

KERRVILLE MOUNTAIN SUN

Harvester of Happenings in the Heart o' the Hills

VOLUME 58

\$2.00 Per Year

KERRVILLE, KERR COUNTY, TEXAS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1939

5 Cents Per Copy

Awarded Trophies for Best All-Southwestern Newspaper, 1939 Best All-Around Weekly Newspaper in Texas 1930 and 1938

Page
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A Merry Christmas

For the Fifty-Eighth Time
THE MOUNTAIN SUN

Brings to You and Yours This Sincere Greeting

1881

1939

Yuletide Season to Be Brighter, Happier, Merrier With Return of Students to Kerr County H

Wedding of Miss Huldah Real to Louis Cunningham Will Be Outstanding Among Social Events

SOCIAL EVENTS at Christmas time center around the young people, and especially so those who are at home from college. Outstanding in the activities will be the wedding of Miss Huldah Real to Louis Cunningham, the A. and M. dance, the Lancers Club dance for New Year's Eve, and numerous small dinner and bridge parties. Family dinners, theatre parties and a few trips to San Antonio will also help to keep most of them busy, and of course, there will be a few who must finish their hunt of the wily buck and the elusive turkey gobbler.

The University of Texas group will probably be the first of the students to return among whom are Misses Laura Patton, Irene Jackson, Virginia Baker, Illyne McJimsey, Alice Smith, Emelia Henke, Mary Jane Garrett, Corinne and Jeanne Wilkerson, Doris White, Eloise Wied, Laura Oehler, Bertha Real, Fannie Laura Powell, Juana Broussard and Charlotte Seeber, and Julius Neunhoffer, Seaborn Eastland, Jimmie Yelvington, Joe Novak, Pedro Castillo, Harry Schwethelm, Arlton Hatch, and Sammie Marshall.

From the Texas State College for Women will be Misses Evelyn Love, Bonnie Lea Klein, Nelle Lowery, Florence Evertson, Mabel Martin, Mildred Fitzgerald, Juanita and Moselle Downing, Ruth Griffin and Arney Mitchell. Miss Vera Belle Nichols from Baylor College in Belton, and Miss Corinne Childs, William Coleman, Jack Carson and John Heard will return from Baylor University in Waco.

Scattered through the western section of the State are Charles McCaleb, Alfred Rust and Walter Lee at Sul Ross College in Alpine; Frank Fisher, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Fisher and Jimmy Hardin of Howard-Payne College in Brownwood; Miss Ammie Rose Hollar from McMurray College in Abilene; Miss Eulaliah Ballard, who is attending a business college in Austin; Charles Butt, a student in Corpus Christi; Mrs. Irene Werner, Miss Catherine Crawford, Manuel Jones, Henry Wied, James

Christmas . . .

"MEN are only happy in living AS CHRIST TAUGHT THEM TO LIVE. They are not naturally or normally sullen or cruel, intolerant or selfish. . . They do not find happiness in doing evil things, nor comfort in ill-gotten gains . . ."

'tis THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY



Club Dances, Parties, and Fa Dinners to Wel Many; Hunting Beguile Others

Priour, Jr., and Miss Leach will come from tonio business colle Miesch, who attends St University in Austin, a Rabalais from St. Mar sity in San Antonio w at home.

It is the boast of the and M. boys that thei will carry them anywh United States without ticket, and this will strated for several days holiday season when uniforms, with the blue seen strolling in, one by the highways, coming "by air." In this army football heroes, Charl Henry Hauser and Ch mann, and Herbert B McCaleb, Earl Garret Meeker, Dudley Johns Strohacker, Wheeler M Real, Jr. Mr. and Mr Radeleff and Mr. and Nichols will also be for a part of the holi Marvin Vetter of the of San Antonio and Burney and Arthur M Texas A. and I. in Kin be here.

L. T. Davis, Jr., and LeGasse, students in the Methodist University; M son, Jr., a student in N State Teachers College will represent the group portion of the State, v the San Marcos Teache will come Teddy Rothn ton Chambliss, Frank Mary Frances Sheppard A number of the youn ers will be at home an to the good cheer of among these will be Breihan, Austin; Miss sons, Edinburg; Miss ton, Fredericksburg; M Wynne, of the Univers as Library in Castillo of Pre of Wichita Falls, Patti riss of Plainview; Mrs. McManus of Marlin and ter, Miss Alma Caroly ville; Mr. and Mrs. Fort Stockton.

God Rest You Merrie, Gentlemen

I.

God rest you merrie, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Saviour
Was born on Christmas Day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r
When we were gone astray;

REFRAIN:

O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy!

II.

From God our Heav'nly Father,
A blessed Angel came;
And unto certain Shepherds
Brought tidings of the same:
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by Name.

REFRAIN:

III.

Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All others does deface.

REFRAIN:

Traditional English Carol

CHRISTMAS . . .

NO OTHER EVENT in human history has ever joined so vast of people in such IMPLICIT FAITH that a beautifully DIVINE happened—

Why? Surely because of the DIVINE TEACHINGS subsequently to record as the WORD OF GOD, the splendid path to shape for the spiritual guidance of mankind, the inspirational give for the beautiful reality of living. . . .

Christmas On Ago Was

Group of "old-time" people gathered around a hot fire, the conversation from the mouth of various and sundry...

'Don't Forget That Flag . . . It's Important' Youngsters Decide This Is a Good Country, Because in Some Nations They Don't Even Have God Any More

New York.—Well, the tree is up, the wreath is on the front door, and tonight we pack the youngsters off to bed early...

That was a new one on us and we asked what was the idea. "Well, if they don't have God in some countries any more, we ought to have a flag on our tree so that the little infant will know we want him here," he said.

"I betcha that if somebody said we couldn't have a crib under our tree the G-Men would stop them. The G-Men would pull their guns and bang, bang, bang—they'd be stopped!" he said.

No, This Isn't Santa, Kiddies



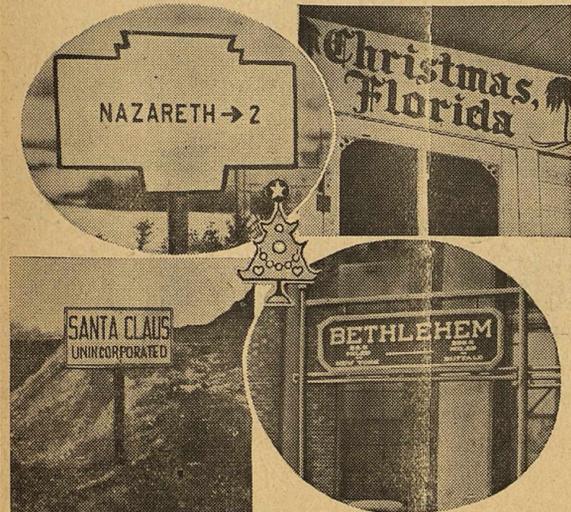
Just a few of the boys entering into the festive spirit. Top to bottom: Eddie Cantor (couldn't you recognize those eyes?); Jimmy Durante (you couldn't miss that beak); and Boris Karloff, shudder merchant of the films.

KEEP KERRVILLE'S FIRE RECORD CLEAR OVER HOLIDAYS, FIRE CHIEF HILL CAUTIONS CITIZENS

With all good wishes for a Merry Christmas, Fire Chief Roy Hill cautioned this week that "it can't be merry unless it's safe!"

Pointing out that Kerrville has had a wonderful record since the first of 1939, the official expressed the hope that sensible precautions on the part of citizens during the holidays would make it possible for this record to be preserved.

Signs of Christmas



It's Christmas the year around where these pictures were taken: Christmas, Fla.; Bethlehem, Pa.; Nazareth, Pa., and Santa Claus, Ind. Each year thousands of Christmas cards are forwarded to postoffices at these communities for stamp cancellation.

Tests Determine If Child Is Susceptible To Diphtheria Germ

Austin.—"Nature has revealed priceless secrets to students of medical science, and the Schick test is the key to one of these," declared Dr. George W. Cox, State Health Officer.

"This test to determine whether or not a child might have diphtheria is entirely harmless. Fifty times the amount used for a child would be necessary to injure a small animal such as a mouse or guinea pig.

Conservation Is Stressed In AAA Farm Program

Washington, D. C.—The Agriculture Department is revamping its farm-aid program for 1940 to shift the emphasis from crop production control to measures designed to assure greater protection of the nation's soil resources from wind and water erosion.

increase appropriations for governmental purchases of sub-marginal land.

Czechoslovakia's Christmas

Czechoslovakia has a "Bethlehem," or little manger beneath the Christmas tree to remind all of the lowly birth of Jesus.

"During the past year about 250 Texas children died, and 2,500 were ill of diphtheria. Nature has revealed the secret of susceptibility through the Schick test.

"Peace On Earth..."

At this peaceful Christmas time, it is our privilege of wishing each of you the good things of life — health, happiness, and abounding contentment.

Stephens Mortuary Jack Stephens 325 Water St. - Phone 84 - Kerrville, Tex.

MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR

To All Our Friends and Patrons—

We thank you for the privilege of serving you in 1939, and hope we have the opportunity to serve you more satisfactorily in 1940.

R. J. CASTILLO

Telephone 102

206 Lemos Street

Kerrville, Texas



A REALLY BEAUTIFUL GIFT—FLOWERS!

There are hundreds of beautiful and attractive things you can give a woman. Some are correct for any woman, others you must choose carefully.

Come In and See the Many Beautiful Plants and Cut Flowers We Have On Display. Make Your Choice Now and We Will See That Your Gifts Are Delivered RIGHT!

Kerrville Greenhouse

Kuhlmann's

FLOWERS CAN BE TELEGRAPHED ANYWHERE Phone 24

"Silent Night, Holy Night"



Shoppers' Aid

Analyze Subject's Personality Before Selecting Gift for Him

WHAT to buy mother, father, brother, sister and sweetheart is a perplexing problem every Christmas. Most stores can give you specific tips, and probably there's something definite you've already decided to buy. But in case you're still puzzled here are a few general tips:

For Mother:

Buy her something she would not ordinarily buy herself. They tell about the young housewife who bought a woolen muffler for her husband's hard-working mother, and a fluffy, impractical gift for her own mother who already had everything she needed. By error the gifts were switched. The young housewife was horrified but both mothers were pleased beyond words.

Practicality is a nice thing but it's nice to give a kitchen-chained mother something besides household equipment. Like perfume or bath salts or a bed jacket. Or a pair of sheer chiffon stockings. She'd also like a necklace or bracelet, or a carefully chosen set of costume jewelry to dress up last year's clothes. These are just a few tips—the stores can amplify them a hundred-fold.

For Father:

Ties, mufflers, cigarette cases or hose are always acceptable but you've only scratched the possibilities there. Does he have a hobby

that needs encouragement? Does he have a peculiar weakness for some sport or a certain type of clothes which he's intentionally discouraged because it's extravagant?

In the clothing line, besides the first named items, you might look at smoking jackets, cuff links or a tie clasp set with his birthstone. Maybe he needs exercise for that waistline. Answer: Athletic equipment. Most men like games for fireside entertainment, or they'd appreciate a lunch kit for hunting and fishing trips.

For Sister or Sweetheart:

Flatter her tastes, and make it a distinctly "from-me-to-you" sort of gift. Jewelry is a favorite standby. Then there are books (which are regaining favor as gifts), a pair of gloves, a desk set, book ends—or how about a real, live dog to stress the "Love me, love my dog" angle?

For Brother or Sweetheart:

If the young man is particularly close to you there's an extremely wide range of gifts. Otherwise an expensive, elaborate gift might express too great an interest and you might therefore be wise to stick to the books-and-handkerchief line.

Proper choice of gifts requires a cool analysis of the man. If he likes the outdoor life, follow the sports motif. If he works inside, how about a memo pad or a desk set with a large blotter and leather accessories? Generally speaking, avoid tricky gifts and follow your salesperson's advice.

Meat Packer Donates Food to Needy at Yuletide

DENVER, COLO.—Because Louis K. Sigman sometimes went hungry when he was an orphan boy in the streets of Brooklyn, N. Y., he now gives 50,000 pounds of meat each Christmas for distribution to needy families by a Denver newspaper. This custom, followed the past 10 years, has helped make the holiday season cheery for the destitute. There are 5,000 parcels of 10 pounds each. In the 10-year period, Mr.

Sigman has given away more than 250 tons of meat.

"I've had the idea ever since I was a little boy," he said last year. "I was in need a lot of the time myself."

The actual plan for a Christmas meat party came to him after he had observed dozens of adults and children at his packing plant asking for discarded scraps of beef, mutton and pork.

MUCH LIKE CABLE TOOLS.—Chinest Drilled Wells Before Christian Era

Well drilling, says the American Petroleum Institute, was practiced in China before the Christian era and it is believed water wells are drilled to depths exceeding half a mile with surprisingly ancient equipment. Ancient illustrations show the well-drilling methods of that period closely resembled modern cable tool drilling practices. The ancient driller lined the upper part of the well with perforated blocks of stone and used tubes of wrapped bamboo for the lower part, the forerunner of modern steel casing in oil wells.

In the early days of the petroleum industry the drilling was a relatively simple process. Oil was obtained a few hundred feet below the surface and drilling was effected by tools suspended from a pulley attached to a wooden tripod. Often a well could be completed in a few days.

Because of increasing demand for petroleum, search for oil has been pushed deeper into the earth. Wells a mile or two deep are now

CHRISTMAS CROSS-INDEXED

COUNTRY	SANTA CLAUS	MERRY CHRISTMAS	HAPPY NEW YEAR
FRANCE	Pere Noel	Joyeux Noel!	Bonne Annee!
SPAIN	Three Wise Men: Melchior, Gaspar and Baltazar	Feliz Pascuas	Feliz Ano Nuevo!
ITALY	La Befana	Buon Natale	Buon Capo d'Anno
SWEDEN	Jultomte	God Jul	Got Nytt Ar
NORWAY	Julenissen	Gladlig Jul	Got Nytt Aar
GERMANY	Sankt Nicholas	Froehliche Weihnachten	Ein Glueckliches Neues Jahr
HOLLAND	Sint Nicolaas	Plezierig Kerstfeest	Gelukkig Nieuwjaar

common, the deepest exceeding 15,000 feet. Rotary drilling has been improved and more efficient tools perfected. The weight of a string of rotary drilling tools often exceeds 50 tons. Strings of casing weighing more than 150 tons are not exceptional. Great skill is required in the manipulation of that enormous weight in drilling a straight hole, especially through inclined strata or rock.

HANGING OF MISTLETOE DATES BACK TO DRUIDS

The hanging of mistletoe dates back to the Druids in England. They believed that it brought the good will of the sylvan dieties during the period of frost and snow. The idea that it is good luck to kiss a girl while under the mistletoe is handed down from this old belief.

When Yule Carol Stilled War Guns On Battle Front

Rev. J. Sutherland-Watt of Norfolk, Virginia, tells how the strains of "Silent Night, Holy Night," sweeping gently across a battlefield in two languages, quieted guns in front-line trenches of the greatest war on earth for a Christmas celebration.

It was Christmas Eve, 1914, between Armentiers and Arras, while Gordon Highlanders huddled in trenches, when somebody remembered the day.

"Jim, let's sing," one said to Private Sutherland-Watt.

Jim pleaded off, but someone else started "Silent Night, Holy Night," and soon Jim and the whole Scot regiment had joined in.

When the last refrain subsided, from the opposite trenches arose other voices—attuned in "Stille Nacht." Then all night long Christmas carols rang from trench to trench in strange tongues while cannon and flares from other sectors lit the sky.

At the customary "zero" hour,

the British soldiers sang figures making their the opposite trenches. were fired. Then it was the Germans carried Scots leaped from the likewise unarmed, only dered back.

CHRISTMAS THE WONDERFUL THINGS.

Christ taught simple He taught KINDLIN is an element of the lo a dear one and also of held for a stranger.

He taught BRO which brings all who into a common rela helpfulness and sympa

He taught FOR which makes the mista as steppingstones to t living of which all are

All these things w LIGHT, for those of who were in the dark sinful world of which a part.

Pretense is usually thing but there's not wrong with playin' San a lot o' poor kiddies.



Expressing Sincere Good Wishes

Out of the Past

THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR SEASON brings to mind the gratitude that is in our hearts for all the blessings that have come our way. In the past the friends of this organization have made possible progress and a certain amount of prosperity . . . Through these friendships life has been an enjoyable experience, one in which we have the confidence and esteem of the people whom we serve. All we ask is the pleasure of continuance of these fine relationships—so that we may look with a genuine enthusiasm toward the future.

Our Wish for Every One

"A Joyous Holiday Season"

PETERSON AUTO COMPANY
PETERSON BUS COMPANY
PETERSON'S GARAGE
PETERSON'S USED CARS



We extend each and every one our sincere best wishes for a

CHRISTMAS

overflowing with

HAPPINESS AND JOY

And in the New Year to come we hope for you every success . . . and remembering your kind patronage of the past we invite your continued good will in 1940.

KERRVILLE ICE
and
STORAGE CO.



The Spirit of

Christmas

By KATHERINE EDLEMAN

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS has descended upon the world. In some mysterious magic way, it has entered into your heart and mine, transforming, changing us from the everyday people of yesterday. We have become more human, more understanding, more likable. The walls of coldness, of pride and of selfishness have fallen into ruins, the barriers of misunderstanding have crumbled into ashes, before the force of this mighty Spirit. Light and love and faith have entered into our hearts, bringing with them the peace that passeth all understanding. Friends have grown more close and dear; ties of home and kindred have become a thousand times more precious. Our hearts go out to the poor and unfortunate in a great rush for sympathy and we grow eager and anxious to make their way more easy. Our homes reflect the joy in our hearts; they glow with brightness and cheer and with a gracious spirit of hospitality.

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS has filled us with a desire to serve, to give, to make others happy. We are glad and proud to sacrifice our own pleasure that others may have greater joy. We grow fearful and afraid lest one home in all our land should be forgotten; lest one little child should fail to be remembered . . . You and I, and all the rest of mankind, have been changed into messengers of joy, of peace, and of goodwill through this beautiful Spirit of Christmas that has taken possession of our hearts.

December Is 12th Month; But Used To Be Only 10th

When the month of December rolls around, each of us is happy because this month marks the beginning of the holiday season, but none of us stops to think how the month got its name. In fact, we are too busily engaged in doing our "Christmas shopping early," or in attempting to make up gift lists.

One of the first things we learned when we went to school, after we had mastered the "ABC's" and the days of the week was the names of the months.

But, did we ever stop to figure out why each month got that name?

December is the last month of the year. Nelson's Perpetual Loose Leaf Encyclopedia says: "In the old Roman calendar, before the time of Julius Caesar, the year began with March and that which is now twelfth was then the tenth month."

The month, deriving its name from ten, or the Latin, therefore, became December in our present day calendar. Webster's Unabridged Dictionary says: "December—This being the tenth month among the early Romans, who began the year in March. Decem—combining form of Latin meaning Ten. Decimal—numbered or proceeding by tens."

The year which we observe now is the tropical year, which is the year of civil life and of chronological reckoning. Its length is 365 days, five hours, 48 minutes and 45½ seconds. Naturally, every one knows the twelve months, of which December is the last.

It is set forth in the Nelson Encyclopedia that the Roman calendar of Julius Caesar was based on the solar year, which was assumed to be 365¼ days long. As at present, the quarter-day was accounted for by the insertion of an additional day every fourth year (leap year); and the names of the months, and the number of days in each, were the same, after a few small alterations had been made by Augustus, as they are in a modern European calendar. The Julian solar calendar was defective, because it made the year more than 11 minutes too long.

January gets its name from Janus, held sacred among the Romans.

February is derived from Februa, the Roman festival of purification.

March, the windy month, depicts its name, begotten from the God of War, Mars.

April comes from the Latin word Aprilis, meaning stem—it is the month in which vegetation begins to put forth.

May dates back to Roman mythology, as May was a goddess, the daughter of Atlas and the mother of Mercury, by Jupiter.

June is so called from Junius, the name of a Roman gens.

July comes from Julius Caesar. He was born in that month, formerly called Quintilis, or the fifth month.

The old Roman name for August was Sextilis, sixth month, from March, but renamed in honor of Augustus Caesar.

September is from Septem, as the seventh month from March in the old Roman calendar.

Octo, Ostave, meaning eight, gives October its name, as it, likewise, is from the old Roman calendar, being the eighth month from March.

Novem means nine, and hence November, the ninth month from March in the old Roman calendar, gets its name.

The popular story is that Julius Caesar, when he ascended to the throne of the Roman Empire, changed the name of the month from Quintilis to honor himself, so his name would be honored by posterity.

Then, along came Augustus Caesar, and not to be outdone, he changed the name from Sextilis to August, heing unto himself a month also.

The calendar, however, was in a mixed-up state, so along came Pope Gregory XIII, who determined to reform the calendar. He entrusted the work to a German Jesuit, Christopher Schlüssel, generally known by his Latinized name of Clavius, who carried out a scheme planned by Aloysius Lilius, a Neapolitan physician and astronomer.

Therefore, the Gregorian calendar we now follow gives us a twelfth month, December, bearing a tenth-month name.

What will be the outcome if the 13-month calendar, now discussed in business circles, is adopted? What will be the month number of December then?

Next to the electrical industry the automotive industry is the largest user of copper and its alloys.

There are approximately 2,000 distinct melodies in the Hebrew hymn, "Lechah Dodi," which is sung as part of the Sabbath ceremony.

Merry Christmas



Good Will . . . The Golden Thread



CAPT. CHARLES SCHREINER—1838-1927

IN the pattern of our business relations, woven as it must be day after day on the plain but sturdy fabric of honesty and fair dealing, there runs in and out through it all a thread of golden good will which enters everything we do for our fellowmen. At Yuletide we are prompted to wish you a whole golden shower of the good things of life, to accord fully with the glory of the season. For the 70th time this institution

Wishes for You

A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year.



CHAS. SCHREINER BANK

(Unincorporated)

Established 1869

Kerrville, Texas



INDUCING GESTURES TO PREVENT SLEEP FROM CEREBRAL AND AILMENTS SUGGESTED BY DOCTOR

ork.—Some simple ges-
ich induce sound sleep
ne a potential preventive
of the fastest forms of
ath.

ir are heart disease and
hemorrhage, respectively
fifth in the first ten kill-
illization. The sleep ges-
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inducing peace of mind
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nerica.

in Brazil, William Hall
M. D., of the American
of Natural History, found
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to exist in a tribe of In-
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viction.

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s can't return to sav-
ple life to escape worry.
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s found an artificial for-
to it.

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years have gone into
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became apparent early in

students, learning re-
in the laboratory, became
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to pain from electric
which always hurt when
re tense.

earning takes about an
day. It is all done lying
Athletes learn more rapid-
others. Only a few mo-
e made. But they teach,
w the arms feel when re-
axed. Next the legs, then
brows, eyes and finally
throat.

positions are all, except for
to lie on the back,
not crossed and eyes

arm, and later both
nately, are raised straight

up, with fists clenched, so that all
arm muscles tighten. They are al-
low to relax very slowly and fi-
nally to fall limp on the bed.

Legs are taught by flexing the
feet forward at ankles or back-
ward and letting go.

The chest relaxation is learned
by inhaling not too deeply and
noting how the easiest breathing
can be done.

Brows are cleared of tensions
by raising intensely, and frowning
intensely, both separately, with
subsequent relaxation and com-
plete rest.

Eyes are turned to left or right,
hard, and for half a minute, and
the same up and down.

Throat and tongue relaxation
are studied by counting out loud
to ten, slowly, then in a lower tone,
finally in a whisper.

The gestures themselves are al-
most ridiculously simple. Really
doing them is difficult, requiring
as a rule supervision. The first
mistake nearly everyone makes is
an "effort" to relax.

The mind is kept free of ideas.
Why complete relaxation frees the
mind is shown by the oscillograph,
the "eye" which measures move-
ments too small to be visible to
humans or even to be noticed by
the person making them.

Whenever the mind is busy ten-
sions appear in the muscles. While
muscles do not think, there is
much evidence that no thinking is
done without some muscular ac-
companiment.

Get the muscles completely re-
laxed and the sensation of "float-
ing" off to sleep is felt.

The last bit of strain which the
gestures aim to get rid of is
known as residual tension. It is
defined as the tension appearing
after you lie down but fail to re-
lax completely.

So slight it is that Dr. Jacobson
advises persons who wish to fall
asleep easily to beware of hold-
ing discussions while lying down
lest they develop a tension habit.

**COULDN'T BUY LEGS—SO
HE MADE HIS OWN**

Oklahoma City—Unable to buy
a pair of artificial limbs after he
lost both of his legs in a train ac-
cident, Henry Falls, negro youth,
whittled some from an old cot-
tonwood log.

Representatives of artificial
limb manufacturers who later saw
the pair of wooden ones Falls
made, said they were a "remark-
able piece of workmanship." Falls
was guided by the illustrations in
a catalogue of artificial limbs he
obtained. His only tools were
pocket knife, rusty saw and ham-
mer.

Ropes Still Used To Stop Snakes Despite "Learnin' "

Will the rattlesnake crawl over
a horsehair rope stretched around
the sleeping cowboy's blankets and
curl up on his bed-roll for a quiet
little snooze?

The question has been argued
and re-argued and cussed and dis-
cussed over the rangeland for eons.
And doubt still exists in certain
quarters if a horsehide rope will
keep the buzz-tail from slipping up
to a warm blanket or body and
taking a peaceful snooze.

"Whether the horsehair will
keep the snakes away, I cannot
say," related "Uncle" Charley
Cupples, pioneer ranchman of the
Del Rio district. "But in the old
days the cowboys down in the
Uvalde district used to coil their
horsehair ropes around their
blankets, crawl under their tarp
and sleep the night through with-
out awakening to find a rattler in
their bed-roll. Whether the horse-
hair kept them back or not is
something I cannot say. But many
a cowboy who neglected to spread
out his horsehair lariat has awak-
ened to find a rattler or two down
in his blankets when he'd start to
roll them up and toss them into
the chuck wagon."

It wasn't uncommon in those
days for a cowboy to awaken feel-
ing something heavy on his body
only to look down and find a big
rattler coiled up on his chest.

"He'd throw his blankets down
over the snake, then come out of
his slumber all in a bunch when
he found them atop him. But
mostly the boys didn't know they'd
been sleeping with a rattler until
they'd start rolling their blankets,"
said Mr. Cupples.

He added that the warm weather
of the past few days has brought
the buzz-tails out in summer style.
"But the Creator making those
rattlers knew what they were and
so fixed them so they'd sound off
before they charged you. The rat-
tler is the only poisonous beast or
animal that warns you before he
flings himself into battle. That's
or tarantula will do and they're
pretty deadly once they sting or
bite."

"Years ago the foreman of the
ranch used to call all hands out
in the afternoon and start out on
a snake killing stampede. In a
single afternoon he'd kill 65 him-
self. It didn't take much of that
to thin the rattlers out. There are
not nearly as many through this
section as there was in the old
days. There was a time when
you'd be singing 'Yankee Doodle'
every time you took a step through
the ranch brush, but they're slow-
ly being killed out."

The Age-Old Story



Evangelist Luke tells the Christmas story, whose influence has not waned throughout the centuries since the birth of Christ, Whose birthday is being observed at this season:

"And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed . . ."

"And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the City of David, which is called Bethlehem: (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)"

"To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child."

"And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered."

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

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night."

"And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone around about them; and they were sore afraid."

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people."

"For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord . . ."

"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, goodwill toward men."

And we find the interpretation in the words of Saint John:

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God . . ."

"All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made."

"In him was life, and the life was the light of men."

"And the light shineth in the darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not."

"There was a man sent from God, whose name was John."

"The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light."

"That was the true light, which lighteth every man who cometh into the world."

"He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not."

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God. . . ."

Surely, this day has need of the light that "shineth in the darkness." There is occasion to ponder how it may be brought to illuminate more lives, and more of the pathway which mankind must tread.

LUCIFER HEADS THE CAST—

"El Diablo" Is Regarded As Man-of-the-Hour When Mexicans Have Annual Christmas Play

San Antonio.—Throughout the year he may be a sheep-herder, onion planter or humble cotton picker, but when he puts on the costume of "El Diablo" for the annual performance of "Los Pastores," he is the man of the hour in many Mexican communities in Texas.

The play, originating with the distant inception of Christianity in the New World, is a dramatization of the birth of Jesus performed in the pre-Christmas season by primitive actors in the tradition of the generations. The fellow who plays the part of the devil has his moment in number one place in the communities.

Often the determinedly grim person in the role of Mephistopheles is the leader of a company of players that includes several assistant devils, a bevy of shepherds, a hermit, the archangel and a cook, who stage the drama in Mexican villages. Like the Christ in the Oberammergau Passion Play, Lucifer is the head of the cast. He taught the players, some of them illiterate, their lines and cues, and upon him rests the responsibility to find quickly a substitute should one of the assistant devils, or even a shepherd,

become "muy boracho" (over-liquored) during the performance.

Versions of the play by the numerous companies differ somewhat and the dialogue varies materially. The general theme, however, is the shepherds' celebration of the birth of Christ and the attempts of Lucifer and his crew to dissuade them by flattery, bribery and cajolery. The climax is reached when the Archangel Michael, usually played by a girl armed with a toy sword, fights a duel with the devil.

Equipped with cellophane wings, the girl pierces the fierce demon and places her foot on the head of the prone foe in a "thus-always-to-tyrants" pose. This is the time for applause.

(Sometimes, in the fringe of the crowd there is real drama with a blade or bullet. Several years ago, one season's presentation of "Los Pastores" in Bexar County yielded three corpses among the spectators.)

To the play there is a happier ending. Good triumphs over evil. The seven cardinal sins are represented by the seven devils, who with popping firecrackers attached to their tails, flee from the scene, leaving the shepherds to proceed to the crib.

SANTA WILL VISIT MANY BATTLESHIPS; SAILORS IN PORT WILL BRING CHILDREN ABOARD FOR TRADITIONAL CELEBRATION

Washington.—Among his other Christmas jaunts, Santa Claus will go to sea.

Following a custom of many years, seamen aboard many of Uncle Sam's fighting ships will swap their navy "blues" for the red suit and white whiskers of Santa for the underprivileged children of seaport towns.

At the navy's shore stations, the day is usually observed with a traditional Christmas dinner for the enlisted personnel with their families, and a Christmas party with presents for their children.

By tradition, the party for children aboard ship is planned and carried out entirely by the seamen, with the hearty approval of the officers.

Children, selected solely on the basis of lack of means to celebrate the day elsewhere, are brought aboard in tow of the seamen, to catch sight first of a giant Christmas tree decorated and laden with gifts for them. Then they are taken on a tour of the vessel to see the decorated compartments of the ship. Ship's units compete in decorations for prizes.

Then comes Christmas dinner, and afterward the children are taken on deck to await the arrival of Santa Claus, who oddly enough usually leaps out of an aeroplane prominently displaying a "U.S.N." on the fuselage.

The Christmas party aboard ship is said to have originated on the Battleship New York tied up at the Brooklyn Navy Yard on Christmas, 1915, when an unremembered seaman, touched at the sight of several ragged and hungry children, brought them all aboard and talked the ship's cook into serving up a hot meal (with the knowledge and consent of the officer on the deck).

The first planned party for children, Rear Admiral Hugh Rodman, retired, recalled in his memoirs, took place on the New York on

Christmas, 1917, when the ship was in port at Edinburgh, Scotland.

"Not knowing that we would be ordered abroad," he wrote, "we had laid in our supplies on the supposition that we would be in an American port, but Christmas found us in Edinburgh, Scotland. After discussing the situation, the men decided that a child was a child, whether American or Scotch. They asked 125 children to come aboard, preferably those who had been orphaned during the war, the poor and more dependent the better."

The Christmas ship idea spread at once, Admiral Rodman wrote, "and I sincerely hope it has become the custom with all ships, and will be continued as one of the navy's most cherished traditions."

But giving to others is not all of a seaman's Christmas. If you have tears of sympathy for the sailor with his "navy grub" as you sit down to a "turkey-and," wipe your eyes and read this sample Christmas ship's menu:

Cream of celery soup; celery,

olives and sweet mixed pickles; roast turkey, old fashioned sage dressing, cranberry relish, giblet gravy; roast spiced ham; mashed potatoes, candied sweet potatoes, creamed cauliflower; mixed green salad, French dressing; hot rolls and butter; Neopolitan ice cream, hot mince pie, fruit cake; apples, bananas, oranges mixed nuts and candy; cigarettes, cigars and coffee.

EAT WHAT YOU WANT BUT GET ESSENTIALS

Chicago.—A person who wants—after he has his needs, said Prof. E. V. Lum of Johns Hopkins University in a speech recently.

Each member of the should have a quart of milk or its equivalent in cheese, or other dairy products. They should also have leafy vegetables, one pound of meat, fish or poultry, one week and some fresh fruit juice.

After that is done should eat the things he

Because he stood in a girl in a store in Johannesburg, South Africa, Sidney arrested and fined \$10 for disorderly conduct.

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The Kerrville Mountain Sun

EVEN IF SANTA CLAUS DOES HAVE TRICK NAMES, AMERICAN CITIZENS WILL RECOGNIZE CHRISTMAS ABROAD

If Americans went back to the "old country" this season, they would find that Christmas there is still Christmas—with variations. Take Great Britain, Germany and Italy.

England's observance is closest to the American holiday. The English send Christmas cards, bedeck their houses with holly and exchange gifts. Trees, however, are only for youngsters. Santa Claus is known also as Father Christmas, and the very young hang stockings on their beds in anticipation of his visit.

Caroling is popular, and small boys pick up a good many pennies on Christmas Eve with their serenading.

The great caroling sessions, however, are confined to the church choir which sings holiday hymns at outdoor services. At midnight, Christmas Eve, the Church bells start to ring. Then follows the old ceremony of "letting Christmas in." The congregation breaks up and individuals set out to call on friends. The first person to enter a friend's house after midnight is supposed to bring luck and is rewarded with a drink.

As good as the holiday itself is the extra English holiday called "boxing day," the day after Christmas.

"Boxing day" has nothing to do with prize-fighting. It comes from the old practice of making up boxes containing gifts, which squires used to give to workers on their estates. Moderns follow the custom, giving boxes to the postman, doorman and others for year-round service.

The Scots, who never used to observe Christmas, now celebrate it much in the English manner. But they still put greater emphasis on New Year's Day.

They distribute Ne'erdays (Christmas boxes) to those who have served them during the year on Hogmanay (New Year's Eve). Like Americans, they watch the New Year in with songs and a great din of bells and whistles—then stay up the rest of the night—"first-footing"—a custom similar to the English "letting Christmas in."

The Irish used to send the King of England a Christmas present of "four and 20 woodcocks baked in a pie," but this old custom was dropped last year.

In Germany, Nazi party Christmas greetings omit reference to Christ because of anti-Jewish scruples. The old sagas of Thor and Wotan are substituted for the gospel of the Christ child's birth.

Saint Nick is still Weihnachtsmann of old but he leaves military toys for the Nazi child. Nazi fighting songs replace the familiar old tunes like "O Du Froehliche Weihnachtszeit." And there is no star of Bethlehem to crown the Christmas tree.

In Protestant and Catholic families, however, Christmas brings the same old rituals. Father and mother decorate the tree in the middle of the night and keep it locked in the parlor all day December 24. At 6:00 o'clock in the evening the family goes to church to sing the old songs and listen to the Biblical story of the Christ Child.

The program reaches a climax when all lights are extinguished except the candles on the Christmas tree and the congregation carols out "Stille Nacht."

Upon returning home, father enters the parlor alone. Mother and the children file in to receive their gifts when father rings a gong.

The "Holy Night celebration," as it is called, is exclusively a family event. Even good friends are regarded as intruders. Not so December 25. Friends and relatives come and go then in a constant stream.

In Italy there is no Santa Claus, no sleigh, and, except in the mountains, no snow at Christmas. But there are the Three Wise Men, who come not on Christmas Day, but on Epiphany, January 6, bringing gifts for children.

Christmas Day is chiefly a religious day, with many midnight masses on Christmas Eve.

There is little or no exchange of gifts among adults. Eels are a favorite Christmas dish.

A bandit who stopped Burt Morris on a street in Clarksville, Tenn., robbed him of \$8 and a set of false teeth he had in his pocket.

ALMOST OVERLOOKED \$50,000 WORTH OF GOLD

Palmer, Alaska.—A poke under an unlikely looking boulder was worth a small fortune to John E. Carlson.

Carlson, head of the Tunnel Mining Company of Cantwell, says a large part of the season's final gold cleanup of \$50,000 came from beneath a boulder the miners nearly overlooked.

"The boulder was about two feet off bedrock," Carlson says. "It didn't look as though there was anything of value under the rock but we took a pan as a test and the one pan was worth \$700. Then we took all the gravel from under the rock, using props to hold the boulder up."

In recent speed tests, says Chas. E. Frily, Jr., a Texas game manager, he clocked mourning doves flying 70 miles an hour.



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It gives us genuine pleasure at this time to look back upon the cordial relations that have existed between us in the past and to hope for a continuance of your friendship in the months listed between us in the past and to hope for a most joyous one and the New Year bring you Good Cheer and much success in your home.

The Management and Employees of the

Sunshine Laundry

YOU CAN HAVE A GOOD CHRISTMAS BY REMEMBERING

By FRED GIPSON IN ALICE NEWS

Well, now that the worry and bother of buying presents is over, a man can sit back and begin to enjoy the sensations of the Christmas spirit soaking into his bones.

Of course that feeling isn't like it used to be when he was a kid and Christmas holidays were a couple of eternities apart. It can't be. All the hurts and keen disappointments it takes to grow a boy into a man just naturally wrings him pretty dry of a lot of feeling. But if he'll just sit down a little bit where he can get the smell of apples and cedar and shut his eyes and turn his mind loose to prowl awhile, a big part of it'll come back to him in remembrance.

In no time at all, he'll be back on the farm where he grew up as a kid. And it'll be Christmas Eve night. And he'll be just as excited as a hen that's laid an egg. Because already his papa's out harnessing up the mules to the wagon, getting fixed to take them all to the church Christmas tree. And his mom and the girls are all busting about the house getting ready and chattering like women will when they're going some place while he's already got his neck and ears scrubbed until they're sore and has got his best and only knee-pant suit on. He's ready for the big doings. And his blood's stirring.

Then pretty quick the family piles into the wagon. And Mama and Papa sit on the spring seat, with a patchwork quilt across their lap. And the kids all sit on a quilt in the bed of the wagon, huddled together like a bunch of quail roosting on the ground. And they have more quilts pulled up around them to keep out the cold. And they sit and shiver and talk and wonder about what they're likely to get off the Christmas tree.

And the wagon rattles and rumbles down the lane. And the steel tires grind on the sand. And the wheel hubs cluck pretty loudly, because a load of kids going to a Christmas tree isn't heavy enough to silence them like a load of corn or hay would. And the early darkness of midwinter is gathering, and a kid can twist his neck and stick his head out around the sides of the wagon and watch the ironshod hoofs of the mules knock fire out of the rocks. And that makes him think of firecrackers and Roman candles and things.

Then a red, lop-sided moon shoves up past the horizon. It's bigger than the hind wheel of a wagon at first. But as it staggers on up, it keeps getting a little smaller all the time. The kids watch, and they can't tell that it gets any smaller. But when they forget to watch for a while and then remember to look again, can tell that it's shrunk. And they wonder.

And the moonlight makes a white pathway out of the lane and makes black shadows in the brush on either side. And a kid sits there in the wagon, bumping his little bottom against its hard bed, and looks out into the blackness of the brush and wonders if the foxes and coon and 'possums and things out there know it's Christmas. And he can't help feeling a little sorry for them because they won't get any apples or oranges or striped stick candy.

Then the mules are tied back away from the church apiece, where the town-people's automobiles won't scare them into breaking away and the family climbs down out of the wagon and goes and sits inside the church, where the kids all gasp at the sight of the fancy trimmings and the Christmas tree all lighted up with a hundred burning candles.

And there's a mighty lot of worrisome praying and singing done before a kid finally hears his name called and shoots his hand up just as high as he can hold it and is brought a package wrapped up to where he can't tell whether it's a toy train and track or maybe an air rifle and a cowboy outfit rolled together and he fair loses his breath trying to

dig into it, while his mama's talking herself of a breath trying to get him to wait until he gets home before unwrapping such a bundle.

And best of all, there's the big roaring fire in the fireplace back at home when all the doings are over and the mules are unharnessed and Papa's sitting and peeling an orange for the littlest one and the rest are getting their stockings hung up for more presents that old Santa Claus is sure to bring in the night.

Even a grown man can have a pretty good Christmas, if he'll just sit back and think back a little.

Artificial Fabrics Are Seen As Threat to U. S. Wool Industry

Del Rio, Tex., Nov. 20.—The development and increasing use of artificial fabrics in the United States, England, France and Australia was held as a major threat to the wool industry of the world by R. J. F. Boyer of Australia, who spent three days in Del Rio visiting ranches in the area. Boyer, representing the Grazers Association of Australia, left Thursday of last week for San Francisco on his way back to western Queensland, where he has a ranch of 100,000 acres. While here he visited the ranches of Roger Gillis and C. B. "Dutch" Wardlaw, president of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association, studying prickly pear eradication.

The Australian hailed Val Verde County ranges as the best sheep country in the world. The poisoning of prickly pear was criticized by Boyer, who declared poor results came from the effort since the land would not be permanently rid of the plant. However, he recommended use of a tiny insect, cactoblastic cactium, which he declared will kill prickly pear in a short time on any type of rangeland.

Boyer's tour started with a trip to Geneva, Switzerland, where he was to represent the Australian government at the League of Nations, September 11.

SO OLD IT'S NEW—

Did J'Ever Hear of It? "Put Out Shoe Time"

The Comanche Chief last week recalled an old custom of forty years ago up in North Texas—a custom so old, that to the children and most grown-ups of today, it is quite new. Here's how:

Next Sunday night is "Put Out Shoe Time." Maybe you have never heard of that night. The custom was quite common in North Texas 40 years ago. On the night of December 17, just a week before Christmas Eve, all the children put out their shoes in front of the door before going to bed.

In each shoe was a small quantity of shelled corn for Santa's reindeers. If Santa took the corn he would leave a small present in the shoe, such as a big red apple or a red stick of candy, as a sign that he would be back within a week.

If the corn was untouched, it was a sign that the owner of the shoe had not been a good boy or girl, and that his conduct would have to be better if St. Nicholas was to appear a week later with presents. In the meantime Santa always out of sight but just around the corner, would keep a close tab on the child's conduct.

The name "weak-fish" comes from no lack of gameness of stamina, but because the bony processes of the mouth of this fish are soft and tender, thereby causing them to tear out when a fisherman's hook is jerked too suddenly.

What They Want

Maybe this will help you pick out Christmas presents. Sales Management Magazine recently asked 2,000 people for their idea of the "best Christmas present." Here are the answers:

Type of Gift	Times Chosen
Wearing Apparel	539
Jewelry	219
Household Goods	204
Autos and Accessories	154
Don't Know	111
Personal Accessories	106
Sporting Goods	85
Radios and Musical Instruments	81
Tobacco	68
Travel	61
Cameras	56
Leather Goods	54
Liquor	47
Cash	42
Books and Magazines	39
Writing Materials	27
Binoculars	25
Tools and Machinery	20
Boats	18
Pets	16
Instruction Courses	13
Miscellaneous	12
Art Supplies	5

Think of Children, Not Only Yourself, When Buying Toys

Don't buy the toy just because it pleases your fancy. Keep the child in mind, too. Miniature dogs with wagging tails are fascinating to parents but they won't keep the child happy very long. Miss Elisabeth Irwin, who is principal of New York's Little Red School House, says large blocks, tool chests or hand-manipulated derricks make much better gifts.

Keeping in mind the child's age and taste, durability of the toy and a few well-chosen scientific principles, she offers these rules to you who are Santa Clauses this Christmas:

1. Choose toys which stimulate the child's imagination, rather than



This new Arabian pony, which scoots along as the rider bounces up and down, is a sample of the toy which helps children exercise large muscles.

mechanical toys. Trains that run by hand are an example.

2. Choose toys which help children exercise their large muscles, like large blocks, trapezes, boards to fit over saw horses. Roller skates, sleds, bicycles and other athletic toys are also good.

3. Find toys that don't break easily. If you buy tools, be sure the hammer head won't fly off. Inexpensive miniature automobiles may break down after a few trips around the parlor floor.

4. Buy games of skill, not of chance. Select games involving counting and building.

YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Mountain Sun believing that its readers are interested in the various phases of the complex Social Security Act, will publish a series of questions and answers dealing with the subject. These articles have been prepared by the Federal Security agency in an effort to bring a clear understanding to the employers and employees alike on the new amendments to the Act.

OLD-AGE AND SURVIVORS' INSURANCE

Question: In general, what are the effects of the amendments to the old-age insurance provisions of the Social Security Act?

Answer: They expand the system for the payment of retirement benefits to individual workers into an insurance system for the protection of both the worker and his family. They provide for the earlier payment of benefits; for the payment of more liberal benefits to those now nearing the retirement age—65; for extension of supplementary benefits to wives and dependent children; and for monthly benefits to survivors. They also hold the tax rate where it is until 1943.

Q: When does the payment of monthly benefits under the old-age insurance plan begin?

A: Benefits are payable beginning January 1, 1940. The original act provided for the beginning of these payments in 1942.

Q: To whom will monthly benefits be paid?

A: The amendments have broadened the plan to take into consideration the security of the family unit. In addition to the benefits paid the retired worker, the law now provides monthly supplementary benefits for his wife, if she is 65, and for his dependent children under 18. It also provides monthly survivors' benefits for aged widows, dependent children, widows with such children in their care, and for dependent parents of workers who die.

Q: Are there any estimates of the number of persons who will receive benefits under the new old-age and survivors' insurance provisions during 1940?

A: There is an estimate—but this is only an estimate—that approximately 912,000 persons may be on the benefit rolls by the end of 1940. This assumes that there will be approximately 485,000 primary old-age beneficiaries—that is, persons 65 or older—who are fully insured in their own right; 125,000 wives and 20,000 widows over 65 years old; 78,000 young widows with dependent children; 194,000 dependent children; and 10,000 dependent parents.

Q: How many workers are now covered by the old-age and survivors' insurance provisions of the Act?

A: The Bureau of Old-Age Insurance has established accounts for more than 45 million individuals.

Q: About how many persons, previously exempt, have been brought under the old-age insurance program by the amendments?

A: Approximately 1,100,000.

Q: What are the principal types of employees brought under the program by the amendments?

A: The principal new inclusions are employees of national banks, employees of building-and-loan associations, employees of State banks which are members of the Federal Reserve System, employees in maritime service on American vessels, and workers over the age of 65.

Q: What are the estimated additional costs of the amended insurance program for 1940?

A: It has been estimated that

Plenty of Mistletoe Leaves Bashful Swain With Little Excuse

With the mistletoe crop in this section what it is this year, there's no excuse for the bashful swain, if there are any of those creatures left, doing without a bit of holiday osculation—kissing to you, Junior.

There is a plentiful supply of the plant on trees in this area and many wooded sections to gather a supply for Christmas decorations.

A small amount of the mistletoe is brought to town for sale. The plant would be the source of income to farmers were it not for the fact that it is almost impossible to ship it to northern and eastern cities where it brings high prices.

The mistletoe is not a plant in the strict sense of the word. It is a parasite and takes its nourishment from the limbs of the trees upon which it grows.

To the Druids of ancient England, the mistletoe was sacred and was cut with great religious ceremony—especially when it was found growing on an oak. The Druids attributed to it medicinal virtues, looking upon it as a kind of cure-all.

The plant also plays a considerable part in the folklore of certain European countries. It is the State flower of Oklahoma.

The earth weighs six thousand billions of billions of tons.



May Happiness Be With You And Yours At Christmas And Throughout The New Year!

ELDRIDGE FREIGHT LINES

Kerrville

San Antonio

We wish to YOU and Yours a Merry Old Fashioned CHRISTMAS and a Bright and Prosperous New Year

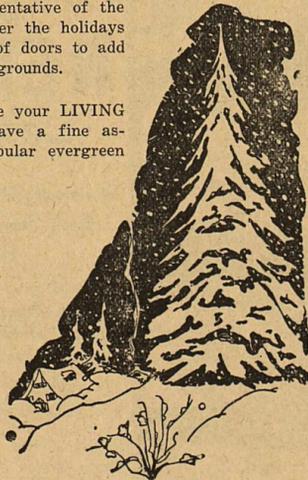
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More Sheep On Texas Ranches Seen By Jan. 1

The number of stock sheep on farms and ranches at the beginning of 1940 probably will not be much different from the number at the beginning of 1939, according to the United States Department of Agriculture. The trend in sheep numbers during the next few years may be moderately upward, especially if range conditions in the western sheep States are favorable.

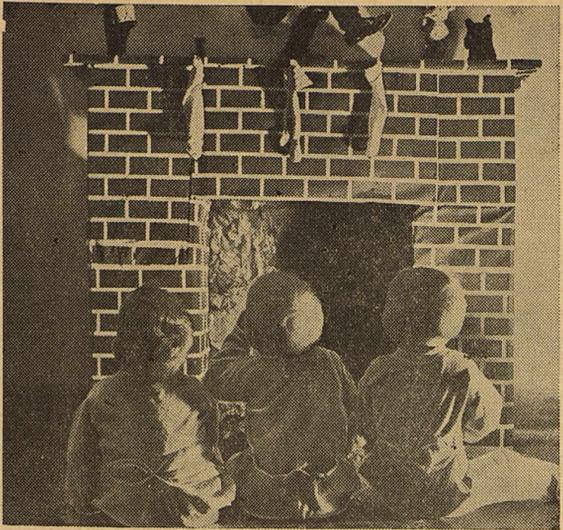
In the native sheep States and in Texas, the number of stock sheep on January 1, 1940, is expected to be the largest for recent years, and some further increase in these two regions may occur after 1939.

Present indications are that the number of lambs fed in the corn belt in the 1939-40 feeding season will be materially larger than in the 1938-39 season. The increase in the corn belt, however, will be partly offset by some reduction in the number fed in the Western States. In the corn belt area east of the Missouri River, abundant feed supplies will be an important factor in the increase in lamb feeding. But feed production in the western region is considerably less in 1939 than it was in 1938.

Prices of lambs in the 1939-40 fed-lamb marketing season (December-April) may average higher than in the 1938-39 season. Slaughter supplies of lambs in the 1939-40 season (December-April) are expected to be somewhat larger than in 1938-39. But the effects of the increase in supplies upon prices will be offset or more than offset by improvement in consumer demand for meats and by higher prices for wool obtained from slaughter lambs.

The prospective improvement in consumer demand and increase in foreign demand for wool brought about by the war will be important supporting factors to prices of domestic wool in 1940. But wool prices have risen nearly 50 per cent since August, and it may be that much of the influence of the stronger domestic and foreign demand already has been reflected in wool prices. Changes in wool prices during the coming year will depend to some extent upon prices fixed by the British government for empire wools and upon the quantity of such wools released

Well... What's Holdin' Him Up?



All ready for bed, these inquisitive young men don't believe what most boys and girls know—that Santa Claus is not only a very busy fellow but that he usually comes when nobody's watching.

for export to neutral countries.

Mill consumption of wool in the United States thus far in 1939 has been larger than the average of recent years. Prospects are favorable for a continuation of a relatively high level of mill consumption in 1940. Stocks of wool in this country are relatively small, and a considerable increase in imports is probably before the 1940 domestic clip becomes available.

Total Southern Hemisphere supplies of wool for the 1939-40 season are expected to be about equal to the average of the last five years. Mill consumption of wool probably will be increased considerably in Great Britain and France but a decrease in consumption is probable for Germany and perhaps some other European countries. The effects of the war will be greater on medium and coarse wools than on fine wools.

The strong demand and increased prices of wool brought about by the war may give considerable stimulus to the use of rayon staple fiber as a substitute for wool in this country and abroad. Production of rayon staple fiber has increased greatly during the last decade, especially in Germany, Italy, and Japan.

Joyous Christmas Was Frowned on By Early Settlers

The joy and singing now associated with Christmas was once forbidden by ultra-pious churchmen of Puritan England. Their disciples who founded New England carried the same repressions for many generations.

In the middle ages Christmas became the greatest of festivals, celebrated with fetes, nativity plays and general jollity. Many of our rollicking carols date back to this gay period of yule rejoicing.

Such pomp and merriment marked the Christmas of Shakespeare's England, when a 12-day festive period was observed. Work was abandoned and young and old gave themselves over to merry-making.

The Puritans frowned upon the pleasures of the season, however, so in 1644 Parliament prohibited any festivities and ordered the day kept as a fast.

The biggest job o' the year for Dad, is tryin' t' get Johnny to sleep on Christmas Eve.

Origin of Christmas Tree Is Buried In Ancient History

In any home, Christmas is hardly complete without a Christmas tree of some sort. Where the idea came from is a disputed question. People in ancient Rome were known to have decorated evergreens at certain seasons of the year. Egypt, India and other countries are said to have had their own similar practices. One tale bestows the distinction of originating yule tree on Martin Luther. The story goes that one starry Christmas Eve he was so impressed by the beauty of the heavens that he went into his garden and obtained a little fir tree which he carried into the house and there decorated it with candles to symbolize the glory of the heavens.

Whatever the origin, the decorating of evergreen trees at Christmas has become an established custom throughout the world. Saws sang and axes flew in a demand for more than \$5,000,000 worth of Christmas trees last season, says an Associated Press report from Salt Lake City, Utah. A survey made among the forest supervisors turned up the estimate of a National harvest ranging to more than double the amount. Washington State alone marketed \$2,000,000 worth.

Christmas trees are produced locally throughout the nation. New England has its balsam fir, the mountain folk of Kentucky and Tennessee use hemlock and short-leaf pine, the far West Douglas fir and Engelmann spruce, the South uses slash and long-leaf pine.

The Pacific Northwest, the Lake State and the New England States ship the majority of Christmas trees to other sections. Missouri's Ozark region is also a heavy producer in the Midwest. Minnesota cut 1,750,000 Christmas trees last year. The Southwest also helped to furnish trees for yuletide cheer.

HOLIDAY HINTS for HOUSEWIVES

HOLIDAY cookies and cakes in which honey is used need about two weeks for ripening. They improve with age, provided, of course, they are stored in covered jars in a cool place.

Apples stuffed with mincemeat and baked make a delicious winter dessert. Wash, peel and core the apples and stuff them an inch from the top. Bake as usual. Lemon sauce goes well with this combination.

To make your holiday popovers really pop over, be sure to have the baking pans well greased and very hot. The pans should "sizzle" when you quickly touch them with fingers dipped in cold water.

Jap Villagers Kneel at Mound They Call Christ's Burial Place

TOKYO.—Peasants in a remote northern Japanese village do not celebrate Christmas but they believe Jesus Christ died in Japan.

Nor are they Christians, but each year they kneel before a strange mound which they believe is Christ's burial place.

This takes place at the village of Heral where Buddhists or Shintoists gather each year around a mound surmounted by a pillar on which are three Japanese characters and a six-pointed star composed of interlocking triangles, like the Hebrew emblem.

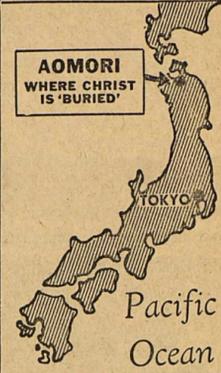
How this strange tradition arrived in Japan is not known, but visitors notice that the village, which is located in Aomori, near the extreme tip of Honshu island, is no great distance south of Mount Yadaijin, which is pronounced almost like the modern Japanese word for "Jew."

The six-pointed star is completely foreign to the people, yet some peasants are familiar with the Biblical version of Christ's death. The Aomori story, which they have believed for 20 centuries, is this:

During the reign of the Emperor Suinin, the eleventh emperor, a young white man came to live in the district. Twelve years later, at the age of 34, he disappeared. His name: Soraitaro.

Fifteen years later he returned and told the people he had been to the land of his birth teaching religion and that, because of his beliefs, had been sentenced to death by crucifixion.

Soraitaro is then said to have told



the natives that his younger brother, Iskiri, sacrificed his own life on the cross. Then he traveled for four years, across Europe and through Siberia. Finally reaching Aomori again, he died at the age of 105 in the eleventh year of Keiko Tenno's reign.

Near the alleged burial mound is the ruin of a stone building which villagers call "Tsukino-Tatte," the House of the Moon. Many foreign articles are reported to have been unearthed from this place. People say it is the place where Jesus worshipped.

They do not worship His memory in a religious way, nor is the mound especially sacred. They describe Jesus as a "Sei-jin," a saint or wise man.

... CHRISTMAS ALWAYS ...

A great force is at work, a force which pulls at heart-strings and loosens purse-strings. If we are wise, we shall allow that force full play; have it enter our lives, take possession of our beings, and give it the fullest possible expression in our living. That force or spirit we call Christmas. The calendar tells us that it falls on December 25. But that is merely the day that we observe, the occasion for much rejoicing when burning candles and the gaily-decorated trees, laden with gifts, speak eloquently of the Babe of Bethlehem and his influence for good in the world.

Every person is better, his life is sweeter and richer, and the lives which his life touches are better if Christmas, with all that it means and signifies, dominates his thinking.

Christmas always in all ways means that we should rise above the clod, above the law of the jungle; above the hate and selfishness, the clamor and the meaningless strivings of the rabble.

When Christmas has its sway,

nations will live in peace, will refuse to be pagan, will bear and forbear and let arbitration supersede the arbitrament of the sword.

Public offices will be filled by those who love their fellowmen, who have sacred regard for the public welfare and place its obligations and privileges above the personal considerations that leave their stain on the body politic.

He who loves and makes a lie will be halted in his unscrupulous dealings.

The grudge that one may carry in his heart toward another will be forgotten, as he moves forward and upward toward the glorious liberty that only a true servant of humanity can enjoy.

He who insists that his fellowmen owe him a living will stop and analyze his every assertion, and his cry for recognition of individual rights will give way to his ardent desire to do his larger part for the common good of all.

The laughter of childhood will be sweet music to the ears of all, and every member of society will see in the home the vestibule of Heaven and will labor to make it a true and stable builder of the nation.

Love "the greatest thing in the world," will be something else than an iridescent dream of the poets, something else than the pleasing thesis of fiction; it will be a reality, crowning the years with goodness and service.

Christmas All Year!

CHRISTMAS, FLA. — There's nary a snowflake in this southern community but it's the only town in America that has a "Christmas" atmosphere the year around. Each Yuletide season cards and packages come from all parts of the world to be stamped and mailed again by "Mrs. Santa Claus," otherwise known as Postmistress Juanita S. Tucker. The post office was established June 27, 1892. Offices at Christmas, Ky., and Christmas, Ariz., have been abandoned.

The burning of the Lule log comes to us from the ancient Scandinavian countries. Its flame was supposed to have burned out old wrongs and misdeeds.

Poultry Worms Cut Egg Profits As Costs Soar

Since there are approximately 454,000,000 chickens in the States, and since 95 per cent of Texas use eggs, poultry products daily, the industry must be an idle

Weather changes the time of the year affords production greatly, so it is to take the best of the flock and to keep it in condition through the winter laying. It is still impossible to buy small rural towns at this time of the year. flocks are not produced at this time of the year. flock lays only during days of the year in Texas not paying for its feed.

When we humans are work, we know that something is wrong and we immediately for the cause that we the ailment and get back. Laying eggs is the work of poultry flock and when to lay, it is refusing something is wrong. If profitable flock, we must on the job.

Intestinal round worms common in the intestines of turkeys, geese, and pigeons of Texas. Very are entirely free of the poultry flock has been on grounds for as long as 10 years. Round worms are whitish worms ranging to four inches in length found in the small

These worms will sometimes the entire passage of intestines, a condition cause death in small chicks 10 to 15 days according and Bunyea, United States. Round worms usually kill larger chicks will cut down and some out entirely the egg production. The mature round worms it eggs in the intestines pass out of the body in the droppings.

eggs of the round worm posed to the air a few young worms develop in which are picked up by and immediately hatched come mature worms in testines of the fowl.

According to Backley year, round worms can be quickly and easily by the usual dosing of each row cubic centimeter dose of rethylene in gelatin druggist. J. R. Beach, Freeborn of the California ment station highly re the use of one teaspoon chenopodium thoroughly with a moist mash for birds. Vocational agricultural dents successfully treat 4,000 head of poultry for round worms in that country with plain white gasoline. the small chicks of the treated by the boys were and were dying rapidly at of the treatment. After removal of the worms, the gained health and started ing. Each grown fowl s given two teaspoonfuls gasoline; small chickens s given only one teaspoon white gasoline should be with a rubber tube place the throat of the fowl; can be taken to get the tube windpipe, for the gasoline not be permitted to go to windpipe. The rubber tube be attached to a corn syringe. White gasoline affect the egg production perfectly safe.

If young chicks can be of these parasites for the 12 weeks of their lives confining them to clean they will usually avoid them when they are later p heavily infested premises.



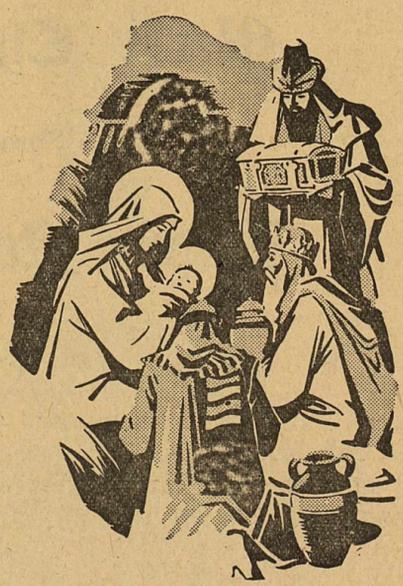
SPECIAL MESSAGE!
SEND YOUR
CHRISTMAS
GREETING
At Special Low Rates By
TELEPHONE

The Telephone Company feels that many persons, who have been in the habit of calling out-of-town relatives and friends on Christmas Eve, would really prefer to extend their Christmas greetings on Christmas Day. For this reason, we are glad to call your attention to the fact that, again this year, the low night and Sunday Long Distance rates will be in effect ALL DAY CHRISTMAS.

The low night rates will be in effect on Sunday, December 24, and on Sunday, January 31, as well as on New Year's Day.

CORDIAL CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
from the Management and All Employees
of the

Kerrville Telephone Company



GREETINGS

We long ago recognized the patron as the essential to success in business. Likewise have we realized that indifferent patrons who do business on a "cold-blooded" basis will not build a business like cordial, friendly, enthusiastic friends will build. Our good fortune has been to have the last named class of patrons. Therefore it is but natural that during this happy season our minds instinctively turn to those who have made our past year's work possible. In all earnestness we send you greetings with kind thoughts and good wishes for Christmas and the year ahead.

W. B. BROWN COMPANY
Phone 153 — Kerrville, Texas



GREETINGS
And Best Wishes for the
NEW YEAR
FISHER'S SHOE SHOP
803 Main St.

Christmas On The Range A Long Ago Was Just "Another Day"

A group of "old-timers" were gathered around a hotel lobby. The conversation that came from mouth to mouth was of a serious and sundry topics. The talk turned to a review of the years, bringing comment on participating in the dis-

introduction of cow camps in this section in the late 1900's, went on. "And I told my wife that all of you would ask

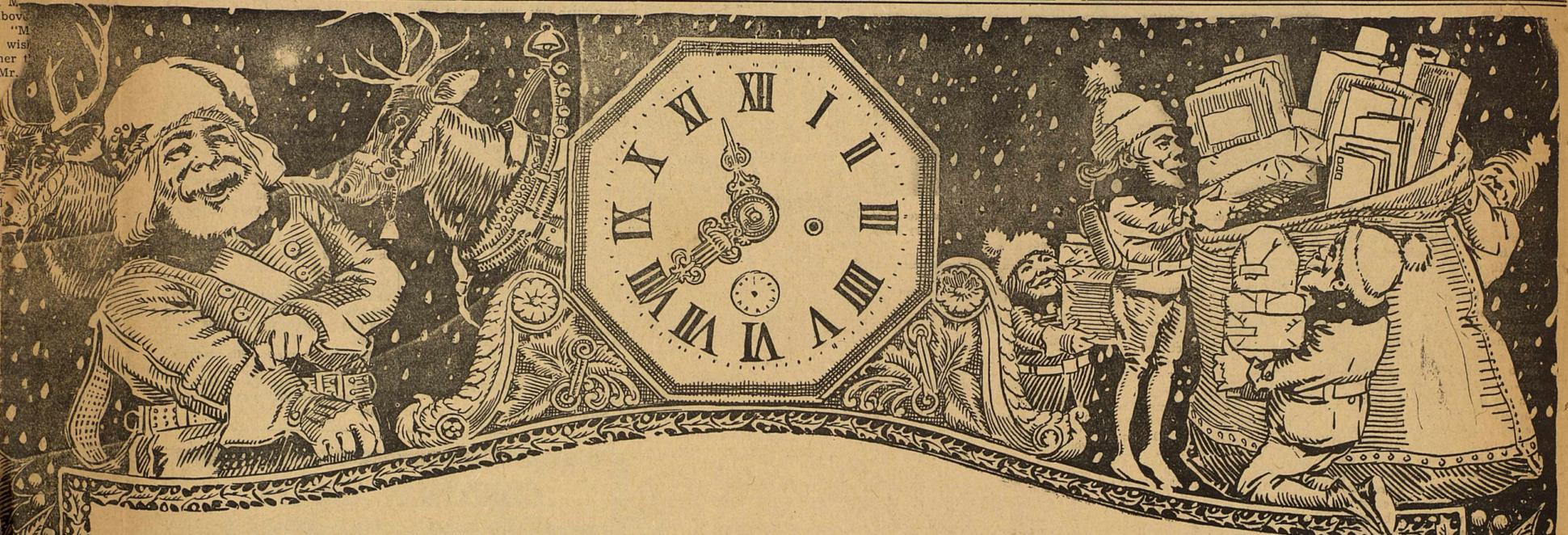
me a jillion questions about it. You know back—"
 Then Adams turned back the pages of history of the cattle country.
 Christmas was just "another day" in the cow camps, Adams related. His "pat'ners" said the same. If there was work to do, and there usually was, it was done. Maybe the "lines," especially if snow was falling, had to be ridden. The cattle must be kept from drifting. There were no fences.
 Perhaps the camp needed wood with which to build fires inside the tents. Flames furnished heat

as well as light. Lanterns, too, took the place of electric lights in the modern ranch home.
 What about Christmas dinner? The answer came quickly. Cow-boys had the regular chuck.
 At night the punchers gathered around the fire to swap yarns, discuss the day's work or play cards. Maybe one of them had secured a quart of whiskey. That was passed around.
 Necessities of life composed the gift list in the camps—that it, if necessities were running low on Christmas Day. "This gift giving was unheard of among the cow hands," explained a long-time

rancher whose frequent statements showed that he was an authority on the subject of cow camp life. Miles separated the prairie "villages" from the nearest town, making purchase, should giving of gifts have been in vogue, a difficult problem.
 "And, anyway," Adams cited, "we didn't have any money in those days. Why I spent more this Christmas than I spent in an entire year back in the cow camp days," he exclaimed.
 In the spring, the chief narrator, who ranches southeast of Wall, pointed out, the cowboys got "orders" to certain stores at the near-

by town, buying clothes, smoking tobacco and other articles for use in routine life. Little cash filled their pockets. Checks were not used.
 The annual pay day was more like Christmas today than December 25 to the camp inhabitants.
CHRISTMAS . . .
 That this light has SURVIVED for two thousand years, and steadily beckons mankind on to the peaceful and merciful and charitable world desired by all men, attests the WORTH and the USE-

FULNESS of Christian teachings. Christianity is not an intolerant nor a vengeful faith.
 It SHARES ideals and conceptions of virtue and intended goals for humanity with all faiths which teach these things and have the same objectives for mankind.
 Those who serve Christ are those who make common cause with ALL who turn not from the afflicted or the anguished, and desire only to live in peace with their fellows, and to find in the love and devotion of their friends and families the real goal of living.
 MOUNTAIN SUN — \$1.25 YEAR



FOR THE 70TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

This Store and Its Employees Extend to the People of the Hill Country Heartiest Wishes for a Very

Merry Christmas

And a Prosperous

Happy New Year

1869

1939

It was 70 years ago that our grandfather, Capt. Charles Schreiner, wished our first "Merry Christmas." Today, as he did then, we sincerely hope that the coming year will mean continued prosperity and happiness . . . for you and your friends.

We are content if we have, in our efforts, through these many years, helped to build a better town and to make your daily life more pleasant and served you satisfactorily.

CHAS. SCHREINER COMPANY

