

The Winters Enterprise

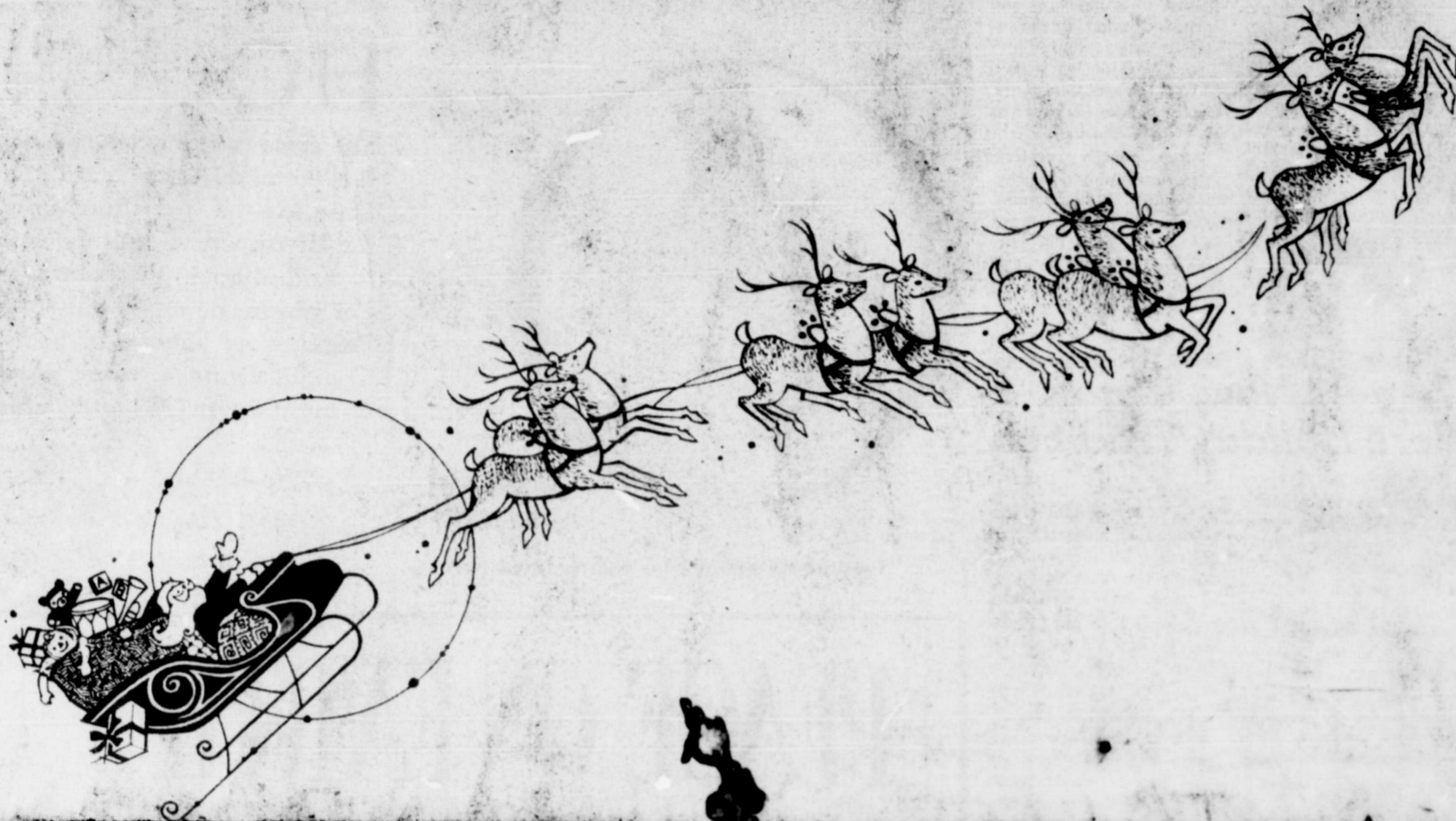
VOLUME SEVENTY-ONE

WINTERS, TEXAS 79667 TUESDAY, DEC. 23, 1975

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NUMBER

SEASON'S GREETINGS



What Christmas is really all about . . .

Sometimes in the rush of holiday shopping and activities, we lose sight of the real meaning of Christmas. Of course, we know it's more than Santa and gifts and parties, but that's easy to forget amid the festivities and preparations. Now, more than ever, we need to stop and think about what Christmas is really all about.

It's a celebration—a celebration of the birth of Jesus and the birth of hope for mankind. That hope is born anew in our hearts each Christmas, as we contemplate the Christ Child. For He is indeed the Prince of Peace, bringing peace to every heart that will admit Him.

May the Joy of Christmas—the real Christmas—be yours!

CHRISTMAS TREE—Visions of a Happy Christmas to come dance in the eyes of these children as they gather around the Christmas Tree in the lobby of the Winters State Bank. For so many years, the bank has had a big Christmas tree in the lobby it has become a tradition . . . the tree was a "community" tree, in the earlier times when a tree on the street for all to see.

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION
MEMBER 1975

The Winters Enterprise

RICHARD C. THOMAS, Publisher

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The Wassail Boy's Story

The wassail bowl dates back to 13th-century England, when the lord of the manor would play host to his tenants during the celebration of the 12 days of Christmas. The dependents living on his land would be

invited to the manor house where the master would drink their health from a bowl of spiced ale, containing apples roasted to the point of bursting, and then his tenants would drink. The words of the toast were "Wassail," which means "to your health," and the accepted reply was "drink hail."

This medieval symbol of hospitality was revived in England and in America to some extent in the 19th century.



Then As Now, Carols Were Holiday Tradition

Back in the 1890's, every well-furnished home had a piano and one of the favorite pastimes was to gather around the family piano to sing the popular tunes of the day. At Christmas-time, the joyous singing of Christmas carols was an important part of the holiday scene, adding to the festive mood of everyone from Papa down to little

Christmas Inspires Interesting Customs

Charming customs add to the beauty and meaningfulness of Christmas in Bulgaria. The *kravai*, a large round cake decorated with pastry birds, flowers, and a cross, is brought out with the appearance of the first star on Christmas Eve. The cake is lighted with a candle, and incense is burned while prayers are offered. Then the father and mother of the household break off a piece of cake for good luck.

On Christmas Day, the Yule log is brought in by the father, while other members of the family sprinkle him with corn. This is to insure good health for all and a bountiful crop. The corn is also placed in a stocking and sprinkled upon the doorstep to insure a happy new year. The Yule log is then lit and the children of the family make wishes as they strike the log.

After church services, Bulgarian children receive their gifts from Grandpa Koleda, the equivalent of our Santa Claus. The parents in turn receive gifts from their youngsters on the last day of the year.

In Rumania, on the day before Christmas, young

boys visit neighboring homes to sing a Christmas greeting, *Colinde*. They are rewarded with apples, cakes, and coins by the listeners. The singing visits begin at dawn and last until after sunset . . . one can imagine some rather stuffed little boys at the end of the day!

In an ancient Rumanian custom, villagers gather at a river bank clad in biblical costumes, to sing Christmas carols. A young boy is selected to break the ice that has formed upon the river and a wooden cross is thrown into the water. A scramble then ensues, for the rescuer of the cross

is assured of good fortune in the coming year, according to the custom.

Just as in other parts of the world, feasting is an important part of the holidays in Rumania. Roast pig is the center of attraction of the holiday table. It is served with *turta*. The latter is a cake made of layers of thin dough, shaped to form leaves, and symbolic of the Infant Jesus' swaddling clothes.

Yugoslavia also has some interesting customs with which to celebrate Christmas. On the day before Christmas, the men in Yugoslavian families rise early to look for a Yule log, the *Badnyak*. This is no simple task, for many strict customs must be observed in bringing in the log. It must

fall toward the east at the moment of sunrise and its branches must not touch another tree, as that would mean bad luck in the year ahead.

When the log is brought in, the men are greeted with singing and food. Later, fire is made and the family gathers around the log to await the arrival of the *polaznik*, a village lad. He must be the first to enter the house on Christmas morning. As he enters, he throws a handful of grain at each member of the family, asking a blessing as he does. The log is then struck so that many sparks will fly into the air; this means many sheep and other livestock for the household.

The *polaznik* next throws some wine on the log, leaving a coin at one end. This

assures the family of prosperity in the coming year. After the ritual of the log is completed, the *polaznik* is feted by the grateful family for the rest of the day.

In Mexico, colorful customs add to the festive atmosphere of the holiday season. The most popular custom, as far as the children are concerned, is the tradition of the *pinata*. This is an earthenware bowl, decorated to resemble animals usually, and filled with fruit, candy, nuts, and coins. The *pinata* is strung up and the children gather around it as one youngster is blindfolded. The blindfolded one now takes a swing at the *pinata* with a stick. If he can't break the *pinata*, another youngster attempts. At last one of the

Correction

In the article accompanying the picture of awards being presented at the meeting of the Young Farmers in last week's Enterprise, Charles Allecorn, vo-ag teacher in Winters High School, was incorrectly identified. We regret any inconvenience or embarrassment this may have caused.

children breaks open the earthenware bowl and its contents spill out for the delighted youngsters.

Customs may vary from country to country, yet they all have one common denominator . . . a joyfulness of heart, in celebration of that most wonderful of seasons . . . Christmas.

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HOLY NIGHT

The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till He appeared and the soul felt His worth.
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,
For yonder beams a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born!
O night divine! O night, O night divine!

SEASON'S GREETINGS

from the Staff of The Winters Enterprise

*Mrs. W. Mrs. R. C. Thomas, Kelly
Thomas, Linda Burton, Nancy Mauer
Gloria Pichler, Marvin Moore
and Charise Pte.*

PEACE ON EARTH
GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN

May glad tidings sound forth this Holy Season, renewing the hope and joy of that most wonderous night, bringing good will and harmony to all men everywhere.

SPILL BROTHERS COMPANY

Low Carbohydrate Treats For The Holiday

Holiday snacks have to be "made with care" for diabetics and people on calorie-restricted diets, Mrs. Mary Sweeten, a foods and nutrition specialist and registered dietitian, says.

"This is because food plays a major part in controlling metabolic disorders such as diabetes, commonly called 'sugar diabetes'. 'Too many carbohydrates, starches and sugars are bad for diabetics

because their bodies don't produce enough insulin to counteract the effects of these types of food."

Mrs. Sweeten is with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, The Texas A&M University System.

She suggested that diabetics can eat fresh fruits or unsweetened canned fruits—a baked apple sweetened with artificial sweetener, cinnamon and dietetic lemon-lime soft drink makes a festive dessert.

"Another holiday treat—pumpkin custard—can be made of unsweetened cooked pumpkin combined with artificial sweetener, cinnamon, ginger and saccharin. This baked custard would be counted as a B vegetable or half slice of bread."

Plain or dietetic gelatins can be prepared with or without fruits for many desserts. Try combining plain gelatin with low-calorie cranberry juice, artificial sweetener and orange rind. Pour into orange shells and refrigerate. If fruit is added to the gelatin, count the fruit as the fruit exchange for that meal, she said.

"Many diabetics are unaware that they can eat regular ice cream—in limited amounts—in place of a slice of bread and two fat exchanges.

"Avoid diabetic candy and ice cream because they may be high in fat and extremely expensive. Also, the labels may be confusing.

"If diabetic ice creams are used, they must be calculated into the diet. Dietetic soft drinks are allowed and can be used to flavor desserts or even in baking a candied holiday ham," she said.

Nativity Plays Enjoyed by All at Yuletide

With the advent of the holiday season, families find themselves caught up in a flurry of activities, such as shopping, making gifts or decorations . . . and getting ready for the Christmas play.

It seems that every school and church wants

Krueger Seeks To Rescue Small Businessmen From Paper Pile-up

Congressman Bob Krueger (21st District of Texas) has commented on the hearings on Federal Paper Work recently held by a subcommittee of the House Committee on Small Business. The purpose, according to Krueger, is to determine what can be done to alleviate the tremendous paper work problem that is being encountered by small businessmen all over the country. Many of the forms required by Federal, State, and Local governments are complicated, unclear, and unnecessary, asking for more information than is actually required to meet their needs. Duplication of efforts by various agencies also often creates unnecessary expenditures of both time and money.

"Small businesses are drowning in paper work", Krueger said. The time spent gathering information for the

to put on a nativity play at Christmastime, and with good reason. There's no more enjoyable way to teach youngsters the story of the birth of Jesus than by having them act out the events surrounding that birth. Children love dressing up in shepherds' robes or angel's wings and the annual holiday play gives them all a chance to shine.



The adults equally enjoy watching their children perform or helping the youngsters put their play together. Of course, Mother often winds up doing most of the work — making the costumes and chauffeuring "Joseph" or a "shepherd" to dress rehearsal. But Mom knows it's worth the effort.

Some church and school

pounds and pounds of forms that are required by the government, could be better spent working on ways to expand and improve business so that more people could be employed and made active participants in our economy."

According to testimony given by representatives of the National Small Business Association and the National Federation of Independent Business, a company will sometimes refrain from hiring an additional employee because of the cost of the extra paper work they would have to perform in the process. In many cases Congress prevents small businesses from expanding normally because of their inability to bear the cost of unnecessary and heavy-handed government regulation", Krueger added.

The subcommittee of the Small Business Committee will work closely with the

productions are very ambitious, complete with orchestra and choir. But even the simplest of pageants can make Christmas more meaningful for all.

If your Sunday School or religion class is quite small, you might consider putting on a pageant that requires no actual script, only narrative to be read by one of the older children, and illustrated with tableaux presented by the youngsters, and accompanied with appropriate music on tape. You might select highlights of the Nativity narration to present in tableau form, and then end your pageant with the youngsters gathered around a Christmas tree, or figures of the Nativity, while singing one of the traditional Christmas carols.

Whether your Christmas play is elaborate or simple, you can be sure it will provide wonderful memories for children and adults alike in the years to come.

investigations being done by the Federal Commission on Paper Work which was created earlier this year to study similar problems, and will then propose legislation

to remedy the situation. "I commented. "We can no longer afford to sacrifice a large part of our nation's productivity because of government red tape and over-regulation."



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Remember to buckle your safety belts and drive carefully during the Holiday season and always.

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A season to brighten young eyes, as sparkling and glowing as the lighted Christmas bauble . . . O beautiful Season of Joy!

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PEACE



To all his creatures, great and small . . . Peace!

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Joyous Christmas

May His birth live ever in the hearts of men.

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WESTERN AUTO



As Christmas Bells ring out their message for peace around the world Winters State Bank joins in songs of gladness and take this opportunity to wish you health & happiness. We are glad to be your bank and wish you a Merry Christmas.

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Minimum \$1.50 (15 words); 5 cents per word over 15 words).

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE
2 p.m. Tuesday.

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FLOWERS FOR ALL OCCASIONS: Orders wired anywhere, any time. Bonded FTD florist. Mayme Little, Winters Flower Shop, Dial 754-4568.

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160 A.—Farm.
158 A.—Stock farm, live creek.
190 A.—Stock farm, paved road.

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3-bedroom, 2 bath, extra nice, close to school.
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FOR RENT

FOR RENT: TWO STORY house, corner of Albert and Arlington Street. W.J. Davis, Box 236, Pearsall, Texas 78061. 41-2tp.

HELP WANTED

CENTRAL TEXAS OP- portunities, Inc. is taking applications for a Field Co-ordinator position with the GOMA Program (Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs). Applicant must have administrative experience and experience in working with Migrants. Applicant must have their own transportation, willing to travel, and able to attend out of town workshops. Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Applicants interested in the above position should write Central Texas Opportunities, Inc. PO Box 820, Coleman, Texas 76834. All applications should be in by Tuesday, December 29, 1975. 41-2tp.

JOB OPPORTUNITY: CON- tract cleaner, Winters Post Office. Contact Postmaster for details. Bids must be in by 5 p.m. Dec. 19, 1975. 1t.

Miscellaneous

HAVE BACKHOE AND dump trucks. Will dig ditches and cess pools, haul yard dirt, sand, gravel. Will dig up pipe. Day and night phone 754-4995. Roy Calcate. 40tfc

Miscellaneous

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Merkel, Texas
STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Taylor Telephone Cooperative, Inc. has filed with the Federal Government a Compliance Assurance in which it assures the Rural Electrification Administration that it will comply fully with all requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Rules and Regulations of the Department of Agriculture issued thereunder, to the end that no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the conduct of its program and the operation of its facilities. Under this Assurance, this organization is committed not to discriminate against any person on the ground of race, color or national origin in its policies and practices relating to applications for service or any other policies and practices relating to treatment of beneficiaries and participants including rates, conditions and extension of service, use of any of its facilities, attendance at and participation in any meetings of beneficiaries and participants or the exercise of any rights of such beneficiaries and participants in the conduct of the operations of this organization.

Any person who believes himself, or any specific class of individuals, to be subjected by this organization to discrimination prohibited by Title VI of the Act and the Rules and Regulations issued thereunder may, by himself or a representative, file with the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, or the Rural Electrification Administration, Washington, D.C. 20250, or this organization, or all, a written complaint. Such complaint must be filed not later than 90 days after the alleged discrimination, or by such later date to which the Secretary of Agriculture or the Rural Electrification Administration extends the time for filing. Identity of complainants will be kept confidential except to the extent necessary to carry out the purposes of the Rules and Regulations.

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Mr. and Mrs. Dick Bullard Will Note 50th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Bullard will be honored with a reception Sunday afternoon, December 28, from two until four o'clock, in observance of their 50th wedding anniversary. The reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall of the Main Street Church of Christ.

Mrs. Billy Simpson, Mrs. Mack Bullard, Mrs. Gene Richardson, Mrs. A.K. Bullard, Mrs. Butch Poe and Mrs. Jim Jones will host the affair.

Mrs. Bullard is the former Murner Richardson, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Haven Richardson.

Mr. Bullard is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bullard.

They were married at Ireland, Dec. 26, 1925, and have lived in Winters for 43 years. He is a retired carpenter.

Friends and relatives of the couple are invited to attend the reception.

little-known narrative

A Christmas Tree

by Charles Dickens

The tree was brilliantly lighted by a multitude of little tapers, and everywhere sparkled and glittered with bright objects.

There were rosy-cheeked dolls hiding behind the green leaves and there were real watches (with moveable hands at least and an endless capacity of being wound up) dangling from innumerable twigs.

There were French-polished tables, chairs, bedspreads, wardrobes, eight-day clocks and various other articles of domestic furniture (wonderfully made, in tin, at Wolverhampton) perched among the boughs, as if in preparation for some fairy housekeeping.

There were jolly, broad-faced little men, much more agreeable in appearance than many real men — and no wonder for their heads took off and showed them to be full of sugar plums. There were fiddles and drums, tambourines, books, work boxes, paint-boxes, sweetmeat boxes, peep-show boxes and all kinds of boxes.

There were trinkets for

the elder girls far brighter than any grown-up gold and jewels. There were baskets and pincushions in all devices. There were guns, swords, and banners, with witches standing in enchanted rings of pasteboard to tell fortunes.

There were teetotums, humming tops, needlecases, pen-wipers, smelling bottles, conversation cards, bouquet holders. There was real fruit, made artificially dazzling with gold leaf, imitation apples, pears, and walnuts crammed with surprises. In short, there was everything and more.

This motley collection of odd objects, clustering on the tree like magic fruit, and flashing back the bright looks directed towards it from every side, made a lively realization of the fancies of childhood, and set me to thinking how all the trees that grow and all the things that come into existence on the earth, have their wild adornments at that well-remembered time, Christmas.

ONE "ORDINARY MAN" CHANGED WORLD HISTORY

Here is a man who was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another obscure village. He worked in a carpenter shop until He was 30, and then for three years He was an itinerant preacher. He never wrote a book. He never held an office.

He never owned a home. He never set foot inside a big city. He never travelled 200 miles from the place where He was born. He had no credentials but Himself.

He had nothing to do with this world except the naked power of His divine manhood. While still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against Him. His friends ran away. One of them denied Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed upon a cross between two thieves.

His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on earth while He was dying — and that was His coat. When He was dead He was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Nineteen wide centuries have come and gone and today He is the centerpiece of the human race and the leader of progress. I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever were built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as that One Solitary Life.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

Year's End

Now days are short, nights long and raw, With pinching frost, and slabby rain and snow; But let good rousing fires, and Christmas cheer, Still mix'd with charity, conclude the year.

— John Nathan Hutchins (1799)

Happy Birthday

Simon

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Have A Merry Christmas From Santa's Helper and

HOPPE'S TEXACO



Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Self Will Observe 50th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Self will be honored at a reception celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary, Sunday, December 28, from three to five o'clock in the afternoon, in the Shep Community Center.

Hosting the reception will be their children, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Sweet, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Ray Self, Mr. and

Mrs. Thurman Self, Miss Diana Brannon and Miss Mary Allen Helm, nieces of the couple, will be in the house party.

Mr. and Mrs. Self were married in Winters, Jan. 2, 1926, and have lived in the Shep Community all their married life. They have five grandchildren.

Friendly Ladies S. S. Class Christmas Party

The Friendly Ladies Sunday School Class of the First United Methodist Church held their Christmas party Tuesday evening, December 11, in the home of Mrs. M.G. Middlebrook, where a holiday theme was used in decorations in the party rooms.

Mrs. Vada Babston led the opening prayer, and Christmas carols were sung.

Mr. and Mrs. Rankin Pace presented the program, showing slides taken during their trip to the Holy Land.

Gifts were exchanged from the Christmas tree.

Twenty-seven members and two guests were present.



Holiday Reading

Christmas Day: No attendance at the office. I gave the day to relaxation, and, with a view to make an experiment upon the taste of the younger part of our present family, after breakfast I read aloud Pope's *Messiah*, a poem suited to the day, and of which my own admiration was great at an earlier age than that of my son Charles, the youngest person now in my family. Not one of them, excepting George, appeared to take the slightest interest in it; nor is there one of them who has any relish for literature. . . .

— John Quincy Adams (Dec. 25, 1820)

SUNFLOWER CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Sunflower Club met in the home of Carrie Lee for their annual Christmas party. Gifts were exchanged.

Those present were Mary Lewis, Jewell Mitchell, Zora Hill, Carrie Lee and Ila Conner.

Yule Log

The yule log has long been an important part of Christmas. In Lithuania the word for Christmas means "log evening."

Santa Not Always Plump and Jolly!

Whoever heard of a skinny Santa? At one time, Santa was described as slim and tall, believe it or not. Today we are accustomed to thinking of Santa in terms of Clement Clarke Moore's "plump and jolly old elf", described in his poem, "A Visit from St. Nicholas," that we take it for granted that Santa has always looked that way.

But until Moore wrote his now-famous poem, there were differing notions as to Santa's appearance. He was described as slim and tall in some accounts, short and fat in others. No doubt many thought of him as being dignified, for he was known as St. Nicholas at that time.

But then Moore wrote "A Visit from St. Nicholas," which appeared in print for the first time in the *Sentinel* of Troy, New York, just before Christmas in 1823. At that time it was

published anonymously. By 1837, after having been printed every year in the *Sentinel*, it had been attributed to Moore.

The amusing and endearing description of Santa — "a little old driver, so lively and quick . . . his eyes how they twinkled! his dimples how merry! his cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry —" captivated the imaginations of readers and later, an engraving of

Santa accompanied the poem to further establish him in the public's mind as a fat and jolly type.

With the passage of time, Moore's poem has become a traditional part of the Christmas scene. And every youngster, as the holiday season approaches, pictures Santa as "chubby and plump — a right jolly old elf," calling out as he takes off in his sleigh, "Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"



NOEL

May the true meaning of Christmas bless your home.

Clara Bell's Beauty Shop

Twelfth Night

Christmas goes out in fine style — with Twelfth Night. It is a finish worthy of the time. Christmas Day was the morning of the season; New Year's Day the middle of it or noon; Twelfth Night is the night, brilliant with the innumerable planets of Twelfth-cakes.

— Leigh Hunt

Yule Elf

In Sweden the *Yultomten* is their gnome of Christmas, also known as *Nisse*. He is an elf or sprite.



Christmas Joy

Christmas is the season for children and family. We hope this holiday season finds you and your loved ones healthy and happy.

SONNY'S GROCERY & MARKET

May your Christmas tree shine with ornaments . . . and your hearts be bright with merriment.

BEDFORD INSURANCE AGENCY

Joy to the World

Sing a song of joy this Christmas season and fill your world with happiness for the coming year.

SMITH DRUG CO.

Merry Christmas

May the joy and beauty of Christmas stay with you throughout the years to come.

texas cablevision

"TOTAL ENTERTAINMENT SERVICE"

JOY



at Christmas
an old-fashioned
greeting from

**Melba's
Arts & Crafts**

Legend of the Lamb

There is a beautiful legend concerning one of the creatures in the stable where the Infant Jesus was born. It seems that there was a little lamb sharing the Blessed Child's first abode. As the animals all gazed in silent adoration upon the Holy Babe, this little lamb felt badly because it had no gift to offer the Newborn King.

Suddenly the lamb noticed how thin the Babe's blanket was . . . surely the Infant must be cold! The straw upon which He rested offered very little warmth. The little lamb knew then that there was indeed something it could offer to this Holy Child. Quickly, the lamb nestled by the Child, sheltering Him from the cold.

Warmed by the animal's shaggy coat, the Christ

Child smiled and touched the little lamb. According to the legend, the lamb's coat was suddenly transformed into soft, curly wool. And that is why, the legend says, all sheep now bear a warm and woolly coat . . . as a symbol of a special gift offered by that little lamb on the first Christmas night.

Traditions Light Up New Mexico's Celebration

Christmas in New Mexico is filled with tradition, gaiety, and candle lanterns. The candle lanterns are part of New Mexico's history and they illuminate the state's holiday festivities in a very special way.

When the Spanish first settled in New Mexico, way back in 1598, they brought with them the custom of lighting lanterns and bonfires for festive occasions.



Mountain villagers began setting bonfires and placing homemade lanterns along pathways at Christmastime . . . to light the way for Mary and Joseph and the Christ Child. The bonfires, or *luminarias* as they are called by New Mexicans, were made of pine and juniper branches and they stood from 2 to 4 feet high. The lanterns were called *farolitos*. As time went on, the *farolitos* became candles placed in sand, in paper sacks. These candle lanterns are now placed by doorways, along pathways and walls on Christmas Eve in modern times, lovely and glowing reminders of the old traditions.

Every Christmas Eve, thousands of visitors travel to Albuquerque to see the neighborhoods that are lighted with *luminarias*, as they are now called, modern versions of the old *farolitos*.

You can still find bonfires blazing at Christmastime in the mountain villages of Northern New Mexico but by and large the candle lanterns have replaced the old *luminarias*.

America's First Carol Written For Indians

As far as it is known, the very first Christmas carol composed in America was written for an Indian tribe by their missionary priest. The priest, Father Jean de Brebeuf, was born in France in 1593 and came to the New World in 1626 to spread the Gospel of Jesus.



Preaching Christianity to the Huron Indians, Father Brebeuf sought to convey the meaning of Christmas to his parishioners by composing a carol that the Indians could sing in their own language. The priest selected a popular 16th century folk song from France, "Une Jeune Pucele", for his tune and wrote new words for the Indian worshippers.



The French priest had been very impressed by the Hurons and their comprehension of the Nativity. In his writings, he describes how the Hurons had built a small chapel of cedar and fir branches to house the manger of the Christ Child, and how they prepared themselves to receive the Infant Jesus into their hearts on Christmas Day by performing some sort of penance. He wrote, "Even those who were at a distance of more than 2 days' journey met at a given place to sing hymns in honor of the newborn Child."

Father Brebeuf wrote the Christmas Pie

The recipe for a Christmas meat pie taken from an ancient English book called for the following ingredients:

- 2 bushels of flour
- 20 pounds of butter
- 4 geese
- 2 rabbits
- 4 wild ducks
- 2 woodcocks
- 6 snipes
- 4 partridges
- 2 neat's tongues
- 2 curlews
- 6 pigeons
- 7 blackbirds

The pie when baked would weigh about 165 pounds and be 9 feet in circumference.

lyrics to his carol in 1641; on March 16, 1649, he was martyred by the Iroquois, along with other prisoners. But after the villages of the Hurons had been destroyed by the Iroquois, the surviving parishioners of Father Brebeuf resettled near Quebec, preserving the carol along with their tribal traditions. Later on, the Catholic Mohawks, who had settled south of Quebec, learned the hymn from the Hurons. The carol has since been translated into English, retaining a few of the original Indian words.

the magic of Christmas in our lives

You can tell when the Christmas season is approaching; youngsters suddenly start picking up after themselves and minding Mom and Dad!

But more importantly, the Christmas season has its effect on adults, too. Amid the busy preparations, we find ourselves being a little more patient, a little more thoughtful.

Perhaps it's because so much of the holiday season is spent in making gifts for others or shopping for gifts . . . maybe just having to think about others - wondering what Grandpa would like or whether your best friend is low on her favorite perfume - puts us all in a more considerate mood.

Whatever the reason, as we get more and more involved in holiday preparations, we find ourselves striving to be kinder . . . to be more tolerant of that irritating neighbor, to be more understanding of that harassed clerk's confusion.

Christmas is the time we become so busy thinking about others, we have little time to think about ourselves. It's the time we begin to discover peace within our hearts and suddenly feel that perhaps peace on earth is within reach.

Our thoughts, when not preoccupied with preparations, turn to Christmases past . . . and memories of those grown older or perhaps passed away.

We give thought to the ways of God and strive to be more worthy of His love by loving those around us.

And when Christmas Eve arrives at last and the packages have all been wrapped and put under the tree, we think of Him Whose birthday we are celebrating . . . the Infant Jesus, lighting our lives with radiance and hope . . . bringing to mankind all the wonder and joy that is the spirit of Christmas.

Bret Harte Story Tells of Western Christmas

A poor mountain cabin housing a group of rugged characters forms an unlikely setting for an excellent Christmas story by Bret Harte, famed for his writings about the Gold Rush days. Set in 1862, in the Sacramento Valley, "How Santa Claus Came to Simpson's Bar" is considered one of Harte's best stories.

The story centers around a little boy, Johnny, who is ill in bed on Christmas Eve. His home is a poor cabin at Simpson's Bar, a cluster of similar cabins huddled around a little store, situated on Table Mountain.

Little Johnny is wise beyond his years due to his rough-and-tumble environment but when he hears about Santa Claus, he is mystified. So when Johnny's father comes home with some drinking companions, Johnny asks his father a very natural question. Just who is "Sandy Claws?"

His father brushes the question aside but one of the other men, Dick Bullen, is moved by the boy's ignorance. He borrows a mare, Jovita, and sets out to find some Christmas presents for the youngster.



Unfortunately for Dick Bullen, it's not a propitious time to run errands. It's been raining heavily, and the river has overflowed its banks, while the creek is impassable. He reaches his destination, the town of Turtleville, where he wakens some disgruntled shopkeepers to do his last-minute shopping.

The return trip is even harder for poor Dick. When he gets to the creek, he finds it has become a river. Undaunted, Dick discards his coat and boots and saddle and rides the mare bareback through the rushing waters.

It is dawn before he reaches the mountain cabin at last; when he arrives he is half-naked and exhausted. But he has carried his cargo of toys to their destination and he tells Johnny's father to place the gifts in Johnny's stocking.

"Tell him Sandy Claws has come," he says, and ends a marvelous story written in the best tradition of Bret Harte.

Season's Greetings

Have a happy and safe holiday season

**Awalt
Exxon Sta.**

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

... and Good Will to All Men.

Thanks for Your Loyal Support.

**Herman's
Men's Store**

Season's Best

We wish you a Joyous Yuletide.

Motel Winters

Holiday Greetings

It's a pleasure to greet our many patrons and wish them the very best.

Carl Grenwelge
TEXACO SERVICE STATION

Santas on his way!

To wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for 1976

BURGER HUT

**Our Offices Will Be
CLOSED
WEDNESDAY DEC. 24
FRIDAY, DEC. 26**

We will be open
Monday, Dec. 29

**BEDFORD
INSURANCE AGENCY**

**JOHN W. NORMAN
INSURANCE**

Greetings

We're wishing everyone a very joyous Christmas and shouting a hearty "THANK YOU" for your loyal patronage.

FARM EQUIPMENT
E. E. Thormeyer

**WE WILL
BE
CLOSED
DEC. 25-26
Spill Bros. Co.**

Peace On Earth



The Blessings of Peace to you and your family during this Christmas Season.

Bob Loyd LP Gas Co.
Bob Loyd - Gene Wheat



Today's Christmas Traditions Derive from Ancient, Recent Times

Christmas as a formal observance has been celebrated by Christians since the third century. The word itself means Christ's Mass, connoting the religious rites that commemorated the birth of Christ.

Originally, Christmas Day was celebrated on both January 6 and December 25. During the fifth century, the Western world adopted December 25 as Christmas, with Eastern churches following suit later on.

Because December 25 was already a feast day in honor of the pagan sun god Mithra, Christians chose that date to honor Jesus as "The Light of the World."

In many ways, Christmas has served to replace the pagan customs of ancient times. For instance, in Germany, the winter solstice was observed on December 21 by pagans, and many customs of the pre-Christian celebration were transferred to the Christian holiday. Dramatic enactments of the birth of Jesus, Christmas carols, and the "manger songs" of medieval times were incorporated into the holiday celebration as time went on, re-

placing the old pagan customs.

The Christmas tree itself is believed to be derived from the use of palm trees in the worship of the Egyptian goddess Isis. During the winter solstice a palm tree with twelve shoots, representing the months of the year, was carried to celebrate the completion of one year and the beginning of another. The palm tree was replaced with a fir tree as the observance extended to northern climates.

The Yule log came into use around the 16th century and again, this custom has its origins in pagan times. At the time of the solstice, a sacred fire would be lit from a brand kept from the previous year's log. It is thought that the custom was brought to England by the Vikings. In later times, the Yule log would be brought in with much ceremony on Christmas Eve to light the holiday fire.

The Christmas stocking is originally an Italian custom. Tradition has it that La Befana, a wandering

witch, comes on the feast of Epiphany to fill the stockings of good children with gifts, and those of naughty children with ashes. La Befana's name is actually a corruption of the word, Epiphany, the feast that commemorates the bringing of gifts to the Infant Jesus by the Three Wise Men.

The exchanging of gifts dates back to early medieval times, and is probably inspired by the gifts of the Wise Men.

Christmas cards, however, are a fairly recent tradition. The use of cards dates back only to the latter half of the 19th century. That were an inevitable outcome of the practice of writing to distant friends and relatives at Christmas-time, a custom which came into greater favor with the increasing efficiency of postal systems.

Ecology Factor Spells End for Yule Bonfires

Twelfth-night, the night before the feast of the Epiphany, marks the end of the Christmas season. In past times, it has been the practice of celebrants to observe the end of the holiday season by burning their Christmas trees in one great bonfire. But the ecology movement has apparently finished off any remnants of this old custom here in this country.

In one midwestern city, where the burning of Christmas trees had been an annual community event for many years, complaints from pollution-conscious

citizens has forced the abandonment of the tradition. So much pressure was brought to bear on the local

pollution control agency by environment-minded residents that harried officials were forced to reject a request for an open-fire permit from would-be Twelfth Night celebrants.

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Wishing you
Santa's Best
**SPRINGER'S
FABRICS**



We Wish you a Merry Christmas

FASHION SHOP

Sleigh bells ringing in the night.
Yule logs burning warm and bright.
Children laughing with delight.



CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

May the Blessings of the Holy Child lead you to find Peace and Contentment for Christmas and always.

**Johnny's
Shell Station**




Registry Service
For Your Wedding
Gifts!

**Bahlman
Jewelers**

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

Santa may forget you...
But we never will!

From All of Us at
PIGGLY WIGGLY



NOEL

*'Tis a time to rejoice
and honor the Nativity
of our Saviour and to
reflect and remember
His teachings.
Let us give thanks
for the great
gift of His birth.*



MAIN DRUG CO.

IN PARADE—Members of the Wingate 4-H Club were standouts in the annual Winters Christmas Parade a few days ago, riding in their giant sleigh.

A Christmas Poem

The young mother (so very young!)
Smiles softly to behold Him
And takes a ragged swaddling cloth
To tenderly enfold Him
His infant eyes gaze upon
A world of strife and sorrow
Does He see now the silent tree
Awaiting some tomorrow?
But loving fingers take
His hand
With playfulness, caressing;
He stretches infant arms to her,
As if in some new blessing
The mother laughs with sweet delight
At this endearing game
And speaks it for the first time:
His wondrous, holy Name.



Gov. Dolph Briscoe, criticized for absenteeism from his capitol office, said a governor needs to get away from the "artificial atmosphere" in Austin and visit with the people.



State deposits in more than 1,200 banks earned nearly \$79 million in interest during the last fiscal year.

Handel's "Messiah" Is A Beloved Tradition Of Christmas Season

Each Christmas season finds music-lovers enraptured by performances of George Frideric Handel's oratorio, "Messiah".

Since its first performance in 1742, "Messiah" has been thrilling listeners and adding to the significance of religious holidays.

The libretto is generally attributed to Charles Jennens, a wealthy patron of the arts. The libretto is a compilation of passages from the Old Testament and the New Testament.

At Christmastime, certain sections of the work are usually deleted and emphasis is placed on the Nativity portion of the libretto.

"Messiah" begins impressively with stately measures that become a vigorous fugal passage, giving way to the recitative for tenor voice, "Comfort Ye." A lovely aria, "Every Valley Shall be Exalted," is followed by a stirring chorus of praise, "And the Glory of the Lord." A recitative for bass proclaims: "Thus saith the Lord of Hosts: Yet once a little while, and I will shake the heavens and the earth." The aria, "But who may abide the day of His coming?" is then followed by a chorus, "And He shall purify the sons of Levi."

Now the narrative centers on the birth of Jesus... a recitative for alto, "Behold! A virgin shall conceive" is followed by the joyful aria, "O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion." The chorus joins in the familiar melody to em-

"No Room at The Inn"

And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

— St. Luke 2:7
in majestic chords.

The second part of "Messiah" contains what may be the most famous choral music of all time, the Hallelujah Chorus. No one who has heard this stirring chorus can ever forget it. A serenely beautiful aria, "I know that my Redeemer liveth", begins the third part of this magnificent work. This section contains yet another great chorus, "Worthy is the Lamb." The choir sings, "Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto Him" in a joyful fugue. The oratorio is then concluded with the words, "Amen" . . . voices soar in glorious sound, as Handel's monumental work comes to its conclusion.

The listener, moved by the story of the "Messiah" and its enduringly beautiful music is left with a vision . . . perhaps that same vision that Handel spoke of, after he had finished his greatest work. "I did think I did see all Heaven before me," the inspired Handel exclaimed, "and the great God Himself."

Greeting Cards Began During Victorian Era

Back in the late 1800's, sending greeting cards to friends and relatives at Christmas came into vogue for the first time.

Those early Christmas cards were quite different from the cards you receive in your holiday mail today. Many greeting cards during the Victorian era featured satin fringes. Popular designs were centered about such subjects as birds, animals, flowers, and children in grown-up poses.

The first Christmas card

was designed by John Calcott Horsley for Sir Henry Cole in 1843. It read, "To Uncles, Aunts, & Cousins, A merry Christmas and a happy New Year to you." The illustration featured a family celebration, with glasses raised in a toast.

The custom of giving gifts once a year at a religious festival has been handed down to us.

The ancient Romans and pagans in central Europe observed this custom of course the first "Christmas" gifts were gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Another card of this era, features angels with trumpets and peacock wings, along with the message: "Shout with joy ye mortals pray for Christ is born on Christmas Day." It was published by Louis Prang, a pioneer in the manufacture of holiday greeting cards.

Prang perfected reproducing processes and sponsored art competitions to stimulate outstanding designs for his greeting cards. Many of his reproductions, involving as many as 15 colors, were so accurate they couldn't be distinguished from the originals.

We can thank the holiday spirit of those living in the Victorian era for one of our nicest Christmas customs of all — cheery, friendly greeting cards!

2x4x8 STUDS
NO. 3 Yellow Pine
69¢
Each
Foxworth Galbraith Lumber Co.



An old-fashioned wish that's sent right your way to say you are thought of on this holiday! Joy to all!



FOXWORTH GALBRAITH Building Materials Center

Merry Christmas to All!

May Santa bring you a sleigh - full of wishes for a happy holiday

Huffman House

Joy to the World

May the peace of this Holy Season bring joy to all Mankind.

MILTON'S Hardware Auto Supply

HELLO TO OUR MANY FRIENDS

1975-DECEMBER-197						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

We have appreciated your patronage in the past and we hope that we can continue to serve you in the future.

Higginbothams
HARDWARE-LUMBER

Hi


Our thanks to all of our friends as we extend our wishes for the holidays

The Nelan Bahlman Family and Staff

Merry Christmas

Happy Holidays to All of Our Patrons
May the Spirit and Joy of the Holiday Season stay with you always

ALDERMAN-C AVE Milling & Grain Co.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

To Our Friends and Neighbors

Rosalie and Slim Albrn




HAPPY HOLIDAY

Blooming bouquets of good cheer to all our fine friends from

Winters Flower Shop



POE'S CORNER

BY CHARLIE POE

Streets in the business section of Winters were lined with people Saturday morning on Dec. 16, 1956, to watch the Kid's Christmas Parade which was the first of its kind ever staged in town.

There were seventy-five children entered in the five divisions. They were best decorated bicycle, tricycle,

wagon, or doll buggy, and best costume depicting a Christmas character, also best group entry. Frank Merriell was chairman of the parade.

Zola Ruth Crowley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A.N. Crowley, took first place as Mrs. Santa Claus in the bicycle division. Jimmy Vaughan was second and Floyd Grant, Jr., third.

Tim Meyer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Meyer, received first place as Santa in the Chimney on his tricycle. He was followed by Larry Watson and Cassie Awalt.

Sandra Crockett as the Littlest Angel in the costume division, won first. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Crockett, former residents. Second and third place winners were Larry Powell and Debra Carroll.

Cliff Poe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Poe, dressed as Santa Claus, took first with his decorated wagon filled

with toys and gifts. Michael Pumphrey was second and Ivan Smith and J. Davidson tied for third place.

The Junior Culture Club was first place winner in the group entry with a manger scene. The Humble Oil children, snow men, were second and Scout Troop No. 5 was third. Gift certificates of \$10, \$6 and \$4 were the prizes.

For the most part, I'm sure that events went as planned but I can still recall one proud grandmother and a harassed mother who were very weary when the parade was over.

Even at three years of age, Cliff was a determined little boy. As he was being dressed all went well until we got to the Santa Claus moustache. He decided he was not going to wear it and no amount of coaxing changed his mind. Finally, he went in a closet and wouldn't come out until we promised him that he could go without the moustache.

As the children were getting in place for the grand march another crisis arose. Cliff changed his mind about marching in the parade. He wasn't going to be in it. I thought the situation was hopeless but his mother had the idea of asking one of his little friends, Brenda Cooke, to hold his hand. This solved the problem and he stepped briskly as if the whole parade had been his idea in the first place.


After the prizes had been awarded and Santa Claus had distributed candy, some proud parents and grandparents thought that pictures should be taken. Cliff made another decision. He wasn't going to have his picture made. He turned his back to the camera and got down on his hands and knees. He hid his face in his hands and wouldn't look up.

By this time we had run out of words. We advised the photographer to take the pictures without Cliff.

When Cliff saw what was happening he jumped up and wiped the tears out of his eyes. He faced the camera with a smile and his mother handed him a package, while the picture was snapped. The day was over.

The first Kiddie's parade was a huge success!

The Glastonbury Thorn



body and purify evil.

Although modern-day celebrants no longer attribute any special powers to this unusual hawthorn, the glastonbury thorn still holds appeal for those who know its legend at Christmastime.

The Tree

Christmas is here:
Winds whistle shrill,
Icy and chill.
Little care we;
Little we fear
Weather without,
Sheltered about
The Mahogany Tree.

— William Makepeace Thackeray (1811-1863)

Each Christmas, the small tree or shrub we know as the glastonbury thorn produces small clusters of white flowers. Except for the spring season, Christmastime is the only time of year that these flowers bloom.

There is an ancient legend to explain this interesting circumstance. The legend says that when Joseph of Arimathea ended a long pilgrimage in England, he drove his walking stick into the soil of Glastonbury. The staff budded and bore lovely white blossoms, and thereafter bloomed again each year at Christmas.

Because of this belief, the thorns came to be regarded as holy and pilgrimages were made at Christmastime in olden days to touch the thorns, as it was believed that they could heal the mind and



We hope your holidays "wind-up" happy and healthy.

Kobert & Betty Paschal
Chapal Yarn & Gift Shop

A Very Merry Christmas



Best wishes for a joyous Noel to all our wonderful friends. May the best of the holiday season be yours!

Bissett's Tire & Appliance




BEST WISHES FOR A Merry Christmas

Good health, good friends, good life.

The Holloways
Cecilia & Calvin

Harrison's Auto WISHES YOU


A **HAPPY HOLIDAY**




We offer the gift of friendship this Yuletide season.

Bahlman Jewelers

SANTA BRINGS SEASONS GREETINGS FROM EVERYONE at Winns

O holy Night

May the blessings of His Holy Birth fill your hearts with joy and love during this Most Holy of Seasons.

Robinson Chevrolet Co.