

# Christmas Greetings

## The Gorman Progress

Volume Fifty-Two

GORMAN, EASTLAND COUNTY, TEXAS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1952

(Christmas Edition)

Number Forty-Six



J. L. Ray, Pastor  
Methodist Church

The Christmas season is with us again. It is the most joyous season of all the year. There is something about Christmas that is contagious, for in the minds and hearts of people there are kindly thoughts and remembrances. Both in Church and homes across our land Christmas carols are being sung, and the hour of worship will be centered about the Christ Child.

But do we pause to remember how Christmas came to us? Why do we have Christmas? How God loved all the world enough to give the greatest gift of all time, that by the giving of his Son to the world, I was a revelation of God to man.

We do know that God is revealed in past and prophet, even in nature we can see something of His handiwork, for indeed He has given his children a lovely world in which to live. But God is most revealed in the gift of his Son, for in Christ God came to dwell among men. That is what John meant when he said "The word became flesh and dwelt among us."

Christmas is a time when we express our gratitude and appreciation by our attitude of liberality toward others. And during these days while we live in a land of plenty a land untouched by the ravages of war, let us not forget to breathe a prayer for those who are less fortunate than we.

The Methodist Church and pastor extends to every one a wish for a very happy Christmas and a safe New Year.



Powell Sejourner  
Pastor, Pentecostal Church

Just about everywhere that Christ is preached, December 25 is accepted as a day to rejoice over the birth of Christ, and to give gifts unto others. There is no way of knowing whether this day or some other day of the year was the day of his birth, and this is of course relatively unimportant. The event of his birth, or rather the advent of our Lord, is the thing of prime importance to us as we ponder the day.

Far away in the east country wise men who studied the stars

Continued On Page Two



Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen His star in the east, and are come to worship Him." When Herod, the king, had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. The Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. When they had heard the king, they departed, and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary, his mother, and fell down and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

### Mrs. W. G. Baker Rites Held Saturday At Baptist Church

Funeral services for Mrs. W. Goodloe Baker were held on Saturday morning, December 20, at the First Baptist Church in Gorman. A former pastor, Rev. J. R. Roden of Denton assisted by Rev. Tom Small conducted the service. Interment was made in the DeLeon Cemetery.

Mrs. Baker had succumbed on Thursday night at 10 o'clock to an illness that had all but imprisoned her for the past twenty years. She suffered with arthritis. She began to grow weaker some ten days ago. It was on Thursday morning that the attending physician told the family that death would come in a matter of hours.

Her family, who had so faithfully attended her during her long illness, were at her bedside hoping until the last that she might revive.

The deceased, Annie Ethel Grisham Baker, was born in Pontotac County, Mississippi June 27, 1888 and came to Texas with her parents at the early age of five. The family settled in Comanche County. She was married to W. Goodloe Baker December 25, 1910. The couple moved to Gorman in the middle twenties where Mr. Baker has operated the Baker Feed and Seed Store.

The words, "delicate and sweet" aptly apply to Mrs. Baker. Her friends and family knew her to be patient and cheerful in all of

her suffering.

Immediate survivors, besides her husband, are: two daughters Mrs. Cody Love and Mrs. Ray Rankin and grandchildren, Mary Ann Love, Bob Love and Carole Rae Rankin. Five sisters: Mrs. S. S. Smith of Hutchins, Mrs. Oscar McGee and Mrs. S. B. Shelton of Tyler, Mrs. Winnie Watson and Mrs. Eula Bohannon of Odessa, a brother, I. T. Frazier of Gorman.

Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Shelton Mrs. Watson and Mr. Frazier attended the funeral.



Tom G. Small, Pastor  
Baptist Church

"And, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star they rejoiced with exceeding joy."

It was just another day to most of the people in Bethlehem but to the wise men it was "The Day." Christmas, the day set aside to observe the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, has become "just another holiday" to great numbers. It is still "The Day", however, to those who find the Lord and lay at His feet their richest gifts of love, adoration, and faith.

Some are prone to complain though and say, "It is hard to find Jesus in the fog of commercialism which has settled so thickly about us." Nevertheless, the light of God's guidance will pierce every difficulty and lead us straight to Christ if we, as the wise men of old, seek Him earnestly and reverently.

May this be the happiest Christmas of your life because of the gift you have received from the Lord - eternal life. May this be the happiest Christmas of your life because of the gift you have presented unto the Lord - your body as a living sacrifice.



James F. Pleasants  
Minister, Church of Christ

This is the time of year when many religious peoples are thinking about the birth of Jesus Christ. From the earliest dawn of history, no one has ever been born, who, in any way, can be compared with the humbleness and the greatness of Jesus Christ. He has attracted more people rightly than any man that has ever lived, and may we add, or that shall ever live. We, living in the twentieth century, join in the saying of the centurion as he stood by the Cross of Christ, "- Truly this was the Son of God" (Matt. 27:54).

The birth of Jesus Christ is unique for the following reasons:

- (1) Born of a virgin (Lk. 1:27, 28, 35).
- (2) Birth announced by an angel (Lk. 2:8-11).
- (3) Birth was in fulfillment of prophecy (Isa. 9:6, 7).
- (4) Born in humility (Lk. 2:7, but exalted by God,

Continued on Page Two

# Christmas Greetings

and all good wishes.

1952



## GORMAN PEANUT COMPANY

PHONE 135

GORMAN, TEXAS



Our sincere good wishes go out to you.



## THOMASON'S GROCERY

# Christmas Don'ts

To keep your Christmas a truly merry one, keep these don'ts in mind:

**DON'T** give children dangerous toys, or toys with sharp points. If they operate with electricity, be sure you supervise their use.

**DON'T** decorate the tree with lighted candles unless it's absolutely unavoidable.

**DON'T** place the tree near a stove or fireplace.

**DON'T** leave lighted tree unguarded at any time.

**DON'T** use a rickety, unsafe ladder in decorating the tree.

**DON'T** place Christmas candles near the tree, curtains, paper wreaths or other decorations.

**DON'T** overlook the opportunity to make your tree fire-resistant.

**DON'T** leave toys exposed where people can trip on them.

**DON'T** allow steps and sidewalks to become icy in cold weather.

**DON'T** drive recklessly.

# Early Yuletide Thought Pagan By Christians

CHRISTMAS, like any other blessed institution has had to fight its battles. The first great enemy of Christmas was the Roman empire whose pagan emperors determined to blot out all kinds of Christian rites.

Then when Roman Emperor Constantine Christianized the empire other enemies of Christmas arose. One course of contention was: Is December 25 really Christmas? Some said Christ was born on January 6; others held for March 29. Some set April 21 as His birthday. Nobody knew with complete confidence just when to celebrate Christmas. At last, in the fourth century, Pope Julius I settled the matter in favor of our present date. His decision was accepted.

From the first there had been among Christians a certain hostility toward the Christmas festival. The celebration of birthdays in general was considered heathenish and something taken over from the pagans. Nor did the enemies of Christmas fail to observe that many pagan customs had crept into the feasting of the day. Christmas and the days of Advent that go before it occur at the time of the winter solstice, when the days cease to grow shorter, and begin to lengthen—when the sun, having declined its furthest from zenith, begins to climb again. The period was one of festival in many parts of the world, and was held sacred by many religions. Then occurred the Roman Saturnalia, with its wild excesses, and the people of the north, too, had a great winter feast with days of hearty eating and deep drinking.

From the Saturnalia came banquetings and dancings and riotings in masks and the giving of gifts. Our Christmas dinner and Christmas presents and Christmas cards and the wearing of Christmas masks in various parts of the world date back to the Saturnalia. The mid-winter feast of the northern peoples was called Yule, hence our Yuletide and Yule log. The burning of the Christmas log descends from northern tree worship. So does the Christmas tree.

Santa Claus seems to date from later Christmas times. He is good St. Nicholas, of course. The hanging of stockings comes from the legend that the saint, among his other charities, used to provide doweries for poor girls. The older form of the Christmas stocking custom was for poor girls to hang up stockings in the hope that benevolent St. Nicholas would place marriage portions in them.

# Far-Off Lands Come to Life In Yule Toys

GEOGRAPHY comes down the chimney on Christmas Eve.

In the flood of toys soon to spill out into the nation's living rooms will be the touch of many different lands. Beside a teddy bear, replica of Australia's marsupial furred koalas, perhaps will stand a carved wooden farm scene from German Bavaria, a South American gaucho doll, or a miniature pagoda made in Japan.

Similarly, the United States, now the world's leading toy maker, sends abroad its wild west costumes, its shiny playtime trucks and cars and earth-moving equipment, its small-scale railroads and sky scrapers to delight children all over the globe.

Toy industries in Germany and Japan are on the upswing again. Germany was among the first nations in the world to make tin horses on wheels, engines that ran, animals that walked, birds that sang. Now U.S. buyers go back to cities such as Nurnberg for the output of ingenious middle-aged inventors.

New toys that startle the world often come from Europe. One such is a German duck which, when set on an incline, proudly walks down the slope. Another is a recent gadget from Denmark called a "tippe top," a wobbly sphere about the size of a small apple that suddenly flips upside down and continues spinning on its stem.

Winston Churchill was intrigued by the top when he first saw it. In Stockholm, the King of Sweden, a cabinet minister and an atom physicist, a Nobel Prize winner, got down on their hands and knees at a banquet to study the mysterious flip-flop action.

As a mirror of mankind's culture, toys reflect the progress of civilization. Yet an amazing similarity can sometimes be seen between the toys of long-forgotten eras and the playthings of today.

# Man of Bethlehem

Jesus Christ is a God whom we can approach without pride, and before whom we may abase ourselves without despair.—Pascal.

As the print of the seal on the wax is the express image of the seal itself, so Christ is the express image—the perfect representation of God.—Ambrose.

The devotion to the person of Christ that steers clear of the doctrines and precepts of Christ, is but sentimental rhapsody. — Herrick Johnson.

This is part of the glory of Christ as compared with the chiefest of His servants that He alone stands at the absolute center of humanity, the one completely harmonious man, unfolding all which was in humanity, equally and full on all sides, the only one in whom the real and ideal met and were absolutely one. He is the absolute and perfect truth, the highest that humanity can reach; at once its perfect image and supreme Lord.—French.

# Season's Greetings

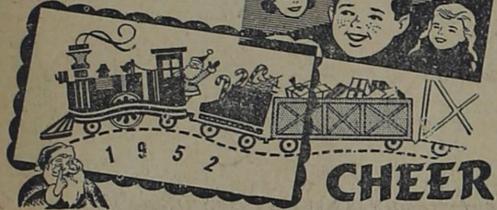


In the valley, on the mountain, let the spirit of Christmas warm the hearts of all mankind.

1952

## GORMAN TELEPHONE CO. WALTER SPECK.

# YULETIDE



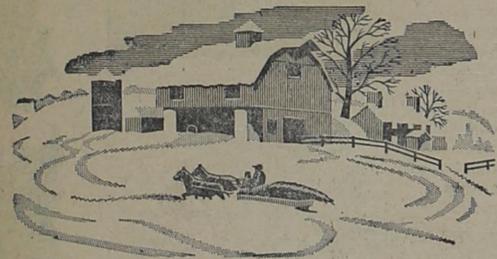
Let's help Santa make this the merriest Christmas of all.

## COLEMAN MUTUAL LIFE INS. GLENN MEHAFFEY, Representative



A wealth of happiness be yours this Christmas.

## W. G. BAKER Feed and Seed



# Season's Best Wishes

The peace and happiness of Christmas belongs to you.

1952



## JAY'S GROCERY and MARKET



The splendid spirit of the season shines in the hearts of men.



## EPPLER'S FURNITURE



**NATIVITY SCENE . . .** This scene is repeated on thousands of lawns of private homes and public buildings in the home towns of the nation during the Christmas season.

# Christmas 'Open House' Was Early Saxon Custom

AT CHRISTMASTIDE, the great hall of the Saxon lord was thrown open to peasant and noble alike—all mingling democratically and exchanging gifts and hearty cheer during a great feast and festivities composed of dance and song. With a tremendous burst of shouting, the Yule Log was dragged into the hall and placed upon the open fire pit. These democratic Christmas festivities lasted until the last dying embers of the log.

In our south, prior to the Civil War, the slaves, following this Saxon custom, would soak a log in the cypress swamps to extend the length of their Christmas freedom.



May Christmas bring you all its joy

1952

## SHELLEY VARIETY STORE

T. O. SHELLEY, Owner

**WOMEN'S CHRI**

**BACK -**

**GROUND OF**

**ROGER W. BABSON**

W... the C... sored... Gard... last... Dona... Jeff... J. M... Marv... and... Th... Meth... grou... mas... utifu... a m... eared... in an old-fash... here of hard work... a farm in Glouce... on went to the Mas... tute of Technolo... aduating, he turned... to financial and bus... es. However, under... health; he contacted... and he was sent... ed as dead! It was... as convalescing from... alady that he work... of the possibilities... ns of business fore... ded weekly releases... keper 400 newspapers... hounc... ports by 20... Th... estates. His... rk is carried on by a... of workers.

... founded Babson in

stitute for Men; and, in co-operation with Mrs Babson, developed Webber College for Women, both nationally-known educational institutions. Here young men and women may concentrate on the fundamentals of business administration. Later, he founded Utopia College, located in Eureka, Kansas, the center of the United States. Recently, he has been active in the establishment of another medium of service to the public, the Gravity Research Foundation, located at New Boston, New Hampshire.

Mr Babson has probably done more than any other man to create among his millions of newspaper readers an interest in simple business problems, and to instill a broader vision in businessmen, enabling them to meet the ups-and-downs of the business cycle.

The Gorman Progress will publish Roger W Babson's BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL OUTLOOK FOR 1953 on JANUARY 1.

Mr Babson's 1953 OUTLOOK will contain outstanding forecasts covering such important topics as:

General Business	Taxes	Trade	Labor
Commodity Prices	Farm Outlook		
Inflation	Stock Market		
	Real Estate		
	Politics		

We are calling this feature to your attention because we believe that very one of our readers will find it of inestimable value.



**By Lorna Boone**

NEVVY WISHED his worn shoes wouldn't make so much noise on the cobblestoned alley. In the darkness, he saw the discarded Christmas tree standing tall beside a trash barrel and even the rank odors of the alley couldn't drown out the faint fragrance of pine needles.

Nevvy shivered, taking his hands from the dubious protection of his pockets to pull his one mitten on. The tree, his tree! (Just as he hefted it, he heard a shout.)

For an eleven-year-old Nevvy was fast, but the shout came again and then hard, pounding steps. Then, abruptly, he stopped as a large hand grasped his shoulder.

The grip on Nevvy's thin shoulder tightened as a loud voice demanded, "Where're you going with our tree?"

Nevvy twisted around to face a husky boy in a letterman's sweater. "You threw it out."

"Does that mean you can take it? You alley kids start in young."

"It wasn't stealing," angrily, Nevvy heard his voice shake. "Tomorrow the trash man would have got it."

The light from a neon sign spotlighted them. "You are young," the boy said, letting him go.

"Thirteen," Nevvy spoke quickly.

"Don't lie," the older boy countered sharply. "Look, this is my tree . . ."

"All right, so I'm eleven and I know it's your tree."

"But today's the third of January," the boy said, in a friendlier voice.

Nevvy wanted to say "You couldn't understand," but then he looked at the tree, still green and fragrant even if the needles were shattering, and spoke carefully. "We haven't had Christmas at our house yet and . . . and we need a tree."

"That's tough," the boy said, "how come?"

"Reasons."

"Tell me why or I won't give you this tree."

NEVVY let the tree go, watched it rock back and forth on its standard, and, thinking of his mother, hardened his voice. "Reason we didn't have a tree is we couldn't afford it. No job for my dad, no dough. And the reason we didn't have any Christmas sooner was because of my mother. She was in the hospital having a baby. Then they let my mother come home, right before New Year's, 'cause there wasn't anybody to keep care of the little kids 'cept me when my dad was job hunting."

"Tell me the rest," the boy said.

"Not much to tell. Only the hospital kept the baby 'cause it's pre-

**BIRTHS**

Charlotte Merline Adams born to Mr and Mrs Doyle Williams Adams of Sipe Springs, December 15th, weighed 7 pounds and 14 ounces.

**Card of Thanks**

Sincere thanks to all the wonderful friends who have been so kind to our loved ones, Ray Burns and Jerry Lee Yates, during their convalescence after their accident.

Mrs Ray L Burns  
Mr and Mrs W R Yates

**WITH OUR BOYS IN THE SERVICE**

We hear James Hattox is head driver of the USA Motor at Ison Alaska. Must be some work in that 47 below weather.

Raymond Emerson has had a mix up on his enlistment and induction papers. As things stand now Raymond will be drafted on January 7. Seems the induction papers beat the enlistment examinations to Hdq.

Mickey Parker has arrived home. The Jesse Parkers had Christmas dinner on Sunday. Mr and Mrs Gene Parker of Colorado City were home for the week end.

Mrs Donald Cook plans to leave Christmas Eve to spend the Christmas holiday with her husband, Donald Cook, at Lackland A F Base, San Antonio.

A J Rayford Battenfield will spend Christmas holidays in Washington D C where he was sent in November for a few months schooling. He reports having a fine time and with two weeks off for Christmas holidays he hopes to do lots of sight seeing.

**Illness In Gorman**

Mrs Mabel Murphy has gone to Galveston whert she entered a hospital for examination and treatment.

Mr N F Morgan, who has been ill during the past month, was returned to the local hospital. He is at present, however, with his daughter, Mrs Davis Smith, and it is believed his condition is improved.

Nita Joyce Hart, daughter of Mr and Mrs Carter Hart, was hospitalized on Wednesday night. Her condition has improved sufficiently for her to return to her home. She is a granddaughter of Mrs Eugene Baker.

Mrs F C Eaves was a patient at Blackwells on Friday.

Mrs N C Crawley was being treated for a throat infection at the hospital this week.

Ray Burns continues to improve.

Mrs Frank Dean will have as her guests on Christmas, her cihl to have their children, Graydon dren Jimmy Dean and family, Mrs Neal Rose and family, and Mrs Paul Ormsby and family. Other guests will be Mrs Onie Anderson and son, Arnold of Ste phenville.

Mr and Mrs J A Baze expect to have their children, Graydon and family of Boling, J B and family of Ft Worth, and Ray Neal and wife of Carbon, with them on Christmas. Clarence and wife will visit them during the Christmas week end.

**HAIL TYPEWRITER COMPANY**

**SALES and SERVICE**

**Typewriters - Adding Machines**

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Phone 310-M EASTLAND, 803 West Valley Street TEXAS

For over sixty-eight years it has been our privilege to render a service to this community.

**Alex Rawlins & Sons**

— MONUMENT BUILDERS —

Phone 24 Weatherford, Texas  
Mrs. Dave Ramsey, Gorman Representative

**What is Meant by "Title"?**

. . . is another common question asked of abstractors especially by those who are buying real estate for the first time. As the term "title" relates to real property it means ownership - the right to use, possess, enjoy - dispose of and/or mortgage. The indisputable evidence of title in this sense is a dependable abstract, not just any kind of an abstract but one with some financial responsibility behind it. Do you have a dependable abstract to your home in town or to your farm?

**Earl Bender & Company**

EASTLAND (Abstracting since 1923) Texas



May the joy of Christmas abide in you all.

**RIGHT BROS. GARAGE**  
GORMAN, TEXAS



**BEST WISHES FOR A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY**

**D. J. Jobe & Son**  
Phone X-2 Gorman  
Farm Machinery and Supplies



Just as he hefted it, he heard a shout. Someone was coming down the path.

mature and they aren't sure it's going to live. But the little kids—there's five of them—we promised them Christmas and we're gonna have it. I was going to take this tree home for a starter. Me and my dad have been making presents, but, my gosh, you gotta have a tree! Even they know that."

The boy was quiet a long time. Then, "Your brothers and sisters still believe in Santa Claus?"

"Oh sure. I gave them a story about Santa Claus waiting until my mother get home to come to our house. They're beginning to wonder though."

"Listen," the boy's voice was eager, "let me be Santa, will you? We have a suit I could wear with some pillows. How about it?"

Nevvy felt the boy's enthusiasm. "Sure," he answered, off-handedly.

Nevvy knew then that the boy really wanted to do it. "Heck no," he said sincerely, "they'll love it. Look, I'll give you the address and you come down in an hour—I'll leave the toys outdoors for your pack. Oh, and I'll have the window—the front one—open for you. It'll take me awhile to get the tree up."

"Swell," the boy sounded excited. "Merry Christmas," Nevvy called after him and picked their Christmas tree up, not caring how much noise his shoes made as he ran down the alley.



We're happy to be sharing another holiday season with you.



**CITY TAILOR SHOP**

*A warm word of Cheer*

**CHRISTMAS '52**

We offer our best holiday greetings and pledge you a bright and merry Yuletide season.

**Frank Rhymes Humble Service Sta.**



THE NATIVITY is re-enacted by members of United Nations forces in Korea and Korean civilians in front of an ancient Buddhist temple. Front row, left to right: Cpl. Charles L. Baumgartner, USMC, South Bend, Ind.; Pvt. Suraj Parsad, Pindi, India; Army Nurse (1st Lt.) Mary A. Daly, Drexel Hill, Penna.; one-year-old Margarita Lee, Uijongbu, Korea (held by Lt. Daly); Cpl. Frank Waalton, Tutbury, Britain-on-Trent, England; Cpl. Donald J. Fister, Lexington, Ky. Rear row: Pfc. Pak Chin Hong, Uijongbu, Korea; Cpl. Charles P. Conway, Jamaica Plain, Mass.; Sgt. Jean Bourdeau, Riviere au Loup, Canada; 69-year-old Yuo Chin Chur, Pochon, Korea; Lee Ok Sun, Margarita's mother, Uijongbu, Korea; WO-2 Geoff L. Brissen, Sidney, Australia.

**Season's Greetings**

Your Friends and Neighbors in the Texas Electric Service Company Wish You a MERRY CHRISTMAS... and a HAPPY NEW YEAR!

BUY - RENT - LEASE - LOAN - THRU THE WANT ADS

Christmas Pearls

By Royce Fields

THE JOLLY SANTA, ringing his bell in an appeal for contributions for the needy, grinned his thanks as Dick Slater dropped a bill into the kettle.

Most every home has a tree or a candle to light the way of the Christ Child according to tradition. No one should miss the opportunity of looking in at the Texas Electric Office.

Put this card on the outside of the package," he told the clerk who wrapped his gift.

"This is a stickup!" the thug snapped hoarsely. "Turn around and get your hands up!"

A feeling of relief flooded Dick as he remembered he had spent most of his money on the necklace.

"Listen fellow," he pleaded, over his shoulder, with the gunman, "I have a Christmas present for my wife in my pocket.

The hoodlum didn't answer. Methodically, he continued taking everything out of Dick's pockets.

AS THE DARKNESS cleared away, Dick became aware that he was in a hospital.

"Oh Dick!" Jean half sobbed, half laughed, "I've been scared! The doctor says you only have a slight concussion, though, and you're going to be all right!"

As his head continued to clear, the realization of his loss overwhelmed Dick.



The thief merely stepped back and brought the heavy gun crashing down on his victim's head

"I had a present for you, Jean," he began.

"I know, Foolish," his wife cut in, "and you almost lost your life trying to save it."

"But it was the string of real pearls I've always wanted you to have, Jean. You know how much they meant to me!"

"Yes, I've known the silly obsession you've had about my wearing simulated pearls," Jean said almost sternly.

"Well, this is going to be a bum Christmas for you," Dick said glumly, "and I thought it would be the best yet."

"It's going to be," Jean told him. "Look!"

She put her arm under his shoulder and lifted him to a sitting position.

"Yes," Jean said, "my pearls. When the police caught the thief, he hadn't time to open them even."

CHRISTMAS WINDOWS BEAUTY EXCEED THOSE OF OTHERS YEARS

The beauty of the Christmas windows in Gorman exceeds that of former years.

Members of the Luncheon Bridge Club were welcomed on Wednesday by their hostess Mrs S E Cloninger.

Ecstatic aromas of holiday food symbols of Christmas, a dainty tree on a transparent table, all contributed to the atmosphere of gaiety.

Plates were laid in popular quartet style, the centerpiece being red candles nestled in silver leaves.

For courtesy of serving the hostess, wearing a black crepe frock, had donned a party apron that was at once the envy of her guests — The apron was red net with poinsetta trim.

HOMEMAKERS CLASS HAVE WHITE CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Homemakers Class of the First Baptist Church early in the holiday season enjoyed a "White Christmas" Party in the home of Mrs. George Blackwell.

Members of the class brought clothing and other miscellaneous gifts which they packed and sent to the Buckners Orphan Home.

The hostess served pie and coffee. Mrs. Vera Hamrick is teacher of the class and Mrs. J A Baze is president.

Just for fun, check up on the next bushel of wheat you buy. There are 556,000 seeds in a bushel.

MRS. CLONINGER HOSTS LUNCHEON BRIDGE CLUB

Rev and Mrs J L Ray attended the monthly meeting of Ministers and their wives at Cisco on Friday.

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J. E. WALKER Druggist 55 Nite 109 Mehaffey Drug

GLASSES Correctly Fitted Economically Priced Dr. Geo. Blackwell Blackwell Sanitarium Gorman Texas

Dr. Fehrman H. Lund OPTOMETRIST Eye Examinations — Prescribing of Lenses — Visual Rehabilitation Phone 30 405-6 Exchange B EASTLAND, TEXAS

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO, Alice McFadin or Alice McFadden, her husband, if any, and/or their heirs, successors, assigns, devisees and/or legal representatives, Defendants, GREETINGS: You are hereby commanded to appear before the Honorable 91st District Court of Eastland County at the Courthouse thereof in, Eastland, Texas, by filing a written answer at or before 10 o'clock A. M. of the first Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days from the date of the issuance of this citation, same being the 12th day of January A. D. 1953, to Plaintiff's Petition filed in said court, on the 26th day of November A. D. 1952, in this cause, numbered 21,447 on the docket of said court and styled D. Breeding, W. E. Tyler, C. M. Bowden, Witt Bowden, Jamar Bowden, Myrtle Bowden Marcus, Ella Strickland, D. J. Jobe, Reba Ransone, C. C. Cox, R. O. Jackson, C. E. Joyce, T. R. Co, Ray Agnew, Mrs. Edna Nunnally, William Coleman Nunnally, and Robert Nunnally, Plaintiffs vs. Alice McFadin or Alice McFadden, her husband, if any, and/or their heirs, successors, assigns, devisees and/or legal representatives, Defendants.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: This action is brought to appoint a Receiver to execute an oil, gas and mineral lease on the interests of the defendants in and to the following described land: "The East one-half of the Southeast quarter of Section 27, Block 2, East Texas Railroad Company Survey and the Northeast quarter of the Northeast quarter of Section 11, Block 2, East Texas Railroad Company Survey, in Eastland County, Texas," as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit. If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be return ed unserved. The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs. Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court at Eastland, Texas, this the 29th day of November A. D. 1952. ATTEST

(SEAL) Roy L. Lane Clerk, 91st District Court, Eastland County, Texas. By Oleta Barker, Deputy GORMAN PROGRESS Eastland County, Texas Published on Thursday at Gorman Entered as Second Class Mail at the Postoffice in Gorman, Texas, under the act of March 3, 1879. ADVERTISING RATES 35c Per Column Inch SUBSCRIPTION RATES Local, Trade Territory — 1.50 Yr. Six months or less — \$1.2 Out of Trade Territory — \$2 Yr. Six months or less — \$1.00 EUGENE (Gene) BAKER Owner-Publisher LUCRETIA FAIRBETTER, Editor

FRUITS OF TEACHERS LABOR - OPERETTA WELL RECEIVED

The operetta presented Thursday night was well received by a crowd, the weather with about 3/4 inches rain, could not detain.

The splendid presentation was fruit of the labor of the fine teachers, Mrs Lois Buchanan, Mrs John Henderson, and Mrs E C Bramlett, with the elementary students.

About 100 children were in the cast, a group representing seven nations and various other groups.

Comments about town say the operetta was an event of culture of great value to the participants and the audience.

In behalf of the Public the Gorman Progress expresses thanks to Mrs Buchanan, Mrs Henderson, Mrs Bramlett, and the children.

PERSONALS Mrs Wayne-Eaves and son have returned to their home in Goldsmith. Mr Harold Gray of the Fort Worth Office of the Empire Southern Gas Co was a visitor in Gorman on Thursday. Mrs Robert Henson of Ranger will spend Christmas with her parents, Mr and Mrs Johnny Burns, James Burns of Odessa is also home for the holidays. Betty Cloninger of Baylor University arrived on Friday to be with her parents, the S E Cloningers, during the holidays. Bobbie Woods of Eastland has been visiting with Mrs J E White side. Mrs Henry McCroan of Dallas is working at the City Tailors.

If you would like to try television, let us install a set on approval. No obligations. Browning Appliance, Phone 160.

KING THEATRE SUN - MON, DEC 21 - 22 Linda Darnell - Tab Hunter In ISLAND OF DESIRE Also Animal Comedy TUE. - WED., DEC 23 - 24 Matinee Wednesday at 2 P M Jimmy Durante - Terry Moore In THE GREAT RUPERT Also Color Cartoon THUR. - FRI., DEC 25 - 26 Matinee Thursday at 2 P M Rock Hudson - Julia Adams In THE LAWFUL BREED Also Disney Cartoon SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27 Shamrock Ellison-Lucky Hayden WEST OF THE BRAZOS Leo Gorcy & The Bowery Boys NO HOLDS BARRED Color Cartoon SUN. - MON., DEC 28 - 29 Marie Windsor - Richard Rober OUTLAW WOMEN Color Cartoon TUE. - WED., DEC 30 - 31 Rosalind Russell - Robert Cummings TELL IT TO THE JUDGE Color Cartoon THUR. - FRI., JAN 1 - 2 Robert Mitchum - Ann Blyth ONE MINUTE TO ZERO Disney Cartoon

Front End Alignment Specialists KING MOTOR CO. Phone 42 Eastland

A CHRISTMAS GREETING Especially for You Peace attend you the season through. And may your fondest dreams come true. 1952

ACREA AUTO SERVICE G. C. (Giff) ACREA, Motor Doctor — Radiator Cleaning and Repair Phone 129-W Gorman

Greetings! 1952 A bright and merry Christmas to our friends and neighbors. Pulling Cleaners

Christmas Greetings To you and yours, this Christmas season, we extend our sincere wishes for happiness that will long outlast the tinsel and the tree... and live on in your hearts through all the days and years to come. THE JOE BENNETT'S

I'd like to say "THANK YOU" to all my Avon Customers. Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year MRS. NANCY HENDRICKS

THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST SALUTE YOU. ROM. 16:16 YOU HAVE A CORDIAL INVITATION TO ATTEND THE SERVICES OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN YOUR COMMUNITY Church Of Christ GORMAN, TEXAS And Song Service 7:30 P M Evening Worship - Study 11 A M Bible Study 10 A M CHEANEY, TEXAS Church Of Christ ALAMEDA, TEXAS Evening Study 7:30 P M Bible Study-Worship 10:30 A M Church Of Christ GORMAN, TEXAS J. F. PLEASANTS, Evangelist Bible Study (Sun.) 10 A M Morning Worship 10:50 A M Young People's Class 6:00 P. M. Evening Worship 7:00 P. M. Ladies Bible Class Tuesday 3 P M Worship (Wed.) 7:00 P. M. Listen To - "THE HERALD OF TRUTH" Every Sunday 1:00 P. M. — Station WBAP (570 on your dial)

Do you have enough Fire Insurance? Let me save you money. C. J. Thompson, Box 69, Phone 590, Comanche, Texas. State Farm Insurance Companies.

WANTED - Fifty men at the FRIENDLY FELLOWS CLASS in the Methodist Church Kitchen for coffee at 10 o'clock Sunday and for the class session following. M H Fairbetter

WANTED - 100 fifteen year old radios to overhaul. One year guarantee on all sets accepted for overhaul. Robert F Kay, Radio and Television, De Leon

NOTICE - We do first class renovating on mattresses. We make new cotton and innerspring mattresses. Pritchard Mattress Factory. Phone 3731 - Night 3841, DeLeon, Texas. We pick up and deliver.

Do you have water problems? If you have bring the m to us. We have Pumps (All Kinds) Pipe, Water Heaters and Irrigation Systems. Gorman Machine Shop - Your Massey-Harris Dealer. 9-11-fn

DEAD ANIMAL SERVICE - Hamilton Rendering Co. - Free and Sure - Call Collect Phone 303, Hamilton, Texas

Radio Repair Service and Radio Tubes. E. E. Todd.

GET YOUR BUFFLE GRASS... SEED AT GORMAN MACHINE SHOP, Massey-Harris Dealer.

\$25.00 REWARD - for any information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the one that stole a small red Hydraulic Jack from the gin. T H Key & Son.

FOR RENT - 3 room house with bath. Furnished or unfurnished. See Mrs Laura Westmoreland.

PHEASANTS FOR SALE - Single or in pairs. Ben R. Townley Gorman, Texas

NOTICE OF SALE Bids will be received in the office of the Superintendent of School, Gorman, Texas on the following School Bus: One 1945 Ford, 42 Passenger, on or before January 12, 1953, by 7 P M.

This bus may be seen at the Bus Garage on school grounds.

Christmas Gift Specials New Singer Portable from 92.50 New Singer Consoles from 121.00 Singer Desk Model from 229.00 Used Consoles from 49.00 Gift Wrapped & Delivered Free Singer Sewing Center Phone 863 Eastland Texas

FOR DOZER WORK see SCHUMAN and VANCE, De Leon. Tex as. Brush Pushing, Tanks and Sub-Soil Plowing.

FRYERS FOR SALE - Dressed on order. Mrs J A Baze.

NOTICE - Anyone caught hunting on my place will be prosecuted. E W Thompson.

Make regularly weekly deposits in The First National Bank of Gorman and have cash when you need it.

LOST - Brindle half-bull dog with bob-tail, near Bill Simpson place. Notify Edwin Hattox.

Subscribe to THE ABILENE REPORTER-NEWS at the Fall Bargain Offer Daily & Sunday \$10.95 Daily only \$ 9.95 One Year—By Mail Anywhere in West Texas

DEAD ANIMALS Un-Skinned REMOVED free CALL COLLECT Gorman 300 - or Brownwood 9494 Brownwood Rendering Co.

WOMEN ATTEND COMANCHE CHRISTMAS PILGRIMAGE

Women of Gorman attending the Christmas Pilgrimage, sponsored annually by the Comanche Garden Club, on Friday night last were Mrs John Kirk, Mrs Dona Moorman, Mrs Berenice Jeffs, Mrs Dorothy Hatcher, Mrs J M Nix, Miss Ozella Pulley, Mrs Marvin Blair, Mrs Melvin Shell, and Miss Annys Kate Blair.

The Pilgrimage began at the Methodist Church where choir groups of children sang Christmas Carols. The church was beautifully decorated and presented a most sacred atmosphere.

Three private homes were open to the pilgrims. Two of the homes were decorated in keeping with their style of architecture and period of building, these were entirely modern. The decorations were made by the members of the Garden Club who served as hostesses. A tree with leafless limbs had been fashioned into a most unusual ornament when the limbs were covered with green velvet.

The third home was one of the older houses of Comanche. The decorations were traditional in keeping with the much lived in house.

Christmas Game

Snappedragon was a favorite Christmas game in England more than 200 years ago; it is still played in modified form in England and America.

The original game called for a quantity of raisins to be deposited in a large bowl or dish. Brandy or some other spirit was poured over the fruit and ignited. The bystanders then endeavored to grasp a raisin, by plunging their hands through the flames. A carol, called "The Song of Snappedragon," accompanied the game.

God Bless Christmas

"There are many things from which I might have derived good, by which I have not profited, I dare say," returned the nephew. "Christmas among the rest. But I am sure I have always thought of Christmas time, when it has come around, as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; and, therefore, uncle, though it had never put a scrap of gold or silver in my pocket, I say, God bless it!"—Charles Dickens, "A Christmas Carol."

The Prophecy

Isaiah 9:6

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

Serving of Boar's Head One of Old Christmas Customs

Of the customs that grew up around the Christmas festival in Merrie England, the serving of the boar's head was one of the most stirring. It endures to this day at Queen's college, Oxford, where the 50-pound tusked head—a lemon in



its grinning jaws—is borne in on a great silver dish, escorted by trumpeters and candle bearers. In the olden days there was an appropriate chant, half carol and half ritual, that the gentlemen used to bellow at the moment the dish troubled the board:

Then set down the swineyard, The foe to the vineyard, Let Bacchus crown his fall, Let this boar's head and mustard Stand for pig, goose and custard, And so ye are welcome all.



By Anne O'Sullivan

HESITANT but determined, Ransome had brought his fiancée, Hilda, home for Christmas to his parents' mountain ranch. Now, on Christmas Eve, Bridget, his young school-teaching sister, and Gloria, his white-collar sister, sat in the pine-paneled living room, admiring the yet undecorated Christmas tree. And Hilda seemed to be getting along particularly well with Gloria, the ambitious, the contemptuous sister whose city veneer denied her mountain heritage.

He was the first to stir from the surprising but comfortable dark. "I'll take care of it, Ma," he called toward the kitchen, "probably just a blown out fuse."

"Wouldn't you know it?" Gloria's voice rose sharply, complainingly.

Pa, armed with a lantern, stamped in the back door, shedding snow as he shook his heavy jacket off. "Brrr, a real snow-piling easterner, but the animals are all right."

"Did you check the fuse box, Pa?" Ran asked.

"Not much use—the wind probably took care of a transformer. What's the matter boy? When you were living at home we didn't even have electricity."

"Yeah, well, we still got plenty lanterns around?"

"Long as we got horseshes, we'll keep the lanterns ready," it was Ma's turn to laugh. "Likely our lights'll be off two-three more times this winter."

"We can't trim the tree, Pa, when the light string won't work," Gloria sounded petulant, dissatisfied. Was Hilda disappointed too? Ran wondered.

"Remember the times we trimmed the tree with popcorn balls and all?" Bridget asked. "Let's do it tonight, shall we, Ma?"

"Why of course, Pa and I'd get a sight of pleasure out of that. How about you, Hilda?"

"I'd like to help." To Ran she sounded enthusiastic, but maybe it was just politeness.

"A sight more work too," Gloria pointed out. "Why you won't move . . ."

"I'll need another lantern for the kitchen, Pa, if I'm to string cranberries," Bridget interrupted zestfully.

RAN KNELT beside the deep fireplace, built by his great-grandfather, to stir the coals. As a boy he had risked burning himself to pop corn in a frying pan; now they had a long-handled popper. The angry surge of wind reassured him in a strange way. He was at home. Safe and protected. If only Hilda could share his feeling for this place . . .

He leaned on his heels, whistling, as the kernels began to pop.



"I wish you'd let me help," Hilda said.

"I wish you'd let me help," Hilda said, "Bridget sent me in with a bowl, salt and butter."

Ran moved aside, finding it natural for Hilda to kneel and work beside him. Her eyes sparkled and her face was flushed in the firelight, but Ran missed his chance to ask if she were happy when Bridget summoned them to string popcorn.

Gloria held up a string of popcorn. "Not half so pretty as tinsel."

"Means more," Bridget said. "Seems like popcorn strings have a special beauty—the kind you can't buy."

Soon the Christmas tree was festooned with strings of popcorn and cranberries. It looked beautiful to Ran even before they moved presents underneath. He caught the satisfaction on everyone's face, though Gloria still looked cynical.

Just then Hilda rushed out of the room and went upstairs. When she came back, she paused half-shyly in the doorway an accordion in her arms, "I thought you'd have a piano and, now that the radio's off, maybe you'd like some carols? It's been such a perfect evening."

Ran knew then, as he guided her into the circle and saw the family make way for her, that Hilda was one of them and his voice rose exultantly in "O Come All Ye Faithful."



CHRISTMAS CHOIR . . . Junior members of a church choir lift their voices in song during the annual Christmas candlelight service. Truly, they represent the spirit of Christmas.

Quaint Rehearsal Of Christ's Birth Found in Old Carol

"Auld Lang Syne" has become such an integral part of our modern New Year's eve that no celebration, however gay, would be complete without it.

The music sheets for those nostalgic strains simply say "Robert Burns—Scotch Air," and Robert Burns generally is supposed to have written it after he had settled down on a farm and taken himself a wife, following the sweeping success in 1778 of the second edition of his "Poems." Well and good, but Auld Lang Syne was not exclusively a Burns' product, nor did he claim it to be.

In a letter to George Thomson, a publisher, Burns explained: "It is an old song of olden times, which has never been in print. I took it down from an old man's singing."

Modern scholarship has discovered that Burns was wrong when he told Thomson "Auld Lang Syne" never had been in print. Its refrain, at least, was printed obscurely long before Burns heard his "old man singing."

Further, the original song often has been credited to Sir Robert Aytoun (1570-1638). Aytoun was one of the earliest Scots to use the lowland dialect as a literary medium. Multitudes of Americans descended from non-British stock are perpetually mystified by this dialect, nor does it seem to make much sense in the standard English translation.

Regardless of its original author and origin, it was Burns who gave "Auld Lang Syne" its immortality. And though the bells now welcome the New Year with joyous peals, symbolizing mankind's hope for a bright future, the nostalgist of "Auld Lang Syne" summarizes an

adherent reluctance to leave the security and friendship of the past and embark upon a future which, however promising, may not be more pleasant. Thus, it remains a part of the English speaking heritage to

"Drink a cup of kindness yet For Auld Lang Syne."

The Mystery of God's Firmament

THE "STAR" which signaled "the First Christmas" may be interpreted in many ways. In all such interpretations we must put ourselves as nearly as possible into the social and psychological frame of mind of those whom we try to understand. The astronomer knows that through the ages the word "star" has been used to indicate almost any celestial phenomenon. We still speak of "falling stars" or "shooting stars" which we know quite well are not stars at all. In more ancient times the comet was called a "hairy star" and was derived from the Latin word coma, meaning hair. The planets were the "wandering stars" as opposed to the "fixed stars," and from the Greek word for wanderer we derive our word "planets."

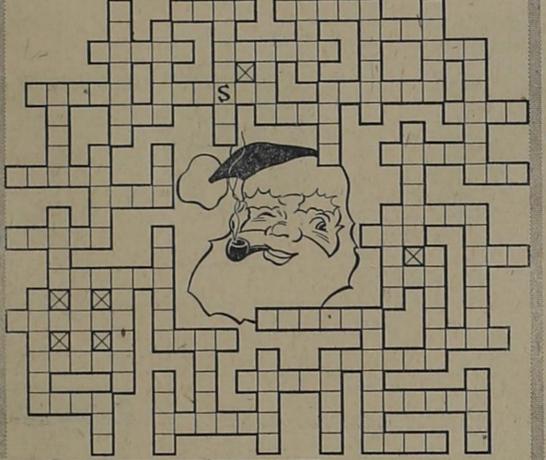
The Star of Bethlehem could have been any of these. It could even have been a "new star" or nova which suddenly burst forth with a many-thousand-fold increase in brilliance, due to some great stellar catastrophe. These are all explanations of what the "star" could have been. Had it been any of the above, it would have been seen by many peoples, and in literature would have been found references to the appearance of the object which attracted attention. But nowhere in the literature or in the folklore of any of the peoples noted as astute observers of celestial phenomena do these references exist.

From this we are forced to conclude the appearance of the star was a sight given only to the Wise Men to see.



FROZEN FOOD LOCKERS

Christmas criss-cross



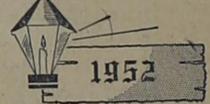
Here is a Christmas puzzle that will be fun for all the family to work. It is simple. Fill the words into the right spaces. One letter "S" is given as a starting point. The completed puzzle is at the lower right. Don't peek!

- ALL DON LOVE NOEL CHILD SPELL INFANT MANAGER SEASON
EYE NOEL COMET VEEN
FUN NOSE CUPID GREEN
GAY RAFT GLODY WHITE SILENT
HIN RING HOTEL ANGELS CANOLE CAROLS CHIMNEY HOLIDAY
KAP SLED MYRTH LIGHT CARDS DANCER DASHNER PRAISES
LUN SNOW NIGHT PEACE FRANCES FRANCES FRANCES
AWAY WRAP LIGHT NIGHT PEACE FRANCES FRANCES FRANCES
DOLL YULE REIGN SANTA DONNER FRANCES FRANCES
EACH SACK SANTA DONNER FRANCES FRANCES FRANCES
GOLD CANDY SHEEP GOSPEL
HALL CHEEK SHEEP GOSPEL

Answer



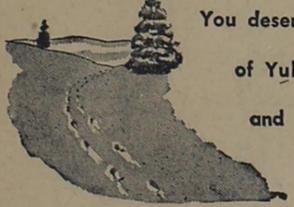
Our hope for your peace and happiness goes out to every one of you.



Gorman Insurance Agency BERNICE JEFFS W. G. KIRK



Christmas 1952 May all Happiness be yours



You deserve a wealth of Yuletide joy and peace.

BLACKWELL - RODGERS SANITARIUM

HAPPY HOLIDAY

May your heart sing with the true joy of Christmas time.



The First National Bank GORMAN, TEXAS "Oldest Bank In Eastland County"

# Here's wishing a

# MERRY



We're displayin' our Christmas wishes for all to see. Oh yes, and Happy Ney Year too!

Berenice Jeffs



Encore; a merry, merry Christmas. May the joys of the day be yours for today and always

Ozella Pulley



Greetings of the sea son to one and all. Enjoy always the spirit and warmth of Christmas.

The J. R. Todds



Your Christmas should be sweet as sugar candy, bright as a candlelight, happy as a child.

The W. J. Ormsbys



Truly, may Santa's magic touch each member of your household, this Christmas, '52.

The Ed Harrisons



May we wish each and every one an old-fashioned Christmas filled with boundless joy.

The Gifford Acreas



The snowman is rolling your way carrying our wishes of Christmas cheer — All things good for you and yours.

The W. G. Kirks



May the joys of Christmas be yours today and every day of the coming year.

The G. T. Blackwells



May this Yuletide bring fulfillment to your every wish. A Happy Holiday to all!

The John Arnolds

Our words are few — their meaning heartfelt. A Joyous Holiday to all of our friends.



The O. R. Buchanans

We're joining Santa in wishing you and yours the very merriest Christmas ever.

The Judge Thurmans



Be merry, be gay! Enjoy the gifts of Christmas day. To you and yours we wish health and good cheer

The Archie Skaggs



Our hearts are filled to overflowing with the warmest wishes for a Merry Christmas.

The Pendarvises



May your Christmas day and the days ahead be as warm and bright as the candlelight on your tree.

The Harvey Parkers

We take our cue from young hearts, to wish you the merriest of Christmases.

The Ed Browns



If our good wishes were stars, the Heavens would be a glow, tonight! Merry Christmas.

The Gail Bennetts



Add to our many, many good wishes of past years a million more good wishes and you have all that we can wish for you this very merry Christmas.

The J. B. Brandons



Yuletide greetings to one and all. May your Christmas dreams come true, your every wish fulfilled.

The John Kimbles



Be an angel. Accept our sincerest wishes for a Christmas filled with all the wonderful things you have wished for yourself.

W. H. Trice

CHRISTMAS CHEER



Listen to the fiddler's cheerful, little earful as he plays our Merry Christmas wishes for you and your loved ones.

Lila Otwell Davis



Many are our wishes for you this Christmas. health, happiness and all the things you want.

The Luther Wrights

We're wishing you a superlative Christmas; the biggest, the merriest, the very best ever!

The Glen Mehaffays

A thousand ways to say it, yet its meaning is singular. A Merry Christmas to all.

The T. O. Shelleys



Our sincerest wishes for the merriest Christmas time of your life and the happiest New Year.

The J. E. Walkers



How wonderful if we could keep Christmas Cheer alive the year long. Happy Holiday.

The Buck Fosters



Christmas — the close of a rewarding year — prelude to another year of health and prosperity Happy Yuletide.

The Charles Underwoods



To all my friends go my heart felt wishes for a Christmas that will bring new happiness to all.

Kay Ann Craddock



Like the cheery Christmas candle that spells welcome to all, our holiday wishes shine out to you. Merry Christmas.

The J. O. Thompson

Our wishes for you — as many as the needles on a Christmas tree. Happy Holiday, all.

Mrs. Marcella Brogdon



May the blessings of the Lord be upon you for a Merry Christmas.

Mrs. Alice Hill



It is our fondest wish to all our friends that this Christmas brings all good cheer and also a peaceful New Year.

The E. N. Jones

our wishes for you — Christmas blossoms to bear rich fruit in 1953!

Mrs Ethel Harrell

# CHRISTMAS to everyone

It's an old tune — and a sweet one. May your joys be many, this Christmas 1952!

The J. Q. Eakins



Carols — gifts — trees — church — we hope they combine to bring you Happiness this Yuletide Season.

The T. C. Wylies



To all our friends, far and wide, go our wishes for a joyous holiday.

The W. D. Prestons



GREETINGS



May we wish you and your loved ones the grandest holiday you've ever had.

The Wilbur Shells



Here's wishing you a lot of Christmas cheer and also, a very happy New Year.

The Barton Eplers

Down the chimney goes Santa with a giant sack full of Christmas cheer from us to you.

Tracy Harwell



## NOEL

May your Christmas be jolly as a snowman, sweet as a candy cane, and a joy to you and your loved ones.

Mrs. L. Wilson

Mrs. Mamie Clement

Stockings for children — mistletoe for the young in heart — our Holiday Best for every one of our friends.

The H. H. Pulligs

### GREETINGS



### CHRISTMAS



As the three Wise Men once fulfilled their fond hopes, so may all your dreams be answered on this Christmas.

The Charles Nicholls



### GREETINGS

Silent as the snow upon the roof, Christmas comes upon us. Our very best wishes to you.

The Jay's



### Merry Christmas

We're feeling so angelic, spreading holiday wishes to all our friends. Here's happiness to you!

The B. B. Brummetts and Sylvia



A message from all of us to all of you. May this be the merriest of Christmases for you, filled with joy and good cheer.

The Melvin Shells



A stocking filled with health and prosperity — that's our wish for you, this Yuletide!

The Verlan Overstreets

This little lamb brings best wishes for your Christmas from all of us to all of you.

The John Wrights



To all our friends go our very sincere wishes for a Christmas rich in happiness and good cheer

The Emersons



May the brightest star shine over your home this Christmas with light and warmth.

Jug & Vergie Dennis



We're all in a whirl of holiday sentiments as we wish you and your family a very happy Christmas.

The W. C. Brownings



### GREETINGS

Christmas belongs to the home. To all those away, we wish you a safe, speedy return.

The Charles Gibbs



Once more we pause to wish our friends the most joyous of Christmases. May your holiday be bright with cheer!

Mrs. Dona Moorman



We wish to join this overworked gentleman in wishing you all the best Christmas ever!

The Speedy Clarks



Gay is the season, and jolly are the faces we see. Once more we extend to you and your family our very best wishes for the holidays.

The Bud Smiths

Santa beat us to it, but may we repeat those wonderful words again: "A very Merry Christmas to one and all."

The A. D. Eakers



Starry is the night of Christmas. May every star bring your holiday wishes to you.

The Alex Phillips



### GREETINGS

May Santa's reindeer prance down your Chimney, bringing bundles of joy to all your family!

The Boyd Hilleys



Angel voices herald the coming of another Christmas. May yours be full of joy and happiness!

The Marvin Nixs



### GREETINGS

There's something nice in store for everyone this Christmas! We add our best wishes

The Harry Huddlestons



### Merry Christmas

We hope your gift packages make your dreams come true and too that the Holiday brings you everlasting new friendships.

The Floyd Gilberts

Memo to St. Nick: Make this the best Christmas yet for all of our friends and neighbors!

The Gabe Wrights



Our wish is that this Christmas will once again bring joy and peace on earth to all.

The Jobe's



### GREETINGS

Like children waiting to see the tree, we anticipate with delight a merry Yuletide for all.

The L. E. Capers



We raise our voices in song, to wish you and yours the very happiest Christmas season of all.

The Check Smiths

Midst the many greetings of the season, here's a special Merry Christmas from every one of us.

The Frossard's



— and a wish that goes on and on that all may be well on this holiday and throughout the new year.

Woman's Study Club

### CHRISTMAS CHEER



Hurry Santa, it's time for spreading cheer. . . and time to wish all our friends a Merry, Merry Christmas!

Mr and Mrs Wm. E. Bettis

Presents are nice, of course. . . but sincere wishes from friends are nicer. Merry Christmas to all!

The A. L. Grices





In the East, a star,  
and in the hearts of  
men a great joy,  
for unto the world  
is born a Saviour.  
His blessing upon  
mankind!

### MEHAFFEY DRUG

Gorman, Texas

### CHRISTMAS CHEER

Dorothy Boys Killian

NAN RAYMOND, seated in white starched loneliness at the hall desk of Ridgedale's ten-bed community hospital, stared disconsolately at the tiny table tree which she had just finished trimming.

"Would it be just too much to ask you to take Christmas Eve duty for me, Nan?" Grace, the other night nurse, had asked her some days ago. "I know you aren't going to be able to get home for the holidays anyway, and my family is right here in town."

The urgent ringing of a bell broke in on her lonely dreams—the handbell of the patient in room two.

"Old Smithers, I wonder what long-winded complaint she'll have now," Nan groaned.

She opened the door. "Mrs. Smith, every grey hair in place, was sitting bolt upright in bed. "I'm expecting a visitor tonight. Where is he?" the old lady snapped.

"If anyone asks for you, of course I'll bring him up," Nan forced herself to answer politely.

"It's almost nine o'clock, and Algernon wrote definitely that he'd make it for Christmas Eve," Mrs. Smith glared at Nan. "It's bad enough being here, let alone trying to celebrate alone."

"I'm not celebrating either, Mrs. Smith."

"Oh, you—you're young and strong, and well, this is your job." The woman sighed. "How well I remember Christmases when I was your age! Sit down a minute and I'll tell you about the time we—"

The old lady ignored her excuse. —"The time we invited the church choir to supper and to help decorate our tree before choir practice," she went on. "Well, somebody began a carol as he tied a popcorn ball to a branch, and, do you know, before the last apple was hung on the tree, we had gone through our whole blessed program."

"Did you always put a star on the top of your tree?"

"Oh, my, yes," Mrs. Smith smiled. "I'll tell you just exactly what we did use for decorations. Let's see, now. There were the popcorn balls, and cranberry chains . . ."

When the doorbell downstairs rang suddenly, Mrs. Smith brought herself up in the middle of a sentence and chuckled. "Thank you for listening to an old bore, my dear. Now you just go see if that isn't Algernon."

A young man, bare headed, with coat collar turned up to meet a tousel of sandy hair, smiled at her through the gloom. "Are you the unfortunate gal who's taking care of my Granny Smith?" he asked.

An imperious voice called from upstairs, "Is that you, Algernon?" The young man grinned at Nan.



A bountiful,  
merry Christmas  
to one and all.



W M BLAIR  
GROCERY - FEED

### Homemade SANTA

By Ance Beauregard

HARVEY BUTLER ran a chapped hand through the lank brown hair that fell over his forehead and stared contemptuously at Jack and Gordon Linter. Their blue eyes were on him, wide and questioning.

"You sure there ain't no Santa Claus?" six-year-old Gordon asked worriedly.

Harvey laughed. "Course the Linters were little kids, six and seven, but they ought to know better. "You think I'd be parading around in split-out jeans an' a patched shirt if there was?"

"Probably Santa Claus is bringing you new ones for Christmas," Jack said hopefully.

Harvey sneered, thinking of the barren Christmases at his house. They were lucky if they had a tree even. This year on account of his little sister—just over three now—mom had said they'd try to have some presents. "Any new clothes I get we buy," he said, "an' usually I just get my cousin's old stuff. Hand-me-downs, mom calls them."

"Well," again Gordon looked hopeful, "that doesn't mean anything. Mostly Santa brings toys, not clothes."

"Not to me, he doesn't. I tell you there isn't a Santa Claus except for your folks."

Gordon's eyes filled with tears and Jack looked like crying. "Are you sure?" he asked, his voice quavering. "Your little sister told me Santa Claus—Kaws she calls him—is coming to your house."

The wind seemed to whistle through all the Leles and thin places in Harvey's clothes. "Carol said that? Honest?"

"Yeah," Jack said, "you know how funny she talks. She said he was coming through the door, 'cause you don't have a chimney, when the lights' are out and bring her a doll and some other things."

"What things? Try and remember," Harvey felt chilled. If Carol was expecting Santa Claus, counting on him like these kids . . . How would she feel when he didn't come?

"Doll cradle and a wagon," Gordon said. "And a trike—'twike' she called it—painted red. You were just kidding us, weren't you, Harvey?"

HARVEY LOOKED at their faces and felt mean that he had told them the truth. After all, he was eleven, big enough to know better, and they were just little guys. "Sure, I guess there's a Santa Claus, but sometimes he doesn't get all the houses. Like Carol said, we don't have a chimney for him to come down, so he probably missed us a couple of times."

The light was back in the boys' eyes. "Sure, that's it. What're ya making that scowly face for, Harvey?"



"You were just kidding us, weren't you, Harvey? There really is a Santa Claus?"

This time Harvey chose his words carefully. "Well, he might miss our house again this year and Carol'd sure be disappointed, so I was trying to think how I could see she got what she wanted. I think I can make her a wagon at the Boy's Club and a wooden cradle. You think that'd work?"

"Sure," Gordon agreed enthusiastically, "long as she thinks Santa brought them, she won't know the difference."

"What about the doll and the tri-cycle? You can't make those," Jack pointed out.

Harvey shivered, leaning against the board fence. "Mom gave me money for a haircut that I could use for a doll." Usually Mom gave him haircuts 'cause they were so expensive, but she had a burned hand now.

"Hey, Jack," Gordon shouted excitedly, "how about that old trike in the garage? Harvey could fix the wheel . . ."

"Sure," Gordon answered, "and I'll bet we can find some red paint."

"And we could make her some blocks at the Boy's Club easy."

Harvey shoved his hands in his pockets, swallowing quickly. "Gee, that'd be fine, she doesn't have any now. See you later."

"Come on, Gordon," he heard Jack yell happily, "let's go find that trike."



PRESTON'S FLORIST  
Phone 20 Gorman, Texas



### BROWNING APPLIANCE

Phone 160 GORMAN P. O. Box 298



Z. O. Mehaffey, Agent  
Magnolia Pet. Co.



Happiness and good  
will are the order  
of the day.  
1952

SMITH BROS. CHEVROLET CO  
GORMAN, TEXAS



"I'm expecting a visitor tonight. Where is he?" the old lady snapped.

"Awful, isn't it, out it does help to shorten it to 'Al'!"

Nan led the way upstairs. As they entered room two Mrs. Smith held out her arms affectionately to the visitor, saying at the same time, "You look startled, Miss Raymond. I'll wager you never dreamed an old fuddy-duddy like me could have such a personable relative."

"Well, I guess I did expect—"

"I can imagine what you did expect," Mrs. Smith laughed. Then turning to her grandson, "You won't be able to stay with me, as we had planned, but luckily, there's a decent little hotel downtown."

"Couldn't I stay at your house, anyway, Granny? A hotel's such a lonesome place at Christmas time," Al pleaded.

"The house is all closed up," Mrs. Smith answered. "But, never fear, just this evening I have found a local cure for loneliness." She smiled at Nan. "This young lady sat here this evening and put up so cheerfully with my long-winded reminiscences, that I talked myself right out of a horrible mood into a pleasant glow. If you go at it the right way, I'm sure she can do the same for you."

Al said quickly, "Would having Christmas dinner with me at the hotel be a good beginning, Miss Raymond?"



We hope you  
may be surrounded  
by joy and  
gladness and filled  
with the warmth  
Christmas brings  
to everyone.

### EMERSON'S CAFE

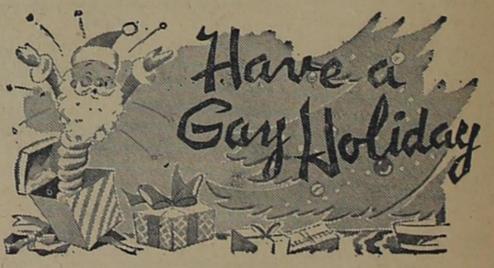
Enjoy Christmas Dinner with us Christmas Eve - we will be open for breakfast only in the 25th.

To our many friends



The spirit of  
the season  
strengthens  
our bonds  
of mutual  
friendship

### COOK'S GARAGE



JIM UNDERWOOD  
GROCERY AND MARKET

PLEASANTS - Continued

His Father. Acts 2:33. (5) Born to be a savior (Matt 1:21). (6) Born to fulfill the Law of Moses (Matt 5:17; Gal. 3:19.1.) (7) Born that he might die for the redemption of all people, purchasing with His blood a plan of salvation, made known by the Holy Spirit (Matt 26:28; Acts the 2nd chapter). (8) Born that in His death He might redeem those under the Law of Moses and initiate a new and better testament with better promises; a testament made valid by the Christ's blood. (Heb. 9: 15-17; Col 2:14; Eph 2:14-17; 2 Cor 3:7-14; Gal 3rd chapter; and the entire book of Hebrews).

Exact Date of Birthday

of Jesus?

All Bible scholars agree that the exact date of Jesus' birthday is not known, and that the date of December 25 was merely a matter of adoption. Much is said about Yule and Yuletide as synonymous with our Christmastide. Traditionally speaking, such use of the word "Yule" is correct. Yule is the Chaldee word for child. In pagan mythology, Yule was the son of Astarte and tradition held that the birth of her child occurred at, or near the close of the year and according to our Gentile calendar, the date was fixed as December 25.

As early as the second century of Christian history, the method of compromise began as a means of winning pagans over to the adoption of the Christian religion. Pagan institutions and events were given identity with Christian events and institutions. It was an easy matter to substitute the birthday of Yule for the birthday of Jesus. That was done.

In the century after the Catholic Church began to dominate all Christian events and institu-

tions as much as it could, it began to introduce the mass. It did this by introducing the mass and calling it Christ mass on the worshipping event of December 25, and thus by combining the two words into one, we have inherited the name "Christmas".

It has been suggested by the great science of archaeology that the exact date of the birthday of Jesus is the twenty-ninth day of September. However, it should be remembered that there is no sure evidence of the exact date of Christ's birthday. As all Bible students know, the Word of God does not tell us the exact day Christ was born. Neither is there any command in the Word of God to observe the birthday of Christ at all. Such observance is wholly voluntary on our part, but in thinking upon the birth of Christ, one should not restrict his thinking to any specific day as "the exact day" Christ was born. Since the day is not specified in God's word, it seems plausible that He did not intend any particular day to be observed as Christ's birthday.

But it is wonderful that we can close out the old year with a great week of joyous fellowship and good-will. This is far better than to close the old year in silence, and probably in gloom for many people. During this season many of our boys and girls will come home from college, and many families will have their annual reunions. We all rejoice together over the blessing of the year that shall soon come to an end. It is good to look forward to the new year with a spirit of joy and thankfulness of the past and for the glorious hope and expectation for the future.

Let us never become a defeated people but a great fellowship of victorious achievement for all time to come.

SOJOURNER - Continued

were amazed at the appearance of an unusual star in the firmament. God revealed to them that under this star was born the new King of the Jews, the Saviour of the world.

Arriving in Jerusalem after a long and tiresome camel-train journey, the wise men enquired, "Where is he that is born king of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and we are come to worship him." Matt 2:2. When at length they found him in a manger, under the star at Bethlehem, it was on this wise that they acknowledged him, "And when they were come into the house they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down and worshipped him; and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold and frankincense and myrrh."

To a little group of shepherds watching their flocks by night, in the hill country of Judea, was announced his birth by the angel of the Lord. Amidst the glory of the Lord, the angel said, "Fear not; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Lk. 2:10,11.

The Christmas message is a message from heaven to earth, a message of peace on earth, good will toward men. So sang the angels from heaven, who appeared to the shepherds that night that Christ was born. Their refrain was this, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

The reason today that the world of nations cannot have peace and good will toward each other is that they have rejected their King and Saviour. True peace can only come by the blood of his cross, which cleanses, subdues and puts within the

QUOTES FROM AN AMATEUR PUBLISHER-EDITOR - Gene

I often wonder if an editor and publisher is not a modern version of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde. For the past few weeks the Progress has commercialized Christmas to the limit. But now it is over and I can resort to the fellow I like to be. That is my reason for covering the front page with the true spirit of Christmas. I think the Three Wise Men typify most people today. Looking toward the stars each man is striving for a better understanding of God and his fellowmen. Man fumes and fusses, blusters and blows and lets his gaze wander, but eventually it returns to the stars and he continues to seek his God. Some travel in the valleys; others on the mountain tops or across the plains; others cross the seas to distant lands constantly searching - still others remain close to their birth place. Really, it matters not where man is as long as he strives to practice the Golden Rule and keeps his mind and heart open to the teaching of the word of God. How he interprets the word of God remains his prerogative as a citizen of this United States.

The group of Family Greetings is sponsored by the Woman's

Study Club. If you folks out of town who take the Progress see the names of old friends on these pages whom you have not heard from in a long time, think of their greeting as being sent personally to you. I will appreciate a letter from all of you who enjoyed reading this Christmas Edition.

Adah, Alaska December 13, 1952

Dear Gene: I hope this finds you fine and all the folks around Gorman. Things with me are fine only its pretty cold now.

They moved me from Adah out to one of the Detachments called Adah. It is a small island about 25 miles long and 16 miles wide. Mostly Naval personnel here. Our place is in an old hospital area which they used during the war. Duty here isn't so bad except for the weather. The wind blows around 60 miles an hour on an average day. Sometimes though it gets up to around 120 miles and stronger. We get very little sunshine. Snow about every day.

I am assigned to the motor pool I just got off of 21 days K P and C Q, with a little guard duty thrown in. Now I am back at the pool working and liking my work fine. But I sure would like to be back in Good Ole Texas.

I enjoy getting the Progress because it helps me keep in touch with the folks at home.

Our motor pool maintains a fire department but so far we haven't had to go to a fire. We were called out one morning but it was a false alarm. We sleep right in the motor pool and every thing, have our eats here and all. We still go to the mess hall and eat, but mostly we like our own cooking better than we do in the mess hall. I guess I had better close now and eat some chicken (or sea gull) ha! Tell all the



Christmas is a tree with bright lights and tinsel and the Star atop. It is a tumble of gifts, wrapped with pretty ribbon, beneath its green boughs. It is the light and faith in little children's eyes on Christmas morning. It is the coking feeling of joy in mother's heart as the packages are opened. It is the tear that wells in dad's eye and he tries to hide it with a grin. It is the remembrance of many other Christmases by grandmother and grandfather, undimmed by golden time. It is the sermon of the Story of Bethlehem. The hymns of the choir, the candlelight service, the softness of children's voices, the peace and goodwill that can come into men's hearts. Christmas is the big tall tree in school, the only tree some of the children can call their own. It is the striped candy cane. It is the joyful music of chimes and church bells, the carols from the record shop, the spirit of the season that makes strangers friends. It is the garland and the candle in the window, the cards on the mantel, the wreath on the door, the mistletoe hung for Sis. It is sincerely in a handshake, the wishes of glad tidings, the vocal meaning in the hello from neighbors. Christmas is a light. A light that vanquishes darkness; the light of charity.

folks at home hello for me. I ting on shows up there. In case sure do miss everyone. You're friend, BOB ENLOE USAF

December 21 Thanks for the nice letter Bob. We are having the usual balmy weather in Gorman. Folks running around in shirt sleeves. Had a nice shower Thursday night about 3-4 inch. I have a nephew, a line and let me know if you Bob Thranert, who is stationed in Anchorage. He is active in put and also if you do or don't like it.

Season's Greetings illustration of a family. Text: The greatest gift is given again on Christmas Day; may this new Yuletide bring joy and faith abundant. 1952

ORMSBY CLOVER FARM STORE

MERRY CHRISTMAS illustration of a train. Text: We're on time with 'special' wishes for a bright and happy holiday season. ROSS CONSTRUCTION CO. T S ROSS BROOKS ROSS

Merry CHRISTMAS Happy '53 TO ALL OUR FRIENDS! HIGGINBOTHAM BROTHERS & COMPANY illustration of children around a Christmas tree.

# Best Wishes to All

We have the "GO" in Gorman — Let's make Gorman "GO"

The Gorman Progress, Eastland County, Texas, Thursday, December 25, 1952

(Christmas Edition)

## Best Wishes



To everyone in town  
goes our devout wish  
for a merry and  
untroubled Christmas.



**FROSSARD'S**  
DEPARTMENT STORE  
Gorman, Texas



## Christmas Wishes ... 1952

In the prevailing spirit,  
we offer our hope  
for your complete  
happiness...



...and we commend to you  
the extra joy this season  
brings to all  
our hearts.



## Golden Oak Feed and Produce

BOYD HILLEY, Manager  
GORMAN, TEXAS

## Friday Greetings

1952



Not even a cataclysm could keep  
us from offering you, in perfect  
sincerity, the kind of Merry Christmas  
the people of our town deserve.  
Best wishes to all.



## Thompson Hardware

PLUMBING SUPPLIES

PHONE 157



GORMAN, TEXAS

## CHRISTMAS



Fear not, for behold!

The good tidings of great joy are  
wonderfully repeated for us all  
again this year.

EMPIRE GAS SOUTHERN  
GAS CO. CO.  
JAMES McCOY, District Manager