

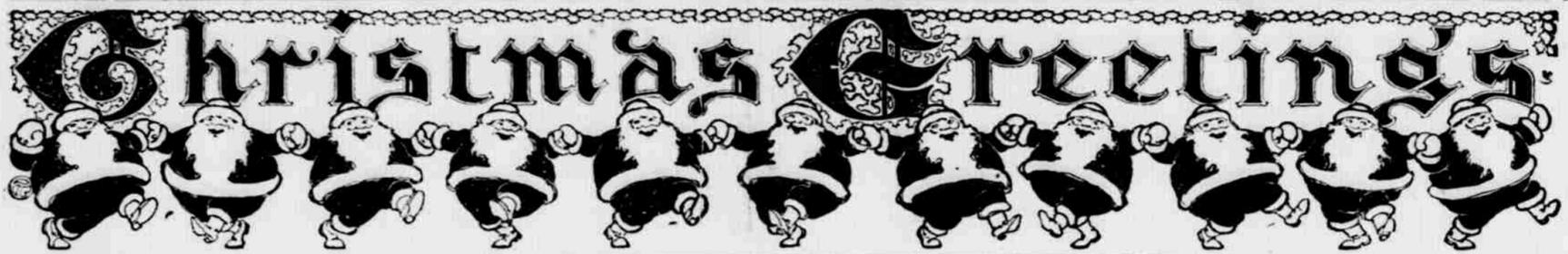
Tombstone Epitaph

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BELIEVE MINT BANDITS TAKEN AT SANTE FE

SANTA FE, N. M., Dec. 23.—In the arrest of seven men here today in an automobile carrying a Colorado license and showing signs of bullet holes, it is believed by authorities that part of the gang responsible for the Mint holdup at Denver have been captured. They are being held as suspects.

On the persons of some of the men were found a number of new \$5 notes, which are being checked up this afternoon in an effort to ascertain whether or not they are a part of the loot taken.

In the big car which they were driving were several holes which gave the appearance of having been freshly soldered over, giving indications of having been made by bullets.

Cash ranging from \$11 to \$124 was found on the person of each of the seven suspects. Authorities expected to receive definite word from Denver late today regarding the suspects.

The party were arrested here as they drove in from Las Vegas.

OFFICERS RESUME SEARCH

NOGALES, Dec. 22.—The two army officers who left camp Stephen Little this morning in an automobile to search the vicinity of Covered Wells, on the Papago Indian reservation, 75 miles west of Tucson where the bodies of Col. Francis C. Marshall and Lieut. C. L. Webber, missing aviators were rumored to have been found, had not returned to Nogales at a late hour tonight and no word had been received from them, it was announced at the office of Colonel A. J. McNab, commanding officer.

The officers were not expected to return until tomorrow unless they made important discoveries today, it was stated.

RANGES IN CALIFORNIA IN GOOD SHAPE LOCAL CATTLE RAISER REPORTS

DOUGLAS, Dec. 23.—Cattle ranges in California, particularly in the district around Watsonville, are in excellent condition and plenty of winter rain already has fallen to insure good feed until spring, according to Jack Meadows, of the O. K. ranch in Rucker canyon, who has returned from a trip there with 16 carloads of cattle which were sold to J. E. Ayres. Meadows also said that the range in his district of the county was in good shape and with only a minimum of snow would furnish sufficient feed until summer.

FOR INVESTIGATION

BISBEE, Dec. 23.—Theodore Lind was locked up in the branch county jail last night by Deputy Sheriff Gipsom and Night Sergeant Harry Anderson pending an examination as to his sanity. He was taken from the Miners Hotel. Lind has recently returned to the district from Miami.

Pretty Xmas Cantata Held Last Night

A throng which packed the First Congregational church to overflowing last night enjoyed the Christmas Cantata given by the ladies and children of the congregation.

The title of the amusing Cantata was "Santa Claus Entertained," and furnished no end of pleasurable amusement to the gathering. Those in charge of the program and who are entitled to endless praise for their untiring efforts to make the affair the huge success it proved to be were Mrs. E. M. Webb, spoken parts; Mrs. George Ivey, in charge of music, and Miss Emily Axell, accompanist.

More than a score of children, all trained to the last minute, took part in the Cantata. A huge Christmas tree proved an added and highly attractive feature of the occasion.

SMITH CONVICTED OF EMBEZZLEMENT BY JURY IN YUMA

YUMA, Ariz., Dec. 22.—Alva Smith, found guilty by a jury here today on a charge of embezzlement of \$6000 of the funds of the Valley Bank of Parker, Arizona, will go on trial again next Tuesday on one of the three additional counts against him in connection with the failure of the Parker bank of which he was vice president at the time of its failure last August.

The count on which Smith was convicted today charged that in purchasing stock in the Valley Bank of Parker, Arizona, last spring, he gave checks on the First State Bank of Clarita, Oklahoma, and later transferred funds of the Parker bank to meet payment on the checks.

Superior Judge Fred Ingraham set December 29 as the date for passing sentence. Neither Smith nor his attorneys made any statement regarding the jury's verdict.

The case went to the jury last night after nine days of testimony, but the jurors retired for the night shortly afterward. Agreement on the verdict was reached an hour after deliberations were resumed today.

It had not been decided this afternoon on which of the remaining counts Smith will be tried first. These counts charge the making of false entries in the books of the Parker bank and the misappropriation of funds.

It was the opinion in court circles that the remaining trials will not be as long as the one just completed and that there will be much repetition of testimony given in the embezzlement trial.

Following Smith's arrest on a boat bound from San Diego, California, to Mexico last August shortly after the failure of the Parker bank, a contest for his custody was waged in California by Arizona, Oklahoma and Nebraska authorities, which ended when Governor Stephens, of California, granted Smith's extradition.

Arizona Taxes Delinquent By Three Million

PHOENIX, Dec. 22.—The total amount of taxes in the state of Arizona delinquent on June 30, 1922, for the past six years was \$3,471,228.67, according to a statement compiled by Clarence Standage, secretary of the state tax commission, and made public today by Chairman Charles R. Howe of the commission. The statement was made from reports to the tax commission by the clerks of the boards of supervisors in each county.

The report shows that Maricopa has the largest amount of delinquent taxes for the period. The total of delinquent taxes in Maricopa county on June 30, 1922, was \$1,632,425.45. Cochise county is second with a total delinquency of 224,405.70, while Pinal with a total of \$219,250.79 is third. The other counties in order of their amounts are, Santa Cruz, \$215,922.92; Yavapai, \$200,571.22; Yuma, \$189,073.31; Gila \$188,159.50; Pima \$161,871.75; Graham \$136,233.18; Mohave \$76,249.32; Navajo \$74,449.40; Greenlee \$67,428.72; Coconino \$47,537.61 and Apache \$31,697.59.

Taking up the total delinquencies for the state by year periods, the report shows that for the tax year of 1916, the total delinquencies were \$87,904.29 for the state; for the year 1917, \$43,933.87; for the year 1918, \$72,774.36; for the year 1919, \$350,800.43; for the year 1920, \$949,230.93; while for the tax year 1921, the total was \$1,596,462.79. The first half of the taxes assessed each year become delinquent in November of that year while the last half becomes delinquent in May of the following year.

SURPRISE PARTY IS GIVEN MR. AND MRS. ROARK BY FRIENDS

DOUGLAS, Dec. 23.—Judge and Mrs. George Roark, who have long been residents of the city, but who will move to Tombstone, were guests of a surprise party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Sparks on Ninth street. The party was a farewell given by members of the Christian church who expressed their regret over the departure of the family. Mr. Roark was appointed as under-sheriff by the newly-elected Cochise county sheriff.

Mr. Roark and his family have lived in Douglas a number of years. He was formerly an assistant county attorney and for the past two years has had a law office in the First National bank building.

SELLS INTEREST IN CLAIMS.

James E. Kelly, of the Huachuca, has sold an undivided half interest in the Berner Nos. 1 and 3, the Gold Bug and the Red Cap mining claims in the Huachuca mountains.

CAR ROBBED

BISBEE, Dec. 23.—A freight car at Osborn on the E. P. & S. W. was entered some time Thursday night and a quantity of merchandise stolen. Several hundred pairs of overalls were among the goods taken.

Dan Cupid Has Been Busy During Xmas Season

Dan Cupid has been a busy little body this Xmas season, and as a result of his holiday activities, seventeen couples have acted in accord with his bidding, applying for licenses to travel life's road together, at the office of Clerk J. E. James, of the Superior Court. They were:

Geo. J. Lind, of Los Angeles, and Gertrude Hyde Sherman, of Douglas. Manuel Jimenez and Artemina Campbell, both of Agua Prieta.

Rafael Salls and Juana Grande, of Douglas.

Milton R. Smith, of Bisbee, and Lola I. Kirkpatrick, of Safford, Okla.

Ricardo Y. Sanchez and Ysidra Rojas, both of Cananea, Mexico.

Chas. T. Sommer and Nannie E. Rountree, both of Douglas.

Frank J. Boyd and Leona Dalton, both of Douglas.

Roscoe Klump and Nora Tuck, both of Wilcox.

Vernon G. Davis and Buelah H. Bryan, both of Wilcox.

Jos. F. Scott and Theresa C. Sabin, both of Pomerene.

Miguel R. Moreno and Concepcion V. Corrello, both of Douglas.

Chas. M. McGuigan and Mattie M. Hamilton, both of Wilcox.

A. M. Sands and Virginia M. Naught, both of Douglas.

D. J. Genardini and Isabel Morie, both of Douglas.

Andy F. Owens and Virginia S. Hernandez, both of Pirtleville.

Ira B. Bartie and Luz Spence, both of Nogales.

May the happiness which is theirs at this merry season of the year, be a large part of their many years to come.

MANY WILL ATTEND MIDNIGHT MASS AT SACRED HEART CHURCH

Final rehearsals for the solemn high mass to be celebrated in Sacred Heart church in Tombstone promptly at midnight Sunday have been completed and a packed congregation of both Catholics and Protestants are expected to fill the church edifice to overflowing.

Rev. Father F. A. Collymore, pastor, left for Bisbee this morning to celebrate the mass at the Spanish Catholic church tomorrow, after which he will return to Tombstone to be present at the hearing of confessions to be heard from 3 to 5 p. m., Sunday afternoon.

Elaborate decorations have been made on the Christmas tree exercises to be held in the parochial parlor Sunday evening from 6 to 8 o'clock.

Hymns, recitations and violin recitals will be enjoyed after which Santa Claus will distribute the sweets and goodies to the 60-odd members of the Sunday school class.

The Christmas morning low mass will be said at 8 o'clock after which Father Collymore will go to Bisbee to celebrate the Christmas Day high mass at 10:00 o'clock.

Slayer of Tempe Rancher Freed By Maricopa Jury

PHOENIX, Ariz., Dec. 22.—A jury in superior court here tonight acquitted W. R. Collier, on trial for murder for the shooting of R. C. Elliott, a rancher near Tempe, Ariz., last September.

Collier admitted that he killed Elliott with a shot gun after a quarrel and fight. He declared on the witness stand that Mrs. Maud Collier, his divorced wife, had admitted intimate relations with Elliott. Mrs. Collier corroborated his testimony.

Mrs. R. C. Elliott, divorced wife of the slain man, an eye witness of the fight, testified during the trial as a state's witness.

The verdict was returned after less than an hour of deliberation and the agreement on acquittal was reported to have been reached on the first ballot.

STORY OF FINDING OF LOST PLANE IS CONFIRMED BELIEVED

TUCSON, Dec. 22.—Further light upon the rumors regarding the two missing aviators, Colonel Marshall and Lieut. Webber, which have stirred Tucson for the past two days was shed by C. F. McCormick, Indian agent at Sells, who arrived here today from the reservation. Mr. McCormick declared that the Indians had been talking since last Sunday of the discovery of the plane in the Gray mountains, some ten miles west and north of Covered Wells.

Mr. McCormick declared that the first reports had stated quite positively that a plane had been found in the Gray mountains, with the body of one aviator lying close beside it. Neither the plane nor the aviator's body was reported as burned, McCormick stated.

In an attempt to learn the basis of truth behind these reports, Mr. McCormick visited the country about Gray mountains last Monday and was able to find four men who declared that they had heard the plane on the day when it disappeared and two people who claimed to have seen it over the mountain. In tracing the rumor regarding the actual discovery of the plane, one of the men who had spread the report was missing, and Mr. McCormick was unable to follow the trail which might have led to the actual discoverer.

Lieuts. P. E. Waterbury, of Camp Little, Nogales, and J. P. Richter of Rockwell Field, San Diego, expected to reach Quijotes, near the Covered Wells country, late this afternoon and learn what they could concerning the truth of the reports. As there are no telephone or telegraph connections at Indian Oasis, or the other nearby towns the two investigators took with them carrier pigeons by which they will communicate with the camp at Nogales.

BIG XMAS TREE ALL TRIMMED FOR TONIGHT'S FIESTA

Santa Claus is coming here tonight in a Ford, kids!

We got a message just before going to press that he would arrive on the last lap of his journey from the North Pole in one of Henry's famous "crop-pays." He is cold-proof, so he should worry.

The big Community Tree sure looks like it would give him plenty of cause to chuckle with delight when he sees it, too!

The big Santa Claus wagon which he sent a little ahead of his own entourage is just loaded down with just the things to delight the hearts of Tombstone's juvenile populace.

When the band starts blaring and the lights starting flaring, there'll be a hot time in the old town tonight.

Multi-colored lights glinting from the myriad recesses of the big tree will cast their mellowing rays upon the gold, silver and ruby tinsel decorations leading highly pleasing ensemble to the scene, while George Crane plans to arrange powerful flashlights from the two sides of the street, converting darkness into light and affording the frolickers ample space and illumination in which to display themselves.

More than 600 bags filled to overflowing with things to touch the dainty palates of the children will be distributed from Santa's wagon by the Old Scout himself.

Fifty-seven varieties of fun will be in order tonight, so gather at the big tree promptly at 6:30 o'clock to help greet Kris Kringle so he won't overlook you either tonight or forget your stockings tomorrow night.

ASK AUTO OWNERS TO SPEED UP.

County Assessor Geo. R. Henshaw today announced that applications for auto licenses are coming in by the hundreds, particularly from Bisbee and Douglas and the north end of the county, while in Tombstone auto owners are lagging a little in applying for renewals. If owners expect to get the same number they had last year they will have to hurry, Mr. Henshaw states, since within a few days all the small numbers will be gone.

TWO INSANE PATIENTS COMMITTED TODAY.

Two insane patients were committed to the state hospital at Phoenix today by Judge Albert M. Sames, following examination by Drs. Hughart and Morrison. John Mofatt, who was found wandering near Douglas after he had leaped from the Golden State Limited, was ordered to the hospital for treatment and was taken to that institution by his brother-in-law, R. L. Longmore, of Mesa. Theodore Lind, also of Douglas, was committed and will be taken to Phoenix next week by a deputy from the sheriff's office.