



THE TEXAS SPUR

and THE DICKENS ITEM



VOLUME XXXII

SPUR, DICKENS COUNTY, TEXAS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1940

NUMBER 8

WPA Funds Now Available For Paving Project

City Manager Truman Green received word here the first of the week that W. P. A. funds in the amount of \$3,868.00 are now available for the paving of West Harris Street, providing of course, that the balance necessary will be subscribed by the owners of property on W. Harris. This fund is only for the labor, which is, however, about one-half of the entire cost.

The State Highway Department, also, is working in connection with the City of Spur and the WPA on this project, states Mr. Green, and will pave the road to the Experimental Farm from the corner at Ensey's Service Station, if the city will pave to that point.

According to these facts, here is the situation, and benefits: if property owners, on five blocks of W. Harris will provide the paving material, the WPA will furnish the labor, and paving will begin. Then, the State Highway Department will continue the paving to the Experimental Station, thus giving Spur about one and one-third miles of paving for only the cost of 5 blocks of paving, which is extremely cheap paving. Continuation of paving of W. Harris into the New Addition will be on the same basis as the first few blocks.

Cost of material for paving has been estimated at between \$20 to \$50 per lot, depending upon the amount of curb and gutter improvements on the property.

Wheat Acreage To Be Measured

Agent Chas. Taylor of the Dickens County AAA office has made announcements that farms with wheat acreage allotments will be measured in January. Farms that have been over planted by more than three acres or more than three per cent (the larger will be taken to give the planter leeway) will not be permitted to destroy the excess acreage and a penalty will be imposed on his excess. However, those having overplanted not more than three acres, or three per cent, will be permitted to plow up that portion in excess to their allotment.

Two Spur Men Named On All-District Football Team

Ross Culbert and Buster Smith have been selected as All-District back and guard, respectively. Jack Powell was named end on the second All-District team, and those receiving honorable mention were Orville Finley, "Bunk" Garner, Billy Yoakum, Nolas Byrd, and Harold

Red Mud School To Have Xmas Program

Miss Evelyn Pickens is sponsoring a Christmas Program, Friday, Dec. 20th, at 8:00 o'clock at the Red Mud School.

All patrons and the general public are cordially invited to attend.

SENIOR PLAY PRESENTED FRIDAY NIGHT, DEC. 13

Spur High School Senior Class presented their annual play, "The Merry Hares," by Agnes E. Peterson, Friday, December 13, at 7:45 o'clock in the high school auditorium. In spite of disagreeable weather, many people attended and enjoyed the play.

Misses Winfred Lee, Sammie McGee and Emily Cowan, students in Texas Tech, Lubbock, who were here Friday to Sunday to attend the shower honoring Miss Peggy Hogan, and to visit home folks returned Sunday afternoon to Lubbock. Accompanying them on the return trip was Bill Gruben who was here for an over night visit Saturday.

Mrs. Carrie Belcher, graduate nurse with the Nichols Sanitarium, the past four years, has accepted a position with the Floydada hospital and moved to Floydada.

New Welfare Offices Being Moved To Spur

Headquarters for Area 32 of the State Department of Public Welfare are being moved to Spur this week, and will be located in the Wendell building above the Clover Farm Store. Mrs. W. R. Weaver is Supervisor for this district, which includes Dickens, Kent, Motley, Crosby, Garza, Floyd, Cottle, King, Stonewall and Briscoe counties.

Old Age Assistance workers and offices under the supervision of this Area Office are: Miss Gladys Lundan, Spur, (Wendell Bldg.) for Dickens, Cottle, King and Stonewall counties; Mr. J. E. Collier, Floydada, for Briscoe, Floyd and Motley; and Mr. Lewis A. Miller, Post, for Garza, Kent and Crosby counties.

Court House News

Marriage Licenses for December

Dec. 3, Wyde Roberts and Miss Marie Odum.

Dec. 6, Otis Smith and Miss Beatrice Love.

Dec. 8, Trenido Arrendondo and Miss Carenen Valesquez.

Dec. 10, George S. Murphy and Miss Ruth L. McDaniel.

Dec. 14, Wendell Deaton and Miss Fanette Cery.

Dec. 16, Joseph Woodrow Duckworth and Miss Peggy Jane Hogan.

Divorces Granted

Fanette Moore vs. James A. Moore. Thelma Johnson vs. Walter Jot Johnson.

M. B. Day vs. Jewell Day.

Willie Wilburn vs. Nogia Wilburn (colored).

George Jordan vs. Hazel Dell Jordan.

Suspended Sentences Given

Suspended sentences of two to five years were given Hardy Bice, Lloyd Tatom, and Merle Knox on charges of forgery.

Miss La Vorise Lee Is Selected Football Queen For 1940-41

Miss La Vorise Lee has been selected by popular vote, as the Football Queen for 1940-41. She will be crowned by Mr. Wadzeck at the Banquet tonight.

Betty Miller, Marie Whitwell, and Robbie Bell were representatives of the junior, sophomore, and freshman classes, respectively.

High School Program To Be Presented December 20

"Spirit of Christmas"—Mr. Hinson

"The First Noel" - Quartet

"Away in the Manger"

Origin of Christmas—La Vorise Lee

A Christmas Project—Ruby Adcock

Poem - Mary Smith

"O Come All Ye Faithful" - Choral

"Deck the Hall" Club

"I heard the Bells On Christmas Day

"Joy to the World"

Mary Reid, announcer

At 2 o'clock the High School will have their Christmas tree and fun program.

WINS AMATEUR HOUR PRIZE

Clara Lena Smith, of Hatch, N. M., granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Smith of Lower Red Mud, spent Thanksgiving in El Paso with friends. While there she entered the amateur hour contest over station KROD and won first place by singing "The Woodpecker Song."

Miss Mary Copeland, of Austin, came in Saturday to make her annual Christmas visit to her parents Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Copeland and family, returning Monday to Austin. Mesdames C. D. Copeland and Wilton Copeland accompanied Miss Mary as far as Abilene on her return to Austin.

Uncle Bill Cherry, was in Spur Tuesday from his farm in Kent county, transacting business and greeting friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Sebe Lambert, of the Lambert Store in Croton, were in Spur Saturday, Mr. Lambert attending to business and Mrs. Lambert consulting her physician.

50c Bounty To Be Paid On Coyotes

There is a price on the head of the pesky coyote again in Dickens county.

Commissioners court this week, with all members present, Commissioners Nickels, Hindman, Offield, and Gage and Judge Marshall Formby voted to pay fifty cents per head bounty on coyotes killed in Dickens county between December 19, 1940 and through February 28, 1941.

Hides must be brought to county clerk E. H. Ousley's office where ears will be punched and the trapper paid by the county. The coyotes must be caught in Dickens county between the dates of December 19 and February 28.

This is the third consecutive year that a bounty has been paid in this county and more than 600 of the pests have been caught each year. Farmers and stockmen have been complaining of a large number of the animals this year, hence the action of the commissioners court.

10,320 Bales Ginned To December 1, 1940.

According to a report from Frank D. Watson, Special Agent of the Bureau of Census, the number of bales of cotton ginned in Dickens County for the past two years are as follows:

Census reports shows that 10,320 bales of cotton were ginned in Dickens County, Texas from the crop of 1940 prior to December 1, as compared with 10,162 bales for the crop of 1939.

Football Banquet To Be Held Tonight

The first annual banquet sponsored by the athletic department of Spur High School is being held tonight, Thursday, December 19, in the gymnasium at 8 o'clock. Coach "Dutch" Meyers will be the principal speaker and a short program will be presented.

La Vorise Lee will be presented as the queen of the banquet. She will be introduced and crowned by Mr. G. B. Wadzeck, principal.

The program is as follows:

Invocation

Welcome from Pep Squad

Response from Football Team

Coronation of the Queen

Introduction of the Lettermen

Introduction of the Pep Squad Leaders

Introduction of Speaker

Song—Alma Mater.

Roedeckers Building New Home In Dickens

County Judge elect and Mrs. E. H. Boedecker are building a new four room cottage in Dickens, located between the Church of Christ and the Robert Reynolds home. Construction began last Monday and will be completed the first part of January.

XMAS PLAY TO BE PRESTED AT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Young People of the Kingdom Highway's League of the Presbyterian Church will present a Christmas Play at the Church Sunday, December 22, at 7:30 p. m. Mrs. Christensen is in charge as director and every one is cordially invited to attend. The play is entitled Christmas Blessings."

Annual Stockholders' Meeting

Notice is Hereby Given:

That the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Spur Security Bank of Spur, Texas, will be held at the office of said Bank on the 14th day of January, 1941, at 10:00 o'clock a. m. for the election of Directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting. 7-5t

T. A. Bailey, prominent farmer of Girard, was transacting business in Spur Monday, and while here was a pleasant caller at the Texas Spur office, handing us a couple of dollars to shove his subscription up in advance, for which we thank Mr. Bailey very much.

Interest Is Growing In REA Project

A number of short branch lines have applied for admittance to the Rural Electric line in the past week. These short lines are welcome and others may come in if they get ready soon enough.

The rural electric line is to be built to serve those not already having electric service and it is the wish of the board of directors to serve every farm home possible that want electricity.

So if you have not been reached yet consult the project manager and see what might be done. Some times conditions vary in such a way as to put a line where it was not expected. One or two sign-ups often change the prospects of a line.

Many people want to know when the line will be built. That question cannot yet be answered. Much pre-allotment work must be done even after the sign up is sufficient.

Several members are asking about house wiring. Each one should begin to think on that for he will make changes even before time to wire and changes that will be important. But do not wire yet.—Manager.

Commissioners Court Holds Special Session

The Commissioners Court, in a special session on Monday, December 16, among other business completed plans for the County Clerk to index and file all Birth Records in the county; there are approximately 5,000 to be indexed.

The Treasurer's quarterly report was approved and cancelled.

The next meeting of the Court will be December 31, to close all business for 1940.

Services Held Tuesday At Ralls For Mrs. Effie J. Cadenhead

Funeral Services for Mrs. Effie J. Cadenhead, 73-year-old Gold Star Mother who died at 3 o'clock Monday morning, were held Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the home, in Ralls, with Rev. W. R. Derr officiating, with Marr Funeral Home in charge of services.

Only immediate survivors are 3 grandchildren, Mrs. Frank Turpin of Salem, Ill., J. W. Hyatt of Roswell, N. M.; and Carl Hyatt of Ralls.

Mrs. Cadenhead was the mother of the late A. C. (Dick) Hyatt, who was editor of the Texas Spur for a time, having leased the paper.

Robinson - Thornton

Miss Marie Thornton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Thornton, of Texaco, New Mexico, and J. P. Robinson, Jr., of Morton, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Robinson, of Highway were married Saturday evening, December 7, at 9:00 o'clock at the home of the officiating minister, Rev. S. H. Brown, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Levelland.

Mrs. Robinson has made her home in Morton the past five months, having had employment there.

Mr. Robinson is a splendid young business man and has been employed as a driver on a truck line out of Morton the past four months and where Mr. and Mrs. Robinson will make their home.

For a honeymoon trip, Mr. and Mrs. Robinson will come to Spur and spend the Christmas holidays at the home of his parents at Highway.

Mrs. W. A. Bell and son and daughters, Mrs. Truett Hutto, of Spur and Mrs. C. W. Barrett, of Stamford returned Wednesday afternoon of last week from a visit of several days to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Lester, of Caddo, Texas.

J. L. Goode, manager of the Farmers Co-Op Gin in McAdoo, was a business visitor in Spur the first of the week.

Fred Malone arrived the first of the week to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Malone during the Christmas holidays.

Committee Named For Agriculture Conservation

County and community committeemen for the 1941 Agricultural Conservation Program were elected last Friday, December 13, by popular vote at Spur, Dickens, and Patton Springs.

County Committeemen elected were: Joe M. Rose, E. F. Shugart, and J. P. Sharp.

Community Committeemen: Bob Hahn, John Bachman, Clyde Horn, J. C. Dopson, D. C. McAteer, R. L. Mimms, Harry Bennett, and W. R. Williams.

COUNTY WELFARE OFFICE HAS NEW LOCATION

The County Welfare office, under the supervision of Miss Cannah Stevens, has this week moved to the Wendell building and has joint offices of the Old Age Assistance and State Department of Public Welfare offices.

Spur FFA Wins First In Contests Here Tuesday

The first year Vocational Agriculture students under the direction of Cecil Ayers placed first in the Junior Chapter Conduction contest of Crosbyton District, in the Spur vocational agriculture room Tuesday night. Other teams in order of their placing were: Crosbyton, Jayton, Patton Springs, and Ralls.

Team members of the Spur chapter were: Jimmy Vernon, President; Jimmie Draper, Vice-President; Alex Fry, Secretary; Melvin Rape, Treasurer; Warren Cooner, Reporter; Lane Ericson, Watch Dog; Glen McDaniels, Parliamentarian; and Preston Smith recited the creed.

In the One-Act Demonstration Contest the order of placing and subject is as follows: Jayton, making rope; Crosbyton, post mortem examination of chickens for worms; Spur, pruning trees and shrubs; Patton Springs, warming pigs; Ralls, frame gardens; and McAdoo, cutting up pork.

First place honors were awarded the Spur and Jayton teams.

Friendship Baptist Church to Start Meeting Dec. 27

We the people of the Friendship Baptist Church of Croton wish to extend invitation to the closing year Meeting. The services will begin Friday evening, December 27 at 7:30 and continuing until Sunday evening, December 29, at 7:30 with the day services at 11:00.

Rev. Walter Brian, of Plainview, pastor of the church, will deliver the messages which will bring a blessing to everyone who is present.

If you want to be in a church where there is Friendship, Fellowship and Worship, we invite you to be with us.

Patton Springs Home Ec Department To Sponsor White Xmas

The Home Economics department of the Patton Springs School are sponsoring a White Christmas Program this year. The plan is that, instead of exchanging gifts as has been the custom, gifts will be brought and placed at the Tree, and will later be distributed to the underprivileged.

The Christmas Tree and program, "The Story of the Birth of Christ" will be held in the school Friday afternoon.

Patton Springs Churches, Scouts, and other civic and social organizations are assisting the Home Ec department with the White Christmas program.

Miss Opal Sharp, of Dallas, arrived Friday to spend the Christmas holiday season with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Sharp and family, of East Afton.

Mr. and Mrs. Truman Gabbert are the proud parents of a son and heir, Truman Keen, born Friday, December 13th.

Spur Schools To Offer Trade Courses

Superintendent O. C. Thomas announced this week that the National Defense Program will sponsor four Trade Courses, under the direction of the Division of Agriculture, to be held in the Spur High School. These courses are for out-of-school boys of Dickens county between the ages of sixteen and twenty-five, and no tuition will be charged. All salaries equipment, and materials will be furnished by the National Defense Program, and at the completion of this course program, the equipment will be given to the Agriculture Department of the school.

The courses offered are 1. Operation, care, and repair of tractors, trucks, and automobiles (including both gas and diesel engines). 2. Metal work, including simple welds, tempering, drilling, shaping, and machinery repair. 3. Woodworking. 4. Elementary electricity, including operation, care and repair of electrical equipment.

Any young man desiring training in these courses should contact Mr. O. C. Thomas as soon as possible, because classes will necessarily have to be limited.

FSA Offices Move To New Location

The Farm Security Administration this week moved their offices to the second floor of the bank building, directly above their former location. The offices now occupy three rooms, making a much more convenient and satisfactory arrangement for the entire personnel.

Red Mud School Uses Santa Gift For Lunch Room And Supplies

The Red Mud School expresses their appreciation for the money received in the Santa Claus Parade Wednesday afternoon, which was given by the Spur Civic Club. The school received second place.

The money came in very handy in helping to fix up the lunch room and adding other needed school supplies.

Miss Evelyn Pickens, principal states that the lunch room opened Tuesday.

Everything is progressing very nicely under her supervision.

Junior High School Choral Club To Present Play

The Junior High Choral Club presents the Christmas program, "Thirty Minutes with Santa Claus," Dec. 20.

Characters

Mr. Wentworth—Billy Lee Glynn

Mrs. Wentworth—Charlese Powell

Betty Wentworth—Mafol Carlisle

Santa Claus—Billy Jo McCombs

First Wise Man—Sherian Campbell

Second Wise Man—Jerry Don Bell

Third Wise Man—Gerome Byrd

Joseph—Zane Freeman

Mary—Aline Ball

Angel—Patricia Ann Mars

Inn Keeper—Doyle Davis

Carolers—Choral Club

Officers of Choral Club

President—Virginia Crockett

Vice-President—Billy Jo McCombs

Secretary—Eurena Hoover

Sergeant-at-Arms—Helen Virginia Mars.

The patrons of the school are cordially invited to attend, 1:00 p. m. Friday.

Joe Paul Alexander who attended Baylor University, Waco, this semester arrived last week to visit his parents, Dr. and Mrs. R. L. Alexander and family before re-entering college after the holidays.

R. D. Ford, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Ford, of Calgary, and an A. and M. Cadet, arrived Saturday to visit until after the Christmas holidays.

W. W. Pickens, of 3 miles east of town, was transacting business and greeting friends in the city Monday.

Miss Peggy Jane Hogan Is Honored At Bridal Shower Friday, December 13th

One of the lovely parties of the week was the Bridal Shower Friday afternoon, honoring Miss Peggy Hogan, bride elect of Woodrow Duckworth, athletic coach of Spur High School, who are to be married Friday evening, December 20th at the home of the brides parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ned Hogan 705 North Burlington Avenue.

Girlhood friends of the honoree, Misses Sammie McGee, Emily Cowan, Robbie Clemmons, Dick Arthur, Mrs. Cecil Ayers, Betty Lynn Brown were co-hostesses with Mrs. E. C. McGee in whose home the party was given.

Mrs. McGee met the guests at the door and presented them to the receiving line: Mrs. Hogan, the honoree Miss Hogan, and two other daughters, Mrs. Raymond Higginbotham, a recent bride, and Mrs. Dudley Wooten, of Amarillo.

Miss Betty Lynn Brown presided at the Register, a hand painted Brides Book, the work and gift of a local artist, Miss Polly Clemmons. Miss Dick Arthur presided in the gift room. Miss Emily Cowan poured coffee from a table covered with lace cloth and decorated with Christmas colors, and was assisted in serving refreshments by Miss Sammie McGee. Favors were holiday garlands of berries, suspended from a green ribbon bow.

Miss Robbie Clemmons played piano selections during the party hour.

Those registering in the Brides Book and sending gifts were:

Misses Dorothy Walker, Ina Bacon, Winifred Aycock, Mrs. E. D. Engleman, Misses Jean Engleman, Martha Nichols, Wynell McClure, Mesdames Nebel Hunsucker, C. O. Fox, Cap McNeill, Pike Nichols, P. C. Nichols, Cal Martin, Jerry Willard, Fred Jennings, Horace Hyatt, Henry Alexander, Truett Hutto, O.

A. White, Dick Tweed, W. D. Starcher, Hollis Atkeison;

Mesdames John A. Moore, Jr., T. H. Blackwell, Ann McClure, Sam Clemmons, Leland Wilson, O. L. Kelley, Carl Patton, Reece McNeil, Jack Rector, Lester Ericson, W. A. Bell, M. H. Costlow, G. C. Godfrey, M. C. Golding, J. H. Grace, E. L. Caraway, A. M. Walker, John King, Jr., R. C. Brown;

Misses Nell Francis, Betty Woodrum, Ida Lee Golding, Mesdames Alf Glasgow, John King, Sr., Kelsey, E. W. Mars, L. D. Ratliff, M. H. Brannen, L. W. Langston, Floyd Barnett, W. B. Lee, W. C. Gruben, Oscar McGinty, Miss Dallas Smith, Mesdames Al Bingham, S. C. Fallis, Charlie Kearney, G. H. Snider, Mattie Lisenby, Neitha Campbell, D. J. Dyess, W. F. Godfrey, James B. Reed, Bill Putman, Robert Lewis, Jerry Lee Foster, R. R. Wooten, Jim Foster, Horace Emery, Revvie Lee Neaves;

Misses Grace Foster, Doris Arthur, Julia Albin, Ann Lee, Regina Lee, Edith Caviness, Marie Simpson, Ethel Green, Aline Harris, Beatrice Spivey, Thelma Hale, Margaret Maloney, Wilma Morgan, Syble McDaniel, Louise Ince, Frances Gibson, Polly Clemmons, Ouida Lisenby;

Mesdames R. E. Dickson, Truman Green, T. C. Ensey, E. C. McGee, V. C. Smart, C. H. McCully, Lee, Lonnie Lewis, W. F. Gilbert, Chuck Powell, O. C. Arthur, George M. Williams, B. F. Hale, Horace Wood, J. R. Laine, D. B. Ince, Roy Stovall, H. O. Albin, Jerry Ensey, Faust Collier, Thurston, H. P. Gibson, Foy Vernon, W. S. Campbell, Pauline Clemmons, L. R. Barrett;

Misses Mary Nelda Vaughter, Marjorie Bell, La Vorise Lee, Mesdames A. C. Hull, Kate Morris, Jerry Bell, E. S. Lee, W. T. Andrews, Lee Snodgrass, J. C. Payne, C. R. Joyner, Lawis Lee, and Laura Glasgow.

Ella Mae Copeland And Donald George Snodgrass Honored

Mrs. Lee Snodgrass entertained Friday, Dec. 6th with a birthday party honoring her son, Donald George, 3, and her niece Ella Mae Copeland, 6, at her home 811 West Harris Street.

Assisting Mrs. Snodgrass in directing the children in playing outdoor games and in serving refreshments were Mrs. Jerry Ensey, Mrs. Pauline Groves and Mrs. Bob Alexander.

A birthday cake for each of the honor guests adorned the refreshment table, one for Donald George bearing 3 lighted candles, and one for little Miss Ella Mae, bearing 6 lighted candles.

Opening the birthday packages was one of the real thrills experienced by the party honorees.

Hot chocolate and sandwiches were served to the guests including:

Neal Hindman, Nelda Horn, Gail Buzbee, Collin and Gail Watson, Kathleen and Carolyn Kelley, Sheila Green, Charles Dean Hardwick, Janie and Nan L. Alexander, Barton Groves, Robert Keith Beason, Kathleen Rector, Jimmie Don Miles, Shelly Bell, Neal A. Chastain, Patsey Jean Hyatt, Myra Alice Ratliff, Robert and Donnie Ensey, Nickey Nichols, Nancy Lou Vaughn, Mary Carolyn Bilberry, Joe Bell, Jimmie Don Fox, Jean, Jane, and Paulita Karr, Jat and Jean Copeland, Margaret Lane, wood, and honorees Donald George Snodgrass and Ella Mae Copeland.

1925 Bridge Luncheon Held At Spur Inn Monday Evening

One of the highlights on this weeks social calendar was the annual Christmas dinner party of the 1925 Bridge Club, Monday evening at the Spur Inn.

The dining table with decoration arrangement of ever-green with clusters of red berries extending from the center piece, a cherub angel, to the table ends, and with groups of angels and the Three Wise Men depicting the Nativity of Christ made a very beautiful and impressive picture.

Tall white tapers burned in crystal candelabras giving the perfect lighting effect.

Baked turkey with a complete Christmas dinner menu was served to the club members:

Mesdames Henry Alexander, Nell Davis, Della Eaton, C. H. Elliott, M. C. Golding, C. R. Gollihar, A. C. Hull, Miss Julia Mae Hickman, Mesdames F. W. Jennings, C. L. Love, Ann B. McClure, T. E. Milam, Hill Perry, James B. Reed, L. E. Standifer, and R. R. Wooten.

Tables with appointments were then arranged in the dining room. Mrs. T. E. Milam received an elaborate open work embroidered luncheon cloth as high score favor.

Gifts were distributed from a beautifully decorated Christmas tree, with Mrs. C. H. Elliott playing the role of Santa Claus.

Mrs. E. D. Engleman Hostess To 1931 Study Club Tuesday

The 1931 Study Club met December 17 in the home of Mrs. E. D. Engleman. The house was decorated with blue bells and a blue and silver tree. During the short business session, Mrs. Marriott's resignation was accepted.

The following interesting Christmas stories were told:

Origin of the Christmas Tree—Mrs. C. O. Fox

Why Evergreen Trees Keep Their Leaves in Winter—Mrs. E. E. Sullivent

Why the Chimes Rang—Mrs. E. D. Engleman

The Etiquette of Christmas Cards—Mrs. George Glover.

The Girls High School Sextet sang Christmas Carols.

Then came the Christmas tree and

DON'T SCRATCH!

Every jar of Paracide Ointment is guaranteed to quickly relieve the itching of eczema, ringworm, ordinary itch and Athletes Foot or purchase price promptly refunded. Large jar 60c at

CITY DRUG COMPANY

all the excitement of unwrapping gifts and finding out who drew one's name.

Refreshments with silver bells for plate favors were served buffet style to the following:

Mesdames Jack Barton, E. D. Engleman, C. O. Fox, Alph Glasgow, George Glover, John King, Jr., Hobert Lewis, E. W. Mars, L. E. Standifer, E. E. Sullivent, H. B. Thompson, Mack Woodrum, Horace Wood, S. M. Newberry, C. M. Cravey.

Mesdames Woodrum, Karr And Glasgow Are Party Hostesses

One of the lovely social events of the week was the Christmas party. Friday afternoon from 3:30 to 6:00 o'clock, when Mrs. Mack Woodrum with co-hostesses, Mrs. Guy Karr and Mrs. Alf Glasgow entertained with 6 tables of bridge at the Woodrum home 920 West Harris Street.

The house decorations were festoons of silver tinsel rope with various colored ornaments draped over the windows and a decorated Christmas tree.

Upon arrival of the guests refreshments were served at tables covered with linen squares, with center piece of large Christmas bells encircled by holly wreaths. The refreshment plate carried congealed salad in Christmas colors, open face sandwiches, fresh coconut cake and hot coffee.

High bridge score prize went to Mrs. Della Eaton and second to Mrs. Truman Green.

Other guests present were Mesdames Neal A. Chastain, E. D. Cooke, Pike Nichols, H. P. Gibson, Roy Harkey, C. L. Love, L. D. Ratliff, L. E. Standifer, Nellie Davis, F. W. Jennings, Crit McDonald, Burford Johnson, Mary Putman, A. C. Hull, L. H. Perry, R. E. Dickson, Hollis Atkeison, Lynn Buzbee, C. H. Elliott, McClure, and Glover.

Miss Fanette Cery Honored With Shower By Mrs. Tyree Thomas

As a courtesy to Miss Fanette Cery, bride elect of Wendell Deaton, of Dickens, Mrs. Tyree Thomas entertained Friday afternoon from 2 to 5 o'clock with a call shower, at her home on north Keeler Street.

Refreshments were served to the guests calling.

About 40 guests called and sent gifts.

Mrs. R. E. Dickson Hostess To Thursday Bridge Luncheon

Mrs. R. E. Dickson was charming hostess to her Thursday Club, entertaining with a two course luncheon at her home at the Spur Experimental Station, Thursday noon.

A Christmas theme was carried out in the house decorations and bridge appointments.

Club members present were Mesdames W. T. Andrews, F. W. Jennings, L. E. Standifer, Ty Allen, C. H. Elliott, Neal Chastain, and Mrs. Jack Christain, a guest.

Mrs. A. J. Paul Hostess To Quilting At East Afton

Several women from the Friendship Church at Croton met at the home of Mrs. A. J. Paul, in East Afton community and quilted a quilt for the Buckner's Orphan Home.

Mrs. R. D. Sharp and several of her neighbors pieced the top. Mrs. Mattie Edwards gave the lining, and Mrs. A. J. Paul gave the cotton and thread.

Those present to quilt were: Mesdames J. D. Guyear, R. D. Sharp, Horace Edwards, Mattie Edwards, and Mrs. A. J. Paul.

All the ladies reported a very enjoyable time and nice dinner.

Mrs. H. B. Thompson Hostess To 1931 Study Club Tuesday

The 1931 Study Club met Dec. 3 in the home of Mrs. H. B. Thompson.

Mrs. E. W. Mars, vice-president, presided over the meeting.

Interesting and informative topics were discussed by the following:

Pan America Union—Mrs. Jack Barton.

Americanization—Mrs. C. O. Fox.

Latin American Music—Mrs. Mack

INDIGESTION

Sensational Relief from Indigestion and One Dose Proves It

If the first dose of this pleasant-tasting little black tablet doesn't bring you the fastest and most complete relief you have experienced and bottle back to us and get DOUBLE MONEY BACK. This makes the excess stomach fluids harmless and lets you eat the nourishing foods you need. For heartburn, sick headache and nausea so often related to excess stomach fluids making you feel sour and sick all over—JUST ONE DOSE of Bell-ans proves speedy relief. 25c everywhere.

Woodrum. A salad plate carrying out the red and green theme of Christmas was served to:

Miss Mary Nelda Vaughter, Mesdames Charles Marriott, Jack Barton, E. D. Engleman, C. O. Fox, Alph Glasgow, George Glover, John King, Jr., Hobert Lewis, E. W. Mars, E. E. Sullivent, Mack Woodrum, Horace Wood, S. M. Newberry, C. M. Cravey.

MISS FANETTE CERY AND WENDELL DEATON MARRIED SATURDAY, DEC. 14TH

Miss Fanette Cery, daughter of Mrs. J. B. Fortenberry, of Lubbock, and Wendell Deaton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Deaton, of Dickens, were married Saturday evening, December 14th at 7:30 o'clock at the home of Rev. and Mrs. H. L. Burnam, with the Rev. Mr. Burnam officiating.

Mrs. Walter Gruben, sister of the bridegroom accompanied them and witnessed the marriage ceremony. Mrs. Deaton has practically been reared in Spur, having made her home with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Berry a greater portion of the time while here.

Wendell Deaton is a graduate of Dickens High School. He has been employed by Walter Gruben the past several years as radio technician, at present, however, he is with the Pitchfork Land and Cattle Co.

Mr. and Mrs. Deaton will make their home in Dickens.

Mrs. Roy Nickels, of McAdoo, was shopping in Spur Monday.

Womens Society Of Christian Service Has Xmas Social

The Christmas Social of the Womens Society of Christian Service was held in the home of Mrs. G. H. Snider on Monday.

Hostesses were Mesdames W. S. Rector, Mack Woodrum, Horace Wood, C. H. McCully, J. C. Payne, O. C. Thomas, C. O. Fox, Henry

Simmons, Leland Wilson, T. H. Blackwell and Mrs. G. H. Snider.

Christmas Carols were sung and Mrs. Thurston told a Christmas story. Mrs. Jerry Bell and Mrs. Snider sang two duets.

Mrs. J. E. Harrell, of Hamlin was a guest.

Gifts were distributed from a beautiful Christmas tree and refreshments were served to twenty-six members.




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FOR CHRISTMAS

\$4.00 Permanents for	-----	\$3.00
\$3.00 Permanents for	-----	\$2.00
\$2.00 Permanents for	-----	\$1.00
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Shampoo and Set	-----	50c and up
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HOLIDAY SPECIALS
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Permanents
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Patriotism. We love our Land and will pro-
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Patriotism begins at home....so make this
country secure....patronize home industry,
the industry that patronizes you.

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Gas and Water Plant*

The Texas Spur and THE DICKENS ITEM

Published Weekly on Thursday at Spur, Dickens County, Texas

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TELEPHONE 128

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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East Ward Faculty Entertained At Annual Christmas Party

Mrs. John King, Jr., Miss Frances Graham and Mrs. S. M. Newberry, Jr., were co-hostesses at a lovely party at the Spur Inn Monday, Dec. 9, when they entertained with a Christmas party as a courtesy to the East Ward faculty.

Autumn leaves and a Christmas theme were used in the house decorations and the bridge appointments.

High score favor went to Mrs. Carl Patton and consolation to Miss Dorothy Walker.

Other member present were: Misses Mary Nelda Vaughter, Dallas Smith, Mesdames E. D. Engleman and Charley Cravey.

Guests were Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Thomas, and Mr. John King, Jr.

A salad refreshment plate carrying out the Christmas color theme was served to guests named and hostesses, Mesdames King, Graham, and Newberry.

Merla Bea And John David Foreman Celebrate Birthdays

Little Miss Merla Foreman celebrated her fourth birthday with a party at the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Foreman, Monday, afternoon, her birthday, however, was the day before, Sunday, December 15th.

The weather was extremely disagreeable and a number of guests invited were ill and unable to attend but those present had a jolly time.

Balloons and all day suckers were favors presented to each guest, and indoor games were played.

A large white birthday cake bearing four pink candles were lighted.

A smaller white cake bearing one lighted candle was in honor of Master John David Foreman who was celebrating his approaching birthday the following day, Tuesday, December 17th.

The birthday cakes were cut and served with hot cocoa to:

Joyce McMahan, Duffie Jean Austin, Nelta Jean and Stresa Calvert, the honorees, Merla Bea and John David Foreman and Mrs. Jay Austin and small daughter, Ann, Mrs. R. C. McMahan, Mrs. Will Calvert, Mrs. Charlie Kissinger, and hostess Mrs. W. F. Foreman and Mrs. Muri Foreman.

Mrs. Brittain McDaniel Hostess to Duck Creek H. D. Club Tuesday

Suggestions for Christmas gifts were discussed and demonstrated by Miss Perrin at the Duck Creek Home Demonstration Club, when it met with Mrs. Brittain McDaniel, Tuesday, December 10th.

Mrs. Earnest Thomas entered her

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Why not be smart - do what thousands of women have done to get off pounds of unwanted fat. Take a half teaspoonful of Kruschen in a glass of hot water first thing every morning to gently activate liver, bowels and kidneys - cut down your caloric intake - eat wisely and satisfyingly - there need never be a hungry moment!

Keep this plan up for 30 days. Then weigh yourself and see if you haven't lost pounds of ugly fat. Just see if this doesn't prove to be the surprise of your life and make you feel like shouting the good news to other fat people. And best of all a jar of Kruschen that will last you for 4 weeks costs but little. If not joyfully satisfied - money back.

resignation. Mrs. Jess White was elected president for the coming year and Mrs. Vernon Gregory was elected Parliamentarian.

The Club voted to change its meeting dated from the second and fourth Tuesdays to the second and fourth Mondays, in order that members wishing to do so could attend PTA at Spur on the second Tuesdays.

The next meeting will be with Mrs. Lance Smith on January 13th. Refreshments were served to the following visitors: J. W. Pickens, J. W. Carlisle, J. A. Swarengin, and Misses Henrietta Swarengin and Marjorie Boothe.

Members: Mesdames J. E. Swarengin, C. R. Bennett, J. D. Bradley, Samantha Smith, Vernon Gregory, W. J. Driggers, W. A. Webb, Earnest Thomas, Jess White, Lance Smith, Emmett Hagins, Durwood Pickens, Miss Mary Pearl Hagins, and the hostess, Mrs. McDaniel.

Mrs. P. H. Miller Hostess To 1917 Study Club Thurs.

The 1917 Study Club held their regular meeting December 17 at 7 o'clock at the home of Mrs. P. H. Miller. The meeting was social as well as routine.

The long white table gleaming with silver and crystal ware with a touch of green and red from the poinsettia center piece to the trailing sprigs of evergreen, gave to the festive board the perfect setting for a sumptuous dinner.

In keeping with the occasion a Christmas program, under the direction of Mrs. George M. Williams was presented, depicting in song and reading the nativity of Christ. Mesdames C. R. Gollihar, Carl Patton and W. F. Godfrey taking the special parts, with the membership singing in concert.

The story of the Other Wise Man, was beautifully told by Miss Jennie Shields. Very interesting facts were related by Mrs. A. C. Hull in connection with the original Christmas.

Those present on the occasion were Mesdames P. H. Miller, W. T. Andrews, J. E. Berry, M. H. Brannen, R. E. Dickson, Nelly Davis, R. C. Forbis, Clark Forbis, W. F. Godfrey, C. R. Gollihar, A. C. Hull, W. R. Jimison, Carl Patton, Hill Perry, George M. Williams, R. R. Wooten, M. C. Golding, F. W. Jennings, Ann McClure, Miss Jennie Shields, and Mrs. Jesse Craddock, of Robert Lee, Texas.

ena Byrd, Jewell Garrett, Belva Lou Burks, Erma Jane Burks, Jane Mal-lory, Mary Mallory, Emma Pearl Gruben, Forrestine Meacorn, Maxine Adams, Jackie Paul Draper, Billy D. Starcher, Robert Wood, Charles Don Finley, Alvis Adcock, S. C. Fallis, Winford Morrow, Pat Christal, Johnny Monk Rucker, Charlie Kimmel, William Yarbrough, Joe Ericson, Marie Whitwell, Alfred Elkins, Matthews Gruben, Betty Weaver, Geneva Byrd, Ann Gollihar, Wylene Moss, Charlese Powell, Jimmy Vernon, George Walker, Pete Dobbins, Jenny Lind Finley, Billy Joe McCombs, Norma Denson, and Alfred Walker.

The adults sponsoring the party were Mrs. A. M. Walker, Mrs. L. W. Langston, Mrs. W. C. Gruben, Miss Nelle Francis, and Mrs. Emmenger.

Presbyterian Church Xmas Candle Lighting Service And Carolling

An interdenominational young people's Christmas candle lighting service will be held at the Presbyterian Church on Monday, December 23rd at 7:30 p. m. Each group of young people from each church in Spur have been invited. Bertha Nell Walker is in charge of the service, it is hoped that each of these group will be well represented.

Following the service the annual carolling visitation will begin. A large truck belonging to Seamon Reynolds has been promised. Autos will also be needed. Those going from the different churches are asked to bring flash lights and hymn books and plenty of wraps if it is cold. Any Shut-Ins who desire a visit are asked to phone 276 and leave their names and address. Just as many of the infirm and aged will be visited as possible, regardless of denomination.

Baptist Intermediate Department Has Annual Xmas Party

The Intermediate Department of the Baptist Sunday School held its Annual Christmas Party in the basement of the Baptist Church on Tuesday night, December 11.

The group enjoyed several games, after which refreshments of candy and fruit were served.

Those attending the party were Dortha Belle Karr, Alberta Dunwoody, Neitha Denson, Henry Gruben, Pike Dobbins, Ivanhoe Drennan, Shirley Powell, Cecilia Fox, Genet Byrd, Murline Burks, Alice Barclay, Jackie Rector, Ada Belle Anglen, Mary Louise Burnam, Ger-

Pretty Girl Dons Lineman's Togs, Offers to Help Restore Electric Power in Ice-Stricken Panhandle

Grim, leathery-faced linemen found nothing to laugh about when they reached the ice-stricken Panhandle to begin the serious business of restoring light and power following late November's freakish storm. But they smiled when they learned that a pretty girl had volunteered to help them.

Fellow workers with the West Texas Utilities, which had anticipated just what happened and had lined up their emergency crews from as far as 400 miles away a day ahead of the actual breakage, were first to reach Amarillo. Loyal, sympathetic Miss Sarah Smith, employed as cashier at Anson, volunteered to help, said she could climb a pole as good as a man in an emergency. Although she proved her willingness by donning a lineman's togs and squirming up a 50-foot pole, her offer was declined.

"We thought she might distract attention from the task at hand," said a harassed line foreman, dog-tired after 36 sleepless hours. "I like the idea though. Maybe we can use her to pass out doughnuts and coffee."

The company, serving four counties in the storm area, including the principal towns of Dalhart, Texline, Dumas and Stratford, all equally hard hit with Amarillo, rushed a total of five fully-equipped "heavy" trucks and 60 linemen to the storm center, more than any other neighboring service company. Two trucks and crews proceeded to Dalhart, joining with Roy Norvell's local line repairmen, while three trucks and 30 workmen stopped to do yeoman service in the larger task of rehabilitating Amarillo's light and power lines.

Superior resources, to draw on for badly needed equipment, and a highly trained personnel within a few hours distance were credited with enabling the West Texas Utilities Company to handle its own repair problem in record time and, in addition, render aid to a neighboring community.

Men, trucks and equipment were on their way north from as far as San Angelo, McCombs and Abilene within a few hours after power and telephone lines began crumbling under the weight of many thousands of tons of ice. Earlier, crews had been dispatched from Stamford, Cisco, Quanah and Childress, leaving behind only a skeleton force to guard against ice-olation should the freezing rain drop below the cap-rock area.

Like the Anson girl, inspired to offer her help because "it's the neighborly thing to do," many workers pleaded for the assignment. Not only did its crews forego sleep during the emergency but also short wave radio operators with the company remained at their posts 24 hours a day. The company had an emergency station, W5-DVQ, in service at its Abilene headquarters from Sunday noon, shortly after the first lines went out, until communications were restored more than 48 hours later. WTUers Dan Whitaker and Bill Green operated the station day and night, transmitting messages and orders for material.

At intervals it was the only station (1,000 watts) able to communicate with Amarillo amateur operators, and served as a clearing house for



The West Texas Utilities alone had 200 men at work at one time repairing damage wrought by the Panhandle's worst ice and sleet storm. Among volunteers who pleaded for the assignment of "helping out" was a girl, Miss Sarah Smith, WTU cashier at Anson, who said: "I think it's the neighborly thing to do." She proved her willingness by squirming up a 50-foot power line pole.

messages throughout the emergency.

A portable set, W5-BAY, was rushed by truck to Dumas, on an overnight drive made hazardous by 90 miles of icy pavement, where a WTU radio trouble-shooter, H. S. Peake, established the first contact the North Plains area had with the outside world.

Dalhart escaped without any shortage of water. Lights in the business area and hospitals were out less than 24 hours, restored Monday evening as soon as distribution lines could be rebuilt. The company's stand-by generating plant went into immediate operation, providing power for water pumps and light circuits as fast as reconstructed. Lights did not go out in Dalhart until 10 P. M. Sunday, November 24.

Power was extended from the stand-by plants to Stratford and Dumas as quickly as distribution lines could be restored. Another factor in earlier restoration of service in the Dalhart area was the fact that both men and equipment reached the scene from the company's nearby Childress and Quanah districts a day ahead of other outside help. Equipment surpluses are maintained, it was learned, in event of such contingencies.

The stand-by plant at Dalhart made the West Texas Utilities independent of its interconnection with the Southwestern Public Service Company of Amarillo. A 50-mile transmission line, connecting the two, suffered heavily and so did the lines from Channing to Hartley and Dumas where 80 to 90 per cent of the poles were splintered and rendered unfit for further use.

Repair work on the North Plains, however, was made even more difficult by snow and sleet which followed the freezing rain.

"The only cheerful note to be sounded as a result of the storm," said Charlie Coombes, WTU district manager at Dalhart, "is that it'll mean some extra Christmas money for a lot of people. In addition to our own crews, we put every available man to work. The storm has made a lot of jobs for our local people and provided the much needed moisture for farm and pasture lands."

Assisting Coombes in supervision of reconstruction work is Jim Longley, transmission line superintendent of Abilene. First estimate of damage and replacement costs was set at \$60,000 for Coombes' company alone.

At one time, Coombes said, he had 200 men at work.

OPEN HOUSE AT SPUR INN

Mesdames Della Eaton and Mary Putman were most gracious hostesses when they entertained, holding open house Saturday through Sunday night, at the Spur Inn.

Invitations having been sent out to friends over a wide area the list including friends from Clairemont to McAdoo, however, a thin coating of ice over the terrace prevented a number from attending as well as to make it impossible for some of the invitations issued to reach their destination.

Conversation and indoor games was the diversion at these enjoyable events.

Holiday cakes, candies, nuts and beverages were served from a snow covered festive board. Santa Claus in a sled drawn by snow white reindeers completed the table decorations.

Plate favors were miniature Santa Clauses.

Letter From Charles Russell, of Fort Crockett, Galveston

Following is a letter from Charles Russell, 20, of the Coast Artillery, Fort Crockett, Galveston, written to his mother, Mrs. Emma B. Russell:

Fort Crockett Battery D. 69 Galveston, Texas

Mother, our whole D. Battery is going to be broken up; some are going to North Carolina, some to Hitchcock, a new place between Houston and Galveston, some to Palacios, I am going to Palacios.

Mother you saw the picture in The Texas Spur of those Anti Air Craft Guns, those are just like the ones I work on only ours are 5 inch guns and shoot 20 miles.

I am on the Director, it is one of the most valuable pieces of machinery that the army has. This Director is about 3 1/2 feet square, costs one hundred thirty-three thousand dollars.

It shows how high the plane is and how fast it is traveling and where the bullet will burst.

I will make Corporal if I make

DO YOU WANT to correct your posture, improve your figure lines? Get an individual designed Spencer from Mrs. Stella Morrow, Registered Spencer Corsetier.

Miss Katherine Brum, of Cross Cut, who has been visiting the past three weeks with Winnie Lee and Mozell Baum, of McAdoo, was in Spur Monday, enroute home.

Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Harrell of Hamlin were guests of friends in Spur Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Henry were business visitors in Spur Wednesday.

QUICK RELIEF FROM Symptoms of Distress Arising from STOMACH ULCERS DUE TO EXCESS ACID

Free Book Tells of Home Treatment that Must Help or it Will Cost You Nothing Over one million bottles of the WILLARD TREATMENT have been sold for relief of symptoms of distress arising from Stomach and Duodenal Ulcers due to Excess Acid - Poor Digestion, Sour or Upset Stomach, Gasiness, Headache, Sleeplessness, etc., due to Excess Acid. Sold on 15 days' trial. Ask for "Willard's Message" which fully explains this treatment - free - 25

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GENE ROBERTS

Spur, Texas

ACHING-SORE STIFF MUSCLES

For PROMPT relief—rub on Musterole! Massage with this wonderful "COUNTER-IRITANT" actually brings fresh warm blood to aching muscles to help break up painful local congestion. Better than a mustard plaster! Made in 3 strengths.

MUSTEROLE

good on this and I think I can. I have bought some material and have been studying up on it.

I do not go any place much, have been to Huntsville once where Uncle Bud Russell and cousin Ethel showed me through the prison and entertained me royally; to Houston twice and up town Galveston about six times. I surely have been studying, trying to make good.

Charles Russell

Mrs. Jesse Craddock, of Robert Lee, spent Tuesday afternoon to Thursday, the guest of Dr. and Mrs. M. H. Brannen. Mrs. Craddock is a sister of Mrs. Brannen. She was enroute to Lubbock to return her son and daughter, students in Texas Tech, home for the holidays.

Mrs. C. P. Ensey and sister, Mrs. Lucy Basket, who has been spending an extended visit with Mrs. Ensey, left Sunday for La Juanta, Colorado. Mrs. Ensey will spend the winter with her son, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Ensey. Mrs. Basket plans to spend a brief visit there with a son then go to Logan, Nebraska to visit a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Wallace, of McAdoo, were in Spur Tuesday, coming in from their farm home and bringing farm produce.

Advertisement for BOYS' LIFE magazine. It features a row of boy silhouettes at the top and bottom. The text reads: "A Message From The BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA. Reading is important in the program of the Boy Scouts of America. This great boys' organization realizes how much time boys spend in reading - and what an important part it plays in youth training. That's why they publish BOYS' LIFE A MAGAZINE FOR ALL BOYS and fill it full each month with exciting adventure - hobbies - news - pictures - cartoons - personal health, sports and training helps, camping and hiking and real AMERICANISM. BOYS' LIFE is an ideal gift for any boy. \$1.50 a yr. \$2.50 2 yrs. \$3.50 3 yrs. Send your orders today to BOYS' LIFE 2 Park Avenue, N.Y., N.Y."

Advertisement for 666 COLD CURE. It features the number "666" in large, bold letters. The text reads: "To relieve MISERY of COLD CURE 666 Lignif Tablets Salve Nose Drops Cough Drops Try "Rub-My-Tism"—A Wonderful Liniment"

Advertisement for BLUE STAR PAINT. It features a picture of a house. The text reads: "BLUE STAR PAINT Costs less! Here is an unusual value—a medium priced paint which hides well and wears much longer than paints ordinarily sold at similar prices. LOWE BROTHERS BLUE STAR PAINT brushes on easily—smoothly—evenly and comes in a range of good colors for exterior or interior use. \$2.50 PER GAL. TRI-COUNTY LUMBER CO. Lowe Brothers"

Advertisement for FEEN-A-MINT. It features a picture of a person. The text reads: "DON'T BE BOSSSED BY YOUR LAXATIVE—RELIEVE CONSTIPATION THIS MODERN WAY. When you feel gassy, headachy, lory due to clogged-up bowels, do as millions do—take Feen-A-Mint at bedtime. Next morning—thorough, comfortable relief, helping you start the day full of your normal energy and pep, feeling like a million! Feen-A-Mint doesn't disturb your night's rest or interfere with work the next day. Try Feen-A-Mint, the chewing gum laxative, yourself! It tastes good, it's handy and economical... a family supply costs only FEEN-A-MINT 10¢"

Letters to Santa

Roaring Springs, Texas
 Dearest Santa:
 You may have a hard time finding my house as the one you came to last Christmas burned down.
 But the house I am living in now is in the same place.
 I am six years old now Santa and I have been a good girl. Will you please leave me a Rocking Chair, a big doll, some doll dishes, a train, and some oranges, apples, pecans, walnuts, candy and some cocoanuts.
 Don't forget Mother and Daddy, my brothers and sisters.
 Your little friend
 Lola Belle Ware

Roaring Springs, Texas
 Dearest Santa:
 I am a little boy, will you please leave me a doll, a train, a little car, some marbles, and some oranges, apples, nuts, and candy and a little Rocky Horse.
 Your little friend
 Orville Ware

Spur, Texas
 Dearest Santa:
 Will you leave me a Rockey Chair, a big doll, some doll dishes, a little purse and some candy, fruits and pecans.
 I am four years old. I have been a good little girl.
 Your little friend
 Evelyn Marie Ferguson

Dearest Santa:
 Will you please leave me a Rocking Chair, a big doll, some dishes, a purse, and a little Broom, some candy, nuts and fruits.
 I am six years old, have been a very sweet little girl.
 Your little friend
 Margaret Virginia Ferguson

Dearest Santa:
 I am a little five-year-old, will you please leave me a little car, a Gene Autry Gun, a harp and some fire works, some candy, nuts, and fruits.
 Tommie Earl Donathan

Dearest Santa:
 I am a little boy three-years-old will you leave me a doll, some doll dishes, a gun, a little tractor, and some candy, nuts and fruit.
 Don't forget my Grandma and Mamma and Daddy.
 Clarence Wayne Donathan

Dearest Santa:
 I am a little boy, merely 2-years old, will you leave me a baby doll, a little train, and some candy, fruits and nuts, and a Rocky Horse.
 Robert Alvin Donothan
 Roaring Springs, Texas

Dear Santa:
 Please bring me a watch, tractor, fire crackers, nuts, ball, grapes.
 Your friend
 Jack Carr
 P. S. 8 years old, Antelope.

Dear Santa:
 Please bring me a doll, tricycle, candy, ball, grapes, and oranges.
 I go to Antelope school in Kent county.
 I like to go to school. My teachers name is Mrs. London.
 Please bring my baby brother a tricycle. Please bring Mrs. London something too.
 Your friend
 Emma Jean Brashear

Dear Santa:
 Please bring me a car, and a watch, and a tractor, and a wagon, fire crackers, oranges, candy, nuts, chewing gum, apples, grapes, ball, bananas. My teachers name is Mrs. London.
 I am 9 years old.
 My school is Antelope.
 Yours truly,
 Clifford McDonald

Dear Santa:
 Please bring me a tricycle, a wagon, and a watch so I won't be late for school. And some fire crackers.
 I am a little boy. I go to Antelope school. I like to go to school and church. My teachers name is Mrs. London. Please bring her something pretty.
 Your friend
 Glen Edwin Cherry

Dear Santa:
 I have been a very good boy so please bring me a B-B Gun and also some candy and nuts. I sure will be proud of them.
 Lots of love,
 Robert Dale Stewart

Antelope, Texas
 Dear Santa:
 Please bring me a pretty dolly, and oranges, grapes, nuts, and candy.
 I am six years old.
 Your friend
 Yvonne Hagar

Antelope, Texas
 Dear Santa Claus:
 I am a good boy. Will you bring me a little car and a watch, please, also lots of fruit and nuts and candy.
 I go to Antelope school.
 I am in the second grade.
 Your friend
 Donley Lee

Antelope, Texas
 Dear Santa:
 Please bring me a wagon and tricycle.
 I want some nuts, grapes, oranges, apples and candy. I am 6 years old.
 Your friend
 Wayne Brasher

Antelope, Texas
 Dear Santa:
 How are you and Mrs. Claus getting along in cold Iceburgvill, North Pole?
 How are your Trusty reindeer?
 I thought you'd like to know what I want for Christmas so's not to have to wonder what to bring me.
 I'd like to have a doll buggy the largest, prettiest doll you have, a purse, a new hat with a feather upon it, some snowshoes, and some roller skates that don't let your feet go out from under you so easy, if you have have that kind Santa Claus, and a harmonica—one that's easy to Learn to play, and—
 I guess you think I've asked for enough for myself and so I'll think of others now.
 Well, say, Santa Claus, can't you bring grandma a good fast bicycle. She might let me use it sometimes on account of her having rheumatiz.
 Good bye Santa,
 Your friend
 JoAn London
 age 9

Red Mud, Texas
 December 16, 1940
 Dear Santa Claus:
 Please bring me a big doll with lots of pretty clothes. If you have room please I would like a doll buggy too, with lots of nuts, fruits and candy.
 Lots of love,
 Alpha Mae Fuqua

Red Mud, Texas
 December 16, 1940
 Dearest Santa:
 Please bring me a doll, a little broom, a little apron and a little piano. Fill my stocking with lots of candy, nuts, and fruit.
 Love to you,
 Eloise Fitzgerald

Red Mud, Texas
 December 16, 1940
 Dearest Santa:
 Please bring me a guitar for Christmas. I would like lots of fruit and nuts and candy.
 And remember all my little friends.
 Lots of love,
 Peggy Lou Smith

Red Mud, Texas
 December 16, 1940
 Dear Santa Claus:
 I have been a very good girl. For Christmas I should like a piano, some new shoes, and socks. Leave me lots of candy, nuts, and fruit.
 Lots of love,
 Juanice Spain

Red Mud, Texas
 December 16, 1940
 Dear Santa:
 I want a wagon and a bicycle for Christmas. I sure hope you won't disappoint me but I am sure you won't.
 Macey Fuqua

Red Mud, Texas
 December 16, 1940
 Dear Santa Claus:
 I am 6 years old and have been good. I want a big wagon with a steel bed. Please bring lots of oranges, nuts, and candy.
 Lots of love,
 T. F. Baze

Antelope, Texas
 Dear Santa Claus:
 I want a watch, some firecrackers, a ballo car.
 I am 8 years old.
 Your friend
 W. H. (Irishy) Carr

Red Mud, Texas
 December 16, 1940
 Dear Santa Claus:
 I want you to bring me four boxes of B-B's for my B-B gun. I also want lots of candy and nuts and lots of fruit. Remember all of my friends.
 Love
 Bernice Spain

Red Mud, Texas
 December 16, 1940
 Dear Santa:
 Please bring me a B-B gun with lots of shells. I would like a scabbert and six shooter. Leave me some fruit, nuts, and candy, for I have been a good boy.
 Love
 Billie Tom Wyatt

Red Mud, Texas
 December 16, 1940
 Dear Santa:
 I wish that you would bring me a B-B gun and lots of candy, fruit, and nuts, and also a big red wagon.
 Please don't forget my two little brothers, Wayne and Ed Ross.
 With lots of love
 Jimmie Wyatt

Spur, Texas
 Dec. 18, 1940
 Dear Sandy Clause:
 Please bring me a DOLL, one of those real life size, in fact living baby dolls. A red head—one with beautiful flowing red hair. After much thought, consideration, and pondering (not to include the deduction method and etc.) I decided upon the red head.
 Why? Well Santa, I'll tell you: Really it is a long story but I'll make it short as I know you are a very busy man. First—Blondes are fickle; Brunettes can't be trusted; and besides the red-heads are the best. Please bring the Red-Headed Doll.
 Lots of love,
 Little Joe Wolf
 The Night Watchman
 P. S. And Santa bring me some candy, nuts and fruit too, as I have been a good little boy.
 Little J. W.

Mr. Benton, of Crosbyton, was in Spur Monday visiting Mr. Carthwright, who recently moved to Spur as manager of the Curry Funeral Home. While here Mr. Benton in company with Mr. Carthwright were pleasant callers at the Texas Spur office.

Clifford B. Hunter, Cadet at A. & M., arrived home Saturday to spend the Christmas holiday season, A. & M. having turned out several days ahead of schedule time because of a flu epidemic among the cadets.

Wynell McClure, student in Texas Tech, Lubbock, arrived home Tuesday night, she having been excused from school because of illness of flu.

W. A. Craddock, of Austin was greeting friends on the streets of Spur Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. French, of East Afton, were among the number of business visitors to Spur Monday.

W. M. Hunter, Jr., of Lubbock spent the week end here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Hunter Sr.

Mrs. Eula Arthur, of Elton, was among the number of visitors to Spur Wednesday.

Last few days till Christmas

VALUES

THE Rexall DRUG STORE IS THE PLACE

Hurry now! There are only a few days left. Get the big values at the Rexall Store. Comfortable, convenient shopping. Different gifts. Unusually low prices.

City Drug Co.
 Spur, Texas

DANCE

Free - SOUVINERS - Free
 Hats - Confetti - Horns

Xmas Eve . . 24th
Xmas Nite . 25th

STAMFORD
PADIO CLUB

I Give You Texas

Boyce House

My friend, Mr. Cohen, looked worried. "I think I've lost a ten-dollar bill," he explained. "Have you felt in all your pockets?" I asked. "Yes, all but you," he answered. "Why haven't you felt in that one?" I insisted. "Vell," he replied, "if it ain't there, I'll drop dead."

What was the name of the President 22 years ago?
 Franklin D. Roosevelt.

One of the most vivid pieces of Texas newspaper writing seen in quite some time was Bill Potts' recent article in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram telling of a ride in one of the army's newest scout cars weighing 9,000 pounds, armed with four machine guns, covered with half-inch steel plate yet capable of 60 miles an hour over concrete roads. The marvelous machine raced with a cavalry horse over cactus-studded sand dunes near El Paso:

"This is just like a battlefield torn up," said General Swift as he swung in his saddle to point with sweeping arm to the vast area of waste. Let's say the enemy is on that high point and we're supposed to circle and attack from the rear. You start."

Wham—we plowed into a small mountain, climbed to the top of it and pitched over, all wheels spinning in the air at once. Then it was up and down and around for what seemed like hours. My seat, flat on the floor of the steel steed, was little more than a bouncing place which the seat of my pants missed as often as it hit, while I clung grimly to dashboard and steel rail around the top of the car.

We had gone less than 50 yards when the general sailed nonchalantly by at full gallop, the terrain both-ering his horse no more than would a race track. In two minutes he was out of sight.

When we stopped, I untangled myself and climbed unsteadily to the ground. A button had popped off my vest; my necktie was askew; my shoe laces were undone; my hat rested in the rear, I'd lost my stomach.

Thus it was proved once that the horse is still a vital part of national defense. Though declaring they are handicapped by the fact that racing no longer is permitted in the State, Texas thoroughbred breeders are cooperating with the army to provide stallions for the production of cavalry horses

With Texas newspapermen: An early Christmas present, \$4,000 for an oil lease on 40 acres, has been received by George Baker, publisher of the Fort Stockton Pioneer, according to the Stanton Reporter . . . C. C. Hadsell, in the Donna News-Advocate, after quoting this columnist's description of a complicated toothpick machine, says two Donna men—Leo Wharton and Ralph Mins-hall—have applied for a patent on a simple machine, which at the turn-

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 Spur, Texas

GREETINGS

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FOR RENT—Four room house furnished or unfurnished.—Mrs. P. H. Miller.

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 Phone 37 Spur, Texas

CHRISTMAS ISSUE
THE TEXAS SPUR
 and THE DICKENS ITEM

SPUR'S OLDEST BUSINESS INSTITUTION—AND THE LARGEST NET PAID CIRCULATION EVER ASSEMBLED IN DICKENS COUNTY

VOLUME XXXII.

SPUR, DICKENS COUNTY, TEXAS, DECEMBER 19, 1940.

NUMBER 8.

'Twas The Night
 Before
 Christmas

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house
 Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;
 The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
 In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;
 The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
 While visions of sugar plums danced in their heads;
 And Mamma in her kerchief, and I in my cap,
 Had just settled our brains for a long Winter nap;
 When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
 I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.

Away to the window I flew like a flash,
 Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash,
 The moon, on the breast of the new-fallen snow,
 Gave a lustre of midday to objects below;
 When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
 But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer,
 With a little old driver, so lively and quick,
 I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.
 More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
 And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name.

"Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen
 On! Comet, on! Cupid, on! Dunder and Blixen—
 To the top of the porch, to the top of the wall!
 Now, dash away, dash away, dash away all!"
 As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
 When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky,
 So, up to the house-top the coursers they flew,
 With the sleigh full of toys—and St. Nicholas, too.

And then in a twinkling I heard on the roof
 The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.
 As I drew in my head, and was turning around,
 Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.
 He was dressed all in fur from his head to his foot,
 And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot;
 A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,
 And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.

His eyes how they twinkled; his dimples how merry!
 His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry;
 His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
 And the beard on his chin was as white as the snow.
 The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
 And the smoke, it encircled his head like a wreath.
 He had a broad face and a little round belly
 That shook, when he laughed, like a bowl full of jelly.

He was chubby and plump—a right jolly old elf;
 And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself.
 A wink of his eye, and a twist of his head,
 Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.
 He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
 And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk,
 And laying his finger aside of his nose,
 And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose.

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle;
 And away they all flew like the down of a thistle;
 But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight:
 "Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good night!"



And Still His Words Ring Through the World

By ARTHUR MEE
(The New York Times)

It is nineteen hundred years since one or two shepherds were abiding in the field, and still we talk of them.

In that solemn midnight the news was brought to them of a Child born in a stable, and still we talk of Him. He walked about the hills of Palestine speaking to the people, and still His words ring through the world.

If we would have a hero, where is such another? Hunted from the cradle to the grave, stoned out of cities, trapped and tempted by the priests, rejected by His people, betrayed by His disciples, scourged and mocked and spat upon and crucified between two thieves. He yet stands before us as our Man of men, something more than Galahad, more than hero, saint and knight, the Saviour of the World.

It is not an idle saying, not poetry or just a phrase from the Bible, but is politically true.

He went into the wilderness to think about the world. He came back after forty days of solitude, of temptation and struggle and decision, and began talking to the people. He would go into their villages and towns and talk with them by the way, sometimes in a little field or from a boat on the lake, or to little children on His knee, and at times He would confront them in the Temple. He would walk on foot from place to place, sometimes nearly a hundred miles, and always He would talk of simple things.

Sensitive of Human Need

Never man spake like this Man. The priests had made themselves powerful with their cunning, and had set up great pretenses and much ceremony; but this Man spoke of things they knew in words they knew—of the wind blowing where it listeth, of the chaff growing in the wheat, of the beauty of the wild-flow-

ers, of a hen gathering her chickens, and a fox hiding in its hole.

He noticed everything—the cunning of the serpent, the chirping of the sparrow, the lilies of the field, the stone that a builder rejected which at last became the chief stone of the house. He was sensitive to human need and simple feeling, to suffering and beauty; let a woman but touch the hem of His garment and so sensitive was He that it was talked of for a thousand years.

He told them little stories they loved—of the sower going forth to sow, the rich man and his barns, the great supper, the king's son in a far country, the Prodigal Son, the lost piece of silver. He moved among the people and mixed with them all, at their feasts and their weddings, in their sick rooms and synagogues, in the market place and at the well. He saw a tax-gatherer up in a tree and called him down, for He must abide at his house. He loved to go to the house of Mary and Martha and their brother at Bethany. He was so gentle that little children came to Him. He was so calm that it seemed that even the winds and the seas obeyed Him. He was known to weep but rarely to frown, and He kept His scorn for the hypocrite. In storm and danger His strength was for all:

"Be of good cheer; it is I: Be not afraid."

Wise Men Bring Gifts

He was in the world for thirty years, of which we know almost nothing, save that wise men brought gifts to Him in His lowly cradle, that Mary and Joseph the carpenter fled into Egypt to save His life, and that as a boy of 12 they found Him in the Temple arguing with the doctors, who were astonished at His wisdom. Most of what we know of Him is from the last three years, and altogether what we know is not equal to a day of every year He lived.

Most all that we know of Him happen-

ed in about thirty-five days. There have been 690,365 days since then and not one on which somebody would not have died for Him. The memory of these thirty-five days remains the most precious possession of mankind. It has been the secret strength behind the forces that have made our modern world.

We owe our knowledge of these thirty-five days to four men, especially to Matthew, the journalist who wrote down His words. There are about 25,000 of them, and they have changed the world for every one of us.

If every paper in the world would print these words, and every reader of these papers would follow them, the world would be happy for all time.

What are they, these few words that have such power?

Best Short Stories Ever Told

Some of them are little tales the best short stories ever told, every one pure gold. There is the beautiful story of the Good Samaritan told in two inches of type yet with an immortal message. We know the people in it, those who pass by and those who help. We know the two kinds of people in the story of the Pharisee and the Publican, told in a few words.

Every one knows the widow's mite, the eternal story of the poor who give all. Every child understands the beautiful story of the Prodigal Son, yet it comes down the ages as a better tale than Shakespeare ever told, and it is true of life in every age. The Sermon on the Mount shows men how to achieve peace, success and understanding. His philosophy of life is summarized in these few simple words: "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you do ye even so to them."

Men have made a mystery of it all, have woven it into creeds that no man understands, so that there is nothing in the history of the world so sad and dark and terrible as the history of the misunderstanding of His words; yet they are simple and beautiful and true. He

across the front of which were strung coins.

"In the gathering were Arab women in western dresses and hats.

We Visit Grotto of the Nativity

"Our places assured, we went to the Grotto of the Nativity, the place to be on Christmas Eve. The grotto is a small stone cave below the altar of the Church of the Nativity. The smoke-stained walls are hung with red and gold brocade. In a niche in the floor is a brass altar reading: 'Hic de Virgine Maria Jesus Christ natus est.' If you put your hand through the hole in the center of the star you are told that you are actually touching the stone on which Christ was born. Panels fill the upper part of the niche. In them are paintings of scenes from the life of Christ. Before these hang burning lamps. Some 15 of them belong to the Greek Orthodox, others belong to the Romans, while still others are those of the Armenians. A few steps to the right and slightly lower lies a marble slab, which marks the site of the manger. Above it hangs a picture of the Wise Men, and before it stands an altar. Candles provide the only light, so the air is smoky and close at all times, but especially on Christmas Eve, when the grotto is filled with people, who were most interesting to observe. Ardent Catholic Arabs knelt before the niche, and leaned forward again and again to touch their lips to the star. Nuns were huddled together near the manger saying their beads. Men and women, old and young, some standing, some sitting, and others kneeling. Everyone, including a professor, from the Hebrew University, was in a reverent attitude, until the quiet was broken by a guide followed by two tourists. After they left, all was again quiet.

"We left the grotto by the stairway to the right. As we entered the courtyard, it began to fill with people. I realized that the service to be broadcast from Bethlehem was about to begin. The courtyard is a sizable one, surrounded on three sides by a wall, dominated by the tower from which the bells of Bethlehem ring out."

Legend of the Mistletoe

Mistletoe, the symbol of friendship, joy and peace at Christmas time, and used as part of our holiday decorations, is rich in tradition and legend.

The custom of "kissing and becoming friends" under a spray of mistletoe tied over the doorway or suspended from the ceiling can be traced back through the centuries to the days of the Druids of England. Even beyond that, the origin of the plant dates to the time of the ancient Greeks who used it in their ceremonies. Occasionally, mistletoe was found growing on an oak and because the oak was the most sacred of all trees, the Druids held it with special reverence.

left them with a few plain men who listened to them. He trusted to the simple power and truth of them to come down the ages. And they have come.

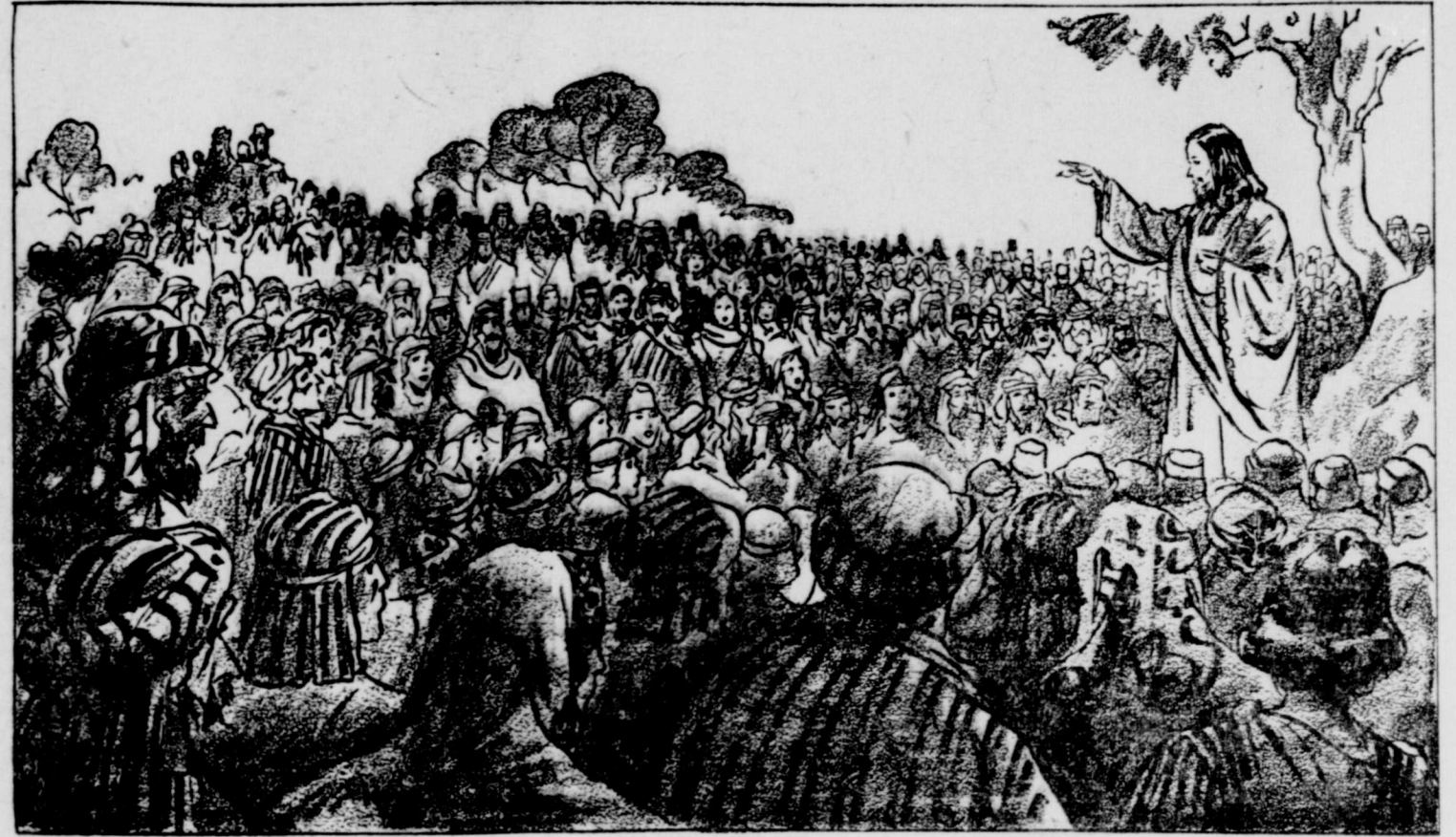
Goes to Jerusalem and to Death

The thirty-five days drew to their end. They brought Him an ass and He rode on it to Jerusalem, the people spreading their garments in the way.

He went to the Temple and threw out the men who turned it into a marketplace. He healed the sick and opened the eyes of those who could not see. He told them that faith should move mountains, and bade them remember the things that are Caesar's and the things that are God's. He told them of the

Him, Judas followed by a multitude with swords and staves; and in that bitter hour all the disciples forsook Him and fled—he whom Jesus loved, he who would lay down his life for Him, all but a certain young man unknown, who followed until they laid hold of him and stripped off his clothes so that he fled away naked. He was the unknown hero, the last man to follow Jesus.

Now is was over, they said. But it was only beginning. It was the Roman Empire and not Christianity that was to pass away. It was Caesar and Pilate who were to be forgotten, not the Man of Galilee. He lives in all our lives and we cannot escape Him. Nations come and go, empires rise and fall, the cen-



"And great multitudes were gathered together unto Him."

dark days that would come, when not one stone would be left upon another—O, Jerusalem, Jerusalem!

And then came one who betrayed

turies roll on and races pass away, but He who was hunted and hated from Bethlehem to Calvary still sways the lives of men.

OUR CHRISTMAS SONGS

By FLORENCE COLLINS
(Baltimore Sun)

OUR Christmas songs (or carols) are pagan chants or religious hymns to celebrate the nativity, written in many languages by people representing many creeds and nationalities.

Among the best known Christmas carols is "Adeste Fidelis," or "O, Come, All Ye Faithful." The words were written by St. Bonaventurer, Bishop of Albano, in the thirteenth century and were sung first in Latin. In 1760, came the English version followed by translations into twenty-six other languages. The tune is commonly known as the Portuguese Hymn, probably because it was composed by Marco Portugallo, chapel-master to the King of Portugal. It is a sturdy, whole-hearted hymn and was the favorite of Theodore Roosevelt.

"Silent Night" Most Popular

Best loved, perhaps, is "Stille Nacht" or "Silent Night," which was sung in the original German year after year over the radio by Madame Schumann-Heink. The words were written by Joseph Mohr, a young parish priest in the village of Obendorf, Germany, in 1818. He wrote the words for his church choir and they were set to music by the church organist, Franz Gruber.

"Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" was written in 1739 by Charles Wesley, younger brother of John Wesley, who founded the Methodist Church. The hymn is printed in the hymn book that accompanies the Church of England's Book of Common Prayer. The music was written later, about one hundred years ago, by the Jewish composer, Felix Bartholdy-Mendelssohn.

Two American Hymns

America has contributed two well-known Christmas hymns. "O Little Town of Bethlehem" was written by Phillips Brooks when he was bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Massachusetts. He wrote it anonymously for use in the Sunday School, but he later acknowledged his authorship when it was set to music by the American composer, Lewis Redner.

"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" was written first as a poem by Edmund H. Sears, a Unitarian minister and poet. It was published in a religious journal in 1849. A brother clergyman, struck with the beauty of the poem, wrote an original melody for it.

For more than 400 years people have been singing "The First Nowell," an ancient medieval English carol. It is crude poetry, a peasant's attempt to tell the Christmas story of rhyme, and it is set to simple music. The English word, Nowell, was adapted from the French during the Norman Conquest, while the

French Noel comes from the Latin Natalis, meaning birthday. Translated, the song means The First Birthday.

French Carol

A traditional French carol often sung in America is "Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella," which celebrates the French custom of going to church at midnight to see the creche or manger scene set up in the church on Christmas Eve. During the early evening, the children sing Noels about their own creche in their homes, then go to bed early, to be awakened by the Christmas bells. Old and young put on their best clothes and go out into the narrow, crooked streets where torches light their way to the church.

"Here a torch, Jeanette, Isabella,
Here a torch to the cradle bring."



For centuries, strolling players in England have sung the old pagan chants to celebrate the midwinter Festival of Yule, which was observed before Christianity came. "Deck the Hall with Boughs and Holly" comes from Wales, and suggests the preparations for the Yule feast—dancing, frolicking, puddings, garlands and blazing Yule logs.

Early Legends

Several of these early songs tell legends such as "Good King Wenceslas," which relates the story of how a kind deed performed by the King for a poor peasant resulted in a miracle on the day after Christmas. Wenceslas was King of Bohemia, 928-935, which dates the song.

In Dicken's "Christmas Carol," a singer passing in the street stooped down to Scrooge's keyhole to regale him with a Christmas carol. But at the first sound of

"God bless you, merry gentlemen,
May nothing you dismay."

Scrooge seized a ruler and threw it at the singer, who fled in terror.

The song, as we know it, is "God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen." It dates back to the seventeenth century, and is a joyous song even though it rehearses the glad tidings in a minor key. For centuries, outdoor carolers have followed its marching rhythms from door to door on Christmas Eve.

Brotherhood of Man

Christmas is not a time for cheap sentimentality. It cannot be celebrated by laying aside one's sense of right and wrong. What is evil in the world remains evil, even while trees are trimmed and presents exchanged, and the old, lovely stories told again. But Christmas can mean an awareness of the brotherhood of man, and a renewed consciousness of the fact that no nation is composed solely of wicked men.

CHRISTMAS in Bethlehem of Judea

By ELIZABETH BINGHAM

HIS story of a journey from Jerusalem to Bethlehem, on Christmas Eve, is told by Elizabeth Bingham, a popular feature writer:

"Christmas Eve was clear and cold. The moon shone, a huge glowing ball in the sky. The Palestinian night sky is never so dark as the heavens in other parts of the world which makes the contrast between moon and sky startlingly beautiful.

"We drove the 6 miles from Jerusalem to Bethlehem, leaving Jerusalem by the Jewish residential quarter. Strange as it seemed to us on Christmas Eve, nothing was decorated, save the tower of the new Y. M. C. A. building on which were red and green lights. Yet it was Christmas Eve, and we were bound for Bethlehem, the birthplace of Him, who revolutionized the world.

"Once out of Jerusalem, we sensed that danger lurked in the shadow on the barren, rocky hillsides. Christmas Eve had no meaning for the Arabs of Palestine, who are eager to make Palestine an independent Arab state. They resent the promise of a National Home in Palestine made to the Jews through the Balfour Declaration and are doing all in their power to thwart its accomplishment.

Scene of Violence

"What could be more ironic than the fact that this country, which should of all countries be at peace, is the scene of constant disturbance, violence and slaughter? Yet looking across the hills and valleys we could imagine what it had been like on that Christmas Eve almost two thousand years ago, when the shepherds in the field were told, that unto them was born that day in the city of David, a Saviour, who was Christ, the Lord.

"As we drove along, the landscape put us in the mood for the experience ahead of us. Not far from Jerusalem we passed the well at which it is thought the Wise Men watered their camels. Farther on and to the left lay the field in which the shepherds 'watched their flocks.' Today a stone wall surrounds the field, but the red tiled roof of the gatekeeper's house distinguishes it from other walls. From the road in daylight you can see barren ground, sparsely covered with grass.

"Suddenly Bethlehem lay before us with its houses, markets, shops,

churches and mosque nestling on the hillside. The sight stirred us deeply as we realized that we were facing Bethlehem on the one evening in the year, when the thoughts of the world turn toward it.

Ten Wounded in Clashes Outside Church

"We left Rachel's tomb standing somberly at the foot of the hill and were then in Bethlehem. We climbed upward to the Church of the Nativity. In the streets, and particularly in Manger square before the church, excitement prevailed. Bethlehem lacked the tenseness and fear so noticeable in Jerusalem and on the road. Police and soldiers were there ready to act in case of need,



"It was Christmas Eve and we were bound for Bethlehem."

but as the majority of Bethlehem's Arabs were Christians there was little fear. Even so, clashes took place just outside the church and ten were wounded.

"We made our way to St. Catherine's Roman Catholic Church. Seats for midnight mass were at a premium by 8 o'clock, but we were lucky, and found two in the center of the large stone church. All eyes are drawn to the chancel, because of the beauty of the white marble altar, and the blue starred ceiling above it, from which hangs a large star-shaped lamp. Above the altar that night lay an image of the Christ Child surrounded with flowers. On the altar red roses and carnations were arranged artistically.

"One felt the anticipation with which the homogeneous congregation was awaiting midnight. There were town Arabs in western attire and turbans. Near them sat Bedouins in their flowing abayes or cloaks, while on their heads scarves were held in place by bands of camels' hair. Scattered throughout the church were Bethlehem women in white conical shaped headresses, and dark, heavily embroidered dresses. There, too, were wealthy Arab ladies wearing full dresses of rich materials, and turbans

CURRENT COMMENT

By A STAFF EDITOR

(Copyright, 1940, by the Southwest Magazine Co.)

The Star

BEAUTIFUL indeed is the story of the three gift-bearing Magi, hastening from far lands to the manger of a Bethlehem inn, nearly two thousand years ago. No other account in human history, legend or myth, compares with it; and that which provides the story's most exquisite climax is the mysterious guidance accorded them by a Star of exceeding brightness.

While shepherds watched their flocks on Judean hillsides, there traveled a devout trio—Melchior, Gaspar and Balthasar—carrying a precious tribute of gold, frankincense and myrrh, and in their hearts a strange and puzzling wonder. A birth, long foretold as of infinite moments to mortals, was to be consummated—a birth of a Savior that after twenty long centuries is still prophecy's greatest triumph.

Knownledge of this should make of Christmas, celebrated under the humblest circumstances, the year's loveliest and longest-remembered event. Touched with light from this Bethlehem Star, every gift made to those we love becomes priceless. Exposed to that light, every purpose of the present, every plan for the future, glows with transcendent beauty. In that light, every memory of the past takes on brighter substance, deeper meaning.



Christmas, a Home Day

"Are you going home for Christmas?" How often during the past weeks that question has been asked.

Christmas and home are words that have long been associated. One may celebrate New Years anywhere. Fourth of July preferably stages its hoorah and banging in crowded places. But the sacred rites of Thanksgiving and Christmas need the home altar.

The favorite Christmas art pictures show a big two-horse sleigh drawing up before the farm-house door and young people waving hands in glee as

father and mother come out to welcome them. That was typical of early days before fast motor transportation.

Yet such pictures awaken memories in older people and inspire in the young a very real reverence, even though it be not clearly understood. These associations come not by chance; they are precious traditions proving the high quality of the material out of which our American commonwealth and social structure were made. Love of liberty and respect for and belief in religion were essential to it.

We must be watchful lest in the speed of our so-called progress we leave behind valuables of this kind. Frequently one hears the charge that the home as an institution is not what it used to be. Let us not be too hasty in accepting such sinister implications. It is significant, too, that the ideal of home has not weakened. Periods of economic well-being allowed by building re-

ways are first indicated by building re-activations. Thousands of little homes spring up on farms, in towns, villages and cities. Each will have its Christmas tree and children joyously expecting gifts.

And it is not too late for a word of admonition. Remember the dear ones back in the old home. When the question is asked, "Are you going home for Christmas?" the answer should be, "Sure!"

Trainees Facing a Busy Year

The 800,000 volunteers and trainees who are to be inducted into the land forces of the United States under the Selective Training and Service Act will have a busy year ahead of them. This fact becomes more apparent every day as the War Department perfects its plans for making them into complete modern soldiers within twelve months.

It is a difficult task, because the modern soldier has to learn more than any soldier before him. The primary object of the training the Army has in

mind is to teach the recruits to take care of themselves in combat, and this means they must know what to do when dive bombers "strafe" them, when gas shells are thrown at them, when tanks come charging across the fields, and when enemy infantry rushes in at close quarters.

Napoleon said that every private soldier carried a marshal's baton in his knapsack, and every private in the American Army will carry a commanding officer's knowledge in his head, if their trainers are successful in this first year's effort. The Army officers who have the training in charge are only sorry that the first sixteen weeks of every recruit's training must be occupied with physical "hardening" and with accustoming him to take care of his equipment.

That will leave only about eight months to initiate him into the mysteries of squad, platoon, company and regimental operations, where individual initiative, combined with training in team-work, is acquired. So many operations, such as the firing of trench mortars and heavy machine guns, require the efforts of two or more men that the recruits must learn team-work, but they must also learn to use their own judgment in case they are separated from their officers.

Every resource of the Army will be devoted to the exclusive purpose of making these men competent soldiers in a year. What efforts will be made to keep the men and their families happy, through the new Morale Division of the War Department, will be operated in the belief that a happy soldier is a better soldier.

New Markets Opened

In the long pull, for the years to come, the most important factor concerning foreign trade is the loss to Great Britain and Germany of their important position in the Latin American markets and the acquisition of these markets by the United States.

The republics of Central and South America are buying in the United States on an unprecedented scale. Exports to these countries increased 42.4 per cent in the first 12 months of the war, ending last August 31, and exports to South America alone increased 58 per cent.

The Latin American countries are not buying and never have bought from the

United States on the scale of such a customer as Britain, but they are turning to the United States to satisfy their requirements as never before. It is through establishment of these smaller, but potentially long time, trade relationships that this country can expect its most significant trade development in the future.

Sixteen of the 20 Latin American nations were heavier buyers of electrical household equipment during the first eight months of 1940 than during the similar period in 1938, the last normal year of trade undisturbed by war. Many of them showed increases of 100 per cent or more. Mexico, buying \$576,677 worth of equipment, doubled its 1938 purchases.

2,734,000 Aliens Sign

The Department of Justice has announced that 2,734,900 non-citizens, or 76 per cent of the estimated total of 3,600,000 in the United States, had already complied with the Alien Registration Act of 1940. Registration is to end Dec. 26.

This figure does not include almost 60,000 aliens registered in the Territories, 25,000 seamen registered at ports of entry, and more than 12,000 registered through consular offices in other countries.

Earl G. Harrison, Director of Alien Registration, issued two reminders: one, that aliens living permanently in the United States must notify the Immigration and Naturalization Service in Washington within five days of any change in permanent address, and the other that parents or guardians of alien children under 14 must register for them.

Our Turkey Crop

Turkey production in the United States increased from 1.80 pounds per capita in 1929 to 3.68 pounds in 1939 and this year will be even higher, the Commerce Department reported. The 1939 turkey crop, the Department said, amounted to 32,732,000 turkeys and this year's crop is expected to be about 33,138,000 birds.

Because of the larger stocks in storage on Nov. 1 as compared with last year, the slightly heavier weight of the 1940 birds and the small increase in production, the supply of turkey meat will be above that of last year. However, the increase in consumer incomes and the growing habit of eating turkey throughout the year is expected to affect favorably the disposition of this year's crop.

Biggest Star

Ras Algehi, brightest member of the constellation of Hercules, a group seen in the western evening sky, is now pronounced the largest known star. It is 690,000,000 miles in diameter, about 800 times the sun's diameter of 864,000 miles.

This is shown by new calculations of George H. Hebig, of the University of California at Los Angeles.

Second in size is Mira, in Cetus, the whale, 395,000,000 miles in diameter. Third is Betelgeuse, in Orion, the warrior, now seen to the east in the late evening. This seems to vary in size from 260,000,000 miles to 360,000,000 miles. Antares is fourth, with only 245,000,000 miles diameter. This, however, is still considerably larger than the earth's orbit, which is 186,000,000 miles in diameter.

Arkansas Boy Wins Star Farmer Award

A mild-mannered, 17-year-old youth from the cotton country of Arkansas

won the highest honor the Future Farmers of America and its 230,000 members could bestow upon him—the title of 1940 Star Farmer of America.

The honor was conferred on Gerald Reyenga of Emmet, Ark., at the Future Farmers annual convention, held in Kansas City, November 12 in conjunction with the American Royal Livestock and Horse Show. With it went \$500 award.

For Gerald, it climaxed four years of sharp interest in vocational agricultural work at his high school and the days he had spent on the 520-acre home place where he was reared. Since the death of his father last year the responsibility for managing his mother's farm has been his. He put the

farm on a money-making basis. Gerald is the next to the eldest in a family of nine children.

Christmas Club Distributions in the Nation

Final figures on Christmas Club distributions, to be made to members in December were announced as \$365,000,000 by Herbert F. Rawls of New York City, founder and head of the Christmas Club movement. This total set a high level and presented an increase of about 4 1/2 per cent over the 1939 distribution. Unlike previous estimates from various sources, the figure was for the nation, as represented by more than 7,500,000 members with deposits in approximately 4,800 banks, savings institutions and other organizations.

For the entire country the average distribution to each member will amount to \$48.50. Mr. Rawls estimated that the recipients would use the money as follows: Christmas purchases, 32.4 per cent, or \$118,260,000; permanent savings, 26.7 per cent, or \$95,655,000; year-end bills, 14 per cent, or \$51,000,000; taxes, 9.7 per cent, or \$36,400,000; insurance premiums, 9.3 per cent, or \$34,000,000; education, travel and charity, 4.2 per cent, or \$15,330,000; mortgage interest, 2.3 per cent, or \$8,400,000; miscellaneous, 1.4 per cent, or \$5,955,000.

A Statistical Fact

The Fort Worth Press says: "Here is a statistical fact which we all should paste and carry in our hats:

"On a basis of our normal budget for the year—leaving out the billions for defense—if every income above \$100,000 a year were confiscated (and that includes the Du Ponts, the Rockefeller, the Mellons and all the other fat ones), the amount collected would run the government only 16 days. If every income above \$10,000 were confiscated—110 days.

"Think that over, as you view the abundant life, and the future, for yourself and your posterity."

Longevity

Man is about the longest-lived of the mammals, with the elephant running a close second. For other types of life Dr. Raymond Pearl, of Johns Hopkins Hospital, sets these maximums: Insects, 17 years; fish, 267 years; reptiles, 175 years; birds, 118 years. These spans are dwarfed by trees—the giant California red woods, whose annual ring growth reveals ages running to 5,000 years, and the macrozamia trees, found in the Tambourine Mountains of Australia, one of which has been estimated to be 15,000 years old.

7,000 New Pilots

The Army will have 7,000 newly trained war pilots by June, said Gen. John B. Brooks, commandant of Randolph Field, near San Antonio, Texas, the largest flying field in the world.

More than 800 of these new skilled pilots will be ready for combat in only a few months, Gen. Brooks declared. They will come from the ranks of 353 "Dodgers"—cadets who haven't yet qualified for licenses—and 565 civil-flying-course graduates receiving advanced instruction.

The question of a shortage of training planes is not troublesome now, according to Brig. Gen. Gerald C. Brant, commander of the Gulf Coast Air Training Center, who collaborates with Gen. Brooks.

But Brant warned that if the aircraft manufacturers do not speed up production by March, there will be a shortage.

Grass Root Reveries

By JOE GANDY
Winnboro, Texas.

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INEXORABLE Time has brought around another Christmas with all its beautiful sentiments and traditions. Time takes youth from many of us but Christmas brings it back. At Christmastime we oldsters catch the spirit of the holidays and become as children again. Toys and dolls and balloons interest us. We join the little boys and girls in celebrating this Great and Joyous Day. To every one of my readers I truly and sincerely wish a

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

May God grant you:

Comfort in your Home,
Safety on your Journey,
Courage in your Duty,
Happiness in your Leisure,
Patience in your Adversity,
Success in your Ventures.

As December comes to an end, we look back over 1940 to check our assets and liabilities: What have we gained; what have we lost? Did we keep that 1940 New Year resolution or did we let it go the way of all flesh? Did we forgive Bill Brown for trespassing against us or did we snub Bill and wish he were in hades? Did we keep the faith or did we chum with the devil and fall for his wiles? Did we play the game fair or did we cheat and get away with it? Did we pay our bills or did we use creditors' money to buy gadgets? It is a time for ledger inventories—a time also for human inventories.

Old 1940 will go down in history as a spectacular year. It started out mild as a lamb but wound up fierce as a lion. Most notable events were the gubernatorial elections, the Presidential election, the third term and the straw votes. In all my life I never saw so many straw votes. There were billions, enough to feed every billy and nanny goat in the country for one year. Men made money taking straw votes which, they claimed, reflected the opinion of all voters. But very few straw votes reflected anything but a wild guess that missed the mark a mile. Even our little

Coon Creek community had a straw vote on the Presidential nominees. But when the ballot box was opened to count the votes it had more straw in it than votes. Some joker had filled the box with straw he had gathered from an old wheat stack.

We are well on our way with national defense if labor strikes don't bog us down. Uncle Sam should tolerate no strikes in plants working on defense armament. It was labor strikes two years ago among French airplane and munition factories that contributed to French defeat. It is the reds causing strikes in American airplane plants let's deport them or shoot them. Representative Dies said recently: "The evidence we have confirms that the Axis partners, Germany, Italy, Japan and Russia, are working very closely in the United States, exchanging information and actively co-operating in many ways, to prevent this country from quickly preparing its defense, and second, to prevent our extending aid to Britain.

"There is no question that their agents are entrenched in industries vital to national defense. That proof has already been obtained. There is no question about the desperate intention of Axis powers to prevent us from preparing and from extending help to Britain."

Astronomers tell us that a comet is approaching the Earth at the rate of two thousand miles per second. It will be visible all over the United States. Comets wander through space without any particular objective, sometimes colliding headon with a planet, say scientists. I hope this comet will miss the Earth a million miles, for we are being bombed enough as is. Believe I could dodge an airplane bomb but doubt that I could dodge a comet striking the Earth with its long tail.

Why comets have long tails never has been explained to my satisfaction. I can see a reason for a dog having a tail, especially in fly time, but what use has a comet for a tail? Nothing would humiliate me more than to be side-swiped and killed by an old comet's tail.

East Texas this year has the greatest sweet 'tater crop on record. For a long time the sweet potato was just human food. Now scientists say it is one of the most valuable of root crops. Not only starch but other products can be made from the sweet potato. I am glad this lowly field crop is coming into its own. I can remember when we boys in school lunched on sweet 'taters and corn pone day after day. No better food than these for building brawn. But feasts of brawn on school grounds were so common then that no one paid much attention to them. Nowadays athletic prowess is spread all over the front pages of newspapers.

There is another crop in Texas that some day will be of immense value. Scientists haven't got around to it yet. When they do they will find the persimmon has 'em all beat for vitamins A and D and vitamins WXYZ. One reason the persimmon crop is not appreciated is because we don't have to work it. They grow wild and anywhere except where you want them to grow. Many times have I dug a persimmon sprout from among the corn and cotton rows only to find in a few days that two sprouts had grown in the same place where I had dug the one sprout.

The State Game Department comes out with an unusual story about the coyote and the raccoon. These two animals have formed an alliance against wild turkeys. As the story goes, the coons climb the trees at night, scare the turkeys from their roosts and the coyotes catch and eat 'em. No mention is made in the story as to where the coon comes in but we guess he gets the spoils, or whatever the coyotes leave of bones and feathers. Animals are much like dictators—they may not like each other but when it comes to killing and pilfering for spoils they work together 100 per cent.

Several friends have complained to me of late about "sleeping cold." There's no excuse whatever for sleeping cold if you have a place where geese can be raised. A good feather bed will keep any one warm during the coldest night. Early settlers knew this and for that reason they kept a flock of geese "browsing around." When I say browsing I mean it literally. A goose will earn its keep by eating grass in fence corners and root sprouts in old fields. Furthermore, you have no better food than a fat well roasted goose along with sweet 'taters and brown gravy.

The Great American Home



BRIEF TEXAS NEWS---from Over the State

DIES AT 106

J. W. Blackwell, born in Arkansas 106 years ago, died from injuries at Spur, (Dickens county). He had been a Confederate soldier and buffalo hunter.

GIVES 3 AMBULANCES

Three field ambulances, fully equipped, have been given to England for service by Karl Hohlitzelle of Dallas, wealthy Interstate Theaters president.

BIGGEST FISH CATCH

When Davey Lake went out near Palestine, negroes of the community got the biggest catch of the season simply by walking out and picking up fish stranded by receding waters.

THIRD SET OF TWINS

Mr. and Mrs. Skeet Frazier, of Kountze, (Hardin county), have announced the birth of a third set of twins. They have a total of 10 children. The three sets of twins are all alive and healthy.

SAFEST CITIES

State police have made public their city motor vehicle traffic fatality ratings for the first nine months of 1940 showing Dallas, El Paso and Tyler as the safest cities in their population groups.

STATE DEFICIT NEW HIGH

Reaching a new high of more than \$28,250,000 on November 4, the deficit in the general revenue fund of the State treasury smashed all previous records. The previous high mark was October 19 when the fund was in the red by \$26,996,228.

STUDENTS MILK CONSCIOUS

A survey of student patrons eating at the Commons, University of Texas cafeteria, disclosed 73 out of each 100 customers drink milk at lunch and dinner, said Dr. Jet Winters, University home economics professor.

NO LEGAL LIMIT TO CATFISH

A recent opinion by the Attorney General of Texas, addressed to the State Game, Fish and Oyster Commission, declared that there is no limitation "upon the number of catfish which may be possessed in one day . . ."

FLYING LESSONS FOR WOMEN STUDENTS

Flying instruction at the Denton Municipal Airport is now available to students of Texas State College for Women, Denton, who can obtain the full consent of their parents. The girls will receive dual instructions.

GIRL, 16, ATTENDS 78th SCHOOL

When 16-year-old June Handke enrolled in the Dallas public school it was the 78th school she had attended. June's father, a traveling salesman, takes the family along with him wherever he goes. Since his territory is the entire country, June has gone to school in 47 States and even in Canada and Mexico.

LAND MARK OF FRONTIER DAYS

One of the most famous landmarks of frontier days in the Southwest—the Piedmont Hotel—of Mineral Wells, has been torn down. The Piedmont once was the most famous stopping place between Fort Worth and El Paso. Built in 1884, the hotel lived through the roaring days of West Texas expansion, housing the great and the near great.

TROUT LEAPS INTO ANGLER'S BASKET

El Paso Herald: "J. R. Dean, of Sudan, (Lamb county), a frequent Ruidoso, N. M., visitor, recently appeared in Ripley's Believe-It-Or-Not. Mr. Dean was flinging his fish line along the Ruidoso river when a big trout leaped out of the water and fell in the basket that was slung from his shoulder."

HOBBY CROP TURNS TO MONEY CROP

From a hobby crop as a high school freshman, Francis J. Warnock has developed a big business. On the edge of El Paso, under eight acres of cloth, Warnock has growing more than a half-million chrysanthemums. Although most of his flower crop are chrysanthemums, he also raises roses, sweet peas, snapdragons, larkspurs, cornflowers, gladioli and dahlias.

"SHORTIES" CAN NOW ENLIST

"Shorties" can now enlist in the U. S. Army, say recruiting officers. Minimum height has been reduced to five feet.

FORT BLISS

Fort Bliss, at El Paso, the nation's largest cavalry post where thousands of soldiers will be trained in the national defense programs, had its beginning in 1848 as a center for troops to protect the Texas border from marauding Indians and Mexicans. During the War Between the States the post was burned by retreating Confederates.

MOTHER AND SON GRADUATE

Mrs. Berta Dean and her 21-year-old son, David Boyd Dean, received diplomas at the University of Houston's last commencement.

MISSSES 14 OUT 1,600 SHOTS

R. C. Pope, of Dallas, with a rifle score of 1,586 out of a possible 1,600 shots, won the grand aggregate trophy in the first National Rifle Association registered small bore tournament held at Kilgore.

ALL WET

Bonham Favorite: "Mrs. R. A. Wells, of Marshall, has purchased a home on Water street in the Rainey Addition from a man named Fawcett. The tenant's name was Pool.

TUNED AUTO HORN NUISANCE

City officials of Dallas are studying an anti-noise ordinance to determine if it should ban the fad of automobile horns tuned to play everything from the "Sidewalks of New York" to the "Eyes of Texas."

DRAFT FREAK

Another freak in the draft lottery at Washington was disclosed at Galveston when it was learned that two brothers, one in Galveston and the other in Baltimore, Md., drew identical numbers.

2,800 PENNIES FOR AIR RIDE

Warren C. Smith, of Brownsville, paid 2,800 pennies for an airplane ride ticket from Brownsville to Dallas. The pennies weighed 19 pounds.

CELEBRATES 106th BIRTHDAY

Probably the oldest woman in Texas, Mrs. Margaret Ann Bailey, 401 East California street, El Paso, celebrated her 106th birthday anniversary in October. She has two daughters and a son living. The son, Frank Murrie Hatley, of Kansas City, is 84 years old.

MISS LENA (60) GOES TO TOWN

Galveston News: "Miss Lena Jones, 60 years old, who lives three miles from Silsbee, (Hardin county), went to Silsbee recently for the first time, where she had her first hair wave, saw her first movie and ate her first restaurant meal. When asked what she liked best, what thrilled her most, she said: 'Riding in that brand new 1941 model automobile.'"

TRAFFIC FATALITIES HIGHER

Data compiled by the Texas Highway Department shows that for the first nine months of 1940 there was a heavy increase of highway deaths throughout the State. Total deaths were 1,940, compared with 1,042 in 1939. Traffic fatalities on country roads were greater than on city streets.

40-FOOT STATUE OF CHRIST DEDICATED

A mighty hewn stone statue of the Saviour, Jesus Christ, was dedicated by members of the Catholic hierarchy and hundreds of the faithful on Mount Christo Rey, near El Paso. The massive 40-foot stone monument commands the Rio Grande valley and the international boundary between the United States and Mexico.

SELECTIVE SERVICE STORY

Victoria Advocate: "One of the best stories arising from the Selective Service conscription recently comes from Bay City, (Matagorda county), and was reported by one of the lady registrars assisting in the registration. She asked one of the many colored men who was registering 'Have you any physical defects?' The colored youth responded promptly: 'Yes, m'am! I'm married!'"

OIL WELL DRILLING FOR 1940

With several weeks of 1940 yet to go, permits to drill new oil wells in Texas appeared likely to pass the 10,000 mark in 1940, with 9,700 wells permitted so far this year, said R. W. Bryam, oil statistician.

ALBINO BUZZARD

A snow-white buzzard has been added to the Hermann Park Zoo, Houston. It was captured by C. W. Farrell of Augusta, (Houston county). The zoo has two other albinos, a wildcat and a flying squirrel.

CHAMP PECAN GROWER

Champion pecan grower is N. H. Hander, of Belton, (Bell county). He was adjudged the 1940 winner when he scored 120 points and exhibited the pecan with the shallowest sutures at the annual Texas Pecan Growers Association convention held in San Angelo.

BROWNING LETTER FOUND IN U. OF T. LIBRARY

An unpublished and hitherto unknown letter written jointly by Robert and Elizabeth Browning, England's great Victorian poets, has been discovered in the University of Texas library at Austin. The letter went unnoticed for many years in the extensive collection of Charles Dickens materials bequeathed the library by the late Mrs. Mariam Lutzer Stark of Orange.

\$40,210,347 EXPENDED ON ROADS

The Texas Highway Department expended, for the fiscal year ended September 1, \$40,210,347 for maintenance and part construction of 26,804 miles of designated State highways.

SHARP DROP IN FIRE DEATHS

A sharp decline in the number of deaths caused by fire was reported for September and October by State Fire Insurance Commissioner Marvin Hall, who advised continued caution because "the most dangerous fire months are upon us."

PLANES ROUND UP ANTELOPES

The State Game, Fish and Oyster Commission reports the successful use of airplanes in rounding up fleet antelopes, formerly a job exclusively for horses. When captured the animals are placed in padded crates and trucked to new pastures for propagation.

SWIMMING POOL FLOATS AWAY

"You can imagine my surprise," said Ray Fogle, of Houston, "when I looked out of a window and saw my swimming pool floating away." The concrete pool—50 feet long, 22 feet wide and 14 feet deep—floated toward Bray's Bayou, out of its banks after six inches of rain. Fogle enlisted the help of some boys and anchored the pool to trees in the back of his home.

SQUIRRELS USE BRIDGE

An old bridge across the Neches river between Angelina (Harris county) and Trinity (Trinity county) has served its best days for pedestrians and motor cars and was abandoned when a new highway was put through. However, squirrels still make use of the bridge, going back and forth over the river by using the iron framework of the bridge.

GROWS ORCHIDS IN EL PASO

El Paso Herald: "Orchids, that rarest and most expensive of flowers, is grown in El Paso by J. T. Bickle in a tropical moisture laden atmosphere. Bickle grows the orchids in a glass greenhouse with canvas for shade, a gas stove for heat, and pans of water and soaking peat moss for moisture. 'You can't keep an orchid healthy by just pouring water on it. The air itself must be moist,' Mr. Bickle said. He raises the only orchids between San Antonio and the West Coast."

WOUNDED WHEN MISTAKEN FOR TURKEY

Physicians say Hugo E. Crenweige, of Fredericksburg, (Gillespie county), will recover from a shotgun wound sustained when he was mistaken for a wild turkey and shot by another hunter on a ranch near Fredericksburg.

CALL OF THE OLD WEST

Every Friday night, says the Ranger Times, 60 or more El Pasoans mount their horses and ride into the desert. They take their guitars and banjos, gather around a camp-fire and sing cowboy ballads. Afterwards a chuck wagon supper is eaten.

FISCAL YEAR TAXES

Below are the total State taxes paid by taxpayers for the fiscal year ending August 31, 1940:

Gasoline tax	\$45,947,768.29
Liquor	6,154,515.89
Cigarettes	7,203,736.01
Auto licenses	8,512,458.21
In addition to the \$67,818,000 the smokers, drinkers and drivers paid, here are some other important taxpayers:	
Property owners	\$22,275,000
Oil, Gas, etc.	21,001,000
Insurance companies	3,523,000
Poll taxes	1,712,000
Franchises	1,712,000
Inheritance taxes	712,000
Chain stores	703,000

CO-DS SPONSOR KNITTING DRIVE

A group of University of Texas coeds are sponsoring a national campus knitting campaign for the American Red Cross.

BABY BOA IN BANANAS

James Reid, of Eastland, (Eastland county), found a baby boa constrictor in a bunch of bananas from Central America. A full grown boa measures from 20 to 30 feet.

RARE CORTEZ MANUSCRIPT

An original Hernado Cortez manuscript, 400 years old, is the newest addition to the University of Texas library. The old document, original in Cortez own handwriting, is addressed to King Charles V of the Holy Roman Empire.

COTTON CHRISTMAS

"Do your Christmas shopping early and buy cotton products," is Governor W. Lee O'Daniel's advice to Texans. The Governor's gift suggestions included mattresses, sheets, towels, curtains and draperies, handkerchiefs, neckties, dresses, tablecloths, napkins, automobile seats, tents and awnings.

GIANT TREE FELLED

A towering loblolly pine tree, 155 years old, was recently felled by a logging company near Lufkin, (Angelina county). The tree scaled 5,999 board feet, enough lumber to build a small house. Some of the top branches were 10 inches in diameter.

SIX BROTHERS REGISTER

Atlanta Journal: "Mr. and Mrs. Frank Alexander of the Smyrna community have the honor of being the parents of six sons to register at Bloomburg, (Cass county). Names and ages of the six brothers are: James Abram, 33; Ernest Paul, 30; Odell, 27; Udell, 26; Rayford, 25, and Garland Gordon 22."

DEER KILLED BY AUTO

When the deer season opened Leroy F. Tarbet, California tourist, did not go deer hunting but he killed a 200-pound buck which leaped on the highway in front of his automobile 30 miles east of El Paso. "I had my choice of swerving off the road into a ditch or hitting the buck, so I hit the buck," Tarbet told Deputy Game Warden W. D. Stubblefield. The animal was dressed and put in cold storage for El Paso orphans.

WINDS SETH THOMAS CLOCK DAILY

Rufus A. McCain, pioneer Ellis county citizen, owns an old Seth Thomas clock given him by his father in 1876. For 64 years he has wound the clock daily, estimating that in all these years he has spent about 16 days in winding the clock. It still keeps accurate time.

DYNAMITE SAFER THAN GASOLINE

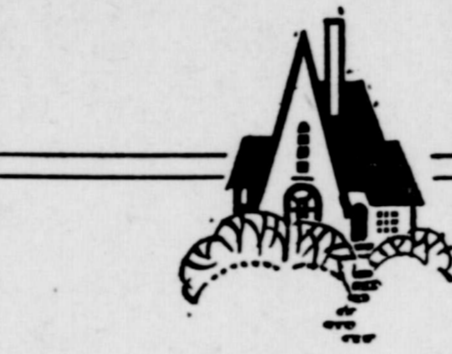
Dynamite in the home can be much safer than gasoline, State Fire Insurance Commissioner Marvin Hall said recently, because the majority of the people have learned to fear dynamite, while they treat gasoline less carefully. Hall said statistics for the first 10 months of the year show a death toll of 50 persons from improper use of gasoline. Twenty-five deaths were charged to improper care in using kerosene.

FALLS 10 STORIES AND LIVES

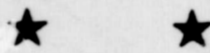
Allen Kitson, age 39, of Dallas, fell 10 stories down an elevator shaft at Austin and lived to tell about it. Kitson sustained several broken vertebrae from the fall, which occurred as he was helping to install an elevator in a new building. His companion, Nolan Smith Mosher, age 31, of Dallas, was killed in the fall.

12,000 MILES BY HORSEBACK

After traveling more than 12,000 miles by horseback from Buenos Aires, Marcelino Soule, age 32, Argentine polo player, arrived at Laredo in November. He started on his journey July 27, 1938. Soule is enroute to Washington to deliver a greeting to the President of the United States from Mayor Contello of Buenos Aires



A Christmas Prayer



Thank God for peaceful, tranquil ways
When we can plan our holidays.
Thank God that we may have no dread
Of war planes zooming overhead.
Thank God for all our plenteous store
Of food and blessings evermore—
For gifts that we may buy at will
Without a rationing card to fill.
Thank God for little things like these—
For colored lights and Christmas trees.

HONDO SIGN EMPHATIC

A Hondo, (Medina county), sign with foot-high letters, admonishes motorists as follows: "This is God's Country, Don't Drive Through It Like Hell." The sign has been pictured and quoted in numerous travel magazines. It was erected 10 years ago and has been frequently re-painted.

TEXAS CENTENARIAN

Born on the banks of the Colorado river, 10 miles from Austin, Mrs. M. Draper, 125 Thirteenth street, San Antonio, celebrated her 100th birthday in November. She sees without glasses, takes long walks, goes fishing and does her share of the housework. Her recipe for old age is, "Marry a man that will take good care of you." Mrs. Draper is the mother of 10 children, has 25 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

NEGRO NOT BOTHERED BY MAIL

Madisonville Meteor: "A negro was registering here for the draft. "What's your address?" a clerk asked the negro. "I ain't got none," he said. "Where do you get your mail?" "I ain't never got no mail." "Well, where does your father get his mail?" "He ain't never got no mail neither."

Real Spot Remover



By Boughner

Christmas Decorations

For the Home

IT IS indeed the "season to be jolly" and nothing contributes more to the general spirit of jollification than a house that is decked with holly and every other sort of fragrant spicy Christmas green.

It's an old Christmas custom, but one which sheds just as much cheer and fragrance today as it did hundreds of years ago.

While the Yule log may not be actually dragged in from the forest by members of the family, father can still bring home the Christmas tree—and the family can still make a gala event of trimming the house for the holiday—so that on Christmas Eve red candles will flicker throughout the house and the air will be spicy with the scent of cedar or pine.

If there's money to burn it's easy enough to call up a florist and tell him to send out his usual load of greens, wreaths and garlands.

But there can be gaiety on a shoestring if everyone will pitch in and make the decorations.

The evergreen boughs bought in bulk are not costly, and no end of attractive things can be made with them. Even the ropes can be made at home by wrapping the green around a piece of stout twine wound with spool wire. Roping, however, is not prohibitive in price, and a few yards of the professionally made rope is a good investment where gala garlands are to be used. Especially light, easy to handle and attractive are the ropes of laurel.

The Centerpiece

The centerpiece of the Christmas table, or the mantel decoration, however, is all important. Two charming arrangements can be easily copied by the home decorator.

At the top an arrangement of artificial poinsettia blossoms is used with silver balls.

Unfortunately the real blossoms—lovely if one can afford them—are a little costly. But this is one occasion when artificial flowers do seem to be amply justified.

The big red flowers can be purchased and kept for use each year. They

are extremely effective, most realistic, and if mixed with waxy laurel leaves and huge silver balls make a stunning and easily arranged centerpiece.

Spool wire will hold the balls to slender sticks, which should be painted or dyed green or red. These are mixed with the blossom, and all are held in place by inserting in a mould of florists moss which has been moistened, or in a flat box cover cut in an oblong shape, and pierced with holes. Of course, in this case enough foliage must be used to cover the box.

Fountain of Lovely Candles

The pasteboard box technique is also used for that perfect fountain of lovely candles—a big group of them of varying heights gives a particularly exuberant air.

Use a box which is three or four inches high. Turn it upside down and cut holes in which to insert the candles. No other candleholder will be needed. It is now a perfectly simple matter to cover the base with any available greens. The spiky pines with their cones and a few small silvered stems or red berries will make a lovely and an extremely inexpensive centerpiece.

Long boughs or branches of spruce roped together and hung with bells or cones with bows of red ribbon at the top make lovely decorations for outside door panels, and are a little newer than the wreaths so often used.

The mantelpiece, trimmed with a mound of holly or leaves, will need the accent of either tall red candles or a group of the Christmas angels which one sees in the shops, while the inside doorways, of course, would seem all wrong at this time of year if not hung with bunches of waxy green and white mistletoe caught with loops of red and silver ribbon.



spect, because they make it. Wars will never end until settled on the basis of a peace of understanding. Guns and other devilish weapons of warfare will never bring peace to the human heart. They only glorify hate.

And when capital and labor lie down together, and when all disputes and strifes are settled through discussion—without bitterness—and for the good of all concerned, then will America dedicate itself anew to democratic ideals, inspired by the faith of its founders.

TIN

This lowly metal, which is familiar to every householder, took an important place in the news recently when the fear was expressed that the supply during the next twelve months might not be sufficient to meet the demand. The Tin Producers Association estimated this country's "normal" requirements for the coming year at 85,000 tons, and consumption in the rest of the world at another 85,000 tons. In addition the United States wants to accumulate 75,000 tons as a reserve. All this totals 245,000 tons. World output was estimated at 235,000 tons.

Letters to editors have suggested that discarded tin cans be saved for the re-use of the metal. But this idea is not feasible. Containers are made of tin-plate, which is sheet iron or steel covered on both sides with tin. The tinning process is called tin-pickling; the plates are immersed in an acid bath and dipped into molten tin. The small amount of tin that could be salvaged from tin cans would not be worth the labor and cost of separation.

Deposits of cassiterite, the

chief ore of tin, are limited, but the metal was known to the ancients. The tin ore the world uses comes mainly from the Netherland Indies, Malaya, Nigeria, Siam, China, Bolivia, and Cornwall, in England.

SACCHARIN

Italy is short of sugar. Accordingly, Signor Mussolini has instructed housewives to use saccharin. If they grumble they will be told by the grocer (he has taken the business over from the apothecary) that four pounds of saccharin are equivalent in sweetening power to one ton of the best cane sugar and that it is much cheaper.

Saccharin is only a sweetener. Its food value is nil. It passes through the body almost unchanged. But that is of no moment to the Italian housewives, so long as they can get enough starch (carbohydrates) in the form of bread, spaghetti and what they call "pasta." Moreover, saccharin is just as good a preservative as sugar, so that it can be used for jams.

Discovered accidentally sixty-two years ago by C. Fahlberg, a German student, under the direction of Dr. Ira Remsen at Johns Hopkins University, saccharin is a white crystalline coal-tar derivative. It is 500 times sweeter than sugar, though it has a slightly bitter aftertaste.

Before the World War there was a strong controversy about the wholesomeness of saccharin as a food. It was medically branded as a poison, so that even diabetics were afraid of it. But during the World War the need for sugar made medical Germany change its mind, and now the curse is removed. Tons of saccharin were successfully

used in Europe as a substitute for sugar in the last war. Experiments since have proved that saccharin in reasonable doses has no perceptible influence on health.

HANGING IN EFFIGY

The old custom of hanging in effigy has been revived in the United States. A short while ago a Senator's stuffed image was strung up on Capitol Hill. A Presidential candidate was hanged in effigy in Tennessee.

Since ancient times men have been hanged or burned in effigy. The primitives believed they could injure their enemies by burning or destroying images of them. Today hanging a figure of straw, dressed to resemble some personage, is a method of expressing disapproval. Many Presidents, politicians and other notables have been the objects of such contumely. For many years on each Fourth of July Benedict Arnold was hanged in effigy in Philadelphia and New York. During the World War the Kaiser was frequently burned in effigy throughout the country.

For centuries the effigies of Guy Fawkes in England and of Judas in some Latin countries have been hanged annually. In seventeenth-century France punishment by effigy was a recognized practice. If a criminal escaped, his effigy was delivered to the prison and executed. In 1639 the Duke of LaValette was beheaded in effigy in three different French cities on the same day. The Duke, meanwhile, was safe in England.

Perhaps the greatest demonstration ever accorded an effigy was at Halesworth in England when Oliver Cromwell was pilloried in effigy and afterward burned in a

bonfire of five-hundred fagots.

LARGEST WINDMILL

Engineers are building, at Rutland, Vermont, the largest windmill yet attempted to generate electricity from air currents—and as a possible adjunct, they say, to national defense.

Vanes built like airplane wings with a wingspread approximating that of huge bombers, are in prospect for a 100-foot-high experimental turbine station that will be completed in 1941 to test the feasibility of harnessing the winds as another source of commercial power.

Plans call for the generation of 1,000 kilowatts of power, sufficient to light five 100-watt lamps each for 2,000 families.

But backers of the project contend the wind turbine is not expected to supplant existing means of electrical supply; rather, it is expected to increase the value of existing means by backing them up with predictable wind-power.

And, with an eye to national defense, they also say that a series of such wind turbines, distributed through the hills, would be less vulnerable to air attack than equivalent generating capacity concentrated in a single station.

DEAFENED HEAR WHISPERS

Write Nearest Office for FREE BOOKLET "How to Select the Right Hearing Aid." No Obligation. PAUL H. WENDEL High Fidelity Hearing Aids 208 Medical Arts Bldg., Dallas; 1422 Milam Bldg., San Antonio; 820 Bankers Mortgage Bldg., Houston, Texas.

Peace of Understanding

By GEORGE MATTHEW ADAMS

ALL disputes, quarrels and wars come about through MIS-Understanding. We get along fine with those whom we understand, and who understand us.

There must have been some reason why the Creator made so many different people and races and scattered them all over the globe. It certainly wasn't meant that they were made that way to create animosities and to fight one another. It was meant that they should get along with one another peacefully and happily and that they should be good friends.

There are many 'natural' enemies in nature, if I may so express it. The domestic dog and cat as a rule are not any too friendly. Any school boy can testify to this fact. But let them be brought up together and they not only become—but usually remain—fast friends.

Here in the United States we have a great country of 48 States—all on friendly terms. Imagine our States hating one another, and spying against one another as do the States, or countries, of the Old World in Europe. We had one experience of fighting one another, but since it ended, we have been friends—and intend ever to remain as such—"one and inseparable."

Say Bitter Things

People quarrel and say bitter things that eat into the heart of another and leave scars, and then they are sorry afterwards. People wouldn't say harsh things if they un-

derstood, for in the end they come to see how foolish and destructive it is.

We, of this day, can hardly appreciate the dark years of those who gave their all to make of this nation one that could stand out as a beacon light before all the world. Strife, hardship, poverty, despair, bodily and mental suffering—they who pioneered knew all these things. But they kept their faces ever to the front, never looking backward. They knew the spiritual elixir of work.

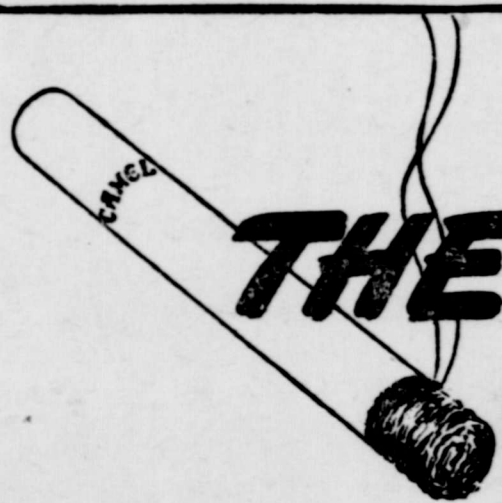
The builders of America came from all the nations of the earth. The German, Frenchman, Swede, Norwegian, Bohemian, Finn, Chinaman, Japanese, Russian, Italian—and any number of other nationalities—came here to help make America their own!

Peace of Understanding

The Peace of understanding is here in America—regardless of insidious agents that have recently infested our land, like termites, seeking to undermine our free institutions, and to defeat our long reign of free enterprise and our constitutional right to think and express ourselves without having to go to jail for it. It is our privilege to worship where and as we may, and to walk out into the world each day as free human beings!

The only kind of a government that any nation deserves is the one that it can protect and keep. And I might add, the kind of a government that its people love and re-

(Continued top of page, column 3)



IN A CIGARETTE

THE SMOKE'S THE THING!

THE SMOKE OF SLOWER-BURNING CAMELS GIVES YOU EXTRA MILDNESS, EXTRA COOLNESS, EXTRA FLAVOR, AND

28% LESS NICOTINE than the average of the 4 other of the largest-selling cigarettes tested—less than any of them—according to independent scientific tests of the smoke itself

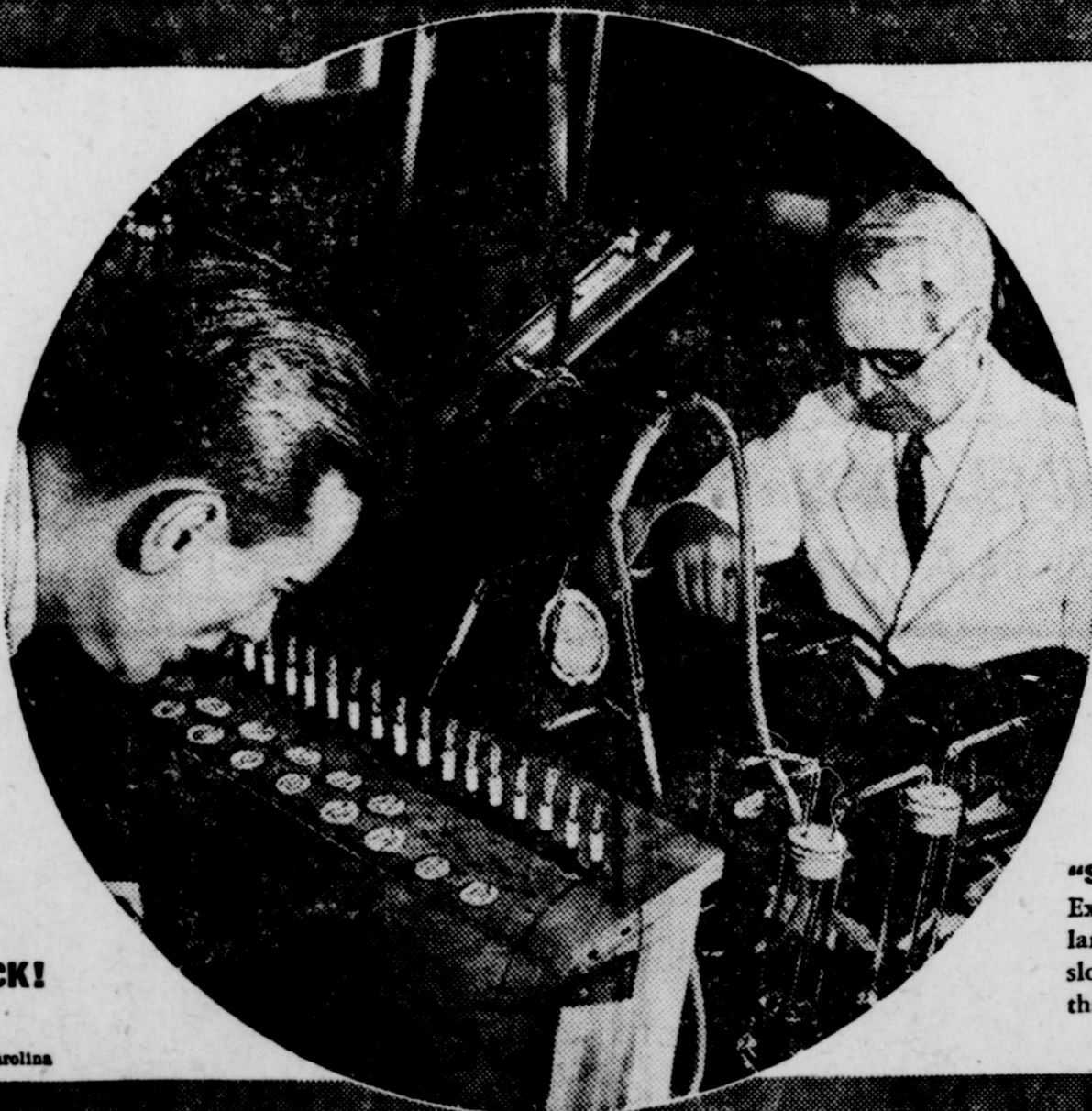


By burning 25% slower

than the average of the 4 other of the largest-selling brands tested—slower than any of them—Camels also give you a smoking plus equal, on the average, to

5 EXTRA SMOKES PER PACK!

B. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Winston-Salem, North Carolina



WHEN you get right down to it, a cigarette is only as flavorful—only as cool—only as mild—as it smokes. The smoke's the thing!

Obvious—yes, but important—all-important because what you get in the smoke of your cigarette depends so much on the way your cigarette burns.

Science has pointed out that Camels are definitely slower-burning (see left). That means a smoke with more mildness, more coolness, and more flavor.

Now—Science confirms another important advantage of slower burning... of Camels.

Less nicotine—in the smoke! Less than any of the 4 other of the largest-selling brands tested—28% less than the average!

Light up a Camel... a s-l-o-w-burning Camel... and smoke out the facts for yourself. The smoke's the thing!

"SMOKING OUT" THE FACTS about nicotine. Experts, chemists analyze the smoke of 5 of the largest-selling brands... find that the smoke of slower-burning Camels contains less nicotine than any of the other brands tested.

CAMEL—THE SLOWER-BURNING CIGARETTE

TEXAS FARM NEWS REPORTS

To prove the versatility of cotton, a Dallas pastry cook has started to market an ice cream made from cottonseed meal and lint extract.

Musk rats provide the livelihood for many trappers in the State of Texas. Storms do considerable damage to the muskrat population, and means of protecting the animals are being studied by the Texas Game Department.

Sleeping sickness in horses and mules which has been found in North Texas is now making its way south, and its appearance has been noted in the vicinity of Brazos county, Dr. A. A. Lenert, head of veterinary medicine department at A. & M. College, announced.

A peach tree was in full bloom this fall on the Skinner farm near Bartlett, (Bell county). Mr. Skinner reports the tree is a seedling 8 or 10 years old from which he gathered a good crop of peaches early this summer. It just seems to have got the seasons a little mixed.

Grapefruit from Texas will total 14,800,000 boxes this season, according to reports gathered by the U. S. Department of Agriculture—slightly above last year's harvested production. Orange production was forecast as 2,730,000 boxes—higher than indicated production of last year at actual harvest.

Ira Lee thinks he employed the champion cotton picker in his section around Celina, (Collin county), in the person of a negro, Aubrey Alexander, who picked 2,500 pounds of cotton from one Monday morning until noon the following Saturday. The negro did a clean job of it, too, said Mr. Lee.

Texas wild turkeys multiply in semi-captivity. Last winter the Game Department released 12 hens and three gobblers in a 20-acre pen in Robertson county, and a recent count showed 35 young turkeys within the area.

Cotton bagging for wrapping cotton bales was first tried in Texas in 1938, with less than 17,500 bales being so covered. In 1939, the number of bales of Texas cotton covered with cotton patterns rose to 233,967.

The Producers Turkey Egg Co-operative, a Coleman county-wide organization with headquarters at Santa Anna, reports the sale of 200,000 turkey eggs for delivery early next year to Northern and Eastern points.

Mrs. Brac Wilson, of Leona, (Leon county), has arranged to have 2,000 goats grazed on her brush land. Goat men are well pleased with the set up, and say the goats are doing as well as expected. Many farmers are watching the result of these demonstrations, and if they are successful, many land owners will be interested next year.

Not great herds of cattle on every hill and in every valley, but pounds of beef and quality of cattle is the objective West Texas ranchmen are now stressing. Study of kinds and quality of grasses on the range, proper stocking, mineral substitutes, control of range poisonous plants, and the use of every available government service to obtain the maximum benefits is now the rule of our West Texas rangeland. Such a demonstration, with the above aim in mind, is being carried out on Jim Thornton's ranch in Ward county in combination with the S. C. S. and the Extension Service.

Wilkes Fowler, Reeves county 4-H club member, who is feeding calves for the second year, is doing a practical job of feeding on his father's farm at Saragosa. J. M. Fowler, the father, has been feeding cattle for five years and has done a good job of it with a fair profit each year except one. Wilkes feeds his calves exactly the same ration that his father's steers get—whole ground hegari, cotton seed, cane whole ground and alfalfa hay. Wilkes took second place in the county, and first place was a milk fed calf; so he is proving that it is not only possible but desirable to refrain from pampering his calves with expensive feeding practices.

Swisher county is primarily a wheat country, but Doug Watson, living 6 miles northeast of Tullia, reports raising 1,300 bushels of tomatoes on four acres of land for a profitable side-line crop.

Texas this year dropped to second place in turkey production in the United States for the first time in 50 years, according to the latest Department of Agriculture report which estimated that California is leading with a total of 3,543,000 turkeys against 3,536,000 for Texas. Texas' turkey crop is 8 per cent shorter than last year, further states the department's report.

The "meatless days" which may be in store for Europeans, will not mean much to the Oscar Lich family, who reside in the Cypress Creek community, (Harris county), for Mrs. Lich, who is home food supply demonstrator of the Cypress Creek Home Demonstration Club, has an abundance of meat prepared for her pantry and kitchen. She has provided 3 pigs, and a yearling beef. Mrs. Lich also canned 25 quarts of venison roast and steak during the last hunting season, and has 12 quarts of chicken canned ready for instant use.



Because of the importance of the industry to Texas, Governor O'Daniel has proclaimed citrus week, January 17-25, and urged citizens to create a great home market for the fruit.

Marvin McCain, age 22, Lubbock, (Lubbock county), farm boy, won first place and a tractor in the sectional finals of the tractor operating contest sponsored by the National Farm Youth foundation. Competing on identical equipment with other youths from neighboring farming areas, McCain was named winner on the basis of points scored in competition for the straightness of opening furrows, neatness of back furrow, evenness of furrow slices and similar competitive points.

According to reports to the Agricultural Marketing Service, Texas ranges were 5 points above average on November 1. Cattle were in very good condition as of this date, and sheep and lambs at shipping time were averaging much heavier weights than usual.

University of Texas chemists are working up plans to win for Texas cotton a bigger share of the domestic market. They have announced the establishment of a complete physical and chemical testing laboratory to experiment with cotton fiber. Plans are also being studied for erecting spinning and weaving equipment for use in a search for new textile fields adapted to Texas cotton.

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NO SPILLING—

NO WASTE. I GET 70 FULL, ROUND SMOKES PER TIN!

THERE'S NO OTHER TOBACCO LIKE PRINCE ALBERT FOR 'MAKIN'S' SMOKES OF SWELL TASTE, AROMA, AND MILDNESS— AND THEY STAY LIT!



PRINCE ALBERT

THE NATIONAL JOY SMOKE

● T. J. Gordon (left) and Henry Reeder (right) smile a big smile for their pal, Prince Albert Smoking Tobacco. They both say there's no other tobacco like P.A. (So do pipe-smokers!)

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company
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PLAY SAFE! Go to the International Harvester dealer for Genuine IHC Parts. The IHC monogram is your guarantee of quality, your best assurance that your McCormick-Deering Equipment will continue to give you top-grade performance, no matter what you ask of it. *And here's a tip:* the International Harvester dealer maintains an up-to-the-minute service department. He will be glad to look over your tractor and tell you what it needs.

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It PAYS to Buy
GENUINE IHC PARTS

Lameness in sheep and lambs is being corrected in Hudspeth county by the use of black steam bone-meal and cotton seed meal. Enough cottonseed meal is used with the bone-meal to make it more palatable. There seems to be two things needed on the range for sheep—mineral and protein, which can be supplied by feeding these meals.

University of Texas scientists are getting ready to help Texas agriculturists launch a new industry—cheese manufacture. Their job is a task of running down and co-ordinating all information available on Texas resources which will support this special branch of the dairy industry.

Possibility of growing licorice root in Southwest Texas is now being investigated by the Southwest Texas Chamber of Commerce, according to report by chamber officials. Large quantities of the herb have been imported in the past, and it is believed curtailed importations brought on by the war may make the growing of the product in Texas profitable. The product is used in tobacco, confectionery and drugs.

Members of more than 100,000 Texas farm families are sleeping on new mattresses this winter as a result of cotton mattresses made in the State under the Department of Agriculture's program for aiding low-income farm families and reducing the cotton surplus. This estimate was compiled by Mildred Horton, State home demonstration agent of A. & M. Extension Service. To date mattress-making centers have been set up in 2,654 Texas communities, and mattresses are being made in 150 counties.

Co-operators with the Nacodoches farm forestry project have ordered 11,000 trees, mainly slash pines, to be planted on eroded land or land unsuited and not needed for other farm uses, Travis MacClendon, project forester, has announced. The trees are being bought by farmers from the Texas Forest Service nursery near Alto, (Cherokee county).

Greenhouse experiments in soilless plant growth are being conducted by 12 advanced floriculture students at Texas Technological College. Fifteen common types of flowers and vegetables are being tested in plots of pure water, fine well sand, coarse sand, and chat to determine which medium is best adapted to greenhouse use. A nutrient solution is used in both water and sand tests. Plants being tested beside the flowers include cucumbers, gourds and tomatoes. Successful means of growing plants without soil would save cost of buying or cultivating soil, as well as labor required, fertilizing, watering and spraying plants, O. B. Howell, horticulture professor, said, and would enable growers to regulate growth of plants more easily.

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Big Fur Year Ahead

Big Fur money on every farm. A good night's work will yield big returns. Our Free Book of Traps furnishes experience. Tells when, where and how to trap, quotes lowest prices on traps, baits, other supplies. A post card will bring it. Write today.
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• IT MUST BE WASH DAY •

RUB-A-DUB-DUB, TWO MEN IN A TUB =



YOU HAVE AN AWFUL LINE, KNAVE!
AH, HA! YOU'LL HANG FOR THAT! LET'S JOIN THE CLOTHES IN A LITTLE HARMONY!

IN MY COLLEGE DAYS I PLAYED ON A SCRUB TEAM!

OH, CLOTHES YUAH MAOUTH!

HOW DRY I AM!

COPR. 1940 BY NEA SERVICE, INC.



MY GAL WOULD A DONE THIS WASHING FOR ME! WHY DIDN'T I WRINGER UP?

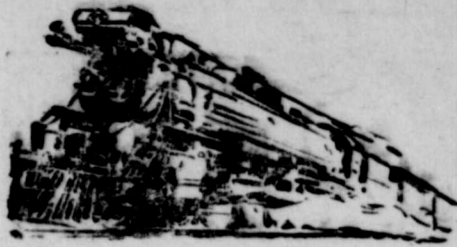
IT TOOK ALL THE STARCH OUTA ME— LET'S SOAP THIS IS THE LAST TIME!

LOOK HERE, LILLIAN, SNOOPS HAS EATEN BOTH OUR STEAKS! ISN'T THAT CUTE?

ONE IN A MILLION



10-20



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TRAIN PARTY**
TO
WASHINGTON, D. C.
for the Presidential
Inauguration in
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If you are interested in joining the Official party to the Roosevelt-Wallace Inauguration, please let us know so that we can furnish you with full particulars, etc.

FRANK JENSEN

General Passenger Agent

THE TEXAS AND PACIFIC RAILWAY CO.
Dallas, Texas



QUINTS WATCHED FOR SANTY

Last Christmas was a merry affair in the nursery cabin of Canada's five little sweethearts, the Dionne Quintuplets, they helped their nurse decorate a Christmas tree.

Holly wreaths hung in the windows, tinsel and ornaments, hung by the Quints themselves, transformed a beautiful evergreen tree into a glittering work of art, and the Christmas carols (in French) were rehearsed before the Quints finally were tucked into their beds.

An air of excited expectancy filled the Dionne nursery all Christmas Eve, although each little Quint thoroughly understood that Pere Noel (Santa Claus) would not come until long after they are abed. But in their eagerness they ran to the windows time and again and pressed their five little noses against the panes when the tinkling of bells penetrated their nursery as a sleigh passed on the snow-packed road outside. There's always the possibility Santa might come early, they seemed to think, and they did not want to miss any chances of seeing him personally.

INVENTORS

INVENTORS—HAVE YOU a sound, practical invention for sale, patented or unpatented? If so, write CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN INVENTORS, Dept. 98, Washington, D. C.

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FORT WORTH SPUDDERS
STOVER ENGINES and HAMMER MILLS
Sanson Windmills—Pump Jacks—Pipe
Crosses, Tanks—Bell—Hose—Cable—Rope.
Mill-Gin and Water Works Supplies—
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WELL MACHINERY & SUPPLY CO.
Fort Worth, Texas.

Our Boys and Girls

AUNT MARY, Editor, 1809 Ashland, Fort Worth, Texas.

THE SPIRIT OF GIVING

DEAR FRIENDS:

In the block where we live are two boys of about the same age. Their dads draw about the same salary each and it so happens that their mothers belong to the same clubs. Now, these two boys have grown up doing things much as other boys, going to the same school, playing the same games, attending the same church, etc. They have much in common, though in school one is half a grade ahead of the other. However, these two boys are wide apart in the fundamentals of life, in their attitude toward other people.

For example, we were having a little neighborhood get-together at our home when the subject of Christmas came up. A majority of the young folk present began to talk about the things they wanted for Christmas. Some wanted personal gifts like bicycles, roller skates, footballs, clothes, etc. Master A (as we shall call the first boy in our story) wanted a long list of gifts that were expensive and he wanted them for purely selfish reasons. Master B (this is the other boy in our story) joined others in discussing the things he wanted for Christmas. Then, after a few moments of reflection, he added: "I wish I could have these things, but when I think of all the little children in Europe who have been driven from their homes by war and of the thousands of children here in our own country who are hungry, I can't WANT these things very hard."

Master A then spoke up, "Oh we can't help that. It isn't our fault they have trouble. We didn't bring it on them."

"That is true," Master B replied, "but it is our duty to help the needy and innocent ones as much as possible."

Soon the whole group of boys and girls caught the real spirit behind Master B's remarks and their conversation turned at once to planning how they could bring happiness to someone less fortunate this Christmas, and forget about their own wants. Thus the attitude of one little boy about Christmas giving had changed the thinking of the entire group.

Sincere greetings to all my little friends. I have enjoyed your friendship during the year beyond words to express. While wishing you a Happy Christmas, I shall look forward to a joyous time with all of you next year. Let us all be thankful for America and guard her liberty and her well-being with zeal.

Affectionately,
(Signed) AUNT MARY.

STORIES THAT LIVE

The far away land of Japan has given us many beautiful stories that have come down to us by word of mouth. Today some of these stories have been set down in books for us to enjoy and better to understand the strange beliefs of these people. The following story has been chosen because it is rather typical of our own lives. The true love that runs through the story should be an inspiration to all of us.

"THE STAR-LOVERS"

Shokujo, daughter of the Sun, dwelt with her father on the banks of the Silver River of Heaven which we call the Milky Way. She was a lovely maiden, graceful and winsome, and her eyes were tender as the eyes of a dove. Her loving father, the Sun, was much troubled because Shokujo did not share in the youthful pleasures of the daughters of the air. A soft melancholy seemed to brood over her, but she never wearied of working for the good of others, and especially did she busy herself with her loom; indeed she came to be called the Weaving Princess.

The Sun bethought him that if he could give his daughter in marriage all would be well; her dormant love would be kindled into a flame that would illumine her whole being and drive out the pensive spirit which oppressed her. Now there lived, hard by, one Kingen, a right honest herdsman, who tended his cows on the borders of the Heavenly Stream. The Sun-King proposed to bestow his daughter on Kingen thinking in this way to provide her happiness and at the same time keep her near him. Every star beamed approval and there was joy in the heavens.

The love that bound Shokujo and Kingen to one another was a great love. With its awakening Shokujo forsook her former occupations, nor did she any longer labor industriously at the loom, but laughed, and danced, and sang and made merry from morn till night. The Sun-King was sorely grieved for he had not foreseen so great a change.

Anger was in his eyes, and he said, "Kingen is surely the cause of this, therefore I will banish him to the other side of the River of Stars."
When Shokujo and Kingen heard that they were to be parted, and could thenceforth, in accordance with the King's decree, meet but once a year, and that upon the seventh night of the seventh month, their hearts were heavy. The leave-taking

between them was a sad one, and great tears stood in Shokujo's eyes as she bade farewell to her lover-husband. In answer to the behest of the Sun-King, myriads of magpies flocked together, and outspreading their wings formed a bridge on which Kingen crossed the River of Heaven. The moment that his feet touched the opposite bank, the birds dispersed with noisy chatter, leaving poor Kingen a solitary exile. He looked wistfully towards the weeping figure of his wife, who stood on the threshold of her now desolate home.



Long and weary were the succeeding days, spent as they were by Kingen in guiding the oxen and by Shokujo in plying her shuttle. The Sun-King was gladdened by his daughter's industry. When night fell and the heavens were bright with countless stars, and the lovers were wont to stand on the banks of the celestial stream, to wait across it sweet and tender messages, each uttered a prayer for the speedy coming of the wondrous night.

The long-hoped-for month and day drew nigh, and the hearts of the lovers were troubled lest rain should fall; for the Silver River, full at all time, is at that season often in flood, and the bird-bridge might be swept away. The day broke cloudlessly bright. It waxed and waned, and one by one the lamps of heaven were lighted. At nightfall the magpies assembled, and Shokujo, quivering with delight, crossed the slender bridge and fell into the arms of her lover. Their transport of joy was as the joy of flowers when rain drops fall. The moment of parting soon came, and Shokujo sorrowfully retraced her steps.

Year follows year, and the lovers still meet in that far-off starry land on the seventh night of the seventh month, save when rain has swelled the Silver River and rendered the crossing impossible. The hope of a permanent reunion still fills the hearts of the Star-Lovers, and is to them as a sweet fragrance and a beautiful vision.

Go some night out of doors and look at the Milky Way; see if you can find the two star lovers wandering up and down waiting for the day they both love so well.

FRIENDLY HOBBY CLUB

Many, many years ago there lived a Man on this earth who had a wonderful hobby. His hobby was kind deeds. Each day he performed a kind deed; some days he performed many of them. He made the blind to see, the lame to walk, the dumb to speak. I am sure you have guessed that this little boy was—Jesus of Nazareth.

It is the same Jesus whose birthday we celebrate this December 25th. Let us follow in his footsteps—make our hobby that of kind deeds. This Christmas each member of our club can do the following things:

- Write a letter to the one who has been kind to you during the past year and tell him or her how much you appreciated the kindness.
- Resolve to NOT speak a cross or unkind word for one whole day, sometime during Christmas week. Remember a day is twenty-four hours.
- Co-operate with your local club or with some group in sending a basket filled with useful gifts to some lonely soul, especially a widow or an orphan.
- Charter Clubs are requested to ask their members to co-operate in sending a basket of food and clothing to some worthy person.

The Year Ahead

Soon we will face a brand New Year and it will be our year to do with as we like. May the Friendly Hobby Club be able to make the most of 1941 and do many interesting things.

We will have our share of hardships yet I feel that each of us will receive many blessings. If you think up something that will be helpful to the club, pass it on to headquarters. We need new members and we need old members to put forth a greater effort to contribute worthwhile activities to the club.

If you are not now a member, this is an excellent time to join. Begin the New Year with a new purpose. Let us hear from YOU soon. Read the rules carefully and tear out and mail coupon AT ONCE to Aunt Mary, 1809 Ashland, Fort Worth, Texas.

Club Rates

- There are no fees or dues now or at any time.
- All that is required is for you to fill out the coupon below and mail it at once to Aunt Mary, 1809 Ashland, Fort Worth, Texas.
- You will receive your membership card, list of instructions and secret code as soon as we get your coupon.
- You may join as many as three departments, but NO MORE. The departments are as follows: (A) Friendly Correspondence, (B) Sunshine for Others, (C) Stamp Exchange, (D) View Cards, (E) Miscellaneous, (1) Coins, (2) Curios, (3) Souvenirs, (4) (Continued top of column)



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MEN are keen about these crisp, flavorful crackers! They're different because they're made by a special Sunshine baking process... Want to please your men-folks? Try a package!



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THE FLOWER OF CHRISTMAS

The poinsettia is truly the flower of Christmas. Its bright red blossoms and dark green leaves reflect the traditional colors of the holiday season, and many people will give and receive them as gifts in the next ten days.

Most blooming plants like a cooler temperature than the average living room, says an old gardener, but the poinsettia, being a native of tropical climes, likes it hot. In fact, it cannot stand the slightest chill. In the greenhouse where these gorgeous plants have been brought to their present beauty, the thermometer may climb to 80 degrees during the day and at night the furnaces never let the temperature drop below 64.

This preference for a warm room should make the poinsettia a good house plant, especially for those homes where a thermostat keeps the night temperature even. Given proper care, a poinsettia will bloom in the house three to four weeks and the foliage will last much longer. Be careful not to expose the plant to cold draughts or the leaves will turn yellow and drop. On its journey from the greenhouse to the store and from the store to your house the plant must be well wrapped so it will not get the slightest chill.

Give it plenty of water and light. It has a big overhead support with all those succulent green leaves, the big red bracts and the tiny flowers themselves. Every day give it water that has had the chill removed. But do not let it stand in water.

What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him! Mat 8:27.

FAVORS FOR THE FESTIVE TABLE

Individual favors—something children can take home from a party with them—are sure to make a hit with small guests. One of the most popular of these is Santa Claus made with apples and marshmallows.

Use large red apples, polished until they shine. For each leg and arm fasten on two marshmallows with toothpicks. You'll need another toothpick in the base of the apple to make it stand upright.

A piece of a marshmallow forms the neck of Santa, and another marshmallow, the head. Use whole cloves for eyes and mouth, and either cotton batting or "angels' hair" for whiskers and hair.

A piece of red paper made into a peaked cap with a marshmallow or cotton tassel is fastened on the head. You may find it necessary to anchor it with pins to keep it from toppling off.

Snow men made with popcorn balls are attractive, too. You'll have to work fast so the candy doesn't harden before you get the men put together. Use your favorite recipe for the mixture and shape it into balls of three different sizes. Press the largest balls on a greased pan to flatten them for a base.

Put the three balls one on top of the other. Place small red cinnamon drops on the middle ball for buttons, and make the features of melted chocolate, painting it on with a toothpick.

A hat made of colored paper, and a pipe of a gum drop and toothpick can be added if you like.

Large spools, cinnamon drops, and red gum drop leaves are the makings for individual holly favors. Paint the spools with red paint. A small can of quick drying enamel will be enough to cover a great many of them.

Wrap the candies in small pieces of cellulose tissue and fasten a cluster of them together with thin wire. Attach green gum drop leaves to this cluster with thin wire and wrap the stems with green ribbon or cellulose tissue. Put some melted paraffin in the holes of the spools and fasten each cluster of "holly" in place.

An easily made favor, but one which is effective in candle light is made by fastening tiny candles upright in halves of walnut shells that have been painted. Here again melted paraffin is used as an anchor. Have one burning at each place when the young guests go into the dining room.

DECEMBER IN OLD MEXICO

Travelers who visit Mexico City between now and January 6 will find this period filled with an almost continuous round of festivities.

This end of the year fiesta period is easily the gayest of the Mexican calendar. It begins with Guadalupe day, dedicated to Mexico's patron saint. Then come the nine days, called Las Posadas, prior to Christmas; Christmas day itself, New Year's, and finally January 6, which is the time when children receive gifts.

During this period Mexico City, always a fascinating place, receives additional color from the Indians who come to town by the thousands and do homage to Our Lady of Guadalupe. These descendants of the Aztecs display their basketry, fine silver, tin, and leather work, and native pottery, on stands around the Alameda, one of the capital's principal parks.

As a nine-day prelude to Christmas, the "Las Posadas" symbolizes the search of the Virgin Mary and Joseph for shelter before the birth of Christ. Family groups, young people, and even social clubs set out with lighted candles to seek a lodging "for the Christ child." They are turned away from all except the ninth household, where they are admitted by prearrangement. Then dancing, dining, and merriment become general.

SANTY

Santa Claus is none other than Saint Nicholas, a Bishop who lived at Myra, in Asia Minor, during the fourth century. Bishop Nicholas distributed gifts to the poor and sweets to the children. However, Santa Claus, as we know him today, is less a figure representing the good saint than he is a symbol of cheer and good-will.

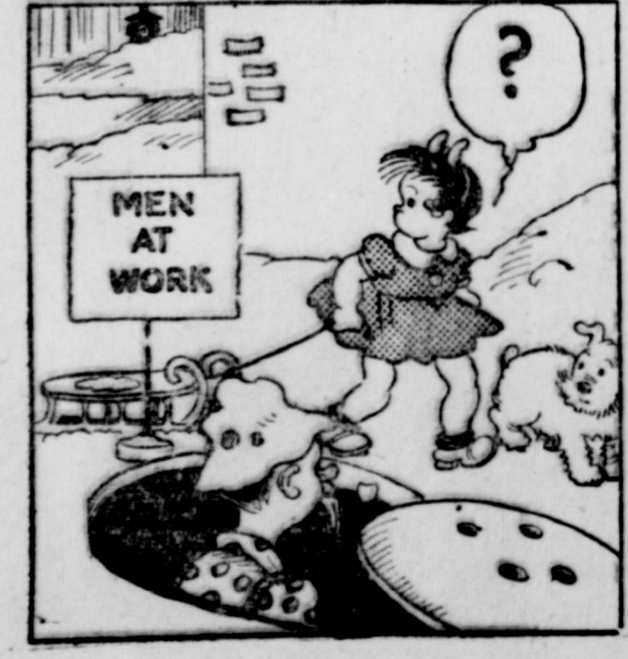
CHRISTMAS CARDS

Cards for greetings were not commonly sold until 1862. At first they were simply handwritten sentiments with the sender's name appended. However, as their commercial possibilities were unfolded, they were developed to their present form.

EVERGREEN FIRST USED BY EARLY CHRISTIANS

Evergreen twigs were used for trimming and decorating by early Christians in Northern Europe, who believed that the forest elves and fairies came into the home with the evergreen and freed it from all harm.

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HOUSEHOLD HELPS

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

THE HOLIDAY BUFFET

Well spread food and gleaming silver do much to create a cheerful mood for the holiday buffet service, but that is not all. This special type of entertaining usually creates a friendly air and a happy frame of mind.

Literally the buffet means "a counter for refreshments." At that phrase a hundred happy memories may come leaping into the mind. There is the sleigh ride; the highway dinner; the supper; ten years ago; a church picnic; a wedding; an anniversary. Each guest attends with eagerness and expectancy.

There are no special directions for setting the table. It can be set with fine linen or with a paper cloth from the dime store. Colors are especially suitable for buffet tables. The dishes may be fine china or colored ware also from the dime store. The decorations can be tissue-fragile and elaborate or humbler with inexpensive objects arranged imaginatively. Though food is stressed at buffet suppers, the decorations will often set the tone and gaiety of the whole party.

In cold weather a hot dish is appetizing to begin the meal. Important dishes are placed down the length of the table as near the center-piece as possible. A soup tureen or a chafing dish at one end, and the beverage service at the other, will balance the table. Cold drinks are placed on the sideboard.

Each dish should be carefully arranged so that its appearance is not spoiled when a portion is taken from it. The garnish should be edible and plentiful. Minted pineapples, small pickled Seckel pears, pickle fans, radish roses, hard-cooked deviled egg quarters all add color and tang.

Relishes, such as mustard, horseradish or jellies should be put with serving spoons, wherever they will fit on the table, and as near the meat course as possible. Any hot food that can be prepared and served in a baking dish is suitable for a buffet, because it will keep warm and looks well.

The food should be suited to eating with a fork alone, and service should be made equally easy. The meats should be cut in thin, rather narrow slices. Salads should be in individual portions, arranged in small dainty lettuce cups.

Each dish should have beside it the dishes and the silver necessary for it. The plates for the main course should be big enough to hold all the foods offered, though the guests may feel free to take food at any time and return for second helpings.

If rolls are on the menu, they should be buttered before serving (and before heating).

If the buffet table is large enough, all foods can be arranged at once. Of course, it is best to set the cold foods on first and then the hot foods just before the guests begin to fill their plates.

If the table appears to be crowded with the desserts on the table, it is best to wait until most of the guests are almost finished before removing the main course and setting the desserts in place.

The biggest problem of a buffet meal is to provide space for eating. It is rather awkward to balance plates and cups on one's lap when filled with food. You will find small tables, chairs with large arms, steps, etc., convenient places for eating.

The menu depends on the number of guests. The larger the number of guests the greater amount and variety of food, and of course the larger the table.

As a guide, we can count on a hot dish, a cold meat dish, a salad, dessert and beverage. A most elaborate buffet may offer two hot dishes, two cold meats, an aspic, a choice of salads, dessert and choice of beverage.

Here are a few suggested menus for holiday buffet parties:

Orange juice in frosted glasses, creamed finnan haddie, scrambled eggs, crisp bacon, hot muffins, toast, coffee, (or chocolate) cookies.

Creamed chicken in patty shells, aspic of tomato or ham mousse, celery, thin lettuce sandwiches, hot rolls, fancy cakes, ice cream or sherbert, coffee.

Strained vegetable soup, meat pie, pickled peaches, apple, celery and nut salad, baked macaroni, toast points or rolls, apricot gelatine mold, coffee, milk or tea.

The above menus are for suggestions only. It's possible you can think of other menus more clever and original. HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU!



PIQUANT RED CRANBERRIES FOR FESTIVALS

New Jersey, Wisconsin, Washington, Oregon and Cape Cod were scenes of great activities this past fall when the brownish red cranberries vied with purple asters and golden leaves for breath-taking beauty. The five places mentioned have more than 20,000 acres devoted entirely to furnishing the American table with luscious cranberries.

It is only during recent years that we have fully appreciated the true value of this healthful fruit. In the past too often they were served only as special treats for the holidays. Now we know that they are

both delicious and very healthful. Cranberries are palatable served with pork or beef as well as the traditional Christmas turkey. Serve them often and in many forms.

The wide use of cranberries has led to many new methods of using them. Cranberry sauce is the most widely known form that the cooked fruit takes. It is made by cooking about a quart of fresh berries in two cups of boiling water. A pound of sugar is added to the mixture, which is then boiled until the popping of the cranberry skins indicates the sauce is about ready to be served.



WE DINE

There is a feeling of anticipation and relaxation when we sit down to eat together. This is when families should be the happiest, when parents and children are drawn closer together than at any other time. Happy, happy is the home where a row of smiling faces greets the holiday festive board. Here are a few tempting dishes that should make that season happier:

Chocolate Ship Cottage Pudding
1 package semi-sweet chocolate
2 cups sifted cake flour
2 teaspoons double acting baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
3 tablespoons butter or other shortening
1 cup sugar
1 cup milk
1/2 teaspoon vanilla.

Cut each small square of chocolate in 4 to 6 pieces. Sift flour once, measure, add baking powder and salt, and sift again. Cream butter, add sugar gradually, and cream together well. Add flour, alternately with milk, a small amount at a time, beating after each addition until smooth. Add vanilla. Pour about 1/3 batter into 8x8x2-inch pan which has been greased, lined with wax paper, and again greased. Sprinkle 1 cut chocolate over batter. Repeat ending with chocolate. Bake in moderate oven (350° F.) 10 minutes. Makes about 3 1/2 dozen cookies.

Steamed Cranberry Pudding
1/3 cup of creamed butter
2/3 cup sugar

2 well beaten eggs
2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
2 1/3 cups of flour
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/3 cup milk
1 cup washed and chopped cranberries.
Cream butter and gradually add sugar then the well beaten eggs. Sift flour, salt and baking powder twice then add alternately with the flour. Lastly stir in the cranberries. Steam for three hours.

Coffee Frappe
2 cups strong freshly-brewed coffee
1/4 cup cream
1/4 cup powdered sugar
1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
1 egg.
Place all ingredients and some cracked ice into a beverage shaker and shake well; or beat all ingredients together with egg beater and let stand in refrigerator to chill.

AN ANCIENT CUSTOM

The habit of knocking on wood when we have boasted of our good luck is a throwback to the ancient tree worshippers. The primitive belief was that spirits resided in trees and wood was touched to call the attention of the tree spirit to the fact that his influence was recognized, and that he might not feel slighted and change good fortune into bad.



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(For Contest Rules see left and below)



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- Send in as many entries as you wish, provided each is accompanied by an Admission coupon or facsimile.
- Judges will award prizes to the entries which, in their opinion, give the most appropriate reasons for preferring Admission Coffee. The decision of the judges will be final. No contest entries will be returned and all become the property of the Duncan Coffee Company.
- Anyone may enter except employees of the Duncan Coffee Company, their advertising agency, and their families.
- Entries are eligible from any place where Admission Coffee is sold and prizes are subject to Federal, State, and local taxes and regulations. Inapplicable in any jurisdiction where any part of this contest plan is taxed, regulated or prohibited.
- If your dealer's name is on your winning entry blank he receives a cash award also.
- Each week's contest closes Saturday, midnight. Entries received postmarked after that date will be entered in the following week's contest. Final contest closes December 21, 1940.

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LEGEND OF THE TREES

Trees that grace the home during Christmas owe their seasonal employment to a tradition that has been variously explained. One legend has it that when Adam sensed his approaching death he sent Seth to the Garden of Eden to obtain a bit of the Oil of Mercy. Seth's quest was futile, but he did manage to procure a seed from the Tree of Life. This seed he planted in the grave of his father. Thousands of years later, wood from the tree which grew out of Adam's grave, served to fashion the Cross.

THE THREE WISE MEN

The three Wise Men are said to have represented, respectively, youth, middle-age and old-age. Likewise, they have been supposed to be the rulers of the tribes descended from Ham, Shem and Japheth. Of the gifts which they brought, the gold denoted His kingship, the myrrh signified His mortality and the frankincense evidenced His divinity.

God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. II Cor. 5:19.

BAGS DEER WITH OLD FLINTLOCK RIFLE

So far as anyone knows, Leslie C. Fitzgerald, of Drayton Plains, Michigan, is the only man to have bagged a deer with a flintlock rifle since pioneer days. Fitzgerald further carried out the tradition of Boone and Crockett by dressing in a fringed buckskin jacket and a coonskin cap. For 3 days he waited on a runway with the ancient piece over his knee. On the fourth day, seven deer broke out of a swamp with a 150-pound buck in the rear, which ran 20 yards after Fitzgerald sent his ball within an inch of the spot he aimed at.

"Up to 60 yards, my flintlock is as accurate as any high powdered modern arm," he said. "With a 70 grain charge of black powder I can put a 50-calibre ball through four inches of soft pine at that distance. At 100 yards the weapon is still effective if one makes an allowance for a two-inch drop by the ball."

Fitzgerald, employee of a Pontiac milk company, bought the rifle at a rummage sale a year ago. Manufactured by Snelvely, one of America's best known early gunsmiths, it probably was used in the

American Revolution and subsequent Indian campaigns.

"It weighs 11 1/2 pounds and has a 42-inch barrel, a brass butt plate and mountings, and a stock of tiger tail maple. After a few weeks of practice on a range behind my home I became so enthusiastic I decided to test the rifle in the field," said Fitzgerald.

Fitzgerald uses an old time powder horn and pouch, lard instead of the traditional bear's grease, bed ticking for patches and moulds his own bullets. An old-fashioned bulger, with which the ball is started down the muzzle is another important item. He can load in 30 seconds.

"Accidents in the woods would be fewer if more hunters followed my example," he said. "With only one shot, the average man would hold his fire until he was sure of his target."

CHRISTMAS ON THE RADIO

Christmas on the radio is to be largely all-American. The customary broadcasting from Europe having been blackened out, the microphones will not roam the globe as freely as in past years. Radio will pick up the carols and carillons of peace and good-will from the choirs and belfries of America. In general, except for several fleeting jumps across the sea, it will be an old-fashioned Yuletide—at home.

HOLLY AND IVY

Holly and ivy, two plants which cover the walls of many a home on Christmas, were identified with the holiday at a very early date. Holly represents the master of the house, whereas ivy represents the mistress. Furthermore, holly was considered to be sacred and sedate; ivy was assumed to be of a very riotous nature.

And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. John 1:12.

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500 CHILDREN HEAR FAMOUS POEM

While 500 underprivileged children pressed against a wooden fence clamoring for gifts, an actor garbed as Santa Claus stood before a microphone in the cold court of London Terrace, New York City, last Christmas night and read Clement Moore's famous poem "Twas the Night Before Christmas."

It was the annual celebration at the site where the poem was written.

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