

### From The Editor's Window

BY MRS. J.S. YEAGER

According to recent reports the United States has developed a robot bomb to be used only in case of defense.

Maj. Gen. Bennet E. Meyers, a deputy director of a T S C said, "We may never need a robot bomb, for our Army Air Forces do not go in for indiscriminate bombing attacks, but, should we ever need one, we have a good one."

Our robot bombs are said to have been patterned after the German robot bombs but are superior to them.

Our Army Air Forces have been busy testing them out at an undisclosed location since October 11.

It seems, now that there is a shortage of shoes, that ration-free shoes for children made entirely of tanned bacon rind, will shortly be found in the stores.

Women's footwear may also have to be made of the same material if the shortage becomes too acute the report said. If so, they too, will be ration free.

Ernie Pyle, Scripps-Howard war reporter, is making preparations to visit the battle area of the Far East—leaving around the first of the year.

He returned to his home in Albuquerque, New Mexico for a rest early in the fall from France, where he covered the invasion, and other European areas. He had been in the war arenas since 1942.

This time he will be with the Navy.

According to reports coming from London a \$210,000 payroll for United States troops on the Western Front has been stolen while in transit to England.

American military police and G-men have united in an effort to find the thief but, so far, have failed.

The money, it was said, was in small notes and sealed in tin boxes.

A candidate for reelection, out working for votes, stopped by a farmhouse and was told by the farmer, "yer' my second choice."

The candidate, hoping to overcome the objections and win a vote, asked, "Who's your first choice?"

To which the farmer replied, "Well, I reckon just anybody."

Harry: "I hear Bill is flat on his back."

Jerry: "But I saw him dancing with a dizzy blonde just last night."

Harry: "Yeah, and so did his wife."

Leon Henderson, former head of the OPA, has been given an assignment to head affairs in American-controlled Germany.

Henderson will serve under the chief of that section of Germany, who presumably will be General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

T. W. Burlison, head of one of the nation's largest honey packing concerns, was recently injured when struck by an automobile. His skull was fractured, both legs hurt, and he suffered internal injuries besides, the report said.

Mr. Burlison was walking across the street to visit a sick neighbor when he was hurt.

At last accounts he was in a critical condition at a hospital in Waxahachie.

The Ford Motor Company has announced that a total of 6,850 giant four-engine Liberator bomber planes have

### Turkey Growing Becomes Popular In the County

Howard Weldon Johnson, Denton, Bill Clemmer, and Bobby Gene Johnson, of the Eula club will each receive 25 Broad Breast Bronze poults as a result of having winning gilts in the Cow-Hog-Hen contest, held in Abilene last fall. These poults will be used as foundation stock for turkey breeding projects which are becoming very popular over the county.

With the good price offered for turkey eggs, this type of project could be adapted to the farms of many club members and after egg season is over, hens could be marketed.

### World Conference Proposed on Cotton Production and Prices

The Washington cotton conference worked out a proposal that the United States help work out an international agreement as a means of disposing of our exportable surplus of cotton, has been made to the cotton conference, was advised that steps toward this end are already being taken by the State Department.

The suggestion for a world conference was made by L. A. Wheeler, director of foreign agriculture relations in the Agricultural Department. The State Department is already working toward this end, according to Dean Acheson, assistant Secretary of State.

Under these proposals an attempt will be made to put the cotton business under an international board or "cartel" with full power to control world production, fix quotas that each nation can plant and sell and control the prices of same. This would be similar to the trade "cartel" for the oil business which is now before the United States Senate. Webster defines cartels thus: "In Europe a number of industrial establishments combining to regulate production and prices."

If the American people are not careful they will wake up to find that all American businesses will be tied in international cartels and our business will be controlled by foreigners.

### FIVE 4-H BOYS PURCHASE PIGS FOR BREEDING

Five 4-H club boys have recently purchased 3 gilt and barrow Poland China pigs for breeding purposes. Don Tarrant of the Eula club, and Bobby Tatom, Putnam, own the gilt pigs. Barney Ransberger, Bayou, Douglas Tarrant and R. G. Farmer, Eula, will feed their barrow pigs until top market weight is reached, at which time barrows will be shown and sold in Abilene.

### HUNTER RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF MID-CONTINENT OIL-GAS

J. C. Hunter of Abilene, oil man, was re-elected as president of the Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association at a meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma last Monday at its regular meeting.

F. M. Porter of Oklahoma City was elected first vice-president; Clarel B. Mapes, Tulsa, general secretary; and George Gibbons, Dallas, vice-president for Texas.

been produced at the Willow Run bomber plant within the last two years.

The speaker for the company said November 28 marked the day on which exactly two years ago the first big bomber was flown away from the plant at Willow Run.

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### MEMORIALS

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### STUDY CLUB MET IN MOBLEY HOME DECEMBER 18th

The Women's Study Club met in the delightful friendly Mobley home on the evening of December 18 where they enjoyed a program and get-together meeting.

A beautiful Christmas tree loaded with gifts was the main feature of the evening.

The rooms were tastefully decorated with mistletoe and lighted candles throughout the house.

Roll call was answered with a Christmas verse. Christmas carols were then sung.

Christmas Eve in Mexico, Mrs. R. B. Taylor.

Song from Heaven, Mrs. R. L. Clinton.

The hostesses for the occasion, Meses. Pearl Peterson, H. A. Pruet, J. A. Yarbrough and Miss Bettie Mobley then called attention to distribution of gifts from the beautiful tree and at this time who should enter the room with jingling bells but old Santa, himself, who "took over" from that time and distributed the gifts to the members. Each member received a gift.

A refreshment plate of fruit cake, chicken sandwiches and nuts (with a corsage of mistletoe on each plate) and coffee was passed to the following: Meses. R. B. Taylor, Frances Clinton, Leo Clinton, R. L. Clinton, Jno. Cook, S. M. Eubank, Henry Frye, Douglas Frye, Fred Heyser, A. B. Hutchison, C. A. Dittmore, U. L. Lowry, J. N. Williams, L. A. Williams, E. C. Waddell, F. P. Shackelford, guests, and the hostesses.

### 2492 Bales Cotton Ginned in County As Against 2896

John Shrader, cotton census reporter turns in report of amount of cotton ginned prior to December 1, which shows that there had been ginned 2492 bales in Callahan county from 1944 crop prior to December 1, as compared with 2896 bales ginned to same date in 1943 from the 1943 crop.

This is 398 bales under the ginnings from last year's crop. There is still some cotton to pick yet, but it is getting late and cold and a lot of it may not be gathered on account of scarcity of labor.

### ALBERT WEED REPORTED AT KESSLER FIELD

Kessler Field, Biloxi, Miss., Dec. 12—Pfc. Albert Weed, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Weed of Putnam, Texas, has reported at Kessler Field's unit of the Army Air Forces Training Command for reassignment to new artillery duties. He will remain here for a short time until his assignment is determined on the basis of a review of his previous training, aptitude and experience, together with consideration of the military needs of the Army.

### BEST SOCIAL PLANNERS ARE BUSINESS MEN

The best social planners are the businessmen, they may not talk much about the "rights of humanity," but business has learned that it must think about people's buying power. That makes business the best of all "social planners."

It was the greatest of all days for "social planning" when business discovered it could increase sales and profits by lowering prices on all products to the consumer.

The businessmen were one of the first to discover that if you pay more to the workers and producers, they can buy more.

Edward A. Filine sums it thus: "This new method of business knit human society together more closely than any political organization of any sort could possibly have been done."

### Negro Awarded Judgement Against Wife for Clothes

A new legal case was tried in a Dallas court last week when a negro went into court with a petition against his estranged wife who was wearing his trousers. He alleged in his petition that his wife had his clothes and would not give them up. So Wednesday morning relief was sought in the Sixty-Eighth district court where his wife was ordered to relinquish the clothes.

Judge Paine L. Bush issued a mandatory injunction against the wife, demanding that she turn the clothes over to her husband.

Under new rules the court must give reasons for giving such an order, the judge penned the following order: "The weather is cold and likely will get colder." Probably there are many cases over the country of this kind, but possibly not many judges like Judge Bush.

### FORD MOTOR CO. BUILD CHEAP POST-WAR CAR

Henry Ford the II, executive vice president of the Ford Motor company, gave out a statement Wednesday in New York in which he stated that his company will build a new model automobile after the war to be priced 15 to 20 per cent under the low cost of regular Fords.

He said the kind of car we have in mind would be a full sized automobile with all the built in conveniences one gets in the regular models. There would be a certain conservation of weight and space made possible through more careful engineering and design.

After V-E day we hope to get the first model in production within three or four months after the war production board gives green light. Full production within six months and the new model car will be on market within from one year to 18 months.

### Clarence Wagner, Clyde, Reported Killed in Action

Another Callahan county boy reported killed this week when Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Wagner of Clyde received a message that their son, Clarence (Dupe) Wagner had been killed in action on Leyte.

Wagner was reared in Clyde and graduated from the Clyde high school and was engaged in farming with his father when he was inducted into the service in 1941.

He is survived by his parents and six brothers, four of whom are in the service; the brothers are Captain Leonard, Corporals Carrol and Walter, all in England, Sergeant Chester with the air forces in North Carolina, Clyde of Austin, and Clifford of Clyde.

### CALLAHAN CLUB BOYS PURCHASE REGISTERED HOGS

Farmers and 4-H club boys recently purchased 6 registered Duroc gilt pigs and one registered boar. These pigs came from one of the leading Duroc herds in Texas. They are of the true medium bone type, and will reach a top market age in 5 to 6 months.

Alton Hornsby of Rowden, bought two gilts and a boar, and will sell registered gilt pigs in the future.

Club boys, Billy Brock, Eula, Billy Kennard, and Bobby Pyeatt, Clyde, received 3 of the gilt pigs.

### Publicly Owned Utilities Exempt From Certain Tax

Suppose you picked up your morning paper and read that the Federal Government by authority of an act of Congress, was going to exempt the residents of the following towns from payment of taxes on cigarettes: Los Angeles, Cleveland, Seattle, all cities in Tennessee, Jacksonville and dozens of other hand picked communities, while the cities of New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Boston, Baltimore, Washington, and approximately nine out of every other ten cities in the United States would have to go on paying the Federal tax on their smokes.

We can readily imagine what a storm of protest would go up from the smokers. Indignant editorials would snap and crackle. Radio commentators would volley and thunder.

That is exactly what is happening today with respect to the Federal tax on the sale of electricity for residential use. Publicly owned plants serving such communities as Los Angeles, Cleveland, Seattle, etc., are specifically exempt from the payment of the 3 per cent Federal tax, while customers of privately owned electric utilities, serving most of our American cities and nearly all of the larger ones, have to pay this tax.—From Industrial News Review.

### SPECIAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM AT CISCO BAPTIST CHURCH SUNDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 24

### Withholding Tax To Change the 1st of January

Withholding tax will change on January 1, 1945. Employers are being notified over the state by postal cards that they must begin the new withholding rates set up in the 1944 individual income tax law in making withholdings from all wages paid on or after January 1, even though the wages were earned in 1944 but not paid until January 1945.

The notices were sent out by Joseph D. Nunn Jr., commissioner of internal revenue, Washington, D. C., with the explanation there was widespread confusion and misunderstandings among employers and employees as to when the change would take effect putting the new income law into effect.

### SOCIAL SECURITY TO REMAIN AT 1% THROUGH 1945

The Social Security tax will remain at 1 per cent each for the employer and employee through 1945. The President said he reluctantly signed the bill making it a law freezing the security tax for another year. This was a surprise to Washington, as everyone thought he would veto the bill and they would not have enough votes in the Senate to override a veto.

Senator Vandenberg of Michigan has sponsored the bill every year to freeze it at 1 per cent since the raise was to take effect in 1942. Notwithstanding all of the credit given other parties for the guaranteeing of bank deposits Senator Vandenberg introduced into the Senate the first bill proposing to guarantee bank deposits, but was unsuccessful in his first attempt, but later succeeded in putting the bill over.

### GUNNELL-WEST DRILLING AT ABOUT 200 FEET

The Gunnell & West well on the square in town was spudded in last Thursday and is moving along nicely. This well is to be drilled to 500 feet unless oil is struck sooner. They think they will find the pay sand at about 480 feet.

The A. C. More wells on the Isehower, about one-half mile south of town, hit the pay at about 425 feet and one or two wells have been drilled west of the town site and the pay sand was struck around 500 feet, and with elevations on both side of town, the sand should be found some place between 450 and 500 feet. They are drilling at about 200 feet.

### WB Announces Release 10,000,000 Yards Cotton Fabric

The War Production Board announced Monday that they would release 10,000,000 yards of staple cotton fabrics, commonly used for home sewing, will receive distribution priority during the first quarter of 1945 to increase the supply of piece goods in stores serving the small towns and rural areas.

Because of the limited supply of these goods, priority will be granted only to distributors serving communities where there is an extreme shortage, retailers and wholesalers who purchase piece goods from mills or converters previously had been instructed to apply for priority by December 18th.

Arrangements have been made for the Harmony Girls under the direction of Miss Wilda Drago of Eastland, to give a special Christmas cantata in the auditorium of the Baptist church in Cisco on Sunday evening, December 24th, beginning at 7:45 p. m.

The program will include a medley of Christmas carols and the Halleluiah Chorus, from Handels Messiah.

This is the second appearance of this fine musical group in our church, and we are happy to have them on this occasion.

### Crossley Corporation To Increase Payroll By 400 Per Cent

The following announcement and pledge sounds good on paper anyway: The Crossley Corporation, Cincinnati manufacturers of radios, refrigerators and household equipment has announced that it accepts responsibility for the employment future payroll to be 400 per cent larger than its 1941 labor force. The firm has pledged that the future of each returning veteran will be given individual attention with every effort to provide better jobs than formerly, and to train the disabled with pay during the training period.

They say a plan has been developed for assisting distributors and retailers to build postwar organizations which will afford opportunities for refrigerator and radio repair men, stockkeepers, shipping clerks, sales and promotion people and a wide variety of employment.

### ROY SPEEGLE RECEIVES A BROKEN ARM

Roy Speegle receives a broken arm. He is employed by the Johnson Motor Co. as a truck driver from Cisco to Abilene. One day last week he was taken off his regular route and put on the Cisco and Coleman route. When he reached Burkett and began unloading his groceries, in some way he fell out of the truck on the concrete, breaking his right arm. He was not injured any other way except a number of bruises about over his body.

### ALL OLD TIRES ARE RELEASED FROM RATION

The War Department has announced that there will be released an undisclosed number of tires by the Army, chiefly from the war fronts and will be sold through treasury procurement division.

While no longer suitable for Army use, the tires may be reconditioned for "limited civilian use," the OPA said Monday in announcing wholesale ceilings. At retail the tires will sell at already established ceilings. The prices vary according to the condition of the Only "A" card holders are expected to show much interest in the tires. These motorists are not eligible for new tires, and the supply of used tires is about gone.

The ceilings are \$30 a ton F.O.B. shipping point, on sales to manufacturers, and \$40 per ton F.O.B. destination, on sales by manufacturers to tire dealers. OPA said the manufacturers are expected to resell the tires to dealers, vulcanizers, and recappers for repair and release to the public, tire being offered.

W. L. Park was trading and looking after business interests in Baird Monday morning.

**A Good Resolution**  
One of the New Year resolutions that would mean increase of happiness in many a family is this: Not to speak of mistakes which make no difference. How arguing over nothings mars the home harmony. An erroneous opinion may need correction, but what possible difference does it make whether Aunt Jane came to dinner Tuesday or Wednesday, or whether it rained Friday or Saturday.

**Everybody Sign**  
Why not have somebody delegated to draw up a set of good resolutions for us all and just have us sign them?  
**New Year With Hindus**  
Among the Hindus the first day of the year is celebrated with sacrifice to the god of wisdom.  
The Shackelford County Leader is the same price—\$1.00 in county, \$1.50 elsewhere.

**Signs of Zodiac Give Tips on Who Wants What Gift**

A New York city astrologer has devised a novel system of selecting Christmas gifts. It works as well as any, it seems.  
"It's as simple as A, B, C," said Miss Helen Paul, the astrologer. "If one studies the signs under which friends and relatives are born, no one need fear that their gifts will be exchanged after Christmas."  
Here's her rating of Christmas satisfaction according to the zodiac: Those born from December 22 to January 21 are the practical type. Capricorn is their sign—and they have a yen for leather goods.  
The Aquarius boys and girls born from January 22 to February 20—like the unusual, the Aquarius females hanker for ankle bracelets, the males want spats.  
Those born under the sign of the fish—Pisces, February 21 to March 20—would be greatly pleased with wet goods—wines and liquor.  
The Aries crowd—March 21 to April 21—go in for smoking. Ash trays, cigarettes, pipes, tobacco—for the men. For the women, a box of "personalized" matches, or, a bright red sweater and cap.  
**Taurus Folk Hunger**  
The Taurus people—April 22 to May 21—would like nothing better than food—Taurus people never grow weary of eating.  
Gemini-ers—May 22 to June 22—have literary preoccupations. Girls would be thrilled by writing material, the men by a printing press or a pen and pencil set.  
Those born under the sign of Cancer—June 23 to July 22—are homey and would like domestic gifts such as lounging robes, cocktail sets, or household equipment.  
The Leo people—July 23 to August 22—are show-offs. The men go for startling ties no matter what they say. The women hope for something really fancy in jewelry or lace-ey underwear.  
Virgo-ites—August 23 to September 22—are essentially practical. The men really want handkerchiefs, and the women want a utility kitchen cabinet.  
The Libra men want their handkerchiefs initialed. They're born from September 23 to October 22—and at heart they are exquisites.  
Scorpion men and women—October 23 to November 22—go in for the exotic. The men would be delighted with some chisels and a chunk of granite. The women want to get a kick out of perfume, or some spices.  
The Sagittarius type—November 23 to December 21—long for a parlor bowling alley.

**Warry Christmas**



The men on Guadalcanal will never forget the Christmas of 1943. Soldiers, sailors and marines were still battling the fading Japs. But the familiar Yule touches were in evidence. Here is a scene in the outdoor kitchen as chefs carved turkeys ready for roasting and serving.

**Tell Me an Indian New Year's Story**

The ceremonial for the snow has passed, when enemies are forgiven and harsh words forgotten, as a new trail has been blazed for all through the New Year's festivities.

The story-telling grandmother has taught the ancient chants and customs through the beads of the strings of historic wampum; but now she again has time to entertain the children.

Gathered around her lodge-fire, they plead for another story with their bright eyes and shrill voices. To satisfy them, she tells an ancient legend about the clouds.

"Long moons ago when the world was first made, the sky at wintertime was cloudless much as it is on clear midsummer days. The ground was covered with white snow and the trees, except the pines, stood bare. The cold wind whistled around the bark cabins; and with a cloudless sky, everything above and below looked dreary.

"The children, too, missed the green leaves and changing colors over the landscape and they gave a wish that the sky might have clouds now and then. It is true, dark-gray, fierce-looking clouds came in great masses and covered all the sky and let down snowflakes to amuse the children. But the children also wished for bright clouds and the old bear in the sky heard their wishes.

"So the old bear blew his moist breath into the heavy clouds and broke them up; he even made humps in some of them, and held on to the corners of others, until when they passed over the village, each cloud had a different shape, some like bears, some like wild cats, some like hills and even some like funny people. Ever afterward, the clouds took these strange shapes to bring smiles and imagination to all children in midwinter."—Dr. E. A. Bates, Cornell.

**Official Yule Tree**

The famous General Grant tree in the General Grant National park, California, was at high noon on Christmas day, 1926, declared the nation's official Christmas tree.

The tree, estimated to be 276 feet high, by the United States department of interior, is one of the most celebrated trees in America. It is one of the so-called Big-trees, Sequoia gigantea.

Devotional and patriotic services are held beneath the tree each year and are broadcast over national hookups.

**Christmas, Fla.**

The only post office in the United States named "Christmas" is in Florida. Each year to this small town of 200, which was settled more than a century ago, come packages, letters and cards from all over the world for remailing with the official markings "Greetings from Christmas, Fla." More than 70,000 pieces of mail have been canceled in one Christmas season at that post office.

There is a post office in Indiana named Santa Claus and one in Maine named Christmas Cove.

**Traditional New Year's Gifts Were Sacred**

The Druids distributed branches of the sacred mistletoe, cut with peculiar ceremonies, as New Year's gifts to the people and the Saxons observed the day with gifts and festivals.

The Roman custom of taking gifts to the emperor was introduced into England as early as the time of Henry III. Queen Elizabeth is supposed to have supplied herself with her jewels and wardrobe almost entirely from these gifts.

As late as 1692 the English nobility were accustomed every year to send to the king a purse containing gold.

Under the Tudors and the Stuarts it was the habit of all classes to give presents to friends with the best wishes for the New Year.

Ladies received presents of gloves, or pins which were then expensive. Sometimes the gifts were wrapped in money and from this practice we have the term "pin money."

**Gift Giving**

Gift-giving was well established among Northern European tribes before they became converted to Christianity. It was so much of an obligation among pagan Germans to tribute gifts that men actually left the country during the holiday season to escape gift-giving.

**New Year's Eve Festive Occasion For Native Scots**

Christmas never aroused much enthusiasm in Scotland—but on New Year's eve the Wassail bowl goes around, filled with savory liquid, nostalgically fragrant.

Floating atop the Wassail bowl, apples stir memories of the "apple-hawling" when boys switched the trunks of fruit trees petitioning "a good howling crop"; somehow, the "Jamb's wool" (as the decoction of the Wassail bowl is often called) seems reminiscent of young folks rushing to the nearest spring at the stroke of 12 to drink the "cream of the well"—the first one so doing, might expect good luck during the ensuing year.

Handsel Monday—the Monday after New Year's, is traditionally the "big Day" for Scotch boys and girls; and, in addition to being the Scotch day of gift-giving, it is a day of feasting and gaiety.

Small wonder, that families and friends gather on New Year's eve to "Drink a cup of kindness yet For Auld Leng Syne."

**Legends of Holly**

Holly was much admired by the Druids who believed that its ever-green leaves attested to its favor with the sun god.

Legends related that the crown of thorns was plaited from the holly. Before the crucifixion the berries were white but turned crimson like drops of blood.

Another is that holly is hateful to witches and is therefore placed on doors and windows to keep out evil spirits.

A more modern legend is that whoever brings the Christmas holly into the house first, either husband or wife, is the one who will rule the ensuing year.

**Same Old Santa**

Same old Santa, same old joys, Same old dolls and sleds and toys; Same old holly, same old tree, Same old gifts for cherubs wee; Same old carol, same old light, Same old stockings hung at night; Same old words of merry cheer, Same good wishes for the year. Same old Christmas! Seems to me That's the way it ought to be.



SLEIGHBELLS TINKLING DOWN OLD ROADS, FARM HOMES GLEAMING IN THE DARK, THE SPIRIT OF KINDNESS BROODING OVER THE LAND. YES, 'TIS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS AND ALL MEN ARE KIN.

WE HOPE THAT YOUR CHRISTMAS WILL BE MERRY AND BRIGHT, AND THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE A FULL SHARE OF THE GOOD THINGS THIS HAPPY SEASON BRINGS.

**RAMSAY VARIETY STORE**  
BAIRD, TEXAS



**CHRISTMAS AGAIN!**



Who will say that smiles were brighter or spirits keener at the Christmases of our fathers than they are today?

At any rate, friends and neighbors, that's the kind of a Christmas we are wishing for you this Yuletide of 1944—just a good old-fashioned Christmas!

**DAMRON TIRE COMPANY**  
CISCO, TEXAS



★ 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.

**O. K. SHOE SHOP**  
CISCO, TEXAS



**GOOD CHEER!** There's nothing quite like it. And good cheer is an affair of the heart. It cannot be withheld and hoarded to gain added value with the days or years. Good cheer must be spent!

Let us all radiate good cheer this Christmas of 1944, for there are reasons enough for good cheer—we but pause to reflect.

Merry Christmas greetings from all of us to all of you.

**McELROY'S DRY GOODS**  
BAIRD, TEXAS



**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.

**FIRST NATIONAL BANK**  
BAIRD, TEXAS

**Young Charmer**



This eager youngster is all set to turn her charms loose on Santa, and with results that will leave his pack considerably lighter in weight.

**Decorative Shadows**

To achieve a colorful decorative effect, take a bowl of pine branches and make it "spill" backward toward the wall. Bright light from clear-glass Christmas lamps, either punched in a bowl or concealed from view behind the bowl, create the lovely shadow patterns pictured. The shadows may be tinted by adding one or more larger lamps of contrasting color.

**TWENTY CENTURIES**

The birth of the Saviour did not, then and there, establish peace on earth and good will among men.

Caesar did not topple from his pinnacle at the precise moment: people continued to grumble against his decrees and wonder what new law would oppress them next. Herod, king of Judea, did not join the Wise Men in adoration of the Holy Child: but rather, authorized the slaughter of the innocents in an attempt to destroy Him.

But: There were shepherds watching over their flocks some two or three miles from the Stable of Bethlehem: the Angel of the Lord appeared unto them: Wise Men, having seen His Star in the East, hastened to bring symbolic gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. On this Christmas day, we remember the children in His Name—for theirs is the Peace of tomorrow—and, hearing the carols of good will above the present turmoil, we are the shepherds of Bethlehem.



**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.

**Burton Lingo Co.**  
CISCO, TEXAS

### Quaint British Customs Survive During Entire Christmas Season

Many quaint Christmas customs have survived in England, especially in country districts. In some sections Christmas still lasts the 12 days of old, winding up on the Twelfth Night Shakespeare wrote about. During that season, villagers turn mummer to act out centuries-old plays and to frolic in the streets.

In Cornwall fisherfolk in coastal villages "guise dance" on street corners to the music of concertina and drum. The boys usually dress as girls and the girls as boys. Sometimes they assume historical characters, sometime merely go in black-face.

In Hampshire ordinarily serious farm laborers strangely array themselves in pseudo-Norman helmets and coats of mail, their faces concealed by strips of wallpaper. That is the prescribed costume in which the workers re-enact the ancient mummings' play about St. George and the Dragon.

When New Year's night falls on Allendale two dozen quaintly-garbed men with pans of blazing tar balanced on their heads, parade behind the village band to the market place where they touch off a bonfire.

At Burghhead they "burn the Clavie," the Clavie being a tar barrel

filled with wood. It is demolished while still aflame and there is a mad rush for the glowing embers, which are supposed to bring good luck.

Luck also is the underlying theme of wassailing in Carhampton, Somerset. Pans full of cider are carried into the orchards. Then each man dips his mug in and after draining part of his mug, throws the rest of the cider at the trees while he shouts to scare away any evil spirits which may be lurking in the branches.

At Hax in Lincolnshire, men from five rival hamlets gather there to play a 600-year-old game called "throwing the hood." Something of the game's ruggedness is indicated in the preliminary warning chant of the "Lord"—the referee:

"Hoos again hoos, toon again toon, If a man meet a man knock a man down —But don't hurt him!"

The hood, a tightly rolled piece of sack, is then tossed into the air and each player tries to get it and run for home. As a finale, the men lock in a scrimmage and try to push each other down hill. Lady luck is supposed to favor the winners during the ensuing year.

### Celebrant



This attractive young Chinese girl adds her bit to the celebration of New Year's eve in New York festivities. The Chinese new year—4641—begins considerably later than our own.

### Holidays and Special Events of New Year

The year 1945 is not a leap year, so February will again have the usual 28 days. The holidays and special events for the new year will be as follows:

Lincoln's birthday, February 12; Washington's birthday, February 22; St. Patrick's day, March 17; Easter, April 1; Mother's day, May 13; Memorial day, May 30; Father's day, June 17; Independence day, July 4; Labor day, September 3; Columbus day, October 12; Armistice day, November 11; Thanksgiving day, November 23; Christmas day, December 25.

### Mexican Clock

Many Mexican families still observe the "old clock system" on New Year's eve. On a table in a main room of the house, lighted candles surround a tiny casket, upon which stands a clock. On the stroke of midnight, the clock is stopped, placed in the casket and buried in the garden, symbolizing the passing of the old year.

### First to See Year

The little British colony on Hanson Island, in the Chatham, 414 miles southeast of Wellington, New Zealand, will be the first to greet 1945. It is just east of the international date line, from which all time is reckoned.

### Xmas Abbreviation

Xmas, thus spelled as an abbreviation for Christmas, has its origin in the fact that the Greek letter chi was written as X. This letter was also the initial of the name Christ. Many people identify the X as representing the Cross.



I GIVE you my word, I was never more flabbergasted in my life than the afternoon I found Jennie Muldrow looking through Bill's closet. Bill is my husband. I must have made a sound—gasped, maybe—for she turned around with a jerk. If I ever saw guilt on a human countenance it was on hers. Then suddenly I had an inspiration. I laughed weakly. "You gave me a start, Jennie," I said. "I didn't know anyone was in here. Were you looking for your coat?"

"Yes. I—I was," she stammered.

Perhaps it would be better if I began at the beginning. You see, the bridge club was meeting at my house. Just the usual crowd, two tables. Jennie Muldrow, only a few minutes earlier, had invited us all to a dinner party at her home the week before Christmas.

That night Mildred Carr phoned me. "Mary," she said, "did you see a pair of brown pigskin gloves anywhere? I thought they were in my purse but I can't find them."

The next day I told Mildred I couldn't find the gloves. "Just as I thought," she answered.

"What did you say?"

"Mary, I hate to say this, but I'm terribly afraid we have a thief in our midst."

Immediately I recalled Jennie Muldrow in Bill's closet, but I didn't mention it. "Why, Mildred!" I exclaimed. "What makes you say that?"

"Well, Betty Hicks lost a compact yesterday. I don't mean she dropped



If I ever saw guilt on a human countenance it was on hers. She had it at your house. But when she got home it was gone.

"And that isn't all. Kitty put a lovely Appenzell handkerchief in her bag when she left home, but this morning it wasn't there."

I started to speak but Mildred said quickly, "Now don't say she was just mistaken, Mary Ellsworth, because that isn't all. Guess what Martha Fox told me!" This was just rhetorical, so I didn't answer. Evidently Mildred had had a busy morning. "Jennie was visiting Martha last night and, when Martha was called to the phone and her back was turned, Jennie pocketed a tie if Raymond's! Martha was facing a mirror but Jennie didn't notice."

Well! I felt weak.

"What do you think? Could Jennie be a— a kleptomaniac?"

"I don't know," I answered. I said nothing about seeing Jennie in Bill's closet. I never did tell anyone about Bill. He was inclined to pooh-pooh the whole business.

The burning question was: Should we go to the Christmas party or not? There was a difference of opinion about what to do. Martha wanted each one to make up a water-tight excuse and stay at home. Mildred Carr said ruthlessly, "No, that won't solve anything. Jennie must resign from the club. We can't have a criminal in it. She must understand she isn't wanted." The more determined Mildred became, the less wanted to humiliate Jennie. So finally I said, "Girls, you can all do what you like, but I'm going."

The upshot was that all of us appeared except Mildred and her husband.

Jennie gave us the surprise of our lives. She had a small, beautifully rimmed tree, with attractive looking packages nestling in the branches. We simply gasped. "Jennie! You shouldn't have done this!" She laughed. "Really, it wasn't much trouble. In fact, I had a lot of fun."

After dinner the presents were distributed. One by one the missing articles came to light. Kitty's face, as she lifted her Appenzell handkerchief out of a dainty velvet case, was the funniest thing I've ever seen! Raymond Fox unwrapped a tie holder from which a tie was hanging, and Bill did the same. Everybody was laughing uproariously by this time, yet looking decidedly sheepish, too. I was gazing in fascination at my present—pictures of my children.

Just to make it unanimous, she said, there was a gift for John Muldrow. "I've been looking high and low for that thing," I heard him say

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

### New Year Greeting

I saw the hills of the morning,  
The form of the new year arise;  
He stood like a statue adorning  
The world with a background of  
skies;  
There was courage and grace in his  
beautiful face,  
And hope in his glorious eyes.

"I come from Time's boundless forever,"  
He said, with a voice like a song;  
I come as a friend to endeavor,  
I come as a foe to all wrong,  
To the sad and afraid I bring promise of aid,  
And the weak I shall gird and make strong.

"I bring you more blessings than terrors,  
I bring you more sunlight than gloom,  
I tear out your page of old errors,  
And hide them away in Time's tomb;  
I reach you clean hands and lead on to the lands,  
Where the lilies of peace are in bloom."

### 'Open House' on New Year's Day

It was customary for the Dutch settlers of New York to hold "open house" on New Year's day and to provide light refreshments, usually centering around a large bowl of punch, for friends calling to pay the compliments of the season.

During the latter part of the 19th century the custom of making short calls on New Year's day was in full swing throughout America. Metropolitan newspapers carried columns of "at home" notices which, including names of social prominence and those making no such pretense, announced hours during which visitors would be received; having duly received, hosts and hostesses closed their receptions to join the procession of callers at other "open houses."

A succession of "open houses" and punch bowls minimized the courtesy accorded hostesses—in many cases—and even resulted in receptions being "crashed" by bibulous young men; these abuses led to the abandonment of the "open house" custom. New Year's calls now being exchanged only by intimates and without any public announcement of intention to receive.

### PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Dear Lord, I ask Thee  
For this New Year,  
An extra gift of courage  
My little trials to bear.  
I ask not for success;  
For wealth or fame or power;  
I ask for added faith  
To live life, hour by hour.  
Give me kindly thoughts, Lord,  
To use for charity.  
I want no gold to give,  
I'll spend kind thoughts for Thee.  
—Ruth Richwine Smith.

### English New Year

The English New Year celebration was changed from December 25 by William the Conqueror, because he was crowned on January 1.

### Santa Tries Chimney for Size



Santa Claus, complete with sack of gifts, drops in for an informal visit with the WACs of a camp in Maine. He finds them building a fireplace and chimney for their company day room and tries the chimney to determine just how tight a squeeze it's going to be on Christmas eve.



### IN THESE LAST SHORT DAYS OF 1944

when beaming faces tell that Christmas is very, very near, we are reminded again of the supreme value of friendship. He who has no friends, though he may have amassed a fortune, cannot be happy.

We have many friends in this area—friends from many years back as well as friends who have become friends during this past year. These friendships are a great source of pride and happiness to us.

To all these friends we wish a very Merry Christmas Season.

**FERGUSON SHOE STORE**  
CISCO, TEXAS



★ 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.

**WALTON ELECTRIC CO.**  
CISCO, TEXAS

### FROM US TO YOU!

† † Dusk...  
Christmas Eve...  
children moving about stealthily, wide-eyed and expectant... you know the signs.

Christmas is here, let us all be merry, for it comes but once a year.

With gratitude for your kind favors during 1944 we send you heartiest Christmas greetings.



**Glenn's Furniture Co.**  
Cisco, Texas



Turkey and cranberry sauce and plum pudding are symbols of the lighter side of Christmas. We want you to have these, too, this Yule season of 1944, plus all the other joys that give Christmas-time its transcendent glory.

We welcome this opportunity to extend to each and all our heartiest greetings.

**F. P. Shackelford & Son**  
Putnam, Texas



**The Putnam News**

**PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY**  
J. S. YEAGER  
EDITOR AND MANAGER

Subscription Price: \$1.00 Per Year  
Entered as second class matter  
August 29, 1934, at the post office  
at Putnam, Texas.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation that may appear in the columns of The Putnam News will be gladly and fully corrected upon being brought to the attention of the editor.

Cards of Thanks, Resolutions of Respect, and any kind of entertainments where admission fee or other monetary consideration is charged, will be charged for at regular advertising rates.

**Medical Organization Reports on Voluntary Insurance Program**

A leading medical organization has examined the effectiveness of voluntary group insurance programs in operation in 1,327 business and industrial firms, employing more than 4,000,000 workers, and find that 91 per cent, or some 3,000,000 employees are covered by various phases of these plans. Types of coverage includes life insurance, disability benefits, hospitalization and surgical benefits and medical care.

Commenting on the practicality of the voluntary pro-

paid insurance idea, Dr. Edward C. Cary, chairman of the Board of the National Physicians committee, says the operation of these programs has been manifest as an almost universal need, demand for protection of workers on a voluntary prepayment against illness.

The big job now is to show people that total government control over medicine is not an easy short cut to the goal of providing that last word in medical care for all. It would be a tragedy if political controversy over what kind of a medical system the country is to have were permitted to interrupt sound medical progress.

**Radio Communication To Facilitate Travel**

Radio equipment to enable intercity buses to be in constant communication with their headquarters and stations enroute will be a post-war development in highway passenger transportation. Already the National Association of Motor Bus Operators has requested the Federal Communications Commission to allocate 15 radio wave bands for the industry's use.

At FCC hearings held in Washington recently, representatives of several major intercity bus lines told how improved communications equipment would facilitate travel. The ability to communicate directly with buses on the highways and to receive messages from drivers would add to passengers' conven-

ience and comfort, promote safety, minimize delays in the event of road failures or adverse highway conditions, and expedite repair and maintenance work.

Several of the nation's larger lines are planning the installation of experimental equipment on certain routes as soon as wartime restrictions are lifted. While the program will be developed by individual bus lines, the request for the necessary wave bands was made by the industry as a whole to provide for eventual national coverage of all highway passenger transportation operations.

**Wild Pool on County Line Continues to Hold Oil Interest**

One of the most important discoveries of West-Central Texas oil-dom for the year is the development of Ellenberger production 12 miles east of Albany where Phillips Petroleum Co. in the Ibox-Ellenberger pool on the Wild farm, has completed the 7th producer in the 4300 foot high gravity pay uncovered in March 1944, with Phillips No. 1 Wild.

No. 1 east Wild extended the pool east a quarter mile with a high well bottomed at 4369 feet, rated good for 500 barrels daily flow after wash with 2,000 gallons acid, and is being placed on test. No. 4 Wild south extension flowed 27 barrels hourly natural from 4287 feet.

The total potential on the Wild pool will exceed 5,000 barrels daily, but the per well allowable has been cut by Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission to 50 barrels per well, in line with the usual procedure. Official data shows the flow pressure on No. 1 Wild to be as strong as its first day of production last March—so the field may now be considered an "important Ellenberger discovery."

Two and half miles northwest the Phillips No. 1 Witty, flowed in lime. The completion records show two wells on west and south side flowing natural, without acid wash, and from 1 foot of saturated section they have secured a flow of 25 barrels hourly on one test, showing high permeability and saturation.

The pool area has been developed to cover about 600 acres, with the limits undefined east, west and south, as no holes have drilled the Ellenberger for several mile spread, although the north Wild 1 and 2 wells dipped off somewhat and the oil saturation was recovered by drilling about 50 feet into the pay, at about 4400 feet.

R. A. Elliott & Sons have the west offset and Max E. Viertel has the land to north. Mrs. McCrea of Cisco owns the lands to the east.

All producing wells are in Stephens county and the pool limits are just 1320 feet east of the Shackelford-Stephens county line, on the southeast flank of the old Ibox high—which produced Caddo lime oil and gas in 1921.

Phillips Petroleum Co. has about 5,000 acres spread around center of the block of leases, with Magnolia Petroleum Co. 160 acres George, the only outsider. Land is owned by Major Claud C. Wild, U. S. Army at Fort Sam Houston, Mrs. Kenneth D. Pardee of Montana and Mrs. Oliver O. Waggener of Illinois, and the land is a part of the realty holdings of the late J. E. Wild of Moran, early day oilman and land agent of the Texas Company 30 years ago.

**Young Charmer**



This eager youngster is all set to turn her charms loose on Santa, and with results that will leave his pack considerably lighter in weight.

**Decorative Shadows**

To achieve a colorful decorative effect, take a bowl of pine branches and make it "spill" backward toward the wall. Bright light from clear-glass Christmas lamps, either bunched in a bowl or concealed from view behind the bowl, create the lovely shadow patterns pictured. The shadows may be tinted by adding one or more larger lamps of contrasting color.

**TWENTY CENTURIES**

The birth of the Saviour did not, then and there, establish peace on earth and good will among men.

Caesar did not topple from his pinnacle at the precise moment: people continued to grumble against his decrees and wonder what new law would oppress them next. Herod, king of Judea, did not join the Wise Men in adoration of the Holy Child: but rather, authorized the slaughter of the innocents in an attempt to destroy Him.

But: There were shepherds watching over their flocks some two or three miles from the Stable of Bethlehem: the Angel of the Lord appeared unto them: Wise Men, having seen His Star in the East, hastened to bring symbolic gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. On this Christmas day, we remember the children in His Name—for theirs is the Peace of tomorrow—and, hearing the carols of good will above the present turmoil, we are the shepherds of Bethlehem.

**NOTICE—We have toys, cosmetics, notion goods, paints, Ladies' Ready-to-wear, window shades and many other useful items for the home.**

**SEE US BEFORE YOU BUY**

\* \* \* \*

**GILLIAMS VARIETY STORE**

CISCO, TEXAS—500 AVE D.



**THE SEASON'S GREETINGS**

19 44

★ There will be a halo over the homes of America this Christmas radiating from the new hope for the world.

That your Christmas season may be both joyous and happy is the sincere wish of

**RED FRONT DRUG STORE**

CISCO, TEXAS



**HARK, THE ANGEL VOICES!**

May the sweet old Christmas story bring to you this year a deeper meaning . . . a larger store of its joy and peace and gladness than it ever has before.

**Y. A. ORR DRUG STORE**

PUTNAM, TEXAS



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.



**DEAN DRUG CO.**

CISCO, TEXAS



**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.

**G. A. WHITE'S GROCERY**

PUTNAM, TEXAS

**Welcome Gift**



It is a woman's war, too. And for Christmas Santa brought this little lady the uniform of a Red Cross nurse. The cape is blue. The uniform is of white cotton with the Red Cross emblem.

**A Good Resolution**

One of the New Year resolutions that would mean increase of happiness in many a family is this: Not to speak of mistakes which make no difference. How arguing over nothing mars the home harmony. An erroneous opinion may need correction, but what possible difference does it make whether Aunt Jane came to dinner Tuesday or Wednesday, or whether it rained Friday or Saturday.

**Everybody Sign**

Why not have somebody delegated to draw up a set of good resolutions for us, all and just have us sign them?

**New Year With Hindus**

Among the Hindus the first day of the year is celebrated with sacrifice to the god of wisdom.

The Shackelford County Leader is the same price—\$1.00 in county, \$1.50 elsewhere.



WE HOPE old Santa will not forget you this Christmas of 1944, but that he will cram that stocking so full it can hold no more.

Good cheer, good fellowship, and Merry Christmas to you all!



**GOOD WILL**



**ODOM'S GROCERY**

PUTNAM, TEXAS



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.

**ELITE BEAUTY SHOP**

CISCO, TEXAS

**City Pharmacy**

Baird, Texas

**Christmas Gifts for EVERYONE**

Cologne by Weil

Hand tooled Leatherette Albums

Fiesta Stationery 59 cents per box

White Bibles \$1.50 each.

All kinds of Toys for Children—See our Stock, get our Prices.

### Legends of Holly

Holly was much admired by the Druids who believed that its ever-green leaves attested to its favor with the sun god.

Legends related that the crown of thorns was plaited from the holly. Before the crucifixion the berries were white but turned crimson like drops of blood.

Another is that holly is hateful to witches and is therefore placed on doors and windows to keep out evil spirits.

A more modern legend is that whoever brings the Christmas holly into the house first, either husband or wife, is the one who will rule the ensuing year.

### Huge Yule Log Fire Once Thought to Ward Off Evil

Centuries ago huge fires were built in the great baronial halls in England on Christmas eve and servants brought in a log that was to burn throughout the Christmas feasting. It was customary to save a brand from each year's fire to light the next one with. If the log was properly burned it was believed that the devil was powerless to do any mischief to the household.

One story has it that stockings were originally hung by fireplaces burning Yule logs in order to absorb the odor of the burning wood and thus give the wearer protection from evil.

### Wrap It Right



Here's what happens when packages — both overseas and domestic — aren't wrapped correctly. That soldier or sailor may be a forgotten man on the holiday mail call unless packages are wrapped securely and addressed plainly.

### A Reminder of the Nativity



Shining brightly as a reminder of the glory of the Nativity, some 1,944 years ago, this is but one of the many outdoor manger established during the Christmas season throughout the country. Like the animals that clustered around the holy manger on the first Christmas, a dog can be seen on the left, wonderingly viewing the scene.

THE NEWS SUBSCRIPTION RATE HAS NOT ADVANCED—ONLY \$1.00 PER YEAR

### Brawn Takes Place of Boar's Head on Noel

Brawn has largely been substituted for the boar's head for the Christmas and New Year's celebrations.

For this dish the pig's head is soaked in salt water all night, scraped, cleaned and the brain and eyes removed.

It is boiled until tender enough to remove the bones. The meat is picked from the bones, chopped fine, seasoned with red and black pepper, cloves, mace, nutmeg and salt. It is then pressed into a brick or loaf form and served cold.

The custom is believed to have originated with the ancient Romans.

### Coloring the Flames

To have colored flames in the Christmas fireplace there are a number of different chemicals which may be added to shellac as a carrier. Small pieces of wood may be painted with the mixtures or it can be mixed with sawdust. The following colors and chemicals required will give excellent results:

Violet, potassium chlorate; yellow, potassium nitrate; orange, calcium chloride; red, strontium nitrate; apple green, barium nitrate; emerald, copper nitrate; green, borax; purple, lithium chloride.

### Three Wise Men Of Ancient Time; Relics at Cologne

Biblically we know very little about the Wise Men who came from the East bearing gifts to the Christ Child and, having adorned Him as the King of the Jews, returned to their own country.

It is generally accepted that there were three Wise Men because of the three specifically mentioned gifts: church tradition has identified these as Melchior, Caspar, and Balthasar; Melchior, king of Arabia, brought a casket of gold; Caspar, king of Tarsus, brought myrrh; and Balthasar, king of Ethiopia, brought frankincense. These gifts are considered symbolic of what Jesus was to become—gold for a king, frankincense for a high priest, and myrrh for a great physician. Collectively, the Wise Men received the gifts of charity and spiritual wealth, perfect faith, truth and meekness.

When they returned to their own country, the three Kings reputedly sold their possessions and went about preaching the Christ-King. Legend continues, that they were martyred in India for their faith.

The bodies of the Wise Men, transferred to Constantinople in the fourth century—by the Empress Helena, mother of Constantine—were enshrined at Milan for a while after the first Crusade. Frederick Barbarossa authorized removal of the relics to Cologne where they remain to this day deposited within the magnificent Cathedral of Cologne.

Over 10,000 British women war workers are serving as volunteers in American Red Cross service clubs in the British Isles.

Try This New Amazing Cough Mixture

An Outstanding Success—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 rasped raw tissues, one or two sips and worst coughing spasms cease. 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 syrup. Get a bottle today at any good drug store. Satisfaction guaranteed or money back.

Y. A. ORR DRUG STORE  
Putnam, Texas

## Longer Life--Safer--

The way to keep your car reliable and economical, and to maintain its good appearance until new-car days are here again, is to have it thoroughly serviced regularly. Hundreds of Ford, Mercury and Lincoln owners come here for genuine Ford Protective Service regularly.

They KNOW it pays them, in longer car life and surer transportation.

Here, in our fully-equipped Service Department, every needed special tool and unit of test equipment is available to help our expert mechanics do a good, accurate job on any make of car. Drive in tomorrow.

## NANCE Motor Co.

Cisco, Texas S. H. NANCE Phone 244

## PALACE THEATRE--CISCO

May We, The MANAGEMENT and STAFF of this Theatre, Extend our wishes to YOU for a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a Joyous, Victorious New Year.

THURSDAY-FRIDAY THIS WEEK

Paramount presents  
**Till We Meet Again**  
RAY MILLAND - BARBARA BRITTON

SUNDAY ONLY

Andrew Stone's  
**Sensations of 1945**  
Starring ELEANOR POWELL, WOODY HERMAN AND HIS BAND, CAB CALLOWAY AND HIS BAND

XMAS DAY  
ALAN LADD  
LORETTA YOUNG  
in Paramount's  
**AND NOW Tomorrow**  
SUSAN HAYWARD BARRY SULLIVAN

TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 26-27

MITCHELL JEFFREYS  
BROWN - CARNEY  
SLEAZK PALLETTE  
MENDOU D'HAVERN  
SINATRA MURPHY  
With Whom Dinger Tunest  
**A WHOLE OF A SHOW**

THE BOND YOU BUY TODAY WILL BRING THE BOYS HOME TOMORROW!

Producing royalties in Eastland and Stephens counties. Some mineral rights in Shackelford and Winkler counties, Jim Hogg and Callahan counties. Call at News office.

**KEEP ON**  
*Backing the Attack*  
**WITH WAR BONDS**

### MODERN STEAM LAUNDRY

CISCO, TEXAS

Across street from Fire Station

Bring us your Laundry, we will give you Quick Service and Better Work.

### Janette's Beauty Shop

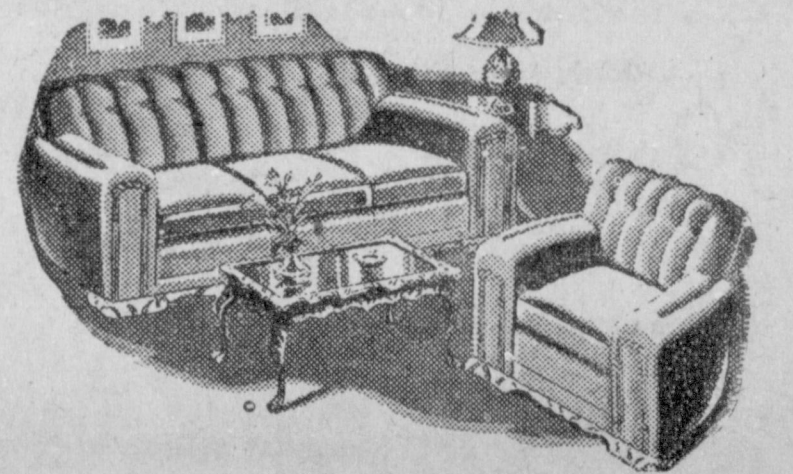


We are ready to serve all your beauty needs through the holidays.

Permanent Waves \$3.00 up  
Your business appreciated

107 W. Eighth St. Phone 9

## Do Your Christmas Shopping Now



For an ideal Christmas Gift the whole family will enjoy—come in and see our new assortment of spring constructed Studio Divans.

**GLENN'S FURNITURE CO.**  
Cisco and Abilene



*Restyle*  
YOUR HOME with  
Old American BRICK SIDING

—the Asphalt Siding that will give you the thrill of a new home at just a fraction of the cost. Insulates, remodels and beautifies in one operation. Two attractive colors, brick red or buff.

**ADDED COMFORT**  
No drafts across the floors—street noises are muffled (you can sleep like a kitten)—house easier to heat in winter and degrees cooler in the summer.

**SAVE** Old American Brick Siding practically pays for itself. Compare the cost of a sidewall paint job with that of applying Asphalt Siding. Since one application of siding eliminates future paint jobs, the actual savings are great.

**TESTED**  
in actual use on all types of buildings. Built to withstand the wear and tear of the elements for many years. Water-tight, termite and pest-proof and fire-resistant. Applied over old walls with very little preparatory work.

**CISCO LUMBER & SUPPLY**  
"WE'RE HOME FOLKS"

### ADAM'S WELDING SHOP NOW OPEN

Featuring portable welding. We do all types welding, also we are equipped with drill press and set of bolt dies

#### LOCATION

Former Moyer Welding Shop—707 F Avenue, Across the street from Merchant's Fast Motor Lines. "Bring your work to us, or we will go to it."

Cecil Adams, Prop.

CISCO, TEXAS

### KELTON'S FLOWER SHOP

Baird, Texas

Flowers for all occasions—

QUICK DELIVERY

When in need, give us a ring.

### NOTICE TO FARMERS AND STOCKMEN—

Your government urges you to turn in your crippled and dead stock. They contain valuable materials that are used in making explosives and bombsites.

The CENTRAL RENDERING CO. will pick them up free of charge.

Call collect, Telephone 4001, or 6513. On Sunday's and holidays call 6680, ABILENE, TEXAS.

### BURTON-LINGO COMPANY BUILDERS SUPPLIES

Fix that leaky roof now. Winter means trouble and added expense if you don't. Whether you do the job with paper, composition or wood shingles, you'll get both economy and reliability if you let us supply the material!

—DO IT NOW!—

## DUNN'S Produce--Feed

BRING YOUR CHICKENS, EGGS, TURKEYS, CREAM and HIDES.

We Also Buy Feeds.

DUNN'S IS HEADQUARTERS FOR DAIRY and RANCH FEEDS

We handle Purina and Red Chain Feeds We have a complete line of Garden and Field Seeds.

See John Dunn Before You Buy or Sell.

at DUNN'S PRODUCE & FEED

Let our place be your place when in town

DINNER HOSTS

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Callahan were hosts for dinner last Sunday in honor of Jack Stephens who is leaving soon to enter service. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Jack Stephens and son, Kenneth, Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Stephens and Billie, all of Throckmorton; Mrs. Ollie Jones, and Mr. and Mrs. Oran Dennis of Moran.

DESK BLOTTERS

Large desk blotters in beautiful, assorted colors, at the Leader office. Only 10 cents each.

She: I don't know why you object to my mother visiting us twice a year.  
He: I wouldn't mind if she didn't stay six months each time!

# MORAN

## My Column

MRS. C. C. CADY

Moran school patrons were treated to an excellent program last Thursday evening when Glenn L. Morris presented the latest in science in aviation, On The Beam, to a good crowd. This is the second of a series of lectures to be presented by the school as educational programs. The theme of the program throughout was the importance of technical knowledge, both in war and in peace.

The school has announced holidays from Friday, Dec. 22, to Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1945. The retail merchants of Moran have a large stock of holiday merchandise and they will probably be better able to serve you than merchants in the larger towns so be sure to see them first for what you want. Also observing the holidays with a turkey dinner, the Luncheon club is selling tickets at Hasen's store and at the newspaper office for 75 cents per plate. All friends and patrons are invited to attend, also our friends in Albany are invited.

### STATE GUARD NEWS COMPANY C., MORAN

Tuesday night, December 12, sixty-five officers and enlisted men of Company C. 10th Bn. Texas State Guard met at the armory and enjoyed a delicious repast of homemade chili and all the trimmings, including hot coffee and doughnuts. The "feed" was the occasion of celebrating the opening of a campaign or friendly contest between the first and second platoons, which will run for 30 days. At the end of the specific time, the losers will be required to "set 'em up" to the winners. Captain McCargo explained that the contest would be judged on two issues: Attendance and Military Courtesy—50% on each. Pep talks were made by Lts. Drake and McCollum, along the lines of the contest, and what the Guard means to the state and community. As each finished, he flung a challenge to the opposing platoon leader for final honors in the very interesting campaign just launched. Captain McCargo addressed the assembly on the all important subject now before the public of universal military training. His manuscript included a letter from the Adjutant General's Department, which he read.

Sgt. Trox Perry was our honored guest and when called on responded with a sort of narrative of his experience in the South Pacific, and his impression while in a fox hole, under heavy enemy shell fire. He concluded by saying that while in the shelter of the fox hole, he resolved that he would if permitted to live, be a better God-fearing church-going, wife-loving husband.

Over 10,000 British women war workers are serving as volunteers in American Red Cross service clubs in the British Isles.

## LOCALS

Bill Bray and Warren Bailey are new school bus drivers replacing Henry Grisham and Jake Sargent who resigned.

Uncle Ed Chism was wearing a big smile down town this week because of the arrival of his first granddaughter who was born Dec. 8, to Mr. and Mrs. John Hamilton of Stanton. Mrs. Hamilton was Lucile Chism.

Rev. and Mrs. W. M. Culwell were visitors in Abilene the first of the week.

Mrs. V. W. Thames and son, Rayford, of Cisco, were visitors in Moran Saturday.

J. A. Clements who has been seriously ill, is somewhat improved, his many friends will be glad to learn.

Miss Betty Elliott will fly from Corpus Christi to Fort Worth where she will be met by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Elliott, and she will spend three days at home for Christmas.

Chief Petty Officer Stephen L. Drake and wife spent Tuesday in Breckenridge visiting his sisters, Mrs. Hubbard Keith and Miss Irene Drake.

Mrs. Enoch McCollum and son, Clovis, spent the past two weeks visiting friends and relatives in Fort Worth. They were accompanied home by Mr. and Mrs. Erwin T. Herbert and Mrs. Louise Johnson who spent the week-end as guests in the McCollum home near Pueblo.

Miss Lois Donham of Scranton has been elected to take the place of Miss Anna Blackburn. She is making her home with Mrs. Bell Waters. Mrs. Perry's place is still unfilled.

Don't forget the Luncheon club's turkey dinner on Wednesday, Dec. 20, in the basement of the First Christian church.

### GROUP FAVORS UNIVERSAL TRAINING

The National Guard Association and Organized Reserve Officers Association favor universal military training, with strong citizen-soldier units after the war, Col. W. S. Tuttle of San Antonio told the state military affairs committee in Austin in October.

The committee, recently appointed by Governor Coke R. Stevenson, met to sample public opinion, which will be presented to Congress when the nation's post-war military establishment is considered in Washington.

Colonel Tuttle asserted that reserve officers should have the same opportunity for advancement as professional army men.

If the National Guard divisions and reserves had been built to prescribed strength under 1920 defense act, he added, the nation would have better prepared for war.

### WTCC to Seek Action ON New Legislation

Armed with a mandate from its directors and members in 110 towns, the West Texas Chamber of Commerce is readying its legislative program for presentation when Texas lawmakers meet next month.

D. A. Bandoen, WTCC manager, and Rep. Joe Humphrey, of Taylor county, are back from a conference at Dallas with Rep. W. O. Reed, member from that county, where a final going-over was given the state fiscal control and city-county budget bills. The first is the piece of legislation, calling for reorganization and simplification of the state's financial management, that the WTCC nearly, but not quite, got through the 47th and 48th legislatures. It will be re-introduced, with changes, before the 49th session, and again will bear Humphrey's name.

Reed will offer the city-county budget bill calling for tightening amendments to the Stevenson Uniform Budget Law. The WTCC will go all out for this bill as rewritten to force the carrying out of a budget after its adoption.

Humphrey and Reed are in the thick of a pre-session letter-writing campaign, posting the house members on their bills as re-drawn and soliciting offers of co-sponsorship. The WTCC is similarly busy calling on its directors and local chambers of commerce in the area to contact their legislative representatives and urge their support of the two measures.

The WTCC, Bandoen said, will work with the South Texas chamber of commerce for passage of a legislative redistricting bill. There has been no redistricting since 1920, although the Texas constitution calls for it following every decennial census. Rep. Marshall Bell, San Antonio, is author of the WTCC-supported bill, which, if passed, will give West Texas three more members than it now has.

A fourth measure to be advocated by the West Texas Chamber is a proposed constitutional amendment for apportionment of public school state funds on an actual attendance rather than a scholastic census basis. Sen. Pat Bullock, Colorado City, will lead this effort. Bullock represents the 24th district in the upper house.

American Red Cross services to servicemen and their families expanded more than 296 per cent in the first of the war.



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?

### BRASHEAR'S FOOD STORE

BAIRD, TEXAS

### Post War Jobs Survey Is Launched by WTCC

A postwar jobs survey, both rural and urban, throughout its territory is being launched by the West Texas Chamber of Commerce, under its inter-county agricultural and livestock contest and in collaboration with the state committee for economic development, the WTCCC has announced.

The contest was launched in January this year for two years of competitive effort in strengthening West Texas' farm and ranch economy through soil conservation, increased production and improvement in quality of crops, herds, and flocks. Recently, at the regional chamber's referendum assembly, held Nov. 8, the directors voted to add postwar jobs as a contest objective; to broaden this to include jobs surveys in the towns as well as on the farms and ranches; and to merge this phase with the similar aims of the committee for economic development.

G. H. McKinney, Fort Worth,

chairman of the WTCC's Postwar Economy and Planning Commission which is conducting the \$1,000 contest, also is chairman of the CED's District 5 covering most of West Texas. McKinney and E. W. Hardin, regional chamber president, are announcing that all West Texas county planning boards organized and functioning under the inter-county contest, also are being designated as county committees of the CED. The jobs survey will get under way at once.

Hardin, in letters to the planning boards and local chamber of commerce secretaries in the area, said the contest in its closing year will be greatly simplified, majoring on two objectives only. One will be the check-up on the present undermanning of farms, ranches, industry and mercantile concerns "and the interpretation of this information into postwar jobs for your county." The other, he said, will be the making for each county of a 1944-45 agricultural and livestock planting and production program that will help win the war and best serve postwar needs.



### THE SEASON'S GREETINGS

19 44

★ There will be a halo over the homes of America this Christmas radiating from the new hope for the world.

That your Christmas season may be both joyous and happy is the sincere wish of

### JOHNSON DRY CLEANERS

BAIRD, TEXAS



### HARK, THE ANGEL VOICES!

May the sweet old Christmas story bring to you this year a deeper meaning . . . a larger store of its joy and peace and gladness than it ever has before.

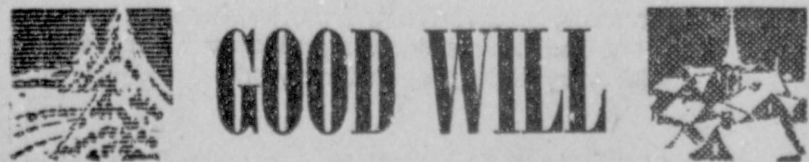
### W. O. WYLIE FUNERAL HOME

BAIRD and PUTNAM



WE HOPE old Santa will not forget you this Christmas of 1944, but that he will cram that stocking so full it can hold no more.

Good cheer, good fellowship, and Merry Christmas to you all!



### W. D. BOYDSTUN

BAIRD, TEXAS



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.

### GRAY'S STYLE SHOP

BAIRD, TEXAS

### 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.

### Altman's Style Shop

CISCO, TEXAS



Above: Two members of the WAC, celebrating their first Christmas in England, enlist the aid of a G. I. to help pass time. Below: Nurses and patients in an Iceland hospital worked together to decorate this cheery ward.



This marine, stationed in North Ireland, made sure of his traditional Christmas dinner, whether the quartermaster keeps his promise of a turkey dinner or not.



Santa Claus trekked all over Guadalcanal island on Christmas day to see that none of his boys were passed up. He's near the end of his trip judging from his light pack.

### Custom Maintained



In accordance with an old custom which some say began when the original St. Nicholas dropped a purse of gold down a fireplace and it accidentally landed in a stocking hung nearby, these youngsters hang their stockings with the greatest of care.

### Huge Yule Log Fire Once Thought to Ward Off Evil

Centuries ago huge fires were built in the great baronial halls in England on Christmas eve and servants brought in a log that was to burn throughout the Christmas feasting. It was customary to save a brand from each year's fire to light the next one with. If the log was properly burned it was believed that the devil was powerless to do any mischief to the household. One story has it that stockings were originally hung by fireplaces burning Yule logs in order to absorb the odor of the burning wood and thus give the wearer protection from evil.

## Saint Nick Lived In 4th Century

On Christmas Eve, American children will be tucked snugly in their beds—while visions of sugarplums dance through their heads. Listening breathlessly, they may hear sleighbells in the snow. Santa will be about, his pack laden with dolls and drums, painted carts and picture books, and unrationed good cheer for young and old.

The real, live St. Nicholas was born in Asia Minor and lived during the Fourth century. The Dutch settlers brought many legends centering around him to America. He was an extraordinarily studious youth and, after his father died, much concerned about the fortune he had inherited. He, therefore, conceived the idea of supplying financially embarrassed maidens with dowries, the young ladies having no idea where the money came from.

In his youth, Nicholas visited the Holy Land, and as a result, desired to spend his life in a monastery. However, he was blighted to "Go on; live among men . . ." Later, as the Archbishop of Myra, he was renowned for his graciousness, kindness and understanding of children.

The feast of St. Nicholas, patron saint of Russia, is celebrated on the sixth of December. On that day, in many European countries, the children are visited by St. Nicholas and given nuts, apples, candy and small gifts, providing they have been well behaved throughout the year.

The modern American conception of Santa Claus was first expressed by Washington Irving who, in 1809, described him as a tubby, jolly little fellow speeding across the sky in a reindeer-drawn sleigh.

In 1822, using Irving's description and supplying additional details from his own imagination, Clement Clarke Moore told his children the story of "The Visit of St. Nicholas." A year later, the poem was published in the Troy Sentinel. Many years passed, however, before Dr. Moore, being a professor of divinity, publicly acknowledged having written the now famous poem, which has been translated into several foreign languages.

Thomas Nast, creator of the GOP elephant, the Tammany tiger and the Democratic donkey, apparently dressed Santa in his red suit through a series of sketches appearing in Harper's illustrated weekly.

**President's Reception**  
It has been the custom from the beginning of the Republic for the President of the United States to welcome the New Year by holding a reception open to the general public. On the first New Year's day after his inauguration President Washington opened his home to receive the people. Throughout the seven years which Washington lived in Philadelphia as the capital of the nation, he continued this custom.

**Pious Custom**  
In the west of Ireland, Christmas takes a pious note. A candle is left burning in the window as a guide to the Holy Family, should it be needing shelter. And food is left on the table between meals in case any souls from purgatory should revisit their old homes.

**Several Santas**  
There are several Santas, including Kris Kringle and St. Nick or Nicholas. The original St. Nick was a bishop who is said to have lived to take part in the historic Council of Nice. This is disputed by historians, but he certainly lived prior to the reign of Justinian, in whose time several churches in Constantinople were dedicated to St. Nicholas.

## Keeping Spirit Of Christmas

HENRY VAN DYKE  
(From "The Spirit of Christmas.")

It is a good thing to observe Christmas day. The mere marking of times and seasons, when men agree to stop work and make merry together, is a wise and wholesome custom. It helps one to feel the supremacy of the common life over the individual life. It reminds a man to set his own little watch, now and then, by the great clock of humanity which runs on sun time.

But there is a better thing than the observance of Christmas day, and that is, keeping Christmas.

Are you willing to forget what you have done for other people, and to remember what other people have done for you; to ignore what the world owes you, and to think what you owe the world; to put your rights in the background, and your duties in the middle distance, and your chances to do a little more than your duty in the foreground; to see that your fellowmen are just as real as you are, and to try to look behind their faces to their hearts, hungry for joy; to own that probably the only good reason for your existence is not what you are going to get out of life, but what you are going to give to life; to close your book of complaints against the management of the universe, and look around you for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness—are you willing to do these things even for a day? Then you can keep Christmas.

Are you willing to stoop down and consider the needs and the desires of little children; to remember the weakness and loneliness of people who are growing old; to stop asking how much your friends love you, and ask yourself whether you love them enough; to bear in mind the things that other people have to bear in their hearts; to try to understand what those who live in the same house with you really want, without waiting for them to tell you; to trim your lamp so that it will give more light and less smoke, and to carry it in front so that your shadow will fall behind you; to make a grave for your ugly thoughts, and a garden for your kindly feelings, with the gate open—are you willing to do these things even for a day? Then you can keep Christmas.

Are you willing to believe that love is the strongest thing in the world—stronger than hate, stronger than evil, stronger than death—and that the blessed life which began in Bethlehem 1900 years ago is the image and brightness of the Eternal Love? Then you can keep Christmas.

And if you keep it for a day, why not always?  
But you can never keep it alone.

**Sprinkled With Wine**  
Zenicians of Bosnia burn their Yule logs a day later than the rest of Europe. Just before sunrise the father drags the log into the home. As he enters the door he is doused with wine. The log itself is sprinkled with kernels of corn to assure the family a bountiful crop in summer.

# Pay the Convenient Way

A checking account here is valuable in many ways. You always have a complete record of expenditures, you are protected against loss, or theft of cash, and you can pay your bills by mail.

Enjoy this convenience now. Your account is invited by this friendly bank.

Buy more War Bonds and keep them!

**The Moran National Bank**  
Moran, Texas  
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

THE NEWS SUBSCRIPTION RATE HAS NOT ADVANCED—ONLY \$1.00 PER YEAR



"...and on earth peace, good will towards men."

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

**WHITE'S TIRE SHOP**  
CISCO, TEXAS



# 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!*  
**City Pharmacy** Baird Texas

### Boxing Days

In England, Boxing day—usually December 26—formerly was the day when the old squires distributed Christmas boxes to the help on their estates. It has since become a sort of legalized blackmail—an excuse for delivery boys, the postman and others who have served you during the year to call and collect a tip.

### Christmas Tax

Greeks in the southwestern part of their peninsula dive into the waters of the harbor to recover a wooden cross thrown in by the archbishop. The villager who recovers the crucifix has the right to levy a small Christmas tax upon each home in the village.



## LOADS OF HAPPINESS TO YOU!

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.

**SCHAEFER'S RADIO SHOP**  
CISCO, TEXAS

### SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!



We've got it on good authority that this town is among the first along Santa Claus' route, and that he's scheduled to make a long stop here!  
We hope that "Santa Claus will be good to you," and that this holiday time will be one of exceptional joy and happiness to you and your family.

**JACK RAWSON'S**  
Used Furniture and Electrical Supplies  
CISCO, TEXAS



There's a joy in the heart That sets Christmas apart, To make it a day of all days. And may its true peace And good will never cease To bless you in manifold ways.

**REEVES USED FURNITURE**  
CISCO, TEXAS



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.

**JOHNSON MOTOR COMPANY**  
BAIRD, TEXAS

BICYCLE TIRES

We have a few 26x2 1/4 Tires left at only.....\$1.79

GENUINE FORD PARTS

Makes your Ford a Ford instead of an orphan—INSIST ON GENUINE FORD PARTS.

FORD BATTERY

Money cannot buy a better Battery. We have them to fit 95% of all cars—cheaper than the same quality in others.

We hope to have some more Anti-Freeze soon—Watch for it.

TIRES—Bring your Certificates for Goodrich Silver-town's—Tires and Tubes—most all sizes in stock.

Earl Johnson Motor Co.

SALES



SERVICE

BAIRD, — TEXAS

Phone 218

A CHECKING ACCOUNT IN THIS BANK

Serves You in These Five Ways:

- 1. It keeps your money safe.
2. It saves you time and effort.
3. It gives you accurate control of your finances.
4. It provides receipts for payments.
5. It furnishes complete records.

The First National Bank of Baird

BAIRD, TEXAS

(Member F. D. I. C.)

The subscription price of the News has not been advanced—only one dollar.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

WYLIE FUNERAL HOME

PHONE 38

PUTNAM, — TEXAS

WYLIE BURIAL ASSOCIATION

W. O. Wylie Jr., Sec.-Treas.

ODOM CASH GROCERY

Putnam, Texas



BEST-YET SALAD DRESSING

- Duffs Waffle Mix.....25c
Crisco, 3 lbs.....75c
Onions, lb.....05c
Kre-Mel.....05c
No. 2 can Fresh Lima Beans.....16c
No. 2 cans Ribbon Cane Syrup.....10c
No. 2 1/2 can Apricots.....35c
Pt. Log Cabin Syrup.....26c

WE PAY HIGHEST MARKET PRICE FOR EGGS.

Personal Mention

As usual there will be no Putnam News Christmas week, but on January 4th will be the first issue in 1945. We wish to thank our readers and advertisers for their friendship, goodwill and business in the past and wish for each and everyone of them a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year for 1945.

JACK RAWSON'S USED FURNITURE

Cisco, Texas
Moving temporarily across street back of Gilliam's Variety Store, Ave. E.

Miss Marian Pearl Damon spent the past week visiting with her sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Morrison in Oklahoma.

NOTICE! NOTICE! NOTICE!

You can now get the Fort Worth Press and the Putnam News for \$6.00. Think of this price only \$5.00 a year for a daily paper. We will be able to take new subscriptions until further notice.

M. E. Frye of Cisco was transacting business in Putnam Saturday afternoon. Mr. Frye purchased the Everett Williams ranch and several hundred acres more grazing land in the Putnam vicinity.

Roll Cook and Tom McIntosh of Clyde were circulating among friends and looking after business interests in Putnam Saturday afternoon.

Red Little was transacting business in Baird Monday morning. Mr. Little just completed a 1700 foot well on the Clinton in the Scranton field. He has two or three producing wells in that field in the 1700 foot sand.

ABILENE REPORTER-NEWS FOR \$6.95

The bargain rate on the Reporter-News is now on—only \$6.95 for a full year. New subscribers will be taken at this office as long as news print is sufficient. Better get in your order as early as possible since this offer may be rescinded any time on new subscribers.

FOR SALE — Good well equipped shoe shop for sale. Good location with a nice business. Reasons for selling. Call at the News office, Putnam.

J. A. Yarbrough was in Baird transacting business in connection with the purchasing of the R. A. Park farm in the Pueblo community.

J. A. Yarbrough turned in his subscription to the Star-Telegram and extended his subscription to the News for another year. Thanks, Mr. Yarbrough.

B. F. Yarbrough spent the past week-end visiting with Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Abernathy. He formerly lived at Byers, but has been in West Texas for the past several months before coming to Putnam this week.

Read the Putnam News and get more news items by actual count. When you have news hand it in and help to make the News the best country weekly in the territory.

Mrs. Rex King and daughter-in-law, Mrs. Alvin King of Sweetwater, were visiting with Lon and Elmer McIntosh Saturday evening.

Mrs. Emma Heyser Hicks of Wichita Falls came in Saturday afternoon to spend Christmas with her mother, Mrs. J. A. Heyser and brother Fred and wife.

To all water customers: Be careful with your connections when cutting off the water about abusing your connections, as new parts are hard to get and remember all parts furnished inside meter connections are property of the meter owner and will have to be replaced by the property owner. All repairing of meters, hose bibbs and any other connections will be charged to the meter owner, where there are any charges.

Mrs. Montie Gunn visited with her daughter, Miss La Juan Gunn in Abilene Thursday afternoon.

We stated in last week's issue that Granville Sprawls was visiting with his son, Raymond Sprawls in the Scranton community, when it should have stated visiting with his brother, Raymond.

See in a news story on front page the announcement of a special Christmas program at the Baptist church in Cisco, Sunday evening, December 24th.

H. E. Butler was in Putnam Saturday afternoon and while in town called at the News office and turned in his subscription to the Abilene Reporter-News and set his figures a year ahead on the Putnam News.

Mrs. Neil Norred of Big Spring is here to spend the Christmas holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Brandon.

R. O. Finley of Cisco visited with his daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Ennis Quallas Sunday and attended services at the Baptist church in the morning.

Alton White, owner of the White Grocery, was transacting business in Baird Monday morning.

Mrs. L. B. Moore and daughter, Miss Eva, city secretary of Putnam, were shopping and attending to business in Baird Monday morning.

Sam Kennedy, an old time resident of Putnam and a nephew of S. W. Jobe, visited with Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Jobe from Friday until Monday, returning to Fort Worth.

Bill West, who is drilling the well on the square has requested the News to state that the law requires the posting of notices to keep off of the premises, and it is a violation of the law to tear those signs down.

Mrs. E. P. Whitaker is reported to be ill and in a hospital at Oakland, California.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

To all my friends in Putnam: A blessing on your friendly house and all who dwell therein, May Christmas bring you happiness and as new day began. May life's good things be with you and many blessings fall across your kindly threshold. God bless you one and all.

Mrs. Lula Dixon, 931 Gilbert St., Oakland, California.

Mrs. J. H. Cunningham returned to her home in Putnam Wednesday afternoon from Tulsa, Oklahoma where she has been visiting with her daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Reynolds.

First Class Petty Officer of the Seabees, U. S. N. R. Deering Trout Free, left Friday for the Pacific Coast after visiting with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Free for about a month. He had been in the Pacific for more than two years before he returned to the states about a month ago.

NOTICE FIRST NATIONAL BANK Baird, Texas

A change in banking hours. To all concerned: Please take notice that beginning December 26, 1944, The First National Bank of Baird will open at 9:30 a. m. and will close at 3:00 p. m.

C. A. Dittmore's young son, C. A. Jr., while living in Abilene and going to school there, was telling a pal about his recent trip to his country ranch. We listened just as he was describing his visit to the farm's pig pens. "And you should have seen those little pigs chasing that 'big one all over in there," he shouted. "Well, finally, they got him in a corner and he laid down, and then, by golly, they started chewing the buttons right off his vest."

Umbrellas for Tractors

We have several tractor umbrellas in stock. Little out of season, but it will surprise you how quick they will be in demand. Why not purchase one and have it ready? Shackelford Implement Co. Putnam, Texas

The Putnam school will dismiss on Friday, December 22, and will not take up again until Monday, January 1, 1945.

Billy Mac Park is home from the training camp near San Antonio to spend Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Luther Park.

Mrs. G. W. Damon stated Saturday morning that she had just received a letter from her son, Kelly in the Pacific zone and he was well and doing fine.

PLENTY OF TIRES

Plenty of tires while they last, both passenger and tractor tires, 600x16, 550x16. Buy a Goodyear, they cost no more.

Shackelford Implement Co. Putnam, Texas

Raymond Clark was in Putnam Friday morning. Mrs. Clark had an operation performed in Cisco a few days ago and Raymond is staying in Cisco while Mrs. Clark is recovering sufficient to return to Fort Worth. She is doing fine.

4-H CLUB BOYS DIVERSIFYING ON LIVESTOCK

4-H club boys, during the past year, have planted 100 acres of corn, 146 acres small grain, 58 acres peanuts, 14 acres cotton, 4 acres potatoes, and 1 acre garen. From this amount, they have harvested 1500 bushels corn, 4350 bushels small grain, 1160 bushels peanuts, 7 bales cotton, and 240 bushels sweet potatoes. In addition 927 chickens

and turkeys were raised, 11 head of dairy cattle, 17 head of beef calves, 35 head of sheep, 26 head of horses, and 13 goats were cared for in livestock projects. Thirty-one head of swine, averaging 200 pounds were raised during the year, and 20 brood sows farrowed approximately 100 pigs.

From the amount produced, club members have won approximately 20 4-H club medals, a free trip to the 4-H club Congress in Chicago, and won 20 places in the West Tex-

as Livestock Show with their swine and goats. The total prize money received at the show was \$71.00. In addition, \$250.00 in War Bonds was given for work well done.

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of stockholders of Moran National Bank of Moran, will be held in the banking rooms of said bank in Moran, Texas, at 2:00 p. m. on January 16, 1945, for the purpose of electing directors for the ensuing year and for the transaction of any other business proper to come before said meeting. Floyd C. Pool, Cashier.

L. L. BLACKBURN ATTORNEY-AT-LAW BAIRD, TEXAS

R. E. GRANTHAM Attorney-at-Law Practice in all Courts. Cisco, Texas

FARM AND RANCH LOANS AND SALES
We have money to loan on farms and ranches at low interest rates. See us on your loan problems.—If you want to sell your land, see us. The best time to sell is when there are buyers. List it with us.—We have many farms and ranches for sale. Too many to list.—We connect buyers and sellers. See us for real estate service.
C. S. Surles Real Estate Service
705 D. Cisco—Telephone 321

HERE ARE Gifts They Want!
We have a nice selection of Holiday Gift merchandise on display, and we are receiving shipments almost daily of new merchandise. However, most of these goods were bought several months ago, so come in early and make your selection while the stock is complete, as we cannot replace them when they are exhausted.
Here are a few suggestions:
Glassware, Pottery, Vases, Novelties, Perfume, Cologne, Toilet Water, Identification Bracelets, Pipes, Tobacco Pouches, Toilet Sets, Brush Sets, Travel Kits, Bill Folds, Jewelry, Watches, Diamonds, Tie Racks, Mirrors, Stationery.
Dean Drug Company
THE REXALL STORE PHONE 33
Cisco, Texas

New Era Heating requires a VENT
Modernizing or building a new postwar home? Above is a picture of things to come in heating equipment; equipment designed for healthful, pleasant, comfortable living. Each is vented, vented to a flue to avoid wall sweating and eliminate stuffy air. So in your plans be sure to include sufficient flues because, regardless of the type you select, they are necessary for modern gas heating.
LONE STAR GAS COMPANY




CHRISTMAS ISSUE

# The Putnam News

PUTNAM, TEXAS, THURS DAY, DECEMBER, 1944.

## "Merry Christmas, Son"



**F**ORGIVE me, Lord, if my prayer this eve  
Is a selfish one. Forgive me, son,  
If I seem to falter, appear to grieve,  
For I feel no grief, nor bitterness  
That you are gone, beyond the seas;  
It's more of an empty loneliness  
I cannot help. No anguished pleas  
Shall I utter, son; just this I pray:  
Godspeed your task, may it be done  
Before another holy Christmas day,  
And everlasting be the victory won.

—Edward Lawson

# CHRISTMAS, a Time of Spiritual Uplift

By KATHLEEN NORRIS  
(Released by Bell Syndicate)

Now that Christmas is so close some of us who are getting on in years are remembering other Christmases. It rather sobers me, for one, to realize that my Christmas recollections go back more than half a century—say to Christmas in 1893.

We lived in the country then, and there were nine in our family—father, mother, unmarried aunt and six children. My father was a bank manager on a salary of \$6,000 a year, which was considered wealth. We had a horse and a surrey, two cows, chickens and a cook. The cook did all the washing in a day when ladies and little girls reveled in white starched petticoats and embroidered muslin nightgowns; she did all the cooking and put up 400 jars of fruit every year. Her salary was \$22 per month.

Beef was 10c to 15c a pound; best breakfast bacon 10c to 12c a pound; vegetables came for almost nothing—we had a garden; bread was 5 cents a loaf; children's "pebblegoat" shoes cost less than \$2 a pair.

We children had plenty of jobs; we had no sense of sitting back and being waited upon; my older brother had full responsibility for the cows, horse and chickens; my sister and I had to dust rooms, and fill 17 kerosene lamps every day, to set and clear the dining table, to sweep porches, to run errands for the grown-ups. When the semi-annual sewing orgy was on, and Miss Wilde came, we had to clear the sewing room every night, a job I think of even now with loathing. Scraps of threads and paper patterns littered the floor.

## A Great Time

Christmas was a great time. Preparations had to go on about four fronts. Church was one important item. There must be special music, which meant

night rehearsing with all its thrills of walks in the swinging lantern light; there must be special decorations. There was a Sunday school tree for poor children, always a wonderful spiritual uplift for the luckier children who wrapped and distributed the packages.

Then there were presents to make and—more rarely—to buy. There was the tree to find, and fell, and trim. There was the kitchen excitement of seeding raisins and chopping citron, with all the grown-ups buzzing about. And finally, there were family arrivals, cousins, grandma, coming in cold and beaming, and being welcomed by roaring fires and dancing children; dinner all ready, red berries on the table and fragrant wreaths at the windows. And the solemn ceremony of stocking-hanging for the last thing Christmas Eve.

There was no war then, no talk of war. There had been a Civil War not too many years earlier, but as the family had been sharply divided between Boston and Richmond, it was never mentioned. What was going on in the Balkans or Manchuria concerned us not at all. That the machines that men were even then inventing would one day grow into such hideous power that whole cities would fall in ashes beneath them; that war would reach out across the wide oceans and engulf us, never occurred for one instant to the ladies who sat rocking before the great wood fire. Telephones were now new and considered a marvelous invention. No automobiles, radio, movies as yet. No wireless, no planes.

Without all these the world was a safer-feeling place, whatever great good they may bring to mankind in the wiser years to come.

## Empty Chair This Year

There will be no Christmas like that old Christmas this year; not anywhere in the whole world. Not anywhere—father, mother, children, kinsfolk sitting down together to turkey and oy-



There was a Sunday School tree for poor children, always a wonderful spiritual uplift for the luckier children who wrapped and distributed packages.

ster soup and mince pie. There is an empty chair this year beside mother, and Aunt Emily is very quiet in her new black. The smallest baby gets his

rattle and his new blankets, but he doesn't get a kiss from his daddy. Daddy has been a prisoner of war for long and weary months.

Everyone is resolutely cheerful, but the old gaiety is laid aside for awhile. The women's voices aren't murmuring about sage in the dressing or the ridiculous cost of doll buggies. No, this year it's "Still missing, grandma. But Jim was a wonderful swimmer and football player, and we hope—" "They heard last week; he may get leave in February." "They got the Christmas boxes off way back in October, but of course we don't know that they got there." "He's a lieutenant now, Uncle George—in Italy, we think." And so on and on until the roll call of every beloved name—and the Johnson boy, and the Smith boy, and Mary Jones' husband, and Helen's father, is complete.

Oh, I hope the boys know it, know how our hearts are with them, how we pray for them and think of them and thank them, on all the battle fronts! In the long dull days of marking time in our camps, in the dreadful lonely white Aleutians, on the blazing, roaring red lines of war, their mothers and wives and sisters are with them, every hour of the day.

## Spirit of Day Must Not Suffer

And at home we must do what we can to keep Christmas still Christmas. If the turkey has turned into a lamb stew or a fish chowder; if the ice cream is only a rather weak frozen custard; if the presents are only what was left after the boys' boxes were shipped away, the spirit of Christmas need not suffer. There may still be wreaths in the windows and candlelight on the tree; the children may still arrange their tableaux and charades; the cousins and aunts may still come trooping in out of the cold to the welcoming fire. And if we older folk spend a little more time in the churches, re-

peating the Lord's Prayer, the old law, begging God to bring men back to a sense of it, to a respect for it, that will not spoil Christmas, either.

"I hoped you were in church, praying for me at that exact moment, Mother," wrote a boy from Rome last July. "I thought of you all, Ellen and the kids and Dad and Betsey, and where you might be. I placed them all at home—well, say getting ready for Sunday supper on the porch. But I placed you in church, thinking of me and praying for me. Somebody must be, for I seem to lead a charmed life. Don't stop."

That was well said: "Don't stop." If we're to have the right world afterward we must hold tight to the old peaceful, happy ways this Christmas. We must put our heart into making the family feel happy and confident. We must think of the words we sing in the Christmas hymns: "For in that darkness shineth an everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in Thee tonight."

## REJOICE ALWAYS

We need not hesitate over happiness this year. For a child was born in Bethlehem at a time when Herod was a king and hatred and death were abroad in the world, even as they are today. The babe of a manger, the boy of the temple, grew up to teach good will and love as a saving way of life for all mankind. He who said "Rejoice always" said it confidently to men and women who lived with unhappiness and strife, among wars and rumors of wars. We can say the same words confidently now. It is surely not too much to believe that the children of this Christmas time will grow up to know a world where all nations can truly rejoice and where, as a living heritage from those who are dying today for their fellows, good will and peace will be found which a child of Judea once taught the children of men.

Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which, being interpreted, is, God with us. Matt. 1:23.

# A STAR that GLEAMS

By WALTER RUSSELL BOWIE  
(Condensed from New York Times Magazine)

CHRISTMAS, and a world in confusion: those two realities do not seem to fit together. "Peace on earth, good-will toward men" is the thought that instinctively we associate with Christmas; but now there is no peace upon the earth, and in many places good-will is eclipsed in bitterness and hate. Festivity seems unnatural in a year like this. We may approach it awkwardly, with our hearts not in it. There are too many grim tasks ahead, and we remember too many boys who kept last Christmas at home, or near it, and who this year are in the snows of Germany or in the rank jungles of the South Pacific, or in the rain and mud of Italy.

Nevertheless, the thought of Christmas was and the mood of Christmas do belong to this year, as to every year. Indeed, they belong to it more because they are needed more. It was exactly 100 years ago that Charles Dickens wrote "A Christmas Carol," that bright and glowing fantasy which it is safe to say will be read and rejoiced in long after another hundred years have come and gone.

It is true there was no great war to shadow Dickens' world in the year when he wrote it, but that world, of his was very dark in other ways. His England was blighted with the worst cruelties of the new industrial age, its skies blackened with unaccustomed smoke, its children exploited the slums of its cities filled with huddled human misery.

## Out of a Dingy Cloud

But out of this dingy cloud emerge the figures of Dickens' immortal story, with their invincible chorus of "Merry Christmas" and with the final words of Tiny Tim, "God bless us, every one!"

What sort of bright message then does Christmas have for us in the winter weather of this year of war?

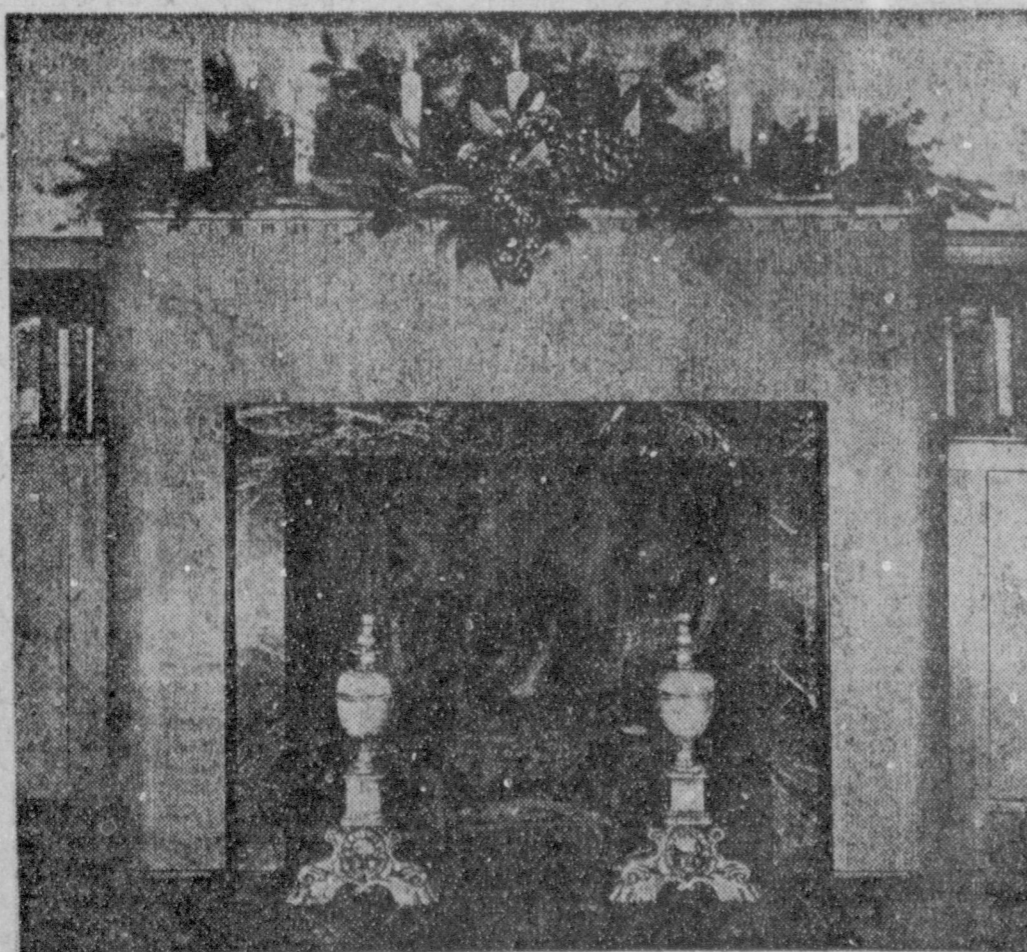
First, there is the remembrance that it is not the seeming big things but the little intimate things that matter most. The story of Christmas centers in a family—the Holy Family of Joseph and Mary and the little Child who was born in Bethlehem. But every family has in it something that can make it holy, something—that is to say—which lifts people up and makes them better

than they would have been alone.

Let us, therefore, turn back and consider that contrast out of which the whole commemoration of Christmas grew. The civilization which the first century knew was in many respects hard and cruel. To great populations their lot must have seemed as bitter as the lot of those nations in Europe that are bowed beneath the Nazi yoke. Rome had subjugated the whole of the western world, and the figure of Messala in "Ben Hur" is perhaps not overdrawn as a representative of the arrogance of Roman mastery.

## Caesar Augustus

Over the Roman Empire Caesar Augustus ruled, the nephew of Julius Caesar, who had destroyed the power of Brutus and Cassius and later of Marc



Antony, and had centered supreme authority in himself. According to the Gospel of St. Luke, in which the story of Christmas first was written, "there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed"; and it was in obedience to the edict of the Roman ruler that Joseph and Mary had to go up to Bethlehem for the tax enrollment and that so in Bethlehem occurred the birth of Jesus on what is now called Christmas Day.

To the vast majority of men then living those facts seemed incomparably more important than the other. The important fact was the taxing that the Emperor ordered; the fact that a child was born was negligible. Everybody was concerned about the taxing; everybody obeyed it, because all had to. But what difference did it make to anybody, except to his own parents, that

one more child happened to come into existence in this Palestine which was only one of the less significant provinces over which Rome ruled? Apparently no difference at all.

## Eclipsed by a Child

That is the way in which men always are inclined to reckon. The actions of governments, the practical matters of taxes and tariffs, the big decisions by the seemingly big people—these are the things that are supposed to be of overwhelming consequence. The new impulse that may be stirring in some soul that the world has not yet heard of is unnoticed. Who in the first century would have admitted that anybody in his senses could suggest that Caesar Augustus would be eclipsed in history by a child born of one of his subject peoples?

But as a matter of fact, that reversal has long since taken place. Nobody cares much today about Augustus. His name stirs interest in the mind of a student of history; but it stirs no emotion in any man's heart. So far as anything we live for or live by is concerned, nobody would feel any distress if the name of Augustus should suddenly vanish from the records of the earth, but millions of people, including multitudes who are not Christians, know that something infinitely enriching would be lost if we should ever lose the influence of Him whose birthday has become our Christmas.

So Christmas centers around a great event. It has to do with the coming of a Child; and ever since the Child of Bethlehem was born there has been a more sensitive reverence for life's new beginnings. In the Christmas story a star stands over Bethlehem, shining with a light that never wholly was on land or sea. To many a father and mother their own child has seemed to reflect some of this same light.

And now once more we stand at a decisive moment. In these recent days there have been meetings of statesmen, proclamations of purpose, plans for constructive action, including peace plans, which gleam like a star in a shadowed sky. But that star, if it is to be really the signal of a larger hope, must be seen and followed by the younger generation coming on.

So it might result that not for a few people and not for a few nations only but for all mankind, the words with which Dickens concluded the "Christmas Carol" would come true: "God bless us, everyone!"

# Hollywood's Yuletide Will Be Quiet

By HAROLD HEFFERNAN  
(Motion Picture Editor, The Detroit News)

AS IN all other parts of the civilized world, the simple, time-honored greeting, "Merry Christmas," will be exchanged throughout movieland, but Hollywood's fourth wartime Yule observation will be even more quiet and reverent than ever before.

This year many movie workers who had sons, brothers and husbands at home last Christmas will be touched by loneliness, thereby turning sobering thoughts toward their men in the service. In 1943 Hollywood was practically squeezed dry of its available males.

It became apparent in an early checkup that many of big name personalities haven't yet completed plans for the holiday. One thing, however, is certain: It will be very much of a stay-at-home Christmas. Only in a few isolated cases have stars dared the transportation tangle by embarking on cross-continental trips.

## Hollywood Canteen to Be Merry

While Christmas, 1944, will be extremely quiet for most residents, there is one spot in town where it will be plenty noisy. All the stops will be pulled out at the famous Hollywood Canteen, where some 100 stars and featured players will join for a couple of hours or so to entertain service men.

Bette Davis, who heads the canteen and has been the moving spirit in the organization since its birth 30 months ago, says the gaiety and cheer at that spot Christmas Day will top that of 1942, when Eddie Cantor played Santa Claus and distributed more than \$5,000 worth of gifts to visiting members of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps. Cantor, it is hoped, will repeat his feat.

The Hollywood Victory Committee reported that in 1943 some 90 stars and well-known actors agreed to forfeit their holiday at home to participate in a Christmas Caravan, which carried good cheer to Army and Navy hospitals throughout the United States.

## Greeting Cards

Incidentally, if you get a greeting card from a star this year you can consider yourself lucky. Even before the war, Hollywood was cutting down on its policy of sending out elaborate and costly cards—dropping from an average price of 35 cents to 10 cents. After Pearl Harbor, practically the

entire colony subscribed itself to the moderately priced, simple little greetings printed in job lots by the Motion Picture Relief Fund. Last year this worthy organization, which silently cares for indigent old-timers of the movie industry, realized \$8,000 from the sale of Christmas cards. This year it has gone out of the card business because of the paper shortage. With greeting telegrams long since banned, plenty of stars will use the telephone to call up their friends.

Seems like a century ago that the late Tom Mix startled the town, and all his acquaintances, by sending out 5,000 greeting cards, two feet long, in five colors and costing \$2.90 each. But it was only 15 years back, when Tom and Tony were riding the high range of fame and fortune.

## No Gaudy Decorations On the Landscape

Likewise, it seems ages back that Beverly Hills and Bel Air residents were waging their annual Yuletide battle of outside Christmas decorations. Fancy homes and vast front yards of the stars were aglow with fantastic Santa Clauses, reindeer, artificial snow and other decorations two weeks before the big day.

At night, Beverly Hills thoroughfares were thronged with sightseers, on foot and in automobile, gawking at the illuminated ornaments. And each year a committee of city fathers, sitting in solemn session, awarded prizes to property owners putting forth the most amazing display. While the dimout has been lifted, there'll be no such gaudy shows in the Hollywood area this Christmas.

Even the traditional symbol of the Holy Day—the Christmas tree—will be absent from many a living room. Transportation difficulties have reduced the allotment to a comparatively few limbs of the scrawny cedar variety. And these have been marked up with prohibitive price tags. The \$5 tree of last year is now \$15, so many an actor has decided to decorate the mantel and buy a War Bond instead.

But the true spirit of Christmas—all that it stands for—will not be absent in Hollywood. The little remembrances, the good will, the kindly greetings will be just as cordial and sincere as ever.

With 11,800,000 men in the armed forces, the Selective Service Administration reports inductions now averaging 70,000 a month and discharges about 35,000 a month.



BETTE DAVIS  
She will head the Hollywood Canteen for service men.

# CURRENT COMMENT

By A STAFF EDITOR

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## Faith

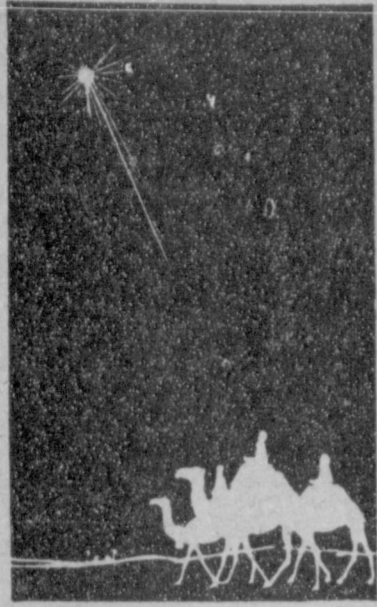
ON weekdays through the year the door of many a city church stands open, and on those days—notably now, as Christmas nears—people come in from the noisy street, the busy avenue, to sit a while in meditation, to kneel a moment in prayer.

Burdened, anxious, saddened, devout, they are a cloud of witnesses, silently testifying: "Though all be ill with the world, God is in His Heaven: In Him is our trust." The shocks and strains and changes of a troubled time cannot shake that faith.

What is faith? It is that by which the just have lived; that which made the leper whole; that which makes any care or sorrow possible to bear. It is the light by which men may walk when the way is too dark for sight. It is the mind at its bravest. It is the chain that binds us to the Infinite, lifting us above fear. It is a bridge across the gulf of death.

Faith differs among men. One man's conception of God may scarcely resemble another's. But who would quarrel over that, so long as the faith of both means that goodness is the eternal law of God's universe and will forever overcome evil? And with such faith shining on life comes faith in our fellow-men and ourselves.

There must surely be a blessing for those who have faith. Look for its sign in the clear eyes and the calm faces of people as they come out from the sanctuary into the throbbing world again, strengthened for whatever responsibilities, whatever trials may await them.



moved away from farms or who now are living on places no longer regarded as farms, and a net gain of 1,652,000 through the excess of births over deaths.

## Will Ever Exist

Christmas holidays always will be holidays whether or not there is a war. For the spirit of Christmas will ever exist in a country such as ours where ideals are based on the tenets of fair play. Tinsel trees, gay gifts, wrappings, holly and mistletoe and candles flickering in windows are outward manifestations of Yuletide, and these traditions will be carried out even with an empty chair at the dinner table. These are the very things for which our boys are fighting, and these are the things they would have us do while they are gone. And because we do them, our morale rises despite sadness, uncertainties and reminiscences of other happier years. The very fact that the season has arrived and the effort is made, brings charity, hope, love, faith, and even gaiety into our lives. So it should be a happy Christmas for all who make it so.

## Largest and Most Powerful Fleet

Dramatic naval developments in the Pacific, culminating with the crushing defeat of the Japanese fleet in the battle of the Philippines, has brought the focus of war to bear on American sea power.

The curtain of censorship has been lifted sufficiently, in celebration of this the largest and most powerful force of historic victory, to give us a glimpse of fighting ships ever to sail the Seven Seas. That it is such is no longer unknown to the enemy. He has felt its sting and has fled, bleeding and mortally hurt, to the temporary security of his home waters.

The growth of the United States Navy is one of the awe-inspiring stories of the Second World War. From 369 in 1940 the number of U. S. combat craft has been increased to more than 1,500, despite the loss of approximately 170 vessels.

Of the 26 battleships, 16 are reported by the Navy to be operating in the present area of Pacific hostilities.

Included in the battle line are at least three super-dreadnoughts—the

Iowa, Missouri and Wisconsin. These are 45,000-ton giants each carrying nine 16-inch guns that can blast a target nearly 19 miles away over the horizon.

Even more impressive is the growth of the Navy in the category of aircraft carriers. There are perhaps 100 of these of all types.

In addition the Navy has in commission and fit for action approximately 75 cruisers, heavy and light; 345 destroyers, and more than 200 submarines. Behind this mighty fleet of fighting ships is a supporting armada of more than 50,000 vessels, including landing craft.

## Mints Set Record Output for Coin

Production of coins in the Denver, San Francisco and Philadelphia mints has reached a new all-time high this year, with 3,000,000,000 made during the last year. This tops previously yearly records by 1,000,000,000 coins.

"Cartwheels"—silver dollars—are also enjoying a production boom this year. By June 30 at least 3,000,000 of them had been made at the Denver mint in one year. Nickels and dimes are not being ignored in this new coin boom, and a considerable part of the monthly production at all mints is devoted to the nickel and silver coins.

Manufacture of the steel penny, introduced as an emergency measure when copper was scarce at the beginning of the war, seems to be a thing of the past. But with \$7,000,000 worth already in circulation, mint officials estimate that Americans will still be handling them in their daily business for many years to come.

## The Aerial Bazooka

The bazooka is probably the strangest instrument of destruction to come out of our armament factories. Looking like a castaway iron pipe, it unleashes gunfire sufficient to destroy a tank or penetrate the thickest wall. At Lowell, Mass., some of the barrels of this amazing weapon are being made of paper plastic.

Offspring of the famous bazooka used by the infantry, they are part of the armament of fighter planes. Paper plastic was chosen because of its light weight. Tests proved the paper barrels to be fire-resistant, successfully withstanding the fiery blast of the missile as it is discharged.

Firing of the flying bazooka is controlled by the pilot in the same manner that he fires his wing machine guns, by pressing a trigger in his control stick. The bazooka—or rocket launchers as they are called officially—are mounted under each wing, three of them in a cluster.

## New Sugar Cane By-Product

A by-product of sugar cane which has heretofore been considered practically worthless could form the basis of a thriving new industry in the South, says Dr. E. E. Litkenhous, professor of chemical engineering at Vanderbilt University of Nashville, Tennessee.

The material is bagasse—the pulp residue left when the juices are squeezed out of sugar cane. It now is burned as waste, or used as fuel in sugar mills.

In a report prepared for the War Production Board, the Vanderbilt scientist said bagasse can be manufactured into paper and that production of paper from the material "could be gotten under way within a very short time," helping to solve the current paper shortage.

"It has been estimated that more than two million tons of bagasse pulp could be consumed now in the paper industry for various types of specialty papers and corrugated board, thus freeing a similar quantity of wood pulp for other uses," he reported.

And the by-product has a dozen or more other uses forming the basis for products ranging from shellac to stockings, Dr. Litkenhous declared.

## War Bond Purchases of Servicemen

Servicemen are salting away a lot of their hard-earned money in war bonds.

They're doing it by allotments—having so much deducted from each month's pay—or buying with cash.

The monthly investments now: Soldiers, about 46 million dollars; navy men, about 13 million dollars.

So far the most popular allotment has been \$6.25. Taken monthly from a man's pay, in three months full payment of \$18.75 has been made for a \$25 bond.

Now, there is a new \$10 "GI" bond for servicemen, issued August 1. They can buy it for \$7.50. It has to be in one payment.

The bond purchases do double duty: They help servicemen save money for after the war; and they help siphon off an overseas serviceman's loose cash.

With less loose cash, servicemen have less chance to bid up prices in freed or occupied territory. This helps prevent inflation there.

Bond purchases are only part of the money coming out of a serviceman's pay. Allotments also are made for dependents at home, for life insurance, and for a special soldiers' deposit fund.

That deposit fund is a saving account in which servicemen put their money either through allotments or by direct cash payments.

## Shell Rationing Shows Need for Paper

The waste paper you are discarding or burning now and after the holidays may be enough to make the casing for that last shell required to bring victory to the Allies.

Shipments of ammunition, food, and supplies of all kinds to the Pacific front also depend on paper. Waste paper is still the most critically needed war material.

Spurred by Undersecretary of War Patterson's warning that artillery ammunition is now being rationed on the western European front, many organizations are increasing their efforts to set a new record in the collection of waste paper.

Boy and Girl Scouts, civic clubs, women's clubs, and others are doing all they can, but a still greater effort is necessary to meet the greater need and eclipse past records. The wholehearted co-operation of every family is urgently needed.

## Flight Nurses

Flight nurses in air evacuation transport squadrons of the Army air forces are performing some of the most heroic jobs of the war.

Some of the girls have more than 1,000 flying hours to their credit in nursing wounded soldiers being evacuated from the front lines to base hospitals in more peaceful territory—from France to England and from England and France to America and Africa.

Crews of the transports in which the nurses fly often are given a furlough after they have spent a certain number of hours aloft or traveled on a certain number of missions, but the nurses stay on the job all the while—and most of the girls wouldn't trade their work for anything else in the world, they declared.

The day before a wounded soldier begins a journey to a hospital he is visited by an Army surgeon in company with the flight nurse who will have charge of the injured man. The doctor explains the nature of the wound and the care the man will require. Then the nurse tells the patient what the trip will be like and attempts to overcome any nervous tendencies she may discover.

Boys on stretchers, as a result, are in good spirit when their ambulances arrive at evacuation airports.

## 50,000,000 Packages for GI's Christmas

About 50 million Christmas packages were sent to American troops overseas, the Army said.

The shipment represents the greatest mass movement of package mail ever to leave this country. Delivery of the packages to the GI Joes will be by every type of Army transportation, ranging from dog teams in the Arctic to camels in Africa and from special parachutes to jeeps and trucks.

## Bad Eating Habits Continue

Vast numbers of the American people are carrying over to the present days of high wages the bad eating habits they acquired of necessity on reduced incomes during the depression, Miss Mazina Moore, president-elect of the American Dietetic Association, said at its annual meeting in Chicago.

She added that the net result of this practice had been to perpetuate a malnourished group whose final salvation would be brought about only after the war.

Miss Moore, who also is director of dietetics at Vanderbilt University Hospital, Nashville, Tenn., asserted that the apostles of correct eating, who would save the country's undernourished ones from themselves, would be America's returning soldiers and sailors.

The latter had been introduced to correct eating and a balanced diet and know the fallacy of filling up only on starches which make fat persons fatter, even though the fat ones be starving on their feet for the seven protective foods.

Such foods, known as the "basic 7" she enumerated as fruits, green vegetables; fish, cheese and meats; eggs, whole wheat cereals, butter and milk.

## London Round Trip 22 Hours

The Boeing Aircraft Company, which builds Flying Fortresses and Super Fortresses for war, lifted the curtain recently on the first of the new giant transoceanic aircraft it intends to build for peace. It is a revolutionized B-29 Super Fortress, the plane now making periodic bombing trips from China to the Japanese homeland.

Most interesting to American air transport operators is the fact that it is designed to carry up to 100 passengers 3,500 miles nonstop at a cruising speed of 340 miles an hour at a possible operating cost of a penny a passenger mile. Top speed is 400 miles an hour, the company said.

C. L. Egtvedt, chairman of the Boeing Company, said that a prototype of the new plane, built for military transport, is now undergoing tests at the company's Seattle, Wash., airport.

The official title of the new aircraft is the strato cruiser, but it has been known to engineers who designed it as model 377. It is a B-29 Super Fortress only in wings, tail surface, and landing gear, which are identical with those in the bomber. Four engines with a take-off rating of 3,500 horse power each drive it. The rated horse power of these motors is 2,800 and they are larger than the 2,200 horse power plants installed in the B-29.

## De Gaulle Granted Approval of Allies

Under the leadership of Gen. Charles de Gaulle, the republic of France has emerged from four dark years of defeat, occupation, and the ravages of war to take control once more of its own destinies as a sovereign nation already promised a position in the council of peace.

Two actions by the United Nations market restoration of the republic: The United States, Great Britain, and Russia recognized the regime of De Gaulle as the provisional government of France, and Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower turned over to the De Gaulle government the administration of virtually all of France except the western combat zone.

The United States named Jefferson Caffery as its first ambassador to liberated France. Early "unfreezing" of more than a billion dollars of French assets in this country was predicted, along with reopening of business communications between this country and France.

The United Nations at the recent Dumbarton Oaks conference in Washington, in planning for a permanent world peace organization of the Allies, announced that France would be given a seat in the council, the governing body of the organization, along with the United States, England, Russia and China.

Rheumatic fever, that dreaded cause of heart disease in children and young adults, may be susceptible to treatment with a chemical found in red pepper and lemon peel. Dr. James F. Rinehart, of the University of California, has reported excellent results in the 19 cases he has already treated, but more extensive tests are necessary.

# Grass Root Reveries

By JOE GANDY  
Winnboro, Texas.

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ALL of us should pause this Christmas to offer a prayer for our soldier boys on the battlefronts. Theirs will be a lonesome Christmas despite the millions of gifts sent to them. Be it ever so humble, there is no place like home, and home and the homefolks will be uppermost in the minds of the soldiers at Christmastime. So let's ask the Giver of all Gifts—our Lord and Saviour—to watch over and protect them in these perilous times.

Give war bonds and stamps for Christmas presents. As the years go by they will increase in value and the recipient will thank you for your foresight. Those who save their war stamps and bonds will be far wiser than those who spend them. Until the government called in all Liberty Bonds of World I, I owned about \$600 worth and they paid me \$360 in interest over a 20-year period. Many the time this interest money was food and clothing to me and my family.

No more fitting time than now to read the Bible. A most interesting book, it is inexplicable that some folks never read the Scriptures. There are stories in the Bible as thrilling as in the best seller. For a real love story you can't beat Ruth and Boaz. For adventure, there is the story of the Prodigal Son and the wanderings in the wilderness of the Israelites. Take time off during Christmas and read Christ's Sermon on the Mount. It is a message of good will to all the world, a plea for a better social order and for kindness and tolerance among all nations. One sentence in the Sermon on the Mount, if put in practice, would end all wars, crime and poverty. It is, "Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you do ye even so to them."

The cigarette shortage shows the helplessness of this generation. Back in the good old days everybody "rolled their own," learned to do it expertly. I have seen cowboys roll a cigarette with one hand and light it with the other while running their horses at full speed. Girls didn't smoke in those days and a boy who couldn't roll his own was a sissy.

The mince pie that we make so much of at Christmas is a third poor seller at hotels and restaurants. The best seller is apple pie, second pumpkin pie, and third mince pie. A waitress in Fort Worth's leading hotel told me that men eat more pie than women. Men also like peach and cherry cobbler and some of them eat it like kids, that is, greedily and noisily.

There's more bad news for Tokyo on Consolidated-Vultree's assembly lines at Fort Worth and Tulsa. Off these lines are now coming the new B-32s, Consolidated's new—and some say better—counterpart of the Boeing B-29 Superfortresses, which have been blasting Tokyo's war plants. Better, they think, because in the B-32s have been incorporated changes in designs and equipment dictated by battle experience of the Superfortes. The new B-32s will be known as "Dominators."

Uncle Sam's mints are making silver dollars. That's good news to those of us who don't have gobs of money, for with a few silver dollars jingling in our pockets we feel like financial giants. I never can get any kick out of paper currency dollars. Most of them need a good scrubbing with soap and water. But silver dollars are clean and sound like sweet music in a poor man's pocket.

The farm population of the United States has declined almost 5,000,000,

from 30,000,000 in 1940. Nevertheless, more food has been produced on the farms each year the past three years than ever before. By working harder and longer hours, the farmers of the United States have contributed nobly to the war effort. General Eisenhower recently reported a shortage of ammunition but no shortage of food. We thank the farmers for staying on the job—and especially for not pulling off strikes.

It is reported that 9 million cigars are being shipped to Uncle Sam's bluejackets in the Pacific. I hope they are better than the 12c cigars now sold over the counter which taste like cabbage leaves and smell like vulcanized rubber.

Although this year may not have brought you all the blessings you felt you were entitled to, you can surely be thankful for thousands of small things. It's the small, not the big, things that make us happy. "What profiteth a man if he gains the whole world and loses his own soul." The rich man is not he with a million dollars, but he who has good health, a clear conscience and faith in himself and his fellowman. Fortunate is the man who has the ability to appreciate little things.

The War Shipping Administration has allotted 17 cargo vessels to the War Department for use in transporting mules to the battlefronts. In spite of their well known stubborn streak, the Army can't get along without mules. Since a small boy I have worked with mules and from my experience I don't believe they are as stubborn as some people. Treat a mule kindly, feed him well, and he will work faithfully. But if you are mean to him, better stay away from his business end or he will kick the innards out of you.

Hitler has a hideout, reports say, and will stay there until the war is over. His co-butcher, Goebbels, is also in hiding, leaving Himmler to run the show. Rats dive for a hole when a killer is after them.



# A LITTLE FUN Jokes to Make You Laugh

## Pay Day "Fit"

A man went to work for a large corporation. With his first salary check he observed a deduction with the notation, "FIT." Returning to the paymaster he sought an explanation. "I don't recall," said the man with a somewhat heavy effort at humor, "having had a fit."

"Oh, yes," said the paymaster earnestly. "Everybody has fits every pay day. FIT is for Federal Income Tax!"

## Sortin' 'Em Out

A cab driver was hailed by the doorman of a night club at two a. m. one morning. The doorman escorted four inebriated men to the taxi, arranged them carefully within and then instructed the cabbie: "The man on the left goes to 277 West End Avenue. The one next to him gets off at 79th Street and Riverside Drive. The one on the left front seat at 35 West 90th Street, and the other at 96th Street and Central Park West." The chauffeur nodded understandingly and drove off.

A few minutes later he was back, beckoning to the doorman. "Say, buddy," he said, "would you mind sortin' these guys out again? I had a collision on Sixth Avenue."

## Talk-ee Too Long

The late Will Rogers and Irvin S. Cobb once attended the same dinner. Humorist Cobb, one of the speakers present, showed his fellow guests no mercy by speaking an hour. When Cobb finally completed his talk and seated himself, master of ceremonies Rogers commented:

"Ladies and gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to inform you that you have just heard an address by that venerable Chinese sage, Talk-ee Too Long."

## Reversed Order

Toasts were in order. The toastmaster arose to introduce a prominent elderly speaker and said:

"Gentlemen, you have just been giving your attention to a turkey stuffed with sage. Now will you give your attention to a sage stuffed with turkey?"

## Surprised Yankee Leader

During the Civil War, the famous guerrilla leader, Captain John S. Mosby, raided Fairfax Court House in Virginia, where he surprised General E. H. Stoughton, the Yankee leader in possession of the town, sound asleep in bed. Mosby woke him with a slap, and the general sat up groggily.

"Have you ever heard of Mosby?" asked the stranger.

"Yes," said the general excitedly, "Have you got him?" "No," replied the captain grimly, "he's got you!"

## Newspaper Lingo

The newspaper publisher's little daughter returned from Sunday School carrying an illustrated card.

Mother: "What have you there?"

Little Girl: "Oh, just an advertisement about heaven."

## Bounced Out

Leaping jauntily over the Australian plains with his wife leaping beside him, the kangaroo came to a sudden stop.

"Judith," he cried excitedly, "where's the baby?"

"Gosh," exclaimed Judith in dismay, "he must have bounced out of my pocket."

## Legends of Lethargy

Instead of short length wood, Uncle Alf Reeves, pioneer New Mexico ranchman, always burned whole mesquite poles in his fireplace. He'd shove one end of the pole into the fireplace and build a fire around it, leaving the other end 10 or 15 feet extending across the living room floor. As the fired end burned off, the pole was shoved up again.

"It saves a heap of wood-chopping," Uncle Alf explained.

## Seven Kings

The class compositions was about "Kings." One boy wrote this:

The most powerful king on earth is Wor-king; the laziest, Shir-king; the wittiest Jo-king; the quietest, Thin-king; the thirstiest, Drin-king; the shyest, Wink-king, and the noisiest, Talk-king."

## STRONG DECISIONS AND FAITH

A program for meeting life's problems is a large order; but Jesus in His teaching and example has met it in a large way.

The story of the temptations of Jesus directly implies that the first and major problem that has to be faced is that of basic decision. What sort of life is ours going to be? Do we most want to be true and right, or are we more concerned about worldly success.

Compare the lives of the many church members who go to church when they feel like it, with the life of a real Christian who has made the service of God and his fellowmen the supreme thing in his life, and not a matter of whim, mood, or convenience. The kingdom of God and its choice is the first thing in life, according to Jesus.

No life can be strong that is marked by doubt, distrust, or worry. Yet faith is not always easy, and we would be less than human if we did not worry when things go wrong. We must learn in the school of the Master if we would at-

tain the fulness of faith, and learn to live above worry, putting all our strength into making bad situations better, instead of allowing them to depress and conquer us. Jesus said the spirit of the Lord was upon Him because, in the language of the prophet Isaiah, He was anointed to preach the gospel to the poor.

The words may change, but the substance remains. Every age and situation needs those who will love and serve. It is often the way of sacrifice, and sometimes of hardship. But those who have taken that way have found that, in helping to solve the problems of others, they have gone far toward solving their own.

## INDIANS OUTLAW LOAFING

It now is unlawful for a Navajo Indian to loaf.

The tribal council has approved a resolution condemning vagrancy and loitering and providing fines or imprisonment for young men not engaged in useful work. While taking this action the council pointed out that 2,500 members of the tribe are in the armed forces and 10,000 others engaged in war jobs off the reservation, which is located near Gallup, N. M.

## HUSBAND SHORTAGE FACING NATION

The United States is facing a husband shortage!

According to the census bureau, there are about 1,700,000 unmarried men between the ages of 20 and 34 years in civilian life today and some 4,000,000 unmarried women of the same age.

For the first time in history, this republic has a feminine majority. Married and single, civilian and soldier, the bureau estimates there are 600,000 more women older than 21 than there are men. The bureau figures the war boom in marriages is about over until the boys return home. Then, if the trend of the First World War repeats, the bureau expects a sharp spurt in the orange blossom and bridal veil trade. Latest figures show the median age of bridegrooms

was 24.8, and brides was 21.8. For girls who want to do something constructive about getting a husband, the charts point toward the West rather than the East and to small towns rather than the cities.

In New York City the ratio is 100.4 men for every 100 women. Chicago has a rate of 102.7 to 100; Detroit 110.1; Oklahoma City, 102.3, and Sacramento, 113.3 men to 100 women. New England averages 97 men for each 100 women, compared with 111.4 in Idaho; 148.8 in Montana; 116.7 in Wyoming.

Americans will be asked to lend the government \$14,000,000,000 more to help finance the war in the Sixth War Loan to continue until about a week before Christmas. Final treasury figures reveal that the \$16,000,000,000 goal of the last loan was oversubscribed by almost \$5,000,000,000.

• Tune in "Norton McGiffin In The News" Daily 12:30 Noon—Monday thru Friday—Texas Quality Network.

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## Yuletide Trimmings

By MARY MADISON  
(Condensed from New York Times)

IN spite of the "tinsel shortage," the "ribbon shortage" and a horde of other new shortages that the season has revealed, Christmas trimmings can be just as bright and festive as ever before. And a lot more interesting.

For example, the tree shortage may be neatly supplemented by means of the "ruffle tree." This rather unusual bit of horticulture is formed entirely of layers of rufing, made from strips of theatrical gauze or tarlatan. The material is cut into strips about six inches wide and then shirred on one side (a sewing machine will accomplish this part in a trice) and wound in a spiral about a cardboard cone base.

The size of the "tree" depends entirely on how big a piece of cardboard one can find. The gauze may be any color at all—two or three different shades of green provide a lovely effect, and a tree entirely in pale yellow looks especially charming when trimmed with emerald green balls. (These, incidentally, may still be had in most dime stores).

This wartime tree may be topped with a cellophane star or one of the enchanting Christmas angels that school children concoct out of clear cellophane straws and a few bits of shiny paper. Child-power, incidentally, is an important feature of this Christmas. Children adore stringing popcorn and cranberries, cutting out gingerbread men and snipping out stars—and their efforts contribute ma-

terially to the generally gaiety.

## Used in Many Ways

The balls and available glittering bells, of course, may be used in many ways. A cluster of all silver balls, tied to a green sprig, may be used to decorate wall-bracket lighting fixtures—where their shininess is amplified by the lights. The same sort of thing makes an attractive substitute for the formal door-wreath and may also serve as a table decoration.

The ribbon, shortage, which is especially noticeable in the case of gold, silver and red ribbon, may be combated by the use of wide strips of organdie or ribbon in untraditional colors. Pale blue, used to tie wreaths, is rather lovely if reflected by a few ice-blue tree balls. Canary yellow, looks quite beautiful with green—and a whole room might be decorated in this scheme—with yellow bows on the greenery, a yellow bowl full of green balls and tall yellow tapers in silver candlesticks. Candles, of course, provide gaiety and glamour all about the house—and there are still a few to be had in department and dime stores.

An unusual and simple mantel decoration may be made by driving a row of long nails at six-inch intervals through a narrow board just a little shorter than the mantelpiece. The board is then covered with greenery. Fat white "night candles" are impaled on the spikes, and the lighted row replaces electricity for Christmas Eve.



# Texas Farm News Reports

From a 60-cent investment in tomato seed, M. L. Cannon, of Hopkins county, realized a \$1,000 profit from his 1944 tomato crop.

Texas probably will lead the nation in the production of pecans, according to a forecast which estimates the 1944 crop at 45 million pounds.

An increase of 50,000 bales in the indicated production of Texas cotton has been forecast by the United States Department of Agriculture. The outlook is for Texas to produce 2,500,000 bales in 1944.

Members of the Agricultural Workers Club at a meeting in Marshall, (Harrison county), agreed successful postwar farming in East Texas will depend on smaller farm units and adaptation of each type of land to crops suitable for it.

A few sheep are good property on almost any farm at any time, according to an article in Farm and Ranch publication. The article says about 35 ewes and a high quality purebred ram is a good number for most beginners.

During the past five years, Robert Lee Rummel, Jr., member of the boys' Five-In-One 4-H club of Wilbarger county, has produced 8,285 pounds of beef for which he received \$1,823. In recognition of his achievement, Robert Lee has been awarded an all-expense trip to the National 4-H Club Congress at Chicago, December 3 to 6, says County Agricultural Agent Frank Wendt. He has three calves in his current club demonstration.

A 500-mile barb-wire fence extending from the Gulf of Mexico near the border to the Devil's river in Val Verde county is being planned after the war by the Livestock Sanitary Commission. The fence will be designed to prevent drifting of cattle from Mexico into Texas. The commission considers it will be effective against tick-infested cattle getting into tick-free herds in Texas.

According to records submitted to County Agricultural Agent D. L. Dudley, Aubrey Parsons, Brazos county 4-H club boy produced in 1944 food equivalent to the rations of 38½ fighting men for one year. Most of it came from his dairy demonstration. He has been awarded an all-expense trip to the National 4-H Club Congress at Chicago, December 3 to 6, and although a student at Texas A. & M. College is continuing his club work.

Burning has no place in conservation farming, according to G. G. Goss, chairman of the Brown-Mills Soil Conservation District. It increases soil erosion and water losses, destroys organic matter needed for soil improvement, causes loss of nitrogen, and increases losses of other plant nutrients by leaching or by rainfall run-off. Returning crop residues to the soil in cultivated fields is essential to maintaining fertility, Goss added.

Twenty-year-old Elton Ellison, of Ralls, (Crosby county), who was proclaimed the star American farmer of the Future Farmers of America, cleared \$3,500 last year on farm products. It was the first time the \$500 award of the FFA had ever been presented a Texan. Ellison, now in the armed service, was unable to attend the Kansas City convention to hear himself proclaimed "best all-around young farmer."

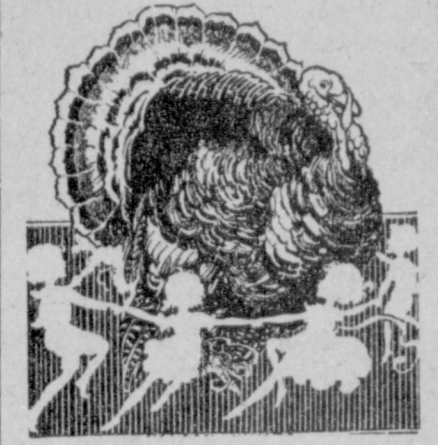
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L. M. Stephens, of Lometa, (Lampasas county), contracted 100,000 pounds of choice Bend pecans at 15 cents a pound for shipment in November and December. It was the largest single deal in the area in recent years.

B. H. (Hood) Morris, of Hopkins county, is realizing his first crop of walnuts off a blackwalnut tree that was budded with an English walnut five years ago. The tree has two or three hundred large walnuts.



Marie Gunter, 14-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Gunter, of Deaf Smith county, can pinch hit at all farm tasks from canning vegetables to driving a tractor. She is a member of the Simms 4-H club.

H. L. Youngblood, San Angelo theater executive, raises big turkeys on a 40-acre tract in the North Concho river range. The turkeys fatten up to 35 or 40 pounds. Too big for ordinary families, the birds are sold to restaurants, hotels and military establishments.

At the first auction of registered Guernseys under the sponsorship of the Texas Guernsey Breeders' Association since the war began, 46 registered Guernseys from near-by States were sold. Sales averaged about \$271 each. The sale was held in Dallas.

A stalk of corn 8 to 9 feet high and bearing five well-developed ears was placed on display in the lobby of the First National Bank in Troup, (Smith-Cherokee county). The corn, Texas Prolific variety, which was originated at the Nacogdoches State Experiment Substation, was grown by J. Wilmer of Troup.

L. R. Vaughan, of Hale county, says pasture land under irrigation on his farm has proved profitable. Proper plantings and sufficient water have produced enough grass for Vaughn to run a large herd of cattle on a few acres, and by concentrating his herd he has helped relieve the manpower shortage.

Reports have come from Wilbarger county farmers of considerable damage to new wheat and alfalfa fields by grasshoppers, according to Frank Wendt, county agent. Wendt advises control of the pests by spreading a poison bran bait over the infested areas. Controlling the pests that are active now will help control the grasshopper crop likely to be hatched out next spring.

The richest year in the history of the Rio Grande Valley is in prospect. \$92,418,000 in agricultural revenue was recorded during the first eight months this year with the total expected to reach \$125,000,000 at the end of December. The revenue to date is far ahead of the same period in 1934 which then was the richest period in Valley farming history.

Information on agriculture obtained by reading and observation guided Carson J. Greene, of Grayson county, on his first farming venture. He came through with profitable crops of Texas hybrid corn, cotton and hay. He planted 40 acres in corn, 20 acres in cotton and 12 acres in wheat, including a hay crop. With only ten days of hired help, Greene planted and cultivated his crops. Greene is a former oil field worker.

Written Fairbanks, 18-year-old Orange county youth, qualifies as one of the country's youngest rice farmers. He realized the high average of 18 bags of rice to the acre.

Trade reports indicate that at least half of the 1944 Texas rice crops was contracted for by the middle of October. Although handicapped by lack of labor, mills are working full time milling and shipping rice for domestic trade and to Cuba and the government.

G. W. Biggerstaff, of Sherman, (Grayson county), has a cluster of six pecans, weighing nearly half a pound, which is typical of the crop he is getting from a tree in his yard. In 1940 he budded the tree with five varieties of paper-shelled pecans. This year all five varieties are bearing well. The clusters are so heavy that many of the limbs broke under the weight.

With the co-operation of a furniture store at Crosbyton, about 35 members of seven Crosby county 4-H clubs recently gave an exhibition of their work. Tables occupying the central floor space of the store displayed canned food, aprons, dresses, blouses, embroidery, shoe shine kits, sewing and first aid kits, wall plaques, recipe files, quilts, tied and dyed scarves, and many other articles, says County Home Demonstration Agent Ruth W. Marshall.

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Milk from Texas' 1,425,000 milk cows is one of the country's great wartime assets, according to the Milk Industry Foundation. Last year Texas produced 2,041,000,000 quarts of milk and the cash income was \$90,481,000.

The crop reporting board of the Agriculture Department foresees an all-time record harvest for 1944. Production of practically all kinds of farm products is up and the yield per acre is higher than any year with the exception of 1942. More acreage is in cultivation than any year since 1932.

The U. S. Cotton Field Station at Greenville, and the Texas Blackland Experiment Station at Temple, have been working on the cotton root rot problem, which is one of the causes of the declining cotton yields in South Texas. The experiments have shown that by growing Hubam clover or other legumes and applying phosphate where needed, the percentage of cotton dying on the fields has been reduced from as high as 75 per cent to as low as 3 per cent.

Twelve-year-old Claud Edd Brice is believed to be the champion cotton picker of Hopkins county. The 69-pound boy picked 355 pounds of cotton in one day. He has earned enough money to pay for his clothing and has over \$100 in the local bank.

F. L. Muse, negro county agent of Polk county, has organized groups of negro farmers in ten different communities to meet and discuss problems. Crop production and livestock have been the main topics. Main purpose of the organization is the improvement of farm practices to produce more feed and to increase the yield on fewer acres of land.

Jeanette Metzger, member of the Converse girls' 4-H club of Bexar county, is an inspiring leader, says Irene Cromatsky, assistant county home demonstration agent. She has been selected as the 1944 Gold Star nominee from her club and county 4-H club council chairman. At a recent 4-H club exhibit her products ranked first and she received blue ribbons in clothing, canned products and baked products.

Contributing to wartime food crops, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Koenig, of Montgomery county, produced a large farm garden, raised and sold 40,000 broilers, grew feed for livestock, kept a flock of poultry producing, and took a leading part in civic betterment. They have a son in the armed forces overseas and a son and daughter in defense work.

During 1944 County Agricultural Agent W. B. Hooser enrolled 614 boys and 329 girls in 16 4-H clubs and reports "one of the most successful years in the history of Hall county club work." A total of 245 boys are demonstrating with swine; 168 had gardens; 79 beef calves; 174 chickens; 29 cotton; 15 milo and two in goats. Among the girls, 323 had gardens; 67 poultry; 105 swine; 39 beef calves; four cotton, and 10 milo. All demonstrations started were completed successfully, Hooser says.

All of the food served at a luncheon given by the McCamey Garden Club, (Upton county), was raised by the members.

Texas bees will produce 6-148,000 pounds of honey this year, according to a U. S. Department of Agriculture report. A four per cent increase in the number of 1944 bee colonies was more than offset by the lower yields per colony.

Beryl Elliston, pioneer realtor, and Fred H. Barrett, successful potato farmer, both of Deaf Smith county will tour Idaho, Washington, Oregon and California this fall to sell the possibilities of their county to farmers of those States. Moving pictures and literature showing advantages of the county will be distributed. Barrett grew potatoes in Idaho for 30 years prior to moving to Hereford in 1940.

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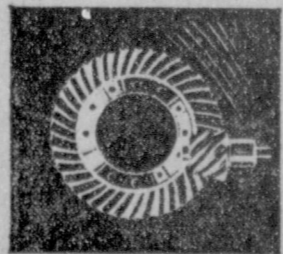
You probably don't expect to depend on a horse and surrey for future transportation. But consider this fact, which is brought out by government surveys—approximately 800,000 cars will wear out this winter.

To help keep your car from becoming one of these 800,000, ask your nearby Sinclair H-C Gasoline Dealer to Sinclair-ize your car for Winter now. This fall change-over service protects vital parts against wear and breakdowns as your car manufacturer recommends.

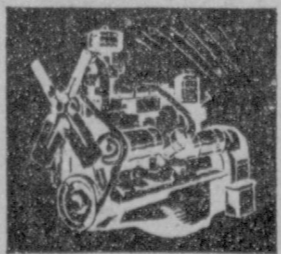
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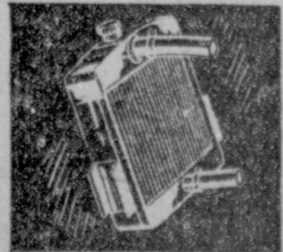
**SAVES WEAR ON TRANSMISSION and differential gears in cold weather.** Summer-grade lubricants are drained and replaced with tough Sinclair lubricants of right grade for winter.



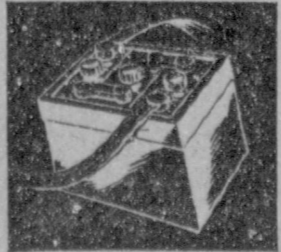
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**FARM BARGAINS**—Non-resident owners of several irrigated farms in the famous Pecos River Valley, near Barstow and Pecos, Texas, will give bargain for quick sale. C. L. MONROE, care of C. E. Wray, Box 1671, Barstow, Texas.

**BEAUTIFUL** colorful Bar C Ranch, 3,200 acres, Blaine County, well improved. Write owner, N. C. CARGILL, Hitchcock, Okla.

**FOR SALE**—450 acres of ranch and farming land, under good fence, good ranch house, located 9 miles of Ada, Okla. Priced to sell. MELTON & SON, ADA, OKLA.

**CLOSING ESTATE**. Eighty acres grain and stock farm near Childress, Texas; surface only, no minerals; \$10 per acre. MRS. HAAS, 1117 First National Bank Bldg., Dallas 1, Texas.

### FOR SALE—Miscellaneous

158 ROTARY scrapers 3, 4 and 5 feet; 1 new Bear Cat grinder; 1 new 2-pow tractor and plow. C. C. HOWLAND, Guthrie, Oklahoma. Phone 591.

**FOR SALE**—SEED SPELTZ, 2c LOOSE at bulk. Also millet hay. ERNEST W. JACKSON, Route 2, Gatesville, Texas.

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**FOR SALE**—Quarter horses, 8 years old, \$100. Also mares and one stallion. WHITE CROSS RANCH, Rockspings, Texas.

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**FORT WORTH SPUDDERS** Drilling Machines—Tools—Cable—Engines.

Pumps—Pumps—Samson Windmills—Towers Cypress—Bedwood and Galvanized Tanks. Belting—Hose—Ropes—Blocks—Witches Mill—Gis—Waterworks—Contractors Equipment and Supplies—Heavy Hardware.

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### THE PRAETORIANS

Home Office, Praetorian Bldg., Dallas, Tex.

**FRATERNAL LIFE INSURANCE** JUVENILE—ADULT on the MONTHLY PAYMENT PLAN.

Budget Year Life Insurance Payments Like You Do Your Household Bills.

**Straight Life. Twenty Pay.**

**Retirement Income. Term.**

"Attached Draft" Policies.

How would you like to have the exclusive contract in your home town, or, if you are employed, would you like to earn by turning your spare time into dollars? Write The Praetorians at above address. Organized 1898. 45 Years of Service.

The National Safety Council reports that 14,430 persons have been killed in traffic accidents in this country since January 1, 1944, an increase of six per cent over the 1943 period.

Holding 11 awards and decorations for sinking or damaging 66 Japanese ships, Commander Norman M. Miller, of Winston-Salem, N. C., 36-year-old Navy flier, has become the most decorated hero of this war.

### WAR TOYS GIVE WAY TO THOSE OF PEACE

Tractors already are replacing Sherman tanks, at least in store's toy departments. Spokesmen for the toy industry say that in this year's Christmas stock, which will be better if not longer than a year ago, the trend is definitely away from war toys.

Metal still will be missing, but wood and plastic products will be of better quality, it was said, because buyers and parents have learned from sad experience to stay away from poor substitutes.

Dolls and stuffed animals, with cotton instead of kapok filling, are predicted as best sellers for little girls. Airplane models are expected to lead the boys' field, but, in keeping with the "reconversion," they will be painted "normal" colors, more often than olive drab.

Discussing the over-all supply picture, a trade association official said that the total volume of toys for the holiday will be about 10 per cent less than that a year ago for these reasons: heavy buying during the first nine months of the year; shortages even of non-priority materials, and acute difficulty in obtaining cardboard containers for shipping.

### ANCIENT GRAINS

Some vitamins have the ability to survive for a long time. This has been demonstrated by a test of some barley grains recovered from the tomb of King Tut-ankh-amen, in Egypt, where they were entombed for close to 3,300 years.

It may not be entirely correct to speak of vitamins as "surviving" since they are not living things but merely chemical molecules, but chemical molecules are highly organized structures and can deteriorate under certain unfavorable conditions.

Barley grains from King Tut-ankh-amen's tomb were tested by the Ministry of Foods, Cereal Research Station at St. Albans, England, and were found to contain vitamins riboflavin and nicotinic acid, in each case about one-third the amount of fresh barley. — New York Herald-Tribune.

### BIG NATURAL REFRIGERATOR

With the leasing of 12,000,000 cubic feet of cavern space in a 75-year-old limestone mine in Atchison, Kansas, the War Food Administration has found a partial solution to the nation's shortage of cold storage space. The cost of reducing the mine's natural temperature of 50 degrees F. to 30 degrees F. is \$1,000,000 but to build and refrigerate the same amount of storage room above the ground would be 15 times as much.

Lou Bourdeau, of Cleveland, Ohio, and Dixie Walker, of Brooklyn, N. Y., won the batting championships in the major league, Bourdeau leading the American with a mark of .327 and Walker topping the Nationals with .357.

# Our Boys and Girls

## SANTA CLAUS' REPLY TO BOBBY'S LETTER

By ANTHONY WETZEL (Detroit Free Press)

Just before each Christmas little boys and girls write many letters to Santa Claus. One letter Santa received last Christmas from a little boy, named Bobby Brown, was so unusual that he answered it. Here is Bobby's letter and Santa's reply:

"DEAR SANTA: I am a little boy and the only thing I want for Christmas is to have brother and sister for Christmas. My mother and I are sick. My brother joined the marines and he was there a long time and they never give him a fourlough yet. I am asking you to bring him home for Christmas and I will pay you back everything as soon as I go to work. A merry Christmas and happy New Year. Thank you.

"BOBBY BROWN."

DEAR BOBBY: I guess your big brother must be quite a guy, because you have to be quite a fellow to get into the marines. You have to be strong and tough and brave enough to do your job in spite of the most terrible risk in all this world.

I think I know what your brother would be doing if he had the chance to get home for Christmas. He'd be trudging through the stores, looking impatiently for presents good enough for your mom and you. And when Christmas morning came and you rushed downstairs to see what Santa has brought in the night, he'd just stand there sort of awkward and shy, but grinning as wide as could be, and with a light shining out of his eyes.

Brother won't be home for Christmas, but just between you and me, Bobby, he's not neglecting you a bit. The military address you scrawled on the back of your note indicates that brother is in a mighty important outfit. He's in the marine amphibian command. And even as I write this he may be setting out with his buddies across the Pacific to get something for you a lot more precious than Christmas toys. Just the other day there was a big story in the paper about a lot of brave lads just like your brother. They marched away to camp, just as he did, and they went through hard weeks and months of training. And when they were ready, they sailed across the Pacific and they went to work on their big job.

It was the toughest job you ever heard of in your life, Bobby. There was this little island of Tarrawa, circled by reefs of rocky coral. And back of the reefs, and back of the beaches, were thousands of little yellow Japs with rifles and machine guns and mortars.

When the marines moved toward the beaches in their landing boats the bullets fell thick as rain and every bullet was a screaming messenger of death. Half way to the beaches, the coral stopped the landing boats, and the marines plunged into the sea and fought their way on, up to their necks in the sea. Those who kept on living made the beach, and they took it away from the Japs, and after a hard fight they took the whole island.

They paid for the island, and it makes you sick inside to think of the price they paid, but it was something they had to do. There are many more islands, and your brother, and thousands of other brothers and sons and fathers won't be able to come back until that job is done.

These aren't pleasant things to tell a little boy, but your brother, and all the other brothers, are going through those things for you. They're fighting to bring you back a shining thing called a birthright. That's a clumsy, awkward word for a little boy, but it means all the precious things that make your own little boy's world the way it is. It means your chance to grow up strong and fearless and free... to be useful and happy and secure in all your life as an American.

I guess that birthright of yours has a lot to do with the spirit of the Blessed Babe who was born on this Christmas Day we're soon to celebrate. He came into a world tortured by oppression and hatred and violence, and He preached a new sort of living, ruled by faith and glorified by the warmth of God's own charity.

Somehow the men who founded our nation... who gave you your birthright... managed to build much of His blessed teaching into their design for democracy... for government by the Golden Rule.

The Child who was born on Christmas in Bethlehem grew to manhood, and He died a horrible death as the price of that birthright He gave us. But He lives on in glory. You can find Him in the heart of your brother, and of every man who offers himself unselfishly for that birthright.

And I think you can find the reflection of His shining glory in the lives, and in the memory of all the patriots down the years who fought for the rights of humanity. As I grow older I suspect that men who have lost, or never won, that selfless love of God's freedom are worse than animals without any souls at all.

So don't fret, Bobby, because your big brother won't be home for Christmas. He's doing a man's job... a patriot's job... and on Christmas Day your pride in him should shine as bright as the lights on the Christmas tree.

It isn't that he wouldn't want to be coming home. Those lads out there love what they're fighting for, and they're sick for the sight of home and the warmth of mom's soft arms and dad's grin and your own wistful smile. They're so sick for the things of home that the sight of a letter fills their eyes with tears and memories of many Christmases abide in their hearts.

They want to come back. Only those lads and the God of Battle know how terri-

bly they want to come back. But they're sticking with the job till it's done. We've got a job to do here at home, and maybe in this lonely Christmastide, we ought to kneel before the God of freedom... and rededicate ourselves to that job... for now and always!

Yours affectionately,  
SANTA CLAUS.

### CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS

American boys and girls sometimes go through a lifetime of Christmases without giving much thought to the origin of some of the joyful customs and symbols of the holiday season.

#### Tree

One version of the first Christmas tree is that it originated with Martin Luther, early in the sixteenth century, in Germany. Walking the hills on Christmas Eve, Luther was so deeply impressed with the beauty of the holy night that he resolved to typify its beauty for his children. He cut down a small evergreen, took it home and hung candles from it to represent the stars. Another tradition carries it back to St. Boniface in Germany's pagan era.

#### Santa Claus

As we know him, Santa Claus is derived from the Dutch "San Nicolaas," who in turn was patterned after the legend surrounding St. Nicholas, an early bishop of Myra. St. Nicholas says the legend established the custom of surprise Christmas gifts by making a secret bestowal of marriage dowries upon the three daughters of an impoverished nobleman.

#### Mistletoe

Hanging mistletoe is of Celtic and Teutonic origin. These peoples in ancient days thought mistletoe, hung in the house, would prevent sickness and misfortune. In England it was regarded as an offering to love and fertility. Later it simply became a Christmas time festive symbol which gave a young man the privilege of kissing any girl he caught standing under the sprig. Mistletoe is a parasite shrub found on many trees.

#### Cards

Good wishes at Christmas time were sent in letter form until almost midway in the nineteenth century. About 100 years ago an English painter was too busy to write to all his friends. Instead he painted a greeting, had it lithographed and sent out copies. Wealthy Londoners heard about it and soon were doing the same. Christmas cards of today are the result of the first greeting card sent out by this Englishman.

#### Carols

Christmas music traditionally goes back to 1223, when St. Francis, at Greccio, Italy, tried to portray the first Christmas to his flock. He presented a playlet which contained songs full of the human pathos of the Nativity, written by Franciscan monks. Later, members of the Franciscan order took their songs to England, where wandering minstrels picked them up. It soon became the practice for children to sing carols for candy and cookies.

### HOW IT STARTED

With the newspaper shortage what it is and space at a premium, it is imperative to resist the temptation to write an extended explanation for the use of Xmas for Christmas and go all out to make it short.

Compressing the facts, therefore, "x" here marks the spot of Christ's birth. It is, that is to say, a symbol of the cross or Christcross, an abbreviation which suggested itself readily in the religious minded sixteenth century because it resembled the Greek letter chi, the first letter of the Greek word for Christ.

The earliest use of the abbreviated form Xmas dates from 1551, in the work "Illustrated British History" by E. Lodge.

### CHRISTMAS TRICKS FOR TEENS

ON THE BALL—We're referring to those glistening Christmas tree balls which are just as gay around your neck, strung on ribbon, as they are on the tree. And try the very tiny ones as earrings at the big Christmas party.

### STAR DUST

Sprinkle some of that Christmas tree snow on your hair, just before the big party. Not enough to make you look like a walking White Christmas, but just a touch to put iridescent lights on your topknot. Think how you'll glisten when they dance with the lights out!

### SPREAD GOOD CHEER

Buy some red and green sequins at the dime store or (Continued top next column)



Enjoy Vigorous  
Flavored  
Mountain Grown  
Folger's  
SO RICH  
we urge you  
USE 1/4 LESS  
coffee  
per cup

**THE  
KIND OF  
COFFEE  
EXPERTS  
LIKE  
BEST!**

**FOLGER'S COFFEE**  
Mountain Grown

VACUUM PACKED

trimming counter and embroider "Merry Christmas" in them across the front of a sweater. You can always rip them out when Christmas is over, but think of the fun you'll have wearing your greetings during Christmas week!

**SANTA CLAUS GROUP**  
To make sure Christmas comes to the orphans of the State, including children whose families have been broken by war, a benevolent legislature created the Oklahoma Santa Claus Commission. With only \$1,500 to spend annually from State legislative appropriations, the group finds that private donations usually boost the sum to more than \$5,000.

The commission has a special place in its heart for youngsters from war-torn families.

"It's only natural," said Mrs. Warren Fountain in the group's toy-stacked headquarters, "that we'll make every effort to see that such children get what they order in their letters."

Mrs. Fountain, secretary of the agency, organized in 1937, said hundreds of letters are received by a three-man commission which plays Santa Claus. Last year the group's money went for gifts of clothing, toys, and candy to 3,354 children living in orphanages in Oklahoma.

Most popular gift for girls? Perfume, says Mrs. Fountain.

**BOTTLE NOTE DELIVERED AFTER 29 YEARS AFLOAT**

In one of the most amazing circumstances of its kind, a bottle tossed overboard in the Pacific Ocean by a sailor was washed ashore near Norfolk, Va., 29 years later, and the note which it contained delivered to the person who wrote it—a resident of Norfolk.

Charles B. Bernard drops-

ped the bottle over the side of the U. S. S. Maryland, October 6, 1915, when the ship was enroute from Hawaii to San Francisco. He had written on a slip of paper, "If this note is ever found please send it to C. B. Barnard, 221 W. 17th St., Norfolk, Va." Recently Bernard received a telephone call telling him that J. H. Walden had picked up the bottle on the beach near his cottage.

The bottle contained a cork stopper with a metal screw top outside, which was taped and sealed. The paper within was slightly discolored.

**BLOOD PLASMA BY AIRPLANE**

Every day transport planes cross the Atlantic flying whole blood directly to Paris for transfusions to wounded soldiers, sometimes within 24 hours after it is given by donors. Distribution could be compared with local milk deliveries as to bottling and speed of delivery. Shipments currently amount to 750 pints, weighing about one and three-quarters tons.

Before the inauguration of this policy, whole blood was obtained from military personnel abroad. The emphasis on whole blood does not affect the urgency of need for blood plasma, but the red blood cells removed in plasma preparation are the oxygen carriers without which a severely bleeding man cannot live no matter how much fluid is given to him.

Brig.-Gen. Fred W. Rankin, chief consultant in surgery to the Army's surgeon general, says that in cases of severe shock and bleeding with advanced anemia, and where emergency operation is necessary, whole blood is essential in the preservation of life.

Sunshine  
KRISPY CRACKERS

...have such delicate flavor  
and they're so flaky

(just like tender pie-crust)  
they make everything taste better  
all through the meal!

LOOSE-WILES BISCUIT COMPANY—Brown Cracker and Candy Company Division

# HOUSEHOLD HELPS

MRS. MARGARET STUTE, Editor, 1809 Ashland, Fort Worth, Texas.

## SOUND THE MERRY BELLS OF YULE

Again, through our troubled and tragical era, sound the merry, merry bells of yule. There is a miracle of wonder in the recurrence of Christmas. The dark shadow of war, the humming drive of war industries and the stores full of eager shoppers bring neither failure nor fear to this happiest of holidays. For hundreds of years Christmas has been celebrated in war and peace, in hut and palace. It has serenely weathered the rigors of Puritan attack and the cynicism of modern paganism. Business as usual may exploit it, but Christmas in turn subdues business. Christmas belongs to the ages, and Time has laid no withering hand upon its spirit. Men pass, dynasties disappear, nations decay; but the rule of Christmas still holds sway in the human heart.



This is the big year for the "little" gift, the small remembrance that is chosen with thoughtfulness and wrapped with care, that actually pays the recipient the subtle compliment of implying that her yardstick of gift appreciation is not marked off in dollars and cents. You may have reasons this year for spending less for your gifts—spending less in money, that is. You'll probably end up by expending more in spirit, and in turn warming far more than usual the heart of the person at whose feet you lay the small gift that is loving. You'll find the small, sweet remembrance in abundance this year. The single lipstick, the soap figuring, the single drop of perfume, the jar of cream, the pretty shaker of fine talc can testify in a big and tenderful way.

## SHARE CHRISTMAS WITH CHILDREN AND FRIENDS

By now you have, probably, completed your Christmas shopping and have the gifts wrapped. Now you can devote your attention to culinary duties and to trimming the tree. Perhaps, having whipped yourself up to an artificial excitement about Christmas for the children, you now sit down with slumped emotions and look at the day with reality. No daddy to help trim the tree. No one to enjoy the delicacies you may prepare. Children are indifferent alike to sacrifice and efficiency. They take both for granted. This is the moment to think about for persons in a like situation. If there are no daddies, no relatives or grandparents to make the day a happy one, then there must be friends or acquaintances who face a like bleak one. Pool your Christmas trees, your dinners and your fun and have a day that will wipe out lonesomeness and sorrow from another's heart—and incidentally your own.

As this is a day for the children, let them enjoy some of the responsibilities. Everyone knows, but does not practice the knowledge, that it's more fun to do than to watch someone else doing. In parents' unselfish desire to give the children happiness and a surprise, they grab all the fun of tree trimming, and leave the children on the outside as restless spectators. If time hangs heavily for the children, they could do some of the trimmings for the tree. Let them rub paste over the angel dolls of stars and sprinkle them with silver dust. Let them string cranberries or string their own bright beads to be hung on branches that need some weight and a touch of color. We're all having homey Christmases, simple days with gatherings relatives, pot luck meals in many cases and as much happiness as we can cram into the day. My wish for all of you, the happy and the heavy-hearted is "A Merry Christmas."

## GAMES FOR THE CHILDREN

Games you remember from childhood are still as popular as ever. Musical chairs can be played, using either a phonograph or piano. The Farmer in the Dell has as much appeal as ever. And pinning the whiskers on Santa Claus will delight everyone. Each child is blindfolded when his turn comes. He is turned around by the shoulders three times at a distance of five feet from the picture. Then he is free to pin the whiskers where he guesses they belong. Singing Christmas songs can be lots of fun if the adult leading the songs is gay and lets the children suggest the ones they would like. And, as always, children like to make lists of the things they want for Christmas. When each has been given a paper and pencil, let them have three minutes to make out their lists. The one with the longest list without repeats should be the winner.

And, of course, a grab bag would delight them. An old pillow case would be good to hold the favors. These can be crayons, hair combs, small tin of paints, paper cut-outs, tiny dolls or autos. These need not be wrapped separately. The children won't care, and the wrappings will clutter up the floor and favors may be lost. Allow time for free-play—that is, when there isn't any planned game. This will come best after the grab bag. Then they'll want time to see what each got, and try out their own favor. But don't feel that there must be a grab bag with favors. The children will have a grand time just given refreshments and time to play with their little friends. Pies made with unpeeled apples, sliced thin, need 25 per cent less sugar, since much of apples' high sugar content lies near the skin.



## HOLIDAY RECIPES

**Crown Roast of Pork, Glazed Apples**  
Have butcher prepare a rib section of two pork loins to make a crown roast. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Place ribs down in a roasting pan or if ribs must be placed upward, wrap them in paper to prevent burning. Roast in a moderate oven, 350 degrees F., allowing 30 minutes per pound. When meat is thoroughly cooked, stand on platter, garnish rib ends with paper frills, and fill center with candied sweet potatoes and apples.

which has been softened in cold water, and the salt and lemon juice. Allow this to cool and fold in the egg whites, whipped stiff with the remaining sugar. Put in a baked pie shell and chill until firm. Spread the top with whipped cream just before serving.

**Inexpensive Fruit Cake**  
This recipe never fails. One pound dark brown sugar, 1 package seedless raisins, 3 tablespoons shortening, 1 teaspoon salt, 2 teaspoons nutmeg, 2 teaspoons cinnamon, 1 teaspoon cloves, 2½ cups boiling water. Boil together for eight minutes, then let cool. When cool add 4 cups flour, 3 tablespoons baking powder, 1½ teaspoons baking soda. Cook in a slow oven in a well-greased pan. For extra special occasions add a few walnuts and cherries and a can of cut-up citrons and lemon peels that only cost 10 cents a can.

**Christmas Cookies**  
"Here is the recipe for a Christmas cookie that my mother taught me to make," writes Mrs. Weldon Elwell, of Danbury, Connecticut. "It yields about 70 small cookies."  
½ pound cream cheese  
½ pound margarine or shortening  
½ pound flour  
Pinch of salt  
"Cut in shortening as in pie pastry, until able to handle. Roll out on floured board and cut in desired shapes and fill, sealing the edges, with this mixture:  
½ pound nut meats (peanuts, pecans, walnuts or hickory nuts)  
1 tablespoon melted butter  
¼ pound of honey  
½ cup sugar  
1 teaspoon cinnamon.  
"Bake until honey-colored brown in a 325 or 350-degree oven. The longer they stand the better they taste."

**Mincemeat Pudding**  
1½ cups sifted flour 1 cup unsweetened fruit juice  
¼ teaspoon salt 1 tablespoon lemon juice  
½ cup sugar 2 teaspoons baking powder  
2 teaspoons baking powder ½ cup light brown sugar  
1 cup mincemeat 1 tablespoon butter or substitute  
½ cup milk  
Mix and sift together flour, granulated sugar, baking powder and salt. Add milk and mincemeat. Mix until flour disappears and pour into greased nine-inch square pan. Combine remaining ingredients, bring to the boiling point and pour over pudding. Bake uncovered in a moderate oven (350 degrees F.) for one hour. Serve hot or cold with cream or hard sauce. Serves eight.

**Cranberry Salad (Serves 6)**  
1 envelope plain unflavored gelatin ½ teaspoon salt  
1½ cups water ½ cup tangerine, or orange sections, halved  
2 cups cranberries ¼ cup chopped celery  
1 cup sugar (or less, to taste)  
1 tablespoon lemon juice  
Soften gelatin in ¼ cup of the cold water. Cook cranberries in remaining water until tender. Stir in sugar and cook five minutes. Add softened gelatin, salt, and lemon juice and stir until gelatin is dissolved. Strain and cool. When mixture begins to thicken, fold in tangerine, or oranges, celery and nuts. Turn into individual molds that have been rinsed out in cold water first. Chill. Unfold on lettuce and serve with mayonnaise.  
NOTE: May be molded in ring mold and chicken or crab salad piled in the center.

**Cranberry Chiffon Pie**  
"The holiday season just wouldn't seem quite right without cranberries," writes Mrs. Margaret Hiemenz from Buffalo, New York. "This pie has always been my family's special Christmas treat. We call it Cranberry Chiffon."  
2 cups of cranberries  
½ cup water  
3 eggs  
1 cup sugar  
¼ cup cold water  
1 tablespoon lemon juice  
½ cup whipping cream  
Pinch of salt  
1 tablespoon gelatin.  
"Cook berries in water until skins pop open. Put through sieve and add egg yolks which have been beaten with half the sugar. Cook until thickened. Add gelatin



A holiday sweet that's good for children consists of prunes, steamed just enough to soften, pitted, stuffed with nuts and rolled in a bit of sugar.



## Deviled Eggs in Aspic

1 bouillon cube ¼ teaspoon salt  
½ cup boiling water ¼ teaspoon Gebhardt's Chili Powder  
1 pkg. lemon gelatin 5 deviled eggs  
½ cup cold water ½ cup green peas  
½ cup tomato juice ½ cup carrots, cooked  
1 tbsp. minced onion  
Dissolve bouillon cube and gelatin in boiling water; add cold water, tomato juice, minced onion, salt. Pour this layer in bottom of 1 large mold or 6 individual. Chill until firm. Chill remaining gelatin until thick but not firm. Sprinkle firm gelatin with Gebhardt's Chili Powder; arrange sliced eggs; cover with this layer of gelatin; layer of green peas; another layer of gelatin; a layer carrots; fill mold with rest of gelatin. Chill until firm. Serve on crisp lettuce with mayonnaise. See above illustration.



The original Quiz Kid might well be 70-year-old John W. Cooper, who has just retired after 53 years of service as information bureau clerk at Grand Central Terminal in New York City. During that time he answered 7,000,000 questions for confused travelers.

## DOES YOUR HOME INVITE ACCIDENTS

Home should be the safest, happiest place in the world, but is it? Surprising as it seems, the yearly toll of accidents in the home is second only to that caused by automobiles. Many of these accidents could be prevented by a little forethought.

Are your stairways well-lighted, kept free from litter, and equipped with sturdy hand-rails? Are the steps in good repair with no sagging or broken boards?

Provide a place for the children's toys and see that all toys are put away before the youngsters are put to bed. Shoes and all other clothing should be picked up off the floor.

Arrange the furniture so as to give clear passage through the room. Label all bottles of poison plainly and stick a pin in the cork of each so they may easily be identified if someone is rummaging around in the dark.

Piles of papers, oily rags and junk should be cleaned out of attic and cellar. These might easily start a fire. Defective plugs and wiring are also fire hazards. Better have the wiring checked to make sure there are no faulty connections.

Throw rugs create their share of accidents, too. See they are anchored with non-slip material or rubber rings so none will slip on them. If you have been careless

"3 WAYS BETTER"

# OVENIZED

FOR FINER FLAVOR

National 3-Minute Oats is Ovenized 12 Hours — At The Mill — For Finer Flavor. Like baking a potato, this exclusive and costly slow-curing of the choice, sun-ripened oats while still in their jackets brings out the full, natural flavor — seals in the precious vitamins, minerals and proteins. National 3-Minute Oats is 3 ways better — you can see, taste and feel the difference!

## NATIONAL 3-MINUTE OATS

THE BREAKFAST THAT STANDS BY YOU!

about these things in the past and nothing has happened, that's fine. But you never know just when your luck may run out.

ance meeting of the Society of Automotive Engineers.

## AIRLINE BUSES

The bus industry proposes to establish scheduled helicopter-bus air service operating between bus stations in downtown sections of approximately 1,000 cities and towns, and between nearby towns, Agnew E. Larsen, president of RotaWings Inc., reported recently to the transportation and maintain-

Numerous applications have already been made to the Civil War Board for certificates of operation for helicopter-bus service by the nation's leading motor coach lines.

The engineering of helicopter buses, Mr. Larsen stated, is moving at a pace which should assure the operators and the public of a reasonably wide choice of air-buses. He cited the work of Igor Sikorsky, Platt LePage and Bell Aircraft.

★ THINGS THAT MEAN A LOT THESE DAYS ★

Hop in sailor... have a Chesterfield

# The things that SATISFY

IT MEANS A LOT when a cigarette gives you the genuine satisfaction you get from Chesterfield.

IT MEANS that Chesterfield, more than any other cigarette, gives you the things that count... real Mildness, Better Taste and a Cooler Smoke.

The reason is Chesterfield's 5 Key-words

## RIGHT COMBINATION

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ASK FOR **Chesterfield** They Satisfy

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