

THE CASTRO COUNTY NEWS

VOLUME NO. XXI

DIMMITT, CASTRO COUNTY, TEXAS THURSDAY, DEC. 25, 1947

NUMBER

Large Number Attends 4-H Christmas Party Dimmitt High School Thur. Night

A total of 325-4-H Club boys and girls and visitors attended the Castro County 4-H Club Christmas party Thursday night, December 18, at Dimmitt. This number according to R. L. King County Agent and Mattie Lee Seago, Home Demonstration Agent, included 230 4-H Club boys and girls and 95 visitors and was the largest group ever to attend a 4-H club party. Registration started at 6:30 and the program started with introductions of those present. After the introductions club members were divided into groups and games were played under the direction of Miss Seago, Miss Kathryn Easter and Rodney Smith. After games were played the group assembled again in the auditorium for the remainder of the

program. Group singing was led by Mr. Homer Garrison accompanied by Mrs. E. L. Ivey at the piano. Mr. Ray Bearden gave the address of welcome representing the Chamber of Commerce. Talks were given by 4-H Club members who have recently won honors by winning various trips. These included Floyd Acker, Betty Jo Guggemos, Billy Joe Derington and Dennis Acker. Highlight of the program was a talk given by J. B. Linn better known as "Uncle Jay" of Radio Station KGNC, Amarillo. Several awards were given to 4-H club boys for outstanding work done during the past year. Those receiving honors were John Bridges, Buddy Hill, Billy Joe Derington, Doyle Davis and Wesley

Sharp of the Hart 4-H Club. David Acker, Dennis Acker, Harold Kleman, Don Acker, Kenneth Acker and Vincent Gerber of the Nazareth 4-H Club and Marvin Axe, Billy Henderson, Jack Dyer, and Earl Jordan of the Dimmitt 4-H Club. Sacks of fruit, candy and peanuts were passed out during the picture show which featured Peg Leg Pete and Old Dog Tray. After the show, gifts were exchanged and passed out by Santa Claus. Sponsors of the party was the Castro County Chamber of Commerce. Peanuts were furnished by Mr. John Burrus, manager of the Portales Valley Mills of Portales, N. M.

LOCAL MEN CONTRIBUTE SUITS TO BOYS AT BOYS RANCH FARM MONDAY

A campaign was conducted this week by Mr. Bill Graham to raise money to purchase suits for all the eight boys at Boys Ranch Farm. More than enough funds were contributed by local men to outfit the boys in new suits, the surplus will be used to purchase other necessities for the lads. Mr. Alton Weeks, superintendent of Boys Ranch Farm, was in Dimmitt Monday evening with his charges all of whom were sporting their new suits.

Contributors to the boys suit fund were:
C. B. Sholloberger
Castro County Grain
J. R. Hays
Carl Kemp
Clarence J. Byrnes
H. W. Holden
Ernest Jones
C. G. Maples, Jr.
H. T. Bartlett
E. B. Wright
T. E. Harrison
J. Woodson Brown
Bob McLean
Mrs. J. L. Coke
Bill Graham
Albert Myers
J. P. McGarr of Plainview
Junior Rothwell

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Rodgers of Midland are the parents of a daughter, Carolyn Dianne, born December 4. The young lady is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Rawlings.

Employment Wanted—I want a steady job where I can keep about 4 head of cattle and a horse, must be on R.E.A. References. Roscoe S. Jones at P. P. Robb farm

Mr. and Mrs. Lee McAfee were called to Dougherty, Okla., Friday due to the death of his mother who died Friday morning. They were accompanied by Mr. Willard Youts.

DIMMITT GIRL SCOUTS WIN PRIZES IN CONTEST

The winners of the Girl Scout Christmas Card Contest which was sponsored by the Southwest Plains Area Girl Scout Council have just been announced, according to Miss Bettye Jo Crisler, Area Field Director. The originally designed and hand made cards were submitted by Brownie Scouts (ages 7-9) and Intermediate Girl Scouts (ages 10-14) from all over this area. Miss Martye Poindexter, head of the Department of Applied Arts at Texas Technological College, judged the cards.

The first place winner in the Brownie Division was Charlotte Higgins of Mrs. Raleigh Usrey's troop, Lubbock. Second place Brownie winner was Miss Judy Boothe of Mrs. Floyd Smith's troop, Dimmitt; Third place Brownie winner was Miss Barbara Nell Felty of Mrs. W. L. Pearson's troop, Slaton. The three fourth place winners were Miss Ann Cummins, Miss Johnalyn Alldredge, and Miss Linda Brown, all of Mrs. Smith's troop, Dimmitt.

The first place winner in the Intermediate Division was Miss Beverly Sue Young of Mrs. Marvin Young's troop, Plainview. Second place intermediate winner was Miss Marion Foster of Mrs. Tom Harrod's troop, Slaton. Third place Intermediate winner was Miss Paula Autry of Mrs. Jones' troop, Ropesville.

Prizes were as follows:
First Brownie, Subscription to The American Girl; second Brownie, Brownie Ring; third Brownie, Brownie Mechanical Pencil; fourth Brownies, Brownie Handkerchiefs; First Intermediate, subscription to The American Girl; second Intermediate, Girl Scout First Aid Kit; third Intermediate, Girl Scout Badge Handkerchief.

Cadet William Harold Key, an eighth grade student at San Marcos Academy, has arrived in Dimmitt to spend the Christmas holidays with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Wright.

Young Key has attended the Academy since 1946 and in addition to regular work is active in the school's military unit.

Classes were dismissed Friday and Key will report back to SMA in time for regular classes Monday January 5.

JUNIORS TO PRESENT PLAY 2nd TIME

The Junior class of the Dimmitt High School will present "Till Death Do Us Part" Thursday, January 8, at 8:00 p. m., in order that patrons who missed the first presentation may witness the play.

SANTA CLAUS

WILL BE

IN DIMMITT
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24

at 2:00 P. M.

By Invitation of the Castro County Chamber of Commerce HE WILL BRING GIFTS FOR ALL THE CHILDREN OF THIS AREA, AND HE WILL BE DISAPPOINTED IF ALL OF THEM ARE NOT PRESENT TO GREET HIM.

A FREE TURKEY CHASE, also sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, WILL BE STAGED CHRISTMAS EVE.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to extend our thanks and appreciation for the sympathy and kindness shown us by our many friends during the great loss of our loved ones.

T. L. Welch and Family

DIMMITT LIONS CLUB PRESENTS BICYCLES TO BOYS AT LOCAL FARM

The Dimmitt Lions Club recently purchased two new bicycles which were presented to the boys at Boys Ranch Farm South of Dimmitt Saturday night. The presentation was made Saturday evening by a committee of Lions composed of Lion Boss Ray Bearden, Secretary, Harold Stephens and Tail Twister, Jack Gladman.

STRAYED—Small, black and white Toy Collie, wearing harness, please notify Mrs. R. V. McMahon

STRATFORD DOWNS BOBBIES

The Dimmitt Bobbies suffered a 27-41 defeat Friday night when they tangled with the hard fighting Stratford team. Pat Tate was high point with 15 points. Newton and Bice followed with six points each. The Bobbies will meet the Bobvina six on the home court Tuesday Nov. 30.

LIGHT FIXTURES

LARGE NEW STOCK ON DISPLAY
COMPLETE STOCK OF WIRING SUPPLIES

UMBERSON RADIO & ELECTRIC

Peace on Earth



Year after year we have been wishing our friends a Merry Christmas, each year hoping to make our message a little warmer, a little more personal.

It is with some such thought as this that we now add this "Merry Christmas" to the many that have gone before, with the hope that it will find you abundantly blessed with everything that the magic wand of Christmas can bestow.

FLOYDS CAFE



This Merry Christmas is to you. There is no wish we can give more true than this jolly old fellow is now bringing to you.

HOTEL BEAUTY SHOP



WE GREET YOU AT CHRISTMAS

And trust to offer you Cheer every day of the year.

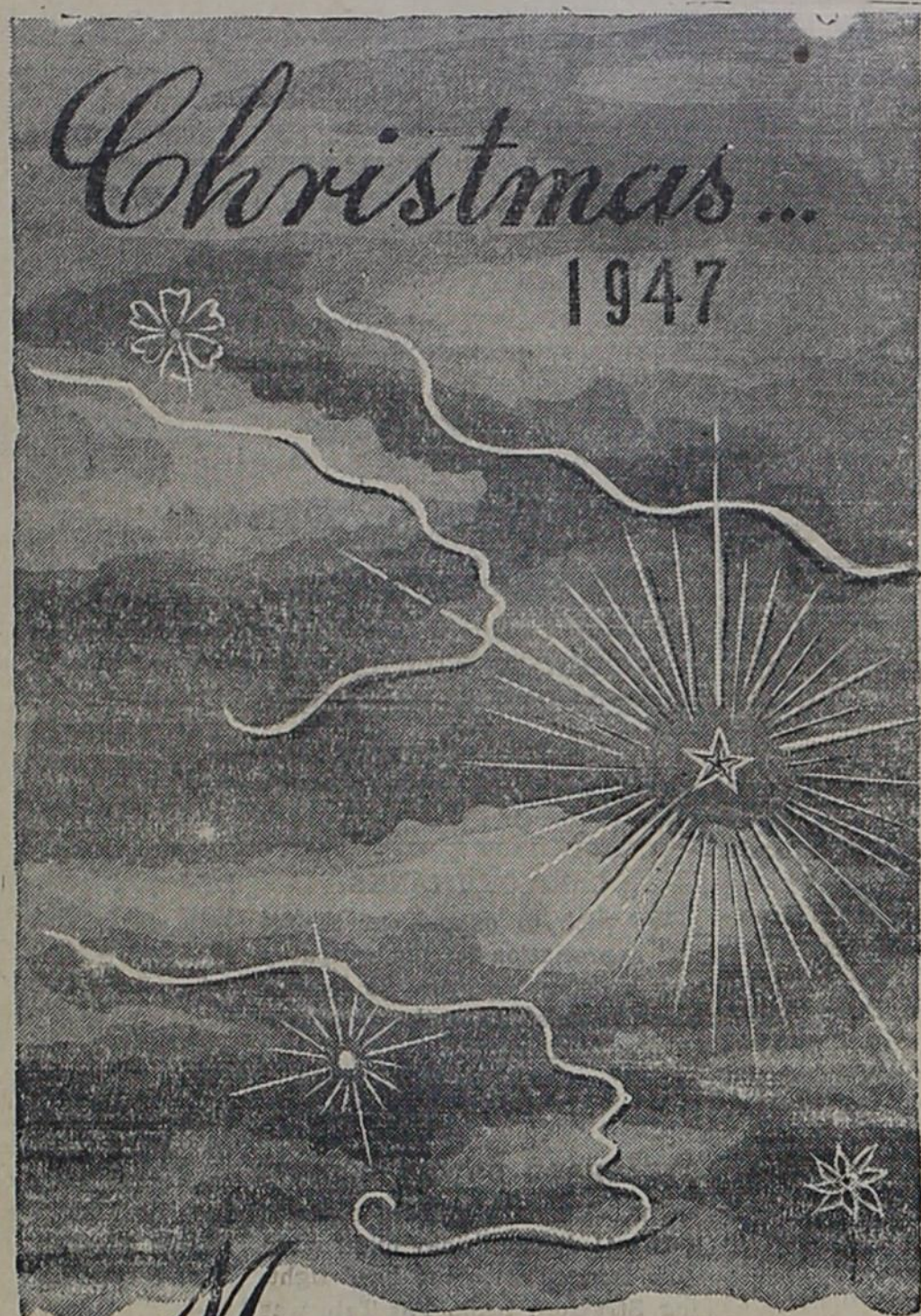
KIRK BROS. AND SMITH CONTRACTORS

At Willson & Son Lumber Yard

SOUTHWESTERN

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY

23 YEARS OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP AND PUBLIC SERVICE



May the Bright Star of Christmas flood your home with its sacred light.

Snipes Shop

Jimmy

Cleo

**Ornament Making
A Cottage Industry**

Those colored glass ornaments that we hang on our Christmas trees used to come from Germany, Czechoslovakia and Poland. A small number were made in Japan. When the war cut off these supplies, American glass manufacturers, who had never bothered with these products before, turned part of their facilities over to making the pretty gewgaws. Mechanical methods were soon developed that could blow as many ornaments in an hour as a European glassblower could make in a month. Thus modern efficiency may doom this picturesque little industry, carried on in the mountainous towns of eastern Europe.

Ornament making is a typical "cottage industry" in the little villages that cling to the steep mountainsides. Families specialize in certain shapes and designs, patterns that may date back for hundreds of years unchanged. The father, using a bunsen burner, carefully blows the thin glass tubing to the desired shape, with the aid of an iron mold. His son acting as mold boy, removes the hot ornament to a cooling table. Next the mother silvers the inside, and finally the daughter applies paint and perhaps decorative designs.

**Abbreviation, Xmas
Of Greek Origin**

There has been much unfavorable comment on the abbreviated form for Christmas that is commonly used. Many think it inappropriate and undignified to use the shortened form, Xmas.

The explanation of its origin is that the initial letter of the Greek name for Christ is X and the coincidence of its cruciform shape led to an early adoption of this letter as the figure and symbol of Christ. X is frequently found on walls of the catacombs. When the early Christians wished to make a representation of the Trinity, they would place either a cross or an X beside the names of the Father and the Holy Ghost. From this came the shortened form Xmas, instead of Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Wilson made a business trip to Clovis Monday.

Subscribe for the News.

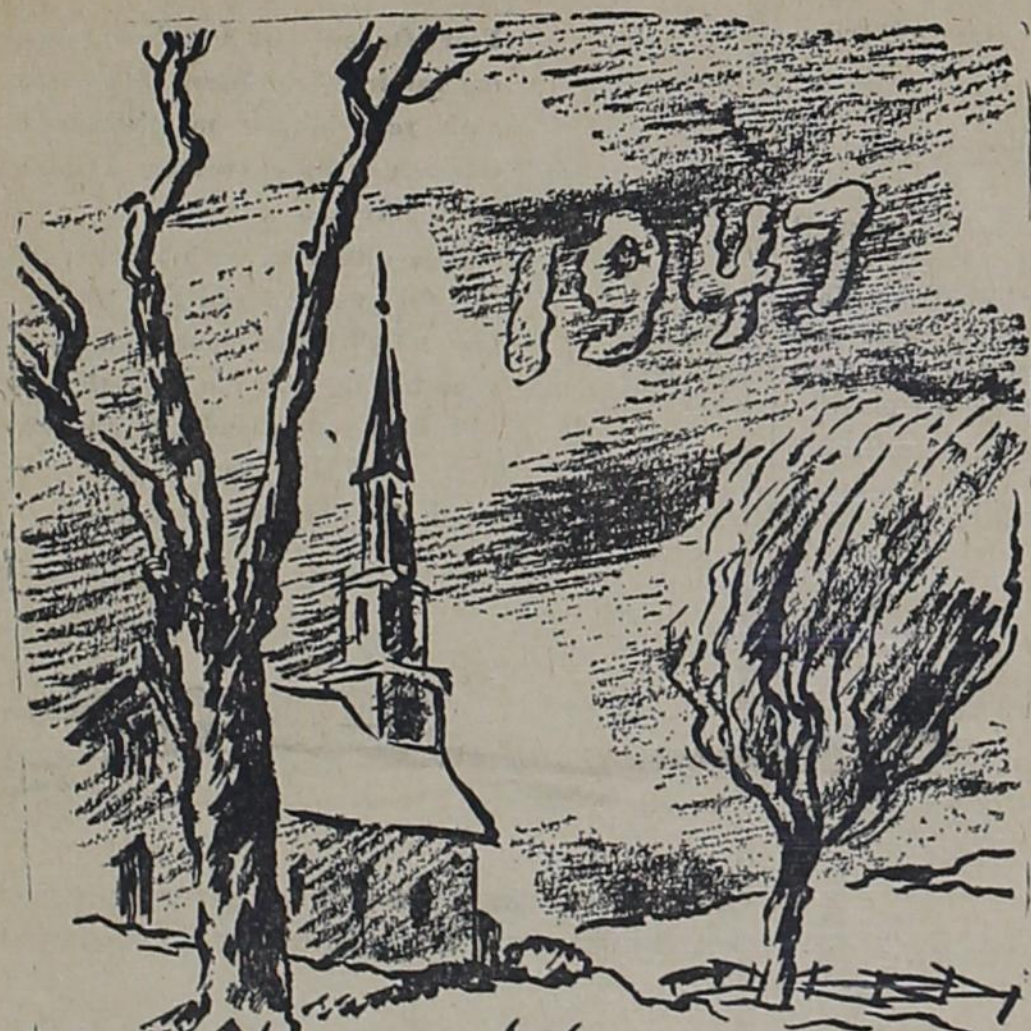


In weal or woe, under all conditions, the cheery Merry Christmas comes to the surface. It's natural in mankind. Everyone appreciates a hearty Yuletide greeting—and so, to all our friends, we add our wish for a

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Dimmitt Food Bank

Mrs. AND MRS. BERNARD BROWN



Sincere Wishes for a Merry Christmas

A winter countryside with a church spire dominating the scene reflects a peacefulness that symbolizes the kind of Christmas Day we hope you enjoy this year.

Magnolia Service Station



Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.

Health Officer Stresses Need of Careful Driving Habits to Eliminate Accidents

Austin, Texas—"The only way to avoid the useless waste of life due to traffic accidents is to prevent the accident," reads a warning issued by Dr. George W. Cox, State Health Officer.

"It is not a question of who is right and who is wrong after the accident has occurred," he said, "And automobile accidents never happen merely because of 'bad luck'—there is a definite cause for every one of them, although it is not possible to determine the pre-

cise origin of every mishap.

"Leaders of the safety movement agree that the most fundamental approach to the solution lies in the education and training of the individuals to avoid accidents to themselves and to prevent accidents to others. It involves the acquisition of a certain fund of information, the ability to apply this information to concrete situations, and the building up of habits which will make the application of knowledge

to situations automatic.

"The dangerous curves and intersections on the highways of Texas are distinctly marked, and automobile drivers can assist greatly in the reduction of deaths from automobile accidents by carefully observing these warning signs.

"Some motorists rely too much on traffic rules and regulations, thinking that if they obey the rules of the road at the time when an

accident occurs, no blame can be attached to them. This is not true. The only man who considers himself blameless in case of accidents, when he was obeying the rules of the road, is the one who did everything possible to avoid that accident.

"The consequences of automobile accidents are so disastrous that only when we have done everything in our power to avoid such accidents can we consider ourselves, or expect others to consider us, blameless in the case of accident.

"When each individual does all he that he is able to do toward avoiding an accident of any kind, then and then only will our traffic accidents be avoided."



Joe Benson



A star in the sky

a light in the window, and hope in the heart! It's Christmas again, good folks of this community . . . the season when even strangers nod at you and smile. So we are sending you these wishes for Christmas cheer and happiness in your home.

Wilson Grocery



May your Christmas be as exquisitely beautiful as the snow crystals that have, from time immemorial, added charm and enchantment to the glorious Yule tradition.

M & K Cleaners

Edwin Kimbell

L. G. Manning



ENGLISH PLUM PUDDING

In the Book of Common Prayer of the Church of England, the prayer for the last Sunday before Advent began with the words "Stir up." The people of Peterborough took this to be a reminder that they should start their plum pudding at that time, and everybody in the family took a hand in the stirring until it was ready on Christmas.

This indispensable old-time English Christmas dish was frumety, or frumenty, which according to old-time recipes was "wheat boiled until the grains burst, then strained and boiled again with broth or milk and yolks of eggs." Frumenty was the forerunner to plum pudding.



CHRISTMAS BELLS

Legend has it that when Christ was born and Satan died, the bells in the churches were rung. At exactly midnight the tolling changed to a joyful peal, announcing the birth of the Christ.

In the dark chambers high above the turmoil and strife of human life, dwelt the Apostles of Peace, whose salutations were never so welcome as at the time of the great winter feasts of Christmas, so William Auld tells in his traditions.

News Want Ads Get Results



One man — one of many — created a character who in child-like faith and all-embracing love will live through the centuries as the symbol of Christmas.

The man was Charles Dickens; his character was Tiny Tim. And in the words of Tiny Tim, oft-repeated, we'd like to say:

"A MERRY CHRISTMAS, GOD BLESS US EVERY ONE"

LATIMER - BENTON



☆
And when the day
is gone
Our wishes for
our friends
Continue on and on
and on!

KIRKPATRICK OIL CO.



TALLYHO!

Due to a shortage of reindeer this season we send you our Christmas Greetings in this conventional way! In this season of gift-giving may we say that your friendship is our choicest gift, and we appreciate it beyond words to express. May your Christmas be a merry one, indeed!

DIMMITT DRUG

As a token of our appreciation we will treat our friends and customers with free drinks at our soda fountain all day, Wednesday, December 24.

TO OUR MANY FRIENDS



... AND MAY THE
SPIRIT OF THIS
DAY LINGER ON,
BRINGING CHEER
AND COMFORT
LONG AFTER
CHRISTMAS DAY
ITSELF IS GONE.

WHITES AUTO STORE

LEAH DEWEY MARZELL



By LYN CONNELLY

THE sharp wind lashed furiously about Larry's head and shoulders, flirting momentarily with the idea of sending his brown fedora spiraling down the street, but he sensed its capricious tendencies and held the brim of his hat tightly between his forefinger and thumb as he ran toward his car parked on the opposite corner.

It would be the last time he'd beat that particular path, he thought grimly. It was Christmas Eve and everybody was in a gay and anticipatory mood. Everybody, that is, except Larry. He had been reasonably happy until that morning when the whole world seemed to have crashed about him. Opening the door of the car, he slid in behind the wheel and started it toward home.

The face of Silas Henning, until fifteen minutes ago his boss, came to his mind and again he heard the words that he dreaded to repeat to Rosine: "I know you're not happy in your work, Larry, and it's not fair to either one of us when you don't put your best efforts into what you're doing. I think, therefore, that you'd better go elsewhere for a job. Today's as good a day as any to sever connections."

Fired on Christmas Eve! Of course, what Henning had said was true. Larry wasn't happy being a bookkeeper at Morrison's appliance shop. He had always yearned to be a writer, and wrote numerous short stories during his spare time.

When Rosine told him of their expected second child he had taken the job at Morrison's through sheer desperation. No longer could they live on their savings. He considered the job as temporary, but it had



He picked up the letter at the same time she answered, "Truth magazine."

lasted seven months with still no prospects of entering the field he desired. Henning had seemed sympathetic, although he had cooled suddenly the past week. Perhaps in his daydreaming he had been inaccurate in his figures. At least Henning spared him any embarrassment if that were the case, but he could have waited until after the holidays to fire him. "And Bob Cratchit thought he worked for Scrooge," he mumbled, pulling up before his house.

HIS feet dragged as he trudged toward the door. He mustn't tell her tonight, he decided. He hoped he was capable of carrying off an act until the day after Christmas. Opening the door, he let himself in as unobtrusively as possible. Rosine was on a step ladder in the living room, decorating the tree, while Chuckie, aged five, sat on the floor, agog at the proceedings.

"Hello, darling," his wife called out gaily. He tried to equal the happiness in her voice as he replied, then kissed Chuckie and started for the kitchen.

"There's a letter for you on the radio," Rosine said.

"From whom?" His heart leaped hopefully at her words and he hurried toward the radio. He picked up the letter at the same time she answered, "Truth magazine."

It was from Truth. His hand trembled as he opened it. "Dear Mr. Shannon," he read aloud. "Our mutual friend, Silas Henning, recently submitted one of your articles for our consideration. We believe it shows promise and since we were given a splendid recommendation by Mr. Henning, we are writing to ask if you would be interested in a job in our editorial department. If so, call for an interview this week."

The telephone was ringing, but for a moment, Larry and Rosine merely stood as though mute, staring at each other. Larry became conscious of the bell first and picked up the receiver. It was Mr. Henning, laughing heartily. "Bet I had you worried, eh, Larry?"

"Mr. Henning! I didn't know... how did you..." Larry was angue-tied. Rosine walked to his side, putting one arm gently about his shoulder.

"I found that article you wrote on your son and the atomic age and sent it in to Asherton," Henning explained. "He's a good friend of mine and editor of Truth. Well, I won't hold you, Larry. Just wanted to wish you a merry Christmas."

"Merry Christmas, Mr. Henning," Larry said as the telephone clicked at the other end. "Merry Christmas—and thanks for the best one I've ever had."

FROM THE
Methodist Church

The year of 1947 has been a prosperous year in all respects. We have prospered in a financial way and we have not forgotten God in our mad rush to get ahead. We wish for all those who have made the way brighter throughout the year, a very merry Christmas and pray that God will continue to pour out His blessings on them throughout the coming year. We are coming closer day by day to our realization of an adequate house in which to worship. We are growing in numbers in our Sunday School. The poet has so aptly expressed it in a poem "The world is so full of a number of things, I am sure we should all be as happy as kings." So to all God's people everywhere we extend the age old wish of a merry Christmas to all.

For Christians who understand the real significance of Christmas there is no reason for discouragement. Even on the human level we were warned by our leaders that victory in war would mean not achievement of peace but rather opportunity to win it. As Christians we knew that only through Him whose entry into human life we celebrate on Christmas Day can we win a peace which is worthy of the name. The peace which we have at present is the kind that the world giveth. Like all of this world's gifts it is unstable, impermanent, and unsatisfying. Christmas, however, brings us the assurance that in and through Christ we can transform this imperfect peace into that peace on earth which is promised to men of good will.—Bishop Henry St. George Tucker.

News Want Ads Get Results.



• Now, when Santa Claus is so busy making children happy and dispensing cheer all over the world, we want to extend a warm and friendly greeting to our friends. Accept our very best wishes for a Christmas season of unalloyed joy and happiness.

MILLER HARDWARE

Mr. Sam Gilbreath was here the past week from Dallas, where he and Mrs. Gilbreath have been receiving treatment for burns.

Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Latimer and Franklin, Jr., are visiting relatives and friends at Higgins today, Thursday.

MOTOROLA AUTO RADIOS

FOR ALL LATE MODEL CARS
IN STOCK

UMBERSON RADIO & ELECTRIC



Time To Be Happy!

Christmastide is the one time in the year when we should all be as happy as a boy with a bright new sled. So let's light up our faces and our hearts when we light up our trees, and here's wishing for you and your family the happiest Christmas you've ever had.

DIMMITT IMPLEMENT CO.



With the friendliest of thoughts and the heartiest of wishes for a happy Yuletide.

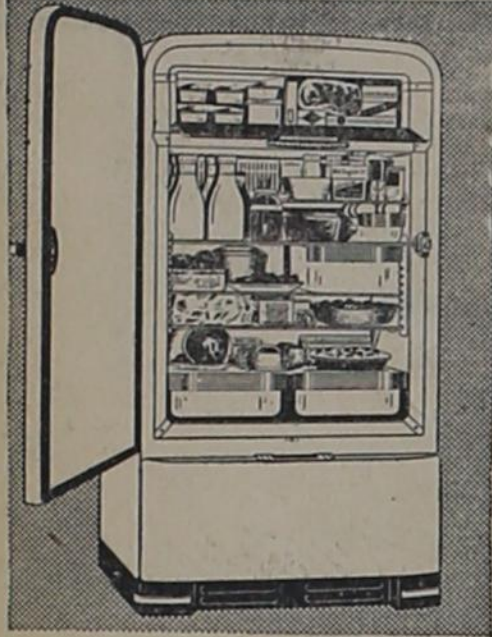
Swain Burkett



LOOK! EVERY NEW CONVENIENCE WITH THE ONE THAT

Stays Silent Lasts Longer

BECAUSE IT FREEZES WITH NO MOVING PARTS



Come see the great new Servel Gas Refrigerator! It's a beauty — with every new convenience for fresh foods and frozen foods. Most important, Servel freezes with no moving parts. No valves, piston or pump. No machinery to wear or get noisy. Just a tiny gas flame does the work. Result—no noise, no wear. Come see!

STAYS SILENT... LASTS LONGER
Servel
The GAS Refrigerator

Order Now For Early Delivery

MILLER HARDWARE

B & P. W. CLUB
The B. & P. W. Club members have found the month of December to be filled with happiness and good cheer. On Monday night, December 1, the club was delightfully entertained in the home of Mrs. Ethel Womack. The principal address was given by Mrs. D. G. Axtell, who with her husband gave the land and improvements for Boys Ranch Farm. Mrs. Margaret Fletcher, District Director from Amarillo, was also guest speaker. Following the program Mrs. Axtell was presented with a large box of Christmas gifts for the boys at Boys Ranch Farm. Other guests of the club were Johnnie Pollan, president of the Amarillo Club, Llew-

wlyn Deason, Maggie Caylor and Ruth Griffin all of Amarillo. On Monday night December 15, the club met in the home of Mrs. J. F. Easter for the annual Christmas party. Hostesses were Mrs. O. K. Howe, Mrs. Faye Holland, and Miss Mattie Lee Seago, members of the Social Committee. The entertainment for the evening consisted of games suggestive of the holiday season. Those attending were Mesdames O. K. Howe, R. B. Boren, Melton Richardson, Ola Murphy, Elizabeth Huckabay, Ray Bearden, Claude Forson, Ocie McCormack, John Wood, Faye Kenmore, Cordye Birdwell, Ethel Womack, and Miss Sue Sheffy. Hazel Merritt, Mattie Lee Seago and Kathryn Easter.

BETHEL NEWS

Members of the Homemakers Home Demonstration Club and their guests enjoyed a Christmas party at the home of Mrs. Fred Bruegel Wednesday afternoon Dec. 17. Christmas songs and games the beautifully decorated Christmas tree held gifts for all. Refreshments of candies, nuts, sandwiches, furnished the entertainment and salad, cookies and coffee were served to the following: Mesdames Clayton Graef, Jimmy Ivey, Henry Ivey, Grady McNabb, Otis English, Wade English, Andy Behrends, Ralph Simmons, Sid Sheffy, Harry Rothwell, Bryan Sinclair, and Earl Lust and the hostess Mrs. Bruegel.

Mr. and Mrs. Leland Smith were in Amarillo Friday visiting his mother who has been quite ill.

Mr. Wm. H. Branson of Innisfail Alberta, Canada arrived Friday for a visit in the homes of his daughters, Mrs. Earl Lust and Mrs. Vern Lust.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Ayers and family left early this week to visit relatives in East Texas.

Mrs. E. R. Rothwell of Dimmitt and her grandson, James Michael Bates of Plainview were visitors in the Harry Rothwell home Sunday afternoon.

Week end visitors in the Bruegel home were Mr. and Mrs. James Cox and sons of New Mexico, and Mrs. Bruegel's brother-in-law, W. A. Boyles, his daughters, Carlene Boyles and Mrs. Dave Woods and Mrs. Wood's little son all of Happy.

Mrs. Houston Lust underwent an appendectomy in the Plains Memorial Hospital Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Kay Roberts and Mr. John Smith were medical patients at the hospital several days last week.

Mrs. Ralph Simmons' mother arrived Wednesday for a visit in the Simmons home.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Copeland and Jackie are spending the Christmas holidays with her mother and

other relatives at Altus, Okla. Sunday dinner guests of the Earl Lusts were Mr. Wm. H. Branson, Mr. and Mrs. Vern Lust and Glenn, Mr. and Mrs. James Bradford and Bobby, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Bradford of Lubbock were callers in the afternoon.

The first consumer received REA service in 935; in November, 1947, the 2,000,000th customer was connected to power lines financed by the REA.

Good feeding equipment prevents waste of feed and labor.

There are 11,000,000 acres of East Texas pine and hardwoods in 36 counties of the state.

Legumes, pastures and succulent feeds aid production and growth and affords one of the best ways of saving high-priced grain.



To you and yours this Yuletide season, we extend our sincere good wishes for a Merry Christmas.

A Christmas of joy and contentment; of peace, good cheer and happiness—that is our wish for you this joyous holiday season.

MARTIN AND CHAPPELL
BOOT AND SHOE SHOP

Merry Christmas



West Texas Gas Company



1947

As the anniversary of the Great Event draws nigh we extend to one and all our best wishes for a happy Christmas season.

Plains Memorial Hospital, Inc.

To each and all of you we say: "Merry Christmas"

1947

CHRISTMAS CAROLS on the air, and the good old Christmas spirit in evidence on every hand! We are happy to extend once more our sincere good wishes for a joyous Yuletide.

M System Grocery & Market
Our Store Will Be Closed December 25 and 26

NAZARETH

An annual supper was held December 14 at the Holy Family Rectory. The host was the Very Rev. G. A. Boeckman. This delicious supper was served to the School Board and to the Church Committee. Those attending were Andrew Acker, Art Kleman, Harry Kleman, Albert Wilhelm, Jack Litsch, Frank Annen, Tony Gerber, and Leo Dobmeier.

A community meeting was held on December 17. Business was discussed and a new Hall Committee was elected. They are Eugene Hochstein, Paul Venhaus, and Joseph Birkenfeld.

A number of the Nazareth 4-H members and their parents attended the annual 4-H party in Dimmitt, on December 18. Betty Jo Guggemos, Nazareth Senior 4-H member, Floyd Acker, and Dennis Acker, both Senior 4-H members, gave speeches on their recent trips to College Station, Dallas, and Chicago. Presents and Christmas packages were distributed among the members. The evening was enjoyed by all who attended.

The P. T. A. met for a business session and a Christmas party December 12. The president, Mrs. Joe Warren, presided during the first part of the gathering. Minutes were read by Mrs. Florence Albracht. Plans were made for the annual Christmas party for the youngsters on December 23. The pre-school children as well as the school body attend because Santa Claus comes to this party with can-

dy and gifts.

After the business session, the members played a round of bunco for high and low prizes. The party closed with refreshments that were served by Mesdames Henry Schmucker, Andrew Acker, and Philip Huseman.

The Nazareth Swifts A teams of boys and girls played the Hale Center Owls in the second conference game of the season. The girls beat by a large margin with a score of 9 to 36. The boys lost with a score of 13 to 26.

Marvin Joseph, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Greg Hoelting, was baptized December 7.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS HAVE MEETING & PARTY

The Catholic Daughters of America met December 3rd, for their regular meeting and annual Christmas party. In the absence of Grand Regent Cornelia Annen, Vice-Grand Regent Florene Brockman presided. There were 23 members present. An interesting meeting was held with several readings on Christmas Legends and timely articles of Christmas spirit. A Christmas quiz was held with Dorothy Pohlmeier as winner. Bobby Hafnerik read an article, "What your family wants is your presence, not your presents." Father Boeckman gave an interesting talk to the group assembled.

The meeting adjourned and the Christmas hymns and carols were sung. Lunch was served and then the gifts were exchanged. A good time was enjoyed by all.



By DANIEL F. LINDSAY

TOM LARKIN opened the kitchen door. His wife looked up with a hopeful smile as he entered. He just shook his head.

"No mail at all?" she said as she went on fixing dinner.

"Oh, there were a couple of ads and a bill from the seed company." He hung his hat on a hook and crossed to the pump. His white hair was damp around his face when he straightened up again.

"It's just not like Bill," she sighed. "Bill's got an unforgivin' streak, always did have, even when he was a little feller." Pa's old briar gave off a pungent odor as he lit it.

"But this is different, Tom," she said, putting a pan of biscuits in the oven. "tomorrow is Christmas. It's a long way to the coast. Maybe he wrote but didn't mail it in time."

"Ma," his tired old voice was filled with bitterness, "there's no



"She could see Pa striding into the living room."

need to stick pins in yourself by hopin'. Christmas or no Christmas . . . that boy is still mad."

The old lady's eyes shone with faith. "He might stay mad all year long but when Christmas comes . . . he'll write. I know. I'm his Ma."

"Don't forget," Tom said as he blew smoke at the ceiling. His eyes crinkled at the corners. "I'm his father."

"Dinner's ready, Pa," she said, filled with a deep longing and fought to keep the tears out of her voice.

"I c'n understand that boy still bein' mad at me, but why does he have to take it out on you?"

"You're wrong, Tom," Ma replied as she lifted her head and smiled. "The day after Christmas, first delivery, we'll get a letter. You'll see."

"Not from him," he shook his head grimly.

"You're forgettin' Judy," she reminded him as they sat down. "She's a good daughter-in-law."

"Oh, I'm not blamin' her," replying as he covered his biscuits with gravy. "Judy's a fine girl. It's his bull headed pride."

She got up and taking the coffee pot off the cook stove filled his cup. They ate on in silence. Finally he pushed his plate back.

"You aren't eatin' much," he scolded.

"I'm just not hungry, Pa."

"I see," he stood up. "I'm goin' out and turn the heater on in the hen house. It'll be cold tonight." His old shoulders slumped forward as he went outside. She shook her head and started picking up the dishes. Her mind sank back into the past. To the days when Christmas was alive with the excitement and laughter of young voices. She could see Pa striding into the living room bearing a large evergreen on his shoulder. Behind him there was always a highly excited little boy, bearing an axe. She wondered if the little boy ever thought of it.

PA CAME back on the porch. She smiled as he kicked his toe against the threshold. It's a wonder, she thought, that there's any threshold left after all these years. He came into the kitchen, dumping an arm load of kindling in the box behind the range.

"Snowin', Pa?" He shook his head and took off his wraps, replying, "Stopped."

She hung the dish towels up to dry. He pulled a rocker in from the living room and sat down.

"Everything all right in the barn?" Ma asked as she threw a few lumps of coal in the fire.

"Sure," Pa said. A sad smile crossed his lips. "What's the use pretendin', Ma? We're both feelin' blue."

She sat down at the old kitchen table and started peeling apples, uttered, "I know it."

"Gonna bake me a pie?" he asked. She nodded. "Apple was always Billy's favorite, too."

"Now, Ma, what's the use of . . ." he stopped as they heard a car drive up in the yard. "Must be Jim Rogers. Said today that new calf of his was sick." He opened the kitchen door and peered out into the night. She could hear him catch his breath as he watched a man and a woman get out. "Ma, who do you think?" his voice was low.

"I knew," Ma laughed as she laid the paring knife down with a happy smile, "I knew it all the time."



BOYCE HOUSE

Had a letter from the officials of the State Fair of Texas and they say next year's exposition will be bigger and better. As far as I'm concerned, the one this year was plenty good enough. Went over there on Press Day and it's worth going a long ways just to shake

hands with the fine folks of the Fourth Estate, especially from the smaller towns and especially the ones who run the papers that publish this column.

There was also a barbecue dinner, served by the Odessa Chuck Wagon Gang. And so many things to see, as guests of the management, that I never could get around to 'em all—but I did see the S.M.U.-Missouri football game that night and "Annie, Get Your Gun" that afternoon. The star was Mary Martin, and she is a Texas gal that every Texan has a right to be proud of. She sang, she danced, she got laughs and she was the romantic interest, too. Besides that, she was a dead shot with a rifle. (That is the only thing she did that I thought maybe might have been fixed so as to make it look like the targets were being hit; that is, I would have been a

mite suspicious if she hadn't been from Texas.)

Mary Martin's is a Cinderella story. She was born in the peaceful town of Weatherford where she had a school where she taught singing and dancing. Also she sang over at the Baker (or maybe it was the Crazy Hotel) in Mineral Wells. She came to Fort Worth while Casa Manana was being presented but Billy Rose wouldn't give her a place in the show.

She went to New York, and was the under-study to a star who kindly got sick one night. That was Mary's chance; she didn't need but one. She sang "My Heart Belongs to Daddy" and became the toast of Broadway. Then came stardom on the air and on the screen.

Her appearance at Dallas was her first visit back to her old home state and the home folks cheered and cheered.

When you hear anybody say that opportunity no longer exists in America, just call the guy's attention to Mary Martin.

So, officials of the State Fair of Texas, next year's show may have more exhibits and departments, and it may be better than the 1947 one was—but this columnist is one fellow who is going to have to be shown.

Yours, for Press Day and barbecue and football—and Mary Martin. of Texas.

An orchid to the press agent who got a soft drink advertisement, in the form of hundreds of brass discs, embedded in the pavement of Congress Avenue in "your friendly Capital City"—and a bunch of wilted onions to city officials of Austin for permitting such commercialization.



AT CHRISTMAS TIME

more than at any other season, people feel friendly. It's in the very air. In this spirit, then, we offer you our best wishes for a very Merry Christmas.

Davis Drug



WITH PEACE AND PROSPERITY, WE SHOULD ALL BE HAPPIER THAN EVER THIS YEAR. DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON, LET'S TRY TO FORGET OUR CARES. FOR OUR PART, WE WANT TO ADD OUR FELICITATIONS TO THE MANY OTHERS YOU ARE RECEIVING, BY WISHING YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS—THE

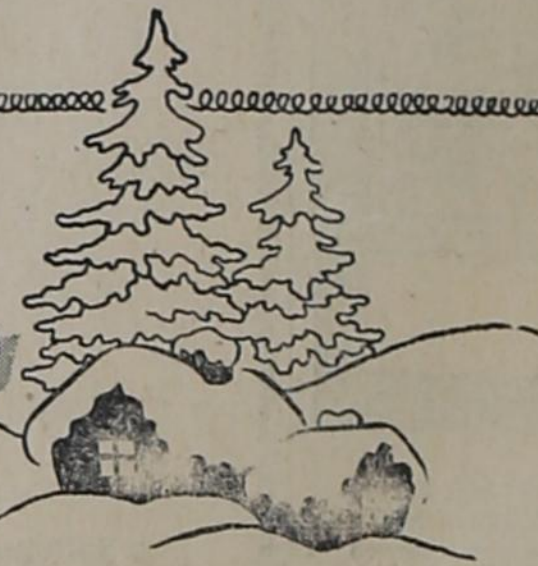
Happiest Christmas Ever!

Texaco Service Station

Glenn Zeak and the gang

NOEL

★ CHRISTMAS IS HERE!
WE WISH FOR YOU AND
YOUR LOVED ONES THE
BEST THAT THIS HAPPY
SEASON CAN BRING . . .



1947

West Texas Telephone Co.



St. Nicholas

WISHES
A MERRY
YULETIDE
TO ALL

Of Course you believe in Santy! . . .

But even if you don't right now, the chances are ten to one that at one time in your career—the short pants or long curls stage—there was no doubt in your mind that there was a Santa Claus. You not only believed in him but you were in awe of him!

Santa Claus was a short roly-poly gentleman habitually clad in red with flowing white beard. He drove through the world Christmas Eve in a heavily-laden sleigh drawn by eight dashing reindeer.

It's a beautiful old myth—as much a part of the joyous Christmas season as is our annual wish for a Merry Yuletide for you and yours!

Sims Machine Shop



Never a Christmas morning,
 Never an old year ends,
 But that someone thinks of
 someone—
 Old days, old times, old
 friends!

Cooper Implement Company

**BOYCE HOUSE
 Gives you Texas**

Fate does queer things. I knew three brothers. Two of them engaged in running industries. The other had "stretched" his age a year in order to volunteer in the Spanish-American War and the adventurous military life appealed to him, so he made a career of it. He served in the Marine Corps for 30 years, in China, the Philippines, in putting down revolutions in Central America and fought in the first World War, attaining the rank of major general. All three of the brothers are dead. Two died violent deaths; one died peacefully in bed. He was the warrior.

There was the time that I missed the entire Republic of Mexico. Brady got up a motorcade to publicize its July Jubilee and I went along as staff correspondent for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. They did me the honor to assign me to the front seat of the lead car.

Well, we arrived in Del Rio, checked in at the hotel soon after dark, then got back into our autos to visit Mexico. Our car led the way and we were chatting merrily along (you can guess who was doing most of the talking) and after a few minutes, I interrupted myself to say:

"Isn't that our hotel?"

It was. We had driven a "U" and were right back where we had started from. We had missed the entire Mexican nation. (Actually, there was a small light at a sign indicating the turn for the international bridge, and we had overlooked the sign.)

So when I misplace something around the house, such as a knife or a pair of pliers, I just recall the time I couldn't find Mexico. (This happened going over, too; if we had been coming back, confusion might have been more understandable.)



**Tidings of
 GREAT JOY!**

Christmas '47

and may the spirit of this Day
 linger on, and on, and on.

Castro Motor Co.

RAY BEARDEN

CLARENCE BEARDEN



Poinsettia—the flower of Christmas, with all its gentle beauty epitomizes our feeling of friendship for every one of you.

**TO ALL
 A Merry Christmas**

Northside Motor Co.
 Hargrove & McGowan



**Christmas
 AND THE
 SAME
 OLD WISH
 TO YOU**

● We wish we could send a gift to each of you in appreciation of your confidence and friendliness during the past year. Instead, however, we must content ourselves with extending the simple wish that you may enjoy the best life has to offer now and in the months to come.

Harrison Insurance Agency

Cherry Tree Carol

The old Cherry Tree carol, or the legend upon which it is based, is undoubtedly the reason for the custom of placing a branch of cherry tree in water to bud for Christmas time.

According to this legend, Mary and Joseph on their way to Bethlehem passed a tree loaded with cherries. Mary was hungry for some of the fruit and asked Joseph to pluck some cherries for her. The tree graciously bowed down so that Mary could pick the fruit herself.

It has been customary among the Czechs and Slovaks to take the branch of a cherry tree and place it in water in the late fall so that the buds reach the blossoming stage at Christmas time.

The belief was current that if the sprig blossomed by Christmas Eve, the girl who tended it would marry during the New Year.

Christmas Visit to The Seven Fountains

In 1540 when a plague was raging in Switzerland, 12 pious men of Rheinfelden formed a brotherhood to pray for St. Sebastian's aid, and to nurse the sick and bury the dead. Pestilence in medieval times was ascribed to evil spirits in water, so the Brotherhood of St. Sebastian visited each of the town's seven fountains, praying and singing hymns at each stop. They still continue this custom, but only on Christmas Eve. For this ritual the 12 Brothers are dressed in black, with black silk top hats. At every fountain they gather around the lantern-bearer and sing a medieval song. The march begins at the Froschweide fountain, where the plague is supposed to have started three centuries ago. When they have passed the seventh, they enter the church for midnight mass, and ceremoniously place their lantern on the altar of St. Sebastian.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Bearden and daughter left Tuesday for Seminole Oklahoma, where they will spend the holidays.

Farmers, with technical help from the U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service, have completely treated more than 100 million acres of land to prevent soil erosion, yet only 1g percent of the conservation job is done.

A recent survey of 100,000 secondary school children indicates that they believe the influence of home and family accounts for 38 percent of their personalities. The influence of teachers and church tied at 5 percent.

Subscribe for the News.

H. D. OFFICE WILL CLOSE DURING CHRISTMAS WEEK

Miss Mattie Lee Seago, County Home Demonstration Agent, will spend Christmas with her mother, Mrs. W. P. Seago at Shamrock, Texas. She will also visit two brothers there. Then on December 26, Miss Seago will go to Hartley to spend a few days. The Home Demonstration Agent's office will be closed from Tuesday, Dec. 23, to Tuesday, Dec. 30.

One pound of poultry or one dozen eggs is calorie-equivalent to five pounds of grain; one pound of beef is calorie-equivalent to 2½ pounds of grain.

It takes more than a thousand bees, working a lifetime, to make a pound of honey.

Ray Bearden returned Friday from a business trip to Oklahoma City, Okla.

NEW NIGHTWATCHMAN

Mr. A. B. Newsom of Plainview has been employed as nightwatchman in Dimmitt. He assumed his duties as nightwatchman Wednesday night of last week, succeeding Mr. P. W. Moore, who recently went to California for an extended visit.

MAYTAG

SALES AND SERVICE
Gasoline Powered Models
Available From Stock

UMBERSON RADIO & ELECTRIC



In This Joyous Season of Christmas

we want to renew all our old friendships, want each of you to feel your importance to us, and to realize that without you the story would have been quite different.

A very Merry Christmas to all of you, friendly people of this community!

**MARK COWSERT. ABTRACTER
JACK R. COWSERT**



Christmas! No vaunting phrases can truly carry the meaning of that word, no marching adjectives picture its fulfillment. Its being and expression must ever lie in the simple words of the prophets, in the unpretentious but meaningful phrases of the Man of Galilee:

**"ON EARTH PEACE,
GOOD WILL TO MEN."**

SMITTYS RADIATOR SHOP

GENUINE

Ford

PARTS ARE BEST

for
Ford

**CARS
and
TRUCKS**

Because they are ...

**MADE RIGHT
FIT RIGHT
LAST LONGER**

Genuine



Parts

**CASTRO MOTOR
COMPANY**



Happy Holidays to
EVERYBODY

• WE ARE THE WORLD'S MOST INVENTIVE RACE—AND YET WE HAVEN'T FOUND A NEW WAY OF SAYING "MERRY CHRISTMAS." MAYBE IT'S JUST AS WELL!

• IN ANY EVENT, WE CAN PHRASE NO BETTER MESSAGE FOR THIS JOYOUS SEASON THAN THAT ANCIENT WISH.

THOMPSON GROCERY

Jess and Lillamae Wright and Mary Raper



Santa is at the throttle and good fellowship has the right of way. Full speed ahead for the

Merriest Christmas
of them all!

Times have changed since we started business in this community many years ago, and we have seen a great many changes. But one thing always remains the same. We continue to serve in the best possible manner the very best people it is possible to serve. We could ask for no finer list of customers, no better group of friends.

And to all of you our entire organization wishes loads of good cheer and a genuine old-fashioned merry Christmas!

Dimmitt Wheat Growers



The Yuletide Season brings joyous Greetings to all our customers and an appreciation for the considerations we have enjoyed during the past year. Our Good Wishes to you and yours.

Sheffy-Stalcup