

Dec 24 1981

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Member Texas Press Assn.

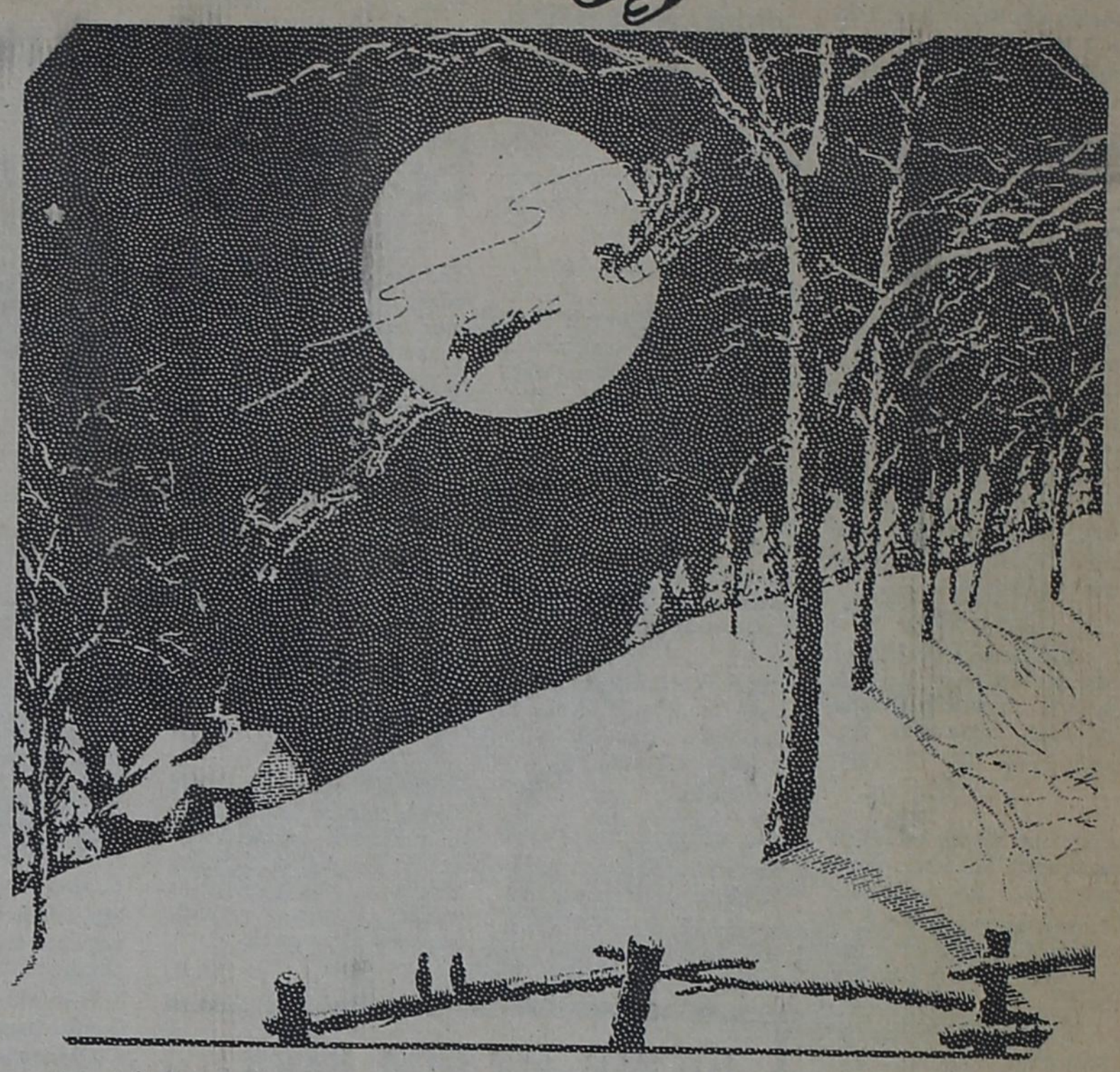
1981

THE GORMAN PROGRESS

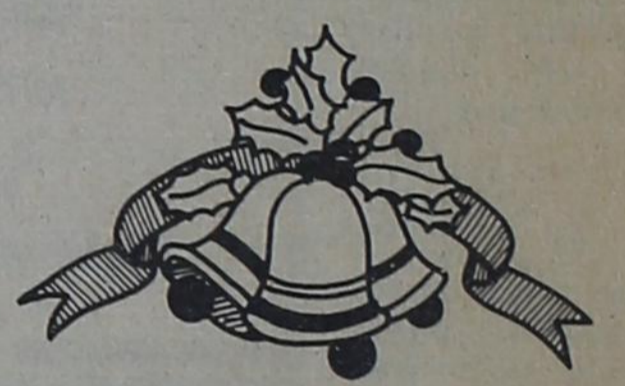
DECEMBER 24, 1981
GORMAN, EASTLAND COUNTY, TEXAS 76454

25c

OUR 81ST YEAR OF SERVICE NUMBER FORTY-FIVE



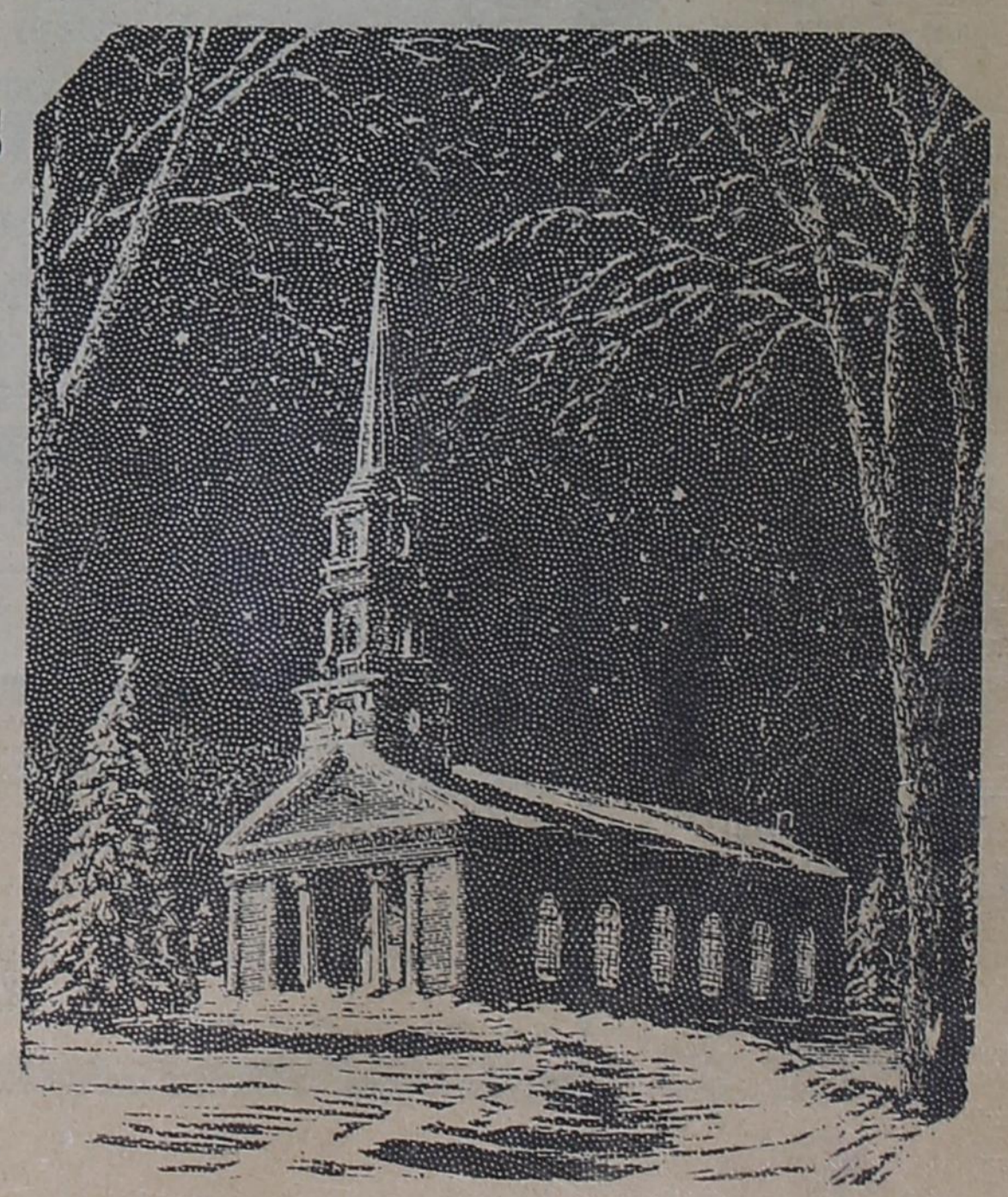
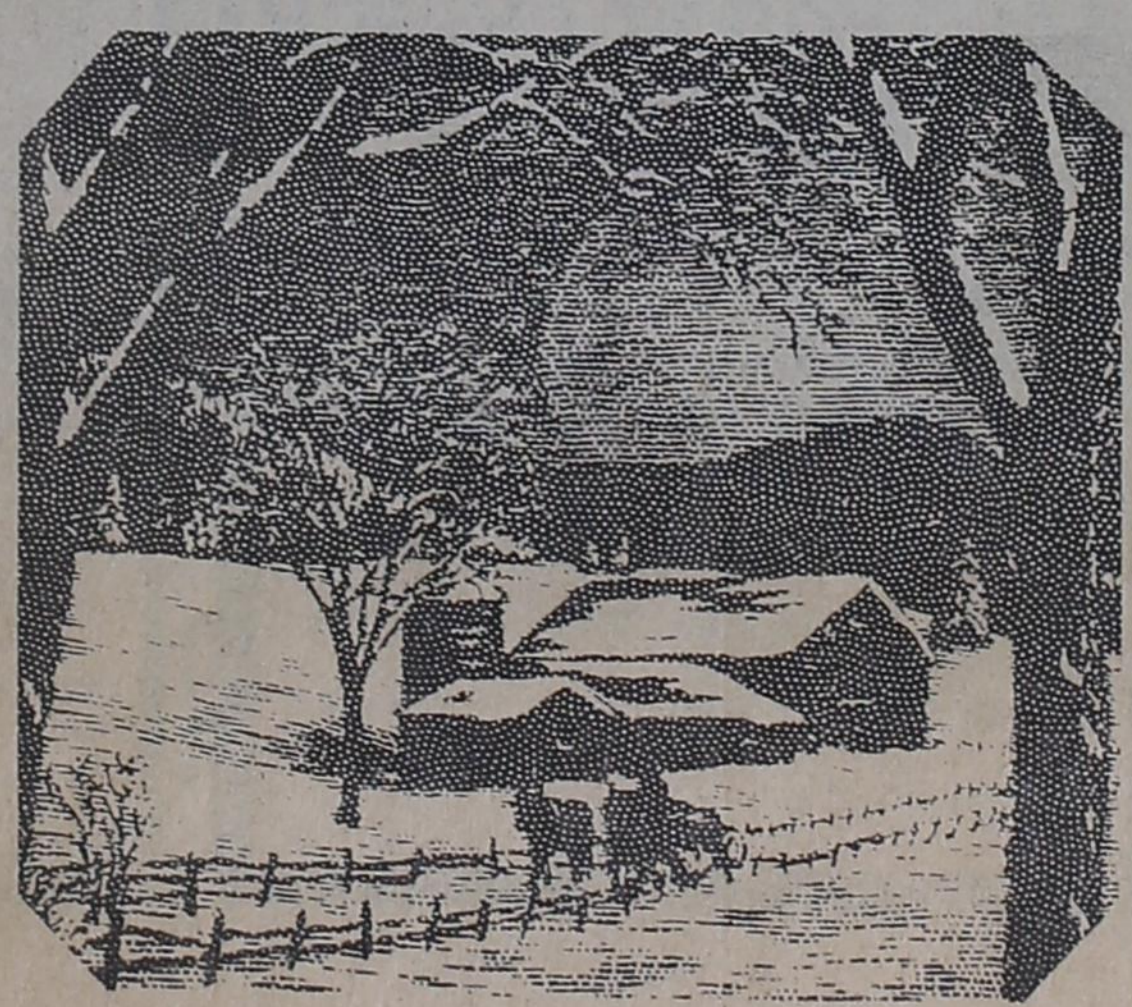
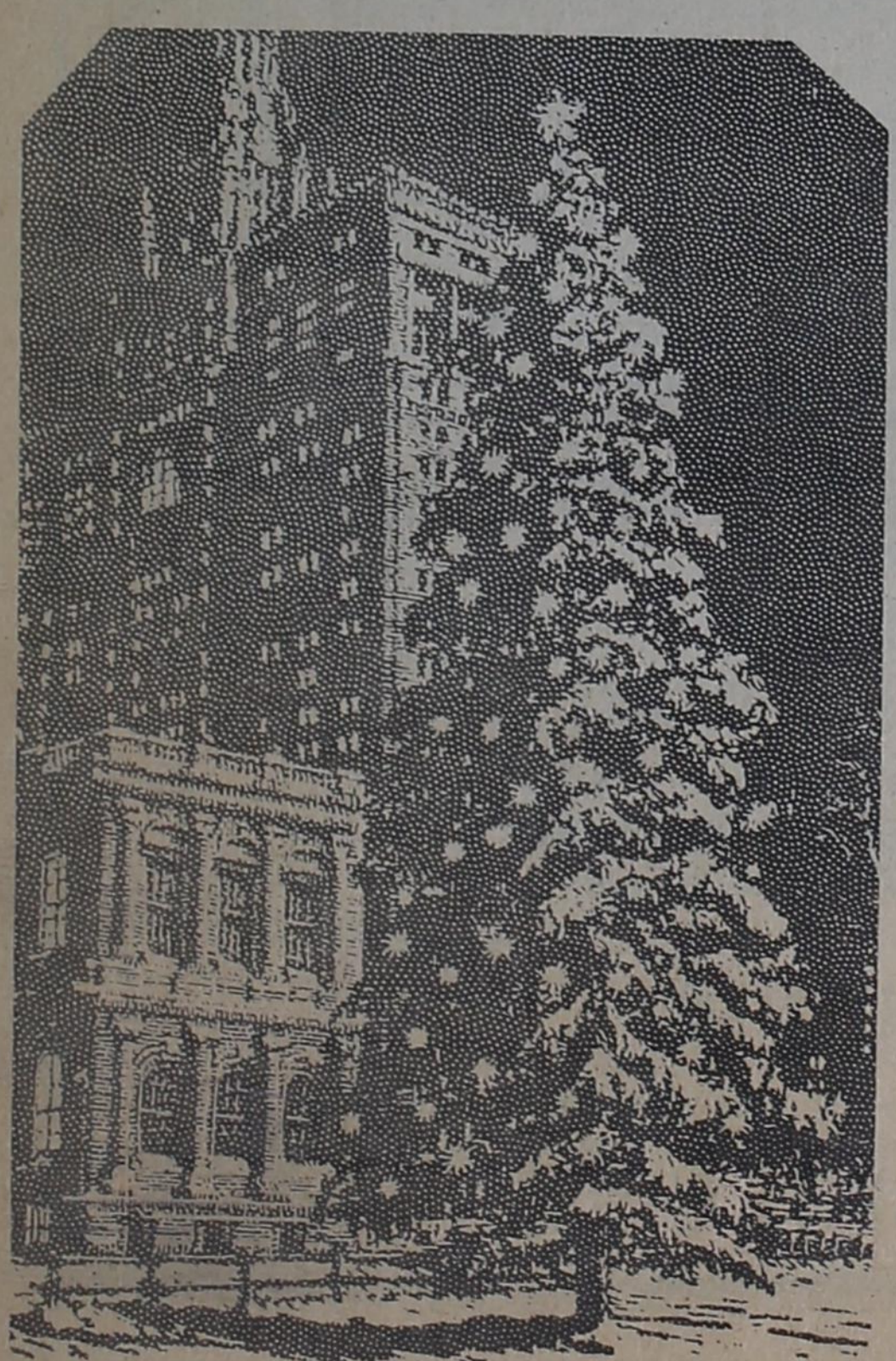
CHRISTMAS
GREETINGS



The happiest of seasons
is upon us...along with lots of
bright expectations of good things
to come...the parties and family gatherings...
the festive decorations, home cooked banquets, and of
course, the gifts to unwrap on Christmas morn!

It's the holiday that we all enjoy, and not
just for the gifting, but for the true spirit and
excitement that fills the air with laughter and
our hearts with warmth.

GREETINGS FROM
ALL THE GANG AT
THE GORMAN PROGRESS



Stop Looking - It's All in The WANT ADS

GORMAN PROGRESS, DECEMBER 24, 1981

BULLDOZER WORK

Specializing in irrigation ponds, and brush work. Also elevated scraping. Gary Wilson Construction, De Leon, 893-6558. 11-12-FNC.

OPEN EVENINGS UNTIL CHRISTMAS EVE.

Starting Monday, December 7th at 8:00 a.m. till 8:00 p.m. Ronald's Variety Store, De Leon, Texas. 4-12-23 C.

FOR SALE: Square bales Coastal hay in barn \$2.00 bale. Stan Clark 734-2598. 8-24-C

I will be giving guitar lessons starting in January. For more information please call Brent Foster 734-2712 after 5 p.m. 3-12-31-C

FOR SALE: Prown leather recliner \$35. Shelled pecans \$3.50 lb. Mrs. John West 734-2719. 2-12-24-P

FIRE WORKS

We will have fire works for sale beginning December 20 and continuing through January 1, 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. L.M. Wooten Desdemona Hwy. 2-12-24-C

HELP WANTED: Ladies to work in picking room at Eaves Bros. Shelling Plant, Gorman, call 734-2491 or 734-2075. 12-3-FNC.

FOR SALE: Washer-Dryer. Washer has leak can be fixed. \$25.00. Dryer, good condition \$40.00. Both for \$55.00. Call 734-2050 after 6:00 p.m. 2-12-24-C

TUCKER AUCTION BARN
Monthly Consignment Sales
FIRST SAT. NIGHT OF EACH MONTH at 7 P. M.
CONSIGNMENTS NEEDED
FRED TUCKER, AUCTIONEER (TXS081-1152)
PHONE 817-629-1956
Approximately 1/2 Mile Off FM2563 in Flatwoods Community

WELCOME TO SERVICES of the GORMAN CHURCH OF CHRIST
ODELL CARTER, Minister
SCHEDULE OF SERVICES
BIBLE CLASS 10:00 a.m.
MORNING WORSHIP 10:45 a.m.
EVENING WORSHIP 6:00 p.m.
THURSDAY LADIES CLASS 10:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY EVENING 7:00 P.M.

FOR SALE: Nice three bedroom house, nice location, fully carpeted, completely remodeled. Shown by appointment only. 734-2417. 9-17-FNC.

FOR SALE: A wood burning stove. Cool to touch cabinet, burns wood or coal, fire brick lined. Cliffa Vaughn. 734-2142. 12-10-FNC.

FOR SALE: Nice building lot in new sub-division. 71 by 212 feet, water well and fruit trees. Tommy Clark. 734-2107. 8-6-FNC.

DR. JIM GRAY
Family Dentist
Office
OPEN 9 TO 5
MONDAY, THURSDAY
and FRIDAY
734-2113
Gorman

Stephen's Studio
DIRECT COLOR
PORTRAITS
PHOTOGRAPHY WORK
Open Tuesday through
Saturday
105 S. Patrick 445-3765

DR. CLAY SALYER
Chiropractor
445-2205
200 E. Blackjack
Dublin, Texas

See Display of Monuments across from Football Stadium
MONUMENTS
Riley-Gardner Memorial --- Hamilton
ERA MAUPIN, Agent
BOX 848 GORMAN

DUBLIN ZERO LOCKER
Dublin, Texas 76446
Phone 817-445-2424

Custom Slaughter And Processing
CHOICE FED BEEF FOR SALE
WHOLE - HALVES - QUARTERS
Jerry Westmoreland, Manager

"Positions open for LVN's for 2:30 to 11 and 10:30 to 7 shifts. Apply in person at Eastland Memorial Hospital, 304 S. Daugherty St., Eastland, Texas 76448. AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER." 5-1-21 C.

FOR SALE: 2 year old Hereford bulls. Ready for service. Call Bob Huddleston, 893-2382 or Harry Huddleston 893-2433. 4-1-14 C.

One cup of uncooked noodles makes about one and three quarters cup of cooked noodles.

Keith - Loudermilk To Wed February 6



Mr. and Mrs. Joe Loudermilk of Stephenville and Mr. and Mrs. Mack Keith of Gorman announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their children, Traci Jo to Larry Scott.

Vows will be read at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, February 6, 1982 in First Baptist Church in Stephenville. All friends and relatives are invited to attend the Wedding and Reception.

FOR SALE
NEW HOME on 2 1/4 Acres
Near City Limits of Gorman
WILL CONSIDER TRADE
SINKEL CONSTRUCTION
817-629-1269 or 629-8539

PUBLIC NOTICE

Texas Electric Service Company, in accordance with the rules of the Public Utility Commission of Texas, hereby gives notice of intent to amend its fuel cost factor tariff schedule to establish a procedure for regulatory approval of certain fuel related expenses prior to those expenses being included in the fuel cost factor portion of monthly bills for electric service. This revision will be effective in areas served by the company on the 13th day of January, 1982, or as soon thereafter as permitted by law.

This revision constitutes an administrative change and is not expected to increase or decrease the rates or the revenues of the company.

A copy of this revision is on file with the Public Utility Commission at Austin, Texas, and with each affected municipality. Copies are also available for inspection in each of the company's business offices.

TEXAS ELECTRIC SERVICE COMPANY

Need a New Roof?
All Types
We Specialize in Hot Topping compositions shingles
ALL Work Guaranteed
Paul Williams Roofing Co.
(817) 639-2330

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Reaching Out, To You!
REV. SAM PARTEE, PASTOR
GORMAN DESDEMONA
School 9:45 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:50 a.m. Every Other Sunday
Worship 5:00 p.m.

FOR SALE: Large group of pictures made by Progress Photographer are available at the Progress Office for 50¢ Each.

BIG J's BOOTS OPEN DAILY THROUGH CHRISTMAS
(DOWNTOWN) GORMAN, TEXAS
Phone 734-2840 Jolene Gilliland, Owner OPEN 9:00 A. M. TO 5:00 P. M.

Christmas Gift SPECIALS

Justin Saddle Antelope
Colors of Grey, Peanut Brittle or Bone
REG. \$139
This week \$119

Larry Mahan's CAPE LEATHER
Russett Color WERE \$137.95 **This week \$125**

JUSTIN LIZARD BOOTS - \$199

LARRY MAHAN PYTHONS - \$169

MEN'S ALL COTTON DENIM SHIRTS REG. \$17.00
Sale \$12.95 or 2 for \$25

HAT BANDS - \$5.00
10 PERCENT OFF - ALL BELTS

MERRY CHRISTMAS
Let happiness and goodwill abound during this most joyous of holidays. We want to wish the best to all of our wonderful friends and patrons.
WE WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, DECEMBER 28

ODDS AND ENDS
TUESDAY STILL AVAILABLE AT PROGRESS OFFICE FOR FIFTY CENTS EACH WHILE THEY LAST.

The ancient Greeks tried to make rain by dipping oak branches in water.

R.N.S. NEEDED
11:00 to 7:00
3:00 to 11:00
Please contact
Kay Moseley, R.N.
Director of Nursing Service
817-442-3951
E.L. Graham
Memorial Hospital
Cisco, Texas.
Equal Opportunity Employer
4-12-24 C.

IKE'S PAINT & BODY
1 1/2 Miles North of Carbon on Hwy. 6
Phone 639-2426
Free Estimates
AUTO GLASS INSTALLED AND INSURANCE CLAIMS PROMPTLY HANDLED.
WE WORK ON AMERICAM AND IMPORTED CARS AND TRUCKS

REYNOLDS MANUFACTURING Co
Customer Service Division

SUNGLAS...
THE ENERGY SAVING GLASS FOR YOUR HOME
105 E 8th - Cisco
442-1380
FREE ESTIMATES

THE PERFECT GIFT

FOR ENTIRE FAMILY
'81 Year for PEANUTS
Send 5 lb. box of raw shelled TEXAS GROWN PEANUTS
To friends and relative anywhere in USA
ONLY \$7.00

Send Check or Money Order Along with this blank to Gorman Chamber of Commerce, Box 266, Gorman, Texas 76454.
ORDERS ARE FOR MAIL ORDER ONLY

Chamber of Commerce
Gorman, Texas 76454
Send To:.....
Street.....
City.....
From:.....
Recipes and Greeting Cards Enclosed

MATRESSES
New and Renovate
Choice of ticking
Choice of firmness.
New innerspring unit
New mattress guaranteee

Western Mattress Co.
1507 Austin Ave.
BROWNWOOD, TEXAS
in Gorman Call Collect
915-646-8944
7-23-fnc.

DR. JIM GRAY
Family Dentist
Office
OPEN 9 TO 5
MONDAY, THURSDAY
and FRIDAY
734-2113
Gorman

WANTED
R.N. and L.V.N. Nurses for 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. shift.
Gorman Blackwell Hospital
Gorman, Texas
734-2294
3-12-FNC.

THE GORMAN PROGRESS
Entered as 2nd Class Mail at the Post Office in Gorman, Texas 76454. Under the Act of March 3, 1878. Published on Thursday at Gorman, Eastland County, Texas 76454.
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Joe Bennett, Publisher
Estelle Craddock, Editor
Lionie Bennett, Asst. Editor and Photographer
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Eastland and Comanche Co. \$6.00 Per Year
All other subscriptions \$8.00 Per Year
Display Rate \$1.10 Per Col. Inch
Classified Advertisements 7 Cents Per Word
Minimum Charge - \$1.40
Card of Thanks - \$1.50

Regular Blood Pressure Clinic Set

West Central Texas Home Health Agency will hold a free Blood Pressure Clinic in the Gorman Hotel Apartments, the second Tuesday of each month from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

The first clinic will be held on Tuesday January 12.

This is a free clinic and everyone is urged to come and get your blood pressure taken.

Royalty Owners Receive 6 Million For '80 Oil & Gas

The sale of Crude Oil and Natural Gas from Eastland County wells in 1980 boosted the county economy and accounted for \$48.8-million of the \$31.2-billion value placed on Texas production last year.

In a report on the economic impact of oil and gas industry operations in the top producing counties of Texas, Dallas-based Texas Mid-Continent Oil & Gas Association said the county

ranked 123rd among Texas' 254 counties on the basis of the value of its marketed petroleum production. This includes condensate and casinghead gas.

The county's wells produced 1.2-million barrels of crude oil, valued at \$26.4-million, and 15.1-million Mcfs of natural gas, valued at \$22.4 million. Owners of royalty in the county received \$6.1 million as their share of the output, the Association said.

"Although crude oil and natural gas production in Texas declined slightly last year from 1979 levels, we in the industry are encouraged by the fact that drilling starts in 1980 were up 16-percent over the previous year," said the Association's chairman, Avery Rush, Jr., of Amarillo. "Since petroleum remains the cornerstone of our state's economy and its tax base, Texas must continue to encourage the development of its energy resources," Rush added.

In addition to paying local, county, and state property taxes, producers in the county also supported state government through production tax payments estimated at \$2.9 million, according to the Association. Crude oil taxes amounted to \$1.2 million while natural gas levies totalled \$1.7-million.

Based on Texas Employment Commission figures, some 553 oil and gas industry employees in the county received wages of about \$6.6-million in 1980.

In the search for new petroleum reserves in the county, oil and gas operators spent a reported \$37-million in the drilling of 377 wells, including 36 wildcat, or exploratory, wells. This effort resulted in the completion of 199 oil wells and 40 gas gas wells, although some \$2.9 million was lost in the drilling of 138 dry holes. As of March 1, 1981, there were 1,292 producing wells

in the county; 948 oil and 344 gas.

Petroleum processing also contributed to the county economy, with six natural gasoline plants, having a total capacity of 30.8 million cubic feet of natural gas, in operation.

GORMAN PROGRESS, DECEMBER 24, 1981

The total amount of tea Americans drink is only one-tenth of the amount of coffee that gets drunk each year.

CAROUSEL GIFT SHOP

HWY. 6 EAST 734-2881 GORMAN

COMPLETE LINE OF GIFTS FOR SHOWERS - BIRTHDAYS & CHRISTMAS

Lay Away for Christmas

MEN'S - WOMEN'S & CHILDREN'S

FAMOUS BRANDS' GIFTS

by Hoyle, Play Skool, Mattel, Fisher-Price, Milton Bradley, Tonka and Daisy and Much, Much More.

OPEN MONDAY THRU FRIDAY - 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

SATURDAY - 10 a. m. to 4 p. m.

REGISTER FOR A 2 FT. STUFFED SANTA

RETAIL VALUE \$40 (You may register with each purchase)

open till 9 p. m. on Monday nights, Dec. 14 & 21



Joy and peace

Tolling Christmas messages of love and inspiration. Hear the music of hope and faith renewed!

Merry Christmas

FROM THE MANAGEMENT AND ALL EMPLOYEES AT

BLACKWELL HOSPITAL

Merry Christmas



HAVE YOURSELF A GREAT HOLIDAY.

ARTISTIC BEAUTY SALON

CHRISTMAS Greetings

To all of the residents of Gorman, comes this message of Peace and Goodwill. May you have a very Merry Christmas and a bright New Year.

Mayor Charlie L. Garrett and Oma Dee



Greetings

In the spirit of Christmas may hope, joy and peace come again to all nations and to all mankind.

We will be Open Christmas Day. The Deli will be Closed Christmas Day.

HENDERSON'S QUICKWAY GROCERY & DELI

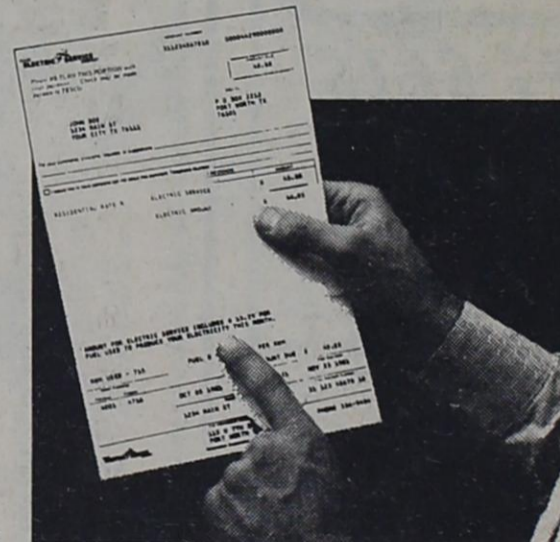
The cost of fuel. And why it affects your electric bill now more than ever.

When we say "fuel" at Texas Electric, we mean the fuel that we use to make your electricity—primarily natural gas and lignite coal.

The cost of fuel is a necessary part of the cost of making electricity. Next year all the fuels we use will cost more, especially natural gas. This is partly because an old contract for low-cost natural gas expires at the end of this year. The gas provided by that contract will have to be replaced with gas selling at the "going rate," which is about 15 times as much as we now pay under the contract.

We buy all our fuels at the lowest price available.* We charge our customers exactly what we have to pay for fuel. And we show the amount for "fuel" on your bill each month.

If you'd like more information about the fuels it takes to make your electricity, give us a call. At Texas Electric, we want you to understand what you're paying for.



*With completion of our Comanche Peak plant, the use of nuclear fuel will help hold down the increasing cost of our fuels.

Texas Electric Service Company

D. R. ARMSTRONG, Manager, Phone 893-2266

KOKOMO NEWS

By Zelda Jordan

Glenn joins me in wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and God's blessings in the New Year.

The Primary and Junior Sunday School Classes, under the direction of Mrs. Jim Andrews, presented the Christmas program at the Kokomo Baptist Church on Wednesday night, December 16 giving scripture readings of the birth of Christ, and singing Christmas hymns accompanied by Mrs. Bill Brown on the piano, to give us the true meaning of Christmas.

Woodrow Browning, with Mrs. Brown at the piano, led the congregation in the singing of two Christmas hymns, and then as Mrs. Brown played "Here Comes Santa Claus", Santa appeared to the delight of the youngsters and adults bringing bags of fruit and candy for everyone. After visits with the children and many of the adults, he helped pass out gifts from under the beautifully decorated tree, and then as everyone sang "Jingle Bells" Santa bid all a very Merry Christmas as he went out the door.

Following the program and gift exchange, a sandwich, chip and dip, and desert

supper was enjoyed by all in the fellowship hall.

Mrs. Joe Bond rendered the special music on the organ at the Kokomo Baptist Church on Sunday morning, Mr. G. W. Maxfield of Gorman was a visitor. It was good to have Mel Maxfield of Arlington and Mike Blakney of Stephenville back with us.

OPEN HOUSE

Rev. and Mrs. Jim Andrews, Jim Don and Billy were hosts to members of the Kokomo Baptist Church and friends for a Christmas Open House at their home on Sunday, December 20 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Punch and decorated miniature cakes were served from the dining table that was covered with a Christmas tablecloth and centered with a candle and Christmas greenery. Crystal appointments were used. A large crowd attended.

Enjoying an early Christmas visit with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Joiner on Saturday December 19 were Billie Jeanne Grisham, Kathy, Mike, and Shana Skaggs, Ennis and Nina Joiner, David, Linda, Dianna and Janice Glover, Stephen, Betty, David and Mary Beth

Joiner of Abilene, Lucille Dillard of De Leon, Howard, Barbara and Julie Joiner of Arlington, and Ernie, Joyce, Cliff and Sharla Bramlett of Stephenville.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hendricks were visiting with Mrs. Floyd Wood at Carbon on Thursday.

Mrs. Letha Rogers was rushed by ambulance to the Eastland Memorial Hospital on Friday suffering from what was thought to be a stroke, but she was reported to be much better on Saturday. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Those from Kokomo attending the Christmas Party at the Gorman Care Center on Sunday afternoon were Mrs. Berniece Rodgers, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hendricks, Mr. and Mrs. Cullen Rodgers, Mrs. Bill Brown and Glenn Jordan. Albert Hendricks rendered several piano selections at the party.

Several from Kokomo attended the 50th Anniversary receptions in Gorman on Sunday afternoon for Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Higginbottom and Mr. and Mrs. Hulon Lasater.

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Press Points

Joe Bennett, Publisher

The first day of winter broke out as a pretty day and warmer than if had been a few days before. In fact it got darn cold there for a couple of days and most folks had thought they were living in Siberia or Alaska. No snow but plenty of cold, cold weather. As the old saying goes: "It was long john time there for awhile."

But the first day of winter cleared out after being rather damp and foggy and turned into a great day. Maybe our winter is over now till Spring.

Guess most folks noticed the GREAT price we were trying to sell Jay's eggs for in last weeks paper. Sorry, James, I bet you had a big run on eggs though! We will

try to do better this week.

So folks, if James told you we guffed on the price, he was right.

—J—

Well we have some bad news along with the good this week. Beginning with the first issue in January the cost per column inch of advertising in the Progress will increase 10 cents to a total of \$1.20. We regret having to do this but with the ever increasing cost of publishing and printing and the increase in postage every time you turn around we are forced to increase our prices to help offset our cost. We are still below the average cost per column inch for our region and try to hold the line as much as we can, but we must increase the cost of advertising to stay ahead of the wolves.

Also we will go to a cash basis on our classified ads. By the time we have to fix out statements and mail them, most of the profit is eaten up. So starting with the January 7th issue all classified ads

except for business firms will be on a cash basis.

The price of Notes of Thanks will remain the same and we will still publish pictures and announcements of anniversaries, etc. at no cost, unless we have to make the picture. Then there will be a small fee for taking the picture to cover cost of the film and developing.

—J—

We hope for everyone the brightest, merriest happiest Christmas you have ever had and hope and pray that the Good Lord has been as good to you and yours as he has been to me and my family this year. May the best of all things come your way now and throughout the New Year ahead.

—J—

Thanks to the fine advertisers for supporting our Christmas edition so well. We have great backing from our advertisers and we sincerely appreciate it and hope that you will tell them you appreciate their support for your paper, because without

HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES AND AUXILIARY ENJOY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Blackwell Hospital was host for a Christmas dinner and party for the employees, and hospital auxiliary, and their families on Thursday, December 17.

The gala event was held in the Senior Citizens Center with some 112 people in attendance. The dining area was beautifully decorated by Lisa Cornwell and her helpers.

The dinner consisting of turkey and dressing, ham, and fried chicken, salads, vegetables, and all kinds of special desserts was catered by the Colony Restaurant in Cisco.

Brent Foster entertained the group during the dinner hour with a medley of songs, accompanied by himself on the advertisers publishing the Progress would be an impossible task.

—J—
And remember to smile -- because God Loves You!

BUSINESS HOUSES TO BE CLOSED DECEMBER 25

All business houses will be closed Friday December 25 in observance of Christmas Day. Henderson's Quickway Grocery and Dell, Bob's Grocery will be open on Christmas Day.

—GP—

New York state leads the nation in percentage space devoted to state parks. Much of the thanks goes to a crusade by Theodore Roosevelt, who established the national park system.

the guitar. Christmas carols were sung by the group after dinner.

Highlight of the evening was the exchanging of gag gifts, and the appearance of Santa Claus (Billie Lightfoot) who greeted everyone and presented the gifts.

Mr. Ken Moyer, Hospital Administrator, served as Master of Ceremonies. He was presented a gift by the Hospital employees.

Invocation was given by Mayor, Charlie Garrett.



Merry Christmas

In celebration of this season so serenely beautiful, we gather together to express our profound gratitude for your faith and friendship.

We hope your holiday is filled with the joy that comes from sharing its bright blessings with those you love.

Last Minute Gift Ideas



FASHION BAGS
Many Styles



Christmas Gifts for Men
big selection! great values!



Gift Knits

LASATER'S
DEPARTMENT STORE
(DOWNTOWN) GORMAN, TEXAS

GIFTS WRAPPED FREE

GIVE A Fine Watch

For a Perfect Gift,
See our Wide Selection of Watches
CARAVELLE
by Bulova
LARGE SELECTION
Ladies & Men's
GET AN EXTRA YEAR WARRANTY FOR \$1.50
Men's & Ladies Twist-on
WATCH BANDS
from \$2.95
and
ID BRACELETS
by SPIDEL
NECK CHAINS
from \$4.05
in Sterling and Gold Filled

Appeal to Her "Scentses"
GIVE PERFUME

COTY GIFT SETS
COLOGNE SPRAY
POWDER
& PERFUME

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Gay and festive times to all in the holidays ahead!

We will Close at 12 Noon Sat., Dec. 26

GORMAN PHARMACY
George Simmons, Pharmacist
734-2859 GORMAN

WE WISH YOU

We wish you the merriest Christmas of all. Thank you for your patronage.

BOB'S GROCERY

Greetings

Christmas warmth and Christmas cheer,
We extend to you this time of year.

GILMORE AUTO CENTER



Cash For Classifieds Policy Coming Jan. 7

Advance payment will soon be required for all classified advertising in The Gorman Progress, except for business accounts. Continuing increases in postage and other billing

costs, added to losses experienced through failure of some individuals to pay their bills, have made the policy necessary. It will take effect beginning with the January 7, 1982, issue.

James Griffin Laid To Rest Sunday

EASTLAND — James Dee Griffin, 87, of Carbon, a retired farmer, died at 1:10 p.m. Friday December 18, 1981 at Eastland Memorial Hospital. Services were at 2:30 Sunday at Edwards Funeral Home.

The Rev. Lee Fields officiated, assisted by the Rev. Dewaine Clower of Mangum Baptist Church in Carbon. Burial was at Murray Cemetery.

Born September 1, 1894, in Mississippi, he married Moss Willhite April 18, 1915, in Clarksville, Tenn. She died October 14, 1976. He farmed in Carbon from 1939

until his retirement in 1964. Survivors include four sons, J. D. Jr. of Carbon, Houston of Andrews, John A. of Cleburne, and Jimmy of Las Vegas, Nev.; eight daughters, Juldine Singleton of Azle, Florene Emmert of Talihina, Okla., Allene Warden of Las Vegas, Nev., Earnestine Casey and Josephine Casey, both of Fort Worth, Irene Miles and Waldine Stevenson, both of Carbon, and Juline Segler of Ranger; 48 grandchildren; 47 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

Cecil Robertson To Mark 50th Ann.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Robertson will be honored on Saturday, January 2, 1982 from 2:00 to 5:00 P.M. with a 50th Wedding Anniversary reception at the Senior Citizens Building.

Hosting the reception will be the couple's children, Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn (Mozelle) Boucher, of Dublin; Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Robertson, of Odessa; Mr. and Mrs. George (Frances) Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Howard (Patricia) Hagood, Mr. and Mrs. Donnie (Nelda) Mauney, and Mr. and Mrs. Billy Fred (Mary) Jeffs. Also hosting the reception will be their 23 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and 3 step great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Robertson is Neva Lee Wood, daughter of the late William A. and Molly Wood. Mr. Robertson is the son of the late Albert J. and Eva Lena Robertson.

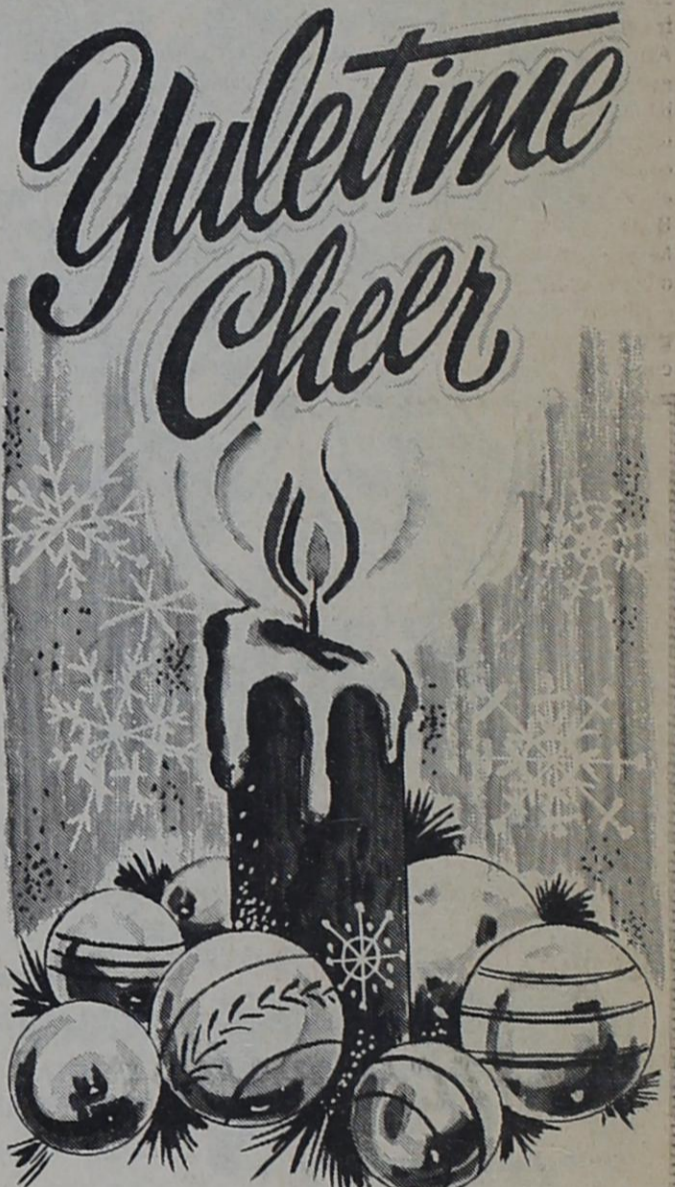
Mr. Robertson worked 28 years in oil field work and later ran the Gulf Station in Gorman and has spent 17 years with Southwestern Peanut Growers Association, even though he is suppose to be retired, he seems to always have a job. The Robertsons have lived in Gorman since 1949.

No gifts please, only your presence, or your thoughts and prayers, if you are unable to attend.



May the joys of this Christmas season rekindle cherished memories, and fill your heart with great happiness.

TODD'S VARIETY



WARM WISHES FOR A HAPPY, BLESSED CHRISTMAS SEASON

A. O. EASLEY, INC.



K&W GARAGE & STATION



BUNDLES OF JOY TO YOU.

From Everyone at DOCTORS CLINIC



10% OFF SALE Thru DEC. 31

PRIZE WINNERS

- 1st. - Luxo Adjustable Lamp - Janda Taylor
- 2nd. - Select Art Plant Holder - Shirley Burns
- 3rd. - Marks Scissors - Willie Page
- 4th. - Wiss Thread Clips - Marie Patty
- 5th. - Buttonhole Cutter - Bonnie Wolfenbarger

HOUSE OF JOY SPECIALS

IN THE BUILDING NEXT DOOR TO GORMAN INSURANCE AGENCY
OPEN MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY - 9 a. m. To 5:30 p. m.
JOY CAMPBELL, Owner PATSY EVANS, Seamstress

NOW! TODAY! DIAL FM 97!

24 Hours Of FM Stereo Radio Everyday!

a Christmas Wish

LET US HOLD THIS SERENE AND SACRED DAY WITH ITS BRIGHT, SHINING HOURS, DREAMS COME TRUE AND SPECIAL MEMORIES, FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS. WE PAUSE TO SAY THANKS FOR YOUR FRIENDSHIP AND LOYALTY, AND TO HOPE YOU CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS IN THE WARM AND LOVING EMBRACE OF YOUR FAMILY.

KVMX-FM 97 NBC Radio

629-8585
2010 W. Commerce - Eastland
"The Voice of The Microplex"

P.S.
We Suggest A New FM Stereo Radio For That Perfect Christmas Gift!



THE GIFTS OF JOY AND PEACE, BE YOURS AS WE CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF A CHILD AT BETHLEHEM.

COMMUNITY TV CABLE

THIS CHRISTMAS, GIVE THE SECRET OF YOUR GREAT LOOKING HAIR.

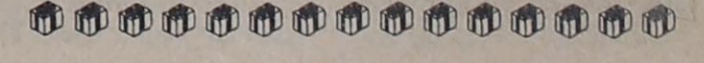
This Christmas season you can really make the most of your beauty salon visit. For our holiday customers we're providing a special service that offers both styling and shopping conveniences at the same time.

You can purchase a hairstyling gift certificate and share the secret and beauty of your great-looking hair. Or choose from a host of scientifically formulated Redken® beauty products, our professional's choice for hair and skin care.

So make the holidays a little more special for you and your loved ones. Come into our salon today for that holiday hair style you've been wanting. And solve your gift-giving worries too. Remember, a gift of beauty goes a long way.

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THE BEAUTY PARLOUR
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RUCKER, TEXAS
OPEN WEDNESDAY THRU FRIDAY
Late Appointments Taken



CARBON NEWS

By Mrs. Bob Hasting

639-2517

Winter weather came in with a bang last week. The temperature had risen by Sunday morning but with fog

so thick one hardly realized it.

Remember the Blood Pressure Check to be in the fellowship hall of Baptist Church next Tuesday, December 29, at 10:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Collins honored

them with a dinner at Underwood's in Brownwood on their fiftieth Wedding Anniversary December 13. Their children present were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Little of Kokomo, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Sandlin of Carbon; Mr. and Mrs. Jim West of McGregor; seven of their eight grandchildren and some friends and Mrs. Ima Boles of Houston attended.

In the School Election last Thursday there were over two hundred votes cast. Proposition 1, 187 Voted No; 42 Voted Yes. Proposition 2, 188 Voted No and 41 Voted Yes.

Mr. and Mrs. Doug Kelly of Graham spent Saturday with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Lee Fields.

Walter J. Greer of Manhattan, Kansas is visiting his mother Mrs. Mabel Greer during the holidays. Sunday visitors in the home were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mayo, Kim and Todd, Mrs. Joydene Oliver of Irving, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Justice, Mrs. Madge Burgess and Shane of Carbon.

Visiting Mrs. Lona Abbott during the weekend were Mr. and Mrs. Don Jordon, Vickie and Sandra of Odessa, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Prson of Everman, Fleicha and

MRS. CLAUDE FULLER HOST STUDENT CHRISTMAS PARTY

Piano students of Mrs. Claude Fuller met at her home for their Christmas Party, Saturday, December 12.

Games were played, gifts exchanged, and refreshments were served to Kevin Hirst, Tommy Curb, Greg George, William Skaggs, Jodi Gibbs, Stacey Slampa, Sandra Farley and Jennifer Pounds.

Students not attending were Kent Bridges, Charlotte Owen, Neil and

Susan Horton of Fort Worth. Mr. and Mrs. James Smith and family were visiting in Abilene and shopping on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Palmer Stokes visited Mrs. Robert Huffstetter of Stephenville on Friday.

Mrs. Billie Daniel of Odessa spent the weekend with her mother, Mrs. Bess Green.

Visiting Mrs. Ruth Reese during the weekend were Mr. and Mrs. Dean Turner of Levelland, Mrs. Paula Hines, Bren and Carria of Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Turner and Michael of Waco.

Janis Pounds, Renee Rainey, Jim Don Andrews, Kelley Branch, Nella V. Stewart, and Mary Crenshaw.

Others attending were Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Skaggs, and Walter and Amy Farley.



Alfalfa roots sometimes grow to a depth of 30 feet.

YULETIDE CHEER



We wish you a Merry Christmas and a New Year full of joy and peace.



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CLOSE AT NOON SATURDAY

MERRY CHRISTMAS * JOYEUX ROEL *



Joy to the world in this Christmas season. May the blessings of the day reach into every heart.

GORMAN EXXON

MERRY CHRISTMAS * JOYEUX ROEL *



Tell Again the Timeless Story of Bethlehem. Let Men of Faith and Good Will Gather Together in the Spirit of Peace and Brotherhood for Soon the Bells of Christmas Day will Ring Again the Message of Hope to the World.

COMANCHE COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY

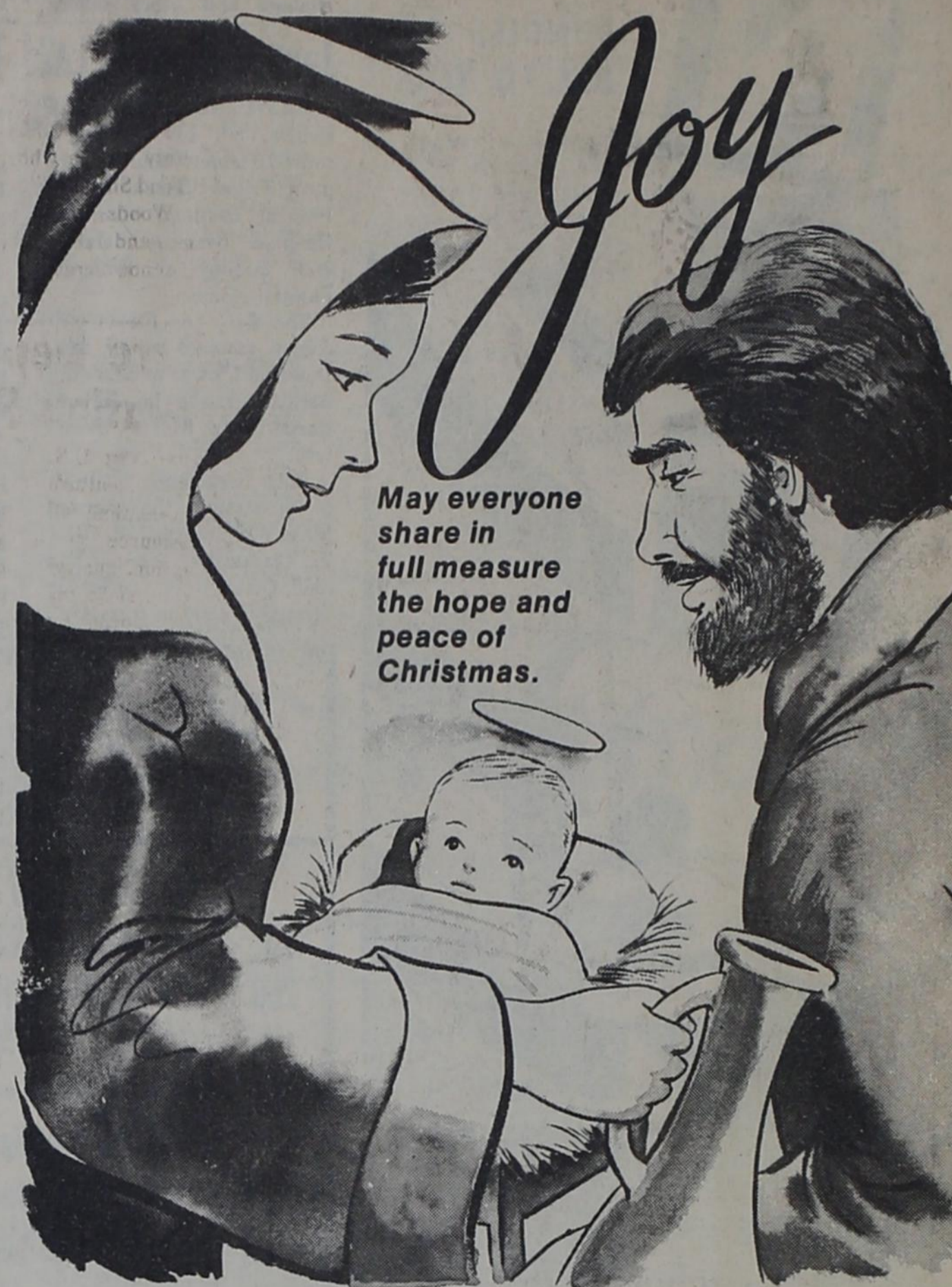


Merry Christmas

To All Of Our Friends.

Cook Insurance Agency, Inc.

Wallace & Julia Cook
Joe Locke - Linda Waller

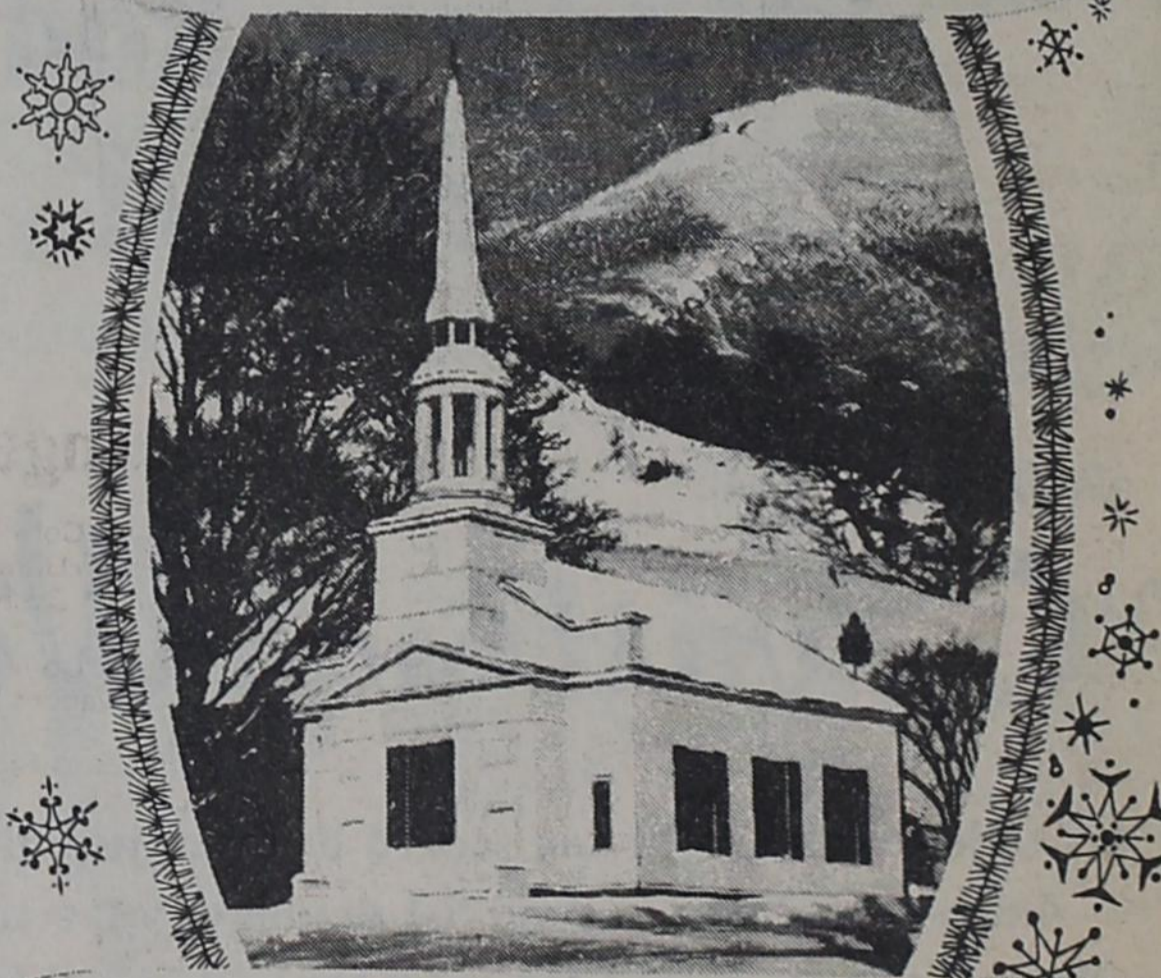


May everyone share in full measure the hope and peace of Christmas.

FAMILY MEDICAL CENTER
Dr. Susan Callaway and Staff

Dr. Callaway will be on Christmas Vacation December 23-24-25

Merry Christmas



When we count our blessings at Christmas time we think of friends like you and wish you a beautiful holiday in a beautiful world!



BIRDSONG PEANUTS

SELLERS AND CRUSHERS OF PEANUTS
817-734-2266 P. O. Box 498
GORMAN, TEXAS 76454

IT'S CHRISTMAS

(our favorite holiday)



Season's Greetings

GORMAN INSURANCE AGENCY

734-2312

GORMAN



Eastland County 4-Hers who recently participated in the District — 4-H Food Show in Stephenville are: (front row, left to right) Laura Woods, Sue Ann Osborne, Julie Weathers, Lori Ann Speagle, and Jikki Pickens. (Back row, left to right) Darla Cagle, Shannon Caraway, Leanne Brown, Robin White and Patri Spurien.

Agriculture Dept. Announces Conservation Program

(Editor's Note: The U.S. Department of Agriculture has identified the critical soil and water resource problems of the nation, analyzed them, and proposed a national conservation program to address them. This is the last in a series of three articles that outlines the conservation problems, trends and analyses, and the proposed national program.)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announces a proposed national conservation program to deal with the serious resource conservation problems ahead for American agriculture.

Four points highlight the program, according to Ron Bailey, district conservationist, Soil Conservation Service (SCS), at Eastland are:

- Setting soil and water conservation priorities;
- Strengthening the role of local and state governments in conservation planning;
- Increasing budget coordination and cooperation between USDA agencies; and
- Targeting more USDA conservation assistance to critical problems and areas.

This program is the proposed response to the Congress required by the Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act of 1977 (RCA), reports Bailey. It is based on an extensive appraisal of the condition of the nation's soil and water resources and an analysis of future trends.

Highest national priority in the proposed conservation program is reducing soil erosion to maintain the long-term productivity of agricultural land. Second priority is reducing flood damages in upstream areas. Other priority activities are conserving water and improving water supply and quality, community-related conservation, improving fish and wildlife habitat, and increasing the use of organic waste.

Strengthening the relationship between land owners or users and government at all levels is a principal feature of the proposed program. This would include having local conservation coordinating boards identify critical resource problem areas, set priorities and develop programs for action. Local boards would be based on the existing organizations—conservation district boards, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) committees, extension advisory boards and others. State boards would be organized along similar lines. A national board also would be set up to advise the Secretary of Agriculture.

The relationship between the state government and the federal government would also be strengthened through an agreement signed by the governor and Secretary of Agriculture to establish cooperative activities and through federal block grants.

The program is the USDA response to the Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act of 1977 (RCA). SCS and Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service offices throughout the state have a supply of the leaflet that summarizes the program and that contains a pre-addressed, postage-paid response form.

The offices also have a reference copy of the full report of the program and draft environmental impact statement.

Other features of the program include targeting USDA conservation dollars and people to critical areas; promoting tax incentives for conservation systems; targeting research, education and information toward the most critical problems; and setting up pilot projects to test new solutions to conservation problems. Current programs would continue.

Details of the new program are presented in the RCA Revised Draft Program Report and Environmental Impact Statement available for reference use at SCS and Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service offices throughout the state. The two USDA offices also have leaflets that summarize the program that contain a pre-addressed, postage-paid, response form.

Comments on the proposed new program are encouraged. They must be mailed to George C. Marks, SCS State Conservationist, P.O. Box 648, Temple, Texas 76703 before January 15, 1982.

Leanne Brown & Phil Osborne-4H Gold star winners

Every year the Eastland County 4-H has outstanding 4-Hers selected for the 4-H Gold Star awards. This year two very special young people were chosen for this award. They are Leanne Brown and Phil Osborne.

Leanne is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawson Brown of Eastland, Texas. She has been a member of the Eastland Happy-Go-Getters 4-H Club for four years and has been a member of various committees. Leanne has been involved in foods and nutrition, clothing, and meats identification. She has also been active in the Garden Show, County Fair and the Eastland County Pecan Show. In 1979, Leanne received her club's outstanding 4-Her award and received the "I Dare You" award for 1980.

Phil is an eight year member of the Gorman 4-H Club in Gorman, Texas. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Philip Osborne. Phil's projects include sheep, swine, poultry, electricity, crops, and dairy judging. He was an active 4-Her in Indiana where he exhibited the Grand Champion Hen at the Indiana 4-H Fair. In Texas he was the top senior 4-Her in his local club and also won the "I Dare You" award. While in 4-H, Phil held the office of vice-president, alternate council delegate and was a member of the Program Committee.

Mrs. Bill Holliday of Throckmorton visited Friday with Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Holliday and they all attended the wedding of Ed Cox and Jalyne Dorsett on Friday night in First Baptist Church in Gorman.

X-Mas Trees

A quarter of a century ago, as many as 10 million evergreens were being harvested off farm woodlands to provide Christmas trees.



We Come Again to the Season of Christmas and the Minds of Men Turn Aside Centuries to Recall the Ever-constant Story of the Holy Birth at Bethlehem. We Wish to One and All the Joy and Peace of this Greatest Holiday.

SOUTHWESTERN PEANUT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

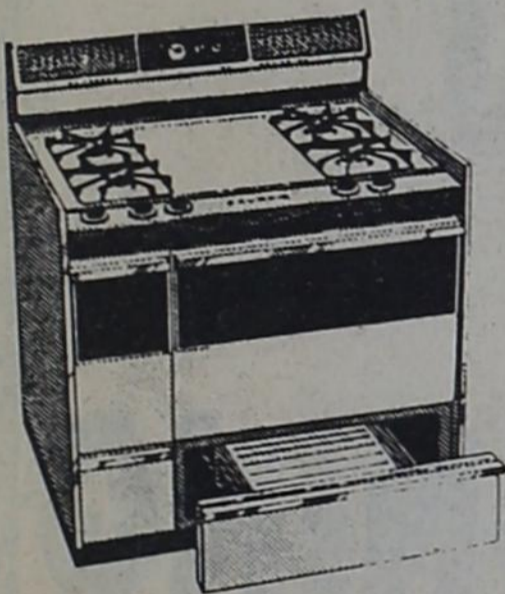
KOSS WILSON, Manager

GORMAN, TEXAS 76454

* MERRY CHRISTMAS * JOYEUX NOEL *

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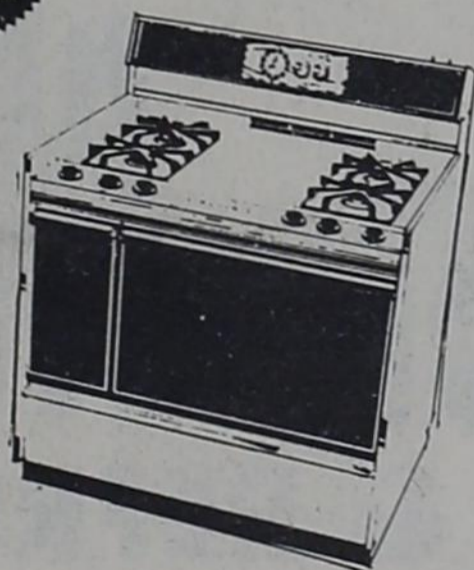


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734-2227 - GORMAN

Merry Christmas

Glad tidings and warmest greetings! We're wishing you nothing but the best. We're happy to have you for our friends!

WE WILL BE CLOSED DECEMBER 25 & 26



CHRISTMAS-

... The most wonderful time of the year ... the birthday of Jesus Christ ... the hope of the world. May the spirit of this holiday touch us all.



AND REJOICE!



FIRST NATIONAL BANK

Gorman, Texas 76454



* MERRY CHRISTMAS * JOYEUX NOEL *

Analyze Your Peanut 'Game'

COLLEGE STATION — Peanut farmers must give careful attention to production costs, marketing and financing as they look to the 1982 crop.

Dr. Ashley Lovell, an agricultural economist, suggests a "postgame" evaluation of previous peanut crops to help growers mold a successful game plan for next season. "Look at your operation field by field or use some other measure, such as dryland versus irrigated, in your postgame analysis," suggested Lovell, who is part of the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. "Determine which fields or systems are profitable and eliminate those that are losers year in and year out."

When projecting production costs, remember that lower-than-average yields or significant increases in input prices will raise the break-even price, he added.

"If the peanut market is depressed in 1982, plan on growing peanuts in the short run as long as the price covers variable costs and no better alternative is available for the resources devoted to peanuts," he said.

Variable costs include expenses for items such as seed, fertilizer, insecticides, herbicides, machinery and labor. They are influenced by annual usage of tractors and equipment. This depends on the total acres of cropland over which the machinery is spread. Land rental agreements also influence fixed costs, Lovell said.

Assuming an increase in market price risk and continuous high production costs and interest rates, producers may want to share risks with landlords, he added. This would reduce the operating capital requirement, interest expenses, and price and yield risks.

Of course, what the peanut market outlook is should be a major factor in deciding whether or not to grow peanuts in 1982, Lovell said.

However, marketing strategies might include forward contracting a portion of the crop to cover variable costs, studying crop reports and other supply and demand indicators, maintaining close contact with the market and with what local buyers are willing to offer, and using farm and association storage for more orderly marketing.

With careful planning in developing a sound plan, peanut growers can take considerable uncertainty out of their 1982 crop, Lovell said.

Rites for A. V. Littlefield on Monday

EASTLAND — Arthur V. Littlefield, 86, of Eastland, formerly of Gorman, died at 2:50 p.m. Saturday December 19, 1981 in Eastland Memorial Hospital after a long illness. Services were held at 2 p.m. Monday at the Bakker Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Jim Hooten, pastor of the First Baptist Church officiating, assisted by the Rev. Joe O'Neal.

Burial was at the De Leon Cemetery with the Rev. Darrell Dossey officiating.

He was born August 1, 1895, at Sipe Springs. He married Murrel Pounds on April 20, 1924, in Carbon. He was a retired farmer and moved to Gorman in 1945. He then moved to Eastland in 1980. He was member of the First Baptist Church of Eastland, a member of Woodmen of the World, a World War I veteran.

He is survived by his wife; and a sister, Buna Hein of

Gravesides Rites For Ray Knight Set For Wed.

Joseph Ray Knight, 57, of Buchanan Dam, died Sunday December 20, 1981.

Graveside rites will be held at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday at Elm Cemetery.

Ray was born June 28, 1934. He was a retired carpenter.

He is survived by his wife, Linda of the home; one daughter, Debbie Lynn Knight of Houston; two sisters, Opal Smith of McGregor and Gladys McMullen of Weslaco.

NEWS

D. L. Clark of Comfort spent the weekend with his father D. R. Clark who is a patient in Blackwell and with Mrs. D. R. Clark.

Dora Priddy and Mr. and Mrs. James Thompson of Gustine visited Saturday with their sister, Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Clark.

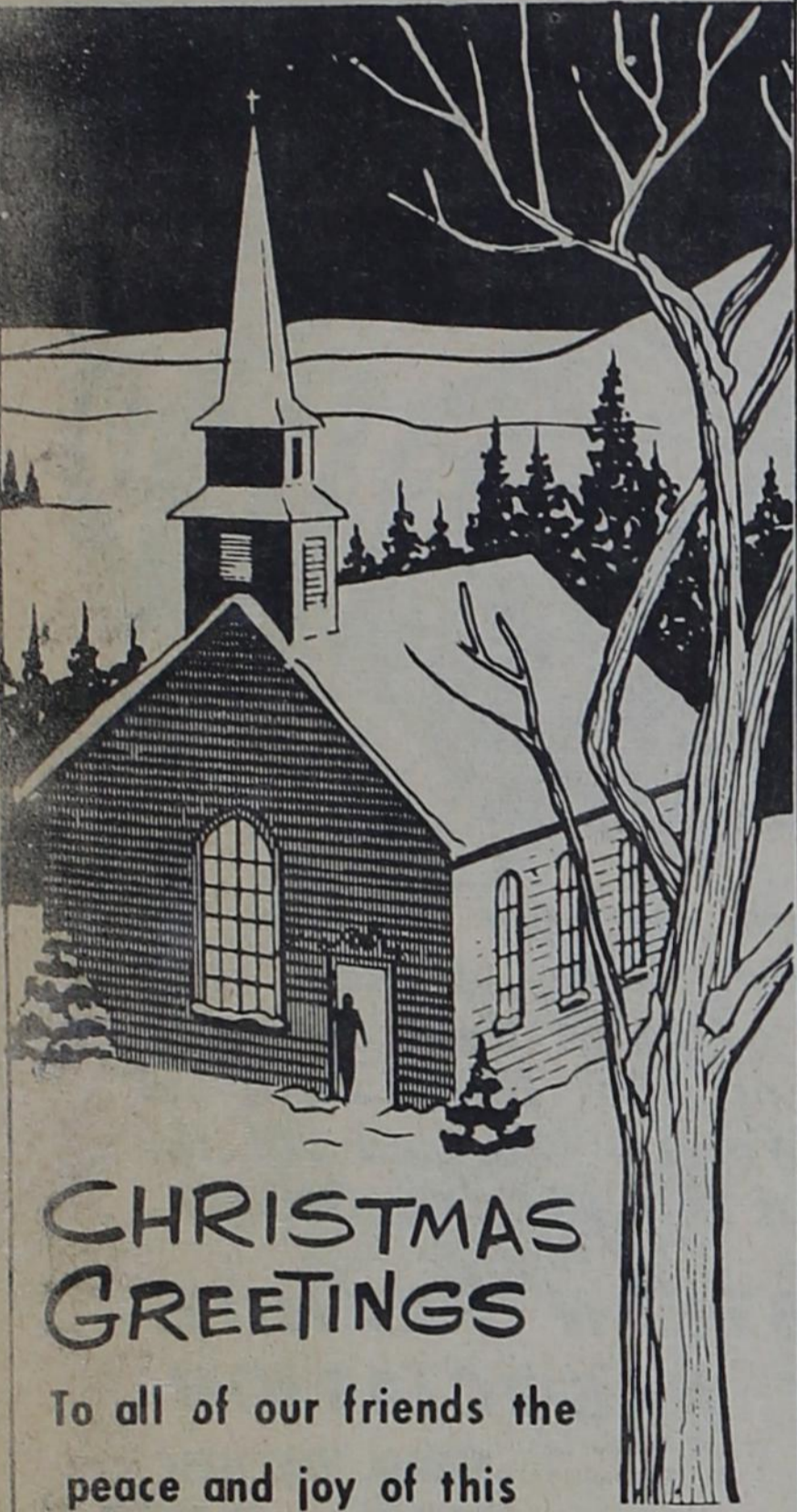
Pallbearers were E. C. Ragland, Truett Bean, M. H. Osburn, John Nevill, Alton Stiles and Lee Graham.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Garrett and Velma Bennett attended the Cantata at the First United Methodist Church in De Leon on Sunday night.

ROCK CONCERT TO BE HELD IN EASTLAND DECEMBER 26

A rock concert featuring Cruise Control will be held from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Saturday December 26, sponsored by KVMX — FM 97 NBC

Radio. The concert will be held in the parking lot around the Radio Station. The concert is free and there will be free drinks and prizes. Everyone is invited to attend this event.



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

To all of our friends the peace and joy of this beautiful season.

FOSTER FLORAL

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Foster
Phone 734-2519 GORMAN

Block Fends Off Stockman

WASHINGTON (AP) — Agriculture Secretary John R. Block has won a skirmish with budget director David A. Stockman, who wanted to cut spending for "several important areas" affecting farmers and consumers, a source said Monday.

One victory was the scrapping of a Stockman plan to impose user fees on slaughter plants and processors to pay for the costs of federal meat inspection, the source said.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM AT GORMAN CARE CENTER

Christmas is a time for giving and sharing our love with others. To make the day brighter for residents of Gorman Care Center, the Homemakers Class of First Baptist Church, did just this by presenting each lady and man with a gift, Thursday afternoon, December 17.

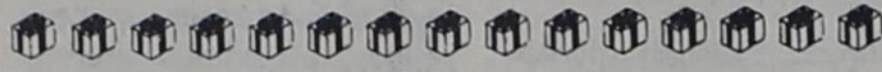
For the entertainment, the Children's Choir of the First Baptist Church, under the direction of Mrs. Juanita Fuller and Mrs. June Dossey pianist, gave a most enjoyable program of Christmas Carols for the residents. The residents were invited to participate by joining in the singing of Jingle Bells.

Refreshments of Red Punch and delicious cookies were served to the residents and choir members. Mrs. Ava Rodgers and Mrs. Berenice Rodgers helped with the serving also.

BENNETT FAMILY HOLD CHRISTMAS GET TOGETHER

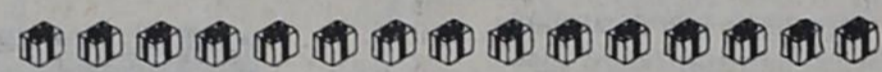
Mrs. Ruby Bennett had all of her children and some of her grandchildren home Saturday night for an early Christmas Family get to-

gether. Some say it's best to plant potatoes on starry nights.



'Tis the Season for warmest Christmas greetings to be extended to all.

GORMAN CARE CENTER GORMAN, TEXAS



gether.

Those enjoying a bountiful dinner and exchanging of gifts were: Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Bennett of Eastland, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bennett and Mark of Cleburn, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bennett and Debra of Weatherford, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Bennett of Gorman and other grandchildren, and great-grandchildren were Joetta and James Schuman of Eastland, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bennett, Chris of Dallas and Mr. and Mrs. Gary Bennett and Brady Don of Cleburn. Also visiting that night was Velma Bennett of Gorman.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our thanks to the nurses, and to Dr. L. Aguila for the good care given my husband, Ernest Barnes, while he was in Blackwell Hospital. We are grateful for friends, phone calls, and especially for the prayers, and other acts of kindness shown us during the time he was in the hospital.

May God richly bless each of you.

The Ernest Barnes Family, and The John Claitor Family —GP—

BLACKWELL HOSPITAL REPORT

Patients listed in Blackwell Hospital on Tuesday December 22 were:

- D. R. Clark Gorman
- Alvis Stanley Gorman
- Gussie Sanders Gorman
- Ray Burns Gorman
- Ernest Barnes Gorman
- Mary Sutton Gorman
- Walter Greenhaw Gorman

- Desdemona Eula Robbins Gorman
- Ray Rankin Gorman
- Kayla Noel Gorman
- L. E. Sharp Gorman
- J. D. Rodgers Gorman
- Willie Barrett Gorman

Patients dismissed on December 16 are:

- John Howard
- December 18: Louise Pounds
- Ida Lewis
- Runy Haynes

Season's Greetings

FROM ALL OF US

WISHING FOR ALL OF YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR 1982

In The Hustle And Bustle Of Business, With Its' Saving and Slaving Grind, We Are To Apt To Credit Success, To The Works Of Our Own Hands And Mind - But - We Pause At This Goodwill Season - To Give Credit Where Credit Is Due - To Thankfully Say That Our Progress - Is From The Friendship Of Just Such Folks As You.

Yes - Just Such Folks As You (Our Devoted Customers And Friends) Are Responsible For Our Being Able To Have Been With You For The Past 57 Years, And On The Same Corner of Kent And Ross Streets For The Past 50 Years.

For This Privilege, We Are Very Grateful To All Of You.

SMITH BROS. CHEVROLET COMPANY

W. C. (Check) Smith and Geo. L. (Bud) Smith

SALES  SERVICE

(The Oldest Chevrolet Dealership in Eastland County)

WE WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAY & SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25-26



J & J AIR CONDITIONING HEATING & REFRIGERATION

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Service All Makes



Owner, James Schuman

Season's Greetings

The Story of Old Scrooge

ADAPTED FROM A CHRISTMAS CAROL
IN PROSE
BY CHARLES DICKENS



With a wife and three children to support, Bob Cratchit hardly made enough money as a clerk in the firm of Scrooge and Marley. When Marley died, Scrooge, his sole administrator, retained the firm's name and continued the business. Scrooge was tight-fisted and grasping. He was also untrusting. One particular Christmas Eve, as Cratchit sat busily copying letters in his cold, drab little corner, he was mindful of the fact that Scrooge, in his counting room nearby, had left open the door in order to keep a cautious eye on his employe.



When the hour for closing arrived at the counting-house, Scrooge grumpily stopped his money-counting, dismounted from his stool and told his clerk, Bob Cratchit, that work was ended for the day. Scrooge didn't approve of the holiday, but he had to recognize that it existed. "You'll want all day tomorrow, I suppose?" "If quite convenient, sir." "Look all the more unpleasant, Scrooge said: "It's not convenient, and it's not fair. If I was to stop half-a-crown for it, you'd think yourself ill-used, I'll be bound? And yet, you don't think me ill-used, when I pay a day's wages for no work."



the door with a bang, and the sound echoed like thunder throughout the house.

Satisfied with his search, Scrooge locked himself in—double-locked himself in, which was not his custom. Strange sounds were in the air, and strange things happened. A disused bell hung near his bed. It began to swing slowly, then rang loudly, as did every other bell in the house. Scrooge listened intently. Another sound began when the bells ended. It seemed someone was dragging heavy chains over the wine merchant's casks in the cellar below.

The sound grew nearer and nearer. And then, within the room, he stood, Marley, with his pigtail, his waist-coat, tights and boots. The chain he drew was wrapped around his middle. It was made in steel, but resembled familiar things—cash boxes, keys, padlocks, ledgers, deeds and heavy purses.



Scrooge, ill-tempered as usual, seemed annoyed when his nephew entered with a cheery greeting. "A Merry Christmas uncle! God save you!"

"Bah," said Scrooge. "Humbug!" So much as the nephew tried, so hard did Scrooge resist the idea of Christmas. He denounced it and wouldn't say a good word about it or about anybody or anything.



"Christmas a humbug, uncle? You don't mean that, I'm sure." "I do," said Scrooge. "Merry Christmas! What reason have you to be merry? You're poor enough."

What Scrooge failed to understand is that being rich or poor isn't the most important thing in the world.

The friendly nephew said, "Don't be cross, uncle." But Scrooge continued: "What else can I be when I live in such a world of fools as this? Merry Christmas! Out upon Merry Christmas! What's Christmas time to you but a time for paying bills without money; a time for finding yourself a year older, but not an hour richer? Bah! Keep Christmas in your own way and let me keep it in mine."



The friendly nephew left and went out into the fog and darkness. It was very cold. Workmen repairing gas-pipes had built a fire and stood around it to warm their hands.

The shops were still bright and holly sprigs and berries were in the windows. Merchants were busy as everyone prepared for Christmas.

The Lord Mayor in his Mighty Mansion gave orders to his fifty cooks and butlers to keep Christmas in a proper way.

The little tailor busied himself stirring tomorrow's pudding while his wife and baby went to the market to buy the beef.



Tactfully as he could, Cratchit reminded his employer that Christmas came but once a year. "A poor excuse for picking a man's pocket every twenty-fifth of December!" said Scrooge. "But I suppose you must have the whole day. Be here all the earlier next morning." Buttoning his greatcoat to the chin, Scrooge growled to himself as he walked out the door. He was hardly out of sight before the clerk had closed the office and headed homeward to Camden Town. Because it was Christmas Eve, he paused long enough to go down a slide on Cornhill, twenty times, behind a lane of boys.



Scrooge took his usual lonely dinner in a melancholy tavern, read all the newspapers in the place, then turned homeward to bed. He lived in chambers that once had belonged to his deceased partner. It was a dreary place. No one else lived there, although some rooms were let out as offices.

The fog lay heavy and the yard was dark, but Scrooge knew every stone and soon was putting his key into the door lock. There was, upon the door, a huge knocker. There was nothing unusual about it except, at this very moment, it appeared not as a knocker but to the startled Scrooge as the face of his late partner. Marley's face, plain as could be.



Scrooge felt a terrible sensation within himself. He had never had such a feeling before. He stared until the sight before his eyes became only a door-knocker again, turned the key and let himself into the room. Once inside, he paused, looking behind the door as if he expected to see Marley standing there. He closed



It was a ghost, no doubt, for Scrooge could see right through the waistcoat, the two buttons on the back clearly visible. A ghost that talked. The ghost told Scrooge that the chain represented all the misdeeds and unkind acts of a lifetime and that he, Scrooge, was fashioning his own chain, a heavy weight that would bear upon him when he was dead.



When the ghost vanished, Scrooge checked his door. It was still double-locked. Wearily he put himself to bed and eventually fell asleep. He awoke, not knowing the time, to find it was still dark. The curtains beside his bed were drawn back by a hand and the first vision appeared. It was a strange figure, like a child, and yet again like an old man. Its hair was white, yet the face was smooth as that of a child. It held a branch of fresh green holly in its hand and, in contradiction, its dress was trimmed with summer flowers. Strangest of all, however, was a bright, clear crown of light that surrounded the head.



The visitor told Scrooge that he was the Ghost of Christmas Past and, before Scrooge knew it, he

was taken back in spirit, many weary years, to his boyhood home. The Christmases of his youth paraded before him. Some of them were sad, for he was a lonely boy, but others were jolly. Times and people that he had known and many of them long ago forgotten. The best of these he had not forgotten and he felt pleasure when the spirit took him to a warehouse where he had served as an apprentice.



When they peered into the window, Scrooge saw an old gentleman in a Welsh wig, sitting at a high desk and he exclaimed, "Why, it's old Fezziwig! Bless his heart, it's Fezziwig alive again." As they looked, Old Fezziwig laid down his pen. He looked at the clock. "Yo, ho, there! Ebenezer! (that's me, thought Scrooge), Dick! (Ah, Dick, Wilkins, to be sure), no more work tonight, Christmas Eve, Dick, Christmas, Ebenezer. Let's have the shutters up."



In came a fiddler, who sat on a lofty desk and began to play. In came Mrs. Fezziwig and the three Miss Fezziwigs and six young followers. In came all the young men and women employed in the business, the housemaid, with her cousin, the baker.

The party began. Scrooge relived every moment of it. Yet, ever-conscious that the Ghost of Christmas Past still had eyes upon him. Other scenes of his past life were re-lived, until at last he felt he could bear no more.



Again, in the dark, Scrooge found himself awake. No vision appeared within the room. He waited. When he could restrain himself no longer, he reached for his slippers, put them on, and walked cautiously to the door. As he reached for the lock, a voice on the other side called his name and bade him enter. He complied.

It was his own room, no doubt, but it was changed. It was gaily decorated, with holly, mistletoe, and ivy. In the center of the room, heaped together to form a throne, were turkeys, geese, game, sausages, mince pies and much more. In the center of the room, too, a jolly giant. "I am the ghost of Christmas Present. Look upon me!"



The robed spirit seemed to incline his head. It quickly showed Scrooge how his own death might be, with one to mourn his loss; in fact, some seemed happy at his passing. It also showed him how Tiny Tim might die and leave countless friends to mourn and sorrow for him.

Suddenly, the two of them stood in the city streets on Christmas morning. All the sights and sounds that Scrooge had refused to recognize were there—people in the streets, greeting one another, the smell of good food and fruits, the church bells calling good people to church and chapel. Scrooge and the jolly giant went on, invisible, through the streets, to the very door of Bob Cratchit's house. Scrooge stood in awe as the Spirit blessed the small dwelling. Inside, Mrs. Cratchit, her daughter Belinda and Martha, and son Peter, awaited the return of their father. In he came, carrying Tiny Tim upon his shoulder. Tiny Tim, bearing a crutch, and his limbs supported by an iron frame.



Scrooge continued to watch as the Cratchits busily prepared their small Christmas feast. Everyone joined in preparation of the meal. Excitement mounted as they gathered about the table and Mrs. Cratchit approached the roast goose with a carving knife. A murmur of delight arose and even Tiny Tim shouted Hurray! A pudding, much too small for so large a family, was a wonderful treat. Dinner over, the family gathered round the hearth. Bob Cratchit raised a toast: "Merry Christmas to us all, my dears, God bless us." The family re-echoed the sentiment and Tiny Tim, the last of all, said "God bless us every one!"



Scrooge felt an interest he had never known before. He asked of the Spirit if Tiny Tim would live. The Spirit replied, "I see a vacant seat and a crutch without an owner, carefully preserved." Scrooge hung his head. He felt worse when he heard Bob Cratchit propose another toast and Mrs. Cratchit respond that she did not wish to drink a toast to Mr. Scrooge, "such an odious, stingy, hard, unfeeling man." But, she did, and the children drank after her, while the Ghost of Christmas Present took Scrooge to visit here and there about the town, showing him both misery and happiness along the way.



And soon thereafter, Scrooge was face to face with another visitor.

"I am in the presence of Christmas Yet to Come?" said Scrooge.

Oh, tell me I may sponge away the writing on this stone!"



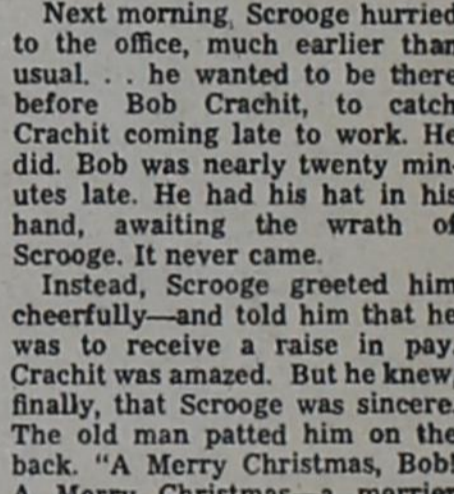
When the third Spirit had gone, Scrooge kept the memory of the sight of his own name upon a tombstone, and no mourners in sight. When he awakened, he renewed his promise, "I will live in the past, the present and the future."

Scrooge dressed in his very best and went into the streets. People were everywhere. Many of them he had seen during the time of his visit with the Ghost of Christmas Present. Scrooge looked so pleasant that people spoke to him and, afterwards, he confessed, their voices were music to his ears. One gentleman, only days before rudely refused when he asked Scrooge for a donation to a fund for the poor, was surprised when Scrooge presented to him a healthy sum of money.



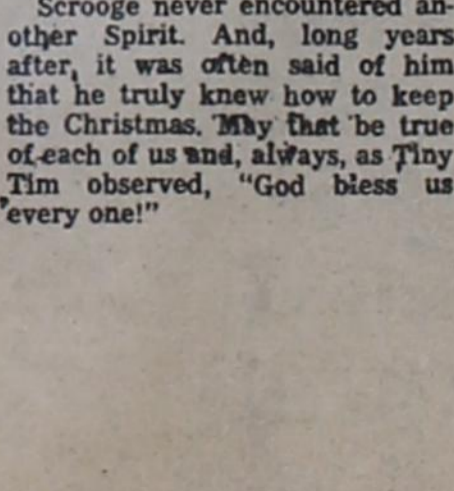
Scrooge journeyed on, to his nephew's house. He passed the door a dozen times before he had the courage to knock. Then he made a dash to the door, and did it.

"Fred," he said when his nephew appeared. "Why, bless my soul!" cried Fred. "It's I, Your Uncle Scrooge. I've come to dinner. Will you let me in, Fred?" He was made so heartily welcome. He thought his nephew would shake his arm off. He was perfectly at home within minutes.



Next morning, Scrooge hurried to the office, much earlier than usual. . . he wanted to be there before Bob Cratchit, to catch Cratchit coming late to work. He did. Bob was nearly twenty minutes late. He had his hat in his hand, awaiting the wrath of Scrooge. It never came.

Instead, Scrooge greeted him cheerfully—and told him that he was to receive a raise in pay. Cratchit was amazed. But he knew, finally, that Scrooge was sincere. The old man patted him on the back. "A Merry Christmas, Bob! A Merry Christmas—a merrier Christmas, Bob than I've given you in many a year."



In the years that followed, Scrooge kept his word and his promises. Tiny Tim did not die and to the gentle lad Scrooge became a second father. He also became as good a friend, a master and a man as the city ever knew. A few people laughed to see the change in him, but Scrooge let them laugh and paid little heed. His own heart was laughing, with joy and happiness, and he gave joy to all who knew him.

Scrooge never encountered another Spirit. And, long years after, it was often said of him that he truly knew how to keep the Christmas. Why that be true of each of us and, always, as Tiny Tim observed, "God bless us every one!"

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Watchdog
 The Texas Consumer Association Education Fund's Report from Austin
 By Rebecca Lightsey, Director
 December 21, 1981

'Tis the season to be jolly — unless you get sick. And it's the season for that, too. But, surprisingly, if you get sick, there's reason to be jolly about waiting 'til now.

Starting January 1, your prescription drug costs might go down considerably. That's when the "generic drug" bill goes into effect. For the first time, pharmacists will be able to substitute cheaper, generically equivalent drugs for some expensive brand-name prescriptions — with your doctor's approval.

Generic drugs are therapeutically and pharmaceutically equivalent to brand-name drugs; they have the same active ingredients, same strength and same dosage form. Usually the only difference is they are often substantially cheaper. A recent survey showed some staggering price differences — a tranquilizer, Miltown, costs \$13.69 a bottle, the generic drug was only \$2.82. All in all, the estimates indicate this new generic drug law will save Texans at least \$20 million a year.

Getting those cheaper substitutions won't be automatic, though. Next time you go to the store for the generic drugs. The

doctor's, you'll notice that your prescription form will look different. Now there'll be two lines for the physician's signature — under one it will say "product selection permitted," under the other "dispense as written." At all, you just may want to check them out a little. Lots come out recently about ineffective drugs. In fact, just two months ago, the Food and Drug Administration released a list of 200 drugs that don't do anything. Because the drugs are useless, the government won't reimburse payments for Medicaid and Medicare on them; you don't get the choice the market.

The FDA has begun proceedings to take them out of drug stores, but it may be at least a couple of years before the

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