

CHRISTMAS PLAY SHOWS VALUE OF GIFT FROM HEART

Outdoor Fantasy Presented
Before 5,000 Persons in
Madison Square.

MOST OF THE PARTS
PLAYED BY CHILDREN

After all, it was the battered, tattered doll so sincerely given by the *Dear Little Child* that the *Emerald Queen* liked best, cherished more than all of the costly or hard won gifts that were presented to her by the *Rich Man* and the *Bravest Man in the World* and the *Mighty Lady*.

And that, of course, was the very heart and essence of the story which was acted before 5,000 persons in Madison Square last night: the real meaning of the pantomime fantasy "The Seven Gifts," that a gift which comes straight from the heart at Christmas time is more to be appreciated than any of the wonderful presents that come from folk who give from force of custom or out of the superlative abundance of their means.

The fantasy, which was a moving picture with living actors, was made possible by the generosity of the persons who provide every year the glowing, gleaming Christmas tree that stands with a star burning at its tip at the south end of the square, just opposite the Metropolitan Tower. It was presented in the "Fortimont Theatre," a convenient structure of laths and canvas which can be put together and taken apart in two minutes. Its purpose was to entertain and amuse (and no doubt to edify) the thousands of persons who otherwise might have passed a dull Christmas night.

Children as Actors.

Stuart Walker was the director and stage manager of the pantomime, and the actors, except for a few professionals borrowed from Selwyn & Co., were the children of Christodora House, at 147 Avenue B. The best known of the professionals were Florence Wallerson, who played the *Mighty Lady* very beautifully, indeed, and McKay Mortimer, who enacted the part of the *Bravest Man*. Settling mistis and fog clouds and dampness probably kept down the size of the audience, but nevertheless all of the flagrant walks in the southern part of the square which gave upon the stage were thickly crowded. In the long wait before the Fortimont Theatre, the burst into light many grumblers because the big Christmas tree remained dark. They did not know then, as they understood later, that this was part of the play, that the tree was suddenly to flash aglow at the proper time, when the *Dear Little Child* made her wish.

The curtain fell about 9:30 P. M. and the *Prologue*, played by Henry Kiefer, sprang to the footlights and signified clearly that the pantomime was meant for the happiness of all the people; that the time of the story was always, and that the place of the story was everywhere. Then came the *Wonders*, Homer, who played the *Bravest Man*, the *Emerald Queen*, a very wonderful and gorgeous lady with excessively long braids of hair that surely could not have been held by any mortal, and a velvet and fur and with jewels that dared the sparkling lights of the stage. The *Emerald Queen* was meant to typify humanity.

Gift Bearers Appear.

Presently came the gift bearers, first the *Loisly Man* and his son, bringing a poor scraggly Christmas tree, the best they had to offer. The *Bravest Man* in the *World* presented with pomp and ostentation a casket of jewels, a gorgeously decorated cake, a ring from his finger and other gifts out of the store of his wealth. The *Mighty Lady* gave to the *Queen* one iris out of the three she brought. The *Humble Woman*, Miss Harrie Fumade, offered a captive bird, and in the moment of offering released the bird and gave it its liberty, an act which delighted the *Queen*.

And then came the *Bravest Man* in the *World* with a tiger skin for his offering. That the *Queen* might understand the value of the gift he enacted the pursuit and killing of the tiger and the *Queen* produced a diamond of enormous size. To represent the forest in which the tiger was brought to bay three little trees were set down upon the stage. *Jack in the Box*, Tom Powers, played the part of the tiger. Eventually after a desperate combat *Jack Tiger* was overcome by the simple expedient of putting salt on his tail.

The *Struggling Player*, Lew Medbury, acted a playlet which he called "The Moon Lady," which was a play within a play, and then came the *Dear Little Child* with nothing in the world to give to the *Emerald Queen* except her ragged and very much mused doll. From the others the *Queen* had received gifts that were offered in pride or from a sense of obligation; but the doll from the child was so truly and sincerely given that the *Queen* valued it far more than all of the costly and ostentatious presents that had been piled at the steps of her throne.

So she asked the *Dear Little Child* to select from the store of presents that others had given anything that pleased her, but the child, after inspecting them all, shook her head, no, turned to the darkened Christmas tree near the little theatre, pointed her finger to the star at the top and said, "I want that."

And that instant the tree blazed forth, red lights, blue lights, green lights, yellow lights, white lights, and so everybody understood why it had not been lighted before.

And then, when the child and the doll were seated with the *Emerald Queen* on the gorgeous throne, the lights grew dimmer and dimmer, and finally all the stage was dark. The play was over.

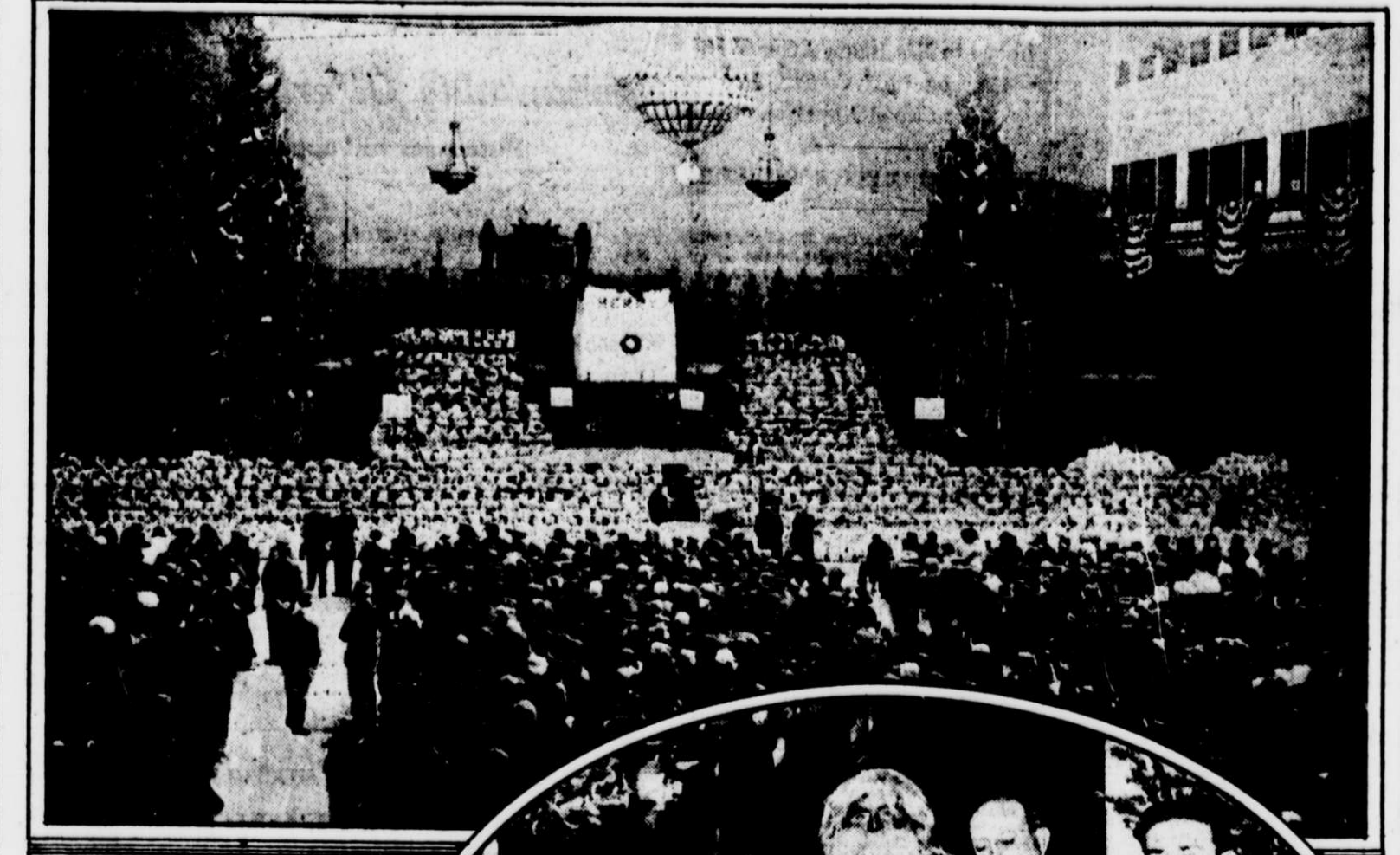
WAIFS GET A FINE DINNER.

Christmas for the Murray Children

Is brightened by the Confinis. Christmas eve was not so sad after all for the five children of Mrs. Mary Murray of 62 Remington street, Jamaica, on December 3 their father died, and a week later their mother was taken to the Kings County Hospital, ill with pneumonia and is there now.

The children are Mary, 13 years old, Paul, 9; Julia, 7; Anna, 5, and Thomas, 3 years old. Mary was mother to the others, and neighbors gave them food, on Friday evening there was a turkey to eat. Paul and the younger ones hung up their stockings under the mantelpiece, but Santa Claus didn't appear, and they went to bed. Late in the evening they took refuge on the porch at 49 West street, the home of William C. Smith, a Long Island Railroad engineer. Mrs. Smith took them in. They were very hungry and cold. She gave them supper and beds to sleep in, and yesterday she had a Christmas dinner with the children before they were put into the home of recovery of their mother. The children will be in the Charles street police court tomorrow under a technical charge of improper guardianship.

OLD FATHER KNICKERBOCKER'S CHRISTMAS THE BIGGEST AND MERRIEST HE EVER HAD



Gifts and Good Cheer Poured
Out in Greater Abundance
Than Ever Before.

HAPPINESS EVERYWHERE

It was the biggest and merriest ever. One gathered that it would be if one were in the vicinity of Broad and Wall streets as early as the day before, where festive prosperity began things by exploding with an explosion of fire and light, and the street was soon within the memory of the present generation.

And any one who failed to come up for air yesterday in time to glimpse all the things which detonated steadily throughout the greater city may take the word of the Salvation Army officers, who edified even their past Christmas efforts yesterday and established a record, or the word of the Bellevue Hospital nurses, who were out for air yesterday in time to glimpse all the things which detonated steadily throughout the greater city may take the word of the Salvation Army officers, who edified even their past Christmas efforts yesterday and established a record, or the word of the Bellevue Hospital nurses, who were out for air yesterday in time to glimpse all the things which detonated steadily throughout the greater city may take the word of the Salvation Army officers, who edified even their past Christmas efforts yesterday and established a record.

The Salvation Army turned the general vicinity of Fourteenth street and Sixth avenue into the biggest Christmas dinner party in the history of the world. Bellevue had the greatest Christmas party ever known. The Spugs up in the vacation headquarters of the National Civic Federation at 32 West Thirty-ninth street had, on the word of Miss Anne Morgan, positively the best party the Spugs have had during their three years of Christmas parties.

Celebration in Bronx.

The Bronx erupted particularly in the Second Battalion Armory at 169th street and Boston road with tree and all day and evening shindig under the auspices of the Bronx advisory committee of the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor. Crates of beautiful actresses headed by Miss Edna Hunter and Miss Adelaide Bowland charged forth from Broadway and Port Jervis streets during the late afternoon in limousines piled high with Christmas stockings which were distributed to pauper youngsters far to the east and west river fronts.

Miss Carter and her Society of Good Cheer made merry for—no, incidentally, made very merry for—little ones in the Hospital for Incurable and Crippled Children, 321 East Forty-second street, with gifts of toys and pictures, chess talks and a dinner almost too good to be true.

Up at 10 to give it the new paragraph it deserves 204 West Sixty-third street the negro congregation of the Union Baptist Church had a "Pickaninny Pudding" party under the direction of the Rev. George H. Sims, pastor of the church, and Miss Rosalie Jones, who carried all that could be bought for \$121, contributed altogether by negroes, was distributed. And the \$121 resulted in the handing out of 121 baskets of dinner for old, skinned youngsters whose fathers lack jobs just now, 150 pairs of shoes, 600 pieces of clothing, 65 suits for grinning school boys, 175 dolls, 75 overcoats and 300 stockings filled with things and stuff of the kind warranted to bring smiles largely made up of rows of glistering teeth.

Crimmins Gives Dinner.

John D. Crimmins and his family as usual not only provided but personally served a dinner for the inmates of the Home for the Aged, which the Little Sisters of the Poor conducted at 213 East Seventeenth street. It was a noon dinner. And Head Waiter Crimmins and Assistant Waiters and Waitresses Crimmins seemed to have just as good a time hurrying up and down the aisles between the tables, holding trays aloft and all properly aproned, as their aged guests for the day and the Little Sisters who assisted were having.

If one must single out the biggest of big parties of the day, and there was not even time to list them all, the dinner party and general excitement resultant from the contents of the Salvation Army street corner kettles of crimson corn first to mind. The Army had started out with boxes of collecting enough to provide 25,000 persons with baskets of dinner. So many were the quarters, dimes, nickels and copper dropped into the swinging red pots during the days preceding Christmas that the Army was able to break a record by distributing almost twice 25,000 baskets at the headquarters of the organization, 129 West Fourteenth street. A late afternoon crowd of 60,000 late rising reporters the excitement began to pour West Fourteenth street to get baskets wherein were tucked turkey and chicken and trimmings in quantity sufficient per basket to feed a family of six. Then at 2 o'clock in the afternoon a mere matter of 25,000 youngsters happened along to receive the toys which the Army distributed on the noisy floor of the Ninth Regiment Armory across the street from headquarters. The Army's hand blazed before and during the handing over of gifts, and there was an entertainment of excellence.

The big outdoor Christmas tree at Bellevue, under which the nurses sang their carols hours before daybreak, was



Above—Interior of the armory in Fourteenth street, showing the 25,000 baskets containing Christmas dinners, which were distributed to the poor by the Salvation Army. Below—Sailors of the battleship New York serving the dinner they provided out of their own money to about one hundred children who were their guests on the big fighting ship yesterday. Capt. Hugh Rodman is standing beside Santa Claus.

made possible from contributions from the Bellevue doctors, nurses and employees in general. Also there were indoor trees in the various wards and exercises throughout the day by entertainers provided by the social service workers.

Throughout a day which dawned into glittering night around the city Christmas trees in City Hall Park, Madison Square, at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine and at John Jay Park there were festive parties. The Metropolitan Hospital, Blackwell's Island, where two big trees blossomed forth, on Randall's Island and at Hart's Island, where Commissioner Katharine B. Davis gave exercises throughout the day by entertainers provided by the social service workers.

The wave of prosperity which made office boys in the Wall Street section happiest on Christmas eve spread up-town to the hotels, wherein every one from the haughtiest, clerk down to the peevish with vulgar wealth, Proprietor Frank Case of the Algonquin, as usual, sent the checkers home yesterday, and the waiters and waitresses were free to whoever lived in the hotel or happened to happen in. One William B. Christmas of St. Paul selected yesterday to register at the McAlpys, thereby causing hilarity every time he was passed, which was often, once William's name had been noised around. Hotel decorations this year are unusually lavish.

Mass Christmas dinner and assistants gave a party for the ninety old men

LITTLE GIRL RULES REVELS AT WHITE HOUSE FEAST

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—Christmas Day at the White House was quite an event in spite of the absence of the President and Mrs. Wilson.

Little Josephine Cothran, granddaughter of the President's sister, Mrs. Anne Wilson Howard, was shown in the great oval library to a gorgeously lighted and well laden Christmas tree which Mrs. Sayre, formerly Miss Jessie Wilson, Miss Margaret Wilson and Miss Helen Bones arranged and decorated for her.

Ellen Wilson McAdoo, infant daughter of the Secretary of the Treasury, was brought down to the White House for a while in the morning to enjoy the sight of the tree. Francis Woodrow Sayre, the other grandchild of the President, is peacefully enjoying the quiet and freedom of his own nursery in Williams-town, Mass. He was not brought to the White House for the wedding, nor did he come to spend the Christmas holidays with his parents.

The Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. McAdoo dined with the President's family at the White House to-night. The dinner was served at the regular hour, 7 o'clock, in the state dining room. The party included Miss Margaret Wilson, the President's sister, Mrs. Howard, her daughter and granddaughter, Mrs. Cothran and little Josephine; Mr. and Mrs. Sayre, Secretary and Mrs. McAdoo, Prof. Stockton Axson, brother of the first Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, Miss Helen Bones and Dr. Cary T. Grayson.

This is the second Christmas for Josephine Cothran in the White House. Christmas President Wilson assisted in decorating the tree for her and helped her to find a desirable place to hang her stocking Christmas eve. She is a favorite with him.

Others prominent in official life of Washington were active. The Vice-President and Mrs. Marshall enjoyed a quiet day in their apartment at the Willard. Mrs. Marshall is still unable to leave her room but her suite was filled with remembrances and many floral gifts from friends. The Vice-President took dinner with Mrs. Marshall in the dining room of their suite. Mrs. Marshall is improving slowly but steadily from the

BATTLESHIP CREW HOST TO CHILDREN

Hundred Needy Youngsters
Have Time of Their Lives
Aboard the New York.

RISE IN HUGE OLD COACH

When Chief Bos'n's Mate 'Arry Percival of the superdreadnought New York alighted his 'and around 'is waist line to the top of 'is pocket and nonchalantly withdrew therefrom something which looked ever so much like a regular flask filled with an amber colored something that made the grape juice in the punch bowl on the reporters' table blush a deeper purple, every one in the focale was too busy feeding his or her Christmas face to gasp at 'Arry's apparent audacity. But it wasn't that at all, and nobody should have gasped anyhow if any one had time to indulge in an outburst.

So Mr. Percival proceeded to justify his lack of respect for 'is by sprinkling a great big melon shaped plum pudding with what is technically known on ship-board as the illuminating gear, same being the contents of the flasklike affair from the Chief Bos'n's Mate's 'up pocket. Then he touched a lighted taper to the steaming dish and surveyed the dancing blue flames with evident satisfaction. The next instant Mr. Percival lifted the huge platter he never thought of parading his burden along as happy a Christmas table as yesterday knew.

"Are you go, children," beamed the Chief Bos'n's Mate, "Abbs" and "Abbs" and "Ums" which greeted his announcement simply smothered the flames as he set the dish before the New York guests in the centre of the long mess table.

Come in Ancient Coach.

By that time, it might be surmised even by any one who did not have the pleasure of attending the Christmas party of the New York's crew to 100 of the neediest youngsters they could find in the whole city had about started. It could take columns such as only Dickens could write to tell adequately what that party meant—gladdening children's hearts, which know only the rough side of life every day of the year, and the background of happy blue clad sailors watching their guests brighten up in the presence of surprises and delights they never thought would be theirs even on Christmas Day.

And just take it straight from the New York's reporter who saw, old Mr. S. Claus doesn't use an aeroplane or roller pack any more. At least he didn't yesterday. He used "The Pride of the Nation" as a five team, ten horse stage coach, the largest of the kind, which was built way back in 1876, when chowder parties were in vogue and Andy Schitz drove the then familiar coach filled with sporting men to the races. Andy held the reins yesterday and Johnny Fitz-Schitz & Fitz—sat by the brake ready for action, with Mr. Percival up on the box between them, happy as the proverbial lark.

What a sight that was for a Christmas Day! Santa Claus Jimmy Luddy of the New York's crew sat back on the stage top like the wheelman on a fire truck. Sailors hung to the sides and dangled the rear end steps. Inside—rather, half out—the row of windows on both sides—100 children and some grownups, their parents, blew on big blue horns in tallboy fashion and waved American flags as the five teams trotted through Brooklyn streets from Borough Hall, where the committee of the New York met their guests, right up to the

ing their Christmas carols. And altogether yesterday passed into today quite proud of itself for having established a record.

Three hundred baskets were given out at the Bowery Mission, plus shoes and stockings, and dinner spread at 7 o'clock last night for 1,200 men. The Boy Scouts helped Justice Leo Prince and his Christmas Bazaar Dinner Committee had forth more than 200 dinner baskets in Harlem's East Side.

There was of course, every other holiday celebration over on the Hoboken side of the river for the officers and men of the interned German ships. Through donations from Mrs. Andrew Carnegie and others the American Seamen's Friend Society had a gift party at the Marine Hospital at Stapleton. At the Tombs Commissioner Davis suspended a rule so far as the warehouse or short term prisoners were concerned and permitted their relatives to send them food from outside.

Vincent Astor provided dinners for 1,000 families. Greenwich Village had a party all its own. Through the crooked streets of the village wandered bands of singers, and wherever a candle flickered in a window the choristers paused and sang their Christmas carols.

There are hundreds of men in this city from whom you will hear higher praise of Goodyear than we would ever put into this advertising.

NOTHING that we have said about Goodyear Tires has had as much influence on Goodyear sales as the things which Goodyear owners say about them every day.

There are hundreds of men in this city from whom you will hear higher praise of Goodyear than we would ever put into this advertising.

Goodyear TIRES

European war demands have caused a shortage in the world's supply of materials used in the manufacture of White Tread Tires.

The color of Goodyear Tires may ultimately be changed from White to Black.

Our supply of the required materials assures the greater portion of our 1916 season's output of tires being furnished with White Tread.

The Secretary of the Interior and Mrs. Lane dined last evening and had no guests. Their son, Franklin K. Lane, Jr., and their daughter, Miss Nancy Lane were at home. Their Christmas tree was a small one, used for the dinner table centerpiece.

The Secretary of Agriculture had a family party and an early dinner this afternoon.

The diplomats almost with few exceptions celebrated the day at least with a dinner party to the members of their respective staffs and families, even though they did not celebrate the day as a religious festival. The British Embassy today, as the British Ambassador, Lord Curzon, and his wife, Lady Curzon, and they had the staff at dinner this evening.

The German Ambassador and Mme. Bernstorff dined quietly with the members of the staff and had no festivities whatever, in accordance with the policy they have carried out from the beginning of the war.

The German Ambassador, Count von Bernstorff, went out of town last night, expecting to return to the embassy tomorrow morning and leaving no address behind and no orders to forward mail. Members of the staff who are in town dined this evening with the second counselor of the embassy, Prince and Princess von Hatzfeld-Trachenberg, at their home.

OSBORNE IS SANTA TO 1,534 MEN AT SING SING

Convicts Sing, Some Stroll
Outside, and All Get "Tom
Brown" Cigarettes.

OSBORNE, Dec. 25.—Warden Osborne played Santa Claus to the prisoners at Sing Sing to-day and installed a beautiful Christmas tree in the prison chapel. The convicts returned the compliment by providing a smaller, but not less picturesque tree, for the warden in Osborne's residence. The decoration of the latter was in charge of George Hanson, a twenty year man.

George Thompson, chairman of the entertainment committee of the Mutual Welfare League, directed the festive Christmas tree in the prison chapel. The convicts returned the compliment by providing a smaller, but not less picturesque tree, for the warden in Osborne's residence. The decoration of the latter was in charge of George Hanson, a twenty year man.

After the midday Christmas dinner, which was enjoyed by 1,534 men, the warden presented each prisoner with cigarettes bearing the name "Tom Brown." The menu was as follows: Roast pork, mashed potatoes, apple sauce, pumpkin pie, coffee with milk, apples and oranges.

The twenty-one men in the death row had the same fare. Their bags of candy, however, were distributed at dinner time.

Prison liberties were given to the men and many were permitted to go outside the prison walls. Although a heavy fog prevailed not a man made an attempt to escape.

Mr. Osborne spoke briefly at the close of the evening exercises. He intimated that these are trying times for the convicts, but he urged that they be frank and truthful in their dealings with him. He renewed his pledge made a year ago that the Mutual Welfare League would be an aid for the advantage of both the warden and the men.

GREENHUT'S "THE BIG STORE"

An Announcement of the Greatest Importance
To the Shopping Public
Beginning Tomorrow, Monday, December 27th
A Remarkable Series of
Department
Rearrangement
Sales

The actual work of transferring the selling departments now in our Annex Building to our MAIN BUILDING will soon begin. Our plans in this regard are rapidly taking shape.

To facilitate the rearrangement of the departments as much as possible WE WILL BEGIN CONSOLIDATION SALES TOMORROW.

This statement is of more than ordinary interest, because these sales are combined with those which usually attend inventory taking at this season of the year.

Decisive Price Reductions on Seasonable Merchandise of All Kinds

We can't begin to tell of even a fraction of the special attractions,—but we simply say that ALL DEPARTMENTS WILL PARTICIPATE.

GREENHUT'S

We List a Few of the Most Important Events for Tomorrow

Annual Sale of New Canned Foods

In The World's Greatest Grocery

Choicest Wines and Liquors

For the New Year Festival

Clearaway Sale of Women's and Misses'

\$14.75 to \$19.75 Suits, Coats and

Dresses at \$8.95

Also Decisive Price Reductions on

Luxurious Fur Coats, Scarfs & Muffs

Dress Goods, Flannels,

Handkerchiefs

Notable Sale of

"Used" Pianos and Player Pianos

Women's Sweaters, Infants' and

Children's Wear, Women's Under-

muslins, Petticoats and Corsets

125 "Sample" Brass Bedsteads

At 25 to 33 Per Cent.

Less Than Regular

Floor Coverings Sharply Reduced

Attractive Price Savings On

Fine Dinner Sets, Dining Room

Domes, House Furnishings,

Portieres, Curtains and Bed Sets

NOTICE TO CHARGE CUSTOMERS

All purchases made during the remainder of this month will be entered on bills rendered FEBRUARY 1, 1916.

Double Green Trading Stamps Forenoon—Single Stamps Afternoon