

## Whittlin'

By Dolph Moten

Somewhat here, almost at Christmas, Texas University hires a few football coaches to lead the teams out of the wilderness of defeat. Also, I'm sure the new coach is expected to produce a team that will again get into the habit of outscoring Texas A&M each Thanksgiving.

The coach has a rough row to hoe. Especially when he gets to the part where he's supposed to lead A&M. Personally, I feel that luck has been a large part of the University's success over A&M in past years. And you can't buy luck for \$15,000 a year. Or even for \$17,500.

Incidentally, I think the only thing that is keeping Emmett Tabor, local barber, from being a celebrity is a lack of publicity.

Emmett has informed me that he gave Darrell Royal, the new TU coach, the first haircut he ever had. As I understand it, Royal grew up on the western edge of Oklahoma and Emmett was barbering at the same time on the eastern edge of the Texas Panhandle.

Evidently, Emmett's haircuts don't come as near to ruining a fellow and his future as you might sometime think.

Also, I understand that Royal is a nephew of Ruby Hulse, local grade school teacher. Looks as though Royal is almost a hometown boy.

Postmaster Gene Ezell says there isn't much markup on Christmas cards in his business at this time of the year, "but we sure do have the volume!"

Two weeks ago, I mentioned in this column that Bovina certainly had a lot of new cars—especially since we had a Republican administration.

Since that time, I understand that High Plains car dealers have been swamped with new car buyers from Bovina.

I didn't realize at the time I wrote the column that I was doing free advertising for car salesmen.

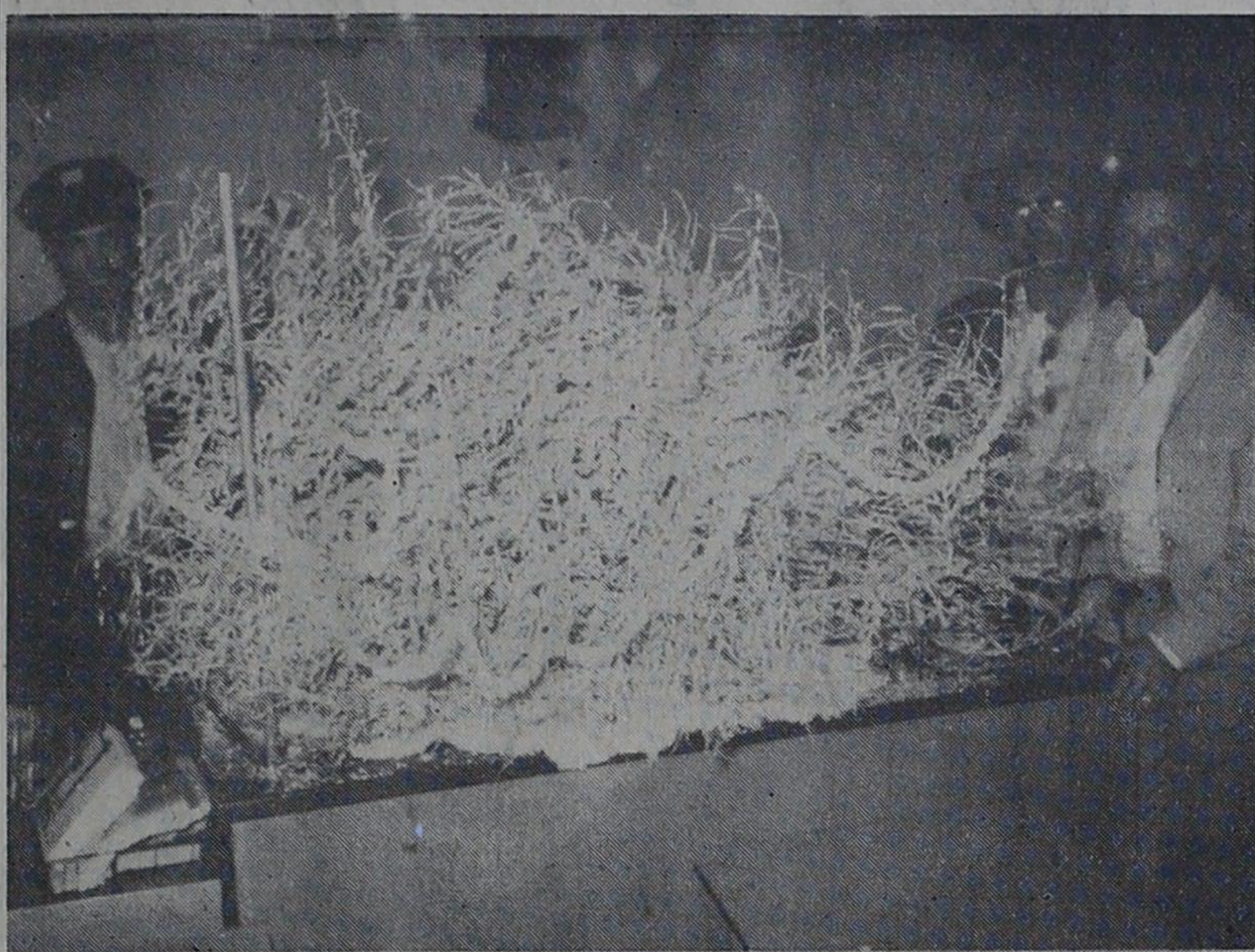
Have a nice letter to the editor this week from Melvin Terry, who is as he identifies himself, "one of Uncle Sam's boys." Usually signed letters to the editor are published in full. However, in this case, I edited the letter to some extent to protect myself and my split-ticket friend, Hubert Ellison, who is Terry's father-in-law.

It was a pretty nice letter to begin with. Now I think it's real nice. Feel sure that Terry won't seriously mind a minimum of editing.

Wonder if the Christmas spirit will get hold of Aubrey Brock enough to get him to wash the black paint off his pickup that Halloween pranksters put on. Maybe it will. After all, it's been a long time since Halloween and it is Christmas.

Jack Baker brought a discharge from the Civil War by the office last week. The discharge wasn't, of course, Jack's. He said he found it while looking through some old papers. He thinks it belongs to

(Continued on last page.)



A WEST TEXAS CHRISTMAS TREE—Pictured above is what is commonly termed a "West Texas Christmas Tree." It was made by members of the freshman class of Bovina High School. It consists of gaily decorated tumbleweeds. Included in the decorations are a string of popcorn, gumdrops, and cotton. The men with the tree are, left to right, Tommy Bonds, R. M. Crawford, and Scooter Queen. They were members of the Bovina Jaycees' outside Christmas decoration contest judging committee. The tree was not an entry in the contest but since the men were looking at Christmas decorations, they decided to include the Plains-inspired creation in their tour.

## To Get Prizes —

# Jones, Moore Win Decoration Contest

The homes of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Jones and Mrs. L. C. Moore were named first and second, respectively, in the first annual Bovina Jaycee-sponsored outside Christmas decoration contest.

Mrs. Jones will receive the first prize check of \$15 and Mrs. Moore will get the second prize award of \$10.

Entries in the contest were judged Thursday night by members of a Jaycee judging committee. They were Tommy Bonds, R. M. Crawford and Scooter Queen.

The judges named the winners only after much observation, discussion and consideration. "The en-

tries were very close and hard to judge," one of the members of the committee said. "I didn't realize we'd been selected for such a hard job."

Mrs. Jones' entry consisted of the front door of her house decorated with a background of black with an outline of Santa Claus in white and the seasonal expression of "Merry Christmas" in red letters. A flood light from the front yard made the decoration visible. Also, Mrs. Jones had a lighted Christmas tree that was framed by a picture window and other Christmas lights.

Mrs. Moore's decoration featured a string of Christmas lights around

the front porch of her home that set off the Christmas tree and other decorations that were visible through the picture window.

Checks were scheduled to be mailed to the ladies Monday.

## Jan. 3, 4, & 5 —

# Basketball Teams To Resume Play In Amherst Tourney

Bovina's boys and girls basketball teams, both with even records, will resume play January 3, 4, and 5 in the Amherst Invitational Tournament. Presently the teams are out of action because of Christmas and New Year holidays.

Both teams will enter the tournament with an identical .500 win-loss percentage. The girls have broken even in 14 encounters and the boys have dropped four and won four.

Both teams have participated in two tournaments. The Mustangs took top honors in the Friona Invitational Tournament and the Fillies were consolation winners in the Lazbuddie Invitational Tournament.

Adding to the teams chances in the upcoming tournament is the fact that a player from each will be back on the squad after sitting out a period of scholastic probation that kept them from participating as team members.

Also, Janice Richards, leading Fillie scorer who was out of the Lazbuddie tourney because of an injured hand, will again be ready for action after the holidays. Her return to the lineup will greatly strengthen Coach R. E. Everett's scoring punch.

The brackets for the Amherst three-day event have not, as yet, been announced. Local coaches have not been informed as to other entries in the tourney.

Following the tourney, which will

## Cicero Smith Lumber Burglarized Thursday

The Cicero Smith Lumber Company of Bovina was broken into Thursday night and \$9.10 was taken from the safe, reports Parmer County Sheriff Chas. Lovelace.

Entrance was gained by breaking a door window, and the compartment in the unlocked safe, which contained the money, was pried open with a screwdriver, Lovelace says.

No merchandise was reported missing.

## To Large Audiences —

# Methodists, Baptists Present Annual Christmas Programs

The usually busy week prior to Christmas was introduced by special services held in Bovina Methodist Church and First Baptist Church here early last week.

On Sunday evening, December 15, members of the Methodist choir, under the direction of Mrs. Bedford Caldwell, presented a cantata, "Glory to God," a Christmas program from themes by Gounod. Mrs. Doris Wilson was the pianist.

The program was opened with a prelude, "The Angel's Song," by Stickles. The choir, attired in wine colored robes, then entered from the rear of the sanctuary and—two by two—walked down the aisle and to the choir loft. As they walked, they sang "Joy to the World."

The invocation was then given by Rev. W. R. Beard, pastor.

The first number on the program was "Send us Deliverance" and was sung by the entire choir.

Mark Charles was the featured baritone soloist in the next num-

ber, "Watchman, What of the Night?" which was followed by the choir's rendition of "Lovely Appearance."

"The Magnificat" was sung by soprano soloist, Mrs. Jimmie Charles, and "Christmas Pastoral" was the name of a soprano-alto quartet. Those singing this number were Mrs. Hilton Terry, Mrs. Leon Ware, Miss Nita Beth Estes and Miss Joan Kay Ezell.

"The Angel's Message" was the sixth number on the program. It was the joint effort of tenor obligato soloist, Wayne Stevens, and the choir. Mrs. Oral Kunselman sang "Glory to God" in a soprano solo, followed by a men's union chorus and choir singing "Behold the Word Made Flesh."

"In the Stable He Lies" was a soprano obligato duet by Mrs. Jimmie Charles and Mrs. Billie Sudderth. They were assisted by the choir.

"Life Forevermore" was the tenth number on the program.

This song featured a tenor and bass duet by Stevens and Warren Morton. Mrs. Kunselman then sang, "Come and Worship Him."

A trio, composed of Mrs. Jimmie Charles, Miss Joan Kay Ezell and Mrs. Melvin Terry, sang "Glory to Thee, My God, This Night."

The final number was "Bells On Christmas Day" by the choir. The cantata, a story in song, told the story of despair of the people before Christ was born. It then, gradually, song by song, told of the happiness and joy of the humble ones who watched and waited for the Great Event.

The climax of the worshipful singing left the large audience in a thoughtful mood.

The choir consisted of Mrs. Oral Kunselman, Mrs. Lloyd Battey, Mrs. George Turner, Mrs. Floyd Dunavant, Mrs. W. R. Beard, Miss Nita Beth Estes, Mrs. E. M. Ware and Mrs. Charles.

Others were Mrs. Gene Rea, Mrs. Billie Sudderth, Mrs. Hilton Terry, Miss Kay Hartzog, Mrs. Margaret Caldwell, Mrs. Hubert Ellison, Mrs. Lyntis Goodyear, Mrs. Melvin Terry, Mrs. Leon Ware and Mrs. Hodge Rigdon.

The men in the choir were Durwood Bell, Gene Rea, Jimmy Ware, Stevens, Arlin Hartzog, Mark Charles, Charles Williams, Hubert Ellison, Wilbur Charles and Morton.

On Wednesday evening, the First Baptist Church held its annual Christmas program. It was the effort of the primary, beginner and junior girls' auxiliary departments of the church and was under the direction of Mrs. Roy Fuller, Mrs. Alva Hudson, Mrs. Don Murphy and Mrs. E. H. Moody.

The program was opened with a congregational song, "It Came Upon The Midnight Clear," and a speech of welcome by Roxie Hutto.

Lynn Murphy then recited the poem "Our Chimley" and was followed by a chorus made up of the primary and beginner departments, Martha Adams, Vicki and Debbie Hawkins, Beth and Roxie Hutto, Rex Cumpston and Johnny Hugh Horn, sang three songs, including "Jingle Bells", "Away In A Manger" and "The Christmas Story."

Ken Horn gave the poem, "If I Could Talk To Santa Claus." Next on the program was a playlet by the beginner and primary youngsters. It was titled "Christmas Happiness" and each who took part held up a symbol of Christmas, such as holly, candles, etc., and told how they were connected with the Christmas season.

Intermediate Girls' Auxiliary members, Nancy Cumpston and Barbara Taylor, sang a duet, "Oh Wonderful Star of Bethlehem," followed by poems, "Christmas Star" by Judy Meachem and "Light of Jesus" by Lou Ann Goodwin.

The Christmas story was read by one of the teachers, followed by a playlet, "Christmas Gifts" by the Junior Girls' Auxiliary. This playlet depicted the Christmas spirit and also showed the distribution and use of the Lottie Moon Offering.

The closing speech was given by Janie Lou Hawkins.

Following the program, members of the church retired to the church annex for refreshments of pie, coffee and hot chocolate. At this time, the congregation presented gifts to the pastor and his family, Rev. and Mrs. Virgil Goodwin and children.

## Three Students Are Sick With Scarlet Fever

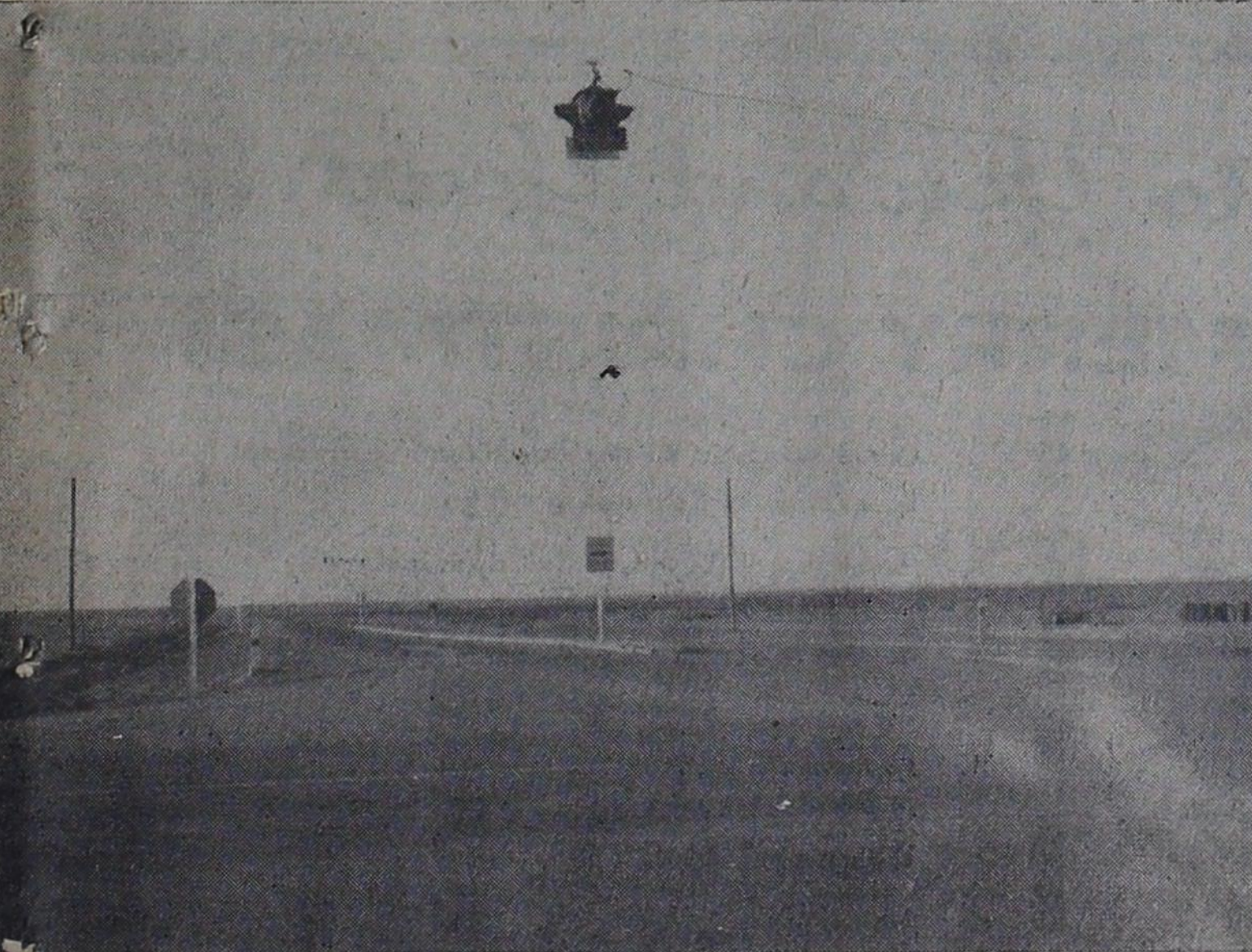
Three students in Bovina school have scarlet fever, Warren Morton, superintendent, announced late last week.

In an effort to inform parents of the situation, the following letter was sent home with students after school Thursday:

**NOTICE TO PARENTS**  
"We have had one or two cases of scarlet fever in our school recently. We think you should know that your child may have been exposed and that you should be on guard for any of the symptoms.

"Scarlet fever usually begins suddenly, often with nausea and vomiting, a severe headache and sore throat, sudden fever, flushed faces, and within 24 hours a fine,

(Continued on last page.)



A REMINDER TO BE CAREFUL—This caution light was put into operation at the intersection of Third Street and Highway 60 Wednesday by a special crew of Texas Highway Department workmen. A blinking yellow light on the highway warns motorists to be cautious. From Third Street and the pictured Farm-to-Market road, the signal is a blinking red light that means, of course, to stop.



"SANTA, WE'RE READY"—These three Bovina youngsters are joining many others in eagerly awaiting Santa Claus. They are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Don Smith. They're posing beneath the Christmas tree in their home. From left to right, Tony, Robin, and Randy.



It's Not the Best —

# A Canine's Christmas

by Sally Whitesides

So you think you've had it bad during this Christmas season? Well, come on, sprawl down here on my rug with me in front of the fire and relax your weary bones while I tell you what a dog's life is really like at Christmas time.

For about 1 and a half months a year, man, I've sure got it easy around here. I'm petted and pampered by the whole family. Food's good here, too, and there's plenty of cats to chase in this neighborhood.

Yep, I've got it good until about the time of the first snowfall. Then this house just heaves and groans with changes. Little things that annoy a feller begin to happen first; like having to stay inside while the family goes "shopping." Of course, with a nice warm fire and this here ole' rug, I get along pretty well. But boredom usually sets in about the middle of the afternoon and I get up and prowl around, hunting for something interesting to do. Boy, what I wouldn't give to have that sneaky cat from next door hemmed up in here at a time like that—but then again, I'm not so sure. The nasty brute almost removed my nose once when I cornered her in their garage.

But back to boredom and the releases of such. I've tried every chair in the living room and was pretty well satisfied in the big one over there when BRRRRRING, that blamed telephone just sliced me in two. Why, I was plumb in the far bedroom before I could stop myself.

Now, there was comfort if I ever beheld it. That bedroom through there, yeah, that one with the low bed and all those good smelling bottles on the little table. It also has a nice, fluffy cover over that soft bed and everything else in there is mighty interesting.

While I was in there, I decided I might as well investigate the comfort of that bed. So, big footed me, I crawl up and start to take a nap. And just before I drop off, something catches my eye. It's one of those little crooked cane things hanging on the wall over the headboard of the bed and it

had this little "Kupie" doll hanging down, with only a bunch of feathers on a ribbon for clothes.

What can you expect of a feller? How was I to know the doll would break if you accidentally pulled too hard on the feathers? With the resultant crash, I left that lush land of luxury, spitting pink feathers as I went.

I tried my rug again, but hunger pangs struck about then, so I meandered toward the kitchen. Checking my dish, I find the same ole' stuff there, and decide I'm not as hungry as I thought. Why can't we have something different to eat once in a while around here? Well, anyway, I lumber back into the living room to while away the long hours that are left to me by my inconsiderate family.

Wham! Just as I drop off to sleep, the door bursts open and here comes the family, all loaded with gifts and talking like mad. So I employ myself as a one dog welcoming committee and gracefully rear up on hind legs for a loving pat from Her. But boy, what a brush off. Before I know what has happened, I'm outside on the snow-covered porch and the door's shut-tight.

When my anguished howls and throaty whines (it wasn't nearly as bad outside as I let on, but if I can get some extra sympathy, why not?) finally penetrate into the house, She orders Junior to let me in, for Heaven's sakes, before that dog drives Her stark raving mad.

After supper, the family brings in this Christmas tree from the car and I am warned away with several crude remarks from Him as to my investigations and intentions to it. Really, I am a mature member of this household, whether they realize it or not!

The dressing of the tree was done by all the members of the family excepting me, of course. In the ensuing hours of slightly slap stick comedy, I was the recipient of several unwelcome and undignified decorations. The humor of this family! They seemed to take great delight in tying pink, can you imagine, yes, pink ribbons around my neck, bells on my legs, and

even draped icicles over my ears. But the final and mightiest blow to my dignity was when Junior sprayed that blamed snow all over my tail. Now, listen, my fine bushy tail is my pride and joy. I keep it neat and when I lay down, I carefully curl it around my feet, not only to keep them warm, but to keep it out of harm's way. When I was very young, I soon discovered this family of mine is especially heavy-footed and they invariably trod upon it while walking or crushed it painfully under the rocking chair.

To go back to the story of the spraying of my lovely tail. I retreated immediately to my rug and lay there glaring at my family. To cap the whole thing off, it took me three days of licking and rolling in the snow outside to relieve myself of that "hilarious" practical joke. Needless to say, it went unappreciated by me.

Of course, this season does have its good points, too. The kitchen certainly has a strong drawing power when there's candy cooking and boy, does a turkey make my mouth water when it is first pulled out of the oven, all nice and brown and crispy. I can just taste it, but don't dare to try.

Then, too, She is pretty good about letting cookies fall on the floor occasionally. I get these, of course. Bone picking is pretty good at this season, too, and there's lot's of different little tidbits which I'm allowed after each meal. I did get hold of one thing today that was horrible, though. You know that little colored stuff in the fruit cakes, I think She called it "citron" or something like that. Well, Junior, he doesn't like it much either, so he slipped me a bit and, big ole' trusting me, I promptly start to chew it up. Man, what a horrible taste. I do hope I never am so unfortunate again as to eat anything without first investigating what I'm putting into my mouth.

Another thing on the bad side of the picture of this season is the constant coming and going of visitors. She's usually kind enough to let me slip out the back door when people with toddlers come to call. But once this week, the kids saw me first and I spent the most miserable hour of my life while

two sprouts about two years old rode "horsey" on my back, looked in my mouth, and even tried to put some very sticky candy down my ears. That episode was another blow to my dignity. I do NOT have fleas and do NOT scratch, but how the thunder can you get that blamed stuff out unless you do—now I ask you, how?

To make things worse, when She warned the little pest I might bite, (I never do, after all, I am a gentleman) the visiting lady gaily cackled out some nonsense about me enjoying the roughhousing as much as the children. Boy if I could talk, could I ever tell her a thing or two!

Then came Christmas eve, and a whole household of guests for a great big party. Early in the afternoon, my rug disappeared into the pantry closet and wasn't seen again for hours. I wasn't even allowed into the house, for fear I'd track up those pretty floors.

I guess there were anyway 50 people to the party in our house last night and there I was, forced out into the old cold garage and I just know I'd have enjoyed myself at the party. I could get only faint whiffs of pop corn popping and hear lots of laughing and talking. Seems funny to me that I'm an accepted member of this household until something interesting comes along, then, wham, I'm shunted off to a back room or the garage.

After the party was over, they DID let me in and I was allowed to lay beside the fire and watch mysterious workings for the rest of the night. It wasn't a surprise to me though, cause I've taken part in this final ritual of Christmas eve for several years now. So I was delegated to "stand guard" through the night and wait for the morning with the rest.

Christmas morning in this house is always a bedlam. Those three youngsters pile down those stairs and then stop and just look at the tree. Then off they dash to Their room to wake Them up—with not so much as a "good morning" for me.

In a whirlwind of housecoats, bathrobes, and slippers, the gifts

(Continued on Page 7)

*A Joyful Christmas  
And  
everything good in the  
New Year*  
**Alva J. Hudson**  
Plumbing & Heating Phone 2652  
Bovina

**HAPPY HOLIDAY**

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**Queen's Custom Slaughtering**

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To our  
Good  
Friends  
and  
Customers

*Christmas Greetings*

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Hwy. 60 Bovina

**CHRISTMAS TREE DO'S AND DON'TS**

Every year, from a few days before Christmas to the week following New Year's, tragedy stalks up and down the country—tragedy in the form of needless fires. It is indeed ironic that many of these fires result from the extra hazards which exist only during the holiday season and from carelessness which would not be tolerated any other time. Follow this list of do's and don'ts—and don't let it happen to you.

- DO cut a growing tree, or if you buy, be sure it hasn't dried out from prolonged storage.
- DON'T get a tree any larger than you need—the larger the tree, the greater the hazard.
- DO stand the tree in water or snow outdoors until you're ready to use it indoors.
- DON'T use candles on the tree or nearby where there is any chance for an open flame to contact the tree or combustibles piled beneath the tree.
- DO support the tree well away from sources of heat (fireplaces, radiators, etc.).
- DON'T plug too many cords into one outlet.
- DO make certain that all tree lighting is turned off before retiring or leaving the house.
- DON'T allow smoking near the tree amidst decorations or piles of wrappings; have plenty of safe ashtrays around and use them.
- DO use non-combustible material (metal, glass, asbestos, etc.) for decorating the home whenever possible.
- DON'T let Christmas wrappings accumulate in the home; place them in metal covered trash barrel or burn them in incinerator as soon as possible.

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**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

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At this time of the year, particularly, it is extremely gratifying to be providing a service which contributes so much to warmth and contentment in the home during the Holiday Season.

So from each and every one of us at Pioneer, Best Wishes for good health — and the happiest Christmas you've ever had!

**Pioneer Natural Gas Company**  
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Ann Corn Tells About —

# A Czechoslovakian Christmas in the 1930's

by Ann Corn

Editor's note— Mrs. Charles Corn, the former Ann Glassel, was born and reared in Czechoslovakia. She, her husband and three children, now live on a farm south east of Bovina.

Mrs. Corn became an American citizen in 1950.

Christmas, what a lovely word. It rings with all its joy and also speaks of peace and quietness and tranquility and memories. My own thoughts take me back

into the 30's, before the war started and left its mark on such a large part of the world.

Home, then, was a small town in the western edge of Czechoslovakia. Although 99 percent German, it had been annexed to the

new Republic of Czechoslovakia after World War I.

I sometimes think the children over there have a little advantage over ours here, as far as pre-Christmas joy goes. There are two different occasions to receive small gifts from the "forerunners" of the actual Christchild, (which is what we call our Santa Claus over here).

The first one to show up is St. Andrew. He is never seen and imagination runs wild as to what he might just look like. One thing is sure, he must be terribly old, a little frightening, (probably slouchbacked) but a pretty good old man after all.

The last of November, we have to hang one of our stockings on the outside doorknob before we go to bed. Then, IF we have been good; said all our prayers and obeyed the elders, he would leave nuts, candy and cookies in the stocking. Had we been mean, just a little, he would put a piece of coal or a switch, besides the goodies in the sock. I have never heard of a single instance where the receptacle was filled to the top with coal.

About that time, most of us had already been in the Piney woods and gathered enough branches to bind a wreath. That is what we call an "advent-wreath." We put four candles on it and hang it in the living room or in the kitchen. It is suspended by wide red ribbons. Then, the fourth Sunday before Christmas, we light one candle and maybe sing a carol or two. The third Sunday, we light two candles and so on, until all four are alight. Then we know that Christmas is almost here.

December 4 is St. Barbara's Day. We all go and cut a few branches off the plum and cherry trees. Kept in water in a warm room, they will be blooming just in time for the Christchild.

About two days after that, when we get off school, all at once we see Santa Clauses everywhere. On every street, in every corner, they are busily talking to one another. They all carry huge knapsacks, with maybe some doll legs dangling from them. Or an animal toy, looking curiously out. So we all rush home, to be sure not to miss the kind old man. He usually comes in with a lot of noise, banging his walking stick against the door and always talking in a very gruff voice. After he is asked

to come in, the conversation goes something like this:

Santa: "Have you all been good children?" We: "Yes, Sir." Santa: "Do you always do your homework?" - "Yes Sir." "Do you say your prayers every day?" - "Yes Sir." "Recite some of them" says Santa. And then we rattle off the prayers that we have known for years. Then he will say, "Well, I can tell you are very sweet children, so I will leave you a few goodies." With that, he takes his sack off his shoulder, opens it, and at that point most boys and girls begin to worry whether they will be tugged away in it, since their conscience is bothering them just a tiny bit about the answers they gave old Santa a while back.

But he brings out fruit, candies, nuts, cookies, maybe a very inexpensive little toy and takes his leave until next year. Nobody can imagine the happiness and excitement he leaves behind.

All those Santa Clauses never have been much of a problem at home. There were more than enough volunteers in each neighborhood, and all the parents contributed to the gifts for the kids.

While my granddaddy was still alive, we always had a nativity set. We would gather moss, little rocks, small twigs off the branches, chestnuts, acorns, beechnuts and anything else that might prove handy in the decoration of the creche. After it was all set up, with the proper lighting in the right places, it always looked so peaceful.

Of course, one of the most important activities before the holidays was the actual making of gifts for the members of our family. We never have been much of a gift-buying family. Especially the children tried hard to make something all by themselves. Maybe they painted an extra nice picture, or since all girls in German elementary schools have to take handicraft lessons, they usually crocheted or knitted a pair of gloves for mother, a pair of socks for dad, a stole for grandma. All those activities made the weeks prior to Christmas fly.

About three or four days before the holidays, all German housewives get busy and do their baking. That is quite an operation, since they have to bake enough to last until the "High New Year," which comes January 6. Usually they make arrangements with the

neighborhood baker, who furnishes the large cake sheets and bakes them in his oven. These sheets are at least two feet in diameter. The cakes consist of a very rich sweet dough, which is rolled out about one inch thick on the sheets.

The topping is either streusel, coconut, almonds, walnuts, (all with sugar) sweet cream cheese or you may just dust them with confectioners sugar after they are baked.

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## Merry Christmas



It's old fashioned... but this is our way

of sending you greetings

and best wishes. 1956

### O. W. Rhinehart

Real Estate

Bovina

Farm Loans

# What's The Nicest Thing About CHRISTMAS?

MERRY CHRISTMAS

- Is it the tree or those who light the lights?
- Is it the package or the one who ties it bright?
- Is it the music or those who sing the words?
- Is it the turkey or those who cook the bird?
- The mistletoe or whom you Kiss beneath it?
- The pretty window or the folks who wreath it?
- The Santa suit or is it who wears it?
- Is it the Day or he who shares it?
- All Christmas things are wonderful — it's true
- But the nicest thing of all is you . . . . .



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# THE BOVINA BLADE

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Second-Class Privileges Authorized at Bovina, Texas  
Published at Bovina, Texas, Every Wednesday

## Dorcas Circle Has Party in Quickel Home Wednesday

Members of the Dorcas Circle of Bovina Methodist Church met Wednesday afternoon in the home of Mrs. Ike Quickel for an afternoon of visiting, exchange of gifts and games.

Several games were played under the direction of Mrs. Lloyd C. Battey and the last of these was in the form of a devotional. Mrs. L. H. Pesch was in charge and spelled

out the word "Christmas" and brought out significant Christmas symbols.

During the game, Mrs. L. M. Grissom read the Christmas story. Carols were also sung, led by Mrs. Pat Kunselman.

Mrs. Battey played Santa Claus and passed out the gifts from the secret pals. Names of the secret pals were revealed on the inside of each package.

Refreshments of date-nut loaf cake, topped with green whipped cream and red cherries, and coffee were served to those present

by Mrs. Quickel. They were served from a table overlaid with ecru lace, graced with a centerpiece of a potted poinsettia. Crystal and silver appointments were used.

Those present for the annual party were Mrs. Grissom, Miss Lola Grissom, Mrs. L. C. Moore, Mrs. G. A. Bandy, Mrs. Battey, Mrs. Kunselman, Mrs. Frank Wilson, Mrs. Mabel Newberry, Mrs. Elmer Lowrie, Mrs. Earl Richards, Mrs. Pesch, Mrs. Earl Derrick and the hostess.

## Visiting Here With Relatives

Second Lt. and Mrs. Bill Crume and son, Don DeLane of Wichita, Kansas, arrived Wednesday of last week to visit with relatives here.

They are guests in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Grissom; his father, C. E. Crume of Farwell and with other relatives. They will report to the Lincoln, Nebraska Air Force Base shortly after Christmas.

Visiting also in the Grissom home after the cantata at the Methodist Church Sunday evening were Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Christian, and Mrs. J. F. Foster, all of Farwell; Mr. and Mrs. Leon Grissom and family of Oklahoma Lane; and Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Grissom of Taiban, N. M.

## In Bradshaw Home

Christmas came early in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bradshaw last week. Their son-in-law, Lt. E. H. Rawls, of Long Island, New York, flew to the Clovis Air Force Base on a routine flight Wednesday. He visited with his wife's parents and brought them their Christmas gifts.

## To MYF Meeting

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Hastings attended a Sub-District Methodist Youth Fellowship meeting Sunday afternoon at the Oklahoma Lane Methodist Church.

Rev. R. L. Kirk, district superintendent, of Plainview, was in charge of the program. He spoke on "Giving." The local couple were accompanied by Barbara Rea, member of Bovina MYF.

## Visit Relatives

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Gooch and daughter, Janet, visited Sunday in Plainview. They were guests in the home of his brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Gooch. They also spent some time visiting with the men's mother, Mrs. E. E. Gooch, who is in a Plainview hospital, following minor surgery.

## Couples Bridge Club Meets Tuesday Night

Members of the Couples Bridge Club went to Clovis for a dinner Tuesday night. They then returned to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Clark for an evening of bridge.

The hostess had a table fixed with home made candy, fruits, nuts and coffee, for the guests. Gifts were exchanged by those present.

They were Mr. and Mrs. Tom Caldwell, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Sudderth, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Gaston, Mr. and Mrs. Dean McCallum, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Martin and the hosts.

## Gleaner S. S. Class Meets in Minter Home

Members of Gleaner Sunday School Class of the First Baptist Church met Thursday evening in

the home of Mrs. Henry Minter for their Christmas party.

The home was decorated with the usual Christmas tree, with a centerpiece of a Santa Claus and reindeer, surrounded with holly. On the corner table, there was a manger scene.

Mrs. Ovid Lawlis brought the devotional for the evening and Mrs. Roy Fuller and Mrs. James Taylor were in charge of the games. Secret pals were revealed as the gifts were distributed. Members of the class also presented Mrs. P. A. Adams, their teacher, with a gift of lingerie.

Hostesses for the party were Mrs. Lawlis, Mrs. Fuller, Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Minter. They served refreshments of red and green, cut-out sandwiches, fruit cake and whipped cream and hot tea. A miniature corsage of bells, candy canes and Santas were presented to each one present.

A classified ad doesn't cost very much and nearly everybody reads the classifieds.

Irrigation pump settings in Farmer County range from less than 50 feet to more than 350.

## CUSTOM PLOWING

\$3.00 Acre up to 11"

Carry-all Work—Land Leveling

## EDDIE REDDEN

BOVINA THARP 2147

## Our SEASON'S Wish

At this time of the year, we can give expression to the gratitude we feel for having you as our friends, and to assure you, in turn, of our friendship. In this spirit, we want to wish you a Happy Christmas.

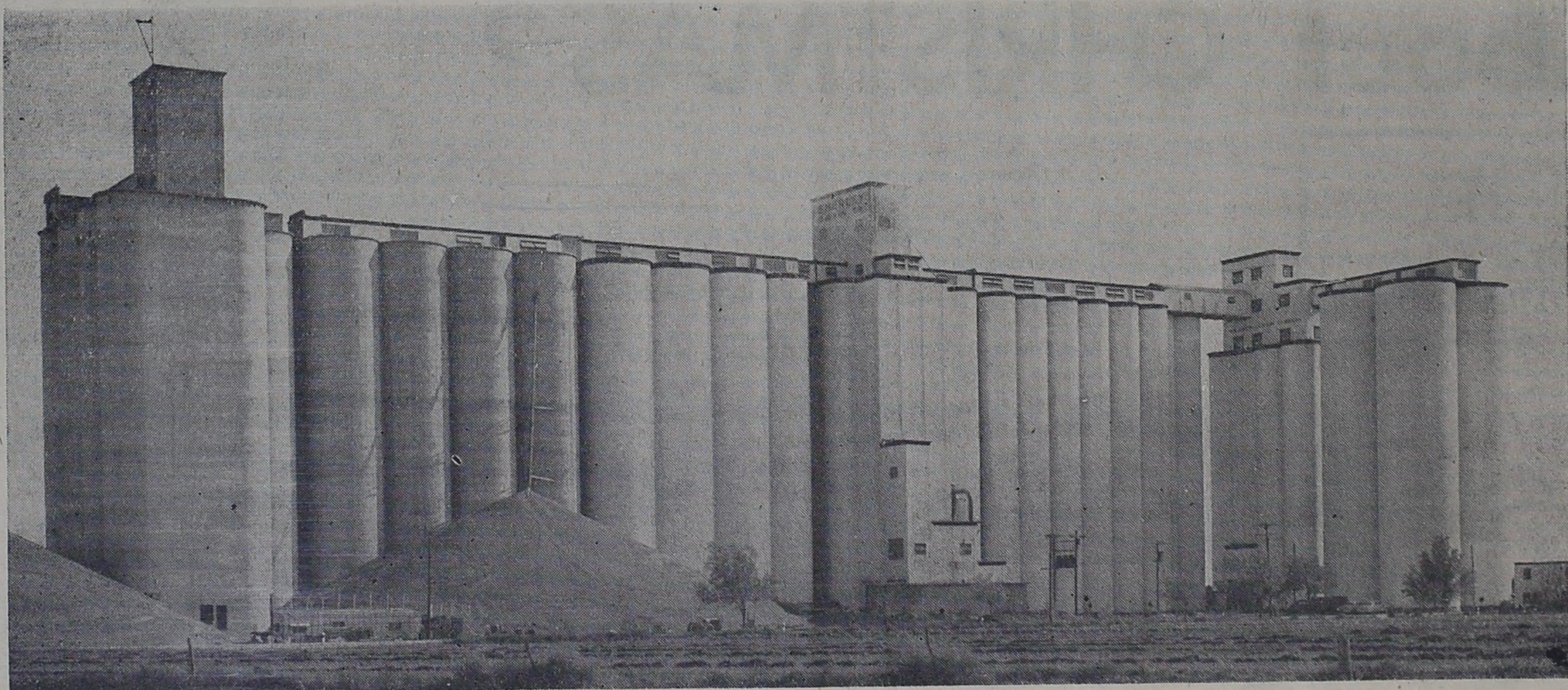
**Southside Service Station & Grocery**  
F. M. CROOK

## Babying freight is routine—

Whether its a carton or a carload, your shipment gets careful handling and special attention every mile of the way on the Santa Fe.

For safe — yet swift — freight service, call:  
**your local Santa Fe agent**

# MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR



## Serving Parmer County Farmers the Year 'Round

**SHERLEY  
GRAIN  
COMPANY**  
—Bovina—

**SHERLEY-  
ANDERSON-  
PITMAN, INC.**  
—Farwell—

**SHERLEY-  
ANDERSON  
GRAIN COMPANY**  
—Lariat—



### Bovina OES Has Christmas Program

Members of Bovina Order of Eastern Star and their guests met Thursday evening in the Masonic Hall for their annual Christmas

program. Mrs. Julia Leake was in charge. Mrs. Doris Wilson accompanied several members of the Rainbow on the piano as they sang. Among them were Mary Hartsell who sang "White Christmas," Harriette ou Charles sang "Suzy Snow

Flake," and "Let it Snow." Also, Kay Leake sang two numbers, "I Told Santa Claus to Bring Me You" and "Put Christ Back into Christmas."

Refreshments of fruit cake, whipped cream and coffee were served from a table overlaid with white. The centerpiece was a pink yule-log with pink tapers and greenery down the center of the table. Mrs. Jewel Tabor, Mrs. Maude Trimble and Mrs. Margaret Charles were hostesses.

### Marzie Lynn Circle Has Party Monday

The home of Mrs. Wilbur Charles was the site Monday evening of last week of the annual Christmas party of the Marzie Lynn Circle of Bovina Methodist Church. Husbands of the members were special guests for the evening.

The dinner, featuring ham, salads and pies, was served from a banquet table covered with white. Candles, pine cones and greenery graced the length of the table. Following the meal, the group spent the evening playing "42."

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. George Turner, Mrs. John Dixon and daughter, Gayle; Mr. and Mrs. Rouel Barron, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Charles, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Dunavant and Vernon Estes; Also, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Hastings, Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Jones, Reggie and Kathy; Mr. and Mrs. Warren Morton, Mr. and Mrs. Billie Sudderth, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Ware, Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Redden, Rev. W. R. Beard and the hosts.

### T & C Has Christmas Party

The home of Mrs. Glenn Hromas was the site Tuesday evening of the Christmas party of the Town and Country Club. Husbands of the members were special guests for the evening.

Gifts were exchanged, secret pals were revealed and refreshments of sandwiches, cake, spiced tea and coffee were served in the gayly decorated home. The cakes were especially on the Christmas theme; one was decorated with miniature green trees with brown trunks and another had a large red poinsettia bloom on the top.

Those present for the party were Mrs. Pat Read, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Gober, Mr. and Mrs. Sammy Sud-

### Afternoon Bridge Club With Mrs. Clark

A gift exchange and games of bridge were the order of the day when the Afternoon Bridge Club met Thursday in the home of Mrs. Betty Clark. A gayly decorated tree and table decorations of pink candles on white styrofoam, encircled with angel hair and pink balls set the mood for the holiday season. The tree was white flocked and featured pink decorations.

Refreshments of miniature angel food cakes with cherry sauce and coffee were served by the hostess to Mrs. Arlene McCallum, Mrs. Skeet Caldwell, Mrs. Pat Sudderth, Mrs. Ernestine Sides, Mrs. Joan Gaston, Mrs. Aletha Wilson, Mrs. Pauline Caldwell, Mrs. Zanelle Martin, Mrs. Mary Jane Wilson, Mrs. Mina Horn, Mrs. Fern Bell and the hostess.

### WHERE TIME STARTS

The starting point of time is the admiral's date line, which curves east and west of the 180th meridian in such a way that it lies always in the ocean. First to welcome each New Year are the residents of the Chatham Islands, New Zealand, just east of the line. From its starting point, the New Year moves westerly at the speed of 1,000 miles per hour.

# MERRY Christmas

We want to express our sincere thanks for your magnificent efforts and cooperation during the past year. Our best wishes to you and your dear ones for a Joyous Christmas!

## Bovina Service Station & Grocery

CLIFFORD LEAKE

### Rebekah S. S. Class With Mrs. Turner

Members of the Rebekah Sunday School Class of the First Baptist Church met Thursday evening in the home of Mrs. F. O. Turner for their annual Christmas party. Mrs. Ray Davies was co-hostess and husbands of the members were guests.

Refreshments of pecan and apple pies, coffee, and soft drinks were served and games of "42" were played.

The members presented their teacher, Mrs. Troy Fuller, with a gift. It was a jewelry box with costume jewelry set inside. There were about 24 members and guests present.

### Rainbow Girls Have Dinner Friday At Bovina Restaurant

Parents and dates of members of Bovina Order of Rainbow for Girls were guests of honor Friday evening at a dinner party at Bovina Restaurant.

Patsy Richards and Joy Redden were in charge of the program and introduced other members who



This Ad Sponsored By the Following Businesses of Bovina

- Paul Jones Service Station
- Macon Elevator
- Bovina Variety
- Bovina Butane Service
- Gulf Oil Corp. Tommy Bonds
- Gaines Hardware
- Bovina Implement Co.
- Charles Oil Co.
- Williams Mercantile Co. "Pioneers in Bovina"
- Kerby-Alverson Blacksmithing — Welding
- First National Bank Of Bovina
- Cicero Smith Lumber Co.

Good Will Toward Men  
May we give thanks for the progress made in furthering peace and brotherhood among men

## Church Schedules

### PENTECOSTAL HOLINESS

Sunday School	10 a. m.
Morning Worship	11 a. m.
PHYS	7 p. m.
Evening Worship	8 p. m.
Mid-week Service	8:00 p. m.

### BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Virgil Goodwin, Pastor

Bible Study	9:45 a. m.
Worship Service	11 a. m.
Training Union	8:30 p. m.
Evening Worship	7:30 p. m.
Wednesday Service	8 p. m.

### METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. W. E. Beard, Pastor

Church School	9:45 a. m.
Morning Worship	11 a. m.
Evening Fellowship	8:30 p. m.
Evening Worship	7:30 p. m.

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. A. H. Hester, Minister

Bible Study	10:00 a. m.
Preaching	11:45 a. m.
Communion	11:45 a. m.
Evening Worship	8:00 p. m.
Ladies class, Tuesday	8:30 p. m.
Wednesday	8:30 p. m.
Mid-week Service	8:00 p. m.

# Merry Christmas



## To Everyone

Through the years Christmas has remained a family time. To you and your family may we extend the best of season's greetings

## Selling Fords...

Has made us happy this year! We thank all of you, our customers, who have bought those new beauties. We know you're happy, too! Let us continue to be "your Friendly Ford Dealer" in the years to come!

# McKILLIP MOTOR CO.

Lawrence McKillip & Weedy Coffman

Farwell, Texas



### Christmas In Czechoslovakia

(Continued from Page 2)

Also, there are about six loaves of "stollen," a holiday bread to be baked. All that baking saves the housewife quite a lot of work later on, because we always have a coffee cake for breakfast and some more coffee and cake in the afternoon.

And by that time, we are very busy finding the right tree for us. Since there is such a wide selection of them, the choice is very hard to make. But, finally, we pick out the one for us. At home, it is put in a bucket of sand so we can trim it Christmas Eve, or Holy Evening, as we call it. We have never trimmed a tree before that time.

The day before Christmas, or Holy Eve, is something very, very special. All stores, public offices, etc., close at one p. m. At home, everyone is usually busy with last minute details. About three o'clock, we begin trimming the tree. There are cookies to be strung, and little candy ornaments, also small apples to be tied to the trunk. Nuts had been painted silver and gold days before and they also need a string glued onto them to hang them up on. Everyone usually wonders if we'll get through in time, but about three hours later, the tree stands in its glory, and the candles are burning brightly. We have never used any electric lights at all, just bright red candles. The piney smell of the tree and that of the burning candles mingle and suddenly it's Christmas again, just like it had been the years before.

Dinner is served at six o'clock. The main course is always fish on the Holy Eve, since according to our customs, it is a fast day. Dinner is over, daddy and I always had to take a walk, to give the Christchild time to bring the gifts. The Christchild is a very beautiful angel with long, flowing blond hair and large wings. She flies from house to house, and is admitted through the window by the mother. The mother is the only person ever to see the Christchild.

Daddy would always take me downtown, where the big Christmas tree was erected in the square. It didn't need many ornaments, since it always snowed on it anyway. And the lights on it made

the snow glisten in a thousand different colors. Usually it snowed softly when we took our walk. I cannot remember one single time where it really stormed. Just a few steps from the square was our church. There we went and waited with a crowd of other people.

For every Holy Eve, at 7:30, a trumpet quartet would play Christmas carols, way up in the churchtower, where the bells are. I can still remember how they sounded, and the carols they played.

After the concert was over, we would go swiftly home. On the way, we would meet farmers with their sleds, carrying feed to their animals. According to another one of our ancient customs, you should feed your stock and domestic animals twice their normal amount on Holy Eve and also on New Year's Eve.

Back home, after taking off our wraps, we would go into the kitchen and wait. Then, very fine and sweet, we could hear a tiny bell ringing. That was the sign that the Christchild had just left, and that we could come into the "good room" or rather, the living room.

There was the tree ablaze with candles and all other lights turned off, with the presents arranged underneath it. I would rush and look at mine quickly and then take the ones that I made for my relatives out of their hiding places and put them under the tree, also. After that, before we turned the lights back on, at 9:00, we always sang "Holy Night," and then thought of all our loved ones that couldn't be with us that evening. My grandmother started that custom when all of her boys were in World War I. Christmas Eve, at nine o'clock, they thought intensively of home and their loved ones, wherever they might have been. And for that very short moment, they were together, if only in thoughts.

The lights were turned back on and the gifts looked at and admired. We thanked one another for them and settled down to some good conversation. I always had books given to me, and no sooner did the older ones start talking that I would curl up on the couch with some new novels and try my best to finish it that night.

At midnight, all the churchbells would ring in Christmas Day. It would give the evening such a special glow, that hardly anyone

had much to say after that. Those that had visited with us would go to their homes, and we also retired. If you looked out over the town, you could see lights being turned off here, and there, until it was peacefully asleep.

Christmas Day was always one of those wonderful days with nothing special planned, except to enjoy it thoroughly. After breakfast, my grandparents and I would go to church. Most of us walked, but some of the wealthier farmers would come in to town with their teams and sleds. They would have bells on their horses' harnesses, and you could hear them coming from far off through the stillness of the snow-covered countryside.

Before everyone went inside, the men would cover up the steaming animals, and often even they sported a bright new red blanket. Their feed sacks would be full to the top, and it was so heartwarming to see even the horses being included in the overall Christmas spirits.

Inside, the church was decorated with evergreens and a tree was erected at the altar. Our minister wore a white robe instead of the usual black one. Even the "organ boys," who had to pump wind for our beautiful antique pipe organ, didn't let up for a single moment. On regular Sundays, they would sometimes quit pumping in the middle of a hymn, and leave the poor organist in "midair".

Back home, dinner was just about ready and we all settled down at our round dining table in the kitchen. We didn't have a dining room. The "advent-wreath" was placed in the middle as a centerpiece, and around it were heaping platters with real down-to-earth German food. The main course was always a crisp baked goose with dressing, but we usually had soup before that. Most of the time, it was farina dumpling soup. Then the goose, dressing, mashed potatoes or potato dumplings, gravy, sauerkraut, red cabbage salad, and a fruit compote for dessert. After all that had settled down a little bit, we'd have the inevitable coffee and cake.

some evergreens on the graves of our loved ones.

The evening was again spent quietly at home, usually reading.

We have two Christmas holidays at home, and the second one is spent a little livelier than the first. All of our friends and relatives are great ski enthusiasts, so we always planned a ski trip that day. We all met at an appointed place sometime in the morning and then set out from there on a regular "ski-hike." We carried our own lunch in rucksacks and picked anywhere the trail led us. All this brought us so close together as a family and the memories will be with me always.

It was always close to sundown before we got back, and, since we were all tired to the bones, we would have supper at a restaurant. Tired as we were, we were also wonderfully relaxed and at peace with ourselves.

The next day was a workday for my parents, but still vacation for me. German schools are out until January 4 for Christmas holidays. We kids always spent the entirety of our break either skiing or ice skating.

The Christmas Season was over once again, and all of us were thinking about next Christmas already. Had we known then, what the next 20 years were to bring us, we would have despaired. But no one can predict the future and the only thing we can do is to live day by day to the best of our ability in accordance with our Savior's teachings, whose birth is celebrated by so many peoples, year after year.

Personal note—I am very grateful for this opportunity to tell all you wonderful people of my home and how we recognize Christ's coming. May you all have a wonderful and contented Christmas, and let us pray that even in the less fortunate nations, the Christmas spirit will prevail, and there will be good will and peace toward all.

#### Ann Corn's Recipes

##### Farina-Dumplings

1 cup hot milk  
1/2 cup farina  
dash of nutmeg  
1 T. butter  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
2 eggs, separated and beaten.  
Place milk in saucepan. When it comes to a boil, add farina and cook over low heat until it thickens. Add butter and salt, cool slightly. Add beaten egg yolks, gradually. Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites and the nutmeg. Roll into small balls the size of marbles. Drop these into boiling soupstock

and cook, covered, for 10 minutes.

#### Christmas Wreath

1 lb. white raisins  
1/4 lb. candied pineapple  
1/4 cup almonds, chopped  
1 cup sugar  
2 cups sifted cake flour  
1 teaspoon cream of tartar  
1/2 lb. citron, cut fine  
3/4 cup shredded coconut  
3/4 cup shortening  
3 tablespoons milk  
1/4 teaspoon soda  
6 egg whites

Cover raisins with warm water and let stand 10 minutes, drain and dry. Cut fruit into small pieces, shred almonds and dredge with 1/2 cup of the flour. Cream shortening and sugar together thoroughly. Add sifted dry ingredients and milk alternately to creamed mixture. Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites, then fold in fruits.

Fill a greased angel food cake pan 2/3 full and bake for two-two and a half hours at 275 degrees F. Cover cake with a white frosting.

#### Stollen

3/4 cup milk  
1/4 cup lukewarm water  
3 eggs, beaten  
1 cake yeast  
1 cup shortening  
1/2 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon sugar  
1/2 cup sugar  
4 cups sifted flour  
Scald milk, cool. Dissolve yeast, 1 t. sugar in 1/4 cup water. Cream shortening, adding sugar gradually, then beaten eggs, salt and mace. Combine milk, yeast and creamed mixture, add flour and mix well. Turn on floured board and knead until smooth. Let dough rise in covered, greased bowl. (about 1 1/2 hours) Divide dough in three parts, roll each into a triangle, 1/2 inch thick. Brush with butter, cover with filling, roll, starting at wide

end. Shape into a crescent, place on a cookie sheet, let rise until light and bake.

While hot, frost with powdered sugar frosting, and sprinkle with nutmeats.

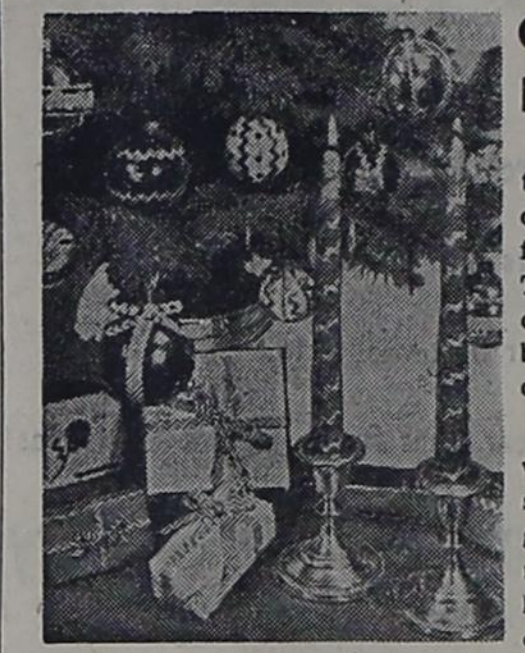
Filling: 1/2 cup almonds, blanched and chopped, 1/2 cup candied cherries, cut fine; 1/4 cup citron, cut fine; and 1/4 cup candied orange peel, also cut fine.

DRIVE SAFELY — Don't take your half of the highway out of the middle.

### Christmas Customs From Many Peoples

The observance of Christmas in the United States, is a combination of customs which have come to us from Germany, England, Italy, Turkey, and many other countries, customs which have been combined into a beautiful and varied observance.

Christmas customs, combined with a proper appreciation of the spiritual nature of the observance, gives the real meaning of Christmas and the universal message it holds for all mankind, "Peace on earth—good will to men!"



at Christmas

May we say "Thanks" for your good will during the past year, and Season's Best Wishes...

## Gulf Oil Corporation

Bovina Tom M. Bonds Wholesale and Retail Phone 2271

TO WISH YOU

Merry Christmas

The Best of Good Wishes for THE NEW YEAR

# WILLIAMS

## MERCANTILE COMPANY

"Pioneers in Bovina"

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

Again as the wondrous Christmas season opens our hearts, we sense something of the miracle and mystery of the first Christmas.

May the blessed yuletide spirit bring to you and yours all the happiness that the first Christmas brought to the Wise Men.

## First National Bank

of Bovina

"The Bank of Friendly Service"

Member: ● FDIC ● Federal Reserve System



# « Parmer County Farm and Home »

## Spacing Rules Of Water District Remain Valid

The State Supreme Court has dismissed an appeal by F. J. Bryson of Hockley County, appealing a decision of the 72nd District Court, which enjoined the producing of a well in excess of 100,000 gallons of water per day, drilled in violation of the spacing rules of the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District.

The District refused to approve a permit at 74 yards from an existing well; however, Bryson drilled the well without a permit.

After the trial court issued a permanent injunction against Bryson, he made a direct appeal to the Supreme Court. The high court said that it lacked jurisdiction to take the case on direct appeal; thereby ruling against the appeal and dismissing the case.

## NEWS FROM THE FARM BUREAU

By RAYMOND EULER

Tuesday night at five, we completed our journey of a little less than seven thousand miles. Time evolved was nine days. The route was Friona to Amarillo to Chicago, to Chattanooga, to Miami Beach, to New York, to Rochester, N. Y., to Detroit, to Grass Lake, Mich., to Flint, to Detroit, to Chi-

cago, to Kansas City, Amarillo, and back to Friona. These were the major stops.

The reason for the trip was the convening of delegates from 48 states and Puerto Rico for the 38th annual convention of the American Farm Bureau. The organization represents 1,587,107 members, or three out of four farmers who belong to farm organizations.

Senator Styles Bridges and Senator John F. Kennedy were among the notables who addressed the delegation. We are unable to remember or find his name just now, but one of the best speeches we heard was that of the national president of 4-H boys, a young man from Arkansas.

The reason for the writer's presence in Miami was not as a delegate, but as a service representative. We were privileged to hear several experts on selling service, as well as those directing their speeches toward the solution of the many problems confronting American farmers. Of the 6,000 in attendance, only a few hundred were delegates, the number based on the membership of each state represented. The temperature in Miami required day and night air conditioning.

We went from Miami to Rochester, N. Y., where we visited a sister, and toured the famed Eastman College of Music, where her husband, Ralph Bigelow, is registrar. From there we went to Grass Lake, Mich., to visit Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bell. Mrs. Bell was our first office secretary, whom many of you remember. Bell is in the airplane repair and sales and flight instruction business. The last planned stop was in Flint where our sister, Louise, and her husband, Earl Mangold, live. It was

a very enjoyable trip. The High Plains still looks good.

President Kaltwasser, among other things, wrote letters to congressmen last week urging recognition of "split grades" of cotton for government loan. This was in line with resolutions approved by the membership previously.

## SCD News

The Parmer County Soil Conservation District supervisors held their regular monthly meeting at Farwell Monday. Supervisors present were A. L. Black, chairman; Joe Blair, secretary; and Matt Jesko. Supervisors not present were Lloyd Prewett of the Black community and Carl Schlenker of Rhea.

During the meeting the supervisors made their annual report. It was decided to print the report and send each district cooperator a copy.

Now is the time of the year to begin planning to improve the irrigation system of the year past. This may be one of the best of new year resolutions a farmer can make.

If you need to change your row direction to slow the water down, shorten the length or run to improve water penetration, or what have you, come by in the next few weeks and let's talk it over.

It will enable the SCS technicians to schedule their work in such a way to reach more of the farmers when they want them. The spring of the year is just about the busiest season.

## Farmers Union SPEAKS

By W. L. EDELMON

At this Christmas time we like to think of the joy that farmers have been able to bring to the world through all ages by being able to feed an ever increasing population. Especially is this true in this country where free enterprise and individual initiative of the family farmer have held full sway.

The blessing of abundance in this country should bring joy to every citizen. Let us think of the alternative to abundance—famine, starvation, and every cause for war. And yet, we have hundreds of thousands of people in this country who are unable to get even their needs from our so-called "burdensome surpluses" because the distribution of the benefits of production has been out of balance.

The school lunch program, which is so widely accepted in our section of the country, is currently reaching only one child in three in the entire nation. The fluid milk program, which is a part of the school lunch program in this county, is reaching only one child in four when we consider our total school population. The expansion of these two food programs alone would do much to relieve two serious problems facing us today—malnutrition among large numbers of our school children, and to bring production and consumption of food products much closer together.

In addition to the school lunch program, there is another outlet for large amounts of food and fiber in our own country if the responsibility of our government is to be met. Thousands upon thousands of our people due to one cause or another are unable to secure for themselves, through the established channels of trade, even the bare necessities of life.

To disregard the needs of these groups and become oblivious to the causes of crime that are harbored in such surroundings is but to forget the purpose of our government in the beginning—provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare. Such an idea is workable through a food stamp plan for those who are in need and would serve the dual purposes of providing adequate diet for thousands and at the same time usefully consume a significant share of what would be branded as a burdensome surplus.

The term "surplus" has been loosely used to describe the amount of farm production that has not been consumed each year. Such use of the word shows an utter disregard for the need of any reserve of food and fiber as a protection against any kind of catastrophe.

We need only to recall that at the beginning of the second world war we had approximately 8,000,000 bales of cotton in storage but before another crop could be produced we had to curtail the use of cotton because our supply was exhausted. We must realize that the production of food and fiber can't be turned off and on in the same way that needed units of industrial production or war material can be started or stopped.

The failure to keep a sufficient reserve of food and fiber could become a national catastrophe in any 12 month period. To protect against such a contingency is the responsibility of our national government.

During the coming session of congress it will be the purpose of Farmers Union to secure the repeal of our present sliding scale of farm price supports and to secure

the passage of a program that will encourage the family farmer to remain on the land and be in a position to increase his production, to meet the need of an augmented demand.

Support for such a program will be drawn from both sides of the aisles in congress. Members of Farmers Union from every state of the union will be encouraged to visit their congressmen and add to the appeal for such a program. Two bus loads of Farmers Union members from Texas, including two or three members from Parmer County, will be included in "bus trippers" program this coming year.

Watch for further information on these bus trips.

For lack of something more expressive, we simply say MERRY CHRISTMAS.

## THE PARMER FARMER

What does the new year hold for farmers of the High Plains? Are prospects rosy? Are prospects poor?

The answer, of course, all depends. It depends less on the weather than it ever has, as each year we become more and more an irrigated area that is "insured" against deficient rainfall.

There is almost no question about our ability to produce. We will raise SOMETHING—and lots of it—almost in spite of the weather. That has been proven several times now.

Production is a problem that has, for all practical purposes, been solved. The problem now is to produce and make money at the same time. Simply having a good crop no longer means that there will be profits in the farming operation.

It costs money to produce today, big money in most instances. Machinery, irrigation wells, labor, fuel, everything the farmer must have to produce costs more than ever before. Even the land on which he must farm is high priced.

Simply raising a crop is not enough. Words like management,

competition, efficiency, promotion and volume have come to be meaningful.

Even though the future is something less than gilt-edged for the High Plains farmer, we can take confidence in the fact that there is still opportunity. Today's farmer is little different from a manufacturer. He offers products that are needed, but the market is highly competitive.

The opportunity we speak of is the opportunity to grow more and better food and fiber and to promote it in such a manner that the producer is assured a reasonable profit for his investment and labor. It is being done in industry—it will have to be done on the farm.

## Emergency Feed Grain Program Extended

Walter T. McKay, state director, Farmers Home Administration, this week advised Billy R. Boling, Parmer County supervisor, of the extension of the emergency feed grain program in Parmer County.

Under this extension, farmers and ranchers may now file applications through February 15 for a supply of the feed grain necessary to carry their basic livestock through March 15.

McKay also advised that the emergency roughage program will be extended. However, there will be a delay in accepting applications for roughage until sometime in early January, since financial aspects of the program are being worked out in Washington, he says.

## High Plains Water Shown In Maps

An estimated 80 to 85 million acre feet of water still lies in storage, available for pumping, in the water bearing sands of the 13 counties of the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District.

How long will this amount of water last?

No one knows. In order to give South Plains residents and farmers a better picture of the actual water situation under this area, directors of the District have had the hydrologic staff prepare three composite maps of the water district in color.

Anyone receiving The Cross Section will automatically receive the maps. Anyone not receiving The Cross Section may obtain the maps by writing to The Cross Section, 1628 B 15th Street, Lubbock.

**Ambulance Service**

Ph. 2311 Friona

**CLABORN Funeral Home**

## SAFE - SOUND - SECURE

There are good reasons why more people insure with Farm Bureau than with any other Parmer County Agency.

RAYMOND EULER Agency Mgr.

A. J. ELLISON Special Agent

Phone 3521, Friona

Phone 2092, Bovina

LIFE—FARMER'S LIABILITY—FIRE—AUTO

## ROBERT N. GINSBURG

Certified Public Accountant

Announces the Opening of An Office

For the Practice of

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WOODLEY BUILDING

Next Door to Old Bank Building

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Box 927, Friona, Texas

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**OPTOMETRIST**

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Muleshoe, Texas

**The Parmer County Implement Co. News**

Christmas, 1956

"The Place Where Most People Trade"

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Charles Dickens: "I have always thought of Christmas as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut up hearts freely. And therefore, though I have never put a scrap of gold or silver in my pocket, I believe that it has done me good, and will do me good, and I say God bless it."

From all the folks at the Parmer County Implement Company and the Parmer County Pump Company—MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

J. G. McFarland—John W. Lamb—W. S. Atwood—Jessie Cheshier—Medlin Walker—Claude W. Bradley—Charles Panzer—Ben Woody—Tom Gibson—Wilbur Brookfield—Hoyt L. Smith—Ralph Smith—Chauncy Woody—John Gaede—Frank Reed—Cecil Osborne—Mason Love—Douglas Connley—Carolyn Owen—A. E. Crump—Doris McFarland—H. H. Horton—Ralph Reed—J. P. Sims—Douglas Gosner—Johnnie Parker—Buddy Squyres—Dan Koelzer.

God bless you on this Christmas Day . . . With happiness supreme . . . And may you gather all the gifts . . . of which you ever dream . . . May all your friends remember you . . . With sentiment sincere . . . To add a world of pleasure and . . . To multiply your cheer . . . God bless you with the courage to . . . Pursue each noble quest . . . And grant this golden Yule will be . . . By far your happiest . . . May all the ornaments and lights . . . Upon the Christmas tree . . . Reflect the peace and comfort of . . . Your loving family . . . May every moment of your life . . . Seem wonderful and new . . . And in the year a week away . . . May all your dreams come true.

**Dr. William Beene**

Optometrist

Mon.-Tues.-Wed.

Mabry Building — Friona

Phone 4051

Monthly Installment Payment Plan on all Kinds of Insurance.

**3% simple interest**

**Bovina**

Real Estate & Insurance

Alvin Glasscock Ph. 4382

**Wedding Pictures?**

**SASS STUDIO**

Phone 4-6143

Clovis, N. M.



**Season's Greetings**

The entire crew extends to everyone their wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

THANK YOU for your business during 1956.

**HENDERSON**

**GRAIN AND SEED COMPANY, INC.**

PHONE 8-6573 FARWELL, TEXAS





When you start buying presents to fill the stockings belonging to younger children and relatives, don't overlook the versatility of books. Good books are a good buy, because they can be educational and appealing to children, and at the same time inexpensive to you.

In selecting children's books, be sure the subject matter is both accurate and interesting to the child and his particular age.

Story books for preschool children should be realistic, with colorful pictures and a simple narrative. Avoid fantastic stories and abstract pictures because preschoolers haven't yet separated the real from the unreal.

Color books are better for older children than for preschool youngsters. Preschoolers cannot keep inside the lines and may become discouraged. The lines hamper their creativity. Give them instead blank pieces of paper to color.

Information books having large pictures, with details about each picture, are good for preschoolers, often giving them ideas for play.

Books are appropriate Christmas gifts, are helpful to children and are easy on the pocketbook.



The same mistletoe which makes boys bold and girls blush at Christmastide had other meanings in other times.

Mistletoe, as one story goes, once was a full grown tree. Then its timber was cut for the cross on which Christ was crucified. Since then, it has retrogressed to its present state as a parasite, a plant which grows on other trees.

Ancient Druids worshipped mistletoe because it grew on their sacred oak. At the end of every year a Druid priest would cut down the mistletoe with a golden sickle, and not one twig was allowed to touch the earth. Later sprigs of mistletoe were often fastened over doorways to ward off evil spirits.

In Colonial days mistletoe was high and the lad who stole a kiss had to reach up and pull off one berry for every kiss. His kisses stopped when the berries were gone.

**Exercise Care in Outdoor Decorations**

If you light an outdoor tree, do it with care and caution.

Spruce, firs and pines, when not too large, are ideal for outdoor Yuletide display, but hemlock, yew, boxwood and aborvitae are a little more sensitive to the heat of Christmas lights and their needles may be scorched if caution is not used.

Outdoor lights should always be placed so they do not touch needles. Bulbs of 15 wattage are sufficient. Use only weatherproof electrical fixtures designed for outdoor use. Check the position of the lights each day and turn them on only at eventide. Be sure to turn them out before retiring.



If you know what qualities to look for when you select your Christmas turkey, you'll be able to make a wiser choice.

The market class of turkeys is determined by ages, sex, and tenderness of meat. The youngest turkeys are fryers and roasters and they run from 4 to 6 pounds in weight. The next class consists of young hen and young tom turkeys under eight months of age. These vary in weight from 6 to 25 pounds. And finally there are the tom and hen turkeys, which include birds over eight months of age varying considerable in weight.

Most of the Christmas turkeys belong to the young hen or young tom classification. To be of top quality, a bird should have a well-developed moderately broad and long breast, well fleshed through its entire length, the flesh carrying well up to the highest part of the breastbone so that the bone is not prominent. Also, the legs should be well covered with flesh.

Fat covering is one of the most important points in determining quality from the standpoint of excellence of flavor and tenderness. The carcass should be well covered with fat over the breast, back hips and pin bones. In poultry the fat is deposited in the skin and immediately under the skin rather than dispersed throughout the lean flesh as it is in some meats.

Select a bird that is free from pin feathers. Ready to cook or oven-ready turkeys have no protruding pin feathers.

LETTERS TO  
**SANTA CLAUS**

Dear Santa,  
I am looking for you to come to see me Christmas Eve. I am three years old and have been a pretty good boy. We will be at my grandmother's in Friona this year. I would like a record player, gun and holster set, helicopter, airplane, tractor, electric shaver and a bicycle. Please remember all the other little boys and girls this year.

I love you,  
Doug Pierce

Dear Santa,  
I am a little boy three years old. My mother says I have been a pretty good little boy this year. Please bring me a choo-choo train, gun and holster set, cash register, helicopter and some candy, gum, nuts and fruit.

Please remember all the other children.

I love you,  
Tommy Keith Bonds

Dear Santa,  
I am a little boy four years old. I have been a pretty good boy part of the year. I would like for you to bring me a truck, guns, Howdy-Doody uke and a bug that runs on a battery.

"I'll have coffee and cookies for you."

Thank you,  
Olan Lee Parker

Dear Santa,  
I am a little girl five years old. I have been a very good girl this

year. I would like for you to bring me a Tiny Tears doll, electric iron, and bottle set. Don't forget my brother, Jay. He would like a world globe.

Love,  
Pam Turner

Dear Santa,  
I am a little boy eight years old and in Mrs. Rhodes' third grade room at school. I would like for you to bring me a Daisy Red Ryder carbine, also an army training set and, as I like to read, could you bring me some books. I would like "My Friend, Flicka," "Silver Chief, Dog of the North" and "Moby Dick." I will be looking for you.

Lots of Love,  
Jerry Roach

**Baptist Young People Have Party Tuesday**

Members of the Young People's and Intermediate Sunday School classes of the First Baptist Church gathered Tuesday evening in the church annex for a Christmas party. Sponsors for the evening were Mr. and Mrs. Don Murphy, Mrs. Alva Hudson and Glen Kelley.

Games were under the direction of Weldon Moody.

Novelty gifts were brought by each of the members and were exchanged through the number system. Also, as the youngsters had drawn names in their classes, these gifts were distributed too.

There were about 36 young people and sponsors present.

**Junior MYF Has Party at Church**

Members of the Junior Methodist Youth Fellowship met Wednesday afternoon at Bovina Methodist Church for an afternoon of games, refreshments and gift exchanging. Sponsors for the party were Mrs. S. E. Redden and Mrs. W. R. Beard. They served refreshments of hamburgers, soft drinks and Spudnuts.

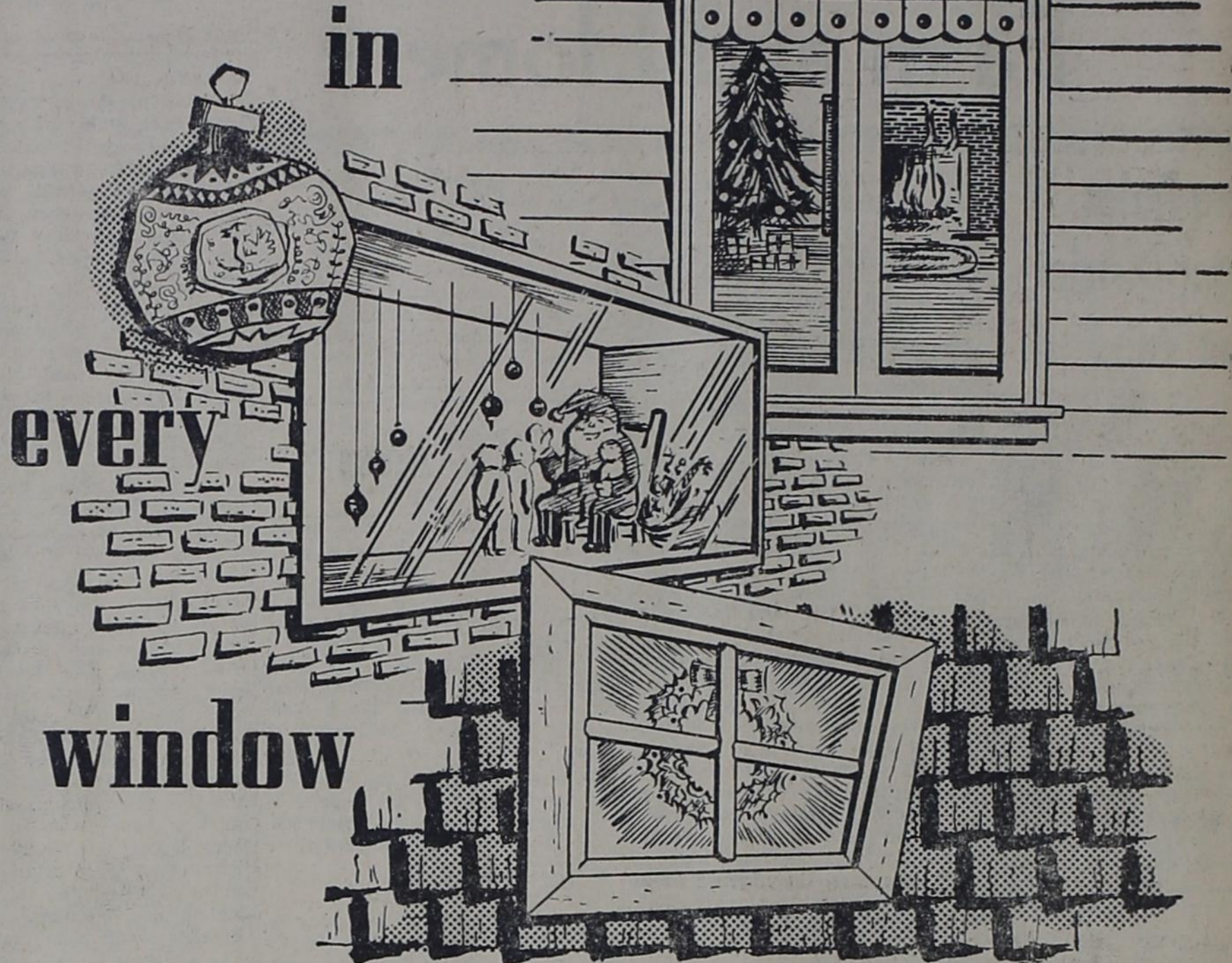
Young people present were Carole Jean Hastings, Kathy Jones, Myrtice Shockley, Dixie Hartzo, Virginia Rea and Phillippe Barrazzo.

Others were David Anderson, Jimmy Redden, Gary Beauchamp, Billy Charles, Phillip Lloyd, Gary Stevenson, Tally Kelso and Denry Mayhew.



**HOLIDAY NOTE . . .** Even in whiskers and costume, this Santa would give himself away with the first note. He's Gordon McRae, popular baritone, probably dressed to play Santa for the three children in his household.

**CHRISTMAS**



In every window is the evidence that once again we are at that special time of the year . . . Christmas. Not only in the windows but in the faces and actions of those around us. Our thoughts at this season are of the many fine folks we have had the pleasure of serving this past year. Our best Christmas wishes to all of you.

**BOVINA IMPLEMENT CO.**

"Your Massey-Harris Dealer"

E. B. Caldwell  
W. C. Mayhew  
Bill Burnam

Bill Lane  
Warren Queen  
Graden Hall

**Our Appreciation To One And All!**

For your business during 1956. We look forward to the opportunity of serving you again next year.



*May all the good things come your way at Christmas!*

To our many customers and friends,  
our sincere wishes for your happiness  
and a Merry, Merry Christmas to you all!

**Gifford-Hill-Western, Inc.**

Phone 8-6316

Farwell, Texas



A Canine's Christmas

(Continued from Page 2)

are handed out with me looking on—and hoping they haven't forgotten me. Yep, they remembered, alright. Look, here's my loot. Two bars of dog soap (sure hope it is good for the removal of candy in ears) a new black leather collar with my very own name on it and this here rubber bone that squeaks.

Yessir, guess I had a pretty good Christmas after all, and who knows, in the years to come, I may be able to look back on the injustices done me and smile. Oh well, at least I've got it off my chest. Maybe now you see what is meant by that shop worn old adage about living a dog's life. Man, even with the good points, it's rough on a dog at Christmas time.

FATHER AND MOTHER IN OLD ENGLAND AND THE AMERICAN COLONIES DECORATED THE CHRISTMAS TREE IN SECRET ON CHRISTMAS



EVE, THE CHILDREN WERE SURPRISED ON CHRISTMAS MORNING BY THE GLORIOUSLY LOCKED TREE.

LETTERS TO SANTA CLAUS

Dear Santa, Please bring me a doll. Love, Rosa Leal

Dear Santa, Please bring me a Miss Sweet Sue doll. I love you, Donna Jo Gaston

Dear Santa, Please bring me a tool set and an electric train. Love, Jerry Cooper

Dear Santa, Please bring me a bicycle with two wheels on the back. Love, Mickey Don Ellison

Dear Santa, I am six years old. Please bring me a Tootles Doll and a rocking chair. Happy Christmas, everyone. Love, Janice Morton

Dear Santa, Please bring me a gun. Love, Juan Diaz

Dear Santa,

Please bring me a tool set. Love, Curtis Drager

Dear Santa, Please bring me a Tiny Tears doll with clothes and guns. Love, Diane Sudderth

Dear Santa, Please bring me a B-B gun, a wagon and fill my stocking. I love you, Tony Gibson

Dear Santa, We are Vickie and Debbie Hawkins. We have been pretty good girls. Would you please bring us a doll, a baby bottle, a book satchel, one big enough to put music in and a baton to twirl with? Please bring Jackie Adams something nice because he has been sick so long. We will leave you something good to eat. We love you, Vickie and Debbie Hawkins

Dear Santa, I want a two gun set, cowboy boots and a fencing set. Love, Dwayne Horton

Dear Santa, Please bring me a Baby-Be doll. Bye, Carol Kirkpatrick

Dear Santa, Please bring me a pet kitten. I love you, Josefina Maruffo

Dear Santa, Please bring me a bride doll and skates. Love, Beth Hutto

Dear Santa, Please bring me a gun and a western suit. Love, Don Garrett

Dear Santa, Please bring me a football set and an electric train. Love, David Stevens

Dear Santa, Please bring me a pair of guns and a cowboy hat. Love,

Barton Davidson

Dear Santa, Please bring me a makeup set, a can-can slip, size 6. Also, a game, soap for my doll and a baton. Cecilia Denney

Dear Santa Claus, Please bring me a Roy Rogers' suit and guns. Keith McCutchan

Dear Santa, Please bring me a bicycle, boxing gloves, and a trumpet. Bring my little sister, Nancy, a Tiny Tears doll and diaper bag. Don't forget the other boys and girls. I love you, Larry Mitchell

Dear Santa Claus, I have been a pretty good boy and I will try to be better next year. I am six years old. Please bring me a pair of cowboy guns and a bicycle. Thank you, Gary Carson

Dear Santa Claus, I want a pair of gloves and I want an air pistol and a rifle, also a doctor set. I love you, Your loving friend, Rex Cumption

Dear Santa Claus, I am seven years old. I would like you to bring me a bicycle for Christmas, also a pair of skates and a pair of Roy Rogers' guns and holsters. Thank you very much, Alan Dale Carson

Dear Santa, My mother says I have been a good boy. I love Christmas. Please bring me a real guitar, boxing gloves, and an Alamo set. Be good to every little boy and girl. Thank you, Galen Hromas

Dear Santa, Please bring me a duck shoot

and an arcade shooting gallery. My sister, Pamela, wants a baby doll and a stroller. Remember all the children everywhere. I love you, Mike Grissom

Dear Santa Claus, I have been a good boy. I am nine years old. I want you to bring me a bow and arrow and a bicycle. And don't forget my baby brother. Thank you very much, Richard Carson

Dear Santa Claus, I have been a very good boy, I hope. Well, if I have, please bring me a cowboy guitar, a cowboy hat and a pair of cowboy long range six shooter pistols, and a long range cowboy rifle. And please remember the other boys and girls, too. Larry Truitt

Dear Santa, I want a record player, a pretty can-can slip with big colors.

Cris says she wants a truck and a doll to make clothes for. Cath would like a doll and a fuzzy animal. And Honey wants a doll, too. Be sure and remember all the other little children in the world. I'm trying to act like a girl that's nearly seven. I love you, Carol Mast

Dear Santa, Please bring me a rocket car, a pair of boots, chaps and guns. Please do not forget my teacher, Miss Fisher, and my classmates. Love, Roy M. Crawford, Jr.

Dear Santa, I want a Ginny doll with clothes. I want a little real baton. Love, Lanelle Christian

Dear Santa Claus, I would like a pair of Roy Rogers guns. And an electric submachine gun. I love you Santa Claus. And I would like a jumbo jump stick. Randy Jones

Greetings With best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season

Warren Auto Supply

— Mr. & Mrs. C. P. Warren —

TOPS in best wishes for Christmas

TO OUR MANY FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS

BOVINA BEAUTY SHOP

Phone 2812



Season's Greetings

Joe M. Brown Gin

Bovina, Texas

The approaching of the holiday season brings to a close our first ginning season in Bovina and Parmer County.

This first season here will rank among the most pleasant in our memories.

We are appreciative for the associations we've had and the friendships we've made — may they last for many years to come.

In short, we want to express a sincere

THANK YOU

for your ginning business and wish you a very

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Mr. & Mrs. Joe M. Brown





At this season of the year, it is our sincere hope that happiness and prosperity find their way into the homes of all our friends and customers, and remain with them throughout the new year.

And also at this season of the year, we feel it's time once again to express our sincere appreciation to our customers for their patronage. We enjoy serving you and strive to merit your confidence.

# MACON ELEVATOR

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Macon

Bovina

Phone 2411

## WANT ADS

FLOWERS for every occasion. Fresh. Delivered to your home. Phone 2461, ABC DRUG in Bovina. 46-tfnc

FOR SALE—four room modern house with five lots. Second Street and Avenue F. A. L. Kerby, Bovina, phone 2332 or 4441. 10tfnc

FARWELL LODGE NO. 977, A. F. & A. M., Bovina, Texas, regular communication second Tuesday of each month. 18-tfnc

FOR SALE—1-1953 New Holland wire type baler, 1-8' Ferguson rake, and 1-7' Dearborn mower. W. H. Downing, Phone 2011. 24-tfnc

FOR SALE—House to be moved. Four rooms, bath, and garage. Will furnish lots in Bovina. Robert Calaway, Ph. Sharp 2438. 25-tfnc

HAVING TROUBLE SHELLING CORN? See Nick Treinen at Hartwell Machinery Co. or call 4272. 24-4tp

FOR SALE—1944 Farmall M with super M assembly and cultivator. Butane equipped. L. W. Gibson, Route 3, Friona. Phone Hub 2611. 25-tfnc

FINISH High School or grade school at home. Spare time. Books furnished. Diploma awarded. Start where you left school. Write Columbia School, Box 1514, Amarillo. 14-52tp

JOE B. DOUGLAS and HUB REAL ESTATE  
Box 535, Friona, Texas

If you are thinking of selling your land, don't wait until the buyers are scarce. They begin to slow down after the first of the year. We have a lot of buyers right now, but not enough listings. If you want to sell, bring your listing in now or call us. We can sell it now. We have several men wanting improved quarters and halves. Douglas-Bingham Land Co. Highway 60, Friona. 19-tfnc

FOR SALE OR RENT—New modern, two-bedroom house on Dimmitt Road in Bovina. Wonderful location. Garage attached. Billy Malcom, Phone 2532. 26-tfnc

FOUND—Pair of child's glasses between Hub and Friona. Owner may have same by identifying and paying for this ad. Texas Highway Department, Bovina. 27-1tp

CARD OF THANKS TO ALL OUR FRIENDS  
Thank you so much for your kindness expressed in so many ways in our time of sorrow.  
The Sudderth Family

### WHITTLIN'

(Continued from page 1.)

some of Pres Abbott's people. The discharge is from The United States Volunteer Service and is titled, President's Thanks and Certificate of Honorable Service. It is dated 1864 and signed by the President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln.

If you are interested in this bit of history, I'm sure Jack would be glad to show it to you.

Many people have wondered if it is or is not wrong to abbreviate Christmas to Xmas. Walter Rogers, member of Congress from this district, says in his weekly newsletter that there is nothing wrong with using the abbreviation.

Says Rogers: "The use of the 'Xmas' is not improper, is not a sign of laziness and is not leaving 'Christ' out of Christmas. The fact that the letter 'X' signifies or represents 'Christ.' In Greek, Christ is written Xpistos and pronounced 'Christos.' The initial letter of the Greek word closely resembles our English letter 'X.' It is translated into English as 'Ch' and is pronounced 'Ki.'"

I wish for each and every reader a Merry Christmas and a very happy, prosperous New Year.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Moten:  
I thought I would send you a line telling you how much I enjoy The Blade that Lois sends me every week. It sure is good to hear everything that is going on around Bovina.

I am right with you about the A&M game with Texas. Say, you must be slipping, you didn't have any wisecrack to make about Hubert in your column this week. I sure enjoy those.

Well, Dolph, I had better close and get some sleep as they are working me pretty hard.

Boy, I am telling you this weather is about to get me down. The sun has shown 10 days out of 48 I have been up here. It has also snowed about seven or eight times and when it isn't snowing, it is raining.

I will be glad to get back home so I can breathe some clean, sandy air. It is smoky up here all time as there are so many factories. The largest steel mill in the U. S. is here in Gary.

We are 40 miles from downtown Chicago.

See you the last part of January if something doesn't break.

Keep up the good work on the paper.

One of Uncle Sam's boys, Terry  
Pvt. Melvin L. Terry RA 54181546  
Btry. "D" 79th AAA Msl. Bn.  
Glen Park Station  
Gary, Ind.

### Ex-Student Banquet Set for December 29

(Continued from page 1.)

the banquet whether they got a card or not."

About 140 people attended last year's banquet.

Gene Ezell, a member of the program committee, says there will be no speaker at the banquet. However, he says, a top-notch program is being planned for the entertainment of those present. The program can't be announced yet because it isn't complete.

James Tidenberg will serve as master of ceremonies.

The banquet is held each year on the first Saturday after Christmas. Ezell says a larger crowd is expected this year than last because there's more time between Christmas Day and the banquet date than there was last year.

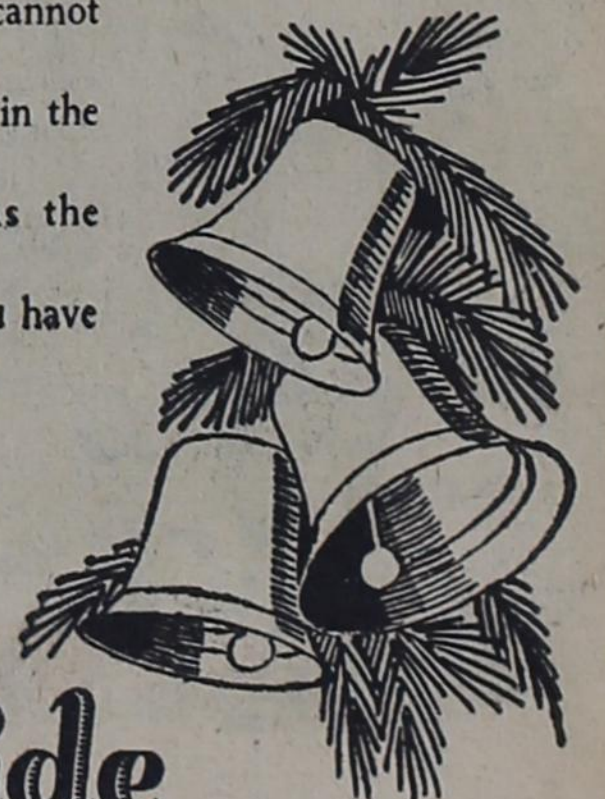
### In Johnson Home

Billy Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Levi Johnson, was home for the weekend from Texas Tech in Lubbock. Also visiting Friday evening in the Johnson home were Mr. and Mrs. Edd Meeks, Mr. and Mrs. Mel Gunn and Mr. and Mrs. Will Parker.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

From Your Elected  
Parmer County Officials

Hundreds of flowery words and phrases cannot compensate for the sincere wishes contained in the old greeting: "A Merry Christmas!" As the chimes intone the Christmas music, may you have a sense of happiness in their enjoyment.



## Joyous Yuletide

A. D. SMITH  
County Judge

H. L. IVY  
Commissioner, Pct. No. 4

MABEL REYNOLDS  
County Treasurer

CHAS. LOVELACE  
Sheriff

BILL SHEEHAN  
County Attorney

FORREST OSBORN  
Commissioner, Pct. No. 1

HUGH MOSELEY  
County & District  
Clerk

LEE THOMPSON  
Assessor-Collector

C. H. JEFFERSON  
Commissioner, Pct. No. 2

J. H. McDONALD  
Commissioner, Pct. No. 3



## MERRY CHRISTMAS

### Mustang Theatre

## THIRTY MINUTES OF CHRISTMAS EVE

Didja ever wake up in the middle of the night and hear the clock strike—just once? Well, it's bad enough any other night of the year, but on Christmas eve, well, it sure is hard on a boy like me.

Last year, I remember, I swore I'd stay awake ALL night so's to be ready to see Santa fill my sock. But I couldn't. I went to sleep too soon. Of course, I was only six last year, not near as old as I am now.

Mom told me when she tucked me in tonight that morning comes lots quicker if you sleep real sound. So this year, I said I'd try to go to sleep instead of trying to stay awake.

Just now, something woke me up and then the clock struck—just the

one time. Now, how's a kid to figger out if it's 6:30 and time to get up or 10:30 and I've just gone to bed? When I get big, I'm gonna have one of them clocks that strikes out the hours, minutes, and everything, so my boy won't have to wonder.

Dad says Santa knows everything. I wonder if he knows I'm the one who broke Mom's favorite cake plate. I didn't mean to, but the Christmas candy was in a sack behind the plate, and it happened awful fast. Mom, she didn't say too much, only looked at each of us kids. I sorta feel like I'd rather have the whipping and get it over with, instead of that patient look. That goes for scoldings, too. Anything's better'n

have 'em just look at you, 'specially when you know you done it and there isn't any way you can undo it.

I think Dad was trying to be funny the other day. I heard him tell Mom that Santa was gonna need radar to find our house through the sandstorms. Heck, if he can find his way in a snowstorm, surely he can make it in the dust. Still, Rudolph's nose light wouldn't do much good, now would it? Do you believe that story about the deer's nose guiding Santa on his run? Me—well, I just don't know. I never saw a deer with a bright red nose, but then again, there's lots of things, Mom says, that I haven't seen, but have to believe in.

I know a secret. Dad made me promise not to tell, and he showed me what he'd bought Mom for Christmas. Gee, was it ever a pretty electric skillet, with copper and chrome all over it. I almost popped up and told him I'd heard her tell Jimmy's mother that she'd scream this year if she got what she called a "practical" present from Daddy. She's been hinting for some of that fancy French-named perfume that's just come in at the drug store. Mom says she can't afford to buy it herself, and Daddy said, if she couldn't afford it, how did she expect him to, 'cause she always spends all the money in the house. I think he was kinda joking her about that. Anyway, I

(Continued On Page 4)

# MERRY

## Christmas

# 1956

to all our  
Friends and Customers.

It has been a pleasure to serve you with an  
elevator service during the past year.

May we look ahead to many more years of  
pleasant relationships. Again we say,

### MERRY CHRISTMAS!



"We Serve to  
Serve Again"

# Bovina Wheat Growers, Inc.

A. C. Teter, Mgr.



MRS. RITA MAST'S HOBBY—

# Here's How To Make Christmas Candles

By Sally Whitesides

Many of Mrs. Art Mast's friends, in recent years, have been the proud recipients of her lovely, homemade candles. She was kind enough this year to invite me into her home for an evening of candle making so that the directions could be shared with everyone within The Blade's circulation. The candles are surprisingly

simple to make and even an amateur can create true beauty which will add that extra "something" to the season's festivities.

All you need is paraffine wax, such as is used in canning, some molds and a little time. You may buy the regular candle wax at most hobby shops, but Mrs. Mast prefers the ordinary paraffine as it stands the heat of usual room

temperatures much better and is less expensive. They also maintain their shape while packed away during the warmer months of the year. Contrary to what you will read in many articles, Mrs. Mast says that the translucency of these paraffine candles is just as perfect as those made of the candle wax.

To make your candles, first melt your paraffine by the double boiler method. In other words, in a pan set in water over the fire. As wax is inflammable, be sure to never try to heat it over a direct fire. Mrs. Mast uses, as she says, a very "primitive" method of heating her wax. She uses a two pound coffee can, slightly bent together at the top to provide a convenient pouring spout. This can is placed in a larger pan of boiling water. It is not important to get the wax hot, but only melted thoroughly. This saves time in heating as well as in the cooling and does not injure the candle.

Your candle forms are left to your own ingenuity. The only requirements are that the molds are either larger at the top than at the bottom so the candle will slip out when solid or that they may be torn away or broken when your candle has hardened.

Some of the molds Mrs. Mast uses are different shaped coffee cups, Jello molds, ice cream cartons or any other shaped form which interests and challenges her.

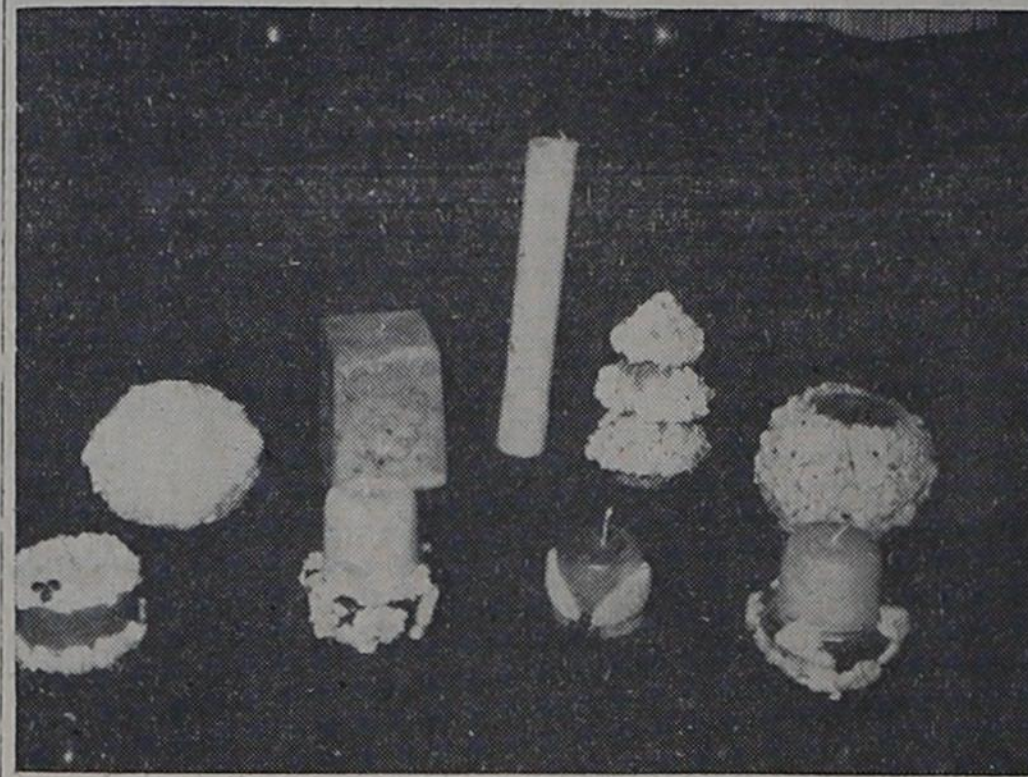
She also uses milk cartons for larger candles and the cardboard rounds from the wax paper rolls for long slender candles.

While your wax is melting, oil your chosen mold with any type of cooking oil. Shortening can be used but is not as successful as a liquid type cooking oil which will penetrate better into the corners and edges of your form.

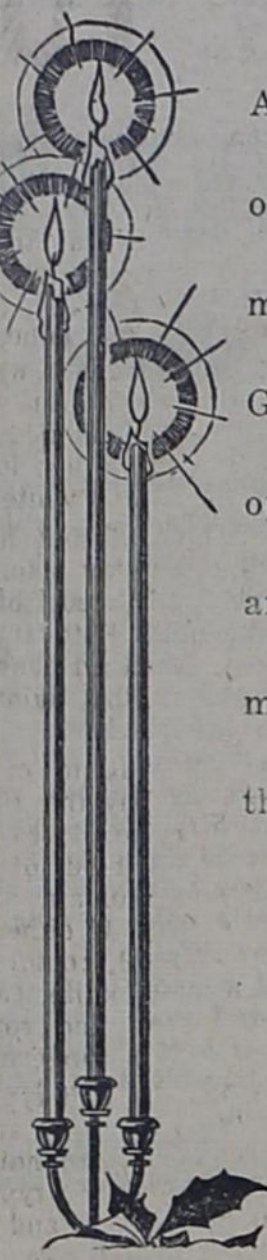
To make a clear, white candle the pure paraffine is used. But if you want colored candles, melt a small portion of a wax crayon in a tablespoonful of hot paraffine. Then pour into your can of heated wax and stir well for several minutes. Then simply pour the colored mixture into your well oiled mold and set aside to cool.

The solidifying period depends upon the size of the candle you are making. Those made in bowls, cups or individual Jello molds take about an hour when placed in ice water to hurry the process. (When set in a bowl of water, the mold and candles will float. This gives a lovely idea for a centerpiece of tiny floating candles around a large one set in a bowl filled with water.) The long slender candles, made in the wax paper rolls, take about 45 minutes when they are allowed to set slightly and then are placed perpendicular in a tall container filled with cold water.

When your candle is very firm (Continued on Page 7)



CHRISTMAS TREES, BALLS AND DRUMS—All made from paraffine wax into candles by Mrs. Art Mast. See story in this section.



As the joyous story of Christmas unfolds, may the door of Peace, Good Will and Happiness open for you and yours and bring you the many blessings of the season!

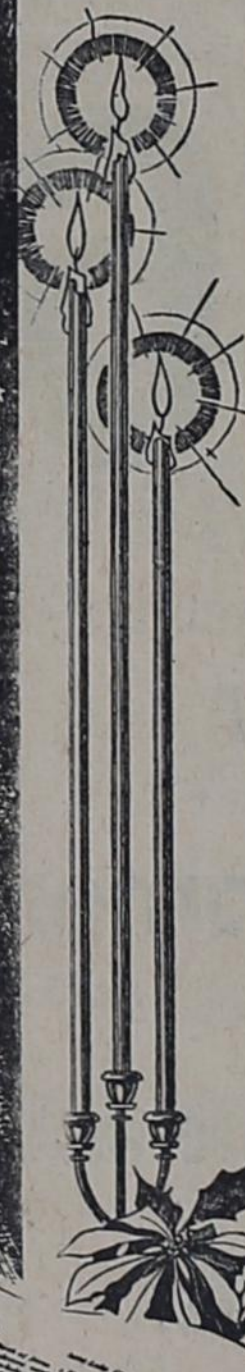
## MERRY CHRISTMAS

It is the time of the year again, Farmers, when we at Lawlis & Ely Gin wish the above for you and express our gratitude for your patronage during 1956.

### LAWLIS & ELY GIN

— Bovina —

## MERRY CHRISTMAS



### "O, COME LET US ADORE HIM"

Let us remember and observe the true meaning of Christmas . . . the birth of the little Child in Bethlehem, and all that is good in the world. Christmas belongs to everyone, for it expresses all that is happy and peaceful in the human heart.

May we all increase our appreciation for the Christmas meaning.



Charles Oil Company



FOR CHRISTMAS—

# Merry

# Christmas

—and—

**T**he best of wishes for a

**H**appy

**A**nd prosperous

**N**ew Year. We want you to

**K**now that we appreciate

**Y**our patronage this past year and the

**O**ppportunity you have given

**U**s to serve you.

Again we wish you **MERRY CHRISTMAS** and  
**HAPPY FOOD BUYING** in 1957.

## WILSON FOOD STORE

Mrs. & Mrs. A. M. Wilson  
Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Loflin

## Miniature Angels Are Made by Mrs. Turner

By Sally Whitesides

Do you want an "extra" decoration for your Christmas tree this year? Mrs. Olan Turner, school tax assessor, has made replicas of the pictured angels for two Christmas seasons now and they are very pretty. As well as being

attractive, they are simple to make out of inexpensive materials.

In order to make these charming little cherubs, you will only need the materials listed and these directions. No patterns are needed because the use of your own imagination in the finishing touches

make them completely your own creations.

Mrs. Turner made seven angels last year and several this year. She says about seven dolls can be made from a yard each of white satin and white net. Other things which are needed are a white styrofoam ball, about an inch in diameter, one six inch round of styrofoam for wings, one long pipe cleaner, a needle and white thread.

The eyes, mouth and halo are made from blue star sequins, red cup sequins, and red, blue and gold seed beads. With these few articles, plus about an hour's time, you can produce this dainty ornament.

The first step is to carve the head. You may buy the small one inch balls in some stores, or you can either carve it out of an inch thick slab of styrofoam or use a styrofoam candle. If either of the latter two are used, round the corners with a sharp knife, (a paring knife works fine) and round out the edges with a fingernail file.

When using the slab type styrofoam, cut an inch cube and start from there in the rounding out. The candle or cylinder type styrofoam is a little easier and quicker to complete, though. To use the candle, measure across the thickness of the candle and cut that long a piece. A 15 cent candle makes about seven heads.

After the carving and filing is complete, you are then ready to put on the eyes and mouth. To do this, mark gently on the completed head with a pencil, where you think the eyes and mouth should be. Then using either a sequin pin or an ordinary dress pin, cut about two-thirds its original length; place a blue seed head on your pin, followed by a blue star sequin. Make sure the star is shiny side out. Then stick the pin into the already dotted eye. Repeat for the second eye and, using a red seed bead, a pin and a "cup" or round,

slightly cupped red sequin, do the same for the mouth.

Next, the skirt: This is made of a strip of net and a strip of satin, both 20 inches long and five inches wide. Holding them together, make long, basting or running stitches through both materials along one side of the 20 inch length. Mrs. Turner says to be sure the shiny side of the satin faces the net.

Now, pull the basting thread up to gather the skirt until it will fit snugly around your index finger when both sides are touching. Tie off the thread firmly to hold gathers in place. Do not sew the back of the skirt together yet.

Lay the skirt aside and cut identical pieces of satin and net, four inches long and two inches wide for the bodice of the angel's dress. Holding the materials together as in the skirt, turn down a hem of about one-quarter inch along one side of the four inch length. Lay this on top of the gathered skirt and sew down with neat, small stitches. This will hide all the rough edges of the skirt top and form a sort of waist band and finishing touch. Mrs. Turner straightens and evens up the gathers of the skirt as she sews this by hand.

We are now ready to prepare the sleeves for the bodice. They are each made of a strip of both materials, five inches long and two inches wide. To make the puff sleeves, which serve as arms for the doll, also gather one of the two inch ends as tightly as possible, holding net and satin in the same manner as for the skirt and bodice. Turn in the rough edges as much as possible and catch the gathered edge together to form the wrist. Blind stitch up the open five inch length, turning a small hem on one side and lapping this over the other. Now gather the other two inch end of the sleeve almost as tight as the wrist. This will serve

(Continued on Page 6)

At  
Christmastime  
1956

Our wish  
For all our  
friends, neighbors  
and customers  
is a simple

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**

**Bovina  
Farm  
Chemical**  
Phone 4311



SMILING ANGELS OF NET AND SATIN—These miniature angels were made by Mrs. Olan Turner to decorate her home. A story in this section tells how they are made.

A day of peace,  
A day of gladness...  
This is our Christmas  
wish for you.

1956

### Kerby--Alverson

Blacksmithing — Welding  
Al Kerby Harve Alverson



Thirty Minutes Of Christmas Eve

(Continued from Page 1)

guess the skillet it is, and I'll bet Mom will just love it to pieces and give Dad a great big kiss and tell him it's just what she wanted.

Mom says there's a fine line between truth and fibbing when it comes to getting presents. She got after me last year for speaking right out when I got that sissy bow tie at the Sunday School tree. She says you've gotta ACT like you like a present, even if you never use it. She says that it is more blessed to give than to receive, and when you act like you like a gift, you're really giving the giver a present of gratitude.

Well, if that's the case, I gave Jimmy two presents at school. I gave him a top just like I wanted and then he gave me that little ole bottle of hair oil. Boy, did I ever try to act like I liked it. Sure hope he caught on, though, and will notice next year I don't even use hair oil. I've got a flat-top, and I use mustache wax to hold it up straight.

What was that? I thought I heard a noise like someone walking around in the living room. Listen—reckon Santa Claus muffled his jingle bells so they wouldn't wake me up? Gee, I'd like to peek, but then, he'd know if I saw him, just like he's supposed to know everything else, and I might not get the bicycle I've been wanting. Guess I'd better not chance it. But then, I could just peek through the key-hole—naw, guess I'd better not.

Last year, Sis, she's a year older'n me, well, she said she heard something walking around and Mom looked at Dad, and he took a big swig of awful hot coffee, then muttered something about heavy-footed mice. But now, doggone it, I've heard mice running around at night, and they sure don't sound as loud as all that.

Now everything's all quiet again. Do you suppose it WAS Santa and he's already gone on over to Jimmy's house? Gee, I sure do hope I get that bicycle. Boy, if Jimmy gets one, too, can't we have fun running races and such. Mom says if I do get one, I'll have to run errands for her. But that won't be work—that'll be play cause I can go just like the wind on a bicycle.

Listen—aw shucks, the clock just struck again—and just one time again, at that. Now, I don't know if it is one o'clock or one-thirty. Is anything more aggravating than that? Oh well, at any rate, it's a long time 'til morning, so I guess I'll do like Mom says, try to hurry it up by sleeping a little.

This Writer's Opinion of —

# The True Christmas Concept

By SALLY WHITESIDES

What does Christmas mean to you and your family? Is it a time of rush shopping and frustration, or is it a serene feeling of love and reverence which knits your family members into a circle which they can remember for the rest of their lives?

This season of the year should be set aside by the parents for long talks and companionship with their children. Have you stopped this year and explained over again to the little ones around you that this isn't only a season of Santa Claus and of presents for them? Have you explained to them that this is the season in which Christ

was born in the manger and was the beginning of our religion which we try to live every other day of the year? Have you taken their hand and led these children through the story which is to be found in the New Testament? Do they understand why we celebrate with gifts to our loved ones?

Recently heard a young mother say that her young son was confused about birthday celebrations. Her little boy wasn't sure whether Christ wore a red suit and a long white beard or if Santa Claus brought gifts to the children of the world on his own birthday.

Don't laugh, that was a real incident, and the mother wasn't in a

laughing mood. It brought her face to face with the commercialization which has all but enveloped and suffocated the true spirit in so many people. This mother made a rapid change of pace. Now, her son knows the true story and has it straight in his mind—and he will give his own children the real story when he is grown and has children of his own.

Let's stop a moment and think of the way our parents led us to combine the belief of Santa and his gifts with the much greater occasion—the birth of Christ.

Read your children the story from the Bible. Stop often in the reading and explain about the times in which this great miracle came about. Tell them of the background of the story and the people who lived at that time. Make them acquainted with the picture of the Star of the East, the Three Wise Men, coming with their gifts, and the rest of those who were involved in this, "the greatest story ever told."

Then, bring in the story of Santa. Explain that he was first known in Europe by many different names. Saint Nicholas was one; Father Christmas, another. Tell them how the life of a lonely bachelor was made brighter when he decided to share his wealth with the children of his village on this one day of the year. Tell them how the tradition followed the Puritans into this country and the pioneers into the West. Give them a depth of understanding.

Lead your children through the other stories of early day Christmas customs. Take time out from the frantic clubs and organizations which hold parties each year for the adults—and give your Christmas to children.

Does it come as a shock to you that I say "give YOUR Christmas?" Well, isn't most of the rushed preparation really for the benefit of adults? Children see and enjoy the things which are done on their level. Many mothers don't even take their children with them to pick gifts for other members of the family or the children's own friends.

The only time some children see a gift which they are giving to their teacher or little friend is when they are thanked for it. Take time to let children choose the presents, with your able assistance, of course.

Let him or her help wrap the gifts—the wrappings are so much dearer to others if they are the effort of the giver instead of the smart, tailored package which someone else wraps. Think of the shine in your own eyes as you sit down to help your mother wrap presents. Weren't you in the way, a little, too? But remember the joy. What if the cellophane tape is used too liberally, or the paper's off center and the bow hangs rather limp? The joy of accomplishments should never be taken away from anyone—much less a child.

So, take time this year to really enjoy Christmas with loved ones and enjoy it more. When the telephone seems to be ringing off the hook and you have five pies to

bake for those many different parties; stop, take a deep breath and softly hum the tune of "Silent Night," or "Oh, Little Town of Bethlehem," or any of the other lovely Christmas hymns. You will discover that peace will find its way into your heart and home and you will have time for all. The words of those much-loved songs

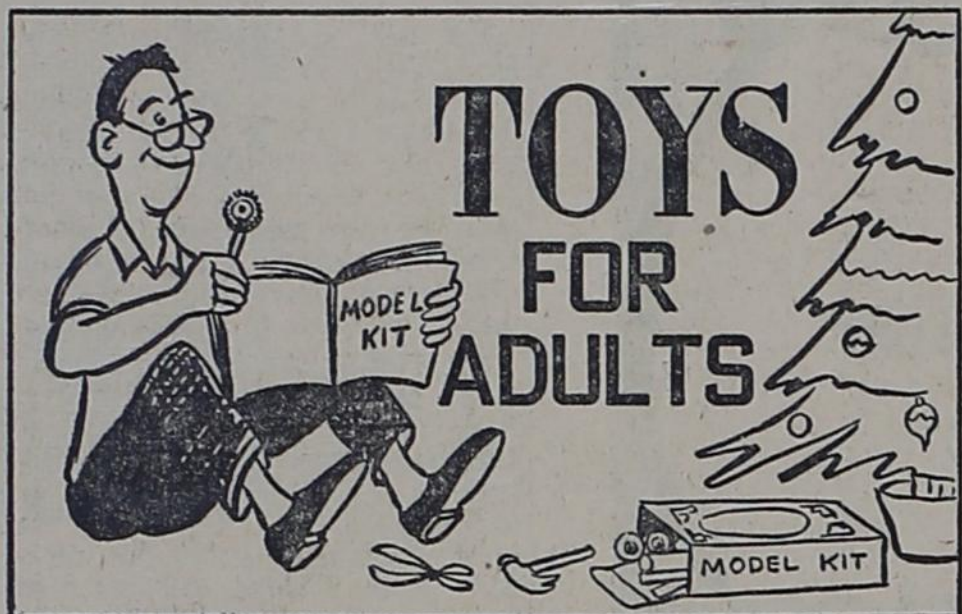
will make this season a joyous occasion—one which you can truly look forward to, instead of dreading. It will also be one children you associate with will always remember and connect with their homes and parents.

Give children a legacy of love and reverence. Give them memories of their home which will for-

tify them for a long life and a home of their own. Try it—you'll never regret it!

According to law, a minimum of three persons can create a riot.

Treason is the only crime defined in the Constitution of the United States.



TOYS FOR ADULTS

Most experts expect a booming adult toy market to make this a record year for manufacturers and sellers of toys and games. For several years, toy makers have been catering to the hobbyist and the "over 65" age group and now they find themselves with a toy market that is brisk at both ends of the age group.

Today's adult who works, and the elder who has retired, have plenty of leisure time on their hands and each year hundreds take up such hobbies as miniature shipbuilding, model railroading, or the less strenuous word or card games.

Some of the grown-up items on the market for the last year's top toy selling Christmas season included a \$10 scale model kit of the liner S.S. United States, "HO" gauge electric trains, model power boats, pool tables, shuffleboard sets, and an endless list of word games.

Biggest volume item in the adult toy field are the word games and the increased popularity has been so marked that within the past year two manufacturers doubled their plant capacity for producing games.

The toy makers have no intention of forgetting the nearly 50 million youngsters under 14 who are their principal market, but they are cultivating the "over 65" group—and their reasoning is simply that the older age group has more money to spend and is more interested in finding ways to occupy time.

Some manufacturers of "do-it-yourself" tools and gadgets are cashing in on the adult toy market by putting models of their products on the toy counters. Among items in this category last Christmas were a "mobile" loudspeaker, an intercom set, and a hand drill. Plenty of these were sold to grown-ups who put them to practical use.

"AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD SHALL BE REVEALED, AND ALL FLESH SHALL SEE IT TOGETHER..." ISAIAH 40:5

The Spirit of Christmas

May God above look down and bless your heart and home with happiness on this glorious occasion.

a merry merry Christmas

PAUL JONES SERVICE STATION — Texaco Products —

Phone 4331 Mr. & Mrs. Paul Jones & Randy Bovina

Bovina Real Estate & Insurance

Alvin Glasscock Phone 4382

We Extend A Sincere Expression of Appreciation for your Patronage during the FALL HARVEST

Merry Christmas

S. E. Cone Grain & Seed Co. R. S. Johnson, Jr., Mgr.



This Christmas -

# A Tradition Broken-Dad's Gone

By SALLY WHITESIDES  
A tradition of our family will be broken this year. For the first time in 35 years, there will be no Christmas tree cut and brought home by Dad. He's gone and the empty space can never be filled. In many ways, it can be forgotten, but, during this season, when families are always so close to one another, his absence will be felt

by all who loved him. The tradition has always been for the family, and in later years, their families, to gather about two weeks before Christmas to choose a little native pine tree for Mother's and Dad's living room. We would go to the canyons or "breaks" as they were called, just west of the home place and each would go in search of a likely

tree. I can look back now and realize we almost ran poor Dad to death, each child, in opposite directions, calling for him to come and inspect a tree which we would insist was THE ONE. This little tree didn't have to be perfect, although we thought it was after it was decorated. We always chose a tree about five feet tall and with lots of foliage. The

more branches—the more decorations could be hung. In later years, as we, the children, married and made homes of our own, we also cut trees for ourselves at this time. But it was an unspoken agreement that the prettiest must go to Mother and Dad. After the afternoon of racing and tramping through the snow, we would gather there in the lamplit living room while Dad and the boys put the tree in the stand. The metal stand of today, with screws to hold the tree sturdy, was introduced to us only in recent years. Before that, two planks were nailed to the trunk of the little tree and these planks were carefully covered with white cotton batting and then with strips of bright red crepe paper. (We tried to use soap suds snow to bank around it one year, but our gift packages were forced away from the tree, and this was never repeated.)

Then came the decorations. In our family, not only ornaments, but family mementos, were hung with loving pride to the branches. While the decorating was done, no year ever passed without someone mentioning the beginning of the use of Christmas trees, and why the pine was chosen to commemorate this holy season. Mother read us a story when we were children of the flight of Jesus and Mary and Joseph from Bethlehem. It related a cold and difficult journey, and when night fell, how the little family took shelter under a pine tree. Perhaps it is only a story, but it gave the tree true meaning for us.

Let's open the old "Christmas Box" which was always saved from year to year and search through the much loved articles which have helped to hold our family within a close-knit circle. The ropings come first. These strands of slightly tarnished tinsel were looped around and about the tree. To look at them, a stranger would consider them ready for the trash, but to us, they are a memory of childhood days and many by-gone trees. The beads, oh, how well I can remember the first year we had them. They were part of the new decorations bought following the war, and the newness and glitter of the yards of red, blue, green and silver seemed to add so much to the tree. They, too, looped and dipped through the little pine's boughs.

After the ropes and beads, we'd search through the box and rediscover the old but much loved pretties that were always carefully wrapped and put away each year. Here, is a tiny Santa Claus. If memory serves me, it was donated to the tree by Donnie, the first grandchild, several years ago. He had found it in his stocking at a Sunday School Christmas tree and had dropped it at "Gramp's" house the next day. He never got it back. Now, a strapping young man, Don is very proud of his little contribution to the family tree. "This isn't pretty any longer,

*Greetings*

As the Season approaches, we take this opportunity to send our heartiest and most sincere greetings and to express our appreciation for your past business.

We earnestly wish you and yours the best of success and personal happiness.



## Venerable Cleaners

"Dry Cleaning at its Best"

Phone 2031 Mr. and Mrs. Elton Venerable Bovina

let's not hang it this year." It is said every year, but Phyllis' eyes begin to swim and the yellow ball is carefully hung so it will show. It is a large, yellow ornament with a red flower and green leaves painted on the side. The loop at the top is made of cardboard instead of the metal of today. This "war-time" ornament was a contribution from Phyllis, who felt she must add something to a tree this year as, she had none the year her brand new husband was away, fighting in Germany.

Now, here is one that is an old favorite. It like so many, is "pre-war" and has a certain air of fragility which makes us hold it with reverence. Shades of purple, the grape-like cluster is made of tissue-thin glass. It is always hung low, but still out of the reach of the little ones who come to admire and then stand raply to watch the multitude of reflections of their own faces which is caught in each tiny grape.

An octagon shaped green beauty is hung by the expressive hands of Hazel, the eldest daughter. An old ornament, it means very little to the rest of us, but it holds deep sentimental value to her. "He used to squeak, but not anymore" is said each year of the little black fuzzy dog with the orange ribbon around his neck. One of his eyes is slightly out of focus and one ear is rather limp. But he is one of the first memories of Sally, the baby of the family. She played with it for months, then one day, it disappeared. The following Christmas, there is was, in the "Christmas Box" to be hung among the other baubles on the tree.

"Oh, do you remember?" is said and felt by every member of the family when the tiny dolls are lifted from the tissue paper. One is about two inches tall and the other, about half that size. These dolls belonged to Hazel and Hilda, many years ago. Names forgotten by all except the former "mothers," these little dolls have helped decorate the tree for almost 25 years. At one time, they were lost in the burned out ruins of the home. But Dad dug through the debris and they were among the things he found. The dolls, sent to the girls by their grandparents in England, are pitted and scarred by the fire. The little hat of the larger doll is melted and has run down around her ear and down the center of her back. Slightly lopsided, but memories are made of these.

A little red chair. Not more than an inch high. It is proudly shown to his sons by Harold, and then hung tenderly on the branches. The chair was a prize out of a box of Cracker Jacks when he was a child, and now it is with the rest. Raymond smiles as he reaches into the box. Here's his dog. A little terrier-type China dog. Hung on the tree by a red string around the neck, he was brought home by the "trader" of the family, having been "swapped" for something of much better value. Raymond offered his prize to the tree when he was a child. Now, a man grown and with a family of his own, the magic is as strong as

ever. Ah, the candle clips. They were never used too much, for fear of another fire, but the candle clips, with brightly colored candles were always carefully snapped to the outer tips of each branch. Memories are vivid of the once a year, on Christmas Eve, when Mother would light the candles and blow out the lamp for a few minutes of awe inspired silence. In later years, the silence was still in awe, but was mingled with reverence. Seemingly, we held the happiness of life there, in the room of flickering lights.

Other decorations, new brightly colored ones, and other loving keepsakes were also always on the tree. No electric lights, though, because that section called "home" isn't covered by REA. Icicles were used though, and oh, so many. Each one laid carefully from branch to branch to lend twinkling reflections to highlight the other ornaments.

And then the crowning touch—the star. Many use an angel, with clouds of dainty angel hair, to top their tree. But we use the same old star. As with the tinsel roping, it is slightly tarnished and the tips are bent a little. One point even has the impression of two tiny baby teeth on it. One of the grandchildren once slipped a nip before his mother could retrieve it.

So this is our traditional tree. Overdressed you say? Yes, perhaps, in the sense of modern silvered trees with the single color theme carried out with electric bulbs. But the warmth and hominess of the little tree which stood in the corner can never be duplicated with the artificial colors of today. The tree, with the little memories hanging from each limb, has always outshone other trees in the eyes of our family. It holds an equal amount of significance for each of the family, showing

(Continued on Page 8)



## Old Fashioned?

Yes, that's what WE'RE WISHING YOU... the most wonderful kind of an

## OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS

May it truly be one of your most enjoyable.

At this time, Christmas 1956, we want to express our appreciation for your patronage during the past year and wish for you and yours a VERY.....

*Merry Christmas and Happy Remodeling*

## Cicero Smith LUMBER COMPANY

Christmas is a time for counting our blessings, for acknowledging with gratitude the loyalty of our friends, and for expressing appreciation and good wishes that the yuletide will be a happy and joyous season for you.

## Gaines Hardware Co.



### Miniature Angels Are Made by Mrs. Turner

(Continued from Page 3)

as the shoulder. Make the other sleeve in the same manner and gently pull at the center of each sleeve to "puff" them. Now you are ready to sew the sleeves to the bodice. Sew the sleeve about half way between the top of the raw edged open neck and the finished waist seam, and about an inch from the back, unfinished edges. Attach the other sleeve in the same manner. This will set the arms almost exactly on the sides of the bodice when the doll is completed.

At this point, your miniature angel's dress is sewn up the back. This is done on the outside as it cannot be turned. To make a finished seam, turn down the right hand edge of the dress and blind stitch onto the other side, making sure your waist seams match, as well as the lower edges of the skirt.

A hem about one-quarter inch deep is taken now in the top of the bodice to form the neck hole. A line of small running stitches should be taken about one-third of an inch from the top, completely around the opening. Pull the thread as tightly as possible and tie off securely. Now force one end of the pipe cleaner down through the neck of the bodice and through the waist band, to about an inch below the waist. Twist this length around your finger loosely into a ring to prevent it slipping up through the waist band hole. Now force the other end of the pipe cleaner through the bottom of the styrofoam head, twisting it so it will come out through the back of the head. Set the head firmly down upon the bodice neck and use the remaining length of the pipe cleaner for the hook from which to hang the angel.

The wings are made next. They are cut from a six inch circle of white styrofoam. Saw a one-half inch slice from the circle with any sort of sharp knife. A serrated bread knife works best but any sharp knife will work. Be sure to use a slow sawing motion to prevent the crushing of the sponge-like material.

From this one-half inch slice, carve two cresent-shaped wings and tack together with needle and thread. Do not try to glue them together as glue melts styrofoam.

One circle slice of the foam will make about three wings, so measure approximately one-third of the circumference of your round and cut into the center. Carve the wings to suit yourself, and don't try for perfection of them as they can be carved into more desirable shapes after you attach them to the body. To do this, simply catch them through the center of the waist band back of the angel's dress with needle and thread. If you can sew them thus and also around the inner pipe

cleaner, they are much steeper. Now, the crowning touch—the halo. On a piece of fine, but stiff wire, thread enough gold seed beads to make the desired sized halo. One slightly smaller than the styrofoam head is most attractive.

When long enough, twist one end of the wire around the wire behind the beads into a circle. Now twist the wire firmly and press the loose end down into the back part of the head, pull through and turn up slightly so the halo will not

pull out. Gently twist the halo into a position of encircling the head—and there you are, you have completed a decoration for tree, window, doorway or it will even stand alone to complement your holiday centerpieces.

Mrs. Turner would like to stress that the dolls may very easily be kept from year to year. Just stuff the skirts with tissue paper to prevent crushing and pack in a box. When you want to use them again, it is very easy to press and

fluff the little dolls for another season of beautifying your home.

She also says the main idea in making these charming little dolls is not the perfection of them or the work you put into them, but the enjoyment of experimenting with materials and the sense of accomplishment you attain from an hour's work.

**DRIVE SAFELY**—A good look beats good luck in the job of safe driving.

### How Santa Claus, Ind., Got a Famous Name

A familiar looking old gentleman with a red suit and a white beard was partially responsible for naming the town of Santa Claus, Indiana.

Except for a lucky break, the town might have had another name and thus would not have enjoyed the annual fame that it enjoys with each Yuletide season.

Originally the name Santa Fe was chosen, but officials in Washington suggested another name be

chosen, since there already was a Santa Fe in New Mexico.

So it was that on Christmas Eve in 1882, citizens of the nameless town gathered to select another name. Suggestions were tossed about for some time, until Santa Claus, making his yearly visits in the neighborhood strode in to get warm. He was attired in proper costume and his arrival seemed to put one name in every mind.

And so the town was named Santa Claus.

May we join the COTTON —Whiskered man here in wishing for our friends, neighbors, and customers a **MERRY CHRISTMAS**

Cotton harvest and ginning season, 1956 Versions, have been good ones.

We are able to say this only because of the patronage and loyal support of you—our customers.

Your business is certainly appreciated here.



**WEST HUB GIN CORPORATION**  
& Delinting Plant



**Season's Greetings**

The brightest note on our Holiday calendar is this opportunity to wish you a Very Merry Christmas!

**MARCUM -- CLABORN**

— Friona —

**Funeral Home**

**Florists**

**Furniture**



# LETTERS TO SANTA CLAUS

Dear Santa Claus,  
I would like a pair of Roy Rogers guns. And a electric submachine gun. I love you Santa Claus. And I would like a jumbo jump stick.  
Randy Jones

Dear Santa,  
I am a little boy, four years old. I am trying hard to be good. I would like very much to get a pedal tractor for Christmas.  
I love you.  
Dennis Ellison

Dear Santa,  
I am a little boy, six years old. I try to be good. Will you please bring me a loader that dumps the dirt in a truck.  
I love you.  
Micky Don Ellison

Dear Santa,  
I am five years old. I can not go to school. I would like a teddy bear and a doll, too.  
Love,  
Linda Riley

Dear Santa,  
I am six years old. I am in the third grade. I would like eight cars. I would also like an army tank and a teddy bear, too.  
Love,  
R. B. Riley

Dear Santa Claus,  
My name is Larry Riley. I am eight years old, and am in the third grade.  
I want a big army truck with a big gun that has eight shells and five men.  
I would also like a toy airplane with a motor that really runs, and a toy teddy bear to go on my bed. Please bring me these.  
Love,  
Larry Ray Riley

Dear Santa Claus,  
I want an archery set and a holster set and an army trainer. I also would like a radio station and a Fort Apache stockade.  
D. wants a guided missile base and a holster set and a bow and arrow set and an airplane.  
Craton and R. D. Looney

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good girl this year. Would you please bring me a walking doll, some dishes and a nurse set.  
Please take all boys and girls something.  
Bye now,  
Krita Lois Morris

Dear Santa,  
I'm six years old and have been a good boy. Would you please bring me a set of guns, a football with a suit and a little truck.  
See you Christmas.  
Jerry Don Morris

Dear Santa,  
I have been a good girl. I want a wedding doll and a baton and a set of dishes and a ring. Also an ironing board and an iron, a doll bed, an overnight case and a make-up kit.  
Love,  
Bonnie Sue Morris

Dear Santa,  
Hope you don't forget us, 'cause we are far from Bovina, for you write good to us there. Hope you

can come over here. I want an electric train or a grader. My sister wants an ironing board and doll buggy. My brother David wants some toys. Don't forget our little brother, Danny, who lives with our aunt and uncle there.  
Love you,  
Jimmy, Jean and David Brito  
General Delivery  
Greenwood, Mississippi

## Here's How to Make Christmas Candles

(Continued from Page 2)

to the touch, rap the mold gently on a smooth surface and your candle will fall out. If you are using a dispensable mold, carefully tear it away and there you are! A word about the cooled candle. For some reason, they will have a shallow valley in the center when cooled. This is very simply cured by filling with wax after it is removed from the mold.

After the candle is removed from the mold, you place the wick in the center. This is done with the help of a heated ice pick or a length of wire, thoroughly heated. Holding the candle carefully and steadily, force the heated metal down through the center. Then place the stiff wick down the hole and refill with more hot wax.

Another method is placing the wick in while the candle is being cooled. This method is not satisfactory if you are using molds which will be turned upside down to form the shape desired. It is, however, perfectly successful when tapers are being made. Just tie a tiny weight to the end of your wick and allow to settle to the bottom of the mold. Hold the wick taut and straight for several minutes, or until the wax is solid enough to hold it.

To make a colorful candle for a decoration, string tiny bits of varicolored crayons on the wick and set into the candle. As the wick burns down, the crayons melting will make a rainbow of colors spilling down the sides of the candle.

Commercial wicks can be bought, but they can also be made at home ahead of time. To make your own, mix one teaspoon of table salt, and one teaspoon of borax into a cup of water. Into this solution, place a length of heavy crochet or wrapping thread and allow to soak for 24 hours. Allow to dry and then run through melted wax to stiffen it enough to handle. The borax and salt solution make your wick burn slower, but do not effect the lighting of the candles.

To decorate the candles to resemble those pictured, heat more wax and add the desired color. When your color is well blended, use a spoon or fork and beat the wax as you would in beating a cake batter. The wax will soon begin to scum over the sides of your container, so scrape down the sides often and beat rapidly to get air into the mixture.

When it becomes almost firm, and has a white, frothy look, smear it onto your candle with a fork, in any fashion which pleases you. In the candles pictured, the con-

trast of the white froth on the dark bottoms of the small candles brings out the colors. You may also take the frothy wax, before it cools to the "smearing" stage, but is still liquid and has lumps of wax and air bubbles in it. Spoon globs over your prepared candle, letting it run down the sides for added beauty. To enhance the contrast, allow some of the original color to show through between the "drips".

While these "drips" are still warm and soft, sprinkle your candle with glitter, which can be bought for a dime in many stores. An ideal way to sprinkle the glitter is to use an old salt shaker and shake it on while rotating the candle slowly.

Mrs. Mast does not advise the use of the adhesive glues which can be bought and sprayed on the candle to hold the glitter. She says that she has had better luck when she shakes the glitter onto the warm wax and then lets it set until thoroughly cool.

Other additions which can be used to beautify your candles are sequins, pressed into the still warm wax or beads, all colors together or trails of a single color, which are also pressed into the still pliable candle.

When you have worked with the paraffine for awhile and have become acquainted with the length of cooling time and the pliability of the wax, you may want to hand form your own ideas in candles. The tall twisted tapers can be made with cooled, slightly solid wax. Pour your melted wax into a greased, metal container and allow to become solid enough so it won't run, but is still soft enough to stretch and mold.

When it is at the right consistency, take a handful and roll it between your palms or on a greased cookie sheet into a cylinder about two inches in diameter and slightly shorter than you want your candle. The rolling can be done on the cookie sheet, and the wax can be kept at a workable temperature better if the sheet is placed over a bowl of steaming hot water.

Now, hold the candle carefully and gently twist your candle until you get the desired twisted effect. If the candle does break or becomes too cool before you are finished, simply reheat the wax and start all over. There is absolutely no waste.

When you have your hand made candle the way you want it, lay it aside to cool thoroughly. When it is firm, put your wick into the center as with the other candles and allow to solidify again. Then dip it again in melted and slightly cooled wax to add a coating. Now, "turn yourself loose" with your added decorations of glitter, sequins or beads.

You are now ready to make your own original candles for your season's festivities. The "makings" are easy to obtain and fairly inexpensive and the pleasure derived from the afternoon's work is more than worth the little trouble.

Mrs. Mast, who is a mother of three "pre-schoolers" spends many of the longer, winter evenings working at this hobby. She says she likes the adventure of experimentation and the relaxation obtained. Also, to her, the bright part of the story is there is no such thing as a failure. Even the already glittered candles can be remelted and done again. The glitter will settle to the bottom of the mold and just add more beauty to the next candle. So take an evening off in the near future and try your hand at her hobby.

# Blade Christmas Recipes

## JAM CAKE

This recipe was donated by Mrs. Thomas Beauchamp. It is a favorite of her family and has come down through the generations with the women of the Foust family. The only changes which have been made were one made by Mrs. Beauchamp's mother, adding the marshmallows, and Mrs. Beauchamp's own addition of Karo syrup.

The original recipe, given to Mrs. Beauchamp by her grandmother upon her marriage, went into many details as to the preparation of the blackberries for the jam and how to make the buttermilk to the right consistency. Mrs. Beauchamp says that commercial jam and buttermilk make a very delicious cake.



Charles Dickens's famous Christmas Carol was not the most popular of his Christmas stories during his lifetime, nor was it the one he hoped to be remembered by.

Dr. Ada Nisbet, who did extensive research for a book on the famous English author, states that the most popular of Dickens's Christmas stories in his day was "The Cricket on the Hearth," a poignant story of a father who tries to shield his blind daughter from the realities of life.

"It outdid Dickens' familiar tale of Scrooge and Tiny Tim by two to one," says Dr. Nisbet, an associate professor of English on the Los Angeles campus of the University of California. "Two weeks after its appearance in 1845 dramatic versions of 'The Cricket' were playing at 12 different theatres in London alone."

Dickens' own favorite of his many Christmas stories, and the one he hoped would give him lasting fame, was "The Chimes." As he was writing it, he enthusiastically wrote a friend that it "would knock 'The Carol' out of the field."

But the public did not take to "The Chimes," probably because it was filled with uncomfortable topical satire. "The Christmas Carol" survived and became increasingly popular, Dr. Nisbet believes, because it is cheerful and "Christmasy," with a social doctrine shapeless enough to be acceptable to all.

## CREAM TOGETHER:

1 cup butter and 2 cups sugar. Add three eggs and 1 cup seedless blackberry jam.  
Sift together: 3 cups flour, 1 teaspoon soda, 1 teaspoon nutmeg, 1 teaspoon cloves and 1 teaspoon allspice.

Add alternately to the creamed mixture with 1 cup thick buttermilk. Fold in 1 cup chopped dates and 1 cup pecans.

Bake in three 9-inch round layer pans in a 350 degree oven for about 45 minutes.

## FILLING

2 cups sugar  
3 tablespoons white Karo  
1/2 cup sweet milk  
Cook this mixture until it reaches the hard ball stage. Remove from heat long enough to add two whole eggs, well beaten, stirring constantly so the eggs will cook smoothly.

Put back on burner and add 1 cup chopped marshmallows and stir in 1 cup chopped dates. Leave on fire only long enough to blend dates and melt marshmallows. Remove from burner and add 1 cup nuts. Beat (not like fudge, but just until the mixture becomes sticky.)

Spread the filling between the layers and over the top of the cake. The filling will appear too sticky at first, but will stay on the cake and is the secret of the long keeping quality of the cake.

The cake, when iced, can be either frozen indefinitely or can be placed under a cake cover and kept as long as three weeks.

## CRANBERRY SALAD

Donated by Mrs. Bedford Caldwell  
1 quart ground raw cranberries  
1 cup sugar  
1 cup chopped nuts  
1 grated apple  
3/4 cup orange juice  
1 small can crushed pineapple  
1 package cream cheese  
1 cup whipped cream  
1 package raspberry Jello  
Grind berries and pour sugar over them and stir until sugar melts. Mix Jello in 3/4 cup hot water and the orange juice. Mix cranberries, pineapple, and apple with jello and congeal 1/2 of mixture.  
Mix cream cheese and whipped cream and nuts and spread on congealed part of jello. Then spread last half of Jello mixture over cheese and allow to congeal.

Mrs. Caldwell makes this salad in a 7"x11" pyrex baking dish.

EGGLESS, MILKLESS, AND BUTTERLESS FRUIT CAKE  
This cake is simple and "sure fire." It can be made with any

amount of nuts and citron added or is moist and tasty with none.

Mix in a large stewer:  
2 cups water  
2 pounds raisins  
2 tablespoons lard or shortening  
2 cups sugar

Boil this mixture five minutes and set aside to cool.

While waiting, sift together:  
3 1/2 cups flour, 1 t. cinnamon, 1 t. cloves, 1 t. ginger, 1 t. nutmeg, 1 t. soda, 1 t. baking powder, 1/2 t. salt and 3 T. cocoa.

Pour the flour mixture into the cooled raisin mixture and beat thoroughly and add nuts and citron according to taste; about 1 cup

each. Add 1/2 cup of lemon OR orange juice and beat well.

Bake in a well-greased and floured loaf pan in a slow (325°) oven for about an hour. Turn out of pan immediately and when moderately cool, wrap in waxed paper and then in a cloth. This cake will mellow with time and stay moist if moderate care is taken. A suggestion is to unwrap the cake about once a week and dampen thoroughly with orange or other fruit-juice to add flavor and moisture to the cake.

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PROOF ENOUGH . . . Skeptical oldsters who would spread the word there is no Santa should have a chat with this Chicago youngster who fairly beams as he asks old Saint Nick about the things that will be under his tree come Christmas morning.

### Most Children Want Simpler Type of Gifts

An early report from Santa reassures the fact that our younger generation isn't too much fazed by this electronic world in which we live today.

Although some precocious youngsters ask for the outlandish in toys when they write to Santa, the majority still request the old stand-bys—such things as red wagons, tricycles, balls and gloves for the boys and dolls and such for the girls.

It is indeed reassuring in this modern age to know that children still find security and happiness in the simpler things of life, the things that pleased us most when we were children ourselves.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

FOR EVERY GLOWING CANDLE MAY SOME GLADNESS COME TO YOU.

1956

Bovina Drug



Told By A Lady Who Knows -

# An Old-Fashioned English Christmas

By Elsie Block  
Editor's note - Mrs. Elsie Block was born and reared in Liverpool, England. She was a war bride of World War I, coming to America in 1912. She now makes her home in Bovina with her daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Whitesides.

Christmas celebrations are held all over the world, but every country has its own unique traditions, customs and foods.

The kitchen was a busy place in my country, England. Starting about November 1, we began the preparations for the lively celebrations with many guests and bountiful meals.

The Christmas Plum Puddings were made around that time. The thick pudding mixture of suet, dried fruits and spices was poured onto a floured cloth, which was drawn up around it and tied. The bundle was then dropped into a pan of boiling water for a four-hour cooking.

Afterwards, the pudding, firm but moist, was hung in the "buttery" or pantry to dry until Christmas. On Christmas morning, last-minute preparation of the pudding was to again place it in boiling water for a final heating. Turned out onto a platter, the hot pudding was decorated with a miniature of the Union Jack and garlanded with sprigs of holly. Liqueur was poured around the edges of the pudding and set afire and the entrance effect was beautiful. A thick, sweet sauce was made the day before and was used cold as a topping.

Before the pudding was cooked, however, traditional fortunes of a "third bit," a tiny thimble and a tiny gold ring were wrapped individually in parchment and stirred into the mixture. Those finding the little souvenirs were supposedly due to carry out the fortune. If the money was in your portion, riches would come your way; if it was the thimble you found, the young lady was doomed to be an old maid. Lucky was the girl who found the tiny ring, as it symbolized the event of an early and happy marriage.

Other foods prepared in November were mincemeat, bun loaves, Maid of Honor tarts and Scotch short bread.

Mincemeat, according to our family recipe, was made entirely of fruits, spices, suet and "demerara"

or brown sugar. Members of our family looked down on the use of meat in the mixture. Poured into crock jam jars, the mixture was placed in the oven and cooked slowly until the suet was melted. It was then covered with parchment and stored in the buttery.

A few days before Christmas, the smell of mince pies baking would pervade the entire house. Small individual pies, about 100 in number, were made for the many expected guests. Tradition goes that to refuse a mince pie offered by a host during the Christmas season was to call down very bad luck upon the household.

Baked in shallow, "patty" or muffin-like tins with a fluted edge, the pie contained about a third of a cup of mincemeat, completely enveloped by rich pastry. After baking, the little pies were taken from the tins and placed, with the rest of the goodies, to cool in the buttery.

Maid of Honor Tarts are a rich pastry cooked in the same patty tins and filled with strawberry jam. A mixture of "caster" sugar, rice flour and beaten egg whites, flavored with almond extract, was poured on the top. This coating provided a rich, crisp topping when baked in the oven.

Lemon Cheese Tarts were made in the same fashion, with a filling of butter, egg yolks, lemon and sugar placed in the already baked cases. Blanched almonds, split and placed on the top, provided the necessary decorations for these.

Bun loaves, or Christmas fruit cake, were usually made the latter part of November. Baked long in the oven and then wrapped in cloth, with thick slices of apples laid around each loaf, they maintained a fine flavor and moisture.

A fond memory of my childhood was carrying the loaves to the public bakery for baking. As a rule, this was only done when the oven at home was either too small or there was doubt in mother's mind as to its behavior. Many of our baked goods were done this way. The baking cost approximately "5d" or 10 cents per cake. Bread cost about "2d" or 4 cents per loaf.

The suckling pig with an apple in his mouth was a treat of a very special Christmas for our family. Twice in my life at home, we served the tiny roast pig, placed on a large platter and encircled

with cooked brussel sprouts. Stuffed with dressing of bread crumbs, apples, onions and spices, the wee fellow was baked for hours in the oven. A tiny piece of fresh parsley was always curled over each ear just before he was brought to the table. I have no memory as to how he was carved, but the serving, like at any other time of the year, was always done by the head of the house.

If a turkey was used, as was common, he was bought at the fishmonger's in the open market. The butcher would kill and "hang" the turkey for several days before Christmas and then deliver him. The turkey was stuffed with a chestnut dressing and cooked on a spit before the open fire place. It was a duty of one of the children of the house to sit on the fender of the fireplace and hand baste the bird every few minutes with the hot grease which had dripped down into a container. This process took from seven to ten hours and was usually done the day before. If so, the turkey was reheated in the oven a few hours before the Christmas dinner.

A sample menu for Christmas dinner contained clear ox tail soup, mashed potatoes, basting gravy, the meat, carrots and turnips, boiled and mashed together, brussel sprouts, plum puddings and sauces. Bread was not served when potatoes were used on the menu. Black current jelly was the customary complement to the meat, as cranberries were unknown in England at that time. Drinks of lemonade, ginger ale and the proverbial hot tea were served with the dessert.

The Christmas tree was decorated on Christmas Eve, and the gifts were always opened the next morning. The tree, resembling those used in this country, was bought at the Greengrocer's stall in the open city market. Placed in a bucket of coal to balance it, the tree in our house always stood seven or eight feet tall. It was decorated with a star on the top-most branch and a glittering angel placed carefully on the limb below. Miniature glass birds and a few other pretty ornaments were decorations for the upper boughs. From the lower branches hung sweetmeats for the children.

These "sweetmeats," or candies, were Marzipan fruit and Marzipan baskets. The baskets

were always bought, but the candies were cream colored, made of caster sugar and egg whites. This was added to hand-crushed almonds, which had been pounded to a paste with a heavy kitchen mortar. The mixture was colored and formed to resemble fruit and set aside to dry.

Also on the tree were hung tiny china dolls and wrapped sugar candy which were given to visiting children as gifts. No child came within your home without receiving a present from the tree.

The tree was lighted by the use of candles, held firmly in painted candle clips on the outermost branches. The lighting of the tree was quite a ceremony, with father always near in case of fire.

Sprigs of mistletoe and holly were used abundantly to decorate throughout the house. Every picture as well as the hall and doorway were encircled with the greenery. Some of the branches were always saved until Twelfth Night, or January 6. It was then burned under the pot of Haggis for good luck to the family for the coming year.

Twelfth Night is a Scottish tradition which is in honor of the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. It is celebrated with the eating of Haggis and bannock. Haggis is a highly seasoned mutton stew and the bannock is a yeast bread, formed into inch thick circular loaves, baked crusty brown and sliced into thick portions.

Now, back to the Christmas customs. One strange thing I noticed when I arrived in America was the brightly colored packages under the Christmas tree. Ours were never gaily wrapped as they are in this country, but in white crepe paper with colored string to tie them.

Around the first of November, my sisters and I would start our own preparations for Christmas. We would join a "sweet club," which was much like the Christmas Clubs of today. Each week we would set aside a few pennies and take them to the sweetshop, where they were recorded under our names. We also picked the size box of candy we wanted and thus decided how much we must pay each week. On Christmas Eve, there would be the climax to all the heartfelt saving—a box of candy, all our own. The sweetbox, or candy box, as they would be

called here, would contain three or four pounds of sugar coated burned almonds, hard candies, chocolate drops and peppermints. A ring of glace cherries would encircle the other candies in the box and were special treats. The larger boxes contained French Cremes; a very special treat. This confection was a chocolate shell, filled with whipped cream and a glace cherry nestled inside.

As a climax to the Christmas celebration, boxing day was celebrated December 26. This day is the traditional opening of the Pantomimes, which are primarily composed of the children's Mother

Goose stories, played by adult actors in the Liverpool theaters. A national holiday, it was also a day of visiting and fond farewell parties for guests.

And so it was, we had our joyous Christmas season. As in this country, religious customs were carried out and the reverence of the holy day observed. The children were told stories of Father Christmas and the eyes of young

and old alike were set aching throughout the season.

In all countries, I suppose, the feeling of reverence and dedication to a Christian life is made at this time and is gently intermingled with the bright eyes and whispered secrets which make Christmas so dear in any home, anywhere in the world, no matter what the country's customs may be.

## The Broken Tradition

(Continued From Page 5)

that truly free and open love can only be felt completely when expressed openly.

Yes, Daddy is gone this year and parts of the Christmas season will be so lonely without him. But he left us much more of himself than was taken away. The family will "get by" this year. We will gather again about December 15 and go cut trees. We will find much of the old joy in hunting the little pines for each family, but we will all be looking for and mentally choosing the special one for the old home. The happiness and laughter will be there, but there will be an undercurrent of loneliness—because a tradition will be broken.

## Water Is Key to Safe Fresh Indoor Tree

Water is the key to keeping a Christmas tree fresh after it has been brought indoors.

Every indoor tree should be anchored in a container that holds five or six inches of water. The butt of the tree first should be cut on a slant an inch above the end of the trunk.

Water should be added to the container every day to replace that taken up by the trees or lost by evaporation. Ample water makes a tree less inflammable and gives it better color.

Any Christmas greenery will stay fresher if sprinkled with water.



HUBERT ELLISON

Building Contractor

— Bovina —



# CHRISTMAS

# Greetings

Each year we look forward to Christmas, a time when we can extend greetings to our friends and customers and thank them sincerely for their patronage.

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