many skating parties that had been planned for the day. The day was generally observed as a holiday, a few of the stores being open a little while in the morning to accommodate the always late shopper, or the forgetful one. Several of the churches held an appropriate morning service, and many entertained relatives, friends and neighbors at their Christmas dinners.

#### The Sunday Schools.

The festivities commenced on Saturday evening, the 23rd, at the Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian churches held their Sunday school exercises on that evening.

The program at the Congregational church was quite lengthy and consisted of songs, music and declamations by the little people all of which were a credit to the participants of the occasion. The violin duo by Miss Marion Gow and Mr. Ray Estabrook deserved especial mention and it was so heartily received that the young violinists had to respond to a most persistent and hearty encore. The other numbers on the program were all well received and elicited much hearty applause.

The Methodist Sunday school had their Christmas tree and gift giving on Saturday night, but their program was given Sunday evening at the usual service hour and the little people were greeted by a large audience which showed especial interest as the numbers were rendered, and some of the little ones created considerable amusement with their declamations, several of them being so small they could barely lip the lines they had been taught. The songs "If You Are Good," and "Old St. Nick," by two very pretty little girls, who sang very sweetly, were well encored.

The Sunday school exercises at the Presbyterian church were held on Saturday night, and, as in the other churches, consisted of music, songs and declamations and the program was interesting, as the little folks always are perfectly at home at Christmas time, and always elicit applause when they appear in public. Many received pretty gifts, and here, as elsewhere, a Christmas treat was in store for the children.

The members of the Baptist Sunday school had a splendid program of exercises by the scholars which was followed by a treat for the school, and the giving of gifts by the congregation, Sunday evening. The program was good and of considerable length, and the little people did well in their recitations and songs.

The Second Congregational church in South Norfolk had their Sunday school exercises also on Christmas Eve, and had a very pretty tree, a Santa Claus and a splendid program. It was followed by a treat to the school, and a happy lot of young folks went home under the impression that Old St. Nick was a generous old saint who certainly loved the young and old alike.

The exercises at the St. Johannes Lutheran church Christmas Eve were given over to the young folks who entertained the audience. A lovely Christmas tree was a special feature of the evening, and all the children were given a treat of toothsome candies, nuts and oranges.

Trinity Episcopal church held their children's exercises on Christmas Eve, and gifts were distributed together with the usual confections for the little folks. That church also had an early Christmas service on Christmas morning, and a general service for the day at 10 o'clock a. m.

The best Christmas tree and exercises ever held, is the report from St. Paul's German Lutheran church. A splendid treat was also given the children of the congregation and Christmas Eve brought happiness to many little hearts of that assembly.

At the Christ German Lutheran church the Christmas exercises were also held on Sunday evening. They had two trees and a delightful treat for the little people, consisting of candies, nuts and oranges, and the audience was entertained with a very entertaining program.

Trainmen's Annual Ball. The Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen of Elkhorn lodge, No. 101, had their eighteenth annual ball at Marquardt hall last evening, and that it was a success goes without reckoning. The attendance was large, the music excellent, and the decorations most appropriate for the Yuletide season and typical of railroad life of the trainmen. The decorations consisted of festoons of holly with the bright berries shining forth in striking contrast

under the glare of electric lights, and at each window were hung trainmen's lanterns with red and white lights arranged in alternate order. It is pleasing to note that the red lights were unnecessary so far as danger was concerned, but they assisted to make the occasion a bright one and remind the participants that they were with a jolly company of railroad boys endeavoring to have a holiday and gala evening of pleasure. The merry dancing was continued well into the "wee sma' hours" of the morning.

#### The Hotels.

The hotels had excellent menus for the Sunday dinners and on Christmas day they had a dinner menu that could not be surpassed by the hostesses of the larger cities. At the Pacific Landlord Newham had all the good things the local market afforded and some viands from the metropolitan markets. The dining room was tastefully decorated with holly as were the tables. The menus were printed on a chocolate colored Bristol with black ink over a background containing pictures of Santa Claus and lettering announcing "Merry Christmas." The following is the menu:

- Blue points, dressed lettuce, radishes, sweet pickles.
- Soup—Salted almonds, consommé royal, Boston clam chowder.
- Boiled—Boiled fresh lobster, butter sauce.
- Roasts—Stuffed young turkey, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, browned sweet potatoes, domestic goose, apple sauce, corn on cob, asparagus tips, prime ribs of beef, demi glace.
- Entrees.—Scalloped oysters, New York style, venison sautee a la Port Royal, gelatine of fruit, whipped cream, fried shrimps on toast, caviar sandwich.
- Salad.—Queen salad.
- Pastry.—Green apple pie, hot mince pie, vanilla cream pie, delmonico ice cream, New England plum pudding, fruit sauce, cream cheese, saratoga flakes, fruit, brandy punch, mixed nuts, fix cake, fruit cake, almond cake, tea, coffee, milk.

At the Oxnard, as usual on festival days, they had a menu of all kinds of seasonable viands which would make an epicurean happy. Although the menus of either of the hotels were deserving of a larger patronage. The Oxnard had a pretty folder of white Bristol printed in a delicate green ink with the name of the hotel and the words "Christmas 1905" on the outside, and the following tempting menu on the inside:

- Huitres de Rockaway, New Orleans slaw, Bouillon, cream of chicken, radishes, dressed celery, garden lettuce, fresh shrimp, en sauto, pommes de Terre, Albert, Langue de veau, sauce tartar, roast prime of beef, au Jus, Roast young turkey, cranberry sauce, lobster salad, en mayonnaise, fritessee of chicken, Maryland, fillet de boeuf, petits pois, gelatine of fruit, whipped cream, mashed potatoes, browned potatoes, Hubbard squash, string beans, Christmas plum pudding, brandy sauce, hot mince pie, lemon pie, maraschino sherbet, mixed nuts, layer raisins, cafe noir.

The cafes, restaurants and boarding houses all had excellent dinners and it is hard to believe that there was anyone in this city who did not have something good to eat on this Christmas day of 1905.

#### Enjoyable Parlor Meeting.

A very enjoyable parlor meeting was held at the home of Mrs. J. A. Ballantine on the afternoon of December 19. Some of those who had promised to take part were unavoidably absent, but volunteers so promptly filled the program that the delinquents were scarcely missed. There was a very general discussion of points outlined in the program and many suggestive thoughts engaged our attention. One or two of the speakers did not confine themselves closely to their own part of the subject but stepped lightly over the boundary line of their neighbors' enclosures, but those thus crowded upon only smiled and tacked off on some collateral subject.

Apples raw, cooked and made into cider were treated with more or less wisdom and some earnestness. The thoughts I remember most clearly are that the spring is the time to prepare against wormy apples by spraying. So if we would avoid wormy social conditions, the children must have instruction, and better yet, example in the right direction.

That cider is dangerous is known by experience and observation. That there are all kinds and qualities of apples, the sweet, the sour, the insipid, the misshapen, the wormy and the decayed. Men (that is, the whole human family) are like apples in this respect. That some apples of inferior quality find a ready market on account of their looks.

Beauty of more value than worth. Then we dissected the apples and otherwise disposed of them to the seeming satisfaction of all present.

#### Anderson-Ransom.

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Anderson returned last night from Nevada, Iowa, where they were married last Tuesday by Rev. Poucher of this city, he having gone there to perform the ceremony. The bride was Miss Dot Ransom, who for a while was a resident of this city, making her home with relatives, and the wedding occurred at the home of her parents. They will make their home at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sprecher at present. Mr. Anderson is letter carrier on the city route No. 1, and is receiving congratulations from his many friends about town. The best of wishes for the future of the happy young couple are extended by all who know them.

# BIDWELL DIDN'T SAY IT

### DENIES THAT HE PROMISED THE BONESTEEL EXTENSION.

### DID SAY IT IS INVITING FIELD

#### And That it is a Strong Possibility that the Road Will be Extended in the Near Future Into the Rosebud Country.

Manager Bidwell of the Northwestern says he has been misquoted in regard to the extension of the Bonesteel line next season. He is quoted as making this statement by the Lincoln Journal:

"I was misquoted considerably concerning the remarks which I made at that meeting. What I did say was the field was good for the Bonesteel road to be extended and that it probably would be done before very long, although no definite plans have been made."

Discussing this matter recently with Lincoln business men Mr. Bidwell said that grain men operating on the Bonesteel line of the Northwestern had laid plans to erect large elevators at Bonesteel to care for grain from the Rosebud country. They sought his advice in the matter, and he pointed out to them the possibility of the Bonesteel line being extended into the wheat country beyond, which would make the elevator capacity proposed at Bonesteel unnecessary. He did not say when nor how soon this is to be done, and in fact made Bonesteel people no promise that it would be done. He merely said that it was a strong possibility that this road will be extended in the future, and he made this statement for the guidance of men who were about to invest money in a business that would rely on the end of the road remaining at Bonesteel.

Nevertheless, in face of Mr. Bidwell's interview, there is every reason to believe that the road will be extended next season. It is so understood about headquarters in Norfolk and in fact all along the road.

#### Another Northwestern Extension.

Hartington, Neb., Dec. 23.—The proposed extension of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha railroad from here to Crofton seems now to be a certainty. The farmers of the vicinity of Crofton who undertook to raise a bonus of \$35,000 for the extension of the road have the money all subscribed and several railroad men have been here the past week. The blue print for the proposed extension shows that twenty-three miles of road will be built, running in a northwesterly direction from Hartington to Crofton.

The road will run through Constance, a small inland town, in this county.

It is expected that surveyors will be here next week to stake out the route, and work will commence early next summer.

#### The Railroad Men.

"Nebraska has grown so rapidly," says a railroad man, "her resources have been developed with such suddenness, that the railroads have not been able to keep up. Yet I think all will admit that the railroads have made heroic efforts to march along with other commercial and agricultural interests."

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad of Montana has been incorporated with a capital of \$2,000,000. The incorporators are associated with the Milwaukee road, E. D. Sewell being assistant superintendent, P. H. Scanlan the Montana general agent and Mr. Shelton the Montana counsel. Burton Harrison, general solicitor of the Milwaukee company, is in Montana to perfect the details.

The cities of Lead, Sturgis and Deadwood are making a strenuous effort to get the Milwaukee road to extend its line from Rapid City through Sturgis, Deadwood and into Lead. Committees of business men have been chosen from the commercial clubs of the three cities. These business men met in Chicago this week to present to the officials of the road data of freight traffic and will show a proposed route for such an extension. There were about twenty business men in the party.

The Casper extension of the Northwestern now has steel laid for a distance of twenty-seven miles.

Track laying on the Union Pacific branch out of O'Fallons goes on, though the tracklayers are retarded by the graders. About two miles of the track has been laid.—North Platte Tribune.

An announcement is made from the executive offices of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad that the issuance of all forms of free or reduced rate transportation will be abolished after December 31, next.

The Pennsylvania road has come to the conclusion that rich men's sons will not make good railroad men, and that they have to go to the poorer classes for the right kind. The officials of the company, therefore, have made a proposal to the school officials to equip the high school at Altoona, Pa., with complete appliances, whereby boys can study railroading. The proposition has been accepted and the equipment, which will cost \$18,000, will be installed at once. Special instructors will be furnished by the railroad company.

A railroad official states that a movement is on foot to "swear off" the rate habit even before the first of the year. The strong feeling among railroad owners to force full rates for all and grant rebates to none seems to

be making an impression, as he explains, and is to be followed by a "new leaf." The plan is to line up in Chicago all the Western roads and sign up; in fact, some have already lined up and signed up. When all have signed then the ceremony is to be made public.

The Northwestern has opened the new station of Seminole, west of Casper, Wyo. This is the second station west of Casper on the Lander line. The first is Cadoma, which was opened several weeks ago. Train service is now given to Seminole.

### ABOUT BRIDGE BIDS

#### Commissioner Harding Makes Clear Explanation of the Matter.

Meadow Grove, Neb., Dec. 26.—To the taxpayers of Madison county: It would seem from reading an article which recently appeared in the Madison Chronicle that the county board might be prejudiced when it comes to letting the contract for bridge work. The statutes provide that bridge work shall be let by contract. The board advertised for bids. It did not bar any one, and if any contractor accompanied his bid with a box of cigars I did not see any, so that must be false. Our contract price for wood work any length complete for 1905 is \$4.35 per lineal foot, so you see it requires no expert to figure that. The question arises how can the contractor afford to do the work for so small a figure? For the simple reason that he builds bridges in about half the counties in the state or half the states in the union. If he makes a profit, say of \$500 in one county, you see they are making a pretty good thing, whereas that amount divided among our lumber dealers would be very small. The tax payers get the benefit of this arrangement.

In 1904 the lumber dealers of Madison county charged \$27 and \$30 a thousand for bridge lumber. Our contractor furnishes bridge lumber for \$26 and \$28 per thousand this year and our home dealers say lumber has raised \$2.00 per thousand.

We have done more bridge and repair work this year than in any one year, and with a ten mill levy this year we have been able to meet all our obligations. My intention is to work for the best interest of the taxpayers of Madison county, and whenever a bid for any contract or claim comes before the board that I think is not just, I am ready to reject it, regardless of friends or party.

John H. Harding, County Commissioner.

#### A Goose Surprise.

Sometime ago C. H. Krahn invested in a fine goose which was to be fattened for the holiday time, but after expending considerable time in looking after his geese, one morning he had disappeared, and there was considerable comment among the neighbors as to what had happened to Mr. Krahn's Christmas night number of the neighbors, about fifteen of them, gathered together and proceeded to the Krahn home with a fine, fat roasted goose and some other good things which make Christmas cheer and surprised the family, and told them that the goose had come back. Needless to say the goose could not be recognized without his feathers and that they had a good time for several hours. Mr. Krahn says he doesn't care if his Xmas goose does wander away if he will always come back in as good shape as this one in time for the holiday planned for him.

#### Prof. O'Connor Heard From.

Mrs. D. C. O'Connor has a letter from Mr. O'Connor, lately appointed superintendent of public instruction of the canal zone, written after he reached his destination. He said he had been in Panama three days at the time he wrote, and he was very much pleased with both country and climate. He had failed to discover the talk of drawbacks and could not see why anyone would object to going there as the climate is particularly delightful. The letter was written on December 12 and received on the 20th, while he is making pretty good time. Mr. O'Connor said the ship in which he sailed had a rough voyage from New York, but he had entirely recovered from the effects when he wrote.

Times flies so fast as a man grows older that it seems to him he has his Sunday clothes on all the time.

# MURDERER OF JOHN LODGE

### PHILIP JAMES NOW ON TRIAL IN SACRAMENTO.

### IT LOOKS LIKE A CONVICTION

#### Story of the Shooting of John Lodge is Told by an Eye Witness to the Tragedy Last September at the Race Track.

The trial of Philip James who shot down John Lodge at a race track in Sacramento, Calif., on September 9 last, is progressing in Sacramento and there seems not a possibility of doubt that the defendant will be convicted. The Sacramento Union of recent date gives the following account of the trial:

The trial of Philip James for the murder of John Lodge was begun before a jury in Judge Hart's court yesterday and rapid strides were taken. The work of securing a jury to try the case was not as hard a task as is usual in such cases, and at 2 o'clock in the afternoon the box was full. The men selected to try James are David Jenkins, J. M. Henderson, Joseph Russell, Amos Anger, W. K. Grimshaw, John C. Paterson, G. J. Whendon, R. A. Merkle, A. J. Toff, H. K. Willard, M. M. Drew, John F. Dreiman.

James is charged with having shot and killed Lodge in the betting ring at the state fair grounds the 9th day of last September.

After the physician who conducted the autopsy on the remains of Lodge had testified regarding the nature of the wound, and that it caused death, the prosecution called Harry J. Gray to the stand. Mr. Gray had witnessed the shooting. He testified that there had been no difficulty between Lodge and James prior to the shooting. He saw James walk up to the bar and ask John Norton for his revolver. Norton hesitated and said that he ought not to give the weapon to James, but he finally handed it over, and James started out of the paddock holding the gun in his hand and down by his side. The witness followed James out to the paddock and told him he ought to put the gun away. James told him it was none of his business and that he would better get out of the way. He took the hint and walked back into the enclosure and James followed.

The witness said that Lodge was standing by the bar and when James walked back in with the revolver in his hand Lodge stepped over to him and told him to put the gun up, that he (James) did not want to shoot anybody.

James called Lodge a vile name and

said to him: "Maybe you want some of it?" and as Lodge backed away James followed him. Finally Lodge reached out and seized James by the arms. James twisted his arms around until he got the gun against Lodge's stomach and then fired. Lodge fell a few moments later and died.

The witness said that the crowd used James pretty roughly, beating him up considerably about the head.

The district attorney produced a magazine belonging to an automatic revolver and the witness identified it as one he had taken from James a few minutes after the shooting.

Cross-examined, the witness said that when James demanded the revolver from Norton and Norton hesitated to give it to him, he remarked that if it was not given up he would go and get a shotgun and spoil the whole game.

A second witness was called who corroborated the testimony of Gray regarding the shooting, after which a recess was taken until 10 o'clock this morning. The prosecution has not been able to locate the revolver with which it is alleged James did the shooting. The nearest they have come to it is to produce the magazine that belonged to an automatic revolver such as James is said to have had. It is whispered that there is a history attached to the disappearance of the weapon, but it seems certain now that the prosecution will not be able to produce it.

It is rumored that the defense of James will be that he had no intention of shooting Lodge, but that when Lodge seized his hands the gun was accidentally discharged.

#### Croup.

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