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CHRISTMAS ISSUE

The Spearman Reporter

FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR. NUMBER 51.

HANSFORD COUNTY, SPEARMAN, TEXAS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1944.

For Hansford Lake.

\$2.00 PER YEAR.

"Merry Christmas, Son"



FORGIVE 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

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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 nighties; 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 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 goods 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 begging God to bring men back to sense of it, to a respect for it, that not spoil Christmas, either.

"I hoped you were in church, pray for me at that exact moment, Mother wrote a boy from Rome last July, thought of you all, Ellen and the boys and Dad and Betsy, and where I might be. I placed them all at the supper on the porch. But I placed in church, thinking of me and pray for me. Somebody must be, for seem to lead a charmed life. Do stop."

That was well said: "Don't stop," we're to have the right world around us, we must hold tight to the 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 use in the Christmas hymns: "For that darkness shineth an everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all years are met in Thee tonight."

REJOICE ALWAYS

We need not hesitate over happiness this year. For a child was born at 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 babe of the temple, grew up to teach us will and love as a saving way for all mankind. He who said "I will joy always" said it confidently of 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 sure 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 heritage from those who are dying a day for their fellows, good will and peace will be found which a child of Judea once taught the children of man.

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?

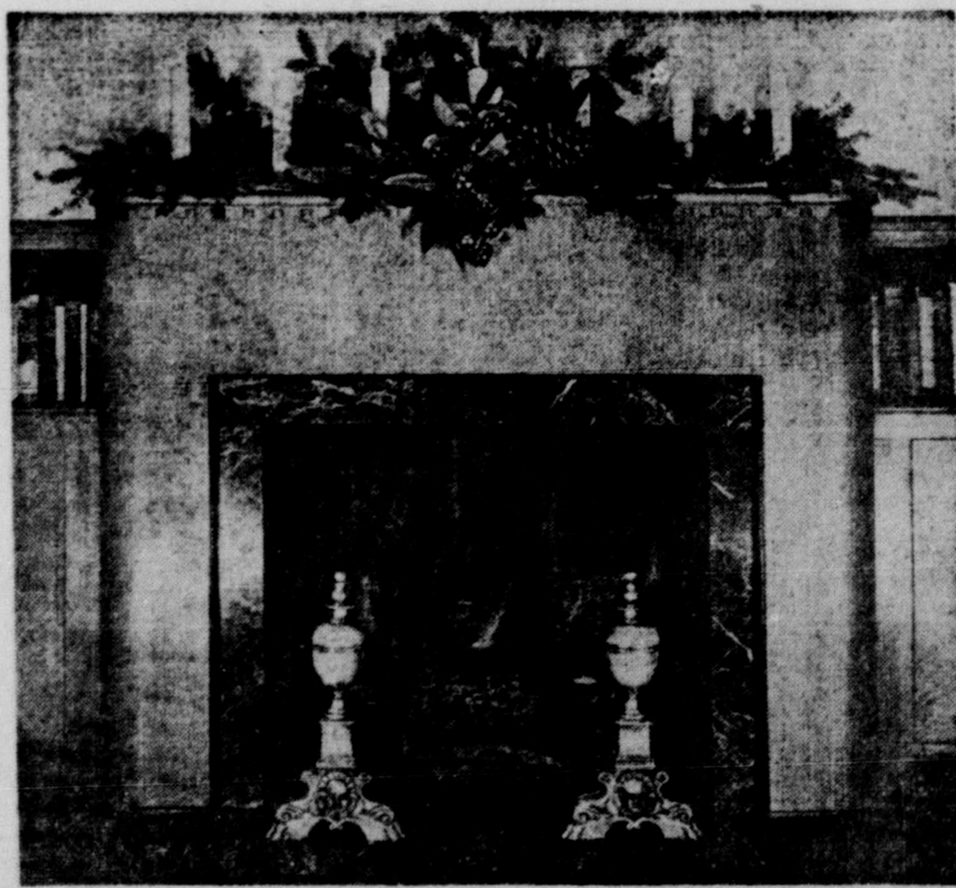
First, there is the remembrance that it is not the seeming big things but the little intimate things that matter most. The story of Christmas centers in a family—the Holy Family of Joseph and Mary and the little Child who was born in Bethlehem. But every family has in it something that can make it holy,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



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 have not 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 moderate priced, simple little greetings printed in job lots by the Motion Picture Relief Fund. Last year its worthy organization, which silently cares for indigent old-timers of the movie industry, realized \$6,000 from the sale of Christmas cards. This year it has gone out of the card business because of the paper shortage. We greet 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 each. But it was only 15 years back, when Tom and Tony were riding the high range fame and fortune.



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

No Gaudy Decorations On the Lanscape 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 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 comparative few limbs of the scrawny cedar variety. And these have been marked with prohibitive price tags. The 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—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.

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WHEN OUR GI'S COME BACK HOME

Printed below is a letter from a Perryton, Texas GI. It is typical of the thoughts and reactions of American GI's all over the world.

It is certainly encouraging, and it leaves no doubt in the mind of this writer of this fine section of Texas.

Somewhere in Belgium, Oct. 28, 1944

Dear Van and Jesse:

The Herald came today with the news that the Hudsons had disposed of business interests and would move shortly. Of course I knew of the proposed move, but as I saw the printed words staring at me, something jabbed me deep inside and a wave of unsettling nostalgia swept over me. Perryton always has been, and always will be my home. Without even shutting my eyes, I can recall every street, every store, every alley, and most of the houses. I can remember how the vacant lots looked where we used to play, but which now sport modern houses of the FHA ere. I remember hot summer days when I went barefoot and shirtless and could pop hot tar bubbles on the pavement with my big toe; the excitement of watching truckloads of golden wheat being unloaded at the Equity; how we looked upon rain as a gift of Divine indulgence and a complaint of rain was a cardinal sin.

I remember dust storms and the drought, and how all the people met the challenge of the elements with a courage and a strength which thrived upon adversity. Yes, many sights and sounds and memories slip by in a kaleidoscope of movement. Sunday afternoons spent making countless trips up and down Main Street; swarms of people on Saturday afternoon; the smell of printing ink and clean paper, the rhythmic click of the linotype, and the excitement of the Herald being run off; pep rallies and the Ranger band; the spine-tingling thrill of the Ranger song and the bursting of the chest when the Rangers took the field; the awesomeness of the Legion Hall and the pride in our fathers and the Legion on Armistice Day; calling people by their first names on the street; visiting on the corner by Sanford's Drug store. These and countless other impressions pass through my memory. And the grandest sight I have ever seen is the view of Perryton from the six mile corner south of town with the high Equity elevator standing out from the town spread on the horizon, and a straight ribbon of road leading straight to Main street.

Maybe I'm sentimental because I'm so far away, but I'll bet the other home town boys feel the same way about Perryton. We're proud of the way you've bought bonds, put over Red Cross and War Chest drives, giving us news of home and put your shoulder to the wheel of the war effort. Some of the grandest people in the world live in my home town.

Yours,
T-3 Harold R. Hudson

First German Snow of Campaign



Snow falling on the Siegfried line for the first time this winter has not prevented the Allied armies from making rapid advances into German territory. Insert—Sgt. Sam C. McNeely, Morgantown, N. C., stands watch by his machine gun during the first snowfall to visit the First Army at Monschau, Germany.

Farm Population
When the war started the farm population of the United States was about 30 million; it has shrunk as a consequence of the war to about 25 million. The proportion of the nation's labor force engaged in farming stood at about 20 per cent in 1939. It is now down to about 15 per cent.

Visual Fitness
It is estimated that more than half of the licensed automobile drivers in the United States never have been required to show visual fitness to operate a car.

Nutritive Carrots
At Purdue university, Yale university and Ontario Agricultural college, tomatoes and carrots have been developed which provide extremely high amounts of vitamins C, B-1 and related vitamins. Carrots especially rich in vitamin A. "Beta-Carotene" stuff have been developed.

Make Appetizing
Know how to make a man eat those tossed green salads? Slip cold slices of leftover meat or ready-to-eat meats into the salad.

Check Drafts
Get ready for next winter's drafts. Make a screen to fit the fireplace opening to keep drafts from cooling off your room after the fire has gone out. Score fireproof wallboard to fit fireplace opening and brush off along scorings. You can decorate this fireproof screen with paint, stencils or decals, to match your room.

Yak Essential
The yak is as essential for milking and transportation in the Himalayas of Asia as is the buffalo in southern India.

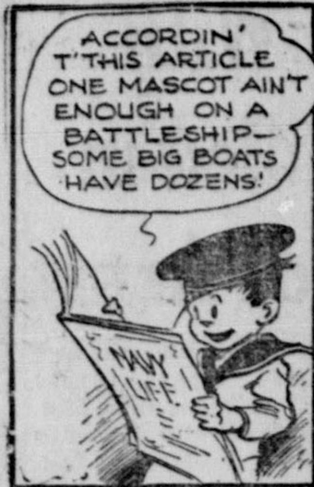
Cheap Gem
"Darling Nellie Gray"—a world musical favorite, brought its composer, Benjamin Hanby, but \$25. Hanby, who was a village schoolmaster, composed the song on the blackboard for his pupils to sing.

Wipe Off Cobwebs
In late summer and in the fall, spider webs are likely to cause streaks in a fresh paint job unless the surface is wiped before painting. This is a small chore compared with the nuisance of coping with cobwebs mixed with the paint, if the precaution is omitted.

New Sleeves
A dress with worn underarms be renewed with a yard of trasting material for new sleeves and underarm inserts. Be sure new shoulder seams are in proper places, and that the back of each sleeve is straight both in front and back views.

Looks Bigger
The moon appears larger near the horizon, but actually about 4,000 miles nearer when directly overhead.

REG'LAR FELLERS—Just Like Noah



By GENE BYRNE

How Much Is a Billion Gallons of 100-Octane Gasoline?

It's enough to fill 120,000 tank cars—a train 1,000 miles long.

It's enough to fill an 8-inch pipe line that would circle the earth three times at the equator.

It's enough to fuel 400,000 Flying Fortresses for a round trip flight from Britain to Germany.

That's a billion gallons of 100-octane gasoline! But it's more than that. It's the effort of the 14,000 men and women of Humble Oil & Refining Company, who are today celebrating the production of the one-billionth gallon of 100-octane aviation gasoline at Baytown refinery—a remarkable feat in the history of the petroleum industry.

It is one of the wartime contributions of the 14,000 men and women of Humble—scientists, drillers, roustabouts, stenographers, pipeliners, technologists, truck drivers, geologists, glassblowers, stillmen and those working in hundreds of other occupations.

Here is a partial list of their accomplishments to date:

- FIRST** to produce at one refinery a billion gallons of finished 100-octane aviation gasoline. The Baytown refinery has produced more 100-octane aviation gasoline than any other plant in the world.
- FIRST** to produce synthetic toluene. The Baytown Ordnance Works, first to synthesize toluene from petroleum, has supplied the toluene for at least one out of every two bombs used by the United Nations since Pearl Harbor.
- FIRST** in the production of crude oil. Humble Oil & Refining Company is the nation's largest producer of crude oil, and is currently supplying about one-fourth of the increased production required for war as measured by the gain since 1941.
- FIRST** in the transportation of petroleum. The Humble pipe lines transport more oil than any other system, handle one barrel in every seven of the domestic supply.

These accomplishments climax a quarter century of development, planning and team work of a great organization. The men and women who made them possible are behind the billion gallons of 100-octane aviation gasoline. They are behind whatever America needs of them for victory.

HUMBLE OIL & REFINING COMPANY

HOUSTON, TEXAS



Christmas Seal Origin Recall With 1943 Dr

The origination of the Christmas seal was recalled officials of the American Tuberculosis Institute as the 36th annual sale under way.

Back in 1903 Einar Holboell, a young mail clerk in the office at Charlottenlund, Denmark conceived the idea of a voluntary Christmas greeting which would benefit the poor and gain permission from the post office to sell the stamps at post office to fund to erect a hospital for tubercular children.

In 1907 Miss Emily P. Billings, Wilmington, Del., adopted the idea and interested the American Cross in the project. The first national sale in 1908 brought in \$100,000 and the amount has grown each year. The sale of seals has saved 100,000 lives annually.

At the time of his death in 1910 Holboell was president of the national Tuberculosis association and a member of the board of directors of the National Tuberculosis Association of Denmark. As an honor to the originator, the Christmas seal for 1927 bore his name.

Barn Yard Losses
Four colts have to be born to two work horses; one-third pigs born die before mature age; 100 per cent of all dairy calves are reaching productive age one-fourth of laying house die prematurely.

Let Ripen on Vine
To insure the greatest vit value, let tomatoes ripen on vine. They will have more C than if they are picked and allowed to ripen on the ledge, back porch or some convenient nook. Tomatoes and marketed in the summer considerably higher amounts than those available in winter markets.

AN

P.

Christmas Seal Origin Recalled With 1943 Drive

The origination of the Christmas tuberculosis seal was recalled by officials of the American Tuberculosis Institute as the 36th annual sale got under way.

Back in 1933 Einar Holboell, then a young mail clerk in the post office at Charlottenlund, Denmark, conceived the idea of a voluntary tax on Christmas greeting cards which would benefit the poor. He gained permission from the ministry to sell the stamps at post offices for a fund to erect a hospital for tubercular children.

In 1937 Miss Emily P. Bissell of Wilmington, Del., adopted the idea and interested the American Red Cross in the project. The first national sale in 1938 brought in \$135,000 and the amount has grown larger each year. The sale of seals has saved 100,000 lives annually among tubercular patients, officials declare.

At the time of his death in 1927, Holboell was president of the International Tuberculosis association and a member of the board of directors of the National Tuberculosis Association of Denmark. As a mark of honor to the originator, the Danish Christmas seal for 1927 bore his picture.

Barn Yard Losses

Four colts have to be born to raise two work horses; one-third of all pigs born die before maturity; 20 per cent of all dairy calves die before reaching productive age; and one-fourth of laying house pullets die prematurely.

Let Ripen on Vine

To insure the greatest vitamin C value, let tomatoes ripen on the vine. They will have more vitamin C than if they are picked green and allowed to ripen on the window ledge, back porch or some other convenient nook. Tomatoes grown and marketed in the summer have considerably higher amounts of vitamin C than those available in winter markets.

Christmas Poem

The time draws near the birth of Christ;
The moon is hid; the night is still;
The Christmas bells from hill to hill
Answer each other in the mist.

Four voices of four hamlets round,
From far and near, on mead and moor,
Swell out and fall, as if a door,
Were shut between me and the sound.

Each voice four changes on the wind,
That now dilate, and now decrease,
Peace and good-will, good-will and peace,
Peace and good-will, to all mankind.

—Tennyson.

Weakens Steel

Steel is seriously weakened by the presence of as little as one-tenth of 1 per cent of hydrogen gas, and this damaging effect is even greater in steels containing manganese.

Hunger Cure

An herb which prevents hunger is reported in Bombay, India, and its use is advocated to save Bengal until arrival of new crops. Juice of the herb cooked with rice provides a dish which, it is claimed, will enable a person to go without food for six months. The herb, known as chitrak, was used by the sages of old, according to Aryabhishak, a famed Indian medicine book.

Anti-Rabies Vaccine

Anti-rabies vaccines of commerce have been thoroughly tested, with the result that the effectiveness of the regular "phenolized" product has not been completely satisfactory. A very superior vaccine is made by a new process, using a concentrated irradiated brain tissue, and this vaccine, in tests on dogs and mice, effected immunization in 97 per cent of all cases.

Purple Heart

The Order of the Purple Heart, a decoration established by George Washington in 1782 as the first insignia of valor awarded in this country to rank and file soldiers, as contrasted with officers, is awarded to men wounded in action or to those who have received the Meritorious Citation certificate from the commander-in-chief of the AEF.

Marriage Laws

Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and New York all permit marriage of first cousins although Pennsylvania does not. Each of these states requires that the man be at least 21 and the girl 18, to be married without parental consent. Delaware and Maryland have no blood test requirement; New York and New Jersey do. Waiting periods are: New York, 24 hours; New Jersey, 72 hours; Delaware, 98 hours for non-residents; Maryland, 48 hours.

'And a Doll ...'



These two trusting youngsters pour all their Christmas desires into Santa's ears. And chances are exceptionally good that he will heed them—he looks completely captivated by the girls.

ATTENTION!

Ranchmen-Feeders And Other Protein Feed Users

We have received a supply of soy beans and are now crushing them. On account of the acute shortage of protein feed and labor shortage, it will be almost imperative that you advise us in advance what your needs will be for the winter and with your cooperation, we will make every effort possible to take care of your needs.

So please contact us in some way as soon as possible so that we may be able to give you more efficient service.

Elk Cottonoil Co.
Shamrock, Texas

Classified Ads

FOR SALE—Superflex refrigerator Kerosene burner type. Five foot, 1937 model. Excellent condition.—Howard Brillhart, No. 51-31-p

FOR SALE: Full size inner spring mattress, like new, also boy's all wool suit, size 14. Call Reporter office. 52-21p

ESTRAY NOTICE

HAD WHITE FACED Hereford steer, weight about 700 pounds, with brand of Backward CH on left hip. Strayed from my place South East of Spearman, 2 weeks ago. Notify Carl Hutchinson, Spearman, Texas. 52-21p

LOST: Red male Cocker Spaniel. Had slight limp in left shoulder. Missed him from my home in East Spearman Monday noon. Call Mrs. Thomas Etter, Phone 9. 52-21p

Willis Peters
Now Representing
Hansford Ochiltree &
Moore Counties For
Boxwell Bros.
Burial Association

HANSFORD LODGE NO. 1040
A. F. & A. M.

Regular Communications
Second Monday of Each
Month. Visitors welcome.
FLOYD MITTS, W.M.
J. B. Cooke, Secy.

Daley Glass Shop
Headquarters For

Paints—Varnishes

Picture Framing

Wallpaper

New 1944 Patterns

Glass for Your
House or Car

Daley Glass Shop
Perryton

FRANK M. TATUM

—Attorney at Law—
DALHART

Boyer & McConnell

Attorneys-at-Law
308½ S. Main
Perryton, Texas

Rolling Ballrooms
The sidewinder malleable iron mode of locomotion especially adapted for travel in soft sand. The snake literally rolls along, with its body leaving disconnected S-shaped imprints in the sand.

Prevent Stain Bleeding

If it is planned to paint stained mahogany, a first coat of a "stain killer" which is available in the form of various preparations from paint dealers, should be used in order to prevent the stain from bleeding through the paint.

Optical Superstitions

Hundreds of years ago it was believed the sapphires would cure visual defects when rubbed upon the lids of the eyes. In ancient times the Chinese believed that the eating of the eyeballs of cats and other sharp-eyed animals would improve vision.

Blind Spot

Have you ever experimented to demonstrate the existence of the blind spot in your eye? If not, try this simple test. With a pencil make two large dots on a piece of white paper, about an inch apart. Close the right eye and look at the dot on the right side, moving the paper to and from your face slowly. At a certain point the left-hand dot will disappear from sight. That's because it falls on the blind spot of the retina.

JOB PRINTING—place your order as far in advance as possible. It takes time to produce printing; it's a manufacturing job. Spearman Reporter, Phone 10. 33-tfs

NOTICE: Classified, display advertising and news columns close about noon every Tuesday. Please arrange for advertising early; also bring in your news items promptly. 33-tfs

General AUTO REPAIR
All Work Guaranteed
BUD BEESON

T. D. SANSING
Attorney and Counselor
At Law
SPEARMAN

DR. F. J. DAILY
DENTIST
X-RAY
McLain Bldg. Phone 156
SPEARMAN

DR. J. P. POWELL
Eye, Ear, Nose, Throat
—Specialist—
Glasses Fitted, Tonsils and Adenoids Removed
IN SPEARMAN
Wednesday, Jan. 3rd
Until Noon Only
Office Dr. Gower.

J. E. GOWER, M. D.
Room 205
McLain Bldg.
Res. Phone 98 Off. Phone 33

ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO THE SPEARMAN REPORTER

—The history of any county is accurately portrayed in the RECORDS of the county. Beginning with the original grant from the state, each transfer, each lien and its release, all probate and litigation affecting every tract of land in the county is fully transcribed into the COUNTY RECORDS. Over a 56 year period, (since the organization of Hansford county), these records become voluminous and the individual instruments of transfer are literally lost in the maze of Records.

—THE HANSFORD ABSTRACT COMPANY, established in 1905, is closely identified with the history of Hansford county. Through years of tedious and accurate work we have selected, indexed and arranged the items of the COUNTY RECORDS and all the instruments that affect the title to any tract of land in the county are segregated to that tract of land. Thus the abstract to YOUR LAND, whether farm or town lot, is complete and detailed history of that tract of land as shown by the county records and transcribed into the abstract to the end that your title to the land is accurately disclosed to the Examiner.

We are proud that we have the oldest abstract plant in the county and that it is one of the most modern and up-to-date plants to be found in West Texas. Such a plant, and our years of experience, enables us to render a real TITLE service to Hansford county. We strive to SERVE that we may merit your confidence and your business.

Hansford Abstract Co.

P. A. LYON, MGR.

PHONE 42

BUY BONDS DURING THE SIXTH WAR LOAN DRIVE. . .

You cannot get a better investment in the Nation. And while you are making a safe, sound investment, you are helping our service men win the war.

SEE US FOR HAIL INSURANCE

SEE

L. S. McLAIN

HANSFORD GRAIN COMPANY

Townsend Drug
PHONE 123

DEPT TOWNSEND, Owns Spearman



**Something
New Has
Arrived!**

**Announcing
The Opening Of**

BOXWELL BROS. Furniture Co.

LOCATED IN THE McLAIN BUILDING
has opened for business with a full line of
GIFTS FOR THE HOME
CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY
And the Finest Assortment of
HEATERS AND GAS RANGES
TOYS AND GIFTS FOR TINY TOTS
We Can Secure
FLOWERS FOR ALL OCASIONS
The Store in Spearman is Under
The Management of
JIM GOODSON

Who has been actively engaged in the furniture and allied lines for the past fifteen years. Mr. Goodson comes to the Spearman store from Amarillo.

Until arrangements can be completed for a building in this city the local furniture store will represent the Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home of Spearman and Perryton, and AMBULANCE service will be available any time of the day or night.

We will have on hand a representative assortment of potted flowers, and in the immediate future we will stock cut flowers at the Boxwell Brothers Furniture Co. At present we will accept orders for cut flowers, and believe we are in a position to give 10 hour service from our Perryton florist shop.

This New business firm joins Hansford County in extending congratulations to The Spearman Reporter on the occasion of their 38th birthday.

**BOXWELL
BROTHERS
FURNITURE
COMPANY**

Jim Goodson, Mgr.

SPEARMAN, TEXAS



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 for-
ever,"
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 prom-
ise 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. Metro-
politan 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.

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

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.



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—1941—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 Chathams, 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.

**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 "lamb'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.

Hansel 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 Lang Syne."

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

The celebration of New Years on January 1 began in 452 B. C., and therefore, contrary to logical reasoning, had nothing whatsoever to do with the birth of Christ.

The ancient Roman calendar began in, and with, the month of March; there were ten months, the last six of which were named Quintilis, Sextilis, September, October, November, and December—or, the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth months respectively. Numa added two months, January and February, placing the former at the beginning of the year and February at the end. In 452 B. C., February was placed between January and March; thus establishing the order of months as of today. The ancient calendar year did not correspond to the solar year and by the time the days of Julius Caesar rolled around the actual and calendar equinoxes were months apart; a situation which Caesar set out to remedy.

Caesar's astronomers and calendar experts fixed the calendar year at 365 days—and because they estimated the solar year as of 365 1/4 days—an extra day was to be added every fourth year. This Julian calendar was effective, by decree of Caesar, on January 1, 46 B. C.

Actually, the earth goes around the sun in 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, and 46 seconds; and by 1582 A. D., the Julian calendar was 10 days behind the sun. Pope Gregory XIII remedied the situation by ordering that the calendar play leap frog and the intervening days between October 5 and October 15, 1582, were lost forever.

In order to prevent repetitions of the sun running away from the calendar and vice versa, Pope Gregory decided that a leap year should be omitted now and then; hence only those years divisible by four—exclusive of years numbering the centuries—should have 366 days, and the century-marking years shall be leap years only if divisible by four after the ciphers have been omitted.

The Gregorian calendar has been officially adopted in most countries of the civilized world; however, many creeds and peoples still celebrate their religious and traditional festivals in accordance with ancient calendars.

Pre-Christian Roman inaugurated the new year by offering sacrifices to the gods, exchanging greetings, and bestowing gifts. During the early Christian centuries, New Year's festivities persisted and became so boisterous that the faithful were forbidden to participate therein.

After December 25 had been established as the day of nativity, the church made January 1 a religious festival honoring the circumcision of Jesus; the day being thus observed in the Roman church since 497, and in the Anglican church since 1549.

**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."

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.

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.

English New Year

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

Happy New Year



This charming young daughter of a marine corporal is all set to welcome the advent of 1945. Judging from her attentive look, she is waiting only for the 12 o'clock whistles heralding the arrival of the new year.

New Year's Day Antedates the Birth of Christ by 452 Years

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**Bowl Game Feature of
New Year's Since 1916**

Since 1916 the Rose Bowl football game has been played annually on New Year's day as a co-feature of Pasadena's Tournament of Roses.

The championship team of the Pacific Coast conference invites an Eastern contender selected from among the teams which have made the best records during the autumn playing, thus making the game one of America's outstanding intercollegiate sporting events.

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.

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THE OCC

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New Year



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AGAIN

Your North Plains Store

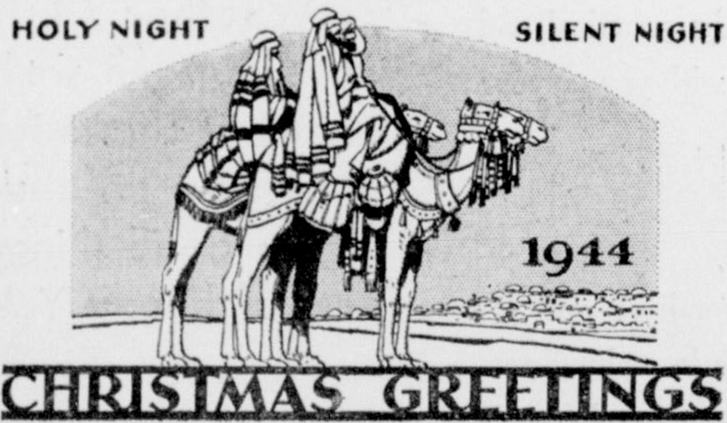
Comes to the citizens of North Hutchinson county, and Hansford citizens who do not find just the gifts they have set their heart on at their own Hansford furniture store, with an array of glamorous and useful gifts for the home and every member of the family. Truly we believe we have the most representative stock of merchandise for Christmas shoppers this year we have featured since the war emergency.

Space does not permit the listing of hundreds of gift items—the array taking care of everything from toys for the tiny tots to the more permanent home improvements that will gladden the hearts of the entire family for many Christmas seasons to come. We believe you will find something useful, something pleasing in this store and we invite you to put us to the test—

Occasional chairs, tables, smoking stands, silver-ware, stoves and ranges, heaters, lounge chairs, table lamps, floor lamps, desks, useful and inexpensive gifts—

Congratulations

TO THE SPEARMAN REPORTER ON THE OCCASION OF IT'S 38th BIRTHDAY



★ 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.

Lindsey Furniture Company Borger

Dark Horse NALL

Guymon, Oklahoma has in stock right now Brothers

700 Tractor and Implement TIRES

I don't just carry a shirt tail full of Tires in stock Brothers I have a warehouse full of tires, tubes,

Wheels and Rims I have in stock now I carload of Calcium Chloride I carload of Firestone Anti-Freeze

NALL

Shares with all other Dealers Phone 319 Guymon, Oklahoma

THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

OFFERS YOU

MORNING

A GRADED BIBLE SCHOOL. A CLASS FOR ALL AGES.

Youth services
Lord's Supper.
Morning Sermon.
Fellowship with Jesus.

EVENING

7-P. M. Christian Youth Fellowship.
8-P. M. Congregational Singing, Sermon.
ALL IN THE SPIRIT OF WORSHIP.
C. F. BARTON, Minister

Famous Cribs of World Still Being Preserved

In various central European countries the Christmas crib, staged in a box, is carried through the streets by groups of singing children. It is also a feature of every home in southern Europe, where many famous cribs are found in churches. The most elaborate Christmas praesepe in Italy is the celebrated shrine of Madonna delle Grazie. After the news of St. Francis' praesepe had spread the Capuchin monks built a grotto 18 feet high, made of Sardinian cork. They had a system of figures, shepherds, flocks, and the Three Kings, which moved down to the manger. The wooden figures were carved by Gaggini and Magliano.

The crib at Casterta, Italy, includes the most famous Bambino in the world. At the Bayerisches National museum in Munich is to be found the world's most famous collection of cribs.

Peacock Christmas Dish

It's been a long time since the peacock was considered the best dish for Christmas. This bird used to be served to gatherings of knights and lords in "merric olde England." It was first skinned, with all its feathers intact, roasted, then placed back in its skin.

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 distribute gifts that men actually left the country during the holiday season to escape gift-giving.

Better Diets

The enrichment of bread and the increased use of milk are improving the diet in important vitamins and minerals.

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 church tradition has identified gifts as Melchior, Caspar, and Balthasar; Melchior, king of Arabia, brought a casket of gold; Caspar, king of Persia, 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.

Polish Remover Helpful

Nail polish remover works like magic when it is used to clean black marks left on skin by adhesive tape. Saturate a piece of cotton with the remover and rub skin.



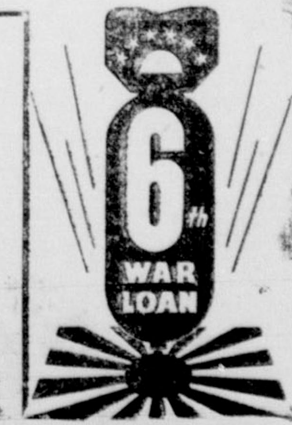
Back up the Boys! BUY ANOTHER BOND IN THE 6th WAR LOAN!

It's not over, over there—not by a long shot! Uncle Sam can count on the fighting men to keep on fighting—and he must be able to count on you to keep on backing them, by buying extra War Bonds in the Sixth War Loan Drive, now on.

SEE WHAT YOUR EXTRA \$100 BOND WILL DO:

- It will help pay for the things our men must have—guns, planes, tanks, food.
- It will help hold down the cost of living.
- It will provide a nest egg for the future—the United States Government guarantees that you will get your money back.
- It will show our fighting men that you are willing to do your part!

YOUR COUNTRY IS STILL AT WAR— ARE YOU?



Community Public Service Company



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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 "lamb'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.

Hansel 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 Lang Syne."

**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.

**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."

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.

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.

Happy New Year



This charming young daughter of a marine corporal is all set to welcome the advent of 1945. Judging from her attentive look, she is waiting only for the 12 o'clock whistles heralding the arrival of the new year.

New Year's Day Antedates the Birth of Christ by 452 Years

The celebration of New Years on January 1 began in 452 B. C., and therefore, contrary to logical reasoning, had nothing whatsoever to do with the birth of Christ.

The ancient Roman calendar began in, and with, the month of March; there were ten months, the last six of which were named Quintilis, Sextilis, September, October, November, and December—or, the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth months respectively. Numa added two months, January and February, placing the former at the beginning of the year and February at the end. In 452 B. C., February was placed between January and March; thus establishing the order of months as of today. The ancient calendar year did not correspond to the solar year and by the time the days of Julius Caesar rolled around the actual and calendar equinoxes were months apart; a situation which Caesar set out to remedy.

Caesar's astronomers and calendar experts fixed the calendar year at 365 days—and because they estimated the solar year as of 365 1/4 days—an extra day was to be added every fourth year. This Julian calendar was effective, by decree of Caesar, on January 1, 46 B. C.

Actually, the earth goes around the sun in 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, and 46 seconds; and by 1582 A. D., the Julian calendar was 10 days behind the sun. Pope Gregory XIII remedied the situation by ordering that the calendar play leap frog and the intervening days between October 5 and October 15, 1582, were lost forever.

In order to prevent repetitions of the sun running away from the calendar and vice versa, Pope Gregory decided that a leap year should be omitted now and then; hence only those years divisible by four—exclusive of years numbering the centuries—should have 366 days, and the century-marking years shall be leap years only if divisible by four after the ciphers have been omitted.

The Gregorian calendar has been officially adopted in most countries of the civilized world; however, many creeds and peoples still celebrate their religious and traditional festivals in accordance with ancient calendars.

Pre-Christian Roman inaugurated the new year by offering sacrifices to the gods, exchanging greetings, and bestowing gifts. During the early Christian centuries, New Year's festivities persisted and became so boisterous that the faithful were forbidden to participate therein.

After December 25 had been established as the day of nativity, the church made January 1 a religious festival honoring the circumcision of Jesus; the day being thus observed in the Roman church since 487, and in the Anglican church since 1549.

**Bowl Game Feature of
New Year's Since 1916**

Since 1916 the Rose Bowl football game has been played annually on New Year's day as a cofeature of Pasadena's Tournament of Roses.

The championship team of the Pacific Coast conference invites an Eastern contender selected from among the teams which have made the best records during the autumn playing, thus making the game one of America's outstanding intercollegiate sporting events.

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.

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Fear With Hindus... Hindus the first day of... celebrated with secret... od of wisdom.

AGAIN

Your North Plains Store

Comes to the citizens of North Hutchinson county, and Hansford citizens who do not find just the gifts they have set their heart on at their own Hansford furniture store, with an array of glamorous and useful gifts for the home and every member of the family. Truly we believe we have the most representative stock of merchandise for Christmas shoppers this year we have featured since the war emergency.

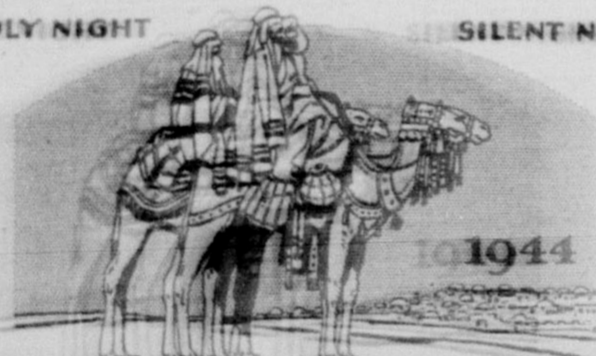
Space does not permit the listing of hundreds of gift items—the array taking care of everything from toys for the tiny tots to the more permanent home improvements that will gladden the hearts of the entire family for many Christmas seasons to come. We believe you will find something useful, something pleasing in this store and we invite you to put us to the test—

Occasional chairs, tables, smoking stands, silverware, stoves and ranges, heaters, lounge chairs, table lamps, floor lamps, desks, useful and inexpensive gifts—

Congratulations

TO THE SPEARMAN REPORTER ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 38th BIRTHDAY

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.

Lindsey Furniture Company Borger

Dark Horse NALL

Guymon, Oklahoma has in stock right now Brothers

700 Tractor and Implement TIRES

I don't just carry a shirt tail full of Tires in stock Brothers I have a warehouse full of tires, tubes, Wheels and Rims I have in stock now 1 carload of Calcium Chloride 1 carload of Firestone Anti-Freeze

NALL

Shares with all other Dealers Phone 319 Guymon, Oklahoma

THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

OFFERS YOU
MORNING
A GRADED BIBLE SCHOOL.
A CLASS FOR ALL AGES.
Youth services
Lord's Supper.
Morning Sermon.
Fellowship with Jesus.
EVENING
7-P. M. Christian Youth Fellowship.
8-P. M. Congregational Singing.
Sermon
ALL IN THE SPIRIT OF WORSHIP
C. E. BACON, Minister

Famous Cribs of World Still Being Preserved

In various central European countries the Christmas crib, staged in a box, is carried through the streets by groups of singing children. It is also a feature of every home in southern Europe, where many famous cribs are found in churches. The most elaborate Christmas praesepe in Italy is the celebrated shrine of Madonna delle Grazie. After the news of St. Francis' praesepe had spread the Capuchin monks built a grotto 28 feet high, made of Sardinian cork. They had a system of figures, shepherds, flocks, and the Three Kings, which moved down to the manger. The wooden figures were carved by Gaggini and Magliano.

The crib at Castels, Italy, includes the most famous Bambino in the world. At the Bayerisches National museum in Munich is to be found the world's most famous collection of cribs.

Peacock Christmas Dish
It's been a long time since the peacock was considered the best dish for Christmas. This bird used to be served to gatherings of knights and lords in "merric olde England." It was first skinned, with all its leathers intact, roasted, then placed back in its skin.

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 distribute gifts that men actually left the country during the holiday season to escape gift-giving.

Better Diets
The enrichment of bread and the increased use of milk are improving the diet in important vitamins and minerals.

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 adored 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 Persia, brought myrra; and Balthasar, king of Ethiopia, brought frankincense. These gifts are considered symbolic of what Jesus was to become—gold for a high priest, frankincense 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.

Polish Remover Helpful
Nail polish remover works like magic when it is used to clean black marks left on skin by adhesive tape. Saturate a piece of cotton with the remover and rub skin.




Back up the Boys! BUY ANOTHER BOND IN THE 6th WAR LOAN!

It's not over, over there—not by a long shot! Uncle Sam can count on the fighting men to keep on fighting—and he must be able to count on you to keep on backing them, by buying extra War Bonds in the Sixth War Loan Drive, now on.

SEE WHAT YOUR EXTRA \$100 BOND WILL DO:

- It will help pay for the things our men must have—guns, planes, tanks, food.
- It will help hold down the cost of living.
- It will provide a nest egg for the future—the United States Government guarantees that you will get your money back. It will show our fighting men that you are willing to do your part!

YOUR COUNTRY IS STILL AT WAR—ARE YOU?



Community Public Service Company



OUR THANKS TO YOU



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

—WASHINGTON IRVING



THANKS A MILLION—Again we thank you for the patronage that makes it possible for us to grow a little each year. We would remind you that we are gradually adding new lines of merchandise that will benefit the public in this area. We have a sales room full of needed articles for the home and the car that would make practical and pleasing Christmas gifts. Come in and let us check with you on your Christmas Shopping List.

WE WOULD REMIND YOU—That the future growth of your organization depends upon the Cooperation you give in making purchases at your own store, and in telling your neighbors and friends of the excellent treatment, prompt service and economy and efficiency in your organization.

DIVIDENDS ONLY SMALL PART OF BENEFITS—In addition to the dividend payments you gain as a stockholder-patron, you enjoy Quality and Price that leads the field in this area. This is testified to, by the fact that more than half of our customers are not stockholders, but make their purchases because of the Quality, Efficiency and Economy of Your Organization.

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

CONSUMERS SALES COMPANY

TO THE
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Congratulations

TO THE SPEARMAN REPORTER ON THE OCCASION OF ENDING 37 YEARS OF SERVICE IN HANSFORD COUNTY

—This Business Firm Appreciates the Responsibility of our Newspaper, and Realize It Works Towards Advancing Our County.

—We Believe Our Own Cooperative Business Can Be Listed As a Community Institution.

—Due to the Fact That We Help Provide an Excellent Market For Farm Products, and Bring Back the Profits of Business Transactions To the Stockholders—Who Are All Citizens of Our County—We Feel That We Are Truly a Public Institution Operated Primarily For the Benefit of Hansford County Citizens.

PERRYTON EQUITY EXCHANGE

Consolidated With

Spearman Equity Exc.



WHAT THE BOYS IN SERVICE ARE DOING

Pfc. John M. Archer of Camp Barkley, Texas, was visiting in Spearman a few days this week.

Don Gross, PHM 2-c and Mrs. Gross of Westmoreland, Calif., and Pfc. Don Gross, Army Air Forces, Liberal, Kans., are visiting relatives and friends in Gruber and Spearman.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Ford received word Friday that their son, Pvt. Dennis B. Ford, Jr., has been wounded in action in South France. He stated that he had been awarded the "Purple Heart."

Pvt. Fred R. Mizar of Camp Swift, Texas, is visiting a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Otis Patterson, and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard DeArmond of Spearman.

Cpl. Ralph Blodgett of Pampa, A.A.F., visited over the week end in Spearman.

AAF Pacific Ocean Areas Western Pacific—It could have happened on Main Street in Spearman, Texas.

Lieutenant Bruce Douglas, armament officer of a 7th AAR heavy bombardment squadron, was driving along a highway on this base in the Palau's, and stopped to give a lift to two infantrymen.

They shook hands all around. All three had been schoolmates in Spearman. The infantrymen are Corporal Claude Burgess and Pvt. Ledru Jacobs. Lieut. Douglas' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Douglas, now reside at 1604-B Jackson St., Amarillo, Texas. They formerly lived in Spearman.

Lt. Warren Kiljan has been transferred to an air base in Lincoln Nebr. He is receiving training, and flying the famous B-29 planes.

Staff Sgt. William Fleck, better known as Bill, was through Spearman the past week end en

route to his new assignment at Las Vegas, Nev., air base. Sgt. Fleck was transferred from Hunter Field, Ga., where he has been taking specialized training. He thinks that he has about completed his education and will be taking a voyage across the ocean some of these days.

M.M. 3-c Olin Chambers writes Mrs. Chambers that he was with a group of specialists that landed on Leyte some two months ago on a special mission. Olin says very little about the mission, but does tell us it was hot (and we take it he means the weather) in his new home.

Ensign Omar Cotter, who has been attending a special school of the navy at Boston, Mass., was in Spearman the past week en route to the west coast . . . and perhaps to overseas duty. Omar served two years in New Guinea, and has made an outstanding record during the war.

Spearman Basketball tournament Jan. 5-6, 1945. Plan to attend.

Glass Plates
Glass is the newest material for dental plates and false teeth. Two Oslo scientists have developed complete, naturally colored dental plates with enamel teeth fused inseparably upon their glass foundations. The new sets are claimed to be superior from both hygienic and cosmetic aspects.

Crack Vegetable Oils
Argentina is utilizing "cracked" vegetable oils to supplement her mineral oil supply, and getting good results. The hydrocarbons obtained by cracking the vegetable oils consist, in part, of naphtha and kerosene-like substances that blend with the petroleum product.

Measures Hose
Better fitting ladies' hose will result from the use of a new machine that measures the contour of the leg in the same manner as a shoe-fitting machine. One part of the machine measures the foot while another calculates the curve of the ankle and calf.

Old Recapper



has fine modern equipment to recap all following sizes and give you rapid service.

Passenger	Truck
440 x 21	60 x 16
450 x 21	60 x 16
475 x 19	700 x 15
500 x 19	700 x 16
450 x 20	600 x 17
475 x 20	650 x 17
500 x 20	700 x 17
525 x 21	750 x 16
600 x 20	750 x 17
650 x 20	600 x 20
700 x 20	30 x 5
700 x 21	32 x 6
550 x 17	700 x 20
600 x 17	34 x 7
700 x 17	750 x 20
600 x 16	825 x 20
650 x 16	900 x 20
700 x 16	975 x 20
750 x 16	1000 x 20
600 x 16	Mud & Snow

Brother there is nobetter and complete recapping and vulcanizing plant in the U. S. than old Brother

At Guymon, Oklahoma We can vulcanize any size tire Phone 319



—Your new Hansford County business firm, Boxwell Brothers Furniture Co., has a store full of practical gifts for the home. It's time to combine the spirit of CHRISTMAS with the comfort and attractiveness of the home. Make this Christmas a FURNITURE Christmas. Fix up the home for the return of SERVICE MEN. They will be here, perhaps, before another Christmas, and can enjoy the gifts of lasting benefit to the entire family

BOXWELL BROS. FURNITURE CO:
Jim Goodson, Manager

...ht have for a 4 year...
Please bring mother...
use, Doris, Lewis and...
bert something, and...
Aunt Toad and U...
all the other little...
is.
With love,
Joyce Gr...
Dear Santa Claus:
Please bring me a tab...
Mrs. a wheelbarrow, a...
for my dog and lots...
nuts and fruit—and...
get my mother and...
Your little friend...
Leslie Howard Dal...
Spearman Basketball tour...
1-5-6, 1945. Plan to...
or this Christmas I...
to have a baby doll...
dresses and a scop...
to have some dishes...
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Thank you Santa...
Betty Jo Wall...
accidents continue...
ease, the postwar car...
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WHAT THE BOYS IN SERVICE ARE DOING

That handsome looking movie actor wearing corporal stripes, that is strutting up and down the streets in Spearman is none other than our own basketball hero Jerry Jacobs. Jerry is home for a few days furlough from his assignment at Aberdeen, Md., where he was brewing up a batch of bad news for the Japs and Germans. Truly Jerry looks handsome enough to be a movie actor.

The Navy is well represented in Spearman this week. In addition to Don Gross, PHM, and Chaplain Aln Reed, we have that favorite, Ensign L. M. Wombles, home for the Christmas holidays. L. M. has been dealing the Japs plenty of trouble the past few months. He left the U. S. for the Hawaiian Islands and after two months duty there working out from a naval air base, he joined the crew of a carrier in the 14th Naval Air Group. L. M. says he has had some exciting and interesting experiences plotting a navy plane in combat service.

Coming into Spearman to help the navy chalk up a big Christmas is Jesse E. Smith, RM 3-c, Radarman Thomas Newell Allen and RO 1-c Eugene Buchner. The lads who have been doing duty in the Pacific zone have wired their parents that they will be here for Christmas holidays.

Coming in to help the army out the Christmas holidays is Lt. Henry Horn. Lt. Horn is at Carlisle, N. M. air base. Pfc. Keith Gross from Liberal, Kans., is over at Gruver and stands ready to uphold the army air service in case the navy tries to hog all the fun for Christmas.

Official information from the navy department informed Mr. and Mrs. Silva Davis and Mrs. Jim Daugherty that their sons had been killed in action. Caylor Davis and Miwe Daugherty, heroes of the Liscomb Bay, were

in at 10:30 a.m. Those who are taking part on the Christmas program will meet for practice at 3 p.m. next Sunday. A good start was made last Sunday.

We weathered those cold days of last week quite well here. We are hoping that we will have warmer weather for a while yet. Perhaps we may have some rain. When it was so cold, many remembered that the first snow of last winter came on Dec. 9. We are wondering if history will repeat itself. Monday a.m. 1.15 in. of rain fell in the night and quite a large snow.

The class mothers, Mrs. Lieb and Mrs. Emil Knutson, of the Sophomore class at the Gruver high school entertained the class at the Emil Knutson home on Tuesday evening of last week. Supper was served and a social hour, during which games were played, followed.

Donald Hill, son of Mr. and Mrs. K. Hill, and Dwayne and Gerald TeBeest, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Reuben TeBeest, are each of them the proud owners of a sheppard coll recently purchased in Colorado by the fathers of the boys. Mr. K. Hill brought them here from Colorado. Mrs. Hill accompanied him on the trip.

Pastor and Mrs. Hjortholm called at the home of Mrs. Lewis Johnson in Gaymon on Saturday afternoon of last week. Mrs. Steen, a daughter of Mrs. Johnson, from Littleton, Colo., Mrs. Otto Mathis, her daughter and baby, and Mrs. Steen, her daughter - in - law, are guests at Mrs. Johnson's home.

Violet Hill was an over-night guest of Elvera Jensen at her home on Thursday of last week. She went home with Elvera after school was out on that day.

The Oslo School for the second time this year had a perfect attendance last month.

Ruth TeBeest spent the weekend at the Henry Moen home last week.

When the war news is good, it may seldom be a good as it seems, but it is a comfort to know that when it is bad it is seldom as bad as it sounds.

George Spivey of Musquerro, N. M., is here visiting his brothers, John and Ernest Spivey, and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Chambers returned from Oklahoma City Wednesday, where they had been to consult a specialist for

their daughter, Kay.
Sunday visitors in the F. O. Gibson home were C. C. McGaugh and V. V. McGaugh of Dalhart, Texas. The visitors are brothers of Mrs. Gibson of Gruver, and Mrs. E. S. Uptergrove of Spearman.
Visiting in the F. O. Gibson home Sunday afternoon were Forest Goudy, Bill Goudy and Mr. McDonald of Elk City, Okla.

We have secured a large car of Quaker's Full-O-Pep cattle and sheep protein cubes, and they will be on the track Tuesday, December 19. These contain 32% protein, are rich in minerals, are firmly mated for feeding on the ground. We also have 44% soybean meal mineral salt blocks, Full-O-Pep calf starter, laying mash starter, and Early Bird scratch grains.

**R. L. PORTER
GRAIN & SEED CO.**
Serving this Community is licensed and operates under Supervision of Texas Life Insurance Commission

and Surety Bonds are filed with them to protect every Policy Holder
CHARTERED BY THE State of Texas
for complete information
Willis E. Peters
Spearman Representative

**Gurver W. S. C. S.
Meets Dec. 7**

The women's Society of Christian Service met with Mrs. C. H. Winder Thursday, December 7. Mrs. Winder and Mrs. Cal Williams gave our fifth study in Southeast Asia. Then we had a short business session in which officers for next year were elected. We also voted to send 15 Christmas packages to the boys in the Dalhart air base hospital.

Those present besides the ones who gave the lesson were: Mesdames I. E. Biggs, W. A. Shapley, Ralph Bort, Claude Watkins, W. B. Hart, and Dave McClellan. Out next meeting will be with Mrs. Biggs, December 14.

Officers elected for the coming year were as follows:
President, Mrs. W. L. Harris; vice president, Mrs. Ralph Bort; recording secretary, Mrs. J. C. Harris; corresponding secretary, Mrs. I. E. Biggs; local treasurer, Mrs. Mart Hart; treasurer (pledge) Mrs. L. H. Gruver; publicity, Mrs. Noble Watson; social relations, Mrs. Tom Dozier; student work, Mrs. Claude Watkins; children's work, Mrs. Ernest Studer; spiritual life, Mrs. Dave McClellan.

**Ladies Council
Meets Dec. 6**

The Council of the First Christian Church met in the home of Mrs. Glen Webb, December 6.

The ladies will send gifts to the Juliette Fowler Home at Dallas, Texas, for the old ladies and orphans.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. H. L. Wilbanks, January 6.

Lovely refreshments were served to Mesdames: C. F. Bastion, Homer Allen, Bert Briley, Floyd Mitts, J. S. Caldwell, Ray Phelps, Donald Wilcox, Harriet Wilcox, and the hostess.

A woman's mind is cleaner than a man's—because she changes it more often.

FOR SALE: 1932 Luxury Lincoln
Dodge Sedan. Has air flow cushions, radio, heater, 5 excellent first grade tires, runs and looks like new. See it at 909 Peach St., Dalhart, Texas. 1-16

LOST: Grey wool zipper purse, social security card, ration, and gas books, \$5 bill and some change, Finder keep money and return purse to Mrs. Robert Steward, Spearman Drug Co.

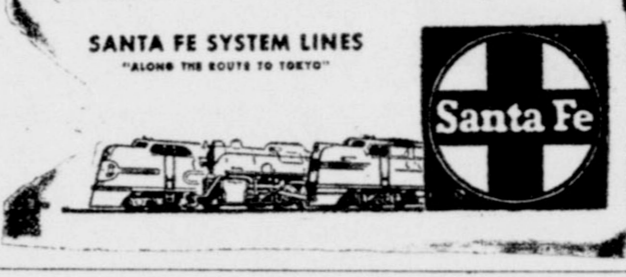
CHRISTMAS PIANO SPECIALS:
Four latest model Spinnettes only 36 inches high like new, guaranteed quality. Come early and choose between Kimball, Baldwin, Lenoir. Center also four

ESTRAY: Four branded RL of... Also some yearling fresh branded horses... and four young... with old brand horse shoe left shoulder. Would appreciate information. R. L. Porter. N-1-c-1-1

Give 'em a break during the holidays!



Thousands of men and women in service will take a furlough trip home for Christmas. For many of them it will be the last time they will be with their families for an indefinite period of time. Of course, we want to provide them with space on our trains for comfortable trips to and from their homes. To do this—with our limited passenger equipment and unprecedented volume of civilian travel—we must ask your cooperation and friendly understanding. As you can adjust your going and coming with more latitude than men and women in service—please postpone your train trip until after the holiday period is over. We will provide accommodations for our soldiers, sailors and marines on Christmas furloughs.



BIG PARADE of TOYLAND

VALUES

Give Them Toys for Christmas

YOUR NEW FURNITURE STORE

Boxwell Brothers Furniture Store Has a Complete Line of Toys, Dolls, Mechanical Toys, and Gift Items For the Children

Come in This Week and Make Your Choice

While We Have a Complete Stock

BOXWELL BROTHERS Furniture Company

Jim Goodson - Manager

SHOPPING GUIDE

Smart Jewelry That Will Be Greatly Appreciated.
Brush Sets in Leather Cases. Ideal for the Man.
Newest Designs in Bill Folds.
Men's Travel Sets, Zipper Style
Shaving Sets in Popular Makes.
PERFUMES—
The Popular Odors.
TOILET ARTICLES—
That Women So Greatly Admire.
DRESSER SETS
STATIONERY—
In New and Popular Designs and Colors.
TAGS, CHRISTMAS

Wrappings and Seals.
XMAS CARDS—
Plain or With Your Name Imprinted.
VANITIES
WHAT-NOTS
STATIONERY
SERVING SETS

BOOK ENDS
MEMORY BOOKS
PHOTO BOOKS
PLAYING CARDS
DRESSER SETS
PLAQUES
POTTERY
CANDLE STICKS

Spearman Drug's stock of Christmas Goods includes a variety of items for every member of the family. The old saying "Santa is at our Drug Store" holds true this year more than ever at this drug store for our stock is, indeed, complete. Start your shopping tour here and note the many suggestions we offer.

Joining Other Merchants in Congratulating The Spearman Reporter On Their 38th Anniversary

SPEARMAN DRUG CO.

The Christmas Tree Scandal

By MARION HAYES

I GIVE you my word, I was never more dapper-dressed 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



it somewhere. 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 of Raymond's! Martha was facing a mirror but Jennie didn't notice."

"Well, I felt weak."

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

"I don't know," I answered. I said nothing about seeing Jennie in Bill's closet. I never did tell anyone but 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 I 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 trimmed tree, with attractive looking packages nesting 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.

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 a 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 garden 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.

Wrap It Right

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

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.

Coloring the Flames

To have colored flames in the Christmas fireplace there are a number of different chemicals which may be added to the fuel 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; yellow, sodium chloride or salt; red, strontium nitrate; apple green, barium nitrate; emerald, copper nitrate; green, borax; purple, lithium chloride.

Gifts Of Gold

KARIN ASBRAND

Even today, as is days of old, we are sometimes blessed with gifts of gold.

MISS LETTY read the inscription over a life-size picture of the manger scene.

The sight of bright tinsel decorations, the sound of carols, and the smell of holly and fir on the crisp air between stores filled her with a nostalgia that almost unerved her.

She had intended to shed twenty years of her life like a worn cloak, forgetting that she had spent her best days making a heaven on earth for her crippled mother so that her knight had wearied of waiting. Now she was going shopping for a family that had never been hers except in her thoughts, a plain little girl with pigtails and freckles, and a sturdy small boy with pudgy hands and round expectant eyes.

She wondered what Larry Haines was doing. Poor Larry! She wished she might have said "yes" to his persistent wooing. The girl with whom he had run off had not bothered to make a decent home for him. Finally they had moved from town and Miss Letty had quite lost track of them.

Recalling that she had come to town to pretend, she made a fren-



"Letty," he said, "it's Larry!"

zied dash to the toy department. She began to buy recklessly, getting into the spirit of her game.

I'll find someone to give them to, she thought. Maybe I can borrow a couple of children from an orphanage just for Christmas.

On the way home she stopped to buy a tree and some bright decorations. At the grocer's she gave an order that made that good man's eyes nearly pop out of his head.

Leaving the store behind, loneliness swept over her. The house would be dark when she got home. Maybe the fire would be out, too.

She peered into the gathering dusk. Somebody was there waiting for her on the front veranda of the rambling old mansion. She hastened her steps. A man stepped forward out of the shadows, a child clinging to each hand.

"Letty," he said, "it's Larry!"

"Land sakes!" she exclaimed. "You gave me a turn. Come in out of the cold."

She hustled them indoors, and turned to take a good look at she switched on the lights. It was indeed Larry, older and grayer, but trim and neat in a navy uniform.

There stood her dream children, a plain little girl with pigtails and freckles, and a sturdy small boy with pudgy hands and round eyes brimming over with tears.

"I want my Mummy," he sobbed. "His mother is dead," explained Larry.

"I thought, Letty," said the man, "that maybe you could look out for them a little. See, I've joined the navy. I've got to go and I hate to leave Letty and Jackie to almost anybody."

Miss Letty gulped and sat down suddenly in the rocker, gathering the little fellow into her arms.

"Gifts of gold," she murmured, "at Christmas."

"Many's the time I've dreamed of seeing you like that," he said, reaching for one of her hands. She noticed how thin he was. How thin the children were, too, and how inadequate their clothing. "I haven't got much, Letty," he began, "but whatever I've got is yours if you want it."

Still holding the small figure in her arms, she rose to open the door to the kitchen. The house radiated warmth and good cheer. "Fine," she said gently. "Welcome home, children. We'll have baths and supper, and then we'll trim the tree."

Larry's eyes caressed her. "Maybe if I could get the license we could be married before I go off."

"Maybe we could, Larry."

His arms were suddenly around her and the child, his lips warm against her cheek. Little Letty clasped her hands.

"Such a Christmas we are going to have!" she cried.

"Even today," quoted Miss Letty, remembering the inscription, "as in days of old, we are sometimes blessed with gifts of gold."

OLD SANTA

Urges you to do your shopping this week

OUR STOCK OF GIFTS

FOR TINY TOTS

Is Rapidly Being Depleted — Come in This Week

While We Have Gifts Left To Choose From For

Any Member of Your Family

GIFTS for the HOME

Endure through the Years

Furniture For The Home

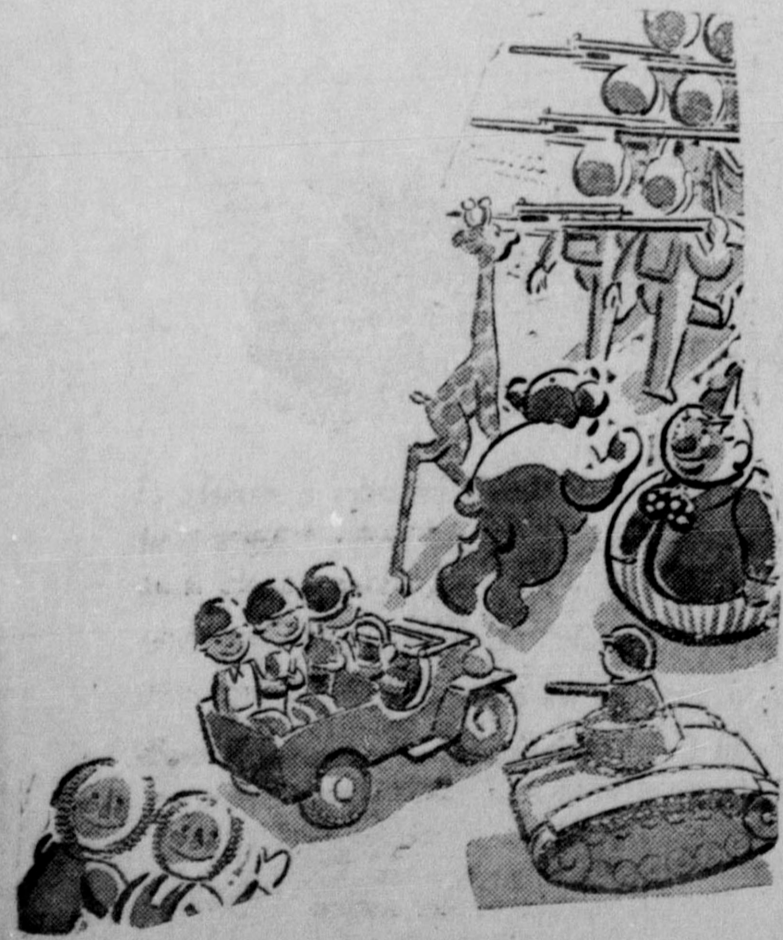
Will Serve As the Most Practical and Lasting

Gift — Buy This Week

The Best GIFT of All WAR BONDS

WOMBLE HARDWARE COMPANY

JOHN DEERE DEALER



Gifts Of Gold

as is days of old, times blessed with gold.

Y read the inscription to-size picture of the

bright tinsel decora- of carols, and the and fir on the crisp

red to shed twenty fe like a worn cloak, she had spent her

mother so that her ried of waiting. Now shopping for a family

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when she got home, would be out, too. nto the gathering

y was there wait- front veranda of mansion. She has

A man stepped for- shadows, a child

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From Our EARLY FILES

The article printed below was taken from the 30th anniversary issue of the Spearman Reporter. It was written by J. H. Buchanan, who edited the Spearman Reporter for 7 years, back when editing and publishing a county newspaper was a real job. Mr. Buchanan, the husband of Mrs. J. H. Buchanan, a member of the present Reporter staff, is the father of Mrs. Helen Fisher, Mrs. Don Tipton, of Spearman; Mrs. E. L. Latham, of Dalhart; Mrs. John Allen, Guyton, Okla.; Mrs. Louise Jarvis, Amarillo, Texas; Lt. Edna A. Bassel, now in Germany with the Allied armies. The boys are J. B. Buchanan with Phillips Company at Berger, Texas; Wilson Buchanan, Memphis, Texas; Tech. Sgt. Lee Buchanan, Maryland; Paul T. Buchanan, El Dorado, Ark.

Mr. Buchanan, who has been an official for an insurance company in Fresno, Calif., is expected home for the holidays.

Early Hansford J. H. B.

Early day editing and publishing was not the sincere it is today. This fact perhaps is hard for the present day editor to believe, but no doubt, thinks he has more trouble than anybody and does have some trouble, like say meeting his pay roll on Saturday night, that we of an earlier generation escaped. In June, 1911, I purchased the old Hansford Headlight from S. B. Hale and took charge. My previous newspaper experience was somewhat limited, and what experience I had was in a well equipped office where there was plenty of help and operated by old heads of vast experience.

The equipment of the Headlight office at that time consisted of an old Geo. Washington hand press, usually spoken of as an "Armstrong" that took a man from in the back to operate. The impression was made by a lever and by the time 400 copies had been run through twice the operator was usually ready for bed. There was also a small foot power job press, and a shirt tail full of time. Also several fonts of job type, with several letters missing, which frequently made it necessary to change the wording of an article in order to have enough type to set it.

All type setting was done by hand and was usually spoken of as "sticking" and a fast sticker could sometimes get two and a half to three galleys a day, but I could never get much over half that much. My wife learned to set type, and do other work in the office and she soon became a fast pressetter and soon was doing practically all the work. She liked the work and would hum a tune and stick type with the regularity of a watch ticking.

Locals were seldom written out but would be stuck directly out of the printer's head and set directly into the local column. Usually they would be proof read, but if we were rushed they were not. We especially tried to get people's initials and names spelled correctly, as folks were somewhat touchy on this subject.

News was not very plentiful and as there was only a handful of people in the county the same news was necessarily used over and over, but no matter if you set the names correct a hundred times and then missed it once you heard from them. A few people got to be pest in this matter and then just for aggravation we would deliberately put something wrong or upside down and await results. That were not in forthcoming. There were ways to get a letter wrong, but hand set type. In a full newspaper, the total of this amounted to thousands and it is a wonder they were the model of neatness were.

Sometimes for several weeks there would not be a stranger, or stranger in town and nothing of interest happened. So an early editor had to manufacture out of his news and this fact was the big papers poked fun at the little ones, for having in their columns. However, in those days most of the editors of the metropolitan papers had risen by their own ability from the county and still cherished a fellow from the country boys.

One was in the city and suddenly around him, they all had time to stop and visit and many times take you with you for supper, and go out and show you the

He used "ready print" in the Headlight, making the paper two pages. This was usually known as "Patent Insides" and the local editor had no say as to what these insides contained. Sometimes readers found often matter there and lost no

not take ink very well in places and some places somewhat too well, but we got by with it and these papers were kept by people as souvenirs for a long time.

Local and national politics were taken seriously and the editor had to be on one side or the other. At evenings men would gather at some of the stores and after hours of hot arguments, they would go to bed, feeling they had had an important part in saving the nation.

We were a live bunch in those days and spent a great deal of time building railroads on paper. The Headlight was in the forefront of the battle and set copies of the paper containing items that would interest railroad builders to every railroad president we could locate. When the Santa Fe finally decided to build Mr. Hurley, who handled the matter for them, informed the writer that every copy of the Headlight sent to them was still kept and referred to, in the office of Mr. Ripley then president of the road.

There was not an insurance road in the county, at that time, and to most of the citizens none was wanted. Wire gates were everywhere and one could scarcely go a mile without opening one. The man who advocated roads that would cut people's pasture in two was public enemy No. 1 and this writer made some bitter enemies by having the hardhood to advocate the laying out of open roads. Much of the land was owned by non-residents and each ranchman was using all the grass he could get his fence around free, and no road could go very far without breaking into his arrangements. These ranchers dominated the commissioners' court and for a long time we made little headway in advocating open roads.

We believe the first laid out road in the county followed closely the present route of the Guyman highway. Capt. Bernstein, who had been a sea captain for years, laid it out with a compass, or quadrant or a sextant, or whatever they used to keep ships on their course. Gray Sparks followed him, with a team and plow, and ran a furrow to the Oklahoma line, but we are not sure that Gray plowed a furrow back. They stayed all night at the home of Uncle Geo. Davidson, a fine old citizen, then living near the line. He always kept open house to travelers who were caught out, and never charged them a cent. Canadian was then the live town of the north. Panhandle, and the bunch there started the old D. C. D. highway from Dallas to Denver passing through Hansford. With this help we finally got good roads started throughout the country. They came to us first for our help, but later the Ochiltree bunch woke up to what was going on and jumped in, trying to get the highway through there.

Grow Grapefruit

There are 783 growers of grapefruit in Arizona, whose groves cover 10,600 acres of irrigated land—most of which was once arid desert. Arizona's dry heat produces a different, sweeter type of grapefruit.

Photographic Film

Production of photographic film in 1943 totaled 548,000,000 square feet, an increase of 30 per cent over the 1941 total, said the War Production board.

Smart Packing

Expensive-looking packing for gifts can be made by cutting clean sheets of old tissue into strips about an eighth of an inch wide. Red, white and blue tissues make a colorful packing.

Land Boom

The United States department of agriculture estimates that the value of land over the country has increased 60 per cent since 1933. In most places, farmers rather than urbanites, bought two-thirds of the farms sold in 1943.

T.B. Toll

One out of every three deaths from tuberculosis occurs in cities of 100,000 or more population, according to the U. S. public health service.

Leucite Deposits

Near Rome and Naples, Italy, leucite deposits have been discovered which can supply about ten billion pounds of aluminum and an equal amount of potassium.

Living Costs

During the last year, average prices of family living essentials have risen by 1.8 per cent, as compared with advances of 6 per cent and 11 per cent in the years ended July 1943 and July 1942, according to the department of labor.

Spearman Basketball tournament

Jan. 5-6, 1945. Plan to attend.

Farm Mortgages

At the beginning of 1938, roughly four years after the outbreak of World War I, farm mortgage debt was \$5,536,880,000, or almost one-sixth larger than the estimated total of \$5,634,772,000 at the beginning of 1944.

Impressed Ford

Henry Ford was so impressed by the playing of Griseha Goblouff, 12-year-old violin prodigy from San Francisco, that he sent him a \$100,000 Stradivarius violin in an armored car.

Roman Dole

For more than 600 years, more than half the people of Rome were on some kind of dole, says Dr. A. P. McKinley of the University of California.

Clean Sweatband

To clean the sweatband of a man's hat, insert a folded cheesecloth pad between the sweatband and the hat; then apply cleaning fluid to the band with a cloth or soft brush. The cheesecloth pad takes up the soil and prevents spots or rings from appearing on the outside of the hat.

Near-Sighted Children

Although it is believed that very few children are born near-sighted, extensive surveys indicate that more than 10 per cent of the children in primary grades in school are near-sighted.

Live Stock Savings

Ten million dollars a year is a conservative estimate of the savings in live stock losses through the use of penicillin. The cost of this veterinary discovery was about \$10,000, including the part-time salaries of three scientists over a period of five years.

Resist Insecticides

It is now known that insects can develop a resistance to insecticides which on several general species.

The axis deer

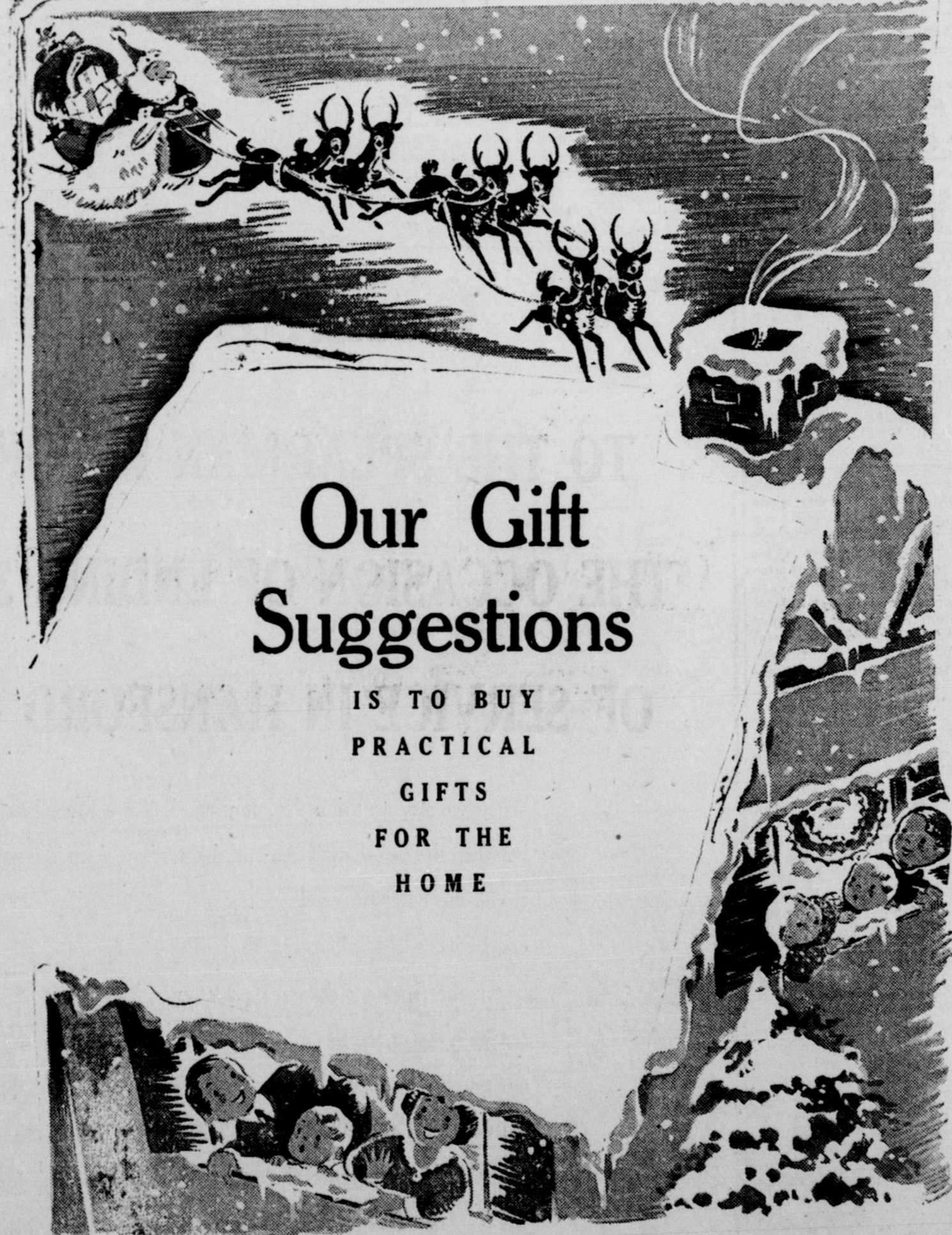
The axis deer is found in the mountainous regions of India and Ceylon.

Dust On Radio

Dust will destroy and corrode the many delicate parts in your radio, ruining it. Clean your radio and tone arm with controls. Dust out your radio at least once a year with your vacuum cleaner.

Gold Malate

Victims of arthritis will find encouraging news in recent tests made with "gold-malate." Experiments on mice, cured 90 per cent of all cases.



Our Gift Suggestions

IS TO BUY PRACTICAL GIFTS FOR THE HOME

ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO THE SPEARMAN REPORTER

ON THE OCCASION OF ENDING THIRTY-SEVEN YEARS OF SERVICE IN HANSFORD COUNTY

Spearman Hardware

IN WINTER

THIS NEW FIGHTING AVIATION OIL Gives TWIN ACTION

CHAMPLIN HI-V-I MOTOR OILS

"on the GROUND . . . or in the SKY"

Flows freely AT ZERO OR BELOW STANDS UP AT BOILING OR ABOVE

CHAMPLIN Motor Oil

This new fighting aviation oil, called Champ'n HI-V-I, will provide your tractor, car, truck and other power driven equipment the TWIN-ACTION lubrication needed in winter.

Because it is thoroughly de-waxed by means of an amazing new solvent, N-HEXANE, it has a remarkable new cold-pour test rating. This means Champlin HI-V-I flows freely at zero or below. It insures instant lubrication on the first turn of a cold motor . . . prevents wear and damage to close-fitting moving parts.

Then, because of its high viscosity index, it stands up and lubricates when your motor gets hot . . . even boiling or above.

Remember: Champlin HI-V-I is refined by a special new solvent process . . . from 100% Paraffin Base Mid-Continent crude . . . the finest obtainable . . . and meets all specifications for Army and Navy aircraft.

Available now from your friendly Champlin dealer.

"HELP BLACK OUT The Black Market—ENDORSE Your Ration Coupons"

CHAMPLIN Motor Oil

DAVIS BROTHERS Champlin HI-V-I Motor Oil

"on the GROUND . . . or in the SKY"

DEPUTY SHERIFF GEORGE COOKE

George Cooke, deputy sheriff, has been in the office for three weeks...

SIX WEEKS' HONOR ROLL

The following are the students who made the Honor Roll for the second six weeks of the first semester...

- HONOR ROLL: Barbara Dailey, Joan Hill, Rosanne Porter, Pat Becker, Don Cooke, Geneva Ford, Hershel Jones, Wilson McClellan, Frances Spearman, Lois Buzard, Gwendolyn Davis, Jerry Gibner, Verma Gibner, Wilma Lee Sheets, Laura Ruth Lamb.

HONORABLE MENTION

- Floydann Crawford, Joy Crooks, W. C. Davis, Velma Ruth Cox, Avis Harbour, Betty Jo Pierce, Imogene Stowe, Bodil Blackburn, Betty Jean Clements, Betty Lee Davis, Billy Jack Glover, Doris Hester, June Jackson, L. W. Rosenbaum, Worley Smith, Charles Beck, Mike Berry, Pearl Burks, Patty Hart, Helen Holt, Avo Jones, Sylvia Martin, Maurice Bond, Carolyn Sansing.

WEATHER REPORT FOR WEEK FEATURES COLD AND LIGHT SNOWFALL

Table with 4 columns: Date, hi, low, rain. Data for Dec 5-12.

C. C. C. LOANS ARE AVAILABLE TO DEC. 30

Word has just been received from the state office as to the final date on which CCC loans documents may be submitted...

BAD ROADS FEATURE NEWS OF GRUVER AND COMMUNITIES

Don Gross PHM 2-c and his wife are at home with Don's parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Gross. Don is stationed at the Naval Air Base at Salton Sea, Westmoreland, Calif.

Roads are a thing of the past in this end of the county. We do not even have trails. When you ask taking your car or pick-up, you only hope you will get home.

The Gruver community was shocked and saddened at the news that C. P. Archer had been killed in action.

Don't Name It

Your country editor is grieved and saddened this week as result of the shocking news that Charles Patton Archer was killed in action in Germany November 26.

HANSFORD COUNTY IS FIRST OF PANHANDLE TO TOP BOND QUOTA

War Bond Chairman D. D. Moore received a letter of thanks and congratulations to the war finance committee and citizens of this county from Regional Director Smith of Plainview, Texas.

FUNERAL SERVICES HELD FOR FATHER OF MRS. L. B. CAMPBELL

Friends of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Campbell, former citizens of Spearman, were gathered to learn of the death of Mrs. Campbell's father, J. O. Wooten of Perryton, Texas.

JANUARY 15 IS DEADLINE FOR A A REPORTS

Edd Close, Hansford County AAA Committee, states that the closing date for filing reports of performance under the 1944 program is January 15, 1945.

WALTER WILMETH IS PAINFULLY INJURED

Cattleman Walter Wilmeth who came to Hansford county so long ago that he remembers when Spearman was right at the foot of a massive mountain, selected the last snow storm to fall and injure his ribs so severely that he was confined to his home all during the bad weather.

MAKE APPLICATION NOW FOR TRUCK GAS

The board of the OPA wants to remind all truck operators who expect to have their ration renewed for the first quarter, that it is necessary for them to make application.

GIFT RENEWALS AND NEW SUBSCRIBERS RECORDED PAST WEEK

Another good week of renewal and new subscriptions were recorded at the Reporter office. Ten renewals and nine new subscribers were added to the list this week.

ENGLISH STUDENTS ENTERTAIN LIONS AT TUES. LUNCHEON

Honor students Lois Buzard and Geneva Ford, and the high school English teacher, Mrs. Zack Jagers, presented a novel and very interesting program at the Lion club Tuesday noon.

COUNTY SENDS 134 XMAS GIFTS TO DALHART SOLDIERS

Another first and most for Hansford county was recorded this week when organizations of the county sent 134 Christmas packages to the Dalhart Air Base hospital, Dalhart, Texas.

SPECIAL SERVICES TO BE HELD AT UNION CHURCH DEC. 14TH.

Brother Otto Busch, an outstanding minister of the Apostolic Faith Movement, will speak at the Union Church Thursday night, Dec. 14.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SPEARMAN REPORTER ON THE OCCASION OF ENDING 37 YEARS OF SERVICE IN HANSFORD COUNTY

When we stop to think that only one half a century has intervened between the Goose quill pen and the modern electric typewriter, between the Four Mast sailing schooner and the palacious Ocean Liners...

Grass

By JOE GAN Winsboro, Tex. All of us should pause for a moment to think of the millions of men who are in the service of our country...

Weekdays through door of many a city open, and on those days as Christmas nears...

Advertisement for McClellan Chevrolet Company featuring a large headline and promotional text about Christmas shopping and car services.

CURRENT COMMENT

By A STAFF EDITOR

(Copyright, 1944, by the Southwest Publishing Co.)

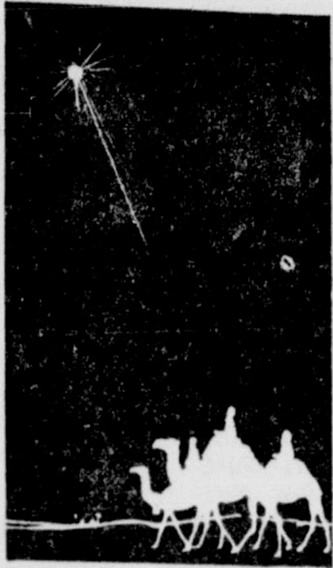
Faith

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

burdened, anxious, saddened, devout, are a cloud of witnesses, silently praying: "Though all be ill with the world, God is in His Heaven: In Him our trust." The shocks and strains and changes of a troubled time can shake that faith. What is faith? It is by which the just live; that which the leper whole; which makes any or sorrow possible bear. It is the light which men may walk on the way is too far sight. It is the light at its bravest. It is the chain that binds the Infinite, lifting above fear. It is a light 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 both means that goodness is the eternal law of God's universe and will overcome evil? And with such shining on life comes faith in our own men and ourselves.

There must surely be a blessing for those who have faith. Look for its sign in clear eyes and the calm faces of those 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 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.

War and Migration Take 4,748,000 From Farms

The nation's farm population decreased 4,748,000 in the last four years, the Department of Agriculture reported. Last January 25,521,000 persons were living on farms, against 30,269,000 in corresponding month of 1940, according to the Federal estimate.

Half of the decrease occurred in 1942, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, when migration to war industries and the armed forces was at its peak.

A breakdown showed these changes in the last four years.

A net loss of 1,650,000 to the armed forces; a net loss of 4,660,000 persons both sexes in all ages who either

Grass Root Reveries

By JOE GANDY
Winnboro, Texas.

ALL of us should pause this Christmas to offer a prayer for our soldier boys on the battlefronts. There will be a lonesome Christmas for the millions of gifts sent to them. Be it ever so humble, there is a place like home, and home and the folks will be uppermost in the minds of the soldiers at Christmastime. Let's ask the Giver of all Gifts—our God and Saviour—to watch over and protect them in these perilous times.

Give war bonds and stamps for Christmas presents. As the years pass by they will increase in value and the recipient will thank you for your thought. Those who buy their war stamps and bonds will be far better than those who do not. Until the government call 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 of these interest money was food and clothing to me and my family.

A 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 verses in the Bible as thrilling as in the best of fiction. 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 peace to all the world, a plea for better social order and for kindness and tolerance among all nations. One who reads the Sermon on the Mount in practice, would end all wars, poverty and poverty. It is, "Whatsoever would that men should do unto you do 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-Vulcan'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 Superfort's. 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 a day 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.

TEXAS BRIEF NEWS --- from Over the State LIT

MONEY, THEN SUICIDES

Charlie Louis Sherry, age 72, of Houston, burned his savings of \$800 in currency before committing suicide.

BURGLAR SLITS PILLOW CASE

William J. C. O'Connell, of Corpus Christi, slept, a burglar slit the pillow under his head and removed a bill containing \$150. The cut was in two inches of O'Connell's head.

CLOTHES FROM SACKS

Clothes made from flour and feed were modeled at a style show by the Big Four Booster Association of Palestine, (Anderson county).

BORN WITH TWO TEETH

The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Odus Bodin, of Willis Point, (Van Zandt county), was born with two perfect teeth.

EDUCATED HEN

A hen belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gee, of Troupe, (Smith-Cherokee county), is reported to have laid an egg with the words "bride" and "age" clearly printed on the yolk.

RARE COIN

A rare gold half-dollar has come to light in Stamford, (Jones county), where it is in the possession of E. G. Keese, cashier of the First National Bank. The coin was minted in 1860.

GIRL WINS MULE

Mrs. Kathleen McKinney, deputy county tax assessor and collector of Palestine, (Anderson county), won a mule at a drawing conducted by the Lions Club. She auctioned the mule to the highest bidder.

FAMED CONFEDERATE DIES

Dr. Hugh Monroe Longino, of Mineral Wells, (Palo Pinto county), believed to be the last of Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest's famous Confederate cavalry brigade, died at the age of 100 years.

CAPITOL'S FIRST MURAL

The first mural to decorate the walls of the State capitol is one by Edna Collins, of Austin, depicting all the industries within the Railroad Commission's jurisdiction.

TEXAS HEADS SOUTHERN STATES

Texas was at the top of the list of construction in Southern States during September, according to The Manufacturers Record. Construction in Texas totaled \$11,948,000.

CENTURY OF HISTORY

Data on a century of Texas history has become available to Texans with the addition of the George Travis Wright papers to the University of Texas Archives. The papers cover the period from 1825 to 1917.

LUCKY FISHERMAN

Roy Brown, operator of a Lake Nasworthy bait stand, (Tom Green county), caught a 37 1/2-pound catfish on a set line. The line was baited with large minnows and perch.

WARNED OF FOREST FIRES

Hunters in the East Texas piney woods are being warned of the danger of fires by W. E. White of the Texas Forest Service, A. & M. College. The woods are in an extremely inflammable condition, he said.

WANT A PLANE?

Several thousand airplanes stored in five Texas depots are to be sold to civilians, according to the Dallas Reconstruction Finance Corporation. The planes were bought by the government for training and transportation purposes.

NEW TEXAS INDUSTRY

Siliceous limestone, used in rock wool manufacture, has been found in the Llano region of Central Texas. Sample testing indicates that Texas industrial expansion will have another outlet in insulating material.

MESSAGE GOES TO IRELAND

Three hundred miles off the Virginia coast, J. E. Martin, of Fort Worth, threw overboard a bottle containing his wife's name and address. Mrs. Martin received a letter from a woman in Ireland that she had found the bottle on a beach there.

PREDATORY ANIMALS TRAPPED

Seventy-nine coyotes and 10 bobcats were trapped in 30 counties during September, according to Henry Plueneke, junior district agent. Martin county led with a catch of 21 coyotes. The catch in August was 37 in that county.

ADVERTISED FOR LOST DIGGER

Buddy Davis, of Hillsboro, (Hill county), loaned his posthole digger so many times he lost track of who had it. So Davis finally advertised: "If the person who borrowed my post hole digger will let me have it for two I'll appreciate it."

DANEVANG CELEBRATES

The fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Danevang community, (Wharton county), was celebrated at the town's annual fall festival.

ALFALFA VITAMIN PLANT

A trial test was made at the Valley vitamin plant near McAllen, (Hidalgo county), on extraction of vitamin A from alfalfa. The plant is expected to be in production soon.

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS NAMED

Ira B. Heard, sheriff of Refugio county, has been elected president of the South Texas Breeder Feeder Association. Sidney Smith, of Beeville, is vice-president and Paul Russell remains as secretary-treasurer.

IMITATION PEPPER

Imitation black pepper recently on the market is made from cottonseed flour, plus other ingredients including oil. It looks and tastes like black pepper but not so hot.

ROBBED WHILE GARAGE BURNS

The home of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Thigpen, of Houston, was burglarized while the family and neighbors helped extinguish a fire in the garage. Police believe the burglar set fire to the garage for the purpose of robbing the house.

100 BLOOD DONORS RESPOND

More than 100 persons volunteered to give blood to save the life of 13-year-old Quintella Shirley, of Galveston. The girl is dangerously ill with an organic disease. Many servicemen were among the volunteers.

BANANAS IN DIMMITT COUNTY

Charles Harr, of Dimmitt county, is displaying two well developed bananas grown on his farm. He has about fifty trees which he raises for the novelty. Several fruited this year.

FAMOUS TOWN NAMES

There is a Roosevelt, Texas, in Kimble county and a Deweyville in Newton county. Roosevelt was named for "Teddy."

LEAVES HOSPITAL TO VOTE

Charley Thompson, 90-year-old Houston resident, left his bed in Methodist Hospital and went to the polls in an ambulance to vote. Clerks took the ballots out to the ambulance for him to mark.

UNUSUAL FLOWER

Mrs. C. E. Canafax, of Weatherford, (Parker county), grew a prize-winning Prince O'Feather in her backyard. The plant, topped with enormous flowers, grew on a single stem 12 inches wide.

FIRES SPREAD

J. O. Burnside, chief of the Forest Service, A. & M. College, said that 62 fires had burned more than 3,500 acres of forest land during one week-end in East Texas.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH STOLEN

Glenn Powell, Houston bus driver, reported to police that a little black bag containing his artificial teeth was taken from his parked car. He was wearing a spare set at the time.

RARE COINS GIVEN UNIVERSITY

A collection of rare coins and currency has been bequeathed to the University of Texas by the late Mrs. Patricia Howell Campbell, of Houston. The collection contains 497 coins, 47 medals and 3,556 items of currency.

STRANGE ASSAULT

A stranger who approached Ed Hart, of Dallas, saying he didn't like Hart's tie, proceeded to cut off the necktie with a pocketknife, then slashed Hart's coat several times. He was arrested for aggravated assault.

SHOOT SKUNK

Harry Hoy, of El Paso, shot a skunk in the backyard of his home on Baltimore street. Skunks have been bothering Lower Valley residents recently. They live along the irrigation ditches and sometimes prey on poultry.

PROGRAM ON SNAKES

A program on snakes was presented to high school students of Lamesa, (Dawson county), by Jack Raymon, famed traveler. Raymon exhibited 15 live specimens of reptiles, the poisonous and the non-poisonous.

DOG HERO OF FIRE

Barking of their little Spitz dog aroused the three members of the E. D. Foster family of Houston in time to escape from their burning home.

EIGHTEEN RATTLESNAKE

T. J. Wilroy bagged a rattlesnake with eighteen rattlers while he was squirrel hunting near his home in Lufkin, (Angelina county).

GOLD WATCH EXCAVATED


A gold watch that had been lost nearly 60 years ago, when the Parker county courthouse was being built, has been excavated by workmen who are remodeling the building.

FIRST PLANE RIDE

On his first plane ride, 70-year-old Walter E. Chaney, of Terrell, (Kaufman county), took over the controls and flew the plane for 30 minutes. He said he could also land the ship but he'd rather have one lesson at a time.

PENNIES SAVED FOR MARRIAGE LICENSE

An Edinburg, (Hidalgo county), couple saved and paid 100 pennies for a marriage license. They probably assumed that pennies thus saved would bring good luck.



Upon the Midnight Clear

(A CHRISTMAS CAROL)

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the Earth,
To touch their harps of gold;
Peace on Earth, good will to men,
From heaven's all-gracious King;
The World in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hast'ning on,
By prophets seen of old,
When with the ever-circling years,
Shall come the time foretold,
When a new Heaven and Earth shall own
The Prince of Peace their King,
And the whole World send back the song
Which now the angels sing.

BREAK NATIONAL BLOOD RECORDS

A total of 529 pints of blood given by men and women of Camp Hood, (Bell county), in 6 hours and 40 minutes broke two national records for blood donations.

SENDS PET TO WAR

Nixon Overby, 10-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Overby, of Bartlett, (Bell-Williamson county), has sent his 16-month old German Shepherd Collie, Bum, to the Dog Corps of the U. S. armed forces.

CELEBRATES 2,000th MISSION

Corporal Jesse J. Williams, of Marshall, (Harrison county), is a ground crew member of a P-47 Thunderbolt group which recently celebrated its 2,000th mission since entering combat services in the European Theater of Operations.

LIST OF CONFEDERATE GRAVES COMPILED

Judge R. E. Sparkman, of Italy, (Ellis county), has presented the Texas Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy, a list of 1,600 Confederate graves in Texas. He has secured government markers of marble and granite for the graves.

FIVE-STAR MOTHER

Hettie Hanna Austin, negro, of Bryan, is believed to be the only mother in Brazos county with five sons serving with the armed forces overseas.

JUBILANT ON 104th BIRTHDAY

D. Newton Yeary, of Dallas, realized his fondest hope when he reached his 104th birthday. Two friends who have helped him celebrate each birthday for the past 24 years were present. Yeary was a captain in the Civil War.

DAHLIAS A SUCCESS

Mrs. C. W. Shaeffer, of Dawson county, has proved that the soil and other environments of Dawson county is good for growing of dahlias. From five bunches of dahlia bulbs which she planted last spring she has gathered as many as 75 to 100 of the blooms at one time.

OVERCOMES HANDICAP

Although bedfast for the past six years with arthritis, Hollis Whitt, 29-year-old Hopkins county resident, has earned money by raising chickens, a hog and a cow. He also buys clothes through mail order houses and sells them to residents of his community.

POT OF GOLD FOUND

A pot containing \$380 worth of gold pieces in various denominations was unearthed by workmen at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Selby Davis, of Devine, (Medina county). Mrs. Davis' father had hidden the gold before his death more than 30 years ago.

BOY SCOUTS LAKES STOCKED

The Texas Game, Fish and Oyster Commission is placing 55,000 baby fish in the lakes of Camp Strake, Boy Scout camp near Conroe, (Montgomery county). The stocking is a long range program which the commission hopes will be an example for all Southeast Texas.

TEXAS LEADS IN RUBBER

With Texas leading in production, the nation now has the capacity to turn out more synthetic rubber than is needed, according to R. L. Savage, a Rubber Reserve Company official. However, automotive tires, enough for all demands, cannot yet be produced. The bottleneck is lack of man-power.

GRAPEFRUIT GROWN IN PANHANDLE

R. M. Chastain, of Pampa, (Cherokee county), grew a grapefruit indoors. It is the first record of the citrus fruit having been grown in the Panhandle.

ALARM CLOCK BURGLARY

W. J. Weiser, a Houston watch repairer, reported the theft of nine alarm clocks. Weiser had taken the clocks home to work on them. Since Pan Harbor few dealers have been able to get alarm clocks.

TRAIL DRIVERS CONVENTION

Approximately 2,000 members of the Texas Old Trail Drivers' Association met for the 29th reunion at San Antonio. President is 82-year-old A. Billingsley, of San Antonio.

HEIRLOOM LEFT TO COUSIN

A historical necklace, heirloom of the family for more than 200 years, was willed by the late Miss Virginia Lewis of Waco, (McLennan county), to a cousin, Miss Virginia Fairfax, of Covington, La.

NEW UNIVERSITY PLANT

A new Trinity University plant in San Antonio is planned by the Texas Synod of Presbyterians. The construction program includes 12 buildings at the purchase of 70 acres near Brackenridge Park.

TEETH CREDITED TO WATER

Gen. Dwight Eisenhower's perfect set of teeth is attracting attention. The water he drank at Denison, (Gross county), where he was born. Eisenhower said dentists had gone to Denison to study the water.

ELECTRICITY FOR FARMS

Rural electrification now serves 130,000 Texas farms and within the next 15 years more than 230,000 farms will be receiving electricity, according to P. T. Montfort, project director of committee on relation of electricity agriculture.

\$100,000 RURAL CHURCH

The community of Ericsdahl, (Jones county), boasts a \$100,000 church with a copper-sheathed spire rising 106 feet. The Bethel Lutheran congregation, which worships in the fine structure was formed in 1905.

EDITORS BUT NO REPORTER

The Corsicana (Navarro county), is operating without a reporter. The staff boasts an editor, telegraph sports and society editors and a proof reader—but no reporter.

WACO REPRESENTED IN AIR ON SEA

A Liberator bomber, paid for with war bonds bought by Wacoans, carries the name "The City of Waco." The Texas town's name is also on a newly constructed freighter-transport, "Waco Victory."

PROVIDES FOR CHARITIES

According to Mrs. H. B. Moore, Texas City, (Galveston county), her late husband, Col. Moore had asked that a part of his estate be used for Salvation Army home and library to be erected in Texas City. Mrs. Moore said both buildings would be erected.

HISTORIC CHINAWARE

On display in the University of Texas library are 12 old and beautiful pieces of China labeled, "Texas Campaign," 1850. Genuine Staffordshire ware, the China depicts San Jacinto battle scenes.

POSTCARD COLLECTION

Mrs. Wallace W. Snider, of Tyler, (Smith county), has been collecting postcards for 15 years. Her collection includes 1918 cards from all parts of the world that commemorate major historical events. Some are dated early as 1909.

DIAMOND WEDDING CELEBRATED

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Short, of Wichita Falls, are possibly the oldest married couple in the United States. They have celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary. The Shorts have 93 living descendants. They moved to Texas in 1879.

THE FLOP FAMILY

By SWA



1. I WANT YOU TO HELP WITH HOUSE-CLEANING. NO TIME-DEAR.

2. THE CITY COUNCIL WANTS ME TO RUN FOR OFFICE—OUR POLITICAL CAMPAIGN WILL BE COLOSSAL.

3. WELL SWEEP THE COUNTRY! THAT'S FINE.

4. YOU CAN START WITH THE ATTIC!

Pay Day "Fit" man went to work for... With his first... observed a deduction... "FIT." Returning... he sought an expl... recall," said the man... heavy effort at hu... a fit."

Sortin' 'Em Out cab driver was hail... by the doorman of a... at club at two a. m... morning. The door... escorted four in... ated men to the taxi... nged them carefully... and then instruct... the cabbie: "The man... the left goes to 277... End Avenue. The... next to him gets off... 9th Street and Riv... one on the left fro... 90th Street, and the... et and Central Park... affeur nodded under... ve off.

few minutes later... oning to the doc... dy," he said, "woul... in" these guys out ag... sion on Sixth Avenue

Talk-ee Too Long the late Will Rogers... n S. Cobb once atten... the same dinner. Hum... Cobb, one of the speak... ment, showed his feel... no mercy by spee... an hour. When Co... lly completed his t... seated himself, mas... ceremonies Rogers co... ed:

Ladies and gentlemen... me great pleasure... rm you that you h... heard an address... venerable Chinese sa... ee Too Long."

Reversed Order costs were in order... tmaster arose to in... a prominent elder... ker and said: "Gentlemen, you have... giving your attent... a turkey stuffed w... Now will you g... attention to a s... ed with turkey?"

uletide

MARY MADISON... from New York Ti... spite of the "tin... shortage," the "rib... shortage" and a hord... new shortages that... on has revealed, Ch... trimmings can be... right and festive as... And a lot more... ing.

For example, the... tage may be neatly... mented by means of... the tree." This ra... usual bit of horticu... armed entirely of la... ching, made from st... electrical gauze or tr... The material is cut... strips about six in... and then shirred... side (a sewing mach... accomplish this par... (tree) and... ded in a... board a... base... the size... the "de... en-... y on... big a piece of cardb... can find. The g... is any color at... for three different sh... green provide a lo... and a tree entire... yellow looks espec... when trim... emerald green b... e, incidentally, ... had in most...)

his wartime tree ma... with a celloph... or one of the encl... Christmas angels... children concoct... clear cellophane st... a few bits of shiny... Child-power, inc... is an important... this Christmas... ndore stringing... and cranberries... out gingerbread... mpping out stars... efforts contribute

LITTLE FUN Jokes to Make You Laugh

Pay Day "Fit"

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 recall," said the man with a somewhat heavy effort at humor, "having a fit."

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



Sortin' 'Em Out
cab driver was hailed by the doorman of a club at two a. m. morning. The doorman escorted four inebriated men to the taxi, urged them carefully and then instructed the cabbie: "The man at the end goes to 277 End Avenue. The next to him gets off 19th Street and Riverside Drive. One on the left front seat at 35 90th Street, and the other at 96th and Central Park West." The chauffeur nodded understandingly and drove off.

A few minutes later he was back, knocking to the doorman. "Say, judy," he said, "would you mind these guys out again? I had a seizure on Sixth Avenue."

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 fire end burned off, the pole was shoved up again.

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

Reversed Order
The class compositions were in order. The paymaster arose to introduce a prominent elderly speaker and said: "Gentlemen, you have just been giving your attention to a turkey stuffed with turkey. Now will you give your attention to a sage dressed with turkey?"

Seven Kings
The class compositions were about "Kings." One boy wrote this: "The most powerful king on earth is Wor-king; the laziest, Shir-king; the quietest, Thin-king; the thirstiest, Drin-king; the shyest, Win-king; and the noisiest, Talk-king."

Muletide Trimmings

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.

big piece of cardboard can find. The gauze may be any color at all—or three different shades of green provide a lovely effect, and a tree entirely in yellow looks especially striking when trimmed with emerald green balls. These, incidentally, may be had in most dime stores.

This wartime tree may be decorated with a cellophane or one of the enchanted 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 gingerbread men and shipping out stars—and their efforts contribute ma-

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."

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 fullness 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 24.6, and brides was 21.6. For girls who want to do something constructive about getting a husband, 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 ratio of 102.7 to 100; Detroit 110.8; Oklahoma City, 102.3; and Sacramento, 113.3 men to 100 women. New England averages 97 men for each 100 women, compared with 111.3 in Idaho; 148.8 in Montana; 116.7 in Wyoming.

Americans will be asked to lend the government \$1,000,000,000 more to finance the war in the Spring 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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Texas Farm News

Reports

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.

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.

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.

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.

From a 60-cent investment in tomato seed, M. L. Cannon, Hopkins county, realized a 100 percent profit from his 1944 crop.

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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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Wroten 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.

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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 luncheon given by the Camey Garden Club, (Updegraff county), was raised by its members.

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

Beryl Elliston, pioneer, and Fred H. Barre, successful potato farmer, both of Deaf Smith county, Oregon and California, will tour Idaho, Washington and literature showing advantages of the county to be distributed. Barrett potatoes in Idaho for 30 years prior to moving to Hereford in 1940.

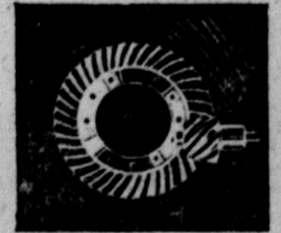
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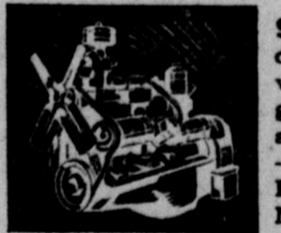
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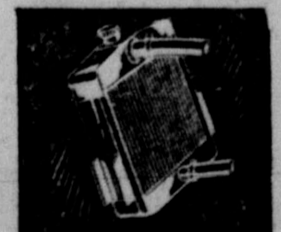
SAVES WEAR ON transmission and differential gears in cold weather. Summer-grade lubricants are drained and replaced with tough Sinclair lubricants of right grade for winter.



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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 home 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 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's 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.

Halfway 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. It means 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 terribly 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.

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. The people 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.

It is, that is to say, a symbol of the cross or Christcross, an abbreviation which suggested itself readily in the religious mind of 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 on next column)



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

THE KIND OF COFFEE EXPERTS LIKE BEST!

VACUUM PACKED

FOLGER'S COFFEE
Mountain Grown

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 drop-

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. Bernard, 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.

11 awards and decorations for sinking or sinking 66 Japanese ships, Commander Norman M. Mill of Winston-Salem, N. C., 35-year-old Navy flier, has the most decorated of this war.

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.

EDGE COCK
AT TEXAS INSTITUTE

ARTIFICIAL LIMB
COMMERCE ST. DALLAS
WHERE YOU CAN PARK

...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

