

# THE NEW ERA.

Published Among the Silver-Lined Clouds 4692 Feet Above Sea Level, Where the Sun Shines 365 Days in the Year. The Healthful, Pure Air Makes Life Worth Living.

## SANTA CLAUS WAS THERE

A number of Christmas Tree exercises were given to the children at the different churches. At the Baptist Church a very interesting program was given by the young people of the Sunday School, Monday evening.

An impressive program marked the annual Christmas observance celebrated Sunday evening at the Christian Church 7:15 p. m. The program was as follows:

Prelude Duet, By Daisy Hamie and Prayer, by Rev. M. A. Buhler. Thelma Means. Reading, by Alene Chastain. Song, by the little folks. Reading, by Ramey Chastain. Vocal Duet, by Cornelia Kilpatrick and Hyacinth Hamie. Reading, by Hazel Williams. Piano Solo, by Annabel Evans. Pageant, Shepherd Christmas. Superintendents talk and offering.

At the close of the program Old Santa Claus made his appearance amid much laughter and shouts, much of which the old gentlemen created himself as he entered the Church. The children turned their gaze from the Christmas tree to Santa laden with apples and oranges, which he handed out to the little folks. A large tree lighted with many colored lights and handsomely decorated with dazzling tinsel and trimmings, stood in splendor in the corner off from the pulpit. Santa took his station at the Christmas tree to present each Sunday school pupil a nice box of candy and an orange. The interior of the church was beautifully decorated for the holiday season in Southern smilax, ferns and Red bells, arranged under the direction of Miss Ruth Orr, who also had charge of the program.

The entire scene of the nativity was presented as a pageant. The most striking feature was the "manger scene," in which Miss Kathleen Duncan and Mr. Floyd Gatrost enacted the role of Mary and Joseph, and the wise men, led by the star, brought their rich gifts. During

the scene Miss Ruth Orr, assisted by Mrs. M. A. Buhler and Miss Winnie Davis, sang a number of beautiful Christmas carols.

At the Methodist Church there were most beautiful and artistic decorations imaginable. Two trees festooned with snow-like draperies, sparkling with crystals, were on either side of the alcove, just back of the altar platform. Festoons of white, resembling slender curling stalactites, hung from the ceiling of the entire back of the auditorium, forming a screen, behind which a dim light lent a moonlit gleam to a suggestive group scene: a babe nestling in a cradle, with three statuesque figures, shepherd crooks in their hands, guarding its slumbers.

The program was introduced by a song, "Joy to the World." Then a Scripture reading by the pastor. The entire program was splendidly carried out—each one of the children doing well, both in recitation and song. "And the least shall be the greatest." Without taking from the others a just word of commendation, particular mention should be made of the reading of little Zeld Hurley and the song by little Elizabeth Hord.

The program follows:  
Song, "Joy to the World," Choir.  
Scripture reading and prayer, by the pastor.

Song, "Oa His Natal Day,"  
Reading, "The Lookout Man,"  
Edith Taylor.

Reading, "Jimsy and Joe," Keith Hurley.

Reading, "Legend of the Bells," Zeld Hurley.

Song, "Away in a Manger."

Reading, "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem," Clarice Raetzsch.

Reading, "Lighting of the Star," Verna Settle.

Song, "There's a Song in the Air," Choir.

Song, "Gifts for the King."

Reading, "A Gift for the Savior," Everyn Howell.

Presentation of Gifts by Cradle Roll and Primaries.

Reading, "Legend of Cathy," "Our

Inspiration," Willie Mae Bishop. Song: "A Little Gift."

Presentation of gifts from First Year Primary, Second Year Primary, First Year Juniors, Second Year Juniors.

Song, "Silent Night--Holy Night," Elizabeth Hord.

Benediction.

Santa Claus and Christmas Tree.

### JAMES M. PUTNAM

Last week the San Antonio Express gave the following account of the death and burial of James Mitchell Putnam:

"Despondency over a recent spell of ill health and paralysis which caused the partial loss of use of one of his legs is believed to have caused the death of James Mitchell Putnam, 64, who was found shot through the head early Wednesday night on the farm of his brother-in-law, H. C. Williams, 17 miles from San Antonio on the Pleasanton Road. Putnam was shot with a .32 caliber pistol, near a group of small buildings close to the main residence on the farm.

Putnam had been living on the Williams farm since the latter part of last summer. Before moving to the place one and one-half miles on the other side of the small town of Thelma, the dead man had lived in Sierra Blanca, in Hudspeth county. He had no immediate survivors.

The funeral arrangements will be completed Thursday, with burial probably taking place at the Oak Island cemetery under the direction of a local undertaking company.

A coroner's inquest probably will be held Thursday by Justice of the Peace, Ben S. Fisk.

In the coroner's inquest held Thursday by Justice of the Peace Ben S. Fisk, in which a verdict of suicide was returned, disclosed the fact that Putnam had led a very active out-door life, being a river guard on the border for 15 years. He was stricken with paralysis in one side about a year ago and had been despondent over his ill health since then.

Jim Putnam, as he was known by

all the old-timers in Presidio county, spent most of his life in this county. For several years he worked for the Love boys at Sierra Blanca, but for thirty-five years and more he claimed Presidio county as his home, having near Marfa a small, improved place, where he stayed when here.

For a number of years he belonged to the Texas Rangers, and after leaving the Rangers, he served as deputy sheriff for years.

Jim Putnam was known as an honest and faithful officer and as a law-abiding and peaceful citizen. He had many friends and no enemies.

For several years his health had not been good, and several months ago he went to the vicinity of San Antonio for its benefit.

When a boy he was captured by the Comanche Indians and spent 15 years with them. His life among them was stamped indelibly on his mentality, causing a peculiarity of speech. He was never talkative, and always appeared to be of serious, somewhat morose, disposition. He was a man trailer and hunter.

### REQUEST TO REPAIR ROADS

The United States Post Office department requires the post master to send out certain information in regard to roads, therefore, in pursuant to said requirement, the New Era has received the following communication from the post master at Presidio asking for its publication. The New Era is of the opinion that the communication refers to rural routes and not to established mail routes. However, the same is given as sent:

New Era, Marfa, Texas:—

Kindly give this letter as much publicity as convenient without expense to the post office department, solely for the good of the service, and to avoid the calamity of a possible discontinuance of the service: My Dear Sir: It is reported to me that the road on which you reside on the line of the rural route from this post office is in bad condition and urgently in need of attention. It is a requirement of the Department that roads traveled by rural carriers in the performance of service shall be kept in passable condition for vehicles under ordinary conditions. It becomes my duty to inform you, therefore, that the road hereinafter specified should have attention without delay. Unless sufficient interest is shown in the service by the local road authorities and those benefited to keep the roads in good condition, the rural route will be amended so as to avoid neglected roads, or, if this cannot be done, the discontinuance of service will have serious consideration.

Respectfully yours,  
Elenor Lopez King, Postmaster.  
Route No. 50400, 50401, 50657.  
Location of roads, Marfa to Presidio.  
Work needed, Presidio to Chinati, Presidio to Redford.

APPLES! APPLES!  
All kept in cold storage at the Marfa Power House. Call on Mr. Myrick when you need any.  
M. F. HIGGINS.

Information for Owners of Motor Vehicles  
All licenses used by the State Highway department expires December 31st, 1923.

After which date there is a penalty of 25%.  
Registrants for 1924 will be issued a Red Seal when their car has been previously registered.

New cars purchased after January 1st will be issued a pair of plates and 1924 seal.  
Replacement seals or numbers will be replaced on payment of a \$1.00 fee.  
Motor cycles fees for 1924 are \$5. Dealers licenses are same for 1924 as 1923.

To register a motor vehicle it will be necessary to fill out blanks showing make, model and year of car. These blanks will be furnished by the Tax Collector.

Under the new law cars are to be registered according to horse-power and weight.

## MARFA STATE BANK

Capital and Surplus \$105,000.00

GUARANTY FUND BANK

OFFERS SECURITY FOR FUNDS  
And Service to All

4% PAID ON TIME DEPOSITS

Safety Deposit Boxes for Rent

T. M. WILSON, President  
T. C. MITCHELL, Vice-President.  
BEN S. AVANT, Cashier

# "1924" RESOLUTIONS

**Resolved** THAT we enter the new year with the determination to excel our past efforts to serve you and to co-operate with you every hour of every day in the fight for "good" merchandise at "lower" prices, and in grateful appreciation of your good-will, we wish you the joys of the Season and a prosperous New Year.

Our policy shall remain the same—PAY KASH and PAY LESS. Many of our life-long friends congratulate themselves having remained our customers through the trial of our cash system, as having been instrumental in establishing a standard of business that benefits all it can reach. We invite you, that have remained our customers, to co-operate with us, to invite your neighbor to join in the "Kash" saving club, and to those that have not investigated our system, to come in and see for themselves.

With the hope of meriting the support given us, and the prospects of a much better year in the coming year, we enter upon our duties gladly, and confident of our victory.

# MURPHY-WALKER CO.

PAY KASH

PAY LESS



# A Merry Christmas To All

## HIMSELF



### "For Christ the Lord is Born!"

By MARTHA B. THOMAS

**Star of Bethlehem Outshone All at Conference of the Heavenly Bodies**

It was Christmas Eve, and the stars were holding a conference. They could not leave their places in the sky, because it was against the law of night, so they managed to talk by ray-dio! That is, each star sent a ray toward a certain spot, where all the other rays were shining, and this made the conference!

"Star talk": Words of light! It was a very bright and busy time. The largest stars did the most talking; they had a good deal to say about the way they shone when the moon was away.

"We are not only beautiful to look at," they declared, "but we help folks to get about on dark nights. The earth folks like to look at us, and wonder about us. We are very important!" If stars could swell with pride, these stars would have burst. When they had talked very hard for about an hour, a small, slender shaft of light twinkled into their midst.

"Who are you?" came a chorus of shining voices. "I am the Star of Bethlehem," was the answer. The other stars had never heard of her. They were inclined to hush her up. But there was something so sweet, so penetrating, so beautiful in her light that they were constrained to give heed.

"What is your history?" then demanded the largest and oldest star. The Star of Bethlehem quivered with a clear radiance which seemed to have all the colors of the rainbow. "An angel with a torch came and lighted me the very first Christmas Eve. I shone with a special luster and guided many people to the manger in

Bethlehem, where the Christ Child lay with his Mother Mary. Shepherds saw me while they were watching their sheep on the hillside. And other angels of blinding beauty sang near me. They played on golden harps. The sky shone with a heavenly glory. There has never been a night so wonderful."

The other stars listened with awe. Before this sweet, compelling light they felt silent and humble. Then, for an instant, there came an incomparable brilliance. The Star of Bethlehem blazed in indescribable beauty. And faint and far came the music of harps and singing. "For Christ the Lord is born!"

### Christmas Eve

By MARY GRAHAM BONNER

**Likeness of the Dearest Woman in the World, a Christmas Gift to Lonesome Son**

It was the first year he had ever been away from home and he was a full-grown man. Other years he had been near enough to go back home for Christmas, but now his work had sent him across the continent and he couldn't possibly manage the trip.

He had some excellent new friends and he was going to have Christmas dinner with them. And the family from home had sent a beautiful Christmas box—every member of the family had sent a present.

It had been tied with holly and red ribbon and he had opened it Christmas Eve. But now it was Christmas morning and he was just a little bit homesick. Yes, just a little bit—perhaps it was more than a little bit.

And then came the postman's ring. He had received all his presents, cards, too, from his friends at home who would not send presents, but who had remembered him. Yes, he had been very fortunate. The homesickness he felt was only natural. And then he opened the small package which the postman's ring had brought to him.

It was a photograph of his mother, and it arrived on Christmas day. And under it was a little note, just a few words of love and devotion and a Christmas greeting.

He felt better already! For, even though there must at times be separations, he had so wonderful a home and mother that even though they were apart actually their thoughts and spirits were as close together as though they were not separated.

It was an excellent photograph of his mother, too. What a perfect Christmas morning gift!

Walter Manners had always been a man who set a great stress upon duty, and as he went along now the thought came to him that a real duty to his family lay before him. For he felt that he would be inflicting a great

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### That Day Long Ago

By F. H. SWEET

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Solemnly, pleadingly, church bells are ringing  
 As a message across the white snow,  
 Tenderly, lovingly, to us are bringing  
 Tidings that first were brought ages ago;  
 Tidings that make men's hearts  
 Soften and glow  
 As on that Christmas day  
 Ages ago.

Joyfully, tenderly, church bells are chiming  
 As their greetings across the deep snow,  
 Bringing fresh hope to the hearts that are climbing  
 Upward in search of that feeling of glow,  
 Such as the shepherds felt  
 Ages ago,  
 When they were called by the  
 Star's tender glow.

### What Christmas Brought to Him

By LAURA ELAINE CAMERON

**Back to His Old Job, the Present Walter Manners Needed Most**

His Cup Was Full to Overflowing With Yuletide Joy

For twenty years of service to old Clarkson, twenty years wherein he had given the best that was in him to a man who was reputed to be the most ill-tempered man in all Washburn—he had just been told that from now on his services would be dispensed with, and all because of a small mistake that had been made, which Clarkson in the blind rage which had taken hold of him, had laid on the shoulders of Manners.

It was hard, he told himself as he walked along, that a man who had given the best of his life in service could be cast away like an old glove. It must be that he was not as competent as other men, he told himself. For the hurt of dismissal had sunk its iron deeper into Walter Manners' soul than it would have done in the case of another man, for always he had been possessed of the feeling that he was not quite as capable as other men. Something within him always tried to belittle him to himself, and although he had often fought with this feeling and had tried to assure himself that he did as good or even better work than some, in spite of himself it came every now and then to torture him. Now, in the face of his recent dismissal, it came with added force, and he told himself over and over again that he was a failure or else old Clarkson would not have let him out. He never stopped to think that perhaps it was the long association with a man of Clarkson's type that had made him so diffident about his own worth.

He dreaded the thought of going home and telling his family the bad news. He reproached himself that he had not broken away from old Clarkson ten years before when he had an offer from young Peters, who had just then come to Washburn, and who had since made such a success. But then, as always, the fear of himself kept him from accepting and he had stayed on and borne the ill-temper of old man Clarkson since. His forty-five years hung heavily upon him as he

went on and he looked with dread to the future, for his family was just at the age when a steady income was an absolute necessity.

He shuddered now as he thought of Christmas, when only a few hours ago he had been living in happy anticipation of the day. He had planned so many things; so many little surprises that would bring joy to his loved ones; but now that was all over, for how could he enter into the spirit of Christmas, weighed down with care and dread of the future as he was now?

Walter Manners had always been a man who set a great stress upon duty, and as he went along now the thought came to him that a real duty to his family lay before him. For he felt that he would be inflicting a great

wrong upon them were he to go to them now with the story of his failure and to spoil their Christmas. What of his own feelings—surely he could be man enough to hide them for a few days for the sake of those he loved! After Christmas there would be time enough to tell them the dread news—to let them know what a miserable failure he was.

He decided then that he would not go home until his usual homecoming hour, lest it might create suspicion, so to kill time he wandered aimlessly around town. He stopped to gaze in Peters' window as he passed. He admitted to himself that there was a vast difference between the appearance of this store and Clarkson's. Here everything was up-to-date and attractive; the window arrangement such as might make anyone pause to look. Once he had broached this

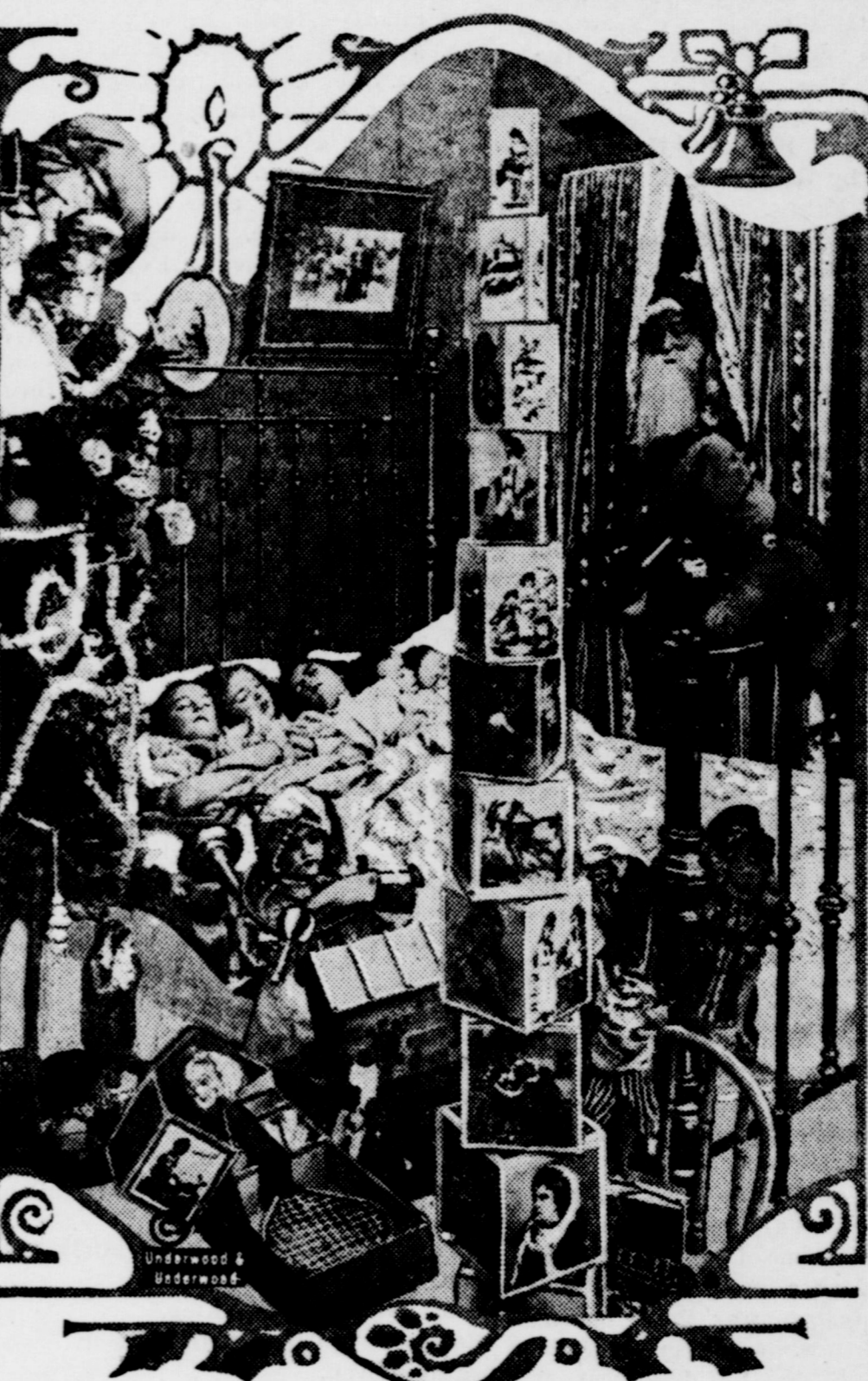
subject to old Clarkson, but had been met by such an outburst of wrath that he had never dared to open the subject again.

So engrossed was he with his thoughts that he never noticed that Clyde Peters was standing inside the window and gazing straight at him. He flushed a dull red again as the thought came to him that surely Peters would suspect something to see him wandering aimlessly around at what was usually the busiest time of the day at Clarkson's. But he nodded as pleasantly as he could to Peters and walked on.

Somehow he got through the evening without his family suspecting that there was anything amiss. He joined in the general gaiety and helped with the decorations and various other little jobs, but all the while the heart within him was sick with misery. But he knew that the burden was his to bear alone, and the thought that he was saving his family from the truth for a few days gave him a little feeling of comfort.

At ten o'clock, after the smallest of the children had been put to bed and the Christmas tree had received all its trimmings, the door bell rang with a loud peal. Walter Manners opened it, thinking it was a neighbor or possibly a Christmas gift of some kind, but instead the tall figure of Peters stood in the doorway.

### When Dreams Come True



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In a few minutes he told what he wanted—seeing Manners standing outside his store that afternoon and suspecting from his attitude that something was wrong, he had made in-

quiries and found he had left Clarkson's. Whereupon he had come to ask him if he would consider a position with 'him, and when he named the salary Walter Manners gasped, as it was nearly twice the figure he had been getting. And when, because of his high sense of duty that was his, he told Peters that Clarkson had let him out, Peters only laughed aloud and said: "As if that would make any difference. The wonder to all in Washburn has been how you could have stood him so long."

After that it did not take Walter Manners long to give consent to the offer, and his cup of joy seemed full as he bid good-night and good wishes to Peters at the door.

But it was full to overflowing a few minutes later when old Clarkson came puffing to the door and told him he could have his old job back again, with a small increase in salary. For although he never wanted to see Clarkson's store again, yet the feeling that he was wanted back in the old place, added to the offer which he had just accepted, gave him the confidence in himself which he had always been lacking, and that Christmas Walter Manners really came into his own, he had gotten the gift which he needed most of all.

### Yes, Santa Was Here



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## When "Old Kris" Does the Job



## Presents Were at the Wrong Door

By CHRISTOPHER G. HAZARD

Postman's Mistake Resulted in a Happy Christmas for the Peters Families

HO can tell what is on the other side of a door? This one fronted on a pleasant street and seemed to invite one into a happy home. Its plate said that P. Peters lived there, and the door mat said "Welcome." But Mrs. Peters and the children would have been rather dismayed that winter day had visitors rung the door bell, for things were not quite all right with the Peters family. The cuckoo, from his perch in the clock, announced the hours with his customary cheerfulness and polite bow, but failed to dissipate the atmosphere of gloom that seemed to fill the house like a fog. The voice in the kitchen, ordinarily of a jolly character, had sunk into a minor key and sent out a sort of S. O. S. message in the words of the old song:

"Moon run down to de settin' ob de sun  
And de sun refuse to shine."

The sunset in the Peters' home had been caused by the cutting off of their supply train. Three months had passed without word or remittance from the head of the family. This added the perils of poverty to the pains of absence and made the Christmas outlook decidedly shady. Young Peters added to his mother's anxiety by remarking that his dad's business trip must have been hit by a submarine or something, while his sister intensified the situation by wondering aloud if they would ever see him again.

Both of these arguments so unhelpful to Christmas Eve, were interrupted, however, by the arrival of the parcel postman and the deposit of an immense and promising package, bearing in large letters a direction to Mrs. P. Peters. With no clue as to the sender the family naturally concluded that was revealed to investigation to be an evidence of fatherly consideration and the advance agent of the returning traveler. Joy came out with all the other things, and cheer took the place of chagrin.

Farther up the street and behind a door bearing the name of Paul Peters there was another household that was not as sunny as it should have been. A letter had come—but a bundle had failed to come. The letter a program of delight, the bundle a disappointment. Uncle Joshua had known their wants by a marvelous instinct, but where was the bundle? Alas! the other things were as nothing for the lack of it and Christmas morning dawned upon discontent.

But before the morning had quite disappeared Fred came rushing in with the news that he had seen that Peters boy in the next block with a sled

bearing the same name as the one mentioned by Uncle Joshua. "I didn't know there was a Peters boy in the next block," said his mother; "I'll go down and see if they can tell us anything about our bundle."

They could, and the mystery was very easily solved by the explanation of the postman at the wrong door, making a very pardonable mistake. An explanation that led indeed to a redistribution of gifts and also to a discovery of relationships, for the Peters' families found each other out, as less than a block apart in family ties and friendliness. A discovery that was the very best Christmas gift that they could have had and which led them to think that the wrong door was all right after all.

It proved a way out for the P. Peterses and a way in for the Paul Peterses until Pa Peters of the first part put in an appearance through it in time for New Year's with such an account of himself and his adventures as proved highly satisfactory to all the combined hopes and plans of all the Peterses.

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## HER CHRISTMAS TRIP

The family were going away for Christmas to their old home in the beautiful country which they loved so much. They hadn't gone back at Christmas time for ever and ever so long.

They said, at first, they would give their faithful, wonderful cook a check and a holiday, and then they asked her if she would like the Christmas trip as her Christmas present.

Would she indeed? Just because she was no longer a child it didn't mean that she couldn't enjoy as a child!

She went and she loved it all—even the over-crowded trains, the hurrying masses of people in the jammed stations—for wasn't it her Christmas trip?

She, too, was a part of the great holiday travel!—M. G. Bonner.

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## THAT MONEY QUESTION

Unfortunately, those who have the most Christmas spirit to make others happy are shy of funds; and probably if they had the funds, they'd be shy of the spirit. The reason lots of folks have piles of money is because they are careful about spending it.

## CARRYING IT TOO FAR



"It was so sweet of you to bring me these kisses for Christmas."  
"I expected you'd stand under the mistletoe when I gave them to you."

## SENATE RECEIVES NOMINEE'S NAMES

### More Than Two Thousand Will Be Considered for Positions.

Washington.—More than 2000 nominations, including that of Frank B. Kellogg of Minnesota, to be ambassador to Great Britain, were sent to the senate Tuesday by President Coolidge.

Among those nominated was Richard M. Tobin of California, to be minister to the Netherlands; Frank McManamy of Washington, D. C., and Mark W. Potter of New York, to be members of the interstate commerce commission, and George R. James of Tennessee and Edward H. Cunningham of Iowa, to be members of the federal reserve board.

Edward P. Farley of Illinois, Frederick I. Thompson of Alabama and Bert E. Haney of Oregon were nominated to be members of the shipping board.

Several of the nominees already are holding office under recess appointments. Similar appointments in the treasury department were covered by the nomination of Garwood B. Winston of Chicago, to be undersecretary of the treasury; Henry M. Dawes of Chicago, to be comptroller of the currency; Robert J. Grant of Denver, to be director of the mint, and Frank E. Shepard of Denver, to be superintendent of the Denver mint.

Four appointments to membership on the federal loan board made during the recess were submitted, the appointees being Louis J. Pettyjohn, Dodge City, Kan.; Elmer S. Landes, Wooster, Ohio; Morton L. Correy, Omaha, and Edward E. Jones, Hartford, Pa.

Nominations under the interior department include: Shade Wallen, Muskogee, Okla., superintendent of the five civilized tribes in Oklahoma, and Gillman Bullard, survey general of Montana.

Collectors of customs nominated include: Harvey P. Bissell, Bridgeport, Conn.; Thomas T. Wilson, Denver; Russell H. Dunn, Fort Arthur, Texas; Charles L. Saunders, Omaha, and John C. Tulloch, Ogdenburg, N. Y.

Edwin P. Morrow, who retires as governor of Kentucky, who was nominated to be a member of the public group of the railroad labor board.

Horace Baker of Ohio was reappointed as a member of the management group and E. F. Grable of Michigan, now holding a recess appointment, was named a member of the labor group of the board.

Registers of land offices include Nelson D. McGinley, Guthrie, Okla.

J. Walter Drake of Michigan was nominated assistant secretary of commerce and George K. Burtess of California, director of the bureau of standards. Henry H. Curran of New York, now serving under recess appointment, was nominated commissioner of immigration at New York.

Nominations for postmasters: Texas—Lindsay C. Peyton, Abilene; Owen D. Holleman, Corpus Christi; James E. Cooke, Mart; Joel A. Reese, Ballinger; William L. Evans, Lufkin; Charles F. Adams, Jacksonville; Evans H. Angelt, Longview.

## FARM INCOME MUCH GREATER THIS YEAR

Washington.—The general farm income of the country will be considerably greater for 1923 than for last year, probably by more than one and a quarter billion dollars, and farmers generally are better off actually and relatively, Secretary Wallace of the agricultural department informed President Coolidge in his annual report.

There was marked improvement in agriculture during the year, higher prices for crops, lower cost of production, and some reduction in the prices of the things farmers buy, Secretary Wallace said, but at the same time he told of many adverse conditions facing the farmers and made recommendations for their betterment.

He discussed the wheat situation at some length and outlined his plan for a government agency with broad powers to buy and export surplus not only of wheat but of pork and other farm products.

## Commission Fixes Rates.

Austin, Tex.—Under an order issued by the state railroad commission Tuesday higher freight rates between Galveston and Orange on all commodities are prohibited than between Beaumont and Galveston. The latter commodity rates were given predominant importance in the freight tariffs when the commission established them as the maximum for the rates between Galveston and a group of port cities and also as a maximum between Houston, Beaumont, Port Arthur and Orange. Orange will profit directly by being given the Beaumont maximum despite its additional 20 miles distance from Galveston.

## Coolidge Is Candidate for President.

Washington.—Announcement of the candidacy of President Coolidge for the republican nomination for president in 1924 was made Monday by Frank W. Stearns of Boston, who is known as his closest personal and political friend. William M. Butler, republican national committee man for Massachusetts, also a close personal and political friend of Mr. Coolidge, it was stated, will act as the president's personal representative in the campaign.

## Texas News

Vincent Rendon Quijano, formerly of Mexico City, has arrived in Corpus Christi to assume the position as Mexican consul in that city. Quijano succeeds F. Ballesteros, who has resigned his post and will go to Mexico City.

Tick eradication work will be continued in Webb County, it was decided Monday by a committee of 12, appointed at a called meeting of more than 100 representative cattlemen of the county.

The attorney general's department has approved a \$40,000 bond issue of Pasadena independent school district, in Harris County, bonds payable serially, 5 per cent.

More than \$100 has been realized this year from one pecan tree by C. W. Runkels, one mile north of Christoval. Mr. Runkels reported in San Angelo that he had gathered 640 pounds of pecans from the one native tree on his place.

That Henderson and Rusk County will have a fertilizer manufacturing plant in another year is now pretty well understood, as there is now a deal being put through to purchase the Henderson oil mill to convert it into a plant of that kind.

Headquarters for District 16 of the state highway department of Texas, comprising 22 South Texas counties, with approximately 1000 miles of state highway, have been opened in Corpus Christi, with T. H. Spence, formerly of San Antonio, as divisional engineer in charge of the local offices.

The pecan crop in the Wharton section is turning out exceedingly good. Up to date six carloads have been shipped this season from Wharton to the markets. Each car contained 30,000 pounds of nuts, the pecan growers realizing a nice sum. Several more cars will be shipped before the end of the season.

In pursuance to two hearings on the subject, one held last March and the other in September of this year, the railroad commission has promulgated its order revising the rates on lumber in Southeast Texas territory, the order being effective fifteen days after publication and not later than February 1, 1924.

Although cotton exports decreased at the port of Houston during the month of November, oil exports were so large that the total value of exports for last month exceeded the value of October exports by more than \$100,000. Total valuation of exports for November amounted to \$32,582,879, as against \$32,520,886 for October.

In the last week 40 carloads of cattle have been shipped through Russellville, Texas, to market from the Matafor ranch, one of the largest in the Panhandle. This is taken to indicate that range conditions are good. About 20,000 head of cows will be retained on the ranch this winter. Grass has started and the cattle are expected to winter well.

All state warrants issued prior to Sept. 1 may now be cashed, according to C. V. Terrell, state treasurer, who announced this week that the general fund had to its credit \$145,227.40. The next warrants to be paid will be those of the current fiscal year, beginning with number 1. The deficiency in the state fund now is nearly \$4,000,000, Mr. Terrell announced.

Houston's building inspector has given out figures that show Houston has made a gain of 1.123 per cent in building during the last five years. In the year 1918 Houston's total building was \$1,794,105, and in the eleven months just past the building has reached a total of \$17,771,314. In addition to this, more than \$50,000,000 in real estate transfers have changed hands in Houston, figures show.

Additional motor service between Mission and Brownsville went into effect Sunday. The morning motor from Mission makes connection with the main line passenger at Harlingen, which arrives in Brownsville at 11:45. The motor remains in Harlingen until 2 p.m. and then proceeds to Brownsville, arriving at 3 p.m. On the return trip the motor leaves Brownsville at 3:45, arriving at Mission at 6:30.

The railroad commission has authorized the following rates on crude sulphur, not ground or refined, carloads, from Gulf Hill to Sugarland when routed via Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe railway and Sugarland railway, minimum weight 40,000 pounds per car, 11c per 100 pounds; to Galveston, Houston and Texas City, when routed via the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe railway and Texas City Terminal railway to Texas City, minimum weight 50,000 pounds per car, except when the weight carrying capacity of car used is less such weight carrying capacity shall be the minimum weight, 8c per 100 pounds.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Nacogdoches and Southeastern railroad, held at Nacogdoches recently, the following officers were elected: E. A. Frost, Shreveport, president; F. T. Whited, Shreveport; C. W. Nelson, St. Louis; Judge S. W. Blount, Nacogdoches, vice presidents; C. G. Gribble, Nacogdoches, secretary-treasurer; S. W. Dowell, Shreveport, assistant secretary-treasurer. The Nacogdoches & Southeastern is now operating 32 miles of trackage, extending from Nacogdoches to Camp Peshing.

## U.S. DEATH RATE 11.8 PER 1000 YEAR 1922

### Maine and Vermont Had the Highest Rates, 14.7 Per 1000 Population.

Washington.—There were 11.8 deaths last year for every 1000 population in the registration area of the United States which comprises 85 per cent of the total population, the census bureau advised this week. That was a slight increase of the 1921 rate, which was 11.6 per 1000, but not so high as the 1920 rate of 13.1.

Maine and Vermont had the highest rates with 14.7 per 1000 each, while New Hampshire's rate was 14.6. Idaho has the smallest rate with 8.1, and Montana next with 8.6. The largest increases were shown in Oregon and Colorado, with 1.1 per 1000 more than in 1921, while California had 0.9 more than that year. Decrease in the rate was shown in five states—Michigan and Mississippi with 0.3 fewer deaths per 1000, Wisconsin with 0.2, and Pennsylvania and Virginia with 0.1 each. No change in the rate was shown in Ohio, Utah, Indiana and Maryland.

Memphis had the highest rate in the 67 registration cities of 100,000 or more population, with 17.8 deaths per 1000 population. New Orleans was next with 16.7, and Nashville third with 16.6. Denver and Fall River followed with 16.0 each. Akron had the lowest rate with 7.5, while Seattle was second lowest with 9.6, and Fort Worth and Milwaukee were next with 9.9 each. The largest increase in the rate was in Trenton with 2.5 more than in 1921. Denver was next with 1.7. No change was shown in the rate for Akron, Dayton, Jersey City, Paterson and Salt Lake City. There was a decrease in the rate in eight cities as follows: Birmingham, 0.9; Norfolk, 0.8; Youngstown, 0.4; San Antonio, Cleveland and Rochester, 0.2; Minneapolis and Omaha, 0.1 each.

The death rate per 1000 by states was: California, 14.1; Colorado, 13.5; Connecticut, 12.0; Delaware, 13.2; Florida, 12.2 (white 10.9; negro, 15.0); Georgia, 10.4 (white, 9.2; negro, 12.2); Idaho, 8.1; Illinois, 11.3; Indiana, 11.9; Kansas, 10.6; Kentucky, 10.8 (white, 10.0; negro, 18.4); Louisiana, 11.3 (white, 9.4; negro, 14.4); Maine, 14.7; Maryland, 13.6 (white, 12.4; negro, 19.4); Massachusetts, 12.8; Michigan, 11.3; Minnesota, 9.5; Mississippi, 10.8 (white, 8.7; negro, 12.8); Missouri, 11.2; Montana, 8.6; Nebraska, 9.4; New Hampshire, 14.6; New Jersey, 12.0; New York, 13.0; North Carolina, 11.6 (white, 10.3; negro, 14.8); Ohio, 11.3; Oregon, 11.5; Pennsylvania, 12.3; Rhode Island, 13.1; South Carolina, 12.0 (white, 9.7; negro, 14.2); Tennessee, 10.8 (white, 9.5; negro, 16.4); Utah, 10.4; Vermont, 14.7; Virginia, 12.1 (white, 10.4; negro, 16.4); Washington, 10.1; Wisconsin, 10.1, and Wyoming, 9.3.

The rate per 1000 in registration cities was: Akron, 7.5; Albany, 15.7; Atlanta, 15.7; Baltimore, 14.2; Birmingham, 13.7; Boston, 14.9; Bridgeport, 11.1; Buffalo, 13.4; Cambridge, 13.2; Camden, 13.7; Chicago, 11.2; Cincinnati, 14.9; Cleveland, 10.3; Columbus, 13.2; Dallas, 12.6; Dayton, 11.0; Denver, 16.0; Detroit, 11.1; Fall River, 16.0; Fort Worth, 9.9; Grand Rapids, 11.0; Hartford, 14.0; Houston, 13.6; Indianapolis, 13.2; Jersey City, 11.9; Kansas City, Kan., 13.1; Kansas City, Mo., 14.5; Louisville, 14.1; Lowell, 13.4; Memphis, 17.8; Milwaukee, 9.9; Minneapolis, 10.8; Nashville, 16.6; New Bedford, 12.3; New Haven, 13.3; New Orleans, 16.7; New York, 12.0; New Ark, 11.7; Norfolk, 12.1; Oakland, 11.2; Omaha, 13.1; Paterson, 12.7; Philadelphia, 13.2; Pittsburg, 14.3; Portland, Ore., 11.8; Providence, 13.8; Reading, 13.5; Richmond, 14.8; Rochester, 11.8; St. Louis, 12.5; St. Paul, 11.7; Salt Lake City, 12.4; San Antonio, 13.4; San Francisco, 14.1; Scranton, 15.6; Seattle, 9.6; Spokane, 13.5; Springfield, Mass., 11.4; Syracuse, 12.7; Toledo, 11.7; Trenton, 15.6; Washington, 14.4; Wilmington, Del., 12.1; Worcester, 13.0; Yonkers, 10.7; Youngstown, 11.3.

## ESTIMATE OF COTTON CROP OVER TEN MILLION

Washington.—This year's cotton crop was estimated Thursday at 10,681,000 bales by the department of agriculture.

The estimated production by states in 500-pound gross bales follows:

Virginia, 50,000 bales; North Carolina, 1,020,000 bales; South Carolina, 755,000 bales; Georgia, 590,000 bales; Florida, 12,000 bales; Alabama, 600,000 bales; Mississippi, 615,000 bales; Texas, 4,290,000 bales; Louisiana, 365,000 bales; Arkansas, 620,000 bales; Tennessee, 220,000 bales; Missouri, 115,000 bales; Oklahoma, 620,000 bales; California, 49,000 bales; Arizona, 83,000 bales; all other states, 37,000 bales.

About 36,000 bales additional to California are being grown in Lower California, Old Mexico.

## Plan to Erect Memorial.

Chicago, Ill.—President Coolidge has accepted the honorary presidency of the Gorgas Memorial Institute of Tropical and Preventive Medicine, it is announced by Dr. Franklin H. Martin vice president and chairman of the institute. Dr. Martin offered the presidency of the institute to President Coolidge during a personal call at the White House. He brought back to Chicago President Coolidge's letter of acceptance.

## Sure Relief FOR INDIGESTION



25¢ AND 75¢ PACKAGES EVERYWHERE

## EXECUTED FOR USING COAL

Under Edict Issued by Edward I of England This Was Capital Offense.

In 1306 King Edward I of England issued a proclamation making the use of coal as fuel in London a capital offense. One case is on record where an accused man was tried, found guilty of burning coal, condemned and promptly executed.

The invisible, gaseous products of the combustion of coal were early pronounced detrimental to health and vegetation. Resentment became intense when ladies of rank, their faces made fairer by liberal applications of powder, underwent a curious change of complexion whenever they sat near a coal fire.

The nature of the smoke and odor from burning coal remained a mystery until after the middle of the Seventeenth century, when an alchemist devised an ingenious process of heating coal in the absence of air. The liquor obtained was known as "oil of coal" and was sold as a most potent remedy for many ailments.—Detroit News.

## Eskimo Woman Quits Alaska.

Ada Blackjack, an Eskimo, who was the sole survivor of an expedition led to Wrangell Island in the Arctic ocean by Alan R. Crawford of Toronto in 1921, arrived at Seattle from Nome on the steamship Victoria.

Intellect will always properly weigh all personal vanity in anatomical perfection.

**NR TONIGHT Tomorrow Alright**

NR a mild, vegetable laxative to relieve Constipation and Biliousness and keep the digestive and eliminative functions normal.

Set a 15c box. Used for over 30 years.

**NR JUNIORS—Little NRs**

One-third the regular dose. Made of same ingredients, then candy coated.

For children and adults. SOLD BY YOUR DRUGGIST.

**BABIES LOVE MRS. WIGSWORTH'S SYRUP**

The Infant and Children's Favorite. Pleasant to give—pleasant to take. Guaranteed purely vegetable—absolutely harmless. It quickly overcomes colic, diarrhoea, flatulency and other little troubles. The open published formula appears on every label.

W. A. H. DRUGS

**PEARLS PEARLS PEARLS**

TAHITJ

\$15 (money order) buys 24-inch Tahiti pearl indestructible necklace; solid gold chain, pink case. Money-back guarantee. Pearl rings, bracelets, scarf pins, earrings, neckties, key chains. Expert re-stringing; never-break pearl. Single pearls. If Agents wanted, liberal proposition. SOUTH SEA PEARL CO., 314 Spreckels Bldg., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

**DON'T NEGLECT**

inflamed eyelids or other eye irritations. You will find a soothing and safe remedy in MITCHELL'S EYE SALVE. BUCKLE at all New York City drugstores.

**CASCARA QUININE**

WILL Break That Old and Stubborn Constipation. Make You Fit Tomorrow.

**Shave, Bathe and Shampoo with one Soap—Cuticura**

Cuticura Soap is the favorite of the most successful men.

**ITCH!**

Money back without question if HUNT'S SALVE fails in the treatment of ECZEMA, RINGWORM, NETTLE or other itching skin diseases. Price 25c at drugstores, or direct from A. B. Roberts, 1000th St., St. Louis, Mo.

W. N. U., HOUSTON, NO. 51-1923.



**A CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS SERMON**

(A Lay Sermon from the San Antonio Express)

"That Ye Love One Another"

This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. (John xv. 12.)

In His "new commandment" spoken to His disciples, Jesus epitomizes His religion, His philosophy and His mission on earth—of which "a multitude of the Heavenly host" gave such bright promise, singing to the shepherds in the hills above Bethlehem on that mystical first Christmas night more than nineteen centuries ago; promise of a new epoch in mankind's career: "On earth peace, good will toward men."

That ideal has been realized only to the extent that Jesus' teachings have found practical application in human relations and affairs. If mankind has failed to establish general peace as a permanent policy, and if good will remains a vague and beautiful phrase rather than a guide for everyday living, then it is because men have neglected, have not learned its true significance and have not heeded His admonition "that ye love one another."

That commandment today offers the best means of attaining the goal which all so ardently and which all profess to seek—when war and petty strife alike shall have vanished; when all the hatred, greed, bickerings and jealousies which infest the race today and divide it into so many contending camps shall have disappeared; when men shall live side by side in the fullest harmony and understanding; when brotherly love shall cease to be a glittering generality and become a rule of life.

Jesus came into the world during a troublous time when fair lands had been devastated by wars, when primal passions had been loosed and threatened to engulf civilization and when proud peoples groaned under the conqueror's heel. Men saw little good and little hope in this troubled sphere, and instinctively their thoughts turned to the promised Messiah. The Nazarene brought a panacea for this unrest, sorrow and bitterness; but it was so simple, so unassuming, so direct in its everyday application and so close home to everyone that most men overlooked it, expecting rather some mystic formula or some Divine fiat to usher in the new order. Practical goodness is a much simpler thing than is generally realized.

In that time too much emphasis was laid, among the priesthood and the devout laity, upon the forms and symbols of religion, so that these things—good in themselves—were magnified out of their true proportion. Worshippers often mistook outward semblance for the substance of faith. Jesus sought to lead men back to the true way of life from which they had wandered so far; that each might seek God for himself; that each might learn to live his faith, not merely to profess it.

This was promulgated His "new commandment," which did not shatter tradition, but rather summed up all the sacred teachings of old and, indeed, "the whole duty of man." For when men have learned to love one another it naturally follows that they will love God and keep His commandments. The love of one's fellowman and the love of God imply and embrace all other virtues and represent the highest pinnacle of spiritual achievement.

Love as Jesus enjoins it in this commandment, must be all-inclusive; it cannot be restricted to any narrow circle, such as family, friends or comrades. At the very point where self-interest enters, the emotion ceases to be love. "Where-soever a man seeketh his own, there he falleth from love," Thomas Kempis says.

Jesus demands that we give all and ask for nothing in return, even "as I have loved you." Think what a transformaton in men's hearts and palaces this should make of the precepts which have been handed down. It would materialize the prophet's dream of a millennium here on earth. Thus might all men profit beyond their fondest aspirations just by giving themselves. That is a fundamental tenet of Jesus' teachings—one can only gain through giving all; victory crowns self-sacrifice alone.

The student of history need go but a little way to find striking parallels between the world today and that of Jesus' time, both in a material and a spiritual sense. The most potent remedy for present ills is to be found in the practical application of His new commandment.

**AN APOLOGY**

It has been a custom of years not to issue a number of the New Era for Christmas week, but owing to legal citations running consecutively it was necessary to issue a paper of some kind. However, the management asks pardon of its readers for the quantity of plate used in the make-up. The office force felt like taking a few days off, hence it was impossible to publish many interesting events of the Holiday season.

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION**

THE STATE OF TEXAS.

To the Sheriff or any Constable of Presidio County—GREETING:

**YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED,** That you summon, by making publication of this Citation in some newspaper published in the County of Presidio if there be a newspaper published therein, but if not, then in a newspaper published in the nearest County to said Presidio County, in which a newspaper is published, once in each week for four consecutive weeks previous to the return day hereof, Mrs. Mary L. Hastie "a feme solo," whose residence is unknown, to be and appear before the Hon. District Court, at the next regular term thereof, to be holden in the County of Presidio at the Court House thereof, in Marfa, Texas on the 28th day of January, A. D. 1924, same being the Third Monday after the First Monday in January, A. D. 1924, then and there to answer a petition filed in said Court on the 14th day of June, A. D. 1923, in a suit numbered on the docket of said Court No. 2670, wherein A. Lorenzo and Hattie Lorenzo are plaintiffs and John C. Hastie, Mrs. Nellie Hastie and Mrs. Mary Hastie are defendants. The nature of the plaintiffs demand being as follows, to-wit:

Being a suit for the cancellation of a note executed by plaintiff, A. Lorenzo on or about the 28th day of March, 1922 for the sum of Twenty-five Hundred Dollars, due on or before one year thereafter, payable to the order of the defendant, John C. Hastie, and asking for the cancellation of a mortgage lien executed on said date by plaintiff to secure the payment of said note, said mortgage being on the following described real estate in Presidio County, Texas, to-wit:

Lot Sixty (60) in Block G-5, Dennison and Wichita Railway Company, Certificate Number 499, containing six hundred and forty acres of land. Said cancellations being asked for on the ground that the instruments sought to be cancelled were deposited in escrow and delivered by the escrow agent in violation of the terms of the escrow agreement, and that therefore the consideration for said note and mortgage was never paid, and said instruments became without any force or effect.

**HEREIN FAIL NOT,** and have you before said Court, on the said first day of the next term thereof, this Writ, with your endorsement thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Given under my hand and seal of said Court, at office in Marfa, Texas, this 27th day of November, A. D. 1923.

ANITA YOUNG,

Clerk District Court, Presidio County, Texas.

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION**

To the Sheriff or any Constable of Presidio County—GREETING:

**YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED,** That you summon by making publication of this Citation in some newspaper published in the County of Presidio if there be a newspaper published therein, but if not, then in a newspaper published in the nearest County to said Presidio County, in which a newspaper is published, once in each week for four consecutive weeks previous to the return day hereof, the Beannell Investment Company, a corporation, and Joseph F. Edwards, both of whom are non-residents of the State of Texas, to be and appear before the Honorable District Court thereof, to be holden in the County of Presidio at the Court House thereof in Marfa on the 28th day of January 1924, then and here to answer a Petition filed in said Court, on the 12th day of December, A. D. 1923, in a suit numbered on the docket of said Court No. 2677, wherein John Humphris is plaintiff and Beannell Investment Company and Joseph F. Edwards are defendants. The nature of the plaintiff's demand being as follows, to-wit:

Suit on a promissory note for a balance of \$2,000.00, with interest at 8% per annum and 10% additional as attorney's fees, executed by Beannell Investment Company, pay-

able to plaintiff, and for a foreclosure of vendor's lien on six sections of land, being sections 2, 6, 8, 10 and 12, block 313, T. C. Ry. Co., surveys and survey 488, Cert. 4/833, G. C. & S. F. Ry. Co., all situated in Presidio County, Texas. Plaintiff alleges that Joseph F. Edwards claims an interest in above lands and that said lands were conveyed by the plaintiff to the Beannell Investment Company and the above note was given in part payment.

**HEREIN FAIL NOT,** And have you before said Court, on the said first day of the next term thereof, this Writ, with your endorsement thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Given under my hand and seal of said Court, at office in Marfa, this the 20th day of December, A. D. 1923.

ANITA YOUNG,

Clerk District Court, Presidio County, Texas.

Issued December 20th, 1923.  
Clerk District Court, Presidio County, Texas.

**THE FIRST POSTOFFICE**

Boston's new commission for marking historical sites has located the spot on which was the first post office in America. It is now occupied by the Boston Globe. November 5th was the 284th anniversary of the establishment of the office by the general court of Massachusetts in 1639. The master of the house and of the office was Richard Fairbanks, who kept a bar in his inn, at which he was permitted to sell "wine and strong water."

The first post office in America happened because the ship owners were annoyed on arrival at the port of Boston by throngs of people flocking to their ships for letters from abroad. They complained, and thereupon the Fairbanks barroom was selected as a place to send foreign mail matter for distribution. There was no domestic public post until thirty four years later, in 1867. The American post office establishment came into existence in 1710, under colonial authority provided by parliament.

After the Revolutionary war and the adoption of the Constitution the United States, through congress took exclusive control of the postal affairs in all states, and has held it, as the Constitution provides, ever since. It is now a business of enormous proportions.—Chicago Journal of Commerce.

**BUYING IN YOUR HOME TOWN**

Why buy at home?  
Because my interests are here.  
Because the community that is good enough for me to live in is good enough for me to buy in.

Because I believe in transacting business with friends.

Because I want to see the goods I am buying.

Because I want to get what I buy when I pay for it.

Because my home merchant will take care of me when I run short of cash.

Because the merchant I buy from pays his share of the county and town taxes.

Because if all luck, misfortune or bereavement comes, the merchant I buy from is here with his kindly expression of cheer; and, if needed, his pocketbook.

Let us make this town a good place in which to work and live. It's easy and certain if everyone will do his share.

The dollar sent away seldom returns, while the money spent at home is apt to leave scraping at your door.—Exchange.

The same applies to the home paper. Think.

**The finest Xmas gifts any woman could give—**

or hope to receive are

nicure brush, Clothes brush, or any one of the many.

**Fuller Brushes**

for either personal or household uses—as many as you want or as few as you want, and put up in attractive holly boxes

in sets for Christmas

Write or phone me to come to your house any day most convenient to you.

JAMES F. WHEELER  
P. O. Box 506  
MARFA, TEXAS

**The New Year Vigil**

BY BENJAMIN R. BULKELEY



How many confess to a feeling of marked, though somewhat indefinable impressiveness in the passing from the old to the new year?

Arbitrary, in a sense, though the time is, we all know that the change of date from one year to the next gives us a jog for a few days, if only to show us how easy it is to open a letter with last year's date. It may be there is a short-lived resolution not to make such a mistake—and then there goes the slip!

But how many treasure the midnight hour, when the year is passing and would not for any demand that is ever made by sleep or anything else, let that point of time pass unconsciously on their part. No one can furnish us statistics, let us assume; and yet who would care? So much is it an individual matter, this sitting out of the old year, that one might well say that there are two classes of people, as in so many other regards: Those who care and those who don't.

In fact, those who don't may wonder what good there can be in staying out of bed so late, unless other matters besides arbitrary time have our interest—just to say good-by to the old year and some kind of welcome to the new. To such it makes no difference that poets have marked the time in well remembered verse. Such, of course, when perchance they may be awake at the special pointed moment which separates the years, do not eagerly turn to the familiar verse:

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,  
The flying cloud, the frosty light,  
The year is dying in the night;  
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

This we say because there are two types of people both having virtues of their kind—and one needs not to judge the other—and to one there is no special appeal in what moves the other in the spell of the passing year. People of the other class welcome the words which emphasize the moments grouped about the nick of time which points the passing year, and recall again and again with each recurring opportunity, some impressive word picture, as

'Tis midnight's holy hour and silence now  
Is brooding like a gentle spirit o'er  
The still and pulseless world.

Stirred by these words written the better part of a century ago, one sees the white landscape held in the vigorous embrace of winter and is not slow to find a "holy hour" in the vigil of the new year.

The Nineteenth century was not complete of course, until it had its full 1900 years. The first of January, 1900, was the beginning of the last year of the last century.

But such a time is, of course, so exceptional that one cannot infer any widespread interest in the passing year, saving to allow that a goodly number in churches share annually in such services. How far individuals treasure the privilege of the New Year vigil one could not well make confident assertion.

It came to notice recently that Hawthorne, as recorded in the "Memories" by his daughter, Rose Hawthorne Lathrop, was impressed by the choice moments of the passing year—and, poet-soul that he had, though not given to making verse, yielded a very sensitive response to the midnight appeal. For she says: "My father used to treat the old and the New Year with the deepest respect. I never knew the moments to be so immense as when, with pitying gentleness, we silently attended the old year across the ghostly threshold of midnight, and my father at last rose rever-

ently, though with a sad look, the first peals would float with new promise and remembering toll."

Apart from the more sober and sentimental individual considerations, we know that in the newspaper treatment of the time, the past year will be summed up in various ways, in general or in detail, the indications for the year to come will be set forth with such wisdom as the writer may command and each one in his way come into some touch with a wiser regard for the past and the future. Yes, from myriads will come response to Tennyson's words of long ago:

Ring in the valiant man and free  
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;  
Ring out the darkness of the land;  
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

**The Marfa National Bank**

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS \$140,000

Solicits your accounts on the basis of being able and willing to serve you well and acceptably.

**UNITED STATES DEPOSITORY**

**The City Meat Market**

FAT AND TENDER MEAT—CUT RIGHT — HOME RENDERED LARD AND FRESH WENDE SAUSAGE.

PROMPT DELIVERY—COURTEOUS TREATMENT N. PHONE 239

**Give Us a Try-Out**

*In 1902, there were approximately one million H. P. motors in the United States.*

*In 1922 there approximately 19,000,000 H. P. Electric motors in use, showing an increase in the use of electric motors at the rate of 90% per year for 20 years.*

No stronger argument could be made for the use of electric power. The very Government itself is founded on the principle that the majority are right.

**Marfa Electric & Ice Co.**

"Courteous Service"

V. C. MYRICK, Manager.

Let Us Make Your

**CHRISTMAS CANDIES**

Special prices for Christmas Tree orders, if orders are placed early. A splendid assortment of

**MISS SAYLOR'S BOX CHOCOLATES**

just received. There are no better Chocolates made than Miss Saylor's

**BUSY BEE STORE**

**Marfa Manufacturing Co.**

(INCORPORATED)

Samson Windmills.

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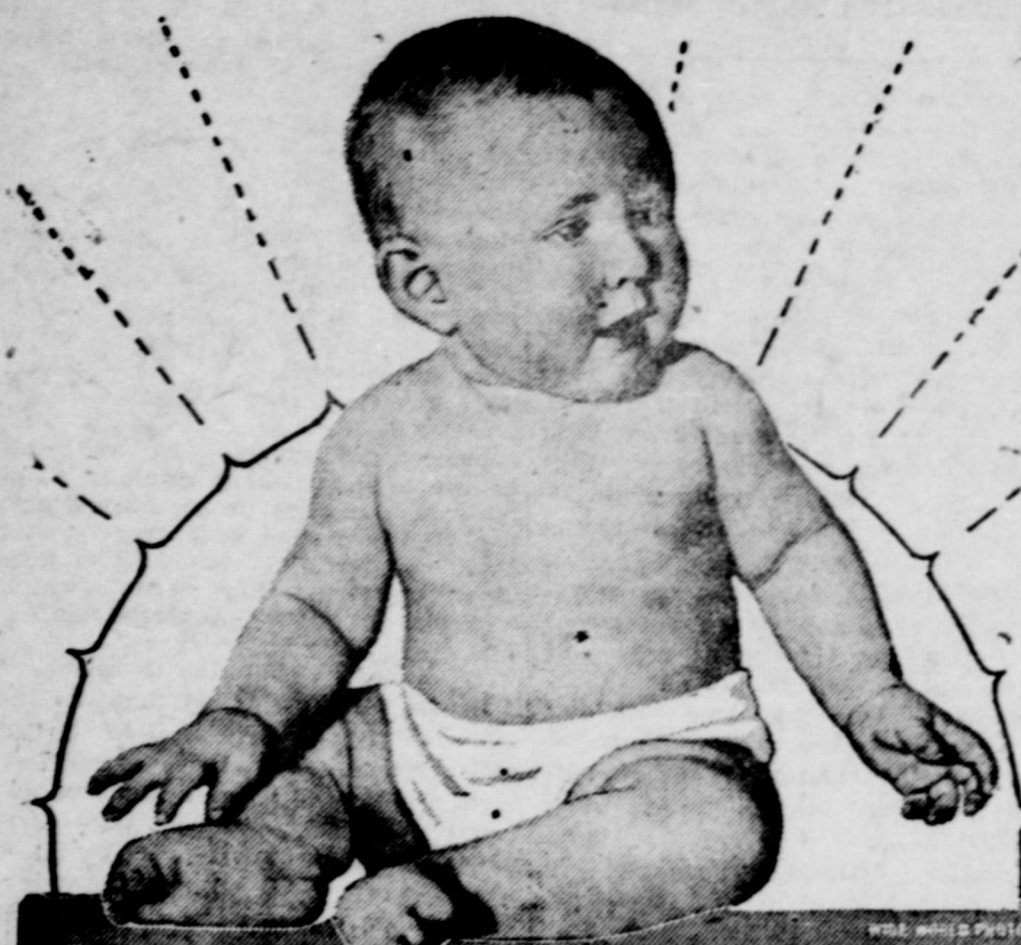
Automobile Accessories.

Gasoline and Oils, Truck Tires.

Blacksmith, Machine Shop & Garage.

MARFA, PHONE 83 TEXAS.





## THOUGHTS for 1924

OLD thoughts are like old habits—they are hard to change. We would not care to change all old thoughts nor all old habits, but what a stirring of sap there is in the brain when a fine, brand new thought blows in!

Perhaps it's a very simple thought, about a different way to do something quite ordinary; but just that tiny jolt is enough to put new energy and interest into the affair.

Don't be forever thinking along monotonous lines; nobody in the world can prevent you from having "parties in your head." If you have a crazy but beautiful notion about traveling somewhere, keep thinking cheerily about it; even if you never get there, it airs out your brain and prevents other discouraging suggestions from creeping in.

Nobody ever got anywhere, made any success, material or otherwise, without dreaming about it first.

The engine will grind and pound and be thoroughly disagreeable unless oiled regularly. Don't be stiff and rusty! Get into gear right away... oil your cylinders with daring thoughts. Who owns this old world, anyway? Habit—or YOU?

Happy New Year!

MARTHA B. THOMAS  
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### THE FLIGHT OF TIME

FOR centuries it has been the custom, at least among northern nations, "to see the old year out and the new year in," with the highest demonstrations of merriment and conviviality. To but a few does it seem to occur that the day is a memorandum of the subtraction of another year from the little sum of life.

This old writer here quoted, goes on to say: "With the multitude, the top feeling is a desire to express good wishes for the next twelve months' experience of the similar benevolence on the part of others, and to see this interchange of cordial feeling take place, as far as possible in festive circumstances."

These words, and given advice as to the attitude to take respecting the flight of time of which all are so forcibly reminded by New Year's day. He writes:

"Look not mournfully into the past. It comes not back again. Wisely improve the present. It is thine. And go forth to meet the shadowy future without fear and with a manly heart."

### CANDY BONBONS

Into the white of one egg, beaten lightly, mix powdered sugar until stiff. Add very strong black coffee to flavor and slightly color. Drop in a few halves or quarters of walnut meats one at a time. Drop from a fork onto paper. Leave to dry over night.

### Time's Up

THE close of a year makes us think of the passing of time. The following maxims, old and new, should make us think of the value of time:

Any time means no time most times. A man who does nothing never has time to do anything.

He who has most time has none to lose.

Nothing is more precious than time and nothing less valued.

No reward can recover lost time. Be always in time; too late is a crime.

The time that bears no fruit deserves no name.

Life is but time; waste the latter and you reduce the former.

You may have time again, but never will away.

Time present is the only time you can be sure of.

None can be provident of time who is not prudent in the choice of his company.

### BEST NEW YEAR WISH

The superiority of North American civilization to that of South America has been thus accounted for: The Pilgrim came to America in search of God; the Spaniards came in search of gold; the difference between spiritual and material foundations in the state. The best New Year wish for our nation is a spiritual wish.—C. G. Hazard.

### Good-by, Old Year

By Grace Strickler Dawson, in Kansas City Star

GOOD-BY, Old Year, good-by, I bid you farewell tonight, And I watch you go with a bit of a sigh, But my heart is strangely light.

For in my hands I hold The treasures you brought to me, Gifts more precious than wroughten gold Or gems from a tropic sea.

A friendship proven true, A hard task fairly done, And a love which lives to bloom anew With the light of every sun. And you bear away, Old Year, In your garments of trailing white, An old regret and the ghost of a fear As you vanish from me tonight.

Good-by, Old Year, good-by! Smiling I watch you go; We have been good comrades, you and I, But you cannot stay, I know. The New Year stands at the door, Her promises fair I hear, But still I linger to say once more, Goodby, goodbye, Old Year.

### Your New Year's Calls

THE gracious custom of calling on New Year's day has not entirely gone out of style. It is one relic left us of a time when the amenities of life were more carefully observed than now and hospitality a grace deemed worthy of intensive cultivation. So then, lay out your calls and start 1924 in the spirit of neighborliness and the good old days "When Knighthood Was in Flower."

Put first on your list your aged friends and acquaintances, since we forget and neglect the aged with pathetic disregard of their sensitiveness and their loneliness. The line of least resistance with many of us is to avoid contact with querulous old age wherever possible, and this is particularly true during the holiday season. Few children are forgotten at Christmas, but many elderly persons are left to reflect bitterly on the thoughtlessness of youth and the fate of the superannuated through whose veins the blood courses thin and slow.

So put on your best bib and tucker and take your cane if you wear one and, armed with, say, half a dozen red roses, make as many calls on the "shut-ins" and the veterans who sit in the deepening twilight musing on the days that are no more. Stay long enough to crack your best joke, and since "one touch of rheumatism makes the whole world kin," do not forget to ask after Aunt Mary's sciatica and Uncle John's lame arm. Make it a happy, cheery kind of call—present your gift and go your way, and our word for it, you will begin the New Year with every flag afflying.—Detroit News.

### New Year Surprises

By Mary Graham Bonner

AN OLD-TIME custom on the first day of the New Year was for a group of people to prepare surprise baskets, filled with fruit and nuts and candies and a jar of jam or a pudding, and fixing the baskets gayly with ribbon, take them around to less fortunate ones.

Many and many were the small towns where the people followed this custom, and as the basket was presented, a happy New Year was wished to the recipient.

It would be well for many of the old customs to be preserved!

### Our Postman's Perquisite

By C. G. HAZARD

IMPATIENT commuters along the line of the D. L. & W. R. R. used to call it the "Delay, Linger and Wait Route," and those who for various reasons were in a hurry to get their mail were tempted to apply the term to our postman. Certainly they could not call him "The Fast Mail." To the pace of a tortoise he

rested him with passing acquaintances and interests that detained him upon street corners, so that agonized lovers, who had not had letters since yesterday, would see him heave in sight down the street long before he delivered the precious messages, fretting themselves in the meanwhile.

But he was so interested in our postals, so sympathetic in our disappointments, so willing to take packages and letters down to the office and to buy us stamps, and such a bond between us and our friends afar, that we forgave him even when he was a missing link and brought us nothing, and always upon New Year's day we were glad to make both him and our selves happy with not unexpected, but fairly earned bills on our Uncle Sam.

### The "I Will" Spirit

BY DEAN MARQUIS  
—in Detroit News

YOU are going to make a New Year's resolution. You may not believe in doing so. You may not want to do so. You may stoutly affirm that you will not do so. But to say that you will not resolve to do anything is in itself a resolution. It means that you are determined to hold to your present course. If you have been a wabbling, then you are going to keep on wabbling; if you have been a drifter, you are going to keep on drifting; if you have been without a target at which to shoot, then you are going to keep right on banging away with both eyes shut. It is a law that a body unsupported falls to the ground. And it is also a law that a man unsupported by a definite purpose and resolution is dragged down by the force of circumstances until he bumps the bottom.

I agree with you that the average New Year's resolution does not amount to a picnic. There are three good reasons why it seldom lasts beyond the first week in January.

In the first place, most of our resolutions are not resolutions at all. They are merely idle, sentimental wishes. And wishing is a long way from willing. The man who wishes to be or to do a certain thing looks to time and circumstance to help him out. The man who wills to be or do a certain thing, gets up and goes to it regardless. The man who wishes is generally long on prayer. The man who wills puts up a fight as well as a prayer.

Another reason why our resolutions amount to little is because they are in the wrong tense. Some years ago a man came into my study and dropped limp, helpless, and hopeless into a chair. "I'm no good," he began. "I have no power of will left. I have been fighting a habit for years. I have resolved again and again to quit it out. And after every resolution I have gone out and gone lower than before. It's no use, I'm done for."

"Get out," I replied, "you have as much will as any man. The trouble is, you do not know how to use it."

"What do you mean?" he asked. "I mean," I replied, "just what I say. You don't know how to use your will. I'll bet every time you resolved to quit this habit you put the resolution in the future tense. You said, 'I'm going to quit.' And something in the back of your head said, 'No, you will not. You have said that before.'"

"What else could I have said?" he asked.

"You could have put it in the past tense—put the thing behind you instead of in front of you. You could have said, 'I have quit. It's a thing of the past,' and gone on about your business with the feeling that something had been settled."

"Thank you," he said, rising. "I see what you mean. In the past I have said, 'I will quit.' Now I say to you, 'I have quit. The old life is behind me.'"

That was years ago. He has stood true. It may be a psychological trick, but it is a good one to put the thing you want to overcome behind you rather than in front of you.

Another weakness in New Year's resolutions is that as a rule they are not backed up by a plan. As a matter of fact, it would be a great deal better to quit the business of making a resolution for the New Year and instead make a plan for the New Year. Frame up a reasonable program that leads toward the thing you want to be or do. No one ever arrives at his goal in one leap. That's the weakness and deception in so many resolutions.

to the top of the mountain in one jump. Look up the slope and fix your course as far as you can see. The higher you get the farther you will be able to see and the faster you will be able to go. You gain strength in climbing.

If you take a tumble, keep your eye on the top, pick yourself up, and go on. Hold to the main plan, and don't bite off more of it at a time than you can chew. As long as you keep going you're a winner, no matter how long it takes you to get there.

### WHERE ARE THE INVENTORS!

The time is here again, and yet no one has invented a handy set of unbreakable resolutions.

### Low Round Trip Fares

—VIA—  
**Southern Pacific Lines**

ACCOUNT

### Christmas Holidays

Between All Points in Texas and Between Texas and Louisiana

On Sale

December 20th to 24th, Inclusive

Final Limit to Reach Starting Point by Midnight of January 7th, 1924

Ask me for Detailed Information

R. E. PETROSS, Agent

## Happy New Year!

In the beginning of a new year we would take the opportunity of expressing our appreciation of the patronage given us during the year 1923, and we would extend to our customers and friends for the fast approaching year, wishing for each a most happy and prosperous New Year.

## Alamo Lumber Co.

J. F. Fisher, Manager

## Marfa Lumber Co.

J. W. HOWELL, Mgr.

Brick

Wagons

Fencing Material

Builders' Hardware

Carpenters' Tools

Lumber,

Paints Oils,

Varnishes, Glass

Doors

Sash, Shingles

A satisfied customer is our motto.

MARFA LODGE NO. 64  
I. O. O. F.

1st Tuesday night 1st Degree  
2nd Tuesday night 2nd Degree  
3rd Tuesday night 3rd Degree  
4th Tuesday night Initiatory Degree. All visiting Brothers are cordially invited to be present.

E. P. STILL, N. G.  
R. N. Settle Secretary.

CARROLL FARMER POST 251  
AMERICAN LEGION



Meets each Friday night at 7:30 p. m. Executive committee meeting at 7 p. m. are welcome. All visiting Brothers are cordially invited to be present.  
Bryant DeVolin, Adjutant.  
George Randolph, Post Commander.



# When Old Santa Comes



**C**OME, ye happy girls and boys,  
Lend a hand for Christmas joys.  
Christmas-time is well begun  
With our jolly loads of fun.  
Blow the horn and scoot the sled  
Till it's time to go to bed.  
Christmas must not pass away  
Without sports both glad and gay.

© 1923, WESTERN NEWSPAPER UNION Christopher G. Hazard

## The Mask Which Grew on His Face

**P**HILETUS SOLEMNOLLY could not understand why the children did not like him. He gave them good advice. He patted them upon their heads. He expressed the hope that they would be successful in life as he had been. He promised them rewards if they would behave themselves as he wanted them to. Yet they came to his school unwillingly and went home from it gladly. They were respectful, but unsympathetic.

It was with hope, but not without difficulty, that a friend persuaded Philetus to officiate as Santa Claus at the Christmas festival and to assume the traditional garb of the part. Philetus did not see much use in such fanciful doings, but yielded to solicitation and appeared upon the occasion with as much grace as a feeling of

foolishness would allow. His spare form was now rotund, his sober garments had become gay, and the jolly mask that had been adjusted to his long face gave him quite a new expression.

As the joy among the children progressed and the spirit of fun and frolic mounted high Philetus began to experience a change of heart. To his amazement he began having a good time himself and to feel like a real Saint Nicholas. For this reason, perhaps, he overexerted himself to such an extent that his mask fell off and it was revealed to the surprised audience that it had been contradicting the face of Mr. Solemcolly.

This was really the best feature of the evening, and it proved to have a permanence about it, for, from that time, the Philetus phiz shortened, and

broadened, and fattened, and colored up, until it came to look a good deal like the face of that old fairy who is always young and kindly.

So the mask that fell off left its imprint and stayed on, and Philetus, able to be merry, became the familiar friend of the children.—Christopher G. Hazard.

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### SPEAKING OF FUEL

A Christmas gift for the man with the average domestic supply of coal: A magnifying glass, a pair of tweezers and the framed motto, "Keep the home fires burning."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

### MOTHERS' CHRISTMAS

After receiving her gifts, mother's Christmas will be devoted largely to washing an extra number of dishes.

### CHRISTMAS NIGHT

'Twas night—  
The stars shone bright  
Full nineteen hundred years ago,  
'Twas morning's dawn  
A King was born;  
A conqueror of sin and woe.

So, every year  
Friends far and near,  
Assemble at the festive board;  
Their voices raise  
In songs of praise,  
And hands clasp hands in glad accord.  
—William J. C. Train.

### A Late "It" Arrival Came Just in Time

**E**VERYONE was watching, waiting, hoping. They all hoped "it" would surely arrive on time.

They hoped "it" would not fall them.

"It" helped the Christmas season so much.

Everyone and everything loved "it." The children loved "it," the grown-ups loved "it."

The trees of the forest loved "it." And then "it" arrived. "It" arrived late—almost when everyone was giving "it" up. But even though "it" was a late arrival "it" was not too late for Christmas day. "It" came late Christmas eve.

And haven't you guessed what "it" was?

SNOW of course!—Mary Graham Bonner.

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## MARKET CONDITIONS

### Price Range of Cotton, Grain, Hay, Feed, Live Stock, Meats, Fruits, Etc.

Latest report of markets, issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.:

**Fruits and Vegetables**—Potato markets nearly steady. New York round whites closed at \$1.50@1.65 sacked bulk per 100 pounds, few sales at \$1.20 f.o.b. Maine green mountains \$1.65@1.80 in New York. Northern sacked round whites \$1.00@1.10 in Chicago, very few sales at 80¢ f.o.b. Cabbage markets unsettled. Danish type \$22 bulk per ton in Chicago; \$25@35 most other markets; \$20@22 f.o.b. Florida Wakefield \$1.75@2.00 per 1½-bushel hamper in New York. New York and midwestern onions, yellow varieties fairly steady at \$2.50@3.00 sacked per 100 pounds consuming centers. Connecticut valley medium sizes \$2.15@2.25 f.o.b. Apple markets dull. New York Baldwins \$3.50@4.00 per barrel in Philadelphia and Pittsburg. Cold storage stock \$4.00@4.50 in New York. Eastern York Imperials \$3.00@3.75 eastern markets. Northwestern extra fancy Jonathans \$2.00@2.25 per box in Chicago. Florida lettuce, big Boston type, sold at \$1.25@1.75 per 1½-bushel hamper in eastern cities.

**Live Stock and Meats**—Chicago hog prices ranged from 50c to 65c lower than a week ago, closing at \$6.70 for the top and \$6.40 to \$6.60 for the bulk. Medium to good beef steers range from 30c lower to 40c higher, closing at \$7.85 to \$11.60; butcher cows and heifers 10c lower to 60c up at \$3.25 to \$11.50; feeder steers 85c lower to 25c higher at \$4.25 to \$8.00; light and medium weight veal calves 25c off at \$7.75 to \$10; fat lambs 20c to 25c lower at \$11.25 to \$13.35; feeding lambs steady at \$10 to \$12.75; yearlings 25c to 50c higher at \$8.50 to \$11.35; fat ewes 25c to 50c up at \$4.50 to \$7.75. Stocker and feeder shipments from 12 important markets during the week ending December 12 were: Cattle and calves 83,365; hogs 8,274; sheep 43,498. In Eastern wholesale fresh meat markets beef is 50c lower to 50c higher; veal \$1 to \$3 higher; lamb is \$1 lower to \$1 higher; mutton weak to \$1 lower and pork loins \$1 to \$2 up. December 12 prices good grade meats: Beef \$15 to \$18; veal \$15 to \$19; lamb \$23 to \$26; mutton \$14 to \$17; light pork loins \$14 to \$17; heavy loins \$12 to \$14.50.

**Grain**—Wheat market lower for week, but trend was upward at close. Cash wheat in good demand in most markets. Corn prices slightly lower for week; receipts light but demand rather dull at principal markets. Oats slightly lower on larger receipts. Quoted December 12: No. 1 dark northern spring, Minneapolis \$1.13@1.23. No. 2 hard winter, Chicago \$1.06½@1.09½, Kansas City \$1.07 to \$1.15; No. 2 red winter, St. Louis \$1.14@1.16. No. 2 yellow corn, Chicago 74c. No. 3 yellow, St. Louis 75c. No. 3 white oats, Chicago 44c, Minneapolis 39½c, St. Louis 45c.

**Dairy Products**—Butter markets unsettled during week. Demand apparently lighter except for best grades. Reports on production irregular. Import situation temporarily of less importance account of firm foreign markets. Closing prices of 92 score butters: New York 54½c; Philadelphia 55c; Chicago 53c; Boston 53c. Further declines featured cheese markets again this week. This, however, failed to stimulate trading. Dull business expected through the holiday season. Closing prices at Wisconsin primary markets December 11: Single daisies 23½c; longhorns 24c; square prims 24c.

**Hay**—Hay market remained generally fair. Supply and demand determining price factors at the various markets. Fair demand for better grades alfalfa at Kansas City. Quoted December 12: No. 1 timothy, New York \$29.50, Pittsburg \$26.50, Memphis \$27, Cincinnati \$24.50, Chicago \$27, Kansas City \$18.25, St. Louis \$25. No. 1 alfalfa, Memphis \$33, Chicago \$28, Kansas City \$25. No. 1 prairie, Chicago \$20, Kansas City \$15, St. Louis \$19.50.

**Feed**—Feed offerings continue heavy especially in East. Canadian and Buffalo mills offering wheat feeds in East at sharp discounts from Western prices. Deliveries by flour mills are heavy and because of lack of outlet much feed is placed in storage.

**Cotton**—Average price of middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 11 points during the week, closing at 34.34c per pound. New York December future contracts advanced 75c points, closing at 35.85c.

### New Orleans Rice Market.

New Orleans, La.—The rice market was quiet Friday and dealers appeared to be more optimistic as to the outlook of the market during the next few weeks in spite of the continued poor demand. Foreign inquiries were more frequent, although most bids were out of line.

### Fort Worth Stock Market.

Fort Worth, Tex.—Interest in the live stock trade Friday centered in the sale of two cars of fed heifers from Oklahoma at \$9.50 and \$9.00, the top prices for the season on car lots. The cattle market was active and generally steady, but canner and cutter cows gained 10@15c. Calves sold on an unchanged basis. Receipts amounted to 2,000 head of cattle and 700 calves. Steer receipts were small and a range of \$5.00@6.00 caught most deals.

## Condensed Austin News

Railroad Commissioner W. A. Nabors has gone to San Antonio en route to the Rio Grande Valley to make inspection of the San Benito & Rio Grande and other railroads in that section.

Governor Neff, upon his return to Austin from Texarkana, issued a requisition on the Governor of California for the return to Texas of Mrs. H. L. Lewis, wanted at Fort Worth to answer a charge of forgery. Mrs. Lewis is reported to be in custody at Whittier, Cal.

Wild turkeys have been so numerous in certain parts of Southwest Texas that it is feared disease will break out among them and ranchmen have asked the game, fish and oyster commission to trap some of them for distribution in other portions of the State.

J. Austen Hunter, Texas State market news specialist, in charge of the Texas Radio Market News Service, has been elected a vice president of the National Association of State marketing officials and chairman of the committee on market reports, succeeding P. B. Taylor of Pennsylvania, who was made president.

Plans for establishment of a State game farm and fish hatchery on the Breckenridge tract, near Lake Austin, three miles west of Austin, owned by the University of Texas, having been donated that institution by the late George W. Breckenridge, of San Antonio, have been abandoned temporarily by W. W. Boyd, State Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner.

The bean production in the Pando has grown to such proportions that the Fort Worth & Denver Railroad, upon approval of the Railroad Commission, has established transit privileges on beans at Amarillo, where they may be stopped for cleaning, drying, sacking or storing, and may then be reforwarded to points in Texas.

By agreement of counsel time for filing answer in the case brought in the Federal Court at San Antonio attacking the constitutionality of the white man's primary act of Texas has been extended twenty days. December 9 was the last day for filing the answer. Attorney General W. A. Keeling announced that time for filing the answer had been extended.

Miss Elizabeth H. West, State Librarian, has returned to Austin after three weeks' absence. She attended the conventions of the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs at Wichita Falls, the Texas Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations at Tyler, the Texas Library Association at San Antonio and the library section of the Texas State Teachers' Association at Fort Worth.

State Highway Engineer J. D. Fauntleroy, through George J. Head, of San Antonio has received an invitation from Gov. Jose G. Zuno of the State of Jalisco, Mex., to attend and deliver an address at the good roads congress called by the Governor to be held at Guadalajara on Dec. 20. Because of pressing business, Capt. Fauntleroy was compelled to decline the invitation.

Frank M. Cole, Federal Prohibition director for Texas, has announced that he would go to Washington for a conference with Prohibition Commissioner Haynes and that he would be absent from his headquarters until after Christmas. Bracy Melton of Houston, acting prohibition group head for South Texas, has been in Austin conferring with Director Cole on official business.

Judges R. W. Stayton of Corpus Christi and W. C. Blanks of San Angelo, new members of the Commission of Appeals, and Judge James W. McClendon of Austin, who recently retired from the commission to become Chief Justice of the Third Court of Civil Appeals, were honor guests at a luncheon given by the members of the Commission of Appeals. Judge Ben H. Powell, presiding Judge of section A of the commission, presided as toastmaster.

Former Representative H. B. Hill of Wheeler County, who resides at Shamrock, has been in Austin on departmental matters and brought stories of a wonderful cotton production in the northeast corner of the Texas Panhandle, and the further fact that because of weather and climatic conditions the farmers were late harvesting their cotton, with the result that they have been receiving the top price, many bales having been sold for 37c per pound.

Appointment of B. H. Gardner of Palestine to the Board of Legal Examiners has been announced by the State Supreme Court. He succeeds Robert W. Stayton, who was appointed to the Commission of Appeals.

S. M. N. Marrs, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, has accepted an invitation to prepare an address on "School Support" to be delivered at the meeting of the National Council of State Superintendents to be held in Chicago, Feb. 27.

## MOTHER! GIVE SICK BABY "CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP"

Harmless Laxative to Clean Liver and Bowels of Baby or Child.

Even constipated, bilious, feverish, or sick, colic Babies and Children love to take genuine "California Fig Syrup." No other laxative regulates the tender little bowels so nicely. It sweetens the stomach and starts the liver and bowels acting without gripping. Contains no narcotics or soothing drugs. Say "California" to your druggist and avoid counterfeits! Insist upon genuine "California Fig Syrup" which contains directions.—Advertisement.



**London's Population Grows.**  
It had been estimated that the increase of London's population during and since the World war is no less than 600,000. Vast numbers were attracted from the provinces by the lure of plentiful employment and high wages. Now, having acquired the taste for London, they do not return, even though employment is not now plentiful and wages are not what they were.

## COLDS

### "Pape's Cold Compound" Breaks a Cold Right Up

Take two tables every three hours until three doses are taken. The first dose always gives relief. The second and third doses completely break up the cold. Pleasant and safe to take. Contains no quinine or opiates. Millions use "Pape's Cold Compound." Price thirty-five cents. Druggists guarantee it.

**Geysers in Sea Spurts Oil.**  
Due probably to shifting strata in the Caspian sea, an unusual phenomenon in oil wells was noticed near Baku, Azerbaijan. A geyser suddenly began erupting from the sea, two miles off the coast, and during two hours of activity spouted at a height of 70 feet, throwing off stones as well as oil. The eruption was accompanied by flames. On the spot a small island formed after the "gusher" died down.

## INDIGESTION, GAS, UPSET STOMACH

"Pape's Diapepsin" is the quickest, surest relief for indigestion, gases, flatulence, heartburn, sourness or stomach distress caused by acidity. A few tablets give almost immediate stomach relief. Correct your stomach and digestion now for a few cents. Druggists sell millions of packages of Pape's Diapepsin.—Adv.

**World's Wool Production.**  
If the world's total annual wool production was divided equally among all the inhabitants on earth, each one of us would get one and four-fifths pounds.

### DEMAND "BAYER" ASPIRIN

Take Tablets Without Fear if You See the Safety "Bayer Cross."  
Warning! Unless you see the name "Bayer" on package or on tablets you are not getting the genuine Bayer Aspirin proved safe by millions and prescribed by physicians for 23 years. Say "Bayer" when you buy Aspirin. Imitations may prove dangerous.—Adv.

**Vegetables From Isle of Pines.**  
Some of the earliest of the fresh vegetables that reach snow-bound American markets come from the Isle of Pines, which was once notorious as a rendezvous for Caribbean pirates.

**A Universal Remedy for Pain.**  
For over 70 years Allcock's Plaster has been a standard external remedy, sold in all parts of the civilized world.—Adv.

**First Treatise on Poison.**  
The first treatise on the science of poisons was written by Orfila, a French toxicologist, and was published during the first quarter of the Nineteenth century.

A torpid liver prevents proper food assimilation. Tone up your liver with Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills. 372 Pearl St., N. Y. Adv.

**Queen Mary a Kind Employer.**  
Among the servants of the British royal household Queen Mary has the reputation of being a kind and sympathetic employer, but at the same time a strict disciplinarian.

**Always Keep a Box on Hand.**  
Brandreth Pills are a safe and reliable laxative, made in America for ninety years, entirely vegetable.—Adv.

**Seek Hardy Cow for Alaska.**  
The United States Department of Agriculture is trying to develop a cow for Alaska which will be hardy enough to stand the winters there and still give plenty of milk.

We're all temperamental, and it helps make us interesting; also uninteresting.



## Off to Dream of Santa's Visit



## Good Jolts at Christmas Time

By ETHEL COOK ELIOT

### Family Decided to Send Aid to Needy Instead of to Wealthy Relatives

HE WAS a high school teacher on a salary of eighteen hundred. There were five growing-up children and a wife who was not strong enough to do her own laundering. Still, at Christmas time, his relatives would say, "Mary and John always go send the cheapest things! I'm surprised, since they spend so little on their gifts, they bother about sending anything at all."

John heard of this, and was grieved. An innocent little nephew had given his elders away. But Mary was not grieved. She held her head high and only laughed, for she knew that she and John were not stingy, and that they were as fond of the family as any other members of it. But she did more than laugh. She made a plan.

And the next year John's relatives got jolts instead of presents for Christmas from Mary and John.



Sister Isabel, whose husband was a successful coal man, received a note. "We sent the thirty-nine cents that we could have afforded for your present this year to the Serbian Relief. It will give some starving babies a little soup. We knew you would rather have us do this."

And brother Thomas, the shoe dealer, got a note too. "We gave the quarter we usually spend on you, to our postman whose wife is in the hospital. It will pay a carfare or so for one of the children to visit her."

And so on. All the relatives, over twenty, got the same sort of notes, telling where the few cents that had usually been spent on them by the school-teaching brother at Christmas time, had gone this year. And into each note was tucked a hearty "Merry Christmas."

John's family were puzzled at first. But after they had shaken their heads together over it for a bit, light suddenly dawned. They realized then that the few cents John and Mary had spent on each of them at Christmas time had been more of a gift, in the real sense of a gift, than their expensive, and often useless, presents in return had been. And they saw, too, what real good that little scattered money was doing this Christmas.

They ended by praising John and Mary, and thinking their Christmas notes the best thing they had got.

And indeed a jolt can be a very useful thing, even for a Christmas present!

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### THAT CHRISTMAS ROBE

Hustling up a living for the family generally keeps father so busy that he doesn't have much chance to use that Christmas lounging robe.

## "Comet" and "Cupid" and Santa's Sleigh

By MARTHA B. THOMAS

### Where Would Old Kriss Be Without the Aid of His Trusty Reindeer?

they felt a great responsibility on Christmas Eve.

"None of the others," remarked Comet anxiously, "know the short-cuts as we do. Last year we got stuck in an oak tree, and once we had to wade through the Milky Way. Do you remember that little boy in Poland who cried because he didn't see us? We must make a great racket tonight so he will wake up. And there was a child in Canada who set out some hay for us; dear little thing!"

The stable door flew open, letting in a great gust of icy wind.

"Ah, my fine fellows!" exclaimed a big, jolly voice, "the packs are ready, and we must be off. Comet, I expect you to keep a sharp eye out for accidents. Cupid, don't forget the corners, and the care with which we must land on the roofs!"

In no time at all the reindeer were harnessed, the packs tumbled in, and off they flew, Santa holding the reins in both hands.

Comet and Cupid outdid themselves. They went like the wind. The little boy in Poland heard their impatient feet on the roof and caught one tiny glimpse of the sleigh. The child in Canada found the hay she had left for the reindeer all gone in the morning. No present was lost, no house forgotten.

Back in their stalls once more, Comet and Cupid gave long sighs of satisfaction. "Of course Santa is the one people think about most, but after all, where would he be without us?"

### HARDLY THAT

Christmas is the only morning of the year when one call is sufficient for any youngster.

## Santa Claus



## IMMIGRANTS ARE OFTEN SWINDED

GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE STEPS TO PROTECT NEWCOMERS FROM THE "CON MEN."

### LATTER FREQUENTLY ALIENS

By EDWARD B. CLARK

Washington.—A good many immigrants come to America to exploit this country, but it is also certain that some Americans succeed in exploiting some immigrants before they have been long on these shores.

The government's attention has been called to many cases of the swindling of immigrants which would be laughable if they were not in a way tragic. Means are to be taken to prevent the immigrants from becoming victims of Americans who know what they want and how to get it.

It is only fair to say, however, that in some cases of fraud practiced on the newcomers the swindlers are not Americans, but are natives of the country of the exploited, men who have been here long enough to learn a few tricks and who already know how best to attack the weak points of their fellow countrymen.

Not long ago a half interest in the Pennsylvania railroad was sold for \$500 to two ignorant immigrants who had not been long in this country before they were parted from their money. James J. Wilson, who is a deputy assistant district attorney in New York, has said that more than \$12,000,000 has been obtained from immigrants by what is called the "under water lots swindle." The immigrants are sold real estate which they are told is productive and finely located. When they go to look for their new bought possessions they have to sound for them some distance down under tide water.

### Real Estate Swindles.

Many pieces of real estate are sold to immigrants who first are shown the property. The property is real, and the immigrants part with their money only to find later that the land belongs to somebody other than the man who sold it. Frequently, however, men who have an interest in property sell it to immigrants who later find out that the lots which they have bought are heavily mortgaged. In cases of this kind the sellers usually ask for comparatively small amounts of money, the reason being that they desire to keep the sum received under the grand larceny limit so if they are caught they cannot be sent to prison for felony.

Immigrants are not the only ones who are the easy victims of swindlers through games which it would seem that any person with a trifling amount of common sense would understand were frauds pure and simple.

When the writer was a reporter on a Chicago daily he wrote a true story of a Michigan farmer who "bought" the Masonic temple in Chicago, valued at some millions of dollars, for \$13,000, making a \$5,000 cash payment for the building to two men whom he met on the street. He agreed to go back home to get the remaining \$8,000 which he was to pay for the structure and to report at the same street corner the next day. Somebody in his home village heard of it and communicated with the police. The Michigan man was saved \$8,000, but his \$5,000 was gone.

### Paid to See Building Turn.

Years ago in Chicago scores of visitors from here, there and elsewhere paid anywhere from 50 cents to \$1.50 each to see the Masonic temple "turn round." The twenty-storied temple was at that time a show place. Men would approach obvious strangers on the street who happened to be looking at the structure to tell them that it was a building wonderfully contrived mechanically and that it would turn on a vertical axis at the touch of a button. They would collect the "sight fee," saying that they would go in and touch the button. That was the last seen of them, but the victims would wait for a while to feast their eyes on the vision of a twenty-storied structure making an "about face."

Everybody thought that this old game was a dead one, but within a week a visitor to the city of Philadelphia paid \$5 to see the city hall turn on its axis. Ben Franklin, however, who surmounts the structure, refused to turn his back on the visitor who, after watching for a while, told his woes to the police.

A good many of the men and women who swindle immigrants are persons who come from the same general locality in the old country as that from which the victims hail. It is very easy for them to get acquainted with the newcomers, asking as they do about certain places in the old land and occasionally about certain persons who happen to be known in common. Americans going to Paris fight shy of Americans who try to scrape their acquaintance. There are plenty of Americans in the city of Paris who make prey of their fellow citizens.

### Patriotic.

"The rapidly increasing divorce rate," remarked the wit, "indicates that America is indeed becoming the land of the free."

"Yes," replied his prosaic friend, "but the continued marriage rate suggests that it is still the home of the brave."

## Delinquent Tax Law Provisions Unlawful

Austin, Tex.—Certain portions of the delinquent tax law passed by the last legislature is held unconstitutional in a ruling handed down Wednesday by the attorney general. That portion of the law expressly held unconstitutional relates to delegated authority by the legislature to commissioners courts where they are granted authority to contract with attorneys and other persons to collect delinquent taxes.

Under the ruling of the state legal department commissioners courts can not contract with attorneys to specifically act as representatives of the court to file suits for the collection of delinquent taxes. The opinion states, however, the commissioners courts may contract with attorneys to assist county and district attorneys in the performance of their duties by not to act independently.

The constitution of this state prohibits the legislature from conferring authority on the commissioners courts to exercise discretion as to whether suit for collection of delinquent taxes shall be brought. The constitution further takes from the legislature the power to enact any statute, the effect of which would be to release, extinguish or abandon any taxes, delinquent or otherwise, due the state. The collection of delinquent taxes by suit and judicial sale not being the only remedy or means available to the state for this purpose.

Commissioners courts, under the constitution, are given exclusive control over county affairs and precludes the court from exercising any authority or control of the state taxes or other state funds, it is set forth in the attorney general's ruling.

This ruling does not hold the entire act of the legislature is unconstitutional but only that part which conflicts with the state constitution relative to the legislature delegating certain powers to commissioners courts.

### McADOO ADDRESSES THE WOMEN'S DEMOCRATIC LEAGUE

Los Angeles, Cal.—William Gibbs McAdoo inferentially announced his candidacy for the democratic nomination for president during an address Wednesday before the Democratic Luncheon Club and the Women's Democratic League. The announcement was contained in this statement:

"I am made to feel that my California friends have designs on me. Whatever the future may have in store, California at least is double-barreled for this presidential election. Of one thing we are certain, California is going to be more on the map in the future than ever it has been in the past."

President Coolidge's message was labeled "a counsel of dormancy," and his opposition to a bonus for ex-service men characterized as a summary dismissal of "just claims for consideration." Mr. McAdoo, the former director general of railroads derided the president's proposal for a voluntary consolidation of the systems of transportation as a "seven-year itch for reduced freight and passenger rates, with no assurance of relief at the end of the trail," telling his hearers that "what is needed is not seven years of delay, but action."

### Dredge to Begin Work.

Anahuac, Tex.—The government dredge boat San Bernard now is in the Trinity river preparing to go up to a point about eight miles south of Liberty for the purpose of cleaning out a shoal. There is an appropriation of \$65,000 to be expended in improving the Trinity from Liberty to the mouth at Anahuac.

### Embargo on Perishables to Mexico.

San Francisco.—The Southern Pacific company of Mexico has placed an embargo on perishable freight to points in Mexico, south of Mazatlan, according to announcement made Friday at local Southern Pacific offices. Dead freight for points in the restricted area will be accepted "subject to delay."

### Shelby County Ginnings.

Timpon, Tex.—Despite the damage caused by boll weevils and the drought, Shelby County came to the front this year with a larger cotton crop than in 1922. Up to November 14 the county had ginned 3296 more bales than were ginned to same period last year. There were 16,174 bales of cotton ginned in Shelby County prior to November 14.

### Troup Cotton Report.

Troup, Tex.—The cotton crop for this trade territory has exceeded all expectations by 1900 or 1500 bales. Last September the most optimistic predicted the crop would be around 5000 bales. More than 6450 bales have been weighed to date and the harvest is not yet complete. This bumper crop of cotton has made good business for Troup.

### British Food is High.

London.—Wholesale prices on food in England made noticeable advances in September, as compared with August. Cereals advanced 3.2 per cent, meat and fish 5.2 per cent, and other foods 8.7 per cent.

### Butterflies Block Traffic.

Santa Barbara, Cal.—Millions of big brown butterflies migrating southward obscured the highway south of Santa Barbara Wednesday and made motoring difficult.

# Say BAYER ASPIRIN

Demand Genuine BAYER ASPIRIN—Insist

Unless you see the "Bayer Cross" on tablets you are not getting the genuine Bayer Aspirin proved safe by millions and prescribed by physicians 23 years for

Colds Headache Neuralgia Lumbago  
Pain Toothache Neuritis Rheumatism

Genuine Accept only "Bayer" package which contains proven directions. Handy "Bayer" boxes of 12 tablets Also bottles of 24 and 100—Druggists.

WARNING: Genuine "Bayer Aspirin" is never sold in candy stores, bars or cafes. Go to Druggist. Aspirin is the trade mark of Bayer Manufacture of Monocetateester of Salicylicacid

### Mountain Going Up in Smoke.

A huge mountain of coal in the storage yard of the Canadian National railways at Bridgeburg, Ont., which has been harboring a smouldering fire in its center for the last two weeks has burst into flame. Officials estimated there were 150,000 tons of coal in the pile. Fire fighters have hesitated to mount the smouldering mountain, fearing a cave-in would precipitate them into the glowing core.

### Towns Change Names.

In 1925 Christiania, capital of Norway, will change its name and be known as Oslo, members of the shorthorn or parliament of Norway have decided. Christiania reminds them too much of the various kings Christian, who have ruled that country. The Russian socialists under Kerensky changed the name of St. Petersburg during the war, because it was a German name. Berlin, Ontario, changed its name to Kitchener during the war and had a riot over it.

### Cuticura for Pimply Faces.

To remove pimples and blackheads smear them with Cuticura Ointment. Wash off in five minutes with Cuticura Soap and hot water. Once clear keep your skin clear by using them for daily toilet purposes. Don't fail to include Cuticura Talcum. Advertisement.

### Women Draw 1812 War Pensions.

There are 42 persons drawing pensions for the War of 1812. All these pensioners are women. Hiram Cronk of Ava, N. Y., was the last soldier actually on the rolls of that war. He died in 1905.

Dr. Peery's "Dead Shot" not only expels worms or Tapeworm but cleans out the mucus in which they breed and tones up the digestion. One dose does it. Adv.

### Should Say So.

Sue—When Paul kissed me good-night, he kissed me on the ear.  
Lu—Gee, you sure can dodge!

## Hall's Catarrh Medicine

will do what we claim for it—rid your system of Catarrh or Deafness caused by Catarrh.

Sold by druggists for over 40 years F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio

**PARKER'S HAIR BALM**  
Removes Dandruff—Stops Hair Falling—Restores Color and Beauty to Gray and Faded Hair—60c and \$1.00 at Druggists. Also at Dept. of Hygiene, Wash. D.C., and at Dept. of Health, N. Y.

**HINDERCORNS** Removes Corns, Calluses, etc., from all parts, causes comfort to the feet, makes walking easy. 50c. by mail or at Druggists. Hixson Chemical Works, Philadelphia, N. Y.

## Avoid & Relieve COLDS INFLUENZA

**MALARIA**

BY TAKING

## WINTERSMITH'S CHILL TONIC

It is a Reliable General Invigorating Tonic

**BATHE YOUR EYES**  
Use Dr. Thompson's Eyewater. Buy at your druggist's or use River, Troy, N. Y. Booklet.

*Two pleasant ways to relieve a cough*

Take your choice and suit your taste. S-B—or Menthol flavor. A sure relief for coughs, colds and hoarseness. Put one in your mouth at bedtime. Always keep a box on hand.

**SMITH BROTHERS**  
S.B. COUGH DROPS MENTHOL  
Famous since 1847 (orange colored box)

## CONSTIPATION

Take a good dose of **Carter's Little Liver Pills**—then take 2 or 3 for a few nights after. They cleanse your system of all waste matter and **Regulate Your Bowels.** Mild—as easy to take as sugar. *Genuine bear signature—Bartford.*  
Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

## A Remedy for Piles

Ask your Druggist (whom you know) what he knows about **PAZO OINTMENT** as a Remedy for Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles. 60c.



# Locals and Personals

Miss Lucile Rives of Alpine, spent the holidays in Marfa with her home folks.

The Stafford Grocery Company is having its large warehouse shorthanded with advertised iron.

Mrs. Mead Wilson has been confined to her room for the past three weeks, suffering with an attack of illness.

Roy Blackwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Blackwell, left Wednesday for El Paso, where he has accepted a position.

Ralph Thomas, now farming in Floyd County, came in Sunday to spend Christmas with his parents.

Mr. Kent has purchased from Gus Raetzsch Section 38 on the Rio Grande, four miles below Ruidosa.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Justice were visitors in the city, from Alpine, this week, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ethel Robinson.

—Silk Dresses within the reach of everyone. Canton Crepe only \$7.95. —Milady's Shoppe.

Mrs. Arthur Lemons and her sister, Mrs. J. R. Hall and little baby, of Douglas, Arizona, came in Wednesday to be at the bedside of their mother, Mrs. Ellen Wease, who has been very ill this week.

There is now great activity in the Rio Grande valley lands in Presidio county. Lands which can be irrigated from the river is being bought from \$30 to \$40 per acre. In twelve months it will be worth much more.

Miss Mary Thomas, teacher in the public schools of Houston, is in the city to spend the holidays with her parents.

Mrs. R. R. Ellison of El Paso, accompanied by her daughter, Miss Julia, came in Monday to spend Christmas with relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Thomas, accompanied by their little son, came in Sunday to spend the holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Thomas. Wayne is Federal and State farm agent, located at Plainsview, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Easterling came in from Stamford, Texas, Monday, to spend Christmas with relatives. Mr. Easterling was formerly the popular secretary of the Highland Hereford Breeders' Association. He is now the assistant manager of the Swenson Bros. ranch in Jones county. Their holdings embrace 420 sections and 22,000 head of cattle in that county.

Capt. Gray captured last week at Freyden 300 goats, together with a bunch of horses and mules, which had been smuggled from Mexico, and turned them over to the Federal authorities. Capt. Gray has proved to be one of the most efficient officers ever in the service of the State, and always works in perfect harmony with the local peace officers.

Rev. L. R. Millican of Fort Davis, was in the city Wednesday, and made a social call on the New Era, wishing for the office force a happy and prosperous New Year.

Benton Howell, student at Southwestern Methodist University at Dallas, came in last Saturday to spend the holidays with his parents Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Howell. Benton is very studious and exceptionally bright. He is contemplating taking up journalism as his life work.

Capt. Allen Palmer of Alpine, an old Confederate veteran, was in the city Thursday visiting an old comrade, Capt. John A. Pool. They were on driving together enjoying Christmas, discussing the time when the "boys in gray" rode together in the long ago before the advent of the auto and the Volstead act.

### CHICKENS FOR SALE

One pen of light Brahmas; 12 pullets, one cockerel. The last word in fine chickens. See them at Capt. O'Brien's.

Miss Irma Aiken, who is teaching school at Brito, Texas, came in to spend the holidays with her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Newt Aiken.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Wells came in from the Brito ranch Monday and spent Christmas with their mother, Mrs. W. A. Wells.

Mrs. Price Cross of Dallas and Mrs. William Cassin of San Antonio, came in the first of the week to be at the bedside of their sister, Mrs. W. W. Bogel, who has been very sick.

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Howard entertained Monday evening at their home with a Christmas tree party. The rooms were beautifully decorated with the Christmas motif and in one corner of the room stood a prettily decorated tree, gaily decorated, and this was a prominent feature of the evening's entertainment.

### NOTICE

Annual Stockholders Meeting of the Marfa State Bank of Marfa, Texas.

Marfa, Texas, December 28, 1923. Notice is hereby given, that the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Marfa State Bank of Marfa, Texas, will be held at the office of said bank on the 14th day of January, 1924, at 10 o'clock a. m. for the election of Directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Respectfully,  
BEN S. AVANT,  
Cashier.

### NOTICE

Those who carry tornado and hail policies with this agency, please report your damage at once, so that it may be adjusted.

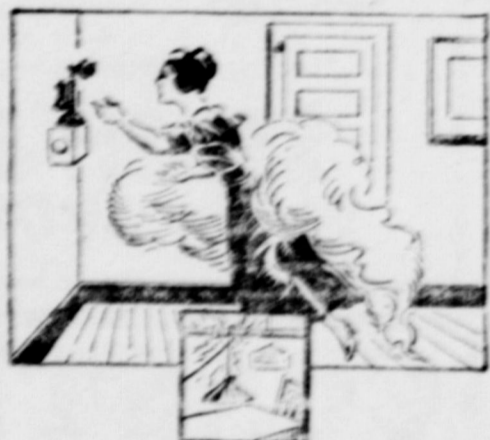
JOHN HUMPHRIS, Insurance.

### THE DUNCAN PICTURES

Last Saturday Mr. Duncan closed his art exhibit. In every way the display of scenic beauties of the Big Bend was a success, both from an artistic standpoint as well as bringing substantial returns in many orders for the artist.

Mr. Duncan came to Marfa several years ago for his health, but after looking over this country, impressed with its great possibilities and its magnificent scenery, he has remained at a great financial loss. Only in the last year has the local public realized what an asset Duncan and his great pictures are to the Big Bend. And now his fame as an artist of genius and his great pictures of the wonderful Big Bend country are beginning to spread further away.

Mr. Duncan expects in the near future, to take scenes of picturesque beauty in parts of this territory never before seen by any but the adventurous and that too seldom by them. Also he will take some pictures of a few of the wonderful petrified remains of the great forest trees which grew here during the early tertiary period.



Amateur "doctoring" of electric wiring has burned many a home.

How natural to throw scraps of paper into that old box! One seldom thinks of fire dangers, or metal waste until it is too late. There is the house in flames. Perhaps a total loss—unless the investment is fully protected by fire insurance.

There is no better protection against fire loss than the sound indemnity of a carefully drawn insurance policy. That is why this agency represents the Hartford Fire Insurance Company.

J. HUMPHRIS,  
Agent

W. E. Colpitt left Friday evening on a business trip to San Antonio.

Glyde Buttrell of Alpine, was a visitor to the city Friday.

—Beautiful Coats at reduced prices.—Milady's Shoppe.

Miss Jewel Gray and Miss Katharine Eddy were in Marfa Wednesday to meet Mr. Jack Ewell of California.

Thursday evening a number of the young people attended a dance at Fort Davis.

DeWitt Murray of Floresville, formerly located in the practice of law at Marfa, was a visitor in the city this week.

—All-wool dresses greatly reduced.—Milady's Shoppe.

Dr. W. T. Jones and wife came in from Fort Davis Friday, en route for Galveston. They were witnesses Thursday of the marriage of their grandson, Jack Ewell of California and Miss Jewel Gray of Fort Davis.

C. A. Brown, president of the Marfa National and the Alpine National banks, spent several days in the city this week.

—See our beautiful line of Ladies Silk Hose. We have all the desired shades.—Milady's Shoppe.

### THE PINK BOLL WORM

Several days ago arrests were made at Ruidosa of parties charged with bringing in from Mexico several hundred pounds of seed cotton. An examination will be held before U. S. Commissioner Waterlife on January 7th, 1924.

### ALL QUIET ON BORDER

Notwithstanding the Mexican revolution is still revolving down below the border, still all is quiet along the banks of the upper Rio Grande, so far. However, it is impossible to tell what a day might bring forth—and it is well to be prepared.

### THE SPORTSMAN'S PARADISE

The Mexican consul at Marfa has handed the Marfa Chamber of Commerce a number of interesting articles on Mexico. Some of these have been handed the New Era for publication. As soon as possible we shall take pleasure in publishing a number of them of a very interesting and instructive nature. It is well for us to know our Southern neighbor and learn everything possible about that wonderful country.

During the hunting season especially, are many interested in the wild life of Mexico. Hence the following short excerpt:

"There is no place in the world where so many wild fowl congregate as about the Mexican lake districts. Pelican, swan, geese, heron, duck of every variety, including the muscovy; snipe, curlew, sandhill cranes, etc., are found in immense numbers. Good deer hunting is had almost all over the country. Alligators on many of the south inland rivers. Mountain trout is plentiful and in the vicinity of Tampico there is probably the finest fishing on the Atlantic coast of North America. On the Panuco river the tarpon, pargo and curle are caught by trolling, still fishing, spearing and occasionally with fly. A few miles from the mouth of the Panuco are the banks of the red snapper."

### FOR SALE OR RENT

I offer for sale at a wonderful bargain, my comfortable house in Marfa, with eight rooms, bath, servant's quarters, garage and out-houses, equipped with modern conveniences. Or will rent, practically furnished, after January 10th. Write H. M. Fennell, Ruidosa, Texas.

### NURSERY STOCK

With the ideal season in the ground this year, be sure to plant that orchard you have been planning.

We have a fancy lot of nursery stock, as fine as you can find. On account of our trees being grown without irrigation, they are very hardy and healthy, and can stand a lot of hardships.

Our grafted Pecan, fruit and shade trees, roses, evergreens, etc. are very nice this year. Write for free catalog. Address CIBOLO NURSERY CO., CIBOLO, TEXAS.

### CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENTS

On Christmas eve night the children of the beginners, primary and junior departments of the Sunday School gave a "White Gift" Christmas program in place of the usual Christmas tree and gifts for the children.

The Church was beautifully decorated in white, with two small trees (without presents) also decorated in white.

The program was well gotten up and beautifully presented. The tiny tots assisted in the singing and were the cause of much merriment by their many delightfully natural poses.

It has been the desire of the officers and teachers of these departments to teach the children to think and make of the Church a part of their life as the home is a part. I think the audience will agree that they were perfectly at home and unembarrassed.

Santa appeared at the conclusion of the program and it seemed he was in a particularly happy frame of mind. He distributed fennel nuts and candy to the delight and happiness of the children. The gifts placed in the tiny cradle by the children and the collection from the audience was sent to the Methodist orphanage at Waco. The amount was \$48.00.

The success of program, decoration and music was due to the untiring efforts of the following: Mrs. Hoffman, Mrs. Monkhouse, Miss Blanche Avant, Mrs. Raetzsch and the young pianist, Miss Lillian Spencer, and the Young Peoples Missionary Society.

On Sunday night, December 23rd instead of the usual Sunday night service, the Methodist Church, assisted by a few kind friends from other Churches, rendered a Christmas Cantata, entitled "The World Redeemer."

The rendition of the solos and entire program would have been a credit to even a city church. We are justly proud of our choir and our talented young pianist. Much of the success of the program is due to our pastor, Rev. H. M. Barton, and his untiring efforts as director of the singing.

One Present.

### NEW DEPUTIES

Walter Morris of El Paso and F. S. Hamer of Snyder, Texas, both experienced officers, are now located at Marfa, and will act as deputies under Sheriff J. E. Vaughan. Mr. Morris was a former deputy sheriff and penitentiary guard. Mr. Hamer is a brother of Captain Hamer of the Rangers, and formerly served with credit in various capacities.

### PAY YOUR POLL TAX

Next year there will be a general election, both for national, state and county officers, and therefore, it is well for everyone to be prepared to exercise the great American privilege of casting a free ballot. It may be the times have changed when one could vote often and late, but still everyone should vote once, at least.

Pay your poll tax before February 1st, 1924.

### DELVAN—LIGHTFOOT

On Sunday evening Mr. Joseph Delvan and Miss Clara Lee Lightfoot were united in marriage. This marriage was a surprise to the many friends of the young couple. The New Era extends best wishes for a happy New Year.

—LOST—One Gates cord tire—32X4, between Marfa and Shafter, on Christmas day. Only slightly used. Return to Marfa garage.—Mrs. Hughes.

As we go to press it is reported that Mrs. W. W. Bogel, who for the last week has been very ill, is somewhat better. This will be encouraging news to the many friends of this estimable lady. She has the heartfelt sympathy of everyone in her affliction.

Mrs. Wease, who was taken suddenly ill several days ago, is reported today as resting easily, and her friends now hope for a speedy recovery.

\*\*\*\*\*  
DR. J. C. DARRACOTT  
Physician and Surgeon  
PHONE 107  
MARFA, TEXAS  
\*\*\*\*\*

### New Year Prayer

O Young New Year, take not these things from me—  
The older faiths, the shining loyalty  
Of friends the long and searching years have proved—  
The glowing hearthfires, and the books I loved;  
All wanted kindness and welcoming,  
All safe, hard-trodden paths to which I cling.  
Oh, Glad New Year, blithe with the thrill of spring—  
Leave me the ways that were my comfort—  
—Boston Transcript.

### His Happy New Year

By Ethel Cook Elliot

MAN was walking in swift, angry strides down the snowy street. He was thinking about a big business deal that had just fallen through, and blaming his partner for it. Indeed, he had only a minute ago parted from his partner with scornful words. And the partner, who was a younger man, had said nothing. He, too, had felt that the blame was all his, and he was ashamed and grieved. But harder than having lost the business for the firm, that young man found it to have lost the good will and respect of his senior partner, whom he admired, even revered.

The angry man was suddenly called from his unpleasant thoughts by a little newsboy carrying a paper under his nose. "AN about the murder, the big Riverside murder," he intoned through his little nose. "Paper six?" "The angry man shoved the boy away. "Get out of my path," he growled, absent-mindedly.

But the newsboy was not taken aback. He grinned up into the clouded face and drawled: "Aw, sir, let yourself have a Happy New Year."

The man walked another block before the words reached his consciousness, so absorbed had he been in his anger. But then they came clear and calm—"Let yourself have a Happy New Year?"

How foolish would be the man who wouldn't let himself have a Happy New Year! Bad business that of turning happiness away from you. Nobody, nothing could give you a Happy New Year, of course, unless you let yourself have it. Funny thought. But stop. Wasn't that exactly what he was doing now, not letting himself have a Happy New Year? Bad business that; worse than that had business his young partner had just fallen into.

Suddenly he stopped, whirled about and retraced his steps. "I'm not going to cut myself out of a Happy New Year just to indulge myself in a little poisonous anger," he cried to himself. "I'll just hurry back to the office and invite that young man to lunch with me. We've always been good pals till now."

And he did hurry to catch his partner before he, too, left the office. But he did not hurry so much that he could not stop at the corner and buy the few remaining papers from the insolent little newsboy there, though it goes without saying he hadn't time to stop for the change.

### A Rolling Stone

By J. C. G. Howard

YOUNG SKIPJACK makes me think of the water beetles that we used to watch as they skated aimlessly about on the waters of the pond, leaving no track behind them. He has been in business all over the place, but has prospered in nothing. He takes advice, but he never uses it. Else I would give him some New Year recipes for prosperity. I would tell him that one thing well struck to is worth a dozen experimented with; that the scale of our present life will matter little a few years hence, but that the character of it will matter much; that the neglectful steward will find that he was in business for himself; that to be good for nothing is to be bad for a great deal.

### AT THE EBB

"Hope the New Year finds you high in spirits!"  
"Old man, there ain't but two fingers of the stuff left in the house."

### ONE FRIEND TO ANOTHER

"I hate, you know, to have you go. You've been a blamed good year to me."  
"Next year will do the right thing, too? Well, we shall see what we shall see."

Marfa Chapter No. 174, O. E. S. meets the third Tuesday evening in each month. Visiting members cordially invited to be present.  
Mrs. Lillian Spencer, W. M.  
Mary Lee Greenwood, Sec.

LIVINGSTON UNDERTAKING COMPANY  
W. G. Young, C. W. Livingston  
Caskets, Caskets, Funeral Goods.  
Licensed Embalmers

MEAD & METCALFE  
Attorneys-at-Law  
General Practice  
Marfa, Texas.

LET US MAKE YOUR NEW BOOTS OR REPAIR YOUR OLD SHOES  
Our Work is Guaranteed  
Prices Reasonable  
MARFA BOOT & SHOE CO.  
GOVERNMENT BROS.  
MARFA - TEXAS

BIG BEND TITLE CO.  
Abstractors  
We have Complete Index of County Records  
Marfa, Texas.

A. H. KARSTENDIEK  
Contractor and Builder  
Phone 79  
Repair work neatly done  
Estimates gladly furnished on any kind of building  
Ranch or town work solicited  
Floor Surfacing by Electric Machine

MARFA LODGE No. 508  
A. F. & A. M.  
Meets second Thursday evening in each month.  
Visiting brethren are cordially invited to be present.  
Chas. Bowman, W. M.  
N. A. Arnold, Secretary

MARFA CHAPTER NO. 174, R. A. M.  
Meets fourth Thursday night in each month. Visiting companions welcome.  
J. Anson Coughran, H. P.  
J. W. HOWELL, Sec.

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