

Let men their songs employ

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

It came up-on the
From an-gels bend-ing

We Three Kings of Orient Are

We three kings of O-ri-ent
and foun-tain, moor

Silent Night

Si-lent night, ho-ly

FOR ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-ONE YEARS THE WORLD'S CHRISTIAN VOICES HAVE BEEN SINGING THIS MOST BELOVED OF ALL CHRISTMAS CAROLS, WHICH STRIKES AS CLOSE TO THE SOURCE OF DIVINE INSPIRATION IN MANKIND AS ANY MUSIC CAN.

LIKE MUCH THAT IS GREAT, IT HAD AN HUMBLE, ALMOST IGNOMINIOUS, BEGINNING. IT WAS CREATED, IN A FINAL, DESPERATE EFFORT TO MEET A LOCAL CEREMONIAL EMERGENCY, BY THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF FRANZ GRUBER, SCHOOLMASTER, AND FATHER JOSEF MOHR, ASSISTANT PRIEST OF THE BAVARIAN VILLAGE OF OBERNDORF.

FIRST SUNG ON CHRISTMAS MORNING OF THE YEAR 1818, THE WONDROUS WORDS AND MUSIC OF "STILLE NACHT" ARE REVERED TODAY BY THE WHOLE CIVILIZED WORLD.

Round yon Vir-gin Moth-er and
Sleep in heav-en-ly

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O lit-tle town of
A-bove thy deep an'
The No-el,
fields as they lay

And heaven and nature sing

MERRY CHRISTMAS 1949

A happy holiday to all.



PIES - CAKES - PASTRIES

Phone Your Order Now To 3761

Grady's Pastry Shop

Second Grade Writes Of Christmas

Christmas Time A Long Time Ago

There were three wise men. There was a star. It looked like it was in Bethlehem. When the three wise men came to Bethlehem Mary lay the baby down on the hay. They brought him gifts.

Neil Harris.

A Christmas Story

The star of Bethlehem showed the way to baby Jesus. Mary lay him down. The three wise men followed the star. When they came to Bethlehem they saw

baby Jesus.

Jimmie Ralph

The Christmas Story

Once long ago a child was born far away in a manger. A gleaming star told where he lay. Three wise men went to see him. They took him gifts.

Wayne Lavake.

A Christmas Story

Christ was born Savior of the world. He was born in Bethlehem in a manger. He lay in the stable. The wise men came to worship the new baby. They found the baby wrapped in a blanket in Mary's arms. His name is Jesus. His birthday is at Christmas and we always say Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Gay Plunk

The Story of Jesus

A long time ago Christ was born. A star was seen in the sky. It was a new star. It was over Bethlehem. He was going to be the king. The three wise men came to Bethlehem. When the baby got big he was the king. The star was shining brighter.

Karl Kirkwood

Christmas Day

Long long ago there was a baby boy born in Bethlehem. The three wise men came to Bethlehem to see the new baby boy. They were so wise they gave him gifts.

The three wise men went to take him gifts and to see him. The star was very very bright. The town was very small. Mary was very happy she had the new baby boy.

Molly Davis

A Christmas Story

Christ was born, Savior of the world. A very wicked king named Herod was trying to get rid of this child. He was going to have all little babies killed. An angel was sent down from heaven to tell them that they would be the father and mother of the child. They were on their way to Bethlehem. A message was sent to three wise men. A star was shining across Bethlehem. The message told them to follow the star. They brought him gifts.

Dixie

The Three Wise Men

In Bethlehem there was a baby. But when it grew up it would be the king. The three wise men gave it gifts. When they saw the star it showed them the way to the baby. The wise men gave him the gifts. Bethlehem was a small town.

Rex Palmer

The Manger Story

Christ was born in Bethlehem. The light shone in the sky. Bethlehem was far away. The wise men saw the star. A child was born far away. He lay in a manger. I like Christmas. Christmas is on Sunday. Christmas is coming soon.

Norma Louise Bachman

The Story of Christmas

Long time ago a child was born in Bethlehem. His name was Christ. The wise men saw him. They saw the star shine where they were to go. There lay the child. They gave him some gifts. He had lots of gifts. Bethlehem was a small town.

Janet Gunzelman

The Christmas Story

One day a baby lay in a manger. A star led the three wise men to him. They gave him gifts with lots of love. The baby was Jesus. The baby would soon be King of Bethlehem. He would be a good man. Mary loved him. So that is why we have Christmas.

Mary Gay Judd.

The Christmas Bell

The bells on the church are ringing. It means that a child was born in Bethlehem and in a manger too. There was a great star over the stable at the inn. There were three wise men who came on camels and gave gifts to the baby.

Doris Dortch

In A Manger

Far away in Bethlehem Christ was born in a manger. Mary held him in her arms. Three wise men came to see him. He was in a manger when they came in to see him. Mary lay him on the hay. The star showed the wise men the way to Bethlehem and the way to Christ.

Donna Ann Burgess

Christmas Day

In Bethlehem a baby was born. The baby lay on the hay. Three wise men saw a bright star. It was over Bethlehem. So they followed it. So that is why we have Christmas.

Lindsey Skidmore



By Shirley Sargent

THE VERY NICEST thing about Henry Ellis, Henry had decided, was the fact that he was nine years old. He possessed another attribute variously described by his mother as stubbornness, stupidity, and the result of a one track mind.

To get something he really wanted, Henry had learned from experience, he always had to work hard and long. Pestering his mother for what he wanted came easiest.

"Why not, mom?" he begged. "Why can't I do it? I want to more than anything in the world. I'd be so good you wouldn't know me."

Finally his mother gave in to his endless teasing and what she considered impossible promises.

"All right, all right," she said.

Soundly sleeping, he lay back in the chair, in one hand a noisemaker; clutched limply in the other, a large horn. The box in his lap contained piles of confetti.

"We'll see if you can be good for a whole month and then—well, we'll see."

His long-awaited goal was in sight, but Henry had to admire his mother's shrewdness. Knowing that Rita, who was five, would keep close tab on him, Mrs. Ellis put her in Henry's charge for the month. Playing nursemaid to a five-year-old was a stern task, even when he could be as nasty as he wanted—but taking care of her on his good behavior was purely awful. All this time she would taint her demands with "Or I'll tell mama."

Only once he told her calmly but desperately, "If I ever have any children, they'll all be boys or all be girls. I'm not going to make any little boy of mine have a little sister. No sir, I'll give him a turtle or a goat or something he wants, not a little sister."

Rita just barely listened to him before demanding, "Now be a turtle for me, Henry. Crawl like a turtle and pull your head in a shell." So Henry crawled all over the apartment like a turtle and wished he'd kept quiet—like a turtle.

The days crept past Christmas and Henry knew that being good was surely a most terrible experience. Then at last the month was over and he heard his mother asking, "Had enough of being good, Henry?"

Feeling it to be a trick question, he answered casually that "..." would be fun to see the fellows again, and just sort of all over last!" She laughed, encouraging him to go on. "Hey, mom, well, can I do it—you know?"

She kissed him, saying, "Yes." Henry yelled "Hooray" as he ran into his room. Gosh, it had been worth waiting for after all—my but he hated girls, though. Ugh! There were some very important matters to attend to before he was quite ready. They wouldn't take so long, but the waiting would. He started unwrapping his packages. Thanks to mom, life was really fine.

A little before 12 that night Mrs. Ellis, noting the silence, went into Henry's room. His lights were blazing but the boy was asleep in a chair drawn close to an open window. She walked quietly over beside him. A whole month—thirty arduous days devoted to being good—he had worked for this night, and now he was asleep with the sum total of his dreams in his lap and fists. Soundly sleeping, he lay back in the chair, in one hand a noisemaker; clutched limply in the other, a large horn. The box in his lap contained piles of confetti, while reams of paper streamers were laid neatly over the chair arms. There was a ridiculous paper hat crushed into the chair back by his head, and, on the table near him, there was another horn. It had a white card tied on it labelled simply "For mother."

So, she thought, with tears in her eyes, a little man's plan for one night had included his mother. She shook him gently, settled his hat more perkily on his head, and picked up her own horn. Noise seemed suspended in the air.

"Wake up, little one track mind," she said, sitting him up straight. "Hurry and wake up so you can wish me a Happy New Year!"

For Better Values Shop The Star.

Cherished in our hearts, the greatest holiday of all renews its happiness each year. A very Merry Christmas.

Stratford Frozen Food Lockers

GREETINGS 1949

The night before Christmas...

Few experiences surpass in beauty that hush of wonderful expectancy that falls over the home on Christmas eve. This season of 1949 holds that in store for you.



Nationally Advertised Brands For Less At Richard's

- Shortening** Crisco 3lb. can 78c
- Sugar** Imperial Pure Cane 10 lbs. 89c
- Cranberry Sauce** 1 lb. can 15c
- Coffee** Bright & Early 1 lb. 57c

- Crackers** 31
- Green Beans** 23
- PEAS** 21
- Salad Dressing** 49
- Peaches** 25
- Orange Juice** 15
- Apple Butter** 25
- Tomatoes** 12
- Cake Flour** 39
- TIDE** 24
- Ivory Soap** 7

- ### Meats for the Christmas Dinner
- SUNRAY HAMS** 43c
 - PINKNEY** 8 to 12 lb. average Lb. 25c
 - PICNIC HAMS** 25c
 - Fresh Dressed HENS** 49c
 - ARMOUR'S STAR BACON** 49c
 - FRESH LEAN GROUND BEEF** 43c
 - FRESH VEGETABLES**
 - GREEN PASCAL CELERY** 12c
 - PINK GRAPEFRUIT** 21c
 - Maryland Sweet YAMS** 17c
 - California Sunkist ORANGES** 9c
 - COCONUTS** each 14c
 - TANGERINES** 2 pounds 27c

Don't forget to register at our store for FREE GIFTS. One Bicycle — Two \$10 Bills of Groceries To Be Given Away at 5 P. M. Saturday.

Richard's Cash Grocery

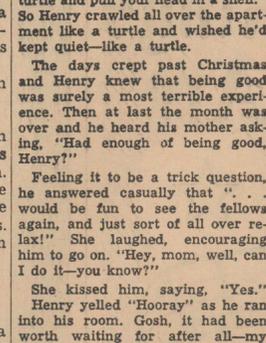


Bill's Service Station

May the stars in the heavens shine as never before on your Christmas happiness this year.

10 to 40% Discount On Special Selection Of CHRISTMAS MERCHANDISE

Suitable for last Minute Shoppers



Here's health and a wealth of joy this Christmas Day.

Leonard's Jewelry

Venereal Disease Is The Target Of State Authorities

Austin — A very definite need for widespread public information about venereal disease is indicated, states State Health Officer Geo. W. Cox. "The information campaign now underway in many Texas communities

is in part a reflection of that need," Dr. Cox said. The total number of cases reported to the health department for twenty leading communicable diseases, show that syphilis and gonorrhea totals were higher than any of the others, except influenza and measles, in 1948. More than 20,000 cases of syphilis and 27,000 cases of gon-

orrhea were reported to the health department last year. "Nor is it expected that the situation will be different this year," said Dr. Cox. "Reports to date for 1949 indicate that the venereal diseases will continue in their high-ranking place." The state Health Officer stated that citizen cooperation in Better Health for Texans Week, December 5 to 11, would make possible a reduction in venereal disease rates for 1950.

"More information is what Texans need about these diseases." "And every local health department unit is directing its energy toward making that information available."

"They track down VD." "Our investigators are especially trained for the difficult job of locating people who have been exposed to a venereal disease," Dr. Cox said.

Last year, the State Health Officer stated, public health agencies reported 41,625 persons as contacts or suspects of having a venereal disease. All of these reports have been investigated either by one of the health department's representatives, by a public health nurse, or social worker.

"These investigations are conducted in strict confidence."

"The individual's privacy is respected to the utmost degree. And, he added, Contact investigation pays off. More than 21,000 cases of venereal disease were found by this method alone in 1948."

A good investigator combines the qualities of health educator and sociologist, according to Dr. Cox. He must be thoroughly trained in the skills of locating people, often on meager information. He must know the ven-

eral diseases, and how they are spread. And above all, he must have an understanding of people, and the why's and wherefore's of their behavior.

Good pre-natal care is extremely important to the health of both the expectant mother and child.

"Medical attention and examinations early in pregnancy will prevent many difficulties of pregnancy and infections of the unborn child." "Among these is congenital syphilis," he said.

"Which is entirely preventable, and is found to occur in about eighty per cent of cases in which a mother infected with syphilis was not treated before the birth of her baby."

Deaths from syphilis among infants is on the decline in Texas, statistics from the Health Department's Bureau of Vital Statistics reveal. In 1938, deaths under one year of age because of syphilis totalled 1.02 per 1,000 live births. Last year, syphilis deaths for the same age group were .208 per 1,000 live births.

However, Dr. Cox pointed out, many children actually born with syphilis, show no visible symptoms of the disease until later in life. "Untreated syphilis in the child can cause much suffering in later life."

Gonorrhea infected an average of 74 persons in Texas each day of 1948. That figure comes from communicable disease reports compiled by the Texas State Department of Health.

The more than 27,000 cases of gonorrhea occurring in Texas in 1948 make the disease one of the most prevalent communicable diseases in the State today.

"Yet, some people are prone to believe that gonorrhea is no worse than a common cold," said the state health officer. "Who ever heard of a cold that could cripple and even cause sterility?"

It is true, the State Health Officer said, that gonorrhea may be cured in a very short while. But, he added, the disease can cause serious effects on the body.

Dr. Cox warned, "The danger that lies in general infection is in that many persons will risk exposure to the disease because they do not think it is serious, and many neglect to seek medical advice and treatment until complications arise after being infected."

After the mobile survey's work has been completed in a country, health department field representatives notify every person with a positive blood test of the results of the test. Arrangements are made for these people to be treated either by their family physician or at the health department's rapid treatment center, which is maintained for those who cannot pay for treatment.

strong body and framework of branches for producing large fruit crops. Pruning, he says, also gives the orchard owner a chance to remove dead or diseased limbs and branches from the trees and while the pruning job is being done a close and thorough check can be made for insects and diseases that might

go unnoticed until they had caused a lot of trouble.

Warren G. Harding was the first president to ride to his inaugural in an automobile.

The distance from the earth to the moon varies as much as 31,000 miles.



In the Christmas mood, we wish you all happiness.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Bennett Implement Co.

John Deere Implements

Dr. V. G. Martin
Optometrist

605 Bliss Avenue
DUMAS, TEXAS

Tree Pruning Time Arrives

COLLEGE STATION — Pruning the fruit trees is a job that comes around regularly about this time of year and it shouldn't be neglected, says J. F. Rosborough, extension horticulturist of Texas A. & M. College, for next year's fruit crop depends to a large degree on the care you give the trees during the dormant season.

He says now is a good time to check your pruning equipment so it will all be ready when you start the job. Sharp tools, he says, are necessary if you expect to do the job right. You should have a pair of long-handled pruning shears, a 14-inch briar tooth saw and a pair of hand pruning shears in your kit.

According to Rosborough, fruit trees are pruned to stimulate new growth for next year's fruit to grow on. Pruning also keeps the trees down to handling dimensions. It is much easier to harvest the fruit crop from properly pruned trees and he points out that fruit needs sunlight to ripen as it should, and pruning will allow the sunlight to reach the ripening fruit.

He says it is a good idea to prune the trees that you will be setting out now or a little later. It is necessary that they have a



WRIGHT DAVIS PONTIAC
OLIVER FARM IMPLEMENTS AND REPAIRS

START BUYING your HOMESITE Now

Exclusive Agency For
A Number Of

RESIDENTIAL LOTS

On Sale At A Reasonable Price

In South Stratford

Walter M. Pendleton

J. P. Powell
M. D.

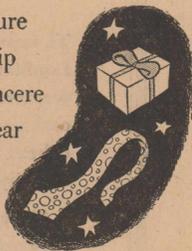
Eye, Ear, Nose,
and Throat
Dalhart — Texas

Will Close Christmas

Will Close At 7:00 A. M. Christmas Day and Remain Closed Until 7:00 A. M. Monday



As a partial measure of our friendship we express the sincere hope that this year holds for you a perfect Christmas.



May it be touched with the same kind of serenity that accompanies a Christmas Eve snowfall.



Consumers Co., Inc.

A big white trailer with the seal of the State of Texas on its sides and the words "Texas State Department of Health" below the seal stops in a rural Texas community. Soon after the trailer's arrival, the strains of popular music are heard throughout the country side.

"This scene is enacted every day somewhere in Texas," a State Health Department spokesman said. "The white trailer is one of the Texas State Department of Health's mobile blood survey units on locaton, bringing to rural people modern, up-to-date facilities for blood testing."

Careful preparation preceded the arrival of the survey unit. Community leaders have been contacted in advance of the blood testing date. Pamphlets on venereal disease have been distributed, and many of the people have seen a movie and heard a short talk on venereal disease and blood testing, usually made by a health department representative.

The survey technician's hands work skillfully and rapidly, taking a blood specimen from each volunteer's arm in less than a minute. When the day's testing is completed, there may be several hundred blood specimens

MANN'S



Malted Milk Bread

At Your Favorite Grocery



Simple, unadorned thoughts are best at Christmas. So we would only wish you a joyful and happy holiday season, when every step you take in-



creases your desire to be a friend to man. And a Merry Christmas to you.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Joe A. Duby

Stratford, Texas FRIGIDAIRE Dial 3431

1.5 Inch Moisture In Snow

Snow falling here Wednesday registered 1.5 of an inch of moisture. The temperature dropped to 11 degrees following the snow. During the day the temperature hovered at 32 degrees.



Christmas Joy!
1949

MAY EVERY HOUR BE PLEASANT AND CHEERFUL

We Will Give Each Customer An **Orchid Corsage** With Each \$5.00 Order **FRIDAY OR SATURDAY**

Dial 3531
Stratford Floral
Mr. and Mrs. Earl Smith

Four Games Scheduled For Week

Four basketball games have been scheduled for Christmas week. Thursday night the Elks and Elkets will play at Claude. Friday and Saturday they will play at Sam Norwood.

Regular basketball practice will begin December 28 with the girls practicing from 1:00 to 3:00 P.M. and the boys practicing from 3:00 to 5:00 P. M.

During the campaign for woman suffrage, militant suffragettes used hunger strikes in an effort to force authorities to release them from jail.



Merry Christmas
1949

May the joys of the season be completely and all yours.

Wilson Funeral Directors

Santa Will Distribute Treats In Stratford Saturday Afternoon

Children of the Stratford territory who are in Stratford Saturday afternoon will enjoy a visit from a big hearted Santa Claus who will distribute treats of candy, nuts and fruits among them.

The annual event this year is co-sponsored by the Sherman County Farm Bureau, the Stratford Lions Club, and the Stratford Chamber of Commerce.

Santa usually makes his appearance at the intersection of Main and Third Streets for distribution of the treats. It is understood that he will follow his usual custom again this year.

U. S. Highway 54 To Be Improved

The Kansas State Highway Commission authorized the purchase of right-of-way for the re-routing of the U. S. Highway 54 from a point one mile West of Bronson to a point one mile North of Uniontown. The contract for this project will be let early in 1950. When completed the re-routing will connect with U. S. 69 North of Fort Scott, Kansas.

The Kansas U. S. 54 Highway Association has been working on the straightening of this section for the last two years.

Local Teams Win Over Goodwill

Stratford Elks and Elkets won two easy games over Goodwill high school teams Thursday night of last week in the local gymnasium.

The Elks won by a score of 53 to 36 while the Elkets won 52 to 29. Malone was high point man for the boys with 25 points. Kathryn Newman scored high for the girls with 34 points.

Expects Good Demand For Farm Exports

In summing up the prospects for foreign sales of farm products for next year, Tyrus R. Timm, extension economist of the Texas A. & M. College, says total exports of agricultural commodities should decline some but even so should remain on a high level throughout the year.

Although the short-run outlook is good, there is little room for optimism, he says. Much of the outlook is "good" because our government is making it possible next year for us to sell folks in foreign countries considerably more than we'll buy from them. He points out that you can't operate this way on a business basis, however much of the 1950 foreign trade will not be on a

business basis. Getting our foreign trade back on a strictly business basis, he believes is going to be a very difficult problem. This will mean balancing our exports and imports.

Countries in Western Europe are our best customers, he says, and their farm production is nearing prewar averages, however, it is not high enough to give them prewar consumption. This is due to the increase in population. There are now some 250 million people in western Europe and the population is increasing at the rate of 2 1/2 million persons per year. This means that from 15 to 20 percent more farm production will be needed to take care of the increase.

The effects of devaluation are not expected to greatly influence the situation for next year because international trading in a number of farm products is under special government contracts, Timm says. He cites wheat and cotton as examples. The exports of these two crops are expected to continue not much below the 1949 shipments.

Government restrictions by importing countries on dollar restrictions plus devaluation will hold down and may lower the volume of exports of other farm products, especially fats and oils, dairy products and fruits. On the other hand, dollar aid from the U. S. will keep exports at a relatively high level.

Our volume exports for farm products will depend again in 1950 very considerably upon the amount of financial aid this nation extends to foreign countries. The gap between what we want to sell abroad next year and what we are likely to buy from abroad is still wide. It is too wide, says Timm, to be made up next year by such means as importations of more goods and services, tourist trade, shipments of gold to the U. S. or liquidations of foreign property in this country.

The outlook now, Timm concludes, is that U. S. dollars will be forth coming to plug most of the gap between our foreign purchases and our much greater foreign sales; however, at a rate below but near the 1949 figure.

CITY ORDINANCE 131 FIRE MARSHALL

The office of fire marshal of the city of Stratford, Sherman County, Texas, is hereby created and established. The Fire Marshall shall be selected by the city council and shall be properly qualified for his office and shall be removable for good cause. His compensation shall be fixed by the city council as they may determine from time to time.

Sec. 1. The fire marshal shall have charge and be responsible for all inspection work and the furthering of fire prevention within the city of Stratford. He shall inspect all new construction and re-modeling and see that it meets the fire zone ordinance and other building codes of the city. He shall investigate the cause of all fires and in case of any indication of arson he has the power to take testimony under oath of any person or persons that may have knowledge or information concerning such case or cases, and shall pass such information to the proper authorities. He shall have the power and authority to issue orders to correct any fire hazard which he may find on his inspection and any person or persons, firm or corporation failing to comply with the order shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be subject to a fine of, not to exceed \$100.00.

Sec. 2. The fire marshal shall be responsible for making of all reports of the fire marshal's office to the state fire insurance commission and any and all other records required by the city council in the maintenance of his office. He shall work with the city fire department and shall have the cooperation of the same in any and all of his duties in connection with fire prevention in the city of Stratford.

Sec. 3. He shall enforce all city ordinances, and state and federal laws in so far as they concern fires and fire prevention in the city of Stratford, Texas.

Inspection shall be made for the purpose of reporting and correction of the following special hazards pertaining to buildings and other occupancies: (A) Lack of repairs; (B) Age and dilapidated condition; (C) Faulty or unapproved construction; (D) Lack of sufficient fire escapes or means of egress; (E) Lack of automatic or other reliable fire alarm apparatus; (F) Lack of fire extinguishing equipment; (G) Materials and buildings especially susceptible to fire; (H) Conditions endangering property or occupants; (I) Any and all other

fire hazards, dangerous to life and property.

Sec. 4. It shall be unlawful for any person to run over any unprotected fire hose. It shall be unlawful to in any way interfere with any fireman or any firemen in fighting a fire or in performance of his duty.

Sec. 5. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons driving a motor vehicle to follow any fire truck or other vehicle carrying firemen or fire fighting equipment at a distance close enough so as to interfere in any way with the free operation of any fire truck, laying of water hose, or in any way hindering or obstructing the free movement of firemen and their equipment.

Any person violating any section of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in an amount not to exceed \$100.00.

Passed and approved this the 1st day of December, 1949.
VAN B. BOSTON, Mayor.

W. P. FOREMAN, City Clerk.

Elks Lose Game At Adrian

Stratford Elks lost a close game at Adrian by a score of 42 to 39 Monday night. Only a small margin in the score existed during the entire game. Bill Malone, Billy Boren, and Keith Green were disqualified on fouls during the game.

Malone was high point man with 14 points, while Marion Brannan followed with 11 points.

Stratford Teams Play In Spearman Cage Tournament

Stratford Elkets were defeated in the final game of the Spear-

man invitation basketball tournament by Dalhart while the boys lost in their second game. The Elkets won over Claude 40 to 37, defeated Spearman 44 to 24,

and lost in the finals to Dalhart by a score of 16 to 20. The boys team won over Perryton 56 to 23 only to be defeated by Borger 56 to 17.

Fourth Place March

Coming Head On Boys, Or Passing You By

Dodge

Is A Sweetheart

and I'll tell you why, inside and outside, front and rear, nothing will thrill you like DODGE this year.

DODGE gives you comfort and plenty of room, a get-away engine with plenty of zoom. Easy to park in the day or the dark. You're gonna love the new, New Dodge.

Here's Wishing All Of You The Most Enjoyable CHRISTMAS

and the most prosperous New Year ever

Lovelace-Woods Co.



Nineteen forty-nine

TO YOU AND YOUR WHOLE FAMILY OUR BEST WISHES.





FAMILIAR FACES

To nearly every one of you there are many familiar faces among the folks at Southwestern Public Service... linemen... cashiers... meter readers... and all the others that make up the Public Service "family" in your locality.

They are your friends and neighbors... they attend the same churches... buy at the same stores... with roots firmly planted in the life of the community.

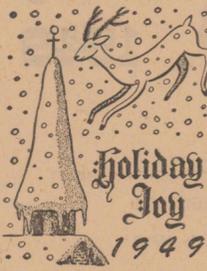
In other words, throughout the great Panhandle-Plains-Pecos Valley area, your Public Service Company "belongs"... a home-operated, business-managed company, working toward a better way of life... electrically... for everyone.



Will Be Closed

MONDAY

December 26th



We wish you well this season.

G&G IGA Store



May the season shower you with excellent gifts of gladness.

Wayne Harding
66 STATION

Merry



Christmas

Let us give thanks together for the priceless gift of Christmas.

1949

Stratford Abstract Co.

Christmas

A child was born in Bethlehem. Three wise men brought boxes of gold gifts to him. He was laying on the hay when the wise men came along. When the wise men were coming the star was bright. Sammie Beall

Miss Davis Is Home For The Holidays

Miss Alana Davis, a sophomore at Hardin-Simmons University, is a member of the college Press Club and Bronco staff, and

Dr. Guy Clayton Optometrist

Announces The Opening Of His Offices For The Care Of Vision

304 1/2 Denrock Dalhart, Tex.

plays a saxophone in the Hardin-Simmons University Cowgirl band.

The band, under the direction of H. Bryce Jordan, is one of the few all-girl organizations of its type in a co-educational school in the United States. It is composed of approximately forty girls who specialize in the show band style of entertainment.

Various types of music are combined when the group presents concerts at high schools and on tours. A variety of popular, semi-classical and novelty numbers provide entertaining programs. An accordion soloist, vocal trio and national VFW twirling champion are among the feature attractions. The band offers opportunities for girls to further their interests and education in band work.

Miss Davis is spending the holidays in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Davis.

Governmental securities of Turkey and Russia are known as consols.

School Band Gave Concert Sunday

Stratford High School's 52-piece beginners band made its first appearance in a concert given in the school auditorium Sunday afternoon in the presence of an almost capacity crowd.

Playing in concert style, the youthful musicians under the direction of Dan M. Whitaker, rendered music of an entertaining nature with confidence in playing their parts and without the usual "blue notes" heard in concerts presented by beginner bands.

It is the abition of the band to win honors in the state band contest which will be held in Canyon in the spring.

Miss Jeanne Price was presented with the honor of being selected band sweetheart. Her attendants were Miss Jean Reynolds and Miss Marty McMahan, who were also nominated for the honor.

The "Rock Crushers," a group composed of Mary Nan Davis, Hoyt Davis, Joe Cleveland, Thelma McDaniel and Keith Green, appeared in their own arrangement of several novelty numbers.

Mrs. Brown Hostess To Baptist Circle

The Baptist W. M. U. ladies of the Elton Norvell Circle met in the home of Mrs. Joe Brown Wednesday of last week. Mrs. Brown gave the devotional. Mrs. O. H. Ingham led in prayer. Five reports were given of missionary work in China.

Mrs. O. H. Ingham read an interesting letter from Mrs. Howard Whately of their work in Hutchinson, Kansas. Refreshments of fruit cake and coffee and a social hour was enjoyed.

Those present were Mrs. Mollie Davis, Mrs. M. Placey, Mrs. E. W. Butler, Mrs. V. M. King, Mrs. O. H. Ingham, Mrs. M. E. Upchurch, Mrs. Baskin Brown, Mrs. W. D. Ellis, Mrs. Lee Grimes,

Joie Brown, and the hostess, Mrs. Joe Brown.

Independents Leading In NPAA League

Stratford Independents are in the leading bracket of the North Plains Athletic Association Basketball League according to the report of the secretary of the organization this week. Stratford Spearman and Dalhart are undefeated. Other teams in the league are Cactus Cowboys, Klein Construction, Perico, Channing, and Cactus Yearlings.

Cactus Cowboys and Klein Construction teams have each won and lost one game. Perico, Channing, and the Cactus Yearlings have never won a game.

Chest X-rays Made Possible By Xmas Seals

Take a deep breath and hold it. Early in November this familiar chant was heard in Texas for the two millionth time as another Texan stepped up for a chest X-ray. "It has become as familiar a phrase as 'Say a-a-ah,'" said Dr. Z. T. Scott, treasurer of the Texas Tuberculosis Association, commenting on the two million mark reached since 1946 by X-raying activities of the Texas State Department of Health, the Texas Tuberculosis Association and local tuberculosis associations operating X-ray equipment.

"Over and above this total is the number of chest X-rays made by private physicians," Dr. Scott pointed out. "The 2 millionth X-ray coincides with the 40th Christmas Seal Sale which makes possible the tuberculosis control program of the Texas Tuberculosis Association and the affiliated county associations according to the Association's treasurer."

"When Texans buy Christmas Seals they make it possible for everyone to have a free chest X-ray. And X-ray is only one of the ways in which to fight

tuberculosis," continued the physician. "Information about tuberculosis can do more to reduce the 2,500 yearly deaths from tuberculosis in Texas than any other single factor." Calling the annual Christmas Seal itself "An instrument for education," Dr. Scott said that this yearly mail sale has been the means of bringing to people the vital information that tuberculosis is a communicable disease, not an inherited one; that it can be cured promptly when found early, and that it can be prevented.

FIRST VOLUME OF HOUSE MONOPOLY HEARINGS NOW AVAILABLE

Part 1 of the official text of the hearings on monopoly power is now available at \$1.75 a copy from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, it was announced today.

The Subcommittee on Study of Monopoly Power of the House Judiciary Committee was appointed to look into the present health of American business and industry, and to propose any needed amendments to the laws against monopoly.

This 756-page volume contains the testimonies of Charles F. Brannon, Secretary of Agriculture; Tom C. Clark, Attorney General of the U. S.; Thorman Arnold; and many other witnesses, given at hearings held from July 11 through August 5, 1949. It also includes a summary, a digest, and an index that will make it easy to find the testimony on any particular aspect of this vital study of monopoly power.

Nearly all of the terms used in music are from Italian.

Entre nous is French for "between ourselves" or "confidentially."

Q. E. D., following a problem, means "was to be proved."

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
THE STATE OF TEXAS,
County of Sherman.)
TO THOSE HOLDING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MARY A. RENNER, Deceased:
The undersigned having been duly appointed Administrator of the Estate of Mary A. Renner, deceased, late of Sherman County, Texas, by the Hon. L. P. Hunter, Judge of the County Court of Sherman County, Texas, on the

28th day of November, A. D., 1949, hereby notifies all persons having claims against said Estate to present them to him within the time prescribed by law at his residence in Sherman County, Texas, his postoffice address being Texhoma, Oklahoma.
DATED this 5th day of December, A. D., 1949.
N. F. RENNER,
Administrator of the Estate of Mary A. Renner, deceased.
(pub. 12/8-15-22-29.)

The candles are burning low for 1949, but the bright and cheerful dawn of a New Year is yours for the taking.

Sherman County Abstract Co.
Royal Fendleton, Manager Stratford, Texas

WHEN YOU NOTICE Stray Cattle

Branded With A Spinning Wheel On Left Hip
Crop and Underbit on Left Ear, Underbit Right Ear

PLEASE NOTIFY SAM WOHLFORD
STRATFORD, TEXAS

MAY ALL THE SEASON'S BEST BE YOURS THIS CHRISTMASTIME.

Robbie's Gift Shoppe
Dial 3401

"EASTERN COLORADO BEST WHEAT IN ENTIRE WORLD"

"Your wheat produced right here in Eastern Colorado and right here in Lincoln County is the best quality in the nation and for that matter in, the world," said A. W. Erickson, nationally known grain authority and author of "Field Notes Crop Reporting Service," of Minneapolis, Minn., in speaking to the Lions Club and farmers gathered at Arriba Monday night (November 28).

"By quality I mean just that," he added, "Because of the soil, wheat grown on these high plains has more health giving nutrients, more minerals for building muscle, bone and brain cells than any grown in eastern or southern states or for that matter in the entire world."

The Minneapolis crop report specialist was in Lincoln County for his fall survey of wheat conditions, made for the millers in his home city and elsewhere in the nation. His reports are usually considered the most accurate of any reporting agency, including the Department of Agriculture. Using 20 bushels per acre as 100 per cent, Mr. Erickson estimates Lincoln County as a whole at 135 per cent of normal, adding: "I have never seen a start like this that did not make wheat at this altitude."

What Mr. Erickson had to say about wheat in the narrow strip of table-land east of the Rocky Mountains, is equally true of other grains: corn, barley, rye, and oats, and of native and planted pasture grasses. Colorado summered steers commonly top Kansas City and other markets with little or no supplementary feed. My Colorado associate and I specialize in these rich Lincoln County lands, lands which will normally produce double our Texas Plains lands in a much wider variety of crops. The difference in seasons allows our Plains farmers to handle Colorado planting and harvesting with the same machinery and with no conflict in working days. Better still, these high producing Colorado lands sell for less than half our local prices, with the possibility that one crop at next year's estimated parity wheat price, \$1.80 per bushel, paying for a Colorado farm for you.

Here are two sample listings: 1240 acres, with 800 in summer-fallow wheat in excellent condition, \$42.50. All the wheat goes at that price and without more moisture it should pay half the price of the land. With normal spring moisture it could pay the whole price. This place is unimproved other than good fencing all around. 2560 acre ranch, well improved with shelters for 150 cows; hay meadow producing 250 tons of hay annually; water rights for 60 acres from state owned lake at only \$16 per year, paid up for five years; springs furnish living water in pastures. \$25 per acre. Other good deals, improved and unimproved, ranging from half sections wheat land to 5,000 acre ranches. Write for more information, stating size and kind of place wanted.

CHARLES CRUDGINGTON
Box 1213, Amarillo

Greetings 1949

OUR SINCEREST WISHES FOR A BRIGHT AND MERRY CHRISTMAS GO OUT TO ALL OF YOU.

As Christmas Draws Near And As 1949 Draws To A Close...

we pause for a moment to think of what it means to us ... of its joys and of its sorrows.

One of the great joys of life - as we see it - is friendship. A true friend is a priceless possession

What is true of our personal lives is also true of our business lives. We like to feel that there is a spirit of friendship underlying each business transaction.

We like to think of our customers as our friends. We like to value our business friendships as we value our personal friendships.

As an expression, therefore, of our genuine appreciation of your friendship and all that it has meant to us, we wish you and those whom you love, a joyful Christmas Season and a New Year brimful of good things.

Sincerely,
McMahen Furniture

Cadet Hart Main Speaker At Lions Meeting

Cadet Howard Hart, a student of Kemper Military School in Booneville, Missouri, was the principal speaker at the Lions Club banquet at the Palace Cafe Monday night. "A student looks at academic freedom" was the topic of his talk.

The word academic, has long been defined as much talk without action, Hart said. Americans

look to results and not to theory. Academic freedom has too often been the outgrowth of theory with no promise of action. Too often the talk amounts to nothing.

Academic freedom as expressed today is a means to teach what is learned from study without untruth and personal opinion for a variety of interests for students to evaluate the facts. It is an obligation of high ideals, the speaker said, for the freedoms of speech, of worship, and of study cannot be separated.

The freedom to teach without

CHILD OF BETHLEHEM

At midnight, as the bells ring out,
A new King is born.
A saintly visitor came, but to live;
On earth a few short years, to mourn.
The babe in the manger,
The Prince of Peace,
A shining star led men to him,
Hall him, the child of Bethlehem.
God recognized his son on earth
A few short years after his birth.
This is my son, hear ye him,
This is the child of Bethlehem.
God sent his son to earth,
A sinful world to save,
Hall him, the King, the Prince of Peace,
Hall him, the child of Bethlehem.

— Mrs. Lena B. Keenan

freshments of strawberry ice cream, lime loaf, cake and coffee were served to the following members: Mesdames Henry Wyatt, Luther Browder, J. R. Morris, Earl Welch, Allen Cart-

rite, Sid Park, John Boney, Clifford Bowles, Lester Wells, Roy Browder, and the hostess, Mrs. Frank Blank.

Windsor is the name of the ruling house of England. Africa's most famous gold district is the Rand near Johannesburg. There are 4 gills to a pint.



JOLLY GREETINGS 1949

May the tidings of great joy be yours in full this Christmas.

Sloan Hardware Co.

false facts and selfish aims is a moral duty. With the world becoming smaller a surprise attack from any nation is becoming possible. The theory of economics as the chief cause of war is being replaced with the teaching that intolerance and misunderstanding are the cause of conflict. Armed conflicts are being caused by those who tolerate no values other than their own. Cultures are of value to progress although each nationality is living in the manner that has been taught.

Private schools are the stronghold of academic freedom, Hart said. They have the advantage of financial independence over the public schools. Endowments without obligation have placed them in this financial position, and they have representatives of many nations as students. Great names in success have been associated with private schools. Academic democracy is an institution teaching that the duty of freedom is tolerance.

Liberty is the foundation of the American dream, Hart said in his closing remarks, and if we let

any other value gain first place, our liberty is lost. C. D. Holmes, president of the club, expressed his appreciation of the talk. The meeting was opened with a song led by Walter M. Pendleton, with Mrs. Pendleton, club sweetheart, furnishing the piano accompaniment. Bob Ferguson, having a recent birthday, ate his meal in the club high chair. Arthur Lee Ross was selected as his attendant. Rev. John Reaves gave the invocation. Lloyd King, Ray McNeal and Howard Hart were presented as visitors of the club. Upon motion by Kenneth Kendrick and seconded by Bob Ferguson, which carried in a vote of the club, Walter Pendleton sang "Happy Birthday" for the benefit of the high-chair Lion. Clifford Byrd, secretary of the club, read a letter from Cal Farley, which expressed the appreciation of the boys at Boys Ranch for the financial assistance given them by the club. The letter included the news that Boys Ranch had elected the Stratford Lions Club a Partner for Life, for a good turn well done. The letter further stated that the boys taking part on the program presented at the meeting of the club last week greatly enjoyed taking part in the entertainment.

President Holmes ask for volunteers to assist with the sacking of treats to be presented to youngsters in Stratford Saturday afternoon. Several men volunteered their services to be present at the City Hall Thursday at 7:00 P. M. The meeting of the club Monday night was the last meeting of the organization until January 2, 1950. As an appreciation of the club for services rendered during the year three gifts were presented. Mrs. Walter Pendleton, club sweetheart was presented with a gift. A letter to Mr. and Mrs. Russell Beal, informed them that Santa had left them a deposit of \$15.00 at the McMahan Furniture and invited them to select a gift of their own choosing. President Holmes also received a letter informing him that a Stetson hat at Ross Bros. Dry Goods had been paid for, and he had only to go in and select it.

Attention Farmers

I Am Over Stocked On
Dempster 8-Hole Grain Drills
and I will sell at a good discount from now until January 1.

Griffith Farm Supply
Phone No. 8 Oakley, Kansas



May all the wonderful things that go with Christmas be yours in the fullest abundance this year.

From all of us here to all of you—a most happy holiday.

T. N. Beard Phillips 66 Distributor

1949



Merry Christmas

The divinity of the season is surpassed only in the joy it brings to the hearts of men. Merry Christmas.

McIntosh Dry Goods

Priscilla Club Has Yule Party

The Priscilla club held its annual Christmas party in the home of Mrs. Frank Blank, Thursday afternoon of last week. The party was opened with the playing of several games, after which officers of the new year were elected. They were: President, Mrs. John Boney; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Henry Wyatt; Reporter, Mrs. Roy Browder. Secret names were also drawn for a new year.

After the exchanging of many pretty gifts from the beautifully decorated Christmas tree re-



GREETINGS

To One and All we send a joyous Christmas Greeting.
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lee
Bendix Laundry



Just repeating
MERRY CHRISTMAS • 1949

Gay spirits are more commonplace during the Yule season than at any other time of the year. We hope you're fitting in.

May you prosper in the wealth with which Christmas abounds...

Peace, love of life, kindness and the brotherhood of all people.

Yates Drug

Mt. McKinley, in Alaska, is 23,000 feet high. Australia is only slightly smaller than the U.S.

Local News

Howard Hart, Kemper Military Academy student of Booneville, Missouri, is spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ray McNeal.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Carter left Monday to spend the Christmas holidays with relatives in California.

Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Dyess are visiting his parents in Waynesboro, Mississippi.

Mrs. Rex French and Mrs. Loyce Sable have accepted positions with the County PMA office.

Miss Patria Ramon, Texas State College for Women student at Denton, is home to spend the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Z. G. Ramon.

Saturday Miss Irene Beall arrived home from Waco, Texas where she is a student in Baylor University, to spend the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Beall.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Armstrong and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wisdom were guests of relatives in Hedley Sunday.

Lloyd King, Wentworth Military Academy student, is home for the holiday season with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. King.

Miss Shela Duby, a student in Intermont College at Bristol, Virginia, is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Duby.

Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Denney were visitors in Goodwell Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Hardy Gaylord, Selling, Oklahoma, spent the week-end here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Bachman.

A. J. Armstrong made a business trip to Liberal, Kansas Monday.

A. L. Cooper, Big Springs, Texas, visited in the home of his mother, Mrs. H. J. Cooper, Monday and Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Yates visited relatives in Texhoma Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Denney visited friends in Dalhart Sunday evening.

Miss Margaret Hessick, a teacher in the school at Scott City, Kansas, will arrive to spend the Christmas holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Hessick.

Mr. and Mrs. Oloyce K. Box, Detroit, Michigan, and Lt. and Mrs. Elmo Cunningham, Moundville, West Virginia, are guests in the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Cunningham.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Stump and children, Texhoma, were guests in the home of her mother, Mrs. W. D. Ellis, Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Smith and Miss Mary Lee Green attended the opening of the flower shop in Boise City Sunday.

Mrs. C. E. Huff is recovering from an attack of influenza.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Sutton left Tuesday for Fort Wayne, Indiana to spend the holidays with their daughters, Miss Frances Sutton and Mrs. James A. Dailey.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Brannan, Cactus, were guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Brannan Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Reid and daughter of Lexington, Kentucky, were visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Sloan over the week-end.

Mrs. Bill Broyles, Wichita Falls, Texas, spent the week-end in Stratford with her husband. She plans to move to Stratford the first of the year to join her husband who is employed with Leonard's Jewelry.

Mrs. L. T. Stephens is on the sick list this week.

Miss Judy Sherrod, a student

in the University of Colorado at Boulder, is here to spend the Christmas holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Sherrod.

Art Nelson, Borger, was a business visitor here Tuesday.

Mrs. George Allen and baby were brought home Monday from Northwest Texas Hospital.

Asteroids are small planets revolving around the Sun between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter.

Letters to Santa

Stratford, Texas December 20, 1949

Dear Santa Claus: We have been pretty good little girls. Please bring us a doll house and a big doll apiece. Also bring us some fruit, nuts, and candy. Please don't forget the other little boys and girls. Lots and lots of love, Sue and Judy Hudson.

Lhasa is the "forbidden city" of Tibet.

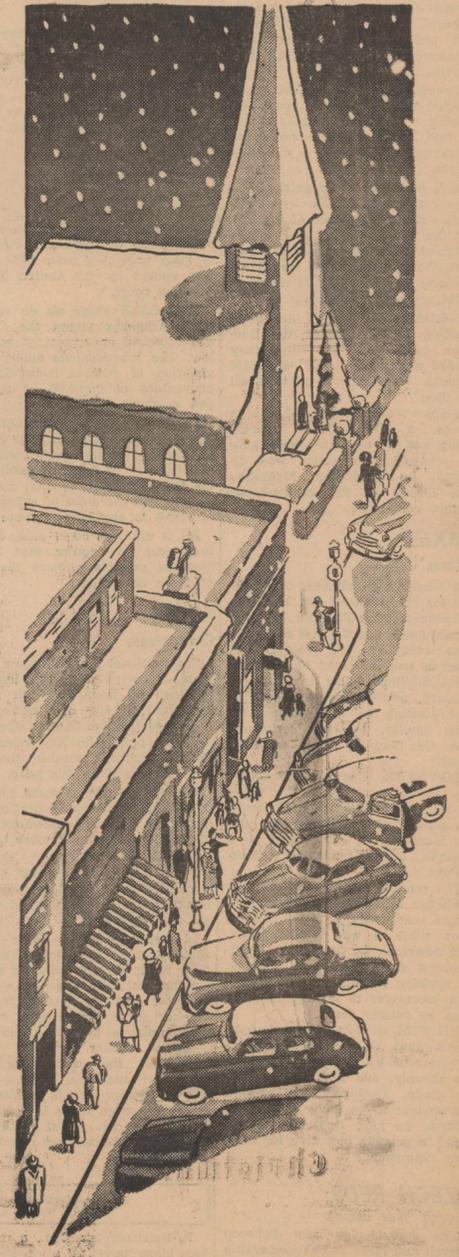
STUDEBAKER SALES & SERVICE COMPLETE PARTS STOCK — ACCESSORIES Fully equipped Body and Paint Shop Complete Mechanical Service on all Makes of Cars. AUTO GLASS Phone or write for appointment. KOEHLER MOTOR COMPANY Phone 123 302 Rock Island Ave. P. O. Box 1078 Dalhart, Texas

May Your Christmas be Merry and Bright... 1949 HAPPY HOLIDAY to all of you. May no cloud appear to disturb its serenity. BEST WISHES 1949

Christmas Gifts For All Members of the Family Entertainment for Years 1950 20th Anniversary MOTOROLAS \$15.95 To \$219.95 JUST RECEIVED A COMPLETE LINE OF Records Including Christmas Records, Children's Nursery Rhymes And Popular Music OPEN TILL 6:30 P. M. Bill's Radio Shop GUARANTEED SALES AND SERVICE

Christmas Greetings

By a cherry fireside, Santa ends his night A moments pause to rest a while, ere he takes his flight! He has been a busy elf all this passing year Making Christmas, bright and gay; brimful of good cheer! Merry, Merry Christmas



The First State Bank OF STRATFORD

Stratford Grain Co.

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

A-Bomb 'Powder' Declared Given To Russia in Lend-Lease Deals; Federal Tax Reforms Suggested

EDITOR'S NOTE: When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysts and not necessarily of this newspaper.



MONUMENT TO PEACE . . . This new view of progress being made in construction of the United Nations world headquarters in New York City shows workmen carting their wheelbarrows of cement on the 39th floor, in the shadow of New York's tallest skyscraper, the Empire State building.

DEFENSE:

Skeletons Rattle

Skeletons of the Franklin D. Roosevelt "inner circle" were being rattled again. This time, it was Harry L. Hopkins, Roosevelt right-hand-man in the glittering days of the New Deal and the early war years, who was being resurrected in charges he gave U. S. atomic secrets to the Russians.

THE ACCUSER was G. Racey Jordan, a former army captain, who declared in a radio interview that big loads of what a Russian colonel called uranium and "bomb powder" were flown to Russia in 1944 under hurry-up instructions telephoned Jordan by the late Mr. Hopkins.

Ex-captain Jordan claimed possession of documentary proof, including a diary and copies which he said were of letters he wrote informing his superiors of these events.

U. S. officialdom who might have been concerned, or who were intimate with or associates of Hopkins and the "inner circle," were quick to brand Jordan's charges as "fantastic," a "cock-and-bull story," or to claim they had "heard nothing" about any such happenings.

JORDAN'S ACCOUNT described Hopkins as "the button the Russians touched every time they needed emergency help," and said Hopkins "was in the picture all the time."

Despite the overall denial in high places, a congressional probe group set to work to investigate the charges. Its action was directed by Chairman McMahon (D., Conn.) of the senate-house atomic committee.

TAXES:

Reform Urged

It wouldn't be all beer and skittles for Mr. Truman and his let's-increase-taxes adherents in the second session of the 81st congress.

As everyone will recall, Mr. Truman has indicated he will ask a multi-billion dollar tax hike in January, and he was bolstered in that position by a statement by John Snyder, treasury secretary, who also saw a need for more taxes.

HOWEVER, Senator O'Mahoney (D., Wyo.) didn't share the views of these two gentlemen. Instead, the senator said publicly that any tax increase not only would be a mistake, but a "practical impossibility."

The senator, who heads the senate-house economic committee and might reasonably be presumed to know what he was talking about, told newsmen he thought the government could get more revenue by revising the tax system to give new incentives to business, rather than by raising taxes.

HE WILL SUGGEST, it was indicated, that wasteful spending in government be eliminated but not too sharply, and that no tax hike be made. Declaring the present tax system to be badly in need of reform, he said it should be revised to provide incentive for business expansion.

CZECH REDS:

Church War Looms

The smouldering row between church and state in Czechoslovakia threatened to erupt into open conflict as the nation's Roman Catholic bishops warned the Communist government that they could not submit to church control laws that destroy religious freedom.

The bishops even went so far as to suggest the possibility of a "religious fight" to protect their position.

Giveaways Going

Public apathy, according to current reports, appeared to be beating the federal courts to the punch in obliterating giveaway shows from the nation's radio networks.

Although proposed federal bans remained tied up in the courts, the public already had knocked off a number of jack-pot shows by the most effective means in radio—not tuning them in. Four such shows already had folded, one was on the way out, others were being revised.

The decline of the giveaway was attributed to the passing of a fad—a falling off in interest among radio listeners; but, whatever the reason, it is axiomatic in radio that a loss of audience is as fatal to a program as any federal edict could be.

HIGH COURT:
A State's Right

A state's right to enact laws forbidding use of force and violence to keep workmen from their jobs was upheld by the United States supreme court.

THE CASE came up on appeal from Arkansas where the C.I.O. had attacked enactment of such a law. The labor unions called it a violation of federal constitutional guarantees of freedom of speech and assembly.

But the high court was not confused. The Arkansas law, it ruled, did nothing of the kind. It did not penalize any peaceful assembly at the site of a labor dispute, nor did it "infringe the right of expression of views in any labor dispute."

All it did, the court said, in effect, was to require that labor disputes proceed without the use of force or violence.

JOBS:

On Increase

The national labor picture was looking better than it had in months. In November job totals increased 517,000 and Commerce Secretary Charles Sawyer declared "the job picture in November was perhaps more favorable than at any previous time this year."

NON-FARM employment jumped 250,000 in November, reflecting the pickup in factory operations that had been slowed in October by the steel and coal strikes.

Farm employment itself scored a gain of 168,000 in November, a month when the number of workers usually declines.

It was estimated there were about 1.5 million persons with full-time (35 hours per week or more) employment who were on a part-time basis in the week of the November survey because of "slack work, material shortages, job turnover and similar factors."

UNDER the census bureau's statistical methods, anyone who has a regular job is counted as employed, even if he is not working at his job. Coal miners on strike, for instance, are counted as employed.

'Unveiling'

In Independence, Mo., a mysterious blaze "unveiled" a gift by President Harry S. Truman to his home town. The gift was a statue of Andrew Jackson, and the unveiling had been set for a later date.

The statue, mounted in front of the courthouse, was concealed by a muslin covering. Somehow the muslin covering caught fire and burned completely away. Police indicated they suspected pranksters.

COAL:

Off & On

John L. Lewis' coal miners had returned to the pits on an "off & on" system of the three-day work week. The consensus among operators and federal officials was that Lewis had done nothing by this action but "save face."

THEY POINTED OUT that Lewis gradually was beginning to be hemmed in by a combination of circumstances over which he was losing control. Among these were a disposition on the part of the miners to question his arbitrary action in calling them from work and cutting off their incomes, and what appeared to be an open admission of weakness by his bargaining with operators on an independent basis.

At the time the three-day work week went into effect, the southern coal dealers had announced there appeared little point in trying to negotiate a contract with Lewis until he modified two of his contract demands.

The first was Lewis' insistence on a "willing and able" clause which would give him the right to call miners out on "quickle strikes" or put them on a three-day work week.

The other was the mine union chief's desire for "too much control" over the union's multi-million-dollar welfare and retirement fund.

JOSEPH E. MOODY, president of the southern coal operators group, declared that Lewis' stand imperiled the entire industry.

"Unless Mr. Lewis stops winning these demands," he said, "he will wreck the entire coal industry." Of the clause permitting quickie strikes or a three-day work week, Moody said it would have to be eliminated "because it is a usurpation of the basic functions of management; at the right of employers to operate their mines in accordance with sound business judgment."

Meantime a group of small mine operators had signified their intention to sign separate agreements with Lewis.

ARMAMENTS:

Census Voted

The Russians weren't doing so well in United Nations activities. Despite bitter Soviet objections, the U.N. general assembly voted to take a worldwide census of ordinary arms and armed forces. Losing the protest, the Reds lost, too, in an effort to have the census include atomic bombs, too.

However, the Soviet action made it unlikely that any of the western countries would turn in their figures now.

THE ASSEMBLY voted 44 to 5 (Slav bloc dissenting) for the census of weapons technically called "conventional armaments." This would include anything from such small arms as pistols to the largest warships and planes, but would not include atomic bombs or any other weapons of mass destruction. The western group argued such a census is the first step in setting up a scheme for arms limitation.

The assembly action confirmed once more a decision of the U.N. commission for conventional armaments that it has no business dealing with atomic weapons since the U.N. atomic energy commission was set up for that purpose.

THE FRENCH, on the other hand, charged that Russia was trying to trap the western powers into disarming while the Soviets build an army unprecedented in history.

John D. Hickerson, U.S. assistant secretary of state, told the Russian delegates frankly that western Europe is rearming and the U.S. is helping, "because they fear the intentions of the Soviet Union."

With this open declaration of knowledge or belief of where America's chief danger lies, there should be no excuse in the future for any reenactment of the Pearl Harbor debacle in the event the Reds start a war.

A-Test Chief



Elwood R. Quesada, air force lieutenant general, will head up a special project "joint task force No. 3," which will conduct new atomic weapons tests at Eniwetok proving ground.

TRUST POLICY:

Accord Sought

The federal government planned to launch a campaign aimed to strengthen its federal antitrust policies and, at President Truman's request, Charles Sawyer, commerce secretary, would direct it.

Sawyer announced that a major goal would be to foster voluntary compliance, eliminate unnecessary confusion from existing laws, and clarify the rules.

Generosity KNOWS NO SEASON

While giving is the paramount attribute of Christmas, as it is generally observed, records show that giving is not really confined to any one season of the year.

There are thousands of little acts of courtesy and greater acts of self-sacrifice and giving that punctuate the entire year. For instance, there are the women who shared their ration coupons in the years before rationing was lifted in England . . . There's the quarter of a million Americans who contributed a penny each to the tiny church in a Colorado community that had a church bell . . . The youngsters in Nunspet, Holland, who shared the contents of their piggy bank with their financially embarrassed parents . . . The thoughtful transit company in Calgary that provides free rides for pensioners . . . The railway engineer who backed his locomotive many miles to rescue a motorist he had seen stranded in a blizzard.

The graciousness of giving really knows no season when the human heart is touched.



HARK, THE HERALD ANGELS . . . Another thing that we Americans can give good reason to be thankful for is that our youngsters still can sing Christmas carols the way they want to without any dictatorial intervention. These angelic-looking choir boys were photographed at the Church of the Heavenly Rest in New York as they held a dress rehearsal for the Christmas season.

Watch out for FIRE ON CHRISTMAS

The safest way to insure against fire at Christmas time which might originate from the Christmas tree is to keep the tree standing in plain, ordinary water from the time you get it home until you discard it after the holidays.

That's the most practical, satisfactory and convenient method found so far for reducing fire hazards and keeping tree needles from losing their color or dropping from the tree.

Tests show that keeping trees standing in water will prevent needles from drying out and becoming inflammable. They continue to appear fresh and green. As compared with tests of trees standing in fire-retardant chemicals, it was found that trees so treated did not absorb the chemicals rapidly or in as large amounts

as water. This resulted in increased combustibility, needle discoloration and fall.

Here's how to carry out the tree treatment suggested:

Select a tree cut as recently as possible. Cut about an inch diagonally off the bottom of the trunk. Stand the tree at once in a container of water, and keep the water level above the edges of the cut during the entire time the tree is in the house. If the tree is not set up at once, keep it standing in water in a cool place.

This treatment does not make the tree absolutely flame-proof, so other cautions are necessary. Check the wiring of lights and keep tinsel and other flammable material and decorations away from the sockets of the light bulbs on the tree.

Educated Santas

School Teaches Kringle Know-How

A school for Santa Clauses?

Yes, there is one, and it's the only educational institution of its kind in the world.

Graduates wear white wig and whiskers, red suit trimmed in white fur, wide white belt and black leather boots.

It is the Santa Claus School at Albion, New York. It gives credits for deep, jovial laughter and twinkling, smiling eyes.

Fresh out of Santa Claus school, a graduate with honors in throaty "ho-hoing" knows, among other things, how to remain calm when a kid glares and yells, "There ain't no Santa Claus," and how to maintain diplomatic relations with a parent who thinks Santa Claus has given her too the brushoff.

The school holds that to be a good Santa Claus, one has to almost believe he really is Santa Claus.

The Santa Clauses are taught that when a fresh kid declares there isn't any Santa Claus to say: "I wouldn't be too sure of that, son—I wouldn't be too sure, if I were you."

Caroling Held Favorite With Many at Christmas

One of the favorite customs of Christmas Eve in many sections of the world is the singing of carols.

The carols are sometimes called "noels" because of the word having originated in France and descending from the Latin word meaning a "cry of joy at Christmas." Carols also once meant round dancers accompanied by gay songs. The earliest collection of carols was published about 1521.

EPIPHANY EVE

Trees Bow in Adoration of Christ in Syria

Among the most interesting legends connected with Christmas is one popular in Syria and is connected with Epiphany eve. According to this legend at twelve midnight on that night the trees bow in adoration before the Christ-child. The night, which the Syrians call "Lailat-al-Qadr" is held to be the "night of destiny." One writer from that country describes the belief thusly:

"But what was anything compared to the feast of Epiphany, which we celebrated in commemoration of the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan 12 days after Christmas. I was taught to believe and joyously did believe that the rivers and fountains of the entire world became suddenly holy about sunset on Epiphany eve.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons
By DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

'Mine Eyes Have Seen'

Lesson for December 25, 1949

WHAT can the old man see in the baby? There must have been some to ask that question, as the old, old man Simeon took the little six-weeks-old Jesus in his arms. To most eyes he was just another baby; but at the touch of him, Simeon broke out into words so filled with hope and ecstasy, so rhythmic with emotion, that his words, even to this day, are used as a hymn in all the Christian churches of the world. "Mine eyes have seen . . ."

Dr. Foreman
The aged man, already moving across the thin line dividing this world from heaven, could see with the eye of the spirit what was hid from the eye of a practical man. To Simeon's mind, imbued with the spirit of the ancient prophets, the child in his arms was a center of light.

All the rays from the dim and ancient prophecies came to a focus in this child; and from this child again there shone out to all the future years of man the hope of a better world. What the prophets have foretold, is now to be; this child is the hope of mankind.

They have seen a great light THE CHRISTMAS PROPHECIES, our Old Testament lesson text, sing the hope of the Hebrew people. It was a hope that spread beyond themselves, their tiny hill-country, landlocked and harborless, out to the "Circle of the Nations," on to the world of vast peoples beyond their ken.

In a leaderless world, where men went blindly through life, smothered by the smoke of torches in the wavering hands of the blind, the prophets sang of the Coming One, the Messiah, God's chosen Leader, who would bring men out of darkness into light, the Divine Counsellor.

In the centuries when the servants of God were enslaved by those who worshipped only the sword, the prophets pointed confidently to the time when the leadership of the world would at last be in the hands of those who knew and understood and obeyed God.

Eyes of Flesh
NOW THE PROPHETS did not always fully understand their own prophecies, as we are told by Peter (I Pet. 1:10, 11); and certainly most of the Jews did not. When they heard the word "Messiah" or "King" they could think only of the kings they had known and admired, some now David, great in battle, or another Solomon, in a greater and more golden palace.

So when the little boy Jesus born in the dark stable under the hill, it was not everyone who could see what Simeon saw, that now the hopes of the prophets were coming true, now the Kingdom of righteousness and peace, the Realm of All Nations, was to begin.

What Simeon's fading human eye could see was no great thing—a helpless infant from a peasant carpenter's home. It was only Simeon's inward eye that saw the truth.

Eyes of Faith
YET THE EYE of faith can see more. The salvation God is bringing to the world has only just begun. As in Simeon's day the salvation and the light were barely at the horizon, so now it is still but sunrise. The colors of sunrise may be mistaken for those of sunset, by those who have been long asleep. It is only those who have watched through the night who know the sunrise for what it is.

The songs of Christmastide are songs of hope, and not only songs of remembrance. It is not the hope of fools, for the world of today is brighter than the world into which Christ was born, and the brightness shines from him.

Who would turn back this world, for all its wretchedness and frustrations, into what it would have been had Jesus never been born? At Christmas time we rejoice, not that all things have been accomplished or that all the prophecies of good have come true; we rejoice rather that the God-sent Leader, the Messiah, the Saviour, has come, and that with his coming salvation and light and glory have begun.

(Copyright by the International Council of Religious Education on behalf of 40 Protestant denominations. Released by WNU Features.)

Set of Doll Clothes Trimm'd With Tiny Lace

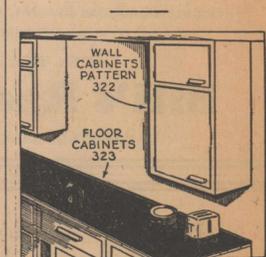


8518
14-20 INCHES
Easy to Sew
AN ADORABLE set of doll clothes—and each item is just one piece! So easy to sew, you'll make a whole new wardrobe in no time at all. Trim with tiny lace and bright ric rac.

Pattern No. 8518 is for dolls in sizes 14, 16, 18 and 20 inches. Consult pattern for requirements.

Don't wait—send today for your copy of the Fall and Winter FASHION. 64 pages of sewing information for every home dressmaker; free pattern printed inside the book. 25 cents.

Handy Wall Cabinets Have Special Features



Build Efficient Cabinets
THESE easy-to-build kitchen cabinets have many special features such as graduated shelves for dishes of different sizes, tray slot and partitioned drawers.

Build them yourself or save hours of a carpenter's time with patterns 322 and 323. Price 25c each. Send order to WORKSHOP PATTERN SERVICE, Drawer 10, Bedford Hills, New York.



2 drops of Penetro Nose Drops in each nostril, ease congestion, open clogged nose. You breathe easier this 2-drop way.

Helps keep me on my feet!
say many old folks about good tasting SCOTT'S EMULSION

Thousands of happy folks know this! Good-tasting Scott's Emulsion helps you ward off colds—helps you get well faster—and helps you keep going strong when your diet needs more natural A&D Vitamins! Scott's is a HIGH ENERGY FOOD TONIC—rich in natural A&D Vitamins and energy-building natural oil. Try it! See how well you feel. Easy to take and digest. Economical. Buy today at your drug store!

SCOTT'S EMULSION HIGH ENERGY TONIC

C. R. McAdams Improving In Amarillo

C. R. McAdams is in an improved condition after two major operations performed in the last 10 days at Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

School Closes For Christmas Holidays

Stratford Schools closed Wednesday afternoon for the Christmas holidays. Regular school schedules will be resumed January 2.

Expect New Car To Arrive In Early January

Cecil Woods and Ernest Lovelace returned Friday from Oklahoma City where they attended a preview of the 1950 Dodge. They announce the new car which is said to be the finest produced by the company will be on display early in January. The company has plans for producing 2,000 cars daily.

Attend Company Party In Dalhart

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Guthrie, Mrs. Lorraine Foster and children, and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Combs and daughter attended the Southwestern Public Service Company party in Dalhart Tuesday night.

Local News

Mr. H. M. Brown and Mrs. Art Ross were visitors in Dumas Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Watson were Amarillo visitors Wednesday of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Diehl and Dick Jr., returned home Thursday from a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Kelp in Hot Springs, New Mexico.

Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Chisum were Dalhart visitors Tuesday.

Mrs. Agnes Foster, Mrs. Hattie Flores, Mrs. Mae Elliott, Mrs. J. G. Cummings and Mrs. Harold Cameron were visitors in Dumas Tuesday.

Mrs. J. K. Richardson left Wednesday morning for Pueblo, Colorado, where she plans to spend Christmas with her daughter, Mrs. E. F. Rudolph, and Mr. Rudolph.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Dortch, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Willey, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lollis, Bill Buckles, Tom Gibbons, and Harry Ingham from Stratford, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bryan, Dalhart have been visiting in Hot Springs, New Mexico.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Blake visited in Dalhart Sunday.

Mrs. A. W. Klawetter, who has been visiting in the homes of her daughters, Mrs. W. N. Price and Mrs. C. T. Watson, returned to her home in Calvert, Texas Sunday.

Miss Marjorie Grimes is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Grimes, and Ray.

Miss Ila Lewis plans to spend the holidays with her relatives in Littlefield, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Johnson, Summerfield, Texas, were guests in the home of their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Neil Jackson last week end.

Mrs. Metta Brown, Boise City, Oklahoma was a guest of her sister, Mrs. Una O'Brien and Mrs. W. G. O'Brien Tuesday and Tuesday night.

Chucko Robinson has been quite sick this week.

Bill Ross was an Amarillo visitor Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Taylor and Mrs. Esma Gilbert were visitors in Dumas Sunday.

Stanley Ullom, student in Tulane University, New Orleans,

spent last week end with his mother, Mrs. Eva Divine.

Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Simons and two sons came Wednesday for a holiday visit with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Allen and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Price spent last week end visiting in the home of her brother, Mr. and Mrs. J. Ross Noland in Tulla.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Taylor and three daughters, Dallas, are to arrive Friday to spend Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Taylor.

Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Watson expect to have as Christmas guests, their daughter, Mrs. J. A. M. S. Powell, Mr. Powell and their baby from Bryan, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. O'Brien left Friday for Los Angeles, California where they will spend Christmas with their daughter, Miss Betty Lou O'Brien.

Mrs. W. N. Price and Mrs. Clyde Martin were visitors in Amarillo Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Allen, W. T. S. C. students, are spending the holidays with relatives in Stratford.

Phillip Bain, Canyon college student, is spending the holidays with his grandmother, Mrs. Areace LeBlau.

Mrs. Hazel B. Martin, Santa Barbara, California, will spend Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. William Martin.

Miss Rowena McAdams, second trick operator for the Rock Island, is on her vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Price were business visitors in Amarillo Monday.

New Arrivals

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Guthrie are the parents of a 9 pound daughter, Alice, born December 15, in Dallas, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dortch announce the birth of an 8 pound 11 ounce daughter, Deborah Ann, born Saturday morning in Dallas, Texas.

Letters to Santa

Stratford, Texas
December, 17, 1949

Dear Ole Santy:
I am a little girl seven years old. I have tried hard to be a good girl. Now Santy, please take my word for it, will you please?

I would like for you to bring me a blackboard, and some chalk, a new dolly and doll buggy, and please bring me some fruit, nuts and candy.

Please don't forget my little brother Bobby. He wants so many things. I'm afraid I won't have enough room in this letter to tell you. But he will like just anything that you bring him. Also, Santa, bring my sister "Penny" what she wants if you can.

Remember all the little boys and girls all over the world Santy, and please go see that poor little boy that lives in "Shanty town" that you forgot last year. I love you.

Your, little friend,
Jeanie Gayle Parrish.

Dear Santa:
I want a bike. And don't forget Tiny, my dog. We will have cocoa and candy for you.

Lindsey and
Tiny Skidmore.

Dear Santa Claus:
I think I have been a good girl. Will you please bring me a doll and a little doll house with plastic furniture. Don't forget my little nephews, Dickie and Tommy Dortch at Tulla, Texas, and the new baby girl in Dallas, Texas. I love you a lot.

- Doris Dortch

Dear Santa:
I am a little girl almost five. Would you please bring me an accordion, tinker toys and a small record player. I really talk too much but will try to do better next year.

Bring my big sister Jodie, a toy telephone as she uses one all the time. Remember George, my brother too.

Love,
Lorelei Harding

Dear Santa:
I am a little girl just three years old and I think I have been very good so please do not forget me this Christmas and do not

forget the other little girls and boys.

I love you lots and I am waiting to hear your jingle bells on Christmas Eve.

Dorothy Elizabeth Price

Stratford Texas
December 13, 1949.

Dear Santa Claus:
Please bring me a doll with overalls. I would like to have a Mickey Mouse watch, lots of candy and nuts. I've been a pretty good girl. Merry Christmas to all.

Paula Jo Spruell

Dear Santa Claus:
I want a big truck, a kiddy car, a big air plane, a gun, a tractor, and lots of candy and nuts. I've been a pretty good little boy.

Billy Spruell

P. S.: I want a toy spider too.

Want Ads

ATTENTION LADIES: For Personal skin analysis and make up, see or call your Beauty Counselor Sales lady, Mrs. Lena B. Keenan, Phone 3781. 9-tfc

WILL REPAIR and refinish your old and new furniture. Call for and deliver. Phone 3941, - Bill Parsons. 9-4tp

FOR SALE: Girls 20-inch Bicycle. - H. E. Harrington. 10-2tc.

CLOSING OUT SALE: dissolving partnership, complete stock of used cars, 1947 liberty house trailer 27 foot long in good condition, body and painting equipment. - Like & Backus Auto Sales, Phone 699, Dalhart, Texas. 9-tfc

FOR SALE: My home furn-

ished, with new garage, cement storm cellar, fenced back yard and other buildings. - E. L. Wadlen, 612 Wall Street. 10-tfc.

FOR SALE: All metal coil spring bunk beds, Simmons springs, cotton mattresses. Inquire at Leonard's Jewelry. 3tfc

HOUSE FOR SALE: 6 room and bath on pavement on Fulton Street. Front and back lawn (play area). Priced reasonably. - Wright Davis. 47-tfc

WE HAVE the new Tappan Gas ranges with chrome oven and usual light oven doors. - Van B. Boston. 28-tfc

FOR RENT: Three room apartment - G. B. Parrish. 10-2tp.

We have a few Sunbeam Mix-masters for Christmas. - McMahaen Furniture Co. 7-tfc.

FOR RENT: New floor sander and edger, by the hour or the day. - Van B. Boston. 51-tfc

FOR SALE: Half-track in good shape with a good heater, and a cab, don't use any oil, priced to sell. - James Cameron. 10-2tp.

FOR SALE: 1,000 Gallon Propane tank, almost new, with approximately 400 gallons of propane. - W. J. Lowe. 7-tfc.

WANTED: House with two bed rooms for school teacher. - C. D. Holmes. 44-tfc

I am selling Cletrac Model MG-1 Crawler Tractors. I have one at my place for you to look at, 2 miles east and 1 mile south of Stratford. - James Cameron. 10-2tp.

SERVEL Refrigerators, silent in operation, guaranteed for 11 years, no moving parts, operate the cheapest of any on the market, available for immediate delivery. - Van B. Boston. 26-tfc

USED LUMBER for sale. Make

us a cash bid. - Stratford Grain Co. 10-2tp.

LOST: small Collie pup. Please notify Mrs. Earl Smith. 10-tfc.

Long distance household moving. Years of service your guarantee of satisfaction. - Bruce & Son Transfer & Storage Agents, North American Van Lines, Inc. Phone 192, Borger, Texas. 29-tfc

FOR SALE: 3,000 Watt Fairbanks Morris home lighting plant, and a John Deere Hammermill feed grinder. - F. M. Keener. 8-tfc.

SEWING MACHINES - Repairs, electrical conversions of all types, guaranteed work parts and supplies, complete rebuilding service. - J. D. Owen, Lovelace Department Store. 8-4tp

FOR SALE A good bicycle with speedometer, directional signals, basket and carrier. Also, new basketball goal with backboard. See Jerry Walden. 11-tfc.

FOR SALE: 7-Foot Frigidaire, 3 year guarantee: Gas range, used 1 1/2 years: Chrome dinette set with 4 chairs. Call 3936, Mrs. Johnny Townsend, Box 625. 11-tfc.

CLEANING: Yards, lawns, and windows; care takers work expertly done. - Richard Lander-ville, % Turner Barber Shop. 11-1tp.

FOR SALE: New Phillips 66 8-foot Home Freezer. - T. N. Beard, Phillips 66 distributor. 11-4tc.

FOR SALE: Half Tracks, parts and repairs; parts for GI Trucks, 1 JXD Hercules Motor, 1 IUD IHC engine. - V. I. Martin. Phone 33032, Amarillo. 11-4tp.

SLEEPING ROOM for rent, 1 block west of post office, North 3rd and Chestnut St. - See Mrs. Maude McDaniel. 11-tfc.

FOR SALE: Three room resi-

dence with bath, on two lots, priced to sell. - See J. E. Burgess. 11-tfc.

WANTED: Between 500 and 1,000 gallon Propane tank. Must be worth the money. - Bill Allen, Box 391, Station 1, Canyon, Texas. 11-4tp.

Church News

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH (Edwin Upchurch, Pastor) Sunday School 10:00 A. M. Morning Worship 11:00 A. M. Training Union 6:30 P. M. Evening Worship Services 7:30 P. M. W. M. U. Wednesday 3:30 P. M.

CHURCH OF CHRIST (C. E. Ritchie, Minister) Bible Classes 10:00 A. M. Morning services 11:00 A. M. Evening services 7:30 P. M. Wednesday evening services 7:30 P. M.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH (I. L. Walker, Pastor) Sunday School 10:00 A. M. Morning Worship 11:00 A. M. C.A.'s and Children's services at 6:30 P. M. Evangelistic services 7:30 P. M.

THURSDAY Evangelistic services 7:30 P. M. The public is urged to attend these services and will find a warm welcome.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH Sunday School 10:00 A. M. Morning Services 11:00 A. M. Evening Worship Services 7:00 P. M. Rev. John Reaves, Pastor.

METHODIST CHURCH (Rev. H. A. Nichols, Pastor) Church School 10:00 A. M. Morning Worship 10:55 A. M. Evening services to begin at 7:00 P. M. Junior. Intermediate and Senior M. Y. F. to begin at 6:00 P. M. W. S. C. S. Wednesday at 2:30 P. M. Choir practice Wednesday night at 7:30. Thursday night is intermediate play night from 7:00 to 8:00 P. M. Luxemburg is a grand duchy lying between France, Belgium and Germany.

Roxy Theatre STRATFORD, TEXAS

December 23 and 24
Down Memory Lane
With Bing Crosby, W. C. Fields, and Gloria Swanson

December 25 and 26
Gary Cooper In
Task Force
With Jane Wyatt
In Technicolor

December 27
The Paradise Case
With Gregory Peck, Ann Todd,
and Charles Laughton

December 28 and 29
Savage Splendor
Color By Technicolor

Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas



Longest non-scientific word in the English language is Proan-tidisestablishmentarianism.

Teeth are the only part of the body which does not repair itself.

Rice is the principal food for one-third of the world.

There are approximately 456,000 words in the English language.

Yuletide Joy 1949

Youth and old age will be served with a Merry Christmas this year



Paul Allison Grain Co.

PHONE 4571 CHAS. SIMONS, Manager



GREETINGS

OUR WARM AND SINCEREST GREETINGS GO OUT TO YOU AT THIS HAPPIEST SEASON OF THE YEAR.

Stratford Motor Co.

CHRISTMAS PRESENT



By Shirley Sargent

THE SMALL KITTEN called Tupid watched preparations for Christmas dully. Only the middle boy, one Archie Raymond, noticed his apathy. The tree, in all its green splendor, stood tall in the living room bedecked with an increasing number of ornaments.

"Careful," Marcia Raymond admonished her son sharply. "Don't hang those big balls down so low. The kitten will break them."

Gently Archie lifted them to a higher bough, drawing in the pungent scent of the pine. Only he saw that the kitten walked slowly under the tree unaware of the boughs tickling her furry back. His youngest brother had named the roly-poly butterscotch kitten Tupid. Young Billy was easily aroused to fits of anger. His favorite expression, under stress, was a lisped, "You 'tupid, you big 'tupid."

Archie, his ten-year-old brother, Joe, and his parents laughed at the little boy's wrath and, because the kitten was slower than the others in



Tupid circled and smelled at the black kitten until he was satisfied. Then his tongue flicked out to lick the kitten.

the litter, they named him, most affectionately, Tupid.

"Archie," Mrs. Raymond was flurried from all the excitement. "That blue globe is much too low. Tupid will get it. I don't doubt," she added pessimistically, "that we will lose half of our globes."

Archie could see that Tupid had no interest either in the swaying boughs or the brilliant-colored fragile balls. For two days Tupid had wandered carelessly about the house and yard. He wasn't playful or friendly and he had stopped purring. Only Archie sensed that the kitten was lonesome for his sisters and brothers and his mother. At first there had been four balls of fur and a proud old alley cat mother. As they grew, they had become playful, pattering swiftly through the house. But now they were all gone, including the mother. Just Tupid was left to keep. Even the black imp with shoe-button eyes had been given away. Tar Baby, who had been the boss of the litter, had been gone barely two days, and Tupid missed him.

"Well," his father's voice boomed again, as he climbed down the ladder. "All done in time for Christmas Eve. Come here, Joe, Archie, you too Billy. I want you to see this fine tree."

Mrs. Raymond switched the lights off and Archie shivered in delighted excitement as the tree blazed, illumined by the strings of lights and balls. The magic moment was shattered by the sharp ring of the doorbell.

A rush of cold air came in as Mr. Raymond flung open the door wide to admit a bundled figure. "My father says I can't keep the kitten," Gerald Parks recited automatically, close to tears, "I have to give it back because it gives my father hay fever." Gerald went out in another rush of frosty air, but not before Mrs. Raymond had pressed a fat candy cane into his mittened hand.

Tar Baby huddled in the middle of the floor. "Watch it, boys," Mr. Raymond warned. "Let's just watch him. He feels strange here now; he'll be all right in a while."

Archie saw Tupid jump from the sofa with a purr of delight. Tupid circled and smelled at the black kitten until he was satisfied. Then his tongue flicked out to lick the kitten. Tupid's paws caressed him as his tongue washed him. The black kitten stood passive, as Tupid showered his pent-up love on him.

"That, mommy," Billy lisped, "Tupid's kissing him, isn't he?" "Um," Mrs. Raymond agreed, "Tar Baby's Tupid's Christmas present."

Mr. Raymond's eyes swept his sons' awe-struck faces. "No," he said firmly, "He's our Christmas present too."

Ralph FIXES THINGS UP



By Dorothy Boys Kilian

IT WAS Christmas Eve but the group of people sitting on the floor in the Reeds' living-room certainly weren't in a festive mood.

"Doggonit," Dad exclaimed as he stared gloomily at the shiny tracks and the motionless cars of a new electric train. "What's wrong with this thing anyway?"

"We've put it together exactly according to directions, I'm sure we have," fifteen-year-old Rick insisted.

"Well, something's got to be done," said Mom, looking in from the kitchen where she was stuffing the turkey. "Little Jackie's been praying for that train for months, and how'll he feel tomorrow morning if the thing won't run?"

"Maybe Ralph can help. He's coming by for me in a few minutes, you know," said Wilma, the pretty big sister of the family.

"Oh, him!" Rick was scornful. "That guy from the big city with his socks and ties and handker-



He picked up the shiny black engine carefully and turned it over and over. He put it up to eye level and peered into its workings.

chiefs that match! What does he know about motors?"

"Rick!" Mom reproved. "Oh, I know you all think of him as an outsider," Wilma said. "If you only really knew him better! Mom, I do wish you'd let me ask him to breakfast tomorrow."

"I'm sorry dear, but I just don't think he'd fit in."

The doorbell rang. Wilma answered it and she and Ralph exchanged happy hellos.

Rick immediately threw out the challenge to the tall, blond, well-dressed young man. "We can't make this train go. Can you tell what's wrong with it?"

"Maybe," Ralph said quietly. "I used to have a train something like this."

"Look out, that cotton batting stuff will stick to your trousers," Dad warned.

"That's snow, and the snow

around here is clean."

Dad looked slightly startled.

Wilma smiled. She remembered how impressed Ralph had been by the whiteness of the drifts even on Main street last night.

"The flakes are practically sooty before they even reach the ground in Chicago," he had said.

"Tracks are O.K.," Ralph straightened up. Then he picked up the shiny black engine carefully and turned it over and over. He put it up to eye level and peered into its workings.

"The professional touch!" Rick muttered.

"There may be oil in the commutator," Ralph said. "That sometimes happens with a new engine. I'll see if I can get it out."

"I'll get you a rag, Ralph, just a minute," Wilma got up and started for the kitchen.

"Alright, Ralph," Wilma said.

(Continued on Page 12)

"Never mind, this'll do," Ralph answered, pulling his perfectly folded wine-colored handkerchief out of his jacket pocket.

He worked quietly for a moment, gently poking the corner of the handkerchief into the inside of the engine. Then he set the engine carefully down on the track and said, "Turn on the juice, will you Rick?"

Rick meekly moved forward the black lever at the transformer. There was a whirring sound, the wheels began to move, and the little puffer-billy whizzed and clacked around the curve.

"Praises be!" Dad heaved a loud sigh of relief.

Ralph quietly got up from the floor and turned to Wilma. "Maybe we'd better go now, if we want to catch the gang."

"Alright, Ralph," Wilma said.

(Continued on Page 12)

1949 Merry Christmas



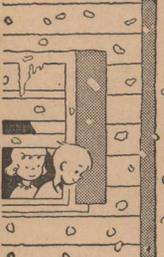

Let us welcome the season with open hearts and the music of carols.

Bammes Garage

Yuletide Greetings



Naturally, there is a Santa Claus---just as naturally as there are children. No one even doubts that any more.



Just give way to the spirit of the season and your share of joy will come.

1949

Ross Bros. Dry Goods

Say You Saw It In The Star

For Life Insurance See

Walter M. Pendleton

Local Representative

Southwestern Life Insurance Co of Dallas, Texas

Merry Christmas

May the blessings of Christmas descend upon your homes in abundance.



1949

Claude Sloan Implement Co.

Merry Christmas 1949



The very fact that Christmas is with us again ought to bring joy enough, but we want to gild the lily by wishing everyone a wonderful holiday.

Stratford Tractor Co.

CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

BUSINESS & INVEST. OPPOR.

WILL SELL good grocery store, 7-room house and furniture. House modern. Will take part in stock ranch, also some stock. Write Abbie Ostrom, 916 E Street, Salida, Colo.

FARM MACHINERY & EQUIP.

FOR SALE—New Single Row New Idea Corn Picker with Power Take off Drive, New Genl Tractor, Endless Cutter with Power Take off Drive, One 69 M. & M. Harvester with Motor and Hession Grain Bin Unloader. See us for New Hammer Mills Picky, Hay Baler. All machinery priced at list plus freight and tax. Write for list.

J. H. REA
Minneapolis, Kansas

FARMS AND RANCHES

20 A. DAIRY POULTRY FARM. Excellent stone buildings; electricity, butane. Priced right.

V. M. EASLEY
R. 3, Neosho, Mo.

132 ACRES—Stock/Poultry Farm; good location; water; electricity; wood; 8 rooms; semi-modern. Write for description. P.O. Box 107, Iola, Kansas.

HELP WANTED—MEN WOMEN

BOOKKEEPERS—Earn \$100 week operating your "Bookkeeping Service" for small businesses. Simplified plan. Write Universal Bookkeeping Service, Box 664-N, Springfield, Mo.

HOME FURNISHINGS & APPL. REPAIRS

To Fit Furnaces, Stoves, Ranges of all Makes and Kinds. Order through your DEALER. METZNER STOVE REPAIR CO. Established 1890 - Kansas City 6, Mo.

LIVESTOCK

REGISTERED Poland China boars. Wide-backed heavy-hammed farmer type. Ray Sayler, Manhattan, Kansas.

135 CHOICE Holstein cows springing or milking, also coming 2 yr. first calf heifers. Bangs TB Free. Large Minn. type. Geo. Mueck Trenton, Missouri.

MISCELLANEOUS

300 FEET Walnut Lumber, not planed. Can deliver. L. R. PARKER, Council Grove, Kansas.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

BEST PLACE TO BUY A PIANO BENNETT MUSIC HOUSE 40 years in Wichita Delivery Anywhere 2 pedal Spinet—\$225, \$395, 3 pedal Spinet—\$485, \$595 Consolids—\$895 to \$1000 See or Write BENNETT—Wm. E. Douglas, For Free Piano Catalog—Today. Bargains in Rebuilt Pianos.

REAL ESTATE—HOUSES

WANT good home? 100 acres; well improved; rich soil; plenty water; adjacent land for rent or purchase; good location. Owner, Bessie Nichols, Harian, Kansas.

Planning for the Future? Buy U.S. Savings Bonds!

FINE DOUBLE FILTERED FOR EXTRA QUALITY—PURITY FOR BURNING MOROLINE BIG JAR 10¢ PETROLEUM JELLY

Even if other medicines have failed to relieve your COLD MISERIES YOU OWE IT TO YOURSELF TO TRY 666—IT'S DIFFERENT 666 LIQUID TABLETS

ELIMINATE WORMS, BANISH LICE! Poultry raisers, protect your flock against its two worst enemies—worms and lice! Use Bootle's WORMITE and LOUSCID. Guard against internal parasites (ascarids) put WORMITE in your flock's water. Costs less than 1¢ month per bird. LOUSCID protects your layers against lice for only 1/4¢ a bird per month. Take advantage of Bootle's Service Dept. Be on the safe side. Protect your poultry profits the easy, economical way... use Bootle's WORMITE and LOUSCID. Bootle's HATCHERIES, Inc. Service Department - Worthington, Minn.

Relieve distress of MONTHLY FEMALE WEAKNESS Are you troubled by distress of female functional periodic disturbances? Does this make you suffer from pain, feel so nervous, tired—at such times? Then try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to relieve such symptoms. Pinkham's has a grand soothing effect on one of woman's most important organs! LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND WNU—H 51-49

Kidneys Must Work Well— For You To Feel Well 24 hours every day, 7 days every week, never stopping, the kidneys filter waste matter from the blood. If more people were aware of how the kidneys must constantly remove surplus fluid, excess acids and other waste matter that cannot stay in the blood without injury to health, there would be better understanding of why the whole system is upset when kidneys fail to function properly. Burning, scanty or too frequent urination sometimes warns that something is wrong. You may suffer nagging backache, headaches, dizziness, rheumatic pains, getting up at night, swelling. Why not try Doan's Pills? You will be using a medicinal waste from the country over. Doan's stimulate the function of the kidneys and help them to flush out poisonous waste from the blood. They contain nothing harmful. Get Doan's today. Use with confidence. At all drug stores. DOAN'S PILLS



Uncle Sam Conducts Crop Report Service

Surrounds Compilation Of Data With Secrecy

A question which pops up almost every time anyone talks with a farmer is: "How's the crop coming along?" Of course, the individual farmer can only reply concerning the condition of his own, or his neighbor's crops, and he is as interested in the question of how the nation's



The farmer is the actual reporter as crop census men take notes.

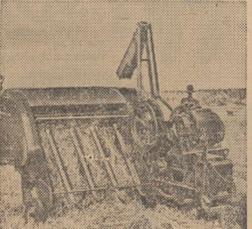
crops are coming along as is anyone else—in fact more vitally interested than anyone else except other farmers.

The only person who knows how the "crop is coming along,"—that is, the nation's overall crops—is a mythical person, Uncle Sam; but he knows and he tells.

His information is gathered from 41 U.S. crop reporting offices, compiled in Washington, and released on or about the 10th of every month as a service of the agriculture department's bureau of agricultural economics. There are about 500 reports made each year, and the farmer who follows these reports knows what is happening in the field of agriculture and he regulates the operation of his own fields accordingly.

The farmers, themselves, are the reporters, having been sending information to the government ever since 1862 when crop reporting began during Lincoln's administration. No pay is received by the farmers for this work, yet some of them have faithfully kept up reports for 40 years.

Streamlined Baler



This new, streamlined baler is typical of the engineering advances featured on 1950 farm machinery. It is an automatic twine-ho pick-up baler marking the 10th anniversary of one-man baling on American farms.

More Trucking Comfort In Store for Farmers

According to tips from automotive engineers, little pigs that go to market in trucks, and the farmers who drive them there will soon be getting the most comfortable rides they've ever had in farm transports.

These engineers say the trend in most new models of trucks is toward more comfort for the driver, with the aim of making his life happier—and also eliminating basic causes of accidents and damage to cargoes. "Virtually every phase of truck operation is now being studied by truck manufacturers in an all-out drive to eliminate many of the jerks and jolts and destructive vibrations that cause damage," says W. L. Aiken, automotive engineer of SKF industries, incorporated. Innovations of many kinds, he says, are now being built into trucks, with special emphasis on ways to cushion both the driver and his load.

New Milk Nutrient Found Essential to Good Health

A previously-identified nutrient in milk has been labeled—B12—and found to be essential to normal human beings. Commercial chemists recently isolated B12 in crystalline form from liver extracts and found that it is the material that makes this extract effective in treatment of deadly anemia. It was formerly labeled "Nutrient X." The form is still in an experimental stage.

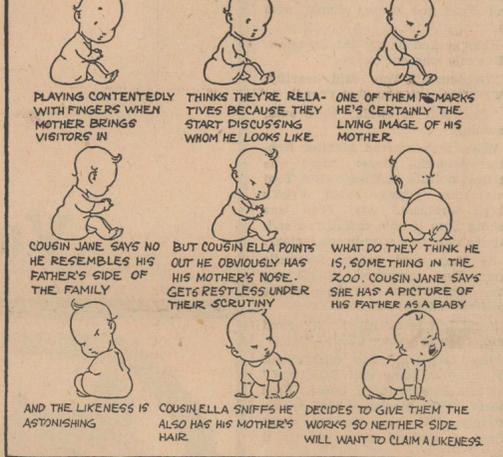
Quickie Comics

INKLINGS By John Jarvis

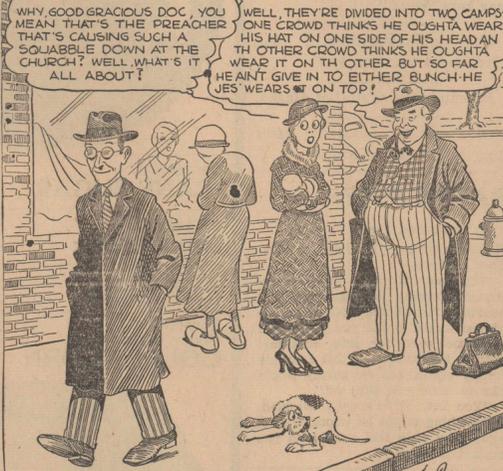


"Where'd you get the dog license?"

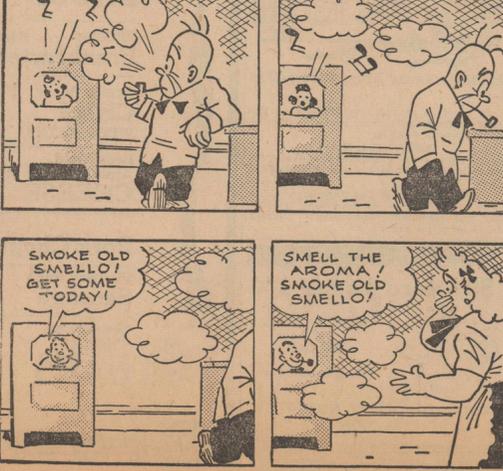
NEXT DOOR By Gluyas Williams



BACK HOME AGAIN By Ed Dodd



SILENT SAM By Jeff Hayes



SPORTSCOPE By JOE MAHONEY

QUIZ CORNER
LOOKING FANS OFTEN ARGUE OVER WHO WAS THE BEST FIGHTER...JACK DEMPEY OR JOE LOUIS. ONE MAN COULD ANSWER THAT BECAUSE HE FOUGHT THEM BOTH. WHAT'S HIS NAME? (ANSWER: ALBERTUS DORV)

CRACK—WHI I ZEE I...

IN 1921, THE WASHINGTON SENATORS SET A RECORD FOR THE MOST BATTERS HIT BY A PITCHED BALL, 59 MEN REACHED FIRST BY BEING HIT.

HE'S KNOWN AS THE FATHER OF U.S. GOLF. IN 1913 HE DEFEATED ENGLAND'S TWO BEST SHOTMAKERS, HARRY VARDON AND TED RAY FOR THE U.S. OPEN TITLE. AND BY THIS AMAZING FEAT SOLD GOLF TO THE U.S. PUBLIC.

francis QUIMET

SPORTLIGHT Material With Plenty To Spare

By GRANTLAND RICE

any official to work a game without making at least five bad decisions, sins of omission or commission. At least two of these piled up heavily against North Carolina where Hart forward passed a lateral and where Williams, bowled over in a desperate attempt to block a kick, was not roughed. He was not even jarred. These two decisions cost the Tar Heels at least 14 points.

Something should be done about the dragging out that takes place. You get the impression of men running on and off the field in platoons and companies all afternoon. Another point is that all games are started too late. Even after the middle of October, games should be started at 1 p. m. Though starting at 1:30 p. m. the Notre Dame-North Carolina game needed lights to follow the play.

There are many newspapers, promoting football, who have no chance to take pictures of decisive plays—who must go to press without the scores. The starting time up to October 15 should be 1:30 p. m., and after that 1 p. m. should be the kickoff hour. This is an important change needed. Several million spectators would be glad to get there 30 minutes sooner to see the last quarter clearly and not look at a lot of wraiths and shadows operating in semi-darkness.

Here are some of the details that those handling football should watch for the season of 1950—

1. Changing the unlimited substitution rule and bringing to it some semblance of common sense.
2. Starting the contests earlier to have games finish in daylight, no semi-darkness.
3. Taking at least 15 or 20 minutes from the time used up from the first kickoff to the final play.
4. Giving the officials fewer rules and having these rules enforced. How? I'll pass that to the supermen of football. But the botches are growing every year, beyond human achievement.

Strength Around the Map

At a recent gathering of football writers from all over the country with every section counted in, the general opinion was that the Midwest was strongest, the Southwest next and the Far West third. I doubt that rating is an accurate one. Notre Dame lifted the Midwest above the others, but, after all, Army took good care of Michigan. California ran away from Wisconsin. Southern California, with five crippled regulars, tied Ohio State.

A Rather Scraggly Season

This season we saw five college games where the score was lopsided. On most occasions it was the battle of the tiger and the rabbit. We also saw nothing but games long drawn out by the foolish substitution rules and penalties. Because of the nature of football, it is probably impossible for

Gay Fruit Motifs



Bright Motifs

AY FRUIT designs done in the popular "gingham" cross-stitch effect will make a handsome set of tea towels. Nice to use on place mats, breakfast cloths—these four and five-inch motifs will brighten any kitchen, dinette or dining porch.

To obtain seven transfers, color chart for working Gingham Fruit Designs (Pattern no. 5486), send 20 cents in coin, your name, address and pattern number.

SEWING CIRCLE NEEDLEWORK 830 South Wells St. Chicago 7, Ill. Enclose 20 cents for pattern.

No. _____ Name _____ Address _____



No Hair Apparent

Married life seemed to have worn down Joe. He went to his doctor for a check-up. "There's nothing radically wrong with you," said the medico after a thorough examination, "all you need is a little sun and air." "Yes, I guess so," said Joe, "but my wife is dead set against children."

He Knew

The newlywed was being pumped by her inquisitive neighbors. "He doesn't speak harshly to you, does he?" they asked anxiously. "Oh, no," she assured them, "he hasn't raised his voice to me yet." "And does he expect you to obey him?" they prodded. "Oh dear me, no," she laughed, "didn't you girls know that he had been married before?"

How are you doing on your Christmas gift list? You can take care of lots of people on that list with the greatest of ease—and handsomely, too! Just check off the names of all your friends who smoke, either cigarettes or a pipe. In either case you have the gift that's just right in their eyes! For the cigarette smoker—the gay Christmas cartoon of Camels contains 200 cool, mild, full-flavored Camels. And for the pipe smoker or the man who likes his "making's" the pound tin of Prince Albert Smoking Tobacco gives hours and hours of tongue-easy pipe joy. Both gifts are waiting for you ready-wrapped in colorful holiday dress. There's even built-in space for your personal greeting. So, this season save yourself time and energy by giving mild, good-tasting Camels and Mellow Prince Albert Smoking Tobacco. —Adv.

HOW TO FIX IT By Harold Arnett

ICE REMOVER..... FOR REMOVING ICE FROM SIDEWALKS, AN EFFECTIVE TOOL CAN BE MADE FROM AN OLD CROSSCUT-SAW BLADE ABOUT 4 FEET LONG. CUT THE BLADES IN 4 EQUAL PARTS, BOLT THEM TOGETHER WITH THE TEETH ON ONE SIDE, USING FLAT PIECES OF IRON AS SPACERS. ATTACH A STRONG HANDLE.

SPANNER WRENCH..... A GOOD SPANNER WRENCH CAN BE MADE BY ALTERING A MONKEY WRENCH SLIGHTLY. A SMALL HOLE IS DRILLED IN THE END OF EACH JAW, AND SHORT PIECES OF DRILL ROD ARE DRIVEN INTO THEM.

How Constipated People Can Be Kind to Themselves

Thousands of people who suffer from chronic constipation have found an amazingly easy way to be kind to themselves. They don't whip their systems with harsh, painful cathartics. Instead, they turn to Nature's Remedy. For Nature's Remedy, NR tablets, is composed entirely of natural, vegetable laxatives—so gentle, most people take them at night because their sleep is not disturbed, yet regularity is accomplished the next morning. Try NR at our expense, 25 tablets 25c. Buy a box at any drug store and try it. If you are not completely satisfied, return the box and unused tablets to us. We will refund your money plus postage. PLAIN OR CANDY COATED Nature's Remedy NR TABLETS - NR

Camels and pigs are said to be unable to swim.



Christmas Cheer

1949

Top of the season to you!
May your happiness be as plentiful as the gifts you give.



SLAY'S

Phone 2051

Seasons Greetings '49



God willing, there will be no pain of sadness to mar the tender happiness that Christmas ought to bring to all of you.

TOC Motor Co.

STUDEBAKER CARS and TRUCKS



The warmth of spirit that accompanies every Christmas season is with us again in 1949. Our wish is that you can participate to the fullest in a universal MERRY CHRISTMAS

King Equipment

(FORMERLY W. T. MARTIN)
PHONE 2221

Lees Buy Laundry

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lee have purchased the Bendix Laundry from Mrs. Lucy Kelp and took possession of the business Saturday.

The Lees express their intention of maintaining the business in a satisfactory manner for the convenience of their customers.

Local News

Misses Beverly and Dolores Smith, T. C. U. students, are holiday guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Smith.

Joe Pete Flores, Colorado A. & M. College student at Fort Collins, Colorado, is spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Flores.

Christmas Program Saturday

The Christmas tree program at the Methodist Church has been announced for 7:30 P. M. Saturday.

In relation to area, the two largest countries on the American continents are Canada and Brazil



Q. What is the name of this cut of meat?
A. Pork blade steak.
Q. Where does it come from and how is it identified?
A. It comes from the pork shoulder. Blade steaks contain either a blade bone or an arm bone, depending upon the side of the shoulder from which they are cut.
Q. How is it prepared?
A. By braising. Steaks are placed in a frying-pan and browned on both sides in their own or a little added fat. A small amount of liquid is usually added (2 to 4 tablespoons), the pan is covered and the meat allowed to cook over low heat for about 45 minutes or until well done.

Rabbits and squirrels belong to the same order of animals as do rats and beavers.

Such Lovely FLAMES

By John Scott Douglas

FRED DOBSON plugged in the string of lights and then stood back to admire the blue and red and green candle globes on the Christmas tree. Ellen left the table she was setting to study the effect.

"Nice little tree, Fred. Seems a shame, though, not to be sharing it with someone. This was our year—"

And then she stopped, and her face, still pretty in middle age, grew pink. Fred knew she'd been about to say that it was their year to have the Robbins to Christmas dinner. Every year since their children had married and left they had either entertained their neighbors or had been their guests.

But now, by mutual consent, the quarrel with the Robbins was not mentioned. It was characteristic of Ellen not to blame Fred. And that took forbearance because Martha Robbins had been her dearest friend.

Ellen sighed. "Goodness! the turkey must be almost ready."



He was back in a moment with a rake. Lifting the smoldering tree with the tines, he hurled it out onto the snowy lawn.

Fred thought of their quarrel, which had started because of a cocker puppy which wouldn't stay home. Tom, with his usual consideration for his neighbors, had started to build a fence to keep the dog out of the Dobson's garden. Fred thought the fence was a foot within his own property line, and jokingly said so.

Tom had laughed. "Who's paying for it?"

"I'll pay half," Fred had said, "if you'll buy the strip you're using."

The joke, within a matter of days, had taken on an edge, and then they gave up speaking. No longer did they fish and hunt together, or play in their usual Saturday four-somes.

By then, beginning to fume at Tom's high-handedness, Fred had his property surveyed, only to discover that his garden had in reality extended onto his neighbor's property. The fence was where it belonged.

Fred wanted to apologize, but every time he stepped outside, Tom walked into the house.

Within a matter of seconds, Fred was too busy to think of the quarrel. The little Christmas tree was on fire and crackling fiercely. He flung open the door and screamed, "Fire! help! help!" And then, snatching up the hall runner he'd been planning to replace, he knocked over the tree and began beating out the flames.

Behind him, Tom called, "Stay with it, pal—I'll get something." He was back in a moment with a rake. Lifting the smoldering tree with the tines, he hurled it out onto

the snowy lawn.

Martha Robbins had appeared by then. Seeing Ellen staring dazedly at the cloud of smoke and the blackened wall where the tree had stood, she opened the windows and then slipped her arm around Ellen's shoulders.

"Poor dear! And just when you were sitting down to your Christmas dinner. After the smoke has thinned out, this room will be freezing. You and Fred are having dinner with us."

Ellen looked happy but flustered. "But this was our year—"

"Nonsense!" Tom said heartily. "We'll eat with you next year."

"That will be swell," Fred said, beaming.

When they started Martha Robbins' bountiful dinner, there was at first a little stiffness. But Tom was soon joking about Fred's "high forehead," and Fred was asking Tom if he'd considered selling his hair to a wire-brush factory.

As they said hearty farewells later, Tom remarked, "Can't say I'm sorry about that fire. We've sure missed you folks."

"And it was all my fault," Fred said. "I was wrong about—"

"Aw, forget it," Tom interrupted. "How about some golf Saturday?"

When they reached home, Fred looked at the blackened wall speculatively. "No real damage done, Ellen. A coat of paint will fix it up."

"How do you suppose the tree ever caught fire?" Ellen asked.

Fred grinned sheepishly. "A match and a bunch of tissue paper may have helped."

The original meaning of the word opera was "works."

Juneau is the capital of Alaska.

Louisiana is named after King Louis XIV of France.

RALPH FIXES

(Continued from Page 10)

Her eyes turned pleadingly to Mrs. Reed. "Mom—"

"Oh, yes, Wilma," Mom interrupted. Turning to Ralph she said heartily, "In all the excitement we almost forgot to ask you to be sure to come over for late breakfast with us tomorrow. It's just a simple family affair, but we surely would like to have you with us."

"You bet." Dad's eyes twinkled. "Something might go wrong with it again and we'd feel safer with you around to fix it."

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Stratford Lodge 874
A. F. & A. M.
Stated
Communication

SECOND FRIDAY NIGHT OF EACH MONTH
M. FLORES, W. M.
W. G. BRYANT, Secretary



The Yule is a season for songs and rejoicing. Our earnest hope is that all you friendly people may share in this spirit to the utmost.

And for what it's worth, we offer our heartiest wishes for a very Merry Christmas

Van B. Boston

Hi... Christmas!

At this happy and busy season, we want to take time out to say "Thank You" for your patronage, and may your Yuletide Joys last through the coming year.



- Vanilla Cream Chocolates 1 Lb. Cello. 25c
- Shelled Pecans 1 Lb. Bag 98c

IMPERIAL CANE SUGAR	10 Lbs.	89
PILLSBURY'S Hot Roll Mix	14 1/2 Ozs.	27
Swansdown Instant CAKE MIX	1 Lb. Box	35
Tom Evans Cream Style GOLDEN CORN	No. 2 Can 2 For	25
Assorted Flavors JELLO	4 For	25
Dromedary PITTED DATES	7 1/4 Ozs.	25
Ocean Spray Whole Cranberry Sauce	1 Pound Can	17
MIRACLE WHIP	Pt.	29

Holiday Meats

- Morrels Pride BACON Pound 45
- Pinkney Frankfurters 1 Lb. Cello. 45
- Armour's CHILI WITH BEANS No. 2 Can 29
- Brookfield American CHEESE 2 Lb. Box 79
- Pork Chops Pound 39
- Pinkney Sack Sausage Pound 27
- Tenderized SMOKED HAMS Pound 45

Produce

- Fancy Pink Grapefruit Lb. 10
- EATMOR Cranberries Pound 19c
- Solid, Crisp Head-Lb. Lettuce 10
- Celery Pound 10
- Red Emperor Grapes 2 Lbs. 25
- Parsley Bunch 10
- Yellow Onions Pound 7
- Large Bell Peppers Pound 15

Brown's Food Store