

## Christmas 1944

By MILDRED DICKERSON

The downtown streets of Spur do not glitter with such a profusion of color and light as in preceding years. And just past twilight as one walks along the sidewalk, the streets are like an old deserted mining town. The lavish gaiety of yesterday is strangely missing. Christmas 1944.

Yet this frosty Yuletide air finds the same roguish spirit of Santa Claus peering out of almost every display window in town, lending that intangible glow from within the heart that is the spirit of St. Nicholas. In spite of everything that has happened to this strange old world, there is still love and cheer and friendship—yes, and hope, out of which can be fashioned another blessed Christmas season.

Each display window in town, along with the many lovely gifts to tantalize the eye and gladden the heart, features the traditional Christmas snow banked in picturesque settings. And as one watches the small children gaze longingly, with each tiny nose pressed against the window glass at the toys designed to brighten their young hearts, a feeling of awe and trust enters the heart. Yes, that same trust of little children, that wins wars, fills stockings and brings happiness lend on ever humble mean that makes Santa Claus not a mere story, but someone very real.

A two-foot Santa with eyes of gold bulbs is standing in a bank of snow in the Fair Store window. A red holly spray centers the display which is draped with ripples of cellophane ice. The Red Front Drug Store features the patriotic blue and white crepe rope extending from the ceiling of the window. A cluster of Christmas bells hangs from the center.

A few steps farther up the street, in Proctor's, one sees again the familiar red and green holly leaves, this time forming four column posts extending from the ceiling to the floor. On entering the door, as the eyes drift to the ledge at the left, they catch the two four foot Christmas candles bordered with patriotic colors of red, white and blue.

At Milam's Variety the Christmas wreaths are incircled with tinsel lights. A jolly, fat, knee-high Santa beams approval as knotty pine cones colored with red and green, vie for chief attraction. Schwartz's display is Christmas icicles in a mountainous bank of snow with ladders completing a snow white arrangement. Grubens feature a bank of snow with Santa on a sleigh drawn by reindeer.

Like a cool, refreshing thought is the Christmas wreath in Henry Alexander's. Extending crosswise, the spray encloses the entire wall of the display window. Christmas bells of silver, circling the center of the silver wreath, contain bulbs of icy blue, so real that one half expects to hear a crystal clear tinkle in the far distance.

At Bryant Link's a tiny snow man sits atop a mound of snow as a miniature Santa sails through snow covered ground on a sleigh drawn by miniature reindeer. A Christmas tree with colored twinklers centers the scene. Two Christmas wreaths hang from the double doors.

A likeness of a fat Santa perched on a brick chimney with his bulging assortment of toys, grins from Riter's Hardware. Snow-covered boxes, resembling snow mounds, complete the arrangement. A bank of snow, lights, toys and icicles shine from Wackers Variety. At Maxor Drug one again sees Christmas snow banked about a tinsel red and green tree.

In the entrance at Nichols General Hospital a lighted Christmas tree stand in the window. Under the tree, in a mound of snow, Santa beams over the Christmas scene of the manger and the infant, Jesus, and Mother Mary while Joseph and the Three Wise men stand watch. A Christmas tree, banked on snow, with lighted candles greets one from Smith's cafe.

Probably the most symbolic, and certainly the most impressive, Christmas scene in any display window in town is that found in the Allen Auto Supply. A Christ-

## Sgt. Jas. McArthur Soon To Get New Service Assignment

T/Sgt. James R. McArthur has arrived at Army Air Forces Redistribution Station No. 2 in Miami Beach, Fla. for reassignment processing after completing a tour of duty outside the continental United States.

Medical examinations and classification interviews at this post, pioneer of several redistribution stations operated by the AAF Personnel Distribution command for AAF returnee officers and enlisted men, will determine his new assignment. He will remain at the redistribution station about two weeks, much of which will be devoted to rest and recreation.

Sgt. McArthur has put in 814 flying hours in the European theatre of operations as an aerial engineer on a C-47 Skytrain transport plane, and he has been awarded the Air Medal. He is the son of Mrs. Susie McArthur of Spur.

## Funeral Rites For William A. Grizzle Tuesday Afternoon

Funeral services for William A. Grizzle of Calgary, who passed away Sunday, Dec. 17, were held Tuesday afternoon at the First Baptist Church in Spur with Rev. A. P. Stokes conducting.

Interment was in the Spur cemetery with Campbells Funeral Chapel in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Grizzle was born at Pittsboro, Miss., April 25, 1885. He was converted in 1917 and became affiliated with the Baptist church. He moved to Dickens county in 1914.

Pall bearers were: Charles Witt, Clifton Hinson, Tom Parsons, H. E. Fisher, H. L. Morris, Doyle Hinson.

Survivors are: father, S. T. Grizzle; four brothers and one sister, Wayne Grizzle, Calgary, Sam Grizzle, Calgary, Luke Grizzle, Morton; Jake Grizzle, Calgary, and Mrs. Mabel Phillips, Crosbyton.

## Miss Jean Engleman Air Line Hostess

Miss Jean Engleman was in Denver, Colo. last week for an interview as an air line hostess. She has been accepted with the awaiting call.

Miss Engleman is a graduate of Texas Christian university and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Engleman.

## Christmas Caroling

F.F.A. and F.H.T. Chapters will go Christmas Caroling Friday night, Dec. 22. They will meet in front of the Ice House at 7:30 and will walk around town singing all the well known Christmas songs. The boys and girls are carrying on the Christmas spirit.

mas tree with colored lights is sparkling on the left. But suddenly the scene changes. A beam of light opens a road to Bethlehem, winding and embracing that first Christmas scene almost two thousand years ago when the Three Wise Men were led by that bright shining star to the straw-filled manger where Jesus was born. Mother Mary is holding the babe, Jesus, as Joseph, the stable boys and the Three Wise Men stand and kneel in reverent and thankful silence.

And as that first, humble Christmas scene is re-acted, one feels again the true meaning of Christmas. A day of joyous celebration, yes. And a time for giving gifts. But more than that, a gratefulness for the birth of our blessed Jesus in whose honor we observe Christmas.

Christmas in Spur 1944. Many chairs are empty at the festival tables. The streets are strangely dark. But all over the world our boys are singing this joyous refrain from deep within their hearts:

"I'll be home for Christmas  
"You can plan on me.  
"Please have snow and mistletoe  
"And presents on the tree,  
"Christmas eve will find me  
"With a heart that sings;  
"I'll be home for Christmas  
"If only in my dreams."

## Afton Sgt. Saves Ammunition—But He Gets His Jap

WITH THE DIXIE DIVISION ON MOROTAI—There's more than one way to stop a Jap.

Tech. Sgt. Claude Varnell, who has just been awarded a Bronze Star for heroic achievement, used an unorthodox method.

The sergeant, son of Mrs. Lucy Varnell of Afton, had orders to silence an enemy sniper who was harassing his company as they were digging in. He made his way through jungle undergrowth with his squad. Suddenly they came upon the Jap sniper, concealed at the base of a tree.

Seeing the Jap close his bolt on a shell in his rifle, and realizing that he was in no position to beat the sniper to the shot, the sergeant hurled his rifle at him. It knocked the Jap out. Then Varnell returned to his own lines, carrying the enemy soldier with him as a prisoner.

## C. B. Chandler Hospitalized After Accident in Pacific

C. B. Chandler, former operator of the C. B. Chandler Funeral Home here, has been hospitalized following an accident in the Southwest Pacific War theatre. At the time of his accident, he was being transferred to another base from New Guinea.

Chandler has been in the Navy for two years, an ex-ray specialist with a pharmacist first class rating.

During the absence of her husband in the service Mrs. Chandler has been conducting the affairs of the funeral home.

## ABOUT PEOPLE YOU KNOW

Miss Laveris Lee, senior student at Abilene Christian College, is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Lee.

Mrs. P. C. Nichols and Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Compire of Abilene, are in Hot Springs, Ark., where they are spending several days.

Miss Beth Arthur, sophomore student at A.C.C., Abilene, is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Arthur.

George Walker, student at A. and M. is spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Walker.

Mr. and Mrs. Grant Helms of Los Angeles, Calif. are spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Drennon.

Miss Betty Weaver, freshman student at T.S.C.W. is spending the Christmas holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Weaver.

Miss Betty Jo Barnett, sophomore student at A.C.C. is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Barnett.

Mr. and Mrs. Truman Moore of Amarillo are spending a two weeks visit in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. T. Moore.

Cecil Caplinger underwent major surgery at the Lubbock General Hospital Tuesday of last week. He is reported to be doing fine at the present.

Le Roy (Chuck) Kennimer left Saturday night for his home in Pauls Valley, Okla.

Pinnie Sue and Rawley Burtin Hill, daughters and son of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Hill are ill this week with chicken pox.

Mr. and Mrs. Ned Hogan were in Abilene Friday night of last week to visit with Pvt. Ned Hogan who is being transferred.

Mrs. Swat Jones and young son Jeff, left last Thursday for their home in Morton after a few weeks visit in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cooper.

Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Allen attended the annual Christmas concert of the Ralls High school band last Friday night at the First Methodist church at Ralls. This band, under the direction of their daughter-in-law, Mrs. Dupree T. C. Allen, consists of 35 musicians.

Miss Doris Clower spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. I. S. Clower at Dickens.



When all is said and done the eternal quest of human beings is for happiness. Our wish for you in 1945 is for more happiness—more than you have ever known before, whether that happiness be in gainful occupation or the attainment of some long desired goal.

Thank you for having remembered us so generously during the past year.

## THE TEXAS SPUR

H. G. HULL  
MRS. H. G. HULL  
CALVIN HULL

LEOTA THORNTON  
MILDRED DICKERSON  
JOHNNY SMITH

## NEWS of MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM

Cpl. J. R. Cole, somewhere in China, recently wrote his wife he has been made crew chief of the refueling crew in his squadron.

Sgt. Jess Thompson, a veteran of eight months overseas in the European theatre of operations is spending a 30 day furlough with his mother at Dumont.

Pvt. Raymond G. Beadle, stationed with the Air Corps at Pain Field, Everett, Wash. is spending a 24 day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Beadle of Spur.

Lt. Garald Bruce Wadzeck of Spur is taking a two-week course

of study in Army Air Forces budget and fiscal officer duties at the San Antonio Aviation Cadet Center.

Pvt. Leroy Bryant, stationed at Ft. Sill, Okla. visited his wife and young son, Lonnie Ray in Spur over the weekend.

Bob Weaver Jr. A/S, stationed at Austin attending the University is expected home this week end to spend the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Weaver.

S/Sgt. H. D. Smith Jr., with the LAAF, Lubbock, spent the weekend visiting friends in Spur.

Pvt. Francis Latham, recently returned from overseas duty in the Southwest Pacific area, is spending a 30 day furlough with his father at Dickens.

Bascam N. Pipkin Y 3/c is spending a 20 day leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bush Pipkin at McAdoo. He entered the Navy 10 months ago. Eight months of this time was spent at sea in the Southwest Pacific. His campaign bar has four stars for major battles on Saipan, Halmheria, Leyte Gulf, Jap Fleet and the Invasion of Leyte.

Woodrow Kermit Cunningham EM 3/c wrote his wife from somewhere in the South Pacific asking all his friends to write. His address is:

Woodrow Kermit Cunningham EM 3/c  
U.S.S. Rawlins  
A.P.A. 226 Div. E  
c/o Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, Calif.

Pvt. Loyd E. Warrick, son of Jessie Warrick of McAdoo, recently returned from overseas duty, has arrived at McCloskey General Hospital, Temple.

James Victor Allen S 1/c, stationed at Long Island, N. Y., son of Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Allen, recently visited in Washington D. C. in the home of Mrs. Ed Lisenby.

Dupree T. C. Allen, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Allen, who is on sea duty somewhere in the Atlantic, is reported to be well and doing fine.

Douglas Hinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Hinson of Spur, writes home he has been ill, but is doing fine now. He is with the Merchant Marines in Sheephead Bay, N.Y.

Mrs. H. G. Hull has received word, the first in three months, from her nephew, Pfc. oscoe W. Grubbs Jr., with the U.S. Army Air Corps and he has arrived safely in It-IV. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Grubbs of Ft. Worth.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Rev. John A. Winslow of Lubbock will hold communion services at the Episcopal Church at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 24. The public is cordially invited.

## Dickens-Kent Almost Double Bond Quota

Fighting sons and daughters from Kent and Dickens counties can again feel proud of their backers on the home front. The two counties have again "gone over the top" for their fighting sons and daughters by purchasing a combined sum of \$460,191.50 in all types of War Bonds during the Sixth War Loan Drive. The sum of \$111,862.50 in Series E bonds was purchased, and the E bond quota required was sum of \$105,000.00.

Many sacrificing mothers, fathers, husbands, wives and chil-

ren dug deep to manifest a vote of confidence in the boys carrying the brunt of the struggle. Many a volunteer worker and committeeman worked to see that their school district quota was met.

Below is listed the names of the school districts of Dickens county, their respective quotas, and their final total sales up to December 16th:

Sch. Dist.	Sold	Quota
Red Mud	\$ 4,125.00	\$2,250.00
Duck Creek	11,675.00	5,625.00
Highway	9,987.50	6,750.00
Dry Lake	11,993.75	8,437.50
Wie-Cro	52,100.00	9,000.00
Peac Hill	4,043.75	2,815.50
Spg Creek	3,500.00	3,375.00
Wils Draw	4,725.00	3,937.50
Pat Spgs	67,100.00	41,062.50
Dickens	30,831.25	28,125.00
McAdoo	38,512.50	37,062.50
Spur	158,947.75	81,562.50
Kent Co.	62,650.00	40,000.00

TOTAL - \$460,191.50 \$265,000.00

The War Finance Committee wishes to publicly express its gratitude to the working force of the Spur Postoffice, including O. C. Arthur and Mrs. Wanda White, and to the Spur Security Bank, including W. T. Andrews, Hobert Lewis, Miss Mineola Ward, E. S. Lee, Ralph Sherrill and the other clerks in the bank.

Appreciation is expressed for the work done by each and every committeeman in the various districts and the school leaders of each school district. Each and every one will be officially recognized by the United States Treasury Department.

Particular mention and recognition is made of Mrs. White Moore of the Peaceful Hill school community. Mrs. Moore, an elderly ranch woman living west of Spur, saddled her horse and rode over her district calling upon the citizens to assist her in meeting their quota. She stated that her trip covered several miles, but that she did not find all of her neighbors at home. Too much can't be said for that type of patriotism and determination during this war.

All E, F and G bonds purchased during the balance of December will be counted on the Sixth War Loan Drive quota, so if you have not purchased your E bond yet you still can have a part in making our quota by purchasing a Christmas present "with a future," a war bond. Give bonds for Christmas.

There will be a Seventh War Loan Drive, and there may be an Eighth, Ninth and Tenth, but it matters not how many there may come, the people of Kent and Dickens counties will hold up their chins and fight along side of their soldiers.

## William E. Pott Funeral Service Held Here Tuesday P. M.

Funeral services for William Edward Pott, who died at a Veteran's hospital in Amarillo on Dec. 16, were held at Campbells Funeral Chapel Wednesday afternoon with Rev. Herman Coe and Mr. C. V. Allen conducting.

Interment was in Spur cemetery with Campbells Funeral Chapel in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Pott was born at Colorado City, Texas on Dec. 31, 1892. At the time of his illness several weeks ago, he was employed at the Spur Bakery.

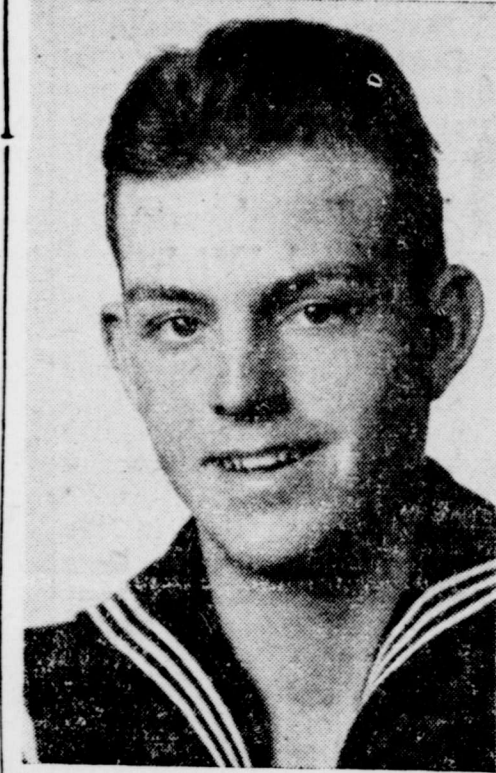
Pall bearers were: L. E. Lee, George Lisenby, R. J. Bell, Bill McClung, Horace Hyatt and Coy McMahan.

Survivors are: Mother, Mrs. G. W. Potts; Sister, Mary Gray, San Diego, Calif.; and one brother, Joe Potts, AMM 3/c, with the U. S. Navy.

## Elvis Holly Gets Army Discharge

Elvis Holly, son of H. S. Holly, has a medical discharge from the Marine Corps after serving 25 months in the South Pacific theatre of operations. He was accidentally wounded in the hand and received the discharge on Dec. 4.

He, his wife and young son are visiting his parents in Spur during the Christmas holidays. He will be employed with the Home Insurance company in Dallas after the first of the year.



KENNETH DOPSON

Kenneth Dopson, F 1/c, survivor of the escort carrier USS Gambier Bay which the Nips sank in the second battle of the San Bernardino straits in Philippine waters, is spending a leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Dopson of Spur.

Dopson went overseas as a crew member on the Gambier Bay last May 14. The tiny American force with the Gambier Bay, which included only three destroyers, six air-craft carriers and four destroyers escorts, sailed in to the Philippines area on Oct. 20 and, according to Dopson, the first four days were uneventful.

In his own words, Dopson describes the action which took place Oct. 25.

"Visual contact was made with enemy warships in the early morning of Oct. 25. Near misses on our ships were seen at this time. The Japs, having faster ships and much greater fire power rapidly closed in and recorded hits. Our guns answered back with good marksmanship, but with little effect.

"Our Destroyers and Destroyer escorts made valiant torpedo runs and inflicted serious damage on a small number of the enemy ships.

"At about this time the Gambier Bay received terrific blows and the order was given to abandon ship. Rafts were launched and debarking lines cast out.

"Rafts and lone swimmers pulled away from the ship. After clearing the ship, the swimmers swam to rafts and debris forming groups. By this time, due to the speed of the ships in battle, sound of gunfire was faint in the distance.

"The wounded was made as comfortable as possible. No water and very little food was available. The sun was very hot, but got cooler in the late afternoon and cold at night. The men kept warm by huddling together. The water was rough, but a bright moon was out. Short naps were taken, but not many of them.

"On the 26th, lone friendly planes came over, but showed no recognition. We were picked up that night."

Dopson, along with the other survivors of the Gambier Bay, returned to the United States aboard a former luxury liner Dec. 1.

Dopson is a 1941 graduate of Spur high school, and attended Texas Tech before enlisting in the Navy Nov. 1943. He received his naval training at San Diego, Calif.

Miss Lou Emma Shugart, freshman at T.S.C.W., Denton, is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Shugart.



# Society-Club News

## Mrs. Christopher Hostess to Dickens PTA December 14

The Dickens PTA met Dec. 14 at 8 o'clock in the high school auditorium. Mrs. Fred Christopher was program leader.

Rev. Ennis Hill of the First Baptist church made an interesting talk on "Modern Youth and Their Religion." Mrs. Tom Johnson offered an enlightening view point on "Victory in Battle is not Enough."

A special number was given by the Rhythm band which is composed of children in Mrs. W. D. Larwie and Mrs. Wiley's rooms. A group of boys and girls from the third, fourth and fifth grades read Christmas poems.

Mrs. Willie Mae Wiley's room won the prize for having the most parents present.

A delicious refreshment course was served in the Home Economics department.

## Tri-Community Club Members Entertained With Xmas Party

The lovely country home of Mrs. Garnie Booth was the scene of a Christmas party honoring the members of the Tri-Community H. D. club Dec. 14.

Roll call was answered with "One happy Christmas I spent as a child."

Mrs. Arner Watson read the Christmas story from the Bible. Mrs. Loyd Johnson read two inspiring Christmas articles and Mrs. E. W. Smith told the story of the first Christmas.

Mrs. Ernest Kearney played "Santa Claus" and each person present received their gifts.

After spending a time opening gifts and visiting, refreshments of chocolate nut cake and coffee were served to Mrs. Pete Gannon, Mrs. E. W. Smith, Mrs. Edward Carroll, Mrs. Lee Parker, Mrs. W. W. Pickens, Mrs. Arner Watson, Mrs. Agnes Marrs, Mrs. Loyd Johnson, Mrs. Ernest Kearney and the hostess, Mrs. Garvie Booth.

Herbert Love made a business trip to Fort Worth on Monday of this week.

## Mrs. George S. Link Hostess Tuesday to 20th Century Club

Mrs. George S. Link charmingly entertained Twentieth Century Club members with a covered dish Christmas dinner in her home on Tuesday evening.

The buffet table was covered with lace table cloth and centered with poinsettia. Red candles stood at each end.

Mrs. E. S. Lee led the group singing of Christmas Carols after which Mrs. Oscar Kelley played classical and Christmas records.

After dinner, as a complete surprise to the guests, the hostess led the way to the lighted Christmas tree in the basement where the program was continued and gifts exchanged. Stockings filled with Christmas candy for each guest hung at the huge fireplace with burning logs.

Miss Regina Lee gave the story of the birth of Christ and explained the origin of the carol "Silent Night, Holy Night."

Those attending were: Mrs. Reese McNeill, Cliff Bird, T. H. Blackwell, E. L. Caraway, W. S. Campbell, F. B. Crockett, J. M. Foster, P. E. Gollihar, B. F. Hale, O. L. Kelley, E. S. Lee, W. B. Lee, Joe B. Long, O. McGinty, L. D. Ratliff, O. B. Ratliff, Jack Rector, V. C. Smart, A. M. Walker, three guests, Mrs. Jack Godfrey, Mrs. Roberts of Abilene, Miss Regina Lee and the hostess, Mrs. George S. Link.

## Wacker Employees Entertained With Christmas Party

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Christian entertained the employees of Wacker's Variety with a Christmas party in their home on Sunday afternoon from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

The guests assembled in the living room where stood a huge lighted Christmas tree ornamented with multi-colored balls, red bells, tinsel cones and plastic stars. White Christmas rope and icicles lined the tree. A lone angel adorned the top. Gifts were exchanged and the guests enjoyed Bingo games for chewing gum prizes.

A typical village scene formed the center-piece. Miniature houses

with chimneys stood on a bank of snow while a tiny Santa Claus rode on a sleigh drawn by miniature reindeer. Tall red candles stood on either end.

The refreshment plate consisted of Pimento cheese sandwich, potato chips, congealed salad, fruit cake with whipped cream and hot chocolate.

Those attending were: Mr. and Mrs. Elgin Evans, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Legg, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Dodie Smith, Mrs. Vernon O'Guinn, Mrs. Mildred Morris, Mrs. Pansy Springer.

Mrs. Mae Patterson, Mrs. Kathryn Cole, Mrs. Betty Jo Kearney, Misses Betty Jo Nix, Norma Seachrist, Ila Ruth Draper, Eureka Hoover, Mary Puckett, Mary Robinson, Leona Smith and the host and hostess.

## Mrs. Nathan Patterson Hostess to Wives of Service Men Monday

Mrs. Nathan Patterson was hostess to a group of wives of service men abroad with a Christmas party in her home on Monday evening from 8 to 9 p.m.

Dressed in typical regalia, the hostess played Santa Claus, while gifts were exchanged from the lighted Christmas tree which was decorated with tinsel, icicles and multi-colored bulbs and stood at the front window in a bank of Christmas snow.

After the gifts were distributed the hostess showed the group an album containing pictures of the Alkan Highway taken by her brother, Howard Oland Butler, with an Engineer unit in Alaska.

Lovely refreshments of pimento cheese sandwiches, potato chips, olives, cookies and hot chocolate were served, after which those present attended the show down town.

Those attending were: Mrs. Dalton Lebew, Mrs. Minyard Ensey, Mrs. J. B. Springer, Mrs. Freddie Morris, Mrs. Ernest Caplinger, Mrs. J. R. Cole and the hostess, Mrs. Nathan Patterson.

## Womans Missionary Union

The Woman's Missionary Union met in the Church Monday afternoon. The president conducted a short business meeting, after which the Mildred Smith circle rendered a Royal Service program which had been arranged by Mrs. T. J. Seale.

Mrs. W. M. Hazel conducted the devotional, and others taking part

on the program were: Mrs. John Stokes, Miss May Bell Thornton, Mrs. Homer Dobbins, Mrs. Joe Long, Mrs. Emer Hagins and Mrs. Abert Bingham.

At the conclusion of the program, a number of women retired to the basement and enjoyed light refreshments of tea and apple-sauce cake. Following the refreshments, two large boxes were arranged to be sent to Buckner Orphan's Home, one containing cookies and the other toys.

The Sunbeam Band met in the basement. A contribution of about \$8.00 has recently been made by the Sunbeam Band to the "Lottie Moon Christmas Offering."

Next Monday, Dec. 25, the Women's Missionary Union of the First Church of Spur is not to meet. There will be no write up in next week's paper.

## Mrs. McMahan Is Hostess at Turkey Dinner for '33 Club

A Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings was served to members of the 1933 Study Club Monday night by Mrs. Coy McMahan, president, in her home.

The dining table was covered with a beautiful lace banquet cloth and centered with a huge crystal bowl of fruit, nuts and Christmas candles. Red candles in crystal holders adorned each end of the table. Plate favors were hand made Christmas Carol books made by Mrs. Edwin Boedeker.

The menu consisted of turkey, dressing, giblet gravy, vegetable salad, candied sweet potatoes, pickles, olives, congealed salad,

stuffed celery, green beans, hot rolls, fruit cake and whipped cream and coffee. The invocation was given by Mrs. O. R. Cloude.

After dinner a program was led by Mrs. J. L. Koonsman. Christmas Carols were sung by all, with Mrs. Boedeker at the piano. Roll call was answered with "Home Made" Christmas decorations. Mrs. C. H. McCully told the Christmas story in a new manner bringing it as a personal message to all.

As a climax to a very enjoyable evening, gifts were exchanged from a lighted Christmas tree.

Those enjoying the occasion were: Mrs. E. H. Boedeker, Albert Bingham, O. R. Cloude, C. F. Cook, W. F. Gilbert, J. L. Koonsman, Everette McArthur, C. H. McCully, Thurmond Moore, J. C. Payne and the hostess, Mrs. Coy McMahan.

### Living Up to a Slogan

The teacher was giving a written examination in European geography. One question was:

"Why does the sun never set on the British flag?"

Robert wrote the answer: "Because they take it in at night."

### A Kick

A talkative sailor from Pratt, Sat down by a mule for a chat. He woke up in bed.

A day later and said:

"I sure got a kick outa that."

### Fast Work

The film producer was raving to his associates about a new actress he had just discovered.

"You leave her to me, fellows," he enthused, "and in two years I'll make her a star overnight!"



Jingle bells, jingle bells,  
Jingle all the way,  
O! what fun it is to ride  
In a one-horse open shay!

We have much to be thankful for this Christmas, and we want to express our thanks to you.

May this Christmas season of 1944 be an especially happy one for you.

## Fred Christopher

Sheriff-Tax Assessor-Collector

Read the Ads—Patronize the Advertisers



## Greetings

Like the voices of Angels  
On that first glad Christmas tide,  
May the songs of joyous children  
Again ring far and wide,  
To tell a weary war-torn world  
The glory of Christ's birth,  
And bring again His promise  
Of "Peace, Good Will on Earth!"

\* \* \*

We've searched the books for a clever rime  
To clearly express what we have in mind,  
But nary a one can we find  
That quite equals the cheery, old-time Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

## THE FAIR STORE

MR. and MRS. GEORGE GABRIEL



## HOW MANY MONTHS FROM HOME?

● This is an American fighting man setting foot on foreign soil—for the first time in his life. How many MILES from home? Until officially released, that information is a military secret—is governed by military strategy. How many MONTHS from home? More than any of us realize, this depends on how hard we of the home front WORK and SAVE for Victory.

● This American fighting man goes to meet the enemy with boundless faith in you and me and every American on the home front. No Axis lies can undermine that faith. Even the heat of battle will not weaken it. Because we—his own people—are the only ones in the world who can disillusion this American fighting man.

● Wars are never won by merely EQUALING the enemy's efforts. We must EXCEED them! We must build more and still more of the weapons of Victory. We must buy more and still more War Bonds—to buy the weapons of Victory, to win our war against inflation. Remembering always that every minute on the job, every War Bond we buy, are part of the price of HIS return ticket.

### To Our Customers

● Serving you has been a pleasure. You have cheerfully overlooked the curtailment of service that wartime has made necessary, and we appreciate your cooperation.

## Jones Planing Mill



### 1945 Texas Hereford Directory Ready For Distribution

An amazing amount of information on the Texas Hereford industry, including a brief summary of its history, is compressed into the comparatively small volume composing the 1945 Texas Hereford Directory, just off the press.

More than seven thousand copies are being sent to the principal buyers of pure bred cattle in the United States.

The directory is an authentic inventory of the hundreds of thousands of Herefords being produced in Texas, the greatest Hereford breeding state in the Union. Listed by counties is data on all members of the Texas Hereford Associations, their ranches and cattle.

In the foreword, Jack Frost president of the Association, outlines the purposes of the organization and prospective purchasers are advised that every member has signed the code of ethics and that the Association guarantees that every buyer gets what he pays for.

The introduction quotes from a speech made by W. S. Ikard, Clay county rancher who bought the first Herefords to Texas, and first president of the Association in which he exhorted the members to "stand together as a band of brothers and push the breed into every hamlet of the country and encourage the best exhibits possible at each fair and fat stock show."

Since that time, nearly forty-five years ago Herefords have been introduced into every one of Texas' 254 counties.

#### First Baptist Church

HERMAN COE, Pastor

First Baptist Church services for Sunday, Dec. 24:

10:00—Sunday School

11:00—Morning Worship

5:00—Evening Worship.

The evening worship is being held at 5 o'clock in the afternoon so that our people can be at their home fireside on Christmas eve. Everyone is urged to attend each service of the day.

#### CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank each and every one for their kindness and help during the illness and death of our darling wife and mother. May God bless each and everyone is our prayer.

Clay Bradford

Mildred Bradford

Velma Bradford

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Bradford and Family

Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Bradford and Family.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Rich and Family.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Rich and Family.

Pvt. and Mrs. Roy Gilmore

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Gess and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Johnson and Family.

Mr. and Mrs. Sammie Norris and Family.

USE SPUR WANT ADS  
USE SPUR WANT ADS



LOYALTY works both ways. You have been loyal to us, and we are loyal to you.

To you, our friends, who have so helped us to make 1944 successful, we send the friendliest of CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

J. W. HENRY

American National Insurance

### Letters To Santa

Dear Santa:

Please bring me a little doll, trunk, doll, stove, wrist watch, house shoes, ring and new dress. Don't forget the other boys and girls.

Goodbye,  
Gloria Russell

#### Signs of the Texans

A reader has spotted this sign in a Houston (Texas) shoe shining parlor:

"Pedal habiliments artistically lubricated and illuminated with ambidextrous faciliti or the infinitesimal remuneration of 5 cents per operator."

#### Easy Winner

The manufacturer had 20 employees in his plant, and as none were as energetic as the manufacturer thought they should be, he hit upon a plan which he believed would cure them of their lazy habits.

"Men," he said one morning, "I have a nice easy job for the laziest man in the plant. Will the laziest man step forward?"

Instantly 19 of the men stepped forward.

"Why don't you step to the front with the rest?" inquired the manufacturer of the remaining one?

"Too much trouble," came the reply.

Use the Want Ads!

USE SPUR WANT ADS  
USE SPUR WANT ADS



### WE THANK YOU

All during 1944 we have been storing up our gratitude to the people of this community, as they have come in day after day. Now that Christmas is here it is time to make delivery. So here it comes... our gratitude to you in one great big wish for a big, happy, merry Christmas.

## B. Schwarz & Son

MR. and MRS. M. C. GOLDING



There is something in the very season of the year that gives charm to the festivity of Christmas.

—WASHINGTON IRVING



★ Whether Christmas be white or green, we hope it will be full of charm for you and yours, with an abundance of all the good things that are part of happy Yuletide...

## Maxor Drug No. 3

All Christmas Gifts bought at our store over 25c will be Gift Wrapped Free

A Good Safe Place to Trade  
**B. SCHWARZ & SON**  
SPUR, TEXAS  
"The Store of Little Profit"

All Christmas Gifts bought at our store over 25c will be Gift Wrapped Free

# We Still Have Hundreds Of Gifts For Everyone

COME TODAY—and Every Day Until Saturday Night. Always NEW Things Coming In That She Will Love. Such Wonderful Wearing Apparel Makes the Holidays Last All the Year. When you Give Clothes, Every Time She Puts Them On She Thinks of Christmas and of You



100% WOOL

## SUITS

• Classics, casuals and dressmakers in blacks, browns and colors. Soft wools, shetlands and gaberdines. Many with matching top-coats. Sizes 7's to 15's and 10's to 20's.

\$24.95 \$29.95

\$34.95 \$39.95

Others to \$59.95

100% WOOL

## COATS

• Fine wools in blacks, whites and colors. Chesterfields and boys coats. Sizes 7's to 15's and 10's to 20's.

\$16.95 \$24.95

\$39.95 \$44.95

\$54.95 \$59.95



GO EVERYWHERE

## CASUALS

• From famous makers. Rayon gaberdines, flannels and soft wool combinations. In browns, beiges and all wanted colors.

\$9.95

\$12.95 and \$14.95

## DRESSES

• Winter whites, aqua, gold, kelly, melon and blue, using contrasting wool thread trims. Sizes 9's to 15's and 14's to 20's.

\$16.95 to \$22.95

Other Dresses in Crepes and Wools





# Society-Club News

## Mrs. Clyde Bingham Hostess at Christmas Party for Study Club

A lovely party enlightened the holiday season for members of the 1917 Study Club. Mrs. Clyde Bingham was hostess for the party last Friday evening. Her home was decorated and made very appropriate for the occasion. A buffet supper was served. Miniature Christmas trees were placed on the table. The menu consisted of tomato juice cocktail, cranberry salad, stuffed celery, olives, chicken pie, mints, salted nuts, coffee and spice cake.

Mrs. C. H. Elliott as leader for the program, and the following program was rendered: Mrs. R. C. Forbis presented the beautiful Christmas story from Luke 2: 1-19. Miss Jennie Shields very charmingly reviewed the book "The Other Wise Man" by Henry Van Dyke. Mrs. W. C. Gruben told the story "The Gift of the Magi" by O'Henry. Virgil Burt Elliott rendered a violin solo "The Flower Song," accompanied by Mrs. J. W. Henry. A vocal solo, "White Christmas" was sung by Bonnie Beth Henry, accompanied by Mrs. Henry.

A quartette, consisting of Mrs. J. H. Bowman, C. B. Chandler, E. D. Hagins and J. E. Berry sang "Joy to the World." Mrs. Ned Baird rendered a piano solo which was a variation to "Silent Night, Holy Night." The entire club then joined in singing the Christmas Carols.

At the conclusion of the program, Miss Hickman played Santa Claus, and gifts were exchanged. The following members were present: Mmes. Ned Baird, J. E. Berry, J. H. Bowman, C. B. Chandler, Nell Davis, C. H. Elliott, Clark Forbis, R. C. Forbis, W. C. Gruben, E. D. Hagins, Fred C. Haile, P. H. Miller. Miss Julia Hickman and the hostess, Mrs. Clyde Bingham. One associate member, Mrs. M. C. Golding was present, and the following honorary members attended: Mmes. F. W. Jennings, W. T. Andrews, M. H. Brannen, W. F. Godfrey, and Miss Jennie Shields.

was performed according to etiquette. The queen had her head smashed by a golden hammer. The hammers decreased in beauty and value according to rank. Stone implements were considered quite good enough for the scullions.

As time went on, the surgeons began administering large doses of narcotic concoctions, to stupefy people who had to be operated on. Poppy juice, opium, Indian hemp and other drugs were freely used. Finally, large amounts of alcohol were given to stupefy the victims and render them more insensible to pain.

A dear old lady told the writer that man years ago when she was a girl, an old lady decided for some reason or have her teeth extracted. She drank by degrees a large goblet of raw brandy as the teeth were drawn. When the ordeal was over, the poor old soul was gloriously drunk and rejoicing in the thought that she would soon be the proud possessor of a full set of beautiful teeth.

In those days the surgeons were so handicapped by the sufferings of their patients, that the work was of necessity very brief and very acute. Very little advancement was made in the fields of surgery until the discovery of ether in 1844 by Dr. Crawford Long of Georgia.

Dr. Thomas Morton is still being given credit for making this discovery because he was the first to demonstrate it. This he did at the Massachusetts General Hospital in 1846. This first case was tested out on a man who was given ether and had a tooth drawn by a dentist. The subject felt no pain and ether came

into general use. In two years after this, two other anesthetics came into use. The world was well launched towards an era of improved surgery, though, asepsis had not yet been discovered and infections were the bane of the surgical profession.

Guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Foreman: Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Henson and Mrs. A. M. Beard, all of Los Angeles, Calif. here arrived here Monday. Mrs. Beard will spend a two week visit while Mr. and Mrs. Henson let Wednesday for Lawton, Okla. to visit their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs.

George Bridges. From there they will go to Flora, Ill. where they will visit their son, O. L. Henson before returning to their home in Los Angeles.

Miss Idalee Golding, a student in the University of Texas, Austin, is spending the Christmas holidays in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Golding.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Taylor Sr., Lt. Ray Taylor Jr., Tommy and Genevieve of Quanah, former residents of Spur, visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Engleman over the weekend.

Mrs. J. O. Adcock was ill several days last week.

## Mrs. Herman Coe Hostess to Harmony Club On Tuesday

Mrs. Herman Coe was hostess to the Harmony club members on Tuesday evening with a Christmas party in her home. Mrs. Ned Baird was leader of the program on Christmas music. Roll Call was answered with Bible quotations.

The hostess gave a talk on "The Romance of the Christmas Carol" during which Mrs. W. T. Andrews played favorite carols representing the various countries.

Gifts were exchanged at the lighted Christmas tree which between the double windows in the living room.

Refreshments of open-faced chicken salad sandwiches shaped as a miniature Christmas tree, tomato aspic in the shape of a small star, star-shaped date loaf topped with whipped cream, stuffed olives and spiced tea were served those present.

Following the program, the group went Christmas caroling where they called on Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Ensey, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Gruben, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Seale, Mrs. Nell Davis, Mrs. E. L. Adams and Mrs. P. H. Miller where they were met at the door by Miss Jennie Shields who joined in the singing.

## Health and Beauty DR. SOPHIA BRUNSON

We are not as smart as we think we are. We imagine that wisdom and skill in medicine began and will end with us, but this is untrue.

Many ancient surgical instruments have been found in Egypt. Thousands of years ago, the surgeons anesthetized their patients by knocking them on the head in a certain place. They know exactly where to strike to render them unconscious. Some of the ancients didn't mind knocking people about anyway.

The old Chaldeans had a custom of killing the wives and attendants of great dignitaries, who had just died by crushing their skulls. This was in order that they might be buried with him, and attend him in the land of spirits. This unpleasant rite



*Your*  
**BABY**

By Lillian B. Sterms

When baby is served his first semi-solid foods — that's an event. With some babies, cereal is the first of these. Whole grain cereals, such as, prepared strained oatmeal or cereal food, contain minerals and vitamins, while highly refined cereals have little of either minerals or vitamins. While nutritive substances in whole grains are of value, they contain coarse fiber, which is not suitable for the sensitive digestive tract of a baby, so the problem of preparing cereals for baby is one of using whole grain cereals but putting them in a suitable form.

You can obtain these cereals specially prepared for young infants. They are fine in texture, taste good, and babies like them and thrive on them. For instance, ready-to-serve cereal food — a thoroughly cooked mixture of finely ground whole wheat, farina and corn meal to which wheat germ, malt, dried yeast and calcium, phosphorus and iron salts have been added.

Another is prepared strained oatmeal — wheat-free, a mixture of finely ground oatmeal, dried yeast, plus calcium, phosphorus and iron salts. It is thoroughly cooked, strained, dried and all, ready to serve by adding milk or baby's formula.

You may also want to try a two-cereal plan. By alternating oatmeal and cereal food at each feeding, baby will eat better because he likes variety too! Many Doctors think the two-cereal idea so good that they're recommending it to Mothers.

# NOTICE

We Have 85% Pre-War Rubber Tubes. Better see us now for your tube while they last.

Also Anti Freeze or Calcium Chloride.

## O-K Rubber Welders




We have served you well in the past. Our aim is to serve you still better in the future. To this end we pledge our full devotion.

We want you to be happy this New Year's . . . and during the weeks and months that follow.

## JOHNSTON GROCERY

MR. and MRS. DALTON JOHNSTON  
and MRS. FRED KENNEY




**Merry Christmas**

★ Christmas is here. And once more we find ourselves at a loss for words to express how we feel about your loyalty to us during 1944. But we know you will understand.

We wish for you and your family the best of Merry Christmases, and the best that this happy season can bring in both material and spiritual blessings.

## H. S. HOLLY INSURANCE

M. and MRS. HARVEY HOLLY



**EACH CHRISTMAS** as it comes and goes proves anew that love is the only binding power of the world. In these dark days of late December when the lightness of smiles make ample amends for lack of brightness overhead, we again send our most hearty Christmas Greetings.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Adams



# Greetings!

Christmas comes and reawakens the appreciation of happy relationships . . . rekindles the warmth of friendships made during the time it has been our privilege to serve you. To those whose friendly support has contributed so greatly to our welfare—we extend our most cordial appreciation. We have found that friendship in business counts for much and we are grateful for yours.

To all our friends—old and new, past, present and future—we say, "Merry Christmas!" Best Wishes for a Happy New Year!

## THE FARMALL HOUSE

JOHN ADAMS E. D. ENGLEMAN



# It's Christmas . . . Christmas!

- Holly on the door and a candle wreath in the window. Stockings by the fireplace, carols in the dark, and the jeweled Christmas tree glittering through the night. What would Christmas be without them?
- The answer is . . . it would still be Christmas.
- For Christmas isn't symbols . . . Christmas is something that happens to people. It wells up, overflows, bursts forth from the heart of every human being. It goes far beyond the traditional forms of our American observance . . . adopts a hundred different forms all over the world and transcends them all. Christmas is the sweetest emotional experience shared at one time by mankind.
- There's not a flake of snow in the South Pacific tonight, not a SINGLE tingling sleigh-bell. But the tender joy of Christmas fills fighting American hearts on every atoll and palm-fringed isle. There are no street-singers in the North Atlantic, nor a Christmas tree in all its watery waste of miles. The men on the icy convoys need no symbols to remind them . . . their thoughts and love and prayers tonight are winging home to you.
- So let not the absence of a loved one depress you or steal your holiday joy. The Spirit of Christmas is working in his heart as in yours; he is sharing your Christmas with you just as certainly as if he were greeting you in the glow of your own lighted tree—as he will, most assuredly, on a Christmas morning yet to come.

# WEST GIN

W. P. SHUGART, Mgr.



## ENGLISH CELEBRATION RECALLS TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS FEAST

The Christmas season is an appropriate time to call to mind the food customs of England. Stories of Old English Yuletide celebrations describe vividly the feasting and merriment that took place in the great halls and castles and manor houses. At Christmas time, peers and peasants celebrated together around a bountifully-laden board. The boar's head was brought in with great ceremony, "crested with bays and rosemary." Promi-

nence was also given to a huge sirloin, "a joint of goodly presence." Of course, there were Christmas pies, and always plum puddings; and to crown it all, the wassail bowl.

In later days, when these feudal celebrations were a thing of the past, Christmas Day became a Home Day in England, with a big dinner one of the main features of the celebration. Many of the same traditional dishes—including the boar's head and

the plum pudding—were often served.

The prominence given to meat dishes in the ancient Yule feast was typical of the eating habits of the English, who have always been strong meat eaters. England is justly famous for its York hams, its roast beef with Yorkshire pudding, and roast saddle of Southdown mutton.

There are many national "side dishes," which are often used as the meat course of a dinner. Among the most typical are broiled kidneys, sweetbreads, liver and bacon, tripe and onions,—all featuring what we in America today call "variety meats." Two dishes with very picturesque names are "bubble and squeak," a combination of cold boiled meat and fried cabbage—and "toad in a hole," which consists of pieces of meat baked in a batter pudding.

Other foods for which the English are known are certain cheeses, Somerset strawberries and English apples. Although the apple has been called the most typical English fruit, native production has not been able to meet the demand, and apples have been imported in great numbers.

### Plum Pudding

6 cups sifted flour  
2 teaspoons soda  
2 teaspoons salt  
2 teaspoons cinnamon  
2 teaspoons nutmeg  
1 teaspoon cloves  
2 cups raisins  
½ cup chopped citron, lemon and orange peel  
½ pound lard  
1 cup molasses  
1 cup milk

Sift flour, soda, salt and spices together. Add raisins, citron, orange and lemon peel. Cream lard; add molasses. Add dry ingredients and liquid alternately. Fill well-oiled mold or pudding pan 2-3 full. Tie waxed or oiled paper over top of pan; steam about 3 hours, depending on size of mold.

## ABOUT PEOPLE YOU KNOW

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Garner of Post and Miss Kitty Nell Norris of Paducah visited Mr. and Mrs. Roy McDaniel over the weekend.

E. L. Caraway was in Lubbock Monday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Floyd of Elton left Sunday for a two weeks visit with their daughter, Mrs. A. E. Garrett at San Antonio and also to visit with Mrs. Floyd's brother, H. B. Byrd at Tulsa, Okla.

### TRY SPUR MERCHANTS FIRST



... It's Christmas! So Let's Celebrate!

Let's celebrate by recalling on every day what Christmas is and what it means. Let's celebrate by never doubting that eventually Good shall triumph. Let's celebrate by making children happy and by opening our hearts to those in need.

That's the way to have the Merry Christmas we wish for you.

MRS. SMITH CAFE

MRS. ALVA SMITH

## Greetings...

We won't deck it out with fancy phrases, or try to make it sound smart, or turn out a '45 model for it... it isn't that sort of a greeting. It's just a pleasant word from old friends to the people we want to remember... a hope for a

MERRY CHRISTMAS

to everyone we know.

MR. & MRS. JOHNNY KOONSMAN and JOHN JR.

## GREETINGS

1944

A Merry Christmas

MAY the blessings of God be with you, our friends, and with all of us... in our souls and upon our hearths. We can offer no more gracious greeting this Yuletide.

MR. and MRS. R. L. BENSON



WHAT stancher tree than the oak, and what stancher friends than ours? Each year at Christmastime we realize more keenly than ever that our success in this community is deeply rooted in the firm soil of friendship. We cannot tell you in so many words how much these friendly associations mean to us, and how we cherish them. But we know you will understand.

In this spirit of appreciation we send our sincere good Christmas wishes to you and to all those dear to you.

MR. AND MRS. D. B. INCE

## BUY AT HOME

To relieve distress of MONTHLY Female Weakness (Also Fine Stomachic Tonic) Lydia E. Pinkham's Compound is famous to relieve periodic pain and accompanying nervous, weak, tired-out feelings—all due to functional monthly disturbances. Made especially for women—it helps nature! Follow label directions. LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND



YOU START with a GOOD YEAR BATTERY!

Don't get stuck with a dead battery! See us in time. Here's a real buy!

GOOD YEAR "ECONOMY" BATTERY



Now only \$7.25 Ex.

SAVE YOUR BACK WITH THIS SPARK-PLUG PUMP

Just screw into spark-plug socket. Engine pumps up to 60 lbs. of filtered air. Fits all cars, trucks and tractors. \$2.75

HORNS THAT "MOVE 'EM OVER"

You'll get volume and full-tone with these feed-compressing horns. Twice as single. Get them now. Big savings. High quality. List price AS LOW AS \$2.95 Ex.

Allen Auto Supply

Gates Ajar  
With Violet cuddling in his arms He drove his Ford—poor silly, Where once he held his Violet, He now holds his lily.

Undeceiving  
She—Anyone would think I was nothing but a cook in this family.  
Husband—Unless they ate a meal here.

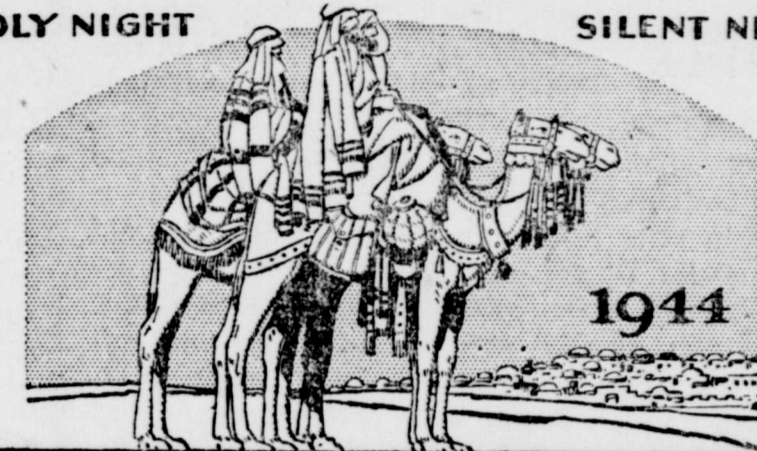
Clerk: "And, remember, I've got something that can change the color of a person's hair overnight."

Customer: "Yeth? I've got a son in college, too!"

Gob: "I'm going to ask you a riddle. What makes my life so miserable?"  
Wife: "You've got me."  
Gob: "That's right!"

Helps Nature Relieve MONTHLY FEMALE PAIN  
You who suffer such pain with tired, nervous, "dragged out" feelings—all due to functional periodic disturbances—start at once—try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to relieve such symptoms. Made especially for women—it helps nature! Also a grand stomachic tonic. Follow label directions.  
LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND

HOLY NIGHT SILENT NIGHT



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

★ The message of good will that emanated from Bethlehem 2,000 years ago not only transforms the world at Christmas but is the foundation of every honest transaction. We depend upon your good will; you depend upon ours.

Your good will has been a priceless asset to us during 1944 and other years. We thank you for the confidence you have placed in us and wish you the manifold blessings of a happy Yuletide.

## CITIZENS GIN

GEORGE SLOAN, Mgr.



EVER THAT SAME STAR

★ The wise men saw it over the hills of old Judea... it glows in the Christmas sky tonight, though clouds may obscure the heavens. It is a beacon of hope in a world in which there is ever so much room for improvement. Its spirit travels around this earth, encouraging, sustaining, and beautifying.

Our Christmas greeting to every man, woman and child in this community... a greeting as warm and hearty—we hope—as if it were made to each in person with a friendly smile and a shake of the hand.

Merry Christmas!

Nichols General Hospital

DR. and MRS. P. C. NICHOLS



Dickens Item and Dickens County Times Absorbed by Purchase.  
Published Weekly on Thursday At Spur, Dickens County, Texas  
TELEPHONE 128

Entered as Second Class Mail Matter on the 12th day of November, 1909, at the Post Office at Spur, Texas, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879, and published continuously without recess.

H. G. HULL, Editor and Publisher  
MRS. H. G. HULL, Adv. Manager

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:  
In Dickens County, per year...\$1.50  
Elsewhere, per year...\$2.00

**Christmas, 1944**

The people of the United States celebrate Christmas, 1944, in the consciousness that sons, husbands and others are engaged in bitter warfare against the enemies of the nation.

It is a sobering realization but, nevertheless, the great Christian holiday will mark again the hope of mankind for a more glorious day. Designed to honor the Prince of Peace it brings to us all an opportunity to give expression to happy hopes and to participate in the festivities that carry joy to the hearts of children.

Even a people at war can turn momentarily to gaily decorated trees, multi-colored lights, holly wreaths and friendly greetings. These Christmas customs, this year, will be tinged with an overtone of sadness over the absence of loved ones whose memory add to the meaning of the Christmas season.

Peculiarly sacred to the children the present Christmas must not fail to reach the growing hearts of millions of little boys and girls. This is their great holiday, the day of magical gifts and supreme happiness. Let all adults have a hand in making Christmas real to children. In so doing they will share the great joy of the celebration.

In Christian countries the holiday has a special religious significance, commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ. It is appropriate for us, in the midst of our festivity, to remember the natal day of the Christian Savior by observing its religious significance. Many churches will have special veneration pray for the safety of the 25th.

Families with members overseas, facing the enemy, will reverently pray or the safety of their men. No finer day for supplication can be found than the one which marks the advent of the Prince of Peace who expounded the principles of life for which our soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen fight. With our appeals to the Maker of Man will be our hope that next Christmas will see millions of families reunited.

**Who Reads The Bible**

Thirteen per cent of American women and six per cent of American men make it a daily practice to read their Bibles, according to a nation-wide survey just completed by the American Institute of Public Opinion.

The survey revealed what one would naturally suspect, that interest in the Bible appears to increase with age. Of people over fifty years of age, fourteen per cent read their Bibles daily.

The Institute is rather liberal in its definition of a Bible-reader, taking its survey on the basis of individuals who have taken time out one or more times during the year to read the Bible. By this test, sixty-two per cent of the people of this country qualify in 1944.

The percentage varies in certain sections of the United States. South of the Mason-Dixon Line, the percentage is seventy-nine; in the West Central area, it is sixty-nine; but in New England and the Middle Atlantic region, the percentage is the lowest.

The test gives us figures for those who read their Bible daily and then jumps to the other end of the scale to those who read them one or more times during the year. This is a wide variation. Even with this comparatively light requirement, thirty-eight per cent of our people cannot qualify, and, it must be presumed, do not read their Bible at all.

We have repeatedly stressed our belief that every individual can study the Bible with profit. We are not among those who believe that the Holy Book can be utilized as a sort of mystic fortune-teller, to give the answer to every materialistic question, but we are quite satisfied that its reading will develop the spiritual growth of individuals.

The Bible, according to the Christian belief, provides the basis for understanding the divine plan for man. It is, in our opinion, designed to reveal the truth of the spiritual world and develop spirituality among men. This, in turn, will help men solve worldly problems.

**'Ghost Fleet' Came To Life**

The "greatest, quickest and most devastating naval gunfire in the history of warfare," is how Chester W. Nimitz describes the battle of Surigao Strait on October 25th.

A "ghost fleet" composed of five battleships which were badly damaged at Pearl Harbor and one other dreadnaught caught eight Japanese warships as they attempted to sneak up on Leyte landing beaches and destroyed them in less than fifteen minutes.

While the development of aerial tactics in connection with naval warfare has made it more difficult for battleships to come to grips, there is no doubt of the effectiveness of the big guns when they get a chance to speak.

The Surigao battle was conclusive, with every enemy ship destroyed, only because of the effectiveness of naval gunfire. In the other two sea battles, which took place the same time, in connection with the Japanese attempt to destroy our Leyte forces, much of the enemy escaped.

The use of aircraft has widely extended the range of naval power but, when fleets are anywhere near equal aircraft strength, the result is usually indecisive. This is not the case when dreadnaughts get together. Usually one fleet or the other goes down for the count.

**Must Work Together**

The future peace of the world depends, in a large degree, upon the willingness of the people of the United States to cooperate with the governments of the other United Nations.

If, when Germany is whipped and Japan folds up, each of the United Nations goes out for every possible advantage, without regard to the welfare of other nations, the world will witness a cat-and-dog fight along economic lines. It will be only one step removed from battle.

We have been much impressed by the fact that various agencies are expressing concern about the

**In Memory of Jim**

By D. H. SANDIDGE

My soldier, Jim, is torn all up,  
'Cause he got in a fight  
With brother's little ugly pup  
When I was 'sleep last night.  
I found him on the floor today,  
Behind his dolly bed,  
An' cried, an' cried, an' wouldn' play,  
An' wished that I was dead!

An' when I tried to take him up,  
I cried and cried, some more,  
'Cause all his body broke all up  
An' spill'd across the floor.  
Then muver come in on the run  
An' says, "Oh, what a sin!  
Look what that naughty pup has done!  
I'll take a switch to him."

An' then she hugs an' kiss me 'cause  
She knows I loved poor Jim;  
An' says, "We'll write to Santa Claus  
A grand new doll to bring;  
For he has dolls with shiny curls,  
That he would gladly send,  
Or soldier dolls for little girls  
With broken hearts to mend."

"Which one of them would you prefer,  
For Santa Claus must know,  
So he can send one, him or her,  
Along with Christmas glow?"  
I don't fink Santa Claus could find,  
Not if I wrote to him,  
A doll in all the world as kind  
An' good as soldier Jim.

An' muver, daddy tol' me once,  
Jim has a brother Tim,  
Who marched off to the war to punch  
Ol' Hitler on the chin;  
An' he'll be marching home all right  
Some day, my daddy said,  
If I would pray for him each night  
Before I went to bed.

So muver, write to Santa Claus  
For me an' say to him,  
That I don't want a dolly 'cause  
I want to wait for Tim;  
I'd rather have a piggy bank  
To save my pennies in,  
An' buy a Vict'ry Bond in fank-  
Ful memory of Jim.

welfare of enemy people without exhibiting much worry over the fate of the people of countries that have fought on our side.

Surely, if we have been able to cooperate with the British, the Russians and others, to prosecute a war to victory we will be anxious to continue the same relationship in the years of peace that follow. This will be especially important because of the necessity that our allies speedily recover from their war exertions.

Any man who has worked to support his family can tell you why women flock to weddings.

The question as to what we should do with the Germans is being answered on the battlefields.

The late Tom Marshall would say now that the country needs a good five-cent cigar to sell for a dime.

Every adult should give Santa Claus a helping hand. The good, old Saint has a busy week ahead of him.

Children who fail to understand their parents very often have parents who do not understand their children.

The war has produced no greater nonsense than the idea that the United States is a nice, respectable nation in a world of thugs.

Some executives create the impression that they are overworked when the truth of the matter is that they are only out-thought.

The average American wants freedom for himself and his affairs and stern governmental regulation for his competitors and creditors.

When Woodrow Wilson went to Europe in 1918, he did not believe that millions of American fighting men would be there in 1944.

Before passing critical judgment on the Red Army, we would like to know what kind of pressure the Germans are feeling on the Eastern front.

The main business of the nation, after Germany is defeated, will be to proceed in such a manner as to convince the Japanese, the next time they want to start a sudden war, to steer clear of the United States.

**BUY AT HOME**

Try This New Amazing  
**Cough Mixture**  
An Outstanding Success—  
In Canada—Made in U.S.A.

Great for Bronchial Coughs or Throat Irritations Due to Colds  
The King of all cough medicines for coughs or bronchial irritations resulting from colds in cold wintry Canada is Buckley's CANADIOL Mixture. Fast working—triple acting—Buckley's Mixture quickly loosens and raises phlegm lodged in the tubes—clears air passages—soothes the rasped raw tissues, one or two sips and worst coughing spasm eases. You get results fast. You feel the effect of Buckley's instantly.  
Compounded from rare Canadian Pine Balsam and other soothing healing ingredients Buckley's CANADIOL Mixture is different from anything you ever tried—all medication—no strup. Get a bottle to try at any good drug store. Satisfaction guaranteed or money back.

CITY DRUG CO.

**Duck Creek Soil Conservation District NEWS NOTES**

RILEY WOOTEN, Chm. OSCAR MCGINTY, Sec.  
WILL WRIGHT TOM MURDOCK A. A. FREY

Will Wright, Supervisor of Zone 1 of the Duck Creek Soil Conservation District, Garza county, attended the annual meeting of the Texas Soil Conservation District Supervisors held at College Station, December 6. He reported on the progress of the Duck Creek District and heard some of the leading soil conservationists speak on soil and water conservation and the general possibilities and accomplishments of the conservation districts.

Dr. H. H. Bennett reminded the District Supervisors that we will obtain genuine and permanent conservation of our soil and water resources only by the use of each acre according to its individual

capabilities and by the treatment of each acre according to its individual needs.

The Duck Creek Supervisors will meet Thursday of this week for assistance to pass on. These applications must be approved by the supervisors before planning operations can be started.

The Lost Lake Group, with Mr. Alton Clark as group leader, seems to be a little more active than some groups. Terraces are being built and maintained and other conservation practices are being carried out. Mr. F. H. McGaha of this group is very anxious to get a plan and some execution started on the place he has on Duck Creek.

**SEIZURE**

Wars result from thirst for power. Men try to gain sway over other men. Progressively they seek to widen their dominion as strength permits. They take resources by violence so they can hold what authority they may have obtained without force. The rapid rise of Adolph and Benito from obscure political bosses to dictatorship illustrates how totalitarianism grows.

Tyrants rise to power by dominating other men. At first the process is peaceful. Always there is an influence without the use of strong-arm tactics. Those are the days when, with reasonable foresight, violence can be forestalled. World peace, when it comes, could be preserved by keeping too much power out of the hands of too few men; simple but hard to do.

**We Build Wrong**

Thirst for power is not confined to the eastern hemisphere; people in America have it. All of us know such men personally. The United States' tower of centralized government built in late years following a well known but dangerous pattern. I do not charge that the structure was bedeviled by us but we are erecting what dictators use for climbing to absolute monarchy.

Not to care who else gets hurt, so long as "Big I" gets more and more power, is the hall-mark of the House of Tyranny. Somebody wants to boss the public schools and hatches a plan to put all teachers on one pay-roll for all or part of their incomes, thus to grab their allegiance. It would

ruin the schools. Parents would have no voice in their children's education—one-man rule.

**Big Medicine Man**

Somebody else covets a private domain of doctors and hospitals, and promptly paints a pretty picture of so-called socialized medicine. It would restrict the surgeon's knife to the precision of a drill-press. Picture a medical association affiliated with the international union of barbers and bartenders: daily pay-scale, 40-hour week, time-and-a-half on Sundays and Debb's birthday.

Doctors are men and those with ambition would surely quit the profession. Theorists, paper-work doctors and nurses with hook-worms would remain for the short hours and sure pay. The medical profession would be a joke; a grim joke. Without ambition, without zeal for service for humanity, there would be no clinics like Mayo and John Hopkins of which we will need so many, and soon.

**A Lethal Atmosphere**

Imagine a ruptured appendix in your home with your trusted surgeon deer hunting, off duty until tomorrow. Imagine a union nurse walking out on a pneumonia crisis while you wait for Miss No. 72 of the graveyard shift to saunter in and take over. Think of 200,000 new doctors, likely required by the shortened hours, educated at \$1500 a year from taxes, 300 million dollars the first year.

Politicians maybe can console themselves that everybody has to die sooner or later anyhow. Socialized medicine, like military

aggression, is a tragic quest for dominion. Only Congress has power to protect American institutions from pillage. It is my prayer that America may never rankle from resentment enough to foment a Black Shirt rally or a Beer Hall putsch. Wars result from thirst for power.

**Strong Verb**

"If you had a little more spunk," a Jefferson teacher said sternly to one of her boys, "you would stand better in your class. Now, do you know what spunk is?"

"Yes, Ma'am," replied the boy. "It's the past participle of spank."

**USE SPUR WANT ADS**



ALL the good old fashioned spirit of the season is expressed in this hearty MERRY CHRISTMAS.

You've been the best of friends to us in 1944 and here's wishing for you the very best!

**SPUR PRODUCE**

MR. and MRS. CARL MURRAY



**Electricity Makes Guns!**



TODAY on far flung battle fronts, American tanks are rolling to war—delivering POWER WHERE IT IS NEEDED to smash the Axis!

AND WHILE THEY FIGHT, the American electrical industry has a two-fold job to do at home . . . a job to keep an abundance of electric power pouring into our vital war industries . . . and a job to keep you, your family and your home in health and comfort, to keep up the precious homes we're fighting for—to keep you and your better fitted for Victory!

THERE IS AN ABUNDANCE of electric power . . . a supply not only sufficient for present needs . . . but for any emergency needs—though they may be tremendous—which may arise!

POWER . . . where and when it is needed! We are doing our job . . . our job for Victory!

**WHEREVER YOU MAY BE**

Soldier, sailor, marine, war nurse, civilian, homemaker, we are thinking of you this Christmas Day, hoping that the good cheer of the holiday season reaches you wherever you are. We want to thank you for your patronage in past years, and we hope that we will be able soon again to serve those of you now in distant lands. The friendship of every one of our customers, here at home or far away, means much to us, and you may be sure we will strive continually to be worthy of it.

**Municipal Utilities**

LIGHT • POWER • WATER • GAS

**BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY**

**James B. Reed**  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
Day Phone 47—Night Phone 155

**H. S. HOLLY**  
INSURANCE AND LOANS  
Notary Public  
201—PHONE—201

**Dr. W. C. Gruben**  
SPUR, TEXAS  
Jeweler and Optometrist

**L. D. RATLIFF**  
LAWYER  
Spur :: Texas

**Dr. O. R. Cloude**  
Graduate Chiropractor  
103 West Hill Street  
Spur :: Texas

**Clemmons, McAlpine & Co.**  
GENERAL INSURANCE  
Phone 84 Spur, Texas

**Hagins & Francis**  
BUTANE SERVICE  
UNEXCELLED  
Buddy Francis—Elmer Hagins  
24 276

**O. L. KELLEY**  
FARMS • RANCHES  
• LOANS •  
Telephone 103-J—Spur, Texas

**GIBSON**  
INSURANCE AGENCY  
• General Insurance •  
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**DR. T. M. NEEL**  
• OPTOMETRIST •  
Specializing in Visual Training  
1620 Broadway  
Lubbock :: Texas

**Dr. M. H. Brannen**  
DENTIST  
Office Spur Security Bank Building  
Phone 99 Spur, Texas

Let a **SPENCER**  
Lift You Into a Healthful,  
Restful Posture  
**Stella Morrow**  
6 Blocks West of Bank



## LETTERS FROM MEN IN SERVICE

Mr. and Mrs. C. Barton of Girard have recently received the following letter from the son, 1st Lt. R. T. Barton, a Chaplain at an undisclosed place somewhere in the United States:

"Dear Mother and Dad: Just a note to say I am fine. I think I have something to say that will cheer you up at this Christmas Season."

I have spent several hours at the Red Cross on a problem for one of my officers. While here, I learned that beginning in October or November the Red Cross has been getting packages to the men in the Philippines.

An 11lb. package is sent each week. Some packages have food, others have medicine and others contain personal needs. They as-

sure me that these packages are really going in. I got a list of things in the food package. The value is \$3.75. I am sure it would be more were they bought singly in a store.

The contents are: one 7 oz. carton of type K2 biscuits, one 8 oz. carton processed cheese, two 4 oz. bars ration D chocolates, one 4 oz. tin soluble coffee, one 12 oz. tin of corned beef, 5 packages cigarettes, one 15 oz. tin dried fruit.

One 16 oz. can whole milk, one 16 oz. tin of oleomargarine, one 4 oz. tin of orange concentrate, one tin pork luncheon meat, one 8 oz. tin salmon, two 2 oz. bars odorless soap, one 8 oz. carton white lump sugar and one 6 oz. tin liver paste.

I sure was happy to learn this first hand. Know you are too.

May a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year be yours is my wish. May God bless you is my prayer."

Mrs. Ernest J. Caplinger of Spur was very happy to receive the following letter from Colonel N. O. Thomas, Adjutant General of a section of Headquarters Replacement Command in the European Theatre of Operations of which her husband, Cpl. Ernest J. Caplinger is a member:

"Dear Mrs. Caplinger: Your husband, Cpl. Ernest J. Caplinger, is a member of the Adjutant General's Section of this Headquarters. I am sure you will be happy to know that he is doing an excellent job and that he is well. He is a great credit to the service and it is a pleasure to have him with me.

During the Christmas season it will be difficult for most of us to be happy, with so many of our loved ones scattered throughout this war-torn world. However, we should feel proud and thankful that the advances made during the past year have placed us almost within grasp of Total Victory. It is my sincere wish that the year 1945 will bring us the Victory for which we are working and that we can all be at home with our loved ones for the next Christmas holiday.

I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Sincerely,  
N. O. Thomas  
Colonel, AGD,  
Adjutant General."

### Step On 'Em

"What's the matter with your feet?"

"I've got corns."

"Wh don't you do something for them?"

"Why should I? They've never done anything for me."

### Also a Use for Wedding Presents

"There are two things that bridge has taught women, concentration and self-control," says a writer.

Not to mention the art of opening cans and how to pick up a meal at the delicatessen.

Use the Want Ads!

## Construction Helpers NEEDED AT ONCE

—FOR—  
**L. O. STOCKER COMPANY**

SEMINOLE OR BORGER, TEXAS

Constructing 100 Octane Aviation Gasoline Plant for Phillips Petroleum Company.

Transportation furnished enroute to job. Top wages—long time job—Now working 60 hours a week—Time and one-half after 40 hours.

LIVING QUARTERS AVAILABLE

Hiring to Comply with WMC Regulations.

APPLY AT ONCE

**U. S. Employment Service Office**

1207—13TH STREET, LUBBOCK, TEXAS

Seasonal Agricultural Workers Accepted in Compliance with WMC and Selective Service Regulations.



★ At Christmas perhaps more than at any other time in the year we realize what it means to be an American—to worship as we please, to go about our daily pursuits unfettered, to take time out to pay homage to the beautiful

myth of Santa Claus. ★ And at Christmas the members of this organization realize particularly what your patronage has meant to us, and we take this opportunity to thank you while wishing you all a most Merry Christmas.

## Hill's Grocery and Mkt.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Hill



AGAIN ... CHRISTMAS SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE—GERMANY—ITALY, But

Heads Up! Chins Up! Cheer Up this Christmas!

Oh, how our enemies would like to see us fold up this Christmas — get the blues — dive into the doldrums. But our enemies don't know America. Least of all do they know how precious to us are our American institutions. One of the most important is Christmas. It will be celebrated to the full meaning of its spirit. And in so doing we will be showing a united front to the world. We, as Americans, are proud of our heritage. Christmas, the American way, exists. Chins Up America! Now more than ever, the Christmas Spirit Must Prevail. Buy War Bonds for their safe return home.

**Dr. & Mrs. J. F. Hughes**

## The Farmer and War Bonds

by Mr. A. S. Goss  
Master of the National Grange



WE FREQUENTLY hear farmers raise the question as to whether or not they should buy War Bonds as long as they are in debt. The answer to this question should depend in large measure upon the nature of the debt and whether or not it is current. If part of it is past due, and the borrower expects to experience difficulty in meeting past due payments, he probably should bring his debt into current position before investing in Bonds. If, however, his payments are current, there seems to be no reason why farmers should not buy as many Bonds as they are able. Most individual investors in government Bonds are carrying debt in one form or another, at rates higher than the Bonds will yield. This is as it should be if the purchaser is in an earning position which permits the accumulation of some surplus, for we all owe it to our government to do our utmost in the financing of the war, even though the transaction may result in our paying some extra interest on outstanding debts.

When a farmer owes money, he is always concerned as to whether his crops will sell at prices which will enable him to repay his debt. When prices are high it is good business and conservative finance to reduce the debt as rapidly as possible because when prices are low, it takes more crops and more efforts to make the payments.

We should not forget, however, that a government Bond will pay off an equal amount of dollars of debt, no matter whether prices are high or whether prices are low. It is, therefore, a sound and conservative practice to buy government Bonds and lay them

aside to make payments on existing debts when they fall due. In fact, quite aside from the patriotic appeal, it is good business to buy Bonds rather than make pre-payments on debt, because the time may come when the ready cash is needed and the money tied up in pre-payments cannot be returned. If this money is invested in Bonds, it can be converted into cash to meet any needs which may arise.

If everyone followed the policy of buying no War Bonds until their debts were paid, few Bonds would be sold to the public. We have an obligation to help finance this war which is vastly more important than the income we may receive on the investment of money in War Bonds.

Farmers are finding it impossible to maintain their machinery and buildings in a satisfactory state of repair. They are finding that they cannot replace worn-out equipment except at excessively high cost.

It would seem to be sound and conservative business practice to lay aside money to make the repairs and replace worn-out equipment when material and machines are again available. No safer place can be found to lay aside money for such purposes than in government Bonds.

Every time we buy a Bond we are not only assisting in financing the war, but we are also doing our bit to prevent that most dreaded economic disaster called inflation. If each one of us would invest as much as we could in government Bonds, the danger of inflation would be greatly reduced.

U. S. Treasury Department

**Habit**  
Maid (reporting)—There's a man at the door with a wooden leg, mum.  
Thank you, Maggie; we don't need any.

**In the Conservatory**  
Jack—Every time I kiss you I am a better man.  
Jean—Well, don't forget that the reformation that lasts the longest is gradual.

**Now or Never**  
Hub—I can't eat this stuff.  
Young Bride—Never mind, dear, I have some lovely recipes for making up left-overs.  
Hub—In that case I'll eat it.

**TRY SPUR MERCHANTS FIRST**



AS WE APPROACH the beloved anniversary of a great Event we are reminded again of the many Christmas seasons we have seen come and go. Time has changed everything except friendship.

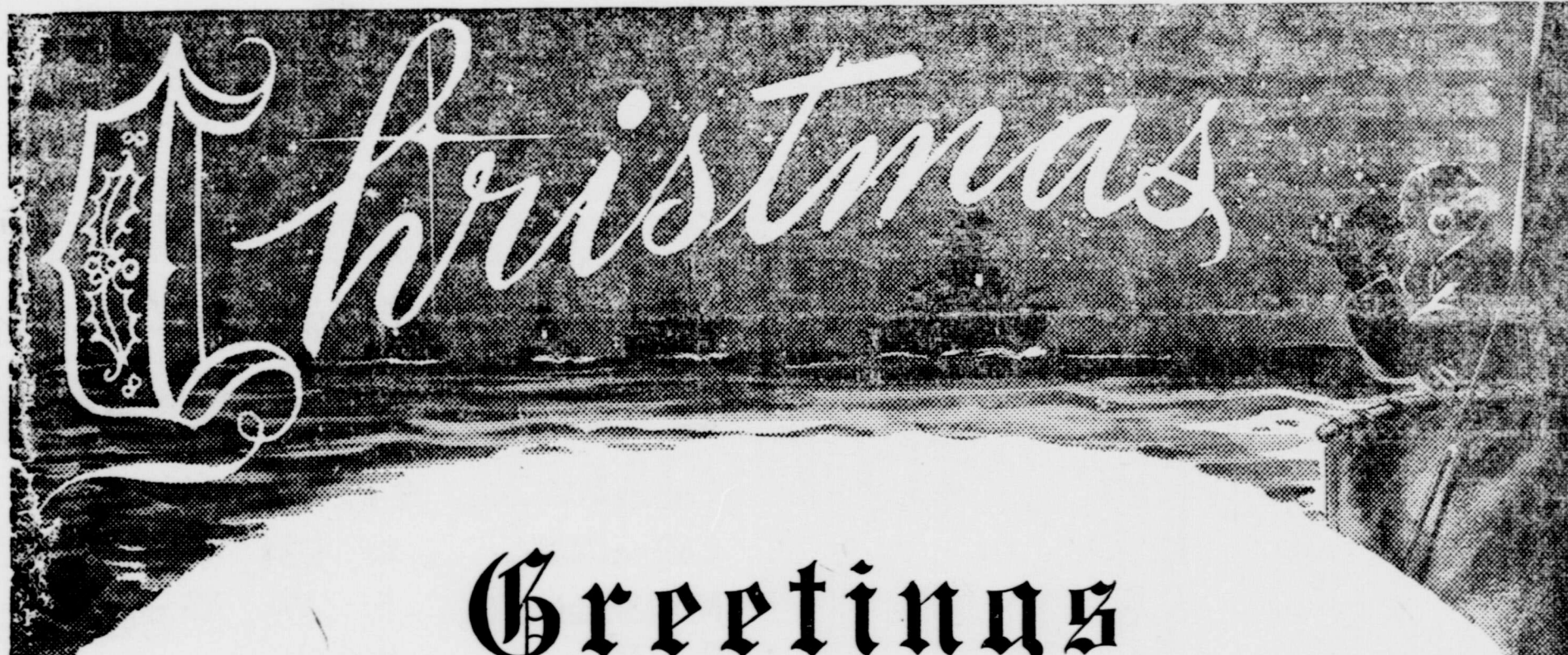
We are proud of the fact that we number among our customers many of the town's "oldest inhabitants"—friends who have become dearer to us with the passing years.

Once again we say Merry Christmas to all.



**Mr. & Mrs. E. C. McGee**

BUY U. S. WAR BONDS



## Greetings

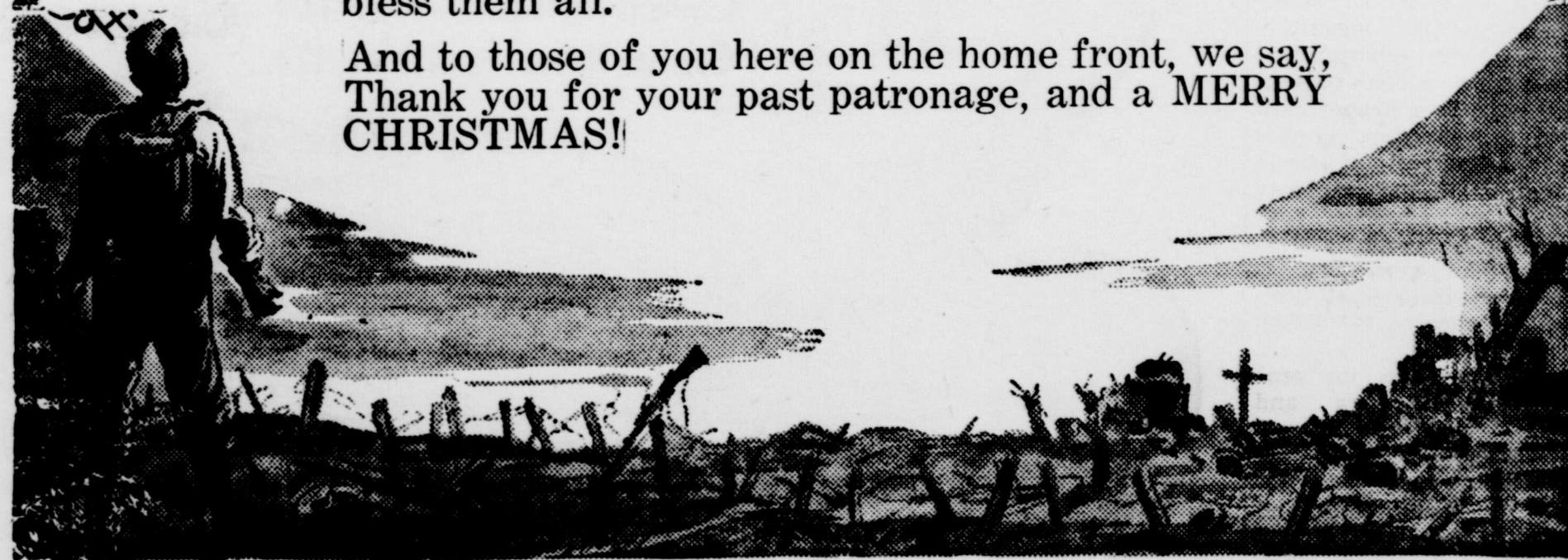
We extend our greetings to the Boys who are fighting to keep our American Christmas alive.

Our boys will be Alone with God on this Christmas. We must give War Bonds for our important presents this year if we are to support them properly. We, safe in our gay, Christmas-cheered homes, can match our faith in them. We must do that, or deny loyalty to the freedoms for which they are fighting. May they return to many joyous Christmas seasons, and—Our Prayer for the Boys Overseas. . .

That they may be cheered this Christmas by the thoughts of home fires brightly burning, by letters from friends and relatives, by the knowledge that everyone at home is behind them, waiting and working for the day when they can come back to pick up the threads of that familiar life interrupted by War.

Christmas means more to us than any event in all the world. But this year our thoughts are of the turmoil of War and are with our brave fighting boys all around the globe. We pause in tribute to those who are giving their lives for the Christmas spirit. God bless them all.

And to those of you here on the home front, we say, Thank you for your past patronage, and a MERRY CHRISTMAS!



## G. F. Wacker Store

H. M. CHRISTIAN, Mgr.



**STOCKHOLDERS MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Spur Security Bank will be held at the office of said bank on the 9 of January 1945 at 10 o'clock a.m. for the election of directors and the transactin of such other business as may properly come before the meeting. 7-4c

**BEWARE!**

1. Beware of strangers—insist on adequate identification. Always refuse to cash a check for a stranger without proof of identity. Credit cards of hotels, membership cards of social clubs, lodges, business cards, Social Security cards, are not always positive proof of identification. They may have been lost or stolen.

2. Car owner's registration, or driver's license—Always examine closely. See that no change have been made in descriptions. Be sure that the authentic stamp of the issuing office or bureau appears on the card, and that no signs of tampering or mutilation are indicated. Write the license and State of issue on the check itself. This makes a follow up much easier.

3. Insist that all checks be endorsed in your presence. The bogus check passes is always impatient, has to make a train, or acts in an important manner. He presents the check after banking hours and just before your closing hour, and is most always active before holidays.

4. Always take time to make careful comparison of signatures—handwriting. Compare the new signature on the check with the signature on the identification. Be careful to compare with payee's name on face of check to see if check has been endorsed exactly as drawn—if it is not, your suspicion should be aroused.

5. Beware of printed company checks—watch any and all rubber stamped items. The bad check passer is skilled in cashing bogus company checks printed in advance. If a local company, check the telephone book, and make an attempt to verify the issuing of the check. If it is an out-of-town check, be doubly careful to verify that such company actually exists.

6. Do not accept social security cards as identification under any circumstances. The Social Security Board has cautioned merchants against counterfeit social Security cards being used for cashing checks. Remember that upwards of 50,000 worn out or lost cards are being replaced per month. Also remember that no check can be made of Social Security records, not even by police authorities.

7. Bank Pass book or check book—No proof of authentic account or funds. The possession of the above should not be accepted as definite identifications of the presenter, nor as authority to draw checks on the bank. There may be many fake deposits entered in the pass book; they might have gotten the check by some subterfuge.

8. Beware of unidentified Service men—Authentic service men have credentials. Ask to see the man's identification tag, it gives his name, address, Army serial number. Write these on the check. Also ask him to write under the endorsement any other identifying information as to address that can be given.

9. Be absolutely sure of identification before cashing allotment checks. Army and Navy dependency checks and others are being stolen. Know your endorser absolutely before cashing checks for strangers, require proper and adequate identification. Make notation on back of check as to identification presented. This may help you later.

10. Report all bad checks to Spur Retail Merchants Association. By doing so you may save the next inquiring member from a similar loss. We cooperate fully and completely with police authorities.

11. Write all important identifying data on back of checks. We again restate this suggestion as it is to very important in trying to trace check passers. When you look at a license card be careful to note that number and State on the back of check. Should that check bounce back, you then have something very definite to use in tracing and in remembering the case. This is most important—instruct all persons cashing checks to follow this procedure.

12. Don't be suckers for professional check passers and crooks. Take your time. Get real bonafide identification before cashing checks for strangers. Review all of the above points and if properly followed you will not be the victim of many check passers. Money saved in this manner is just the same as profits earned. Don't be too sales hungry to be careul.

**Retail Merchants Association**

**CLASSIFIED**

FOR SALE: One W.C. Model Allis Chambers tractor, good rubber and in good shape. 1 two row stalk cutter, 1 2-row go-devil 3 sections of harrow, 1 four wheel trailer and other implements. See MILLARD SMITH, 3 1/2 miles NE Gilpin. 8-2p

FOR SALE: One nine-foot Mc-Cray meat case, meat blocks and electric scales. HENRY N. HEXT, Afton, Texas. 8-2p

FOR SALE: Nice coffee table. MRS. GEORGE GABRIEL. 1c

LOST: Black pocketbook containing five \$1.00 bills. Lost in the vicinity of the Postoffice. Will give \$1.00 reward to the finder. Please return to The Texas Spur office. 1p

FOR SALE: 12 foot farmall-1937 model with equipment. Must sell at once. Going to army. W. F. RAGLAND Jr. 2 miles north and one-half mile west of Glenn. 8-2p

FOR SALE: Three lots and two room house in good condition. Priced reasonably. See or write JOHN A. BURKS. 8-3p

WANTED: Farm hand for next year. B. F. MIDDLETON, 3 miles east of Afton. 8-4p

FOR SALE: For 20 days only: 163 acre farm, sub-irrigated farm. Fine for stock farming. 2 1/2 miles east of town. L. C. PONDER. 8-2tp

FOR SALE IMMEDIATELY: 4,000 bundles higer, one Farmall Regular with two row equipment, one fence charger with more than half mile of wire. All for \$850.00 or would sell separately. One mile north of Gilpin store.

See me at Farmall House, Spur. E. G. HALL.

\$10,000 to buy good used tractors. Cash in 5 minutes for your tractor. See McGEE and RICK-ELS, Spur, Texas. 6-1fc

FARM FAMILY WANTED: Need man with family to do general farm work near Hereford, Texas. Must have knowledge of general livestock, wheat and small grain farming. Also ability to handle farm help. Can use man with son large enough to do a man's work. Steady employment for both. Good salary, straight time, house and conveniences furnished. AUSTIN C. ROSE, McAdoo, Texas. 7-4p

ROF SALE: 1938 Packard sedan with reconditioned motor, fair tires. See V. N. WILLIAMS, at Wilson Hotel before 3:30 p.m. 7-2tp

FOR SALE: 192 acre farm. Good rock house, orchard and plenty water. \$40.00 per acre. EUNICE HARRISON, Jayton, Texas. 7-2tp

LOST: Two pointer bird dogs Dec. 11. Ten miles east of Afton.

One white and black spotted small black dots over body. One lemon and white pup. Notify BRYANT-LINK CO., Spur or J. M. OWENS, Stamford for liberal reward. 7-3tc

FOR SALE: 7 acres close in. Improved. Fenced hog proof. Plenty barns and chicken houses. City lights and water. See SHAG MOUDY, Box 733, Spur, or inquire Spur Trading Post. 7-2p

FOR SALE: What is known as old Presely property. 5 acres, 7 room, two baths, good barns. Priced reasonably. See MRS. W. D. STARCHER. 7-1fc

FOR SALE: 160 acre farm south of Gasoline. Improved, good water, practically all cultivated. \$35.00. 320 acres stock farm 4 miles NW of Turkey. 170 acres fine cultivated land. Balance in good grass. Fenced. 2 surface tanks. no improvements. \$35.00. 90 acre sandy land farm south of Turkey, all cultivated, no improvements. Real bargain at \$1350.00. WILLIS WALKER. 7-2tp

FOR SALE: '37 Model A tractor in good condition. Good

rubber and priced right. Also '34 Ford Truck. L. D. WITT, Kalgary, Texas. 6-4tp

WANTED: House to rent by the first of January. At least 4 rooms. See PARTSMAN at Farmall house. 6-3tc

FOR SALE: 87 acres of land, at \$35. per acre. Near Highway school house. See LETSER ENGLISH. 4-4tp

CHARM-KURL PERMANENT WAVE, 59c. Do your own permanent with Charm-Kurl Kit. Easy to do, absolutely harmless. Requires no heat, electricity or machines. Safe for every type of hair. Praised by millions including June Lang, glamorous movie star. MILAM'S 5c-\$1.00 STORE. 51-10p

Speaking of Spades  
Minnie Gutsch believes in calling a spade a spade—except when playing bridge—and then she calls it two spades.

Butcher—"Round steak, madame?"  
Bride—"The shape doesn't interest me, so long as its tender."

**TO MY AVON CUSTOMERS**

A Very Merry Christmas and a prosperous and Victorious New Year.

Mrs. J. A. Marsh Sr.

**BUY AT HOME**

**SAFEGWAY OFFERS**

**The Season's BEST IN FOODS IN GREETINGS**

**TURKEYS 55¢**  
DRESSED AND DRAWN—OVEN READY... Lb.

**HENS 48¢**  
DRESSED AND DRAWN—OVEN READY  
ALL SIZES

**OYSTERS 85¢**  
Eastern Selects Lb.

**Fish 21¢**  
Whiting Lb.

**Quality Meats**

Center Cut Pork  
**Chops 35¢** (8 Points Lb.)  
Beef Shoulder  
**Roast 26¢** (5 Points Lb.)  
Beef Sirloin  
**Steak 40¢** (13 Points Lb.)  
Sliced Beef  
**Liver 35¢** Lb.  
Fresh Ground  
**Hamburger 24¢** Lb.  
Fresh Ground  
**Veal 28¢** Lb.

We Reserve the Right to Limit Quantities

**Oranges 10¢** California Novel Lb.  
**Oranges 7¢** Texas Juicy Lb.  
**Grapefruit 7¢** Foster Pink Lb.  
**Celery 14¢** California Crisp, Tender Lb.  
**Brussels Sprouts 17¢** Lb.

**Stewart Pecans 37¢**  
Paper 14-Oz. Shell Pkg.

**Coffee** Airway Fresh Roasted 2 1-Lb. Pkgs. 4 1/4  
Nob Hill Luxury Blend 1-Lb. Pkg. 23¢

**Walnuts** Baby Emerald Lb. 39¢

**Pecans** Shelled Cello Pack 8-Oz. Pkg. 53¢

**Mayonnaise** Nu Made 32-Oz. Jar 47¢

**Pecans** Shelled Cello Pack 16-Oz. Pkg. 89¢

**Pure Honey** Beeville 16-Oz. Jar 25¢

**Peanuts** Tennessee Fresh Roasted 2 1-Lb. Pkgs. 49¢

**Olives** Queen Isabella Stuffed Olives 8 1/2-Oz. Jar 67¢

**Mince Meat** Lady Betty 30-Oz. Jar 42¢

**Pimientos** Spanish Trail 7-Oz. Can 18¢

**Beverly** Peanut Butter Fancy Quality 9t. Jar 35¢

**Pumpkin** Alice No. 2 1/2 Can 15¢

**Syrup** Sneezy Hollow Rich in the Real Maple 16-Oz. Bot. 21¢

**Peaches** Extra Choice Cello Pack 1-Lb. Pkg. 37¢

**Cherub Milk** (1 Point Per Can) 3 Tall Cans 25¢

**Shortening** Swift Jewel 4-Lb. Ctn. 75¢

**Catsup** Red Hill Tomato (50 Points) 14-Oz. Bot. 15¢

**Schillings Sage** 1 1/2-Oz. Pkg. 13¢

**Corn Meal** Morrison Premium 5-Lb. Bag 27¢

**Niblets Corn** Del Moiz No. 2 Can 14¢

**Baking Soda** Arm & Hammer 3 1-Lb. Pkgs. 20¢

**Fancy Peas** Rogers' No. 1 Can 14¢

**Matches** Favorite 3 Boxes 10¢

**Red Salmon** Libby's (8 Points) No. 1 Can 40¢

**White Onions** Lb. 7c

**Shredded Wheat** N.B.C. Pkg. 12¢

**Corn Meal** Morrison Premium 5-Lb. Bag 27¢

**Crackers** Crispy or Premium 2-Lb. Bag 33¢

**Baking Soda** Arm & Hammer 3 1-Lb. Pkgs. 20¢

**Flour** Swansdown Cake Flour 44-Oz. Pkg. 28¢

**Flour** Kitchen Craft Finest Quality 25-Lb. Bag 1.25

**Flour** Gold Medal Finest Quality 25-Lb. Bag 1.37

**Texas Yams** 2 Bu. 17¢

**Potatoes** Idaho Russets 5 Lbs. 22¢

**Lettuce** Arizona Firm Heads Lb. 11¢

**Apples** Washington Delicious, Jonathan or Winesap 2 Lbs. 23¢

**Onions** Colorado Yellow Spanish 3 Lbs. 10¢

**Grapefruit** Texas Seedless Lb. 5¢

**Carrots** Fancy California 2 Bu. 17¢

**Chocolates** Sunshine 1-LB BOX 59¢

**BREAD** 24 1/2 Loaf 10¢

**EDWARDS COFFEE** 1-LB. GLASS 27¢

**DUCHESNE** 16-Oz. JAR 23¢

**SAFEGWAY**



**Spur Rotary Club**  
Meets Every  
Thursday 12:05 P.M.  
SPUR INN  
'Service Above Self'

# THE TEXAS SPUR

The Dickens Item and Dickens County Times Absorbed by Purchase  
Official Publication for the County of Dickens and the City of Spur

KEEP ON  
Backing the Attack!  
WITH  
WAR BONDS

VOLUME XXXVI

SPUR, DICKENS COUNTY, TEXAS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1944

12 PAGES IN TWO SECTIONS—SECTION TWO NUMBER 4

## The Stable Boy

Long, long ago there lived in the town of Bethlehem, a small boy whose name was Eli, of the Jewish family of Dan-Laben. Eli had soft brown curls and big brown eyes. He had an older brother whose name was Amon. Now Amon was a strong, sturdy lad, but little Eli was weakly and rail of limb.

Now Eli's father was a stern and proud man who wanted his boys to be strong. He was kind to Amon but cruel and harsh to little Eli. Eli's heart was often sad because his father had never a kind word for him.

"Mother, what can I do to be a strong boy, so my father will be kind to me?" he asked one day. "My father gives all the noble tasks to Amon, while to me he deals out the work that should be given to the slaves."

His mother sighed, for her heart often ached because of her small son's frailty. At last she said, "One should not scorn the humble tasks. Do the small tasks given you, as if you are doing them for a king."

Eli understood her meaning. He would do the tasks accorded him the best he could.

Now the days were at hand when the people in Judea came to their native Bethlehem to pay their taxes as decreed by the Roman government. The ruler at Rome ruled over the people in Bethlehem and surrounding country because their warriors had conquered this land. The Jews were looking daily for the Great Messiah to deliver them as was promised them in the law of the prophets. Little Eli knew about this expected King that God was going to send to His faithful people. He had heard the high priest in the temple tell of Him.

The streets of Bethlehem were choked with the jostling crowd of people. The inns were filling and at the gate of Joppa many

strange faces of far-away races could be seen.

The father of Amon and Eli came into their home in the early morning crying with spirit. "Ah, I have made a good bargain. You, Amon, will be a great man. You shall wear a velvet suit. You'll have jeweled sandals on your feet. For today I send you to serve as a page in the courts of the Roman governor. Eli, the weakling, must clean the stables. Our space here at the inn is taken up, and I must make many shekels while business is good. Go, Eli, weakling, and clean the stable."

The mother rose in protest. Eli's face crimsoned.

"I will not go," he cried. "Whip me as a slave but I will not clean the stable!" and his lips were white with anger.

Amon, the stronger lad was laughing. He was seeing himself a handsome page in the courts of Pilate. Eli's mother came to his side. She smoothed the tumbled brown curls and kissed him tenderly.

She said, "My boy, do not scorn the humble tasks."

"Sir," cried Eli to his father, as he stood up straight before him, "I will go to do the lowly work, but never will I dwell under your roof again!"

And straightway Eli went and cleaned the stable that was part of a cave where King David had hidden long ago from enemies. Never had he striven so hard to do a task well! The stable was shining with cleanliness and fresh sweet straw did Eli put in the mangers. Then the young lad made him a bed for the night beneath a matted grape vine.

Just before he fell into slumber, he saw two people come to the cave for shelter from the frost of the night.

In the night the boy opened radiant light was shining in his face. There was a crystalline

brightness around him that made the plants and trees look as if draped in silver scarfs. The radiance hovered about the stable. Eli heard singing; he heard slow steps moving about, he heard gentle laughter and rejoicing. What had happened? Was he dreaming?

He jumped up quickly and ran in wonderment to the opening of the stable, not daring to go in, for there were others before him. There were shepherds kneeling about, there were strange men dressed in foreign garments covered with gems. There were camels near the door. Eli drew back a bit frightened. His knees began trembling so he could scarcely stand, for he had seen beyond the shepherds and the wise men. He had seen a tiny babe in a manger. There was such a shining radiance about the babe, that Eli's eyes were blinded or the moment Eli crept away in awe. He went to a camel who was kneeling in the straw. Eli had heard what the shepherds and wise men were saying:

"Glory to God in the Highest, the King is born! Peace on earth, good will to men!"

The Heavenly King was born. He was here on earth. And Eli, the weakling, had made a place or him! Oh, how glad he was he had cleaned the stable the best he knew how! For indeed, he had made it ready for a King.

One of the bearded wise men came to the door. "My lad," he asked, "Will you give the camel water and food?"

"Indeed, Sir," answered Eli. Never again would he be a weakling! His body would grow strong again after days of fresh air and sunshine. The surging happiness within him would give him a strength that nothing could overcome. Ah, he the little Eli, had cleaned the stable for a King!—Lilith Sanford.

This story, though fictitious, nevertheless teaches the importance and the humble submissiveness of small tasks.

CHRISTMAS DAY  
Again the Inn is crowded with hate and pomp and pride.

Again the Blessed Mary admittance is denied.

Again 'tis Christmas morning, but a few there are call To see the Holy Infant who came with peace for all.

Once more life's inn is crowded with arrogance and greed And only mocking laughter responds to Mary's need.

The place is filled with soldiers to serve a tyrant's whim, The Prince of Peace is waiting, but there's no room for him.

Again 'tis Christmas morning and in a world forlorn, The bells ring out the message: "The Prince of Peace is born!"

Two thousand years and over and still His truth they doubt And still men's hearts are crowded and still they shut Him out!—Edgar A. Guest

The Genius  
"How," asked the officer on the rifle range, "did you get those four straight hits? Your range is 600 yards, but your sight is set at 300?"

Said the young Militiaman: "See that little rock half-way along? Well, I'm bouncing 'em off that!"

Lost Her Face  
A nifty young flapper named Jane

While walking was caught in the rain, She ran—almost flew, Her complexion did, too, And she reached home exceeding plain.

LIFE'S Little TROUBLES  
CAN'T SLEEP—  
No need to lie in bed—toss—worry and fret because CONSTIPATION or GAS PRESSURE won't let you sleep. Be sensible—get up—take a dash of ADLER-I-KA

as directed, to relieve the pressure of large intestines on nerves and organs of the digestive tract. Adlerika assists old food wastes and gas through a comfortable bowel movement so that bowels return to normal size and the discomforts of pressure stop. Before you know it, you are asleep. Morning finds you feeling clean—refreshed and ready for a good day's work or fun. Get Adlerika from your druggist today.

CITY DRUG CO.  
RED FRONT DRUG

## SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

### THE GROUND OF UNIVERSAL JOY

International Sunday School Lesson for December 24, 1944

GOLDEN TEXT: "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people."—Luke 2: 10.

Lesson Text: Luke 2: 8-12; Hebrews 1: 1-4.

For some time now, everyone has been thinking about and making preparations for Christmas. All over the country, schools have been dismissed, college students have returned home and, in some instances, members of the armed forces have been given leaves in order that they might spend the Christmas holiday season with their loved ones. This will be a sorrowful season for numbers of others.

For weeks, the newspapers have been urging us to mail our gift packages to our loved ones and friends early, because the congestion of the mails may cause such a delay in distribution of Christmas parcels that these loved ones and friends may have no Christmas. But don't you think we should analyze that idea a little? Does Christmas joy depend absolutely and wholly on holiday gift or food? Haven't we, through our observance of Christmas, gone somewhat astray and lost, along the way, the real meaning of Christmas?

The scripture passage from

Luke, giving us the story of the birth of the Savior, is one of the most beautiful passages in the Bible and one we have known since early childhood. Luke, the physician, gives many of the intimate details of his birth; the crowded inn, the swaddling clothes, the manger, the shepherds in the field, the angel's announcement, the angelic chorus, and the visit of the shepherds. The story is so familiar that we are apt to overlook its real significance—the message the angel brought to the world.

What was the angel's message? "For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." There could be no Christmas had there been no Savior sent. And what is a Savior? He is one who saves or delivers.

The Jews, captives of the Roman Government, had been looking and longing for one who would free them from their bondage. A Messiah had been promised and the faithful were still expecting that promise to be fulfilled. Their conception of a Savior, however, was a sort of political emancipator, not the sort of savior that Matthew, in Matthew 1: 21, describes: "Thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save people from their sins."

Therefore, we at Christmas should realize that the foundation of our joyousness should be that we have a Savior who is able to save us from that which, if continued, will destroy our very lives and souls. How many of us have thought about this during our celebration of Christmas?

The writer of the letter to the Hebrews also reminds us that we

should think of God, the Father, at Christmas time, for it was because of his love for us that he sent His Son, Jesus, into the world. The birth of the child in Bethlehem marked the beginning of God's supreme effort to make himself understood by man. John 3: 16 should have an especial meaning for us at Christmas time. It should remind us of the goodness and mercy of our Heavenly Father, portrayed to us in the flesh by His Son, Jesus Christ.

Our reference from I John is given in order that we might realize that there can be no real joy at Christmas time unless there is real fellowship and unity with the Word of Life, Jesus. John's readers had not seen Jesus, but John had, and he assures them of this fact over and over.

The secret of the "Christmas spirit" is in forgetting one's self and finding happiness in other's joy. There are lonely ones, on Christmas Day, sad and burdened ones, but even they may have a portion of the Christmas spirit if they will but forget themselves and do something to make someone else happy. We should never forget these words of Whittier:

"For somehow, not only for Christmas, but all the long years through,

The joy that you give to others is the joy that comes back to you;

And the more you spend in blessing the poor and the lonely and sad,

The more of your heart's possessing, returns to make you glad."

BUY AT HOME

## Red Cross Planning Festive Christmas For All Servicemen

Christmas preparations begun months ago by Red Cross workers here at home will help bring a traditional Yuletide to our servicemen all over the world in American Red Cross clubs, in hospitals, at camp, and at the front. Even those miles out at sea will not be forgotten.

A special American Red Cross Christmas gift package will be distributed to every American serviceman and woman hospitalized overseas. Those who visit Red Cross clubs will find there, first of all, a list of churches in the community where special Christmas services are being held plus a Christmas dinner, carol singing, and holiday decorations provided by the folks at home. Of the more than 5,000 Christmas decoration kits shipped by the Red Cross for overseas use, 800 were prepared by members of the American Junior Red Cross.

These kits, with whatever Red Cross workers can get together in the way of native trees and materials, will also provide decorations for hospital wards and recreation halls overseas and out-post stations. Sailors and marines who sit down to Christmas dinner aboard naval vessels will have holiday menu covers made for them by the Junior Red Cross, and aboard many a transport carrying service men en route Red Cross workers will organize parties.

TRY SPUR MERCHANTS FIRST

## "Peace On Earth"

Another year. Another Christmas. Once more children look up, the very Star of Bethlehem reflected in their eyes as they hear the story of the infant Jesus. Once more the parents of little children everywhere pray that there should be peace on earth—for never before in all history, has His lesson been more worthy of repetition. Good will toward men—let every man say it over and over. Let it be instilled in the hearts of those just learning the ways of life. Nor is there any man who can observe Christmas irreverently—without doing sacrilege to Our Saviour's name.

Of course, we wish you a Merry Christmas—a happy time with family and friends—but; more than that, we wish that you may have an abiding faith in the true meaning of Christmas. A faith that fills your heart with the peace exemplified by Christmas. A faith that sustains you and yours until that peace becomes a reality in the great heart of the world.

In these troubled times of world unrest and strife, Christmas brings home to us the realization that "Peace on earth, good will toward men" is more than just an empty phrase. It is the foundation of all the teachings of Him whose birthday we celebrate. May that spirit go with you throughout the days of the coming year, and may we say here, THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOYAL PATRONAGE.

## Spur Security Bank

### how much WHITE LIGHT

in a pound of BLACK COAL?

THE lamp has a 100-watt bulb in it and the lump of coal weighs one pound.

Pulverized and blown into the big boiler of a modern power-plant, a pound of coal\* provides enough steam to generate one kilowatt-hour of electricity.

That much electricity, in turn, will light the lamp for ten hours—long enough to read this newspaper and a couple of novels. Or it will run a small radio for 25 hours, a food mixer for 13 hours, a washer for almost 7.

"So what?" you say. The point is this. 25 years ago, it took about three times as much coal to produce a kilowatt-hour of electricity as it does today!

The all-around efficiency which gets several times as much white light from black coal has benefited YOU in many ways.

It has made your electric service better and cheaper year by year. It has met tremendous wartime demands for electric power, without delay, shortages or rationing. It has held the price of electricity at an all-time low, while other costs went up.

These results come from the sound business management of the nation's light and power companies—and from the hard work of men and women who know their business—and who are preparing for even greater accomplishments tomorrow.

\*Some plants use less than 1 pound; some more, because of differences in coal and equipment. The nation-wide average is 1.3 pounds per kilowatt-hour.

## West Texas Utilities Company



# Greetings...

In this brief, simple message, we wish to convey our Christmas Greetings, and trust that you will accept them in the true meaning in which they are presented. May the new year hold for you every success and may your every ambition be realized.

And to convey our sincerest hopes for a cheerful, happy Christmas and a brighter New Year to you.

**Dr. O. R. Cloude, D. C., and Family**



## These are Times That Try Men's Souls

Especially now, when Christmas and all it stands for means so very much more, re-pledge your faith in the brotherhood of man by going to Church on Christmas day. There in simple words and cheering song is the true Yuletide spirit. In the kindly greetings of your neighbors and friends you will find a more sincere, Merry Christmas than any you have enjoyed in former years.

**RITER HARDWARE CO.**

## Living Memorials for All Our Boys

In memory of me you wouldn't erect  
A dreary stone that would reflect—  
No thought of joy or living things,  
Or hope, for which the whole world sings,

I ask that you go plant a tree  
To cast a shadow cool, for me,  
A tree to bless the weary earth,  
Or any monument of vital worth!

In haunting memory, on marble cold,  
I want no story of my valor told,  
Forlorn and desolate, they stand for years,  
Despair they bring, and lonely tears.

Instead, I beg you plan a place,  
A playground—where children race,  
A little lake—a bathing beach,  
A happy place—in easy reach.

For all the Boys—on sea or land,  
For all the Flyers—who victory planned,  
From the Spirit World—We unite our pleas—  
For playgrounds—pools—and glorious trees!

No futile piles of stone to mar,  
The landscape view—both near and far!  
Dead monuments are but idle toys—  
Give living things for our noble boys!

**MERRY CHRISTMAS, SON, and HAPPY NEW YEAR!**  
**McGEE FORD TRACTOR CO.**  
**LUTHER SMITH**

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

War or peace, a brave new world is in the making—a world in which better opportunities will be had for all.

The Spirit of Progress is on the march, and we may all look hopefully to the future. At this time it's fitting that we count our many friends and recall the happy relationships of 1944.

We wish all of you the choicest blessings that Christmas can bestow.

**CLEMMONS, McALPINE & CO.**



# MERRY CHRIS



Christmas of 1944 is going to be a **BIG** Christmas. See if we aren't right.

May **YOUR** Christmas be bounteous and full of good cheer, and may our greeting and best wishes add just a little to your pleasure this Yuletide.

**HOGAN and PATTON**  
MR. and MRS. NED HOGAN



And to each of you who read this message that enraptured happiness which comes only at **CHRISTMASTIME**

**RUCKER'S SHOE SHOP**  
MR. and MRS. MONK RUCKER



At this season we should all subject ourselves to re-examination, to see if good fellowship and kindness still survive as a practical combination to bring happiness to the human heart. Each of us holds in his hands the key to this combination. Let us use it during this Christmas season of 1944, to help transform dreams into realities.

May we add our glad Christmas greetings to the many which are finding their way to you?

**BEST WISHES FOR ENDURING HAPPINESS, JOY AND HEALTH FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR.**

**MRS. W. L. HYATT**  
**HORACE HYATT**

## Another Ch

Another Christmas dr  
Another Christmas  
hate  
And sorrow's agony ar  
While still for peace  
wait!

Another Christmas soo  
And scarce one 1  
whole!  
Some loved one, land  
Serving his country  
soul!

Still, for the joys he co  
Let no one Santa wa  
And when the bells of 1  
Once more let love  
reign.

For those who fight fo  
And those who dare,  
Are trusting us this Ch  
For their sake not to

—Edga



# GREETINGS

**MAY THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS BE WITH YOU . . .**

Christmas is a time for giving, but now the accustomed trifles won't do. The most worthwhile gift is some portion of yourself. We send a friendly wish that you be happy this Christmas . . . and thus help make others happy too.

It won't be the same as former holidays but for others' sake, let's keep our vision clear, our chins up, and our faith steadfast. And in the season's spirit we send you—**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS AND WISHES FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**CAMPBELL FUNERAL CHAPEL**



## CHRISTMAS

**1944**

A fervent desire for joy and peace on Christmas Day dominates our wishes as we recall past Yuletides . . . all spent in the serenity and harmony that is symbolic of the holy season. More than ever before our holiday greetings express the hope that this Christmas will be one of bounty . . . of everlasting peace . . . of zealous joy and gracious thanks for the privilege of enjoying Christmas in the American way.

**C. B. Chandler, Phm. 1-C**  
**Mrs. Chandler**

## Greetings...

We are hoping that your Christmas will be gay and delightful as were the childhood Merry Christmases spent many years ago. Today, as then, may the gladness of Christmas force all other thoughts from your mind, and may the **COMING YEARS OF PEACE BRING YOU HAPPINESS THAT IS COMPLETE!**

**MR. and MRS. GRAY DRAPER**

## AND YOU COULD I BELLS JINGL

It seems like a long time ago . . . but you used to lie in bed on Christmas Eve for Santa to come. Remember how excited you were? And remember the Innursons that you would use to convince going to get exactly what you had asked for? Christmas was truly a thrill.

We're happiest when we live in dream are the honest expressions of staunch the good. The final triumph of just evil, are the dreams of true American which we are fighting to make reality them this Christmas.

**DR. and MRS. W. C.**





# CHRISTMAS, Son...

## Christmas

Christmas drawing near;  
Christmas spoiled with  
agonies and fear,  
for peace on earth we

Christmas soon to be,  
the one family circle  
near, land or sky or sea,  
in our country, heart and

joys he comes to bring  
Santa wait in vain,  
the bells of midnight ring  
let love and laughter

to fight for us away  
who dare, for us, to die  
is this Christmas Day  
like not to pass it by.

—Edgar A. Guest



## COULD HEAR THE S JINGLING

ago... but it really isn't... when  
Christmas Eve and breathlessly wait  
remember how every little sound would  
be the innumerable number of rea-  
sons to convince yourself that you were  
at you had asked for. In those days  
thrill.

live in dreams... if those dreams  
are of staunch faith in the right and  
triumph of just concepts over greed and  
false American today... the dreams  
to make reality. Renew your faith in

S. W. C. GRUBEN

**WELCOME 1945! We greet 1945 with  
fervor. For a new year, like a new day,  
unfolds infinite possibilities.  
May your New Year bring the realiza-  
tion of all your aspirations and hopes,  
and your holiday be a day of**

**GOOD CHEER**

On the threshold of 1945, it may be appropriate to  
envision a Better World in which to live. May God  
speed the day of World Victory and bring Peace on  
Earth, Good Will toward Men.

**SPUR LAUNDRY-CLEANERS**  
Mr. and Mrs. Dave Wilson—Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Wilson

**MAY TRUE PEACE and  
HAPPINESS BE YOURS**

May you look to Him, who  
is the Giver of All Good  
Things, in your search for  
**HAPPINESS and PEACE.**

**MRS. LEE HINDMAN**

## The First Noel

On a hillside in Judea is a small town called Beth-  
lehem. This town is known and revered over the  
world where Christianity is found, for it was in this  
town, in a lowly manger, a baby was born. This babe  
became our "Prince of Peace." Each year we cele-  
brate His birthday and call the day Christmas. It is  
a time of rejoicing and merrymaking, a time when  
we pause from work and think of our loved ones  
and friends in a special way.

In a very special way we are thinking of you this  
Christmas. We desire for you all the good things of  
life. A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New  
Year To You All.

**GULF OIL COMPANY**  
H. A. BOOTHE, Distributor

## LAND OF HAPPY HOMES

Ours is a land of happy homes,  
of free hearts. God has bounti-  
fully bestowed many blessings  
upon us. Let us put our trust in  
Him and be glad this happy  
Yuletide season.

**May Your  
Christmas Be Merry**

And may your blessings be  
many in the coming year and  
each year that follows.

**O. K. RUBBER WELDERS**



Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas  
tonight!  
Christmas in lands of the fir-tree and  
pine,  
Christmas in lands of the palm-tree  
and vine;  
Christmas where snow-peaks stand  
solemn and white,  
Christmas where corn-fields lie sunny  
and bright."

—Phillip Brooks.

**RAMSEY'S GARAGE**

## CHEERY GOOD WISHES



**For a  
Holiday Season  
Filled With Joy  
That Will Remain  
Throughout the  
Coming Years  
of Peace!**

Christmas lights gleam—shining with all our  
bright hopes for the happiness of peace to  
come. Merry Christmas!

**WILSON GROCERY & MARKET**



Carry on the tradition that is  
America. Be thankful for the  
many blessings God has be-  
stowed upon us and hope for  
Victory in 1945.

**Best Wishes For a  
Joyous Christmas!**

**SOUTH SIDE SERVICE STATION**  
"The Little but Busy Place on the Corner"  
MR. and MRS. JESS FLETCHER

## Christmas Hopes

Our Christmas hopes are for all of  
you to enjoy this beautiful Yule-  
tide season as did our forefathers  
... in the gay spirit of good will  
that only liberty-loving people can  
know. We extend our heartiest  
good wishes, which really mean—  
"may peace on earth, good will to-  
ward men" come soon again to  
reign over all the world.

## City Cleaners

RICHARD ENSEY C. W. ROBINSON

## His Christmas



By Edgar A. Guest

His Christmas box went a month ago  
Into a place we may not know,  
Where cannons roar and rifle flame,  
Upon a ship we may not name.

His Christmas parcel, cut to size,  
Had neither pudding, fruit nor pies  
But was by regulation stripped  
To gifts which could be safely shipped.

Yet, we had snuggled in between  
A gift, more to be sensed than seen;  
The love which set all eyes ablaze  
And marked his happier Christmas days.

And when the bells ring out at eve,  
And the Lord's Supper we receive,  
We'll kneel together and in prayer  
Share Christmas with him over there.

**PALACE THEATRE**  
MR. and MRS. J. D. McCAIN

## "LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE BEFORE MEN..."



Democracy to light the way out of the dark evil of war!  
We all believe in it, though we care more for actions than  
elaborate words to express what is in our hearts. This year  
we must make our mightiest effort toward Victory—our way  
of showing men the goodness and power of the American way  
of life. MERRY XMAS.

**Jimison Barber and Beauty Shop**



### LETTERS FROM MEN IN SERVICE

The following is taken from a letter from Dee Witt, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Witt of Calgary, from somewhere in the Philippines:

"I don't know how much I will get written this sitting because 'Charlie' might be over anytime and I would have to quit and hit the fox hole. (Already). Now

that he is gone, I will try to write a little more.

"It has been like this ever since we arrived. Jap planes overhead every day. So far there has been very little damage done, except to them.

"One morning we witnessed a formation of bombers and fighters in dog fights with our fighters.

Results were very favorable. Several burst into flames as soon as they were hit, and others would smoke as they went down.

"Saw one get hit in the tail and the whole assembly was blown off. It is just like watching a movie to see the planes flying around and all of a sudden dive at another with all guns blazing.

"Boy, these Phillipinos are a happy bunch of people! Every where we go they all have a good word for us.

(Nov. 27)

"Charlie" has been giving us a bad time the past twenty-four hours. Planes were overhead all hours of the night. Some of them had me just a bit worried. I have seen all the Jap planes I want to see for a while.

"At last we are out of the jungles. Here on Leyte there is lots of open country. In fact there is quite a bit of agriculture. Rice is the principle crop, but there are a few vegetables and fewer bananas. Bananas would be plentiful, but typhoons keep the trees uprooted.

"Of course since the Japs have been here, very few vegetables were raised, and what there were went to the Japs. The people here were forced to raise vegetables and when they were ready to eat, a Jap came around taking all of them, giving the families a small portion of rice, not enough to live on, just to keep them a day or so.

"The people were paid with invasion money. Just a few pesos a week. When they went to buy clothes they had to pay from fifty to three hundred pesos a garment. So you can see just how well they were dressed when we got here.

"Their clothes were made from burlap bags and any other kind of cloth they could get their hands on (which wasn't much). The factories were making cloth all the time but you know where that went."

The Texas Spur received the following letter last week from S/Sgt. H. F. Collier, overseas in the European theatre of operations:

"Dear Friends:

Just received Oct. 5 issue which I was really happy to receive. I have a good many boys here in my company from Texas, and they really enjoy your paper.

Spur is my home town. I really enjoy reading about my friends and also keeping up with the Bulldogs.

I am now somewhere in Germany in action, have been for some time. I was in hopes of spending Xmas in Spur, but it looks hopeless now.

Your friend,  
S/Sgt. H. F. Collier."

typist. She is in the Revising Bureau of the Freight office at San Francisco.

"The three boys who made port in San Francisco quite recently like to look over The Texas Spur.

"Thank you,  
F. O. (Oscar) and Edith Brittain."

Shy of Gas

Dentist's Daughter—"Well, dear have you asked father for my hand yet?"

Shy Suitor—"No. Every time I step into his office I lose courage. Today I allowed him to pull another tooth."

**SPUR THEATRE**

**"GUNS OF THE PACOS"**

—with—

**DICK FORAN**

**SHORT SUBJECT**

**Busy Buddies**  
(STOOGES)

**SATURDAY ONLY**



### THE STAR IN THE EAST

Down through the ages has come the story of the shepherds tending their flocks at night, awed by the Star in the East.

During this sacred season, mellowed by the thought of those who cannot be with us, we have abundant reason for gratitude. We have come a long way since the dark Christmas of 1941. The Star in the East shines brighter now.

That this may, indeed, be a Merry Christmas for you and yours is our ardent wish.

*Merry Christmas!*

## Spur Trading Post

PFC. and MRS. R. A. GILCREASE

The Texas Spur received the following letter this week from Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Brittain of Pt. Richmond, Calif., former residents of Spur:

"Please send us The Texas Spur for another year. We are liking California fine, and are doing well here. Our three boys in the Navy visited us recently. Cecil E. Brittain is First Machinist on his boat. This means he is a first class engineer. First Lt. Douglas E. Brittain and his wife Ann, who has moved to San Francisco, were here. F. O. Brittain Jr., who was recently inducted, is studying Cooking and Bakery at Farigot, Idaho.

"Cecil and Douglas are lucky enough to be in the same convoy and have made many trips in the Pacific. David Earl Brittain, our youngest son, is in England or France with the Air Force. He is a ground mechanic.

"F. O. Brittain Sr. is employed by Moore Dry Dock Co. as a Marine Electrician. He has been with the company since his arrival in California and is doing a fine job.

"Mrs. Edith Brittain works for Southern Pacific Railway as First class comptometer operator and

"Dear Sir:

I just thought I would write you a few lines and to the readers of The Texas Spur. My mother, Mrs. Ethel Alexander, is having the paper sent to me. As yet I haven't received it, but she has been mailing the papers. You could never know what they mean. It is like getting a large letter from home.

I am the driver of Uncle Sam's half trucks in an Anti-aircraft batallion. The squad I am in has shot down one German plane. Things are pretty quiet most of the time, but we are very proud the Germans don't have any more planes because we have been bombed and strafed several times. Hoping everyone will write who cares to."

Cpl. Flavious Alexander  
36341993  
Btry. A. 552 AAA AW Bn.  
APO 230, c-o PM  
New York, N. Y.

## PALACE

**"Vigalantes of Dodge City"**

—with—

**BILL ELLIOTT**

**FRIDAY-SATURDAY**



**PREVUE-SUNDAY-MONDAY**

**"Gildersleeve's Ghost"**

—with—

**HAROLD PERRY**  
**MARGIE STEWART**  
**FREDDIE MERCER**

**TUESDAY ONLY**

**Bond Nite**

**\$600.00**

**\$500 in One Pot**  
**\$100 in the Other**

**"THE CONSPIRATORS"**

—with—

**HEDY LaMARR and PAUL HENRELD**

**WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY**

AT FIRST SIGN OF A

# COLD

USE 666

Cold Preparations as directed

Mama's Sugar Says:

*Merry Christmas*

To Texans and Friends Everywhere

SPARKLING EXTRA FINE GRANULATED IMPERIAL SUGAR

**Thanks for Your Loyalty and Your Consideration of IMPERIAL'S Job in Wartime**

Sugar is vital to victory. And Imperial Sugar isn't always plentiful for civilian needs. Despite tremendous demands, worker shortages and transportation difficulties, the folks at Sugar Land, Texas, are working night and day to supply your grocer and you with the Imperial, Pure Cane Sugar that Texans like best. Don't blame your

grocer when he is temporarily out of Imperial Sugar . . . or when he offers Imperial in paper packages only. It contains the same fine, pure cane Imperial Sugar you have always known. . . . May the holiday season be a happy one for you and yours, is the wish of IMPERIAL SUGAR COMPANY of Sugar Land, Texas.

TEXAS' OWN..

# IMPERIAL SUGAR

Pure Cane

100% PURE CANE

Greetings from

# Ben E. Keith Company

LARGEST DISTRIBUTOR OF FRESH AND FROZEN FRUITS AND VEGETABLES IN THE SOUTHWEST

DALLAS  
FORT WORTH  
LONGVIEW  
ABILENE  
LUBBOCK  
WICHITA FALLS

OUR last wartime Christmas! This is the hope and prayer of America, the realization of which is becoming increasingly more certain with each victory chalked up by our armed forces and each new production record set on the home front.

But with Peace, as in wartime, FOOD will continue to be the world's most vital necessity in the up-building of health and well being of the peoples of the earth . . . And America will continue to produce and supply the world's greatest variety of nutritious fresh fruits and fresh vegetables in abundance for you and your family.

The Ben E. Keith Company and all the Independent Retail Dealers who serve the Southwest with fresh fruits and fresh vegetables—"Fresh From Keith's"—extend to you cordial and sincere Holiday Greetings.

# Christmas 1944

fresh-from Keith's

"Listen for the Whistle" • KEITH'S FRUIT EXPRESS • KGKO • Mon. Wed. Fri. 7:45 a.m.  
"FOR PEACEFUL ENJOYMENT" • Sunday Serenade • KGKO • 1 p. m. SUNDAYS