

# BALLINGER DAILY LEDGER

VOLUME XIV.

BALLINGER, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1919.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## CHRISTMAS HOP AT BALLINGER CLUB

The Ballinger Club will be the scene on Christmas night of an entertainment given by the club members, assisted by the ladies of the city. This is the annual Christmas entertainment.

The party this year is especially in honor of ex-soldiers, together with the club members and their friends. Music, dancing and forty-two will be the amusements of the evening. An official announcement of the entertainment will appear later in this paper.

Miss Lucille Bridwell has returned from Wichita Falls, where she had been working for an oil company, to spend the Christmas holidays.

The Christmas edition of The Daily Ledger and The Banner-Ledger are being published this week, both coming out Friday. These are the largest editions published in this office for some time, and have required much painstaking work in their publication.

Advertisements from practically all merchants in Ballinger appear in the two editions, offering Christmas suggestions. The late shoppers will find many excellent suggestions for gifts in these pages.

In addition a number of Christmas stories and poems, are carried, and the news of far and near is crowded in. Altogether, these are of the most attractive papers ever sent out from this office.

## Give Him Cigars

We carry the biggest line of cigars in town, and have the kind that he smokes.

Weeks Drug Store  
Phones 12 and 13

## Gifts Worth While---

Tricycles Doll Buggies  
Toddler Toys Rockers  
Tea Carts Rugs  
Children's Furniture

Cedar Chests Hoosier Cabinets  
Natural and Ivory Natural and White

Pathe Machines and Records

T. S. LANKFORD  
The Store of Ideal Gifts

The Pathe plays all makes of Record

## REP. BLANTON OFFERS FOUR APPOINTMENTS

Washington, D. C., December 11, 1919. Ballinger Ledger:

"I have two appointments each to the Naval Academy at Annapolis and the Military Academy at West Point. Each pays \$180 per annum in addition to training during the four years. I am giving every boy in my district a chance at these appointments. I have arranged for the Civil Service to hold competitive examinations for me on January tenth at Ballinger, Mineral Wells, Cisco, Abilene, Sweetwater, Coleman, Brady Brownwood, Lampasas and Comanche, accessible to all boys in my district, who may take both examinations if they desire. The twelve boys making the highest grades will be designated by me to take the final competitive examination in February. Except in unusual cases, it requires some training additional to high school graduation to pass these examinations. All applicants should notify me at once, stating full name, date of birth, and place of residence, and would do well to undergo a physical examination by their physician to ascertain whether they could likely pass the required physical examination. Ages: Annapolis, 16 to 20; West Point, 17 to 22."

Thomas L. Blanton, Congressman.

### THE WEATHER

Tonight generally fair, colder; Friday generally fair, rising temperature.

## SCHOOLS DISMISS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The city schools dismissed at noon Friday for the Christmas holidays. Only one week will be given, due to the fact that one week was given the pupils during the institute which was held in November.

The schools will reconvene on Monday, Dec. 29th. There will be several changes in the faculty for the latter session, both in the high school and in the grammar grades.

ONLY 5 DAYS TO SHOP  
  
READ THE ADS

## For a Good Little Girl



## TALPA MAN MAKES 185 PER CENT

Farming in Central West Texas has its ups and downs, as is the case with any agricultural section, but upon the whole, Central West Texas offers better opportunities than the seemingly more favored agricultural sections of the State.

In November, 1918, R. G. Bouldin bought 119 acres near the town of Talpa. The purchase price was \$3,000 or about \$25 per acre. This year he has sold off the place 3,000 bushels of oats at 60c, cotton to the value of \$3,750, has a bale or two yet to pick, and already has fifty-eight acres of his land flat broke for the next crop. Besides, he has other feed crops on the place and a few live stock on his grass.

Mr. Bouldin is a single-handed farmer. His first year's experience at farming in Coleman county is not unusual—many other have probably excelled or equaled him—but his year's work demonstrates what one man, single-handed and with a will to work, can do in this virgin field of opportunity.

And farm land in Coleman county is more than one hundred per cent cheaper in price than land in

the "seemingly" more favored sections of Texas.—Coleman Democrat-Voice.

According to the figures given above, Mr. Bouldin's returns from his farm for the one year amount to one hundred and eighty-five per cent of the original purchase price of the land. This farm is near the eastern edge of Runnels county, and shows what can be done in this county as well as in Coleman county.

### CAN SHOOT FIREWORKS IN THE CITY OF MILES

The city council of Miles has granted permission to all the boys to shoot all the Roman candles, on the streets of Miles that they please. However, their celebrations must be confined to Main Street, according to an announcement made by Mayor Graves. A special officer has been appointed to see that the "restrictions" are carried out. No mention is made of fire crackers, but it is presumed that they are permissible too.

Luckily for Ballinger, no such permission was granted by the city commissioners, nor have we heard of such an order being passed in any other city. The fire hazard to houses, as well as the other dangers, is too great for the shooting of fireworks to be allowed in town.

## 2 AMERICAN SAILORS HELD ATTEMPT ASSASSINATE LORD FRENCH BY MEXICO

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Two American sailors are being held in prison at Mazatlan, Mexico, since November 12th, the State department announced today.

The two sailors are charged with having assaulted Mexican citizens. The American consul at Mazatlan has asked for a speedy trial of the seamen.

DUBLIN, Ireland, Dec. 19.—An attempt to assassinate Lord French, the British military commander of Ireland, failed this afternoon.

One of the assassins was shot dead by Gen. French's escort.

The British leader was returning from a tour of Western Ireland when a number of shots were fired at him from a group of supposed revolutionists. Several of the missiles struck the automobile in which the military leader was riding.

A bicycle policeman returned the fire of the assassins, killing another of the attackers who had a bomb in each hand. One of the general's aides was wounded and is said to be dying this afternoon.

## POET REFUSES TO LEAVE FIUME NOW

LONDON, Dec. 19.—In a fight at the municipal council a majority of votes were cast against D'Annunzio's continued occupation of the Fiume district according to a correspondent of the London Post. D'Annunzio refused to accept the terms, but was hissed down when he attempted to harangue the meeting, the information says.

## \$500 WORTH SEALS SOLD IN COUNTY

A little over \$500 worth of Red Cross Christmas seals have been sold in Runnels county, according to County Chairman Scott H. Maek. While this is not near as much as the quota assigned to this county, which was \$1400, the committee is well pleased with the result. It is the opinion of the committee that the quota assigned to the county was too great.

The sale of the seals were made in Ballinger, Rowena, Miles and Norton. Mr. Maek was unable to get anyone in the other towns of the county to handle the work, which caused a big deficit in the possible receipts, especially from Winters.

The campaign has officially closed, but more of the seal, may be sold between this time and Christmas. Mr. Maek is ready, however, to send in his report to state headquarters, and any sales made later will have to be reported separately.

ST. CLOUD, Minn.—A rush for citizenship is on here. Twenty-nine applicants for naturalization appeared before Judge Roester recently. Only those whose first papers had been issued at least 2 years before the war was declared were considered.

LONDON.—The horrors of peace have fallen on the British navy. An admiralty order states that soft collars may no longer be worn by officers in uniform.

Big display of Christmas Trees at Jeanes Monday. Get yours then. 18-3td

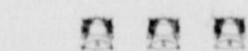
ST. CLOUD, Minn.—The painting, the work of a Minneapolis art firm, has been received at the high school here and dedicated to the memory of St. Cloud boys who lost their lives in the war.

Christmas Trees at Jeanes Produce Co. On display Monday. Get yours. 18-3td

## Parisian Ivory

for Ladies or Gentlemen, is always in good taste, and shows elegance and refinement.

See the big stock at—



J. Y. Pearce Drug Co.

### CHRISTMAS FRUIT

The highest grade apples and oranges now ready for the Christmas trade.

H. & H. MERCANTILE CO.

66—Phones—67

## New Arrivals

In Our Ready-to-Wear Department

### Evening Dresses

You'll have to see these wonderful creations to fully appreciate them

Ladies' and Misses' Sweaters  
Let us show you some real pretty ones.

Ladies' Suits Including Large Sizes

Always Glad to Show You

# Higginbotham Bros. & Co.

Ballinger's Shopping Center

**BALLINGER DAILY LEDGER**

Published every day except Sunday by The Ballinger Printing Company

Office of Publication, 711 Hutchings Avenue, Ballinger, Texas.

Several thousand employees of the Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, are working faithfully in perfecting plans for taking the Fourteenth Decennial Census.

Director of Census, Sam. L. Rogers, announces that the work in his department is now pretty well up to the four hundred supervisors of America. The supervisors are busy making appointments and sending out supplies and instructing the enumerators.

The canvassing campaign will begin on January 2nd, except in districts where no enumerators have yet been selected and as rapidly as enumerators can be appointed the work will be started in all enumeration districts.

The coming census will be the best and most complete in the history of the United States. Every person in the land is to be enumerated and the names, ages, birthplaces and occupations of Uncle Sam's nieces and nephews will be set down and made a matter of permanent record at Washington.

Much valuable information will be compiled in taking the census. Not only will the government find out many things about the people, but a vast lot of information concerning agriculture, and all resources of the country will be compiled together with data concerning farm lands, buildings, mining, and manufacturing industries, etc.

The census enumerator will be subject to penalty for divulging the result of their work by giving the population of precincts, cities or counties, or for giving out any other information. This will be reported direct from Washington as fast as the enumerator's reports are compiled and the totals made up.

Ballinger is in the Seventeenth District, and the department forecast that this district will show the largest increase of any district in the United States, due to the rapid development of the oil industry in this district. The population of the district made up of nineteen counties, was 292,000 in 1910. It is expected to total about a half million in the coming year.

A. W. Sledge, supervisor of the district, who has charge of organizing the work in the district, has appointed 116 enumerators, while about 300 are needed. The director of census has authorized the maximum pay in this district on account of the demand for help in other lines of work, and the high cost of living. Eight dollars per day for eight hours work will be paid in some counties of the district, while in other counties the pay is based on per capita.

The President has issued a proclamation calling on the people to co-operate with the census employees and offer every assistance possible in making the census complete. Laws governing the answering of questions have been fixed, and enumerators have been instructed to report to the department the names of parties who refuse to answer questions to the best of their ability.

Surgeons agree that in cases of Cuts, Burns, Bruises and Wounds, the first treatment is most important. When an efficient antiseptic is applied promptly, there is no danger of infection and the wound begins to heal at once. For use on man or beast, Borozone is the ideal antiseptic and healing agent. Buy it now and be ready for an emergency. Sold by John A. Weeks.

Beautiful Christmas cards at The Ledger, make your selections now.

Exclusive territory open for dealer or distributor to handle out guaranteed Blue Bird typewriter ribbons and carbon paper. We have a number of dealers making big profits and want a live wire distributor for this territory. Every business office your customer. The Miami Ribbon & Carbon Co., Dealer Dept., Dayton, Ohio. 17-4td-1tw

Christmas cards, fancy stationery. The Ledger.

School children, don't forget the Ballinger Printing Company can supply you with these paper.

Christmas cards, fancy stationery. The Ledger.

**TEXAS HAS FUEL FOR 1800 YEARS**

AUSTIN, Dec. 19.—Excellent specimens of the products of some of the coal fields of Texas are to be found in the museum of the Bureau of Economic Geology and Technology of the University of Texas. It is estimated that the total area of workable coal fields in Texas is 8,200 square miles, divided into three main fields, one in North Central Texas, and two along the Rio Grande. Besides these fields it is estimated there are 5,300 square miles in Texas that may contain workable coal beds.

The North Texas coal field covers thirteen counties, and is entered by ten railroads. The small extent to which these fields have been developed is evidenced by the fact that 50 per cent of the entire output of the state comes from one county, Erath. It has been estimated by a prominent Northern geologist that the total supply of coal in Texas is enough to allow for a total production of ten million tons a year for eight hundred years. Inasmuch as only 15,000,000 tons have so far been mined, 99 per cent of the state's supply is still untouched.

The number of railroads that penetrate into these fields offers excellent advantages for the development of this industry, so long neglected. The specimens of Texas coal in the University museum appear to the layman to be as good as the bituminous coal from other states. The analyses conducted by the Bureau of Economic Geology and Technology show that this coal compares favorably with that of Alabama, Oklahoma and Colorado.

Texas has an even more abundant supply of lignite than of coal. The workable fields extend in a strip of country 200 miles wide, from the Rio Grande to the northeastern corner of the state, a distance of 650 miles, which makes an area equal to half of the lignite beds in the United States. It is estimated that these beds contain 30,000,000,000 tons of lignite, enough to supply the state with fuel for a thousand years. This enormous supply of lignite has scarcely been touched.

Although lignite is not so good a fuel as coal, owing to the huge amount of moisture and ash that it contains, when it is made into briquettes it can be used for almost all the purposes served by bituminous coal. Of the forty-three counties in Texas that are underlain with lignite beds, only a very few have shafts in operation. The specimens of briquettes in the museum of Economic Geology at the University compare favorably with those from other states and from abroad. It is claimed that the briquettes from Leon and Milam counties are in no way inferior to the specimens from the North Dakota lignite beds.

The museum has specimens of loose lignite from nearly all of the counties in the lignite belt of Texas. The quality is of wide range, from the poorer grade of reddish brown to the best, which are pitchy black.

**CHICHESTER'S PILLS**

**THE DIAMOND BRAND**  
Largest and Best  
Sold by Druggists Everywhere

Christmas Trees at Jeanes Produce Co. Monday. Get yours. 18-3td

**Splendid Cough Medicine**  
"As I feel that every family should know what a splendid medicine Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is, I am only too pleased to relate my experience and only wish that I had known of its merits years ago," writes Mrs. Clay Fry, Ferguson Station, Mo. "I give it to my children when they show the slightest symptoms of being croupy, and when I have a cough or cold on the lungs, a very few doses will relieve me, and by taking it for a few days I soon get rid of the cold."

Christmas Trees at Jeanes Produce Co. On display Monday. Get yours. 18-3td

Wheezing in the lungs indicates that phlegm is obstructing the air passages. Ballard's Horehound Syrup loosens the phlegm so that it can be coughed up and ejected. Sold by John A. Weeks.

Christmas Trees at Jeanes Produce Co. On display Monday. Get yours. 18-3td

Wheezing in the lungs indicates that phlegm is obstructing the air passages. Ballard's Horehound Syrup loosens the phlegm so that it can be coughed up and ejected. Sold by John A. Weeks.

Christmas cards, fancy stationery. The Ledger.

Christmas cards, fancy stationery. The Ledger.

**RICKARD BELIEVES JESS WANTS CROWN**

By HENRY L. FARRELL  
NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—"No man in the world can whip me."

Previous to the fight in Toledo last July, Jess Willard went even further and told Tex Rickard he could stick out his jaw with perfect safety to any man living.

Rickard told the other day in support of his belief that the supreme arrogance of the former champion was not killed in the Fourth of July tragedy and that he wants to come back to prove it.

Rickard also spoke of a little conference that took place in Willard's training camp the night before the fight. In response to a message from the huge Kansan, he went to the champion's quarters, and found him stretched lazily in a big chair.

"Tex, I want you to go in with me on a big movie deal. It would be better to talk it over tonight because you'll be busy tomorrow and I want to get away just as soon as I can after I finish that bird," he said.

There wasn't a doubt in his mind that the morrow held anything but a quick victory for him, Rickard said. He laughed at the fear, expressed by his friends that he hadn't conditioned himself.

"Why should I run miles over the road. I won't need my legs. I can stand and take all he's got," Willard said.

In reminiscing, Rickard brought out a point in the fight that he believes generally overlooked. He declared that Willard was just as close to being knocked out in the third round as he was in the first eventful frame when the bell saved him.

"The gong saved him again in the third round," the promoter said. "He was so near gone when he reached his corner that he flopped down before his seconds could get the chair under him. They held him up until the seat was hustled between the ropes."

Rickard was being asked about the prospects for winter activities in the heavy-weight circles.

"You'll laugh when I tell you this but Jess Willard is coming back," he said.

He then ran his hands in his pockets and fished out a small pile of letters and telegrams from Willard and his former manager, Ray Archer, asking for an early date to talk over a return to the ring.

"Willard can't demand a match with Dempsey," Tex said. "If he wants to get back in the game he might try a match with Fred Fulton who is returning from England. That would be a good match but I don't know that I would care to handle it."

Reports from the Kansas home of the former champion some time ago carried hunches that the big "cowboy" wasn't content with his lot. It seems from later reports that he is really training himself in the mountains.

Some of his messages to Rickard said that he was getting himself into first class condition and he believed he is unbeatable when he is in tip-top shape.

**Do You Enjoy Your Meals?**

If you do not enjoy your meals your digestion is faulty. Eat moderately, especially of meats, masticate your food thoroughly. Let five hours elapse between meals and take one of Chamberlain's Tablets immediately after supper and you will soon find your meals to be a real pleasure.

**FAMOUS MUSICIAN PASSES AWAY**

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—Cleofonte Campanini, famous musical director, died at St. Luke's Hospital this morning. The famous musician had been sick for two months with pneumonia.

Miss Mary Vorbeck is reported very low with pneumonia this week.

A. H. Wigle is in Ballinger for a few days. He is living at Sulphur, Okla., now.

LONDON.—The postman's federation has decided to refrain from the "degrading and pernicious system of collecting part of our wages from the public in the form of 'Christmas boxes.'"

PARIS.—Two ice-creams was the price realized on a stolen \$10,000 pearl necklace by two hotel page-boys. The boys took it without any idea of its value, and failing to get an offer of \$2, they traded for the creams.

OSWEGO, N. Y.—Sunday indoor baseball games may be arranged for Oswego this winter. It is understood efforts have been made to obtain the local armory to stage the games.

**Bread and Rolls**

We make the kind that makes eating a pleasure. They have the home flavor, and their use avoids the drudgery of home baking. They always bring our customers back for more. Stop at our bakery on Eighth St. and carry some home.

**W. V. Connelly**

**Our Best Guarantee is our Record**

Your interest and ours are mutual. We depend upon you for business and you depend upon us for lumber to satisfy your requirements.

Our customers are our best friends—some of you have been customers and friends for years. You know we have always given you our best in properly graded and assorted yellow pine lumber.

We have all grades and sizes to meet your requirements.

**Ballinger Lumber Comp'y**

**COMFORTABLE IN EVERY DETAIL**

are the bathrooms installed by us. We have every plumbing convenience and necessary that goes to make life more livable. We shall be pleased to submit an estimate for materials and work. You will be agreeably surprised to learn how little it will cost to transform your bathroom.

**D. J. BREWER**  
the Plummer Phone 53

**THEY ALL COME FROM THE FARM**

The milk and cream, and butter, and eggs which form a part of our daily food. Our creamery handles only the best of these farm products, and if you will leave your order with us you need never give another thought as to the freshness of what we send you.

**JACKSON DAIRY**

**Children Cry for Fletcher's**

**CASTORIA**

The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher* and has been made under his personal supervision since its infancy. Allow no one to deceive you in this. All Counterfeits, Imitations and "Just-as-good" are but Experiments that trifle with and endanger the health of Infants and Children—Experience against Experiment.

**What is CASTORIA**

Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It is pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other narcotic substance. Its age is its guarantee. For more than thirty years it has been in constant use for the relief of Constipation, Flatulency, Wind Colic and Diarrhoea; allaying Feverishness arising therefrom, and by regulating the Stomach and Bowels, aids the assimilation of Food; giving healthy and natural sleep. The Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

**GENUINE CASTORIA ALWAYS**  
Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

**In Use For Over 30 Years**  
The Kind You Have Always Bought

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.

**Just Received New Shipment**

**American Beauty Flour**  
American Beauty Cream Meal

*It Cost More, But Worth It.*

**L. B. Stubbs**

Phones 93 and 94

**Ford**  
THE UNIVERSAL CAR

Imitation "Ford" parts are being sold by many mail-order houses and garages to unsuspecting Ford owners as "Ford" parts. But they are not Genuine Ford parts, made by the Ford Motor Company. They are made by concerns who have no connection whatsoever with the Ford Motor Company. These imitation parts are not even made from the same grade of steel, or under the same formulas used by the Ford Company. They are counterfeit parts. Tests have shown them to break when the genuine Ford parts didn't even bend and they generally are from thirty-five to one hundred per cent lower in quality.

The Authorized Ford Dealer is your protection. As such, we handle nothing but the Genuine Ford parts. They are made from the famous Ford Vanadium Steel and each part—according to its use—is heat-treated in the way that will give it the longest wearing qualities.

**Harwell Motor Company**

**Make your Home Attractive by its Lights**  
It Won't Cost much and helps the looks of any home.

Now that the school year is open and your children are studying at night, don't let them ruin their eyes studying by a poor light. A MADZA lamp gives you more and is smoother and restful to the eyes.

**Ballinger Electric Light, Power & Ice Company**



FEDERAL CHEMISTS ARE WATCHING RAINBOW SUGAR

That all samples of so-called "rainbow" sugar so far examined by the Bureau of Chemistry have been found to be colored by harmless dyes is the statement of the United States Department of Agriculture, whose pure food experts began testing samples of this product soon after it appeared on the market.

The department states that in accord with the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, it will continue to examine samples of this tinted product to ascertain whether or not harmful dyes are used in the future.

Undertaking Goods Licensed Embalmers

Motor Hearse and Ambulance

T. S. LANKFORD

Night Phone 81 Day Phone 82

Second Hand Goods.

Bought and Sold Guns Cleaned, Oiled and Repaired. Bicycle Repairing a Specialty.

Phone 31

SMITH'S SECONDE HAND STORE

PROMPT SERVICE FIRE INSURANCE

The Best Companies MISS MAGGIE SHARP Your business solicited. Upstairs in old Fidelity Credit Co.'s Office. Phone 815. See Me.

The Biggest Stock of Candy in West Texas

N. PASSUR

Watch Me Grow

The Best Christmas Gift

For those who need them would be a nice pair of Glasses. For Grandfather or Grandmother—a pair of Kryptoks—the new double vision Glasses.

For Father or Mother

A pair of Torics for Sewing or Reading, giving the Greatest possible results to the wearer.

For Brother or Sister

A pair of Shur-ons can be adjusted to their lens while you wait. The Best Eye Glasses Worn Today, for appearance and stay on qualities.

For Yourself—

Why not give yourself a nice Xmas gift of a pair of Glasses? Now is the time to have your eyes examined before you do your shopping.

DR. MCGUIRE

Optical Specialist

F. & M. Bank Bldg. Will be in office all next week, except Tuesday at Winters. Telephone for appointment Residence Phone 446 Office Phone 40

used in the samples tested and under the Food and Drugs Act their use can be continued so long as they do not conceal inferiority. The sugar so far examined is harmless, sound, and not inferior, so that the practice of the refiners does not conflict with the provisions of this law.

The method in tinting the sugar examined is relatively simple and adds very little to the cost of the product and nothing to its food value. Refiners state that the shortage of sugar has created an opportunity to place on the market considerable reserve stores of this colored product which ordinarily is used only for confections. They deny that they have colored their stocks of white sugar in order that a higher price might be demanded for it.

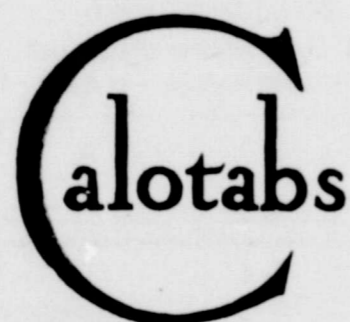
The most energetic workers feel lazy and low spirited at times. This condition is caused by impurities in the stomach, liver and bowels, which should be gotten rid of before they bring on a sick spell. A few doses of Prickly Ash Bitters, the remedy that men use, cleanses the system and sends new life and vigor to every part of the body. Price \$1.25 per bottle. Jno. A. Weeks, special agent.

Dayton, O.—A porker has got Charlie Goleilas guessing. He rescued the 250-pound pig when it fell off a truck speeding past his home. Now the shoat is eating three square meals a day off Goleilas, who has asked the police what to do.

If you want a Christmas turkey at 25c per pound, drop me a card, or come Saturday. I. O. WOOD, en. 18-3rd

Christmas Trees at Jeanes Produce Co. Monday. Get yours. 18-3rd

To abort a cold and prevent complications, take



The purified and refined calomel tablets that are nauseless, safe and sure. Medicinal virtues retained and improved. Sold only in sealed packages. Price 35c.

DOWN GOES VALUTA; UP GO PRICES!

By CARL E. GROAT United Press Staff Correspondent

BERLIN, Dec. 18.—Depreciation of German valuta had reached such a low level in the middle of November that the exchange represented less than about one third as much worth for the German mark then as it November, 1918.

Dollars brought more than 39 marks; while 100 marks brought only about 15 kronen as against 55 in November, 1918.

This drop in exchange spells perhaps more vividly than colunns of theorizing, elucidation and prophecy the course Germany has been and is, trending. It is a downward path; and the end is undoubtedly a smash, if the present tendency continues.

Germans give various explanations for the slump.

The main truth is, however, that the nation is loaded with war debt and with other big debts since the armistice and that the whole industrial situation has gone from bad to worse. Minister Erzberger recently revealed that the militarists let the war debt pile up without any attempt to liquidate; they merely expected that somebody else—preferably rich America—should make up the costs.

Germany has recently been floating a premium loan, hoping that this will take just a bit of the curse off her financial situation. This loan is offered to workingmen with the bait of a lottery attached. They may draw several hundred thousand marks if their loan bears the lucky number. And anyway, they will have a good bit of interest coming. Moreover, they are told, this loan will help stabilize and support the war loans which have been experiencing a considerable slump.

And while the valuta drops and drops, the prices of food, and supplies mount and mount. An official price table shows that many necessities of life in November were double what they were in November, 1918. And in all cases there was a considerable price increase.

At the same time, there has been a marked decrease in production. This is particularly true of the coal mines. The national railways are staggering under a burden of debt whereas formerly they were extremely profitable.

Such facts as above are used by such Pan-German sheets as the Preussische Zeitung to promote the cause of monarchism. They continually harp on the good old days, and without being specific in their arguments, or inquiring into more than superficial causes, try to convince the nation that the republic is wholly culpable for the burdens of the present moment.

A TEXAS WONDER

The Texas Wonder for kidney and bladder troubles, gravel, cures weak and lame back, rheumatism, and irregularities of the kidneys and bladder in both men and women. If not sold by your druggist, will be sent by mail on receipt of \$1.25. One small bottle is two month's treatment, and often cures. Send for sworn testimonials. Dr. E. W. Hall, 2926 Olive Street, St. Louis, Mo. Sold by druggist.

Big display of Christmas Trees at Jeanes Monday. Get yours then. 18-3rd

Judge C. O. Harris of San Angelo was in Ballinger Friday on business.

SORE THROAT or Tonsillitis, gargle with warm salt water then apply—

VICK'S VAPORUB YOUR BODYGUARD—30¢, 60¢, \$1.25

Fancy stationery, the right kind and the right price. The Ledger.

Ledger classifieds bring results

"We Write IT Right."

Ballinger Insurance Agency

Phone 30

"Estes Lynn's Agency"

Hall Hardware Building

Kidnaped By Santa Claus

By GOODLOE H. THOMAS

My dad sez once they lived a boy 'Us bound that he would see Old Santa Claus—an' had no joy Fer'thinkin' how 't'ud be To hide behind a screen an' wait Till Santa come around, Then watch him waitin' to uncrate— Without a word or sound.

Well, Christmas Eve, this boy leton 'At he was sound asleep, An' when he knowed the rest had gone To bed, he went a-creep Down stairs—an' gracious!— watcha think! He run against him—smack! Old Santa, yes-sir—'n quick as wink That boy 'uz in his pack.

An' ever since that boy has been Strapped up an' has to go With Santa, fer just that one sin, Through miles of ice an' snow; An' you bet I ain't gonna take No chance like that—not quiet! You'll find 'at I won't be awake When Santa comes to-night.

CHRISTMAS REBORN

My heart's throbbin' like it used to, old tunes play along its strings At the thought of Christmas comin' and the thought of Christmas things. And the thought of little children climbin' out of little beds With the Christmas candles throwin' golden glory on their heads. And a standin' like I've seen them all about the Christmas tree. There is memories a-plenty comes along the years to me. But no memories are sweeter than the memories that come Of the fur-off Christmas mornin' and the children with their drama.

Little children tippytoein' down the stairs in nighties white. Then a sudden rush an' clatter, and a squealin' of delight When they see the tree a-standin' in the crispy Christmas dawn. And a look has made them certain that old Santa Claus is gone— For although they write to Santa tellin' what they'd like to get. They are always sort of skeered that they will find him there till yet. When they're gettin' up so early, so they give a squeal to see That he's got his work all finished and has left the Christmas tree.

Children late years ain't been gettin' all they want him for. For his work was interfered with by the horrors of the war. But the war is done and ended, and we've got to rise and go. All the gaitis for this here Christmas that we ever used to know. Got to do our shoppin' early, and enough for years gone by. Got to bring back Santa Claus and get the Christmas tree, an' try To forget that there was hatred in the world, an' grief and tears. Got to do our shoppin' now and brighten up the comin' years. —Judd Mortimer Lewis.

Should Be Quarantined

Many physicians believe that anyone who has a bad cold should be completely isolated to prevent other members of the family and associates from contracting the disease, as colds are about as catching as measles. One thing sure—the sooner one rid's himself of a cold the less the danger, and you will look a good while before you will find a better medicine than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to aid you in curing a cold.

Christmas cards, fancy stationery. The Ledger.

Christmas Trees at Jeanes Produce Co. On display Monday. Get yours. 18-3rd

Use Ledger Classifieds.

TELEPHONE SERVICE BE RESTORED SOON

Since Thanksgiving Day, when a heavy sleet covered the ground, Ballinger has been without telephone connections with Brownwood and other points down the line, but it is thought that a few more days will see the service restored. The ice broke down a large number of poles and wires around Brownwood, and damaged the system to the extent of thousands of dollars.

Many of the poles had to be replaced with new ones, and the cross arms in most cases had to be renewed. Practically all the poles are up now, and the wires are restrung, but there is still a great deal of trouble in what is called the "phantom circuit." To remedy this, linemen must carefully go over every wire and locate the trouble. Manager Britton of the Ballinger office says that the only communication he has had with the Brownwood office has been through the linemen, who cut in occasionally to test the lines.

Deep seated coughs that resist or ordinary remedies require both external and internal treatment. If you buy a dollar bottle of Ballard's Horehotad Syrup you get the two remedies you need for the price of one. There is a Herrick's Red Pepper Porous Plaster for the chest, free with each bottle. Sold by John A. Weeks.

Miss Zena May Eaton, who is attending school in Ballinger this year, left Friday morning for her home in Brownwood to spend the holidays.

Too much sweet stuff puts the stomach out of order. A dose of Prickly Ash Bitters corrects the trouble, restores appetite and good digestion. Price \$1.25 per bottle. John A. Weeks, special agent.

Christmas cards, fancy stationery. The Ledger.



We don't make shoes, but—

If we did make them ourselves, we couldn't hope to make shoes a bit better than those in our shops right now—in appearance—or in wear—or in comfort for the wearer. Or sell them for a more reasonable price.

We know shoes. We know we're satisfied. We know you will be satisfied.

BEACON THERE ARE NO BETTER SHOES



D. Reeder's DRY GOODS



### What's Bone Dry —What's Not?

Not every storage battery that is called "bone dry" is really shipped and stored in bone-dry condition.

Some have solution put in at the factory, and poured out again before shipment.

Some are shipped with plates dry, and insulation wet.

These batteries are not *bone dry*.

Come in and get straight from us the story of Willard Threaded Rubber Insulation, the only form of insulation that permits of bone-dry shipment and storage of automobile starting, lighting and ignition batteries.

BALLINGER AUTO CO.

Opposite Court House Lawn  
Telephone 505.



#### HANGED MAN'S GLANDS REFUSED AGED INMATE

SAN QUENTIN, Cal., Dec. 13.—The body of Antone Lapara, who was hanged in the prison here today for a black-hand murder, will not give up its interstitial glands for the rejuvenation of an aged inmate.

The announced plan of prison physicians to remove Lapara's glands and transplant them was prevented by Mrs. Lapara, the dead prisoner's widow. Although she had been offered \$10,000 for the glands, and had been advised by her attorney to accept the money, she demanded that the doctors abandon their plan to use her husband's glands again.

Lapara was convicted of murdering Mario Allioti two years ago. Police declared Lapara had been hired by a black-hand gang to murder Allioti and that he scarcely knew his victim. After he had shot three bullets into Allioti's body he ran into a park. He was caught while trying to stuff remaining bullets into his hat.

Embossed Christmas cards, printed to suit your taste. The Ledger.

Sickly children need White's Cream Vermifuge. It not only destroys worms, if there be any, but it acts as a strengthening tonic in the stomach and bowels. Sold by John A. Weeks.

SYDNEY, New South Wales.—"Not quite nice," was the opinion of latest American and British fashions, expressed by Lady Davidson, wife of the governor of New South Wales. She advised Australian women to have nothing to do with them.

Christmas Trees at Jeanes Produce Co. Monday. Get yours. 18-3td

Wanted To—repair your electric irons and lights. Phone 7.

G. P. TEAGUE,  
Ballinger Electric Co.

Heartburn is a symptom of indigestion. Take a dose of Herbine in such cases. The pain disappears instantly. The bowels operate speedily and you feel fine, vigorous and cheerful. Sold by John A. Weeks.

Christmas cards, fancy stationery. The Ledger.

### Authentic Investment Information

is available through the Officers of this Institution to those contemplating buying, selling or exchanging securities.

Discriminating investors are cordially invited to profit through the extensive knowledge and experience we have been in any especially advantageous position to acquire.

Consult with us without hesitation.

"Guaranty Fund Bank, and also member of Federal Reserve System."

RELIABILITY ACCOMMODATION  
**The Ballinger State Bank**  
& Trust Co.  
STRENGTH SERVICE

### QUEEN WILL OFFER CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

What is regarded as one of the greatest of present day photo-dramas comes to the Queen Theatre on Christmas day and night, when Select Pictures Corporation present "A Scream in the Night," by Charles A. Logue.

The picture is a special attraction and has been booked by Manager Cohen for a special occasion, and at this time of the year will be very acceptable to theatre-goers, as it will let them forget the cold weather and the fuel shortage while engrossed in viewing a tale of the jungles and torrid climes. Part of the story, too, deals with society life in America, and a chance to display the latest gowns and accessories is given the youthful and charming star, Ruth Budd.

The story is based on Darwin's theory that man is evolved from monkey. In his preamble to the action of the play, the author writes: "The great gulf that divides science and religion is the origin of man. Instead of the Garden of Eden to the first of the race, science would have us believe that some millions of years ago, from such a thing as the ape, there came by the Darwinian theory a creature of reasoning power. Humility of intellect stands on one side and pride of intellect on the other, the one bowing to a master of creation, the other scoffing at the divine law."

Follows then a marvelous plot of dramatic intensity, with the beauty of woman, and the passion of the cold calculating scientific brain of a monster, vie with each other, playing on heart-strings now, risibilities then, and finally ending in a grand crescendo of climaxes.

If you have a bad taste in your mouth, if your tongue is coated, and you have spells of dizziness, the trouble is in your stomach, liver and bowels; they are clogged with bilious impurities. Prickly Ash Bitters clears out the obstructions and restores healthy conditions. Price \$1.25 per bottle. John A. Weeks, special agent.

### A Few Don'ts for Christmas

- Don't court indigestion.
- Don't grumble, whatever you do.
- Don't half fill the kiddies' stockings.
- Don't give presents which will be useless.
- Don't forget the mistletoe. Romance still lives.
- Don't forget that it ought to be a merry Christmas.
- Don't deny the little ones' ideas about Santa Claus.
- Don't worry about unpaid bills—at any rate until tomorrow.
- Don't scoff at the lingering superstitions of the good old days.
- Don't for the show of things, buy presents which you can't afford.
- Don't expect too many presents. Take what you get and be thankful.
- Don't, if you get up on your wrong side, make everybody else miserable.
- Don't forget to think at least once during the day what Christmas really means.
- Don't give a present unless you want to. Better not give at all than give insincerely.
- Don't forget that the giving of Christmas boxes, like charity, should begin at home.
- Don't, if you are a girl, stand under the mistletoe until you see the right chap approaching.
- Don't kiss somebody else's best girl, even though she is under the mistletoe. There might be a row.
- Don't work on Christmas day if you can avoid it. If you have to, however, don't make a song about it.
- Don't give Johnnie a trumpet and Peter a whistle and expect to have a quiet time. It's unreasonable.
- Don't put off buying presents until the last minute. You'll get better value and avoid the crush if you shop early.
- Don't send an electric runabout to a freezing widow with five starving children. This is like throwing a rope to a drowning man.
- Don't look pained when somebody tells a fifty-year-old Christmas story. That's one of the unavoidable circumstances of the festive season.
- Don't give a new song to some one who doesn't sing; but be still more certain that you don't give a new song to some one who imagines he can sing.
- Don't refrain from giving because you can't afford to give much. The intrinsic value of a gift counts for nothing. It is the thought which prompts it that matters.
- Don't let the wife give you a Christmas present in the form of cigars. If she persists in doing so, don't smoke them—give them away again, without letting her know about it, of course.

The Republic of Brazil has just celebrated its thirtieth birthday.

### A STATEMENT TO DISABLED SOLDIERS

Every man who was in the military or naval service of the United States during the late war, and who on account of such service is not physically fitted to engage at once in a gainful occupation should at once notify the Bureau of War Risk Insurance in Washington, D. C.

Under the law this Bureau is charged with providing for service men discharged because of disability incurred in active service in the line of duty, compensation and free medical treatment until such time as they are restored to physical fitness. During the summer of 1918 there was a general combing out of the military training camps of the country in an effort to bring up the standard of physical fitness, and many men discharged at that time may be unaware of their rights under an act of Congress to compensation for disability and medical attention and hospital treatment where necessary. All cases of this or a like nature should be brought immediately to the attention of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance.

#### Chamberlain's Tablets.

These tablets are intended especially for indigestion and constipation. They tone up the stomach and enable it to perform its functions naturally. They act gently on the liver and bowels, thereby restoring the stomach and bowels to a healthy condition. When you feel dull, stupid and constipated, give them a trial. You are certain to be pleased with their effect.

Big display of Christmas Trees at Jeanes Monday. Get yours then. 18-3td

### Daily Ledger Want Ads

LOST—Boy's overcoat somewhere in the business district of Ballinger. Finder notify me, or leave at Ledger office. R. W. Ueckert, Ballinger, Tex. 19-3d

FOR SALE—320 acres of land, well located on public road, close to school and gin, 125 acres in cultivation, well improve, good building. Price \$25.00 per acre. For particulars see W. B. Page, Ballinger, Tex. 19-df 2iv

FOR SALE—Maxwell car, 1916 model, in good shape, good case, new Willard battery, runs like new car. See me or phone 521 Rural. E. J. CARROLL, Rt. 2, Ballinger, Tex. 19-3td

WANTED—Cash register—must be a bargain. Phone Ledger. 19-3d

FOR SALE—Sewing machine in good condition at a bargain. Phone 7. 18-4-tf\*\*

FOR SALE—Wire screen for heating stove and wire screen for fire place. Protects children from danger of burns. Phone 161. 18-4-tf\*\*

WANTED—Lady or young girl to do general house work in small family. No children. Good salary. Phone 142. 18-tfd

LOST—Pair of hooked bow, gold rimmed, bi-focus lensed glasses. Return to R. B. Creasy. 17-3td\*

Need Christmas turkeys for sale. Phone 4902. 17-2td

WANTED—Helper at Rock Hotel. Good wages, home like accommodations. Phone No. 12 collect, Winters, Texas. 17-tf-d

FOR SALE—Car load Jersey milk cows. Come early and get your choice. E. W. Brownrigg at Higginbotham Bros. & Co. 16-5d

WANTED—Some one to take care of two small children. See C. R. Sheffy. 15-6td\*

WANTED—Man to cut and haul wood. Work close to town and good pay. Apply at Ledger office. 11-tfd

SEWING—For plain and fancy sewing see Mrs. R. J. Newton, 203 Eighth Street.

FOR SALE—Must be sold at once; one six cylinder, 7 passenger Studebaker car. Driven less than 5,000 miles; a bargain if sold now. New non-skid tires, all around. N. B. Creasy, Phone 121, Ballinger. 15-6td Itv.

## Tubes Free With Every Casing

that we sell from now to Jan. 1.

We will give you an inner tube free.

Complete stock of Goodrich, Pennsylvania and Brunswick Tires.

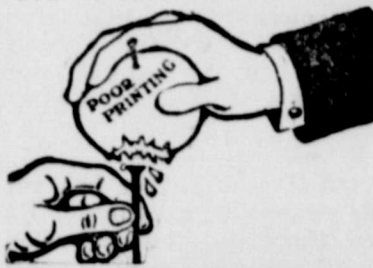
Exide and Columbia Batteries.

We take your old battery in at \$5.00, regardless of condition.

See us for anything in the Auto line, and save money.

## Complete Stock of Supplies Nance-Stroble Auto Electric Company

Dodge Bld. Main St. Opposite Bateman Lumber Y.  
Night Phone 327 Day Phone 109



### You Can't Drive a Nail With an Apple

Poor printing on poor paper never paid anybody. Get work that is good enough to bring you good results.

Use an economical paper such as

MANEERWILL BOND

and come to an economical printer. That's us. Quick service and good work at reasonable prices.

Use More Printed  
Salesmanship — Ask Us

## CASTORIA

For Infants and Children  
In Use For Over 30 Years  
Always bears  
the  
Signature of *Chas. H. Fitch*

Use Ledger Classifieds.

## QUEEN THEATRE

Metro Picture Corp. presents  
... VIOLA DANA  
in  
"SOME BRIDES."  
Comedy.



WE DESIRE TO THANK OUR MANY FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS FOR ALL BUSINESS ENTRUSTED TO US, MAKING IT POSSIBLE FOR UP TO RENDER A MOST SATISFACTORY STATEMENT.

"Make Our Bank Your Bank"

THE  
**First National Bank**  
ESTAB. 1866 OF BALLINGER, TEXAS ESTAB. 1866

THE BANK OF DEPENDABLE SERVICE



**D. Reeder's**  
 DRY GOODS  
 TWO FRONTS--HUTCHINS AVE. & 8th ST.



# The Christmas Store

CHRISTMAS EVE is almost here---a day when a world is happy. With most of us there are many, many Gifts yet to purchase. Some have just begun to make their purchases. This is wrong, for you do yourself an injustice by allowing others to make first selections and you are assisting in making the last days shopping rush greater and heavier by waiting.

And Best of All, Our Great Christmas Sale is Now On. Allowing You a Wonderful Saving on Everything You Buy

OUR ENTIRE STOCK OF

Ladies', Misses and Children's Dresses, Suits and Coats Sold At

**1/2**

**PRICE**

And you will find just such bargains in every Department. Extra Special Bargains are here for the men too and toys galore for the Children. We have a big variety of gifts for the whole family and will save you money on anything in Gift Goods.

**D. Reeder's**  
 DRY GOODS  
 TWO FRONTS--HUTCHINS AVE. & 8th ST.



The Store of the Christmas Spirit



# SOME Christmas Suggestions

—By J. Y. Pearce



Pickard China and Glass  
*The Ideal Gift*

A well assorted stock, new designs, especially ordered for the Holiday trade. This line is the last word in artistic china ware.

Parisian Toilet Accessories in sets or individual pieces to match sets. Very tasty, very beautiful—the very thing for mother, sister or sweetheart.

Fine Stationery.

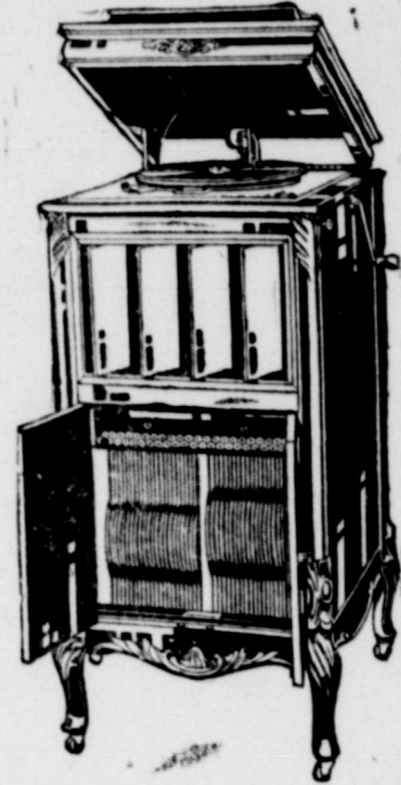
Fine initialed stationery is an acceptable remembrance. We have a wide variety to select from.

Books for Boys and Girls.

And the late novels for grown-ups. Nearly anything you want in this line.

Nunnally's and Mary Garden candies in Holiday packages. Always in good taste for a Christmas present.

*An all the year 'round suggestion—Bring us your prescriptions*



A DALION Talking Machine would make an elegant gift for the whole family.

Plays all Records.

## J. Y. Pearce Drug Company

Biggest

Oldest

Best

### MIRACLE OF THE THORN STAFF

Pretty Legend of Ancient Britain That is Often Repeated in England at Christmas Time.

It is one of the prettiest legends of ancient Britain—the old Christmas story of the thorn of Glastonbury. William of Malmsbury, the chronicler, told it hundreds of years ago in his "Antiques of Glastonbury." It is repeated often at Christmas time in England.

The legend tells how Joseph of Arimathea, who was persecuted by Pontius Pilate, because he had laid away the body of Christ in his sepulcher, that he fled to Gaul, carrying with him under a cloth of mystical white samite, the Holy Grail. In Gaul he found the Apostle Philip, preaching to the heathen, and he rested with him a few days.

One night a radiant light awakened him, and an angel bade him go to Britain and preach the glad tidings to King Arvirgatus; and, where a Christmas miracle should come to pass, there to build a church.

He and a band of followers followed the instructions of the angel, and Arvirgatus gave them the Isle of Avalon, and bade them erect an altar there to the new God. It was a beautiful gift. The tiny isle lay warm in a verdant valley. Sparkling waves softly lapped its shore. Soft breezes played in its trees, and nowhere was the sky so blue as over Avalon.

When they reached the top of the hill called Weary All, Joseph planted his thorn staff he had carried with him on his long journeys over land and sea, deep into the ground, and lo it took root, and immediately there blossomed a bush of beautiful white flowers.

"This is where we will build our church," the good man said, and so, at Glastonbury Abbey—for so Avalon is known today—the thorn bushes bloom white at each Christmas time, lend their fragrance to the frosty air, and remind all who see them of the Christmas miracle.

### THE CURIOUS MISTLETOE

Something Like 300 Varieties in the World—Pink Berries Found Only on Cedar Trees.

There are about 300 kinds of mistletoe in the world, and each variety grows on the branches of trees and has little white or pink berries, says St. Nicholas. But the pink berries are found on only the cedar trees. The mistletoe, unlike other plants, gets no food directly from the ground. In-

stead, it gets its nourishment from the trees on which it grows.

Another curious thing about the mistletoe is that though it blossoms earlier in the year than the tree on which it grows, yet the little berries do not ripen before December. Maybe that is because it has to steal its food from the tree, and therefore cannot ripen early. The very name "mistletoe" gives some idea of its insignificance. In the Anglo-Saxon language "mist" means gloom, and it comes in mid-winter, the gloomiest time of the year.

The gathering of mistletoe was a very important ceremony among the ancient Druids. About five days after the new moon they marched in state in procession to the forest and raised an altar of straw beneath the finest mistletoe-bearing oak they could find. The arch-Druid would ascend the oak, and, with a jeweled knife, remove the sacred mistletoe. The others stood beneath the tree and caught the plant upon a white cloth, for, if a portion of it touched the earth, it was an omen of misfortune to the land.

And this is doubtless the reason why it is still the custom to hang it from the ceiling and why it is supposed to lose its charm if it touches the floor.

### MY CHRISTMAS TREE.

O a Christmas morn-  
ing when I  
wake and  
sleep-dust from  
my eyes I shake. I  
see a sight that  
makes me start and  
causes thumpings in my  
heart. A Christmas tree—  
oh, pretty sight—with can-  
dles, bells and balls alight.  
With horns and dolls and sugar  
plums, and skates and trains and  
beating drums. And, oh, it is a won-  
der tree, with heaps of things for  
me to see. Rare gifts hang upon  
the side, which tinseled fairies  
cannot hide. A soldier doll,  
a doll house, too, and  
strings of gold come to  
my view, and  
as I look  
I seem to  
hear sweet Christ-  
mas music, soft and clear.  
A merry Christmas, it seems to say,  
A merry, happy, holy day!

Mrs. John Biddle of Athens, Ohio, age 76, was mother of 14 children. Thirteen of her children were school teachers, during their early life and seven of her eight sons are now practicing physicians.

An Arab drinks cold water with a spoon and never bathes in it unless his home be on the seashore.

### ASIA BIRTHPLACE OF ST. NICHOLAS

Contrary to General Belief in This Country, He Was Not of German Origin

### BORN IN SIXTH CENTURY

Worshipped by Italian Sea Traders as Their Special Protector—Played Double Role in This Country in Early Days.

Just why so many Americans think of the good Saint Nicholas as a German saint, and on second guess accord it him with Dutch ancestry, is not known. But it is undoubtedly the general belief in our country that the saint, whose birthday, December 6, is celebrated in some countries as the "gift festival" of the year, was of Teutonic extraction.

The Christmas saint really was born in Asia Minor, in Patara, in the province of Lycia, some time in the sixth century. St. Nicholas of Bari, he is of course called by Europeans, but only the bones of St. Nicholas reposing for eight centuries in the crypt of a handsome cathedral at Bari, Italy, have given him that title. He never lived in Bari. Italian sea traders, who worshipped him as their special protector, stole his body from its resting place in Myra in the twelfth century and brought it to the Italian seaport. Since that time the celebration held there in the saint's honor is unique.

The Eastern world knew and loved him first, but it is from Western Europe that we learn of many of the quaint customs connected with the celebration of his birth. In Lycia he lived to a good old age, filling his days even in childhood by doing good deeds and giving invisibly to the poor of the fortune he inherited. It was Christlike to give, so, as a steward of God, his wealth belonged to God's children. Nicholas believed. Finally he was made bishop of Myra, where he went to live for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

It was not strange that after such a life of charity he should become a saint of the common people, even as St. George was a saint of knighthood. He was invoked by the laborer toiling for his daily bread, by mariners, by merchants. He was protector of the weak against the strong, the poor against the rich, the captive, the pris-

oner, the slave. He was especial guardian of maidens, schoolboys, the orphan poor. Throughout all Catholic Europe children are taught to reverence him, and to believe if they are docile and attentive to their duties he will fill the cap or stocking with dainties; if they are naughty or idle, he certainly has a rod in pickle to bring along for them.

Saint Nicholas has found his way to America in double role of benefactor and bugaboo. Among the Pennsylvania Dutch parents still admonish children: "Be good, Pez-nickel will get you!" Pez-nickel being a species of unkind Santa Claus and closely related to the "old Nick." In some sections Kris Kringle appears in combined role of Santa Claus and Christchild. He has other names—Sancliclaus, Claws Niglo, Nikolo.

Although strangely little is known of St. Nicholas in America, a few churches scattered over the country bear his name. No saint of the calendar has as many churches, altars and chapels erected in his honor. Most towns in England boast churches bearing St. Nicholas' name. There are more than a hundred in Belgium and thousands scattered over Europe. But wherever he is worshiped and his birthday observed it is always in remembrance of the fact that he is a follower and disciple of the Christ, whose coming was the greatest gift of all.

### Charity at Christmas.

There can be no holier sentiment attached to a gift on Christmas day than charity, for charity combines all that is good and tender in human ideal, impulse and emotion. There is a double joy in charity, for it blesses two. It not only gives happiness in the act itself, but it quickens and develops, for all after life, pure, precious qualities of mind and heart that are a well-spring of peace. Charity comes nearer to spanning the immeasurable space between the sin of this world and the holiness of heaven than any other blessing that mankind knows.

An ideal Christmas which would really mean genuine good will among men is one in which none should be cold, hungry, shelterless or friendless—one in which they who have would think first of them who have not.—Christmas Herald.

### Boxing Day in England.

Boxing day is little known in America, but its observance is general in Great Britain. It is the day after Christmas day, and is observed as a holiday, Christmas being reserved for religious observation. A feature of the day is the giving of gifts by employers to employees. These are called Christmas boxes.

### AND BEFORE CHRISTMAS, TOO.



"Jeanette, you are the light of my life. You're my sun, my stars, my all, you're my—"

"Yes, George. I know all that; but you're broke."

### The Bubble Burst.

Young Tom was spending Christmas in the country and had been invited to the beautiful home of a sweet young thing named Agnes.

"What a charming place!" he said enthusiastically, to Agnes' proud parents. "Does it go as far as those woods over there?"

"It does," remarked the somewhat unsympathetic father.

"Ah," said Tom, still cheerily; "and to that old stone wall over there, sir?"

"It does," came the gruff answer; "and it goes as far as the river on the south, and to the main road on the north."

"Beautiful!" put in Tom.

"Yes," went on the old man, "but it doesn't go with Agnes!"

Then Tom faded peacefully from view.

### Stockings for Christmas Only.

The Christmas stocking as generally known is one taken from the bureau supply for daily wear. In certain parts of the country, however, the Christmas stocking is never in use except to be "hung from the chimney with care." The New England stocking of this kind is usually long in the leg and knitted from woolen yarn. There are stockings on Cape Cod which have been used by four generations of children. Once emptied of their treasure on Christmas morning they are rolled up and marked and laid away for the next year's festivities.

Wanted—A dog by a little boy with pointed ears.

### CHRISTMAS

Sparkling snow on the ground—an invigorating tang to the air—the mouth-watering smell of cooking from the cozily-warm kitchen—our boy safely home from overseas with brave stories to tell and all the manhood crystallized in him—relatives and old friends gathering at the festive table—holly wreaths at the windows and a crackling fire in the open hearth—the hilarious laughter of kiddies as the new toys make them bubble over—mistletoe nalled mischievously above the door for the kiss you men to give bustling, unsuspecting mother—the silvery, tranquil peal of church bells across the soft-snowed open places—an amazing forgetfulness of the dour anticipations and business worries of only yesterday—a sudden re-bellef that love is life—  
That is Christmas!

### NEEDLESS PRECAUTION.



Hubby—It's all rot and nonsense to try to make children believe there's such a character as Santa Claus. They ought to be taught better.

Wifey—Our children don't need to be taught better. They know there's no Santa Claus in this house.

The Day We "Ate."  
In other words, Christmas is the day where we shall celebrate, mastic and bicarbonate, and the next day we shall medicate.

Use Ledger Classifieds. Try Want Ads for results.



## Are You Slaving or Saving?

Make up your mind that you are not going to Slave all your life, by making it a rule to put something aside each week to take care of you later on. Think of the old folks you know whose life depends on the generosity of some relative. Make up your mind that you are not going to be that way when you get old.

## Let Your Own Present be a Saving Account

The non-interest bearing and unsecured deposits of this bank are protected by the depositors' guaranty fund of the State of Texas. Also our officers and directors are experienced business men—men who have made a study of the Banking business and Local Conditions. They are ready to care for you and will always put the welfare of their customers before all else.

## The Farmers and Merchants State Bank



## A Car at Christmas Times

### Helps Make it a Merry Occasion



### The Right Battery for YOUR Car

Every car needs a certain particular type of battery to fit the other electrical equipment the car builder put on it.

Don't go to some one who'll sell you "any old battery"—because he hasn't your particular size and type in stock. Come to the Authorized Willard Service Station where we carry a complete stock, and can sell you the one battery that your car needs.


And remember—Willard Batteries with Threaded Rubber Insulation last longer and need less repairs than any other you can buy—because the insulation lasts as long as the plates, instead of wearing out and making re-insulation necessary before you have had the full service you should get.

But to enjoy a car it must be in good running order, newly equipped with Tires, Tubes, Battery and all the other needed accessories. If your car needs any of these essential accessories, you should see us now and have it put in the very best shape before the Holiday rush starts. Our stock of tubes and casings is complete and the best that can be had. Our guarantee is on every article we sell. Look at the name of these casings—that is enough to convince you:

### Kelly-Springfield, McGraw, United States and Racine Extra Tested Tires and Tubes.

We are always ready to assist you in any way when your car needs attention and we carry the largest line of extra parts in West Texas. It is our business to serve you and we are looking after our business. You will always find us with a

### Full Line of Highest Quality Accessories.



## Ballinger Auto Company

# A Merry Christmas to You

We take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to the splendid people of Runnels county for their patronage. While we have at all times striven to serve our patrons, we realize that without their good will and friendly interests we could not have made the showing that our statement gives. We realize that the basis of our success is, and will ever be, the success which comes to our friends and customers, and knowing that, we are always ready to lend any aid, in any enterprise, consistent with sound Banking principles. We particularly desire to be of aid and assistance to our farmer friends and customers and whenever prices of farm products are below what they should be, we will stand ready to make advances that will enable our customers to hold for better markets. Our wish is that the Prosperity that has come to our people this year may come to them year after year and that this will be the Happiest Christmas of all your life.

## The Ballinger State Bank and Trust Company

### Uncle Josiah's Christmas

By GRAHAM LINGFIELD

HE street cars were crowded and the little man standing on the sidewalk hitched the collar of his coat a bit higher and allowed the women and children, with arms laden with parcels, to elamber aboard ahead of him. It was Christmas eve, and the holiday spirit was all about him. Not that Josiah Miggs had been Christmas shopping. Oh, no. He was just on his way from business.

He took another wistful peep at the girl on the boarding opposite and resigned himself to seeing another lonely end go by without stopping. The fact of the matter was that Jos Miggs was about the loneliest little old man in little old Manhattan, and silly as it may sound, he had adopted a girl on a boarding—an advertising girl—as his friend. Every day as he went to and from the real estate office where he worked he always glanced up at the boarding as he passed, and the girl always seemed to smile back at him in a cheery, encouraging manner. Tonight he did not feel that he could think too much about the girl on the boarding because, when one has only a very lonely Christmas to look forward to, thinking about impossibilities only makes matters worse. So Jos humped his shoulders to the cold wind that was blowing and waited for another car.

It was a soundning thwack that fell on his shoulders as he stood there, and Jos had to gasp for breath before looking around to see what had hit him.

When he did, however, all he could see was a round, grinning face ever so high up looking down into his. He stared at it in perplexity a moment, then wheeling around exclaimed:

"Why, Tom!"

The tall young man stood and grinned while Jos looked him up and down.

"When did you strike town, Tom?"

haven't seen you since you were a little bit of a feller."

"Two months ago, Uncle Jos. I got a job with Billings & Kent, the hardware people. I've been looking for you, tho'."

"Well, well, Tom. I'm glad to see you. Suppose we go along and have some dinner together, eh? How would that be?"

The big young man shook his head. "Sorry, uncle," he said, "but it can't be done. I'm—I'm promised somewhere else."

Mr. Miggs gave him a sly, sidelong glance. "So that's the way the wind blows, eh?"

The young man reddened. "I—I promised," he stammered. Then a bright idea striking him, he grasped his arm out of Tom's grasp. "Non-sense, Tom," he said. "But Tom held on."

"Uncle Jos shrunk back in his overcoat. What he butt in where he was not wanted? No, indeed. He dragged his arm out of Tom's grasp. "Non-sense, Tom," he said. "But Tom held on."

"Now look here, uncle; you're the only relative I have in this city. You



"You Come Along With Me."

Just have got to come along and be introduced."

And as Tom was nearly three times as big as Uncle Jos, he almost lifted him bodily into the street car that happened to be waiting, and away they went.

It was with some trepidation that Mr. Miggs followed his nephew into the neat little flat where Tom's fiancée lived. He did not feel at all sure of his welcome. He was only in his

business clothes, and he knew quite well that his collar was none too fresh. Well, it was Tom's fault for dragging him there. He would just say how do you do and then escape—escape to his boarding house and—

He found himself ensconced in an easy chair in the cozy parlor. There was nobody else about, but sound from the kitchen indicated that somebody was busy. Tom took a chair too, and then started in to tell him all about it.

Ethel Westcott was a stenographer at Billings & Kent's and Tom had fallen in love with her the very first day he had gone there. She lived alone with her mother, her father having died some years ago, and Tom and she hoped to be married very soon. Just as soon as he had saved something to start on. Then suddenly Tom sprang up, exclaiming:

"See, uncle, I forgot to buy the cigars" and seizing his hat from the hatstand, fled, leaving Mr. Miggs all by himself in the parlor. For the moment Uncle Jos didn't know whether to jump up and follow Tom or to sit where he was.

But Tom was gone, and there was nothing for him to do but to sit still. What an awkward predicament to be in! To be left in a strange house where nobody knew who he was. Supposing somebody were to come in—how was he to explain himself? He was just wondering what on earth he should say, when sure enough footsteps sounded down the passage. They approached the room.

Uncle Jos cowered in his chair. What a stupid Tom was to leave him like that! Suppose they took him for a burglar or something. Uncle Jos dared not look up. The footsteps were almost at the door. They ceased. Mr. Miggs dared scarcely breathe. He sat as if petrified. What would happen?

A scream, perhaps, a yell of fright! No, nothing happened. Perhaps it was only Tom standing there, after all. At last the trembling little man screwed up his courage and raised his eyes. For a moment he thought he must have fallen asleep and dreamed of the girl of the boarding.

She was actually there and smiling down at him as usual. The same bright face and curling hair, the merry eyes with the friendly glint in them. Was this Tom's girl? Why, he seemed to have known her all his life. He rose to his feet, a tentative smile on his pale cheeks. He didn't know what to say, but there was no need for the girl to step forward.

"Uncle Jos, I'm sure," she smiled. "I've heard Tom speak of you so



Smiling Down at Him as Usual.

He waited while she crossed the room to him and took his hands in hers. She stood before him, speaking words of kindness and welcome. "We've been thinking of you and wondering how we could find you. Tom said that you were all alone, and we could not have enjoyed our Christmas 'thinking that.'" She stooped and kissed his cheek. Wonderingly Tom's uncle looked at her, tears of gladness in his eyes.

No need for introductions, no need for explanations; just friendliness and hospitality. And when presently Ethel's mother came from the kitchen, and Tom returned from his shopping, it was just like a family gathering. Of course they made him stay to supper, and afterward to help hang the decorations, and when at last he said good-by their voices followed him down the street "A Merry Christmas, Uncle Jos, and mind you come early tomorrow."

**Dog's Grave Cause of Costly Legal Battle**  
Concordia, Kans.—Six attorneys, a special referee and a circuit judge wrestled with the complaint brought against Dr. D. S. O'Brien of Beloit, who buried his dog, Jack, in Elmwood cemetery. The cemetery went against the doctor who disinterred the body of his pet and buried it in his back yard.

**Use Ledger Classifieds.**

### CHRISTMAS REBORN

My heart's throbbin' like it used to, old tunes play along its strings. At the thought of Christmas comin' and the thought of Christmas things. And the thought of little children climbin' out of little beds. With the Christmas candles throwin' golden glory on their heads. And a standin' like I've seen them all about the Christmas tree. There is memories aplenty comes along the years to me. But no memories are so sweet as the memories that come of the far-off Christmas mornin' and the children with their drums.

Little children tippytoin' down the stairs in nighties white. Then a sudden rush an' clatter, and a squeal'n of delight. When they see the tree a-standin' in the crispy Christmas dawn. And a look has made them certain that old Santa Claus is gone—For although they write to Santa tellin' what they'd like to get. They are always sort of sneered that they will find him there till yet. When they're gettin' up so early, so they give a squeal to see That he's got his work all finished and has left the Christmas tree.

Children late years ain't been gettin' all they want him for. For his work was interfered with by the horrors of the war; But the war is done and ended, and we've got to rise and go. All the gifts for this here Christmas that we ever used to know; Got to do our shoppin' early, and enough for years gone by. Got to bring back Santa Claus and get the Christmas tree, an' try To forget that there was hatred in the world, an' grief and tears; Got to do our shoppin' now and brighten up the comin' years.

—Judd Mortimer Lewis.



**Dublin Police Get Big Lump Wage Increase**  
Dublin—The government is increasing the pay of the police both in Dublin and the country to correspond with that of the English police. The result will be that the cost of the Irish police which, except for political offenses is almost idle, will amount to over 3,000,000 pounds a year.

A trout takes from 35 to 60 days to hatch, according to the temperature of the water.

**Wanted—Lady to sew buttons on the second story of the First National Bank building.**

**Wanted—A man to take care of horses who can speak German.**

### CHRISTMAS ACTS AS TONIC

Happy and Exhilarating Mental Spirit Has Good Effect on People, Declare Medical Observers.

Close observers in the ranks of the medical profession have noted one very interesting fact concerning the Christmas season—that it generally has a good tonic effect upon their patients. In explanation of this the London Lancet says that since Christmas has come to be regarded as a time for good cheer, a universal feeling of contentment and happiness is engendered at this time of joyousness, routine is for a while relieved, a certain freshness is given to the daily round, differences of opinion are sunk, and a charitable spirit prevails. Is it, by the way, hoping for too much that the season of good fellowship should have some lasting effect upon the manners and methods of all?

It may not be easy to trace exactly why this sense of exhilaration and well-being comes with the advent of Christmas, for the psychological factors concerned are not simple. But the main point is that the mental state does everybody good, and the annual festivity is just as excellent an institution as the prescription of the physician which gives tone and vigor to the struggle in life's race. There is no need nowadays, thanks to the good sense of the people and the counsels of their medical advisers, to moralize about the evils of a stupid indulgence in food, alcohol and tobacco on a festive occasion such as the present. Practically everybody realizes the great physiological advantages of being wise on a merry occasion and the disadvantages of being a fool.

Many more persons than formerly feel where use ends and abuse begins, and they act sensibly accordingly; and so far from it being a crime to make the season festive by enjoying, on a little extended scale perhaps, the creature comforts of life, some decided good is done to both the mental and physical health of the individual.

The festive season may, therefore, be welcomed which brings cheer to thousands, which induces the generous and charitable to brace the mental and physical functions of the community at large, giving it the opportunity of relinquishing its business and its worries for a time, to start again refreshed and ready for "the trivial round, the common task." The prescription "A Merry Christmas" is sound so long as the "signature" of good sense is observed.

**Wanted—A room for two young men about 30 feet long and 20 feet wide.**



# Texan Cars in Stock Now

MADE IN TEXAS---BUILT FOR TEXAS ROADS

You don't have to place your order and wait but we are ready now to demonstrate and deliver you one of these cars. Come and see it--You will see for yourself, it's the best car built for the money.

## Everything We Sell is Guaranteed to You By Us

### Storage Batteries COLUMBIA and EXIDE

This is our strong point: These batteries are guaranteed to us and we guarantee them to you for 18 months. We are always glad to test and water your battery FREE and we repair and rebuild any make of battery and positively guarantee our work.

Until January 1st, we recharge any battery for 25¢.

### We Make Prices Others Follow

Gasoline, Texaco, all you want .....22 1/2¢  
Champion Spark Plugs .....50¢  
Ford Vibrators, points Genome K. W.,  
15 c

Complete stock of—

**B. F. Goodrich  
Pennsylvania  
Brunswick Tires**

all Guaranteed by us for 6,000 miles If you want a casing or tube it will pay you to see us.

### We Carry Complete Stock of Parts

It will interest you to notice the large stock of parts we have. Some we have now are: Chains, Radiators, Springs, Coils, Lamps, Leak-proof Rings, Ignition Parts for every Starter, Magneto and Distributors, Brake Linings, Seat Covers, Extra Rims, in fact everything you need for your car. See us when your car is sick.

## A Big Lot of Second-Hands Cars for Sale Cheap

# Nance - Stroble Auto Electric Company

Opposite - H. H. Hardin Lum-ber Co. Hutchins Ave.

### Making Merry With Others

By ELEDA LEDMAN

(Copyright, 1919, McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

MISS HOLLISTER glanced up from her paper. "That's pretty good advice," she murmured as she read the words once again. "The custom of forgetting oneself and making merry with others and for others is a wise and wholesome one." "I believe I'll stroll along the streets to see if I can't find someone equally lonely."

Suiting the action to the words, Miss Hollister donned her coat and left the house, calling to the maid, "Probably I'll bring home some guests for dinner."

Looking along the street for someone to share her loneliness she spied a young girl walking listlessly along, apparently without any destination, as if she had missed altogether the joyous meaning of the holiday.

"Merry Christmas," she said putting her hand forward. The girl paused a second, and then repeated, "Merry Christmas," adding, "It may be merry for you but not for me."

"Why are you so lonely on such a glorious day?" said Miss Hollister. "The air just seems to tingle with a faint light."

"It seems strange to tell one's troubles to a stranger, but I left home because I thought I could sing, and I have been unsuccessful in my attempt, and I am too proud to let the folks know. When I think of the feast at home—the turkey dinner, and only myself missing, I just can't bear it." Her big blue eyes filled with tears.

"Cheer up, girl! No one can enjoy a Christmas day alone. You can only have a merry Christmas if others share it with you. Let's celebrate together. I have a dinner already prepared, but no guests."

"Let's find one or two others equally lonely, and maybe we can all get together and have a good time. Maybe we have something in common. I left home years ago because I thought

I could write something worth while. But the only real human interest is not in books and magazines, but all around us."

"But," questioned the girl, "can you go up to strangers just like that?" with a wave of the hand.

"Hardly. One must be moved by the Christmas spirit. Look at that man over there, staring at that doll in the window."

The man turned at the sound of her voice and asked: "Pardon me, do you know any little girl who would just love to have a doll? There must be hundreds of little girls just aching for one. That doll is the counterpart of a picture my partner has on his office desk—dark curls, blue eyes and all. That picture has been a mascot to me, and I would love to buy the doll. But I missed my train, and I am not acquainted in the city. Talk about a bachelor being lonely at Christmas! Why, Christmas in a big city alone—never, never again for me."

Miss Hollister's face beamed with pleasure. "You are just the person we want. We will form a triple alliance of 'has-been' lonelies. You just come along to my place, it's only around the corner, and share my Christmas dinner. Christmas is really the children's day, so let's just pretend we are chil-



"Do You Know Any Little Girl Who Would Just Like to Have a Doll?"

dren again and don't need any introduction, just 'come-on over.'"

"My name is Merton, and I think you must be Mrs. Santa Claus."

"No, I'm not; I'm Miss Hollister, and this is Miss—"

"Aiken," interrupted the girl. "What my partner's name is Aiken,

and I was on my way to join him at his mother's house."

"You mean, Thomas Aiken?"

"Sure enough!"

"Oh, he is my brother."

"Well, I declare! Then surely I must buy that doll for your sister. Doesn't it look like her?"

"I haven't any little sister. That must have been my picture when I was a little girl."

"I don't understand why you are here, Miss Aiken, but you are going to take the next train with me to your mother's home. You have lost that 'baby-doll' expression. How strange that the little picture girl and you should be the same. Why, one of the inducements that Jack offered me was that his sister would be home for Christmas. I'll run in and buy that doll, and then we will proceed to Miss Hollister's."

As they entered Miss Hollister's apartment, they uttered a cry of surprise, for standing in the middle of the room was a child.

"Why, here's just the one we are looking for. Here's a beautiful doll for you! Look, little one!" said Miss Hollister.

"Boys don't want dolls," cried the tot; "they want soldiers and guns, and steam cars, and—"

"But why are you dressed like a little girl?"

"Because my father don't know any better. He left me home all alone on Christmas, so I just came in here—the turkey smelled so good."

Suddenly a voice was heard, full of anxiety, asking: "Is my boy here?"

"Yes," said Miss Hollister; "come right in."

"John!" she added in great astonishment.

"Yes, Mary," said the man; "to think I have found you after all these years. My wife died last year, and this is all I have," he said, pointing to the boy.

"Mary, is it too late for you to take both of us for a Christmas present?"

"How wonderful! This Christmas was so lonely, and now it is so full of happiness. I had always hoped for a chance to explain everything, but when I heard you were married, I thought there was no chance."

"Come! Let's all go in to dinner and talk it over."

"Yes," said Mr. Merton. "I was just telling Miss Aiken that when we know each other better, maybe I will give John's sister something better than a doll."

"Take it from me, Miss Aiken," said Mr. Merton, "the best is yet to be, and Christmas bells as well as wedding bells, may ring out the same merry tune for all of us."

"To be able to sing or write may be

all right, Miss Aiken, but I think to write the words 'wife' or 'mother' after one's name is more important than writing the best sellers ever written," added Miss Hollister.

### BUYING UNSUITABLE TIES

Tragedy Enough in Such Christmas Presents Purchased by Woman, but They Might Do Worse.

"Look at the trouble that is being stored up there," sneered the morbid pessimist as he pointed to a group of women around the necktie counter. "It would be funny," he continued, "if it were not so tragic. Why it is that lovely woman with all her eye for the beautiful and with all her accomplishments cannot select a necktie for a man is one of the things that rank with the unfathomable mysteries of life. I would sooner send a blind man to buy me a 'warranted sound' horse than I would enlist the services of a woman to select a necktie."

"Think of the fat men that will wake up on Christmas morning to find in their stockings a delicate emaciated baby pink necktie that will look like a consumptive shoestring when it reposes on their beautiful expanse of white shirt bosom. Then on the other hand, 'Bones, the human skeleton,' will probably get delirium tremens when he is made the recipient of a spotted necktie big enough to make a shawl for grandmum. Of course nothing will do for the nice, dignified old gentleman who never wears anything but a little black bow, but a flowing sash of passionate hue. Willie, the gay sport, on the other hand, will get something that would look nice on grandpa, and so it will go on down the line."

"Oh, the Christmas necktie! What tragedies are written in this name!"

The pessimist paused.

Then he added thoughtfully: "I would, though, rather have my wife buy me a necktie than pick out my cigars."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

### Surprise in Store for Santa.

Jack—We've put the chest of drawers in front of the fireplace.  
Harold—Yes.  
Jack—You tied the string to the handle of the door?  
Harold—Yes; and I tied the other end of the string to the water-jug.  
Jack—Then we ought to find out the real facts about Santa Claus.

Theatres exclusively for colored people are being started by a syndicate in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Washington, Pittsburg, Richmond and other large American cities.

### SOWING CHRISTMAS SEED

How the Problem of Storing a Barrel of Apples in a Small New York Apartment Was Solved.

A New York couple recently received a barrel of fine apples from a relative up in the fruit country and were puzzled for a while, not only as to where to put such a bulky package in the narrow confines of a four-room apartment, but also as to how to keep the fruit from spoiling in the steam-heated temperature. As there are only two in the family, it seemed as though they were sure to have some spoiled apples on hand before long.

"Might give them away for Christmas," suggested the head of the house.

"That wouldn't do at all," said the wife. "But I'll tell you what we will do. You know, there's a lot of people we know who won't think to send us any presents this year unless we bring the matter to their attention in some way. Now, if I send every one of my friends a nice basket of apples this week they'll all remember our existence and we'll get something from almost every one. I'll just do it."

And she did. Now they are looking forward to Christmas with much more curiosity and eagerness than usual and have enough apples left to last as long as they are likely to keep.



Miss Romantique—You men—before marriage you pay compliments, but after—  
Mr. Wise—We pay the bills.

### Christmas.

It is a blessed thing to believe in Christmas and all that it means. It is a blessed thing to be able to hear the song of the heavenly visitors. It has never sounded sweeter; never more necessary, never more full of hope and promise.

### BETHLEHEM

Cold was the earth and all the stars,  
But Mary Mother smiled  
Where in the manger of an Inn  
Lay warm the Holy Child.

The ox was hoist upon that night  
Unto the King of all;  
He gave for income meadowy bread,  
For shelter his rude stall.

Not all the cold of earth and man  
Can pierce the heaven mind,  
Where warm against her teeming heart  
A Mother clasps Her Child.

O miracle of utmost love,  
How God grew greater when  
He stooped to be a helpless babe  
Beside the hearts of men.

Long ages since—and still in joy,  
In loneliness and tears,  
We kneel unto a Little Boy  
Who smiles down through the years.  
—Wilbur Underwood in Reedy's Mirror.



### MAKE SOME SAD HEART GLAD

Christmas the Time for Remembering Those Not as Fortunate as You Are.

Christmas is a sad time in some households, among the older members who miss familiar faces always associated with family gatherings—a list of missing ones which increases as the years go by. But if it is impossible to be happy one's self, it is always possible to make some one else rejoice—this is an easier task than some people imagine. So many are so foolish as to think that because they cannot give beautifully that it is not worth while to give at all. They forget that what seems very little to a person in comfortable circumstances may appear very large to those who have virtually nothing at all; while among friends a small gift, bearing some sign of thoughtfulness, is often more acceptable than a costly but ill-chosen present. This is an excellent time to go over the children's toys and select those which can be spared to go to some less fortunate little ones. Do not select only those which are too battered to be recognizable; such, of course, are not to be despised, but a little glue and a few stitches to freshen up a broken doll or torn book add much to the pleasure of a second-hand gift—for all children love fresh-looking things and all that it means. It is a blessed thing to be able to hear the song of the heavenly visitors. It has never sounded sweeter; never more necessary, never more full of hope and promise.

Use Ledger Classifieds.

# There is an Ocean of Joy at Christmas Time In a Good Running Car

## If You are Tire Wise You Know

—That value alone makes reputation, and that well established name assures value.



—That the cost per mile of service, not the initial price, determines how expensive a tire is.

—That the security and satisfaction furnished by a good tire is worth many dollars to you.

Equip with Miller Tires they are **DEPENDABLE.**

We sincerely hope that this Christmas you will not have a worry. But if you should and it should be car worry—you can soon rid yourself of it by calling Castor Brothers.

If we look after your car it will be a source of pleasure to drive—we have the best accessories.



## This Is the House of Service

"The House of Service," is not merely a saying with us, but a principle, and we live up to it 365 days in the year. It means if you are in doubt about something concerning your car, if your spark plugs don't spark, if your carburetor wont "bu," or your battery wont "bat" or anything which may cause you more or less worry—bring it to us—we will worry for you.

**Gas, Oil, Storage**

# Castor Tire & Battery Co.

## SANTA BANNED BY PURITAN FATHERS

No Christmas Festivities or  
Gifts for Children in Massa-  
chusetts in Early Days

## DAY JUST LIKE ANY OTHER

Condition Somewhat Better for Young-  
sters in New Amsterdam—Holiday  
Observance Tolerant in the Colo-  
nias in Seventeenth Century

In the early days of this country's history Christmas festivities were not generally observed and poor old "Santa Claus," and all he represents, had a hard time of it.

In Massachusetts the observation of Christmas was utterly denounced as an evil, ungodly and pernicious custom, and any child daring to think of as much as a plum pudding on that day would make herself liable to reproof by the authorities. All along the stern and rock-bound coast, Germaine Ames writes in the Churchman, the only Christmas trees in the days of the Puritan domination were those that nature had planted there and had adorned with snowy snow. The fires burned brightly on the open hearths, but as far as the children knew Christmas was just like any other day in the calendar. Even after the Puritan reaction against the forms and customs of the old church had spent itself to some extent the children of the seventeenth century still expected no gifts in honor of the birth of Christ.

In New Amsterdam the outlook was a little better for the children. The Hollanders had brought with them their St. Nicholas, and his birthday was celebrated joyously by young and old just before Christmas, but Christmas was also observed. Of course, they had not many real toys as we know them today, but in the shoes that the little Hollanders set by the fireplace in the shining kitchen, which was also the living room, were homemade gifts. Many of these were of a useful character, such as hand-knit caps and mittens, but now and then a skillful Hollander would carve a model of a boat such as that which had brought them to New Amsterdam, or a miniature chest of drawers, and some can fancy the recipients showing these with pride to the wondering little Indian boys and girls when they came to be on terms of sufficient amity with them for such conferences. In Virginia, where the church of

England was strong and its adherents steadfastly observed the holidays as in the home country, there was always more of the Christmas spirit and abundant cheer and merry-making than elsewhere at this season. Here the Yule log held its place as there were the games and the feasting that made it indeed the merry season of the year. Later when New Amsterdam became New York and the English came in to power the character of the Christmas holiday was changed somewhat, although the Dutch influence continued dominant for many years.

Throughout the colonies in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries toys were an almost unknown factor, but wherever Christmas observations were not frowned upon by religion, feasting and good cheer were abundant, and bond and free, rich and poor, old and young, shared in the games, abundant food and genial atmosphere. In the eighteenth century toys began to make their appearance in the colonies. Some of them were brought from ever seas and had the enchanting quality of novelty. Little girls who had helped to mother their younger brothers and sisters were delighted with dolls that were all their own, to fondle and cuddle. A toy was a thing to be cherished in those days. Some of the gifts were of real intrinsic value, for the shipping and trading were growing to be important factors in the colonies, and men brought treasures of all kinds from the far East to the seaports, whence they were distributed to other parts of the colonies. The war for independence interrupted this and the children shared in the self-sacrifices and deprivations that were undergone by all the families living in the colonies at that time. When soldiers were starving at Valley Forge there was little thought in their homes of Christmas merrymakings and little out of which to provide it.

After the war there were still lean years, but by the opening of the nineteenth century peace and plenty smiled upon the land and Santa Claus found it safe to resume his visits and make his distributions.

### Remember Old Friends.

"What? A holiday greetings card with old Bill's name scribbled across it? . . . Good old Bill! Why, it's 11 years almost since we saw each other, and here he's not forgotten me even yet! . . . Huh, Mary, you needn't be so all-fired proud of that scarf Aunt Susie sent you. This may be only a colored postcard, but, by George, it's from Bill! . . . Well, well—this sure is Christmas!"

Probably the first known intoxicant was the fermented milk of mares, and it is at the present time a favorite with the Tartar.

## A Few Don'ts for Christmas

Don't court indigestion.  
Don't grumble, whatever you do.  
Don't half fill the kiddies' stockings.  
Don't give presents which will be useless.  
Don't forget the mistletoe. Romance still lives.  
Don't forget that it ought to be a merry Christmas.  
Don't deny the little ones' ideas about Santa Claus.  
Don't worry about unpaid bills—at any rate until tomorrow.  
Don't scoff at the lingering superstitions of the good old days.  
Don't for the show of things, buy presents which you can't afford.  
Don't expect too many presents. Take what you get and be thankful.  
Don't, if you get up on your wrong side, make everybody else miserable.  
Don't forget to think at least once during the day what Christmas really means.  
Don't give a present unless you want to. Better not give at all than give insincerely.  
Don't forget that the giving of Christmas boxes, like charity, should begin at home.  
Don't, if you are a girl, stand under the mistletoe until you see the right chap approaching.  
Don't kiss somebody else's best girl, even though she is under the mistletoe. There might be a row.  
Don't work on Christmas day if you can avoid it. If you have to, however, don't make a song about it.  
Don't give Johnnie a trumpet and Peter a whistle and expect to have a quiet time. It's unreasonable.  
Don't put off buying presents until the last minute. You'll get better value and avoid the crush if you shop early.  
Don't send an electric runabout to a freezing widow with five starving children. This is like throwing a rope of pearls to a drowning man.  
Don't look pained when somebody tells a fifty-year-old Christmas story. That's one of the unavoidable circumstances of the festive season.  
Don't give a new song to some one who doesn't sing; but be still more certain that you don't give a new song to some one who imagines he can sing.  
Don't refrain from giving because you can't afford to give much. The intrinsic value of a gift counts for nothing. It is the thought which prompts it that matters.  
Don't let the wife give you a Christmas present in the form of cigars. If she persists in doing so, don't smoke them—give them away again, without letting her know about it, of course.

Wanted—Cook, able to wash and iron, man and wife only.

## THERE'S A SONG IN THE AIR

There's a song in the air!  
There's a star in the sky!  
There's a mother's deep prayer,  
And a baby's low cry!  
And the star rains its fire  
While the beautiful sing,  
For the manger of Bethlehem  
Cradles a king!

There's a tumult of joy  
O'er the wonderful birth,  
For the Virgin's sweet boy  
Is the Lord of the earth.  
And the star rains its fire  
While the beautiful sing,  
For the manger of Bethlehem  
Cradles a king!

In the light of that star  
Lie the ages imperiled,  
And that song from afar  
Has swept over the world  
Every heart is aflame,  
And the beautiful sing  
In the homes of the nations  
That Jesus is King!

We rejoice in the light,  
And we echo the song  
That comes down through the night  
From the heavenly throng.  
Aye, we shout to the lovely  
Evangel they bring,  
And we greet in his cradle  
Our Savior and King.  
—Joseph G. Holland.

## LORE OF THE YULE LOG

Should Be Lighted From Portion of  
Last Year's Which Should Be  
Preserved for Good Luck.

The Yule-log, a probable variant of the bonfire—so characteristic of sun festivals—has some interesting folk-lore of its own.

In medieval England, its duration coincided with the Christmas revels. As long as it burned, the tenant had a right to feed at the lord's expense. The log was often cut from an ash-tree—the sacred tree of our Saxon forefathers. There is a gypsy legend that our Lord was born in a field and brought up by an ash-tree.

The log should, properly, be lighted with a portion of last year's log, a piece of which is always supposed to be preserved for luck. At the same time that the Christmas fire was lit, the Christmas candle had to be lighted. (A portion of last year's taper has also to be kept.) It was unlucky to snuff the Christmas candle, which burned for 12 days—the period of festivity. At St. John's college, Oxford, can still be seen the ancient stone socket with the Agnus Dei stamp, in which the Christmas candle was placed on the high table.

On the eve of Yule, the folk formerly carried long tapers to church on Christmas eve.

## LESSON OF CHRISTMAS DAY

Example of Christ Should Inspire Unselfishness and Make Us Try to Remedy Faults.

Christmas should inspire a world of unselfishness. The example before us is almost too perfect, for it rather frightens us to attempt such divine heights of self-abnegation, but we can try. It will at least take us from the depths of selfishness, where most of us now are. Each Christmas day should teach us something of the lesson of the Holy Child's life.

If we could learn from Christmas, today and in the succeeding years the serious lessons of self-betterment and ennoblement it has to offer, how infinitely better it would be than just to look on it as a holiday for gifts and feasts, for extravagance and foolishness.

So take an hour or two off on Christmas day and give it up to retrospective and self-inspection. You will each find faults, if you judge yourself impartially, for no one is perfect. Then make a serious determination to try to overcome these faults, for only trying to improve is there any growth in character. If you are satisfied with yourself you stay just as you are with all your faults and virtues. But if you try hard to remedy the faults your character is constantly growing broader. This is the lesson which Christmas has for each of you.

## Women in Crusade

Against Leprosy.  
Bombay—Led by Lady Chelmsford, the women of India are being organized to promote a movement to stamp out leprosy. There are 150,000 lepers in India and only 7,000 of these are institutions.

## FOURTEENTH DECENNIAL CENSUS OF UNITED STATES

By the President of the United States of America.

### A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, by the Act of Congress approved March 3, 1919, the Fourteenth, Decennial Census of the United States is to be taken beginning on the second day of January, 1920; and

Whereas, a correct enumeration of the population every ten years is required by the Constitution of the United States for the purpose of determining the representation of the several states in the House of Represent-

atives; and  
Whereas, it is of the utmost importance to the interests of all the people of the United States that this Census should be a complete and accurate report of the population and resources of the Nation;

Now, therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States of America, do hereby declare and make known that, under the law aforesaid, it is the duty of every person to answer all questions on the census schedules applying to him and the family to which he belongs, and to the farm occupied by him or his family, and that any person refusing to do so is subject to penalty.

The sole purpose of the Census is to secure general statistical information regarding the population and resources of the country and replies are required from individuals only to permit the completion of such general statistics. No person can be harmed in any way by furnishing the information required. The Census has nothing to do with taxation, with military or jury service, with the compulsion of school attendance, with the regulation of immigration or with the enforcement of any national, state or local law or ordinance. There need be no fear that any disclosure will be made regarding any individual person or his affairs. For the due protection of the rights and interests of the persons furnishing information every employee of the Census Bureau is prohibited, under heavy penalty, from disclosing any information which may come to his knowledge.

I therefore earnestly urge upon persons to answer promptly, completely and accurately all inquiries addressed to them by the enumerators or other employees of the Census Bureau and thereby to contribute their share toward making this great and necessary public undertaking a success.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done in the District of Columbia, this tenth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and nineteen, and of the independence of the United States, the one hundred and forty-fourth.  
(Seal) WOODROW WILSON.

Joe hat-  
ing aro.  
When  
see was  
so high  
stared a  
then wh-  
"Why,  
The  
grinned  
down.  
"When

# Merry Christmas



Another year with its sorrows and disappointments, with its joys and its highest expectations fulfilled has passed into history, and as usual there are just about as much of one as the other, so in looking back over the past year we are trying to forget the sorrows and disappointments and only think of the joys and the reasonable amount of prosperity that is ours; for these blessings we most heartily thank our friends and customers.

Our community as a whole has many things for which it should be thankful, many of our citizens have enjoyed the blessings of health and financial success and we rejoice with them. Those who have been less fortunate and the dark clouds have been their portion, to these our sympathy is extended.

Not forgetting entirely the things that are past, but using the mistakes that have been made in the past as stepping stones to a greater and nobler future, and trusting that we may be able to serve our country and our community in a more acceptable way in the future, we again thank you.

## Van Pelt, Kirk & Mack

B. C. Kirk

Scott H. Mack



### Christmas Means Love

We cannot picture it without seeing the spangled Christmas tree girt with the faces of gleeful youngsters, glad parents, and happy bodies returned home from town or far metropolis. It sounds like bells and crackling logs and shouts of children. And even our old, round-shouldered, sorrow-ridden planet, with his eye knocked out on his cheek, pauses to smile from sea to sea, and love is everywhere rejuvenated.

JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY

#### Tasted Suspicious.

"My dear, did you make this Christmas pudding out of the cook book?"  
"Yes, love."  
"I thought I tasted one of the corners."

### YULETIDE BUSY TIME FOR CUPID

Some Christmas Love Superstitions, Customs and Practices in the Old World

#### PURSES FOR POOR BRIDES

Money Collected and Presented in a Way So as Not to Offend Girls—Flowers Used in Proposals by Shy Young Natives of Alps.

Good St. Thomas, serve me right  
And send me my true love tonight,  
That I may gaze upon his face,  
Then him in my fond arms embrace.

After placing a piece of holly under her pillow, many a girl, in the north of England especially, repeats these lines to herself before retiring to rest on Christmas eve, according to a writer in London Tit-Bits.

Cupid plays an important part in many of the superstitious and customs that are still extant at this season.

Another queer custom in the north, although it is not now so prevalent as it was, is that of gathering maidens' purses. The money for these purses is collected some weeks before Christmas from the inhabitants of the mining towns, and they are given as marriage portions to the poorest among those girls who are soon to be married. On Christmas eve a full purse is quietly thrown in at the girl's window, so that her feelings shall not be wounded by an ostentatious distribution.

A Christmas practice among superstitious girls who wish to dream about their future lovers is that of abstaining from food or drink or speech during the whole of Christmas eve. Then, after all the family have retired, they make a cake of flour, salt and water, called a "dumb cake." This they eat just before retiring to bed, in the belief that their somewhat indigestible supper will cause them to dream of their future husbands.

In the Alps there exist several charming Yuletide customs of proposing marriage by the language of flowers. If a girl accepts a bouquet of edelweiss from a man during the period from Christmas day to New Year's eve the action denotes that she accepts him as her future husband.

Another Christmas custom in Switzerland is for the young man to place a flower pot containing a single rose and

a note on the window sill of the girl's room when she is absent from home. He then waits for a reply. If the maid accepts the flower before New Year's eve, then the young man boldly enters the house to "ask papa." If, on the other hand, the rose is not touched, but is allowed to fade away, the proposal is rejected without a single word of love having been exchanged between the couple. This is a useful custom for bashful bachelors!

In Sardinia Christmas wooing is far more complicated. If a Sardinian father has a marriageable daughter, the would-be suitor applies to him for permission to speak to her by means of a species of telephone that has been in use for the purpose for centuries of Christians.

It is a long string with a wooden knob at each end. The girl drops one knob out of her window and, the shutters being closed, places the other knob to her ear. Down below her would-be lover pours words of undying devotion into his knob!

On every New Year's day in Roumania a fair of marriageable girls is held. The girls are all drawn up in one line and the men in another, with the parents of both behind them. If a young man likes the look of any particular girl he steps out of his line, goes up to her and enters into conversation. If he is favorably received by the girl, his parents and her parents compare notes as to the marriage settlement and similar practical matters.

Many quaint superstitions are associated with the festive season in various parts of Britain. In Hertfordshire the wearing of new shoes on Christmas day is considered to be very unlucky; while in other parts it is thought to be inviting ill luck to allow any new leather in the house during the whole of Christmas week. Some folk say that "a green Christmas makes a fat churchyard," but in Devonshire they say that a green Christmas makes a prosperous year.

Superstitious people assert that one should be careful about the choice of the holly for the decorations. Part should be smooth and part prickly. Then, providing both kinds are carried into the house at the same time, all will be well. But should the prickly variety be taken in first, then the husband will rule the household during the coming year; if the smooth is brought in first the wife will be "top dog."

In Roumania when a man dies there must be placed in his coffin a comb, a bit of soap and a comb to pay the fee due Charon, to ferry him over the River Styx.

### MAKING THE CHRISTMAS LIST

Rack Your Brain, Count 'Em All, to See That No One's Missed.

"There, of course, is *Aunt Maria*, *Aunt Lizzie* and *Aunt Jane*; they're pretty old, but have to go down on the list again; and *Uncle Joe* and *Uncle Pete* and good old *Uncle Len*; I wish I really could decide just what I should give them. And *Cousin Nell* and *Cousin Kate* and *Cousins Belle* and *Sue*, and *Cousin May* and *Cousin Madge* must be remembered, too. And *Cousin Sam* and *Cousin Bill*, and *Cousins Jack* and *Ned*—I'm sure if I had any more I would go off my head.

"There's *Grandma Smith* and *Grandpa Smith*, *Grandma and Grandpa Jones*—what shall I get for folks who have rheumatism in their bones? There's *pa* and *ma* and *Brother Hal*, and *Sisters Maud* and *Grace*; before I get through I think I'll be in the crazy place. Now what can I give all the girls who always give to me? *Gladys*, *Hannah* and *Hortense* and *Lulu*—let me see, and *Clementine* and *Rose* and *Pearl* and half a dozen more—my gracious, I must make a trip through every shop and store.

And there is *Frieda*, housemaid girl, and *Mary Ann*, the cook—ere I forget I'll put their names right down now in my book. And, Oh! what shall I give to *Will*? Tee hee, what shall it be? I feel sure that a diamond ring he will present to me. He says he only wants a kiss, and maybe that is so, but how to hang it on a tree there is no way I know. A nice silk four-hand might do, with stripes of green and white; I know he wouldn't be like *pa* and say it was a fright.

"And now I think I'll go to bed and put aside my list; tomorrow I am sure to think of some one I have missed. I will be bankrupt when I buy the things from ties to muff—yes, Christmas comes but once a year, and gracious! that's enough."—Brooklyn Standard Union.

### Champagne is Again Flowing in London.

London—The fear that the war would destroy all stocks of the finer wines has been dispelled by the arrival of large quantities of champagne, restored when the Germans left the champagne district. Much of this wine was sent to Paris for the peace conference, purchased by speculators and resold in England at a big profit. It sells at \$50 a case.

### DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS

Holly Wreaths Help to Make the Home Cheerful—How to Keep the Tree Bright and Green.

It is not Christmas without a big, gorgeous, glittering Christmas tree and plenty of greens hung wherever possible.

Of course you have your tree chosen and ready for its great purpose. When it's time or cutting, invite your boy and girl friends to help, and make the bringing in of the Christmas tree a real ceremony. In England this is one of the big events for young and old.

The kind of tree to be used depends upon where you live. Red cedar, white pine, spruce, fir or hemlock are all good. To keep the tree bright and green set it in a deep bucket or low barrel, brace and fill the space between the tree and bucket or barrel with coal. Then pour in water until the receptacle is full.

Every home should be decorated at Christmas. Gather holly for wreaths, make ropes of laurel, and have several bowls filled with partridge berries. Mistletoe is beautiful and can be found as a growth on the top of sweetgums, live oaks and other deciduous trees in the territory south of New Jersey, southern Indiana and Missouri, and in Oregon and northern California. Other fine plants for decorating are Christmas fern and polypody. Black alder and flex or inkberry can also be used. Every district has some special green that is adaptable for decorating. In gathering greens, never destroy the plants; cut and pick carefully and the growth will not be injured.

SYDNEY, N. S. W.—A rabbit-catcher, robbing a hen-roost, at Mudgee, New South Wales, stumbled on a 14 lb. nugget, shaped like a Maltese cross, and of practically pure gold.

### Ship of Mystery on New Treasure Quest!

NEW ORLEANS—The speed yacht, *Whitemarsh*, formerly in the naval service, will leave here for a voyage far up the Amazon. The outfitting of the vessel in Philadelphia was attended by much mystery. "Fearless young men" were advertised for to man her. It is now known that a wealthy westerner will use her to seek asphalt and oil in the interior of South America.

### THE BIRDS' CHRISTMAS TREE.

To make a birds' Christmas tree, take an evergreen, if possible, but any kind of tree will do if you tie sheaves of wheat, corn-stalks and evergreen branches all over it to make it dense. If it is a large tree, plant it securely in a partially protected place. A smaller tree can be put on the feeding shelf outside your window. Hang on it wire baskets filled with seed, boxes with fronts removed, containing nut meats, millet, sunflower-seeds, wheat, cracked corn, bread-crumbs, rolled oats, etc. Coconut shells cut in half and filled with dainties that the birds love can also be hung from the branches. Have several shelves on which place apples, lettuce, cabbage and vegetables.

In all cold districts, have at least one or two deep boxes almost filled with cotton where the half-frozen birds can find shelter and warmth. Many birds suffer from thirst during the winter. Heat a brick or large stone and place a pan of water on it.

#### The Real Christmas.

The real Christmas is an invisible presence, a joyful glance of the eye, a wonderful expansion of the heart, a sense of comradeship with all mankind. It is an abandonment of ourselves to all good impulses and an almost reckless waste of good feeling and generosity and love, and no army of pessimists can banish that kind of Christmas from our hearts.

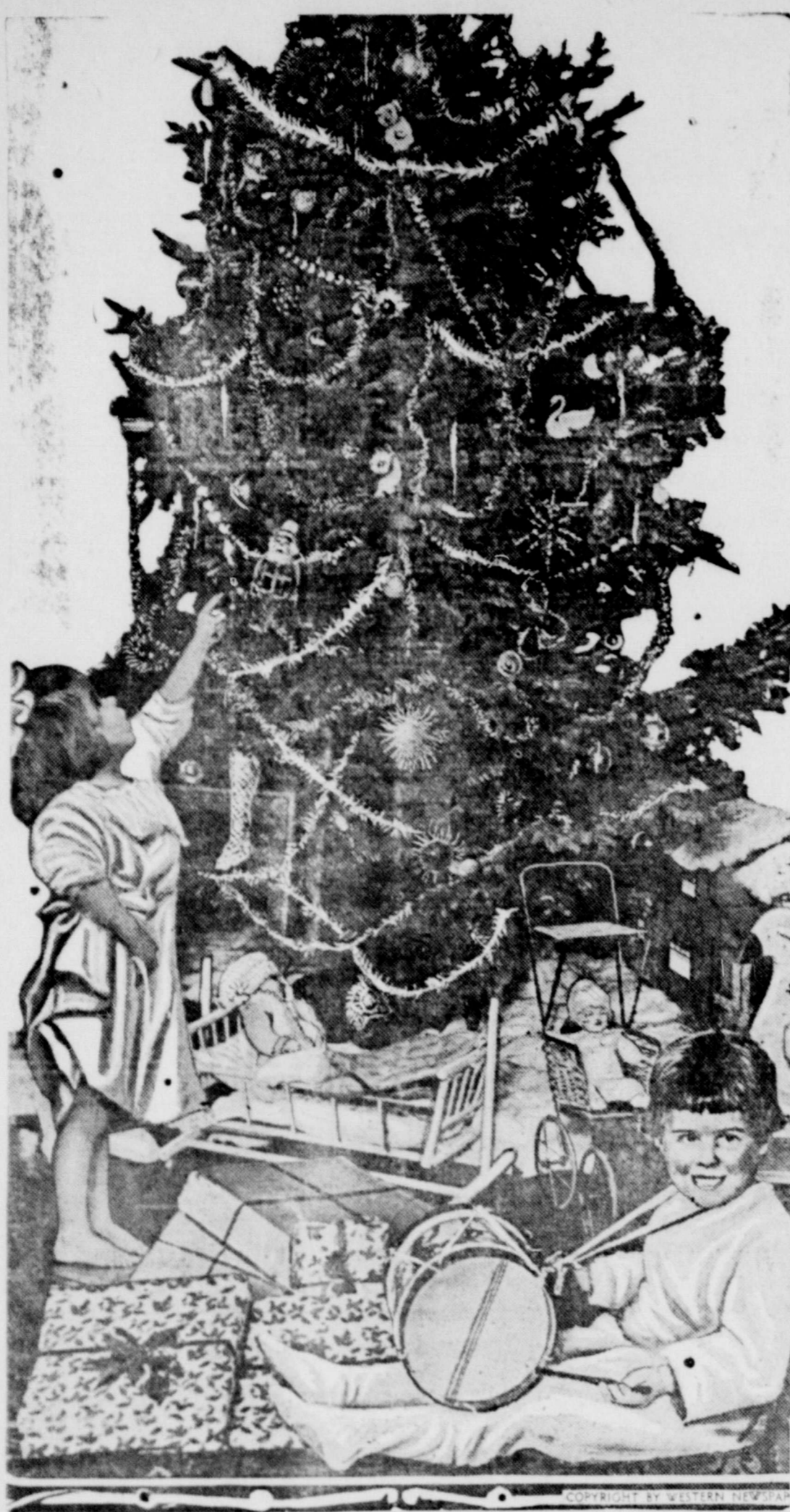
Under the Holly Bough—  
Ye who have scorned each other,  
Or injured friend or brother,  
In this fast-fading year,  
Ye who, by word or deed,  
Have made a kind heart bleed,  
Come gather here!

Let sinners against and sinning  
Forget their strife's beginning,  
And join in friendship now,  
Be links no longer broken,  
Be sweet forgiveness spoken  
Under the holly bough.  
—Charles Mackay.

London—"When strikers die they will get up a strike in Heaven till they get a 47 hour week at golden harp-playing," declared a prominent Salvation Army preacher.

SHEFFIELD, Eng.—A trout measuring fifteen inches in length stopped the city's water supply for a day. It was drawn into the suction pipe at the reservoir, and workmen seeking the fault, found it tightly wedged, but still alive.

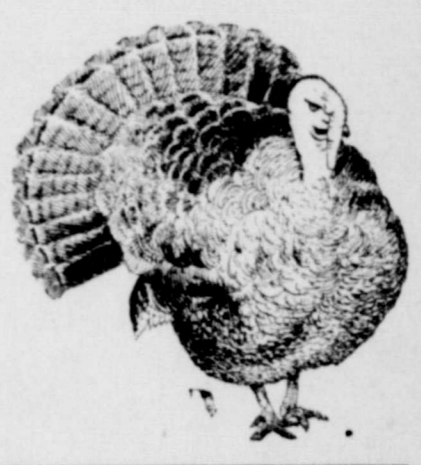
Use Ledger Classifieds.



# CHRISTMAS and SANTA CLAUS are almost here

Have you selected your Christmas Tree and purchased your Christmas Groceries, Turkey, Nuts, Fruits and Candies? If you have not, we invite you to our store where the stock is complete and where you can find just what you want.

**That Christmas Dinner**  
Is not complete unless there is Turkey, and when you think of Turkey, you think of Jeanes'

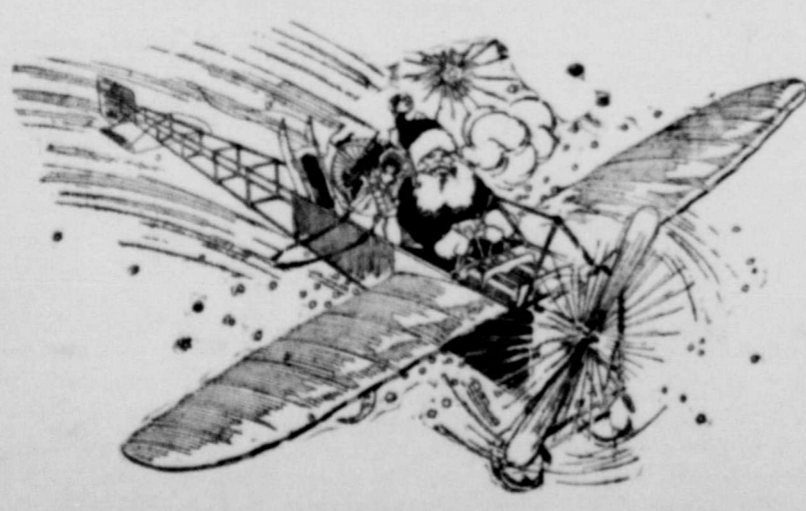


## Christmas Trees, Many Sizes

We have one for you and in order to get the size and kind you want, you had better have your name put on one so it will not be sold. We will keep it until you are ready for it. Make your selection now.

Candies	Nuts	Fruits	Groceries
If old Santa delivered holiday Candy himself he would not bring a better quality, nor carry a larger assortment than we have in stock.	Are essential not only in preparing the Christmas dinner but it would not be Christmas to the kiddies without Nuts. Get what you want now.	Always when there is fruit to be had you will find at at Jeanes' and it is always fresh and the best that can be bought. This year we have more than ever and it's better.	This department is full of good things and everything is the very best. The goodness of our articles are bound to make your dinner a success.

### Come to Our Store when You Do Your Christmas Shopping



We have got what you want and we want you to see it. Come in anytime you feel like it---make it your headquarters. It's the best place to trade.

## Jeanes Produce Co.



ing &  
we  
see &  
so his  
stared  
then &  
"Wh  
The  
grin  
down  
my



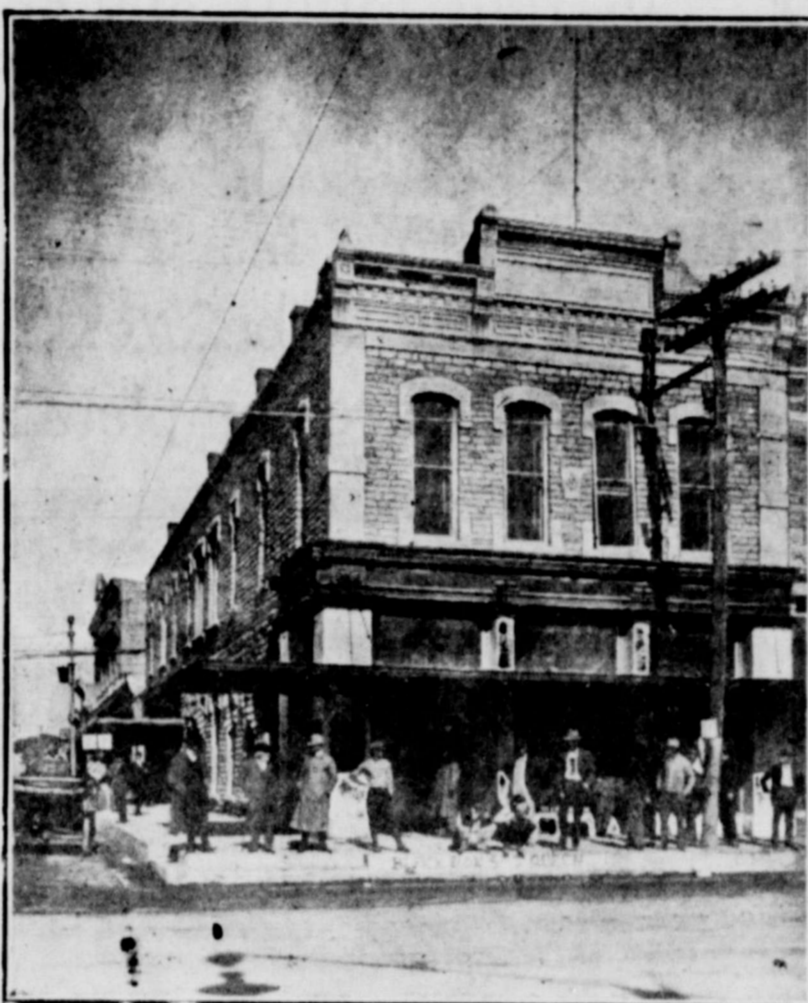
# THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

---as old as Ballinger

We wish you the Happiest Christmas you have ever had. We rejoice with you in your Prosperity. Our responsibility and our ability is shown in the personell of our Stockholders and Directors.

### Officers:

- J. Y. PEARCE  
President
- D. M. BAKER  
Vice-President
- R. G. ERWIN  
Cashier
- A. J. THORP  
Asst. Cashier
- J. W. PATTERSON  
Asst. Cashier
- W. R. BOGLE  
Asst. Cashier



### Directors:

- J. A. Walker
- D. M. Baker
- W. W. Fowler
- Gus Noyes
- R. G. Erwin
- J. Y. Pearce
- J. McGregor
- E. L. Rasbury
- R. A. Hall

Every officer, every director and every employee of this bank feels a personal interest in the prosperity of every person and institution in Runnels County. They hold themselves ready at all times to do their part in the advancement of the common interests of this community.

#### First Statement 1886

Resources:	
Loans and Discounts	\$38,733.00
U. S. Bonds	12,500.00
R. E., Banking House, Fixtures	2,093.45
Cash and Exchange	20,875.63
	<hr/>
	\$74,202.37

Liabilities:	
Capital Stock	\$50,000.00
Surplus and Profits	583.04
Deposits	23,619.33
	<hr/>
	\$74,202.37

#### Statement November 1919

Resources:	
Loans and Discounts	\$415,183.97
U. S. Bonds	26,500.00
Liberty Loan Bonds	25,800.00
U. S. Treasure Certificates	10,000.00
War Savings and Thrift Stamps	521.90
Banking House, F. and F.	24,450.00
Stock Federal Reserve Bank	3,900.00
Acceptance (cotton)	642,191.15
Cash and Exchange	353,996.88
	<hr/>
	\$1,502,543.90

Liabilities:	
Capital Stock	\$100,000.00
Surplus and Undivided Profits	66,576.55
Reserved for Taxes	1,000.00
Circulation	24,400.00
Bills payable	60,000.00
Deposits (Banks \$363,281.04	
(Indiv. 888,286.31)	1,250,568.35
	<hr/>
	\$1,502,543.90

We desire to thank our many friends and customers for the liberal support that has made our success possible. We will show our appreciation of your business by conducting this bank so that it will continue to merit your good will and confidence.

*"Where Uncle Sam Deposits His Cash Is a Good Place to Deposit Yours"*



# A GIFT FOR EVERY FRIEND



**T**HAT is just what you can find in our wonderful stock of goods. We have a worth while present for every member of your family and each of your dear friends. We have spared no effort to make our Christmas display the biggest and most attractive, both in quality and price that this store has ever shown to the Christmas shoppers of Ballinger and Runnels County before. We urge that you come in and make your selections while stocks are complete and before the rush.

## USEFUL CHRISTMAS GIFTS

For Father, Mother, Brother, Sister, Wife, Sweetheart or Friend:

- |              |            |                |                 |                |
|--------------|------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Furs         | Bath Robes | Felt Slippers  | Ivory Goods     | Silk Underwear |
| Linens       | Silk Hose  | Blouses        | Beads           | Handkerchiefs  |
| Fancy Combs  | Gloves     | Mantillas      | Bath Towels     | Bags           |
| Cuff Buttons | Brass Ware | Silk Shirts    | Neckwear        | Silk Reefers   |
| Auto Robes   | Auto Robes | Flannel Shirts | Wardrobe Trunks | Belts          |

### Coats and Suits

If you intend buying a coat or a suit, now is the time. No need to wait another day, they are marked at still lower prices for today's selling and remember every garment offered represents the latest in style and materials. A good suit selling far below cost and others at

**\$22.50, \$37.50 and up**

These Make Nice Christmas Presents

### Millinery

Every hat in our store regardless of its value, will be sold in this sale. Tailored, trimmed and ready-to-wear hats, children's, misses' hats. Come in now and get the choice of collection, as they will go fast at this price

**1-3 off**

Just the Thing to Buy for Christmas

### SPECIALS

1 lot of good, heavy unbleached towels, a real good value, special a pair

**42c**

1 lot of real heavy Outing, dark and light colors, worth 35c, special, the yard

**25c**

1 lot of extra heavy unbleached Domestic, 36 inches wide, a real value, yard

**25c**

1 lot of Ladies' patent vamp, kid top, 9 inch boots, full covered Louis heels, worth \$15.00, special

**\$11.95**

### Men's Clothing

Our clothing display for your holiday selections are out of the ordinary in their smartness, style and tailoring and the patterns and colors will enable you to express your own taste.

**\$25, \$30, \$35 and up**

#### Overcoats

\$35.00 Overcoats ..... \$27.95  
25.00 Overcoats ..... 19.95  
22.50 Overcoats ..... 17.95

#### Overcoats

\$20.00 Overcoats ..... \$15.95  
17.00 Overcoats ..... 13.95  
15.00 Overcoats ..... 11.95

## ROGERS-HIGDON CO.

Successors to Melton Dry Goods Co.

### SPECIALS

50 Ladies' Skirts, in all-wool materials, worth many times the price we ask, special

**\$2.45**

1 lot of Ladies' fine field mouse kid Boots, high Louis heel, Wickert make, worth \$17.00, special

**\$12.50**

1 lot of Ladies' Shoes, real good values, broken lots, special

**\$3.95**

1 lot of Children's felt and velvet Hats, worth up to \$2.50, special, each

**50c**



# THAT GIFT FOR HIM

## Solved at the Men's Store

To the woman who is still puzzled as to what to buy "Him" for Christmas, let us offer the advice that there is only one way to please a man—buy him the things that come from the Men's Store. Men like practical things—things that they can wear. And catering to them all the year 'round, as we do, it is only natural that we should have on hand those things that will be particularly pleasing to them at Christmas time.

**Who's Your Tailor?**  
REGISTERED IN U.S. PAT. OFF. 1906  
BY ED. V. PRICE & CO.

## A Store Full of Men's Gifts

No man can possibly have too many: Shirts, Ties, Socks, Caps, Hats, Underwear, Belts, and all the other things that are so essential to men's dress. Our stock is always the latest thing in style and for the Holiday trade we have exactly the right thing for a Gift to any man.

**C. C. GILLIAM** Tailoring and Men's Furnishing

### A SEASONABLE SERMONETTE

- C Cheerfulness is a personal possession, but you can
- H Hand some of it on to those whose weary, drab lives
- R Represent naught but a grim struggle to exist, whose
- I Inheritance is labour and sorrow—stranger to joy.
- S So, in kindly spirit, go forth, seek, and find some of
- T These joyless ones. Bring some cheer into their lives.
- M Make it a Christmas resolve that you will, out of your
- A Abundance or sufficiency, make, with kindly heart, the
- S Sun to shine at Christmas in one poor home at least.
- D Do this, and the deed shall bring you such sweet joy
- A And satisfaction that the remembrance of it will make
- Y Your own Christmas a "happy" one in deed and in truth.

### YULETIDE.



Daughter—Say, pa, what do you want me to get you for Christmas?  
De Close—Well, if it's all the same to you, I'll just keep the money.

Christmas is not just a day of tree-trimming and toy-giving for the kiddies—not just a holiday for youngsters to outgrow. Its spirit is of the heart, the soul—communal between us and all those whom we hold dear as our friends. It changes not, however we may. May its glow be reflected for you through all the coming year.

### CHRISTMAS FACTS IN BRIEF

Day Celebrated as Christian Festival for Centuries—Holly Once a Sacred Plant.

Christmas day is the anniversary of the birth of Christ, and has been celebrated as a Christian festival for several centuries. The Christmas tide lasts from the 25th of December to the 6th of January, the twelfth day after Christ's nativity.

The origin of the Christmas tree is obscure; the thought of Christ as the Light of the World and the Tree of Life may have given rise to the light-bearing tree, or the popular old belief that every Christmas eve, trees blossomed and bore fruit, may have been the foundation of the custom.

Gift-giving is, of course, the echo of the Wise Men's gifts; and mince pie, turkey and plum puddings are modern relics of the pagan feasts. Santa Claus, known to every child in every land in this old world is the personification of the spirit of loving and giving.

The holy, synonymous of Christmas, was a sacred plant, and the mistletoe a mysterious plant, supposed by the ancient Druids to have some mystic power of healing and preventing misfortune. It was never allowed to touch the ground, hence the modern superstition that it is unlucky for a mistletoe bough to fall from its place. It was dedicated to the Goddess of Love, which explains the custom of kissing under the mistletoe.

### Squaring Himself

Last Christmas a young man was invited to dinner at the house of one of the leading men in the town. At the dinner table he was placed opposite a goose.

The lady of the house was seated on the young man's left. Seeing the goose, he remarked:

"Shall I sit so close to the goose?"

Finding his words a bit equivocal, he turned round to the lady and said in a most inoffensive tone:

"Excuse me, Mrs. Blank, I meant the roast one."

### Christmas Thanks.

For little children everywhere  
A joyous season still we make,  
And bring our precious gifts to them  
Even for the dear child Jesus' sake.  
—Cary.

### Christmas Joy.

We get most of the enjoyment of Christmas out of the dreams that come before and after. 'Tis, to dream of it before it comes, to enjoy it while it is here, and to appreciate it when it has gone!

### THE CHRIST CHILD

Across the snow the home lights glow  
From the myriad hearth lights,  
And through the street with noiseless feet  
The Christ-child walks tonight.

At silent gates, outside He waits,  
To find a fitting spot,  
He thins the shame, if through thy blame  
The Christ-child enters not.

Where joyous notes from children's throats  
The old glad song begin,  
Where love impels and kindness dwells,  
The Christ-child enters in.

Where hate has room, pride sits in gloom,  
And wrong invokes unrest,  
Though green the walls and bright the halls,  
He cannot be a guest.

But where the thought that angels brought  
To earth's enraptured ears,  
Good will to men and peace, again  
The Christ-child, listening, hears.

He turns His feet with welcome sweet,  
Enters, and there abides,  
Angels know best how such are blest  
Through all the Christmas tides.



### A BELL.

Had I the power  
To cast a bell that should from some  
grand tower,  
At the first Christmas hour,  
Outring,  
And ding  
A jubilant message wide,  
The forged metals should be thus allied:  
Not iron of pride,  
But soft humility, and rich-veined hope  
Cleft from a sunny slope;  
And there should be  
White charity,  
And silver love, that knows not doubt  
nor fear,  
To make the peal more clear,  
And then to firmly fix the fine alloy,  
There should be joy.  
—Clinton Scollard.

### The First Christmas Card.

The Christmas card cannot claim to have been established so long as other of our Christmas customs. The first Christmas card came into the world in 1848, when Sir Henry Cole, an Englishman, sent Yuletide greetings to his friends.

For Sale—Grand piano by a widow lady with carved legs.

Lost—Stout cane at Vendome Hotel, by an old man with solid ivory head.

### PRETTY LEGEND OF CHRIST

Old-Folk Tale Relates That Stars Danced and Birds Sang on Day of His Birth.

When the child of Nazareth was born the sun, according to the Bosnian legend, "leaped in the heavens and the stars around it danced. A peace came over mountain and forest. Even the rotten stump stood straight and healthy on the green hillside. The grass was bedewed with open blossoms, incense sweet as myrrh pervaded upland and forest, birds sang on the mountain top and all gave thanks to the great God."

It is naught but an old-folk tale, but it has truth hidden at its heart, for a strange, subtle force, a spirit of genial good will, a new-born kindness, seem to animate child and man alike when the world pays its tribute to the "heaven-sent youngling" as the poet, Drummond, calls the infant Christ.

When the three wise men rode from the east into the west on their saddle-bows were three caskets filled with gold and frankincense and myrrh, to be laid at the feet of the manger-craddled babe of Bethlehem. Beginning with this old, old journey the spirit of giving crept into the world's heart. As the magi came bearing gifts, so do we also; gifts that relieve want, gifts that are sweet and fragrant with friendship, gifts that breathe love, gifts that mean service, gifts inspired still by the star that shone over the City of David 2,000 years ago.

Then hang the green coronet of the Christmas tree with glittering baubles and jewels of flames; heap offerings on its emerald branches; bring Yule logs to the fire; deck the horse with holly and mistletoe.  
"And all the bells on earth shall ring  
On Christmas day in the morning."  
—Kate Douglas Wiggin.

LONDON. — Family washing hanging out to dry in the gardens of mansions on Park Lane, London's most exclusive and richest street, evidences the revolt against the present high laundry prices.

### President Ebert Gets

Salary of 100,000 Marks  
Berlin—President Ebert's salary has been fixed at 100,000 marks by the budget commission, which also placed a similar sum at his disposal for incidentals for which he is to give strict accounting.

### TO TRIM A CHRISTMAS TREE

Pretty Trimmings and Decorations Can Be Made in Almost Any Home at Slight Expense.

As to trimming the Christmas tree first of all, don't trim your tree with cotton batting and lighted candles, as there is always danger in this combination, and "safety first" should be the slogan in all Christmas festivities.

You can purchase a whole lot of pretty decorations for your tree at the shops, and these come very cheaply, too. But almost any home can furnish the decorations for a really lovely tree without very much expense, and there is no reason why every family where there are children should not have their Christmas tree.

Strings of popcorn and red cranberries looped from the branches make an effective decoration. And strings of yellow gold corn gleam beautifully in the Christmas light. Crescents, stars and hearts cut from heavy cardboard and covered with silver and gilt, or even colored paper, and cornucopias of bright colors filled with candy and popcorn are very pretty. Form cotton batting into balls the size of an orange and cover with orange-colored crepe paper, twist tightly and tie to the tree with a bit of narrow ribbon. These are pretty on the tree and look like oranges.

It is best to place all the larger packages under the tree, tying only the smaller gifts which are tied up in bright-colored paper to the branches. In this way the tree will not look frayed and denuded when the gifts are distributed, and it may be kept a long time for the children to enjoy.

### Army of Trappers to Invade Wilderness.

Edmonton.—More trappers are preparing to spend the winter in the forests of Alberta, Canada, than ever before. Discharge of many hunters from the army, coupled with the unparalleled prices paid for furs, is the cause.

Chas. Pruitt and J. W. Shaw of the Wingate country, were here Monday. This was their first visit to Ballinger in some time.

Frank Pohler and family were in from the Rowena country, Monday, and Mr. Pohler was a pleasant visitor at The Ledger office. Bob Dorsett of Norton, was looking after business in Ballinger Monday.

Wanted—A furnished room by an old lady with electric lights.

### USE OF EVERGREENS

The use of evergreens at Christmas time is older than the Christmas tree, the Christians seeming to have copied it from their pagan ancestors. In a very old book we find this reference to the use of evergreens at Christmas time: "Against the fest of Christmas every man's house, as also their parish churches, were decked with holme, ivy, bayes, and whatsoever the season of the year afforded to be green. The conduits and standards of the streets were likewise garnished; among which I read that in the year 1414, by tempest of thunder and lightning toward the morning of Candlemas day, at the Leadenhall, in Cornhill, a standard of tree, being set up in the midst of the pavement, fast in the ground, nalled full of holme and ivy, for disport of Christmas to the people, was torn up and cast down by the malignant spirit (as was thought), and the stones of the pavement all about were cast in the streets and into divers houses, so that the people were sore aghest at the great tempest."

### HYMN FOR CHRISTMAS.

Get lovely voices of the sky  
Which hymned the Saviour's birth,  
Are ye not singing still on high,  
Ye that sang "Peace on earth?"  
To us yet speak the strains  
Where-with in time gone by  
Ye blessed the Syrian swains,  
Oh! voices of the sky!

Oh! clear and shining light whose beams  
That hour heaven's glory shed,  
Around the palms and o'er the streams,  
And on the shepherd's head,  
Be near, through life and death,  
As in that holiest night—  
Of hope and joy and faith—  
Oh! clear and shining light!  
—Pelletia Howard.

### A Rather Vague Order.

A Wisconsin boy wrote to Santa Claus as follows: "I would like a air rifle, a pair of Indigo loves a mouth organ a christmas tree and some candy and nuts that is all a game of checkers for." It's a little vague, but we hope Santa will be able to fill the order.

### Co-Ed's Dance Strike is

Broken by Jealousy  
Ann Arbor, Mich.—When co-eds who announced that they would attend no more Michigan Union dances because they were not permitted to use the tap room heard that the men had arranged to continue the dance, with outside girls as their guests, the strike was promptly discontinued.

# CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

Santa is Good to Those Who Receive Gifts  
From this Store

Do Your Buying Now While Our Stock is Complete

We Will Be Glad to Wrap Your Packages for Mailing Free of Charge. We Have Red Cross Seals For Sale. Decorate Your Packages

## For Her

Perfume  
Mary Garden Set  
Stationery  
Manicure Set  
Kodak Album  
Fountain Pen  
Cutex Set  
Thermos Bottle  
Ivory Pieces  
Djer-Kiss Set

## Toilet Articles

Perfumes, Toilet Waters, etc., in attractive, beautiful, satin-lined boxes. We have only the best—

Mary Garden  
Mavis  
Djer-Kiss  
Jonteel  
Lavallier

Prices from \$1.00 to \$50.00. Nothing would please her more than one of these Sets.

## For Him

Safety Razor  
Thermos Bottle  
Card Case  
Fountain Pens  
Cigars  
Pipe  
Cigarette Case  
Kodak  
Eyersharp Pencil  
Smoking Stands

## Candy

Norris'  
Johnston's  
Elmer's

What more could you ask. We carry the biggest line of Candies, put up in beautiful Christmas packages in the State.

## Christmas Cards

Don't forget anyone this year. All Christmas cards are engraved, with verses to suit all recipients and occasions.

## Gift Stationery in Beautiful Hand Painted Boxes

All Sizes All Prices

# Weeks

## The Christmas Goose

By CELIA E. CRUTE



impudently. She threw the stick. It seemed to be the only thing she could do. The Leonard dog whirled around in an anguish of pain and astonishment. Then, realizing that he had been worsted, he departed on three legs for his kennel. "You bit him, muvver! You bit him!" exclaimed Johnnie. The frightened goose sat hunched under a tree, his head buried in his back. Some of the feathers were gone from his tail, and patches of fluffy down were blowing about the yard. "Best if I can see what there is about that goose to fascinate an entire family," said Mr. Caruthers, appearing suddenly behind them. "If you don't look out, Lucy, you'll be refusing your favorite hip slice when Christmas comes." Hip slice! Solomon's hip slice! Mrs. Caruthers could scarcely restrain a shudder as she glanced at the heap of feathers huddled in a corner. What a cannibalistic vision! "Oh, please, Auntie, don't speak of it!" she begged. "Tell father what happened, dear." Johnnie, inebriated from agitation, told the story of the attack and row.



"Go Home!" She Commanded Sternly. "Muvver frew a stick at him," he ended, smiles breaking out at the entrancing recollection. "It hurt his leg. He could only run on free legs. He went home awful fast, didn't he, muvver?" Just then Carrie Caruthers and a young man came around the corner of the house and came to join them. Johnnie observed young Doctor Arnold with interest. The day before he had heard his Aunt Eunice call the doctor

a "foregone conclusion." He watched him narrowly, trying to discover how a "foregone conclusion" differed from other men. He thought, on the whole, that it would be rather nice to be on friendly terms with a "foregone conclusion," so he moved near and timidly announced that Solomon was a Christmas goose. "He's a splendid big fellow," said the young doctor heartily. "How much of him do you think you can eat?" The little face he was looking at contracted suddenly and painfully. It was the first time Johnnie had realized that Christmas meant eating Solomon! Actually eating him! He was filled with the most passionate repulsion. "I won't eat him! Nobody's going to eat him! I won't let anybody eat him!" The whirlwind of defiance ended in a burst of tears. Mrs. Caruthers put her arm around her grieving son. "Nobody shall eat Solomon," she whispered. "Farver woid!" "Not when he knows how you feel about it. Don't cry any more about it, dear." In her absorption in Johnnie Mrs. Caruthers did not hear Doctor Arnold say to Carrie Caruthers: "Wouldn't it be a kindness to the child to draw attention from him? Carrie—give me leave, won't you?" "Oh, if it's necessary for Johnnie's peace of mind I suppose you may," said Carrie, blushing rosily. "Say, Johnnie," said Doctor Arnold, "did you know that I'm thinking of carrying Carrie off to my house so that there'll be plenty of room for Solomon here?" Johnnie noticed that this remark seemed to strike his mother dumb. To him, personally, it did not seem an altogether objectionable arrangement, although he thought it very foolish for Doctor Arnold not to know that there was room enough for Solomon and Carrie, too, in that great house. "Carrie ain't going off to your house to live," he said sternly. "I won't let her." "Oh, is that so?" said the doctor. "I hardly know what to do about it, then, for I've asked her and she said she was willing to go." Johnnie turned an unbelieving eye on his sister. It was a shock when she nodded yes. He did not for an instant believe it. He was sure that Carrie was afraid; that she did not dare say anything but yes to such a big, determined person as the young doctor. But he was not afraid if Carrie was. He'd show him! He'd tell him something he knew about him! "You're a foggone 'clusion!" he



"Carrie Ain't Going Off to Your House to Live."

shoulded wrathfully. "That's are! Aunt Eu—" "Johnnie!" Mrs. Caruthers seized him so violently that the end of the preposterous assertion was shaken into inaudibility. It had been to her that Aunt Eunice had made the statement, and her heart died within her when she heard it on Johnnie's lips. "We'll talk about it some other time, dear," she said, trying to smile down her affronted son's ire and conscious that Carrie and Doctor Arnold were gazing at her in amazement. "Don't you think we had better be getting Solomon's supper now?" It was an unhelpful remark. Johnnie's face puckered. "I don't want anybody to eat Solomon," he reiterated miserably. "Austin," Mrs. Caruthers called to her husband, who was coming out of the garage. "Come here, please. This may as well be settled now." "What's the matter now, sonny boy?" asked Mr. Caruthers, approaching. "I don't want anybody to eat Solomon, farver." "Don't worry," said Mr. Caruthers in his cheerful tone. "I've changed my mind. I think turkey will suit us all better than goose for our Christmas dinner this year, and I'm going to order the biggest and fattest turkey I can find in the market and Solomon shall live forever. How will that suit you, Johnniekins?" "I like that," declared Johnnie, polishing his tear-wet but radiant face of his sleeve.

## Verses to Send With Christmas Presents

With Embroidery or Any Needlework. May all your years be glad and bright, Deep filled with pleasant days, And all your hours know sweet delight Of love that lives and stays! With some such wishes, true and kind, Each Christmas should begin. While some of these most surely kind Because they've been sewed in!

With a Gift to a Smoker. When clouds of smoke around you float Think sometimes of this loving (friendly) cordial note. When pictures in the smoke you see Wait now and then a thought to me, But though you newer joys evoke, Don't let our friendship "end in smoke."

With a Box of Candy. "Sweets to the sweet," the wise old saw, I quote because 'tis fitting, And tribute pay unto the law With gladness unremitting. "Like unto like" is also true, Therefore these candies haste to you.

With Music or Musical Instrument. Because the very thought of you, Makes music in my mind, Pray let me share the music true, The sweetest (gayest) (brightest) I could find.

With a Laundry List or Bag. This gift is clean, as you may see, So, every time you'd cleaner be Just send a pleasant thought to me.

To "Her," With a Pair of Gloves. O little thumbs, and fingers, too, I can but wish that I were you, Since you, unaided, may clasp her hand, Tell her—but not she'll understand.

With a Book. I cannot make new worlds for you Yet these closed covers truly frame A wondrous world of rapture true— Be pleased to enter in my name!

To a Lady, With Slippers. O pretty slippers, small and slight, Be sure to lead her steps aright; And when her dainty feet you hold, Guard them alike from hurt and cold.

With Shaving Materials. Should you cut yourself in shaving, Don't blame-me! Small effort has litter raving. When the wound one may not see, But should your razor smoothly glide, Include me in your smile so wide.

With Picture of Some Rural Scene. If your thoughts of town are weary, Rest your eyes and dream, Gazing on this picture cheery Of woodland (rural) (springtime) (vernal) vale and stream. Remember that had I my way, Such joys would greet you every day.

With Any Christmas Gift. Here's a thought of joyous cheer For Christmas and for all the year!

**Phillipinos Plan to Train National Guard Aviators**  
Manila—The Philippine government has taken possession of land here and arranged with an aviation company to train a least 30 national guard aviators on the site next year.

**More Germans Now Finding Employment**  
Berlin—Approximately 650,000 persons throughout Germany are now drawing the unemployment

benefit insurance, says an official labor bulletin. Since June it is stated, the number of workless has gradually decreased, the largest proportion of them being in the big cities. In Berlin they average 42 to every 1,000 of the population.

**London—A leech lived three week in a man's windpipe and was still alive when extracted by a surgeon.**



# Christmas Exhibit

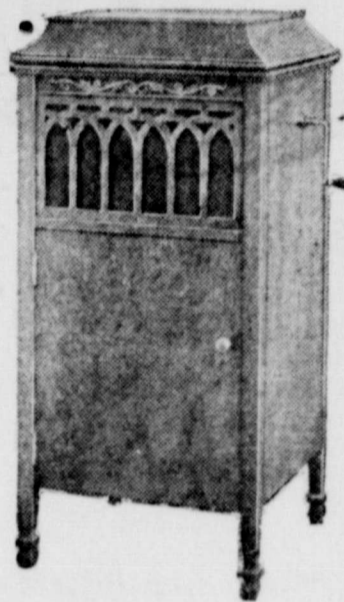
## of Home Furnishings

The Gifts that Endure

You can readily find the very article you want to give or keep, in our complete stock. We have all the new ideas in the finest quality of home furnishings and nothing will give such a pleasant surprise to the wife as a gift of Furniture, for nothing is so dear to the feminine heart as good furniture.

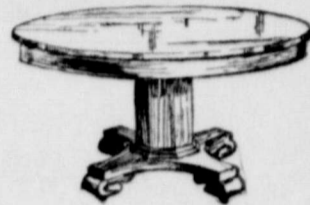
**Pathe**

For a real Christmas present is the one that is perfect. Christmas and music go hand in hand and where one of our Pathe machines goes into a home it makes it complete. See our line of machines and records before you select your Christmas gift.



### Dining and Library Tables

The biggest and most up-to-date stock ever carried before in West Texas. We have tables that will go into any home and improve the looks of it. We have these in sets with chairs, buffets, china cabinets or tables alone. A gift that particular people will be glad to receive.



Also you can find exactly what you want in rockers, art squares, kitchen cabinets, china cabinets, morris chairs, davenport and in fact everything you could expect to find in an up-to-date furniture store.

At Lankford's you find everything that is ideal for Holiday Gifts. We have a stock that the most particular can easily make a selection from that sensible line of gifts that give the greatest pleasure to the receiver. We invite you to call, whether you buy or not, we will be glad to show you and will welcome you any time you come.

Furniture and Undertaking

# T. S. LANFORD

The Store of Ideal Gifts

## A CHRISTMAS for SANTA

By DeLysle Ferree Cass

**D**AN MORRIS had run away from his home on the farm and none of the family had heard a word concerning him in the three years that followed. Dan was the youngest of three children — "her baby," as old Mrs. Morris at ways said—and hated farm work.

"If brother Jim likes it, let him do it," he had told the family defiantly. "I'm going to some big city where a fellow has some chance to see life and make his fortune. I'm through with haying all day long in the scorching sun, milking cows and feeding hogs, and then having to sit in the dark on the porch listening to nothing but frogs and katydids until you have to go to bed if you want to get up in time to do it all over again next day. I'm through, I tell you!"

The family had tried to reason with Dan, but it was of no use. One morning they found him gone, leaving only the briefest note of good-bye to his mother. And now the third Christmas since his going had come and the family itself was going in to the big city to spend holidays with Julia, who had married and lived there.

their missing Dan reflected in wrinkled faces—packed up all sorts of home-made eatables in baskets and had sun-burned brother Jim take them for the first time to the big city. It was a bewildering adventure to those simple souls; each incident of the journey and novel sight after arrival was a never-to-be forgotten experience. Fred, Julia's brisk and



"I'm Bobbie Wallace."

hearty husband, welcomed them at the station and thrilled them with a ride out to their daughter's apartment on the elevated railway. It was a joyous reunion, but—as mother said, with a sudden break in her voice—"it can't be as if my baby, our Dan, were here with us too."

"There, there, mother," said father Morris, patting her quivering shoulder consolingly. "You mustn't think about Dan just now. He'll return to us some day when he's become rich and famous. Just look here, Julia—and you too, Fred—all the mouth-watering stuff that Ma's brought you from the farm. Home-burned, uncolored butter rolls those are! And here's three stuffed six-pound turkeys that were gobbled around the barns not many days ago. Hey, little Bob! D'you see those pots of jam, and spiced watermelon pickles? And here are the Christmas presents all wrapped and tied ready for the tree, but not to be opened by anybody until Christmas morning. Here's—why, mother! You've got one parcel here marked wrong! It has Dan's name on it!"

Mother Morris dabbed at her eyes

with her handkerchief. "Please, don't laugh at me, children," she said sadly. "It's my Dan's Christmas as much as it is that for any the rest of us, and I—I was hoping that maybe we'd find him here in the city now that we've come here ourselves."

It was pathetically absurd, that barren little hope of the bereaved old mother, but none of them even let her see them smile at it.

The afternoon before Christmas Julia persuaded her husband to take little Bobbie downtown so that he could not surprise her trimming the tree. Brother Jim and the old folks went along.

Little Bobbie naturally was most of all interested in the toy departments and hardly could he be made to hold some of the playthings he most fancied.

"Oh, see, daddy! A horse that looks with a mane and bridle and everything!... And oh, grandma! look! look! There's a real live Santa Claus talking to those other little boys and girls!"

It was indeed. The big store had hired a rather shabby-looking young man that week, who for \$15 was supposed to sit at the door of an imitation snow house and solemnly encourage visiting youngsters to tell him their fondest wishes in the line of presents. Little Bobbie was impatiently waiting in line, holding fast with one chubby fist to his father's hand, in no time, Mother and father Morris, and big brother Jim watched and waited smilingly for them on the edge of the crowd.

"Well, my little man, what is your name?" asked the scarlet-coated and long white-whiskered Santa Claus in a tired, husky voice when Bobbie's turn finally came.

"I'm Bobbie Wallace, dear Mr. Santa Claus, and I live at 5601 Byrne street," the boy chirped at him, round-eyed and devoutly believing in the identity of Santa. "My mamma's name is Julia Wallace and I've got a little baby sister now, too."

The long-whiskered Santa patted his head in perfunctory weariness. "And what do you most want me to put in your stocking this Christmas Eve, Bobbie?" he asked with a side-long glance at the tolerantly smiling father.

to keep my poor old grandma Morris, who's got white hair now, from worrying and crying any more over her boy I—a. You see, Mister Santa, my uncle ran away from home a long, long time ago, before I was born, and my grandma keeps saying she can't rest until she sees him again. She's visiting my papa and mamma at home now, and I saw a present she has all wrapped up and labeled for uncle Dan if you'll be good enough to find him and bring him out to our house tonight. Won't you do that, please, mister Santa?"

With a choking cry the white-whiskered one stumbled to his feet, nearly upsetting his little snow house and searching Bobbie's wonder-round eyes in hungry disbelief.

"You are Julia Morris' little boy?" he muttered dazedly. "And you say that... that your grandmother really wants her worthless runaway Dan to come back to her?... is waiting here in the city for him now? Oh, my God!"

Fred, Bobbie's father, caught at the Santa's arm as he reeled unsteadily sidewise as if about to faint, and in so doing knocked off the bushy white whiskers.

"Aw!" wailed Bobbie, facing his first childish disillusionment, "he isn't a real Santa after all!"

Back through the amazed and rather indignant crowd of shoppers old mother Morris was coming as fast as her trembling legs would permit, and above the noise and calls of clerks at the counters, could be heard her thrilling, quavering outcry:

"Danny! Oh, Danny! Danny! I've found my lost boy at last!"

The high cost of living has compelled the Turks to reduce the size of their harems. Some Moslems hesitate taking even one wife.

"Shimmy dancing" is defined by the American Association of Dancing Masters "as a shaking or jerking of the upper body while taking short steps or standing still."

Telephone operators in Egypt are required to speak English, French, Italian, Green and Arabic.

Which should be more thankful: The billionaire at the end of life, or the beggar's child at the beginning of life?

### A Gift From Santa



When God's Revelations Come.

It was while they were watching their flocks—the common duty of their common days—that the word of Christ's coming was brought to the shepherds. It is when we are faithfully busy with common duties that God's revelations usually come to us.

A whale is not a fish. It looks like a fish because it has to live in the water, but it belongs with the mammals, like the cow or horse.

**Hens Pay Student's Tuition thru College**  
Hartford, Conn.—Three students of the Connecticut Agricultural College, depend on hens to pay their tuition. Sale of the eggs has left the young farmers a good profit.

Kentucky's commissioner of forestry is having a hundred bushels of maple and oak tree seeds collected in his state for shipment to Belgium, to be planted in the war-devastated areas of that country.

### Kidnaped By Santa Claus

BY GOODLIE H. THOMAS

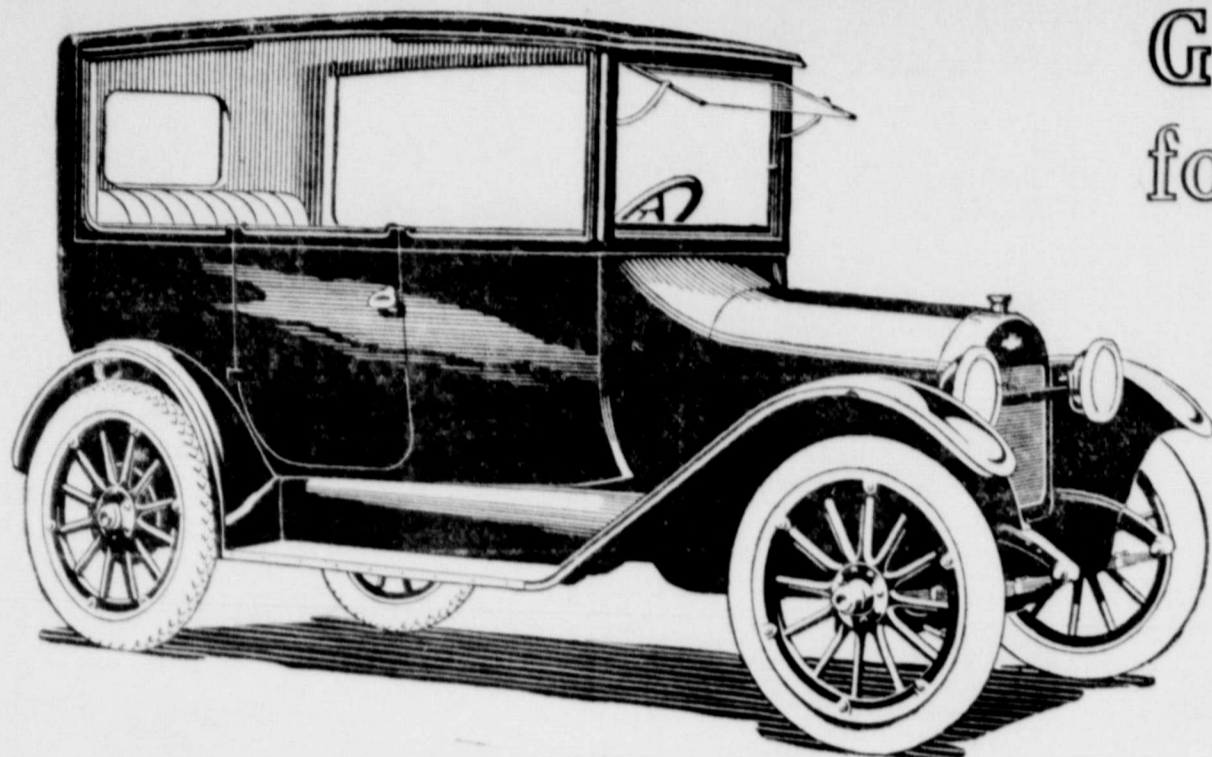
My dad sez once they lived a boy  
'Us bound that he would see  
Old Santa Claus—an' had no joy  
Fer thinkin' how 't'ud be  
To hide behind a screen an' wait  
Till Santa come around,  
Then watch him waiuin' to un-  
crate—  
Without a word or sound.

Well, Christmas Eve, this boy leten  
'At he was sound asleep,  
An' when he knowed the rest had  
gone  
To bed, he went a-creep  
Down stairs—an' gracious!—  
watcha think!  
He run against him—smack!  
Old Santa, yes-sir—'n quick as  
wink  
That boy 'uz in his pack.

A... ever since that boy has been  
Strapped up an' has to go  
With Santa, fer just that one sin,  
Through miles of ice an' snow;  
An' you bet I ain't gonna take  
No chance like that—not quitel  
You'll find 'at I won't be awake  
When Santa comes to-nigh!

**Korean Government Will Establish More Schools.**  
Seoul, Korea.—The government has declared its intention to establish a hundred new schools annually during the next four years for Korean children.

**Business poor? Advertise.**  
Ledger classifieds bring results.



## Give 'Em a "Chevrolet" for Christmas---

Nothing would be more acceptable—  
Nothing would be more useful.

We are expecting four carloads between now  
and Christmas, composed of Sedans, Touring  
Cars, Roadsters and Commercial Cars.

Four Items to Be Considered:  
**Power, Economy, Comfort, Style.**

### Prices of Chevrolets Are:

'490' Touring car .....	\$785.00	'F B-50' Touring car .....	\$1235.00
'490' Roadster .....	\$715.00	'F B-20' Roadster .....	\$1210.00
'490' Light Delivery .....	\$735.00	'F B-30' Sedan .....	\$1735.00
'490' Sedan .....	\$1135.00	'T' Truck Chassis .....	\$1325.00
'490' Coupe .....	\$1110.00		

All prices f. o. b. factory.

Chevrolet has a big assembling plant in Fort Worth, the biggest  
of its kind in the South.

The quality of the Chevrolet appeals to people of wealth—the  
price permits ownership for those of moderate means.

These Four all-important features are found in rare combination in the  
"Chevrolet."

First, there is its famous "valve-in-head" motor, with many advantages,  
even over motors of this type. This means about 20 per cent greater efficiency,  
which shows in power delivered in fuel economy.

Next, the selective sliding gear transmission, with three speeds ahead,  
same as high-priced cars. This permits the motor under all conditions to turn at  
proper speed for the road, thereby eliminating strain, and reducing wear, as well  
as gasoline and oil consumption.

Then comes correct car weight to Engine Power, giving perfect balance;  
geared steering with instant and never failing response to steering wheel; comfort  
secured through a roomy body, ample upholstery, and cantilever springs, and the  
"Auto-Lite" two unit electric starting and lighting system, Built in the Car, and  
Guaranteed; not a makeshift added as an afterthought.

And last, but not least, a car of distinction, graceful, with handsome  
stream-line effect from radiator to tail lamp. How few cars at twice or even three  
times the price can equal this!

Complete Stock of Repair Parts

Ballinger  
Phone 35  
Complete Stock of Supplies

# Davis Auto Co.

San Angelo  
Phone 408  
Complete Stock of Supplies

## Victor Rosenwasser & Co.

Quotes the Lowest Prices of the Year in a

### **GREAT HOLIDAY SALE** **on Coats and Dresses**

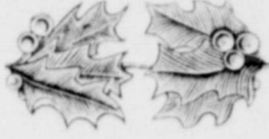
Dresses up to \$30 on Sale at \$16.98

See Our Line of Bath Robes at Reduced Prices.

\$17.50 Ladies' Boots on Sale at \$13.48



# IS EVERYBODY HAPPY?



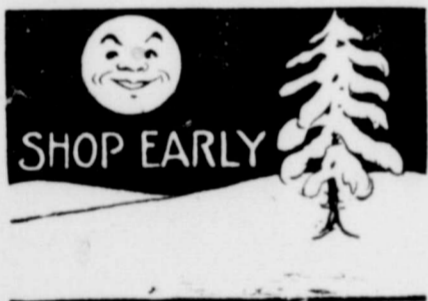
YES—When the Gift takes the form of something practical for the home.

If you want to be a real Santa Claus and bring pleasure as well as happiness to your family and friends, get one of our practical Gifts. The recipient will commend your sound judgment in selecting a present that carries with it the happy spirit of Christmas-giving and which is at the same time forever useful.

May this Christmas and all the following year be one of Happiness and Contentment is our wish for you.



## Hall Hardware Company



### The Best of All Gifts is the Gift of Good Will

Let Us Join You In Good Cheer



The year for us has been a prosperous one. To those who have made this possible by eating our groceries, we are using this space to thank, and to all mankind we extend best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.


We have no apologies to offer for the goods we have been selling, for they have been the best. We are not immune to errors, however, and we gladly corrected all errors to which our attention was called.

Our policy for 1920 will be to keep pace with the New Year and all that it brings good for our trade. If you did not trade with us in 1919, we both lost. Let's don't make the same mistake in 1920.

Staple and Fancy Groceries

# L. B. STUBBS

Two Telephones  
93 and 94

# The Store of the Christmas Spirit

## A Very Merry Christmas to One and All



As the Holiday Season approaches our hearts are filled with the joy of living and giving, which is the true Spirit of Christmas, and who dares to say there is no Santa Claus as long as the world holds love and faith of little laughing children and the memory of our own happy childhood?

Not since that first Christmas Day in Bethlehem, two thousand years ago, when Jesus of Nazareth, born in a manger, came with His gift of Life Eternal, has the season carried with it such meaning as it does this year. A year of peace, the safe return of our army from overseas, and the triumph of those things for which He lived and died, has put the heart back into the Christmas Season, and filled us with the joy that comes of forgetting ourselves in the happiness of others.

Wrapped in the sweetening power of Christmas, we seem to hear already the music of childish voices, with their joyous untrained melody, as they clasp each new and shiny toy.

Yes, it's going to be a wonderful Christmas.

This store has tried to the fullness of its ability to anticipate the Holiday needs of the buyers of this community. How well we have succeeded we leave to the judgment of our many friends and customers. We have endeavored to procure for you a full and attractive assortment of sensible, appropriate and altogether desirable gift goods—gifts that will reflect your good taste and assure lasting pleasure to the one who receives them.

We wish for you and yours the best that the season has in store—peace, happiness, prosperity.

**Higginbotham Brothers & Co.**  
The Shopping Center.

Shop Early



Shop Early

