

Annual Stockholders' Meeting

Notice is Hereby Given:

That the annual meeting of the stockholders of Farmers & Merchants National Bank of Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of said Bank on the 10th day of January 1961, at 7:00 o'clock P.M., for the election of Directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

MERKEL, TEXAS



BUDDY'S RADIO & TV
BUDDY CAREY RONNIE BOOE

JACKPOT WINNERS and LOSERS THIS WEEK

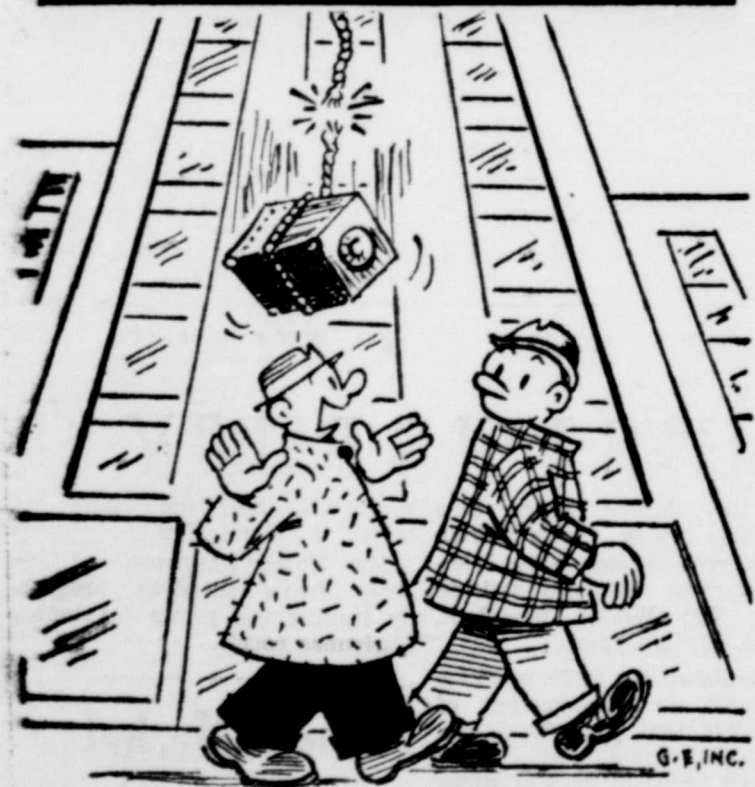
Tuesday—Loser—Mrs. W. H. Leamor	\$65.00
Wednesday—Loser—Eddie Higgins	\$45.00
Thursday—Loser—Van Rozell	\$50.00
Friday—Loser—Leslie Byram	\$55.00
Saturday—Loser	\$60.00
Monday—Loser—Madha Honeycutt	\$65.00

Nothing To Buy.

All You Have To Do Is Sign Register To Win.

MERKEL DRUG CO.

'INSURANCE INCIDENTS'



"I just took out a new policy to protect my family."

Perhaps a safe isn't going to fall on your head... but what if it did? Would your family also be 'buried' under a financial calamity? Now is a good time to take stock of the accident and income loss protection you have provided. We'll gladly advise you. Why not call?

Boney Insurance Agency
INSURE AND BE SURE

CHRISTMAS REMAINS SPIRITUAL SEASON

Of all the traditional holidays observed by Americans, none is more universally respected than Christmas—and none has as long a period of preparation.

Evidences of these preparations are in our homes, schools, churches, stores, and even along the business streets of our town. Christmas is more than a day, it is a season—opening with Thanksgiving and incorporating the Christian season of Advent. Other Faiths have concurrent festivals, principally the Jewish Hanukkah, when the glow of candles memorializes the restoration of the Temple service.

And there is something about our observance of Christmas which is specifically American. As with other traditions which originated in different lands, we have imbued this holiday with a spirit of good-heartedness—demonstrating some basic truths about the American character of neighborliness and the American spirit of good will.

Christmas here is observed in its deepest religious meaning. Tinsel and colored lights may give a surface appearance of frivolity, but underneath—in the warmth of friendship which the season brings—remains the spirit and the hope of peace. Were this not so, the observance would disappear because, after all, we can have the materialistic aspects of Christmas at any time during the year.

So this remains a spiritual season. Its cheer renews and revitalizes our spirit. Attesting to this truth, millions of Americans will spend extra time in worship this holiday season. That is why the Religion In American Life Program, a national movement for all faiths, urges us to "Worship Together This Week." And the light of faith, newly kindled by the glories of Christmas, can be kept "shined up" by regular attendance at worship throughout the year.

Use Care With Fire And Make Your 1960 Christmas The Happiest One Yet

With the Yule season rapidly approaching, Americans across the nation are being urged to use care with fire, and make Christmas 'his year a happy one.

The National Board of Fire Underwriters points out that Christmas fire safety is a job for all the family.

A week or so before Christmas, the family should be called together and some fire safety task assigned to every one.

Father, as a rule, buys the Christmas tree, and the National Board says he should be sure and select a tree that is fresh. He should run his hand over one of the branches. If the needles fall off, the tree is dry. He should select another one with firmly-attached needles.

Keep Tree in Water

Next, when father gets the tree home, he should set it in a pail of water in the garage until it is to be brought in and decorated. Trees get thirsty just like people. As long as they have a drink of water they will stay fresh, with the needles firm.

It is the job of Mom and the children, as a rule, to choose decorations for the tree. It is smart to buy only ornaments made of metal, glass, or a fire-resistant material.

Father and mother usually do the setting up of the Christmas tree. It should be placed in a holder, equipped with a container of water in which the trunk may rest.

The tree should be placed in a spot in the room where it will not block an exit.

In decorating the tree, all strings of lights should be checked to make sure the cords are not frayed.

If an electric train is to be displayed, it should be put in operation in some place other than under the tree. Sparks from an electric train could cause a fire if they came in contact with dry Christmas tree branches.

Care of Gift Wrappings

Let the children be assigned to the job of taking care of gift wrappings.

When Christmas arrives and presents are opened, gift wrappings to be saved should be folded neatly and put away. The rest of the wrappings should be gathered up and discarded promptly.

Throughout the Christmas-New Year period always turn off the Christmas tree lights when everyone is away from home.

Keep an eagle eye on the tree all times for signs of dryness. If needles start falling fast, take the tree down immediately and put it outside the house.

Christmas fire safety efforts should not be confined to the Christmas tree.

Before preparing the holiday turkey, take a peek at the oven. If there is an accumulation of grease in the oven, scour it out immediately. A clean oven will prevent a possible grease fire and burned turkey.

It is a good plan, too, to keep any grease containers away from the stove.

And, throughout the Christmas season, one member of the family should be assigned to provide plenty of ash trays in all rooms if there are smokers in the house. Empty the ash trays often and always make sure before emptying them that all cigarettes, cigars and other smoking material have gone out.

Have An Escape Plan

As an added safeguard, make sure that all members of the family and house guests know what to do if fire should occur in your home.

Sit down together and figure out two possible escape routes to the ground from any upstairs bedroom. Thus, if a fire should block one escape route, the alter-

nate can be used.

But, above all, follow this procedure if fire should break out: First, get everyone out of the house.

Then—call the fire department. Have your telephone number

WE NOW SPECIALIZE IN
ODOR-FREE DRY CLEANING
SHIRT LAUNDRY SERVICE
HAT CLEANING
PHONE 27—f-o-r—F-R-E-E PICKUP and DELIVERY
MACK'S CLEANERS



MERRY CHRISTMAS



In this modern age we might picture Santa zooming through the midnight sky in a jet plane or rocket, but we prefer the old fashioned idea of Santa in his sleigh with "eight tiny reindeer." True, we live in a modern era, but there is no substitute for some of the old fashioned ideas. There's no substitute for freedom. There's no substitute for hard work. There's no substitute for accomplishment. There's no substitute for decency. There's no substitute for the dignity of man. There is no substitute for human kindness. And there's no substitute for the true meaning behind Christmas. It is our hope that 1960 Christmas for you will be the old fashioned kind with an abundance of happiness and good health for you and your family. May the joy of Christmas stay with you throughout the years to come.

THE OLD RELIABLE

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK
MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

the fire department posted by telephone? You are wise if you have. Merry Christmas!

Mrs. Hicks Hosts Garden Club Meet

Merkel Garden Club met in the home of Mrs. Robert Hicks Thursday for their Christmas program.

At the guests arrived they were served a tea plate by the hostess who was assisted by Mrs. Dent Gibson and Mrs. Robert Tom Hodge.

Mrs. W. T. Sadler, president, presided at the business session when Mrs. Odell Freeman showed trees made by club members which will be taken to the Starr Rest Home. The Junior Garden Club made Santa Clause plate favors for the shut-ins.

Jody Strickland and Miss Frances Strickland of Winters visited in the home of the Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Cooley and daughters, Sunday.

Dr. Eleanor Weldon Chiropractor

707 Yucca

Phone 58

Merkel, Texas

Closed Tuesday & Saturday Afternoons

IT'S CHRISTMAS WHEN

Elevator operators say good morning;
Bus drivers don't slam the door on your feet;
Jimmy's teacher says he's a perfect angel and oh so bright;

Your secretary limits her coffee break to one a day;
Your wife is the first to shut off the alarm clock;
Your son says that's o k a y Dad, you take the car tonight;
And your boss says here, try one of my pills.



Blessings of the Season

Best wishes to all for Yuletide happiness.

POST OFFICE BARBER SHOP

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

GOLDEN MIRROR BEAUTY SHOP NOW OPEN FREE

HAIRCUT WITH SHAMPOO & SET THROUGH DECEMBER

Owner and Operator

MARY LOU DAVISON

CLOSED MONDAYS

Phone 325

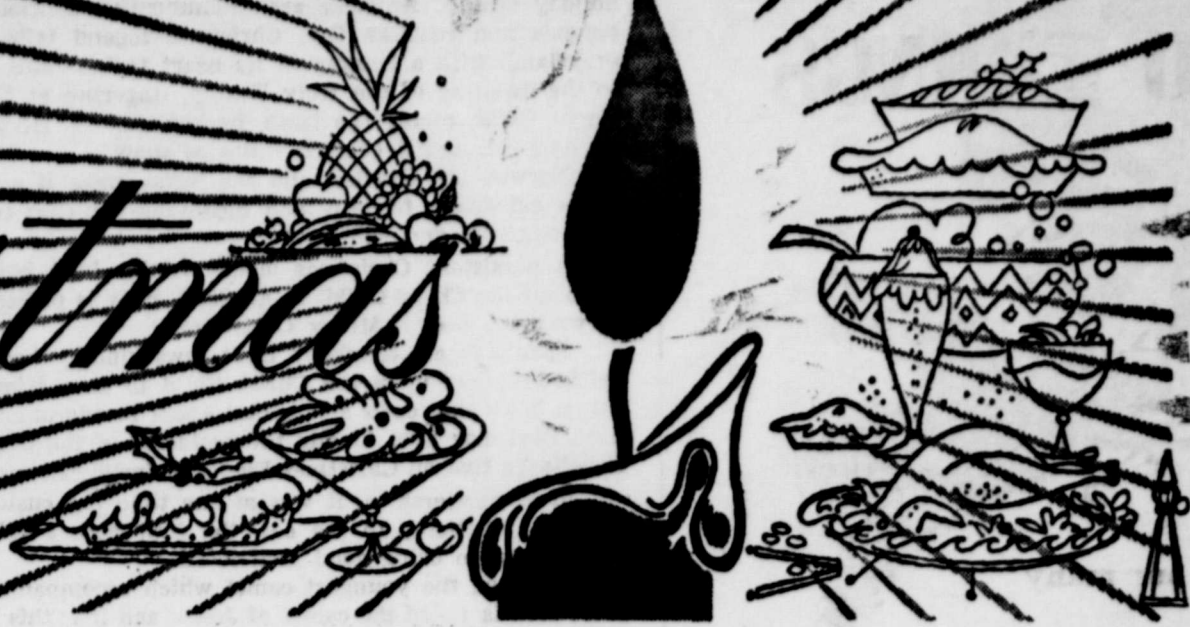
707 YUCCA ST.

MERKEL



FOODS AND FANCIES THAT SAY

Merry Christmas



SPECIALS
FOR
THUR.-
FRI.-SAT.

DEC.
22-23-24

CLOSED
SUN. & MON.
DEC. 25-26

KIMBELL'S
CRANBERRY SAUCE 2 FOR 39c

EGG NOG MIX
QT. 59c

FRUIT CAKES
\$1.00 TO \$5.00

20 PER CENT
DISCOUNT ON ALL
XMAS TREES

DOMINO
SUGAR 10 LB. BAG **99¢**
CRISCO 3 LB. CAN **79¢**

FREE! BROWNIE MOVIE CAMERA -- 8MM
MAKE YOUR OWN HOME MOVIES—COLORED OR BLACK & WHITE
NOTHING TO BUY—YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN.
JUST COME IN AND REGISTER FREE EACH TIME YOU ARE IN
OUR STORE. DRAWING AT 3:00 O'CLOCK FRIDAY, DEC. 23.

MARYLAND CLUB
COFFEE LB. **59¢**

GANDY'S
Whipping Cream
HALF PT. **19¢**

KIMBELL'S
YAMS SQUAT CAN 25c

GOLD MEDAL
FLOUR 5 LB. BAG **49¢**

BAKER'S
COCONUT
8 Oz. Can **19¢**

WHITE SWAN WHOLE 303 CAN
GREEN BEANS 25c

KRAFT'S MIRACLE WHIP
SALAD DRESSING PT. **29¢**

BALLARD
BISCUITS
3 Cans **25¢**

HERSHEY'S
DAINTIES 6 Oz. Pkg. 25c

FRESH SHELLED
PECANS 12 OZ. PKG. **99¢**

KIMBELL'S SWEET MIDGET
PICKLES Pint Jar 2 for 69c

TOP GRADE MEATS



DOMINO POWDERED OR BROWN
SUGAR 2 FOR 29c
KRAFT'S MINIATURE 6 1/2 OZ. PKG.
MARSHMALLOWS 15c
KRAFT'S PHILADELPHIA
CREAM CHEESE 8 Oz. Pkg. 35c
LIBBY'S STUFFED
OLIVES No. 7 Jar 29c

**DOUBLE
PREMIUMS**
ON
WEDNESDAY
WITH PURCHASE OF
\$2.50 OR MORE

HORMEL HEAT AND EAT
HAM Half or Whole LB. 55c

FRESH CRISP
CELERY .. 2 Stalks For 25c

THURSDAY ONLY
APPRECIATION DAY SPECIAL
SUNSHINE HI-HO
CRACKERS BOX 25c

HORMEL CANNED
HAM 3 LB. CAN \$2.89

KENTUCKY WONDER
GREEN BEANS .. LB. 23c

GOLD COAST
SPICED PEACHES No. 2 1/2 Can 25c

HORMEL PURE PORK
SAUSAGE ... 2 LB. BAG 98c

FRESH GREEN
ONIONS BUNCH 5c

DEL MONTE
FRUIT COCKTAIL 303 Can 25c

HORMEL RANGE BRAND
BACON 2 LB. PKG. 93c

FRESH
CRANBERRIES .. LB. 22c

DEL MONTE CRUSHED
PINEAPPLE Flat Can 15c

WISCONSIN LONGHORN
CHEESE LB. 59c

FRESH
COCONUTS EACH 15c

BAMA STRAWBERRY
PRESERVES 18 Oz. Glass 43c

PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW FOR
HAM, HEN OR TURKEY

TEXAS
ORANGES LB. 12c

DEL MONTE
PEACHES No. 2 1/2 Can 2 For 55c

KLEENEX DINNER
NAPKINS PKG. 23c

EX-FANCY DELICIOUS
APPLES LB. 16c

KRAFT'S PARKAY
OLEO 2 FOR 49c

WILSON'S FOOD STORE

REFRIGERATED
PARKING LOT IN REAR
CONVENIENT LOCATION
NEXT DOOR TO POST OFFICE



PHONE 173 — TWO DELIVERIES DAILY AT 10 A.M.
& 4 P.M.

GLAD TIDINGS

Wishing our many
 friends a bright and
 shining Christmas season.

ANN'S BEAUTY SHOP
 MAE SEAGO PAT SHAW

Season's Greetings

Let the warm
 glow of Christmas
 cheer brighten
 your holiday!

MERRITT PLUMBING

Blessings

...Unto
 you is
 born this
 day... a

Saviour,
 which is
 Christ the
 Lord.

May the words of the Christmas Story
 unfold their tidings of Yuletide joy.

STARR REST HOME

CHRISTMAS LEGENDS

Folklore of the Christmas season is fascinating. Whether true or not, these innumerable tales form the traditions of the holiday season. Animals are prominently mentioned in many legends and customs. One Christmas legend tells of the little gray lamb with a longing in its heart to be white. It wandered to the dwelling of the Holy Family, lingering at the door. The Christ Child, seeing the lamb, beckoned it in. He laid his hand on its head, and it became white as snow.

Norwegians, Swedes, and the Swiss make it a special point to be extremely friendly and hospitable on Christmas, both to domestic pets and wild birds.

A persistent Christmas legend is that bees hum a carol in honor of the Christ Child. In England, holly is placed on the hive to wish the bees a Merry Christmas.

Spaniards are taught to treat cows kindly; they believe that cattle breathed upon the Christ Child to keep Him warm. Tradition holds that cows and horses kneel in adoration at midnight each Christmas Eve. Among the residents of the German Alps it is believed that on Christmas Eve all animals can speak.

In Worcestershire, it was at one time the custom to give a bough of mistletoe to the cow that first bore a calf after New Year's Day, to bring good luck to all.

In Syria, the youngest camel which accompanied the Three Wise Men is called the camel of Jesus, and it is this camel which brings gifts to the children.

In Bohemia a horse is taken out into a river at Christmas and walked against the current. The rider tosses an apple into the stream and if it hits the horse it will be stronger during the coming year.

—Adapted from Alan A. Brown in Our Animals.

**gabby doodle
 from noodle says:**

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

Christmas is about to git here again and the fellers at the country store Saturday night was having their annual discussion about peace on earth and good will toward men.

First off, it was agreed that the peace we got is pritty shaky but it was better'n none and that this Christmas we better be mighty thankful fer what we got. Of course, the fellers all admitted that ole Khrushchev was slow but sure worrying us to death. On the other hand, even Bug Hookum, that laments about everything, said it was better to depart this earth worrying and

painless than to git hit with a atom bomb.

Clem Webster sorter put a sour note to the session by claiming that it didn't take near as long to worry us to death as it used to. He allowed as how us Americans can't take it like we could 30 year ago, that we're gitting softer ever year. I'd have to vote with Clem on this item. There was a time, Mister Editor, when you could say the average American was a pritty solid citizen. But he's been pushed around so much with the New Deal, the Old Deal, the Queer Deal, taxation, red tape, Government forms, rules and regulations that he's gitting a heap of give in him, ain't near as solid as he used to be.

But, anyhow, we got peace on earth at this Christmas time and it was agreed by all that everybody ought to say a prayer of

thanks fer it on Christmas Day.

On the topic of good will, the fellers was a little bit divided. Zeke Grubb, fer instant, allowed as how good will ought to start out with your neighbors and spread from there. He said some of his neighbors had the meanest young'uns ever brung into this world. They was so mean, allowed Zeke, that he was thinking about fencing in his pigs to keep 'em from mixing with the little hellions, said they set a bad example fer his pigs. But maybe after Zeke gits his pigs fenced in and his neighbors' kids fenced out the good will bug will hit him a little harder. It was agreed that especial at Christmas time everybody ought to fergit old grudges and start over, with good will toward men.

In spite of the mess the world's in, all of us ought to try and make this a happy Christmas. I can recollect them war years when our loved ones was fighting far from home and fireside and how we wished they was at home fer Christmas. Now that we've got 'em here fer this Christmas, let's try to make it one to remember fer years to come, regardless of what comes with them years.

MERRY CHRISTMAS-

Yours truly
 gabby

**Showers Honor
 Freda Henegar**

Freda Henegar was honored with a gift shower in the home of Mrs. Clyde Bunch Friday.

Guests with the honoree were her mother, Mrs. W. A. Henegar, Miss Shannon Strother, sister of the prospective bride groom, and Mrs. Bunch.

Mrs. Larry White and Mrs. Lawrence Hewitt registered guests.

Other hostesses were Mrs. Roy Hewitt, Mrs. Jack Bagby, Mrs. Carl Hobbs and Mrs. Wallace Doan.

Christmas decorations were used on the serving table.

Twenty-two guests were present.

Miss Henegar was feted at a kitchen shower in the home of Edith Bagby on Dec. 10.

Mrs. H. L. Thaxton returned from Dumas Friday after spending two weeks at the bedside of her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Johnny Thaxton, who is ill. Mrs. Thaxton reported her condition as improved some when she left.

OUR GREETING...

The spirit of the Christmas season is tied in
 with our good wishes!

RADGER CHEVROLET



**Even Mother Can Be Merry at
 Christmas When She Has a Locker**

These days, when mother is busy with holiday planning and entertaining, are times when a frozen food locker is appreciated so much. It's a relief to have a locker filled with meats, poultry, fruits, and vegetables . . . all ready to be prepared and served. No dashing from store to store, no wondering what to have for supper . . . and best of all, no paying high retail prices for meat. If your locker is low on meat or other foods, see us today and put in a supply of delicious frozen foods so they'll be ready for you . . . to make your busy December days also merry.

Farm Kitchen Products

Formerly Taylor Refrigeration—Ph. 209



Joys of the blessed Christmas season!

MERKEL MOTORS



OAK STREET SERVICE STATION

"... Silent Night, Holy Night ..."

The day of joy returns and blesses
 another year with the true spirit
 of Christ's Day! May it reflect
 the song of the angels, the shepherds'
 gladness and the worshipful way of
 the wise men . . . may it truly be a very
 Merry Christmas!

TAYLOR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

THE ART OF GIVING

The art of giving encompasses many areas. Emerson said it well: "Rings and jewels are not gifts, but apologies for gifts. The only true gift is a portion of thyself."

We give of ourselves when we give gifts of the heart: love, kindness, joy, understanding, sympathy, forgiveness.

We give of ourselves when we give gifts of mind: ideas, dreams, purposes, ideals, principles, plans, inventions, projects, poetry.

We give of ourselves when we give gifts of the spirit: prayer, beauty, aspiration, faith.

We give of ourselves when we give the gift of time: patience, attention, consideration.

We give of ourselves when we give the gift of words: encouragement, inspiration, guidance.

The finest gift a man can give to his age and time is the gift of a constructive and creative life.

—Wilferd A. Peterson

Starry Starry Christmas

By MARY OUTLAW

Mary Susan Massey, better known as "Granny," passed away Sunday morning at 10 o'clock in the rest home after suffering a heart attack and a stroke. She was loved by all who knew her. She has gone on to her reward and we would not call her back for the suffering she had to bear was terrible. We will all miss her and especially me, for I have known "Granny" a long time, having lived in the home with my mother six years. She seemed like my

mother to her loved ones and sympathy.

Granny hasn't been well. But she is able to sit up some now and eat again. We want to thank the 14 year old intermediate girls of the First Baptist Church for bringing her a gift for Christmas, also the ladies. Thank you Beth Patton, Della Holler, Dolores Barnes, Frances Turkey and Mrs. Bill Hays for your kindness to Aunt Anula, also for the cookies you brought Mrs. Hicks and for the gifts you brought the home.

Mrs. and Mrs. B. V. Sublett and Mrs. Edith Gilmore of Junction visited Mrs. Hicks last week. Mrs. Miller is doing nicely

since eye surgery. She will be home Dec. 28.

Thank you, Charles Curb, for playing the piano for the old folks Friday night. Everyone enjoyed it.

Thank you, The Union Natural Gas Corp. for the fruit nuts and candies you sent the rest home. Thank you Ralph Russell for bringing it. The fruit will be cut with our saladmaster and used for fruit salad and every patient can eat it.

Sorry we had no church today but the Stith Baptist pastor did not show up. I am sure he would know of the service as he was now at that church, but that you Frank and Ethel came coming into the home and playing and singing.

We went to Stephenville Sunday and brought back our Ma and Pa Outlaw to spend Christmas with us.

We had our tree for the employee Saturday morning. First one exchanged gifts and cake and coffee were served. The patient tree will be on Christmas Eve.

Thank you, Eastern Star ladies for the nice Christmas tree you brought for the home.

I want to express my thanks to the Garden Club of Merkel for the individual Christmas trees they made and brought to each patient. Everyone was so happy about this. Each patient thought his tree was prettier than the others.

We decorated our blue tree that Paul Wheeler brought us, should have said Brenda decorated it for she did the decorating. It is a

beautiful tree trimmed in silver, blue and red balls.

Mr. and Mrs. Hutchins of Weatherford visited her mother, Mrs. Alice Sunday.

Charlie Meyers got to go home to Abilene Sunday for her Christmas party, but she just stayed all day.

Mrs. Andrew Johnson of Abilene visited her dad, Mr. Reed, last week.

Mrs. and Mrs. Tyns Perkins of Abilene visited Mae Perkins Sunday.

Mrs. J. M. Strawn of Trenton

visited her mother, Lottie Stein Sunday.

For those who have patients up here please bring your gifts for the tree before Christmas eve for that is the day of their party

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

SALE — Equity in 2-bed room home. 903 Ash. Phone 318-J. 41-3tc.



Christmas Blessings

All the joys of the season.

FULTON GULF STATION N. FRONT & EL PASO STS.

a blessed Christmas



May the true spirit of Christ-child be reborn in all of us during the holy season.

K&E SERVICE CENTER ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE SUNDAY

ANNOUNCING PAYMENTS TO RAMBLER BUYERS AS RAMBLER'S SALES VOLUME INCREASES

Why You Should Join Rambler's New Crusade For Adequate Progress Sharing With Customers

"I believe participation by all consumers in economic progress is absolutely necessary in meeting the nation's economic needs."



GEORGE ROMNEY President, American Motors Corporation

engineering advances such as the acid-proof, rustproof Ceramic-Armored muffler and tailpipe.

The Rambler line includes three basic sizes of compact cars—Rambler American, Rambler Classic and Ambassador, the latter two developed after the original American series.

RAMBLER SALES SOAR

In two years, Rambler's per cent of market has more than doubled. For the last 38 straight months, Rambler sales have established a new record for that month. We want to continue this growth by serving you even better.

THE NEW RAMBLER CRUSADE

Our new Rambler crusade, like our compact crusade, is based on sharing Rambler progress with car buyers.

We believe the new Rambler crusade has timely significance. Our country currently is experiencing a mild economic slowdown—with rising foreign competition and weakness of the dollar. Our larger competitors are considering partial manufacture and importation of cars for the U.S. market from abroad. There is a general profit squeeze.

We believe the greatest single economic cause is that relatively too much of the fruit of industrial effort has been going to a few well organized economic groups, not to the consumer.

CUSTOMERS TO SHARE RAMBLER PROGRESS

We decided there was something we could do. We decided to share future progress with ALL customers who take

HOW PAYMENTS TO BUYERS WILL BE DETERMINED IN AMERICAN MOTORS' CUSTOMER PROGRESS SHARING PROGRAM

IF SALES ARE UP over last year	U.S. SAVINGS BONDS (Maturity Value)	BOND PAYMENT SALES LEVELS			
		DECEMBER (Dec. sales)	JANUARY (Dec.-Jan. sales)	FEBRUARY (Dec.-Jan.-Feb. sales)	MARCH (4-month total)
50%	\$125	45,247	97,671	140,139	195,946
40%	\$100	42,231	91,159	130,796	182,883
30%	\$75	39,214	84,648	121,453	169,820
20%	\$50	36,198	78,136	112,111	156,757
10%	\$25	33,181	71,625	102,768	143,694
SALES FOR SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR		30,165	65,114	93,426	130,631

NOTE: In all cases, "BUYER(S)" means a person who actually takes delivery, not places an order.

WHY IT WILL PAY YOU TO BUY NOW. This unique program is cumulative and retroactive. Early buyers can get more, but never less, bonds, than buyers in succeeding months. Your Rambler dealer will be happy to give you the complete details of the plan but here is a quick example of how it works and keeps on working for you:

If December Rambler deliveries increase 20% over last December, December buyers of new Ramblers or Metropolitans will receive \$50 bonds. As the four-month period progresses, additional bonds will be mailed to the December buyers each time the cumulative sales reach a higher bond payment sales level.

Also, if sales increase for the four-month period exceeds 50%, proportionate additional payments will be made to all buyers during any of the four-months.

delivery of a new Rambler or new Metropolitan between December 1, 1960, and March 31, 1961, from an authorized Rambler dealer (excluding governmental sales), giving them most of the benefit of additional cost reduction resulting from further increases in Rambler sales volume.

This can mean a sharing with Rambler buyers during the 4-month period of government savings bonds (Series E) with a maturity value from \$3,679,850 (10% sales increase), to \$24,930,750 (50% increase). See chart for details.

BOTH CUSTOMERS AND AMERICAN MOTORS GAIN

You have everything to gain and nothing to lose by joining this crusade. The same is true for you.

You can't lose because Ramblers are better than big cars and the best of the compacts. Ramblers are more trouble-free, more useful, lower priced.

You make your regular deal in the regular way for a new Rambler. You then may share proportionately in the economies and profits of higher Rambler volume in December, 1960, and the first three months of 1961.

We gain by acquiring more Rambler owners, which will make our growing market even larger in the future. That's because Rambler owners become Rambler salesmen and are the most loyal "repeat buyers" of any make.

Ask your neighbor all about his Rambler, then join the Rambler crusade. Join us in focusing the nation's attention on the essentiality of equitably sharing economic progress with ALL consumers if the WHOLE NATION is to prosper.

George Romney

P.S. Some may say one company can't do much about national problems as big and complex as those cited above. Well, that's what skeptics said about Rambler's first crusade. Let's remember, every great thing is born small. If this new Rambler crusade is right, it can succeed and spread, just as the compact car concept did.

Mr. Romney's recent New York Press Conference on "Customer Sharing and the Nation's Economy" attracted nationwide notice. For complete text of his statements, write American Motors, Box 29, Detroit 32, Mich.

Merry Christmas to all!

May all the joys of this Holiday Season be yours!

DAIRY BAR THEO NEWTON

"Let Earth Receive Her King"

May the inspiration of Christmas open the way to a new era of peace and understanding among men.

Merkel Truck Stop and Restaurant CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY



Monkeys are caught by filling a coconut shell with chopped coconut meat. The monkeys grasp a fistful and, unwilling to let any go, cannot withdraw their paws. So, they are easy victims. The U.S. consumer is not yet as scrawny as shown, but unless there is a more equitable division of the productivity increases, he will get that way. One of the three American groups must let go and set an example—or all will be captured and, along with the consumer, all will suffer.

WANT ADS

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES
Classified ads are 4 cents per word for the first insertion and 3 cents per word for additional insertions. Minimum charge is \$1. Cards of thanks are \$1 for the first 50 words; 4 cents for each word over 30.

MISCELLANEOUS
If you miss your paper call Ed Lewis, Dealer, Abilene Reporter-News. Phone 411-J at 1412 Stewart, Merkel. tfp

WANTED — Dirty windshields to clean. K & E Service Center. 5-7fc.

FOR FINE FLOOR SANDING call 349. Heavy Duty Sander. Expert work. 33-7fc.

LOST — Ladies' gold wrist watch Sunday. Believe lost in the vicinity of the First Baptist Church. D. J. Anderson. 41-3tp.

WILL SOW YOUR GRAIN and spray your weeds. J. B. Griffin, Rt. 1, Merkel. 36-7tp.

FREE — Wiring with all Electric Appliances purchased at Palmer Motor Company. Phone 159 30-7fc.

WANTED — Farm land to lease or rent. See Harold Cox or call 10. After 5 p.m. call 344-J. 37-7fc.

Well and windmill servicing. W. Wade. Call 213-J. 6-4fc.

SEE us for Sewing machines. Reasonable prices. McCue Drug

WANTED — FEW MORE MILK CUSTOMERS. Delivery 7 days a week. Higgins & Son. Phone 9011-JL. 44-5tp.

NEED A NEW WELL drilled? An old well cleaned out? Call Robert Higgins 9011-J2. Also sell and install Meyers pumps. 51-4fc.

FOR WATER WELL DRILLING AND CLEAN OUTS see or call Lester Blair. 205 El Paso street phone, 234-W or R. T. Sublett, 705 Oak, phone 105. 26-7fc.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT — Bedroom with private bath and private entrance. Mrs. Ina Hunter, 301 Oak. Phone 63-W. 38-3tc.

FOR RENT — 3-room furnished apartment. Private bath. Mrs. Bert Melton. 1412 South 5th. 35-7fc.

FOR RENT — 3-room furnished garage apartment. 509 Yucca. Unfurnished 3-room rock duplex. 509 Yucca. 31-7fc.

FOR RENT — 2-bedroom unfurnished house. Bills paid. Contact Mrs. Minnie Hunter, 3151 Lamesa, Abilene. 36-3tp.

FOR RENT — Four-room and bath house in Trent. Call Mrs. W. J. Bicknell at Trent 2-9475. 39-7fc.

FOR RENT — Unfurnished house — \$25, furnished apartments, 1 or 2 bedrooms, bills paid. Call 320 or see at 1421 N. 2nd. 39-7fc.

FOR RENT — 5-room house. First house west of Merkel Hotel. David Tarpley. 35-7fc.

FOR RENT — 5-room modern house. Call 57-R. 40-7fc.

FOR RENT — Rooms, apartments Merkel Hotel. Now under new management. Also one and two-bedroom furnished apartments. Call 405-W. E. P. Farmer, 405 Kent Street. 40-3tp.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE — 4 1-2 room house. Attached garage. In south Abilene, near school and church. See Jack South. 23-7fc.

FOR SALE — 2-bedroom and den home, 1 3-4 bath, patio, fenced yard. 1405 Sunset Drive. Call 235-J after 6 p.m. 34-7fc.

FOR SALE OR RENT — Nice well located 2-bedroom house at 1201 S. 10th. See B. T. Sublett or Andy Shouse. 27-7fc.

FOR SALE — See me for Knapp shoes Peck Eager, K & E Service Center. Phone 208. 34-7fc.

FOR SALE

16 ft. Crestliner fiberglass boat, trailer and 75 h.p. Johnson electric starting motor. Boat is equipped with cushion seats, padded dash and built-in folding snack table. Like new, only 5 months old. Contact Terry Gardner at The Merkel Mail.

FOR SALE — 6-room house. Well located; good water well and pump; FHA loan available. Call Earle Watts, 125-W after 5 p.m. 31-7fc.

FOR SALE — 34x54 foot office building. Would make a good duplex. Will move to your location. Phone 159. 33-7fc.

RANDY'S UPHOLSTERY SHOP. 2709 Old Anson Road, Abilene. For estimates call M. E. Randolph. OR 3-4219, collect. 32-7fc.

FOR MONUMENTS CALL TOM COATS 131 MERKEL, TEXAS 16-4t

FRUIT TREES, ROSES, SHADE TREES, Ornamental Shrubs, Landscaping by Ray Campbell, Plans Custom Tailored to Fit Your Home, No Down Payment, Up to 36 Months to Pay, Phone OR 2-5012, Gerden Gate Nursery, 2937 So. Treadaway, Abilene, Texas.

ACE TV — Sales - Service Service All Makes & Models Satisfaction Guaranteed White Auto Store Phone 228

BUILDERS Ready Mix Co. of Abilene now has local agent. For free estimates and prices call A. D. DICKEY at 349. Can also arrange for finishing and handling. 27-7fc.

BATTERIES CHARGED 29c

WHITE AUTO STORE Merkel, Texas

FOR SALE — Two-story, 4-bed. room and den (fireplace) home on 3 1/2 acres of land. Just out of Merkel city limits. Call Cyrus Pee at 171. 35-7fc.

RUBBER STAMPS Fast Service High Quality 75 Cents First Line 50c Add. Line up to 3" Long 24 Hour Service MERKEL MAIL

FOR SALE — Used living room suite. Can see at 1003 Locust. 41-2tc.

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL — \$30 off on new Singer automatic sewing machines, vacuum cleaners and floor polishers. Call 9009-R-1 or see Mrs. D. R. Woodard for free demonstration 1/4 mile south of Merkel city limits on Blair PM Road. 39-4tp.

FOR SALE — One used Singer Sewing Machine. Good condition. Call 107. 27-7fc.

FOR SALE — Take up payments on 1959 Renault Dauphine 4 door sedan. See and drive at 808 Trundy or call 429-R after 6 p.m. 40-3tp.

FOR SALE — 2-bedroom, den home with nice back fence. Located on Herring Drive. Can be seen by appointment only. Cyrus Pee, agent. Phone 171. 39-7fc.

FOR SALE — Relaxacizer (reducing machine). Big Boy Deluxe Barbecue, 7 1/2 H.P. Clinton Outboard Motor at one-half price. Would trade for enlarger or encyclopedia. Nubia 4185. 39-3tp.

FOR SALE — Hereford Bull Calves. \$125. Subject to register. Louis Butman. 39-3tp.

FOR SALE — Second hand bathroom fixtures, bathtub, lavatory and commode. Call 372-R after 4 p.m. 40-2tp.

LEGAL NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS
To any Sheriff or any Constable within the State of Texas—
GREETING:
You are hereby commanded to cause to be published once each week for four consecutive weeks, the first publication to be at least twenty-eight days before the return day thereof, in a newspaper printed in Taylor County, Texas, the accompanying citation, of which the herein below following is a true copy.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
To: Virginia Ruby Martin, Defendant, Greeting: **YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED** to appear before the Honorable 42nd District Court of Taylor County at the Courthouse thereof, in Abilene, Texas, by filing a written answer at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the first Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days from the date of the issuance of this citation, same being the 23rd day of January A. D. 1961, to Plaintiff's Petition filed in said court, on the 28th day of September A. D. 1960, in this cause, numbered 25,349-A on the docket of said court and styled Albert Joseph Martin, Plaintiff, vs. Virginia Ruby Martin, Defendant.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: plaintiff and defendant were married on or about the 4th day of February, 1955, and became permanently separated on or about the 27th day of September, 1960. Plaintiff sues for divorce on ground of harsh and cruel treatment as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Abilene, Texas, this the 8th day of December A. D. 1960. (SEAL)

Attest: R. H. Ross Clerk, 42nd District Court Taylor County, Texas By Irene Crawford, Deputy. 40-41-42-43

Etsei Farmer of El Paso visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Adren Farmer and family, and his aunt, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Amason Friday.

Your friendly BUTANE - PROPANE Dealer
IRVEN THOMPSON
Continental Warehouse East Highway 80
Merkel, Texas Phone 224 — Nights 47



WOMRS FEED STORE
YOUR PAYMASTER DEALER



25 Pct. Off On A.C. FILTERS With Oil Change

"I see your wife is still visiting her mother, Ed!"
You won't have a worry in the world when we service your car.

Cosden Higher Octane Station
Wholesale & Retail **OPEN 24 HOURS**
GATES TIRES & PARKS BATTERIES
WE HANDLE WHITE GAS AND NAPHTHA
J. L. FISHER
Hiway 80 West Phone 218

J. D. HAMILTON Feed & Grain Storage
303 South 15th PHONE OR. 4-4371 Abilene
YOUR FARM AND RANCH HEADQUARTERS IN ABILENE
WHEAT, OATS, BARLEY, RYE, VETCH and WINTER PEAS.
Fertilizer 16-20-0 and 13-39-0
ALL KINDS OF STOCK SALT AND MINERALS
POST-WIRE STAPLES - COTTON SEED CAKE & MEAL
20 PER CENT RANGE CUBES
AUTHORIZED BUTLER BUILDING DEALER

SPEED WASH
DO A WEEKS WASH IN 30 MINUTES
USE AS MANY MACHINES AS YOU NEED
20¢ PER LOAD CHEAPER THAN OWNING YOUR OWN MACHINE
DRY YOUR WASH 40 lbs. 50¢
COIN OPERATED — WASH DAY OR NIGHT
920 No. 2nd AIR NEXT DOOR TO MERKEL MAIL MERKEL

Merry Christmas
E. A. CONLEY BARBER SHOP
M. B. BELL O. N. BEUFORD

Our jolly old Santa is taking his cue, by helping us say, "Merry Christmas to you!"
WILSON JEWELRY

When you hear the bells on Christmas day, we hope they echo the joyful sounds of your holiday festivities.
EUNICE'S BEAUTY SHOP

The Merkel Mail
Established 1889
Published Weekly at 916 N. Second St., Merkel, Texas
Terry Roy Gardner, Publisher
Mrs. R. E. Gardner, Editor
Entered at the Post Office at Merkel, Texas as second class mail.
Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of this newspaper will be corrected, gladly, upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.
For Classified Rates: See Want Ad section.
Member of the Texas Press Association and the West Texas Press Association.

Gleaner SS Class Has Yule Dinner

The Gleaner Sunday School class of the First Methodist Church held their annual Christmas party in Fellowship Hall Thursday, Dec.

A turkey dinner was served on white laid tables centered

with Christmas arrangements. A program following the dinner included a devotional by Mrs. Jarrett Williams; a Christmas story read by Mrs. Tom Largent; and a vocal number by Mrs. Homer Patterson.

Gifts were exchanged from a decorated tree.

An offering was given for the Methodist Home at Waco by the 50 members present.



Home Demonstration Notes

By LORETA ALLEN

Laylor County Home Demonstration Agent

Home freezers have given a new slant to the old tradition of giving home-made food gifts for Christmas. Gifts of frozen food can be stored now and enjoyed later, when other Christmas "goodies" are gone.

Here are some suggestions offered by extension foods and nutrition specialists: A package of frozen cookie dough, made by your favorite recipe, frozen jelly or preserves, or seasonal fruit which you have prepared and frozen.

Package these frozen gifts carefully and deliver by hand in insulated containers. Lucky recipients will need to put them into their own freezer immediately to prevent thawing.

Another way in which freezers can help with the gift problem is to serve as a storage place for precooked food gifts, such as cakes, homemade breads, cookies, etc. They can be delivered fresh on Christmas day.

You might like to make fruit salad and freeze it for your own use during the holiday season. The following recipe is very good.

FROZEN FRUIT SALADS
Heavenly Frozen Fruit Salad
1 teaspoon unflavored gelatin
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1 3-ounce package cream cheese
1/4 cup Mayonnaise,
1/4 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons sugar
1/4 cup heavy cream, whipped
1/4 cup chopped nuts
1/4 cup quartered maraschino cherries

1 No. 2 can crushed pineapple, drained—or
1 No. 303 can fruit cocktail, drained—or

1 1/2 cups mixed sliced fresh fruit
Soften gelatin in lemon juice. Set in cup of boiling water until gelatin is dissolved. Add to combined cream, Mayonnaise, salt and sugar. Fold in remainder of ingredients. Pour into ice-cube tray; freeze until firm. Slice; serve on salad greens. Serves eight.

College Station, December 1960 — Stop and think what would happen should a spark set into the tinsel and tissue paper that usually packs a house at Christmas. Santa might have a chimney to come down but he wouldn't have a house to leave the gifts in. Fire safety is especially important during the holiday season because of added hazards warns the Texas Farm and Ranch Safety Council.

One of the principal fire hazards is that beautiful tree in the corner of the living room. The

overloaded with additional light, toys or appliances.

Only nonflammable decorations should be used on the tree, and tree lights should be turned off when no one is at home or when the family retires. As soon as the needles begin to dry and fall, the tree should be discarded.

Fire safety should not be confined to the tree alone. Discarded wrappings and packages should be put in the trash can as soon as possible. Smokers should also be extra careful where they lay their cigarettes, cigars and pipes.

Make sure that Santa finds something besides a chimney when he visits your home. Observance of basic rules of home safety can keep the Christmas Season a happy one, the Council concludes.

Council says that this danger can be minimized by selecting a freshly cut tree shortly before Christmas. The tree can be kept fresh by cutting the bottom diagonally and placing it in water or wet sand.

Placing the tree is also important. It should be placed so it will not block exits, and should be kept well away from the fireplace, stove, powerful electric lights or other sources of heat.

The Council recommends that only Underwriters Laboratories approved lights be used on the tree. Lights which have been used before should be checked for frayed wires or damaged sockets. Electrical circuits should not be

FUNERAL SERVICE INSURANCE

PAYS CASH ANYWHERE
1 Month To 90 Years

\$100.00 To \$500.00

Starbuck Life Insurance Co.

Joy to the World!



The Yuletide carols convey our sincere greetings!

AYER'S GROCERY
ACROSS FROM HOSPITAL



FROM EVERYBODY AT
BRAGG'S DEPT. STORE



Season's Best

May a wealth of good cheer find its way to your house this Christmas.

166 XG Form 17

HICKS AUTO SUPPLY



Wishing one and all a gay and festive Christmas!

Bill's Garden Shop
Phone 162

WASH IN COOL COMFORT
AIR CONDITIONED
COIN OPERATED
WASHERS & DRYERS
OPEN 24 HOURS
DELUXE LAUNDRY

Pickup and Delivery — Newest Modern Water Heaters
210 KENT ST. PHONE 231
George & Veda West

For COLDS take 666

Merry CHRISTMAS

Make Your Christmas a More Merry One,
With One of Our Guaranteed Used Cars.



- | | | |
|------|--|----------|
| 1959 | PONTIAC STAR CHIEF 4 door. Radio and heater, automatic transmission, factory air conditioner, power steering and brakes, power seat, automatic light dimmer. MANY OTHER ACCESSORIES. | \$229500 |
| 1955 | OLDSMOBILE 88 2 Door Hardtop—Extra nice with air conditioner. One owner, low mileage. A REAL BUY AT | \$79500 |
| 1959 | PONTIAC 2 door Catalina. Has automatic transmission, radio, heater and new white tires. Color red and white. One owner. LOW MILEAGE | \$219500 |
| 1955 | CHEVROLET 4 door Bel Air. Has automatic transmission, radio, heater, white tires and a NEW MOTOR. Factory air. Color tutone blue and white. WAS \$895.00. REDUCED TO | \$79500 |
| 1956 | PONTIAC 4 door with automatic transmission, radio, heater, white tires and AIR. Color black and white. A NICE ONE. WAS \$895. REDUCED TO | \$79500 |
| 1958 | PONTIAC Chieftain 4 door. Radio and heater, automatic transmission, factory air conditioner. A REAL BUY. | \$114500 |
| 1960 | INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER 1/2 ton pickup. 7,000 miles, new car warranty. Was \$1575.00. REDUCED TO | \$147500 |
| 1956 | PONTIAC 4 door. Radio and heater, automatic transmission, factory air, tutone green. A BIG BARGAIN | \$69500 |
| 1957 | CHEVROLET 4 door V-8 210. Radio, Heater, Automatic, New White tires. Pretty blue & white, low mileage. | \$89500 |
| 1956 | CHEVROLET 2 door, 210, Standard Shift, Radio, Heater, Air Conditioner New tires, good paint. A nice one — ONLY | \$79500 |
| 1960 | FORD, 4 door 6 cylinder, Standard Shift, Radio, Heater, Air Conditioner. Pretty white Nylon tires. Black color. A nice one | \$193500 |
| 1958 | PONTIAC Star Chief Custom 4 door Hard Top, beautiful blue & white, this one owner car is loaded with equipment, extra nice | \$168500 |

MANY MORE GOOD USED CARS
PALMER MOTOR CO.

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THUR.-FRI.-SAT.
Double Feature

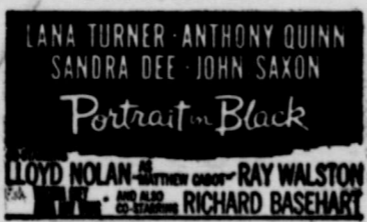


—PLUS—



THURS.-FRI. SHOW STARTS
5:45 - 2nd SHOW 8:18
THIRD SHOW - 10:31
SAT. — SHOW STARTS
12:45-3:18-5:51-8:33
9:47

SUN. & MON.



Plus Cartoons

SUN: 12:45 - 2:47
4:49
MON: 5:45 - 7:47
9:54

WATCH CARSONS GROCERY ADVERTISING IN MERKEL MAIL. MERCHANDISE WILL BE GIVEN AWAY IN DRAWINGS AT THE QUEEN THEATRE STARTING IN JANUARY.

WE WILL HAVE A FAMILY NITE EVERY WEEK — WITH TICKETS GIVEN AWAY FREE AT CARSONS GROCERY WITH YOUR PURCHASE OF GROCERIES. WATCH FOR DATE.

CARSON'S SUPERMARKET



DOUBLE GIFT BOND STAMPS

Window Specials TOO!

EACH WEDNESDAY ON \$2.50 PURCHASE OR MORE



PET MILK
3 Tall Cans 39c
PET INSTANT Qt. Pkg.
MILK 2 For 15c

GLADIOLA
CAKE MIX
2 FOR **43c**

GLADIOLA
FLOUR
10 LB. **83c** 25 LB. **\$1.79**
BAG PRINT

SCOTT'S
TISSUE
3 Rolls 35c

MEADOLAKE
OLEO
LB. 23c

EL FOOD
STRAWBERRY
PRESERVES
18 Oz. Glass 39c

DOTTIES FLUFFO PEACHES

BISCUITS
3 CANS **19c**
3 LB. **63c**
CAN
HUNTS
2 1/2 CAN **2 FOR 49c**

Finest Quality
MEATS

TOP BRANDS
HAMS Whole or Half 1/2 Lb. **55c**

FRESH
HENS 3 Lb. Avg. Lb. **37c**

GOOCH COUNTRY STYLE SAUSAGE 2 Lbs. 77c

FRESH PORK ROAST Lb. 39c

GOOCH BLUE RIBBON PICNIC Lb. 29c

FRESH OYSTERS Can 79c

TOP BRANDS CURED HAMS Shank or Butt End Lb. 49c

CHOICE HEAVY BEEF—POT OR

CHUCK ROAST Lb. **49c**

GOOCH RANCH STYLE
BACON 2 Lbs. **98c**

BORDEN'S REG. AND MORTON'S PIES
ICE CREAM-PUMPKIN

1/2 GAL. AND PIE BOTH FOR **99c**

BORDEN'S WHIPPING CREAM 1/2 Pt. 19c

BORDEN'S EGG NOG Qt. 49c

SILVER SAVOR—SWEET PICKLES Qt. 33c

MORTON'S SALAD DRESSING

QT. **33c**
JAR

MORTON'S POTATO CHIPS BAG 15c



FULL OF



AND



SHOP AT CARSON'S RIGHT UP UNTIL CHRISTMAS. WE WILL NOT CLOSE UNTIL 7:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE

Garden Fresh
Vegetables

GOLDEN BANANAS 2 Lbs. 25c

CHOICE NAVEL ORANGES 2 Lbs. 25c

FRESH CELERY Lb. 10c

BEKO BAGGED RUSSET SPUDS 10 Lbs. 49c

OCEAN SPRAY CRANBERRIES Lb. 19c

QUICK, CONVENIENT
Frozen Foods

GLADIOLA HOT ROLLS 24 In Pkg. 25c

DONALD DUCK 6 OZ. ORANGE JUICE Can 19c

MORTON'S MINCE PIES Each 35c

APPRECIATION DAY SPECIAL

TRIPLE GIFT BOND STAMPS

ON \$2.50 PURCHASE OR MORE

Sale Time: 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

SUNSHINE HYDROPS BAG 33c

Sunshine CANDIES Cello 29c

DOLE NO. 2 CRUSHED PINEAPPLE 2 for 49c

OCEAN SPRAY 300 CRANBERRY SAUCE 2 for 39c

MARSHALL'S 303 CUT GREEN BEANS 2 for 29c

WIN ALL 300 APPLE SAUCE 2 for 25c

OUR DARLING 300 ASPARAGUS 2 for 49c

LUCKY LEAF PIE FILLING CHERRY No. 2 Can 29c

KARO SYRUP Whole Pt. 25c

MRS. TUCKER'S SHORTENING 3 Lb. Can 69c

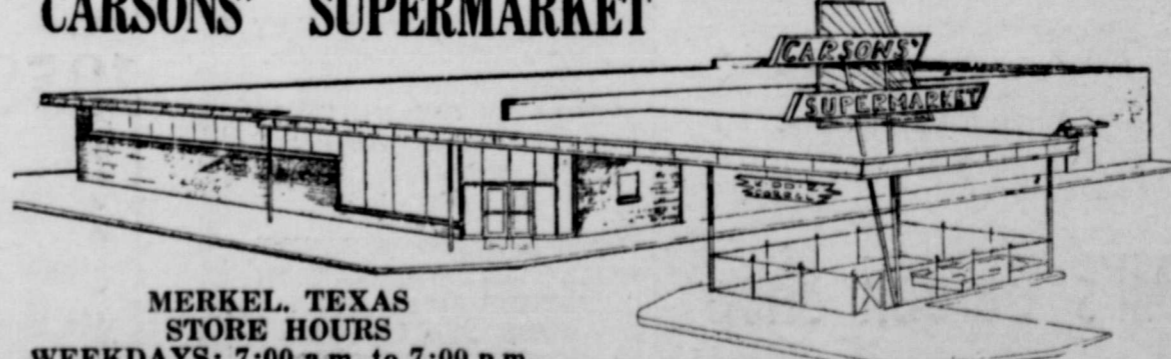
FOLGER'S INSTANT COFFEE 10 Oz. Jar \$1.09

NOW SHOWING AT QUEEN

FRI. & SAT. DOUBLE FEATURE
SNOW QUEEN
And COMANCHE STATION

SUNDAY-MONDAY
PORTRAIT IN BLACK

CARSON'S SUPERMARKET

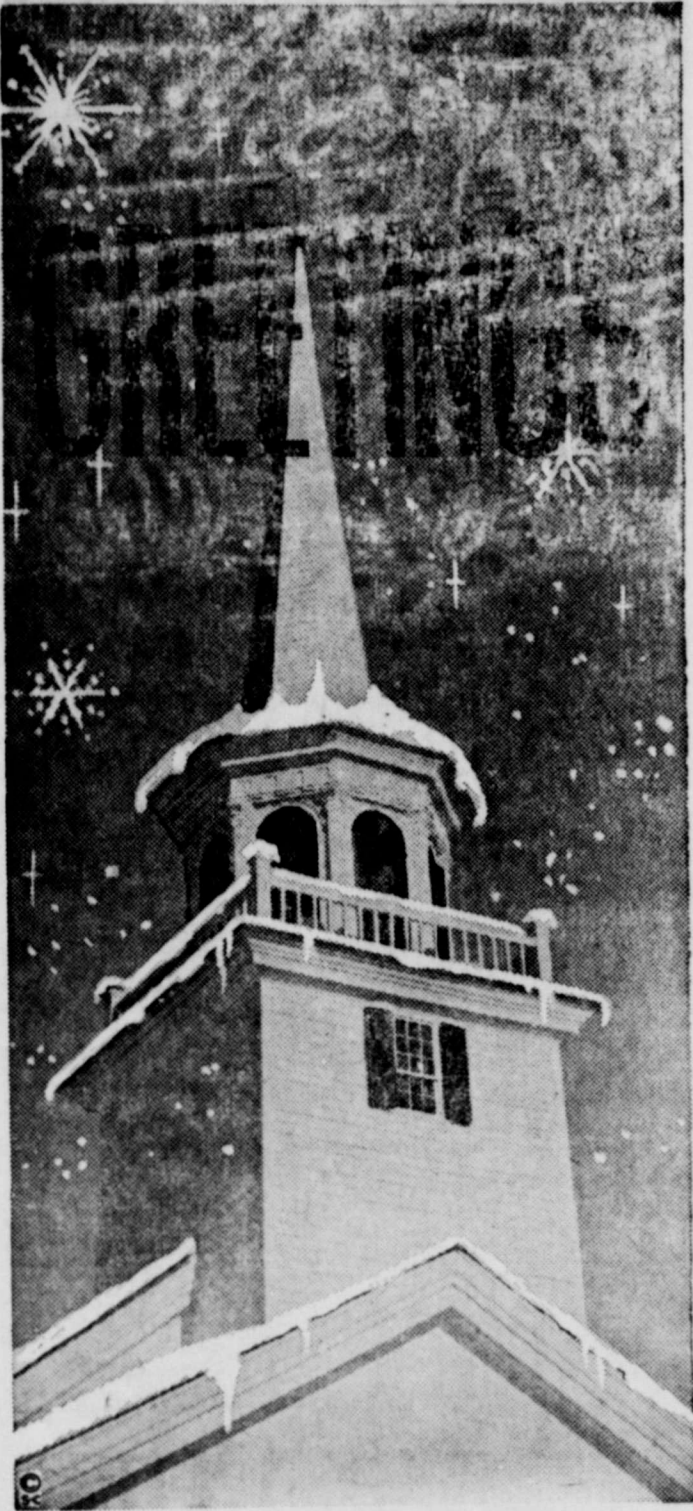


MERKEL, TEXAS
STORE HOURS
WEEKDAYS: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
SATURDAYS 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

TRADE WITH US AND BANK THE DIFFERENCE

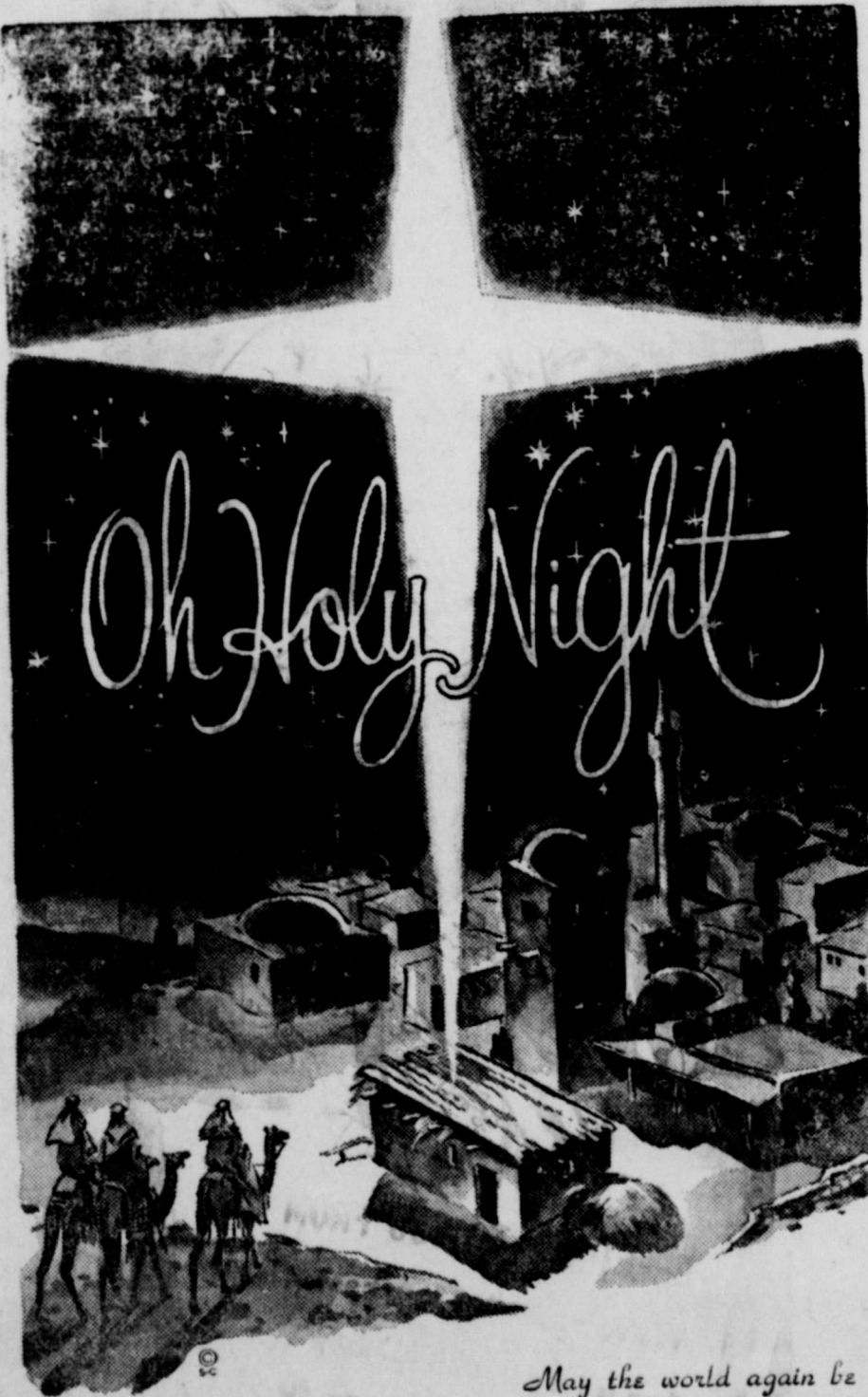
Thurs.-Fri.-Sat., Prices Good Des. 22-23-24





May the religious theme of Christmas
 be a source of inspiration to all.

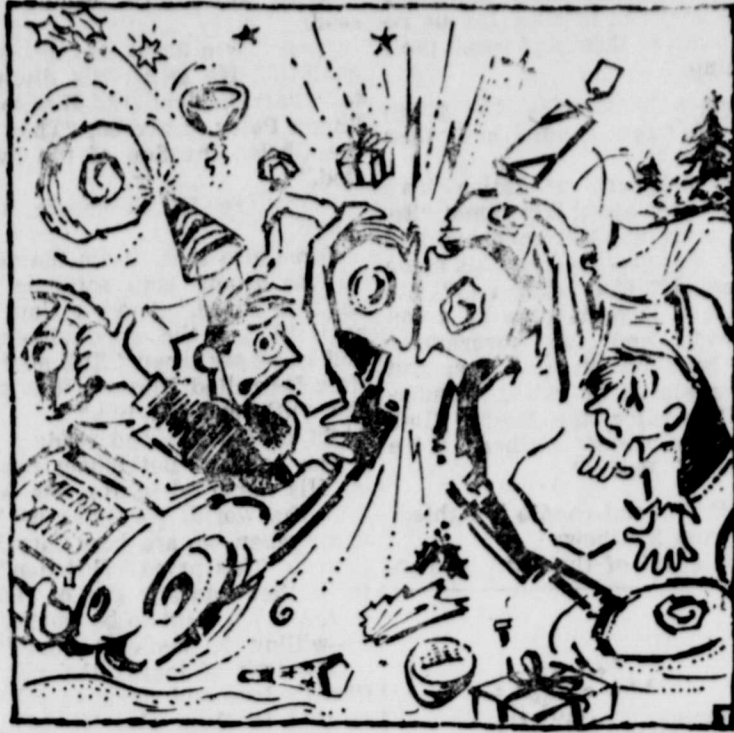
THE CARSON CREW



May the world again be
 blessed by the beautiful message of peace and good will
 that was born in the little town of Bethlehem so long ago.

STARBUCK CO.

DON'T BE AN ACCIDENT STATISTIC THIS HOLIDAY—DRIVE CAREFULLY



Christmas and New Year holidays are happy times, but when you take to the road remember that more people are killed in traffic accidents on Christmas than on any other holiday. The record death toll for any three-day holiday is 609 lives lost on the highways.

With this Christmas and New Year both being three-day holiday weekends, don't you contribute to breaking that record. Remember, accidents are no respecters of people.

On the past July 4th weekend, 442 persons lost their lives—a new record—while roads were in reasonably good condition. Christmas and New Year may find the highways slick with frost, ice or covered with snow, thus making driving more hazardous.

The Parolator Automotive Research Bureau reminds you to follow these hints when you drive during the holiday weekends:

1. Before pulling out from the curb or a side road, check to see what is coming.
2. Keep in one lane until ready to pass and then use caution and proper signals before moving into the left lane.
3. Do not drink before getting behind the wheel. Drivers with 0.10 per cent of alcohol in their blood cause five times as many deaths and injuries as drivers who are sober, and those with 0.15 per cent cause 55 times as many.

No one wants to see the traffic accident death record broken. Drive carefully! Make sure these three-day holiday weekends aren't your last ones.

HISTORIC CHRISTMAS

Christmas was first observed in England around A.D. 521, during the reign of King Arthur. Observance of the holiday (as well as that of Easter) was forbidden when the Puritans conquered in 1642. They passed an act in Parliament forbidding the celebration of both holidays and it was not until the Restoration of Charles II that these Christian practices again became prevalent in England.

Most historians credit Charles Dickens' immortal "Christmas Carol" as being perhaps the most effective force behind England's return to the observance of Christmas.

Celebrating Christmas was at one time forbidden in American colonies. In 1659, the general court of Massachusetts Bay colony passed a law stipulating a fine of five shillings for anyone "found observing any such day as Christmas, or the like, either by forbearing labor, feasting or any other way, as a festival..."

Almost thirty years later, the first "legal" Christmas was observed in America when Gov. Andros conducted services in the town hall of Boston.

It's Easy To Tell A Deer From A Cow

There is just as much difference between a beef steak and a venison chop as there is between a cow and a deer. But it's a lot easier to recognize a cow at a glance. At least, this is the theory of Capt. E. M. Sprott, director of law enforcement of the Game and Fish Commission.

He's been evaluating stories coming into the office about deer hunters shooting cows on farms and ranches.

He says the cow shooting by hunters falls into three categories. First, there is the hunter who just shoots when he sees something move. Then, of course, there is the night hunter who shines a flash light into a cow's eyes and pulls the trigger on the wrong kind of animal.

Then, the captain admits, there are some who just don't seem to know the difference.

All three are a menace to other



.. to all our friends!
 ANDY SHOUSE

"Many more instances... be willing to permit hunting on their places with some assurance their prize livestock wouldn't be killed off," he said. "But it seems every day, somewhere, our wardens are given information about the shooting of livestock."

You don't have to go all the way to the North Pole to find Santa Claus—he has a home in Indiana. World Book Encyclopedia points out that the Hoosiers named a small town after the plump gift-giver and put up a statue of him dedicated to "The Children of the World." In a typical year, some four million pieces of mail pour into the post office of the town, to be remailed with the postmark "Santa Claus."

ANDY SHOUSE
 - Real Estate -
 INSURANCE
 115 Kent
 Phone 322

Dr. Bennie A. Mann
Dr. James Chaney
 Chiropractors
 211 Oak
 Merkel, Texas
 Phone 18

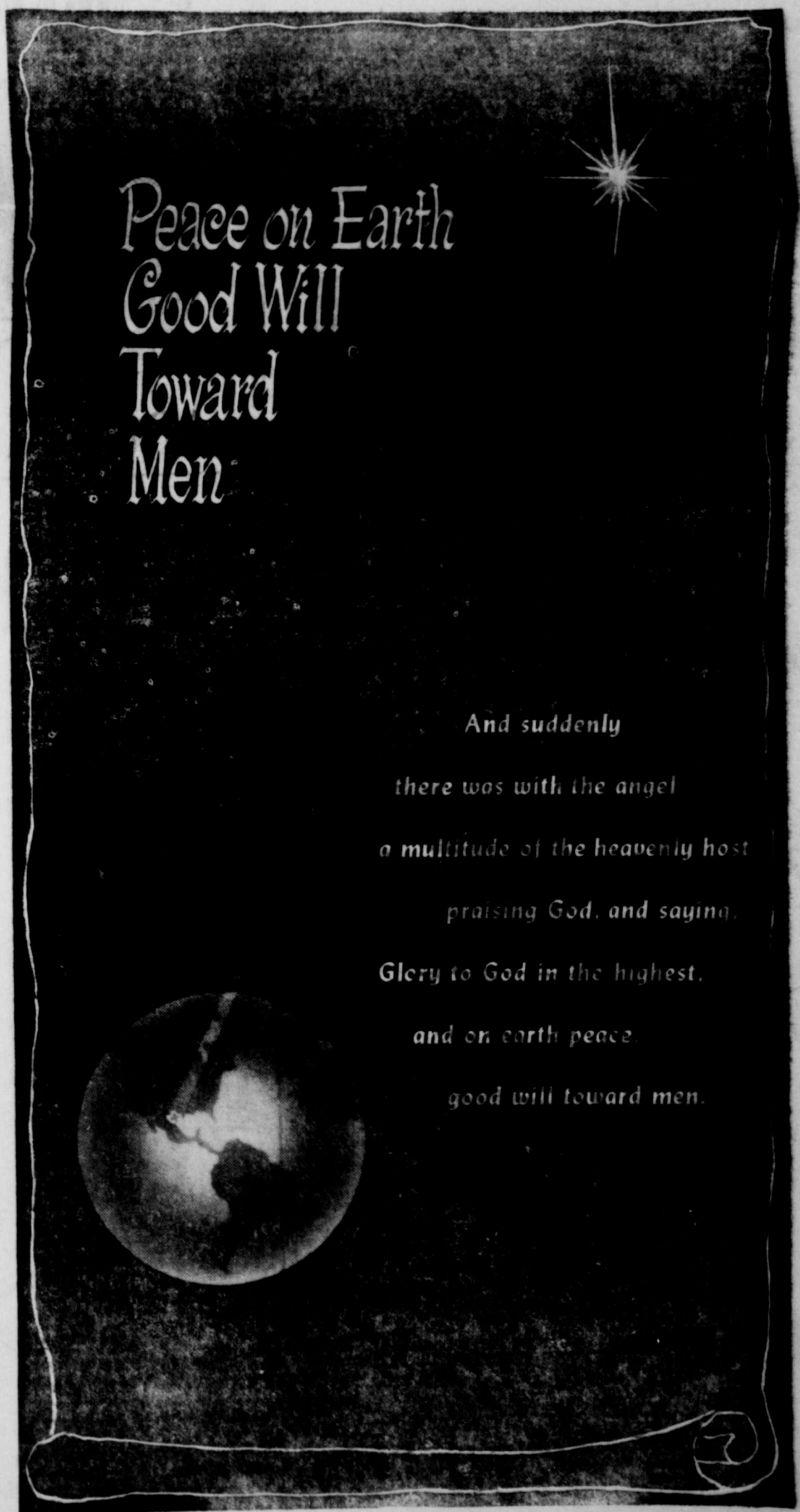
Office hours 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
 Closed Tuesdays and
 Saturdays and noon.



Aglow with Christmas Cheer

... Our fondest wish to our friends for
 all the radiant joy of a happy holiday.

WEST COMPANY
 SINCE 1889



And suddenly
 there was with the angel
 a multitude of the heavenly host
 praising God, and saying,
 Glory to God in the highest,
 and on earth peace
 good will toward men.



TAYLOR
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE INC.

**For Butane Gas, Appliances
and Tractor Conversions**
PHONE 169
1142 North First
H. W. LEMENS



We wish for you all the happy hustle and bustle of a traditional Yuletide!

MACK'S CLEANERS
ROBT. McKEEVER



Amid the gay greetings and packages, too,
We send our best wishes
For Christmas to you!

PATTERSON GRAIN

Today's MEDITATION
from
The World's Most Widely Used
Devotional Guide



The Upper Room
© THE UPPER ROOM, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Gather the family around a small altar creche, or table on which are five large unlighted candles and small ones for each person.
Sing: "Joy to the World"—Handel

Leader: Soon after any baby is born, the family and friends are concerned about naming the little one. The child whose birthday we are remembering today has many names ascribed to Him. Let us repeat some of them and recall their meaning.

Have a member of the group light a large candle and then read:

The prophecy of Isaiah has these verses about His name: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." God with us "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

As the second candle is lighted, read from Matthew:
"The angel of the Lord appear-

ed unto him (Joseph) in a dream, saying . . . (Mary) shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus."

Light the third candle and read:

Later when Jesus had grown to manhood, He asked His disciples to whom they believed Him to be. Simon Peter answered, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Light the fourth candle and read:

Jesus also said, "I am the door; by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved." Another time He said, "I am the good shepherd and know my sheep." Still another time He called Himself "the way, the truth, and the life."

Light candle five and read: The babe at Bethlehem received His name when He was born into the world. He gives us His name when we are born into His Church. This name "Christian" is far better than any gift of riches or fame. We want to be worthy of it—willing to dedicate ourselves to the task of taking the gift of Christ's love and name to others, so that to them also He will be "Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

Leader: Let each of us now light a small candle from the large one nearest us. As we look into its flame for a moment, pry into its flame for a moment, pray that the peoples the world over may accept Christ's name and love and make possible the coming of His kingdom of peace.

Sing: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"—13th century

Leader: A blessed Christmas to you all! Amen.

—Evelyn Butler McCulloh (Tennessee)



Season's Greetings

... To all our many wonderful friends!

WALKER'S GROCERY & STATION



ADCOCK CLEANERS



We hope the spirit of Christmas will sound a note of harmony over your holiday celebration.

MELLINGER'S



May the blessings of peace and good will be yours at Christmas!

H. W. LEMENS BUTANE

INCOME TAX SERVICE
JAMES H. CHANEY
211 Oak
Phone 18
MERKEL, TEXAS



COSDEN STATION
MR. AND MRS. J. L. FISHER

Season's Greetings

And... a Christmas with all the trimmings!



MERKEL FARM MACHINERY



Holiday joy to you and yours!

WHITE AUTO SUPPLY



Greetings

To our many friends --
 our deep felt appreciation
 for your loyalty and friendship
 during the past year ...
 we wish you a Very Happy Holiday!

DUBOSE STATION



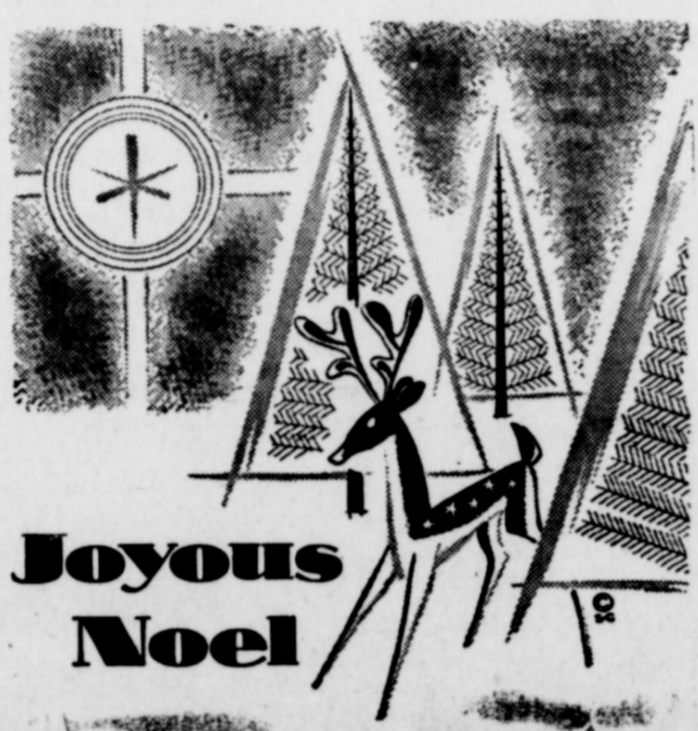
Safety Council Lists Fire Facts

How many persons will die in fires during the Christmas holiday? "Not a one, necessarily," the

National Safety Council declared today. "The grim picture of frequent fires at Christmas does not need to be—not if people take a few precautions."
 The Council cited these facts about fires:
 1. More than 1,000 persons died last year in December — month when most fire deaths occurred.



COLLIER'S CONOCO



Joyous Noel

In every way — we wish for you a very happy holiday season!

FORD SMITH JR.
 GULF OIL DISTRIBUTOR



May the true meaning of Christmas dawn once again and bring its blessings to the world.

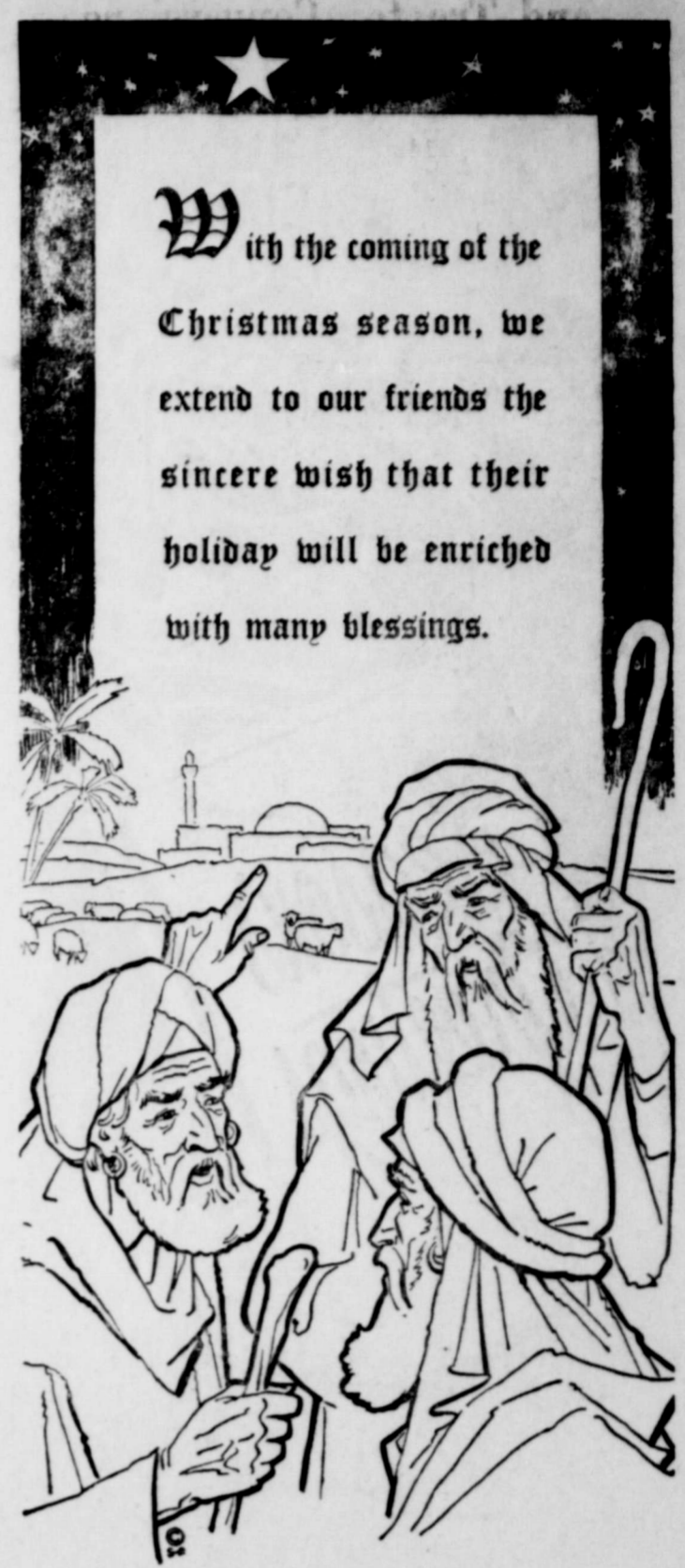
BEN FRANKLIN STORE
 J. W. HAMMOND

2. Chief victims are the very young — children under 5 — and persons 75 years of age or more.
 3. In recent years, more than half a million homes have been struck by fire.
 4. Fire losses in the home will total more than 300 million dollars this year.

To keep yourself and your loved ones from becoming fire victims, the National Safety Council makes these life-saving suggestions:
 —Don't let gift wrapping accumulate so they become a fire hazard.
 —Don't smoke in bed. And at holiday get-togethers, use deep ash trays that will hold burning cigarettes securely.
 —Check your Christmas tree wiring for possible shorts. Better to buy a new string of lights than to risk having tragedy visit your home.
 —Don't leave the Christmas tree lights burning if you're away from home or out of the room for long.
 —Don't put your tree up too early. And don't leave it up so long it gets dried out. Keep it moist.
 —Metallic Christmas trees are fine—if you use the floor floodlights most manufacturers recommend. Don't risk a death dealing short by putting a string of lights on a metallic tree.

Mr. and Mrs. Mel Jones of Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Clark and children and Mr. and Mrs. Willie Joe Clark and children, all of Abilene, Mrs. J. H. Clark Jr., and children and Mr. and Mrs. Joe McDuff and daughter, Patricia Ann, all of Merkel were visitors in the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Clark Sr., of Rt. 2, Sunday.

ANDY SHOUSE
REAL ESTATE
 Farmers Insurance Group
 Income Tax Service
 Have Competent Office Help
 119 KENT STREET



With the coming of the Christmas season, we extend to our friends the sincere wish that their holiday will be enriched with many blessings.

MINA WINTERS BUTANE



Greetings to One and All!

We'd like to send our good wishes into every home and heart this Christmas to ensure the blessings of the holiday season to all our friends and their families.

TAYLOR TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.



We wish you, with
this little rhyme,
A gay and carefree
Christmas time!

BURTON-LINGO CO.
CLYDE & BOBBY



As Christmas draws near,
we would like to shout from the
housetops, "Happy Holiday to all!"

BONEY INSURANCE AGENCY

'Love' Season Also Peak Time For Tragedies

It has been said that Jesus Christ gave only one commandment, and that was to "love one another."

Commenting on the problem of love, J. O. Musick, General Manager of the Texas Safety Association, today made reference to the many kinds of love with which most adults are familiar.

"There is the love of a child for a mother or father; the love for another member of the family; the love young people share for each other; the love and tenderness that our elderly citizens have built throughout the years; the love one feels for all mankind—and all of this love can be destroyed by ONE careless or thoughtless act," Musick pointed out.

"As we are approaching the re-

ligious holidays when love for one another is reaching an all-time peak, it is heart-rending to consider all of the tragedies that will result from a number of causes," he pointed out.

Death by fire will probably come to some children whose parents went next door for a brief visit while leaving candles burning. (The National Fire Protection Association reported an estimated 1,000 Christmas tree fires last

year.) Overloaded circuits may cause others.

Small children will choke to death on unsafe toys from Christmas. One or two others may eat an attractive Christmas tree orna-

ment that has been left within reach.

"We also find more than the usual number of empty light-bulb sockets in the home at Christmas time," Musick observed.

"All the usual hazards of falls in the bathroom and the usual kitchen hazards are present in addition to increased trouble spots due to the holiday season," he said.

WILL BUY COINS

NEW, OLD, RARE AND GOLD, CONTENTS OF PIGGY BANKS AND OTHER ACCUMULATIONS.

Free appraisal of your old coins.

VERNON SIMPSON

211 Cherry Merkel, Texas



BULLOCK HARDWARE



All the blessings
of the season

May the guiding
star of the true Yuletide significance

illumine the pathway for
your journey through life . . .

B&D GARAGE

Who put
the sock in
Susie's Christmas?

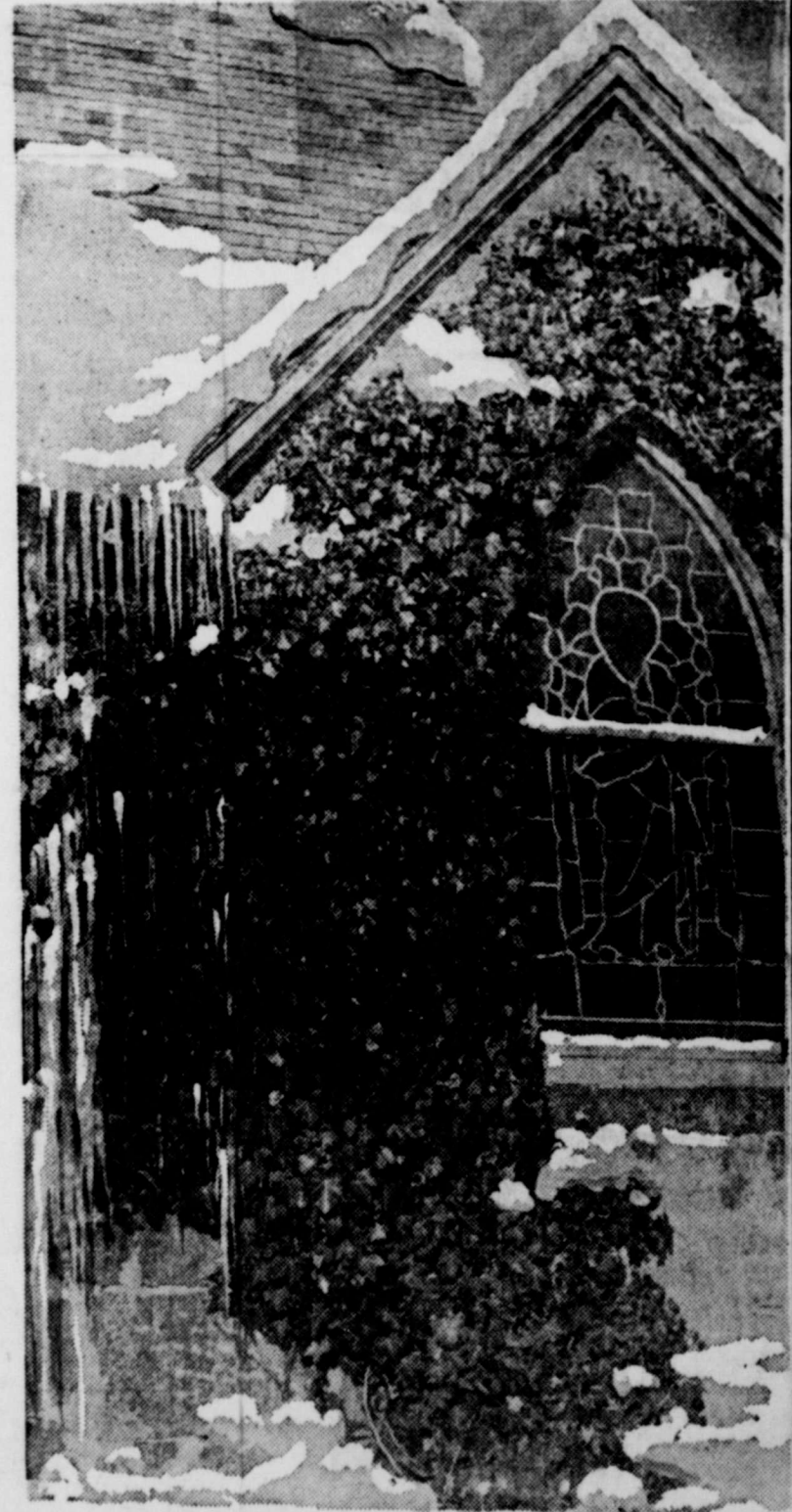
One legend goes that the jolly old driver of the reindeer dropped some coins down a chimney on Christmas Eve night . . . as was his custom a long time ago . . . and instead of clinking on the hearth, they fell into a stocking hung up by a child from the mantel to dry.

Ever since that time, visits from the jolly old fellow, known as Old Santa, have been awaited by children like Susie . . . with very special eagerness, hoping he might fill their stocking with gifts!

Yet, Christmas was not created just for gifts . . . Christmas is for kindness, friendship, warmth and beauty. Only by keeping the spiritual meaning of Christmas can we hope to acknowledge the greatest gift to man: The First Christmas.

Let us help Susie understand this deeper meaning of Christmas . . . the joy that goes beyond her Christmas stocking. Why don't you sit down with your children now and tell them this greater story?

West Texas Utilities
Company



May we all be blessed by the true happiness
of an abiding faith in the spirit of Christmas.

MERKEL DRUG CO.

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