

LET YOUR ANSWER TO BOMBS BE BONDS! We are fighting enemies who will stop at nothing...

O. W. HEFNER JR. TURNS INTO 'MAN WITHOUT A SHIP'

O. W. Hefner Jr., who was here on furlough in November for a visit with his parents and other relatives and friends, visited also in Corpus Christi before returning to his base at New London, Conn.

First Casualty From Hico In Jap War Told

Hico's first victim of World War II was on record Wednesday in the death of Hubert Austin Fellers, 29, seaman second class, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Fellers.

ROBERT ROSS REPORTS SAFE IN LETTER TO PARENTS

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Ross received an air-mail letter Thursday morning from their son, Robert, apparently written after the recent Jap flare-up in the Pacific, saying "I'm all right. Don't worry about me."

Another Local Boy Reported Wounded In Action In Navy

R. J. Hodnett, son of Mrs. Eva Hodnett of Hico Route 2, who has been in the United States Navy for about two years, was reported wounded in action this week.

ANOTHER LOCAL BOY THOUGHT PROBABLY IN ACTION

Among the youths from this section of the country, so many of whom have been in Pacific waters during the time the citizens have been worried about the fate of their valiant sons, is S. E. Patterson.

Local Chamber Will Cooperate In Defense Program

J. N. Russell, president of the Hico Chamber of Commerce, back this week from attendance at the annual meeting of the Texas Hotel Association at San Antonio, and a later side trip to Mexico City, said Thursday that upon his return he found several messages on his desk asking cooperation in various phases of National Defense.

HICOAN, SAILOR FOR 13 YEARS, WAS ON WAKE ISLAND IN OCTOBER

Wake Island, T. H., Oct. 8, 1941. Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Roberson, Hico, Texas. Dear Mom and Dad: Sorry I haven't written before, but I have been transferred to Wake Island for handling small boats, and at present am with the Marines. I feel like a buck private in the rear rank, but will be stationed at Naval Air Station Wake soon.

Local Sales of Defense Bonds and Stamps Creditable

Hico people have bought Defense Savings Bonds and Stamps to the extent of about \$20,000 maturity value, according to a check-up made early this week by S. J. Cheek Sr., a member of the Hamilton County Defense Savings Bond Committee.

LETTER FROM NEAR SCENE OF RECENT ACTION IN PACIFIC TO THE POLACKS

Dec. 6, 1941. Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Polack, Iredell, Texas, Route 2. Dear Mom & Pop: Guess you think I have forgotten you, but I haven't. We have been out for some time. I couldn't write. I do hope both of you are well. I'm O. K. working hard and losing weight each day.

'Send Us More Japs' Due to Become Line Famous In History

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The terse message—"Send us more Japs"—reported relayed from the heroic Marines defending Wake Island drew congressional commendation Wednesday.

Methodist to Hold Conference Sunday Evening

According to announcement made this week by Rev. Floyd W. Thrash, the local Methodist church will hold its first quarterly conference for the current church year.

Hico Boys, Girls To Play Hamilton Here Friday Night

The Hico basketball teams will play Hamilton here Friday night. Both the boys' and girls' teams will play. First game starts at 7:15 p. m. promptly.

Naval Air Station At Corpus Christi On Seven-Day Week

War and weather have combined to put the Naval Air Station at Corpus Christi on a seven-day week flying schedule, according to the Office of Public Relations at the "University of the Air."

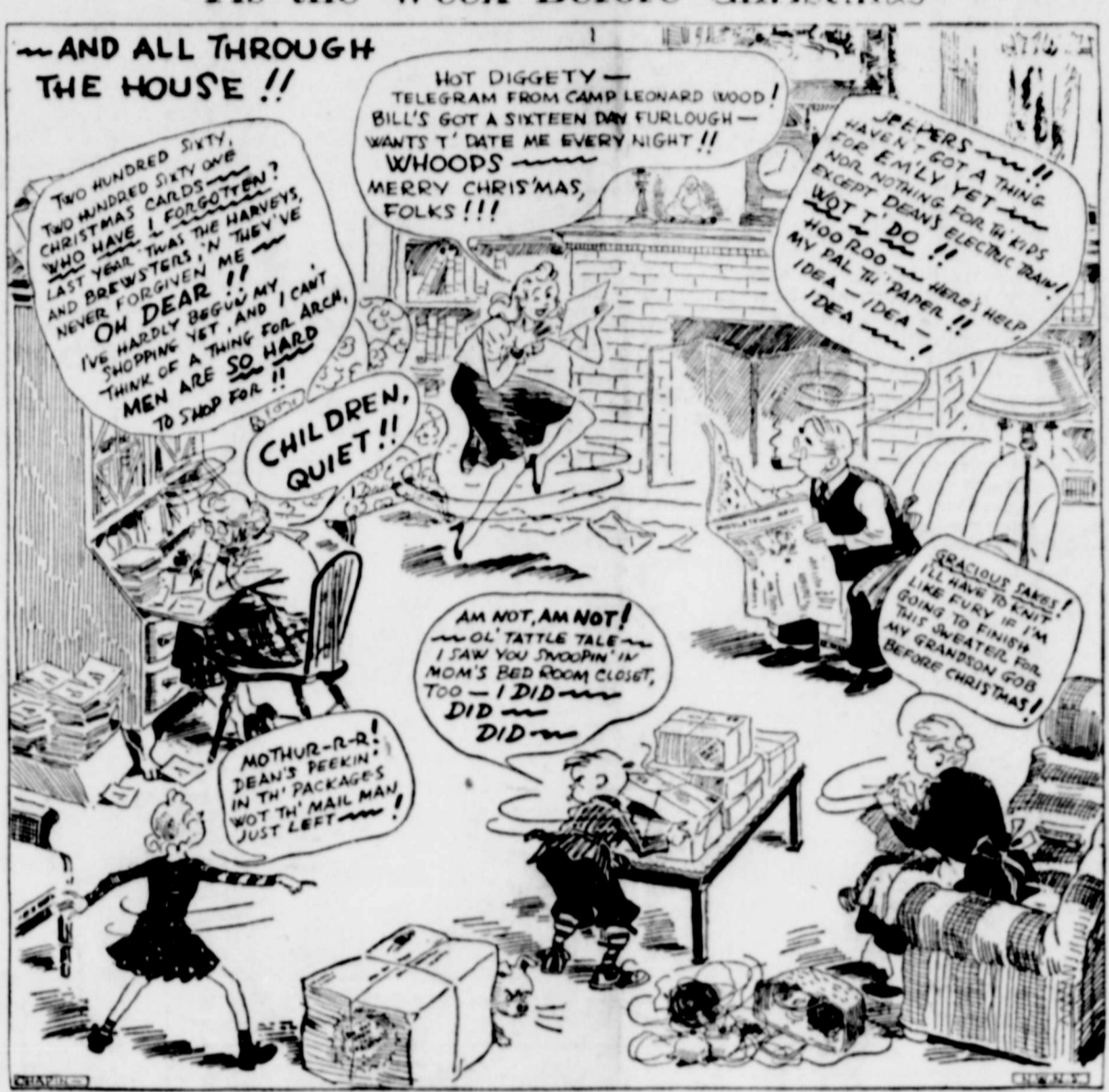
Palace Theatre To Give Children Christmas Treat

The Palace Theatre invites all children in Hico and Hico's trade territory between the ages of 4 and 13 to be its guest for a free picture show Saturday, Dec. 20, starting at 9:30 a. m.

Hico Schools to Present Program for Christmas Closing

Hico schools will dismiss for the Christmas holidays this Friday, Dec. 19th, and will take up books again on Monday, Dec. 29th, according to an announcement coming from the office of Harry T. Pinson, superintendent.

'Tis the Week Before Christmas



Hico Meets Quota In Drive For War Relief Funds By Red Cross

Officials of the Hamilton County Red Cross met in Hamilton Saturday, Dec. 13, to discuss plans for the emergency Red Cross War Drive and to receive quotas for the various chapters in Hamilton County.

Governor Calls Attention to Air Warning Systems

Austin, December 17.—As Chairman of the National Defense Committee for Texas, Governor Coke Stevenson today called attention to the distinction between the Aircraft Warning Service (observation posts) and the Air Raid Warning System.

The Aircraft Warning Service is being organized for the U. S. Army. It is an information source through which the Army will receive reports of approaching planes. Observation posts are established as designated by the Army.

Naval Air Station At Corpus Christi On Seven-Day Week

War and weather have combined to put the Naval Air Station at Corpus Christi on a seven-day week flying schedule, according to the Office of Public Relations at the "University of the Air."

Palace Theatre To Give Children Christmas Treat

The Palace Theatre invites all children in Hico and Hico's trade territory between the ages of 4 and 13 to be its guest for a free picture show Saturday, Dec. 20, starting at 9:30 a. m.

Hico Schools to Present Program for Christmas Closing

Hico schools will dismiss for the Christmas holidays this Friday, Dec. 19th, and will take up books again on Monday, Dec. 29th, according to an announcement coming from the office of Harry T. Pinson, superintendent.

Methodist to Hold Conference Sunday Evening

According to announcement made this week by Rev. Floyd W. Thrash, the local Methodist church will hold its first quarterly conference for the current church year.

Hico Boys, Girls To Play Hamilton Here Friday Night

The Hico basketball teams will play Hamilton here Friday night. Both the boys' and girls' teams will play. First game starts at 7:15 p. m. promptly.

Naval Air Station At Corpus Christi On Seven-Day Week

War and weather have combined to put the Naval Air Station at Corpus Christi on a seven-day week flying schedule, according to the Office of Public Relations at the "University of the Air."

(Continued on Page 8)





Hico News Review PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY IN HICO, TEXAS



ROLAND L. HOLFORD Owner and Editor

Entered as second-class matter May 10, 1907, at the postoffice at Hico, Texas, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES In Hico Trade Territory... One Year \$1.00 Six Months 60c Three Months 35c Outside Hamilton, Bosque, Erath and Comanche Counties... Six Months 85c Three Months 50c

ADVERTISING RATES DISPLAY \$25 per column inch per insertion. Contract rates upon application. LOCAL READERS .10c per line per insertion, straight.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character of any person or firm appearing in these columns will be gladly and promptly corrected upon calling attention of the management to the article in question.

Hico, Texas, Friday, Dec. 15, 1941.

"PEACE ON EARTH"

"Peace on earth, good will toward men." That was the message of one of the Christmas cards received the other day. At first it seemed like a hollow mockery of this Christmas season where in peace on so few parts of the earth and when men and nations are scheming to plan each other's downfall.

One of the strangest things about our search for peace is the fact that the path to it is often a war path. The "fight for peace" has always seemed a contradiction, but in all the years in which mankind has longed for peace there have been men and nations which stood in the way.

Hence one of the chief aims of every war has been to bring about a more durable peace. No solution other than fighting for peace has ever been worked out.

But during the Christmas season we all realize more than at any other time that a world at peace means a world which is living according to the teachings of Christ. We celebrate the birthday of Christ all over the world because most all people realize that he showed us a way of life which can result in peace on earth, good will toward men.

In celebrating his birthday this year, let us hope that the people in all nations will become more aware than ever before of the need for following the plan of life which he revealed almost 2,000 years ago.

LIBERTY'S BIRTHDAY

The 150th birthday of the American type of freedom was celebrated throughout our country on December 15—the anniversary of the day on which our Bill of Rights became part of the constitution.

During these days when all freedom is threatened, it is particularly fitting that the citizens of our country have this opportunity to commemorate an important birthday of Liberty—to reflect on the history of what generations before us have done to keep freedom alive in this nation.

The day of December 15 signified the ratification of the Bill of Rights by the State of Virginia. Virginia's assent, in 1791, meant that three-fourths of the states had ratified the Bill and it thus legally was added to the constitution.

This part of the constitution includes our guarantee of freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, protection of individual's property, trial by jury—the things which all loyal Americans have since then defended at all cost.

On this anniversary, communities throughout our country will hold celebrations in honor of the event. The President will address the nation, defense organizations will hold special ceremonies and schools will take advantage of the opportunity to instill the spirit of freedom in the younger generation.

With 150 years behind it, the Bill of Rights to most of us is no longer just a law—it is ingrained in our philosophy, and expressed in all our actions. We take it for granted because we always have

COMING EVENTS

- Dec. 22—Winter officially begins at 12:45 a. m. Dec. 24—25th anniversary of what is believed to have been the first radio broadcast. Dec. 25—Merry Christmas.

had freedom, but we don't have any illusions about what our lives would be if these freedoms suddenly were snatched away. We've watched freedom die in Poland, in France, in Russia, and in Germany—and we will never permit any foreign nation, or any group in our country, to harm this sacred provision of our constitution upon which our way of life is founded.

SANTA CLAUS

If you think there is any doubt about there being a Santa Claus, look at the expression on the faces of the people who are walking down the streets with their arms full of mysterious packages. If you are still doubtful, go into some of the stores where gifts are being sold, watch how some of the most tired clerks brighten up when they help you choose a gift and note how they seem to enjoy working in a place which is filled with people looking for gifts which will make others happy.

The joyful feeling which abounds around Christmas time comes from the excitement of thinking how pleased Aunt Fannie is going to be with that new thimble, how Junior is going to shout with glee over getting the truck he has been begging for for months and how even Dad, in spite of getting the bill at the end of the month, is of good will. The bombings, when he opens that package with a new, warm bathrobe inside.

It is always hard to put your finger on a feeling or an inner spirit. It's difficult to find words which describe it adequately. Perhaps that's why, for hundreds of years, we have personified the Christmas spirit with the jolly character of Santa Claus. Believing in Santa Claus really comes down to believing that it's fun to give—that there is a Christmas spirit which makes Christmas the most pleasurable season of the year.

FASHION for today BY PATRICIA DOW



Gay Home Frock Pattern No. 8022—If you are fussy about the frocks you wear at home, if you like them to be well designed and fit perfectly, you'll be delighted with this pattern. Here's a frock which emphasizes the slender figure. It's a button front style, with the skirt panelled to fit trimly at the waist and through the hips.

Name..... Town..... State..... Pattern No. .... Size .....

Pictures In The News

Realistic Raid Drill in New York



Down in New York city's Union square, usually the battlefield for verbal fireworks, air raid patrol workers staged a realistic battle against incendiary bombs in the first outdoor demonstration of their training.

Women Bolster Russian Defense



This photo came from Leningrad, Russia, via London. It pictures women of Russia's second city plying spades to erect barricades and dig trenches during the defense of Leningrad. For weeks before the battle at Moscow had begun this city had been besieged.

Appropriate Christmas Gifts



MEET OUR NEIGHBORS Manoel Deodoro da Fonseca

LEADER OF THE REVOLUTION THAT MADE BRAZIL A REPUBLIC. HE WAS THE HEAD OF THE REPUBLICAN PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT.



Black Diamonds ARE USED IN MANY INDUSTRIES FOR CUTTING AND GRINDING TOOLS, FOR DRILLING OIL AND MINERALS, LASTING LONGER AND WORKING SPEEDIER THAN STEEL INSTRUMENTS, INDUSTRIAL DIAMONDS FROM BRAZIL ARE INDISPENSABLE IN U.S.A. DEFENSE INDUSTRIES.

NEWS IN THE WORLD OF RELIGION by W.W. REID

"Comparing our conditions with those in other lands, we must recognize that our country is singularly blessed," said the Roman Catholic bishop of the United States in a recent statement to the nation. "But we cannot avoid the repercussions of a world catastrophe."

Despite their relative poverty, the Oneida Indians who are members of the Oneida Methodist Church in DePere, Wisconsin, have for several years been giving funds for Christian work among their less fortunate brethren.

The American Bible Society recently announced that in its 125 years of service as a scripture-distributing agency, it "has not yet received, from all gifts of all kinds the equivalent of the cost of one first-class battleship."

The newly-organized "Church of Christ in Japan," composed of most of the denominational churches that had their roots in European and American missions, has a Social Welfare Board with a program of aggressive community and national service.

For two centuries the Moravian Church of Holland has been carrying on missionary work in Surinam (Dutch Guiana, S. A.)—now occupied by U. S. troops. The work has long been supported by the Mission Society of the Moravian Church of Zeist, Netherlands.

Marines Need Enlistments to Fill Their Ranks

The United States Marines need men to fill their ranks in this time of emergency. There exist openings in Aviation, Parachute Troops, Sea Going Detachments, Tank Corps, Radio and Telephone, and many other branches. Here is an opportunity for young men between the ages of 17 and 30 to travel, secure an education and earn money at the same time.

The U. S. Marine Corps Recruiting Office is located on the second floor, Post Office Bldg., Waco, Texas. Apply today or drop a penny post card to us for further information.

Floods, War In News

Flood Hits Kansas Town



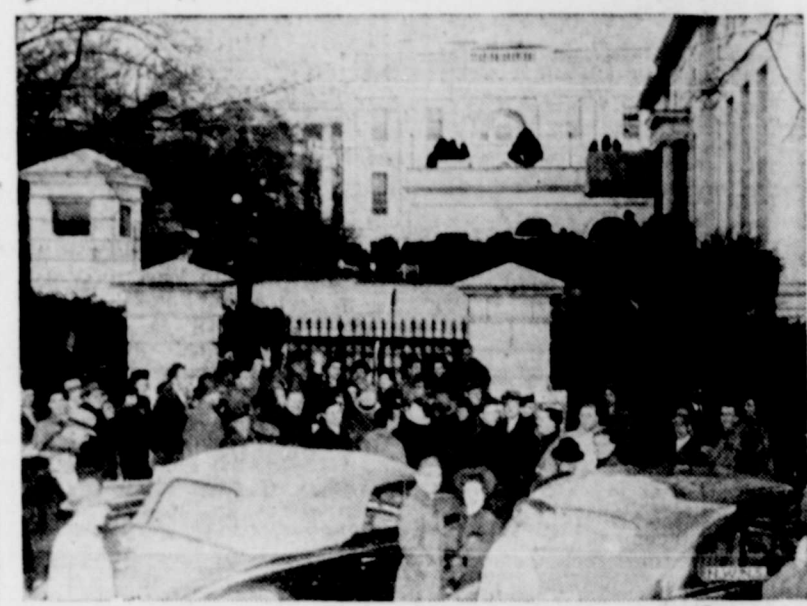
A broken dike released this flood on the streets of Hutchinson, Kan., when Cow creek, raging after heavy rains broke through retaining walls. This photo shows occupants of a house in the residential district as they were evacuated by boat after having been marooned for several hours.

War Effort Farewell to Mexico



Joseph Daniels (right), retiring U. S. ambassador to Mexico, and Mexico's president, Avila Camacho, embrace each other as the diplomat says good-by to the country in which he served so long.

War News Breaks in Washington



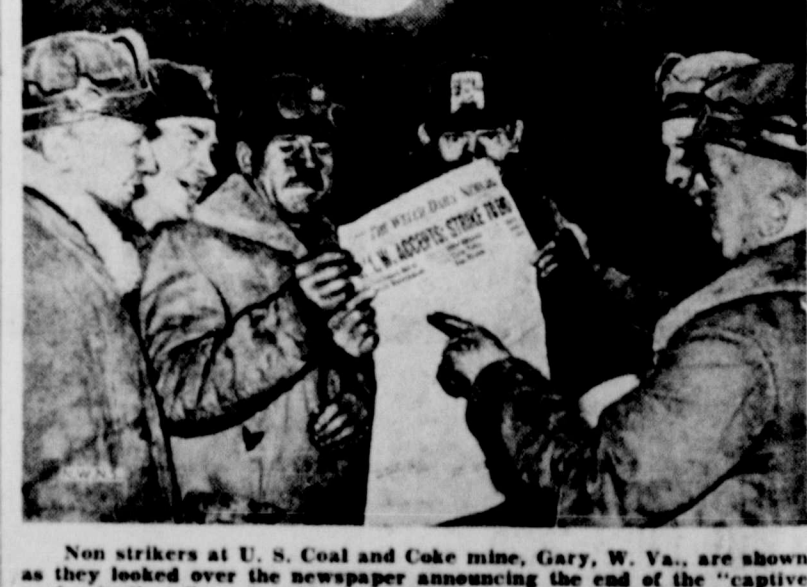
The first news of the Japanese bombing of U. S. naval and army bases in the Pacific to reach Washington brought crowds to the White House, where flash bulletins were being issued by the President's secretary, Steven Early. The photo shows crowds at the gate leading to the executive office of the White House.

Session of Army-Navy Joint Board



Above is the first picture ever made of a meeting of the joint board of U. S. army and navy men. Shown are (left to right): Maj. Gen. H. M. Arnold, army air corps chief; Maj. Gen. William Bryden; Gen. George Marshall, chief of staff; Admiral H. R. Stark, chief of naval operations; Rear Admiral R. E. Ingersoll; Rear Admiral J. M. Towers and Rear Admiral R. K. Turner.

That Strike Is Over Again!



Non strikers at U. S. Coal and Coke mine, Gary, W. Va., are shown as they looked over the newspaper announcing the end of the "captive coal mine" strike. Considerable tension existed at this mine between non strikers and those following John L. Lewis' orders to stop production.



Letters to Santa



Look 'Em Over

Come to See Her Teacher
Hico, Texas, Dec. 16, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: I try to be a nice little girl...

She Wrote This Herself
Hico, Texas, Dec. 8, 1941.
Dear Santa: Will you please bring me a little guitar...

Let's Let Her Have It, Santa
Hico, Texas, Dec. 10, 1941.
Dear Santa: I am a little girl eleven years old...

Martha and Lester Sniff Up
Hico, Texas, Dec. 16, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: We have been good children...

Her Sister's Name Is Carolyn
Hico, Texas, Dec. 10, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl five years old...

This ought to Get the Job Done
[This letter was handed to a fellow who said he might be Santa Claus...

Wants to Build Things, Too
Hico, Texas, Dec. 1, 1941.
Dear Santa: I am a little boy 4 years old...

Wants Clothes and Eats
Hico, Texas, Dec. 10, 1941.
Dear Santa: I am a little girl eight years old...

A Gun, Car, Truck, Balls
Hico, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: I want a gun and a little car...

"Hope to See You Christmas"
Hico, Texas, Dec. 13, 1941.
Dear Old Santa: I am a little boy five years old...

Leave Toys Under His Tree
Hico, Texas, Dec. 12, 1941.
Dear Santa, North Pole: I have been a good boy...

Little Sister, Little Brother
Hico, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: Will you please bring me a doll...

Save a Jumping Rope for Her
Hico, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: I have been a good little girl...

Maybe Mother's Kidding
Hico, Texas, Dec. 14, 1941.
Dear Santa: I'm a little boy 4 1/2 years old...

Please Bring Sister Something
Hico, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: I am 8 years old and in the fourth grade...

Bring His Aunts Something
Fairly, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: I am a little boy 13 months old...

All This On a Post Card
Hico, Texas, Dec. 9, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: I am a little boy 5 years old...

Brother Wants the Same
Hico, Texas, Dec. 16, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: I am a little boy eleven years old...

He's Going to Move Dirt
Hico, Texas, Dec. 10, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: We are a little boy and girl...

From Wanda, Brother, Sister
Hico, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl eight years old...

A Future Jack Dempsey
Hico, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: I am a good little boy...

"Can Hardly Wait"
Hico, Texas, Dec. 8, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: I can hardly wait for you to come to see me...

Short and to the Point
Hico, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: I am a little boy 10 years old...

What Do Sister, Brother Want?
Hico, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: I am a little boy nine years old...

Very Practical, We'd Say
Hico, Texas, Dec. 8, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: I am a little boy 7 years old...

She Has Three Brothers
Hico, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl five years old...

Sister's Name Is Mary Nell
Hico, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: Please bring me a doll and a buggy...

"Anything Else You Want to?"
Hico, Texas, Dec. 12, 1941.
Dear Santa: I am a little girl 4 years old...

He Doesn't Ask For Much
Hico, Texas, Dec. 12, 1941.
Dear Santa: I am a little boy 7 years old...

Her Brother's A Carpenter
Hico, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl 9 years old...

Expecting Santa's Visit
Hico, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa: I am a little boy five years old...

Never Too Old For a Doll!
Hico, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa: I have been a good girl and my mother...

A Wholesale Order
Hico, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl eight years old...

Expecting Santa's Visit
Hico, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa: I am a little boy five years old...

Expecting Santa's Visit
Hico, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa: I am a little boy five years old...

Expecting Santa's Visit
Hico, Texas, Dec. 15, 1941.
Dear Santa: I am a little boy five years old...

Business Rushing At Comanche Army Recruiting Office

Sergeant William J. Hess, Army recruiting sergeant, located in the basement of the Comanche county court house, said last week end that business had been rushing during the past two or three days...

TRAGEDY of Ellery Queen

© STOKES

by Ellery Queen



CHAPTER III

Harley Longstreet of DeWitt & Longstreet, brokers, invites eight friends to celebrate his engagement to Cherry Browne...



"I suppose he promised to marry you, too? Threw you over for Mrs. DeWitt?"

In fact, only a week ago he asked Mr. DeWitt for a loan of twenty-five thousand dollars. Mr. DeWitt was awfully mad; I thought he'd have apoplexy...

street had been attracted to Jeanne. Did she have any suspicion her husband was being blackmailed?

Thumm called Franklin Ahearn, but learned nothing except that he was an engineer and DeWitt were good neighbors. Next he called Cherry Browne.

Inspector Thumm summoned DeWitt, who was chafing at self-satisfaction. Thumm said directly: "I'm going to repeat a question I asked you last night, and I insist on an answer..."

Inspector Thumm summoned DeWitt, who was chafing at self-satisfaction. Thumm said directly: "I'm going to repeat a question I asked you last night..."

Inspector Thumm summoned DeWitt, who was chafing at self-satisfaction. Thumm said directly: "I'm going to repeat a question I asked you last night..."

"What was Longstreet's attitude toward DeWitt?" Anna Platt twisted her fingers. "He knew Mr. DeWitt was the better business man and he didn't like it..."

"What was Longstreet's attitude toward DeWitt?" Anna Platt twisted her fingers. "He knew Mr. DeWitt was the better business man..."

"What was Longstreet's attitude toward DeWitt?" Anna Platt twisted her fingers. "He knew Mr. DeWitt was the better business man..."

Inspector Thumm summoned DeWitt, who was chafing at self-satisfaction. Thumm said directly: "I'm going to repeat a question I asked you last night..."

Inspector Thumm summoned DeWitt, who was chafing at self-satisfaction. Thumm said directly: "I'm going to repeat a question I asked you last night..."

Inspector Thumm summoned DeWitt, who was chafing at self-satisfaction. Thumm said directly: "I'm going to repeat a question I asked you last night..."

Inspector Thumm summoned DeWitt, who was chafing at self-satisfaction. Thumm said directly: "I'm going to repeat a question I asked you last night..."

Inspector Thumm summoned DeWitt, who was chafing at self-satisfaction. Thumm said directly: "I'm going to repeat a question I asked you last night..."

Inspector Thumm summoned DeWitt, who was chafing at self-satisfaction. Thumm said directly: "I'm going to repeat a question I asked you last night..."



Mystery number one in a series of baffling crimes which remain unsolved until Inspector Thumm of the New York police calls an eccentric old actor, Drury Lane, to his aid.



