



THE SANDERSON TIMES



VOLUME 64, NUMBER 46

SANDERSON, TERRELL COUNTY, TEXAS 79848

DECEMBER 18, 1969

Merry Christmas

LISTEN TO LUKE



May your heart
be filled with all
the wondrous
joy of that first
Christmastide.

Luke and 'Neve
Albert and Zee

HAS C-B RADIO

Mr. A. N. Clanton has a citizen band radio with call letters KOU-8180 and may be reached by that means, possibly if he may not be contacted by telephone.

Call Sheriff Bill C. Cook if unable to reach by phone.

S. BELLE SUTHERLAND FRACTURES LEG IN FALL

Mrs. Belle Sutherland of Del Rio, court reporter in the 63rd district court, suffered a fractured leg in a fall at her home that city last week and was flown to San Antonio for treatment.

When she was entering her garage early in the morning, she and both bones in her lower leg were broken.

She has been court reporter for many years and a temporary reporter will have to be named.

Order Supplies at The Times

Mrs. Jack McDonald Dies In Alpine, Rites Wednesday

Mrs. Georgia McDonald, 60, died in an Alpine hospital Sunday afternoon at 4:49 o'clock. A victim of emphysema and asthma, she had been in ill health for many years and when complications developed she was taken to the hospital Saturday.

Joe Chisholm, minister of the Church of Christ of which she was a member, officiated at the funeral rites in the church Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock and burial was in Cedar Grove Cemetery with the Geeslin Funeral Home of Alpine in charge of arrangements.

She was born in Mesa May 30, 1909, the former Georgia B. Blair, and was married to Jack McDonald in Alpine in 1931. They had made their home here all of their married life.

Besides her husband, she is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Frank Offield, of San Antonio and two sons, Bill and Zane McDonald, of Sanderson; also three grandchildren.

Library News

Fiction on the McNaughton list in the Terrell County Public Library includes:

"The Ghost's High Noon"
"The Shivering Sands"
"Fire from Heaven"
"Speak Now"

Non-fiction:

"The Last Voyage of the USS Pueblo"

Personals . . .

Edward Kerr was taken to a Fort Stockton hospital Monday.

Mrs. Fern Camichael of Pueblo, Colo., will arrive Saturday to visit her daughter, Mrs. Bobby Hunn, and family during the holidays.

Mrs. Wilma Wrenn and children of Dallas were week-end visitors with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Massey, and her brother, Barton Massey, and family.

Mrs. J.W. Byrd of Van Horn, a former resident, is recovering satisfactorily in an Alpine hospital following major surgery on Wednesday, December 10. She will probably be taken home the last of the week.

Ervin Grigsby has been in a Fort Stockton hospital since Saturday after having a heart attack. His condition is reported to be satisfactory.

Bernie Kerr, 51, Dies In San Antonio, Burial Wednesday

Bernard A. Kerr, 51, died in a San Antonio hospital Saturday after a long illness and hospitalization for about three weeks.

He had been visiting his mother, Mrs. Jim Kerr, here for several weeks and became ill and was taken to San Antonio for hospitalization.

He was a life-long resident of Sanderson and the son of pioneer residents. Following his service with the U. S. Army in World War II, he returned to Sanderson and was associated with the Kerr Mercantile Co. in the lumber and hardware department; he also had the Mobil dealership and a car agency in Sanderson prior to his forced retirement due to ill health.

He was a member of the Catholic Church, American Legion.

He was married to Miss Freda Hasenak of Miles, who survives, and two children, Anne and John, were born to the couple and they survive, along with his mother.

Rosary was said Tuesday night at 7:30 at St. Paul's Catholic Church in San Antonio and Requiem Mass was there at 10:00 a. m. Wednesday and was offered by Rev. O. O'Donnell. Interment was in St. Joseph Society Cemetery in San Antonio under the direction of the Zizik-Kearns, Downing-McClaugherty Funeral Home.



New Arrivals . . .

To Mr. and Mrs. Steve Young was born a son, their first child, in a Fort Stockton hospital on December 8. His birth weight was eight pounds and nine ounces and he has been named Stephen Edgar Jr. Mr. Young is a Border Patrolman.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Young of Laredo left for their home on Saturday after visiting here with their son and family. Mrs. Young's mother, Mrs. Irene Hunter, of Marfa, was a week-end visitor.

Sid Harkins was hospitalized in San Angelo several days last week for the removal of a kidney stone.

Mrs. Austin Nance went to Midland Wednesday to be an overnight visitor with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. David Kleinbeck. Mrs. J. A. Gilbreath accompanied her to Odessa to visit her daughter, Mrs. Melinda Edwards, and family.

Mrs. Mary L. Kellar Dies In Stockton Funeral Tuesday

Mrs. Mary Lou Kellar died in a Fort Stockton hospital Saturday evening. She had been a patient there about a month.

Funeral services were in the First Methodist Church Tuesday morning with Rev. Albert Peak, pastor, officiating. James Funeral Home of Ozona was in charge of arrangements and burial was in Cedar Grove Cemetery.

Mrs. Kellar was born in San Marcos October 11, 1901. She was married to William Wright Kellar in Florence July 5, 1907. He preceded her in death in 1918.

She had been a resident of Sanderson for 40 years and was a member of the Baptist Church.

She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. A. A. Jenschke of San Antonio and Mrs. W. D. O'Bryant of Sanderson; a brother, Tom Breeding of Sanderson; a sister, Mrs. Althea Scott, of Austin; also five grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren.

Electric Pencil Sharpeners
at The Times



MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE ASKS NAMES OF NEEDY FAMILIES

The ministerial alliance has requested that anyone knowing of a needy family in the community to please report the family to Rev. R. A. Harrison, treasurer of the organization. The ministers have also requested that any organization or anyone who may desire to help out on this project with a cash contribution may give it to Rev. Harrison or one of the other ministers.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Dickson of Dallas and their children visited with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sid Harkins, and Monty during the hunting season.

Doyle Harkins and his son, Jay, was here last week to visit his brothers, Ernest Harkins, and Jolly Harkins, and families.

There's no connection with the Christmas season except that no child could be more proud of a Christmas toy than this lad is of the fact that he is getting to wear a "big man's" boots, hat and gun. The boy is Bobby Mason, grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. F. K. Harrell, and Mrs. Roy Harrell let us use the picture. The newspaper on the floor is from San Antonio.

THE SANDERSON TIMES

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Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Gilbreath, Leasors, Publishers

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*Legion Auxiliary
Donates \$100.00
to Local Projects*

A sum of \$100.00 was voted from the rummage sale proceeds for several projects in the community when the Legion Auxiliary met last Tuesday evening. The projects include: Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Ministerial Alliance, March of Dimes, Heart Fund, Cancer Fund, Salvation Army, Red Cross, and Fire Department.

The meeting was in the home of Mrs. W.H. Savage with Mrs. C. P. Peavy presiding in the absence of the president, Mrs. Marvin Allen. Mrs. E. E. Farley gave an interesting discussion of several items in the current "Firing Line". Members were given an opportunity to sign a pledge of support for President Richard M. Nixon in the Vietnamese situation. A report was made on the paperback books being collected to send to servicemen in Vietnam.

Pecan and pumpkin pies were served with tea and coffee after adjournment. A cornucopia overflowing with fruits and nuts was on the buffet and an arrangement of yellow and bronze chrysanthemums on the lace covered dining table.

Also present were Mmes. E. McSparran, H.E. Ezelle, L. H. Gilbreath, and W. E. McSparran.

Mr. and Mrs. Curt Haygood of West Palm Beach, Fla., were visitors with her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Martin, for several days last week.

Mrs. Marshall Cooke had oral surgery in Odessa last Friday and has made satisfactory recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. Weldon Cox went to Sweetwater Wednesday to bring his mother, Mrs. J. F. Cox, to Sanderson to visit until after the holidays.

DEAR SANTA CLAUS:

Hope you're more on schedule than I am. However, I'm not complaining - I love the last-minute rush.

If I don't wax floors, I can make cookies and visit old friends and count my blessings. Business was great all year - may the Lord bless bottle collectors and cosmetic users. Sanderson had its share of blessings, too - a fine bunch of young people, winning football team, sharp band, fine teachers, lots of hunters, and a doctor!

So just leave us the Spirit of Christmas so that we will appreciate all these blessing.

Louise Causey.

P.S. I know some guys who want a field house.

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*Jose Maldonados
50th Anniversary
Observed Dec. 9*

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Jose Maldonado were hosts at an open house at the Maldonado home Sunday, November 30, from 3:00 to 6:00 to honor the couple on their 50th wedding anniversary.

Hot chocolate, cake, and cookies were served, also a beautiful white wedding cake decorated in gold. There were guests from Monahans, Pecos, Fort Stockton, and New Mexico.

Mr. and Mrs. Maldonado were married in Fort Stockton on December 9, 1919. She was the former Gregoria Avilez.

They have resided in the same house in Sanderson all of their married life.

Their children include Mrs. Delcina Villarez and Valentin Maldonado, Monahans; Lorenzo Maldonado and Augustin Maldonado, Sanderson; Mrs. Maria Esquivel, Odessa; Manuel Maldonado, San Antonio; Jose Maldonado, Lubbock; also 17 grandchildren and one great-child. Bennie Rubio of San Antonio, a grandson, was reared by the Maldonados.

Office Supplies At The Times

Geslin Funeral Home

AMBULANCE SERVICE

Alpine, Texas

Don Geslin TE 7-2222

*Montez-Garcia
Wedding Rites
November 29*

On Saturday, November 29, Miss Gloria Garcia and Job Garcia Montez were united in marriage in El Buen Pastor Methodist Church. Rev. Albert Peak, pastor of the First Methodist Church, officiated at the rites.

Mrs. Jesus Marquez Jr. was the organist.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a three-piece knitted suit in beige color with matching accessories.

Miss Amanda Benavides was the maid of honor and Mrs. Albert Montez was the matron of honor. They wore yellow afternoon dresses and carried a single long-stem white carnation.

Enrique Saenz was the best man and Albert Montez of Fort Worth, brother of the bridegroom, was the groomsman.

A reception in the CAC Hall followed the wedding. Chicken sandwiches, potato salad, cake, and punch were served. The bride's cake, a three-tiered confection, decorated the table where the bridal party was seated.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Teodoro Garcia. After graduating from Sanderson High School, she was employed at the Terrell County TV Cable Co. before going to San Angelo where she has been employed for the past year.

The bridegroom is the son of

Mr. and Mrs. Isabel Montez of San Angelo, former Sanderson residents. He is a graduate of San Angelo High School and is employed by an insurance company there.

They left Sunday for San Angelo and are residing at 1907 Pecos St.

Attending the wedding from out of town were Mrs. Zulema Guardado and Mr. and Mrs. Rosendo Si Fuentez, all of Del Rio; Mr. and Mrs. Victor Perales, and Mr. and Mrs. Isabel

Montez, all of San Angelo; Mr. and Mrs. Honorato Garcia and family of McCamey; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Montez and family, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Montez and family, Jacinto Montez, Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel Galindo, and Miss Mary Lou Montez, all of Fort Worth.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Young of San Angelo were business visitors here last week for several days.

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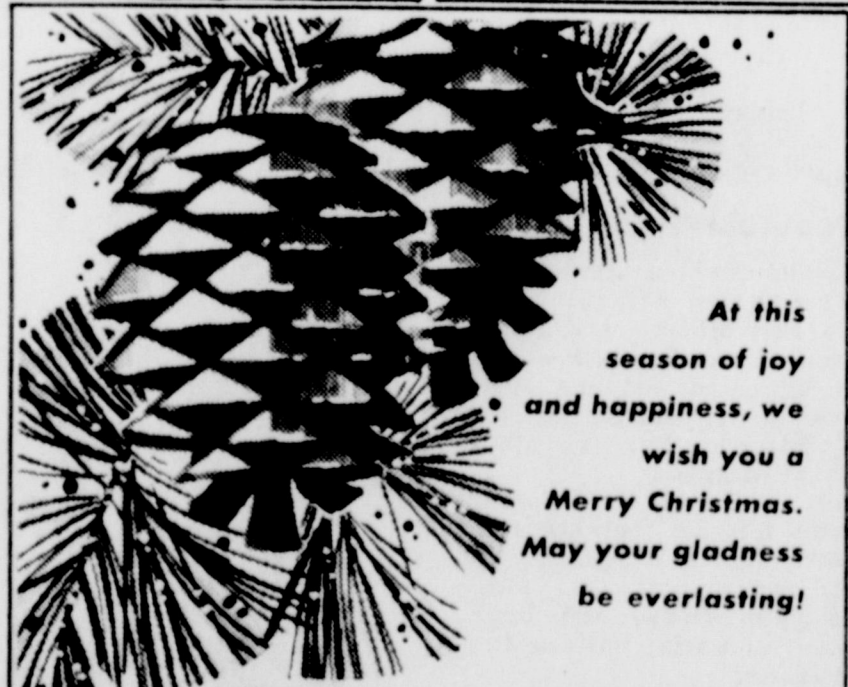
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At this season of joy and happiness, we wish you a Merry Christmas. May your gladness be everlasting!

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Ray Hodgkins
Jolly Harkins Pelham Rose Stavley
Marcella Harrison Rudy Villarreal
Your Postal Employees



Omens Dim Yule Spirit

"Merry" Christmas? Not always, according to some ancient beliefs once associated with the day.

Take, for instance, the old belief that cattle and other stable animals were given the power of speech on Christmas Eve.

Any person who heard the animals speak would die within a year, so superstition said.

Somber omens of death were read into still other Yuletide legends. When the Yule log burned, bystanders were told to watch the shadows on the walls. If the shadows of any persons appeared to be headless, this supposedly meant death for those persons, again within a year.

Salt was also said to have the power of forecasting life or death, when used in connection with Christmas. The

test could be made by leaving a small mound of salt on the table on Christmas Eve. If the salt melted during the night, that, too, meant death within

12 months.

If the salt remained unmelted, the forecast was for a long and healthy life.

Christmas Blessings



We greet you with the wish that, for all of us, the meaning of Christmas may be ever deeper, its hopes brighter, its blessings greater.

Merry K Grocery

MR. AND MRS. G. W. KYLE

Gold, Frankincense, Myrrh Make Suitable Gifts for Infant King

In New Testament history, St. Matthew describes the first of all Christmas gifts — gold, frankincense and myrrh. After the wise men had knelt at the manger, he tells us, they opened their treasures to select these special offerings for the newborn Babe of Bethlehem.

To the modern mind, gold is instantly recognizable as a treasure, but the value of frankincense and myrrh is not

so readily apparent. Actually, frankincense and myrrh were costly items in the time of Christ, and they are still costly. Both are resins used in making incense, surviving today at many a Christian altar.

As further evidence that frankincense and myrrh were precious treasures, worthy gifts for an Infant King, there is the old poem which expressed the ancient belief that "incense owns a deity nigh."



Plant Wins Yule Favor

One plant particularly favored at Christmas in the United States and Canada is the poinsettia. The holiday colors of this green shrub with its star-shaped red clusters make it an appropriate symbol of the season.

If it had not been for the interest of an American diplomat, Dr. Joel Poinsett of Charleston, S. C., the poinsettia might never have attained popularity. Serving as the first U. S. minister to Mexico in 1828, Dr. Poinsett discovered this tropical plant.

Impressed with its beauty, he brought it back to the United States and introduced it into cultivation. Later, the plant was named the "poinsettia" in his honor.

Albert Ecke, a California farmer, developed and improved the plant, and first marketed it in 1906. Since then, it has become a favorite Yuletide decoration.

Come on by and Give me a try!

Lucky's Barber Shop



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The choice depends on the size of your family, not the size of your budget.

Inch for inch Maverick's the best automotive buy in the world. Here are the facts. **FACT:** Maverick gives you lots of legroom, headroom and hiproom... plus 10.4 cu. ft. of trunk space. **FACT:** Maverick's 105-hp Six gives you the power you need for fast acceleration and easy passing. **FACT:** Maverick rivals the imports in gas mileage. **FACT:** Maverick is simple to park, service, repair... and own.

But if you need more inches, Torino's the car for you. Torino is the first choice of big families who go for big value. **FACT:** This hardtop has the same sleek styling of the more expensive Torino

models. **FACT:** It has the same 117-in. wheelbase for a smoother ride. **FACT:** It has the same 60-in. track for better road holding. **FACT:** It has a roomy interior that seats six in perfect comfort... plus 16.2 cu. ft. of trunk space. Look over Torino and Maverick now. **THE FACTS FAVOR FORD.**

*Ford's suggested retail price for the car. White sidewall tires are not included; they are \$30.00 extra. Since dealer preparation charges (if any), transportation charges and state and local taxes vary, they are not included, nor is extra equipment that is specially required by state law.

For more information about these cars, see your Ford Dealer or write: Maverick Catalog, Dept. N-8 or Torino Catalog, Dept. N-9, P.O. Box 1503, Dearborn, Michigan 48121.



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 Merry Christmas!" The
 om of extending holiday
 ings to friends undoubt-
 goes back many years, but
 Christmas card as a means
 pressing those greetings
 relative newcomer to
 stmas traditions.
 ristmas cards had their
 aning only 122 years ago
 ngland, but despite the
 comparatively recent start,
 ng "Merry Christmas" in
 form was a custom that
 ly caught the public
 e wish to say, "Merry
 tmas" to friends and
 bors is strong, and the
 of expressing it are
 Today's edition of this
 paper, for instance, is one
 Merry Christmas" card,
 hich businessmen of this
 nunity offer special greet-
 and words of apprecia-
 to their customers and
 s.
 England during Tudor
 Christmas celebrations
 on All Saints' Day, No-
 ver 1, and continued until
 emas, on February 2.
 Lord of Misrule" acted
 aster of ceremonies at
 uletide festivities.
 h of the music for all
 merrymaking was extem-
 eous. Many songs were
 on by word of mouth
 neration to generation
 s such as "The Boar's
 Carol," referring to the
 or pig which was tra-
 al at the Yule feast, and
 first Nowell."



The Eagle varsity team won over Grandfalls in a game there last week 64-47. Bill Littleton scored 18, Blain Chriesman 15, Randy Louwien 15, and Leslie Hall 12 for the double-figure scoring.

In the Imperial tournament last weekend Sanderson played Nueces Canyon in the first fray and lost 40-57. Louwien was the only double-figure scorer with 13.

In their second game the Eagles lost to Iraan 71-60 with Littleton scoring 12 and Hall 20 to take scoring honors.

Their third game, with Toyah, the Eagles won 73-44 with Littleton, Pat Mott, and Hall leading the scoring with 18, 14, and 10.

Other players included Louwien, Chriesman, Santiago Flores, Ronnie Stewart, Damon Harrison, Steve Litton, Mack Turner.

It was not reported that Mitzi Cash was named to the all-tournament team in Valentine recently. We are glad to make note of the fact and offer our congratulations!

In Grandfalls, the Eaglettes won 38-29. Brenda Carter hit for 29 points, Gina Hardgrave 5, and Jackie Bob Riggs 4. The other players were Anna Salazar, Sheryl Stewart, and Susi Rob-Sanchez, Petra Sanchez, and Vangie Calzada, guards.

In the McCamey tournament last weekend the Eaglettes met Pecos in their first game and won 51-35 with Brenda scoring 32 and Rhonda 12. Gina, Jackie Bob, Susi, Sheryl, and Anna also played forward and Mitzi, Nancy Harkins, Marilyn Sanchez, Gaylia Coker, and Petra Sanchez were guards.

Iraan was the second foe of the Eaglettes in McCamey and the Eaglettes lost 32-59. Brenda scored 18, Rhonda 10, and Jackie Bob 4.

Guards were Mitzi, Nancy, Marilyn, and Gaylia.

Bob Wilkinson of San Antonio visited here for several days during the hunting season with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Wilkinson.

R. S. Wilkinson spent the holidays in Falfurrias with his nephew, Sheriff Ed Wilkinson, and family and the Wilkinson family had a reunion. The following Monday, December 1, Mr. Wilkinson received word of the death of his nephew who was the victim of a heart attack. He did not attend the funeral services.

Baptist W.M.U. Has Christmas Party

Mrs. O. D. Gray invited the members of the Baptist W. M. U. to her home last Tuesday morning for a Christmas party. Decorations in the Christmas motif were in evidence throughout the house.

Several games were played for diversion.

Refreshments consisted of a variety of cakes, candies, and coffee.

Those present were Mmes. A. N. Farley, A. D. Brown, Ernest Couch, Gene Black, David Cook, George Carter, Chalres Hornsby, and James Word.

Legion Auxiliary Flag Sale Postponed

At a called meeting of the Legion and Auxiliary Monday morning, the members decided to postpone the flag sale until after the first of the year when a house-to-house canvass will be made and men are planning to put up holders for all flags if the purchaser desires.

In the meantime, anyone wanting a flag is requested to contact a member of either the Legion or Auxiliary. Several have been sold for gifts.

AMONG OUR SUBSCRIBERS

New subscribers to The Times include Dr. A. N. Clanton of Sanderson and C. F. Pickard of Eagle Pass.

Renewals have come from Swaim and Swaim of Eden; Mrs. Ola Burdwell, Del Rio; Mrs. David Hernandez Jr., Casa Grande, Ariz.; Ed Foley and Mrs. Alma Escue of Alpine; Mrs. Earl Malone, Sheffield; Mrs. M. P. Lester, Carrizo Springs; Wade Harrell and Jimmy Martin, Del Rio; Mrs. Nell Stokes and Tommy Mansfield, El Paso; F. A. Hill, Sonora; Walter Young, San Angelo; Joe N. Brown, Mrs. Ramona Olivares, James Word, S. D. Harrison, Bill Rose, Mrs. Roy Harrell, Ray Hodgkins, and Mrs. C. L. Surratt, all of Sanderson.

Mr. and Mrs. Fenneth Andrews and children, Toni and Jerry, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Brown, and family last weekend. The Andrews are temporarily residing in Pecos.

Mrs. Bill Rose spent several days in Uvalde with her mother while she recuperated after being in a Del Rio hospital for several days.

Distinguished Scholar Had Doubts About Famous Christmas Poem

"Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house,

Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse."

With these lines begins the familiar poem, "A Visit from St. Nicholas." Today, this poem is a treasured part of the lore of Christmas, often quoted and published at the Yuletide season.

Surprisingly, the poet who created it was far from proud of his work.

A distinguished Biblical scholar and professor of divinity, Dr. Clement Clark Moore wrote the poem for the amusement of his children at Christmas in 1822. A visitor in the home at the time copied it and had it published a year later in the Troy, N.Y., Sentinel.

The poem appeared anonymously, because Dr. Moore felt that he, as a professor of di-



vinity, should not be associated with such "undignified" work.

For more than 20 years, he refused to take credit for the poem. In 1844 the poem was published and for the first time credited to its creator, Clement Clark Moore.

NOTICE
Harvey's Restaurant will be closed on December 25 and 26.

Dr. Omer D. Price
OPTOMETRIST
will be in Sanderson EVERY THURSDAY
1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
OFFICE — 119 W. OAK



Blessings
Rejoice
in His name
this Christmas Day.
May the spirit
of love fill your heart.
Josephine's
Cactus Shop



Greetings
May happiness
abound in your home on
Christmas Day and fill the
hours with love and contentment.

SHAMROCK TRUCK CENTER
SLIM MULLER



CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS
Christmas is the perfect time to count our many, many blessings. High on our list is the confidence and good will you've showed us. So to you, our patrons, we're extending a cheerful, hearty holiday "thanks."
Admiral's Steak House
PAT & AMA LEE



MERRY CHRISTMAS
We take great pleasure in sending you our every good wish for Yuletide happiness, and the best of health and success in days to come.
PEAVY INSURANCE AGENCY
LEMONS ABSTRACT CO.

Christmas ROSE

It was the night of Christ's birth in Bethlehem. Outside the stable of the inn where the Holy Family had taken shelter for the night, a group of people had gathered. Among these were the shepherds who had come to worship the Babe. All of them were bearing gifts for the Child.

There was a young girl in the gathering. She joined the group to find out what had brought them here. When she heard their story and knew that the young child born that night had been called the Saviour, she too wanted to go in and worship.

But she had no gift to offer, and tears of disappointment streamed from her eyes. As her tears touched the ground, at that place there sprang up a bush and on it was the most beautiful white blossom she had ever seen! She plucked it happily and reverently offered her gift to the Christ Child.

According to the legend, it was in that way, the Christmas Rose came into being.

Gift Giving . . .

It's traditional to receive gifts during the Yuletide season, but the time is not always December 25, and the gift-giver is not always Santa.

One of the earliest Christmas giving times takes place in the Netherlands, according to the Book of Knowledge. Here, the children receive their gifts from St. Nicholas on December 6. The date, appropriately enough, is called St. Nicholas Day, in honor of the real St. Nicholas, a fourth century bishop.

Christmas gift giving in Italy comes on January 5, which is known as Epiphany Eve. The traditional gift giver is Befana. Legend says that Befana redirected the wise men, and now she seeks to atone by going about the world doing good to children.

In Scandinavian countries, gifts are given on St. Lucy's Day, December 13.

The time for gift giving in Puerto Rico and Spain is January 6, the day when, traditionally, the wise men came to Bethlehem.



Like jolly old Santa himself, we've a pack of good wishes for a holiday season that will long be remembered for its good cheer, and its enduring happiness.

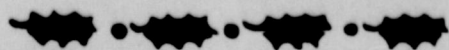
McKNIGHT MOTOR CO.
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Merry Christmas

Happy New Year

SANDERSON STATE BANK

Member F. D. I. C.



'Noah's Ark' Disappears from Holiday Scene

Where there are children, this holiday season, there's usually a Christmas tree — brightly lighted, gaily decorated, its fragrant branches bending low over a veritable "Toyland" of gifts from Santa's lavish pack.

These days, the variety of toys to enchant, entertain and instruct the youngsters is practically limitless. The toy pack holds, it seems, everything and anything that a lucky child might see in his dreams.

A century or so ago, the picture was very different. Even the Christmas tree itself was not as likely to be a part of the holiday scene. Around the middle of the nineteenth century, the Sunday school movement had begun to popularize the idea of family Christmas trees, but a tree at home was still not something a child would take for granted.

As for the toys, under the tree or not, the usual gift might be only one toy, and that one not a toy that modern children would recognize.

This is not to say, however, that nineteenth century children were to be pitied.

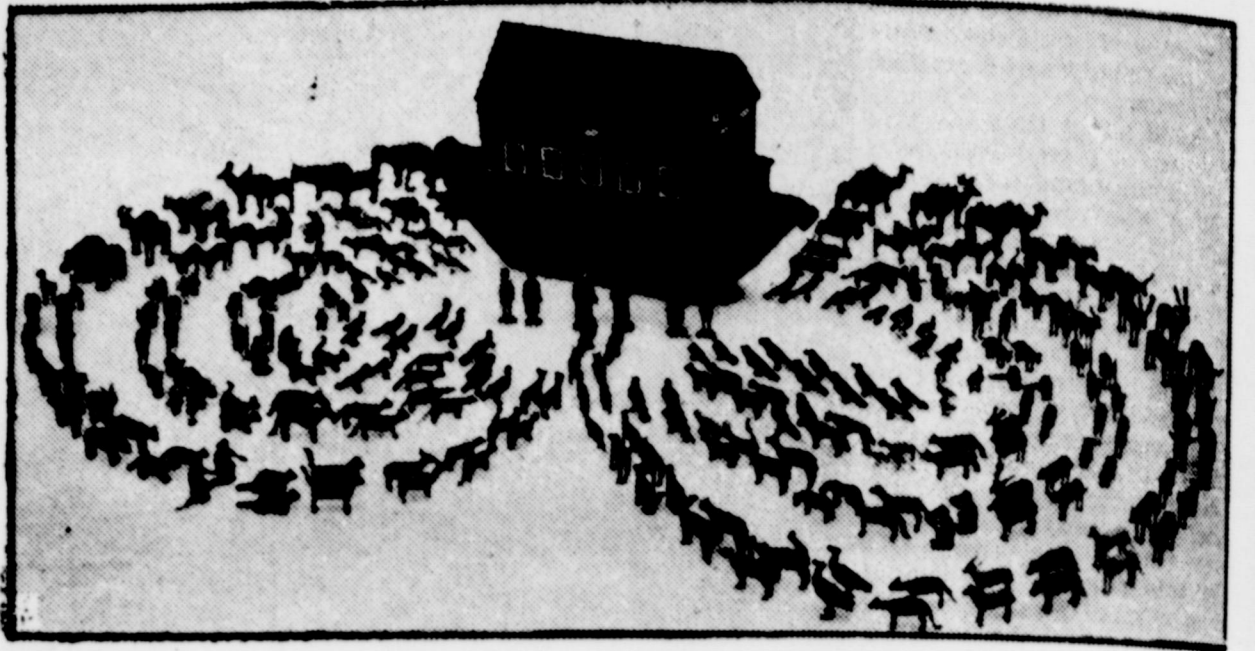
In a single toy, the "Noah's Ark" then highly prized as a special occasion gift, nineteenth century children found entertainment in great variety.

Today the Noah's Ark has disappeared from the wonder world of toys, but in the days of its popularity, nearly every home with children also housed a Noah's Ark in some form, however modest.

Like modern toys, the Ark was available in many versions, from the simple to the

complex. Basically, this toy consisted of the ark itself, in miniature of course, accompanied by gaily painted wooden figures representing Noah, his family, and animals in pairs.

The more elaborate the toy, the greater was the number of animals included. One nineteenth century Noah's Ark set, now part of the New York Historical Society's collection, includes more than 300 animals. Everything from little birds and domestic cats to elephants, camels, lions and tigers is represented.



ENCHANTMENT AT CHRISTMAS FOR CHILDREN of the nineteenth century often came in the form of a Noah's Ark, then a highly prized special occasion gift. The set shown here contains more than 300 animals. Photo courtesy of the New York Historical Society, New York City, N. Y.

Pencils & Pens at The Times



A
Bright
and
Merry
Christmas

We wish for you a
Christmas glowing with
joy and fond friendships.

Troy Druse Agency

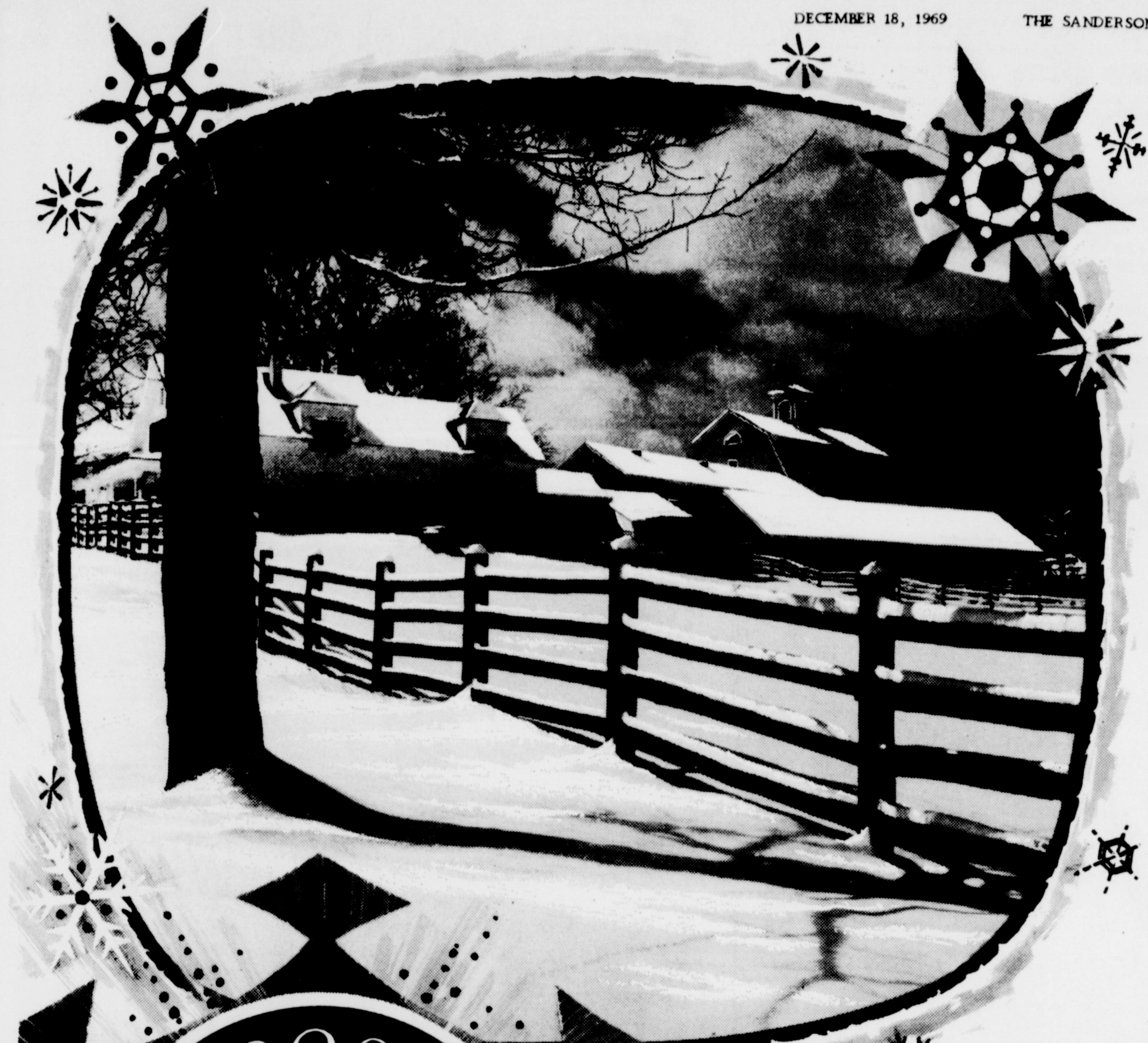


Joy
and
Peace

May the true
meaning of Christmas be
with you always,
bringing joy, light
and love into
your heart and home. And
may all your hopes
be brighter because
of the Christ
Child's coming.



D U D D L E Y



SEASON'S GREETINGS

With all the tranquility of a snow-covered landscape, the spirit of Christmas comes to bless and brighten every heart and home. It is our wish that you may enjoy thrice fold this Yule all the wonderful things that go into making the Christmas season such a special time: the joyful hours, the happy memories, the cheerful gatherings with family and friends. And may we, too, continue in your friendship, serving the needs of you and your family, always in a better way. We know how much it means to have the trust and good will of folks like you, and we are truly grateful.

KERR'S

Omens Dim Yule Spirit

"Merry" Christmas? Not always, according to some ancient beliefs once associated with the day.

Take, for instance, the old belief that cattle and other stable animals were given the power of speech on Christmas Eve.

Any person who heard the animals speak would die within a year, so superstition said.

Somber omens of death were read into still other Yuletide legends. When the Yule log burned, bystanders were told to watch the shadows on the walls. If the shadows of any persons appeared to be headless, this supposedly meant death for those persons, again within a year.

Salt was also said to have

the power of forecasting life or death, when used in connection with Christmas. The test could be made by leaving a small mound of salt on the table on Christmas Eve. If the salt melted during the night, that, too, meant death within 12 months.

If the salt remained unmelted, the forecast was for a long and healthy life.

GREENS FORBIDDEN

Until about 565 A.D., the use of evergreens for decorations at Christmas was forbidden by church authorities.

WHAT "NOEL" MEANS

"Noel," the French word for Christmas, means "birthday," "news," or "a shout of joy."



Joy at Christmas
Joy to the world . . . and special good wishes to our friends and their families.

Dryden Mercantile



Christmas Joy

The Joyful Christmas Season is here again, giving us the opportunity to express our gratitude to our customers. Our pleasant association with you is a privilege indeed.

Sanderson Cable Co.
Mr. & Mrs. Austin Nance



From our point of view

Christmas has a magic and a meaning all of its own. One writer described it beautifully in these well-chosen words:

Christmas is . . .

Christmas is a lot of things.

It's bigger than Santa Claus and it's brighter than a million lighted trees. It reaches beyond the mailing of Christmas cards and the exchanging of gifts. It's warmer than hot mince pie and more inspiring than the aroma of golden brown turkey and sage dressing.

It begins before December 25 and lasts as long as you have the spirit of Christmas in your heart.

The spirit of Christmas encircles this confused and tired world of ours every year and neither war nor civil disorders can dull its luster.

It begins along about the time small children with amazing intuition ask, "When's Christmas, Mommy?" And the day you take the bedraggled Christmas tree down against their tearful protests doesn't really mark the end.

Christmas thrives wherever men are free, for its roots are buried deep in human dignity. No dictator can ever entirely destroy Christmas because it is impossible to put barbed wire around a man's soul.

Christmas is a magic thing. It makes a family out of relatives, turns acquaintances into friends. It changes houses into homes, makes bright lights brighter. Christmas even turns the music of children's laughter into a symphony of joy and praise. Christmas leaves on everything a touch of greatness and peace.

Christmas is indestructible and everlasting because it is a state of mind—a way of thinking—a manner of looking at things—a belief in people—and an abiding faith in Christ the Lord.

(Tesco Roundup)

Riggins . . .

Jewels Gifts Flowers

Charlie, Teeler, Tina



A Wish for an Abundant Christmas

May your Yuletide be filled, not only with countless wonderful gifts, but with the priceless abiding gifts of friendship, peace, and happiness.

We would like to add our gift to your abundant Christmas. It's just a word of sincere thanks for letting us serve you, and our wish that you may have a season of abundant joy.

Frank's CHEVRON TRUCK STOP
CHEVRON STATION
BEAUTY REST COURTS

PURELY LOCAL



Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Lawrence of El Paso, who were en route home from Houston visited with Mr. and Mrs. T. W. McKenzie for several days.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Cox were business visitors in Del Rio Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Harrell and her mother, Mrs. John Neal, visited in San Angelo with relatives for several days last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlton White made a trip to Kerrville to visit his mother, Mrs. C. H. White, and his sister, Mrs. Novice McCroy, and on to San Antonio to attend to some business.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Gilkison and daughter, Patty, of Libby, Montana, are in Sanderson while residing in Mrs. Edward Welling's rent house on Mansfield. Bob Siemer, mechanic at Dudley Motors, is residing with them and plans to bring his daughter, Bell, to Sanderson when he makes a holiday visit to Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. V. W. King

are visiting here until after the holidays with her sister, Mrs. John Burchett, and Mr. Burchett. Mr. King is recuperating from recent major surgery.

Mr. and Mrs. O. T. Sudduth went to Odessa Friday and got their daughter, Miss Nelda Kay Sudduth, to spend the weekend here. They took her back Sunday.

Visiting his mother, Mrs. Bertha Mansfield, and family, Tommy Mansfield spent a few days here during hunting season and then went to Victoria to visit his sister, Mrs. Jeff Flowers, and family. He stopped in Sanderson before going back to El Paso.

Mr. and Mrs. K. H. Stutes made a business trip to Odessa Friday and to Del Rio Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. K. H. Beerup of Illinois arrived Thursday to spend the winter again this year. They are the parents of Mrs. Irvin Robbins and are living in the Weldon Cox rent house.

After visiting in Alpine with her daughter, Mrs. E. C. Earwood, and family, Mrs. Jettye Holmes of Sheffield, a former resident, left by train Monday for a two-months visit with her daughter, Mrs. Maxine Stroud, in Bullshead, Ariz.

Mrs. Roy Harrell visited with

her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Chandler, at Ozona for a few days and they took her to Del Rio where Mrs. Al Bateman, her granddaughter, with her husband and children of Biloxi, Miss., joined them for a reunion at the ranch home of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Wade Harrell. The Batemans are moving to Oklahoma City.

Rev. and Mrs. Albert Peak were in Carlsbad, N.M., Monday to attend the annual Christmas dinner and party given for the Methodist ministers of the Carlsbad District and their wives. The hosts were Dr. Lloyd Hughes, district superintendent, and his wife.

SPECIAL RATES on subscriptions to the San Antonio Express and Evening News by mail, \$20.95 for daily and Sunday, \$15 for Sunday only; \$18.95 for the daily only. For further information see or call Mrs. L. H. Gilbreath at The Times.



GREETINGS

May the bright star that showed the way for the three Wise Men lead you to a Christmas filled with joy and happiness.

Kut and Kurl Beauty Shop

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Massey

Holiday Greetings

Santa is here to wish you all good cheer, and so are we! We're hoping that all of the greatest holiday gifts are yours.



Club Cafe

we'll be closed Christmas Day

Use Christmas Seals.
It's a matter of life and breath.



Christmas Seals fight emphysema, tuberculosis, and air pollution.



Joy TO THE World

We join in wishing peace on earth and good will to all men.

C & C Station



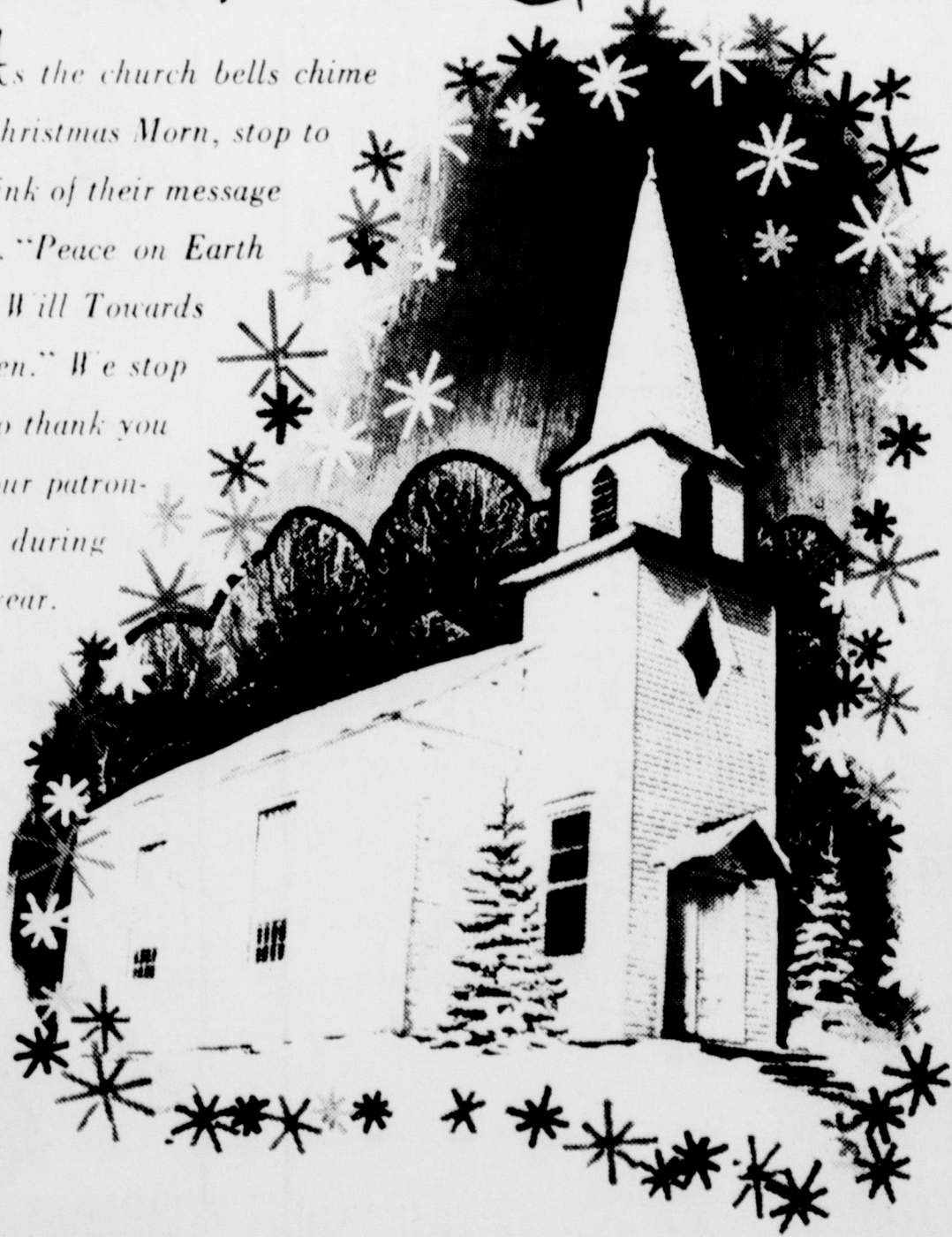
Blessings at Christmas

May the hope, the peace and the love that is Christmas remain with you and your dear ones forever and ever.

George's Barber Shop
George Escobar

The Spirit of Christmas

As the church bells chime on Christmas Morn, stop to think of their message ... "Peace on Earth Good Will Towards Men." We stop now to thank you for your patronage during the year.



Terrell County TV Cable

Evergreen Is Undisputed Favorite Yule Music Blends Joy, Reverence

In Christmas trees, it's the spirit that counts.

Almost anything can be — and is — a Christmas tree. In Minneapolis, Minn., they even made a tree out of water pipes, fastened like spokes to a telephone pole, and appropriately decorated.

In Wilmington, N. C., a live oak more than 300 years old is adorned at the Yuletide with colorful ornaments and electric lights. In Indianapolis, Ind., they decorate the 246-foot Soldiers and Sailors Monument with electric candles and stars.

The U.S. National Christmas Tree, officially designated in 1926, is not an evergreen but a giant redwood, located in Kings Canyon National Park, Calif.

This unusual Christmas tree, called the "General Grant," is 3,500 years old.

Many families prefer the "permanent" Christmas tree, often made of aluminum.

Despite all this, the time-tested favorite tree is still the evergreen. Most people, if asked, would probably vote for the "fir tree."

Actually, there are nearly 40 species of the popular fir tree, found in the mountainous regions of Central and Southern Europe, Asia north of the Himalayas and North America.

A frequently-seen Christmas tree variety is the "balsam fir," also called "Canada balsam" or "Balm of Gilead," according to the Encyclopedia Americana. This is one of the most common trees of eastern North America, extending from Virginia and West Virginia in the United States to Labrador and Newfoundland.

The balsam fir may grow to 40 or 50 feet tall. The southern fir is of about the same height and is found in the mountains of Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee.

Other American firs are es-

Across the centuries, man has looked to music to express his happy feelings at Christmas time.

From the medieval "Hail, Mary, full of grace" and "Mervele nocht, Josep" to the modern "White Christmas" and "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," songs have been a favorite part of Christmas celebrations.

In the tradition of Christmas music, there are simple carols, blending reverent wonder with quiet joy — Martin Luther's "Away in a Manger," for instance, or the mid-nineteenth century hymns, "It Came upon a Midnight Clear," "We Three Kings of Orient Are" and "O Little Town of Bethlehem."

There are merry songs, celebrating the jolly mood of the Yuletide, such as the time-honored "Deck the Halls," or the modern "Rudolph" and "Frosty the Snowman."

Composers Inspired...

Famous composers have found in Christmas inspiration for some of their most renowned music. At Christmas, and Easter, too, people gather to hear performances of Handel's "Messiah," Bach's "Christmas Oratorio" and Berlioz' "L'Enfance du Christ" are other examples of "serious" music often specially performed at Christmas.

Twentieth century composers, too, have written music

essentially Western. They include the Pacific silver fir, the white fir, the grand fir, the Alpine fir, the red fir, the Shasta red fir and the noble fir. These firs may attain 250 feet in height.

In Canada, the exporting of Christmas trees, including firs, pine and spruce, is important business. Seven provinces export trees, to countries as far away as Venezuela.

around Christmas themes. Probably the most familiar example is Menotti's "Amahl and the Night Visitors," an opera commissioned for television and performed annually. Honegger's "Christmas Cantata" and Britten's "Ceremony of Carols" are other notable examples.

To Honor St. Basil...

Since the herald angels sang, bringing "glad tidings of great joy" to shepherds watching their flocks, the people of many lands have contributed to the history of Christmas hymns and carols.

In the fourth century, St. Basil the Great of Greece emerged victorious in his struggle for Christianity with the Byzantine Emperor Julian. To celebrate this victory, a musical poem or carol was sung in his honor.

The first day of the New Year is still celebrated as St. Basil's day in Greece, and children receive their "Christmas" gifts on that day.

First in U.S. . . .

First Christmas carol composed in the United States was the work of an 18th century leather worker named William Billings, reports The Book of Knowledge. A tanner by trade but a tunesmith by inclination, Billings composed the carol, "A Virgin Unspotted."

The song isn't one that is still sung, and few hymnals now include it, but carol singers today owe William Billings a considerable debt of gratitude.

During Puritan times in England, the singing of carols and, indeed, the whole celebration of Christmas, was banned. The Puritan-minded American colonies followed suit.

It was William Billings, more than any other individual, who managed to persuade the Puritan New England settlers that singing songs at Christmas wasn't sinful.



At Christmas, we especially recall the simple message of "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men." You, dear customers, have shown your good will to us by your loyal patronage. Our hearts filled with gladness, we wish to say, "Thank you for such a wonderful year."

Kate and Walter Thorn and employees of DOUBLE-T GROCERY

GREETINGS

Carolers raise their voices in song, and we raise ours in thanks to all of you, our customers, for your patronage.

Spears-Duncan Drug

OLD-FASHIONED Christmas Wishes

Times change, but the good old-fashioned spirit of Christmas goes on forever, and so do our hearty wishes for your happiness, and our earnest thanks for your friendly good will.

OASIS RESTAURANT

Restaurant closed Dec. 24-25-26

CONOCO TRUCK STOP

Truck Stop closed Christmas Day

Lore and Legend Express Happy Mood of Season

From home to home, from country to country, Yule celebrations abound. The happy traditions of gift giving, home decorating, carol singing, card sending, candle lighting and tree trimming express the merriment of the season.

Popular folk customs of nation after nation have been absorbed into the international legend and lore of the Yuletide. Yet virtually every nation — and every home and family, too — has its special way of celebrating Christmas, and its special memories of Christmas past.

Carrying in Straw

Straw is a traditional part of Christmas celebrations in Sweden — in probable remembrance of the first Christmas when there was straw in the manger.

While "carrying in the Christmas straw" is a tradition rather than a modern custom, Swedish people still make straw and wooden figures to hang on their Christmas trees.

"San Tan Lou Yin"

In Hong Kong, Santa Claus goes by the name of "San Tan You Lin."

The Hong Kong department

stores employ elderly men who are specially costumed for the season. Just like Santa Claus, San Tan You Lin is present for the purpose of holding the youngsters on his knee and listening to their requests for gifts.

Log Had Charms

In ancient Germany, the Yule log was known as the "Christbrand." One belief held that if the charred log was placed in a cornbin, it would act as a charm to ward off mice.

If the weather turned stormy, the Christbrand was quickly brought back to the fire. While it burned, superstition said, the house was safe from lightning.

Going "Mumming"

"Mumming" is a Yule custom that originated in early England. Mummers, masked and in costume, silently enacted ritual plays about the death of winter and the old year.

The custom still survives in some parts of the world, although the plays are no longer performed. Today mummers usually entertain with dancing and instrumental music. They are rewarded with treats.

For Every Child

During the past century, the doll has really come into its own, as a precious plaything for every little girl. Now the wonders of the doll world, once the province of kings, are at the disposal of "little mothers" in homes across the nation.

From waking, talking, well-wardrobed creations of wonderful complexity to soft and cuddly rag dolls of sweetest simplicity, dolls timelessly delight little girls. For, yesterday or today, one thing is certain. In every generation, packages from Santa evoke the same sparkle in young eyes, for a child's delight in a dream come true never changes.

FEATURES ROBIN

One of the first Christmas cards ever published, a small (two by three-and-a-half inches) greeting printed in London in 1862 by Goodall and Son, features a robin presiding over a pastoral winter scene, framed by paper lace.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

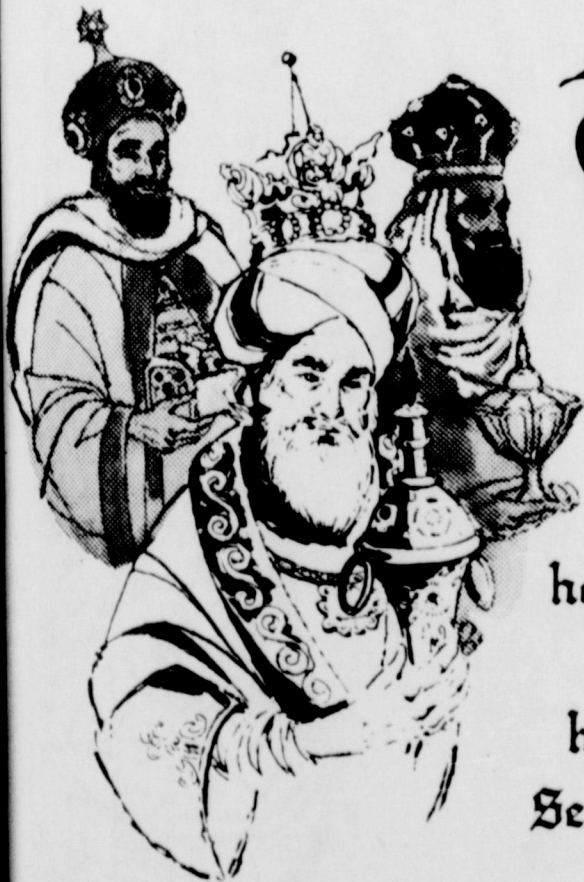
We've good wishes galore for everyone at Christmas! And if our wishes come true, you'll enjoy the merriest holiday season ever.

DAIRY KING
GENE AND EARLINE



These bells ring out a note of thanks and our warmest holiday greetings.

Sunset Siesta Motel Harvey's Restaurant



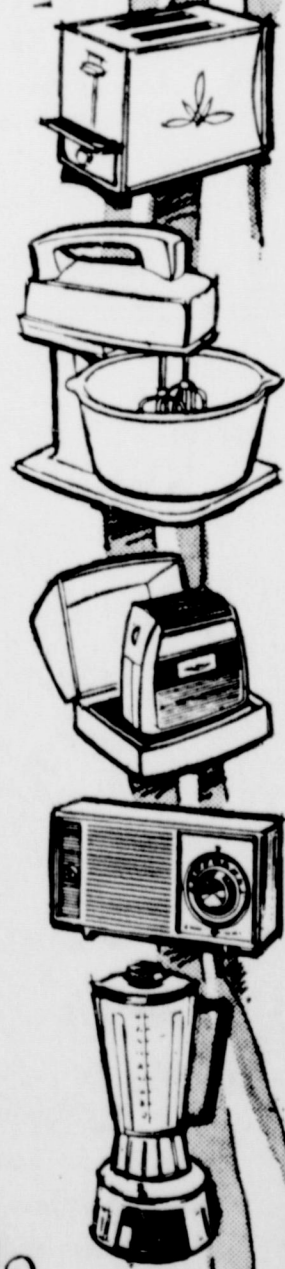
To wish you joy and happiness this holy Season.

Royal Cleaners

Helpful Electric Gifts

keep saying "Merry Christmas" throughout the year

Giving electric gifts is a sure way to delight everyone on your Christmas list. There are dozens of electric gifts to please young and old . . . electric gifts that save time and work . . . electric gifts to entertain. So this Christmas give gifts that will be remembered, used and appreciated long after Christmas is past . . . give helpful electric gifts. See your appliance dealer soon.



COMMUNITY PUBLIC SERVICE

Your Electric Light & Power Company



Unique Holiday Message Begins Greeting Cards

It was the "Golden Age of Christmas." The personal exchange of good wishes, visiting homes to toast a friend's good health, carol-singing, bringing in the Yule log and great family dinners were all in vogue.

A new book was published that year. It told of Christmas goose and plum pudding, of happy family parties. It presented, and made immortal, Ebenezer Scrooge, Bob Cratchit and Tiny Tim. The book was Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," and the year was 1843.

Appropriately, during this "Golden Age of Christmas," the now universally-popular custom of sending Christmas greeting cards began.

The very first card, authorities now agree, is the celebrated Cole-Horsley, designed and printed in London in 1843. Only a dozen of the original 1,000 copies are known to exist, and two of these, including the only unsigned and unposted specimen, are part of the Hallmark Historical Collection.

When not on display in museums and similar institutions, the collection is filed in a specially constructed vault at

Hallmark Cards in Kansas City, Mo.

Sir Henry Cole, a wealthy London gentleman, and founder of the Victoria and Albert Museum, asked his friend, John C. Horsley, noted artist and member of the Royal Academy, to design the now-famous card as an unusual means of expressing his kind wishes to friends at the holiday season.

Source of Song

Among the well-loved Christmas hymns is "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear." The words to this one were written by a Unitarian minister of Weston, Mass., named Edmund H. Sears. Time? Just about a hundred years ago, says the Book of Knowledge.

One melody for this hymn was composed by a Detroit journalist and editor; another melody was adapted from an old British folk tune by a composer better known for his long string of light-hearted operetta hits. This was Sir Arthur Sullivan, of the team of Gilbert and Sullivan.



In December every year parents are faced with the problem of what to do or what to say about Santa Claus. Some of our educators say that the Santa theory is all wrong and some of today's "modern" parents seem to agree.

Is the Saint Nick idea good or bad for children? We say it is good and that no child, average or brilliant, ever suffered from the grand illusion. Children know there is a Santa Claus and they accept the fact that he gradually changes from the Santa of fiction to the Santa of reality.

Santa is good for small children, for children have imaginative minds. The fact they might see a Santa on every corner matters little. In their eyes Santa is a symbol, a mystery, and in his wonderful magic is apt to appear anywhere.

It is not the end of the world when the time comes that some older child shatters the illusion by telling all. This is the perfect opportunity for the parent to explain that Santa is, after all, a spirit of Christmas. He represents the spirit of giving and the reason that we give at Christmas time is because this is the day on which Jesus was born. Jesus taught us love and faith and hope and Santa is a figurative being who helps us understand and use that teaching.

"NIGHT OF CAKES"

In Ireland, Christmas Eve is often called the Night of Cakes. This name is based on the custom, still practiced, of baking special Christmas Eve cakes spiced with caraway seeds.

NOTICE

Harvey's Restaurant will be closed on December 25 and 26.

Candlemas Eve Is Favored As Time To Remove Green

When is the right time to take down the Christmas greens? Before they become a fire hazard, is the modern belief, and that usually means soon after Christmas Day.

In earlier times, however, the question was not so easily answered.

Some people believed that Epiphany, or Twelfth Day, January 6, was the proper time for removing all Christmas decorations. Others firmly contended that the greens should remain until Candlemas, February 2.

One of those favoring the later date was, apparently, the

poet Robert Herrick, who lived from 1591 to 1634. He wrote of taking down the greens in his poem, "Ceremonies for Candlemas Eve," but warned that the greens must be completely removed.

"For look how many leaves there be Neglected there (maids, trust to me) So many goblins you shall see."

No Dangerous Items

There are some especially hazardous holiday trim. Did you know that even metallic icicles are dangerous to children? If ingested they can cause serious lead poisoning. Also, snow sprays contain poisonous propellants if inhaled.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

We want to say a sincere "thank you" to all our great friends and wish them all the laughter, fun and good cheer of this happy holiday season.

Cress and Lena Cresswell



Hi!
MERRY
CHRISTMAS

May your Day be an especially joyous one... filled with holiday happiness and good cheer.

Open Until 8:00 p. m. Dec. 22-23

C. G. Morrison Co.



may you and your loved ones have a merry Christmas, and enjoy all the traditional festivities and delights of this glad time.

Tommy Wigand

University of Alabama

RING IN '70
With lots of **FUN**

DANCE
New Year's Eve
V.F.W. Hall 9-1
Country-Western Music

Sponsored by Sanderson Rodeo Club

Famous People Call Yule Their Birthday

A young farmer's wife in England gave birth to a son in 1642. In 1821, a baby girl was born in the Massachusetts village of Oxford. In 1865, the wife of a militant Christian crusader gave birth to her fourth daughter. And in 1883, in Paris, an artist's model bore a baby boy.

What did these four births have in common? In each case, the child was born on Christmas Day, and grew up to become a famous person. According to the Book of Knowledge, these well-known "Christmas babies" were Clara Barton, Evangeline Booth, Maurice Utrillo and Sir Isaac Newton.

Founder of Red Cross

Clara Barton, Civil War nurse, was born on Christmas Day in 1821. It was her warm thoughts of Christmas that led her, when she set off to visit her brother, a prisoner during the Civil War, to offer to take presents not only to him but to the prisoner relatives of all her Oxford, Mass., neighbors.

Subsequently, Clara Barton was instrumental in founding the American Red Cross and served as its president for many years.

In Salvation Army

Born on Christmas Day in

1865, Evangeline Booth was the fourth daughter of the Salvation Army founder, William Booth. By the age of 23, she was head of the Salvation Army in London, and in 1904 she took over operations for the entire United States.

During World War I, the Salvation Army lassies under her jurisdiction spent Christmas — as well as many other days — ministering to the needs of American doughboys in France. The word "dough-boy" stems from the celebrated Salvation Army doughnut, a World War I staple.

He Invented Toys

Sir Isaac Newton, English physicist, mathematician, philosopher greeted his first Christmas, and his first day, in

Lincolnshire, England, in 1642. Frail and sickly as a youth, he devoted many boyhood Decembers to inventing and making Christmas toys.

Known for Paintings

One Christmas-born child had little cheer in his life, on holidays or otherwise. This was the French painter, Maurice Utrillo, born on December 25, 1883.

Son of an unknown father and a mother who was a model for many of the Montmartre brush wielders of her time, young Maurice was shy and withdrawn, not only in childhood but throughout his life.

Ironically, reproductions of many of his paintings, particularly those of the sparkling white dome of the Montmartre Church of Sacre Coeur, are used by the thousands every year on Christmas cards.



CHRISTMAS WISHES

We wish you a Christmas lit by happiness, warmed by contentment, well-stocked with many comforts.

SANDERSON



Mr. & Mrs. Santiago Barrera

May
the
Spirit
of Christmas

fill your heart with
the greatest joy and peace.
Merry Christmas,
everyone.

Joe's Chevron Service Station & Cafe
Joe Vasquez Dryden

GLAD
CHRISTMAS
TIDINGS

All the world is happy... it's Christmas Day, the bells are ringing those special Christmas wishes of joy and happiness to all. We are taking this perfect opportunity to express deep appreciation to you, our valued friends and customers.

CLAYTON STUBBLEFIELD

your man

Christmas
Wishes

The tree is trimmed, the presents are here... now find out if your Christmas wishes have come true! Ours did... we have the nicest customers there are! Many thanks.

Mac's Package Store



Noel



We join in wishing you a happy Yuletide. May the season bring you much happiness.

GANDY'S
Santiago Flores

Yuletide Beauty Is Reflected In Legends of Flowers and Greens

Flowers burst into bloom and trees and shrubs were green with new leaves on the night of the Saviour's birth, so legend says. Down through the ages, certain flowers and greens have held an honored place in the lore of Christmas — the holly and the ivy, mistletoe, rosemary, the Christmas rose, the thorn tree.

Ancient peoples believed that mistletoe had powers to ward off evil or cure a variety of illnesses. Druid priests of Britain, long ago, believed that mistletoe should be cut with a golden knife, then hung over doorways as a protection from evil. The Greeks, too, used it to ward off evil.

One of many legends surrounding the poinsettia tells of a poor Mexican girl who, having no gift of value, humbly placed some roadside weeds at the foot of a statue representing the Virgin and Child. Instantly, the weeds became scarlet blossoms and thus, so the legend says, the poinsettia was created.

Rosemary, the symbol of constancy, was at one time widely used in England as a Christmas decoration. During the Victorian era, it lost popularity and is now seldom, if ever, seen as part of the Yuletide greenery.

An old story says that the fragrance of rosemary was given to it when Mary placed the Christ Child's garments on this shrub.

Like mistletoe, the brightly-berried holly was early credited with magical and medical

powers. It could even, legend said, tell girls the name of their future husbands.

Early Roman Had 'Practical' View On Gift Giving

"Christmas is getting too commercial!"

This modern complaint, while it may have force, is somewhat lacking in originality.

"I hate the crafty arts of giving presents," said the witty Roman poet Martial, who lived and wrote from about 40 to 104 A.D. "Gifts are like hooks."

His complaint was expressed in a series of poems written for a wealthy patron, at the time of the Saturnalia, the pagan festival from which came many Christmas customs.

Martial, however, was not always averse to presents. After listing a large number of small gifts, such as toothpicks, figs, napkins, which had been delivered to him, he pointed out that it would have been much easier for the messenger to bring him "five pounds of silver plate."

In Germany

From Christmas trees to Christmas toys, many Christmas customs now universally observed came first from Germany.

In the medieval town of Nuremberg, the highlight of the Christmas season is the "Christkindmarkt," or literally, Christ Child's Fair.

The "Christ Kind," or Christ Child, is the gift giver, and the culmination of the fair, on Christmas Eve, is a visit by the Christ Kind to the balcony of the historic church, the Frauenkirche. Days of group caroling by the children precede this event.

Lighting Up . . .

Something unique in the way of Christmas lights are the "luminarias" used to decorate the city of Albuquerque, N.M., at Christmastime.

Outlining the borders of streets, sidewalks, yards and even the roofs of homes, the luminarias shine everywhere. Made of paper bags, weighted down with sand and lighted from within by a candle, thousands of luminarias all over the city offer a soft light.

Fun and Feasting . . .

A merry, hearty feast is traditional at Christmas, but the ingredients are not always the same. Norwegians might serve, instead of turkey and trimmings, codfish and pickled pork, while baked carp is a favored Christmas delicacy in Austria.

Christmas dining customs change with time, too. History describes a "traditional" Christmas feast of seventeenth century Quebec, a feast

that would be considered somewhat unusual today.

Before each diner at the feast was placed a bowl of birchbark or polished basswood and a spoon of bark. The diners supplied their own knives, and there were no forks.

Into the bowl went first the appetizers — cornbread and a boiled mixture of eels, salmon and beans. The soup course was a rich meat broth, thickened with nuts. Vegetables included corn, peas and baked

squash.

The main course featured roast venison and squirrel pies, with baked wild pigeons, partridges, blackbirds, owls — all served together.

Dessert consisted of cakes of maple sugar or sunflower seeds and nuts, topped with a sauce of boiled dried berries.

Sheriff Bill C. Cooksey was a business visitor in Odessa and Midland Tuesday.



Sincere
Good
Wishes
to
All

Thank you, dear friends and customers, for the generous measure of patronage you extended to us throughout the past year. You have made it our most successful ever, and it is with sincere gratitude and pleasure that we wish you the finest of everything, always. Merry Christmas!

Big Bend Gas Co.

AMONG OUR SUBSCRIBERS

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Mrs. Ronnie Hall and baby of Tacoma, Wash., arrived last week to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Stavley, and family through the holidays. Her husband will join them here this week.

Greetings to All

Santa's joining
with us
to top your
Christmas
with a
bright "thank
you" for
being such loyal
customers.

SANDERSON GULF STATION
Mr. and Mrs. Sam Marquez

Stock up now on

WINES & LIQUORS
for
Holiday Cheer

Here's to a bright and merry Christmas time blooming with many joys and packed with the pleasures of family, friends and home.

Attention: Terrell County Residents:

Be sure and ask for your discount

AND BE SURE TO GET A TANKFUL OF THAT GOOD CONOCO GAS

Cedar Station
LIQUOR STORE