

Sweetwater Daily Reporter

VOLUME IV.

THE SWEETWATER DAILY REPORTER, SWEETWATER, TEXAS MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1923

NUMBER 278



MANY CITIES TO STORES TO CLOSE RENDER MESSIAH FOR CHRISTMAS

Annual Christmas Custom of Many Cities of United States is Rendition of Oratorio "Messiah"

LINDSBORG CHOIR IS NOTED

Kansas Community Began Custom in Early Eighties and Have Continued it Throughout the Year

LINDSBORG, Kan., Dec. 22.—Preparations are being made here for the annual Christmas rendition of "The Messiah." The custom of singing this great oratorio originated in the United States here.

The history of the Lindsborg community is as simple and unconstrained as the gentle Arcadians of whom Longfellow wrote before describing their day of trial. It was at the beginning of an honestly promoted land-settlement venture carried out by a group of Swedish-born citizens of Chicago, who bought land at a low figure from the Union Pacific Railway Company and sold it to their immigrating countrymen at cost. The land was bought in 1868 and by 1870 Lindsborg had become pretty well advertised over Sweden. Immigrants came in considerable numbers.

They settled all along the Union Pacific and prospered from the start. Naturally good farmers, with more land to work on than they had ever had before with plenty of pluck and frugal habits they weathered the early seventies with the droughts and grasshoppers and came through in better shape than many of their co-settlers from the eastern states. One of the first things they did after providing necessities of life was to emulate the Pilgrim Fathers and provide places and means for worship and thanksgiving.

And so it came about that in 1880, a young Lutheran minister was called to Lindsborg and from the date of his coming begins the Lindsborg tradition. From the very day of the new ministers arrival in the West is found evidence of his activity. His congregation, doubtlessly already well organized by his predecessor became a firmly cemented unit for firm progress and well-considered activity. In October, 1881, Bethany College was formed as a center of learning for young people who otherwise would have had to be contented with the courses offered by the common schools. But the attendance was so meager the actual assets were so few that to borrow money for expansion seemed out of the question.

Continued On Page Four.

REFUSES OFFER

All Overtures to Premier Venizelos to Assume Leadership of Greece Turned Down

By The United Press.

ATHENS, Greece, Dec. 24.—Eleutherios Venizelos—former premier and virtual dictator of Greece is reported from Paris to have refused all overtures to return to Athens and assume the leadership of his country.

Appeals were made to the once banished Premier to return following the expulsion of King George from the throne.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Among the Christmas marriage licenses issued by County Clerk Gus Farrar were J. E. Davis of Ira and Miss Christi Bishop, Sam Haggerton of Lorraine and Miss Gladys Griffith and Regan Holcomb and Miss Beatrice Dutton of Rotan.

Mr. and Mrs. Buckner and son Benton, of Abilene, arrived this morning to spend the Christmas season with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Benton on E. N. 3rd St.

Business Generally Will be Closed All Day—Drug Stores to Observe Sunday Closing Hours

POST OFFICE OPEN UNTIL NOON

Reporter Will Not Publish Paper Tuesday—Programs to be Held at Churches Tonight

Business generally will suspend tomorrow in honor of Christmas Day. Practically all stores, offices in the Court House and City Hall and various lines of business will be closed.

Under a new ruling of the postoffice Department, the local office will be open until noon. Postmaster Howard announces that the office will be kept open until nine o'clock tonight to take care of incoming and outgoing mail and parcels. The parcel post window will be kept open until noon tomorrow for the same purpose. Of course the incoming mail will be sorted to the boxes and the outbound mail dispatched on trains as usual Tuesday afternoon.

Sunday closing hours will be observed by the local drug stores and filling stations it was indicated Monday. When interviewed Monday morning, representatives of each line of business said that there had been no formal agreement but the general understanding was that Sunday hours would prevail, or close from 11 to 2 and after 7 p. m.

The Reporter will not be issued Tuesday—so that the members of the staff may enjoy the holidays. It will appear Wednesday as usual.

There will be a holiday showing of "Black Beauty" at the R & R Palace Theatre Tuesday morning at 100 free to all kiddies. "St. Elmo" will be shown at the afternoon an evening performance here as a Christmas feature. The "Cupid Fireman" will be the attraction at the R & R Queen.

Most of the churches of the city will have their Christmas celebrations tonight when the programs published in Sunday's Reporter will be given.

The holiday crowds that broke all travel records locally as well as in other parts Saturday night and Sunday morning and travel Monday, while heavy, was not assuming the proportions of the previous day.

Receipts from ticket sales exceeded by more than \$200 all previous records Saturday at the T-P offices. Late trains and all the extra equipment the roads could scrape up was in use. Number 5 came in at 8 a. m. Monday as compared with 11 a. m. Sunday.

The same conditions that prevailed on the T-P were reported on the Santa Fe, where all previous records went by the board.

Local business in Sweetwater started off briskly Monday morning and while not expected perhaps to reach the proportions of the enormous Saturday trade, still promised well. There were not a few merchants who said Saturday was the best day they had ever experienced in a business way.

AN APPRECIATION

To the patrons of the Sweetwater Post Office:

I want to assure you that I deeply appreciate your loyal assistance and co-operation in mailing your parcels early and addressing them plainly and wrapping securely. In doing this you have helped me to conserve the public funds, and helped in giving improved mail service.

We are going to make an effort to deliver your parcels to your homes, and we are going to make every possible effort to deliver every parcel in the office by noon Christmas Day.

The work during the last week has been arduous its true and our real compensation for the extraordinary efforts put forth, is the joy that comes through bringing happiness to so many

The First Christmas

As told by Luke, Chapt. 11:8-14

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night.

And lo, the Angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round them and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them: Fear not for I bring you tidings of great joy which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign to you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the Angel a multitude of the Heavenly host prasing God and saying,

Glory to God in the Highest and on earth peace, good will toward men.

others and giving you good mail service.

This one thing we would ask in return—the same loyal co-operation throughout the coming year that you have so willingly given during the past year, and particularly during this Christmas period.

To every patron of this office I send Christmas greetings, and I earnestly hope your happiness may be as great as is my gratitude of your splendid co-operation.

Sincerely,
M. B. HOWARD, Postmaster

To The Sweetwater Reporter:

I want to thank you sincerely for publishing our Christmas message. In giving this information to the public, you have rendered a service worth while. Its to the press we must look to educate the public as to the needs of the postal service, and we do not always really appreciate your worth our service is a continuing benefit.

With best wishes for a happy Christmas time and a prosperous New Year, I am,

Sincerely,
M. B. HOWARD, Postmaster.

MORE BUILDING

New Garage and Display Room For Hubert Toler—New Mattress Factory Here From Ballinger

Two more building projects will get under way in Sweetwater right away as the result of contracts signed up in the closing days of this year and which will result in bringing at least one new business firm to Sweetwater.

Guy Morris and John Meyers will build an automobile display room and garage with 10,000 feet of floor space for Hubert Toler, local Maxwell and Chalmers dealer. The building will be two stories in height and 50x100 feet. It will be located on the lot south of the Christian Church. The contract calls for completion on or before March 15.

J. H. Hullum of Ballinger is moving his mattress factory to Sweetwater right away. He has contracted with John Meyers for a building north of the planing mill. The building will be ready January 15, Mr. Meyers says. Employment will be given about 8 persons by this new enterprise.

NO WORD FROM LOST DIRIGIBLE

Ministry of Marine Without Advice Concerning Air Liner Dixmude In Grip of Storm

HUNDREDS LOSE LIVES

Severe Gales Lashing Mediterranean Ocean Washes Vessels Ashore—186 Missing from Barcelona

By The United Press.

PARIS, Dec. 24.—At 4 p. m. today, the Ministry of Marine was still without word concerning the Dixmude, giant dirigible which is drifting helplessly in the grip of a severe Mediterranean storm, near Gulf Gabes unable to land.

The Ministry regards the situation as very disquieting. Severe storms whirled the airship aloft and have kept it up since last Tuesday.

The storm on the Mediterranean is the most severe in years.

Many fishing vessels have been cast ashore and more than 200 persons are thought to have been drowned.

186 persons, members of the crews of fishing vessels and coast schooners are missing from Barcelona alone.

MISS JACKSON ILL

Miss Ella Jackson is still critically ill with pneumonia at the home of Mrs. J. T. Prim, 2043 South Second St. She underwent an operation for abscessed lung last week and the attending physicians think it probable that a second operation will be necessary.

J. W. Herndon, Jr., is spending the Christmas holidays with his parents Mr. and Mrs. D. I. Herndon. He is a student of Baylor at Waco.

WEATHER

West Texas tonight and Tuesday fair and warmer.

Mrs. Seth Johnston is spending the Christmas season at Dublin with relatives.

Judge C. S. Perkins has gone to Pine Bluff, Ark. to join Mrs. Perkins for the holidays, where she is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clemmens.

LEGISLATION TO AERIALISTS GIVE LOWER GAS PRICE DAZZLING CIRCUS

Action Will be Pressed as Soon as Holidays Are Over According to Announcement

LA FOLLLETTE WRITING BILL

Plan is Founded on Extensive Evidence Uncovered by Hearings of Manufacturing Committee

By The United Press
WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Legislation to lower the price of gas will be pressed as soon as the holidays are over, it became known here today.

Senator La Follette, progressive leader of the Senate is writing the bill. Reorganization of the industry wherein the present waste is to be eliminated with government supervision over rates is his plan.

The LaFollette plan is founded on the extensive evidence uncovered by the hearings of the Manufacturing Committee of the Senate.

NEW SCHEDULE

Passenger Table Changes on Orient to Go into Effect January 6—Better Freight Service

SAN ANGELO, Dec. 24.—A new passenger table will go into effect on the Orient railroad Sunday, Jan. 6 at which time faster freight service will be inaugurated between Wichita, Kansas and Alpine.

Under the new schedule, northbound passenger train No. 4 will leave San Angelo at 6:15 each morning instead of 4:30 o'clock, as at present. It will reach Sweetwater at 9:15, making connections with the northbound Santa Fe for Amarillo and other points and with the eastbound T.P. No. 4 to Fort Worth and Dallas. The train will reach Altus Okla. at 6 o'clock, the same day. Southbound Orient passenger train will continue to arrive here at 9:30 o'clock each evening.

Freight service between Wichita, Kansas, and Alpine will be reduced to fifty-five hours or about thirty-six hours faster than at present. The freight train from Wichita to San Angelo will be an extra connecting here with the westbound train for Alpine now operating. The running time from Wichita to Altus will be twenty hours, from Altus to San Angelo twenty hours and from San Angelo to Alpine fifteen hours.

OUTSIDE—INSIDE

By The United Press.

HOUSTON, Dec. 24.—"Sittin' on the inside, lookin' at the outside, waitin' fo' the evenin' mail."

John Aflet, negro, hummed this air as he walked into county jail here and announced he wanted to make bond for a friend.

Police took a good look at John and identified him as wanted on charges of robbery with firearms.

Now John in reality is "sittin' on the inside, lookin' at te outside, waitin' fo' the evenin' mail."

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Carlisle and son of Blackwell will reach the city tonight to spend Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Dressler and family.

Miss Melrose Myers, who is a student at C. I. A. at Denton, spent Sunday in the city guest of Misses Kemble Roy and other old friends. She is spending the holidays at Abilene with her mother, Mrs. D. A. Myers.

Mrs. S. Z. Williams has for her Christmas guests her daughters Mrs. George Campbell and family of Abilene and Mrs. Ralph Ashburn and family of Breckenridge. Her son Leland and family will divide their time with her and his brother Carl.

Elk's Charity Circus Sunday Attended By More Than 1,000 People—Flyers Whirl in Air

STUNT PROGRAM BREATHLESS

Changing Planes in Midair, Hanging From Rope Ladder Head Down—Ward, Other Feats Attract

Wheeling spiraling, soaring with a human figure now standing on his head atop a roaring plane, now swinging precariously by his knees from a swaying rope ladder all against the gray base of a cold December sky such was the Gates Flying Circus staged here Sunday afternoon under the auspices of the Sweetwater Lodge B. B. O. E. Elks in their annual Christmas charity program.

"Diavolo" otherwise Honberger, Pangburn, Thompson—what an unholy wrecking crew to turn loose on a crowd with weak nerves!

"The many who purchased tickets after the stunt program appreciated all the more just what Diavolo did in the way of hair raising risks. He stood upright on the top of the plane while it looped he stood on his head on top of the same plane, then dipped his body down, clasped struts between the wings with his legs and slid to the lower wing without using his hands.

One of his most spectacular performances was the changing from one plane to another. He went up in the plane flown by Thompson. From the landing gear of Pangburn's plane swung a rope ladder. From the top of Thompson's plane Diavolo tried to grasp the ladder as it swung down from the plane overhead. Twice he reached for it and missed as the planes circled in front of the crowd. The third time they came around he grasped it and as he passed the crowd, swung head downward waving at the gasping spectators.

During one of his stunts, he said, he had a narrow escape that wasn't on the program. He was hanging head downward from the landing gear under the plane with his knees crooked over the axle. His leg slipped on some grease on the axle "I sure reached for a wheel in a hurry," he said. Asked what he thought about when flying overhead with his head down, he said he "wondered if the crowd was looking at him."

There was another event that wasn't scheduled and that was the arrival of an army plane from Kelly Field. The

(Continued On Back Page.)

HOLD INTRUDERS

Two Men Arrested After Gaining Entrance to Elk Barber Shop Early Sunday Morning

Local authorities are holding two men who claim Chicago as their home address and who were arrested inside the Elk Barber Shop about 4 a. m. Sunday morning.

Entrance had been gained by forcing a window. The performance was observed by a nightman at the Robertson Cafe who promptly notified night policeman Hudson and Brown, who promptly proceeded to search the interior with flashlight, finding the men.

RAIN INSURANCE

Only one of the local merchants holding a policy for rain insurance collected on it last Friday. For the face of the policy to become payable, there must be at least one tenth of an inch of moisture in the hours named by the man who takes out the insurance. Most of the policies were up to 8 or 9 o'clock only. The policy that became payable was one that started at noon and ended at 10 p. m.

SWEETWATER REPORTER

Published each afternoon and Sunday morning, except Saturday and its Weekly edition on Thursday by The Sweetwater Reporter, Inc., Houston Harte President; Minor Shutt, Vice-President; Willie Rowan, Secretary-Treasurer. Entered as second class mail matter at the postoffice at Sweetwater, Texas.

MINOR SHUTT.....Editor

—TELEPHONES—
Business Office.....105
News Department.....46

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—
Daily, 1 Year.....\$5.00
Daily, 6 Months.....2.75
Daily, 1 Month......50
Weekly, 1 Year.....1.50

ADVERTISING RATES
Classified advertising rates are 1c per word per insertion; minimum charge for first insertion 30c. Local readers 10c per line per insertion. Cards of thanks, resolutions of respect and in memoriam 5c per line. Display advertising rates on application to the Oak Street office.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in any of The Reporter's publications, will be cheerfully corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

CHRISTMAS

Once more this swirling ball we call Earth has reached that point in its orbit that is marked on the calendar in red and in even brighter color on the heart of civilized humanity.

Just a sphere are no more beautiful passages anywhere in the Bible than those that delineate the Birth of the Christ Child in the Manger so is there no holiday nor other period with so intimate an appeal to the highest and noblest qualities of which mankind is capable.

Could Christianity be summed up in one phrase, probably the Golden Rule would come nearer to a complete expression and it is at Christmas tide that the Golden Rule comes nearer to a full exemplification.

It is a time to purge the soul of

selfishness, to sink one's self into service for others. And for that reason Christmas is firmly entrenched in our hearts for in service to others is truest happiness found.

Christmas 1923 finds a sporadic revolution in Mexico. It finds the seeds of hatred well sown in many of the Chancelleries of Europe, so that the world may well wonder what Christmas 1924, may have in store.

But Christmas 1923, finds the United States bathed in peace and prosperity. Despite the demagogic utterances of the politicians seeking to manufacture an issue to ride into office, it is probable that few years will compare with it. Certainly few years will compare with the manifest blessings bestowed upon Texas and especially West Texas. And old Santa has been mighty good to Sweetwater this year.

And so, wherever the Reporter is read, remember that the best wishes of this newspaper and its staff are extended to you each and everyone for a most joyous Yuletide season. May no cloud dim the bright radiance of happiness. May old Santa miss no little one nor grownup either.

Merry, Merry Christmas! One and all!

HE LIVED TO SOON

There was once a colored gentleman who went to a lawyer for advice about the conduct of his wife. After hearing his statement the lawyer suggested the appropriate remedy would be a divorce. Whereupon the client became excited and exclaimed, "Boss, I don't want no divorce. What I wants is an injunction!"

Had he lived in Nebraska he would have had no trouble in getting it, for there an august court has just immortalized itself along this line. It appears there was a comely Minerva who presided over a village school and who gazed upon an insurance agent and found favor in his eyes. Not in those of Mrs. Insurance Agent. In fact, friend wife went on and had the law on them right off the bat. The Hon. Dogberry being a learned gentleman of high moral mentality, forthwith granted the injunction in which it was solemnly decreed that henceforth and forever Minerva and the policy writer shall not speak, look or smile at each other. That 'is great and just

as it should be. As Mrs. Malaprop put it, there is too much "building and cooling" going on in this righteous cock-eyed old world, and it ought to be stopped.

If Hirtacious Minervas and Venuses will thus cut up with policy writers and bankers why let them wear blinders for it. In this glorious day of sticking our noses in other peoples business, we should leave none of the vices of our neighbors unregulated. Our own will keep.

Indeed when by the mere feat of the almighty law we have banished booze from a wet and wicked world, and dig coal by injunction, there is no reason whatever against using it to dry up the smile and to wither the wicked wink in the blastiferous and flirtatious eye, that is clearly the inspiration of the devil.

The Georgia gentleman of color lived too soon and in the wrong place.

A PRAYER

And sometimes especially after having written an editorial that somebody takes a violent dislike to, it is not difficult to join with Berry Bowen in his "Prayer for Today: Oh Lord help me keep my damn nose out of other folk's business."

Friends of Miss Annie Wight are congratulating her on the honor conferred on her in receiving one of the forty appointments from the State University to attend a National Conference by the Volunteer Student bodies of the U. S. at Minneapolis, Minn., beginning the latter part of next week and continuing a week. She is at home now for Christmas and will leave here next Wednesday.

Miss Bess Adams is visiting her sister in Brownwood during the holidays.

**A
Happy
Christmas**

Thanks to one and all for your generous patronage in 1923. We want to serve you in 1924

GEO. ALLEN MUSIC HOUSE
Sweetwater, Texas

**Christmas Cheer and
Happy New Year**

From this good old town of Sweetwater
Where the latch string's out for you,
Comes this Merry, Merry Christmas,
And a Heppy New Year, too.

D. A. Clark

**We Wish You The
Merriest
Christmas Ever**

You have our heartiest wishes for a most enjoyable Christmas, also twelve months of happiness and prosperity in 1924.

SWEETWATER CANDY KITCHEN

**1923 :-: 1924
Good Wishes To
Our Friends**

Our friendships are our greatest assets, and the spirit of the holidays, with its time-honored customs, provides opportunity for us to greet you.

We extend our most cordial greetings and best wishes for your peace, prosperity and happiness, and for those whose happiness depends upon you.

Roy C. Scudday
General Insurance
GEO. H. SHEPPARD, Mgr.

1923-1924

**Friendly
Business Is More
Than Friendship—
It Is Fellowship.**

In grateful appreciation of your good fellowship we extend New Year Greetings, and our best wishes for your good health and happiness.

Otto Carter
Sheet Metal and Plumbing

**We Pause
Today and
Look Back**

And as we recount the experiences of the days and years we have been in business we find but little to regret and much to be thankful for. We are deeply grateful that so many have shown their confidence in us.

As we look to the future we are thinking of how we can serve you better and we hope we will be given the opportunity.

**JOY TO YOU FOR CHRISTMAS
PEACE, HEALTH AND PLENTY
FOR THE NEW YEAR**

M. G. COOPER
"The Men's Store"

1923 Thanks 1924

Thanking you for your patronage during the last year and assuring our many friends and patrons that our appreciation shall always be shown by ever increasing service, we wish you

**A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A SUCCESSFUL
NEW YEAR**

Herndon's Shoe Store
"The Home of the Selz Six"

**Our Sincere
Appreciation**

We who have given our best to serve the public and have seen our efforts crowned with a gratifying success manifested not only in a physical way but in that intangible and precious commodity—Good Will, we find no better way of expressing our most hearty wish for you—

G. H. Graves



Merry Christmas

As we pause at this time to extend to you our heartiest wishes for a Merry Christmas, we do so conscious of the best year in business that it has ever been our pleasure to experience. To say that we are glad of this fact is putting it mildly. Of course we have to make a living as we go along through life but the fact

that we have succeeded so well in serving our customers, as proven by our constantly increasing business, is the main thing with us. Our store will be closed Tuesday all day, but remember that throughout Christmas Day you have our heartiest best wishes for the Merriest of Merry Christmases.

WADE MARKET

MONEY TO LOAN

Do You Want TO BUY TO BUILD TO IMPROVE TO PROTECT A HOME?

SEE
I. LEE LUSK, Representing

Jefferson Standard Life Ins. Co.
Assets Over \$19,700,000.00

Don't you need a good Life Policy? See me before it's too late. The longer you wait the higher it gets and the less chance of obtaining it.

DAY OF DAYS IS HERE TOMORROW

First and Best of all Holidays is Nationwide Celebration—Comes at The End of Grand Rush

JOY TIME FOR CHILDREN

Their Toys Will Clutter Up The House Tomorrow With Electric Trains Whirring—Fireworks

Tomorrow is Christmas day the first and best of all holidays. In preparation for this day of days, all Sweetwater has been taking count

of finances, rushing hither and thither from store to store, writing letters to Santa Claus or gift lists, complaining and planning, concealing and prying, telling and knitting little fabrications and doing one thousand and one things no one would do or dare to do in any one of the other 11 months of the year.

Today the day before Christmas brings the real climax in the brief reign of Kris Kringle. This is the occasion for the eleventh hour shopping in stores already quite denuded of their alluring and intriguing holiday attire. "Early Christmas Shopping" is being done in all circles, but people just can't forget that last lingering round of the stores, that bidding farewell to the friend who comes but once a year. As long as the shops are open

on Christmas eve, which is this evening, there will be shoppers.

Everybody will give and get. Everybody has been Christmas shopping this year and everybody will observe Christmas tomorrow in very much the same manner. Rich and poor alike are going to give and receive, differing from each other only in that which is given and received.

In some families perhaps Santa Claus will be a little different and will make his annual visitation this evening after the family dinner and under the benevolent warmth of the brilliant chandeliers. Then the God of Gifts will enter by the chimney place and during the still hours after midnight that his young worshippers may view his works in the subdued light of the dawn and with the freshness of the new day.

"Just What I Needed."

Tomorrow is the day when fathers, brothers, sons and lovers are afforded that great privilege and prerogative given to men only. The right to ecstatically exclaim: "Just What I Needed" and "couldn't have suited me better," to every brilliant necktie, bright striped shirt and loud speaking pair of hose and louder smelling box of stogies bestowed upon them by doing and self-sacrificing women folks in the name of Christmastide. Twice blessed is the traveling man who departs from the home fireside the day after Christmas and returns not until such time as neckties and shirts, hose and cigars may be reasonably worn out, lost in the laundry or smoked up, whichever the case may be.

But it isn't a one-sided tale, for there are the picture, animated rugs, waists and other gifts of man to woman which woman in her infinite wisdom will find it advisable to spirit out of the public rooms of the household before hypercritical neighbors call.

Joy of Youth
Unadulterated joy will reign however, on the morrow, especially in the world of youth, where miniature electric trains will send dad's electric

light bills a-kiting toys of every name and description will clutter every inch of floor, chair and table space and shouts and laughter will fill the air. This is the Christmas share to the adult members of the household. There will be no need for childish tears and disappointments, for Santa Claus will have taken care of them all either through real parents or the special parents of Christmas time.

The day before Christmas is truly the climax and crisis in the Christmas season, for it is the day of exalted dreams, the day of restored hopes and the day of anticipation. Christmas day, tomorrow will be only realization.

Are you helping Santa?

The Way We Feel Toward Our Patrons

We never have considered a transaction closed with the mere exchange of our goods and service for money. We prefer to think that business means more than buying and selling that it means the opportunity for making and holding friends.

And this being true we come now to express our appreciation of the friendly spirit you have shown us and to extend to you our best wishes for a Christmas of joy and a new year in which your laudable undertakings may each be crowned with success.

Standard Tire Co.

Next to Herndon Shoe Store

Yuletide Greetings

TO OUR LOYAL PATRONS AND FRIENDS

May the sound of Christmas bells bring glad tidings to you and may the holly wreath prove a symbol of happiness for you. We wish you the happiest sort of Christmas and New Year full of health, happiness and prosperity.

We are sincerely thankful for the business entrusted to us the past year and ask for a continuation of same during 1924.

Jones Dry Goods

We APPRECIATE Your GOOD WILL

We like to count among our assets the only one that money cannot buy—your good will.

And so at this Yuletide Season we extend to you, not as a customer alone, but as a friend—the Best of Wishes for the coming year.

M. J. VAUGHN
Gents Furnishings

TO OLD FRIENDS AND NEW ONES GREETINGS

To those old friends and the many new ones we've made more recently, we extend our sincere thanks. May your Christmas be bright and the New Year a most prosperous one is the wish we extend to one and all.

Heath Tailoring Co.

Gent's Furnishings

A MERRY CHRISTMAS
And
A HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO YOU.

Presenting
"MIGHTY LAK' A ROSE"
All Day Xmas

AN INDIAN WEDDING
Wednesday

**LONE STAR
THEATER**

WE TENDER
TO OUR GOOD FRIENDS AND PATRONS

GREETINGS

AND WISH YOU THE COMPLIMENTS
OF THE SEASON

May the yuletide season be one of real joy and comfort to you and may the New Year open your pathway to a pleasant and profitable experience each day.

We come with thankful hearts to tender our greetings and thanks to our friends and patrons wherever you may be. We hope we may serve you during 1924.

H. B. Allen
Dodge Brothers Motor Cars

CITIES RENDER MESSIAH
(Continued From Front Page)

It was during this period of uncertainty that the doctor's great idea came into being. He realized that if Lindsborg with its Bethany College, was to continue its growth as a closely knit community worthy of the spirit that created it, there must be something on which the heart interest of its men and women could center something that would almost amount to inspiration.

Doctor Swenson decided that to his people, already intensely religious, music might furnish this inspiration. He was a music lover and his wife a musician of high order. At this time, Doctor Swenson heard from his old friend Doctor Olsson who had recently returned from London. Doctor Olsson had heard the performance of Handel's Messiah in Crystal Palace and told of his intentions to give the Messiah at Augustana speaking of it as a profound expression of religious faith but of course a difficult venture. This was the very suggestion Doctor Swenson had been seeking in behalf of Bethany and Lindsborg. If Augustana College could give the Messiah, he was certain that Lindsborg could do as well.

In January, 1882, the first musical score arrived from the publishers. Local singers were invited to the church and the plan laid before them. Mrs. Swenson was to be the director and soprano soloist. Accompaniments were furnished by the church organ and the rehearsals began.

The chorus of the first Messiah practiced during the long winter, members often driving through the snow twenty miles or more to practice. As Easter drew near sufficient progress had been made to warrant a public performance. The work was given in its entirety, with four soloists, a chorus of fifty, and an accompaniment by orchestra and organ. It was the first attempt at community singing and aroused much local interest. The success of the first performance established the Messiah at Lindsborg as an institution and from 1882 to 1918 the Messiah was never given outside Lindsborg by the Bethany Oratorio Society. The forty-one years since the first production of the Messiah has brought great growth to Lindsborg to Kansas and to the Middle West. The chorus has grown to more than twelve times its original size and the college is now one of the dominant schools in the West.

As Lindsborg sings the Messiah from year to year it lives the Messiah from generation to generation. It is not enough to be able to sing it—one must be worthy. Lindsborg is known the world over as a place of great intellectual force, a town of beautiful homes equipped in strictly modern style, intensely American intensely modern. Only a small community of 3000 it has raised itself above the mediocre, because in the early eighties it found a community ideal.

The Bethany Oratorio Society has given Handel's Messiah 122 times. The chorus itself has grown to more than 600 voices, a fifth of the population of the community.

The performance has been given outside Lindsborg only three times. Perhaps the precedent might not have been broken but for the Great War. The Messiah's great opportunity came on May 13, 1918, at Camp Funston, Kansas on the eve of the Eighty-ninth Division's departure overseas, the society sang the Messiah to 8000 soldiers in the great assembly hall. In February 1922, the society sang the oratorio to 15,000 teachers in convention at Oklahoma City. In November of the same year it sang for the dedication of the new American Royal Livestock Pavilion at Kansas City, two performances totaling 25,000 listeners. And the Messiah was not heard alone by those in the great pavilion; it was heard by countless thousands within a radius of a thousand miles by radio!

One of the "listeners-in" on that memorable radio concert was Miss Anna Carlson a former student at Bethany. This is part of the account Miss Carlson wrote for the Manhattan, Kansas, Nationalist:

"A member of the alto section of the famous Lindsborg Messiah chorus for many years, now a stranger in exile, listening in over the Nationalist's radio to the concert given by the Lindsborg Oratorio Chorus in the Royal Pavilion in Kansas City and broadcast by the Kansas City Star, the editor of this department can, in a measure at least appreciate what must have been the feelings of John, the Beloved Disciple, in exile on the Isle of Patmos, when he saw the gates of heaven open and heard the celestial chorus in its song of praise.

"The strains of the overture die away and the voice of a tenor takes up the dramatic prophecy of the promised Messiah. The great chorus bursts into song with And the Glory of the Lord Shall be Revealed. I close my eyes and see the glorified upturned faces of the singers for they sing from the heart, these country-folks. With them the singing of Handel's great masterpiece is a religious worship."

GREETINGS
1923—1924

To our patrons, friends and the public in general. During this, the season of good cheer, fine fellowship and happiness, our most sincere wish is that each and all will have a Christmas satisfying and gratifying his or her heart's desire.

COWEN'S SHOE STORE

1923

YULETIDE GREETINGS

With Full Appreciation of the Many
Courtesies Shown Us During
The Past Year
We Extend to You the Compliments of the
Season and Wish You a Full Measure
Of Prosperity in the Coming
Year.

John R. Cox
Jeweler

**OUR BEST
WISHES**

We welcome the season that gives us the pleasure of extending our best wishes to our many customers and friends.

**May the
Yuletide
Season Make
Happy the
Closing of
1923**

And may 1924 bring you unlimited portions of the things you most desire to the end that real happiness, health, and prosperity may be yours.

Grogan Wells Sanatorium

It Has Been Our Experience

That Friendship in Business Counts for Much. And We Are Grateful for Yours. Let Us Wish You a Real, Happy, Contented Christmas and Prosperous New Year

S. Edwards Grain Co.

Rev. M. L. Moody of Clarendon one of the first pastors of the local Methodist church, came in Sunday night to spend the holidays at the home of his mother-in-law, Mrs. M. A. Fowler, with Mrs. Moody and two daughters, Misses Edith and Allie.

Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Charles of Hobart Oklahoma are here visiting Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Charles and family.

There will be a Christmas Tree program for the children of the Lamar Street Baptist Church and the Church of God at the Church of God building this evening.

The Girls Saturday Bridge Club will give their annual Charity Ball Thursday evening at the Elks Home. A number of out of town people are expected to be in attendance.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Taylor and children of Colorado will drive over Christmas Day to visit his mother, Mrs. M. A. Taylor and children.

Miss Althea Brooks of Oklahoma who is spending the school year with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Brooks on Walnut St., has gone to Moran to spend the holidays with her cousins.

Mrs. N. L. Hall has gone to Abilene to join her daughter Mrs. Joe Lisman and to spend the holidays with her daughter, Mrs. George Pearce and family.

B. Bryant has returned to his home at Whitewright, following a short visit here with his daughter, Mrs. A. H. Fortner and family enroute from El Paso.

Mrs. W. J. Robey of Coleman came in Sunday to visit her daughter, Mrs. Berry Bowen and family during the holidays.

Mrs. Ewell Wright and little daughter of Abilene came in Sunday night to spend Christmas at the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. Manse Wood. Mr. Wright will come over Monday night.

Jim Grogan of Hamilton is here to spend holidays with his mother Mrs. E. V. Grogan and sister, Mrs. Manse Wood.

Mrs. J. E. Majors visited her married sons at Colorado Sunday. She was accompanied by her daughters, Mrs. M. J. Vaughn and Misses Lillian and Nina May.

Mrs. Burrell Carr and little daughter Francis have gone to Childress to spend Christmas with her parents Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Powell and sister Mrs. Percy Carr.

Claude Patterson of the Dallas Times-Herald is here to spend Christmas with his parent and brother Jack Patterson. He was formerly a member of the Reporter staff.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Carter of Clarendon; Mr. and Mrs. S. O. Wolfjin of Colorado; Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Henson of Roscoe; Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Shelton of Abilene; will arrive on the night train to spend Christmas with their parents Rev. and Mrs. John R. Henson at the Methodist parsonage.

J. W. Long of Stephenville is spending Christmas with his daughter Mrs. W. C. Calvert.

GOLD TO U. S.

By The United Press.
EL PASO, Dec. 24.—Mexico is pouring a steady stream of gold into the United States.

During the month of November, gold amounting to \$169,962 was imported from Mexico into this federal district, according to a report from the United States customs office here.

Silver also is flowing in. There was \$1,654,792 worth imported from Mexico thru El Paso during November.

ROY LEAVING

Member of Reporter Staff Takes position With United Press

Kenneth Roy, member of the Reporter staff for the past year is leaving tonight for a few days visit with his parents in St. Louis prior to taking a position with the United Press at Kansas City.

The United Press is the news gathering organization that furnishes the Reporter as well as hundreds of other newspapers in this and foreign nations with news and is the same organization with which S. A. Barker, formerly with the Reporter, is associated. Mr. Barker is still at Oklahoma City.

James T. Box, foreman of the composing room and formerly advertising man on the Brownwood Bulletin, will take Mr. Roy's place.

MARRIED MONDAY

R. E. L. Porter and Miss Ora House both from Loraine were married here Monday by Rev. M. L. Moody, who is visiting Mrs. Fowler. The marriage took place at the Fowler residence.

Among our assets we like to count the only one that money cannot buy—your good will.

And so at this Holiday season we extend to you—not as a customer alone, but as a friend—the best of wishes for the coming year.

Whitten's Shop

With Grateful Appreciation

Merry Christmas to You, One and All for all favors received from you, and for that priceless, though intangible asset, your good will, which is prized beyond measure, we ask to merit your continued confidence and aim to serve you helpfully in the future.

A. S. Kendrick Insurance

It Has Been a Pleasure For Us to Serve You

We take this method of expressing our thanks to the citizens of this community for the business entrusted to us this year, and to assure you it has been a pleasure to serve you.

Accept our sincere wish for an Enjoyable Christmas and a New Year to Your Liking

Cozy Cafe

May the Joy Bells of the Yuletide season ring merrily for you and yours

Because of the opportunity it affords us to extend to you our expressions of good will, we welcome the happy Yuletide Season.

To each of you we tender our sincere good wishes for a joyous Christmas and unending happiness and prosperity for the New Year. We trust that our relations have been as pleasant to you as they have to us and that it will privilege to serve in the future.

West Texas Electric Company

Our Sincere Appreciation

ACCEPT OUR BEST CHRISTMAS WISHES

We like to come in the glad holiday season to express the pleasure we have derived from our business dealings with our large number of patrons.

It is a pleasure to do business among such a people as we have here and we assure you that we appreciate your business.

We wish you the happiest and best Christmas you ever experienced. And may 1924 bring you 366 days of bright, happy, prosperous days.

Whitaker's Bakery

WE OFFER AN AMENDMENT

Now that it is in order to offer amendments to the constitution of the United States we have two to offer. First, make the term of president six years. He shall be ineligible for re-election. That will get rid of his having to play politics during the first four years of his incumbency.

Secondly, the congress of the United States shall consist of house and senate. There shall be one senator from each state. The lower house of congress shall consist of not more than three members from each state, who shall be elected for a term of six years and who shall hold office for the term elected unless recalled or impeached.

That provision would be a knockout. It would knock out of office a shoal of perfectly useless officials who are now so numerous that they are stepping on each other. Legislation by a mob of 435 politicians has long since become impossible. Consequently rules have been made that enable five or six men to run the show. In this way nothing is represented except the special interests that can lasso the five or six.

The idea, for instance, that twenty-two men can represent Ohio better than two or three can be defended only on the theory that in the multitude of council there is wisdom. But it happens that there is seldom any great wisdom in the multitude. Hence the multitude of council darkens wisdom. The days when congress consisted of 130 men were its most glorious ones. There was freedom of debate and men went there who had something in mind worth debating about. There is no reason in the world why a senate of 48 could not handle the business of the nation just as well as one of 96.

The salaries now paid congressmen is less than which a capable bricklayer can earn. It does not attract even the capable bricklayer. But it does attract the small politician who has a hard time making a living at anything else. A smaller house and senate paid nothing at all, like the British parliament, or \$20,000 a year would attract capable men, and in such hands the business of the country would be quickly transacted. There never has been a time, even during war, when there was any necessity of congress being in session over 90 days. But under the present plan the idea is to drag it on so as to keep these terribly busy members in Washington as long as possible. Washington is more pleasant than Coon Hollow and consequently we must not blame them.

Will our amendment go through? It will not. It asks a vast shoal of perfectly able bodied politicians commit suicide at once. Not one in ten of those now present could be elected by a vote of the whole state, and far be it for them to try the experiment. Besides no right minded politician will ever prepare to decrease offices. On the contrary his job is to increase them. He is loyal to the cult and after

all what are taxpayers for it not to provide pleasant jobs for politicians. It has always been so. It will always be so.

Not one new official in ten created in city, county, state or nation is necessary. Everybody knows this except the officials and the candidates for the new jobs. One suspects they too know, but they will never tell. Office holding is indeed about as humorous as was the job of the ancient Roman Augur, who are said to have so keenly appreciated the bunk involved by the position that one could not look at another without smiling.

One serious objection to our plan would be Washington itself. The capital that lives on sapsuckers would resist any reduction. One can imagine too, the howl the bootleggers would set up over the prospect of seeing a dry congress cut to one-third its present size. The hotels and boarding houses would see the pillars of the constitution tottering. But it will never happen.

No man living can deny with any reason what ever that the idea here suggested would not immensely promote the welfare of the country, give us abler public men, expedite business

and save millions, and yet were such an amendment offered in congress it would not get three votes.

ADDS TO ZOO

Engineer List and Gifford in Central America Donates Animals

ABILENE, Dec. 24.—New pleasure for the kiddies of Abilene as well as the grown ups who visit the playgrounds and Municipal Zoo at Fair Park next spring and summer, is assured. A collection of rare and beautiful tropical birds has been received from Spanish Honduras Central America, which will be added at once to the already extensive exhibits of natural history at the Zoo.

The collection of birds just received was brought personally from their tropical home by L. E. Vice of Buffalo Gap, and donated to the Zoo by him, Mr. Vice, who for nearly two years has been in the employ of the List & Gifford Construction Company engaged in a big railroad building job in Honduras made a Christmas visit last year to his home in Buffalo Gap and on that occasion presented to the Abilene Zoo three of the rarest of animals now own

ed by a small black baboon, a lemur or night monkey, and a pesoti the latter being a peculiar specimen of tropical con. He promised to bring other specimens to the Zoo when he returned this Christmas and made good with a vengeance last week when he arrived with three big cages containing the collection of beautiful tropical birds.

It is stated that California fruit will soon be moving eastward. The Texas & Pacific railway is planning to handle about seventy-five carloads of oranges etc. daily for the next few months. This additional business will furnish employment for a number of additional railway workers.—Big Spring Herald.

DOUTHIT, MAYS & PERKINS

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW
Sweetwater, Texas

IRESS PROSSER

Lawyer
Luella Bldg.
Sweetwater, Texas

ELLIOTT AUDIT COMPANY

Breckenridge and Abilene
AUDITS and SYSTEMS
Income Tax Consultants
R. C. Winters, Mgr.
Park Office Building
ABILENE, TEXAS

RED BALL AUTO SERVICE

Telephone 30
Night and Day Service
Long Distance Drives any time,
any where.
OPPOSITE HOTEL WRIGHT

Here's Hoping That You and
Yours May Have a
Merry Christmas
and a
Prosperous New Year

Is the Wish of

City Pressing Parlor

Our Wish for You

May the peace of Christmas time fill your
Hearts in the New Year

SWEETWATER LAUNDRY CO.

JUST WISHING YOU ONE AND ALL
THE VERY MERRIEST OF
CHRISTMASES

GALBRAITH'S

Phone 97 Est. 1913 East Side Square

**Joy to You at Sweet
Christmastide**

May we again sincerely wish you the compliments of the season, and assure you of our desire to serve you efficiently in the new year just a few days away.

Mrs. Huey

Aycock Building

**May Christmas Mean
Much to You**

And may health, happiness and prosperity become more and more enriched with the passing of time and may you and those whose happiness depends upon you enjoy the best of health and a full measure of prosperity and true happiness.

We are grateful to all for patronage of 1923 and pledge you that during 1924 we will put forth our very best effort to serve you even better than in the past.

**Bullock Electric
Company**



Have those leaky roofs, broken skylights and rusted out, leader and gutters repaired.
To wait longer means to take chances on your buildings, and their contents being seriously damaged by the approaching storm. Drop in or phone me today.
We make repairs promptly, reasonably and satisfactorily.

OTTO CARTER
Phone 371

**MAY
CHRISTMAS
CHEER
BE YOURS**

All the joys and happiness of the Christmas season to my many friends and patrons. For your very liberal patronage during 1923, I wish to express my appreciation with the assurance of ever increasing service during 1924.

**WRIGHT BARBER
SHOP**

**Christmas 1923
New Year 1924**

Just a friendly Christmas
Greeting and Best Wishes
for a Happy New Year

Palace Drug Store

1923 -:- 1924

GLAD CHRISTMAS
GREETINGS TO
YOU
THIS HAPPY
CHRISTMAS
DAY

To You We Wish
The Best Of
Life
For Christmas
And For
The
New Year

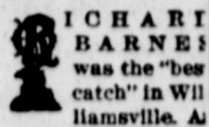
—And
We
Thank
You Too.

H. Berman

Violet and Her
Christmas Catch

By ETHEL AUGUSTA COOK

Girl's Kindness
and Understanding
Appealed to
Handsome Young
Dick Barnes



RICHARD BARNES was the "best catch" in Williamsville. At least that is what the mothers of un-

married maidens there told themselves and some times each other. But what is more the maidens themselves thought so. And Violet Martin, who was neither the prettiest, nor the richest, nor the cleverest of the maidens, agreed with them in their estimate of the big, handsome, wealthy fellow. But it was, with her, not his riches, or his good looks, or even his great popularity that gave her this thought. No, it was a feeling she had for the whole two years since he had come to Williamsville, that he would make one of the best comrades in the world. She understood his special sense of humor. She loved his laugh. Violet Martin was honestly in love with this big, congenial boy.

Richard was in love with Violet, too. He was quite certain of that. But he was spoiled. Anyone would be spoiled who was adored as Richard was adored. You see, it was not only the girls—there was his mother who had spoiled him from infancy. That is why Richard, although he knew he loved this girl who wasn't the prettiest, nor the richest, nor the wisest in Williamsville—no, not by far, had not quite come to the point of proposing. For Violet, who was honestly in love with him (not like the others who were in love with the idea of perhaps being loved by this hero) dared not show her adoration. No, she dared only be as frank and comradely as a boy, and treat him like an equal.

And Richard was a little put out with this. Any reflection of himself in a girl's eyes short of a hero's reflection made him feel strange.

Besides, he wasn't sure it was possible for a man to be in love with a lady unless she was in love with him. He had pride, too.

But Christmas night the drama came to its crisis.

Violet had agreed to go to a musical comedy with him, a good show that

had been a success in New York, and was in Williamsville just this one night. All the Williamsville youths would be there with their ladies, and Richard, deep in his heart, was glad that they were to see him with Violet.

"I don't know why I feel this inordinate pride in her," he told himself. "There are prettier girls, and as

jolly. And girls that are nicer to me, too. But it's Violet I'd rather be seen with than any of 'em."

When he called for her the whole family was sitting around the open fire in the big front parlor. Evidently they had had a family Christmas dinner, for Violet's aunt and uncle and her cousins were still there, and unmarried Aunt Sophia.

"Time to start for the theater?" Violet's father exclaimed in amazement when he saw Richard. "Well, we'd better get our things on, too."

It seemed that not only youth was going to the musical comedy. But Aunt Sophia was not going. She had not thought to get herself a ticket, and apparently no one had thought for her. Aunt Maud was going with her husband. The young cousins were going with their beaux. Mrs. Martin with Mr. Martin. And Violet was going with Dick.

Aunt Sophia until this minute had not realized how lonely a Christmas night she had in store for herself at home in her tiny apartment. She stood now, gazing about almost like a child afraid of sudden loneliness.

But no one noticed the look, and Sophia had never meant they should. Oh, yes. Someone had noticed. Violet's clear eyes had caught it and with a pang at her heart understood.



"Let's Go to the 'Movies' Instead," She Whispered Eagerly.

Why hadn't father planned something for Sophia for tonight? Why hadn't he got a seat for her? How could her dear blessed parents be so thoughtless? Why, Aunt Sophia was mother's own sister. "And mother never seemed to guess how dreary it must be on Christmas Eve—"

Violet hushed her criticism of her parents and took action herself. No other girl in Williamsville, it is safe to say, would have done what she did then.

"Let's go to the 'movies' instead," she whispered eagerly and quickly in Richard's ear, "and take Aunt Sophia with us."

Richard was amazed, and disappointed. But when he had looked across the hall at Aunt Sophia he suddenly understood. Well, Violet had always known he was the best comrade and the most understanding a girl could ever have whether he was ever to be more or not. Now he justified that faith.

"Good for you," he whispered back, and together they went over to Aunt Sophia. But Aunt Sophia would not hear of it. "No indeed. Anyway, moving pictures are hard on my eyes."

"But you know we couldn't get a seat at this last hour for the musical



"That is Why That Was the Night He Chose for Proposing."

show," Richard explained. "And anyway, if we did, you couldn't sit with us. We want you to sit with us!"

With what gratitude Aunt Sophia's eyes beamed at that. "No, of course you couldn't get a seat there," she agreed. "And I wouldn't let you if you could, you generous young man! But I will tell you what I will do. I'll get up a little supper for you two if you'll come in after the theater, and you may bring some of your friends. That will be splendid. I'll have a merry evening, truly, getting ready for you."

And she really would. Her face told them that. For even better than gaiety on Christmas night, is the opportunity to do a loving thing for someone dear to you. And Violet was dear to Aunt Sophia, and Dick soon would be!

At the theater Dick suddenly told himself, "I know what it is about Violet that makes her sweeter to my feeling than all the other girls put together! It's because she's the kindest. And perhaps she'll be kind to me and take me even if she's not so all-fired in love!"

And that is why that was the night he chose for proposing.

He did it going home from Aunt Sophia's party.

But perhaps Violet was one of the wisest after all. For Richard still thinks that was partly, at least, her kindness that made her take him!

(© 1923, Western Newspaper Union.)

Thank You
MERRY XMAS

The year would not be complete without an expression of our sincere gratitude for the business accorded us. We want to thank you and wish you a

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Carter Hardware

WE ARE GRATEFUL—

For the very generous patronage given us in 1923, we are grateful. We sincerely hope to merit your business confidence and friendship, through honest efforts and clean business methods, for many years more.

Best Wishes for Christmas
And the New Year

GEO. C. MASSEY
Filling Stations

May Joy Be
With You

While we are celebrating this great Christmas, the spirit prompts us to express to all our sincere thanks and appreciation for the good will and patronage extended to us throughout the year.

Andrews Furniture Co.

CHRISTMAS
and the
NEW YEAR

The Holiday Season affords an opportunity to express again the pleasure we derive from our business relations with you and on behalf of our entire organization we wish to thank you for your patronage and wish you and yours

A Christmas of
True Happiness,
A New Year of
Peace And Plenty

Quick Service Grocery
And Market

Sincerely
Appreciative

of the part your loyal friendship and liberal patronage have played in our progress, we extend to you

Christmas
Greetings

And good wishes for the New Year

Sweetwater Reporter

Christmas Greetings

SPECIAL TURKEY DINNER

Sweetwater's giant Gobbler will greet you on Christmas Day at our Cafe ably supported by delicious "fixins"

YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS THE DATE

Merry Christmas

Robertson's Cafe

IS THERE A SANTA

The following editorial appeared in the New York Sun back in its balmy days when under the editorship of Charles A. Dana, it was the most interesting paper in America. The editorial written by Mr. Dana is as true today as it was back in the so called "good old days."—Editor Reporter.

We take pleasure in answering at once and thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

"Dear Editor: I am eight years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, 'if you see it in The Sun it's so. Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus—Virginia O'Hanlon, 115 W. Ninety-Fifth Street.'"

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All ~~mann~~ Virginia, whether they be men's or children, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist and you know that they abound and give to our life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no Vir-

ginias. There would be no childlike faith then no poetry, no romance, to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus but that is sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise, inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, poetry love romance can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernatural beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God; he lives and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, may ten times ten thousand years from now he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Mr. and Mrs. Leland Williams and children are guests of his brother Carl Williams and wife on E. N. 3rd St for to holidays.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

McCall and Gordon

REAL ESTATE, FARM AND RANCH LOANS

Aycock Building. Sweetwater Phone 514

1923 -:- 1924

BEST WISHES FOR YOU

May your Christmas be happy and merry, and the new year the happiest of them all, with nothing but prosperity to go hand in hand with you each one of its days.

Elk Barber Shop

Happy With Her Christmas Gifts

By ELEANOR KING

HELLO, Esther, beat me home tonight." "Yea, by ten minutes. My, but some folks are slow," she said laughingly. "Where have you been, Mary?"

"It's a rather long story," replied Mary, as she removed her wraps, hanging them in the one and only little clothes closet the boarding house room afforded. This was already filled to the bursting point, needless to add.

"Do you remember my speaking of a Miss Young?"

Esther nodded in assent.

"I met her when I was a stenographer at the settlement house, you know. She tells me she is still in that work. I think it so queer that I should meet her like this after our conversation last night. Now, Miss Esther, I am coming to the point. You recollect saying that you were so blue because it was almost Christmas and you had no home to go to, no money to give to make some one happy, and you couldn't go to see George because you hadn't the railroad fare! Well"—and Mary paused for breath—"now, here is your chance to show how much you value all this. Mrs. Young was telling me her troubles."

"Oh, Mary, how awful!" and Esther burst out laughing as she threw her arms about Mary and gave her a hug. "You old dear."

"She said," proceeded Mary, as though nothing had happened, "she was giving a big entertainment for her settlement folks Christmas eve. She was having a hard time getting artists. It seems that there are so many of these things going on that there aren't artists enough to supply the demand. Now you know."

"Yes, she wants me to sing, I suppose, but I am horribly out of practice. I—"

"Oh, hush! I never knew it to fail. That is what they all start out with. I took the liberty to tell her you would be glad to do it, so—"

"I surely will do my best. I will begin to practice this very night. I will see Mrs. Young tomorrow about the songs she wants me to sing. Do you suppose George would come down to hear me sing, and then maybe stay over for Christmas?"

It was the night of the entertainment and the girls were putting the finishing touches to their dressing when Esther suddenly broke the silence.

"I think it is so queer that I didn't receive any answer from George. He might at least have told me he couldn't come."

Everything was excitement and noise in the large hall of the settlement house, where people of all nationalities were crowding in. The program began at the hour stated. Before long Esther heard her name announced and stepped onto the platform with her pianist.

Gazing at the audience, while she awaited the pianist, her wandering glance fell upon a familiar face. It could not be, but yet, in recognition, he smiled. It was George!

"The old dear," and then, in the same breath, she murmured, "Oh, God, I thank thee for the power of breath, the desire to live with which you have invested me, and, dear Lord, for George!"

She threw back her head with an exalted air. George was going to hear her sing. She must do more than her best.

Never did she sing with such spirit and vigor. She seemed truly inspired. Her cup of joy was full. The burst of applause which met her ears showed the thorough appreciation of her audience for her efforts.

She couldn't get to George fast enough after the entertainment. Meeting, they both seemed perfectly oblivious of the crowds about them as he gathered her in his arms.

"Esther, you were simply divine. Your voice was wonderful. I never heard you sing like that before." Some one tapped him on the arm. It was Mary.

"But, George," said Esther, wriggling out of his grasp, realizing that they were creating quite a scene. "Why didn't you tell me you were coming?"

"Didn't you get my telegram with all the good news in it? Well, listen, then," George said, excitedly. "I brought my boss along. He has heard so much about your voice—Mr. Williamson, meet Miss Esther Hissop and her friend, Miss Mary Rorer, Mr. Williamson. He is very interested in your voice—in fact, he has a proposition to put before you."

Esther slipped her arm about Mary and put her other arm through George's. She needed support.

"My idea was this," began Mr. Williamson, "for me to send you to New York for training for a year or so; being near my place of business, you could report often as to your progress."

"And I will be near George, too," thought Esther. But, aloud, she said, "I will have to take Mary. She is my inspiration always. I couldn't do without her."

"Then," proceeded Mr. Williamson, "I want to send you abroad and finish you off as an opera singer."

"All out!" shouted the janitor, rather

peevishly. "Come up to the house," Esther put in. "This is so wonderful, I want to talk it over some more. George, isn't it wonderful? We will be in New York together. Oh, what a glorious Christmas!"

THE REASON OF REINDEER

"I know why Santa Claus has reindeer," announced little Mary. "Why?" asked her mother. "'Cause they have Christmas trees growing on their heads!"—M. B. Thomas. (©, 1922, Western Newspaper Union.)

IT'S A GOOD TRYOUT

The man who has tried to hide some gifts from the wife or kids knows how futile is the attempt to secrete the jewelry from burglars.

B. S. Cox and son Chilton came home Saturday from Afton and Aspermont to spend Christmas with the home folks.

The Moody family are planning a family reunion in Sweetwater Christmas Day. Mr. and Mrs. Orville Moody of San Antonio; Mr. and Mrs. Ben Moody of Abilene, Mr. and Mrs. James Gober of Brownwood at the home of their sister, Mrs. Robert Calvert.

Mr. and Mrs. George Kidd of Arlington will arrive today to spend Christmas with their parents Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Brashear.

At Christmas

As we see the broad pathway of the New Year open wide before us all, our thoughts go out to each of our friends to wish them well in all their endeavors.

That your joys may be constant and your cares but fleeting, is our Holiday Greeting to you.

Black's Cafe

May Your Stockings of Hope Be Filled to Overflowing

AND YOUR FONDEST DESIRES BE REALITIES IN 1924

So good have the people of this city and community been to us during the past year we look back and find much for which to feel truly thankful. Your generous patronage has enabled us to record a satisfactory business and in coming to thank you we are pleased with the opportunity offered by the season to

WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A NEW YEAR OF PEACE AND PLENTY

Sweetwater Vulcanizing Co.

M. C. Manroe

Guy E. Morris

MAY THE CHRISTMAS BELLS SOUND

Happiness to you and your household

O'er every home throughout this peaceful and prosperous nation the benign spirit of Christmas settles like a benediction. Gladness prevails, generous acts and kindness is seen on every hand. How we all welcome the Yuletide days.

In the true spirit of the season we send our greetings to friends and patrons and wish you a New Year that will be better than you have ever before experienced. We thank each of you for business of the past and hope we are privileged to serve you during 1924.

City National Bank

1923

---an appreciation of your gift to us

You have given us a priceless gift—one that enabled us to build this business to what it is at the present for without YOUR CONFIDENCE we would not enjoy the business we have today. To merit this confidence and to serve you better is our hope and desire. To know that we enjoy your confidence and friendship has raised this business above a place to merely sell merchandise, and has made it an institution built upon a foundation of service.

Your Confidence

Is the greatest asset this business has. We thank you for all past favors and wish you the joys of the Yuletide season and a Happy, Prosperous New Year.

BURTON-LINGO CO.

1924

WEST TEXAS NOTES.

Last Saturday night a committee from Hamlin and a representative from Stamford left for Austin to meet the State Highway Commission to get them to "designate" a road from Stamford to Snyder by the way of Hamlin and Rotan. The Hamlin committee was Attorney Clem Calhoun and J. C. Culbertson and Col. Peniek went from Stamford. This road has been needed for a long time, by this section of the West and when we publish to the

world that our committees were told that Texas already has more "designated" highways than "SHE CAN KEEP UP." It will begin to bring home to the public what it means to have to chase off to Austin to beg of an "appointed" commission something that we earnestly need. They reminded our citizens that Jones county already has several "designated" roads. That is true, but it is not true that we have all we need or that there will never be any more development.—Hamlin Herald.

The two gins here have ginned up to date 1863 bales, the Red Gin 986 and the Black Gin, 877.—Blackwell Times.

QUALITY SHOE SHOP

Ladies and Gents Shine Parlor
314 Oak St.
Class of work that beats competition.

L. Horn, Berry Smith and Walter Turner of San Angelo, spent a few days last week in the wilds of the Devil's river country on a turkey hunt. Hundreds of them were found but owing to the nature of the bird—which is said to be wild—they came home without any game.—Blackwell Times.

Greetings and Thanks

We extend to all our friends this Christmas a message of thanks and good will, and wish each and every one of you a—

VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

LONE STAR CANDY KITCHEN

Next door to Postoffice Phone 494

The Days of Happy Hearts

Christmas 1923

May it find you at your best so that the sweetest and best sentiments of the time will be in your heart. It is a day that derives its particular charm by the deeds of service done to others.

May you, in the fullness of your heart, have an ample portion of the joys of the season that will abide with you on through peaceful, contented days of a new year of real prosperity. With sincere appreciation of your past patronage we tender our greetings.

Sweetwater Dry Goods Co.
LADIES AND MEN'S DEPT.
THE STORE AHEAD

The New Year will certainly start off in great shape as far as West Texas is concerned. With the finest season ever in the ground all are looking forward to a good crop year. With the soil saturated to a great depth it is not going to require many showers if they come at the right time to make 1924 the best year our section has ever known. Then, too, the prospects for receiving a good price for farm products is an incentive for our folks to make a bumper crop the coming year.—Big Spring Herald.

The several churches of Sweetwater are vying with one another in improving their places of worship. Recently the Church of Christ completed a beautiful brick building as their place of worship. At a cost of several thousand dollars the Methodist have remodeled and finished their large brick building, and a few months ago members of the first Baptist started construction of a modern brick and stone church which would be a credit to any city. This week members of the Presbyterians awarded contract for a new church to cost \$20,000. The building of good churches is certainly a fine index to the progressive and religious spirit of the people. Such a wave ought to strike Colorado.—Colorado Record.

Elvin Thompson called at the Times Signal office Tuesday morning with two large turnips which he raised on his place on Deep Creek. One weighed nine pounds and one eight pounds. He has an irrigated farm two miles south of town. He planted four acres to turnips and has a thousand bushels which he is banking on for winter. He has marketed \$150 worth of turnips from this patch.—Scurry County Times-Signal.

JUDGE LESLIE TO RUN

Special to The Reporter.
COLORADO, Dec. 24.—District Judge W. P. Leslie will announce shortly as a candidate for re-election, according to the Colorado Record here Judge Leslie has held the office a little more than one term, having been elected once after being appointed to succeed Judge W. W. Beall of Sweetwater.

CARR OFFERS REWARD

W. R. Carr brought to the Reporter office a check for \$987.63 which he offers as a reward for the capture of J. Ambrose Hepwing. The check is made out on the Texas Bank & Trust Co. and is signed "O. So. Easy."

MAY OLD

SAINT NICK

WITH A PACK

ON HIS

BACK

Unload at your door Christmas day enough happiness, smiles, health and wealth to supply you each day of 1924.

THE HAMBURGER MEN Next to Reporter

THE Holiday Season

Affords an opportunity to express again the pleasure we derive from our business relations with you and on behalf of our entire organization, we wish for you and yours **A MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR**

PIGGLY WIGGLY

CIRCUS

(Continued from first page)

plane was flown by Lt. Williams who brought his mechanic Rube Evans out to spend Christmas with his folks at Loraine. The plane was forced to land here however, owing to a shortage of gas. They had only about a gallon in the big tank. After refueling, the big army plane took off again from the regular landing field and came out to the field used by the Circus, some two miles south. He circled the field before heading back to Kelly, the last time passing low over the crowd. The plane was a De Havilland powered with a 400 horse power Liberty motor as compared with the 200 horse power Hispano-Suiza motored Standards used by the stuntsters.

The circus was scheduled to start at 2:30 but was delayed some time owing to magneto trouble that developed on Thompson's plane which necessitated a forced landing in a cotton patch south of town.

Rides were purchased in liberal numbers after the program was concluded. Many of these were by persons up in the air in a plane for the first time.

The day was ideal for flying with just a little breeze. Said breeze thoroughly chilled most of the spectators however. And the cold was greatly intensified by the fifty or sixty mile gale from those swirling propellers.

"Don't step on the wing" warned the airman as the passenger stepped up

preparatory to hopping off. Then there was a wild grab for hats as the motor, spitting flame and smoke from the short unmuffled exhaust, was opened up. There was a short ride over a bumpy field and then all at once the bumps stopped as the plane left the ground.

The plane turned sidewise as the birdman banked for the turn and there was an uneasy feeling in the region where the coat buttons.

"Be sure and tell him you are a newspaper man" directed Mr. Gates and the reason for this developed when the machine shot straight up and came on back over in the "loop the loop."

What does it feel like to loop? The first sensation is as if a giant hand took one by the head and shoved it down. That is due to centrifugal force the force that holds water in a bucket when it is whirled around in a perpendicular circle. The uneasy feeling referred to above becomes much more acute—a good deal like the sensation when a fast passenger elevator in a tall building drops about ten floors and stops right now.

But the view more than repays for all of it. Little tiny autos crawling along a thread like road. Little specks of humans wandering around.

The country seems drawn together somehow. The houses and buildings in Sweetwater seem flattened out, more like doll houses. And here and there a farmhouse also flattened out and small. Aside from the roar of the motor, there is no sensation of motion. The plane turns sideways as the

pilot banks for a turn but it seems as natural as turning a corner in an automobile. And there is the landing field, there is a slight bump, followed by a few more the plane stops and the next passenger piles in. The ground feels good—but one sure wants to try it again soon.

During the afternoon program there was some diversion when a rabbit improved the opportunity to hop across the field. There were plenty of boys on deck however and he soon discovered the error of his ways. There was much excitement.

While waiting for the program to begin the crowd had the opportunity to watch \$2500 worth of dog play around. Two German police dogs, the property of Ivan Gates and "Upsidedown" Pangburn attracted no small amount of attention. One of them won sweep stakes prize at the last Denver show and the other is from prize winning stock, although never shown.

The personnel of the flying circus planned to spend Monday and possibly Tuesday in the city enroute to Abilene where they have booked a showing. They came down from Lubbock. It is possible they will work their way on over to Florida for a part of the winter.

At the conclusion of the program Sunday Tommie Thompson and two passengers hopped off for Abilene where the members of the Circus will spend Christmas. Pangburn spent Monday in Roby and Rotan giving exhibition flights. Mr. Gates left Monday afternoon for Abilene, driving over Mr. Gates says he has been 14 years in the business and tries to get the best aviators. Those who watched Thompson and Pangburn land just about anywhere the ytook a notion to, or on the proverbial "dime" will agree that they were good.

There were more than 1,000 paid admissions which added that much to the Elk's program of Christmas charity.

Mrs. Robert Withers will leave Wednesday night for Wichita Falls to spend the remainder of the holidays with her sister Mrs. R. A. Faver and brother, Gerald Vinson.

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Chatfield and children left this morning for Mission, in the Rio Grande Valley where they will make their home in the future. They have bought a fruit farm and expect to plant quite a lot of Citrus fruits this winter.

Political Announcements

The following announce their candidacy for the various offices named below, subject to the action of the Democratic primaries:

For Tax Collector:
J. W. BUTLER,
MISS WILLIE ELLIOTT Re-election

Classified Section

FOR RENT.

FOR RENT—Four room modern house, mostly furnished, \$40.00 call 581 ask for Dr. Canfl. 2654fc

FOR RENT—Store building, 25x80 on Oak St. See S. Edwards Grain Co. 2314fc

MISCELLANEOUS.

HEMSTITCHING—Galbraiths, east side of square, phone 97. 252130

STOP THAT ITCHING

Use Blue-Star Remedy for Eczema, Itch, Tetter or Cracked Hands, Ring Worms, Chapped Feet, Poison Oak, Sunburns, Old Sores, or Sores on Children. It relieves all forms of Sore Feet. For sale by Bowen Drug Store.

COAL! COAL!!

For the best grades of coal phone S. Edwards Grain Co., phone 142. 2234fc

Our monthly income policy will take away all anxiety about the future. Southwestern Life Insurance Company Dallas, Texas. Joe H. Boothe, Agent, Sweetwater Texas. 2746dc

FOR SALE—Milk cows, prices reasonable; terms.—Ray S. Smith, Box 371 2746dc

We buy and sell second hand furniture. Hunter's, 353. 2384dc

DOMINO COAL

No slate, no clinkers, just a good clean free burning coal.—Simpson Fuel Co., phone 239. 2464fc

Bring your hemstitching to the Singer Sewing Machine Co. Work done by experienced operator. 27049dc

DOMINO COAL

It costs no more for the best. Demand DOMINO nut or lump.—Simpson Fuel Company, phone 239. 2464fc

The Singer light saves your eyes from the needless strain. Rays of light fall where wanted. Instantly attached.—Singer Sewing Machine Co. 27049dc

FOR QUICK SALE—Am leaving town, Will sell 1923 Chevrolet Roadster driven 3400 miles. A real bargain at the price, \$425 cash. Call 46 or 105. dh

FOR RENT—Two unfurnished rooms for light housekeeping, phone 130-M. 27712dc

LOST—Pair of glasses, probably in postoffice. Finder please notify W. C. Calvert. 27812c

Write Draughon's College, Abilene or Wichita Falls for special Holiday Offer and Guarantee Position Contract. 27811p

WANTED—To buy one good used fane, must be a good one, state price and how long used and make. Address R. V. Tooley, Sylvester, Texas. 27813dc

LOST—Between Roby and Sweetwater Fisk Casino, 31x4 on Maxwell disc wheel. Finder return to C. W. Williams, Sweetwater, Reward. 27613dc

LOST—Pair glasses between school and Methodist parsonage. Please notify Rev. J. R. Henson. Reward. 27712c

FIRE WORKS—Across street from Wright Hotel. Have big supply. 27712p

FOR RENT—Two large unfurnished rooms, 101 Hickory St. 2741fc

Singer Sewing motor, quickly attached, perfect speed control. Saves time and labor. Come in and try it yourself.—Singer Sewing Machine Co. 27049dc

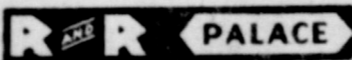
Buy her a Singer Sewing Machine for Christmas. 27049c

FOR RENT—Two unfurnished rooms, 503 Oak St. 27616dc

LOST—Between Merkel and Sweetwater, leather brief case containing Texhoma Oil & Refining Company letter files and contents. Finder return to 1643 South 5th St., Abilene, Texas, Reward. 27612dp

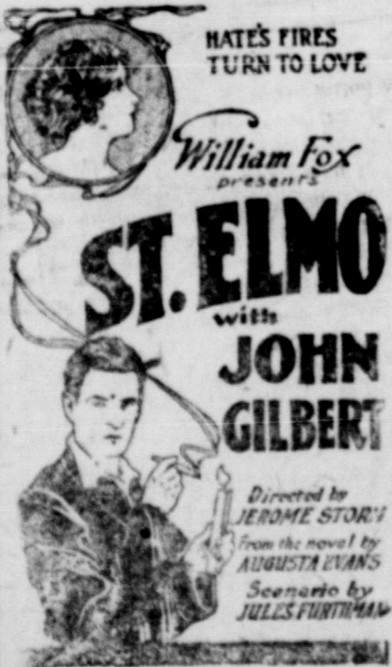
When better shows are shown in Sweetwater R and R will show them

BEST WISHES FOR A MERRY CHRISTMAS



The Most Distinctive Theatre in West Texas

TODAY and Christmas Day



A tale to stir the stoutest heart and grip the interest and imagination with hits matchless pathos, passion and power. Acclaimed by millions as the Supreme Romance. Don't you think that you had better see it.

—Also—

OUR GANG

—In—

"A QUIET STREET"

Adults—40c

Children—10c

YOUR NEW



TODAY AND CHRISTMAS DAY

BUCK JONES in "CUPID'S FIREMAN"

Joe Rock in "MARK IT PAID"

May Christmas Happiness Like That in the Heart of Little Children Be Yours

Because Christmas is one of the happiest days of the year to children it brings happiness to all of us.

We hope that Christmas will fill your heart with happiness. May the joy of a happy family fireside, the warmth of re-united friendships and all the good things of the season be with you. And in sending our greetings we feel the message quite incomplete without expression of our sincere appreciation of all patronage of the past year. We want you to know we appreciate you and will be found in 1924 putting forth our best efforts to serve and please you.

First National Bank "The Oldest Bank in Nolan County"

Merry Christmas TO OUR Many Friends and Customers

HUBBARD DRY GOODS STORE